

# THE PROLOGUE TO THE GOSPEL OF MARK, 1.2-20 (1.1 is the 'Title' in this reading. For many, 1.1-13 describes the Prologue.)

## PART A

As it has been written

in Isaiah  
the prophet,  
'Behold I send the messenger of me (-ou)  
before the face of you (-ou),  
who will prepare the way of you (-ou).

A voice of one crying in the desert,  
"Prepare the way of the Lord (-ou),  
make straight the paths of him (-ou)."

There came to pass John,  
the one baptizing in the desert,  
and preaching a baptism of repentance  
for the forgiveness of sins.

And went out to him  
all the Judaeen country  
and all the Jerusalemites.

And they were baptized by him  
in the Jordan river,  
confessing their sins.

And there was John,  
clothed in camel hairs,  
and a leather belt  
around his waist,  
and eating  
locusts  
and wild honey.

And he preached,  
saying,  
'There comes one stronger than me,  
after me.

Of him I am not fit,  
kneeling,  
to loosen the thong of his sandals:  
I baptized you in water;  
but he will baptize you in Holy Spirit.'

## PART B

And it came to pass in those days,  
came Jesus

from Nazareth  
in Galilee,  
and he was baptized  
in the Jordan  
by John.

And immediately,  
coming up  
out of the water,  
he saw the heavens being opened,  
and the Spirit  
as a dove coming down into him,  
and there was a voice out of the heavens,  
'You are my beloved Son,  
in you I have been well pleased.'

And immediately,  
the Spirit threw him out  
into the desert.

And he was in the desert  
forty days,  
tempted by Satan.

And he was with the wild animals,  
and the angels ministered to him.

## PART B'

And after the imprisonment of John  
came Jesus

into Galilee,  
preaching the Gospel of God  
and saying,  
'The time has been fulfilled  
and the kingdom of God has drawn near.

Repent  
and believe  
in the Gospel.'

And passing along beside the Sea of Galilee,  
he saw Simon  
and Andrew,  
the brother of Simon,  
casting into the sea,  
for they were fishermen.

And he said to them, Jesus,  
'Come after me,  
and I will make you to become fishers of men.'

And immediately,  
leaving the nets,  
they followed him.

And going forward a little,  
he saw  
James,  
the son of Zebedee,  
and John,  
his brother,

and they  
in the boat  
mending the nets.

And immediately,  
he called them.

And leaving their father Zebedee  
in the boat,  
with the hired servants,  
they went away,  
after him.

To each part, there are similarly three sub-parts, or pieces. The writing style can be described as a 'three-part writing style', where the first part - A - is the introductory part, the second part - B - is the first development and the third part - B' - is the second and concluding development. Parts B and B' are consistently in parallel and may be described as 'dualities'. All the N.T. writers have written in this way.

