

THE BOOK OF MARK



UNEXPECTED

KINGDOM

¹⁴ After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news (euaggelion) of God. ¹⁵ “The time has come,” he said. “**The kingdom of God** has come near. Repent and believe the good news (euaggelion) !”

Mark 1:14–15

²¹ They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. ²² The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law.

²³ Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, ²⁴ “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!” ...

²⁵ “Be quiet!” said Jesus sternly. “Come out of him!” ²⁶ The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek.

²⁷ The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, “What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him.” ²⁸ News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee.

²⁹ As soon as they left the synagogue, they went with James and John to the home of Simon and Andrew. ³⁰ Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they immediately told Jesus about her. ³¹ So he went to her, took her hand and helped her up. The fever left her and she began to wait on them.

³² That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon-possessed. ³³ The whole town gathered at the door, ³⁴ and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. He also drove out many demons, but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was....

Mark 1:29-39

³⁵ Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.

³⁶ Simon and his companions went to look for him, ³⁷ and when they found him, they exclaimed: “Everyone is looking for you!”

³⁸ Jesus replied, “Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come.” ³⁹

So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.

More Exorcisms in the Gospel of Mark

- Mark 3:14-15 Jesus appoints the twelve and gives them authority "to drive out demons."
- Mark 3:22-30 Jesus debates religious leaders over his extraordinary ability to drive out demons.
- Mark 5:1-20 Jesus exorcises a man possessed by multiple demons.
- Mark 7:24-30 Jesus exorcises the daughter of a Syrian Phoenician woman.
- Mark 9:14-39 Jesus exorcises a boy after his disciples fail.

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The Spiritual Realm according to the Bible

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 - A **person** is an entity that has intelligence, thoughts, intentions, actions, some degree of self-determination, and can form relationships with other persons (Olson, *The Essentials of Christian Thought*, 53).

The Spiritual Realm according to the Bible

1. Persons are the most important things in the universe.
 - A **human** is a person with a physical body.
 - A **spirit** is a person without a physical body.

The Spiritual Realm according to the Bible

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2. **Yahweh** is the all-powerful, spirit who has created all other spirits.

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2. Yahweh is the all-powerful, spirit who has created all other spirits.
 - **Angels**, cherubs, etc. are spirits that serve Yahweh.
 - **Demons** are spirits that rebel against Yahweh.
 - **Satan** or the **Devil** is the leader of the demons.

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2. Yahweh is the all-powerful, spirit who has created all other spirits.
3. Yahweh creates the physical world for humans.
 - The humans rebel against Yahweh.
 - **The earth comes under the rule of the demons.**

Revelation 12:9

The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. **He was hurled to the earth**, and his angels with him.

1 John 5:19

We know that we are children of God, and that **the whole world is under the control of the evil one**.

²³ Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, ²⁴ “**What do you want with us (ti hēmin kai soi)**, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!”

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⁷ He shouted at the top of his voice, “What do you want with me, **Jesus, Son of the Most High God**? In God’s name don’t torture me!”

Mark 5:7

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²⁵ **“Be quiet!”** said Jesus sternly. **“Come out of him!”** ²⁶ The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek.

¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

Ephesians 6:12