

Keep Watch for the King - Mark 13:1-37

When was a time that it was crucial for you to be focused?

Questioning of Jesus

Read Mark 11: 1-4

1. What do you think the reason may have been for the disciple's exclamation in v1?
2. How do you think Jesus' reply (v. 2) would have been received by the disciples?

Fulfilment & Signs

Read Mark 13:5-8.

3. What kind of picture does Jesus paint in this summary of the 'signs'?

4. Jesus in this passage is not only talking about the destruction of the physical temple in Jerusalem that happened in 70AD. What two other events might his answers be in reference to?
 - V24-27
 - 30 (See also Mark 8:31)

5. How might each of these two points relate to the context of the temple?

6. What do you think Jesus means when he says – *“These (signs) are the beginning of birth pains?”* (v8)

Read Mark 13:9-23.

7. What does Jesus say will be I store for the future:
 - V9-13

- V14-20
- V21-23

The Unknowable

Read Mark 13:32-37.

8. What do we find out here about the day of final fulfilment? (When Jesus comes and his new temple is completed)

9. Why might he tell the disciples this in light of their initial questions?

9. What is the command here for all of Jesus disciples, regardless of what stage in history they/we live in? (v35-37)

Implications

10. What do you think v35-37 mean for us as Christians?

11. What should keeping watch look like for us in each of the three areas from Question 6?

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Ask that God would be at work in the lives of all Christians, allowing us to be ready for all the difficulties that come with following Christ, and help us to live lives that are faithfully keeping watch.