

**LESSONS THIS QUARTER**

- 1) 06 Dec.....Mark 1..... How Can Jesus Help Me?
- 2) 13 Dec..... Mark 2:1-3:6..... What does Jesus' call mean for me?
- 3) 20 Dec..... Luke 2..... Why did Jesus come?
- 4) 27 Dec..... Mark 3:7-6:6a..... Is God still working in the world?
- 5) 3 Jan..... Mark 6:6b-56..... How to be courageous
- 6) 10 Jan..... Mark 7:1-8:33..... How to develop your faith
- 7) 17 Jan..... Mark 3:1-6; 5:21-43; 10:13-16..... How to be Pro-Life
- 8) 24 Jan..... Mark 8:34-10:31..... How to get along with others
- 9) 31 Jan..... Mark 10:32-52..... How to be successful
- 10) 7 Feb..... Mark 11-12..... When your priorities are challenged
- 11) 14 Feb..... Mark 13..... When you feel overwhelmed**
- 12) 21 Feb..... Mark 14..... When you have difficult decisions
- 13) 28 Feb..... Mark 15-16..... When life is unfair

**INTRODUCTION**

- Mark 13 parallels Matthew 24 and Luke 21 by highlighting signs of the end times
- Taken together and with passages in Daniel, Ezekiel, Isaiah, Zechariah, 2 Thessalonians and Revelation they paint an interesting picture of the last days and the return of Christ
- The only thing missing is a clear and undisputed timeline of what happens when and where – therefore we cannot be too dogmatic about these things, but we can glean some useful warnings and encouragements

Passage	Comments
Mark 13:1-2	<p><b>Herod's Temple</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Herod completed the temple in 64 AD, and Rome destroyed it in 70 AD</li> <li>• Some of the solid blocks were 37x12x18 feet (about the size of our S/S class room)</li> </ul>
13:3-5	<p><b>The Last Signs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v5 – Let no one deceive you (this is our responsibility).</li> <li>• How do we prevent being deceived by others?                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Know the truth so you can spot a counterfeit</li> <li>♦ Stay close to the truth</li> <li>♦ Devote yourself to prayer – pray without ceasing – watch &amp; pray...</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
13:6-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• End time signs include...                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Wars and rumors of war (Iraq, Afghanistan today, Iran &amp; China rumored for the future)</li> <li>♦ Nation against nation (e.g. US &amp; Iraq)</li> <li>♦ Kingdom against kingdom (e.g., Muslims vs everyone else)</li> <li>♦ Earthquakes (see chart)</li> <li>♦ Famines (recall Africa)</li> <li>♦ Troubles (increasing drought, tsunamis, other weather phenomenon, global economic gloom, piracy in the open seas, nuclear proliferation, rising 3<sup>rd</sup> world powers, etc.)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
13:9-13	<p><b>Take Heed [v5] → Take notice of pending persecution (“A wise man hides himself” – Pr 22:3)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brother betrays brother – no one is safe</li> <li>• The wicked feel they are doing the world a favor by killing Christians who are rising up and proclaiming the truth                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Those who endure to the end shall be saved. In other words, those who are saved shall endure. God will complete that which He started..... Phil 1:6</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Passage	Comments
13:14-23	<p><b>Take Heed [v23] → Two times – emphasizes surety of events</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v14 – The Abomination of Desolation                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ This best refers to the Roman destruction of Jerusalem in 70 AD</li> <li>♦ A secondary meaning could also be when the Antichrist stands in the newly completed temple during the middle of the 7 year tribulation</li> <li>♦ In both cases – RUN, RUN, RUN</li> </ul> </li> <li>• v22 – False Messiahs and prophets will perform signs and wonders to deceive even the elect                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ The False Prophet in Rev 13:11-14 calls fire down from heaven and other “miracles”</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
13:24-31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Life after the Tribulation</li> <li>• The elected are collected</li> <li>• This passage could allude to a post-tribulation rapture (depending on one's assumptions)</li> <li>• v27 – From a Pre-Tribulation rapture perspective, the elect being gathered at the end of the tribulation are those saints who were saved after the rapture and went through the tribulation</li> </ul>
13:32-37	<p><b>Take Heed [v33] → Third time – WOW</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watch &amp; Pray – Take notes, study to discern the sign of the times, know what to do and when to do it, trust God always</li> <li>• If Jesus was truly our all-knowing God, how did He NOT know when that day would be?                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Remember, He somehow laid down His divinity in some capacity to live as the Son of Man and to die as our only Savior</li> <li>♦ His days as the Son of Man are complete, so now Christ is back on His omniscient throne</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**CONCLUDING REMARKS**

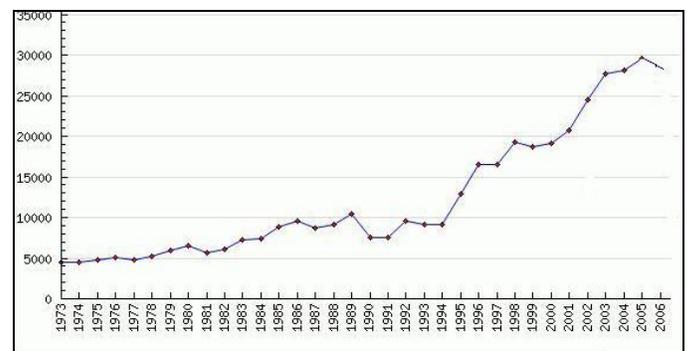
- Jesus said it best in vs 37 – “What I say unto you, I say unto everyone – WATCH”

**SUPPORTING PASSAGES**

Dan 9:27; 11:31; 12:11

**NEXT WEEK:**

- Mark 14 – the longest chapter (72 verses)
- Topics include the last supper, anointing of Jesus with expensive oil, Judas' betrayals, Peter's denial



Earthquake frequencies have been escalating in recent history

Source: <http://earth.webecs.co.uk/index.htm>