

the gospel of
MIARK

No More Temple?

Mark 13:1-13

What Do We Know About Mark?

- Author: John Mark
- Date: During the reign of Nero, c. 64-67 AD
- Audience: Gentiles, probably in Rome
- Emphasizes believer's response to suffering

Mark 13:1-13

13 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. **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.

Mark 13:1-13

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. 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.

The Setting (1-2)

- Tuesday of the last week
- Leaving the Temple
- Probably looking back from Olivet

The Importance of the Temple

- God never told them to build a permanent house
- David wanted to do it
- God gave the task to Solomon

As the temple was dedicated God warned of its destruction because of disobedience

The Two Questions (3-4)

- When will it happen?
- What are the signs?
- They didn't "get" the answer (Acts 1:6)

Why Does God Give Us Prophecy?

^{Orge} Prophecy is not intended to gratify our curiosity, but to comfort our hearts and guide our lives.

Charles Spurgeon

The Partial (& Difficult) Answer

- Why is it difficult?

- Four very similar events

 - Destruction under Nebuchadnezzar in 586 BC

 - Desecration under Antiochus IV in 168 BC

 - Destruction under Titus in AD 70

 - A still future usurpation of Jesus's rightful place

- Use of stock images from prophecy

The Answer is Three Warnings (5-13)

- Don't be led astray
- Be on your guard
- Don't give up

Don't Be Led Astray

- There will be false messiahs

Peter warns of false prophets (2 Peter 2:1-3)

Paul warns against false teachers (Acts 20:29-31)

and false apostles (2 Corinthians 11:13)

Gamaliel lists false messiahs (Acts 5:36-39)

John warns of many antichrists (1 John 2:18-19)

Don't Be Led Astray

- There will be disasters

God controls disasters (Leviticus 26:14-26)

David chooses the punishment (1 Chron 21:11-13)

God pits ruler against ruler (Jeremaiah 51:46)

Don't Be Led Astray

- These are the beginnings of birth pangs

The judgment of Babylon (Isaiah 13:8)

Use cross references to study other examples

Be On Your Guard

- You will be persecuted by authorities

Jesus before the Sanhedrin (Mark 15:1)

Apostles before the Sanhedrin (Acts 4:5-7, 5:27)

Stephen before the Sanhedrin (Acts 6:12-15)

Paul before Felix, Festus & Agrippa (Acts 24-25)

- Don't prepare in advance

Be On Your Guard

- The Gospel will be preached to all the gentiles

Paul says it has been made known to all nations

(Romans 16:26)

The Gospel is bearing fruit through the whole world

(Colossians 1:6)

Other passages show it moving beyond the Roman

Empire (Acts 1:8, Revelation 14:6)

Be On Your Guard

- Even those closest to you may reject and persecute you

(Micah 7:6, Psalm 109:1-5, Psalm 41:9)

Don't Give Up

- Enduring persecution in Corinth (1 Corinthians 4:12)
- Boasting about perseverance (2 Thess 1:4)
- Crown of life (James 1:12)
- Doesn't promise physical life (Revelation 2:11)

To Be Continued

To Think About

- What is your confidence that you could face persecution based on? Do you believe that God controls what happens to you?
- What small step of obedience will you take this week because you know Jesus is coming back?