

BIBL 652: THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Rikk Watts

July 20 – 31; 6:30 – 9:30 pm

2 or 3 graduate credit hours; or 2 audit hour

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Likely the earliest gospel, recent scholarship has come increasingly to appreciate the power and rich subtlety of this deceptively straightforward and until modern times somewhat neglected account of Jesus. The rehabilitation of Jesus' long-ignored Jewishness has, perhaps not unexpectedly, contributed to this renaissance including a new understanding not only of Mark's themes, structure, and remarkable coherence but also of a high Christology equal to anything in John, now recognized as present from the very beginning. This course of lectures will undertake a careful exegetical study of Mark in an order (i) to understand the basic content of the gospel through the application of sound exegetical method, and (ii) to address some of the hermeneutical issues concerning its significance in the modern world. A secondary concern will be to acquaint students with some of the critical issues relating to the scholarly study of Mark. Some familiarity with NT Greek will prove advantageous but is not required.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon the successful completion of this course, students should have a clearer understanding of:

1. identify Mark's literary features, structure, and main themes.
2. give a clear account of our current knowledge concerning Mark's genre, authorship, and provenance.
3. competently exegete Mark with a view to its narrative and thematic structure from a range of perspectives.
4. demonstrate informed engagement with both the primary and secondary literatures.
5. indicate how Mark might speak to the candidate's own current context.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Most Useful Commentaries

Boring, M. Eugene, *Mark : A Commentary*, (Louisville, Ky.: Westminster John Knox, 2006). A unique and stimulating take on Mark.

Collins, Adela Yarbro, *Mark : A Commentary*, Hermeneia (Minneapolis: Fortress, 2007). In the tradition of continental scholarship, it seeks to combine a range of traditional and more recent exegetical approaches; compendium of first century backgrounds, though not always at the same level.

Evans, C.A., *Mark 8.27—16.20* WBC 34B (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2001).

* France, R.T., *The Gospel of Mark*, (Grand Rapids/Cambridge: Eerdmans, 2002). Solid engagement with the Greek text from the standpoint of the best of sensible British evangelical scholarship.

Gundry, R.H., *Mark : A Commentary on His Apology for the Cross* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993).

Hooker, M. D., *The Gospel According to St. Mark* BNTC (London: A. & C. Black, 1991). Insightful, highly readable, but non-technical exemplar of sensible English scholarship by a recognized Markan authority.

* Marcus, Joel, *Mark : A New Translation with Introduction and Commentary*, 2 vols., AB 27, 27A (New York: Doubleday, 2000, 2009). One of the recognized standards.

Voeltz, James W., *Mark 1:1–8:26; 8:27-16:20* (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing, 2013, 2019). A unique commentary focussed on the significance of the syntax and structure of the Greek text.

Please Note: This Course Information Sheet is meant to assist in selecting courses.

The official syllabus should be consulted for more detailed information. A full syllabus with drop deadlines, policies, and course assignment details is available on Moodle for registered students: moodle.regent-college.edu/login

