

the gospel of
MARK

The End of all Things

(pt. ii)

Mark 13:14-37; Dan. 7

On interpreting Apocryphal Prophecy...

1. Preterist: events *have largely been* fulfilled in 1st century by specific people/actions
2. Futurist: events *will be* fulfilled at the end of earthly human history
3. Historicist: events fulfilled *throughout* history from apostles to Christ's return
4. Idealist: events are *allegorical* representations of timeless struggle between God/devil, church/world

On interpreting Apocryphal Prophecy...

5. Eclectic: blends strengths from *all 4* approaches to interpret different parts of the text

Disclosure: In light of those terms, I align most closely with an eclectic or historicist/preterist view. The apocalyptic verses have been partially fulfilled by specific events but ALSO are signs and types of the challenges God's people encounter until His return.

A Brief Review of Temple history...

1st: Solomon
957-586 B.C.



2nd: Zerubbabel
515-20 B.C.



Rest'd: Herod
20-70 A.D.



Mark 13:14-37

vv. 1-13: Do not be alarmed by wars, earthquakes and persecution

**these things are going to provide opportunities for testing and witness!*

**Do not worry. God is in control. The one who endures to the end will be saved!*

Mark 13:14-37

vv. 14-23: look for these earthly signs and be ready

v 14 *“The Abomination that causes desolation...”*

- Based in Dan. 9:27, 11:31
- Fulfilled in Antiochus Epiphanes c. 120 BC
- WILL be fulfilled again* in 68-69 AD with Zealots
- Leads to destruction of Temple in 70 AD
- ALSO speaks to spirit of antichrist for all time.

Mark 13:14-37

vv. 14-23 look for these earthly signs and be ready

v 19 *“such tribulation”*

-Persecution is on its way (early church fled to Pella)

v 22 *“false christs and false prophets”*

-Glory hounds; Power hungry; Deceivers!

Mark 13:14-37

vv. 24-27 The Son of Man will come with power and glory

v 24 *“the sun will be darkened”*

-Unnatural/Super-natural phenomena

v 27 *“he will ... gather his elect”*

-Do not worry, God is in control and will fulfill His promise to His people.

Mark 13:14-37

vv. 28-37 Be on guard, keep awake, be alert, stay awake

v 30 *“this generation will not pass away”*

-40 years? Humanity altogether?

v 32 *“no one knows the hour, not even the Son...”*

-In His chosen, accepted limited role as earthly Son.

Mark 13:14-37

vv. 28-37 Be on guard, keep awake, be alert, stay awake

v 35 *“the landlord will return”*

-What are we to expect until then?

- *suffering/persecution

- *temptation to ‘jump ship’ (1 John 2:19)

- * hatred/enmity from people (John 15:18-19)

- *Stay awake!

(1) What is your response to Biblical prophecy about the End-times: *Over-obsession*, or *Under-attention*? How does Jesus instruct us to think about these things?

(2) How have you experienced any of the hardships Jesus promises? How ought we respond when 'the world hates us'?

(3) In what areas are you awake and prepared for Jesus' return? In what areas are asleep, unprepared or drowsy?