

The Future According to Jesus

Mark 13:3-37



THE FUTURE ACCORDING TO JESUS

Mark 13:3-37

VIEW FROM THE MOUNT OF OLIVES



Mark 13

- Cf. Matt. 24:3 - As He was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, 1) when will these things happen, and 2) what *will be* the sign of Your coming, and 3) of the end of the age?"
- Three Questions...
 - 1) When will the temple be destroyed?
 - 2) What are the signs of your coming?
 - 3) What are the signs of the end of the age?

The Basic Organization

- **1) 13:5-13** — The Beginning of Birth Pangs
 - From Christ's ascension to the midpoint of the 7-year Tribulation
- **2) 13:14-23** — The Great Tribulation
 - From the midpoint of the Tribulation to the end
- **3) 13:24-27** — The Second Coming
- **4) 13:28-37** — An exhortation to be alert and to be ready

Mark 13 did not happen in 70 AD.

- **1)** Jesus describes the tribulation as a time unparalleled in all of human history (19-20; cf. Matt. 24:21-22).
- **2)** The events of Mark 13 will be accompanied by extreme signs in the heavens (24-25; cf. Matt. 24:29; Luke 21:25-26).
- **3)** The events of Mark 13 will be followed immediately by the Second Coming (26-27; cf. Matt. 24:30-31; Luke 21:27).

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I. The Beginning of Birth Pangs (5-13)

- Jesus is comparing the flow of human history to contractions in childbirth.
 - 1) Contractions begin lighter and less frequent and gradually become increasingly intense and frequent.
 - 2) There are times of peace and calm between the contractions; but those times shorten near the end.
 - 3) The pain of the birth pangs promises a wonderful outcome.

I. The Beginning of Birth Pangs (5-13)

- A. False Christs, Prophets, and Predictions (5-6)**
 - 1) False Christs
 - Cf. Matt. 24:5 - "For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will mislead many."
 - 2) False Prophets
 - Matt. 24:11 - "Many false prophets will arise and will mislead many."
 - 3) False Predictions
 - Luke 21:8 - And He said, "See to it that you are not misled; for many will come in My name, saying, 'I am He,' and, 'The time is near.' Do not go after them."

I. The Beginning of Birth Pangs (5-13)

- A. False Christs, Prophets, and Predictions (5-6)**
- B. War (7-8a)**
- C. Natural Disasters (8b-c)**
 - Luke 21:11 - there will be...in various places plagues...
- D. Intense Persecution (9-13)**

Application...

- 1) Don't be surprised.
- 2) Don't be afraid.
- 3) Don't be deceived.
- 4) Don't be unprepared.