



The Gospel of Mark

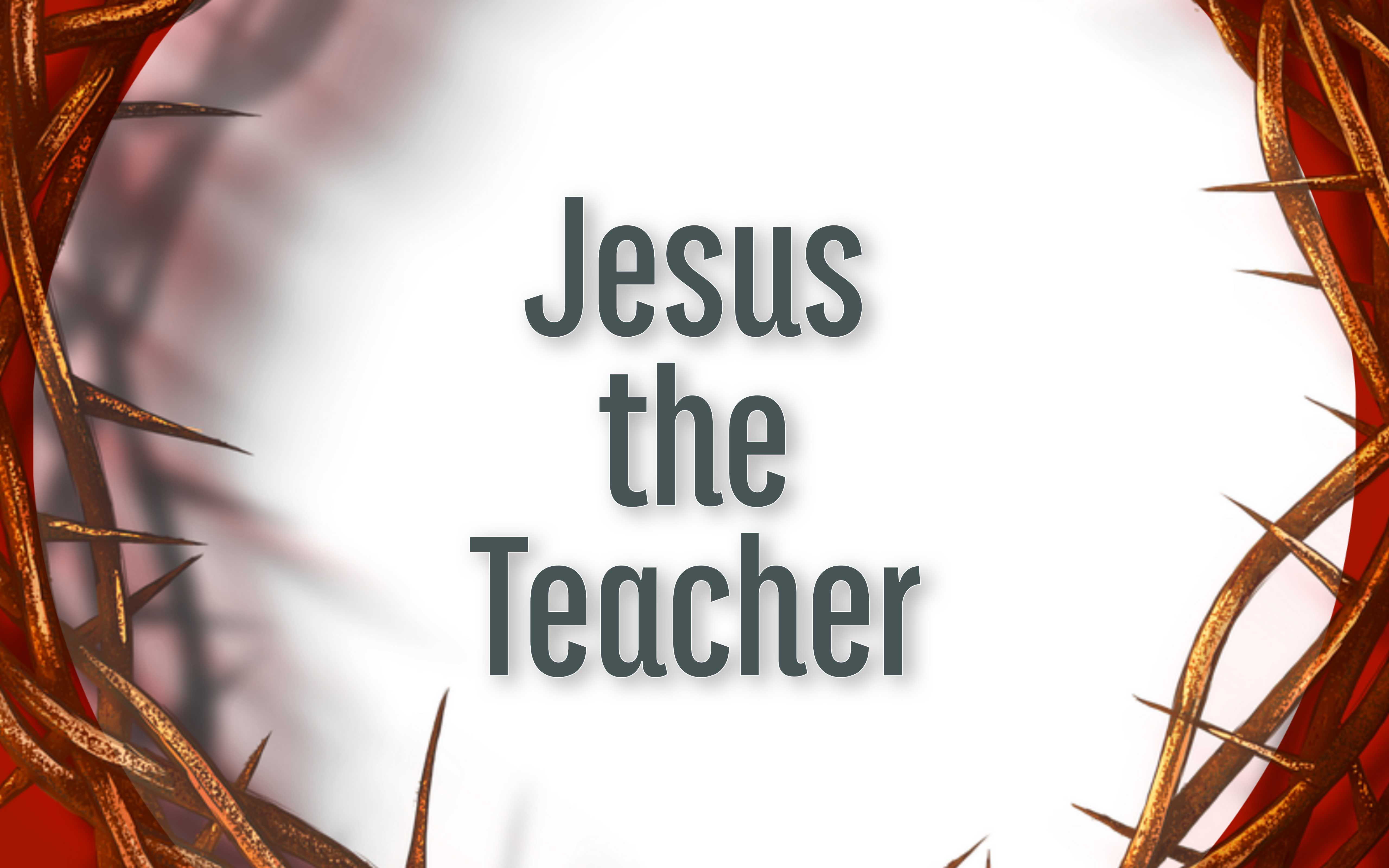
# JESUS

The King Who  
Came to Die

Again Jesus began to teach by the lake. The crowd that gathered around him was so large that he got into a boat and sat in it out on the lake, while all the people were along the shore at the water's edge. <sup>2</sup> He taught them many things by parables, and in his teaching said: <sup>3</sup> "Listen! A farmer went out to sow his seed. <sup>4</sup> As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. <sup>5</sup> Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. <sup>6</sup> But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. <sup>7</sup> Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants, so that they did not bear grain.

<sup>8</sup> Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop, multiplying thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times.” <sup>9</sup> Then Jesus said, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.” <sup>10</sup> When he was alone, the Twelve and the others around him asked him about the parables. <sup>11</sup> He told them, “The secret of the kingdom of God has been given to you. But to those on the outside everything is said in parables <sup>12</sup> so that, ““they may be ever seeing but never perceiving, and ever hearing but never understanding; otherwise they might turn and be forgiven!””

Mark 4:1–12



# Jesus the Teacher

# Teaching By the Lake Again

Again Jesus began to teach by the lake. The crowd that gathered around him was so large that he got into a boat and sat in it out on the lake, while all the people were along the shore at the water's edge.

Mark 4:1





# A Sample of Jesus' Teaching

He taught them many things by parables, and in his teaching said:

Mark 4:2



# Jesus Often Used Parables To Teach

He taught them many things by parables, and in his teaching said:

Mark 4:2







# Understanding The Parables of Jesus

# The Central Subject - The Kingdom of God

He told them, “The secret of the kingdom of God has been given to you. But to those on the outside everything is said in parables...” (Mark 4:11)

He also said, “This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground...<sup>30</sup> Again he said, “What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it?” (Mark 4:26, 30)

(Also Matthew 13:44; 13:45; 13:47; Luke 13:20 etc.)



# Jesus' Teaching Centered On the Kingdom

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. <sup>15</sup> “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!”

Mark 1:14–15



# The Surprising Mystery of the Kingdom

He told them, “The secret of the kingdom of God has been given to you. But to those on the outside everything is said in parables...”

Mark 4:11



# Parables Require Careful Listening

**Listen!** A farmer went out to sow his seed...<sup>9</sup> Then Jesus said, “He who has ears to **hear**, **let him hear**.”

Mark 4:3, 9



# HEAR the Word of God!

**Hear**, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

Deuteronomy 6:4



# Parables Reveal and Reinforce the State of the Heart

When he was alone, the Twelve and the others around him asked him about the parables.<sup>11</sup> He told them, “The secret of the kingdom of God has been given to you. But to those on the outside everything is said in parables<sup>12</sup> so that, “they may be ever seeing but never perceiving, and ever hearing but never understanding; otherwise they might turn and be forgiven!””

Mark 4:10–12



A crown of thorns, rendered in a golden-brown color, frames the text. The thorns are sharp and intertwined, creating a circular border around the central text. The background is a soft, out-of-focus white and light blue, suggesting a bright, possibly outdoor setting.

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# Applying

The Word



# Jesus' Word Is ESSENTIAL!

Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. <sup>25</sup> The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. <sup>26</sup> But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. <sup>27</sup> The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.

Matthew 7:24–27





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# Applying

The Word

Music and silence—how I detest them both! How thankful we should be that ever since our Father entered Hell... no square inch of infernal space and no moment of infernal time has been surrendered to either of those abominable forces, but all has been occupied by Noise—Noise, the grand dynamism, the audible expression of all that is exultant, ruthless, and virile—Noise which alone defends us from silly qualms, despairing scruples, and impossible desires. We will make the whole universe a noise in the end. We have already made great strides in this direction as regards the Earth. The melodies and silences of Heaven will be shouted down in the end. But I admit we are not yet loud enough, or anything like it. Research is in progress.

CS Lewis, Screwtape Letters , Letter 22



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# Applying

The Word

# The Table of the King

