

# “My Beloved Son”

Present Truth · Plain Talk · Pressing Testimony



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*Family Time.* Precious memories (even if it was just a trip to the dump!). Steam engine. 5-gear bicycle. Flat tires fixed. Hiking the German Alps. Vacations in Corsica. 🇷🇺 Moscow with my oldest son. Red Square. Gorky Park. KGB! My youngest son & I once bought an old Mercedes. Total 🍋 (my wife warned us!). Used car shopping in sketchy places. Stellar memories!

## Gospel of Mark: Spotlight

Eureka Moment!



*Religion Class in Germany with Herr Schwab. Gospel of Mark: Jesus = Son of God from start to finish!*

**Introduction:** “The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God” (1:1).

Mark’s introduction: no introduction. No birth narrative either, no genealogy, no Bethlehem, no childhood. Chapter one, verse one, and Mark declares to the reader the heart of the Gospel: *Jesus is the Son of God. Period.*

**Baptism:** “Then a voice came from heaven, ‘You are My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased’” (1:11).

A most special moment - and message - as the Father speaks during the ministry of Christ only two more times.

**Sabbath. Synagogue. Unclean Spirits:** “You are the Son of God!” (3:11) *Good News → Great Controversy*

**Demon-Possession:** “What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God?” (5:7)

**People:** “Is this not the carpenter, the Son of Mary ... So they were offended at Him” (6:3).

**Peers:** just a relative, a human brother, a carpenter. *We think so small; we think too small!*

**Peter:** “You are the Christ!” Matthew: “... the Son of the living God!” (Mt 16:16) *Center piece and platform of the church!*

**Transfiguration:** “A voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is My beloved Son. Listen to Him!” (9:7) *Do you?!*

**High Priest:** “Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?” Jesus said, “I am. And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven” (14:61-62).

**Roman Centurion (!):** “So when the centurion, who stood opposite Him, saw that He cried out like this and breathed His last, he said, “Truly this Man was the Son of God!”” (15:39). *If a Roman Centurion*

Misconceptions & Misrepresentations: Call for Correction!

## New Testament: Highlight

**Matthew:** ‘Truly You are the Son of God’” (Mt 14:33)! Scripture taken from the New King James Version. Copyright © 1979, 1980, 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

**Luke:** “All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, and who the Father is except the Son, and *the one* to whom the Son wills to reveal *Him*” (Lk 10:22).

**John:** “Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world” (John 11:27).

“but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name” (John 20:31).

“... truly our fellowship *is* with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ” (1 John 1:3). → *Verse 4: Joy!*

**The Gospel:** “In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another” (1 John 4:9).

**Ethiopian Eunuch:** “Then Philip said, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.” And he answered and said, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God”” (Acts 8:37) [Textus Receptus only]

**Paul’s first sermon:** “Immediately he preached the Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God” (Acts 9:20).

**Ephesians 4:13:** “... till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.” = *End-time culmination of the church!*

**Thyatira:** “These things says the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire” (Revelation 2:18). *The church of the Dark Ages!*

**Nebuchadnezzar:** “Look!” he answered, “I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God” (Dan 3:25; RH Feb 1, 1881: “no other” than the Son of God!)

“Grace, mercy, and peace will be with you from God the Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love” (2 John 3).

“The Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of the Father, is truly God in infinity, **but not in personality**” (Ms116-1905.19).

“When Christ first announced to the heavenly host His mission and work in the world, He declared that He was to leave His position of dignity and disguise His holy mission by assuming the likeness of a man, **when in reality He was the Son of the infinite God**” (Lt 303, 1903).

**“God is the Father of Christ; Christ is the Son of God” (8T 268).**

“It is by the Word made flesh that we are saved. Our redemption was wrought out, **not by the Son of God’s remaining in heaven, but by the Son of God’s becoming incarnate**—taking humanity upon Him and coming to this world. **Thus eternal life was brought to us**” (Letter 253-1903.29). *A salvation matter!*

“Lucifer in heaven, before his rebellion, was a high and exalted angel, **next in honor to God’s dear Son**. ... yet Christ, **God’s dear Son**, had the pre-eminence over all the angelic host” (SR 13.1). **“The great Creator assembled the heavenly host, that He might in the presence of all the angels confer special honor upon His Son. The Son** was seated on the throne with the Father, and the heavenly throng of holy angels was gathered around them. The Father then made known that it was ordained by Himself that Christ, **His Son**, should be equal with Himself; so that wherever was the presence of **His Son**, it was as His own presence. The word of **the Son** was to be obeyed as readily as the word of the Father. **His Son** He had invested with authority to command the heavenly host. Especially was **His Son** to work in union with Himself in the anticipated creation of the earth and every living thing that should exist upon the earth. **His Son** would carry out His will and His purposes but would do nothing of Himself alone. The Father’s will would be fulfilled in Him” (SR 13.2 [originally ST January 9, 1879, Art. B, par. 2]). ❤️ *the Son!*

“Lucifer and his sympathizers were striving to reform the government of God. They were discontented and unhappy because they could not look into His unsearchable wisdom and ascertain His purposes in exalting His Son, and endowing Him with such unlimited power and command. They rebelled against the authority of the Son. Angels that were loyal and true ... **clearly set forth that Christ was the Son of God, existing with Him before the angels were created; and that He had ever stood at the right hand of God**” (SR 15.2). ... And so, “The Father consulted His Son in regard to at once carrying out their purpose to make man to inhabit the earth. The Father and the Son engaged in the mighty, wondrous work they had contemplated—of creating the world. And now God said to His Son, “Let us make man in our image” (SR 19-20; *the true meaning of Gen 1:26!*).

✨ **“Christ was the only begotten Son of God, and Lucifer, that glorious angel, got up a warfare over the matter, until he had to be thrust down to the earth” (Ms 86, Aug. 21, 1910).** “Satan was well acquainted **with the position of honor Christ had held in Heaven as the Son of God**, the beloved of the Father” (RH March 3, 1874). **“This fact the angels would obscure, that Christ was the only begotten Son of God”** (Lt 42-1910.3).

“In order that man might be placed on vantage ground with God, **Christ, the only begotten Son of God, made in His express image**, came to this world and in the likeness of humanity lived a perfect life” (John 3:16 cited; (Ms127-1905.14).

“The Saviour of the world had no controversy with Satan, who was expelled from Heaven because he was no longer worthy of a place there. He who could influence the angels of God against their Supreme Ruler, and against **his Son**, their loved commander, and enlist their sympathy for himself, was capable of any deception. Four thousand years he had been warring against the government of God, and had lost none of his skill or power to tempt and deceive” (RH August 18, 1874, par. 10 [ISM 279]).

“From the beginning, God and Christ knew of the apostasy of Satan, and of the fall of man through the deceptive power of the apostate. God did not ordain that sin should exist, but He foresaw its existence, and made provision to meet the terrible emergency. So great was His love for the world, that He covenanted **to give His only-begotten Son**, “that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” John 3:16 (DA 22).

“The heavens were opened, and beams of glory rested upon **the Son of God** and assumed the form of a dove, in appearance like burnished gold. The dove-like form was emblematical of the meekness and gentleness of Christ. While the people stood spell-bound with amazement, their eyes fastened upon Christ, from the opening heavens came these words: **“This is my beloved Son**, in whom I am well pleased.” The words of confirmation that **Christ is the Son of God** were given to inspire faith in those who witnessed the scene, and to sustain the **Son of God** in his arduous work. **Notwithstanding the Son of God was clothed with humanity, yet Jehovah, with his own voice, assures him of his sonship with the Eternal.** In this manifestation to **his Son**, God accepts humanity as exalted through the excellence of **his beloved Son**” (RH Jan. 21, 1873, par. 5).

“The Lord Jesus needs in His work men who will stand with their faces to the foe, men who will fight manfully in their aggressive warfare, **men who understand that Christ is the Son of God**, the Author and Finisher of their faith” (Lt75-1898.30).

“We must have more than an intellectual belief in the truth. **Many of the Jews were convinced that Jesus was the Son of God, but they were too proud and ambitious to surrender.** They decided to resist the truth, and they maintained their opposition. They did not receive into the heart the truth as it is in Jesus” (Evangelism 291).

“Christ will restore the moral image of God in man. But this can only be done by the consent of the human agent, and by his cooperation with Christ. **The transformation seen in the lives of the members of the church testifies that Christ is the Son of God**” (Letter 108, 1900; 20MR 362.2).

**“I feel my spirit stirred within me. I feel to the depth of my being that the truth must be borne to other countries and nations and to all classes. Let the missionaries of the cross proclaim that there is one God, and one Mediator between God and man, who is Jesus Christ the Son of the Infinite God. This needs to be proclaimed throughout every church in our land” (Ms40-1891.78; Ellen White 1888 Materials 886.3).**