

Mark

A Study of the Gospel of Mark
Mark 9:1

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And Jesus was saying to them, “Truly I say to you, there are some of those who are standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God after it has come with power.”

**How does Mark 9:1 fit
into its surrounding
context in the book of
Mark?**


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2 Six days later, Jesus took with Him Peter and James and John, and brought them up on a high mountain by themselves. And He was transfigured before them;

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The Transfiguration

- 1 And Jesus was saying to them, “^a Truly I say to you, there are some of those who are standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God after it has come with power.”
- 2 ^aSix days later, Jesus ^{*}took with Him ^bPeter and ¹James and John, and ^{*}brought them up on a high mountain by themselves. And He was transfigured before them;
- 3 and ^aHis garments became radiant and exceedingly white, as no launderer on earth can whiten them.

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Following Jesus

8:34 Then⁵⁰ Jesus⁵¹ called the crowd, along with his disciples, and said to them, “If anyone wants to become my follower,⁵² he must deny⁵³ himself, take up his cross,⁵⁴ and follow me. 8:35 For whoever wants to save his life⁵⁵ will lose it,⁵⁶ but whoever loses his life for my sake and for the gospel will save it. 8:36 For what benefit is it for a person⁵⁷ to gain the whole world, yet⁵⁸ forfeit his life? 8:37 What can a person give in exchange for his life? 8:38 For if anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will also be ashamed of him⁵⁹ when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.” 9:1 And he said to them, “I tell you the truth,¹ there are some standing here who will not² experience³ death before they see the kingdom of God come with power.”⁴

The Transfiguration

9:2 Six days later⁵ Jesus took with him Peter, James, and John and led them alone up a high mountain privately. And he was transfigured before them,⁶ 9:3 and his clothes became radiantly white, more so than any launderer in the world could bleach them.

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³⁴ Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: “^aIf anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ³⁵ For whoever wants to save his life^a will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it. ³⁶ What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul? ³⁷ Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul? ³⁸ If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his Father’s glory with the holy angels.”

9 And he said to them, “^aI tell you the truth, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power.”

The Transfiguration

² After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. ³ His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. ⁴ And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

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NEGATIVE: Denial Now = Future Denial

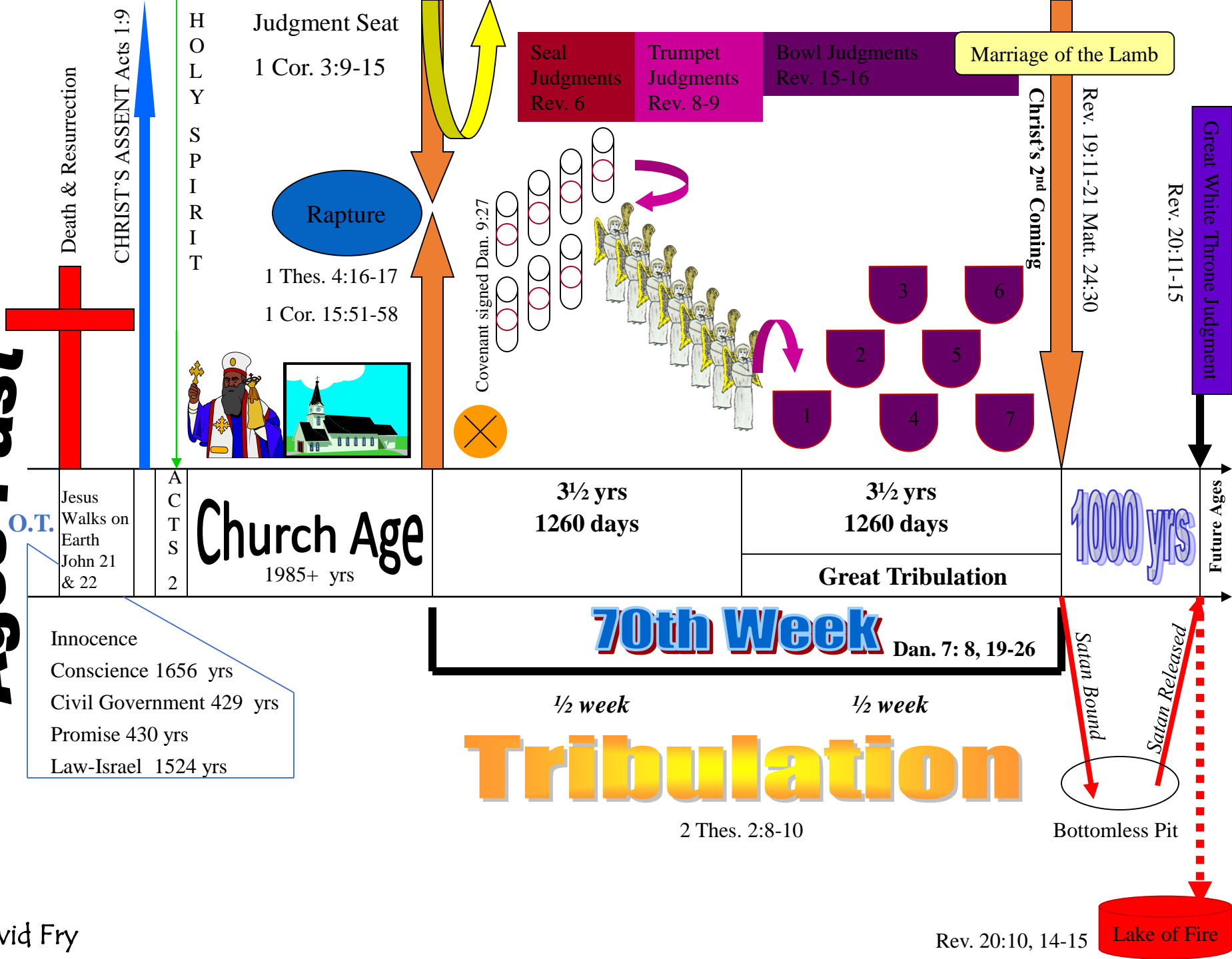
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POSITIVE: Before Death = See Kingdom

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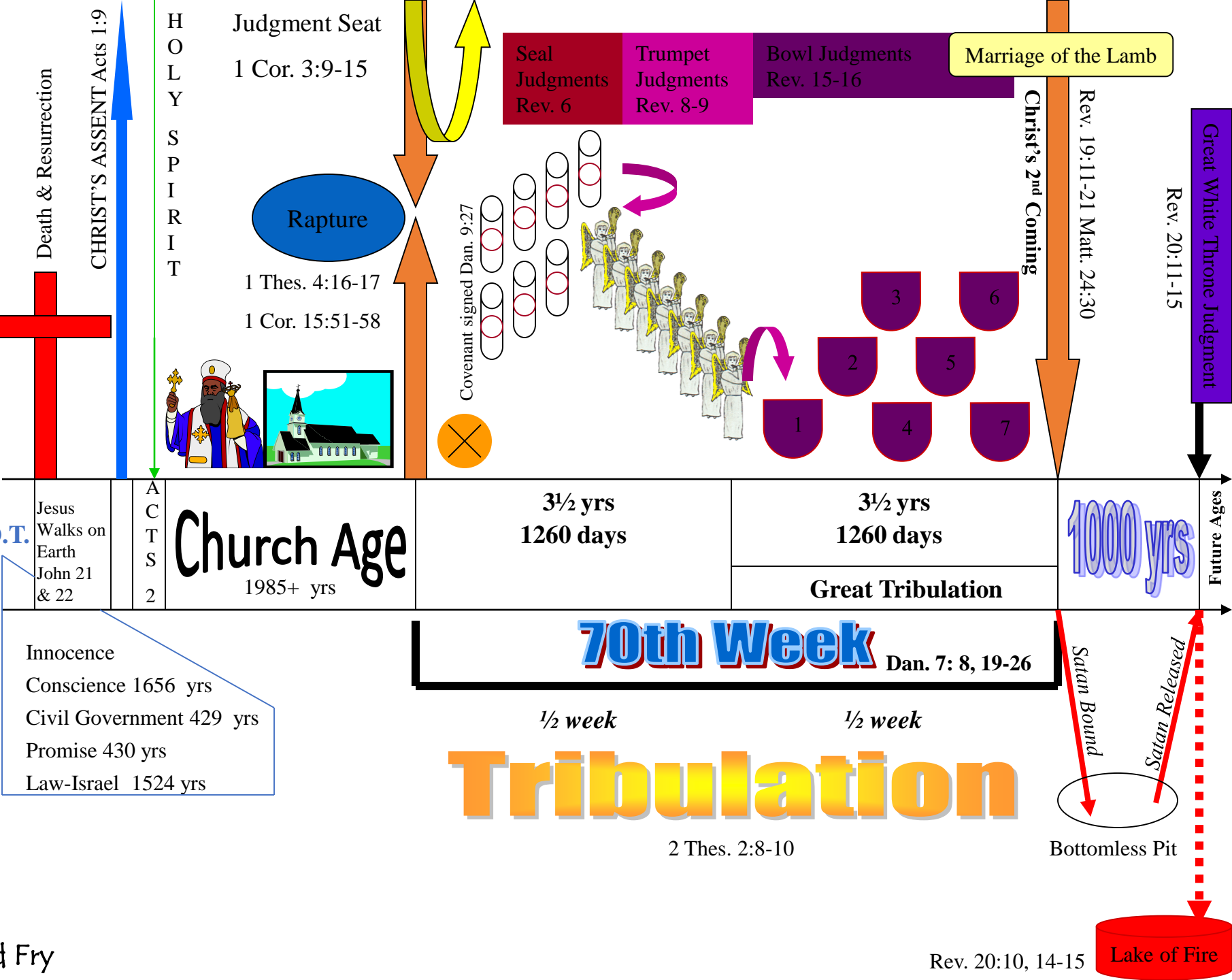
What event is Mark referring to in 8:38?

Ages Past



Matthew 24:30 "At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and all the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory. 31 And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.

Ages Past



Revelation 19:11 - I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. 12 His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. 13 He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. 14 The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean.

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Second coming of Christ

NOT referencencing the Second coming of
Christ

1 And Jesus was saying to them, “Truly I say to you, there are some of those who are standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God after it has come with power.”

**What event is 9:1
referring to?**

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Interpretive Options for Mark 9:1

#1 – It refers to the second coming of Jesus and the establishment of his earthly kingdom

This is not possible. All the original hearers of this prophecy have died and the second coming of Christ did not yet take place.

Interpretive Options for Mark 9:1

#2 – It refers to the fall of Jerusalem in 70
A.D.

**This one event does not fully exhibit the
kingship or power of Christ.**

Interpretive Options for Mark 9:1

#3 – It refers to Jesus' resurrection and ascension

#4 – It refers to the coming of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost

**The only person who has died by this time is Judas
(and perhaps some of those in the crowd)**

Interpretive Options for Mark 9:1

#5 – It refers to the transfiguration event
in the following passage

While the transfiguration certainly exhibited power...it was a temporary manifestation to reveal things to come. In 9:1 the grammar shows that this event has happened!

“after it has come with power”

Interpretive Options for Mark 9:1

#6 – Countless other suggestions: It refers to the establishment of the Church or the success of the Gospel

Perhaps the number of possible suggestions tells us that no one singular event is in view.

How did Mark understand the “Kingdom of God”?

1 And Jesus was saying to them, “Truly I say to you, there are some of those who are standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God after it has come with power.”

#1 – He understood that it was near!

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

Mark 1:14–15.

#2 – He understood that the Kingdom of God already had complete dominion over the kingdom of Satan!

“How can Satan drive out Satan? 24 If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand..In fact, no one can enter a strong man’s house and carry off his possessions unless he first ties up the strong man.

Mark 3:23–27

#3 – He understood that the Kingdom of God was a mystery..it was present but not yet fully revealed to all!

11 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

#4 – He understood that the Kingdom of God was unrecognized by man but nevertheless being accomplished by God!

This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. 27 Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how.

Mark 4:26–27.

#5 – He understood that the Kingdom of God was currently small but that it would grow to be the greatest kingdom!

What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? 31 It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest seed you plant in the ground. 32 Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds of the air can perch in its shade.”

Mark 4:30–32

1 And Jesus was saying to them, “Truly I say to you, there are some of those who are standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God after it has come with power.”

Before they died:

- They saw the miraculous events in conjunction with Christ’s death**
- They saw the resurrected Christ**
- They saw the Holy Spirit outpoured at Pentecost**
- They saw the establishment of the Church by the work of the apostles**
- They saw the Gospel message going forth towards the ends of the earth with great power**

Before they died they saw the power of the kingdom of God manifested in so many incredible ways!

38 “For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will also be ashamed of him when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.”

Future Second coming of Christ

The Kingdom of God revealed in power



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Mark

Mark the Way
The Gospel of Mark

a boat, preparing their
he called them, and they
saw in the boat with
him.