

High School / College - Sample Questions
The Holy Gospel According to St Mark - Blessed Theophylact

(updated 7/23/2015)

1. In Mark 1:3 the testimony about John the Baptist (Forerunner) is taken from two prophets in the Old Testament, Who are these two prophets? What did each prophesy describe John as?
2. In Malachi, God the father called John (Forerunner) an “Angel”, why?
3. Why did the author called John “ Forerunner”?
4. In Mark 1:4, St. Mary uses the word “unto” in the verse, give the reason to why he uses this word?
5. What is John’s hair-shirt indicate and what does his belt of dead animal flesh signify?
6. Why was Jesus baptized by St. John, even though Jesus committed no sin and He is greater than St. John the Baptist – give two reasons
7. When Jesus was baptized by John in the Jordan river and when He came out of the water , In Mark 1:10-11 “ He saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon Him. And there came a voice from heaven saying, Thou art My Beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased”. How did the author interpret the descent of the spirit like a dove upon Jesus Christ and what purpose that accomplished?
8. In Mark 1:14-15 it may appear that the Lord is preaching the same thing as John when He uses the word “repent”- differentiate between how the Lord uses “Repent” from how John uses “repent”?
9. How was Christ’s teaching in the synagogue different than the Pharisees?
10. After Jesus healed Simon’s mother in law, it states that “at evening, when the sun did set, they brought unto him all that were diseased”. Why did the Jews wait till the sunset to bring the sick to Jesus? Why did Jesus heal “many” and not all the sick?
11. In Mark 1:34 “And He healed many that were sick of divers diseases, and cast out many demons; and suffered not the demons to speak, because they knew Him”. What reason did the author give to explain why Jesus did not permit the demons to speak?
12. In Mark 1: 40-42, When a leper came to Jesus and showed faith and understanding, Jesus moved with compassion and touched him, immediately the leprosy departed from him and he was cleansed. How did the leper show faith? Although the law forbade one to touch a leper, Jesus put His hand and touched him, Why?
13. In the story of the leper in Mark 1: 40-45, Why did the Lord send the leper to show himself to the priest? Why does Jesus commanded him to offer the gift which those who had been cleansed were supposed to offer?
14. When the Lord said that he could forgive sins, the Pharisees falsely accused the Lord of blasphemy, since God alone can forgive sins. How did the Lord give more evidence that He is God?
15. In Mark 2, why did the pharisees think it was more difficult to heal the body and thought it was easier to heal the soul? Explain further by the authors interpretation.
16. What was Jesus response from the gospel of St. Mark when the scribes and Pharisees questioned Him eating with publicans and sinners?
17. The author commented on the behavior of Jesus and the multitude after the paralytic story by saying “ That just so much you flee from praise and glory, just so much will praise and glory pursue you” What did Jesus do and the multitude that made him say that?

18. Why did Jesus call Himself Bridegroom when certain people accused His disciples of not fasting as John's disciples did? If Jesus Christ is the Bridegroom, who are "The sons of the bridal chamber" and why? Who can be considered as "Son of the bridal chamber" Explain in detail
19. How did the author explain Mark 2:21-22 "no man seweth a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment: else the new piece that filled it up pulleth away from the old and the rent is made worse. And no man putteth new wine into old wineskins: else the new wine doth burst the wineskins, and the wine is spilled, and the wineskins will be destroyed: but new wine must be put into new wineskins".
20. In Mark 3:1-5, St Mark spoke about the man with the withered hand. What is the author's explanation to why the Lord asked them if it is lawful to do good? What does the man's withered right hand represents?
21. What does it represent when the Lord asked the man with withered hand to "Arise, and stand in the middle"? When the man stands in the middle, his hand will be restored whole and sound, explain the author's interpretation of the word "restored"
22. What does "Herod" and "scourges" mean? How are scourges healed?
23. What is the author interpretation of Jesus ordering His disciples to make a boat ready for Him so that the multitude would not throng Him?
24. Jesus chose 12 disciples with him. Name the 12 disciples? According to the author, why did St.Mark list the names of the disciples, add one example? Why did the Lord make Judas an apostle?
25. The scribes accused Jesus of casting out demons by the power of demons, so how did Jesus address their claim in the gospel of St.Mark?
26. In the parable of the sower, who is the sower? What does the seed refer to?
27. In the parable of the sower, explain in detail the meaning of the seeds trodden on by many and give the example of what others say about this seed.
28. In the parable of the sower, explain in detail the meaning of the seeds that falls upon stony souls.
29. In the parable of the sower, what do "Cares" mean in the seeds that falls around souls surrounded by many cares? Explain in detail the fourth seeds that falls on good ground.
30. The author further explains the parable of the sower by stating that there are three types of people who destroy the word. Who are the three types and explain them.
31. The author further explains the parable of the sower by stating that there are also three types of people who accept and preserve the seed. Who are the three types and explain them.
32. Jesus exhorts the apostles to be shining examples in life and in conduct as the lamp which is set out where its brightness may be seen and should not be placed under a bushel, explain why Jesus wants each person to be a lamp and What does the bushel signify and what does it signify when it is placed under the bed?
33. Explain why Jesus spoke to the multitude in parables, but when He was with his disciples alone, He expounded all things to them?
34. When Jesus was in the boat with the disciples asleep, And there arose a great storm of wind and the waves beat into the boat, the disciples awake Him and said "----Master, carest Thou not that we perish? and He arose, and rebuked the wind---" (Mark4:38-39) Why did Jesus permit the disciples to be tossed by the storm? Why was Jesus asleep during the storm? Why did Jesus rebuke the disciples?

35. Jesus met a man with an unclean spirit and this man begged Jesus not to torment him, the demon told Jesus his name is Legion and they are many demons. He asked Jesus permission to go into a herd of swine, and when Jesus gave them leave, they entered into the swine and ran violently down into the sea and were choked in the sea. The man who was possessed with the demon besought the Lord that he might stay with Him but Jesus told him to go home to his friend and tell them what great things the Lord has done for him. (Mark 5:6-20). Why were the demons afraid of torment from the Lord ? Why did the Lord ask for the man's name?
36. In the story of the man with unclean spirit; the demons ask the Lord not to send them out of that region, but to let them depart into the herd of swim. Why did the Lord allow this to happen? Explain and give details.
37. In Mark 5:14-20 , there was a man who was possessed by the demon and besought Jesus to be with Him but Jesus sent him away, according to the author there are two reasons to why Jesus sent this man away, what are they and explain them in detail.
38. The story of the woman who had issue of blood for twelve years was told when Jesus was on his way to heal the daughter of "Jairus" the ruler of the synagogue.What are the 3 reasons that the author mentions to explain why Jesus revealed the woman? Also explain why the woman was afraid.
39. In the story of the woman who had issue of blood for twelve years, she couldn't be healed by many physicians and was just healed by touching Jesus' clothes. What did the women receive healing and how is it related to human nature?
40. Concerning the woman who had issue of blood for twelve years, what was the difference between this woman and the multitude who were thronging Jesus and what can we learn from this?
41. In the Gospel of St.Mark, who were the three disciples that were present when Jesus rose the daughter of Jairus ?
42. When Jesus resurrected the daughter of Jairus, Why didn't Jesus permit anyone to accompany him except these three disciples?
43. Why did Jesus say that Jarius' daughter was only sleeping and not dead?Also why did Jesus command that something should be given for her to eat?
44. When Jesus went back to His own country "He could there do no mighty work, save that He laid His hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them" (Mark6:5) , what are the two powers that the working of miracles required?
45. In Mark 6:6-11, Why did Jesus send the disciples two by two to teach in the villages?
46. In Mark 6:6-11, Why did Jesus command the disciples to take nothing with them?
47. In Mark 6 Jesus sent his disciples to preach, what was Jesus' advice to the disciple when they meet people who do not receive or hear them? Please give any verses that corresponds to the answer, if any.
48. In Mark 6:6-11, Jesus sent his disciples to preach; Give 5 commandments that Jesus gave to his twelve disciples when he sent them in two to preach? (Pg 50) What was the message that the disciples preached?
49. Why did Herod the king kill John the Baptist even though Herod feared John knowing that he was a righteous and holy man?
50. In the miracle of five loaves and two fish; why does Jesus look up to heaven?
51. Why were 12 baskets left over after everyone had to eat?

52. What do the five loaves signify? What do the two fish signify ?
53. How did the people of Gennersaret behave differently when Jesus and His disciples visited again their land?
54. What was the Pharisees washing tradition prior to eating? How did Jesus respond when they accused His disciples of not following the known tradition prior to eating?
55. In Mark 7:1-5, the disciples eat bread with unwashed hands which the Pharisees found fault in, why did the Pharisees find fault of eating with unwashed hands? Explain in detail.
56. After the Pharisees found fault with the disciples, Jesus rebukes them of their words and actions. Please state what the Lord in turn charged the Pharisees with. What does the law say and give examples of how the Pharisees went against the law.
57. How many times did Jesus feed the multitude in the book of Mark? How many initial loaves and fishes did He bless each time?
58. How many baskets were left in each time Jesus fed the multitude in the gospel of Mark? Who initiated the request for feeding the multitude in each miracle (Jesus or the disciples)?
59. Explain why the Pharisees asked Jesus for “a sign from heaven”? How does a “sign from heaven” vary from other miracles? And why did Jesus say “There shall no sign be given unto this generation”?
60. In Mark 8, Jesus took the blind man by hand out of the village. When He had spit on his eyes, and put His hands upon him, He asked him if he saw anything. And he looked up, and said, I see men as trees, walking. After that He put His hands again upon his eyes, and made him look up: and he was restored, and saw every man clearly. According to the author, what does the spit signify? What does God’s hand signify?
61. In Mark 8, the story of the blind man, according to the author, Why did Jesus take the blind man out of the village before He heals him? Why does the Lord ask him not to go back to the village after he was healed? Why did the Lord heal him in two stages?
62. In Mark 8, What did the disciple say when Jesus asked “Whom do men say that I am”?
63. In Mark 8, Why does Jesus rebuke Peter saying “Get thee behind me Satan: for thou savourest not the things that be of God”? Explain why he called Peter satan and “get thee behind me.”
64. In Mark 9:2-3 Jesus takes Peter, James, and John to the top of the mountain where he showed them His transfiguration. Why did Jesus choose the foremost disciples Peter, John and James and lead them up onto a high mountain? What does “Transfiguration” mean?
65. In the transfiguration of our Lord in Mark 9, What are the two reasons mentioned by the author for Jesus to transfigure with Elijah and Moses?
66. Who were the disciples that attend the transfiguration of our Lord Jesus? Who appeared with Jesus on the mount of transfiguration?
67. What did Peter suggested that should happen? What did the voice from the cloud say?
68. Why did Jesus command the disciples to say nothing of the Transfiguration?.
69. In Mark 9, why were the disciples not able to cast out the demon from the son of the man, who pleaded with Jesus?
70. Jesus said in Mark 9:37 “ Whosoever shall receive one of such children in My name, recieveth Me: and whosoever shall receive Me, receiveth not Me, but Him that sent Me”. In what way does the Lord

wants us to be like little children? (page 78)

71. Mark 9:38-40 states that John comes to Jesus telling Him a story about a man that works miracles in Jesus' name and how John forbade the man to do so? Explain the Lord's answer to John forbidding the man of working miracles. Also give why this can be taken as a contradiction. Mention all verses for both questions if necessary.
72. The Lord warns those who cause offense that it will be worse for them than if they were cast into the sea. Explain who the Lord meant this for?
73. Jesus said in Mark 9: 49 "For every one shall be salted with fire, and every sacrifice shall be salted with salt", which quote from Leviticus Jesus was referring to? Explain "is it good to season your sacrifices with salt of God."
74. Explain what "salt" means fully and how can we apply it to our spiritual lives as the author states.
75. What reason Jesus gave to Pharisees to explain why did Moses allow a man to write a bill of divorcement? Explain why a man should not have many marriages.?
76. When the disciples rebuked the young children when they were brought to Jesus, He was displeased and said to them in Mark 10:15, " Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein". What did Christ want to teach the disciples? How does He receive the children and who does the kingdom of God belong to?
77. Explain the nature of little children and compare it to the church as the author has done. (page 84)
78. When a man ran and knelt before Jesus and asked Him "Good Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life" Jesus replied to the man saying " There is none good but One, that is God"? What did Jesus want the man to understand? Why did the man run away and leave after Jesus' answer to him?
79. The author states that riches are not evil, then what is evil and what should they ought to do with the riches?
80. Those who keep riches under lock and key are those who will find it hard to enter the kingdom of God. What does "hard" mean and give an example that the Lord gives that clarifies this.
81. What does "Camel" mean." Why were the disciples astonished at the words of Jesus?
82. Some people are perplexed when Christ says, " With God all things are possible," what does He mean when He says "all things" and is sin a being? Where does it come from? What does Paul and David say about sin? Explain.
83. How did Jesus respond to James and John's request, the sons of Zebedee regarding setting on His right and left in God's glory? Did Jesus fulfill their request? What did Jesus imply by "His cup" and "His baptism" when He said "can ye drink of the cup that I drink of? And be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with? How did Jesus address the disciples' displeasure from James and John's request?
84. Jesus told His disciples "whosoever will be great among you, shall be your servant, and whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be slave of all" Mark 10:43-44. Explain why the Son of Man Himself is the example of that?
85. When Jesus and His disciples went to Jericho, a blind man sat by the road side begging and when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say "Jesus Son of David, have mercy on me" Why the people rebuked him? And why the author thought that he has a grateful soul?

- 86.** Jesus entered Jerusalem on many occasions but His entrance was never so public and highly visible but when He wants to enter Jerusalem during the Passover feast, Jesus asked the disciples to bring Him a colt to ride it to enter Jerusalem with more splendors? Explain Why?
- 87.** When Jesus entered Jerusalem riding the colt, some people cast their garments in the way, and others cut down branches off the trees and strewed them in the way, they cried saying (Mark 11:10) "Hosanna: Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord: Blessed be the kingdom of our father David, that cometh in the name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest". Explain how did the author interpret the hymn of praise and the behavior of people?
- 88.** Although it was not the season for figs, but when Jesus found nothing on the tree but leaves, Jesus cursed the fig tree. What symbol did the author give to the fig tree and why Jesus cursed it?

PLEASE CHECK AGAIN FOR ADDITIONAL SAMPLE QUESTIONS IN A COUPLE OF DAYS FROM THE DATE ON TOP OF THIS DOCUMENT.

PLEASE ENSURE YOU HAVE THE LATEST QUESTIONS. SAMPLE QUESTIONS ARE ALWAYS DATED.

THANKS FOR YOUR PATIENCE.