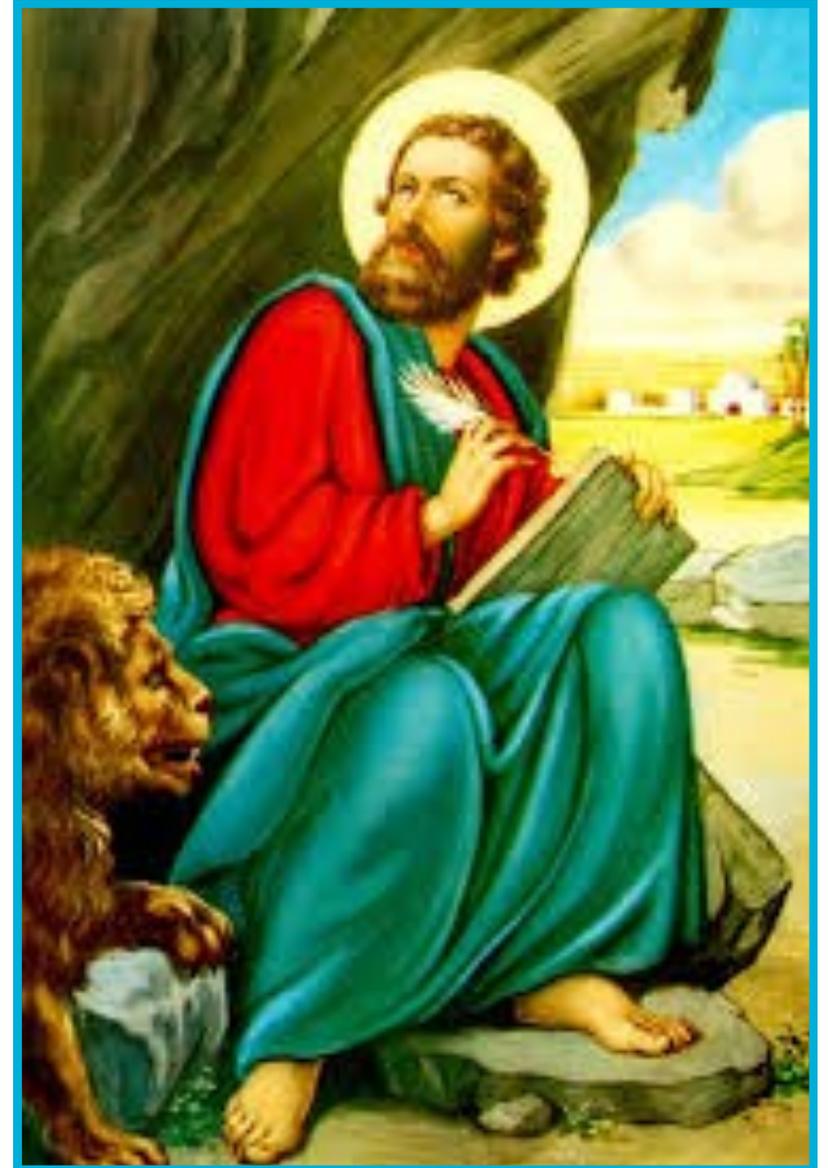




THE GOSPEL OF MARK

CHAPTER 13: 1-37



For the Catholic Church, God's Revelation is found in Sacred Tradition, understood as God's Revealed Word handed down by the Living Teaching Authority established by Christ in the Church. That includes both Written Tradition (Scripture) and Unwritten Tradition received from Christ and handed down Orally by the Apostles and their Successors. The Church founded by Christ on Peter, and only that Church, has been Empowered by Christ to 'Interpret' His Teaching Authoritatively in His Name.

Scripture is *Inspired*; *Inspiration* really means that God Himself is the Chief Author of the Scriptures. He uses a Human Agent, in so marvelous a way that the Human writes what the Holy Spirit wants him to write, does so without Error, yet the Human Writer is Free, and keeps his own Style of Language. It is only because God is *Transcendent* that He can do this - insure Freedom from Error, while leaving the Human Free. To say He is Transcendent means that He is above and beyond all our Human Classifications and Categories.

Mark wrote down Peter's account of the 'good news'. Peter was one of the first twelve of Jesus' disciples, and the first to publicly recognize Him as the Messiah. Peter, through Mark, shows us that Jesus fulfills all the criteria of the Servant-Messiah our Ransom, who was prophesied by Isaiah some 750 years earlier (Isaiah 42:1-9; 49:5-7; 52:13-53:12). Jesus is portrayed as a slave, caring for people and serving God (Mark 1:32-35). There are therefore no details of His birth, only of the beginning of His service (Mark 1:1,9).

Considered one of the most important Catholic theologians and Bible commentators, Cornelius à Lapide's, S.J. writings on the Bible, created a Scripture Commentary so complete and scholarly that it was practically the universal commentary in use by Catholics for over 400 years. Fr. Lapide's most excellent commentaries have been widely known for successfully combining piety and practicality. Written during the time of the Counter Reformation, it includes plenty of apologetics. His vast knowledge is only equaled by his piety and holiness.

Mark 13: 1-37

Douay Rheims Version

Christ foretells the destruction of the temple and the signs that shall forerun the day of judgment.

1. And as he was going out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him: Master, behold what manner of stones and what buildings are here.
2. And Jesus answering, said to him: Seest thou all these great buildings? There shall not be left a stone upon a stone, that shall not be thrown down.
3. And as he sat on the mount of Olivet over against the temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew asked him apart:
4. Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign when all these things shall begin to be fulfilled?

5. And Jesus answering, began to say to them, Take heed lest any man deceive you.
6. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am he; and they shall deceive many.
7. And when you shall hear of wars and rumours of wars, fear ye not. For such things must needs be, but the end is not yet.
8. For nation shall rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom, and there shall be earthquakes in divers places, and famines. These things are the beginning of sorrows.
9. But look to yourselves. For they shall deliver you up to councils, and in the synagogues you shall be beaten, and you shall stand before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony unto them.
10. And unto all nations the gospel must first be preached.
11. And when they shall lead you and deliver you up, be not thoughtful beforehand what you shall speak; but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye. For it is not you that speak, but the Holy Ghost.
12. And the brother shall betray his brother unto death, and the father his son; and children shall rise up against the parents, and shall work their death.
13. And you shall be hated by all men for my name's sake. But he that shall endure unto the end, he shall be saved.
14. And when you shall see the abomination of desolation, standing where it ought not: he that readeth let him understand: then let them that are in Judea, flee unto the mountains:
15. And let him that is on the housetop, not go down into the house, nor enter therein to take any thing out of the house:
16. And let him that shall be in the field, not turn back to take up his garment.
17. And woe to them that are with child, and that give suck in those days.
18. But pray ye, that these things happen not in winter.
19. For in those days shall be such tribulations, as were not from the beginning of the creation which God created until now, neither shall be.
20. And unless the Lord had shortened the days, no flesh should be saved: but for the sake of the elect which he hath chosen, he hath shortened the days.
21. And then if any man shall say to you, Lo, here is Christ; lo, he is here: do not believe.
22. For there will rise up false Christs and false prophets, and they shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce (if it were possible) even the elect.
23. Take ye heed therefore; behold I have foretold you all things.
24. But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light.
25. And the stars of heaven shall be falling down, and the powers that are in heaven, shall be moved.
26. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds, with great power and glory.

27. And then shall he send his angels, and shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from the uttermost part of the earth to the uttermost part of heaven.
28. Now of the fig tree learn ye a parable. When the branch thereof is now tender, and the leaves are come forth, you know that summer is very near.
29. So you also when you shall see these things come to pass, know ye that it is very nigh, even at the doors.
30. Amen I say to you, that this generation shall not pass, until all these things be done.
31. Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my word shall not pass away.
32. But of that day or hour no man knoweth, neither the angels in heaven, *nor the Son* (*Nor the Son: Not that the Son of God is absolutely ignorant of the day of judgment, but that he knoweth it not, as our teacher; that is, he knoweth it not so as to teach it to us, as not being expedient.*) *but the Father.*
33. *Take ye heed, watch and pray. For ye know not when the time is.*
34. *Even as a man who going into a far country, left his house; and gave authority to his servants over every work, and commanded the porter to watch.*
35. *Watch ye therefore, (for you know not when the lord of the house cometh: at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning,*
36. *Lest coming on a sudden, he find you sleeping.*
37. And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch.

1 Christ foretelleth the destruction of the temple. 9 the persecutions for the gospel: 10 that the gospel must be preached to all nations: 14 that great calamities shall happen to the Jews: 24 and the manner of his coming to judgment: 32 the hour whereof being known to none, every man is to watch and pray, that we be not found unprovided, when he cometh to each one, particularly by death.

Ver. 6. *Saying, I am* (Vulg.). That is, "I am Christ or Messiah," as S. Matthew has (xxiv. 5).

Ver. 11. *Be not thoughtful beforehand what you shall speak.* Gr. *πρὸ μεριμνᾶτε*, i.e., *do not think anxiously beforehand.* The Greek and Syriac add, *neither do ye meditate*, after what manner or arrangement ye shall speak and answer governors and tyrants. *But whatsoever shall be given you (i.e., shall be suggested to you by the Holy Spirit) in that hour, that speak ye.* The Arabic has, *because ye shall be given in that hour what ye shall speak.*