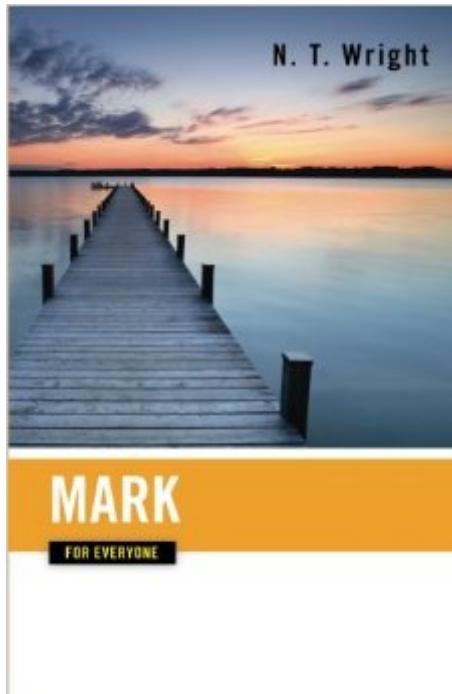


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# Mark For Everyone (The New Testament For Everyone)



## Synopsis

Tom Wright's eye-opening comments on the Gospel of Mark and what it might mean for us are combined, passage-by-passage, with his fresh translation of the Bible text. Making use of his true scholar's understanding, yet writing in an approachable and anecdotal style, Wright captures the urgency and excitement of Mark's Gospel in a way few writers have..Tom Wright has undertaken a tremendous task: to provide guides to all the books of the New Testament, and to include in them his own translation of the entire text. Each short passage is followed by a highly readable discussion with background information, useful explanations and suggestions, and thoughts as to how the text can be relevant to our lives today. A glossary is included at the back of the book. The series is suitable for group study, personal study, or daily devotions.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Tom Wright has scored perfect on his interpretation of Mark's gospel. He follows the thought from beginning to the end and does so with no anachronistic readings of the text. I know this was meant to be a commentary for everyone to read, but Wright has actually crafted something that deserves to be looked at by scholars as well as everyone. The anecdotes found throughout the series are excellent and help draw the reader into the discussion and meaning of the text of Mark. The glossary at the end is helpful and also very helpful and refreshing is Wright's translation of the text itself. As a

pastor I would recommend Wright's Everyone series about every other commentary series on the market. His writing style is lucid, clear, and engaging. Wright recognizes the metanarrative and expectations of the Jewish world of the first century and correctly sees the actions of Jesus as being the reconstitution of Israel in the son of David who is Israel's true representative. His interpretation of the Temple shows that Jesus did not come to simply cleanse the Temple, but to declare it bankrupt and to announce its coming destruction. Wright handles well OT allusions and quotations, picking up on a quote's entire context and avoids assuming that Mark glossed over or handled glibly his quotes without picking up on the overall story that Jesus himself is bringing to fulfillment. One such example is Mark 13, which speaks of the coming of the Son of Man. Wright maintains that this allusion to Daniel 7 shows the Son of Man coming to the ancient of days and therefore when used by Jesus is more a reference to the ascension of Jesus to the right hand of the Father and not to the second coming of Jesus from Heaven back to earth. If you only buy one commentary out of the Everyone Series you cannot go wrong with Mark.

This is a book which should find wide appeal. Tom Wright gives us a highly readable and quite enjoyable introduction to the gospel of Mark, informed by both his deep New Testament scholarship and his wide pastoral experience and perspective. This is Mark, truly for everyone. While there won't be much here that is new for those well-acquainted with current NT research, Wright plainly illuminates Mark's themes and places them properly in the context of the times. Wright's own translations of the original text are clear and contemporary to the right degree. For his intended audience - the general educated reader - Wright is on target. This would be a good pick for a teen or adult NT study group. Read it, and your faith will be even better secured on a firm foundation of understanding. Wright knows how to go after the very core, the kernel, of faith. Reading it, it is easy to hear Tom Wright's baritone voice in his adept prose; he is so effortless to read that it is easy to overlook how good a writer he in fact is. The medium is properly transparent and subordinate to the message. This series reminds me of the one authored years ago by William Barclay; each author has his own strengths and appeal and both could be read with profit by the Christian wishing to better understand the New Testament. If I had to recommend just one, it would be Wright, without question. But that would be to ignore the often top-notch pastoral sermon aspects - albeit old-fashioned - of Barclay's writings.

Read this as a family devotion and found it, for the most part, accessible and useful for all of us. Wright is ever true to his desire to make the feet of Jesus muddy from the streets of His historical

context. In doing so Wright challenged my prior understanding of some passages. At the end of the day I may not have agreed with his every conclusion but was forced to revisit and revise my understanding as well.

We've been using this book as a "reader's guide" as we've been working our way through the gospel of Mark in a Monday lunchtime Bible study. The majority of our members had never been part of a regular Bible study before, and have found this book easy to understand and helpful as they've done their prep reading for our class. The few who've got Bible study experience have enjoyed the fresh insights this commentary offers.

Tom or N.T. Wright captures the shocking and revolutionary nature of the Gospel in his translation and commentary on Mark. Following Christ is signing up to be subversive of so much that is taken for granted by the world then and now: might is power, always take care of No. 1. Wright takes the Gospel at face value, puts it in the Old Testament context, and gives us the flavor of how astonishing and riveting hearing Jesus in Palestine must have been. He captures the excitement that is still relevant today without compromising on scholarship. This is a great book for Bible study groups. As a Catholic, I would give only one caveat, namely, that Wright does not present the inherent ambiguity of references to Jesus' "brothers and sisters" in a Semitic context--but that is a relatively minor point and Wright is not seeking to attack Catholic belief in the perpetual virginity of Mary (see pp. 67-68). That's pretty good coming from an evangelical Protestant scholar. With that sole caveat in mind for Catholics, buy the book!

For anyone who wants to really enjoy the New Testament book of Mark, this is your guide! Our pastor recommended it as a study aide during his sermon series on Mark - and what a wonderful help it is. Easy to read, logical, and understandable. I endorse it highly!

Breaks Mark into small chunks, then provides thoughtful commentary that helps me understand the time period, social issues, and how the passage connects to other scripture. I have used it almost every day since it arrived.

This is an enjoyable book to read, and to use for sermon preparation. Wright has an uncanny ability to come up with fitting illustrations, such as the one on authority in his section on Mark 1:21-34. This is not a commentary, so there are some sections that are not treated at all.

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