



Evangelist Mark was also a follower of Jesus Christ but would likely have been in his teens when the Lord was in Jerusalem. He may have seen and listened to the Saviour on occasion. After the Resurrection, as the Saviour's message was beginning to be spread, St. Mark traveled with the Apostle Paul. He then accompanied the Apostle Peter to Rome and stayed by him while he was in prison. St. Mark is known as Peter's interpreter, both in speech and in writing. As a fisherman from Galilee, Peter may not have spoken Greek fluently, so St. Mark interpreted for him.

In his Gospel, St. Mark wrote down the observations and memories of St. Peter, one of the original Apostles. St. Mark's Gospel reflects St. Peter's interest in spreading the Gospel among the Gentiles.

St. Mark was born in Cyrene, a city in the Pentapolis of North Africa (see map), a Jew of the priestly tribe of Levi.

St. Mark joined St. Peter somewhere on his travels from Antioch (starting in AD41) through Asia Minor - now Turkey - to Rome (ending in AD42). On the way they visited the churches in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia (see map below). St. Mark was St. Peter's travel companion and interpreter. St. Mark also wrote down the sermons of St. Peter - this became known as the Gospel according to St. Mark (Eccl. Hist. 15-16.). The Christians in Rome were not satisfied with just hearing about Christ; they clamored earnestly for a written record of His life and teachings. St. Mark's Gospel was approved by St. Peter as being wholly accurate, and was accepted without dispute by all the local Churches as authentic, divinely-inspired Scripture. His Gospel is believed to be the earliest Gospel to be written (it was written in Greek).