### Mark

## Chapter 1

1This is the beginning of the good news about Jesus the Anointed.  
  
2This was written by the Prophet IsaiAh:  
  
 ‘Look!  
 I’m sending My messenger ahead  
 To prepare the road that’s before you.  
  
 3‘Listen!  
 Someone calls out in the desert,  
 Prepare the way for the Lord;  
 Straighten out all of his roads!’  
 [Isaiah 40:3]  
  
4So, this is why John came… To do immersing in the desert and to preach an immersion of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5And throughout Judea and JeruSalem, people were going there to be immersed by him in the JorDan River, as they openly confessed their sins.  
  
6John wore clothes that were made of camel’s hair and he wore a wide leather belt around his waist. His diet consisted of locusts and wild honey, 7and this is what he preached:  
  
 ‘Someone greater is coming behind me  
 Whose sandals, I’m unworthy to bend and untie.  
 8And while I immerse in water,  
 He will immerse you in Holy Breath.’  
  
  
9Well back then, Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee to be immersed in the JorDan by John also. 10And immediately after coming up out of the water, [John] saw the sky split open and the Breath [of God] descending upon [Jesus in the form of] a dove.  
  
11Then a voice came from the sky that said:  
  
 ‘You’re My Son whom I love, and with whom I’m well pleased.’  
  
12Then [God’s] Breath immediately forced [Jesus] into the desert, 13where he spent 40 days among the wild animals, as he was being tempted by the Opposer. However, the messengers [of God] [thereafter came and] served him.  
  
  
14Well, it was after John had been arrested that Jesus went into Galilee and started preaching the good news of God.  
  
15For he was saying:  
  
 ‘This period has reached its fulfillment,  
 And the Kingdom of God is at hand.  
 So, believe the good news and repent!’  
  
16Then, as he was walking along by the Sea of Galilee, [Jesus] noticed Simon and his brother Andrew casting their nets on the sea (because they were fishermen).  
  
17So Jesus said to them:  
  
 ‘Come follow me and I’ll make you fishers of men.’  
  
18And right away, they released their nets and started following him.  
  
19Then as he traveled on a little farther, he saw James son of ZebediOu and his brother John sitting in their boat mending their nets. 20So he called to them, and they immediately left their father ZebediOu and his crew in the boat, and they started following [Jesus].  
  
21From there, they all traveled on to CapharNaum, where on the Sabbath, [Jesus] entered their synagogue and started teaching… 22Which amazed everyone, because (unlike the Scribes) he taught with great authority.  
  
23Well at the time, there was a man in the synagogue that was under the influence of an unclean spirit, which caused him to shout:  
  
 24‘What dealings do I have with you, Jesus of Nazareth? Did you come here to destroy me? I know who you are! You’re The Holy One of God!’  
  
25But Jesus scolded [the spirit], saying:  
  
 ‘Put a muzzle on it and come out of him!’  
  
26So the unclean spirit (after throwing the man into convulsions and causing him to yell loudly) came out. 27This shocked the people, and they started asking each other:  
  
 ‘What’s this, some new teaching? For he has the power to give orders to unclean spirits and they obey him!’  
  
28So after that, the story about him was spread throughout all the country around Galilee.  
  
  
  
29Well from there, [Jesus] left the synagogue along with James and John, and they went directly to the home of Simon and Andrew, 30where they found Simon’s (Peter’s) mother-in-law lying down and burning up with a fever, which they immediately pointed out to [Jesus].  
  
31So he took her by the hand to help her up, then the fever left her and she started serving them.  
  
32Well that evening, after sunset, people started bringing all those who were ill and the demon-possessed to him… 33Virtually the whole city had gathered at their door! 34So he cured their various illnesses and expelled many demons. However, he wouldn’t allow the demons to speak, because they knew that he was the Anointed One.  
  
35Then early the next morning, while it was still dark, he got up and went outside to a remote place where he started praying. 36However, Simon (and those who were with him) searched 37for him, and when they found him they said:  
  
 ‘Everyone has been looking for you!’  
  
38But he said to them:  
  
 ‘Let’s go into the nearby villages, so I can preach there too. For, that’s why I came outside.’  
  
39And [after that], he traveled throughout all of Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.  
  
40It was while he was there that a leper came to him, who got down on his knees and said:  
  
 ‘If you just want to, you can make me clean!’  
  
41And moved with pity, [Jesus] stuck out his hand and touched him, saying:  
  
 ‘I want to… Be clean.’  
  
42Then the leprosy immediately left him and he became clean!  
  
43But [Jesus] sent him away and gave him strict orders 44not to tell anyone what he’d done. He only told him to go and show himself to the Priests and to bring along the offering of cleansing that was specified by Moses, as a witness to them.  
  
45However, after the man left, he started telling everyone and spreading the word around, so that Jesus wasn’t able to enter the cities openly, and he had to camp out in lonely places…  
  
Yet [the people] still kept coming to him from all directions.