

Study of the Gospel of Mark

Chapter 13 (Part 2)

Background

We continue our study of the "Olivet Discourse" as Jesus responds to the disciples' questions about the destruction of Jerusalem and the events of Jesus' final return.

1. In Mark 13:1-23 Jesus has described the destruction of _____.
When was this prophecy fulfilled? _____
Whom did God use to fulfill this prophecy? _____
What are some of the indicators that show that Jesus is speaking of this destruction?

NOTE: *If you need some help, don't forget to refer to Matthew 24 and Luke 21. Luke 21:20 is especially helpful in answering the question above. Remember to use your cross references and parallel passages from other Gospels when reading through sections like this!*

2. In Mark 13:24-27 Jesus has described the destruction of _____.
What are some of the indicators that show that Jesus is speaking of a different destruction in these verses from the destruction discussed previously? Will there be anyone, anywhere, who will not realize that this "day of the LORD" has come?

3. While there are many similarities in these two "days of the LORD," there are also many important differences. List some of the similarities and differences in these two days of destruction.

Similarities

Differences

4. Up to this point Jesus has dealt with the “what are the signs” which the disciples asked about. As He continues, Jesus now begins to discuss more specifically the question of “when” these things would take place (Refer back to Mark 13:4 to see the questions again: 1) when and 2) what are the signs.

5. Read Mark 13:28-31. Which destruction is Jesus referring to in these verses? What words of Jesus lead you to this conclusion?

6. What can we learn from Jesus’ words in Mark 13:31? What is He trying to tell us? (Are these words Law or Gospel?)

7. Read Mark 13:32-37. Which destruction is Jesus referring to in these verses? What words of Jesus lead you to this conclusion?

8. How are we to prepare for that day?

9. Compare Matthew 24:36-44. These verses have been used by Millennialists to “prove” that there will be a rapture of believers from the earth so that they are spared from the days of tribulation (e.g. “One will be taken and the other left...”). How would you use these verses (in Matthew and Mark) to disprove this unBiblical theory and show them what Jesus is actually teaching here?

Note: *If you would like more information on the errors of Millennialism and the truth of the Bible about the end times, read P.F. Nolting’s “A Biblical Perspective on the End Times.” It is not long and can be found here: <http://www.cclutheran.org/atlanta/doctrinalresources.html>.*