

# “Jesus, Man of *Action*”

## Mark 1:1 - 1:13

And immediately coming up out of the water,  
He saw the heavens opening,  
and the Spirit like a dove descending upon Him;  
and a voice came out of the heavens:  
“Thou art My beloved Son, in Thee I am well-pleased.”  
Mark 1:10, NAS

## The Outline

1. Prologue to the Gospel, 1:1 - 1:13
  - A. The herald in the wilderness, 1:1 - 1:8
  - B. The Lord in the wilderness, 1:9 - 1:11
  - C. Temptation in the wilderness, 1:12 - 1:13

## The Words

**Beginning** - ἀρχή - beginning, first; (what I have told you from the very beginning or why do I talk to you at all? John 8.25); origin, first cause; ruling power, authority, ruler (whether earthly or spiritual); what is elementary, elementary principle (Hebrews 5.12; 6.1); corner (of a cloth).

**Gospel** - εὐαγγέλιον - good news, gospel: in the NT, only of God’s message of salvation *the Gospel, good news*; (1) as denoting the act of proclamation *the preaching of the Gospel* (1Cor 4.15); (2) as denoting the work of evangelization *the cause, service, or spread of the Gospel* (Phil 4.3); (3) as denoting the content of the message as an offer of salvation *the Gospel, good news, God’s message* (1Cor 9.14a).

**Baptize** - βαπτίζω - strictly, *dip, immerse* in water; mid. *dip oneself, wash*; predominantly of the use of water in a religious and symbolic sense in the NT; (1) of Jewish ritual washings *wash, cleanse, purify by washing* (Mark 7.4); (2) as a symbolic rite indicating an aspect of relation to Christ; (a) of John the Baptist’s preparatory baptizing w. water *baptize* (Matt 3.6); (b) of Jesus’ transitional baptizing w. water (John 3.22); (c) of Christian baptism w. water, identifying a believer w. the death of Christ (Acts 2.41; Romans 6.3); (3) fig. in ref. to ideas associated w. baptism, as an act of commitment and identification; w. Moses (1Cor 10.2); of receiving the Holy Spirit (Matt 3.11); of trial and martyrdom (Luke 12.50).

**Sin** - ἁμαρτία - sin; (1) of an act, a departure from doing what is right, equiv. to ἀμαρτήμα *sin, wrongdoing* (1John 5.17); (2) as the moral consequence of having done something wrong, *sin, guilt* (Acts 3.19; 1John 1.7); (3) as the

nature of wrongdoing, viewed as the rejection of God by self-assertive human beings *sin, evil* (Romans 5.12, 13; cf. Romans 1.21); (4) esp. in Johannine usage, as a moral condition of human beings in revolt against God *sin, a being evil, sinfulness* (John 9.34; 15.24); (5) esp. in Pauline usage, as an abstract moral principle or force personified as evil in character *sin, evil* (Romans 6.12); (6) esp. in Hebrews, as a deceiving power personified as leading human beings to guilt and destruction (Hebrews 3.13; 12.1).

**Immediately** - εὐθύς - straight; (1) lit. of a roadway *straight* (Acts 9.11); metaphorically of moral and spiritual preparation for Jesus’ appearing as Messiah, thus *make straight paths, i.e. change behavior* (Matthew 3.3); figuratively of moral integrity *upright, right, correct* (Acts 8.21); (2) idiomatically *a straight road, i.e. correct behavior, right way* (2Peter 2.15); (3) as adverb, *immediately, right away, at once* (Matthew 3.16); inferentially, of the immediately following event in a sequence *next* (Mark 1.21); *right after that, then* (Mark 1.30).

**Impelled** - ἐκβάλλω - to throw out of an area or object; to throw out, to jettison (from a boat). “they threw him out of the vineyard” Matthew 21.39. It may be that ἐκβάλλω in Mt 21.39 is a type of hyperbole for causing to go out, but at the same time it is possible that the term ἐκβάλλω is to be understood in a literal sense “on the next day, they threw out the cargo (of the boat)” Acts 27.18.

**Tempt** - πειράζω - to try to learn the nature or character of someone or something by submitting such to thorough and extensive testing - to test, to examine, to put to the test, examination, testing. “put yourselves to the test as to whether you are in the faith (or not)” 2 Cor 13.5 “the Pharisees and Sadducees came, and to test him they asked if he would show them a sign from heaven” Mt 16.1. “don’t be surprised at the painful testing you are experiencing” 1 Peter 4.12; “you shall not put the Lord your God to the test” Luke 4.12; “an expert in the Law stood up to test him” Luke 10.25.

**Satan** - Σατανᾶς - a borrowing from Aramaic; a title for the Devil, literally *adversary*: the principal supernatural evil being. An alternate word is the Greek word διάβολος - a title for the Devil, literally *slanderer*.

## The Quotations

Mark 1:2 “Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way.” Malachi 3:1

Mark 1:3 “The voice of one crying in the wilderness, ‘make ready the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’” Isaiah 40:3