

Reconsider

- What does it mean to “reconsider”?
 - “To consider again, especially for a possible change”
 - Tempted to abandon an earlier commitment
- When might people reconsider a commitment?
- Being tempted to reconsider our association with Jesus Christ...
 - Following Him (for example, loving enemies)
 - Publicly acknowledging him

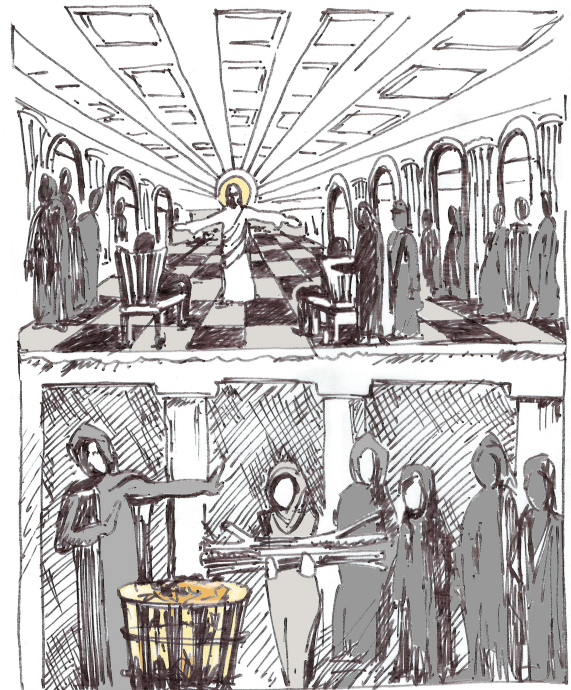
**Without this,
we have nothing**

Mark 14:53-72

Brown (English) Bible: Page 1020

White (Spanish) Bible: Page _

Red (Chinese) Bible: Page _



“Witness” or “Testify” in Mark

- Testify =
State what you believe to be true about something
 - 7 times in 20 verses (14:53-72)
 - 4 times in 678 verses (the rest of the book)
- What is the focus of the testimony?
 - Who is Jesus of Nazareth?

Jesus’ Identity in Mark

The beginning of the good news about
Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God. 1:1

“But what about you?” Jesus asked. “Who do you say I am?” Peter answered, **“You are the Messiah.”** 8:29

And when the centurion, who stood there in front of Jesus, saw how he died, he said, **“Surely this man was the Son of God!”** 15:39

From God the Father

And a voice came from heaven: “**You are my Son, whom I love**; with you I am well pleased.” 1:11

Then a cloud appeared and covered them, and a voice came from the cloud: “**This is my Son, whom I love**. Listen to him!” 9:7

From evil spirits

“What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the **Holy One of God!**” 1:24

Whenever the impure spirits saw him, they fell down before him and cried out, “**You are the Son of God.**” 3:11

He shouted at the top of his voice, “What do you want with me, Jesus, **Son of the Most High God?** In God’s name don’t torture me!” 5:7

- Mark was very clear...from the first sentence!
 - Jesus is God’s chosen savior
 - Jesus is God the Son
- Yet ... Jesus tried to keep it hidden
 - “The Messianic Secret”

“Messianic Secret” in Mark

[an evil spirit said] “I know who you are—the Holy One of God!” **“Be quiet!”** said Jesus sternly. “Come out of him!” 1:23-25

Jesus told them, **“The secret of the kingdom of God has been given to you.** But to those on the outside everything is said in parables.” 4:11

“But what about you?” Jesus asked. “Who do you say I am?” Peter answered, “You are the Messiah.” Jesus warned them **not to tell anyone about him.** 8:29-30

Brief Overview of Mark

“Messianic Secret”	Jesus’ ministry of teaching & miracles	chapters 1-10
	Jesus’ travel to Jerusalem	chapters 11-13
Messianic Proclamation	Jesus’ arrest, trial, death, and resurrection	chapters 14-16
	Arrested & tried by Jewish leaders	14:43-72
	Turned over for Roman judgment & crucifixion	15:1-15

Mark 14:53-72

53: Jesus’ trial begins

54:

55-59:

60-65:

66-67:

68-72:

Mark 14:53-72

53: Jesus' trial begins

54:

Peter's trial begins

55-59:

60-65:

66-67:

68-72:

Mark 14:53-72

53: Jesus' trial begins

54:

Peter's trial begins

55-59: False witnesses against Jesus

60-65:

66-67:

68-72:

Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.” ... The temple he had spoken of was his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said.

John 2:19-22

In Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

Romans 12:5

Body of Christ = Christians together (the Church)

Jesus wasn't talking about a building

Jesus didn't claim that he would destroy it

Mark 14:53-72

53: Jesus' trial begins

54:

Peter's trial begins

55-59: False witnesses against Jesus

60-65: Jesus' emphatic confession: “I am!”

66-67:

68-72:

The **LORD** says to my Lord:
“Sit at my right hand,
 until I make your enemies your footstool.”

Psalm 110:1

“I **saw** in the night visions,
 and behold, with the **clouds of heaven**
 there **came** one like a **son of man**,
 and he came to the Ancient of Days
 and was presented before him.

Daniel 7:13

“And you will **see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One** and **coming on the clouds of heaven.**”

**NOTICE THE BOLD CLAIM, AND THE IRONY!
 POWERLESS, SHAMED, ABOUT TO BE KILLED
 YET CLAIMED HIGHEST OF ALL AUTHORITIES**

The **LORD** says to my Lord:
“Sit at my right hand,
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53: Jesus' trial begins

54: Peter's trial begins

55-59: False witnesses against Jesus

60-65: Jesus' emphatic confession

66-67: True and lowly witness against Peter

68-72:

Mark 14:53-72

53: Jesus' trial begins

54: Peter's trial begins

55-59: False witnesses against Jesus

60-65: Jesus' emphatic confession

66-67: True and lowly witness against Peter

68-72: Peter's emphatic denials

Contrast

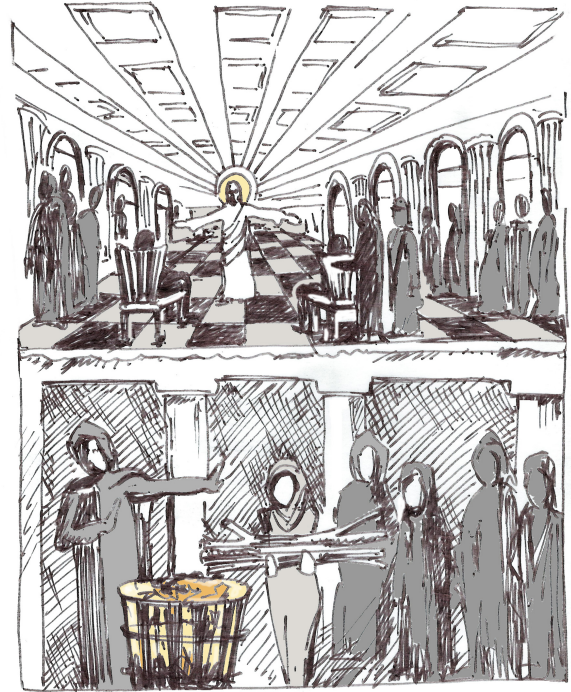
Jesus before the most powerful authorities

- Boldly declares His identity
- Knowing it would bring His death

Peter before a servant girl

- Emphatically denies any knowledge of or connection with Jesus
- Defended himself by shaming Jesus

Recall: Jesus prayed & Peter slept



“Don’t be alarmed,” he said. “You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples **and Peter**, ‘He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.’”
(16:6-7)

The Big Idea

**Jesus is the only solution
to the human condition
because He is God the Son
in human form
and has the power of final rescue and judgment**

Jesus boldly declares it, even in threat of death

Best of the disciples denies it, with a very minor threat

→ Yet he is restored by Jesus

The Bible is clear:

Hope is not in people or leaders or institutions
or populism or authorities or a particular author
or pastor or church or movement or idea or...

Hope is entirely in Jesus Christ, the Son of God

- When tempted to reconsider our association with Jesus Christ...
 - Following Him (for example, loving enemies)
 - Publicly acknowledging him
- (Re)Ask this pivotal question
 - Who is Jesus Christ?
 - A great teacher? An amazing person?
A good model to follow & imitate?
 - Or: God the Son who is the final authority over all!

Application

- Answer the question: Who is Jesus?
- Then center life on Jesus who is God the Son
 - **Follow Him boldly:** “Where He sends, I will go”
 - **Stand with Him boldly**
 - Peter and John after being arrested for speaking about Jesus:
 - “As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.”

Acts 4:20

The Big Idea

**Jesus is the only solution
to the human condition
because He is God the Son
in human form
and has the power of final rescue and judgment**

Life's question: Who is Jesus, really?

Daily question: Who is Jesus, really?

If this is true, without Jesus, we have nothing.
With Him, we have everything!