

# Robert 'Bob' Sweet Jr

1937-2019



# FUN FAIR!

This Sat.  
Sept 14  
noon to  
3pm



# The Gospel according to Mark

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- ❑ It is an early gospel – around +/- AD 50
- ❑ It is a concise gospel – only 16 chapters
- ❑ It is a fast-paced gospel – “immediately”
- ❑ It is a vivid gospel – miracles and events
- ❑ It is an evangelistic gospel - “Go into all the world and preach the gospel”

# Why Mark?



- ❑ Jesus the human
- ❑ Jesus the healer
- ❑ Jesus on the move
- ❑ Jesus the teacher, disciple maker

# Lesson 2: chap. 2: Your faith counts!



✧ A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. <sup>2</sup> They gathered in such large numbers that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them. <sup>3</sup> Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them.



✧<sup>4</sup> Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on. <sup>5</sup> When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”



✧<sup>6</sup> Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves,<sup>7</sup> “Why does this fellow talk like that? He’s blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?”



✧<sup>8</sup> Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, “Why are you thinking these things? <sup>9</sup> Which is easier: to say to this paralyzed man, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up, take your mat and walk’?”





✻<sup>10</sup> But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.” So he said to the man, <sup>11</sup> “I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.” <sup>12</sup> 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!”

# 1. Do the work



- ❧ *they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on.* <sup>5</sup> *When Jesus saw their faith . . .*
- ❧ They made an opening
- ❧ They lowered the man
- ❧ Who are 'they?'
- ❧ They did the hard work to bring someone to Jesus!

## 2. Work in faith



✧ <sup>5</sup> When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”

✧ Jesus saw their faith

✧ Didn't the sick man have faith?

✧ We don't know!

✧ But Jesus is watching for our faith!

### 3. Good questions!



- ❧ <sup>7</sup> “Why does this fellow talk like that? He’s blaspheming!
- ❧ Who can forgive sins but God alone?”
- ❧ <sup>9</sup> Which is easier: to say to this paralyzed man, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up, take your mat and walk’?
- ❧ Are you logical? Rational?
- ❧ Jesus wanted the Scribes to think!

# Apologetics



☞ Christian apologetics seeks to build bridges to unbelievers by presenting *reasons and evidence that Christianity is true, rational and worthy of belief*. The late twentieth-century Christian apologist Francis A. Schaeffer saw Christian apologetics as “*pre-evangelism*” – a way to prepare the mind and heart for the Christian message (the Gospel).

<https://crossexamined.org/christian-apologetics/>

## 4. The Big question:


### Who is Jesus?



- ❧<sup>10</sup> *But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins."*
- ❧ Son of man?
- ❧ The term, **Son of man**, is used by **Jesus**:
- ❧ 80 times as a way to refer to **himself**:
- ❧ 32 times in Matthew; 14 times in Mark; 26 times in Luke;

# Daniel 7: Son of Man



 <sup>13</sup> “In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. <sup>14</sup> He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

## 5. Take Action: Who has a need?



☞ Physical needs

☞ Spiritual needs

☞ Everyone (usually) has both!

☞ How will you take action?

☞ Goal: bring them to Jesus!