

## **JOHN AND MARK COMBINED APPROACH**

### **COMPARISON BETWEEN MARK'S GOSPEL AND JOHN SIMILARITIES**

1. Both gospels present a similar chronological order of major events such as the ministry on John the Baptist, Jesus' baptism, suffering arrest and death.
2. Both gospels present Jesus as a messiah, king and a prophet.
3. Both gospels present the message of the first oral gospel as preached. That is, they contain the kerygma.
4. Both present the mission of Jesus as a fulfillment of the Old Testament scriptures especially Isaiah chapters 9, 11, 40, 42, and 53.
5. Both gospels agree that there was hostility between Jesus and the Jewish religious leaders which eventually led to Jesus' death.
6. Both show that not all religious leaders in the Jewish communities were Jesus' enemies some had accepted him. Leaders like Nicodemus in John and Jairus in Mark had accepted Jesus.
7. Both gospels show that Jesus' disciples and his audience were spiritually blind or lacked understanding of who Jesus was.
8. Both agree that God's love for mankind was shown through the ministry of Jesus on earth.
9. Both gospels show that Jesus was both human and divine.
10. Both agree that faith was an important element of human salvation. Jesus required people to have faith in God in both.
11. Both present Jesus performing mighty works such as healing the sick, feeding the hungry and walking on water.
12. Both Gospels agree that John the Baptist's work was to prepare people for the coming of the messiah by baptizing them so as to cleanse them from sins.
13. Both gospels present Jesus entering Jerusalem triumphantly on a young donkey as a sign of his overlordship.
14. Both gospels present Jesus cleansing the temple at Jerusalem which had been misused by the Jews.
15. Both present Jesus being anointed at Bethany by a female in the presence of his disciples.
16. In both gospels Jesus is arrested from the garden and taken to the chief priests and later to Pilate for the final Judgment.
17. Both gospels agree that some women were friends to Jesus and played an important role during Jesus' ministry.
18. Both gospels agree that Peter seemed to be instrumental as a disciple in Jesus' ministry for he is uniquely pointed out on various events.
19. Both gospels present Jesus having a last supper with his disciples before his arrest and trial by the Jewish authorities.
20. Both gospels present Jesus crucified on the cross at Golgotha and his garments are shared by the soldiers.
21. Both gospels agree that Jesus resurrected from death and was first witnessed by Mary Magdalene and later appeared to his disciples.
22. Both gospels present different witnesses to Jesus' works and mission. That is God the Father, the holy spirit, Jesus' audience, The Jewish scriptures and Jesus himself.

### **DIFFERENCES BETWEEN JOHN AND MARK**

1. Mark presents Jesus' teaching in a narrative while John presents the teachings in a philosophical/theological approach.
2. Mark's introduction is short and direct while that of John is long and theological relating Jesus to the creation.

3. In mark John the Baptist is shown baptizing Jesus while in John's gospel John the Baptist is shown witnessing to the baptism of Jesus.
4. In the gospel of Mark Jesus uniquely called and appointed his disciples while in John Jesus got some of his disciples from John the Baptist.
5. Mark uses the phrase kingdom of God to mean the presence of God's mighty hand in human salvation on earth while John uses the phrase eternal life/glory of God to mean the same.
6. Mark presents the teaching of Jesus in form of parables while John presents Jesus' teachings in form of discourses.
7. Mark uses the term miracles when referring to the mighty works of Jesus while John uses the term signs to mean the same.
8. Mark's gospel is shorter than that of John that is Mark has 16 chapters while John has a full account of Jesus ministry reported in 21 chapters.
9. Mark tries to suppress the messiahship of Jesus when writing while John opens the messiahship of Jesus straight away from the beginning.
10. In Mark Jesus was anointed in Simon the leper's house on the head by a Mysterious woman while in John He was anointed in Lazarus' house on the feet by Mary.
11. Mark presents God's judgement as a future reality to be effected at the end of the world while John shows that God's begins here and now in accepting or rejecting Jesus Christ.
12. Mark's gospel is written by a close associate of Jesus' disciples while John's gospel was written by a beloved disciple of Jesus who witnessed Jesus' full public ministry.
13. In Mark Jesus basically uses a human title son of man while in John Jesus generally refers to himself with a divine title son of God or IAM.
14. When reporting, Mark concentrates more on Jesus' Galilean ministry and the surrounding areas while John majorly concentrates on Jesus' Jerusalem ministry.
15. Mark shows that Jesus cleansed the temple at Jerusalem towards the end of his ministry while John presents Jesus cleansing the temple at the beginning.
16. Mark presents Jesus as a suffering messiah and even on the cross he called on God to intervene that is "My God my God why have you abandoned me while John presents Jesus as a triumphant Messiah that is why on the cross he groaned "It is finished.
17. Mark gives many miracles performed by Jesus while John registers only seven signs performed by Jesus.
18. Mark shows that Jesus was helped by Simon of Cyrene to carry the cross up to Golgotha while John shows that Jesus carried his own cross to Golgotha.
19. Mark's gospel was written around 65AD while John's gospel was written around 90AD.
20. In mark Jesus is arrested and taken for judgement with ease while in John Jesus' enemies fell down three times before they could arrest him.
21. Mark shows that Jesus was welcomed by all the groups of people joyfully when entering Jerusalem while John shows that the Jewish authorities were hostile and against Jesus triumph entry to Jerusalem.
22. In mark Joseph of Arimathea buried Jesus' body when the three women were watching while in John Joseph of Arimathea was with Nicodemus the one who had visited Jesus at night.
23. In Mark's gospel Jesus is presented going to Jerusalem once while in John's Gospel Jesus went to Jerusalem several times.

### **COMPARING MARK AND JOHN ON JOHN THE BAPTIST'S MINISTRY.**

#### **Similarities**

1. In both the ministry of John the Baptist is given.
2. Both gospels present John as one who has a mission to baptize the repentant
3. In both John the Baptist is viewed as Elijah who had come to fulfill the prophecy of Malachi 4:5
4. In both John the Baptist demanded that his listeners turn away from their sins

5. In both John wanted his listeners to turn in total obedience to God so that they might be forgiven on the Day of Judgment.
6. In both there is a voice from heaven.
7. Both gospels give an account of John's ministry of telling people that the terrible day of the Lord was near.
8. In both gospels baptism was carried out in River Jordan.
9. In both gospels Jesus Christ went to John to be baptized.
10. In both there is evidence that John had disciples.
11. In both gospels John identified Jesus as a great figure above him.

#### **DIFFERENCES**

1. Whereas John gives details of the Baptist's ministry, Mark will give a summary and omit such details
2. While in John the Baptism is questioned by religious leaders whether he was the messiah, Mark is silent about that but John just announces the greater one who is to come.
3. In John's gospel, the Baptist describes himself as God's messenger who brought the news of the Lord's coming while in Mark Isaiah is quoted to justify the Baptist's ministry.
4. In John's gospel Jesus was already among the crowd when the Baptist was explaining while in Mark Jesus came later for Baptism
5. Mark shows John the Baptist baptizing Jesus in River Jordan while in John's gospel the Baptist witnesses Jesus' baptism.
6. While in Mark the Holy Spirit descends on Jesus in form of a dove during baptism, in John, the Baptist just saw the Holy Spirit descending.
7. In John, the Baptist, sees Jesus and announces "behold the lamb of God" while in Mark the Baptist only interacts with Jesus during baptism.
8. In John's gospel the Baptist recognized the voice from heaven while in Mark it was only Jesus who recognized God's voice.
9. In Mark, the Baptist was ignorant of the personality of Jesus that is why he sent his disciples to ask while in John the Baptist knew Jesus and his ministry
10. In Mark John the Baptist dies as a martyr while in John's gospel the Baptist ministry ends mysteriously
11. In John's gospel the Baptist handed over some disciples to Jesus while in Mark Jesus called his own disciples.
12. In John's gospel the Baptist is a witness of Jesus' Baptism while in Mark the Baptist is shown Baptizing Jesus

#### **Comparison of Mark and John on the feeding of the five thousand SIMILARITIES**

1. In both incidents the feeding took place across the lake.
2. In both situations the crowd was made to sit down on the grass.
3. In both gospels the same number of people was fed i.e. about 5000 men were fed.
4. In both Mark and John, the incident is recorded in chapter 6.
5. In both Jesus fed the crowd with the same menu that is bread and fish.
6. The quantity of bread and fish was five and two respectively in both.
7. In both gospels Jesus first gave thanks for the food before it was distributed.
8. In both all the people ate to their full i.e. they all had what was enough for them.
9. In both Jesus' disciples collected 12 baskets of the left over.
10. Both gospels are silent over Jesus and his disciples eating with the people.
11. In both the food to feed the crowd would cost two hundred (200) silver coins.
12. Disciples complained in both of where to get the food to feed the hungry crowd.

## **DIFFERENCES**

1. In John the crowd followed Jesus and his disciples where as in Mark the people went ahead of them to where they were going.
2. In John Jesus and the disciples had been together where as in Mark Jesus' disciples had been on a mission.
3. In John Jesus showed concern and took the initiative to ask Phillip to provide for the people where as in Mark, the disciples showed concern and requested Jesus to send the people away.
4. In Mark Jesus looked at the crowd and felt pity they were like sheep without a shepherd where as John is just concerned with their hunger.
5. In John Jesus fed the crowd straight away where as in Mark he first taught the people many things before feeding them.
6. In John the disciples made people to just sit down before they were fed where as in Mark the disciples divided the people into groups of fifties and hundreds and made them sit down.
7. In John people were made to sit on the grass whereas in Mark they sat on green grass.
8. In John Jesus distributed the bread and fish himself where as in Mark he gave the bread and fish to his disciples to distribute.
9. In John Jesus commanded his disciples to collect the food balance where as in Mark the disciples collected the food balance on their initiative.
10. In John after eating people referred to Jesus as a prophet where as in Mark is people are indifferent and Jesus remain tittle less.
11. In John, Jesus and his disciples were on the hill or mountain while in Mark it was at the lake shore.
12. In John Andrew volunteered the information of the number of bread and fish, where as in Mark it was Jesus who asked how many loaves the disciples had.
13. In John it was a young boy with bread and fish Jesus multiplied where as in Mark the five loaves and fish were with the disciples.
14. In John Jesus challenged Phillip on how to feed the crowd where as in Mark Jesus challenged all the disciples.
15. In John Jesus escaped because the people wanted to crown him king where as in Mark Jesus sent them away peacefully.
16. In John the bread was distributed before breaking it where as in Mark Jesus broke the bread before distribution.
17. In John the feeding happened towards the Passover festivities but in Mark it seems to have been an ordinary period.

## **COMPARISION BETWEEN MARK AND JOHN ON THE CLEANSING OF THE TEMPLE BY JESUS**

### **Similarities**

1. In both gospels the cleansing of the temple took place at Jerusalem.
  2. In both gospels he was Jesus who cleansed the temple.
  3. In both gospels the incident took place when Jesus was with his disciples.
  4. In both Mark and John, doves were among items for sale.
  5. In both Mark and John, Jesus over turned the tables of the money changers.
  6. In both gospels Jesus affirms the fact that the temple was God's dwelling place.
  7. In both Mark and John, the Jewish leaders got angry with Jesus.
  8. In both gospels the Old Testament scriptures are quoted.
  9. In both gospels Jesus' death is talked about.
  10. In both gospels the cleansing of the temple took place after great events i.e. after the pass over and the triumphal entry respectively. **Differences**
1. In John the incident happened towards the Passover festivities while in Mark it appears to have been an ordinary time.

2. In John it was at the beginning of Jesus' ministry while in Mark the incident happened towards the end of Jesus' ministry.
3. In John animals were part of the items for trade while in Mark only pigeons were sold.
4. In John the temple had been made a market place while in Mark it had been made a den of robbers (thieves).
5. In John Jesus made a whip to drive out the people from the temple courts while in Mark Jesus used words to drive them out.
6. In John Jesus told people to carry away their property while in Mark Jesus prevented people from carrying anything.
7. In John the Jewish leaders were angered because Jesus promised to break the temple and rebuild it in three days while in Mark they got angry because Jesus had blamed them for having turned the temple into a hide out for thieves.
8. In John the Jewish leaders just complained over Jesus' claim while in Mark they looked for a way to kill Jesus.
9. In Mark the people were amazed with Jesus' teaching while in John the crowd is indifferent.
10. In John the disciples of Jesus remember the scriptures while in Mark Jesus himself quotes the scriptures.
11. In John the temple was for the Jews only while in Mark the temple was universal i.e. for all nations.

#### **COMPARISON BETWEEN MARK AND JOHN ON THE ANNOINTING SIMILARITIES.**

1. In both gospels the event took place at Bethany.
2. In both it was towards the Passover festivities.
3. In both gospels Jesus was anointed by a woman.
4. In both gospels the anointing took place inside the house.
5. In both the perfume was made of pure nard.
6. In both it is said that the perfume which was used to anoint Jesus was very expensive.
7. In both there was a complaint of a perfume have been wasted.
8. In both gospels Jesus was at table having a meal with his disciples when he was anointed.
9. In both gospels there was a concern to help the poor.
10. In both Jesus defends and approves the woman's act.
11. In both gospels Jesus predicts his departure.
12. In both the perfume would cost about 300 silver coins.

#### **DIFFERENCES**

1. Where as in Mark Jesus was in Simon the leper's home, in John he was in Lazarus' home.
2. Where as in Mark it took place two days before the Passover, in John six days to the Passover.
3. In the gospel according to St. John Jesus was specifically at dinner while in Mark Jesus was just taking a meal.
4. Where as in Mark the woman anointed Jesus' head in John Jesus' feet were anointed.
5. In John Mary wipes Jesus' feet with her hair after anointing them while in Mark the woman just leaves.
6. Where as in John Judas Iscariot was the one who complained, in Mark the people present complained.
7. Where as in John the complainant's character is described, in Mark many people complained.
8. In John Martha serves the food while in Mark they just meet at table to eat.
9. In Mark the whole perfume is used while in John half of it is kept.
10. Where as in Mark Jesus is anointed to prepare his body for burial, in John some oil is kept for Jesus' burial,
11. In Mark the woman's act was to be part of the future gospel while John the act was just good.

12. In John Lazarus was at table with Jesus during the meal whereas Mark Simon's presence is mysterious.
13. In John the woman's name is clarified to have been Mary while in Mark the name remains mysterious.

## **COMPARISON BETWEEN MARK AND JOHN ON THE TRIUMPH ENTRY TO JERUSALEM.**

### **SIMILARITIES**

1. In both gospels the disciples of Jesus went along with him.
2. In both Mark and John Jesus is reported to have entered Jerusalem the city of David victoriously.
3. In both Jesus entered while riding on a young donkey (a Colt).
4. In both Jesus used the animal which had never been used before.
5. In both the animal Jesus used belonged to other persons.
6. In both gospels the crowd shouted with joy praising God and Jesus who came in his name.
7. In both gospels people spread and waved tree branches when welcoming Jesus to Jerusalem.
8. In both Jesus is welcomed as a mighty king from David's line.
9. In both Jesus is publically recognized as a messiah.
10. In both Jesus got the animal with ease without any opposition.
11. In both people's excitement is high with a lot of expectation from Jesus.
12. In both many people showed respect and honour to Jesus.
13. In both gospels Jesus is portrayed as one from above.

### **DIFFERENCES**

1. In Mark Jesus sent his disciples to get a colt on the next village while in John Jesus himself found a donkey which he rode on.
2. In John the people who welcomed Jesus had come to attend the Passover festivals while in Mark people just gathered to welcome Jesus.
3. In Mark the disciples threw their cloaks over the animal for Jesus to sit on while in John Jesus just sat on the bare animal.
4. Whereas John quotes the Old Testament scriptures (Zach; 9:9), Mark omits such quotation.
5. In Mark Jesus refers to himself as a master while John Jesus is tittle less.
6. In Mark the disciples seemed to have understood Jesus' act of entering Jerusalem while in John they remained confused until when Jesus was raised to glory.
7. In Mark people used both their cloaks and tree branches to welcome Jesus in Jerusalem while in John they only used tree branches.
8. Where as in John the branches used are specified (Palm tree branches), Mark only talks about the use of tree branches.
9. In Mark the geographical setting from which Jesus started his journey is said to have been mount of olives, while John just shows Jesus entering Jerusalem
10. In Mark Jesus on entering Jerusalem went straight to the temple but did nothing while in John Jesus just entered the city and ended there.
11. In Mark Jesus entered Jerusalem in the evening while in John it was a day after the Passover festivals.
12. In John the Pharisees were hostile due to Jesus becoming popular while in Mark, Jesus is welcomed peacefully by all.
13. In Mark after his entry to Jerusalem, Jesus together with his disciples went to Bethany while in John it appears as if he remained in Jerusalem.

## **COMPARING THE LORD'S SUPPER IN MARK AND JOHN.**

### **Similarities**

1. In both the Lord's supper coincides with the Passover celebration
2. In both the Lord's supper started in the evening

3. In both the Lord's Supper ended in the night.
4. It included Jesus and the 12 disciples in both
5. In both Jesus predicts his betrayal by Judas Iscariot. 6. In both Jesus predicts his denial by Peter
7. In both Jesus announces his death.
8. In both it marked the last meal that Jesus shared with his disciples in both.
9. In both the disciples failed to know the actual name of the betrayer.
10. In both the disciples were shocked of the impending death of Jesus and his betrayer
11. In both Jesus referred to himself as a Son of man
12. In both Judas leaves before the end of the supper.

### Differences

1. In Mark, the last supper coincides with the Passover feast while in John it took place a day before the Passover feast.
2. In Mark, the disciples asked Jesus where to prepare the last supper from while in John the disciples and Jesus were already in place having the supper.
3. In Mark the last supper was prepared in an upper room while John ignores the geography setting of a place.
4. In mark Jesus inaugurates the sacrament of the Lord's Supper while in John he inaugurates the new commandment.
5. In Mark, Jesus talks of a new covenant sealed while in John Jesus talks of the need for serving one another.
6. In Mark, Jesus gives a brief teaching and no farewell message to the disciples, while in John Jesus gives a lengthy teaching and farewell message to the disciples
7. In Mark, all the disciples asked one after the other whether any one was the betrayer. While in John Peter sent the beloved disciple to ask Jesus who was the betrayer.
8. In Mark all the 12 disciples are treated equally while in John special attention is given to John the beloved who leaned towards Jesus at the Lord's Supper.
9. In Mark Jesus tells the disciples that he will never drink again the wine until the new wine in God's kingdom while in John he talks about his disappearance and looking for him.
10. In Mark the betrayer was eating with Jesus while in John Jesus deepened a piece of bread in sauce and gave him
11. Jesus in mark talks about his death after the last supper while in John he talks about his death during the last supper
12. In Mark, Jesus predicts Peter's denial after the last supper (on Mt. olives) while, in John during the last supper
13. In John Satan entered Judas immediately after the bread given to him by Jesus while Mark it appears Satan had already entered Judas
14. In Mark Jesus pronounced trouble to the betrayer and regretted why such a person was born while in John he tells the betrayer to be quick about what he was going to do.
15. In Mark the disciple sang a hymn and went to Mt. olives after the Lord's supper, while in John the disciples remained at the place for instruction less singing
16. In John the disciples' feet are washed before the supper while Mark Jesus just met with his disciples for the supper less washing their feet. **compare the arrest and trial of Jesus Christ as recorded in the first and the fourth Gospel?**
  - In both gospels Jesus was arrested at night.
  - In both Mark and John Jesus was with his disciples during the arrest.
  - In both gospels Jesus' arrest took place after he had finished to pray. □ In both Mark and John, the arrest of Jesus took place in the garden.

- In both gospels he was Judas Iscariot who led Jesus' enemies to the place where Jesus was with his disciples.
- In both gospels the group which arrested Jesus was well armed with clubs and swords. □ In both gospels the group which arrested Jesus was sent by the Jewish leaders.
- In both gospels one of the high priest's servants lost his ear. It was cut off.
- In both gospels the disciples of Jesus left the place immediately when Jesus was arrested.
- In both gospels, Jesus was taken to the high priest's palace.
- In both Mark and John, Jesus was taken to Pilate for judgment very early in the morning.
- In both gospels Peter denies Jesus when Jesus was at the high priest's palace.
- In Mark and John Pilate declared that Jesus was innocent.
- In both gospels Pilate was willing to release Jesus but failed due to the shouts from the crowd and the Jewish leaders.
- In both gospels, the crowd was made to ask for the release of Barabbas and requested for the crucifixion of Jesus.
- In both gospels, Pilate had Jesus whipped before he handed him over to be crucified.
- In both Jesus was made to wear a purple robe and a crown of thorns.

#### ▪ Differences

- In Mark Jesus was arrested from the garden of Gethsemane while in John, Jesus was arrested from the garden across Kedron brook.
- In Mark Judas Iscariot identified Jesus with a kiss while John he just led the crowd to the place where Jesus was.
- In Mark Jesus was arrested immediately while in John he first asked them for who they were looking for?
- In Mark Jesus complained about the nature in which he was arrested while in John Jesus just gave in himself for the arrest.
- In Mark, one of the disciples of Jesus cut off one of the chief priest's servant's ear while in John he was Peter who cut off the servant's ear.
- In Mark all the other disciples deserted Jesus and ran away while in John Jesus requested his enemies to let the disciples go.
- In Mark there was a young man who was there during the arrest of Jesus while in John Jesus was only with his disciples.
- In Mark Peter was the only disciple who followed Jesus while in John Peter and another disciple followed Jesus.
- In Mark Jesus was straight away taken to the high priest while in John, Jesus was first taken to Annas.
- In Mark Peter freely entered the chief Priest's palace while in John he feared to enter and was helped by the other disciple to enter the palace.
- In Mark Jesus only answered the question asked by the high priest (so you say) while in John, Jesus had a bitter argument with the chief priest.
- In Mark many people brought false witness against Jesus while in John Jesus was only questioned by the high priest.
- In Mark Pilate straight away started to ask Jesus whether he was a King while in John Pilate first asked the Jewish leaders they were accusing Jesus of.
- In John Jesus had a long conversation/exchange with Pilate before he accepted his Kingship while in Mark Jesus accepted straight away.
- In Mark Pilate just fulfilled the people's wish to crucify Jesus while in John Pilate was intimidated so as to condemn Jesus to death.



- In John there was a bitter exchange between Pilate the Jewish leaders while in Mark Pilate listened to them. **Discuss the significance of the above event to Christians today?**
- The event helps Christians to endure persecution just like Jesus who accepted to be arrested when was innocent.
- It helps Christians to defend the truth and their leaders Peter tried to defend Christ with a sword.
- It helps Christians to promote peace and use non- violent means when fighting for their rights Just like Jesus who told Peter to put his sword back to its place.
- It encourages Christians to follow the right procedure when arresting the suspects. Jesus was arrested by the temple guards and at night.
- It helps Christians to pray when in trouble so as to be strengthened by God just like Jesus who was arrested after prayer.
- Helps Christians to obey those in authority even when they are on the wrong Just like Jesus handed himself over to the authorities.
- It enables Christians to keep in company and comfort those facing suffering just like the Disciples who were with Jesus in the garden.
- It helps Christians to promote justice in courts of law. Unlike the council that was unfair to Jesus during Judgement.
- It helps Christians to tell the truth all the time Just like Jesus who told the truth to the chief priest and Pilate that he was a messiah.
- It helps Christians to accept Jesus as a messiah for during his trial he clearly identified himself as the messiah.
- It helps Christians to accept death for the sake of Jesus Christ just like Jesus accepted to die for our sins though innocent.
- It helps Christians to be honest unlike Peter who denied to have been with Jesus in the garden.
- It encourages Christians to repent their sins and turn back to God. Unlike Judas Iscariot who betrayed Jesus.
- It helps Christians leaders to follow the country laws strictly rather than basing on people's emotions unlike Pilate who based on people's emotions to kill Jesus.
- It enables Christians to bear witness to Jesus Christ for the good he does Just like Jesus asked the chief priest to ask those people who saw what Jesus was doing.
- It helps Christians to save the innocent from being arrested Just like Jesus in John requested his enemies to let the disciples go.
- It helps Christians to respect and exalt Jesus as a king for he accepted to have been one during trial and he was crowned.
- It helps Christian judges to validate evidence before convicting criminals.
- It encourages Christian leaders to use their offices well unlike the religious leaders who ordered for the arrest of Jesus.
- It helps Christians to condemn mob justice because the innocent is punished in the process e.g. Jesus.
- It enables Christians to fight against bribery in courts of law, e.g. the Pharisees bribed people to accuse Jesus falsely.
- It helps Christians to preserve life even of those taken as criminals because it is only God with authority over life.
- It enables Christians to preach reconciliation other than condemnation, i.e. there was a chance for religious leaders to reconcile with Jesus.
- It enables Christians judges to give everybody an opportunity to defend himself and get witnesses for his defense, not as Jesus was treated.

- It encourages Christians to give fair punishment to criminals in relation to the offence committed. Jesus was heavily punished.

### **Comparing the accounts of Jesus' crucifixion and eventual death in the gospels of Mark and John.**

#### **Similarities**

1. In Both gospels Jesus is taken to Golgotha which means a place of skull.
2. In both he was crucified with two other men on each side.
3. In both the crucifixion was pronounced by Pilate.
4. In both a notice was written to the effect that he was the king of the Jews.
5. In both soldiers divided Jesus' clothes.
6. In both the soldiers threw dice to bet as to who would take what.
7. In both he was offered wine
8. In both Mary the mother of Jesus and other women came to keep vigil.
9. In both his body was wrapped in linen
10. In both his body was handled according to the Jewish custom.
11. His body in both was asked for by Joseph of Arimathea.
12. In both he was buried on Friday before Sabbath
13. In both he was buried in an empty tomb
14. In both Jesus was crowned with thorny branches. **Differences**

1. In Mark a man called Simon from Cyrene carried Jesus' cross while in John Jesus carried his own cross.
2. In John the chief priests told Pilate to change the notice to read that Jesus had claimed to be the king of the Jews but Mark Pilate wrote the notice less opposition.
3. In Mark Jesus is given wine mixed with myrrh, while in John he was made to drink cheap wine
4. In mark Jesus refuses to drink the wine while in John he is made to drink the wine.
5. In John the legs of the thieves were broken while in mark their legs remain unbroken.
6. In John Jesus' body was pieced and blood and water poured out while Mark Jesus' body on the cross remained intact.
7. In Mark it was alleged that Jesus was calling Elijah while John is on cross less such allegations.
8. In mark Jesus cried a cry of despair i.e. my God my God why have you forsaken me while in John he cries a triumphant cry i.e. "it's finished"
9. In mark Joseph came for Jesus' body alone where as in John he came with Nicodemus.
10. In Mark he died loudly, while in John he died quietly.
11. In Mark Joseph rolled a stone onto the tomb, while in John the writer is silent about this.
12. In Mark, the tomb was dug out of a solid rock whereas John just talks about the new tomb which had never been used for burial.
13. In mark insults are thrown on to Jesus by the people, chief priest and the thieves crucified with him while in John Jesus is on cross less such insults.
14. In John Jesus hands over his mother to his disciple i.e. John while Mark, Mary remains with other women.
15. In mark Pilate told a soldier to verify whether Jesus had died while in John soldiers found out by themselves that Jesus had died.
16. The curtain in the temple tore into two in Mark while John the temple remained intact.

### **DIVINITY/MESSIAHSHIP OF JESUS IN MARK AND JOHN**

#### **HOW DOES MARK SHOW THE DIVINITY OF JESUS CHRIST?**

1. He was a son of God. Mark; 1:1 says this is the good news about Jesus Christ the son of God which is a clear indicator that he is divine.
2. According to Mark Jesus was confirmed as a messiah and one who is divine by John the Baptist. (Mk;1: 7)

3. John the Baptist accepted that the one who was coming was greater than him that he could not untie his sandals.
4. When Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist, the voice recognized him as a son of God and the holy Spirit descended upon him in form of a dove.
5. He comfortably stayed with wild animals during his wilderness experience and angels were there to serve him which confirmed his divinity. (Mk 1:9)
6. He had powers to drive out demons. On several occasions he chased demons out of those people they had attacked. For example, Jesus casted out demons from a man at Gerasa and sent them into pigs. (Mk.5)
7. He had powers to change and interpret the law e.g. Sabbath when he told the Pharisees that Sabbath was made for the good of man not man for the Sabbath. (Mk 2:27) fasting 2:18-22
8. He had powers to forgive sins something which was done by God. E.g. He forgave the sins of the paralyzed man.
9. He would bring back the dead to life something which could only be done by God. E.g. He raised Jairus' daughter back to life by a mere word "Taritha koum".
10. Jesus' divine nature is also manifested in the transfiguration incident when his clothes turned bright than anyone could wash them, Then Moses and Elijah descended and talked with him and a voice declared him son of God. Mk 11;
11. He could heal all kinds of diseases which indicated that he had Godly qualities e.g. 1:10 healing of the man with leprosy, a bleeding woman and blind Bartimaeus.
12. He miraculously produced food and fish on two distinct occasions on which he fed the people and got satisfied. 6:35-43 and 8: 1-35.
13. Jesus performed miracles on nature as a way to show his divinity. For instance, Jesus walked on water at the amusement of his disciples. Mk. 6; 41-55.
14. Jesus managed to know the secret plans of Judas Iscariot of betraying him.
15. During the triumphal entry to Jerusalem, Jesus was declared a king son of David and recognized him as one who came in the name of the Lord.
16. In the parable of the wicked tenants Mark presents Jesus as a son of vine yard owner 12: 1-3.
17. When Jesus died, darkness fell at day time and the curtain of the temple got torn from the top to the bottom. 15: 33-38.
18. Jesus before the Sanhedrin council accepted to be the son of the blessed one and that he would be seen seated on the right hand of the Father.
19. During Jesus' death, he called God his father which showed that he was from above.
20. The divine nature of Jesus was also shown in his resurrection. He was able to regain his life which was the greatest miracle. 16:1.
21. Jesus announced his death on the cross, his betrayal by Judas Iscariot and his denial by Peter all of which came true.
22. Jesus triumphal entry to Jerusalem also confirmed Jesus divinity for he was addressed by the crowd as the one who comes in the lord's name.
23. Jesus was anointed at Bethany with a very expensive perfume by a woman which confirmed his divinity.
24. Peter one of Jesus' disciple declared Jesus a messiah at Caesarea Philippi which confirmed his divinity.
25. During his death the Roman soldier confirmed that Jesus was a son of God after seeing all what had happened. This was also proving his divinity.
26. Jesus assured the Pharisees that he had authority over the Sabbath which confirmed that he was divine. That is Jesus called himself the Lord of the Sabbath.
27. Jesus called the disciples and they followed him less hesitation which showed that he had divine powers. Mk. 1:16

## **HOW JOHN SHOWS JESUS' DIVINITY/MESSIAHSHIP**

1. In the prologue Jesus is presented as the word of God who was the source of life that brought light to humanity.
2. At the beginning of his ministry Jesus cleansed the temple which was a messianic act 2:13-32
3. Jesus was given a title of prophet and messiah by the crowd. This happened after his teaching about streams of life giving water.7:40-43
4. Jesus performed healing signs such as the healing of the crippled at the pool, the healing of the Roman official's son and the healing of the man born blind which all of them pointed to his messiahship and divinity.
5. John presents Jesus as the light of the world which overshadowed darkness and darkness has never put it out. 1:5-9
6. The Samaritan woman confirmed that he was the messiah. When she left her pot and went to the city telling people that she had met a man who has told her everything she had ever done.
7. Jesus is presented as a good shepherd who takes care of the flock and he knows his sheep by name. John10: 11ff
8. Jesus changed water into wine at the wedding at Cana which wine was the best which was a clear indication of his messiahship.
9. Jesus' resurrection confirmed his messiahship for three days after his burial his tomb was found empty and he appeared to Mary Magdalene.
10. Jesus constantly referred to God as his Father This is done 120 times in the gospel of John.
11. His handling of the adulterous case confirmed his messiahship and divinity for he was in position to save the woman from death through divine wisdom. It was in line with Isaiah 42
12. Jesus referred to himself as a bread of life and that those who believe in him will never be hungry and thirsty and that he would raise them on the last day. Jn.6;35-39.
13. The many attempts the Jews made to arrest Jesus and they failed confirmed him being from above. When he taught about himself in the temple, they tried to seize him but no one laid a hand on him Jn. 7;30
14. Jesus referring to himself as a true vine and that those who remain in him will ask for anything and shall be granted.
15. Jesus also refers to himself as the resurrection and life and those who believe in him will live even though they die this was confirming his messiahship.
16. At his trial he confirmed to Pilate that he was the messiah the king of the Jews.
17. Andrew also witnessed Jesus as the messiah hence he told his brother Simon Peter we have found a messiah.
18. Nicodemus also testified about Jesus as the messiah when he said that he knows that Jesus was a teacher sent by God because no one could perform such miracles unless he was from God. Jn 3:2.
19. Martha confirmed when Jesus went to sympathize with them that Jesus was the messiah
20. The Baptist referred to him as the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world something which proved his messiahship.
21. Jesus himself claimed to be greater than Abraham and that he existed before Abraham 5:58 This proved his divine origin and messiahship.
22. Jesus' triumphant entry to Jerusalem was a messianic act as he was welcomed as the anointed one of God and a divine king of Israel.
23. He was anointed at Bethany with expensive oil to confirm his messiahship.
24. The Baptist testifies that the one coming was greater than him and that Jesus was to baptize with fire and the Holy Spirit at the time of his coming hence being divine.
25. His promise of sending the Holy Spirit to his disciples after his departure proved his divinity and messiahship as well.
26. Jesus called disciples / apostles and all of them accepted to be his followers less any hesitation.

27. When Nathanael went to meet Jesus, he addressed him as a son of God and a king of Israel proving his messiahship and divinity. Jn. 1:49.
28. Thomas upon seeing Jesus after his resurrection addressed him as “my lord and my God” a clear indication that Jesus was divine.
29. Jesus’ claim that ‘the father and I are one, if you see me you have seen the one who sent me” proved his messiahship.
30. During his arrest after asking his enemies who they were looking for and they responded “Jesus of Nazareth, He said “I am he” they fell back out of his powers.
31. Jesus was able to predict his denial by Peter and his betrayal by Judas Iscariot because he had divine powers.

### **HUMANITY OF JESUS IN MARK AND JOHN**

#### **MANIFESTATION OF JESUS’ HUMANITY IN MARK’S GOSPEL.**

1. As any other human being, when he had the call of John the Baptist and Jesus went to be baptized. 1:9
2. Jesus was also tempted like any other being that is after his baptism, Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness where he was tempted for 40 days. 1:3.
3. Jesus could go and preach an act which it is done by human beings for instance Jesus was around lake galilee preaching and met Levi whom he called to be his disciple.
4. He could feel sympathy to those who were suffering a characteristic which is common of human beings 1:40. For instance he was sympathetic to the leper.
5. As a human being Jesus is presented by Mark getting angry Mk 3:5. In the incident when Jesus healed a man with a withered hand he got angry of the audience for having kept quiet when he asked them about the requirement of the Sabbath.
6. Mark also presents Jesus having brothers & sisters and a mother and this shows his humanity 3:31. For instance, Jesus’ mother and brothers went to take charge of him after a romour that he had gone mad.
7. Jesus would become hungry and look for what to eat. This was seen on the day when he cursed the fig tree he had gone to look for a fruit to eat from it.11:12.
8. As any human being he feared to die on the cross. This is observed during his prayer in the garden of gethsemane when he pleaded to his Father to save him from death.14:36.
9. Jesus had a loving affection for children. He told the disciples to leave the children go to him, carried them in his arms and blessed them.10:14
10. Jesus is presented by Mark spending some moments in prayer. For instance, after feeding the 5000 Jesus sent them away and went to the hill to pray. 6: 45-46.
11. Like any other human being, Jesus had a profession, i.e. he was a carpenter. When he was rejected by his village mates at Nazareth, Jesus was identified as a carpenter. 6: 1-3
12. He made friendship with people of all categories. For example, Simon the leper in whose house Jesus was anointed, his disciples Levi the tax collector and Jairus a Synagogue official.
13. Jesus ate earthly food and could celebrate with the people in his society e.g. at the last supper, Jesus shared the dish with Judas Iscariot. 14:12.
14. Like any other human being. Jesus died according to Mk and was buried. He faced death after being crucified on the orders of Pilate.
15. Jesus could fall asleep, a characteristic of human being. When Jesus was in the boat travelling with the disciples, he fell asleep and storm attacked them. 4:35.
16. Jesus is said to have been out of his mind and his relatives set out to look for him. It was the incident when he had over worked himself and got tired that the Pharisees thought that he had gone mad.
17. He forbids men to call him good because no one is good except God alone. For instance, when the rich young man addressed him as good teacher Jesus stopped him to call him good because he is only God who is good. Mk; 10;8

18. Even Jesus did not know the day and the hour of judgment because he was a human being. In eschatological discourse when his disciples asked him when the end would reach he told them that no one knows the day even himself. Mk; 13; 32.
19. He put his fingers in the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle just like other human being. Mk; 7; 33.
20. He continuously referred to himself as a son of man hence a human being. For example, when he was talking about the Sabbath he said that the son of man is the lord of the Sabbath.
21. Like any other human being Jesus would hold conversations with people. For instance, he had a conversation with the rich young man whom he helped to know the requirements of inheriting the kingdom of God.
22. As a human being Jesus was appreciative and defensive to those who served him. For example, Jesus appreciated and defended the woman who anointed him at Bethany.
23. Jesus was tried in courts of law like other human beings. For instance, he was taken for trial before the Sanhedrin council and Pilate the Roman Judge.
24. Jesus needed company like other beings that is why he went with his disciples in the garden of Gethsemane to give him company.

#### **Jesus' humanity according to John.**

1. John confirms that the word became flesh and dwelt among us.
2. Like any human being he got tired and rested. By the time he conversed with the Samaritan woman, he was resting.
3. Like any human being he got thirsty and asked for something to drink from the Samaritan woman and when on the cross.
4. Like any human being Jesus would celebrate with others e.g. wedding at Cana.
5. Jesus also had best friends i.e. the disciples he loved most. He was also a friend to Lazarus Mary and Martha
6. John identifies Jesus weeping before he raised Lazarus which made him look more human.
7. Jesus physically died like any other human being
8. Jesus had parents, brothers and sisters as human beings are.
9. Like any human being he feared death and would run away e.g. when he was accused of being blasphemous. 10:39
10. Jesus was deeply troubled during his last days.
11. Like any human being Jesus would get angry. For instance, during the cleansing of the temple at Jerusalem Jesus had got angry.

#### **ROLE OF JOHN THE BAPTIST IN MARK AND JOHN THE BAPTIST IN JESUS' MINISTRY IN MARK**

1. He was the fore runner of Jesus.
2. He baptized people in preparation of Jesus. 3. He taught and preached about Jesus Christ.
4. He accepted his status as being much inferior to Jesus Christ.
5. He urged people to confess their sins, turn away from them and get reconciled to God.
6. He set the stage fully for the entry of the messiah.
7. He offered guidance and criticized Herod concerning his marriage with Herodias.
8. He was a prophetic figure after Elijah.
9. He laid foundation for Jesus' work.
10. He baptized Jesus in river Jordan.
11. He clarified about Jesus' position as being greater than him.
12. He made a prophetic pronouncement about Jesus.

13. He came to prepare way for God's saving activity.
14. He was a fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecies. Is. 40; 3.
15. He was to show that Jesus was the promised messiah.

#### **ROLE OF JOHN THE BAPTIST IN JESUS' MINISTRY IN JOHN**

1. He was a messenger sent by God to tell the people about the coming of redemption.
2. John told the people about the light which had come and this was Jesus.
3. His role was to tell the people the message of repentance.
4. John made a distinction between himself and Jesus.
5. He introduced Jesus to the people as the one he had been talking about.
6. He prophetically pronounced Jesus' mission on the earth, i.e. dying for people's sins by referring to him as a Lamb of God.
7. He baptized people with water as a preparation for baptism by fire and the Holy Spirit.
8. He handed over some of his disciples to Jesus Christ.
9. He cleared the way and made the paths straight for Jesus.
10. He proved the works and the ministry of Jesus to be from God.
11. He showed Jesus as divine and superior to him i.e. identified Jesus as a Son of God.

#### **Examine how the audience of Jesus showed their spiritual blindness in Mark and John**

#### **Discuss how Jesus' audience showed lack of faith in him in Mark and John**

#### **To what extent did Jesus' audience show their lack of understanding in Mark and John**

#### **DISCIPLES' SPIRITUAL BLINDNESS IN JOHN**

1. Nathanael doubted whether the messiah would come from Nazareth for to him nothing good could come from there.
2. The disciples of Jesus wondered and got surprised when they found Jesus talking to the Samaritan woman but none of them asked Jesus why he was talking to her.
3. The disciples did not know the food Jesus was talking about he was eating which they did not know and wondered if someone had brought food to him in their absence.
4. In the feeding of the five thousand people Philip said that it required them 200 silver coins to make at least each get a bite when he was asked by Jesus where to buy food. Jn 6
5. Andrew another disciple of Jesus doubted that 5 loaves of bread and the two fish the boy had could be used to feed the crowd. Jn 6
6. When Jesus went to his disciples walking on water they were terrified for they had not understood who he was.
7. Judas Iscariot complained that the perfume Mary used to anoint Jesus had been wasted and suggested that it could have been sold and money given to the poor. Jn 12
8. The disciples failed to understand Jesus' triumphal entry in Jerusalem until he was raised from death.
9. The disciples tried to prevent Jesus from going back to Judea when he received the news of Lazarus' illness. They could not imagine him going back to a place where he was chased with stones.
10. When Jesus told the disciples that Lazarus was asleep and that he had to go and wake him up, they told Jesus that he would wake up by himself little did they know that Lazarus had died. JN 11
11. One of Jesus' disciples Thomas told Jesus that they did not know where he was going and could they know the way to where Jesus was going. Jn 14

12. When Jesus taught them that no one could reach the Father except through him, Philip asked Jesus to show them their father that is all they needed. Jn 14
13. Simon Peter had refused Jesus to wash his feet because it seems he had not understood Jesus' intentions of washing their feet yet he was their master. Jn 13
14. The disciples did not know who was to betray Jesus Christ and Peter sent John to ask Jesus who was the betrayer.
15. When Jesus dipped the bread in sauce and gave it to Judas Iscariot by requesting him to be quick about what he was doing, none of the disciples understood Jesus they thought that Jesus had sent Judas to go and buy what they needed for a festival.
16. Judas Iscariot one of Jesus' disciples betrayed him to his enemies because of money which showed that he lacked understanding of who Jesus was.
17. When Jesus was being arrested Peter drew a sword and struck the high priest's slave cutting off his right ear little did he know that what was happening was God's plan and that Jesus had powers to defend himself.
18. When Jesus was taken for trial at the high priest's palace Peter was identified as one of Jesus disciples and he denied it. This exposed Peter's spiritual unfaithfulness.
19. When Peter and the other disciple whom Jesus loved went to Jesus tomb in the morning and they did not find the body there, they thought it had been stolen. They had not understood the scripture which says that he must rise from death.
20. When Jesus appeared to his disciples in the absence of Thomas, he refused to believe what other disciples told him and insisted that unless he sees the scars of the nails in his hands and put his fingers in those scars he was not to believe.
21. When Jesus appeared to his disciples at Lake Tiberius and stood at the water's edge, they failed to recognize him until he helped them to catch fish that John was able to recognize him.
22. At Lake Tiberius when Jesus told Peter to follow him, Peter turned behind and saw John also coming and he asked Jesus why John was also following him which showed his lack of understanding.

#### **HOW JESUS' OTHER AUDIENCE LACKED UNDERSTANDING OF HIM IN JOHN**

1. During the cleansing of the temple, the Jewish authorities asked Jesus for a miracle to prove that he had a right to do that which exposed their spiritual blindness.
2. When Jesus told them that he will break the temple and rebuild it in three days they complained how the temple which took 40 years to be built would be rebuilt in three days by Jesus. Little did they know that he was talking about his death and resurrection.
3. Nicodemus even when was one of the great teachers of Israel did not know what it meant by being born again until when Jesus taught him.
4. John's disciples complained to John the Baptist that Jesus was also baptizing and many people were going to him an indicator of their spiritual blindness.
5. The Samaritan woman wondered how Jesus who was a Jew would ask for water from a Samaritan yet Jews and Samaritans were enemies which exposed her lack of understanding of Jesus's messiahship.
6. The crippled man Jesus healed at the pool of Bethzatha did not know that the man who healed him and ordered him to carry his mat on the Sabbath was Jesus.
7. The Jewish authorities started to persecute Jesus because he had healed a crippled man on the Sabbath and they were determined even to kill him not knowing that he had authority over the Sabbath.
8. The Jewish authorities thought that Jesus was blaspheming God when he called God his father little did they know that he was telling them the truth.
9. The next day after the feeding of the 5000 people looked for Jesus so that he could give them more bread instead of going to him for their spiritual redemption. This indicated that they lacked understanding of Jesus' mission and role.
10. The Samaritan woman lied to Jesus that she didn't have a husband yet Jesus knew that she had had five of them. This showed her spiritual blindness.



11. People started grumbling about Jesus when he taught them that he was the bread of life which came from heaven. They wondered how the son of Joseph and Mary came from heaven.
12. People wondered how Jesus would give them his flesh to eat and his blood to drink and so many of his followers turned back and would not go with him any more for they failed to understand what Jesus meant.
13. Jesus' brothers wanted him to go to the feast of shelters so as to be seen if really he was doing wonders because they were not believing in what Jesus was doing which manifested their spiritual blindness too.
14. Towards the end of the festival for the feast of shelters Jesus taught in the temple and the Jewish authorities got surprised of his knowledge yet he had never received any training.
15. When the Pharisees and the chief priests sent some guards to arrest Jesus and he taught about his departure they wondered as to where Jesus was going and they could not see him again. Little did they know that he was talking about his going back to heaven.
16. The Pharisees told the soldiers they had sent Jesus had fooled them too and also told Nicodemus that No prophet ever comes from galilee which showed their spiritual blindness.
17. The teachers of the law and the Pharisees wanted to trap Jesus by bringing to him the woman caught in adultery to see whether Jesus would contradict with the mosaic law so as to get a way of accusing him.
18. The Jews accused Jesus of having a demon and being a Samaritan when he taught them that whoever obeys his teachings will never die. This also exposed their spiritual blindness.
19. The Jews wondered how Jesus who was not fifty years old would have seen Abraham when he taught them that Abraham rejoiced at seeing his coming so they picked up stones to throw at him.
20. The Pharisees investigated Jesus' healing of the man born blind and even chased the man from the temple for defending Jesus's act for they were spiritually blind about Jesus.
21. The Jews rejected Jesus to have been the messiah at the feast of dedication to the extent of picking up stones to throw at him for they accused him of blasphemy by making himself God.
22. When Jesus ordered people to remove the stone from Lazarus' tomb, Martha answered that there would be a bad smell failing to understand that Jesus had control of everything.
23. The chief priests made plans to kill Lazarus whom Jesus had raised from death because many Jews were rejecting them and believing in Jesus.
24. The Pharisees were not happy with Jesus' triumphal entry to Jerusalem for he was being followed by a great crowd and this exposed their lack of understanding of Jesus.
25. The Roman soldiers went with some temple guards to arrest Jesus; they fell down three times but insisted on arresting him which showed their spiritual blindness.
26. When Jesus told the high priest not to ask him but to ask those who witnessed to his teaching and works, he was slapped by one of the guards because he did not know who Jesus was.
27. Early in the morning Jesus was taken by the Jews to Pilate for Judgement and he was condemned to death by crucifixion which manifested their lack of understanding.
28. When Pilate asked the Jews whom he could set free between Jesus and Barabbas, the Jews preferred Barabbas to Jesus yet he was a bandit.
29. The chief priests requested Pilate to change the writing he had put on Jesus' cross to read that Jesus said that he was the king of the Jews. This was because they were spiritually blind about Jesus' kingship.
30. The soldiers who crucified Jesus gambled for Jesus' clothes and put Jesus on the cross when naked which exposed their spiritual blindness.
31. Early in the morning when Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and found it empty, Jesus appeared to her but she called Jesus a gardener until he identified himself.

#### **UNDERSTANDING OF JESUS BY HIS DISCIPLES**

1. Nathanael called Jesus son of God and the messiah which shows that he had understood who Jesus was.
2. The disciples accepted to move with Jesus where ever he was going. For example, when Jesus was invited at the wedding in Cana they went with him.

3. Two of John's disciples decided to go and stay with Jesus after recognizing him as teacher which showed that they had understood him.
4. Andrew Simon Peter's brother told him that they had found a messiah and he took Peter to Jesus who gave him another name Cephas.
5. When Jesus ordered his disciples to correct the left over after feeding 5000 people they accepted and collected 12 baskets.
6. When Jesus asked his disciples whether they also wanted to leave him after his teaching about the bread of life, Peter said that they could go nowhere for Jesus had words of eternal life.
7. The disciples welcomed Jesus in the boat when he identified himself in the incident when Jesus walked on the waters. This was a sign of understanding and accepting him.
8. Simon Peter requested Jesus not only to wash his feet but the entire body because he had understood he wanted to be Jesus' own.
9. The disciples accepted to go with Jesus to the hostile people of Judea to die with their master if it meant death. This happened when Jesus was going to raise Lazarus back to life.
10. After the last supper the disciples listened to Jesus teaching about the great commandment of loving one another which was to become their part of life.
11. Simon Peter and John followed Jesus after his arrest they could not abandon him and they were present even during Jesus' trial by the high priest.
12. John the beloved disciple was present during Jesus' death on the cross for he had accepted him as a messiah and witnessed blood and water coming out of him.
13. When Jesus told John that Mary was his mother, John accepted to take Mary mother of Jesus and started to live with her which showed that he had understood who Jesus was.
14. At lake Tiberius John was able to identify Jesus for other six disciples when Jesus helped them to get fish.
15. At lake Tiberius when Jesus gave smoked fish and bread to them, none of the disciples bothered to ask Jesus who was he for they had understood that he was Jesus.
16. Simon Peter accepted the responsibility of taking care of Jesus' flock for he had understood who Jesus was and was ready to remain serving the lord.
17. When Jesus asked Simon Peter whether he love him, he accepted for having loved him which is a clear indication of faith in Jesus.
18. John the beloved disciple to Jesus followed Jesus and Peter even when Jesus had not requested him to follow them. This is a clear indication that John had understood Jesus.

#### **HOW JESUS' OTHER AUDIENCE UNDERSTOOD HIM IN JOHN**

1. At the wedding in Cana the servants accepted to fill the six Jars used for ritual cleansing with water and later drew some as ordered by Jesus which was taken to the master of ceremonies to test.
2. The Roman official went to Jesus and begged him to heal his son who had been sick and accepted what Jesus had told him. That is to go back for his son was well.
3. The crowd Jesus fed recognized him as a prophet and wanted to make Jesus a king but Jesus escaped from them.
4. Mary and Martha accepted Jesus to have been a messiah and professed it publically during the incident when Jesus raised Lazarus from death.
5. The Greeks who had gone to Jerusalem to worship sought for Jesus because they had understood who Jesus was.
6. The man born blind accepted to go and wash his face in Siloam as directed by Jesus and later was able to testify about Jesus' goodness before the Pharisees.
7. Nicodemus referred to Jesus as a teacher sent by God and that no one could perform the miracles Jesus was performing unless he was from God. This happened when Nicodemus visited Jesus at night.
8. The Samaritan woman called Jesus a prophet and went to tell other Samaritans about the messiah which clearly showed that she had understood who Jesus was.

9. The Pharisees took the adulterous woman to Jesus and as a sign of accepting that he was special than them and could judge justly.
10. In the incident of feeding the 5000 people, the crowd followed Jesus and his disciples to a place across lake Galilee which was a clear evidence that they knew who he was.
11. Mary and Martha sent a message to Jesus when their brother Lazarus was ill for they wanted Jesus to come and heal him showing that they believed in Jesus.
12. The crowd welcomed Jesus with branches of trees when shouting praise, him who comes in the name of God and they recognized him as a king of Israel.
13. Mary anointed Jesus' feet with a very expensive perfume made up of pure nard an indicator that she knew who Jesus was.
14. Mary the mother of Jesus requested the servants to do whatever Jesus would tell them. This is when Jesus changed water into wine on the wedding at Cana.

#### **INSTANCES IN MARK WHERE JESUS' DISCIPLES SHOWED LACK OF UNDERSTANDING/FAITH**

1. In the instance when Jesus calmed the storm the disciples wondered who he was that even winds and waves listen to him.
2. The disciples interrupted Jesus when he was having a private communication with God. 1;35-39
3. They called Jesus a ghost when he walked on water. It was not until Jesus identified himself that they welcomed him in the boat.
4. They stopped a man who they found driving out demons in Jesus' name. Jesus had to teach them that the man was not against their mission.
5. When Jesus told them the parable of the sower they seemed to have not understood and bothered him to tell them what he was meaning.
6. When traveling with Jesus in a boat and were hit by a strong storm, they woke up Jesus fearing that they were about to get drowned. 4;35
7. During the healing of a bleeding woman, Jesus asked who had touched him and the disciples wondered why he was asking for there were many people.
8. On feeding the 5000 thousand the disciples wanted to send the people away claiming they did not have enough food.
9. When Jesus warned his disciples against the yeast of the Pharisees and Herod they did not understand him they thought that he was reminding them of the bread they had left. 8;14.
10. Peter rebuked Jesus when he talked about his death for he was ignorant of the fact that it was the mission which brought Jesus on the earth.
11. The argument which broke out among them on who was the greatest is a clear indicator that they were thinking of the earthly material kingdom Jesus had come to establish.
12. During Jesus' transfiguration the disciples he went with were thrown in complete amazement and Peter suggested that they should build three tents, one for Jesus, one for Moses and for Elijah showing that they were thinking in terms of material glory.
13. The other time Jesus taught about his death and resurrection after three days, the disciples failed to understand his teaching but they feared to ask him. 9;30.
14. The disciples questioned Jesus when he had entered the house about his teaching on marriage and divorce which showed that they had not understood his teaching. 10;10.
15. The disciples rebuked people who were bringing their children to Jesus so that he would touch them. Little did they know that to Jesus children are more placed in God's kingdom. 10;13.
16. When Jesus taught that it is much easier for a camel to pass through an eye of the needle than the rich to go to heaven the disciples wondered then who would be saved not knowing that what is impossible to God is possible to man. 10;23.

17. The request of John and James from Jesus to allow them one sit on the right hand and another on his left hand in the kingdom showed lack of understanding of the nature of Jesus' kingdom.
18. The next day after Jesus cursing of the fig tree Peter wondered why the cursed fig tree had dried up. 11:20.
19. One of Jesus' disciples by the names of Judas Iscariot betrayed him to Jesus' enemies.
20. During Jesus' arrest all the disciples fled way in fear of arrest and left Jesus alone.
21. Simon Peter one of Jesus most trusted disciple and friend denied having been with Jesus and known him three times.
22. During the lord's supper celebration, the disciples failed to know the actual betrayer even after Jesus talking to them.
23. The disciples fell asleep in the garden of Gethsemane when Jesus told them to stay watch and pray so that they are not tempted.
24. The disciples failed to drive out a demon from the epileptic boy and later asked Jesus why the demon could not go.
25. The disciples failed to understand Jesus' teaching on what makes man clean and unclean until when he explained to them.

### **HOW JESUS' OTHER AUDIENCE LACKED UNDERSTADING IN MARK**

1. On healing the paralyzed man, people got amazed at Jesus' action to them it was a new teaching in their land.
2. The people went to Jesus and asked him as to why his disciples were not fasting while those of the Pharisees and John the Baptist were fasting which showed their spiritual blindness.
3. When Jesus over worked himself and got tired people thought that he had gone mad and the Pharisees said that he had beelzebul in him who was helping him to perform miracles.
4. The teachers of the law accused Jesus of blasphemy when he said to the paralyzed man that his sins had been forgiven little did they know that Jesus had powers to forgive sins.
5. Some Pharisees and the teachers of the law asked Jesus disciples as to why Jesus was eating with the outcasts.
6. The Pharisees blamed Jesus for allowing his disciples to pick corn on the Sabbath something unlawful little did they know that Jesus was the lord of the Sabbath.
7. On healing a man with a withered hand, the Pharisees and Herod party met and made plans to kill Jesus Christ.
8. On raising Jairus's daughter, the people who were in the house laughed at Jesus when he told them to stop crying for the girl was not dead but asleep.
9. Jesus mother and brothers went for him to make him leave the work which had brought him on earth because of hearing that he had gone mad.
10. Jesus was rejected by his own village mates at Nazareth for they looked at him as a carpenter and wondered where he got such wisdom and power to perform miracles.
11. The Pharisees asked Jesus to perform for them a miracle so as to prove that God approved of him and what he was doing.
12. When Herod had what Jesus was doing he referred to him as John the Baptist who had come back to life for Herod had killed John the Baptist.
13. The rich young man became sad when Jesus told him to sell his property, give the money to the poor and follow Jesus if he wanted to inherit God' kingdom.
14. The crowd together with the soldiers sent by the chief priest went to arrest Jesus at night with swords and clubs as though Jesus was a robber. This manifested their spiritual blindness.
15. The crowd following Jesus scolded blind Bartimaeus when he screamed seeking for help from Jesus little did they know that Jesus had come for such people.
16. The chief priests and the Pharisees on seeing Jesus cleansing the temple met and made plans of killing him.

Little did they know that it was his father's house.

17. Some Pharisees went to Jesus asked him questions like if they could pay tax to the emperor little did they know that Jesus was omniscient.
18. Some people criticized the woman who anointed Jesus at Bethany with an expensive perfume that she had wasted it. To them it would have been sold and money given to the poor.
19. The crowd asked Pilate to release Barabbas in exchange of Jesus 'death little did they know that they were killing the son of God.

#### **DISCIPLES' UNDERSTANDING OF JESUS IN MARK**

1. When Jesus called the first four disciples to follow him so as to make them fishers of men, they accepted and left their nets so as to work with Jesus. This clearly showed that they had understood who Jesus was.
2. Levi the tax collector accepted to leave his tax office and followed Jesus. He was ready to sacrifice his income generating activity in favour of preaching the gospel.
3. The disciples of Jesus refused to fast when they were with Jesus while those of John the Baptist and the Pharisees were fasting. This was because it was not necessary since they were with the messiah.
4. When Jesus sent them out to preach the gospel less any extra shirt and money bag, they accepted to go for work and came back with a good report of their deeds.
5. Simon Peter declared Jesus a messiah when Jesus asked them who they thought he was. This proved that they had faith in him.
6. When Jesus sent them for a colt which did not belong to him, two of his disciples went and brought it to him for they knew who he was.
7. The disciples of Jesus laid their cloaks on the colt for Jesus to sit on it. This act manifested that they had faith in Jesus as a messiah.
8. On several occasions they addressed Jesus as master something which proves that they knew that he was superior than them.

#### **HOW JESUS' OTHER AUDIENCE UNDERSTOOD HIM**

1. The leper went to Jesus and asked Jesus to heal him if he so wished which showed that he had understood Jesus' messianic nature.
2. The man with the evil spirit declared Jesus God's holy messenger when he found Jesus in the Synagogue and Jesus casted them out.
3. The four men brought the paralyzed man to Jesus so that Jesus would heal him thus had faith in Jesus' messianic nature.
4. The Rich young man went to Jesus and addressed him as a good teacher. He also asked Jesus what he would do to inherit the kingdom of heaven.
5. The bleeding woman Had faith that if she could only touch Jesus' cloak she would be able to get saved from the prolonged bleeding which she did and got healed.
6. The demoniac at Gerasa ran and fell before Jesus' feet and recognized him as the son of the highest God and begged him not to punish him.
7. When Jesus was at lake Galilee in the territory of the ten towns, people brought to him a deaf mute and begged Jesus to place his hands on him.
8. The father of the boy with an evil spirit requested Jesus to help his boy and admitted that he had faith but not enough, so he begged Jesus to help him have more.
9. People brought their children to Jesus and begged him to place his hands on them Which was a clear sign that they had understood who Jesus was. MK; 10:13

10. The blind beggar Bartimaeus son of Timaeus recognized Jesus as son of David and begged him to take pity of him.
11. The Pharisees recognized Jesus as the one who tells the truth without worrying about what people think. This was when they asked him if they would pay tax to the Emperor. Mk;12;14
12. The teacher of the law thanked Jesus for having said the truth that only God is lord and that there is no other God but He when Jesus taught about the great commandment.
13. The crowd shouted that God bless him who comes in the name of the lord during Jesus' triumphal entry to Jerusalem. They also laid down their cloaks and branches of trees for Jesus to pass.
14. The woman anointed Jesus' head when he was with his disciples at Simon the leper's home whose act was to be part of the future gospel. This meant that she had faith in Jesus as the messiah.
15. While at Levi's house a large number of tax collectors and other outcasts joined Jesus and his disciples at table and dined with him.
16. According to Mark when the sun had gone down many people brought to Jesus all the sick and those who had demons to be healed showing that they had faith in him as a messiah.
17. When Jesus and his disciples were had entered the boat to cross over to the other side of lake galilee, people went ahead of them and Jesus found them waiting for him so he preached to them.
18. A woman whose daughter had an evil spirit went and begged Jesus to heal the daughter even when Jesus tried tested her faith, she did not give up.

**Comment on the view that women were good disciples of Jesus in the gospels of John and Mark In John they were good disciples of Jesus considering the following facts;**

- Mary mother of Jesus requested Jesus to do something when wine got finished at the wedding in Cana.
- Mary told the servants to do anything Jesus would tell them to save the situation on the wedding at cane.
- The Samaritan woman identified Jesus as a prophet during the conversation.
- The Samaritan woman spread the good news about Jesus the messiah in the town which made many people to come and meet Jesus.
- Martha served a meal to Jesus and his disciples when Jesus had visited Lazarus.
- Mary anointed Jesus' feet with a very expensive perfume and wiped them with her hair.
- Mary and Martha sent a message to Jesus Christ when his friend Lazarus fell sick.
- Jesus visited Mary and Martha after the death of Lazarus and due to their faith Jesus was able to raise Lazarus back to life.
- Jesus saved the adulterous woman who was going to be stoned to death and made her repent of her sins.

Mary mother of Jesus and other two women followed Jesus up to the place of skulls where Jesus was crucified.

- Mary Jesus' mother accepted a responsibility given to her by Jesus of taking John as her son.
- Mary of Magdalene was the first to witness the empty tomb and ran to inform Peter and other apostles.
- Mary Magdalene was the first to witness the risen Christ and was given the message to take to Peter and other apostles
- A slave girl identified Peter to have been one of the disciples of Jesus which fulfilled what Jesus had told Peter after the lord's supper.
- Martha and Mary believed that Jesus would raise Lazarus from death and that he was the messiah.

**In Mark women were also good disciples of Jesus if we consider the following;**

- Mary Jesus' mother went to take charge of him when she learnt that Jesus had gone mad.
- Jesus visited Peter's mother in law and healed her of fever then she served them food.
- Jesus went to Jairu's home and raised his 12 years old daughter from death which event was witnessed by the girl's mother.
- The syro-phoenician woman went to Jesus and asked him to help and heal her daughter and Jesus praised her faith.
- The bleeding woman went to Jesus and touched his cloak which led to the healing.
- A woman anointed Jesus at Bethany with a very expensive perfume when Jesus was at Simon the leper's house.
- Jesus had his last supper from Mary's house the mother of John Mark.
- Jesus appreciated a widow who offered the only penny she had to God as tithe.
- Three women followed Jesus and witnessed his crucifixion and death that is Mary mother of Jesus, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of the younger James.
- Mary Magdalene was the first to witness the risen lord and informed Jesus' disciples.
- Women carried spices to anoint Jesus' body in the grave.
- Women brought their children to Jesus so as to bless them.
- An angel instructed the woman to go and inform the disciples that Jesus had resurrected.
- A slave girl identified Peter to have been one of the disciples of Jesus which fulfilled what Jesus had told Peter after the lord's supper.

**How have women contributed to the spread of the gospel Today**

- Women have established and constructed worship places for Example Pastor Imelda Namutebi Established a liberty Church and built a worship place at Lugala.
- Women have composed spiritually edifying songs aimed at furthering of Christian faith. For example, Hon.

Judith Babirye member of parliament of Buikwe District who composed Yesu beera nange.

Women have given testimonies aimed at strengthening people's faith. For example, Pastor Mangeri who testified about the existence of heaven.

- Women have engaged in holy marriages and have provided a good example to the rest by behaving well in marriage. For example, Hon. Kataha Museveni the wife to the president of Uganda.
- Women have sacrificed their lives and live celibate lives so as to serve God. For example, Nuns in the catholic church.
- Women have preached the word of God to those who are still living in the dark.
- Women have looked after the needy in orphanages and have given alms to help those in need. For example, little sisters of St. Francis look after the needy at Nkokonjeru providence home.
- Women have served as cooks to religious leaders and have given in their time to clean holy places.
- Women have made pilgrimages to holy places aimed at strengthening their faith and that of their family members.
- Women have taught their children the basic Christian morals.
- Women have engaged in both communal and private prayers and fasting aimed at helping the church to expand.
- Many women have made successful missionary journeys aiming at furthering the gospel.
- They have met and prayed for the success of Christian missions and programs. E.T.C.

**“If one wishes to be first, he should be the last of all and a servant of all”**

**Analyze how Jesus lived to the fulfillment of the above statement in the Gospels of Mark and John?**

**In Mark's gospel Jesus fulfilled the statement in the following ways;**

- When he was calling his disciples, Jesus called fisher men rather than religious experts and made them fishers of men.
- He accepted to be baptized by John the Baptist even though Jesus was greater than John the Baptist as John the Baptist testified.
- Jesus willingly helped the leper who went to him and begged him to heal him.
- Jesus healed a demoniac at Gerasa which was a gentile land without any condition.
- Jesus associated with the outcasts at Levi's house and dined with them to bring them back to God.
- Jesus Visited the mother in law of Peter and healed her of fever thus giving her new life.
- Jesus walked from place to place preaching the message of the existence of the kingdom of God.
- Jesus was touched by the bleeding woman and his powers healed her from severe bleeding.
- Jesus on the request of Jairus, went to Jairus' home and raised his daughter from death.
- Jesus taught his disciples in parables to prepare them to serve.



- Jesus extended help to a Syro-Phoenician woman and saved her daughter from a demon. Jesus was able to feed 5000 and 4000 men who had gathered to listen to his preaching.
- Jesus sent out his disciples to preach the word of God and perform miracles but restricted them from carrying anything except a stick.
- Jesus told the rich young man who wanted to know how to possess the kingdom of heaven to sell his property, give the money to the poor, carry his cross and follow him.
- Jesus accepted to meet the blind beggar Bartimaeus and restored his sight.
- Jesus appreciated a widow who offered everything she had however small it was.
- Jesus stopped his disciples from chasing parents who had brought their children to be blessed by Jesus.
- Jesus entered Jerusalem on a colt a symbol of humility in service.
- Jesus cleansed the temple to make it a house of prayer for all nations.
- Jesus told the Pharisees that the greatest law was to love God and to love a neighbor.
- Jesus accepted the brutal arrest and crucifixion for the salvation of all men.

□ Jesus forgave the paralyzed man and made him walk again. **In**

**John Jesus fulfilled the teaching in the following ways;**

- John the Baptist addressed him as the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, a symbol of humility and service.
- Jesus changed water into wine on the request of the mother and saved the couple from embarrassment.
- Jesus cleansed the temple to restore its holiness and real purpose.
- Jesus welcomed Nicodemus at night and helped him to understand the meaning of being born again.
- Jesus was able to heal the Roman official's son even when was a gentile which led to the conversion of the Roman official's family.
- Jesus healed the crippled who had stayed on the pool for 37 years and restored his hope though he did not know him.
- Jesus was able to associate with the Samaritan woman and made her change towards righteousness and she testified to others about the goodness of Jesus.
- Jesus accepted to stay with the Samaritans in their city for some days to extend salvation to them and helped them to turn to God.
- Jesus fed the 5000 people with two fish and five loaves of bread as an act of service.
- Jesus refused to be made a king as the people he had fed wanted. He fled away from them.
- Jesus out of free service healed a man born blind by smearing a spittle on his eyes and directing him to go and wash in Siloam.

- Jesus was able to go and reduce Mary and Martha's agony by raising Lazarus from death even when he had been chased out of Judea.
- Jesus saved the adulterous woman from being stoned to death and forgave her sins.
- Jesus washed his disciples' feet as a symbol of humility and service. Jesus assured his disciples that they were no longer slaves but friends.
- After his resurrection Jesus helped the seven disciples who had gone to fish in lake Tiberius to catch a lot of fish.
- Jesus requested Peter to become a servant by giving him a responsibility to take care of His flock.
- Jesus accepted to die on the cross as a symbol of humility and service to all human race.
- Jesus entered Jerusalem on the young donkey as a symbol of humility.
- Jesus prayed for his disciples to remain one as Him and the Father are one.
- Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit to his disciples who was to guide them in all what they were to do and say.
- Jesus accepted Mary to anoint his feet yet in those days, women were despised and could not carry out such acts in public.

#### **How have religious leaders failed to live to the fulfillment of the above statement today**

- Some are murderers
- False sects have been formed which are misinforming people e.g. Kibwetere ☐ Some misquote the Bible and hence mislead their flock.
- Some preachers practice sexual immorality with their flock such as defilement ☐ Some church leaders misuse night prayers by allowing noise making.
- They are money minded and they have commercialized worship and any church activity. ☐ Some church leaders have discriminated the poor and other outcasts in society ☐ Some have over concentrated on politics that preaching the word of God.
- Some church leaders visit witch doctors and use magic in Christian activities.
- Some church leaders support bad vices among their flock such as homosexuality, alcoholism e.t.c.
- Many church leaders are corrupt; they misuse church funds.
- Some have conflicts with the church members.
- Many are not ready to suffer for their flock and this make them different from Jesus.
- Some church leaders are too proud and arrogant to serve their communities.
- Some church leaders fight for leadership positions and recognition in society.

#### **ROLE OF PETER/ PETER AS A LEADER OF THE DISCIPLES IN MARK AND JOHN**

##### **IN MARK**

1. Peter confessed that Jesus was the messiah at Caesarea Philippi when Jesus asked the disciples who they thought he was.
2. Peter led other disciples to look for Jesus early in the morning when Jesus left the house of Peter's mother in law for a private communication with God.
3. Peter was the only disciple whose relative was healed by Jesus. Jesus visited the house of Peter mother in law and healed her of fever later she served them with food.

4. Peter is the only disciple who promised total royalty to Jesus that he would never leave him even when other disciples deserted him.
5. During the transfiguration, He was Peter who suggested the building of three tents one for Jesus one for Moses and one for Elijah.
6. According to Mark Peter was the only disciple who followed Jesus after his arrest and witnessed Jesus' trial by the Sanhedrin council.
7. Peter assured Jesus on behalf other disciples that they had left everything in order to follow him and inquired what they were to get in return.

8. Peter reminded Jesus of the cursed fig tree which had got dry a day after when Jesus and his disciples were passing in that land.
9. Peter was the first disciple to accept to follow Jesus when he was with his brother Andrew fishing. They left their nets and followed Jesus less asking any question.
10. Peter's name is mentioned first on the list of the disciples chosen by Jesus and on top of Simon he was added another name Peter by Jesus himself.
11. Peter's name is also mentioned first among the three disciples who witnessed the raising of Jairus' daughter by Jesus Christ.
12. Peter was among the three disciples Jesus chose to be watchful when he was having his prayer in the garden of Gethsemane.
13. When Jesus found the disciples asleep during the Gethsemane incident, Peter was the only disciple blamed by Jesus and requested to keep awake and pray so as to fight temptation.
14. The Angel of God instructed the women who had witnessed the empty tomb to go and inform the disciples especially Peter about Jesus' resurrection.
15. Peter doubted Jesus' capacity to curse the fig tree that is why he was surprised at seeing the cursed fig tree.
16. Peter is the only disciple who denied Jesus three times during Jesus trial by the council when he was identified by the slave girl and other people that he was one of Jesus' disciples.
17. Peter was the only disciple who rebuked Jesus when Jesus was talking about his coming suffering and death in the hands of his enemies.
18. Peter led others to interrupt Jesus when he was having his private prayer early in the morning.

#### **IN JOHN'S GOSPEL**

1. In John Peter was one of the two disciples that Jesus called and he was introduced to Jesus by his brother Andrew.
2. Peter was the only disciple who was given another name Cephas by Jesus Christ which name meant rock.
3. When Jesus taught about himself as the bread of life and people deserted him, Peter assured Jesus that for them had nowhere to go for Jesus had words of eternal life.
4. When Jesus talked about someone to betray him, it was Peter who requested the beloved disciple to ask Jesus.
5. Peter was the only disciple who tried to defend Jesus during his arrest when he drew his sword and struck the ear of one of the chief priest's servants. This showed his love for Jesus.
6. Peter was one of the two disciples who followed Jesus after his arrest and witnessed Jesus' trial by the Sanhedrin council.
7. Peter assured Jesus that he was ready to die with him even when other disciples had deserted him when Jesus was talking about his coming death.
8. Peter was the first disciple to hear the news of Jesus' resurrection from Mary Magdalene and this makes him appear special from other disciples of Jesus.
9. Peter led other six disciples to go fishing at lake Tiberius where Jesus met the seven and helped them to catch fish.
10. Peter was the only disciple concerned with Jesus' act of washing the disciples' feet. He could not imagine seeing his master wash his feet yet he would have been the one to wash Jesus' feet.
11. Peter was the first to enter the empty tomb and touched the linen wrapping after receiving the news of Jesus' resurrection although the beloved disciple had arrived there before him.
12. Peter was the only disciple whom Jesus asked whether he love him three times when he met the seven disciples at lake Tiberius.
13. When Jesus resurrected and met with his disciples, he was Peter Jesus asked to take care of his flock an indicator that he left the leadership in Peter's hands.
14. It was only Peter's death Jesus prophesied after his resurrection which showed that Peter had a unique position before the lord.

15. Peter was the only disciple who dragged the full net of fish to the shore where Jesus was standing. This is because he seemed to have been their leader.
16. Peter denied Jesus three times when the slave girl attested that he was one of Jesus' disciples.

### **JESUS' FULFILLMENT OF THE OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECIES IN MARK AND JOHN**

#### **HOW JESUS' MINISTRY IN MARK FULFILLED THE OLD TESTAMENT**

1. John the Baptist's ministry in the wilderness calling up on people to prepare for the Lord's coming fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah of a voice that cries out in the wilderness to prepare the road of the lord. Isaiah 43:3
2. Jesus Christ received the Holy spirit during his Baptism as a fulfillment of the Lord's servant prophesied by Isaiah whom God was pleased with and filled him with His spirit. Isaiah 42:1
3. Jesus' peaceful stay with the wild animals during his temptations fulfilled the peaceful kingdom which was to be established by the messiah where wild animals would have no harm. Isaiah 11:1-9
4. Jesus' instructions to the leper of presenting himself to the priest and offering of the sacrifice fulfilled the Mosaic law about the cleansing of lepers. Leviticus 14:
5. Jesus' miracles of healing the blind, the deaf and the paralyzed fulfilled the prophecy that during his time the blind will see, the lame will walk and the dumb will talk. Isaiah 35:5-6
6. Jesus chose only 12 men to work as his disciples to fulfill the 12 tribes of Israel that emerged from Jacob's 12 sons.
7. Jesus going to the gentile lands like in Tyre and Sidon as well as Gerasa where he cast out demons from the man fulfilled the prophecy that Distant lands eagerly wait for his teaching. Isaiah: 42:4
8. Jesus' calming of the storm in Mark fulfilled the first creation account in which God made water peaceful and orderly. Genesis 1:9
9. Jesus' miracle of walking on water fulfilled the exodus event where the Israelites passed through the red sea. It also fulfills the creation account where the Spirit of God was Moving over the water. Genesis 1:2
10. Jesus' cursing of the fig tree fulfilled prophet's Message on the day of the lord which was to be a day for judgement. Amos 5:18
11. Jesus' feeding miracles fulfilled the exodus event where God Fed Israel with mana and quails. It also fulfilled Elisha's miracle of using 100 loaves to feed a full nation or Elijah's act of multiplying of flour and oil to save a widow at Zarapheth from hunger.
12. Jesus' raising of Jairus' daughter from death fulfilled prophet Ezekiel's vision of the valley of the dry bones Ez; 37; It also fulfills Elijah raising of a widow's son at Zarapheth.
13. Jesus' disciples picked corn and ate it on the Sabbath which was contrary to the Jewish law to fulfill what David and his men did when they entered God's temple and ate the consecrated bread which was against the law.
14. Jesus' teaching about the great commandment when he was asked by the Pharisees fulfilled the teaching about love as the greatest commandment in Deuteronomy.
15. Jesus getting anointed at Bethany fulfilled the lord's servant who was to be God's anointed one. It was also in line with anointing of kings in Israel. 1 Samuel 10:1. 16. The rejection of Jesus by his own people at Nazareth fulfilled Isaiah's teaching about the suffering servant. That is "we despised him and rejected him..." Isaiah 53:3
17. The rich young man called Jesus good teacher to fulfill the perfection of God as seen in the creation account. Whatever God had created was good.
18. The cloud which appeared and covered the mountain during the transfiguration of Jesus fulfilled the pillar of the cloud which protected the Israelites and showed them the way during the exodus 13: 21
19. Jesus' cleansing of the temple at Jerusalem and his teaching on the temple fulfilled Jeramiah's teaching on the temple that is You have turned my temple into a hiding place for robbers.
20. Jesus' triumphal entry to Jerusalem fulfilled the prophecy of Zachariah that "look your king is coming to you, he comes triumphant and victorious but humble and riding on a donkey" Zachariah 9:9

21. Jesus' celebration of the Passover in Mark; 14: fulfilled the Jewish Passover festival of Exodus; 12:
22. Jesus making of the new covenant with God on the last supper fulfilled the prophecy by Jeremiah about the new and everlasting covenant God was to make with humanity where everyone will have a personal relationship with God. Jeremiah; 31:31
23. Jesus' prayer in the garden of Gethsemane fulfilled the beginning of man's suffering in the garden of Eden which Jesus had come to take away.
24. Jesus' agony and distress while praying at Gethsemane is fulfilling the Psalmist concern i.e. "Do not stay away from me! Trouble is near and there is no one to help." Ps: 22:10-11
25. Jesus' loud cry before his death fulfills the idea of the Old Testament Psalmist i.e. "my God, my God why have you abandoned me" Ps. 22:1
26. During the arrest of Jesus all the disciples disappeared and this reflects Zachariah's prophesy that "wakeup sword and attack the shepherd who works for me! Kill him, and the sheep will be scattered." 13:7
27. Juda's betrayal of Jesus fulfills what had been spoken by the Psalmist in O.T i.e. Ps: 41:9 "Even my best friend, the one I trusted most, the one who shared my food has turned against me."
28. When Pilate asked him to respond to the accusations of the crowd, Jesus kept quiet and never said a word, to fulfill the scripture i.e. "I am like a deaf and cannot hear like a dumb and cannot speak." Ps: 38: 13
29. Jesus' arrest and crucifixion fulfills what Isaiah had said about the suffering servant 53: 8
30. Jesus was whipped and mocked by the soldiers to fulfill what Isaiah had said about him, i.e. "because of our sins he was wounded, beaten because of the evil we did." Isa 53: 5, Ps: 22:6
31. The soldiers' act of sharing Jesus' clothes and gambling for them was fulfilling what the Psalmist had said, i.e. "they gambled for my clothes and divide them among themselves". Ps: 22: 18
32. The other criminals crucified with Jesus fulfilled what Isaiah had said. "He willingly gave his life and shared the fate of evil men." Isa 53: 12
33. Pilate declaring Jesus innocent was also to fulfill what Isaiah had prophesied about Jesus. "He was put in the grave with the wicked..... even though he had never committed a crime" Isa 53: 9
34. The insults made at Jesus by the passersby and religious leaders were to fulfill what a Psalmist had said, i.e. "they say why doesn't He save you? If He likes you." Ps: 22:8
35. On his death darkness came signifying the coming judgment talked about by Amos in the day of the Lord. "for you it will be a day of darkness not light." Amos 5:18
36. On the cross the legs of Jesus were not broken like those of the robbers to fulfill what the Psalmist had said. "the lord preserved them completely not one of their bones is broken." Ps: 34:20
37. Jesus' resurrection from death fulfilled what prophet Isaiah said that is "I will not allow my servant to rot among the dead".
38. Jesus' going to heaven fulfilled what the psalmist had prophesied that is God goes up to his throne there are shouts of joy and the blasts of trumpets. Psalm 47:5-6.

#### **HOW JESUS' MINISTRY IN JOHN FULFILLED THE OLD TESTAMENT**

1. The word of life as seen in the prologue of John fulfilled the first creation account where God used the word to create.
2. The light which came to over shadow darkness fulfilled light as the first creation of God.
3. John the Baptist's ministry in the wilderness calling up on people to prepare for the Lord's coming fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah of a voice that cries out in the wilderness to prepare the road of the lord. Isaiah 43:3
4. Jesus Christ received the Holy spirit during his Baptism as a fulfillment of the Lord's servant prophesied by Isaiah whom God was pleased with and filled him with His spirit. Isaiah 42:1

5. Jesus' signs of healing the blind and the crippled fulfilled the prophesy that during his time the blind will see, the lame will walk and the dumb will talk. Isaiah 35:5-6
6. Jesus chose only 12 men to work as his disciples to fulfill the 12 tribes of Israel that emerged from Jacob's 12 sons.
7. Jesus' association with gentiles such as the Samaritan woman and the Greeks who came looking for him fulfilled the prophesy that Distant lands eagerly wait for his teaching. Isaiah: 42:4
8. Jesus' sign of walking on water fulfilled the exodus event where the Israelites passed through the red sea. It also fulfills the creation account where the Spirit of God was Moving over the water. Genesis 1:2
9. Jesus' changing of water into wine fulfilled the prophecy of Amos that "the mountains will drip with sweet wine and the hills will flow with it".
10. Jesus' feeding sign fulfilled the exodus event where God Fed Israel with mana and quails. It also fulfilled Elisha's miracle of using 100 loaves to feed a full nation or Elijah's act of multiplying of flour and oil to save a widow at Zarapheth from hunger.
11. Jesus' raising of Lazarus from death fulfilled prophet Ezekiel's vision of the valley of the dry bones Ez; 37; It also fulfills Elijah raising of a widow's son at Zarapheth.
12. Jesus getting anointed at Bethany by Mary fulfilled the lord's servant who was to be God's anointed one. It was also in line with anointing of kings in Israel. 1Smuel 10:1.
13. The rejection of Jesus by his own people at the feast of dedication fulfilled Isaiah's teaching about the suffering servant. That is "we despised him and rejected him..." Isaiah 53:3
14. Jesus' cleansing of the temple at Jerusalem and his teaching on the temple fulfilled Jeremia's teaching on the temple and that of Malachi 3: 1b "Then the lord you are looking for will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger you long to see will come to proclaim my covenant".
15. I AM The title Jesus used in John fulfilled the name God gave to Moses during in the book of exodus. EX. 3:14.
16. Jesus calling himself the light of the world fulfilled the pillar of fire which guided the Israelites in the night during the exodus event. Ex. 13:21
17. Jesus referring to himself as the good shepherd fulfilled prophet Ezekiel's teaching about shepherds of Israel. Ez. 34.
18. Jesus calling himself the true vine fulfilled the parable of the vineyard in the book of prophet Isaiah Ch. 5.
19. Jesus' triumphal entry to Jerusalem fulfilled the prophecy of Zachariah that "look your king is coming to you, he comes triumphant and victorious but humble and riding on a donkey" Zachariah 9:9
20. Jesus' celebration of the Passover fulfilled the Jewish Passover festival of Exodus; 12:
21. Jesus' teaching about the new commandment to his disciples fulfilled the law of love as emphasized in the book of Deuteronomy 6:5.
22. Juda's betrayal of Jesus fulfills what had been spoken by the Psalmist in O.T i.e. Ps: 41:9 "Even my best friend, the one I trusted most, the one who shared my food has turned against me."
23. When Pilate asked him to respond to the accusations of the crowd, Jesus kept quiet and never said a word, to fulfill the scripture i.e. "I am like a deaf and cannot hear like a dumb and cannot speak." Ps: 38: 13
24. Jesus' arrest and crucifixion fulfills what Isaiah had said about the suffering servant 53: 8
25. Jesus was whipped and mocked by the soldiers to fulfill what Isaiah had said about him, i.e. "because of our sins he was wounded, beaten because of the evil we did." Isa 53: 5, Ps: 22:6
26. The soldiers' act of sharing Jesus' clothes and gambling for them was fulfilling what the Psalmist had said, i.e. "they gambled for my clothes and divide them among themselves". Ps: 22: 18
27. The other criminals crucified with Jesus fulfilled what Isaiah had said. "He willingly gave his life and shared the fate of evil men." Isa 53: 12

28. Pilate declaring Jesus innocent was also to fulfill what Isaiah had prophesied about Jesus. "He was put in the grave with the wicked..... even though he had never committed a crime" Isa 53: 9
29. While on the cross Jesus felt thirsty and was given cheap wine to fulfill the Psalmist that "When I was thirsty they gave me vinegar" Psalm 69:21.
30. On the cross the legs of Jesus were not broken like those of the robbers to fulfill what the Psalmist had said. "the lord preserved them completely not one of their bones is broken." Ps: 34:20
31. Jesus' crucifixion on the cross fulfilled the bronze snake which was put on the pole for the forgiveness of the sins of the Israelites. Numbers; 21:9
32. Jesus' resurrection from death fulfilled what prophet Isaiah said that is "I will not allow my servant to rot among the dead".

### **ROLE OF GENTILES IN JESUS' MINISTRY IN THE GOSPELS OF JOHN AND MARK JOHN**

1. Jesus conversed with the Samaritan woman which showed him as the universal messiah and later the woman spread the news about Jesus which made many Samaritans to believe.
2. The Samaritan woman confessed that Jesus was a prophet and later accepted him as a messiah.
3. The Roman officer showed great faith in Jesus when he went to him and requested Jesus to heal his son and the son got healed by Jesus' word.
4. Greeks came and looked for Jesus for they had understood that Jesus was the messiah.
5. Pilate declared Jesus innocent although he later condemned Jesus to death due too much pressure from the Jews and their leaders.
6. Pilate was able to declare Jesus king of the Jews by the inscription he put on Jesus' cross even when he was asked by the Jewish leaders to change it Pilate refused.
7. The notice put on Jesus' cross was written in Greek, Aramaic and Latin to show that even Gentiles were important and called to accept salvation brought by Jesus Christ.
8. Jesus referred to himself as the light of the world meaning that he had brought salvation to both the Jews and Gentiles.
9. In Jesus' prayer he exclaimed that he had been given authority over all human kind by his father so as to give eternal life to all who believe in him including gentiles. John; 17:2
10. John also made a translation of some Aramaic words for the Gentiles to understand meaning that they were also called for salvation. For example, Golgotha which meant a place of skulls and Rabboni which meant teacher.
11. Jesus cleansed the temple the part of the gentiles that had been defiled by the Jews so that Gentiles would also participate in the true worship of God.
12. Jesus was associated with the Gentiles by the Jews themselves when they called him a Samaritan and the Gentiles were ready to accept him. John 8; :48
13. When John the Baptist saw Jesus coming, he referred to him as the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world showing him as a universal savior who had come even to the Gentiles.
14. When Jesus preached to the Samaritans many of them believed and accepted him they even requested him to stay with them for two more days which Jesus accepted.
15. The Samaritans testified to Jesus' messiahship by saying that they believed not because they were told by the woman but because they had heard him.
16. In the discourse of the good shepherd Jesus said that there were other sheep which did not belong to the sheepfold but he was to bring them and become part of the one flock. By saying this he meant the gentiles who were to accept the good news.
17. John taught in his prologue that because of Jesus' grace he blessed all mankind giving them one blessing after another meaning that Jesus had extended salvation to even Gentiles.



## **ROLE OF GENTILES IN MARK'S GOSPEL**

1. The gospel according to Mark contains many Aramaic vocabularies which he explains but Mat. Doesn't e.g. Mark 3:17 (sons of thunder). "Talitha koum" which means little girl I tell you wake up, Mk. 4:42, Abba (father) 14:36
2. Mark also bothers to explain the Jewish customs which other evangelists like Mat. do not explain because the Jews already knew. But Mark will explain since the gentiles knew nothing about the customs e.g. in Mk 7:3. The custom of washing hands in Mk. 14:12 about the Passover meal.
3. In his literature there are some phrases that seem to favour the gentiles e.g. "let the children first be fed". Mt. ignores this word. Mk 7: 24-27.
4. Mark includes some Roman words in his gospel and this is a clear indication that he aimed at gentiles e.g. Quadrants which was Roman counting.
5. Mark also uses some Roman names to favour the Gentiles e.g. Simon of Cyrene who was the father of Alexander Rufus MK 15:21.
6. When writing Mark also recognized the Roman laws e.g. the law concerning divorce that's Mk. 10:11 which Mt. ignored.
7. By introduction Mk doesn't waste time on the genealogy of Jesus Christ because it was useless for the gentiles. I.e. he does not state the family tree of Jesus.
8. Mk tries to commend the faith of Gentiles in his gospel e.g. the faith of the Phoenician woman Mk 7: 24-27 Jairus' daughter 5:21.
9. Mk also presents Jesus as a preacher and miracle performer of both gentiles and Jews. E.g. He presents Jesus healing a demoniac. Mk.5:1-20
10. Mk also hits on gentiles' freedom that gentiles are not bound by Jewish traditional practices of ritual cleansing and eating habits. Mk 7: 1ff.
11. The crowd at the lake of Galilee included people from Tyre, Sidon, and East Jordan.
12. The parable of the mustard seed, the birds of the air refer to people of the gentile origin.
13. Mark presents Jesus being rejected by his own people.
14. Mark also shows that Peter's confession of Jesus as Christ was at Caesarea Philippi a gentile area.
15. Mark presents Jesus referring to the Temple as a house of prayer for all nations including the gentiles. This happened during the cleansing of the Temple.
16. Mark shows that Gentiles were of great importance to Jesus during his passion. E.g. Simon of Cyrene carried Jesus' cross.
17. After resurrection, he commanded them to go and preach to all nations. Mk: 16; 15.
18. The tearing of the curtain of the Temple meant that gentiles would share in God's salvation.
19. Mark presents Jesus being transfigured in the gentile territory.

### **Lessons Christians learn from the Gentiles in Jesus' ministry**

1. Christians should treat all people equally regardless of their races and nationality.
2. They should openly proclaim Jesus as the messiah.
3. They should call up on all people to come to Jesus because he came for all.
4. They should preach the gospel to all the people and in different nations.
5. They should have faith in God through his son Jesus Christ.
6. They should try to exercise true Justice with one another.
7. They should get closer to Jesus because he cares for all the way they are.
8. They should go to Jesus in humility and humbleness in the area to receive help from Jesus.
9. They should stand for the truth even when they are among people who hate to hear the truth.
10. They should visit church leaders to know more about the kingdom of God.

11. They should help those in need less looking at their nationalities and races.
12. They should accept salvation brought by Jesus and extend it to other people.
13. They should go for missionary activities where ever they are required to go.
14. When Christians face rejection, they should move on to other areas ready to accept the word of God just like Jesus went to the gentile lands.
15. Christians should testify the goodness of Jesus to others to allow conversion take place.

**To what extent did Jesus fulfill the messianic expectations of the Jews in the gospel according to John and Mark?**

**To a less extent Jesus fulfilled the messianic expectations of the Jews in John's gospel.**

- Jesus received the holy spirit on Baptism fulfilling the Jewish expectation that a messiah was to have the spirit of God.
- John the Baptist prepared for Jesus's coming as expected by the Jews.
- The prologue of John gives Jesus as one who came from God and a son of God and this was a kind of the messiah expected by the Jews.
- Jesus taught with wisdom expected of a messiah and Nicodemus recognized him as a teacher from God.
- Jesus produced too much wine on the wedding at Cana fulfilling the Jewish expectations of the messiah. Amos 9:
- Jesus cleansed the temple which fulfilled the Jewish expectations of a messiah.
- Jesus fed the 5000 people to their satisfaction fulfilling the messianic sign of plenty of food in the messianic days.
- Jesus healed the blind and the crippled such as the man born blind to fulfill the fact that during the messianic time the lame will walk and the blind will see.
- Jesus triumphantly entered Jerusalem on a young donkey as expected by the Jews
- Jesus' act of forgiving the adulterous woman fulfilled their expectation that during the time of the messiah their sins would be forgiven and wounds healed.
- While entering Jerusalem he was recognized as the one who had come in the name of the lord there by fulfilling the Jewish expectation of a messiah.
- Jesus observed the Jewish customs and laws like the Sabbath law and Passover festivals
- Jesus accepted to have been a king of the Jews as the Jews expected a messiah to be their eternal ruler. This happened during his trial by Pilate and an inscription was put on the cross that he was the king of the Jews.
- Jesus gave life to those who had died for instance he raised Lazarus which was in line with the expectations that the messiah will give life to the dead.
- Jesus prophetic proclamations as expected of a messiah. For example, he prophesied of his own death and He told Nathanael where he was before meeting him.
- Jesus called himself the good shepherd who had come to tender God's flock which was a messianic expectation as prophesied by Ezekiel 34:
- Jesus had knowledge of Jewish scriptures and would teach them to the people as expected of a messiah. For instance, he taught the Jews about Abraham, Nicodemus about salvation.
- Jesus was raised by God from death as expected of the messiah given by Isaiah 53.

- He called 12 apostles whom we worked with fulfilling the Jewish expectations of a messiah.
- Jesus had powers over nature as expected by the Jews for instance, He walked on water to the surprise of his disciples.
- Jesus brought reconciliation between the Jews and the Samaritans which was expected of a messiah when he went to Samaria and stayed for some days with them. Fulfilling that in his time Israel and Judah will be united.
- Jesus was anointed at Bethany fulfilling the Jewish expectations of a messiah being the anointed one of God.

**However, Jesus failed to fulfill the messianic expectations of the Jews in the following ways;**

- Jesus was more of a spiritual messiah yet the Jews expected a political messiah to liberate them from the Roman oppression.
- Jesus lived a humble life in obedience of authority on earth yet the Jews expected a Powerful messiah who was to rule with authority.
- When the Jews wanted to make him their king after feeding them he refused and escaped from them.
- Jesus was a very poor man born from a poor family yet to the Jews a messiah had to come from a rich background with a lot of material wealth.
- Jesus associated with the outcasts like his conversation with the Samaritan Woman Yet the Jews expected a messiah to be with respectable people.
- Jesus over looked some of the Jewish laws and traditions like when he worked on the Sabbath by healing a man born blind and directing a crippled to carry a mat on the Sabbath yet a messiah was expected to obey the law.
- Jesus told Pilate that his kingship was not of this world yet the Jews expected their messiah to establish the divine kingship on earth. This happened when he was being tried by Pilate.
- Jesus was rejected at the feast of dedication just because he had failed to meet the Jewish expectations of a messiah.
- Jesus declared the Jews sons of the devil and not descendants of Abraham yet they expected him to accept them as sons of Abraham he had come to liberate.
- Jesus accepted to be anointed by a woman yet a messiah was a respectable person according to the Jews expected to be anointed by God's prophet.
- Jesus accepted to be arrested as a criminal yet a messiah was expected to be very powerful and righteous respected by all.
- Jesus disagreed with the Jews on the mosaic law about the treatment of the adulterous woman yet he was expected to be in agreement with Moses' teachings.
- Jesus was judged by Pilate yet the Jews expected rather the messiah to come as a supreme judge who was to establish judgement on the earth instead of him being judged.
- Jesus was handed over to the Romans and remained peaceful instead of him fighting and defeating the Romans violently expected of a messiah.
- Jesus faced a cursed death by crucifixion on the cross non expected of a Jewish powerful messiah.

- Jesus lived a suffering life by moving from village to village when preaching to people, getting tired and thirsty like when he asked for water from the Samaritan which was not expected of a Jewish messiah.
- During his death his clothes were divided among the soldiers and he died with the wicked, buried in someone's grave. This made him to lose his dignity which was centrally to the messiah as expected by the Jews.

#### **To a less extent Jesus fulfilled the messianic expectations of the Jews in Mark**

1. Jesus received the holy spirit on Baptism fulfilling the Jewish expectation that a messiah was to have the spirit of God.
2. John the Baptist prepared for Jesus's coming as expected by the Jews.
3. The prologue of Mark John the Baptist accepts that the one coming is greater than him that he cannot untie his sandals.
4. Jesus taught with wisdom expected of a messiah and people always got amazed with his teaching. For example, during the healing of the paralyzed man people got amazed.
5. Jesus performed feeding miracles expected of the messiah. For instance, Jesus fed 5000 people to their satisfaction. Thus fulfilling the messianic sign of plenty of food.
6. Jesus cleansed the temple which fulfilled the Jewish expectations of a messiah.
7. Jesus healed the blind and the crippled such as the blind Bartimaeus and the one at Bethsaida to fulfill the fact that during the messianic time the lame will walk and the blind will see.
8. Jesus triumphantly entered Jerusalem on a Colt as expected by the Jews and was welcomed as the anointed one from God by the crowd.
9. Jesus' act of forgiving the paralyzed man fulfilled their expectation that during the time of the messiah their sins would be forgiven and wounds healed.
10. Jesus observed the Jewish customs and laws like the Sabbath law and Passover festivals
11. Jesus accepted to have been a king of the Jews as the Jews expected a messiah to be their eternal ruler. This happened during his trial by Pilate and an inscription was put on the cross that he was the king of the Jews.
12. Jesus gave life to those who had died for instance he raised Jairus' daughter which was in line with the expectations that the messiah will give life to the dead.
13. Jesus prophetic proclamations as expected of a messiah. For example, he prophesied of his own death and resurrection, Peter's denial and Judas Iscariot's betrayal.
14. Jesus had knowledge of Jewish scriptures and would teach them to the people as expected of a messiah. For instance, he told the Jews about David and his men eating the consecrated bread when they were hungry.
15. Jesus was raised by God from death as expected of the messiah given by Isaiah 53.
16. He called 12 apostles whom we worked with fulfilling the Jewish expectations of a messiah.
17. Jesus had powers over nature as expected by the Jews for instance, He walked on water to the surprise of his disciples.
18. Jesus was anointed at Bethany fulfilling the Jewish expectations of a messiah being the anointed one of God.

#### **However, Jesus failed to fulfill the messianic expectations of the Jews in mark**

1. Jesus was more of a spiritual messiah yet the Jews expected a political messiah to liberate them from the Roman oppression.
2. Jesus lived a humble life in obedience of authority on earth yet the Jews expected a Powerful messiah who was to rule with authority.
3. Jesus was a very poor man born from a poor family yet to the Jews a messiah had to come from a rich back ground with a lot of material wealth.
4. Jesus associated with the outcasts like when he called Levi the tax collector and dined with outcasts at his home Yet the Jews expected a messiah to be with respectable people.

5. Jesus overlooked some of the Jewish laws and traditions like when he worked on the Sabbath by healing a man with a paralyzed hand yet a messiah was expected to obey the law.
6. Jesus was rejected at Nazareth by his own people because he was doing things non expectant of him.
7. Jesus accepted to be anointed by a woman yet a messiah was a respectable person according to the Jews expected to be anointed by God's prophet.
8. Jesus accepted to be arrested as a criminal yet a messiah was expected to be very powerful and righteous respected by all.
9. Jesus disagreed with the Jews on the mosaic law about foods and defilement yet he was expected to be in agreement with Moses' teachings.
10. Jesus was judged by Pilate yet the Jews expected rather the messiah to come as a supreme judge who was to establish judgement on the earth instead of him being judged.
11. Jesus was handed over to the Romans and remained peaceful instead of him fighting and defeating the Romans violently expected of a messiah.
12. Jesus faced a cursed death by crucifixion on the cross non expected of a Jewish powerful messiah.
13. Jesus lived a suffering life by moving from village to village when preaching to people, getting tired like when they thought that he had gone mad and when he slept in the boat which were not expected of a Jewish messiah.
14. During his death his clothes were divided among the soldiers and he died with the wicked, buried in someone's grave. This made him to lose his dignity which was centrally to the messiah as expected by the Jews.
15. On the cross Jesus made a sufferer's groan non expectant of the Jewish messiah that is "My God my God why have you fore abandoned me".
16. Jesus refused to be called good by the rich young man because it is only God who is good Yet the Jews expected a perfect and good messiah sent from God.

#### **How can Christians act as witnesses to Jesus' messiahship today?**

1. Through praying for people freely and help them to know God.
2. Through helping the needy by giving alms, constructing of orphanages etc.
3. Through carrying out successful missionary journeys.
4. Through performing miracles in their churches like healing of the sick, making the lame walk etc.
5. Through guiding and counselling fellow Christians and other people who are facing different problems like marriage problems and they become emotionally stable.
6. By engaging in debates on theological issues with those who were opposing Christianity.
7. Through exercising Holy Spirit gifts like, speaking in tongues, interpreting the tongues
8. By associating with the sinners and help them to repent and turn to God.
9. Through enduring to persecution for the sake of the gospel to the point of death.
10. By composing good Christian songs which help people to praise God during worship.
11. Through constructing worship places to enable people worship God well.
12. By successfully evangelizing through crusades, popular missions and street preaching so as to expand the church.
13. By writing inspiring Christian literature.
14. Through successfully helping in Settling disputes among fellow Christians.
15. By defending people's rights from being abused by oppressive governments.

**Discuss various witnesses to Jesus Christ in the gospels of Mark and John In the gospel according to mark Jesus had the following witnesses;**

1. John the Baptist said that Jesus was greater than him and could not even untie his sandals.
2. John the Baptist confirmed that Jesus was to be baptized with the Holy Spirit.
3. John the Baptist baptized Jesus Christ and acted as the first witness to Jesus' baptism.
4. The Holy Spirit acted as a witness to Jesus Christ by descending on Jesus during his baptism in the form of a dove.
5. The voice from heaven declared Jesus son of God and requested the disciples to listen to him. This happened during Jesus' transfiguration.
6. Moses and Elijah came and acted as witnesses to Jesus' mission by conversing with him during Jesus' transfiguration.
7. The leper acted as a witness to Jesus by asking Jesus to heal him if he so wished which showed his messianic nature.
8. In the synagogue the people Jesus taught were ever left in amazement for he was not like the teachers of the law, he taught with authority. Mk 1:22
9. The man with the evil spirit declared Jesus God's holy messenger when he found Jesus in the synagogue and Jesus casted them out.
10. The four men brought the paralyzed man to Jesus so that Jesus would heal him thus acting as witnesses to Jesus' ministry.
11. The Rich young man acted as a witness to Jesus by recognizing him as a good teacher.
12. The bleeding woman identified herself before Jesus and in the presence of the crowd and testified about what had happened to her.
13. The disciples of Jesus witnessed his power during the calming of the storm and wondered who he was that the waves and winds listened to him.
14. The demoniac at Gerasa ran and fell before Jesus' feet and recognized him as the son of the most high God and begged him not to punish him.
15. Jesus called himself a prophet when he was rejected by his own people at Nazareth.
16. Simon Peter declared Jesus a messiah at Caesarea Philippi when Jesus asked them who they thought he was.
17. When Jesus was at lake Galilee in the territory of the ten towns, people brought to him a deaf mute and begged Jesus to place his hands on him.
18. The father of the boy with an evil spirit requested Jesus to help his boy and admitted that he had faith but not enough, so he begged Jesus to help him have more.
19. People brought their children to Jesus and begged him to place his hands on them Thus witnessing his power. Mk; 10:13
20. Jesus himself spoke about his coming suffering, death and resurrection when he was with his disciples at the road going to Jerusalem. Mk;10;33-34
21. The blind beggar Bartimaeus son of Timaeus recognized Jesus as son of David and begged him to take pity of him.
22. Peter and other disciples witnessed that the fig tree Jesus had cursed earlier had dried up.
23. The Pharisees recognized Jesus as the one who tells the truth without worrying about what people think. This was when they asked him if they would pay tax to the Emperor. Mk;12;14
24. The teacher of the law thanked Jesus for having said the truth that only God is lord and that there is no other God but He when Jesus taught about the great commandment.
25. The crowd shouted that God bless him who comes in the name of the lord during Jesus' triumphal entry to Jerusalem.
26. The woman anointed Jesus' feet in when he was with his disciples at Simon the leper's home whose act was to be part of the future gospel.

27. During the last supper Jesus transformed the bread into his body and the wine into his blood which sealed the New Covenant God made with human race.
28. Jesus during his trial by the chief priest accepted to have been the messiah and that they were to see the son of man seated on the right hand of God.
29. The Roman soldier who saw what happened during Jesus' death witnessed him as the son of God.
30. Mary Magdalene witnessed the resurrected Jesus and was sent to the disciples to tell them meet Jesus in Galilee.

**In the gospel according to John Jesus had the following witnesses;**

- John the Baptist said that the one coming was greater than him and he is from God.
- John the Baptist called Jesus the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
- John the Baptist witnessed the holy spirit descending on Jesus in form of a dove.
- Philip told Nathanael that they had found the one whom Moses wrote about in the book of the law and whom the prophets wrote about.
- Nathanael after hearing what Jesus said about him, recognized Jesus as the son of God and the king of Israel.
- Mary the mother of Jesus requested the servants to do whatever Jesus would tell them. This is when Jesus changed water into wine on the wedding at Cana.
- Nicodemus one of the great teachers in Israel recognized Jesus as a teacher sent by God and no one could perform miracles unless he is from God.
- The Samaritan woman witnessed Jesus as a prophet in Israel.
- The Samaritan woman went and told people in Samaria to come and meet the messiah.
- The Roman official whom Jesus helped to heal his son told his family members that it was at that time when Jesus told him that his son was to be well and they glorified well.
- The crippled man Jesus healed at the pool told the Jewish authorities that the man who healed him told him to carry his mat and later he told him that he was Jesus.
- The crowd Jesus fed at Galilee recognized Jesus as a prophet and wanted to make him a king.
- The man born blind told the neighbours that Jesus had healed him and defended Jesus before the Jewish authorities that Jesus was from God for he was doing good.
- Mary and Martha testified that Jesus was a messiah and that if he was around their brother would not have died.
- Mary anointed Jesus' feet with an expensive perfume and wiped them with her hair.
- During Jesus' triumphal entry to Jerusalem, the crowd recognized Jesus as the one who comes in the name of the lord and a king of Israel.
- Jesus acted as his own witness in the following ways;
- Jesus called himself the bread of life and whoever takes of this bread shall have eternal life.
- He refers to himself as the light of the world: 8;12-20
- Jesus refers to himself as the gate to the sheep:10;7
- He calls himself as the good shepherd:10; 11

- He witnesses himself as the resurrection: 11;17-27
- Jesus calls himself as the way the truth and life:14; 5-6
- Jesus refers himself as the true vine: 15;1-17
- Jesus told the Jewish authorities that he existed before Abraham.
- Jesus told the disciples that he is in the father and the father is in him so who ever has seen him has seen the father.
- Jesus told Pilate that he was a king but his kingdom was not of this world.
- The voice from heaven recognized Jesus as God's son.
- Jesus testifies that what he is doing the father also does and there is perfect love between the Father and the son.
- Just as Moses lifted the bronze snake to extend forgiveness to Israel in the same way the son of man was to be lifted up.
- Jesus gives God as his witness for He is the one who sent Jesus. Jn; 5;37
- Jesus also gives the Old Testament scriptures as bearing witness to him for they talk about him. Jn;5:39
- The holy spirit the third person of God was to act as Jesus' witness on deeds and words. □ The holy spirit will come to reveal the truth about God