

Assignments on Mark 13

Please read Mark 13 and answer the following questions.

1. **Case Study:** Many people have tried to use this section of Jesus' teaching to predict the time of Jesus' second coming. Based on 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6; 2 Peter 3:10-12, what can we know about such predictions? Since all such predictions have failed, what can we conclude based on Deuteronomy 18:18-22?

2. **Special Assignment:** In particular, some believe Jesus is predicting the beginning of an earthly kingdom at His second coming. Study the following passages and explain what we can know about the coming of the Jesus' kingdom: Mark 9:1; Acts 1:3-8; 2:1-5,29-36; Colossians 1:13; Hebrews 12:23,28; Revelation 1:9; John 18:36.

3. What comment did a disciple make that occasioned the teaching in this chapter – 13:1? What prediction did Jesus make in response – 13:2?

4. **Extra credit:** As your study of this chapter continues, see what evidence you can find from other sources about the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70. How does that event compare to the predictions made in the chapter?

5. Where was Jesus when He made the predictions in this chapter – 13:3? Who was with Him?

6. What questions did the apostles ask Jesus – 13:4? Based on the context, what does this tell us about the event that would fulfill the predictions Jesus makes?

7. **Special Assignment:** As your study of the chapter proceeds, make a list of items that help identify the event to which the prediction refers.

8. What is the first danger that Jesus warns about – 13:5,6? What should we learn?

9. What did Jesus warn them to expect in 13:7,8? Did these signs mean that the end was imminent?

10. What danger should concern them according to 13:9? What must be achieved before the event that Jesus is predicting occurs – 13:10?

11. **Case Study:** Some people think 13:10 proves these events were not fulfilled before the destruction of Jerusalem. Study Colossians 1:5,6,23 and explain how you would reply.

12. What promise was made to them when they would be arrested – 13:11? Can this promise be fulfilled today? Note 1 Corinthians 13:8-11.

13. How would other people treat Christians at this time – 13:12,13?

14. What assurance did Jesus give the disciples in this time of suffering – 13:13? Where are other such promises found?

15. What specific sign should disciples watch for to tell them when to act – 13:14? What should they do when they saw this occur?

16. **Special Assignment:** What passage in Daniel did Jesus refer to here? What sign was it that fulfilled this prediction? Note carefully Luke 21:20.

17. When this event occurred, what were the people **not** to do – 13:15,16? Explain the significance. (Think: Could this have application to Jesus' second coming?)

18. What conditions might create problems for them in their flight – 13:17,18? Why would these things create problems? (Think: Would these things matter at Jesus' second coming?)

19. How severe would the suffering at this time be – 13:19?

20. What did God promise to do to help His people – 13:20? Explain how this might help.

21. What warning did Jesus give in 13:21,22? List other passages about the deceitful nature of false teachers.

22. What had the Lord done to help the people prepare – 13:23? How would this help?

23. List the signs that Jesus predicted in 13:24,25.

24. Study these passages: Isaiah 13:10; Ezekiel 32:7,8; Joel 2:10; 3:15; Amos 8:9. Do the symbolic expressions used in these passages refer to the second coming of Jesus? Explain.

25. What will people see according to 13:26?

26. Study Isaiah 19:1; Psalm 18:9-14; Psalm 104:3; Daniel 7:13,14. Does the coming of the Lord in these passages refer to the second coming of Jesus? (Think: See if you can find other passages where the coming of the Lord does not refer to the second coming.)

27. Whom would Jesus send and what will they do according to 13:27? (Think: Are angels always superhuman in Scripture? What alternative meanings could this verse have?)

28. How does Jesus use a fig tree as a parable in 13:28?

29. What lesson is taught by the parable of the fig tree – 13:29? Based on what we have learned, will there be signs showing that the second coming of Jesus is at the doors?

30. What information does 13:30 add about when these things will happen? What things does Jesus refer to here?

31. Study the following passages: Matthew 23:36; 12:39-45; 11:16; Luke 17:25; Acts 2:40. According to these verses, what did Jesus mean when He referred to “this generation”?

32. **Special Assignment:** Based on what we have studied, explain the conclusions that you reach about what event is being prophesied to this point in the chapter.

33. What event does Jesus predict in 13:31? List other passages about the destruction of the heaven and the earth.

34. How does the destruction of heaven and earth compare to the teachings of Jesus? (Think: Is Jesus still speaking about the same primary event that He was prior to 13:30?)

35. What information does 13:32 give about the destruction of heaven and earth? Run cross-references and see what other passages may help us understand what is discussed here.

36. Describe the parable Jesus presented in 13:33-37.

37. What would be represented by work being given to each servant (notice the parable as Matthew recorded it for additional information)?

38. Explain in your own words the point of the parable. What lessons should we learn?