

Cambridge University Press  
0521092884 - The Gospel According to Mark  
C. F. D. Moule  
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THE CAMBRIDGE BIBLE COMMENTARY  
NEW ENGLISH BIBLE

GENERAL EDITORS  
P. R. ACKROYD, A. R. C. LEANEY, J. W. PACKER

MARK

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THE  
GOSPEL ACCORDING TO  
MARK

COMMENTARY BY

C.F.D. MOULE

*Emeritus Lady Margaret's Professor of Divinity  
in the University of Cambridge*



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## GENERAL EDITORS' PREFACE

The aim of this series is to provide the text of the New English Bible closely linked to a commentary in which the results of modern scholarship are made available to the general reader. Teachers and young people preparing for such examinations as the General Certificate of Education at Ordinary or Advanced Level in Britain, and similar qualifications elsewhere have been especially kept in mind. The commentators have been asked to assume no specialized theological knowledge, and no knowledge of Greek and Hebrew. Bare references to other literature and multiple references to other parts of the Bible have been avoided. Actual quotations have been given as often as possible.

Within these quite severe limits each commentator will attempt to set out the main findings of recent New Testament scholarship, and to describe the historical background to the text. The main theological content of the New Testament will also be critically discussed.

Much attention has been given to the form of the volumes. The aim is to produce books each of which will be read consecutively from first to last page. The introductory material leads naturally into the text, which itself leads into the alternating sections of commentary. By this means it is hoped that each book will be easily read and remain in the mind as a unity.

The series will be prefaced by a volume—*Understanding the New Testament*—which will outline the larger historical background, say something about the growth

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and transmission of the text, and answer the question 'Why should we study the New Testament?' Another volume—*New Testament Illustrations*—will contain maps, diagrams and photographs.

P. R. A.  
A. R. C. L.  
J. W. P.

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## COMMENTATOR'S PREFACE

This small book contains one or two ideas that, I think, are more or less original; but, in the main, it owes so much to others that, if the normal method of acknowledgement had been adopted, it would have consisted largely of footnotes. As it is, footnotes have been banned, with a view to the comfort of the reader; and I can only ask the living scholars whose ideas have been quietly pillaged to believe that I am at least a grateful thief, although, like most thieves, I do not advertise the robbery. As for the scholars who are no longer living, perhaps they have some more direct way of knowing my indebtedness and gratitude.

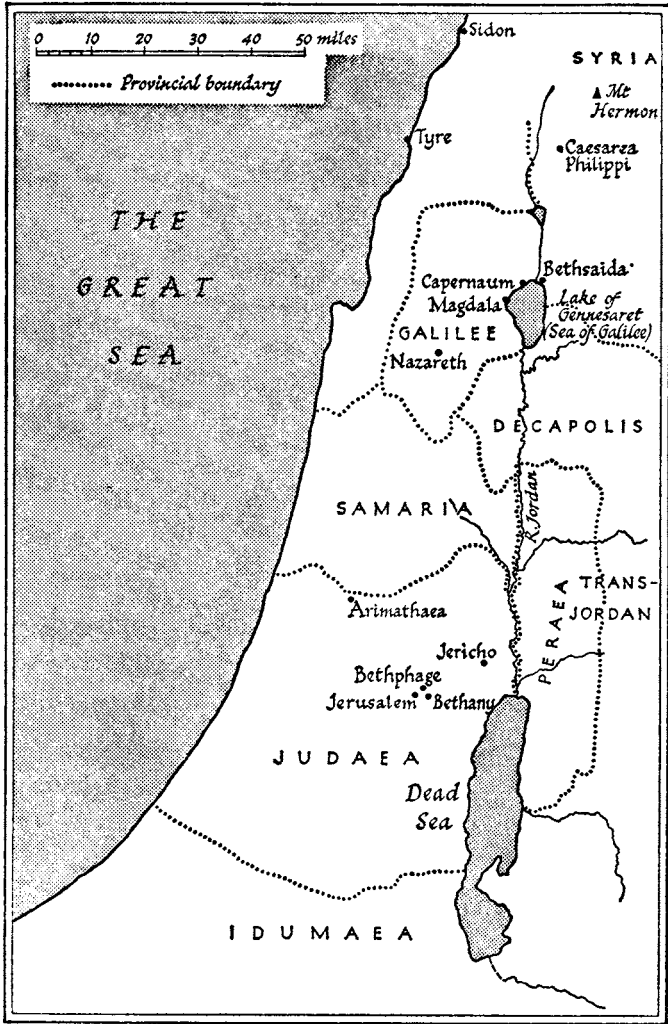
But to the General Editors of this series at least I can tender my thanks by name. I cannot be grateful enough to Professor P. R. Ackroyd, Dr A. R. C. Leaney, and Mr J. W. Packer for their generous help in reading drafts and sending in detailed comments, and for their patience and courtesy. No commentary on Mark's Gospel, on whatever scale, could be worthy—that goes without saying; but without the help and encouragement of the Editors, this little commentary would be much poorer than it is. To my Secretary, Mrs Willetts, go first-class honours for deciphering unpromising scripts and patiently re-typing alterations; and to the Cambridge University Press my thanks for expert assistance.

C.F.D.M.

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