

May 28, 2017

The Gospel of Mark Mark 13:1-37 Pastor Kirk Gambrell

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Using This Study

❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

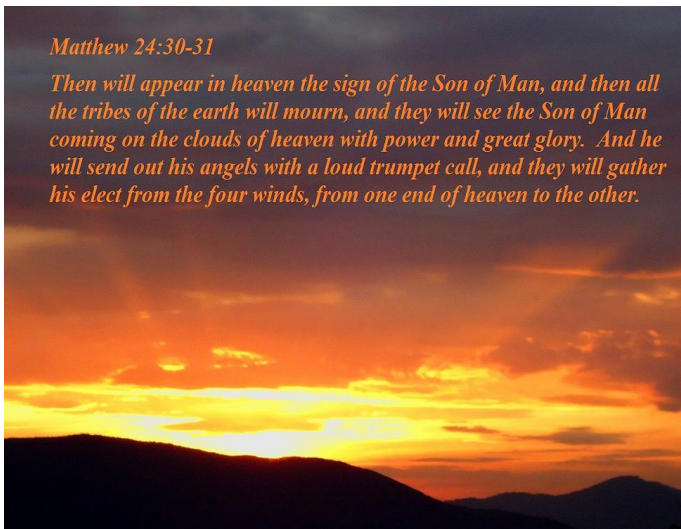
❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



Matthew 24:30-31

Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.



In Chapter 13 of Mark, we see a long explanation from Jesus about what is to come. This week we will look at the pieces of the passage that are harder to interpret, as well as the clear instruction that is given to the disciples. Jesus has been clear about His death that is coming. Now He is clear about His return in the future. He does not give a definite time and even says that no one will know the time. However, he does give us some things that we should be looking for and some things that we should expect. Jesus encourages His disciples to stay faithful even in the face of many trials that will come.

Mark 13 New English Translation

The Destruction of the Temple

¹Now as Jesus was going out of the temple courts, one of his disciples said to him, “Teacher, look at these tremendous stones and buildings!” ²Jesus said to him, “Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left on another. All will be torn down!”

Signs of the End of the Age

³So while he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴“Tell us, when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that all these things are about to take place?” ⁵Jesus began to say to them, “Watch out that no one misleads you. ⁶Many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am he,’ and they will mislead many. ⁷When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed. These things must happen, but the end is still to come. ⁸For nation will rise up in arms against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places, and there will be famines. These are but the beginning of birth pains.

Persecution of Disciples

⁹“You must watch out for yourselves. You will be handed over to councils and beaten in the synagogues. You will stand before governors and kings because of me, as a witness to them. ¹⁰First the gospel must be preached to all nations. ¹¹When they arrest you and hand you over for trial, do not worry about what to speak. But say whatever is given you at that time, for it is not you speaking, but the Holy Spirit. ¹²Brother will hand over brother to death,

and a father his child. Children will rise against parents and have them put to death. ¹³You will be hated by everyone because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

The Abomination of Desolation

¹⁴“But when you see *the abomination of desolation* standing where it should not be” (let the reader understand), “then those in Judea must flee to the mountains. ¹⁵The one on the roof must not come down or go inside to take anything out of his house. ¹⁶The one in the field must not turn back to get his cloak. ¹⁷Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing their babies in those days! ¹⁸Pray that it may not be in winter. ¹⁹For in those days there will be suffering unlike anything that has happened from the beginning of the creation that God created until now, or ever will happen. ²⁰And if the Lord had not cut short those days, no one would be saved. But because of the elect, whom he chose, he has cut them short. ²¹Then if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here is the Christ!’ or ‘Look, there he is!’ do not believe him. ²²For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and perform signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, the elect. ²³Be careful! I have told you everything ahead of time.

The Arrival of the Son of Man

²⁴“But in those days, after that suffering, *the sun will be darkened and the moon will not give its light;* ²⁵*the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be*

shaken. ²⁶ Then everyone will see *the Son of Man arriving in the clouds* with great power and glory. ²⁷ Then he will send angels and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

The Parable of the Fig Tree

²⁸ “Learn this parable from the fig tree: Whenever its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹ So also you, when you see these things happening, know that he is near, right at the door. ³⁰ I tell you the truth, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. ³¹ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

Be Ready!

³² “But as for that day or hour no one knows it—neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son—except the Father. ³³ Watch out! Stay alert! For you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴ It is like a man going on a journey. He left his house and put his slaves in charge, assigning to each his work, and commanded the doorkeeper to stay alert. ³⁵ Stay alert, then, because you do not know when the owner of the house will return—whether during evening, at midnight, when the rooster crows, or at dawn— ³⁶ or else he might find you asleep when he returns suddenly. ³⁷ What I say to you I say to everyone: Stay alert!”

● EXAMINE His Word (Observation) (For personal preparation)

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the foregoing passage.

1. Who is involved in the text? Author, audience, main characters.
2. Where and when is this taking place? Geography and timeline.
3. What actions are carried out or commanded? Look for the verbs.

4. Is there anything repeated?

5. What is emphasized?

6. Is there anything in these passages that is related to other areas of scripture?

7. Are there things to be noted that are alike or unlike such as similes and metaphors?

🕒 EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation) (For Community Group discussion)
What does God MEAN?

8. What should the disciples expect in the future as followers of Christ?

9. How will we be able to identify Jesus when He returns?

10. Why will the disciples have to stand before the courts?

11. What should they learn from the fig tree?

③ EMBRACE His Word (Application) (For Community Group discussion)
Why does this MATTER to me?

12. The disciples faced some very difficult times after Jesus left. Our difficulties today are often very different. What are some of the difficulties we face today?

13. What are some things we can do to strengthen our faith in order to face today's difficulties?

14. How can we show our dependence on God's providence and power both in our lives and in the life of our church?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

Write about what God wants you to **KNOW**, to **FEEL**, and to **DO**...

SERMON NOTES