

CONTENTS

Preface	xi
Abbreviations	xii
Bibliography	xv
Introduction	1
1 Story	1
2 Structure	4
3 Genre	6
4 Sources	9
5 Date	14
6 Provenance	15
7 Author	20
8 Purpose	21
9 Text and Transmission	22
10 Language, Translation, and Interpretation	23

COMMENTARY

1:1–15 Title and Prologue	29
1:1 The Author's Title	29
1:2–15 The Markan Prologue	33
1:2–3 Transcendent Prelude: The Messenger, the Lord, and the Way	34
Excursus: The Way	37
1:4–8 John the Baptizer: Preaching and Baptizing in the Wilderness	38
1:9–15 Jesus of Nazareth: Baptized, Tested in the Wilderness, and Preaching	43
1:9–11 Baptism: God Reveals Jesus as His Son and Empowers Him with the Spirit	43

1:12–13	Jesus Is Tested in the Wilderness	46
1:14–15	Ministry in Galilee	49
	Excursus: Kingdom of God	51
Part 1 Galilee 1:16–8:21		55
1:16–3:35	Authority, Rejection, and the New Community	57
1:16–3:6	Acting with Authority	57
1:16–20	The Call of the Disciples	57
1:21–34	The Day of the Lord	61
1:35–39	Ministry in All Galilee	67
1:40–45	The Cleansing of the Leper	69
2:1–3:6	Authority and Conflict	73
2:1–12	Healing and Forgiveness	74
2:13–17	Calling Sinners and Eating with Them	78
2:18–22	Now and Later; Old and New	83
2:23–28	Keeping the Sabbath Holy: Jesus Challenged and Warned	87
3:1–6	Keeping the Sabbath Holy: Jesus Persists and Is Condemned	92
3:7–12	International Multitudes, the Sick, and the Demonized—and Jesus’ Response	96
3:13–19	The Choosing of the Twelve	99
3:20–35	God’s Kingdom and Family	103
4:1–34	Central Discourse of Part 1: Parables and Mystery of the Kingdom of God	111
4:1–2	The Markan Setting	114
4:3–9	Seed Parable 1: “The Sower”	115
4:10–12	The Markan “Parable Theory”—First Statement	119
4:13–20	Interpretation of “The Sower”	128
4:21–25	Markan “Parable Theory”—Second Statement: “Parables about Parables”	132
4:26–29	Seed Parable 2: “The Seed Growing Secretly”	136
4:30–32	Seed Parable 3: “The Mustard Seed”	138
4:33–34	The Markan “Parable Theory”—Third Statement	140
4:35–8:21	Crossing Borders	142
4:35–41	Stilling the Storm	142

5:1–20	The Gerasene Demoniac	147
5:21–43	Jairus’s Daughter and the Woman with a Hemorrhage	155
6:1–6a	Jesus Is Rejected at Nazareth	163
6:6b–30	Mission of the Twelve and the Death of John the Baptist	167
	Excursus: Crowds, Followers, Disciples, and the Twelve	167
6:31–44	Five Thousand Are Fed	179
6:45–52	The Walking on the Sea	187
6:53–56	Healings at Gennesaret	191
	Excursus: Miracle Stories in Mark	192
	Terminology	192
	Amount and Distribution	193
	Event and Interpretation	193
	Pre-Markan Tradition and Interpretation	194
	Markan Interpretation	194
7:1–23	Defilement—Traditional and Real	196
	Excursus: Jesus the Teacher versus the Scribes	205
7:24–30	The Syrophoenician Woman	206
7:31–37	Jesus Heals a Man Who Was Deaf and Impaired in Speech	215
8:1–9	Four Thousand Are Fed	218
8:10–13	No Sign Whatsoever	221
8:14–21	The Leaven of the Pharisees and the Unleavened Bread of Jesus	224
The “Way”: Galilee to Jerusalem 8:22–10:52		229
	From Blindness to Sight	231
8:22–26	A Blind Man Is Healed at Bethsaida	232
8:27–9:1	Christology, Discipleship, and First Passion Prediction	234
	Excursus: Markan Christology	248
	Titles, Designations, and Images	249
	Titular Christology: Summary	257
	Narrative Christology: Summary	258

9:2–13	The Transfiguration and Discussion about Elijah	259
	Excursus: The Messianic Secret	264
9:14–29	Jesus Heals a Boy Possessed by a Spirit	271
9:30–32	Jesus Foretells His Passion Again	276
9:33–50	The Meaning of Discipleship, Second Version	278
10:1–31	Discipleship, Family, Society	284
10:1–12	Discipleship, Marriage, and Divorce	285
10:13–16	Discipleship and Children	288
10:17–31	Discipleship, Property, and Family	290
10:32–45	The Third Prediction of the Passion and the Argument about Precedence among the Disciples	297
10:46–52	Blind Bartimaeus Healed at Jericho	304
Part 2 Jerusalem 11:1–15:47		309
	Temple, Confrontation, and Death	311
11:1–13:4	The Lord Comes to His Temple	313
11:1–11	The Veiled Messianic Procession	313
11:12–25	Barren Temple, Withered Fig Tree, and a House of Prayer for All People	316
11:27–33	The Question about Authority	325
12:1–12	Those Responsible for the Lord's Vineyard Reject the Son, Who Is Vindicated by God	327
12:13–17	The Question about Taxes Paid to a Pagan Government	333
12:18–27	The Question about the Resurrection	337
12:28–34	The Question about the Great Commandment	342
12:35–37	Is David's Lord the "Son of David"?	347
12:38–40	Woe to the Scribes	349
12:41–44	True Piety in Contrast to False	351
13:1–4	Leaving the Temple; Its Coming Destruction	353
13:5–37	Central Discourse of Part 2: Historical Troubles and the Coming of the Son of Man	356
	Interpreting the Apocalyptic Discourse	356
13:5–23	I. The End Is Not Yet	360
13:24–27	II. The End Will Come	371

13:28–37	III. When?	373
14:1–15:47	Trial and Death	378
14:1–11	Betrayal and Anointing	379
14:12–25	Passover and Eucharist	385
14:26–31	Predictions of Suffering and Scattering, Resurrection and Regathering	392
14:32–52	Jesus Prays, Is Arrested; Disciples Sleep, Abandon Him	395
	Excursus: Mark and the Scriptures	404
14:53–72	Trial before the Sanhedrin: Jesus' Confession and Peter's Denial	408
15:1–15	Trial before Pilate	416
15:16–39	Jesus Is Mocked and Crucified	422
15:40–47	Jesus Is Buried	435
16:1–8	Epilogue: Resurrection and Mission: Back to Galilee	441
	Alternative Endings	451
	Index of Ancient Sources	454
	Index of Subjects	478