

TELL NO-ONE!: Preparing to Preach from Mark's Gospel

Content

TELL NO-ONE!: Preparing to Preach from Mark's Gospel by Simon Reynolds.

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Mark is the earliest of the New Testament Gospels. It is short, dark and racy - and tells the story of Jesus from a unique perspective. The Gospel contains a secret, and that secret is always in danger of being revealed too quickly. This gives the Gospel a restless and anxious edge.

Until the middle of the 20th Century, the majority of the world's Christians rarely heard this Gospel in worship. For those Christian churches using the Revised Common Lectionary, Mark's Gospel is now central to Year B (2018, 2021, 2024 etc). How does the preacher make the most of the Gospel's uniqueness - and convey this to a congregation with insight and excitement?

In this book, Simon Reynolds takes the reader back to the world in which Mark's Gospel first emerged, throwing light on the religious, cultural and political assumptions that shaped the world of Mark and his fragile community. This leads to an exploration of how this has an impact on the unique literary features of the Gospel, as well as the opportunities for presenting the Gospel text today with freshness and immediacy. It is specifically focused on the preacher's craft and, as well as providing homiletic examples, also contains a concluding chapter on the way John's Gospel interacts with Mark's at 'high points' of the Christian year. It takes account of the breadth of New Testament scholarship, and uses these insights to illuminate the meaning of the Gospel.

Tell No-One will encourage preachers (as well as students of the Gospels) to handle the Bible with responsibility and imagination, to encourage greater biblical literacy, and cultivate a more discriminating encounter with the accent of the Gospel-writer. In short, it aims to provide those in liturgical and teaching leadership with substantial resources with which to nourish those who are being drawn into the worshipping life of the Church.

Simon Reynolds is a Visiting Research Fellow at the University of Winchester, UK. He is an Anglican priest who has written on liturgy and music. He previously served at St Paul's Cathedral, London, where he had liturgical and musical responsibilities.

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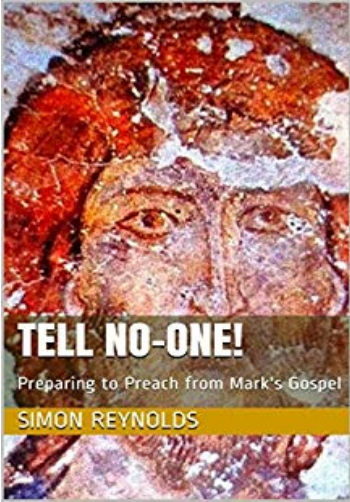
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