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## **Mark Chapter 1b**

### **The Baptism of The Man Yeshua Jesus**

Once again before we get started here this morning, I would just like to say welcome and thank you so very much for joining us as we continue our study into the book of Mark this morning.

During our study last week, we talked about a few different things concerning Mark chapter 1 verses one through eight. And we compared the first sentence of the New Testament found in Matthew chapter 1 verse one with Mark chapter 1 verse one both of which proclaim our Messiah as the Son of God. And the identity of our Messiah being the Son of God is taught not only in the New Testament, but it is also taught in the Old Testament as well in places like 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel chapter 7 verse 14. In fact... the truth of the matter is that if we do not understand the identity of our Messiah that has been given to us in the Old Testament, we will never understand who the Messiah of the New Testament is. If we do not understand who the Son of God was prophesied to be by God himself and by his prophets, then we will never understand who the Son of God in the New Testament is and that's just a biblical fact according to the bible and our Messiah himself as we'll soon see.

And this is exactly why it is important for every single solitary modern day Christian today who professes to be a Christian to know and to understand exactly what the Scripture says and just as importantly what the Scripture does not say when identifying the true Son of God, the true Son of Man, the true King of Israel and the true Passover Lamb of God.

I would contend that the very first commandment that our Father in heaven gave us was that we shall have no other gods before him. And that includes man's make-believe god's and that commandment has always included man's make-believe gods of which there are an abundance these days. And the devil has seen to it ever since the fall of man in the garden of Eden that man would indeed have his own make-believe god's and that do as thou wilt would become the whole of the law for man. You see, it has always been the devil's objective to hide the spoken word of Yehovah God from his people. And this always will be the objective of the evil one who according to the apostle Paul is also known as the lawless one by the way. And that's another whole study that we will get into in our study concerning the antichrist that will be coming out fairly shortly, so be on the lookout for that one.

But as for today I want to concentrate on this first chapter of the book of Mark because this first chapter of the book of Mark does indeed solidify and establish what Mark believed and why Mark believed what he believed. And once again these writings of Mark are extremely important to us because Mark literally represents you and I. Mark was not chosen to be an apostle by our Messiah per se... Once again, you will not find Mark in the list of the 12 apostles. Nevertheless... I would contend that Mark certainly was a disciple which is what you and I today are.

All of us are disciples of Yehovah our Elohim and his only begotten Son who he sent into the world to bring us back to him. And therefore, the last thing that we need is to create for ourselves another god. We don't need another god because the Elohim that we have is more than sufficient than any other man-made god could ever be.

And therefore, when we hear Mark telling us about the beginning of the gospel of Yeshua the Messiah the Son of God, and he begins to expound upon John the Baptist who our Messiah says was indeed the spirit of Elijah who came to prepare the way for him to come... we as modern-

day Christians need to sit up and take notice of what this disciple called Mark actually says so that we as modern-day disciples can also know and understand the truth that Mark already understood. And this is one of the reasons why the baptism of Yeshua is so vitally important to understand.

As we read through the first chapter of the book of Mark, we find that the first thing that Mark tells us about is the baptism of Yeshua. Why? Why does Mark begin his writings with the baptism of Yeshua and the temptation of Yeshua before Yeshua begins his ministry?

The very reason that Mark begins the book of Mark with the baptism and the temptation of Yeshua our Messiah is because these things had to take place before the ministry of Yeshua (Jesus in the Greek) could begin. Why? Because Yeshua Jesus in the Greek, who was a Son of man... needed to have this spirit of Yehovah God his Father in him before he could begin his ministry.

Let me say that again... Yeshua Jesus in the Greek who was indeed a Son of man just as he tells us that he was... needed to have this spirit of Yehovah God his Father in him before he could begin his ministry. Not as I, but says our God breathed Scripture. And therefore, before we get too deep into these biblical facts, I would like for us to read about these biblical facts for ourselves so that we can know and understand exactly what the Bible says about these things and just as importantly what the Bible does not say about these things. And therefore, let us open the books this morning and let's begin by reading Mark chapter 1 verses one through 15. **Mark chapter 1 verses one through 15 E1**

### **John the Baptist Prepares the Way**

**Mar 1:1** The beginning of the gospel of **Jesus Christ, the Son of God.**

**Mar 1:2** As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way,

**Mar 1:3** the voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'"

Mar 1:4 John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

Mar 1:5 And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

Mar 1:6 Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey.

Mar 1:7 And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie.

Mar 1:8 I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

### **The Baptism of Jesus**

Mar 1:9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

Mar 1:10 And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove.

Mar 1:11 And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

### **The Temptation of Jesus**

Mar 1:12 The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness.

Mar 1:13 And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him.

### **Jesus Begins His Ministry**

Mar 1:14 Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God,

Mar 1:15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

Mark who was a disciple who was on the ground there during the days of the apostles begins his documented history of our Messiah by proclaiming his baptism and his temptation before Yeshua ever even begins his ministry. Why is that? Do we suppose that the baptism of our Messiah and the temptation of our Messiah needed to take place before the beginning of his ministry? Because I would submit to you that it most certainly did.

And I want us to pay very close attention to how the event of the

baptism of our Messiah took place because it is profoundly important for us to properly understand.

Before our Messiah could begin his ministry, he had to be baptized. And it is also important to understand why he had to be baptized and what he was baptized with. What was our Messiah baptized with? Was it simply water? Was it simply an act of obedience? Was it simply to fulfill all righteousness? Because I would submit to you that the baptism of our Messiah had to do with all of these things inclusively... but there is something else that the baptism of our Messiah did that fully equipped him to fully begin his ministry.

Right here in Mark chapter 1 verses nine through 11 we find that it was important enough for Mark to mention the fact that our Messiah was baptized by John the Baptist in the Jordan River. And it was also important enough to Mark to mention that when Yeshua came up out of the water immediately he saw the heavens being opened and the spirit of his Father descending upon him like a dove which is exactly how Matthew describes his baptism in Matthew chapter 3. And once again, I would like for us to stop right here dead in our tracks and think about the significance of this spirit of Yehovah God descending upon Yeshua the man during this baptism.

What's important to understand here is that Yeshua could not have had a ministry without the spirit of Yehovah God being upon him. Yeshua could not have done any healings, he could not have cast out any demons, he could not have cleansed the lepers, and he most certainly could not have brought forth his Father's unfolding plan of salvation for mankind without first having his spirit of his Father upon him.

This baptism that John speaks of here in Mark chapter 1 verses nine through 11 are much more important than most modern-day professing Christians ever realize because to most modern-day professing Christians Mark chapter 1 verses nine through 11 are just words on a page. Mark chapter 1 verses nine through 11 is just an insignificant story

to most modern-day Christians because of what they have been wrongly taught.

But the significance of our Messiah being baptized and receiving the spirit of his Father before he begins his ministry is monumental for us to understand because once again our Messiah came to be our example. What he does... we are also to do. (**sern 1**)

1Jn 2:3 And by this we know that we have come to know him if we keep his commandments

1Jn 2:4 Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him

1Jn 2:5 but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him:

1Jn 2:6 whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.



The commandment of our Messiah to us is that we pick up our crosses and that we follow him and that we do as he did and that we walk as he walked. And therefore, to go down into that watery grave of baptism and to leave our sins and our fleshly desires behind in that watery grave in order to be raised up a new creature created by Yehovah God himself is indeed a red-letter commandment from our Messiah, and this is once again why he himself was baptized by John the Baptist as an example for us to follow... but... there's more to understand here than meets the eye.

Today in our time, I have heard many wicked men attempt to proclaim

that baptism is legalistic, and that you do not have to be baptized just like you don't have to be circumcised, just like you don't have to be obedient to God's feast days or to God's commandments or to God's precepts. You see, all of those things according to many denominational empires today are nothing more than what they call "legalistic".

And the house of sand that they have built this premise is that if you are baptized, and if you obey the spoken word of Yehovah God, and if you have his law are written across your heart and in your mind, and if you are circumcised according to the commandment of Yehovah God, and if you keep his feast days and his appointments instead of the Roman Catholic churches feast days and her appointments... you do not trust in the blood of their Jesus.

They will attempt to make the bogus argument that if you are obedient to the spoken word of Yehovah God and the red-letter commandment of his only begotten Son, then you don't believe in or trust that the blood of their Easter ham takes away the sins of mankind.

The problem with that wicked and twisted theology is that number one, our Messiah did not die on a Roman Catholic created Good Friday, nor was he resurrected on a Roman Catholic created pagan Easter Sunday morning. That my friends is Catholicism... not Christianity. And according to Matthew, Mark, Luke and John our Messiah died on what was known as preparation Day which is also known as Passover day in preparation for the feast of unleavened bread which is something that every Jewish apostle was well acquainted with. And our Messiah was raised up on first fruits which would have been the first day after the Sabbath after the Passover according to our God breathed Scripture as our new High Priest in the order of Melkizedeck in order to wave the sheaf offering before his Father signaling a new incoming harvest that is you and I.

But you see, that's not what the church teaches today. The baptism of our Messiah that we read about here in Mark chapter 1 verses nine

through 11 has become insignificant to the church today in many respects because many denominational empires now proclaim that baptism is works, and if you rely on your works, then you do not trust in or believe in the blood of their Easter ham that took away your sins.

But the point that needs to be made here this morning is that none of this philosophical man-made horseradish is found anywhere within the confines of the 66 books of our Bibles. In fact, the very opposite of what they teach and preach is made very clear to us but only... only... to those who take the time to sit down and to read the book for themselves without the preprogramming of today's denominational empires of men and their hermeneutical understandings and philosophical fairytales that do nothing more than hide the truth of what the Bible actually says.

And this is exactly why the Roman Catholic Church and all of her daughter protestant churches literally hate the Bible. They say that they love Jesus, they say that we should hold hands and sing Kumbaya with the Roman Catholic Church and her lawless Pope who literally claims to be God on earth and exalts himself against all other gods and all objects of worship so that he takes his seat in the hearts of God's people proclaiming himself to be God... but you see that's okay for them because according to the majority of today's denominational empires God's people are now today supposed to be all-inclusive. And if we are not all inclusive, then we are nothing more than a bunch of haters and heretics. Even though the Bible itself commands us not to be yoked together with unbelievers and if someone calls himself a brother and does such things, according to the Apostle Paul we are not to even eat with that brother and you can find that in first Corinthians chapter 5 verse 11 which is another whole teaching in itself.

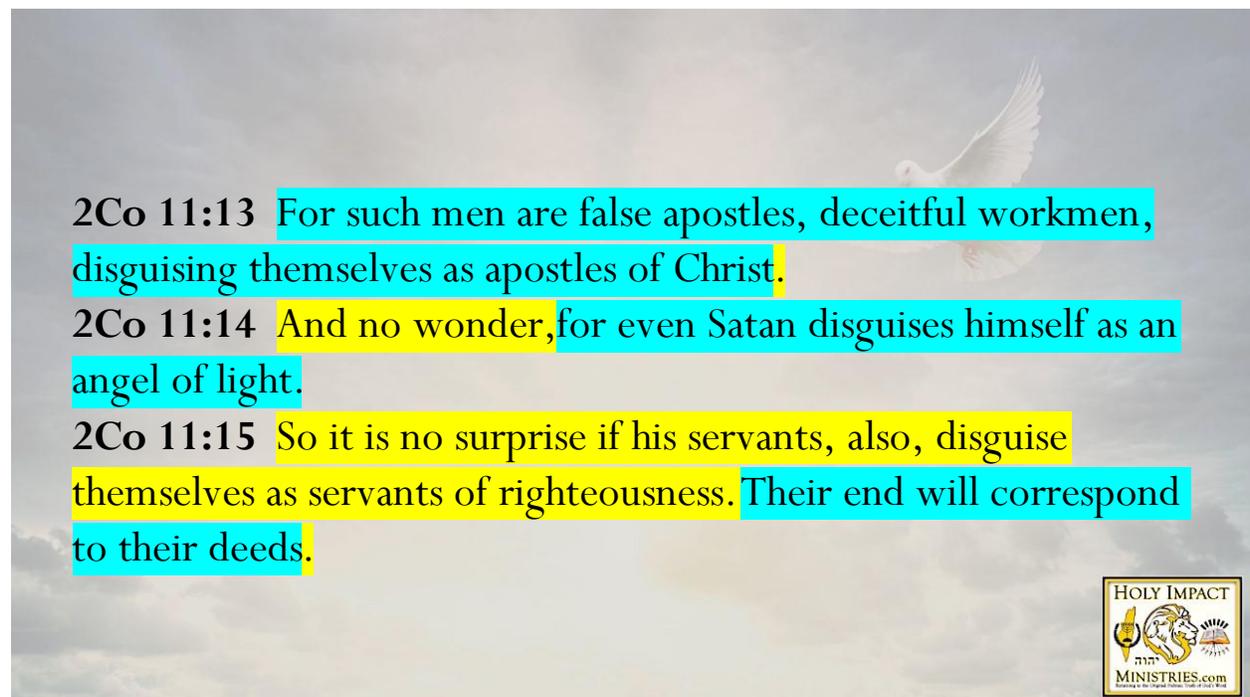
The Bible tells us from the book of Genesis to the book of Revelation that we are not to be yoked together with sinners and unbelievers. But that's not what the majority of today's denominational churches teach is it? Today we are being taught to be all-inclusive, to be loving, and to be kind, and being loving and being kind according to their version of love

and kindness has now preceded obedience and righteousness and justice to the point that the new god of man is unable to keep his covenants or to keep his promises or to enforce justice or to take vengeance upon the wicked. Forget wisdom... forget justice... forget righteousness... forget obedience... forget God's vengeance against those who transgress his word... forget God's feast days and God's appointments and God's precepts... forget his commandments not to marry outside of the faith.... forget the parameters upon which he set for our Messiah in order to be our Messiah... forget the book of Revelation and the prophets all of which claim that the very breath of our Messiah will indeed kill the wicked. Forget that our Messiah teaches that only those who do the will of his Father are going to gain entrance into the kingdom of his Father... forget the fact that it is written that David shall never lack a man to sit upon the throne of the house of Israel... forget about the fact that the apostle Paul clearly tells us that there is one God and that there is one mediator between God and man the man Yeshua Hamashiach the Christ Yeshua... forget about the fact that our Messiah says that the only one who is going to gain entrance into his kingdom are those who endure to the end and conquer over evil... forget everything else that the Bible teaches.

And why do you think they want you to forget everything else that the Bible teaches? They want you to believe everything else that the Bible teaches so that you will believe in their new man-made god of love that they have created for themselves according to their own definition of love... who is all about being inclusive and loving and kind all the while having a severe case of amnesia.

My friends, I would submit to you that right here in Mark chapter 1 the disciple Mark is being loving and kind by teaching the truth. And those who do not teach the truth know nothing of being loving and kind. Those who do not teach the commandment of the spoken word of Yehovah God, those who do not understand the importance of going down into that watery grave of baptism, those who do not understand the importance of circumcision and the difference between the clean and the

unclean, and those who do not understand the significance of his feast days and of his appointments, and those who do not understand the biblical definition of the love of God found in first John chapter 5 verse three... are nothing more than children of the devil who loves to dress themselves up like Angels of light just like their father the devil loves to dress himself up as an angel of light. **Second Corinthians chapter 11 verses 13 through 15 (scrn 2)**



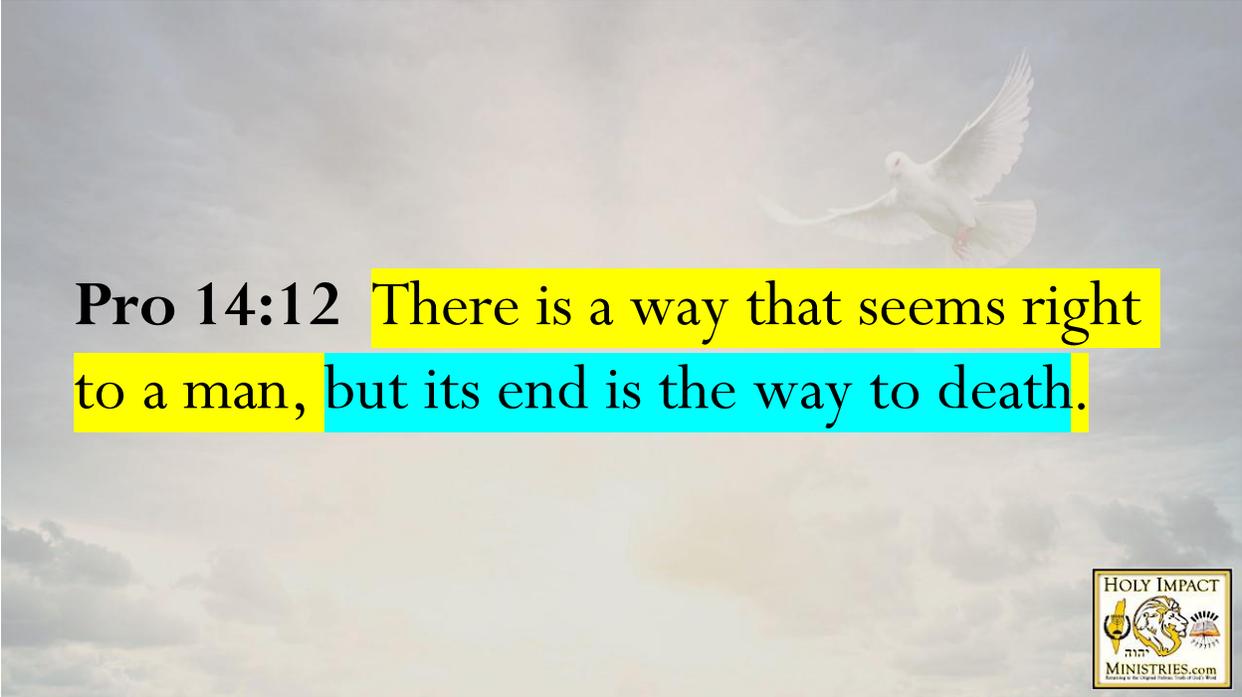
2Co 11:13 For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ.

2Co 11:14 And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.

2Co 11:15 So it is no surprise if his servants, also, disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. Their end will correspond to their deeds.



You see, it all sounds good. It all seems right and just in the eyes of men but we should be smart enough as true God-fearing, Messiah following, cross bearing Christians to know and understand that there is a way that seems right to a man... and yet leads to death. **Proverbs chapter 14 verse 12 (scrn 3)**



**Pro 14:12** There is a way that seems right  
to a man, but its end is the way to death.



And this is exactly why the disciple Mark tells us in Mark chapter 1 verses 10 and 11 that when our Messiah came up out of the water immediately, he saw the heavens being torn open and the spirit of his Father descending on him like a dove and a voice coming from heaven proclaiming and I quote, “You are my beloved Son with you I am well pleased”.

What was it that protected our Messiah when he went out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil? It was indeed the spirit of Yehovah God his Father that was upon him that he had received during his baptism that protected him and gave him the words to speak to the devil in order to win that battle against the devil. And once again, when we hear the story of our Messiah being tempted by the devil, in Matthew chapter 4... we who have read the Bible for ourselves know that our Messiah never spoke to the devil his own words. Every reply that our Messiah gave to the devil when tempted came from the book of Deuteronomy which is indeed the spoken word of Yehovah God his Father. All our Messiah did to defeat the devil in the desert that day was to speak the spoken word of Yehovah God. Once again it was the spirit

of Yehovah God that spoke and the devil knew it and this is exactly why the devil ran away from him. And by the way... can God be tempted?

I'd like you to think about that question for just a moment. You know, the apostle James was a very important player in the New Testament. In fact, I would submit to you that the apostle James was so important that he was the head of the Jerusalem Council and actually ran the first Christian assembly there in Jerusalem. And when the apostle Paul had problems with the circumcision group, and the Jews who wanted to kill him because of his rather difficult pharisaical style teachings... it was James that Paul ran to for help, and you can read about that in Acts chapters 15 and 21. And therefore, the apostle James because he was the head of the Jerusalem Council was well known for setting the standard for not only the Jews but also for the Gentiles for all of the apostles. We must remember that it was a letter from James that the apostle Paul was taking to the assembly's concerning the decision of James concerning circumcision. And this is exactly why we see the apostle Paul circumcising Timothy in Acts chapter 16 which is another story that we won't get into here this morning other than to say that the authority of the apostle James is made known about all throughout the New Testament. And I would like us to hear what the apostle James has to say about God being tempted. You can find that in **James chapter 1 verses 13 through 16 (scrn 4)**

**Jas 1:13** Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God,” for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one.

**Jas 1:14** But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire.

**Jas 1:15** Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

**Jas 1:16** Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers



According to the apostle James, God himself cannot be tempted and therefore those who say that the Jesus of the Church is God are once again found weighed and wanting according to our God breathed Scripture. And believe it or not, this is indeed extremely important for us to understand because if we do not understand the true identity of our Messiah, then we will ultimately find ourselves worshiping another man made god and another set of commandments and another set of feast days and another set of appointments and another whole array of pagan festivals that are not created by God, but are indeed created by a false man made god that men have concocted for themselves.

And so then, the question becomes did Yehovah God create Yeshua Jesus according to Scripture and Scripture alone? Because I would submit to you my friends that in order to even hold the title “Son of God” you are indeed implying that you are created by the hand of God. No one can call themselves a son of God without being created by God. And the fact that our Messiah was indeed a human man that was created by Yehovah God his Father is indisputable according to our God breathed Scripture. **(scrn 5)**

Gen 3:15 I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

Deu 18:18 I will raise up for them a prophet like you (Moses) from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him.

2Sa 7:12 When your days are fulfilled (David) and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.



(scrn 6)

Isa 11:1 There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

Isa 11:2 And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

Isa 53:2 For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him.

Isa 53:3 He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.



(scrn 7) show only

**Gen 49:10** The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him; and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.



According to Jacob who all of Israel was named after... the scepter shall not depart from Judah nor the ruler's staff from between his feet until tribute comes to him and to him shall be the obedience of the people. And therefore, once again according to the parameters that have been set forth to identify our Messiah (Jesus and the Greek)... we can clearly see that our Messiah must be a man in order to be part of the human tribe of Judah and therefore once again had to have been created by our Father in heaven. But there's more... (**scrn 8**)

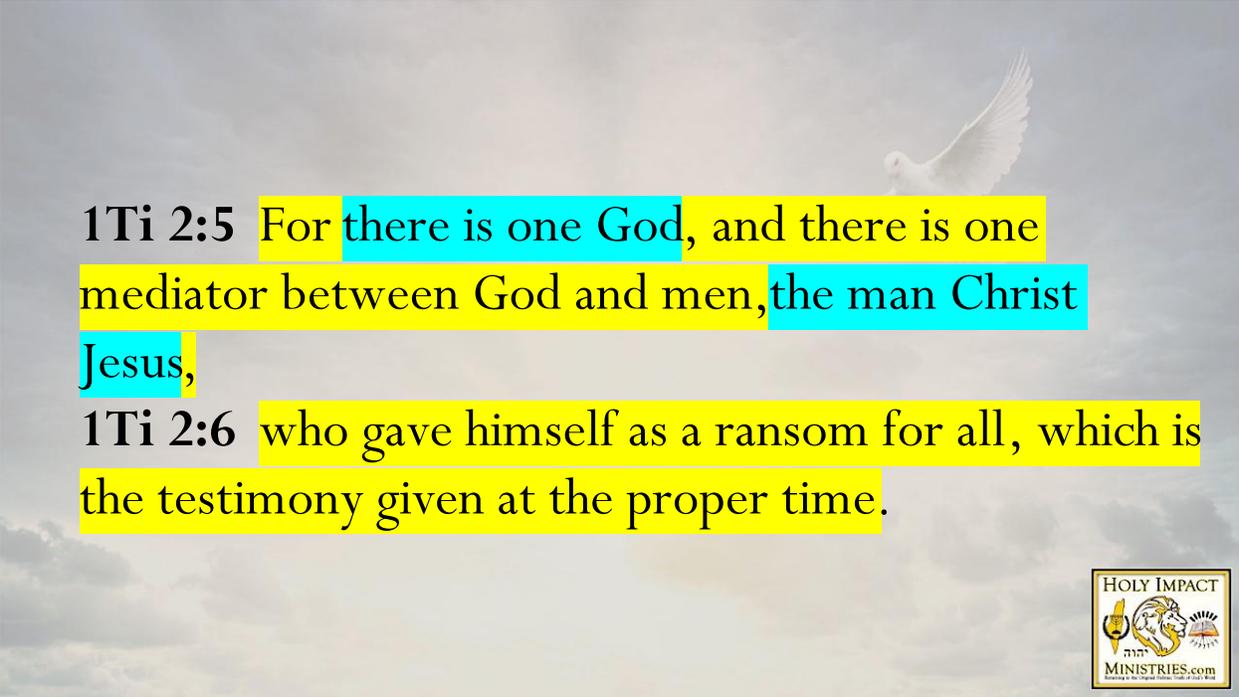
## David Shall Never Lack A Man To Sit On The Throne of Israel!

Jer 33:17 “For thus says the LORD: **David shall never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel,**  
Jer 33:18 **and the Levitical priests shall never lack a man in my presence to offer burnt offerings, to burn grain offerings, and to make sacrifices forever.”**

Yeshua uses the phrase "Son of Man" over 83 times in the new Testament to describe himself!



Let there be no mistake about it my friends our Messiah calls himself and I quote “the Son of Man” over 83 different times in the New Testament. And my friends, I tell you the truth, there is no man who has not been created by Yehovah God. And just as Deuteronomy chapter 18 tells us, Yehovah God himself has raised up a prophet for us likened unto Moses who was also a man and who was also the one mediator between God and man. And this is exactly what the apostle Paul tells us in **first Timothy chapter 2 verses five and six (scrn 9)**



1Ti 2:5 For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,

1Ti 2:6 who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.



And this is exactly why the disciple Mark begins his account of our Messiah by proclaiming him as the Son of God and by also including the baptism of our Messiah and the temptation of our Messiah before he ever even began his ministry.

Before our Messiah calls his first disciples, he is baptized and goes down into that watery grave of baptism to be brought up a new creature that does indeed have the spirit of Yehovah God his Father in him. And Yehovah God his Father professes with his very lips and I quote, “You are my beloved Son with you I am well pleased”.

And yet... with all of this scriptural proof that proves that Yeshua Hamashiach Jesus in the Greek was indeed a created man created by the hand of Yehovah God there is a caveat if you will.

Just as we see in Mark chapter 1 verses nine through 11, our Messiah was indeed baptized by John the Baptist in the Jordan River and our Messiah did indeed receive the spirit of God that descended upon him like a dove. And therefore, at that point in time our Messiah did indeed

become one with his Father without question.

Our Messiah could not have defeated the devil's temptation in the wilderness, nor could he have healed the sick and given sight to the blind and cast out demons or turned water to wine or even walked on water without the spirit of Yehovah God dwelling firmly within him. And therefore, in that capacity one could say that Yeshua was indeed Yehovah God the Father because it was Yehovah God the Father that was making himself known through Yeshua.

But it is also important that we understand that Yehovah God the Father also made himself known through Moses who was a man in exactly the same way. Moses did the same miracles that Yeshua did. Moses parted the sea, he brought water forth from rocks, he raised up a serpent on a pole that healed people who were bitten by serpents, he brought forth the plagues against Egypt in order to defeat the Pharaoh of Egypt. And therefore, it could be said that Moses was God in that capacity because Yehovah God was clearly working through Moses and showing himself through Moses.

Here's a trick question for you... who led the children of Israel out of Egypt? Moses?... or God?

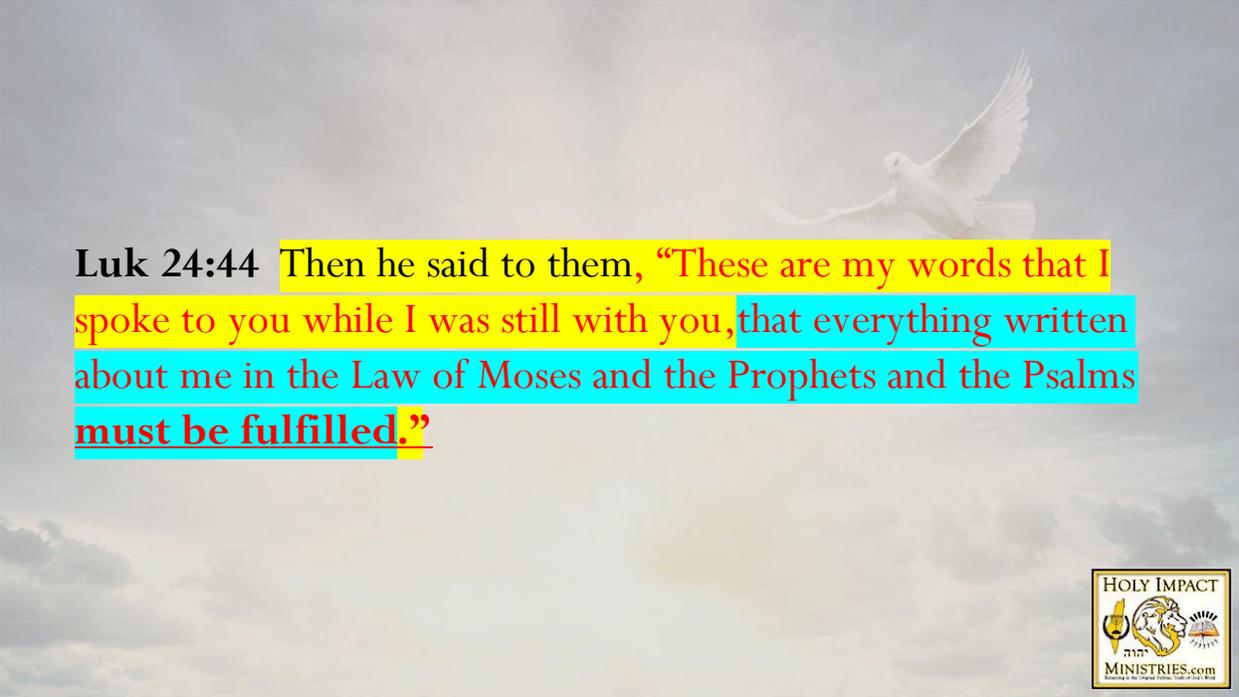
You see, there really is no difference between Moses and Yeshua other than the fact that Yehovah God had promised his faithful servant David that it would be through the loins of David that he would bring forth this profit likened unto Moses according to Deuteronomy chapter 18... and that it would be this descendent of David that would sit at the right hand of God on David's throne as king over the house of Israel forever. (**scrn 10) show only**

**Deu 18:18** I will raise up for them a prophet (nabiy) like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him.

**Isa 53:11** Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant (ebed), make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.



In Deuteronomy chapter 18 our Messiah is called “a prophet”... likened unto Moses. In Isaiah chapter 53 our Messiah is called Yehovah God’s “servant”... Once again my friends it is the Old Testament that sets the parameters of the true identity of who our Messiah was, is, and always will be. And therefore, if all of these things that are written in the law of Moses and the writings of the prophets and the Psalms about our Messiah have not been fulfilled by Jesus, then the Jesus of the Church today cannot be the Christ. Not says I, but as our very own Messiah in **Luke chapter 24 (scrn 11)**



**Luk 24:44** Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”



And therefore, for those of us who read the Bible for ourselves, there is no question about the fact that our Messiah was indeed a human man that Yehovah God created from the very body of David just as he promised David, and that our Messiah is indeed the shoot that came from the stump of Jesse David's father according to our God breathed Scripture and our God breathed Scripture alone.

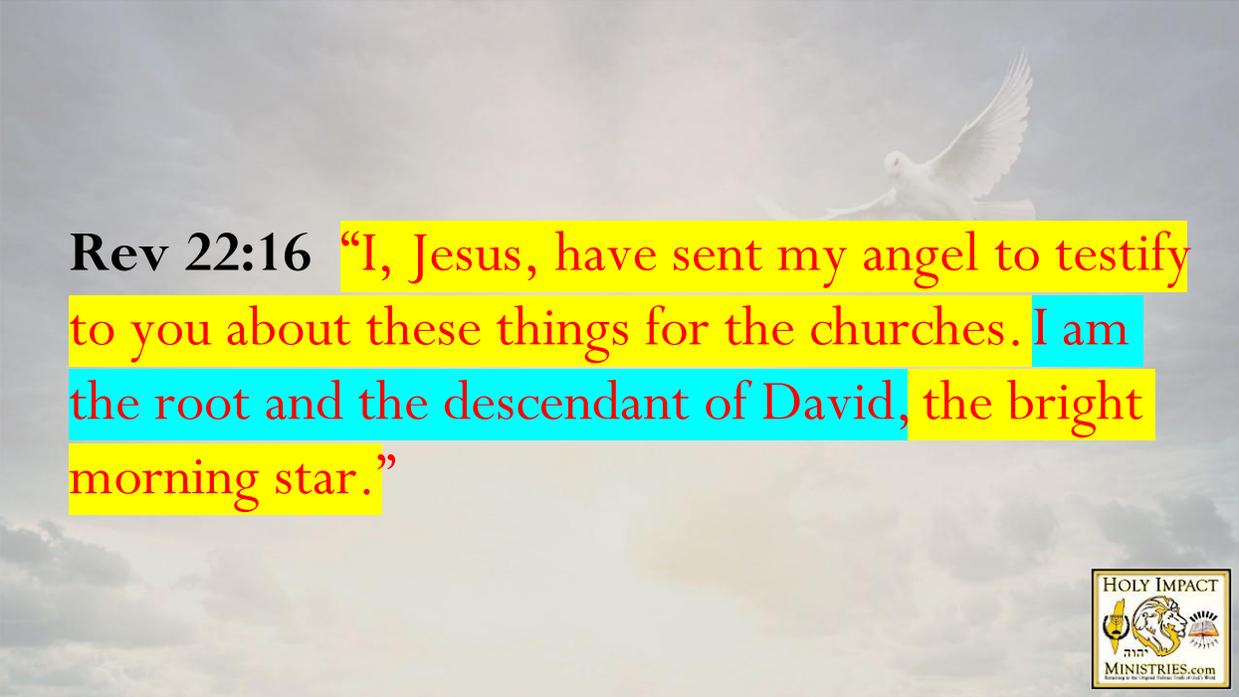
And this is exactly why Mark opens the book of Mark with the fact that Yeshua the Messiah was indeed not God himself per se... but was indeed the Son of God. And this is exactly why the baptism of our Messiah was so vitally important for him to carry out before he began his ministry.

And once again, we have many teachings on the true identity of our Messiah according to our God breathed Scripture at our website at [HolyImpactMinsitreis.com](http://HolyImpactMinsitreis.com) and these biblical teachings according to Scripture and Scripture alone are free for everyone. The only thing that it will cost you is the time that it takes to sit down and to view these teachings that are indeed extrapolated from Scripture and from Scripture

alone. And once again, I would submit to you that we have a choice to make as modern-day Christians today in our time. And that choice is who it is that we are going to listen to. Are we going to listen to the church and its thousands of different denominational charters none of which can agree on the identity of our Messiah or what he came to teach or what he came to preach... or are we going to place our faith upon the rock that is the spoken word of Yehovah God that we all hold in our very hands?

Matthew knew the truth, Mark knew the truth, all of the prophets knew the truth, Moses knew the truth, the question is... do we know the truth? Are we even interested in the truth and nothing but the truth, or do we want to be seen as all inclusive?

Again, it is written that and I quote, “my people are destroyed for lack of knowledge because they have rejected knowledge”. And my friends the prophet Hosea was not talking about the knowledge of man he was talking about the knowledge of Yehovah God that had been handed down from the very beginning in the book of Genesis. Hosea was not talking about the knowledge of today’s modern-day philosophers and doctors and rabbis and popes and bishops and priests and early church fathers and Bible commentators. Hosea was talking about the knowledge of Yehovah God and it was because his people rejected the knowledge that he has given them that they are indeed destroyed for lack of knowledge. And this my friends is something that we as true God-fearing, Messiah following, cross bearing Christians must always keep at the forefront of our minds and in our hearts. **Revelation 22:16 (scrn 12)**



**Rev 22:16** “I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.”



And therefore, as we begin our study into the book of Mark its paramount that we understand the true identity of our Messiah who tells us very clearly that he was indeed the root and the descendent of David that came from the very root... the very stump of Jesse David's father just as we are told within the confines of the law of Moses, the writings of the prophets, and the Psalms.

In closing, I challenge you here today as a true God-fearing, Messiah following, cross bearing Christian to know and to understand the truth. Our Messiah once said, “If you have seen me, you have seen my Father” and I tell you the truth... each and every one of us as true God-fearing, Messiah following, cross bearing Christians should be able to say the exact same thing, “If you see me, you have seen my Father”. And if we cannot make that statement, we need to ask ourselves why we cannot make that statement. If we have indeed picked up our crosses, if we are indeed walking as he walked and doing as he did, if we are indeed following our Messiah back to his Father and if we are indeed on that path that leads back to the tree of life then there is no reason that we should not also be able to say “If you see me, you've see my Father.”

My hope and my prayer is that as we close the books for this morning you will contemplate these things, meditate on these things, think about these things in a quiet place and give our Father in heaven the opportunity to speak to your heart.

And in closing I will do as I always do and I will ask everyone within the sound of my voice to please take what you have heard here this morning to your own prayer closet. Bow your head and bend your knee and face the holy promised land of Jerusalem, and ask in the name of Yeshua Hamashiach if what you have heard here this morning be true or not.

Ask, seek, and knock on his door and on his door alone so that the proper door can be opened unto you. And if you will do that, and if you will stay the course to the end, you and I will surely walk through the gates of his soon coming kingdom together.