



## Take 5 minutes to Glorify God

### The Mighty One Has Come, Let the Battle Begin

February 4th, 2008

Mark 1:12, 13 And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Mark 1:14, 15 Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."



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There is a dramatic switch in the setting between the first 13 verses of Mark and what follows. The preceding verses communicate a wilderness motif that describes a dark, harsh, dry, hopeless, empty wilderness awaiting a messenger who will usher in the Lord. Even the language to describe the sky opening up is violent in that it uses the same language as that used for the veil in the temple being torn from top to bottom.

John the Baptist is described as rough, tough and wild and yet he says in effect, "you've seen nothing yet... wait till you see the mightier One than I who will baptize with the Holy Ghost". Where the Holy Ghost can be described as a mighty wind evoking images of a mighty sirocco wind storm common to the desert.

It's almost as if it's a WWW (World Wide Wrestling) federation fight ready to begin and the fighters are coming out of their tunnels. A transition is about to take place; a battle. John the Baptist appears, revealing the need of the people to repent of their sin and prepare for the mighty One to come. Jesus appears, the sky is torn open, the Holy Ghost descends upon Him and Jesus is impelled into the area for a 40 day trial against the enemy who tempts Jesus through the lust of the eyes, flesh and pride of life. It's a rematch. The first match occurred over four thousand years prior in a garden. It was Satan versus the first Adam. The rematch is Satan against Jesus, the second Adam. Jesus' victory in the wilderness is a foreshadowing of the ministry to follow as Jesus repeatedly defeats all that would come against the Kingdom of God. Although at times it seems Satan and his demons or the religious leaders of the day are winning, they will be defeated just as Satan was in the desert through the Word of God.

In verse 14 the scene moves from the dry wilderness to the shores of the Galilee where Jesus proclaims and demonstrates that the Kingdom of God is at hand. He teaches, heals, exorcises demons and brings life where there was death. The Light has entered the world. Let the battle begin.

The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God... Join us as we march with Jesus from His victory in the wilderness temptation all the way to the cross as He proves to Peter that He is the Christ and to the Roman Centurion that He is the Son of God.

Hear the full message at:

[http://ibobs.org/mp3/CCRSM/MenMonthly/20080202\\_DA\\_Mark1.mp3](http://ibobs.org/mp3/CCRSM/MenMonthly/20080202_DA_Mark1.mp3)