



Keep Watch

Mark 13:1-37

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“This is an issue that has ravaged the church. Devoted Christians have claimed to be pre-millennial, some post-millennial, others still amillennial. There are those who are dispensationalists and mid-tribulationists and a myriad of other differing views. We believe that this is not a salvation issue and choose not to divide over it. We do firmly believe that there will be a literal return of Christ (Acts 1:11), and a judgment day (Heb 9:27-29), at which every knee will bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord (Phil 2:10).”

A – Destruction of the Temple (1-23)

B – Second Coming (24-27)

A – Destruction of the Temple (28-31)

B – Second Coming (32-37)

WAITING FOR DESTRUCTION



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“And as he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, “Look, Teacher, what wonderful stones and what wonderful buildings!” ² And Jesus said to him, “Do you see these great buildings? There will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down.” ³ And as he sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴ “Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when all these things are about to be accomplished?” ⁵ And Jesus began to say to them, “See that no one leads you astray. ⁶ Many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am he!’ and they will lead many astray...

Mark 13:1-6

⁷ And when you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed. This must take place, but the end is not yet. ⁸ For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. These are but the beginning of the birth pains. ⁹ “But be on your guard. For they will deliver you over to councils, and you will be beaten in synagogues, and you will stand before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them. ¹⁰ And the gospel must first be proclaimed to all nations....

Mark 13:7-10

¹¹ And when they bring you to trial and deliver you over, do not be anxious beforehand what you are to say, but say whatever is given you in that hour, for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit.¹² And brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death. ¹³ And you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. ¹⁴ “But when you see the abomination of desolation standing where he ought not to be (let the reader understand), then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains....

Mark 13:11-14

¹⁵ Let the one who is on the housetop not go down, nor enter his house, to take anything out, ¹⁶ and let the one who is in the field not turn back to take his cloak. ¹⁷ And alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! ¹⁸ Pray that it may not happen in winter. ¹⁹ For in those days there will be such tribulation as has not been from the beginning of the creation that God created until now, and never will be. ²⁰ And if the Lord had not cut short the days, no human being would be saved. But for the sake of the elect, whom he chose, he shortened the days...

Mark 13:15-20

²¹ And then if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here is the Christ!’ or ‘Look, there he is!’ do not believe it.” ²² For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform signs and wonders, to lead astray, if possible, the elect. ²³ But be on guard; I have told you all things beforehand.”

Mark 13:21-23

“And as he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, ‘Look, Teacher, what wonderful stones and what wonderful buildings!’ ² And Jesus said to him, ‘Do you see these great buildings? There will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down.’ ³ And as he sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴ ‘Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when all these things are about to be accomplished?’ ⁵ And Jesus began to say to them, ‘See that no one leads you astray. ⁶ Many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am he!’ and they will lead many astray...”

Mark 13:1-6



⁵ And Jesus began to say to them, “See that no one leads **you astray.**

⁷ And when **you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed.**

⁹ “But be on **your guard. For they will deliver **you** over to councils, and **you** will be beaten in synagogues, and **you** will stand before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them.**

¹¹ And when they bring **you to trial and deliver **you** over, do not be anxious beforehand what **you** are to say,**

...In the middle of the 'seven' he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And at the temple he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him.

Daniel 9:27

14 ...then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains

15 Let the one who is on the housetop not go down, nor enter his house, to take anything out...

16 and let the one who is in the field not turn back to take his cloak.

18 Pray that it may not happen in winter.

6 Many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray

7 And when you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed.

8 For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines.

9 For they will deliver you over to councils, and you will be beaten in synagogues, and you will stand before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them.

“But for all the rest of the wall, it was so thoroughly laid even with the ground, by those that dug it up to the foundation, that there was left nothing to make those that came [later] believe it had ever been inhabited. This was the end which Jerusalem came to...”

Josephus

“To give a detailed account of their outrageous conduct is impossible, but we may sum it up by saying that no other city has ever endured such horrors, and no generation in history has fathered such wickedness.”

Josephus

⁹ But **be on your guard.**

⁵ And Jesus began to say to them, **“See that no one leads you astray.**

²³ But **be on guard;** I have told you all things beforehand.

28 “From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. 29 So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. 30 Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. 31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

Mark 13:28-31

WATCHING FOR THE SON



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²⁴ “But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵ and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶ And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷ And then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

Mark 13:24-27

²⁴ “But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵ and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶ And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷ And then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

Mark 13:24-27

The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

2 Peter 3:9

³² “But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

what did he come to do?

Mark 13:32

³² “But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³ Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴ It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake. ³⁵ Therefore stay awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or in the morning — ³⁶ lest he come suddenly and find you asleep.³⁷ And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake.”

Mark 13:32-37



KEEP WATCH

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“Many Christians today face persecution every bit as severe as that which the early church suffered; and those Christians who don’t face persecution often face the opposite temptation, to stagnate, to become cynical, to suppose that nothing much is happening, that the kingdom of God is just a pious dream. Jesus told us we would need patience to hold on and see the thing through.”

NT Wright

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. 4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

Revelation 21:1-6

5 And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” 6 And he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment.

Revelation 21:1-6

Next Steps

- I am thankful I can have hope that one day Jesus will make everything right.
- I will keep watch for ways to love God and love others.
- I will pray and ask God to make me more like Christ by _____.
- I will invite _____ to join me for a meal, small group, or church this week.