

**THE LIFE AND WORKS
OF JESUS, ACCORDING
TO ST. MARK**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649156528

The life and works of Jesus, according to St. Mark by William D. Murray

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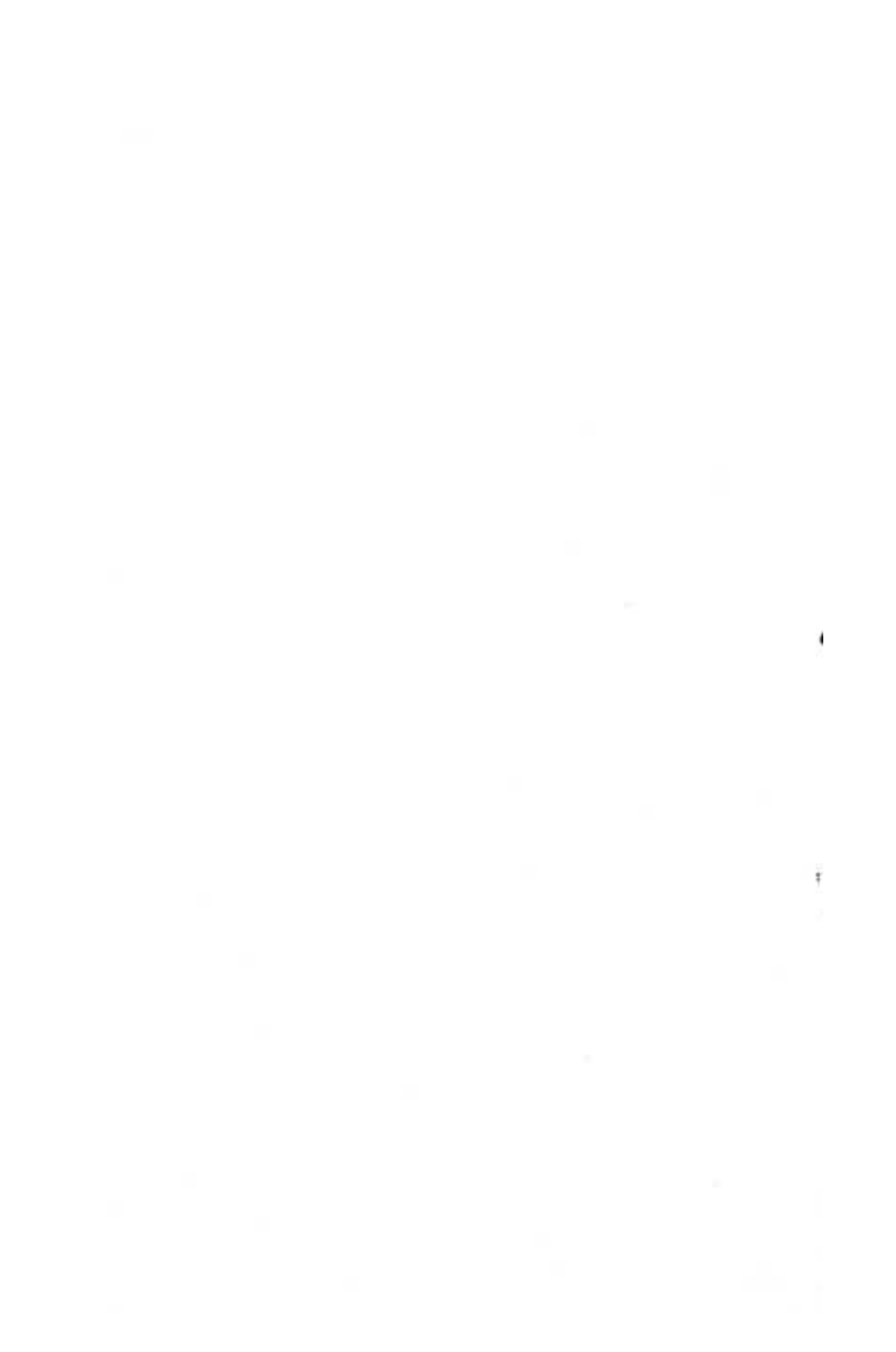
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WILLIAM D. MURRAY

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The Life and Works of Jesus According to St. Mark

BY
WILLIAM D. MURRAY

"Go your way, and tell John what things ye have seen and heard; the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have the good tidings preached to them."

NEW YORK
THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS
1906

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Introduction

The primary aim of these studies is to present a simple, vivid outline of the Life of Jesus, using St. Mark's record and emphasizing His mighty works. In the study of the last week of the Life portions of the other gospels are also used. An effort has been made at the same time to bring out the geography of Palestine, the manners and customs of its people, the various classes among them—in short, to give the setting of the picture. The studies will be found also to form a study of the book of Mark, and for this purpose the characteristics of this gospel have been constantly pointed out.

It has been thought wise, in connection with these studies, to suggest about twenty-five familiar Bible verses, which, together with their location, are to be memorized; and also to ask the students to learn where to find certain well-known parts of the Bible—i.e., the Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, etc. Other verses and chapters may be substituted for these to suit the needs of the class.

There has been inserted at irregular intervals a number of written prayers, not necessarily on the subject of the day's study, and not intended to form a liturgy, but to bring before the students the prayers of others in order to teach them to pray. In like manner meditations have been inserted on various days, designated "Thought for To-day." Through these it is hoped to guide the student's thought to the teaching of the lesson for that particular day, with the hope that he will be induced to formulate and write out thoughts about the teachings for the other days. As the studies are intended to be devotional as well as historical, here and there various quotations of a devotional nature will be found.

Like the other courses in the Bible Study Cycle these lessons have been arranged for daily study, and the most good will surely come to those who adopt this plan. To induce and assist in daily study space has been provided for written answers, and students are urged to answer

the questions in writing; and the studies are printed in a form and on paper which makes this work both a text-book and a note-book, so that, while for many reasons a note-book will be found useful, it will not be necessary. An outline map is also printed on which to trace the journeys of Jesus. The questions are based on the Revised Version, and some of them will be unintelligible without that version.

Two books are recommended for use with these studies, and while they will be found very helpful they are not essential:

1. Life of Christ, by Stalker (50 cents).
2. The Gospel according to St. Mark, by Thomas M. Lindsay (75 cents).

Besides the above Kephart's Chart of the Life of Christ (75 cents), gives a bird's-eye view of the events of the Public Ministry. The Twentieth Century New Testament (50 cents) is a translation into modern English and often throws light on obscure passages. The Bible Study Manual (50 cents), published by the Bible Study Publishing Company, Boston, Mass., contains many choice extracts from most of the well-known writers on the Life of Christ. Stevens and Burton's Harmony of the Gospels would be found helpful, and those who expect sometime to study Sharman's Life of Christ ought to purchase this Harmony now.

Some classes have found pictures very helpful. Blue print reproductions of famous paintings may be procured from Earl Thompson & Co., Syracuse, N. Y., at one cent each; the Perry Picture Company, Malden, Mass., furnish prints of the same pictures at the same price. Either publisher will be glad to send a catalogue.

For a helpful list of books consult pages 41 *et seq.* of the Prospectus of Religious Work (25 cents). Any of these helps will be furnished by the International Committee.

The following is suggested as a method of procedure in preparing and teaching one of these studies:

I. PREPARING:

1. Determine the topic of the study. (Is the one given in the text-book well chosen?) Make a sentence summarization.
2. Determine the connection of this study with the general development of thought and events preceding. (That is, make a brief review of

past studies.) Occasionally read the Gospel of Mark through at one sitting.

3. Determine the principal questions to be asked upon each daily study.
4. Determine the points in each division to be looked up in outside literature (a) by the leader or (b) by members of the class appointed beforehand.
5. Determine which of these divisions you will spend most time on in class, which next, etc.
6. Decide upon a few general questions, if necessary, upon the whole study that do not come under any special division.
7. Determine the principal religious truths and their bearing upon life.
8. Determine the main purpose underlying your whole presentation. (That is, what is the dominant thought of the study?)
9. Memorize the verse or chapter suggested, and be ready to review the class on verses and chapters already memorized. (Leaders will find much help in the general suggestions to leaders prepared by Mr. Sharman and Professor White to accompany their studies in this cycle.)

II. TEACHING:

The class hour might be used as follows:

1. Prayer.
2. Repeat the verses and chapters already learned. Let the leader repeat the verse and the class locate it, or *vice versa*. Do the same with the chapters.
3. Review the last lesson. Occasionally review the facts already learned about the country, people, etc.
4. Take up the lesson of the week as already determined upon in preparation.
5. Compare the answers of the various members of the class. Occasionally the leader should take the students' books and examine the written answers, and make such suggestions as may be necessary.
6. Make at least one teaching from the lesson so clear that every member will carry it away with him.

7. Suggest work for the next week.

8. Prayer.

These studies are sent forth with the prayer that those who are beginning to study the Bible may be led into more thorough study, and that the picture of the wonderful Man of Galilee, the Mighty Worker, may be made so clear and beautiful that many will be drawn to Him, and will go out from Him preaching everywhere, "the Lord working with them."

WILLIAM D. MURRAY.

PLAINFIELD, N. J., August, 1900.