

The Olivet Discourse

Mark Chapter 13

Second Coming/Last Things are mentioned over 300 times in the New Testament

People say every generation has thought their generation is the one that will see Christ's return
2 things set us apart.

- 1) We have seen the return of Israel to the land. After 2000 years of being exiled, and scattered, they have retained their identity and have returned to the land. No Nation has ever done that.
- 2) Thermal Nuclear Proliferation – No other generation have seen the armament built up to the point where global destruction is possible.

(1 mega ton is 50x the power of the bomb dropped on Hiroshima or Nagasaki. Thermal Nuclear bombs are 10 mega ton bombs. 500x the power)

Mar 13:1

1) The Temple's Fate vs 1-4

As He was going out of the temple, one of His disciples *said to Him, "Teacher, behold what wonderful stones and what wonderful buildings!"

- *The disciple sees the temple and remarks to Jesus how beautiful and wonderful the architecture is.*
- *This is Herod's Temple. Started building 20 BC and will be built and have finishing touches done even up to it's destruction in 70 AD. At this time of Jesus before the temple it has been built for approx 50 years.*
- *Some of the stones were Limestone 45' long x 12' high x 8' thick 145 tons It also had at the top the stones were marble imported from Europe then above that was Gold.*
- *The temple was 165 ft tall 500 yards long x 400 yards wide. On the side or corner where Satan took Jesus to the pinnacle to look down to the bottom to the Kidron valley below it was 230 ft.*
- *Josephus wrote that as the sun shone upon the gold they would be blinded. The marble was so pure that some would claim that it had snow on the temple.*
- *Jesus claims that He was grater than the temple Matthew 12:6 "But I say unto you, That in this place is [one] greater than the temple "*

Mar 13:2

And Jesus said to him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left upon another which will not be torn down."

- *Jesus sees the buildings differently. He sees history in front of Him.*
- *70 AD Titus surrounds Jerusalem and sieges it. The siege lasts a year. People in Jerusalem are starving to death.*
- *Josephus "Throughout the city people were dying of hunger in large numbers, and enduring unspeakable sufferings. In every house the merest hint of food sparked violence, and close relatives fell to blows, snatching from one another the pitiful supports of life. No respect was paid even to the dying; the ruffians [anti-Roman zealots] searched them, in case they were concealing food somewhere in their clothes, or just pretending to be near death. Gaping with hunger, like mad dogs, lawless gangs went staggering and reeling through the streets, battering upon the doors like drunkards, and so bewildered that they broke into the same house two or three times in an hour. Need drove the starving to gnaw at anything. Refuse which even animals would reject was collected and turned into food. In the end they were eating belts and shoes, and the leather stripped off their shields. Tufts of withered grass were devoured, and sold in little bundles for four drachmas."*
- *Josephus also relates an account of a woman roasting and eating her own child.*
- *Titus invaded destroying Jerusalem. It is told that the remaining Jews fled to the Temple for protection inside the massive stones, trusting in this holy site. Titus burned the temple and the heat was so intense that the Gold melted into the cracks of these great stones and the Romans tore apart these stones to get the gold.*
- *"Not one stone will be left upon another" For this happens exactly as he said it would.*
- *Destruction of the temple was so through that to this day there is debate as to where and how the temple.*

- *Two Important Points From this History Lesson:*
 - 1) *This Temple was so glorious that it became more important than God Himself. Good things do seem to become overly important to us. This is called idolatry. And the way in which the temple was destroyed shows us how thoroughly God will rid us of our idols.*
 - 2) *This one statement authenticates everything else He says in this chapter. This also shows us that Jesus is speaking literally, not figuratively.*

Mar 13:3 As He was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew were questioning Him privately,

Mar 13:4 "Tell us, when will these things be, and what {will be} the sign when all these things are going to be fulfilled?"

- *The disciples ask 2 questions When? What will be the Sign?*
 - *Jesus here in Mark doesn't answer the first question.*
 - *But He does answer the second.*
- *Jesus had their attention. They asked about the event and wanted a sign so:*
 - *They would know when.* *If it would affect them or generations later*
 - *They could be paying attention.* *They want to see it coming. Brace themselves*
 - *They wouldn't be surprised.* *They wouldn't be caught off guard/compromised.*
 - *They could be in the know.* *They would know how to answer people.*
- *Matthew 24 says they asked "Tell us, when shall these things be? and what [shall be] the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?"*

Mar 13:5
DECEPTION

2) What the Signs are Not vs 5-13

And Jesus began to say to them, "See to it that no one misleads you.

Mar 13:6 "Many will come in My name, saying, 'I am {He!}' and will mislead many.

- *False Teachers to be expected.*
- **DO NOT BE MISLEAD!!**

Mar 13:7
WARS &
DISASTERS

"When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be frightened; {those things} must take place; but {that is} not yet the end.

Mar 13:8

"For nation will rise up against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will {also} be famines. These things are {merely} the beginning of birth pangs.

- *Vs 7 Must take place*
- *Vs 7 But not yet the end*
- *Wars*
 - *Currently 30 armed wars around the world.*
 - *20th century was the bloodiest century in all history. 82 Million Casualties in WWII alone*
- *Disasters Earthquakes and Famines (Matthew says Pestilence)*
- *0-1850 1 billion People 1850-1931 2 Billion 1931-1963 3 billion 1963 -Today 6 Billion 2020 12b*
 - *On Monday 12th May 2008, a 7.9 magnitude earthquake struck China's south southwest province of Sichuan, leaving an estimated 50,000 people dead and millions homeless*
 - *Cyclone Nargis was a strong tropical cyclone that caused the deadliest natural disaster in the recorded history of Burma (officially known as Myanmar). The cyclone made landfall in the country on May 2, 2008, causing catastrophic destruction and at least 80,000 fatalities with a further 56,000 people still missing.*
 - *The world suffered about 120 natural disasters per year in the early 1980s, which compared with the current figure of about 500 per year, according to the report.*
 - *In the past 7 days there has been 218 earthquakes around the world over 4.0*

- **DO NOT BE FRIGHTENED** 2 Thess 2:1+2 "Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and [by] our gathering together unto him, That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. "
- "Merely the Beginning of Birth Pangs" A mother feels labor pains or pressure when deliver a child These increase in intensity as the from when "labor" first starts until the final push.

Mar 13:9 **PERSECUTION & PREACHING** "But be on your guard; for they will deliver you to {the} courts, and you will be flogged in {the} synagogues, and you will stand before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them.

- Persecution is promised to the disciples. In the scripture we see persecution. There are stoning, death sentences, imprisonment and floggings.
- But we here, today experience no such severe persecution.
- We experience a social rejection if our Christianity is fervent and evident in our secular environments.
- Does this type of persecution exist as we see in vs 9 & 12?
 - According to David B. Barrett in his book Today's Martyrs, some 165,000 Christians died for their faith in the year 2000.
 - Researchers estimate that since the Day of Pentecost, more than 43 million Christians have been killed for their faith.
 - A persecution index provided by Open Doors with Brother Andrew lists 28 countries with strong or even massive persecution. In another 23 countries Christians suffer discrimination and in some regions severe harassment.

Mar 13:10 "The gospel must first be preached to all the nations.

- In the middle of persecution in verse 9 and persecution 11 & 12 the Gospel is Preached.

Mar 13:11 "When they arrest you and hand you over, do not worry beforehand about what you are to say, but say whatever is given you in that hour; for it is not you who speak, but {it is} the Holy Spirit.

- The not worrying about what you are to say is concerning being persecuted. This verse is not a license for not studying to show yourself approved.

Mar 13:12 "Brother will betray brother to death, and a father {his} child; and children will rise up against parents and have them put to death.

- The bitterest of all persecution. Suffering with betrayal from family.

Mar 13:13 "You will be hated by all because of My name, but the one who endures to the end, he will be saved.

- Vs 9 **BE ON YOUR GUARD**
- Vs 10 **PREACH THE GOSPEL**
- Vs 11 **DO NOT WORRY WHAT YOU WILL SAY** **TRUST THE HOLY SPIRIT**
- Vs 13 **ENDURE TO THE END**
 - Endures - "hupomeno" To Remain Under
- Persecution it is my natural desire to escape. The Word here tells us to Remain Under.

None of these things Deceptions, Wars, Disasters or Persecutions are the sign of the End Times. Jesus is telling us to simply expect these things. He says ENDURE!!!

Mar 13:14

3) What the Signs Are vs 14-27

"But when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION standing where it should not be (let the reader understand), then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains.

- *Who or What is the "Abomination of Desolation"*
 - "In 167 B.C., a Greek ruler by the name of Antiochus Epiphanes"
 - "Israel's Oppressive Adherence to Tradition"
 - "General Titus Vespasianus 70 AD"
 - "Dome of the Rock"
 - "Coming Anti-Christ"
- "Let the reader understand" God wants you to understand this. This is very important.
- *Daniel 9:27* "He will confirm a covenant with many for one 'seven.' In the middle of the 'seven' he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on a wing [of the temple] he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him "
- For the Abomination of Desolation to be forth coming with the Anti Christ standing where he should not be; that would be in the temple receiving worship that is not his.
- "Abomination" = Hebrew "shikkoots" a filthy disgusting idol.
- Not just any idol. Passages like Jeremiah 7:30, Jeremiah 32:34, and Ezekiel 5:11 describe abominable idols in the temple - but they are not the abomination that brings desolation.
- *2 Thessalonians 2:3-4* "Let no man deceive you by any means: for [that day shall not come], except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God"
- If it is one of the last two mentioned above, a very interesting point must be realized, a temple must be rebuilt for the abomination of desolation to stand or sit in the temple.
- There is a group of Jews in Jerusalem today dedicated to the rebuilding of the temple. (check out www.templeinstitute.org)

Mar 13:15

"The one who is on the housetop must not go down, or go in to get anything out of his house;

Mar 13:16

and the one who is in the field must not turn back to get his coat.

Mar 13:17

"But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days!

Mar 13:18

"But pray that it may not happen in the winter.

Mar 13:19

"For those days will be a {time of} tribulation such as has not occurred since the beginning of the creation which God created until now, and never will.

- *Tribulation that has never been before or after.*
- *Greater than... ...Noah's flood? ...Destruction of Jerusalem in 70 AD? ...The Bubonic Plague in 1323 ...WWI? ... WWII?*
- *Daniel 12:1* "And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation [even] to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book."

Mar 13:20

"Unless the Lord had shortened {those} days, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect, whom He chose, He shortened the days.

- *The Lord shortens the days to preserve live. If He doesn't all life would cease to exist.*

Mar 13:21

"And then if anyone says to you, 'Behold, here is the Christ'; or, 'Behold, {He is} there'; do not believe {him;}

Mar 13:22

for false Christs and false prophets will arise, and will show signs and wonders, in order to lead astray, if possible, the elect.

- *False Christs & False Prophets will arise* (they thrive in troubled times)
 - *Simon Magus* and *Dositheos the Samaritan*, mid first century
 - *Montanus*, who claimed to be the promised *Paraclete*, mid second century
 - *Adalbert*, a bishop who claimed miraculous powers circa 744; he was excommunicated by the Pope.

- **Tanchelm** of Antwerp (ca. 1110), who violently opposed the sacrament and the Eucharist.
- **Ann Lee** (1736-1784), a central figure to the *Shakers* who thought she "embodied all the perfections of God" in female form.
- **Bernhard Müller** (c. 1799-1834) claimed to be the *Lion of Judah* and a prophet in possession of the *Philosopher's stone*.
Not to be confused w/ George Muller)
- **John Nichols Thom** (1799-1838), a Cornish tax rebel.
- **Hong Xiuquan** of China (1812-1864), claimed to be the younger brother of Jesus.
- **Bahá'u'lláh** (1817-1892), born Shiite, adopting *Bábism* later in life, he claimed to be the promised one of all religions, and founded the *Bahá'í Faith*.
- **George Baker** (c. 1880 - September 10, 1965), also known as *Father Divine*, was an African American spiritual leader from about 1907 until his death.
- **Haile Selassie of Ethiopia** (1892-1975), Messiah of the *Rastafari movement*. Never claimed himself
to be messiah, but was proclaimed by *Leonard Howell*, amongst others.
- **Georges-Ernest Roux** (190 st of Montfavet, " founder of the 3-1981), the "*Chri Eglise Chrétienne Universelle*."
- **Sun Myung Moon** (b. 1920), founder of the *Unification Church* ("Moonies") Claims he is the Second Coming of Christ.
- **Yahweh ben Yahweh** (1935-2007), born as Hulon Mitchell, Jr., a black nationalist and separatist who created the *Nation of Yahweh* and allegedly orchestrated the murder of dozens of persons.
- **Iesu Matayoshi** (b. 1944), in 1997 he established the World Economic Community Party based on his conviction that he is God and the Christ.
- **Jung Myung Seok** (b. 1945), claims to be the Second Coming of Christ, founder of *Providence Church*, and fugitive wanted for rape among other crimes
- **Jose Luis de Jesus Miranda** (b. 1946), a Puerto Rican preacher who has claimed to be "the Man Jesus Christ", who is indwelt with the same spirit that dwelled in Jesus. Founder of the Growing in grace" ministries.
- **Inri Cristo** (b. 1948) of Indaial, Brazil, a claimant to be the second Jesus.^[8]
- **Apollo Quiboloy** (b. 1950) Claims that Jesus Christ is the Almighty Father. He is the Appointed Son (Rev. 21:7), Says salvation is now completed. He is called "His Appointed Son" by thousands in the Philippines and now in other countries.
- **David Icke** (b. 1952), of Great Britain, has described himself as "the son of God," and a "channel for the Christ spirit."
- **David Koresh** (Vernon Wayne Howell) (1959-1993), leader of the Branch Davidians.
- **Maria Devi Christos** (b. 1960), founder of the *Great White Brotherhood*.
- **Sergei Torop** (b. 1961) who started to call himself "Vissarion," founder of the *Church of the Last Testament* and the spiritual community *Ecopolis Tiberkul* in Southern Siberia.
- **Wayne Bent** (b. 1941), also known as Michael Travesser of the Strong City Cult, arraigned May 8, 2008 for charges of sexually molesting underage followers.
- **David Shayler** (b. 1965) ("Righteous Chav") who declared himself the Messiah in 2007.

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Mar 13:23

"But **take heed**; behold, I have told you everything in advance.

- Again we see He is telling us to heed & behold and the He is telling us everything in advance so we will understand.
- Here He tells us that it will be so obvious what the true second coming of Jesus is: (There should not be any deception.)

Mar 13:24

"But in those days, after that tribulation, **THE SUN WILL BE DARKENED AND THE MOON WILL NOT GIVE ITS LIGHT,**

- **Darkness** -- Sun Darkened & No Reflection from moon
- How? Don't know ...Cloud Cover? ...Pollution? ...Some catastrophe in the solar system?

Mar 13:25

AND THE STARS WILL BE FALLING from heaven, and the powers that are in the heavens will be shaken.

- **Stars Falling** -- Actual Stars? ...Meteorites? ...Satellites?

Mar 13:26

"Then they will see THE SON OF MAN COMING IN CLOUDS with great power and glory.

- This is the *Second Coming of Christ*
 - From Clouds not from a woman
 - With Great Power
 - With Great Glory
- Revelation 1:7 "Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they [also] which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen."
- Zechariah 14:4 "And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which [is] before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, [and there shall be] a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south."

Mar 13:27

"And then He will send forth the angels, and will gather together His elect from the four winds, from the farthest end of the earth to the farthest end of heaven.

- Deut 30:3-4 "That then the LORD thy God will turn thy captivity, and have compassion upon thee, and will return and gather thee from all the nations, whither the LORD thy God hath scattered thee. If [any] of thine be driven out unto the outmost [parts] of heaven, from thence will the LORD thy God gather thee, and from thence will he fetch thee: "
- Isaiah 11:11-12 "And it shall come to pass in that day, [that] the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth. "
- Who is the elect? Any believer Jew or Gentile that is alive at that time.

Mar 13:28

4) When Will This Take Place vs 28-32

"Now learn the parable from the fig tree: when its branch has already become tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near.

- The parable of the fig tree is concerning Israel (Judges 9:10; Hosea 9:10; Jeremiah 24; Joel 1)
- The prophetic clock or to use a different metaphor the prophetic signs are hung on Israel. Not other world events. Look to Israel!!!
- Puts forth (Begins to) Summer is near.

Mar 13:29

"Even so, you too, when you see these things happening, recognize that He is near, {right} at the door.

- Is saying that if you are paying attention and have learned from the parable of the fig tree you can recognize that He will be coming shortly.

Mar 13:30

"Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.

- Which Generation???
- Peter James John and Andrew. No they are long gone.
- Generation 40 years?? (assumed)
- 1948 Israel becomes a nation. + 40 yrs = 1988
- 1967 Temple Mount recaptured (Moshe Dayan announced Mount area remain Arab) + 40 = 2007
- It may be simply saying that this generation "(genea" could translate this people or family), Thus this may well mean the Jew will not pass away until these things take place.

Mar 13:31

"Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away.

Mar 13:32

"But of that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but the Father {alone.}

- Lots of predictions but the Bible tells us No One Knows the Day or the Hour.
- Not Man, Not Angels, Not the Son.

Mar 13:33

5) What to do Until Jesus Comes vs 33-37

"Take heed, keep on the alert; for you do not know when the {appointed} time will come.

Mar 13:34

"{It is} like a man away on a journey, {who} upon leaving his house and putting his slaves in charge, {assigning} to each one his task, also commanded the doorkeeper to stay on the alert.

Mar 13:35

"Therefore, be on the alert--for you do not know when the master of the house is coming, whether in the evening, at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or in the morning--

Mar 13:36

in case he should come suddenly and find you asleep.

Mar 13:37

"What I say to you I say to all, Be on the alert!" "

- *What more can He say? He says to all (Peter James John and Andrew and You and Me)*
- *....BE ON THE ALERT!*
- *Parable of 10 virgins be ready*
- *While it might yet be some time yet before the 2nd coming, there is nothing yet to happen before the Rapture. Thessalonians 4:16-18; Luke 21:36; Revelation 3:10 We are in the Birth Pangs. This can happen any time. Are you alert?*

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