According to Witherington, the structure of Mark demonstrates that this Gospel is biographically focused on the identity of Jesus and the importance of knowing who he is—the Christ, the Son of God. This finding reveals that Christology stood at the heart of the earliest Christians' faith. It also shows how important it was to these earliest Christians to persuade others about the nature of Jesus, both as a historical figure and as the Savior of the world.

The Gospel of Mark - Ben Witherington - 2001-01-08
This book offers the first sustained attempt to read the Gospel of Mark both as an ancient biography and as a form of ancient rhetoric. Ben Witherington applies to Mark the socio-rhetorical approach for which he is well known, opening a fresh new perspective on the earliest Gospel. Written when the fledging Christian faith was experiencing a major crisis during the Jewish war, Mark provides us with the first window on how the life and teachings of Jesus were presented to a largely non-Jewish audience. According to Witherington, the structure of Mark demonstrates that this Gospel is biographically focused on the identity of Jesus and the importance of knowing who he is—the Christ, the Son of God. This finding reveals that Christology stood at the heart of the earliest Christians' faith. It also shows how important it was to these earliest Christians to persuade others about the nature of Jesus, both as a historical figure and as the Savior of the world.

This study about the origin and purpose of Mark's Gospel illuminates the historical situation in which Mark's original readers lived, and established in what way the evangelist addresses this situation in his Gospel.

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Binding the Strong Man - Myers, Ched - 2019-02-20
"This is the first commentary on the Gospel of Mark to systematically apply a multidisciplinary approach, called 'socio-literary method.' Myers integrates literary criticism, socio-historical exegesis, and political hermeneutics in his investigation of Mark—the oldest story of Jesus—as 'manifesto of radical discipleship'." --

Binding the Strong Man - Myers, Ched -
Not only does it address a lacuna in these studies, but it does so by means of an innovative methodology...that permits a satisfying integration of the Jewish background of Mark's Gospel with its Greco-Roman background while retaining a sensitivity to the literary dimensions of the text as well as an interest in its reader. Robbins has accomplished a remarkable feat...Markan studies are certain to benefit greatly from this work." -Jouette M. Bassler Journal of Biblical Literature "Robbins proposes a challenging alternative to current approaches to the study of Mark by demonstrating that its literary qualities are inseparable from ancient social conventions in which Greco-Roman traditions are no less relevant than those of the Old Testament and early Judaism. This book is a major contribution to Markan scholarship as well as an incisive critique of some of the self-imposed limitations of contemporary New Testament research." -David E. Aune University of Notre Dame "In this important contribution of Markan studies, Robbins demonstrates that contemporary approaches to the New Testament can lead to genuinely new and fruitful insights." -Richard I. Pervo Anglican Theological Review "This volume breaks new ground in Markan study in the areas of historical background, genre, structure, plot, and theology...It contains more fresh ideas than most books of its size." -Daniel J. Harrington, S.J. Catholic Biblical Quarterly Vernon K. Robbins is Professor of New Testament and Comparative Sacred Texts in the Department and Graduate Division of Religion at Emory University in Atlanta. He was appointed Winship Distinguished Research Professor in the Humanities in 2001. Among his many books are The Tapestry of Early Christian Discourse and Exploring the Texture of Texts.

The earliest of the four Gospels, the book portrays Jesus as an enigmatic figure, struggling with enemies, his inner and external demons, and with his devoted but disconcerted disciples. Unlike other gospels, his parables are obscure, to be explained secretly to his followers. With an introduction by Nick Cave
Go Preach! - Brian K. Blount - 1998
introduction by Nick Cave

A Reordering of Power - Herman C. Waetjen - 2014-02-25

This 1999 book presents the reader with a comprehensive view of the theology underlying the first narrative account of the life of Jesus. In Chapter 1 Dr Telford introduces the background of the text and its general message, attempting briefly to place the Gospel (and therefore its theology) in its historical setting. In the second chapter, he describes and analyses the Gospel’s theology, again from an historical perspective and with particular regard to its original context. In the third chapter, Telford goes on to examine the Gospel in relation to other relevant writings of the New Testament. Briefly reviewing this larger corpus and highlighting parallels and contrasts, where appropriate, he seeks to locate the Gospel’s theology in its wider canonical context. The fourth and final chapter ranges even further afield, commenting on the Gospel’s history of interpretation and on its significance in the contemporary context.

Go Preach! connects the apocalyptic message of Mark's Gospel to principles and programs of socio-cultural transformation in the life of the Black church today. Brian Blount begins his study of Mark by examining the social significance of Jesus' proclamation of the coming Kingdom of God. This was a future event that was at the same time breaking through in the present. Through Jesus, "God's future power invaded and transformed the human present." This experience of the Kingdom empowered the disciples to "Go preach" the Kingdom message in word and deed, to finish the story that Mark's narration about Jesus began. Blount goes on to show that the Black church occupies a situation analogous to that in which the Gospel arose, and explores the implications of apocalyptic theology for the pastoral mission of the Black church today. Go Preach! makes an important contribution to understanding the meaning of the Kingdom of God. At the same time it also demonstrates the value of a sociolinguistic approach to scripture, both in interpreting the text in its original context and in unpacking its meaning for today. It is required reading for biblical scholars, students, and clergy.

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The strange thing is that Jesus made it clear that it is impossible to enter the Kingdom of God without this sort of radical discipleship. In this narrative study of salvation in the Gospel of Mark, this conundrum is studied closely with surprising results. An investigation of various socio-historical aspects of Mark’s background elucidate the connection that Mark makes between the death of Jesus and the following of the disciples. And a study of Mark’s narrative as a whole shows that Mark provides hope for those without courage to follow. If they continue to look and listen carefully, the mystery will be unveiled to them.

Gospel According To St. Mark - Morna D. Hooker - 2001-12-01
St Mark's Gospel is among the earliest records about Jesus of Nazareth. This commentary focuses primarily on the problem of understanding what Mark himself intended to convey to his readers when he set out to write 'the good news of Jesus Christ'. There is an examination of information in the gospel about the historical Jesus, about the early Christian community and about Mark's theological concerns. There is, also, consideration of the sources for the Gospel, of the tradition behind it and of interventions by editors. Professor Hooker's new commentary takes account of the many lasted twentieth-century Markan studies and comes with her own translation of the Gospel. References to Greek sources are included but do not require a knowledge of Greek.

Salvation in the Gospel of Mark - Gabi Markusse - 2018-06-28
The Gospel of Mark portrays Jesus making impossible demands on his disciples. They must follow him even if it costs them their lives. And, unsurprisingly, this proves to be impossible for them to do. They fail drastically in Mark’s narrative and run from the scene as Jesus is arrested. Peter had been determined to stay by him unto death, but even he was not able to admit to knowing Jesus at that crucial moment. The strange thing is that Jesus made it clear that it is impossible to enter the Kingdom of God without this sort of radical discipleship. In this narrative study of salvation in the Gospel of Mark, this conundrum is studied closely with surprising results. An investigation of various socio-historical aspects of Mark’s background elucidate the connection that Mark makes between the death of Jesus and the following of the disciples. And a study of Mark’s narrative as a whole shows that Mark provides hope for those without courage to follow. If they continue to look and listen carefully, the mystery will be unveiled to them.

This commentary series is established on the presupposition that the theological character of the New Testament documents calls for exegesis that is sensitive to theological themes as well as to the details of the historical, linguistic, and textual context. Such thorough exegetical work lies at the heart of these volumes, which contain detailed verse-by-verse commentary preceded by general comments on each section and subsection of the text. An important aim of the NIGTC authors is to interact with the wealth of significant New Testament research published in recent articles and monographs. In this
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**Mark’s Audience** - Mary Ann Beavis - 2015-01-29
Mark 4.11-12, the ‘parable theory’ passage, has probably been commented upon more often than any other section of Mark’s Gospel. The saying has usually been interpreted as an authentic utterance of Jesus, which was subsequently misunderstood and misinterpreted by early Christians - including the evangelist Mark. The precise meaning of the mystery logion in the ministry of Jesus is notoriously elusive, since we have no information about the context in which it was spoken, or about the audience to which it was addressed. Much more, however, can be known about the interpretative context of the logion in Mark, since it is surrounded by passages that seem to echo the mystery saying. This study examines the complex web of literary relationships between Mark 4.11-12 and the Gospel as a whole. Dr Beavis’s fresh interpretation is unusual in that she undertakes to interpret the Gospel of Mark, as far as possible, from the point of view of its ‘historical’ readers/audience. Chapters 1 and 2 of the book attempt to describe the ‘community’ for which the Gospel was written, and in the rest of the book, this socio-cultural setting is used to investigate the meaning of the mystery saying for the original readers/hearers of Mark.

This groundbreaking commentary is the first to provide a detailed social and rhetorical analysis of the book of Acts. Ben Witherington draws on the best new insights from a number of disciplines to provide readers with the benefits of recent innovative ways of analyzing the text of Acts. In addition, Witherington gives detailed attention to major theological and historical issues, including the question of the relationship of Acts to the Pauline letters, the question of early Christian history and how the church grew and developed, the relationship between early Judaism and early Christianity, and the relationship between Christians and the officials of the Roman Empire.

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**Preaching Mark in Two Voices** - Brian K. Blount - 2002-01-01
Brian Blount and Gary Charles team up to introduce us anew to Mark's Gospel. Reinterpreting Mark through sermons preached out of very different socio-cultural contexts, Blount draws parallels between Mark's message and the African American church's heritage of slavery and oppression while Charles wrestles with making the Gospel relevant to well-educated white suburbanites. Each chapter begins with an exegetical study and sermon by one author. Then, the other preacher responds from his own context, offering a different view of the text.

**Mark (Understanding the Bible Commentary Series)** - Larry W. Hurtado - 2011-08-01
The Understanding the Bible Commentary Series helps readers navigate the strange and sometimes intimidating literary terrain of the Bible. These accessible volumes break down the barriers between the ancient and modern worlds so that the power and meaning of the biblical texts become transparent to contemporary readers. The contributors tackle the task of interpretation using the full range of critical methodologies and practices, yet they do so as people of faith who hold the text in the highest regard. Pastors, teachers, and lay people alike will cherish the truth found in this commentary series.

**Family Relations in the Gospel of Mark** - Narry F. Santos - 2021
This book proposes the need to combine major contributions of narrative, rhetorical, and cultural anthropological approaches to trace the development of the twofold honor-shame concept throughout the Marcan narrative—with special attention to family relations.

This new Pillar volume offers exceptional commentary on Mark that clearly shows the second Gospel though it was a product of the earliest Christian community to be both relevant and sorely needed in today’s church. Written by a biblical scholar who has devoted thirty years to the study of the second Gospel, this commentary aims primarily to interpret the Gospel of Mark according to its theological intentions and purposes, especially as they relate to the life and ministry of Jesus and the call to faith and discipleship. Unique features of James Edwards's approach include clear descriptions of key terms used by Mark and revealing discussion of the Gospel's literary features, including Mark's use of the "sandwich" technique and of imagistic motifs and irony. Edwards also proposes a new paradigm for interpreting the difficult "Little
and being mocked were ever present dangers, new understanding of Mark's controversial ending.


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**A Reordering of Power** - Herman C. Waetjen - 1989

**Mockery and Secretism in the Social World of Mark's Gospel** - Dietmar Neufeld - 2014-04-24

Having established the context of mockery and shame in Ancient Mediterranean cultures, Dietmar Neufeld shows how Mark presented Jesus as a person with a sense of honour and with a sense of shame, willing to accept the danger of being visible and the mockery it attracted. Neufeld also considers the social functions of ridicule/mocking more broadly as strategies of social sanction, leading to a better understanding of how social, religious, and political practices and discourse variously succeeded or failed in Mark. Finally, Neufeld investigates the author of Mark's preoccupation with 'secrecy', showing that his disposition to secrecy in his narrative heightened when the dangers of scorn and ridicule from crowds or persons became pressing concerns. In a fiercely competitive literary environment where mocking and being mocked were ever present dangers, Mark, in his pursuit of authority gains it by establishing a reputation of possessing authentic, secret knowledge. In short, the so-called secrecy motif is shown to be deployed for specific, strategic reasons that differ from those that have been traditionally advanced.

**Hearing the Whole Story** - Richard A. Horsley - 2001-01-01

Richard Horsley provides a sure guide for first time readers of Mark's Gospel and, at the very same time, induces those more familiar with Mark to take a fresh look at this Gospel. From tracing the plot and sub-plot in Mark to exploring how the Gospel was first heard (as oral performance), Horsely tackles old questions from new angles. Horsely consistently and judiciously uses sociological categories and method to help readers see how Mark's Jesus challenged the dominant order of his day.
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**Paul's Letter to the Romans** - Ben Witherington III - 2004-03-02
Witherington gleans fresh insights from reading the text of Paul's epistle in light of early Jewish theology, the historical situation of Rome in the middle of first century A.D., and Paul's own rhetorical concerns.

**The Gospel of Mark** - William L. Lane - 1974-04-14
Lane's work on the Gospel of Mark is a contribution to The New International Commentary on the New Testament. Prepared by some of the world's leading scholars, the series provides an exposition of the New Testament books that is thorough and fully abreast of modern scholarship yet faithful to the Scriptures as the infallible Word of God.

Cole's study on the Gospel of Mark is part of the Tyndale New Testament Commentaries, a popular series designed to help the general Bible reader understand clearly what the text actually says and what it means, without undue dependence on scholarly technicalities.

**Matthew and the Margins** - Warren Carter - 2004
This verse by verse commentary presents the Gospel of Matthew as a counter-narrative that shapes the group of Jesus' followers as an alternative community able to resist the dominant authorities both in Rome and in the synagogue. The Gospel anticipates the time when Jesus will return and establish God's reign over all, including the powers in Rome. Breaking Matthew into five narrative blocks, Carter carefully considers historical, literary, cultural, and ecclesial factors as he explores the themes of marginality and power. A masterful introduction outlines these approaches and surveys other studies on Matthew.

"It is a special pleasure to introduce R. T. (Dick) France's commentary to the pastoral and scholarly community, who should find it a truly exceptional -- and helpful -- volume." So says Gordon Fee in his preface to this work. France's masterful commentary on Matthew focuses on exegesis of Matthew's text as it stands rather than on the prehistory of the material or details.
of Synoptic comparison. The exegesis of each section is part of a planned literary whole supplemented, rather than controlled, by verse-by-verse commentary, allowing the text as a complete story to come into brilliant focus. Rather than being a "commentary on commentaries," The Gospel of Matthew is concerned throughout with what Matthew himself meant to convey about Jesus and how he set about doing so within the cultural and historical context of first-century Palestine. France frequently draws attention to the distinctive nature of the province of Galilee and the social dynamics involved when a Galilean prophet presents himself in Jerusalem as the Messiah. The English translation at the beginning of each section is France's own, designed to provide the basis for the commentary. This adept translation uses contemporary idioms and, where necessary, gives priority to clarity over literary elegance. Amid the wide array of Matthew commentaries available today, France's world-class stature, his clear focus on Matthew and Jesus, his careful methodology, and his user-friendly style promise to make this volume an enduring standard for years to come.


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**The Jesus Quest** - Ben Witherington - 1997-05-08

Ben Witherington III offers a comprehensive assessment of what scholars such as John Dominic Crossan, Marcus Borg, Burton Mack and the Jesus Seminar are really saying about Jesus.

**The Origin and Destiny of Humanness** - Herman C. Waetjen - 1976


Paul L. Danove presents the first full-length study of God and the theology of God in the Gospel of Mark. In dialogue with scholars who assume that texts are designed to guide their own interpretation, Danove develops and applies methods of analysis to describe the actions and attributes of God in the Gospel of Mark. Danove presents his argument in a threefold structure, beginning with outlining a set of complementary semantic, narrative, and rhetorical methods for investigating characterization. He then moves to examine the semantic and narrative content related to the character of God in the Gospel of Mark and then formulates this information under the guidance of the narrative rhetoric into statements of God's fifty-six repeated and sixty-two non-repeated actions and attributes, arranged according to God's portrayal as semantic agent, benefactive, content of human experience, experienter, goal, instrument, patient of predication, source, theme, and topic.
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Throughout the history of Christianity, the four canonical gospels have proven to be vital resources for Christian thought and practice, and an inspiration for humanistic culture generally. Indeed, the gospels and their interpretation have had a profound impact on theology, philosophy, the sciences, ethics, worship, architecture, and the creative arts. Building on the strengths of the first edition, The Cambridge Companion to the Gospels, 2nd edition, takes account of new directions in gospels research, notably: the milieu in which the gospels were read, copied, and circulated alongside non-canonical gospels; renewed debates about the sources of the gospels and their interrelations; how central gospel themes are illuminated by a variety of critical approaches and theological readings; the reception of the gospels over time and in various media; and how the gospels give insight into the human condition.

This book explores Mark's possible involvement in composing 1 Peter from five angles by means of a historical and comparative approach. These are (a) the dominant practice of using an amanuensis in first-century letter writing, (b) the noteworthy employment of an amanuensis by Paul as a contemporary of Peter, (c) possible historical connections, (d) possible linguistic connections, and (e) possible literary connections. The investigation leads to the conclusion that Mark might have been the contributive amanuensis for 1 Peter, with Peter allowing more than a free hand in the composition.

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Acts is the sequel to Luke's gospel and tells the
Acts is the sequel to Luke's gospel and tells the story of Jesus's followers during the 30 years after his death. It describes how the 12 apostles, formerly Jesus's disciples, spread the message of Christianity throughout the Mediterranean against a background of persecution. With an introduction by P.D. James

This book proposes that Mark's Gospel was written in late 71 for the traumatised Christians of Rome, who feared further arrests after Titus' return from Jerusalem, to help them face their fears and forgive those who had already failed.

The Theological Intentions of Mark's Literary Devices - Dean B. Deppe - 2015-10-22
What sets The Theological Intentions of Mark's Literary Devices apart from other books? What niche does it fill that makes its publication important? This volume will interest all those who value a literary approach to the Gospel of Mark. Dean Deppe introduces some new literary devices in the research of the Gospel of Mark as well as demonstrates the theological intentions of Mark when he employs these literary devices. Deppe argues that Mark employs the literary devices of intercalation, framework, allusionary repetitions, narrative surprises, and three types of mirroring to indicate where he speaks symbolically and metaphorically at two levels. Mark employs these literary devices not just for dramatic tension and irony, but also for theological reasons to apply the Jesus tradition to specific problems in his own day.

What Are the Gospels? - Richard A. Burridge - 2004-08-09
"The publication of Richard Burridge's What Are the Gospels? in 1992 inaugurated a transformation in Gospel studies by overturning the previous consensus about Gospel uniqueness. Burridge argued convincingly for an understanding of the Gospels as biographies, a ubiquitous genre in the Graeco-Roman world. To establish this claim, Burridge compared each of the four canonical Gospels to the many extant Graeco-Roman biographies. Drawing on insights from literary theory, he demonstrated that the previously widespread view of the Gospels as unique compositions was false. Burridge went on to discuss what a properly "biographical" perspective might mean for Gospel interpretation, which was amply demonstrated in the revised second edition reflecting on how his view had become the new consensus. This third, twenty-fifth anniversary edition not only celebrates the continuing influence of What Are the Gospels?, but also features a major new contribution in which Burridge analyzes recent debates and scholarship about the Gospels. Burridge both answers his critics and reflects upon the new directions now being taken by those who accept the biographical approach. This new edition also features as an appendix a significant article in which he tackles the related problem of the genre of Acts. A proven book with lasting staying power, What Are the Gospels? is not only still as relevant and instructive as it was when first published, but will also doubtlessly
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Binding the Strong Man - Ched Myers - 2008-08-27

Since its publication in 1988, Binding the Strong Man has been widely recognized as a landmark in contemporary biblical criticism. Applying a multidisciplinary approach called "socio-literary method," Myers integrates literary criticism, socio-historical exegesis, and political hermeneutics in his investigation of Mark as a "manifesto of radical discipleship."

Mark - Robert H. Stein - 2008-11

A highly regarded New Testament scholar offers a substantive commentary on Mark in the award-winning BECNT series.

Contextualization in the New Testament - Dean Flemming - 2005-10-12

To provide a model for today's missionary efforts, Dean Flemming examines how the New Testament authors—particularly in Acts, Paul's letters and the Gospels—contextualized the gospel for particular cultures and/or communities.

The Gospel of Mark - Francis J. SDB Moloney - 2012-05-01

The Gospel of Mark, addressed to an early Christian community perplexed by failure and suffering, presents Jesus as suffering Messiah and Son of God. Recognizing that failure and suffering continue to perplex Christians today, world-renowned New Testament scholar and theologian Francis Moloney marries the rich contributions of traditional historical scholarship with the contemporary approach to the Gospels as narrative. Now in paperback, this commentary combines the highest-level scholarship with pastoral sensitivity. It offers an accessible and thoughtful reading of Mark's narrative to bring the Gospel's story to life for contemporary readers.
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"Say to This Mountain": - Chad Myers - 2014-07-23

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The Gospel according to Disney - Mark I. Pinsky - 2004-07-14
In this follow-up to his bestselling The Gospel According to The Simpsons: The Spiritual Life of the World's Most Animated Family, religion journalist Mark Pinsky explores the role that the animated features of Walt Disney played on the moral and spiritual development of generations of children. Pinsky explores thirty-one of the most popular Disney films, as well as recent developments such as the 1990s boycott of Disney by the Southern Baptist Convention and the role that Michael Eisner and Jeffrey Katzenberg played in the resurgence of the company since the mid-1980s.