

Mark 2

The time has come to get down to some serious study of Gospel texts. You have already done a good deal of this with Mark's Gospel, because that is the method adopted by Fr Michael in the Theology course, and I have also spoken to you about Mark, not only in general, but in particular.

Accordingly, I think it right that we should make the first half of today's Scripture lecture an interactive exercise, in which you can venture your own impressions and perceptions, and we can assemble together an overall picture and perhaps a comprehensible feeling about the text of Mark as we have read and understood it. The most important thing we can acquire in preparation for the ministry is an accurate, personal, and ready response to the Scriptures, which can guide us with reasonable sureness both in the liturgy, when we are preaching, and on the hoof, when we are instructing people in preparation for the Sacraments, teaching them to read and love the Scriptures, or just discussing or chatting about the faith and about Jesus.

Let us light upon some of the high-points of the Gospel, and run as rapidly as we can through our knowledge and awareness of them. Please do not waste a lot of time in sitting silent. I want to know what you have absorbed, and if you say nothing I shall have to conclude that that is what you have absorbed.

The Baptism

Peter's profession of faith (8:27-33)

Transfiguration (9:2-13)

Gethsemane (14:32-42)

Death (15:33-39)

Empty Tomb (16:1-8)