God's Son Was A Teacher

"And when the sabbath day was come, he began to teach in the synagogue: and many hearing him were astonished, saying, From whence hath this man these things? and what wisdom is this which is given unto him, that even such mighty works are wrought by his hands?" Mark 6:2.

INTRODUCTION

1. "Never man spake like this man" -- John 7:46; Mark 7:5-13.
2. We may go back to the opening chapters of Genesis and read "And the Lord God commanded man, saying..." (2:16). Thus God became the first instructor and man the first pupil. God instructed man concerning His Will for him.
3. An analysis of the Bible's account of this first teaching situation reveals at least 3 things to us:
   1) That God's purpose was to maintain the perfect relationship that existed between man and Himself in the creation.
   2) That His method was positive and authoritative. There was nothing obscure, indefinite, or uncertain about what God said. It was "The Lord God commanded the man, saying..."
   3) That as long as man obeyed, God's purpose was achieved. It was when man presumed to know more than his teacher that the hitherto happy relationship was dissolved.
4. When man disobeyed God and fell into sin the situation between them was altered. God still loved man and continued to act as his Teacher, but his purpose was no longer to maintain a perfect relationship. It was to restore it.

THE FIRST TEACHERS --

The early teachers --
   God -- The Patriarchs -- Moses
The early centers of learning --
   The garden; the family; the kingdom; the synagogue

CHRIST The Master Teacher

His Preparation -- As Mark informs us
His Aim -- He was the Savior; His aim to bring men to God and to prepare them for the kingdom of Heaven.
His Method -- He taught; He cared
   He WAS the Way, the Truth, and the Life

CONCLUSION -- Teaching for Eternity
3. Mark tells us more about the emotions of Jesus than other writers. He pictures Jesus:
   a. Sighing deeply in His spirit -- 7:34; 8:12.
   e. Looking with love on the rich young ruler -- 10:21.
   g. Becoming tired and needing rest -- 6:31.

4. Mark repeatedly inserts little vivid details which are the hall-marks of an eye-witness.
   a. Cf. the added detail to Matthew 18:2 found in Mark 9:36;
   c. Mark alone tells how the 5000 were seated, and how they looked like plots of vegetable rows in a garden -- 6:40;
   e. In the story of Jesus stilling the tempest Mark adds one little sentence that makes the picture vivid before our eyes -- 4:38a.

5. Mark is very fond of the historic present. He speaks of events in the present tense instead of the past.

6. Mark often gives us the very Aramaic words Jesus spoke. Indicative of an eye-witness. Mark always then gives the interpretation of those Aramaic words revealing to us he is writing for non-Hebrews (cf. 5:41; 7:34; 7:11; 14:36; 15:34). (These may have been times when Peter could hear again the very sound of Jesus' voice, and could not help giving in his sermons the very words that Jesus uttered.)

7. Mark made more use of Latin loanwords than the other gospel accounts and some occur in the New Testament only in Mark. [Note also the evidence of Mark 15:21 and Romans 16:13 which ties his gospel to a Roman audience.]

8. Mark presents Jesus as being addressed as Rabbi or Teacher whereas Matthew and Luke represent Jesus as being addressed by the title "Lord." Some say Matthew and Luke reflect the post-resurrection practice of speaking of Jesus while Mark is faithful to the pre-resurrection way of addressing Jesus.

DESIGN:

**Purpose** -- The very first verse of Mark provides a clear indication of the writer's purpose: to set forth *"the good news"* and to bear witness to Jesus as the Messiah and the Son of God.

**Outline** -- MARK -- "The Miracle Working Servant"

I. The Servant's Coming 1:1-13

II. The Servant's Work 1:14 - 13:37
   A. Beginning of Galilean Ministry 1:14 - 3:6
   B. Later stages of Galilean Ministry 3:7 - 6:13
   C. Jesus goes outside Galilee 6:14 - 8:26
   D. The way to Jerusalem 8:27 - 10:52
   E. Ministry in Jerusalem 11:1 - 13:37

III. The Servant's Death 14:1 - 15:47

IV. The Servant's Resurrection 16:1 - 20

**Miracles** -- Mark shows Jesus as the miracle-working Servant of God attending to man. Mark's picture is a motion picture showing Jesus in action moving men to God! The Gospel records 35 miracles that Jesus worked.

17 miracles of physical healing
9 miracles over forces of nature
6 specific instances of expulsions of demons
3 raised from the dead

Most of the Lord's miracles, however, are unrecorded (cf. Matthew 14:23; Luke 4:40; Matthew 15:30-31; 19:1-2; Luke 6:17-19; Mark 1:32-34; and John 21:25, etc.) The purpose of His miracles were to authenticate the Servant as the Son of God (John 15:24; 20:30,31; Mark 16:20; Hebrews 2:3-4).