

**HWMR - Crystallization Study of the Gospel of Mark**

Book Two, Week 12

Message Twelve

**The Death, Resurrection, and Ascension of the Slave-Savior  
and His Universal Spreading of the Gospel through His Disciples**

Scripture Reading: Mark 10:45; 15:22-39; 16:1-6, 15-16, 19-20

- Mark 10:45 For even the **Son of Man** did not come to be served, but to serve and to **give His life** as a **ransom** for many.
- Mark 15:22 And they brought Him to the place Golgotha, which is interpreted, the Place of a Skull.
- Mark 15:23 And they tried to give Him wine mixed with myrrh, but He did not take it.
- Mark 15:24 And they **crucified Him** and divided His garments, casting lots for them to see what each should take.
- Mark 15:25 Now it was the **third hour** and they **crucified Him**.
- Mark 15:26 And there was an inscription of the charge against Him inscribed: **The King Of The JEWS**.
- Mark 15:27 And with Him they crucified two robbers, one on His right and one on His left.
- Mark 15:28 And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "And He was counted with the lawless."
- Mark 15:29 And those who were passing by blasphemed Him, wagging their heads and saying, Aha! You who destroy the temple and build it in three days,
- Mark 15:30 Save Yourself and come down from the **cross**!
- Mark 15:31 Likewise also the chief priests with the scribes mocked Him with one another and said, He saved others; Himself He cannot save.
- Mark 15:32 Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe. Those who were crucified with Him also reproached Him.
- Mark 15:33 And when the **sixth hour** came, darkness fell over the whole land until the **ninth hour**.
- Mark 15:34 And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, **Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?** which is interpreted, **My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?**
- Mark 15:35 And some of those standing by heard this and said, Behold, He is calling for Elijah.
- Mark 15:36 And someone ran and filled a sponge with vinegar, and putting it on a reed, gave it to Him to drink, saying, Let Him be. Let us see if Elijah is coming to take Him down.
- Mark 15:37 And Jesus let out a loud cry and expired.
- Mark 15:38 And the veil of the temple was split in two from top to bottom.
- Mark 15:39 And the centurion standing by opposite Him, seeing that He expired in this way, said, **Truly this man was the Son of God**.
- Mark 16: 1 And when the Sabbath was past, Mary the Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might come and anoint Him.
- Mark 16: 2 And very early on the **first day of the week**, they came to the tomb as the sun rose.
- Mark 16: 3 And they said to one another, Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?
- Mark 16: 4 And when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away, for it was extremely large.
- Mark 16: 5 And when they entered into the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right, clothed in a white robe, and they were alarmed.
- Mark 16: 6 And he said to them, Do not be alarmed. You are seeking Jesus the Nazarene, who has been **crucified**. **He has been raised**; He is not here. Behold the place where they laid Him.
- Mark 16:15 And He said to them, **Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to all the creation**.
- Mark 16:16 **He who believes and is baptized shall be saved, but he who does not believe shall be condemned**.
- Mark 16:19 So then the Lord Jesus, after speaking to them, was **taken up into heaven** and sat at the right hand of God.
- Mark 16:20 And they went out and preached everywhere, **the Lord working with them** and confirming the word by the accompanying signs.

**B A N N E R S:**

<p><b>1</b></p> <p><b>When we live in the mingled spirit, we are learning Christ according to the reality in Jesus by the Spirit of reality so that His biography becomes our <b>history</b> to be the reality of the Body of Christ.</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p><b>Christ's person with His all-inclusive death and His wonderful resurrection is our all-inclusive <b>replacement</b> for the producing of the one new man so we must "hear Him" and see "Jesus only."</b></p>
<p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>The kingdom of God is the Lord Jesus <b>sown</b> as seed into the believers and developing into a realm over which God can rule in the divine life.</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p><b>Let us <b>go forth</b> and preach Christ to all the creation, proclaiming the gospel, presenting the truth, and ministering life for the growth, development, and manifestation of the kingdom of God</b></p>

We must realize that nothing from ourselves is good or desired by God. God has **brought** everything of us **to an end** by the **crucifixion** of Christ. Now He has **given us the Spirit, who dwells within us**. **We must simply live and walk according to this Spirit and have living contact with the Lord**. Then the effectiveness of the death of Christ will be realized in us through the Holy Spirit. (The Four Major Steps of Christ, Chapter 2, Section 1)

### DAY 1

#### I. The entire Gospel of Mark is summarized in Peter's word in Acts 10:36-43.

#### II. There are at least three reasons why it was necessary for the Lord Jesus, the Slave-Savior, to be crucified:

- A. **Man became fallen**, and creation was corrupted by God's enemy; therefore, both **man and creation needed to be judged**—Rom. 3:23; 8:20-21; 1 Pet. 2:24; 3:18.

*"God had a plan. Satan came in to frustrate and stop God's plan from being accomplished, but he could never succeed. He can frustrate and delay, but he can never stop God's eternal plan from being realized. God will certainly accomplish what He has purposed. So the question is, how would God accomplish His eternal purpose when man was fallen and creation corrupted? He accomplishes His purpose by **redemption through judgment**. That is why Christ had to die on the cross. That is why **He had to be judged** on behalf of **fallen humanity** and the **corrupted creation**. Through judgment God could redeem fallen humanity and recover the corrupted creation. Thus, the death of Christ on the cross is, on one hand, the judgment of God and, on the other hand, redemption. Herein lies the wisdom of God. God seized hold of the work of Satan and turned it to His own account."* (The Four Major Steps of Christ, Chapter 2)

- B. Christ died in order to **bring the old creation**, including mankind, **to an end**; only in this way could He produce a new creation—Col. 1:15, 20; Heb. 2:9.

*The **economy of God** is that Christ must **bring to death all creation**. In God's economy **we were crucified** (Rom. 6:6; Gal. 2:20; 5:24) even before we were born! Perhaps you were born just fifty years ago, but you were crucified two thousand years ago. In man's reckoning such a thing could not be, but in God's economy it is so. **The whole creation was brought to an end by the crucifixion of Christ**. That is why Christ had to die. (The Four Major Steps of Christ, Chapter 2)*

- C. The Lord Jesus was crucified so that **He could impart Himself into us as our life and life supply**—John 12:24; 19:34.

*A third reason for Christ's death is so that **He might impart Himself to us as our life supply**. Have we ever realized that every meal we have eaten is composed of things that have passed through death? Take, for example, a fish. Would we eat it alive? No, the fish must die. Everything that we eat must die, even an apple or an orange. Day by day while we are eating, we are killing, for we must chew the food. We kill the fruit, we kill the fish, we kill the cattle! Nothing can be our food unless it is dead. A little grain of wheat if put into the earth will grow, for there is life in it. But if we would take the grain as our food, we must kill it by eating it. We must realize that Christ had to pass through death in order to impart Himself to us as our life supply. **Even if we were not sinful, Christ still must die for us. He had to die that He might be our life supply**. (The Four Major Steps of Christ, Chapter 2)*

### DAY 2

#### III. In His redeeming death on the cross, the Slave-Savior gave His life as a ransom for many—Mark 10:45:

- A. The word **ransom** in 10:45 indicates that **the Lord's redemption** was His **service** rendered to sinners for God's plan.
- B. In His humanity the Lord served sinners even **by giving His life**, that is, His soul-life; the Lord's soul-life was the ransom, the price, He paid for many—John 10:11.
- C. The Lord Jesus did a great work in paying the price for us, **giving His soul-life** as a ransom to pay off our debt before God according to God's nature, justice, and requirements and under the watching of the enemy—Rom. 5:18.
- D. Christ's giving His human life as a ransom for many took place under the process of God's **judgment**—8:3:
1. While He was being judged by God for us, He gave up His soul-life as a ransom, as a payment, for us.
  2. God **put our sins upon Him**, regarding Him as **the unique sinner**, even as **sin itself**; as a result, **God forsook Him**, leaving Him alone under His judgment—1 Pet. 2:24; 2 Cor. 5:21.

*Brothers and sisters, we must realize that this **all-inclusive death of Christ** on the cross is the settlement of all the problems in the universe between God and His creation. The problems of Satan, sin, sickness, death, the world, and the fallen human nature—all problems—were solved at the cross. **We have sinned**, and from sin come sickness and death. In the universe **there is Satan** with all his hosts: the principalities, powers, dominions, authorities, and evil hosts in the air. There is ourselves, the biggest, most subjective problem of all. **There is also the world**, which is the kingdom of Satan, as our environment. **These are not only our problems but also God's problems**. These are the problems that frustrated God in the accomplishing of His eternal plan. **God, therefore, had to deal with them and settle them all**. How? It is **by the death of Christ**. (The Four Major Steps of Christ, Chapter 2)*

### DAY 3

**IV. When God was judging Christ as our Substitute, who was made sin for us and was bearing our sins, God forsook Christ economically — Mark 15:22-39:**

- A. The Lord Jesus was **judged** by God for the accomplishment of redemption, and God counted Him as our suffering **Substitute** for sin—Isa. 53:10a.
- B. Our sin and sins and all negative things were dealt with on the cross, and God forsook the Slave-Savior because of our sin—Mark 15:33-34:
  - 1. **God forsook Christ on the cross** because He took the place of sinners, bearing our sins and being made sin for us—1 Pet. 3:18; 2:24; Isa. 53:6; 2 Cor. 5:21.
  - 2. In the sight of God, **Christ became a great sinner**, and God judged Him **as our Substitute for our sins**—John 3:14; Rom. 8:3.
  - 3. Christ was our **Substitute** and was even sin in the sight of God; therefore, God **judged** Him and even **forsook** Him.
- C. Because Christ bore our sins and was made sin for us, God, in judging Him as our Substitute, **forsook** Him **economically**—Mark 15:33-34:
  - 1. The Lord Jesus was born of the **begetting Spirit** as the divine essence, who **never left Him essentially**—Luke 1:35.
  - 2. When the Lord Jesus, the God-man, died on the cross under God's judgment, He had God within Him essentially as His divine being; nevertheless, He was **forsaken** by the righteous and judging God **economically**—Matt. 1:18, 20; 27:46:
    - a. Because the Lord Jesus was conceived of the Holy Spirit and was born of God and with God, He had the Holy Spirit as the intrinsic essence of His divine being; thus, it was **not possible** for God to forsake Him **essentially**—1:18, 20.
    - b. **Christ was forsaken by God economically** when the Spirit, who had descended upon Him as the economical power for the carrying out of His ministry (3:16), left Him; **however, the essence of God remained in His being**, and He therefore died on the cross as the God-man—1 John 1:7.

*It is a great matter that on the cross the Lord Jesus paid the price for us, giving His soul life as a ransom. Because God is a God of law, He must do everything legally. Even in forgiving us, in writing off our debt, He must act legally. Furthermore, God's enemy Satan is always watchful to see if God will act righteously. If God were to do anything in an unrighteous way, Satan would immediately protest. Therefore, with respect to Christ's giving Himself as a ransom for many in payment of our debt, God could not do anything lawlessly. On the contrary, He had to do everything according to His nature and His way. Christ paid the price for us by doing a great work according to God's nature, justice, and requirements and under the watching of the enemy, Satan. On the one hand, God forsook Christ economically. On the other hand, God was waiting and watching to see how Christ as our Substitute would pay the debt for us. This was the reason that the time of God's judgment of Christ as our Substitute lasted three hours. For Christ to pay off our debt it was necessary for Him to pass through a process that went on for three hours. From this we see that Christ did a great work in giving Himself as a ransom to pay off our debt before God. (Conclusion of the New Testament, The (Msgs. 063-078), Chapter 8, Section 4)*

**DAY 4**

**V. The Slave-Savior's resurrection is proof that God is satisfied with what He accomplished through His death—Mark 16:1-6; Rom. 4:25:**

- A. His **resurrection** is a **confirmation** of the effectiveness of His redeeming and life-imparting death—Acts 2:24; 3:15.
- B. His resurrection became the **evidence** of our justification and the power by which we could be freed from sin—Rom. 4:25; 1 Cor. 15:17.

**VI. In a very real sense, the Gospel of Mark may be considered the Gospel of Peter (1 Pet. 5:13); therefore, we should consider Peter's words concerning Christ's resurrection, as recorded in the book of Acts:**

- A. In his first gospel message Peter testified that the crucified Jesus was **raised up by God**; since Christ is resurrection, it was impossible for Him to be held by death—Acts 2:24; John 11:25.
- B. The people had killed the One who is the **Author of life**, the origin and **source** of life, but God raised Him from the dead—Acts 3:15.
- C. The crucified Jesus has been raised from the dead to be the **cornerstone** of God's building; both our salvation and God's building are in the resurrected Christ—4:10-12.
- D. The Lord Jesus, the One in resurrection, has been **exalted** by God to be the Leader and our Savior—5:30-31.

*His resurrection, after His death, Christ was resurrected. What was the divine thought in this? God had planned that all creation should both be created through Christ and cohere in Him (Col. 1:16-17). Christ must be the means of creating and the center of the creation. Then, at a certain point, God's thought was to bring all things to an end by putting them to death in Christ. But that is not the end, because God in Christ could never be conquered by death. Death can never hold Christ (Acts 2:24), for He is the fountain of life. He went into death willingly, and He stepped out of death boldly. Even as all things were created through Christ and brought to death in Christ, so now all things are resurrected in Christ. This is the divine thought: to create all things in Christ, to bring all things to death in Christ, and then to resurrect all things in Christ. (The Four Major Steps of Christ, Chapter 2)*

Before His death the Lord was in a **physical body**; He could only be among His disciples, never in them. But after the resurrection when the Lord came back to His disciples, He could enter into them. How could that be? While He was in the body, He could not be in them; He would have to be transfigured. Therefore, **by death and resurrection He was transfigured from the body into the Spirit**. That night when the disciples were gathered together, the doors were closed, yet the Lord came in. And He breathed on them, saying, “Receive the Holy Spirit” (20:22). Thenceforth, the Lord never left them, for He was in them. First, the Lord was **incarnated** to be a man, limited by a human body. Then, by His **death and resurrection**, He was **transfigured from the body into the Spirit**. First, He was with us, but now **He is in us**. Now the Lord in the Spirit **is always with us, living in us** (14:16-17; Rom. 8:9-10). He is our resurrection life. (The Four Major Steps of Christ, Chapter 3)

#### DAY 5

#### VII. The Slave-Savior’s ascension for His exaltation by God was a sign of God’s acceptance of all He had done for God’s eternal plan according to God’s New Testament economy—Mark 16:19; Acts 2:33-36:

- A. In this **exaltation** God **crowned** Him with **glory** and **honor**, **bestowed** on Him the **name that is above all names**, and made Him the Lord of all and the Head over all things that He may have all authority in heaven and on earth to rule over the heavens, the earth, and the nations so that they can work together for the universal spreading of His gospel service—Heb. 2:9; Phil. 2:9; Acts 2:36; Eph. 1:22; Matt. 28:18.
- B. In order to experience Jesus as the **Lord**, the **Christ**, the **Head** of the church, the **Head** over all, and the **One enthroned, crowned**, and given the **name above every name**, we need to be in resurrection by being in the life-giving Spirit and living and walking by the Spirit—1 Cor. 15:45b; 6:17; Gal. 5:16, 25.

We already have seen the incarnation, the crucifixion, and the resurrection. By the **resurrection** the **creation was brought to a new standing**, and **we were regenerated to be members of the Body of Christ**. But the Body was not yet formed. It was by the **ascension** of Christ that all these members were **formed into a living Body**. After Christ **ascended** to heaven, **He baptized His whole Body by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit** (Acts 2:1-4, 16-18, 33), and it was by this baptism in the Holy Spirit that all the members were formed into one Body (1 Cor. 12:13). After His ascension He also gave many gifts: **apostles, prophets, evangelists, and shepherds and teachers** (Eph. 4:8, 11-12). The purpose of these gifts was to **build up the Body**. (The Four Major Steps of Christ, Chapter 3)

#### DAY 6

#### VIII. The Gospel of Mark concludes with the Slave-Savior’s universal spreading of the gospel through His disciples—16:15-16, 20:

- A. “Go into all the world and **proclaim** the gospel to all the creation”—v. 15:
  1. God’s redemption is not only for man, the leading one in God’s creation, but also **for all the creation**:
    - a. All things, whether on earth or in the heavens, were reconciled to God, and the gospel should be **proclaimed** to (in) all creation under heaven—Col. 1:20, 23.
    - b. All the creation expects to be **freed** from the **slavery** of corruption into the **freedom** of the **glory** of the children of God—Rom. 8:19-22.
  2. The Gospel of Mark reveals that we preach the gospel to make people of the old creation the members of the **new creation**—2 Cor. 5:17; Gal. 6:15.
- B. “He who **believes** and is **baptized** shall be saved, but he who does not believe shall be condemned”—Mark 16:16:
  1. To **believe** is to **receive** Christ for **forgiveness of sins and for regeneration** so that those who believe may become children of God and members of Christ in an organic union with the Triune God—John 1:12-13; 1 Pet. 1:21, 23; Eph. 5:30; Matt. 28:19.
  2. To be **baptized** is to **affirm** this by being **buried to terminate the old creation** through Christ’s death and by being **raised up to be the new creation** of God through Christ’s resurrection—Rom. 6:3-5; 2 Cor. 5:17.
  3. **Believing**, by itself, is sufficient in order to receive salvation from condemnation; yet for the completion of one’s **inward salvation**, believing **needs baptism** as an **outward affirmation**.
- C. “They went out and **preached** everywhere, the Lord **working** with them and confirming the word by the accompanying signs”—Mark 16:20:
  1. In 1:14-15 there was only **one preacher** of the gospel, but in 16:20 there are **many preachers** of the gospel, who are the reproduction of Christ in resurrection—John 12:24.
  2. This preaching of God’s gospel to all the creation through Christ’s believers began from **Jerusalem** and has been proceeding to the **utmost** part of the earth continuously and universally through the past centuries, and **will continue to proceed until the Lord comes to set up the kingdom of God on earth**—Acts 1:8; Luke 19:12; Dan. 7:13-14.
  3. Now that we have seen the vision in the Gospel of Mark, **let us go forth to preach Christ to all the creation**; let us **proclaim** the gospel, **present** the truth, and **minister** life for the **growth, development, and manifestation** of the kingdom of God—Mark 16:15; Eph. 1:13; Col. 1:5; 1 Cor. 15:45b; 2 Cor. 4:12.

The disciples received the Spirit of life on the day of resurrection, but when the Lord was about to ascend into the heavens, He said to the disciples, “Stay in the city until you put on power from on high” (Luke 24:49). This means that on the day of **resurrection** the Lord brought living water for the people to **drink**, but on the day of Pentecost He **clothed** them with the proper uniform for power. Then they were **qualified and equipped for ministry**. (The Four Major Steps of Christ, Chapter 3)