

The Book of Mark:

What's the Point, and How Can We Trust It?

- Mark's theological purpose is to reveal the _____ of Jesus as _____, _____ of _____.

The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God,² as it is written in Isaiah the prophet:

*"I will send my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way"—
³"a voice of one calling in the wilderness,
'Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.'"
Mark 1:1-2 (NIV)*

Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, "Who do people say I am?"

²⁸ They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets."

*²⁹ "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"
Peter answered, "You are the Messiah."
Mark 8:27-29 (NIV)*

What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!"

Mark 1:24 (NIV)

Whenever the impure spirits saw him, they fell down before him and cried out, "You are the Son of God."

Mark 3:11 (NIV)

His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them.⁴ And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

⁵ Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." ⁶ (He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.)

⁷ Then a cloud appeared and covered them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!"

Mark 9:3-7 (NIV)

And when the centurion, who stood there in front of Jesus, saw how he died, he said, "Surely this man was the Son of God!"

Mark 15:39 (NIV)

Mark never claims ownership in any of the 16 chapters of Mark. So, how can we be confident that he wrote it?

Best answer: The _____ record.