Interesting Facts About Mark

**AUTHOR:** “John whose surname was Mark.” Acts 15:3

**TIME WRITTEN:** Possibly between 58-68 A.D.

**POSITION IN THE BIBLE:**
- 41st Book in the Bible
- 2nd Book in the New Testament
- 2nd of 4 books of Biography (Matthew - John)
- 25 Books to follow it.

**CHAPTERS:** 16
**VERSES:** 578
**WORDS:** 17,171

**OBSERVATIONS ABOUT MARK:**
- The writer Mark is John Mark.
- John’s mother had a large house that was used as a meeting place for the church in Jerusalem.
- According to Acts 12:12, Barnabas and John Mark were cousins.
- It may be that Peter led Mark to Christ. 1 Peter 5:13 - “Mark my son.”
- Barnabas & Saul took John Mark with them when they returned from the Jerusalem conference in Acts 15.
  - Mark proceeded with them on the 1st missionary journey.
  - Mark turned back in Phyrgia in Pamphylia, and returned to Jerusalem.
- When Barnabas wanted to take Mark with them on the 2nd missionary journey, Paul refused. The disagreement led to:
  - Barnabas taking Mark and traveling to Cyprus.
  - Paul taking Silas and traveling through Syria and Cilicia.
- Eventually matters worked out between Paul and John Mark as is evidenced by:
  - Approximately 12 years later Paul wrote that Mark was with him during his first Roman imprisonment.
- Near the end of his life, Paul wrote in 2 Timothy 4:11 - “Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful to me for ministry.”
- Of the four books of biography (Matthew, Mark, Luke, & John), the Book of Mark is the shortest of the four.
- Whereas Matthew was written for a Jewish audience, it appears that Mark was written for Roman readers.
- The Book of Mark stresses the works of Jesus rather than the words of Jesus.
  - Only four parables are given in Mark.
  - 19 miracles are recorded in rapid fashion.
  - The quick succession of events in Mark is indicated by one Greek word which occurs 41 times in the book and is translated by seven different words:
    - “Immediately” - As soon as”
    - “Anon” - “Shortly”
    - “Forthwith” - “Straightway”
    - “By and by”
- Mark records the effects of amazement, fear and awe that the miracles of Christ had upon the people.