

Peter Remembers — Texts 7

Acts 1 ²¹ “Therefore, of these men who have accompanied us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²² beginning from the baptism of John to that day when He was taken up from us, one of these must become a witness with us of His resurrection.”

Mark 1 ¹ The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ² As it is written in the Prophets: “Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.” ³ “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord; Make his paths straight.’ ” ⁴ John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.

Mark 16 ¹⁹ So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, he was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. ²⁰ And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word (τὸν λόγον βεβαιούντος) through the accompanying signs.

Acts 10 ³⁶ You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. ³⁷ You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached— ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

³⁹ “And we are witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem, whom they killed by hanging on a tree. ⁴⁰ Him God raised up on the third day, and showed him openly, ⁴¹ not to all the people, but to witnesses chosen before by God, even to us who ate and drank with him after he arose from the dead. ⁴² And he commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is he who was ordained by God to be Judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ To him all the prophets witness that, through his name, whoever believes in him will receive remission of sins.”

Mark’s Bread Cycles in Parallel

The First Cycle (6:30—7:37)

Multiplication of the Loaves (6:30-44)
Boat Trip (6:45-56)
Dispute with the Pharisees (7:1-13)
Discourse on Bread (7:14-30)
Healing of Speech and Hearing (7:31-37)

The Second Cycle (8:1-30)

Multiplication of the Loaves (8:1-9a)
Boat Trip (8:9b-10)
Dispute with the Pharisees (8:11-13)
Discourse on Bread (8:14-21)
Healing of Sight (8:22-26) (cf. 10:46-52)

Mark 14 ⁶³ Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, “What further need do we have of witnesses? ⁶⁴ You have heard the blasphemy (ἤκούσατε τῆς βλασφημίας)! What do you think?”

Athanasius of Alexandria, *The Life of Anthony* 2 — Pondering these things he entered the church, and it happened the Gospel was being read (τὸ Εὐαγγέλιον ἀναγινώσκεσθαι), and he heard the Lord saying to the rich man, “If you would be perfect, go and sell that you have and give to the poor; and come follow me and you shall have treasure in heaven.” Antony, as though God had put him in mind of the Saints [in Acts 4.35], and as though the reading had been made on his account (ὡς δὲ αὐτὸν γενομένου τοῦ ἀναγνώσματος), went out immediately from the church, and gave the possessions of his forefathers to the villagers

Five Conflict Stories About the “Authority” (ἐξουσία) of Jesus – Mark 2.1—3.6

Mark 2.1-12 — The Paralytic Lowered from the Roof

Mark 2.13-17 — The Tax Collector

Mark 2.18-22 — A Question About Fasting

Mark 2.23-28 — A Question About the Sabbath

Mark 3.1-6 — The Man With the Withered Hand

Mark 2 ¹ And again he entered Capernaum after *some* days, and it was heard that he was at home (ἐν οἴκῳ). ² Immediately many gathered together, so that there was longer room to receive them, not even at the door. And he was speaking the word to them (ἐλάλει αὐτοῖς τὸν λόγον). ³ Then they approached, carrying to him a paralytic, borne by four men. ⁴ And unable to come near him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where he was. So when they had broken through, they lowered the pallet (τὸν κράβαττον) on which the paralytic lay.

⁵ Jesus, seeing their faith (τὴν πίστιν αὐτῶν), said to the paralytic, “Child (τέκνον), your sins are forgiven you (ἀφίενταί σου αἱ ἁμαρτίαι — שְׁבִיבֵן לְךָ חַטֹּאתֶיךָ).” ⁶ And some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts (διαλογιζόμενοι ἐν ταῖς καρδίαις αὐτῶν), ⁷ “Why does he say this? He blasphemes (βλασφημεῖ)! Who can forgive sins (ἀφιέναι ἁμαρτίας — הַלְיָשֵׁבֶן לְמַשְׁכָּל לְמַשְׁכָּל) but God alone?”

⁸ But immediately, when Jesus perceived in his spirit that they reasoned thus within themselves (ὅτι οὕτως διαλογίζονται ἐν ἑαυτοῖς), he said to them, “Why do you reason about these things in your hearts (ταῦτα διαλογίζεσθε ἐν ταῖς καρδίαις ὑμῶν)? ⁹ Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, ‘Sins are forgiven you,’ or to say, ‘Arise, take up your bed and walk’? ¹⁰ But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins (ἐξουσίαν ἔχει ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου — שֶׁנֶּאֱמָר בְּרַב — ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς ἀφιέναι ἁμαρτίας)”—he said to the paralytic, ¹¹ “I say to you, arise, take up your pallet, and go to your house.” ¹² Immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went out in the presence of them all, so that all were amazed and glorified God, saying, “Never did we see the like!”

Leviticus 24 ¹¹ And the Israelite woman’s son blasphemed the Name and cursed; and so they brought him to Moses. . . . ¹² Then they put him in custody, that the mind of the Lord might be shown to them. ¹³ And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ¹⁴ Take outside the camp him who has cursed; then let all who heard lay their hands on his head, and let all the congregation stone him.