



**bits from bob....**

**Amazing!**  
**April 20, 2020**

I have been spending time in Mark's gospel, studying, praying, analyzing the text. I am looking forward to the online Bible class that begins one week from today -- every weekday afternoon, Monday through Friday, 10 class sessions, 3PM CDT each day.

In Chapter 1, Mark mentions that Jesus is prophecy fulfilled, approved by God at his baptism—my beloved son, tested and proved in temptation, calling disciples who follow gladly. Today I call attention to what follows next!

With amazing stories—amazing works and amazing words, Mark presents his case that Jesus is the Son of God. Jesus has power over illness, leprosy, paralysis, over evil spirits, demons, over the Sabbath, and even over nature. Amazing works, Amazing words. The crowds (except for the Jewish leaders) are marveling at and admiring Jesus -- amazing, astounding, astonishing.

Amazed! Amazing!

- Mark 1:22, The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law.
- Mark 1:27, The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, "What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him."
- Mark 2:12, He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"
- Mark 5:20, So the man went away and began to tell in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him. And all the people were amazed.
- Mark 6:2, When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed. "Where did this man get these things?" they asked. "What's this wisdom that has been given him? What are these remarkable miracles he is performing?"
- Mark 6:6, He was amazed at their lack of faith. Then Jesus went around teaching from village to village.
- Mark 6:51, He climbed into the boat with them, the wind died down. They were completely amazed.
- Mark 7:37, People were overwhelmed with amazement. "He has done everything well," they said. "He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."
- Mark 10:24, The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God!"
- Mark 10:26, The disciples were even more amazed, and said to each other, "Who then can be saved?"
- Mark 11:18, The chief priests and the teachers of the law heard this and began looking for a way to kill him, for they feared him, because the whole crowd was amazed at his teaching.
- Mark 12:17, Then Jesus said to them, "Give back to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's." And they were amazed at him.
- Mark 15:5, But Jesus still made no reply, and Pilate was amazed.

Thirteen times in a quick search.

Here's what I want when I open Mark's gospel. I want to be amazed. Amazing works, amazing words. We are too familiar with the story. Familiarity leads us to missing the point. We read but do not read. We hear but do not understand.

What do you think of Jesus!

I hope a study of Mark's gospel will bring a new response to your lips – AMAZING!