

**Mark 1v1**

The beginning of **the good news about Jesus the Messiah**, *the Son of God*

**Mark 1v14-15**

‘.....Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming **the good news of God**. 15 “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe **the good news!**”

Based on what we talked about on Sunday, how would people have heard Jesus announcement?

Caesar August Rule from 27BC – AD14

He articulated his good news like this

Divine Augustus Caesar, *The Son of God*  
Imperator of land and sea  
The Benefactor and **Savior** of the whole world  
Has brought you peace

What do you think about this Good News?

Who would have benefited from this Good News?

How did Caesar bring peace to his people?

If you didn't align yourself with Caesar's Will, what was the cost?

When Jesus proclaimed that the Kingdom of God was near how do you think the Roman Empire would hear this announcement?

How did Jesus bring peace to people? To the world?

4 Different Sects of Judaism

1. The Zealots – Grab your swords and let's do this!
2. The Herodians – Just go with the flow. Resistance is futile. Play the political game. Buddy up with the system.
3. The Essenes – Create and alternate society out in the desert. Culture is evil – move away from this corrupt society.
4. The Pharisees – When we get our act together God will send us a deliverer. The reason why God isn't blessing us is because of too much sin.

When you look at the teachings of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7), does he fit with any of these groups? In what ways?

Can you see why these groups had a difficult time with the message and actions of Jesus? If so, how? In what ways?

Do you see yourself fitting into one of these groups? (be honest)

Would you have had a difficult time with the teachings of Jesus?

What parts of Jesus teaching are hard for you now?  
Do you feel challenged by his teachings?  
In what ways?

Our citizenship is not in Rome  
Our citizenship is not in America  
Our citizenship is in God alone

What does this mean?