

Signs of the Times (Mark 13)

Understanding the End Times – Part 3
Life Church St. Louis – November 9, 2014
Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

2 Peter 3:3-4 (NIV) *First of all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. They will say, "Where is this 'coming' he promised? Ever since our fathers died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation."*

Mark 13:1-2 (NIV) *As he was leaving the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher! What massive stones! What magnificent buildings!" "Do you see all these great buildings?" replied Jesus. "Not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down."*

Mark 13:3-4 (NIV) *As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John and Andrew asked him privately, "Tell us, when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that they are all about to be fulfilled?"*

1. Don't be _____ in the last days

Mark 13:5-6 (NIV) *Jesus said to them: "Watch out that no one deceives you. Many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am he,' and will deceive many.*

1A. _____ will continue

Mark 13:7 (NIV) *When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come.*

1B. Birth pains will _____

Mark 13:8 (NIV) *Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places, and famines. These are the beginning of birth pains.*

2. Be a _____ for Jesus

Mark 13:9 (NIV) *"You must be on your guard. You will be handed over to the local councils and flogged in the synagogues. On account of me you will stand before governors and kings as witnesses to them.*

2A. Spread the _____ to all nations

Mark 13:10 (NIV) *And the gospel must first be preached to all nations.*

2B. The _____ will guide you

Mark 13:11 (NIV) *Whenever you are arrested and brought to trial, do not worry beforehand about what to say. Just say whatever is given you at the time, for it is not you speaking, but the Holy Spirit.*

3. Stand _____ to the end

Mark 13:13 (NIV) *All men will hate you because of me, but he who stands firm to the end will be saved.*

3A. There will be days of great _____

Mark 13:19 (NIV) *because those will be days of distress unequalled from the beginning, when God created the world, until now--and never to be equaled again.*

3B. Everyone will see Jesus' _____

Mark 13:26 (NIV) *"At that time men will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory.*

3C. Jesus will _____ all believers

Mark 13:27 (NIV) *And he will send his angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the heavens.*

Signs of the Times (Mark 13) Study Guide

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- Intro. What type of scoffers do you see in our world of the last days (2 Peter 3:3-4)?
- Why did God bring judgment on Jerusalem and the temple (Mark 13:1-2, Matthew 23:37-38)?
- Summarize Jesus' answer to the disciples' questions in Mark 13 and how it happened in history (Mark 13:3-4, 30).
- Discuss prophetic foreshadowing, in which the events leading up to the destruction of the temple are overlaid with the events leading up to the second coming in Mark 13.
- 1A. Why do you think that Jesus warns us against being deceived in the last days (Mark 13:5-6, 21-23)? How can we escape deception?
- 1B. Why is it inevitable that wars will happen in the last days (Mark 13:7)?
- 1C. Jesus describes the beginning of birth pains in Mark 13:8. How would you expect these things to change as the birth nears?

- 1D. What birth is Jesus referring to by describing birth pains (see Romans 8:18-23)?
- 2A. How can the events of the last days provide opportunities to witness for Jesus (Mark 13:9)?
- 2B. How does Mark 13:10 describe what must happen before Jesus returns? Will we know exactly when this has been accomplished (Mark 13:32)?
- 2C. In what ways will the Holy Spirit empower and guide us in the last days (Mark 13:11)?
- 2D. How can we support those who are undergoing persecution from Islam in our day?
- 3A. Why will men hate believers in the last days (Mark 13:13)?
- 3B. Why is it important to realize that the coming of Jesus will be seen by everyone (Mark 13:26)?
- 3C. Why must we be alert and watching for Jesus' return (Mark 13:27, 33-37)? How can we be on guard and alert?