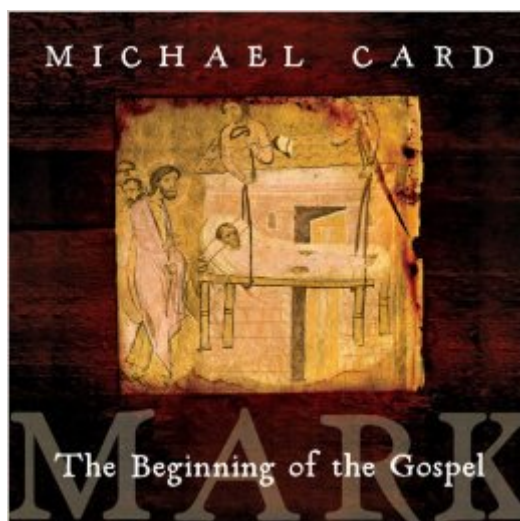


The book was found

Mark: The Beginning Of The Gospel



Synopsis

"He who has ears to hear, let him hear." Michael Card gives new meaning to these familiar words of Jesus in a new collection of songs inspired by the Gospel of Mark. Rendering the urgency of Mark's account into music, Card confronts us with the passionate appeal of God to humanity through the voice of Jesus.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Each time I listen to the music and message of Michael Card I am blown away. As I have written in previous reviews Michael Card is a "Christian" artist in the truest sense of the word. He walks and talks, (and sings about), his Christian faith with a sense of reality and urgency in his unique style, which in today's postmodern, secularized-Christianized, (anybody and everybody can be a "Christian" musician, writer, teacher, or whatever if they just say the right words), world is rare. He is as some people describe a person who is real "the real McCoy." And that he is. And it is because of that I truly appreciate him, his music and his ministry. His CD entitled The Beginning of the Gospel is a collection of 10 songs that center around the Gospel of Mark...it is what you might call a collection of songs that tells the "emotional" story of Christ as revealed in the gospel of Mark in a straightforward and urgent manner. The Beginning of the Gospel, (Mark 1:1), is the title of the first song on the CD and it is sung acapella. It is reverential and worshipful. The 2nd song titled Great Wind, Great Calm, Great Fear, (Mark 4:35-41) is a song about the Messiah breaking forth into the world with his "Unspeakable Power" as the Son of God so there is a certain power in the song that

projects the mighty reality of Christ's coming on the scene in the world. There are 8 other songs on the CD that in some way reveals the story of Jesus as told in the Gospel of Mark: The Service of the Sod, (Mark 4:1-35), The Stranger, At His Feet, (Mark 5), You Walk In Lonely Places, (6:27-31), In His Arms, (Mark 9:33-37, 10:13-16), The Paradigm, (Mark 10:46-52), In Memory of Her Love, (Mark 14:1-9), and finally Is It All Over Now? (Mark 16:1-8).

Being a companion to his commentary, Mark: The Gospel of Passion, Michael Card's Mark: The Beginning of the Gospel provides 10 new opportunities to imagine the fast-moving drama in the Gospel of Mark. Looking more like a professor than a musician on the back insert, Card takes the opportunity to combine his scholarly talents with those of a seasoned recording artist to highlight distinctives found in Mark. This is the first gospel to be written, one that "uniquely portrays the emotional life of Jesus in simple, urgent language." This theme is the setting for the spirited a cappella opening, "The Beginning of the Gospel," sung by the Fisk University Singers. Though a solo artist, the concept of community is increasingly important to Card. You see it in his frequent collaborations with other artists and in the way he invites others to participate in Bible study. Knowing this, I look forward to contributions from friends and colleagues on each new recording. Getting back to the opening song, though written by Card, it is arranged, performed and conducted by the aforementioned choir and their associates. It is a measure of Card's security that he can step back and give prominence to others on his own recording. You find it once again on the closing track, "Is It All Over Now," where Christine Dente, formerly part of Out of the Grey (with her husband Scott), sings all of the lyrics written by Card and veteran producer Brown Bannister. This is an excellent choice since here the story of Christ's resurrection is told from the point of view of one of the women at Christ's tomb. Card's involvement with others demonstrates that music (and life) can be richer when we invite people to share their talents.

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