

- E. The closing verses introduce us to themes not mentioned in the gospel (picking up snakes, speaking in tongues, drinking poison).
- F. Most of the ending is a patchwork of quotations from other gospels.

3. What does the real ending of the Gospel of Mark teach us?

A. Jesus is the Son of God.

*The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
Mark 1:1 (ESV)*

B. Jesus is amazing!

And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid. Mark 16:8 (ESV)

Life Group Questions

1. What stood out in this message? What did you learn you didn't know?
2. How did learning the careflessness used in copying the Old Testament change the confidence you have about the Bible we have in our hands?
3. How did learning the number and age of New Testament documents, especially when compared to all other documents we possess from antiquity, bolster your confidence in the Bible?
4. What evidence do we have that Mark 16:9-20 was not written by Mark? Why did some early English translations (like the King James Version) include it?
5. Why is the real ending of Mark's Gospel (Mark 16:8), an appropriate ending though it is short ending?
6. Mark wants us to see Jesus as the Son of God and to see Jesus as amazing. How has your love for Jesus grown as we studied Mark's gospel?
7. Spend time in prayer thanking God for Mark's gospel. Thank God for helping us know Jesus more and love Jesus better as we studied Mark together.

Mark 16:9-20 – The Amazing Ending Of The Gospel Of Mark

December 27, 2020

1. The external evidence of text criticism proves Mark's final verses do not belong.

- A. The Old Testament is accurate because it was carefully copied by scribes.
- B. The New Testament is accurate because of the numerous manuscripts that remain.
- C. The New Testament is accurate because of the age of the manuscripts.

A. Famous Manuscripts Before 325 A.D.

- Rylands Papyrus (P-52)
- Bodmer Papyrus
- Chester Betty Papyrus

B. Famous Manuscripts After 325 A.D.

- Codex Sinaticus
- Codex Vaticanus

D. The New Testament is accurate because of the age of its translations.

- Latin
- Syriac

E. The New Testament is accurate because of the age and quantity of quotations by early church leaders.

F. The New Testament is accurate because there are more copies of it than anything else from ancient history.

- Homer's Iliad
- Herodotus' history
- Thucydides history of the Peloponnesian wars

G. How do we know Mark 16:9-20 was not part of Mark?

- These verses do not appear in the earliest copies of this gospel.
- Codex Sinaticus and Codex Vaticanus do not have these verses.
- Early church leaders knew that some copies of Mark's gospel had these extra verses. They said they were not original.
 - Eusebius (280 A.D.)
 - Jerome (390 A.D.)
 - Justin Martyr (180 A.D.)
 - Taitain (180 A.D.)

2. The internal evidence of text comparison proves Mark's final verses do not belong.

- A. A transition between v.8 and v.9 is missing.
- B. Verse 8 ends in the feminine tense. Verse 9 begins in the masculine tense.
- C. Verse 9 introduces us to Mary Magdalene. She was already in this gospel three times. She is not a new character.
- D. The Greek vocabulary is not consistent with the rest of Mark.