

Four Witnesses: An Advent Series
Far as the Curse Is Found
Mark 1:1–15 | Andrew Belli

Thesis: Christ the Lord came to reverse the curse by leading his people out of exile and restoring all things. He calls us to turn from sin and trust him for our deliverance.

I. The Lord Is Come!

- A. Mark's Christmas Story (1)
 - 1. The beginning
 - 2. Of the gospel
 - a. Isaiah 52:7
 - 3. Of Jesus
 - 4. Christ
 - 5. The Son of God

- B. Prophecies Fulfilled
 - 1. A forerunner will prepare the way for the Lord (2, 6–7)
 - a. Malachi 3:1–5; 4:1–2, 5–6
 - b. John the Baptist as “Elijah” (cf. 2 Kings 1:8)
 - 2. A new exodus: God's return to deliver his exiled people (3)
 - a. Isaiah 40:3–11; 43:2–7, 16–21

- C. John's Water Baptism (4–5)

- D. Holy Spirit Baptism (8)
 - 1. Isaiah 63:11; 32:15; 44:3; Ezekiel 11:17–20; 37:14; 39:29

- E. Jesus' Baptism (9–11)
 - 1. The heavens torn open (cf. Isaiah 64:1–4)
 - 2. God's declaration (Psalm 2:7ff; Isaiah 42:1)

II. He Comes to Make His Blessings Flow Far as the Curse Is Found (12–15)

- A. Jesus Overcomes Temptation and Satan (12–13; cf. 3:27)
 - 1. Genesis 3:15

- B. The Reason Jesus Came
 - 1. “To give his life as a ransom for many” (10:45)
 - a. God's ransomed people (cf. Isaiah 51:10–11)
 - b. Ransomed by the suffering Servant (53:10–11)

III. Let Every Heart Prepare Him Room (14–15)

- A. The time for deliverance is *now* (Isaiah 40:9–10)

- B. The Deliverer is Jesus

- C. Turn from your sin and put your faith in his deliverance