Mark chapter 1 in the New King James Version (NKJV) has many cross-references/hyperlinks to other parts of the Bible, particularly the Old Testament, as it establishes the ministry of John the Baptist and the beginning of Jesus' ministry. It is important to reflect on these cross-references/hyperlinks because they fulfill prophecy and show God at work keeping His promises.

Cross-References for Mark Chapter 2 (NKJV)

Mark 2:1-12 ==========

> (1) And again, He entered Capernaum after some days, and it was heard that He was in the house. (2) Immediately many gathered together, so that there was no longer room to receive them, not even near the door. And He preached the word to them. (3) Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four men. (4) And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So, when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying. (5) When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven you." (6) And some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts, (7) "Why does this Man speak blasphemies like this? Who can forgive sins but God alone?" (8) But immediately, when Jesus perceived in His spirit that they reasoned thus within themselves, He said to them, "Why do you reason about these things in your hearts? (9) Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise, take up your bed and walk'? (10) But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins" —He said to the paralytic, (11) "I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." (12) Immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went out in the presence of them all, so that all were amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"'

- Isaiah 43:25: "I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake; And I will not remember your sins."
- Psalm 103:3: "Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases."

Fulfilment: Jesus' authority to forgive sins aligns with OT prophecies that the Messiah would bring spiritual healing and redemption, acting with divine authority.

Mark 2:13-17 ==========

> (13) "'Then He went out again by the sea; and all the multitude came to Him, and He taught them. (14) As He passed by, He saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax office. And He said to him, "Follow Me." So he arose and followed Him. (15) Now it happened, as He was dining in Levi's house, that many tax collectors and sinners also sat together with Jesus and His disciples; for there were many, and they followed Him. (16) And when the scribes and Pharisees saw Him eating with the tax collectors and sinners, they said to His disciples, "How is it that He eats and drinks with tax collectors and sinners?" (17) When Jesus heard it, He said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."'

- Isiah 53:12: "Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, And He shall divide the spoil with the strong, Because He poured out His soul unto death, And He was numbered with the transgressors, And He bore the sin of many, And made intercession for the transgressors."

- Ezekiel 34:16: "I will seek what was lost and bring back what was driven away, bind up the broken and strengthen wat was sick..."

Fulfilment: Jesus' association with sinners fulfills the OT expectation that the Messiah would identify with the outcast and broken, offering them redemption.

Mark 2:18-22 ==========

> (18) "'The disciples of John and of the Pharisees were fasting. Then they came and said to Him, "Why do the disciples of John and of the Pharisees fast, but Your disciples do not fast?" (19) And Jesus said to them, "Can the friends of the bridegroom fast while the bridegroom is with them? As long as they have the bridegroom with them they cannot fast. (20) But the days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast in those days. (21) No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; or else the new piece pulls away from the old, and the tear is made worse. (22) And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; or else the new wine bursts the wineskins, the wine is spilled, and the wineskins are ruined. But new wine must be put into new wineskins."'

- Joel 2:15-16: "A call to fast and repent, but also a promise of restoration and joy.

- Isaiah 62:5: "As a bridegroom rejoices over his bride, so will your God rejoice over you."

Fulfillment: Jesus presents Himself as the bridegroom, a messianic image from the OT, symbolizing the arrival of the messianic age and the joy of God's presence among his people.

Mark 2:23-28 ==========

> (23) "'Now it happened that He went through the grainfields on the Sabbath; and as they went His disciples began to pluck the heads of grain. (24) And the Pharisees said to Him, "Look, why do they do what is not lawful on the Sabbath?" (25) But He said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he was in need and hungry, he and those with him: (26) how he went into the house of God in the days of Abiathar the high priest, and ate the showbread, which is not lawful to eat except for the priests, and also gave some to those who were with him?" (27) And He said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. (28) Therefore the Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath."'

- Genesis 2:2-3: "God rests on the Sabbath after creation, establishing its sanctity."
- Isaiah 58:13-14: "The Sabbath is a day of delight and honor, not legalistic burden."

Fulfillment: Jesus' claim to be Lord of the Sabbath fulfills the OT expectation that the Messiah would bring true rest and reinterpret the Law, emphasizing mercy over ritual.