

OUTLINE OF MARK'S GOSPELⁱ

THE FIRST HALF OF MARK'S GOSPEL: JESUS AS THE POWERFUL MESSIAH (1:1–8:26)

- I. Preparation for Jesus' Ministry in the Wilderness (1:1–13)
 - A. Opening (1:1)
 - B. The Preaching of John the Baptist in the Wilderness (1:2–4)
 - C. The Baptizing Work of John in the Jordan (1:5–8)
 - D. The Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan (1:9–11)
 - E. The Temptation of Jesus in the Wilderness (1:12–13)
- II. Jesus' Initial Ministry in Galilee (1:14–3:35)
 - A. Summary and Initial Response (1:14–45)
 - 1. [Transition] Summary of Jesus' Preaching in Galilee (1:14–15)
 - 2. Calling of Disciples: The Inner Circle (1:16–20)
 - 3. One Day in Capernaum (1:21–39)
 - 4. Healing of the Leper (1:40–45)
 - B. Controversy with Religious Leaders (2:1–3:6)
 - 1. Conflict over Healing and Forgiving Sin (2:1–12)
 - 2. Conflict over Eating with Sinners (2:13–17)
 - 3. Conflict over Fasting (2:18–22)
 - 4. Conflict over Eating on the Sabbath (2:23–28)
 - 5. Conflict over Healing on the Sabbath (3:1–6)
 - C. Summary and Initial Decision (3:7–35)
 - 1. Summary of Jesus' Healing in Galilee (3:7–12)
 - 2. Calling of Disciples: The Twelve (3:13–19)
 - 3. Rejection by Jesus' Family and by the Scribes (3:20–30)
 - 4. Jesus' True Family (3:31–35)
- III. Jesus' Ministry on and around the Sea of Galilee (4:1–8:26)
 - A. Cycle 1: Calming of the Sea (4:1–5:20)
 - 1. [Transition] Jesus' Ministry to the Crowd: Teaching in Parables (4:1–34)
 - 2. First Boat Scene: Stilling of the Storm (4:35–41)
 - 3. Healing of the Gerasene Demoniac (5:1–20)
 - B. Interval: Faith and Unbelief (5:21–6:29)
 - 1. The Faith of the Hemorrhaging Woman and Jairus (5:21–43)
 - 2. Unbelief at Nazareth (6:1–6)
 - 3. Mission of the Disciples and the Unbelief of Herod (6:7–29)
 - C. Cycle 2: Walking on the Sea (6:30–56)
 - 1. Jesus' Ministry to the Crowd: Feeding of the 5000 (6:30–44)
 - 2. Second Boat Scene: Walking on the Water (6:45–52)
 - 3. Healing at Gennesaret (6:53–56)
 - D. Interval: Matters of the Heart (7:1–37)
 - 1. Dispute over Tradition (7:1–23)
 - 2. Healing of a Gentile Woman's Daughter (7:24–30)
 - 3. Healing of Gentile Deaf Mute (7:31–37)
 - E. Cycle 3: Conversation on the Sea (8:1–26)
 - 1. Jesus' Ministry to the Crowd: Feeding of the 4000 (8:1–10)
 - 2. Test from the Pharisees (8:11–13)
 - 3. Third Boat Scene: Warning about Leaven (8:14–21)
 - 4. [Transition] Healing of the Blind Man of Bethsaida (8:22–26)

THE SECOND HALF OF MARK'S GOSPEL: JESUS AS THE SUFFERING SON OF GOD (8:27–16:8)

- I. Jesus' Ministry on the Way to Jerusalem (8:27–10:52)
 - A. Cycle 1: Prediction and Response (8:27–38)
 - 1. First Passion Prediction (8:27–31)
 - 2. Misunderstanding by the Disciples: Rebuke of Peter (8:32–33)

3. Jesus' Instructions on Discipleship: Taking Up the Cross (8:34–38)
- B. Interval: Jesus as Powerful Son of God (9:1–29)
 1. The Transfiguration (9:1–8)
 2. Teaching on Elijah (9:9–13)
 3. Healing of the Possessed Boy (9:14–29)
- C. Cycle 2: Prediction and Response (9:30–50)
 1. Second Passion Prediction (9:30–32)
 2. Misunderstanding by the Disciples: Debate about the Greatest (9:33–34)
 3. Jesus' Instructions on Discipleship: Learning to be Last (9:35–50)
- D. Interval: Jesus as Authoritative Teacher (10:1–31)
 1. Teaching on Divorce (10:1–12)
 2. Children and the Kingdom (10:13–16)
 3. The Rich Man (10:17–31)
- E. Cycle 3: Prediction and Response (10:32–45)
 1. Third Passion Prediction (10:32–34)
 2. Misunderstanding by the Disciples: Request of James and John (10:35–41)
 3. Jesus' Instructions on Discipleship: Learning to be a Servant (10:42–45)
- F. [Transition] Healing of Blind Bartimaeus (10:46–52)
- II. Jesus' Ministry at the Temple (11:1–13:37)
 - A. First Trip to the Temple (11:1–11)
 1. Travel to the Temple: The Triumphal Entry (11:1–10)
 2. Observation of the Temple and Departure to Bethany (11:11)
 - B. Second Trip to the Temple (11:12–19)
 1. Travel to the Temple: Cursing of the Fig Tree (11:12–14)
 2. Cleansing of the Temple (11:15–18)
 3. Departure out of the City (11:19)
 - C. Third Trip to the Temple (11:20–13:37)
 1. Travel to the Temple: Cursed Fig Tree and the Prayer of Faith (11:20–26)
 2. Teaching in the Temple (11:27–12:44)
 - a. Question and Parable about Jesus' Authority (11:27–12:12)
 - b. Jesus' Authority to Meet Challenges (12:13–34)
 - i. Question about Taxes (12:13–17)
 - ii. Question about the Resurrection (12:18–27)
 - iii. Question about the Greatest Commandment (12:28–34)
 - c. Jesus' Authority to Challenge (12:35–44)
 - i. Jesus against the Teaching of the Scribes (12:35–37)
 - ii. Jesus against the Behavior of the Scribes (12:38–40)
 - iii. Jesus against Wrong Perspectives on Giving (12:41–44)
 3. [Transition] Departure out of the Temple and Prediction of Its Destruction (13:1–37)
- III. Jesus' Death on the Cross and Resurrection (14:1–16:8)
 - A. Anointing at Bethany and Betrayal Plot (14:1–11)
 - B. The Last Supper (14:12–25)
 - C. Prayer and Arrest at Gethsemane (14:26–52)
 - D. Trial before Sanhedrin and Denials by Peter (14:53–72)
 - E. Trial before Pilate and Mocking by Soldiers (15:1–20)
 - F. Crucifixion and Burial (15:21–47)
 - G. Resurrection (16:1–8)

Note that Williams does not include 16:9–20 in his outline because he prefers the short ending of Mark. In the simplified outline in our Overview worksheets, I have inserted an additional point *H. Appearances to Disciples (16:9–20)* to include the traditional ending.

ⁱ Joel Williams, "Does Mark's Gospel Have an Outline?" *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 49, no. 3 (September 2006): 523–525.