

Title: THE TIME IS NOW, MARK 1:14 – 20  
(Chatham, NJ; 1/21/18, AM) [E – Topical: Then/Now Outline]

Theme: Christ's coming marked the fulfillment of God's promises to send a Messiah and establish his Kingdom on earth.

Purpose: To encourage the audience to repent and believe the good news.

## Introduction:

1. The Gospel of Mark moves quickly from Jesus' baptism to the beginning of his work: he bypasses birth narratives and long discussions about John the Baptist.
2. These words represent what is most significant about the life of Christ.
3. The time is fulfilled; the Kingdom is at hand; repent and believe the good news.
4. We recognize the present application of these things as they apply to us.

## The Time Is Fulfilled

- A. Jesus satisfies Israel's longing for salvation
  1. Psalm 62 – David waits for salvation
  2. He expresses the longing inherent in the promises given to Israel
  3. Abraham's promise to be a blessing to all nations
  4. The Exodus and Moses' promise to send a prophet, Deuteronomy 18:15-18
  5. David's promise to have a man sit on his throne
  6. All are God's promises to Israel
  7. Christ claimed to fulfill them, for example Acts 3:22-26
- B. Now: post resurrection
  1. Salvation is offered to all mankind
  2. Reconciliation is given through the blood of Christ, Colossians 1:19-22
  3. This fulfills a deep, human, and sometimes inexpressible longing
  4. God made a promise to Adam and Eve to bring this about
  5. In Christ, God is setting the world right – Revelation 21:5, "Behold, I am making all things new."

## The Kingdom Is at Hand

- A. Breaking into human history
  1. God has intervened in numerous ways before this
  2. The Kingdom that Jesus announced was a fulfillment of the promise to David
  3. Israel expected a restoration of their greatness under David and Solomon: maybe domination of worldly governments and powers
  4. What were 5,000 men doing in Galilee in John 6:10?
  5. They sought to make him king "by force," 15 – to stage a rebellion against Rome?
  6. "At hand" but not "of this world," John 18:36
  7. Though not of this world, certainly greater than this world and all its temporal powers
- B. Now: the Kingdom has come
  1. We are in the Kingdom, Col. 1:13-14
  2. He has made us into a Kingdom, Revelation 1:5
  3. The kingdom of the world has become his Kingdom, Rev. 11:15
  4. Though not all have submitted to Him, Heb. 2:8
  5. The Kingdom is present in the church

## Repent and Believe the Good News: Then and Now

- A. Repent
  - 1. All have sinned, Romans 3
  - 2. In this regard, Jesus' message was the same as John's
  - 3. The Parable of the Two Sons exemplifies what we must do, Mt. 21:28-32
  - 4. We live somewhere between Christ understanding our weaknesses and him demanding us to change.
  
- B. Believe the Good News (Gospel)
  - 1. The message was about freedom from sin, the deliverance from sin, and overcoming the fear of death and judgment
  - 2. This is the culmination of many occasions that have demonstrated the love of God: consider Jonah 3:1-5, 10
  - 3. The death, burial, and resurrection of God's only Son reflects that love, John 3:16
  - 4. In faith we give our mental assent that it is true
  - 5. In faith we demonstrate our trust by obeying his commands
  - 6. In faith we hope for the eternal life to come

### Conclusions:

- 1. The king is alive and well, and his kingdom continues to advance
- 2. Repent and believe the Gospel.
- 3. Begin your life in the Kingdom by being washed of your sins in baptism.
- 4. Jesus is coming back soon.
- 5. Don't wait until it is too late.
- 6. Respond today.