# Mark 16 July 7, 1997 H. Van Dyke Parunak

#### Overview

- 1. Chiastic Inclusio between 1:1-28 and 16:9-19

  Message: They are to carry on for him, as his representatives.

  His death, resurrection, and ascension is not the end--it is the beginning.
- 2. This passage is one of the most significant points of deviation between the traditional Greek text of the NT, which is reflected in the vast majority of the mss, and the version used in almost all modern translations, which draws heavily on Sinaiticus and Vaticanus. These latter mss omit the text from this point on, though they both leave space for it!
  - a) But note that without it, there is no resolution to the problem of the failed disciples, and no foundation for the ongoing work of the church.
  - b) It not only dominates the mss evidence, but has also been in liturgical use in the Eastern churches for as far back as we can trace.
  - c) The close correspondence with ch. 1 shows that it is a fitting ending to the gospel.

## A. 9, Victory over Demons, cf. 1:23

Why the reference to Mary's demonism here, not when she is first introduced in 15:40 (elsewhere only 15:47; 16:1)? Answer: 1:23, casting out spirits is his first miracle referred to in the book; so it will be his last one. Before, we have seen Mary only in connection with the Lord in his weakness. Now he is risen, restored to glory and power, and we are reminded of his supremacy over spiritual opposition.

1. Distribution in Mark (x = demon, u = unclean spirit)

									1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
x		х		x	x	х		х							х
х		х		u	u	х									X
u		u		u		х									
u		u		u		u									
u															

The occurrence in 9:38 has to do with someone else casting out demons in Jesus' name. From 8 through 15 there is no reference to this conflict that has been so prominent in his ministry; now in ch. 16, the battle over, his dominion returns.

2. This is a theme that Mark emphasizes more than any other

#### qospel:

- a) Mark: daimon, daimonion 12x, "unclean spirit(s)" 10x, 22/678 vv = 1/31vv
- b) Matt: 10 + 2, 12/1073 = 1/90vv
- c) Luke: 21 + 5, 26/1151 vv = 1/45vv
- d) John: 6 + 0, 6/979 = 1/163vv

## B. 9-14, Call of the Disciples, cf. 1:16-20

- 1. As there, sequential
- 2. Starts with those on the periphery, works his way in to the 11
  - a) Mary Magdalene, who has stood faithfully with him during his passion.
  - b) The two on the road to Emmaus, who are here distinguished from the Twelve.
- 3. Lesson: His patience with his children to instruct and rebuke them according to their need.

### C. 15-16, Preaching the Gospel, cf. 1:14-15

In ch. 1, the Lord is the one who preaches the gospel; now they must carry on in his place.

### D. 17-18, Signs of the Spirit's Blessing and Satan's Defeat

- 1. Baptise with the Holy Ghost ... speak with tongues
- 2. with the wild beasts ... handle serpents
- 3. tempted by Satan ... cast out devils
- 4. John's diet of locusts & honey ... they can drink poison
- 5. Lord anointed with Spirit ... they lay hands on sick

### E. 19, Lord Comes and Returns, cf. 1:1-3

Note the distinctive titles:

- 1. in ch. 1,
  - a) "Jesus," the name of Birth
  - b) "Christ," the name of Baptism
- 2. in ch. 16, "the Lord," the name of resurrection (first and only time in the book)

## F. 20, The Church Moves Out

- 1. "They went forth," that is, from Jerusalem, after receiving the blessing of the Spirit per Acts 2.
- 2. Greek contrast men ... de compares this with the Lord's return to heaven. He withdraws from the earth; they move out in his place, taking on the work for which he has equipped them.