

Lesson Notes: Mark 13

The Drama and Distress of the End Times

Introductory Questions

1. Name 2 events in your life in which you had to be on guard, watching, alert.
2. Have you ever been singled out for your faith in a negative way? Tell your group about that experience.
3. Do you think we are in these “days of distress” now? What makes you think so?
4. What do you think the “abomination that causes desolation” means?

Be on your guard!

**The power of rumor: 7, 13, 21-23, 32

**The probability of deception: 6

**The impact of upheaval: 8

**The promise of persecution: 9-13

International and planetary drama, 1-8, 24-27

Witnessing drama, 9-11

Family/loyalty drama, 12-13

Days of Distress

Verses 14-20

Have they already been fulfilled?

AD 70

Know the True Jesus

Know Him from Scripture

Know His words! v31

He has an agenda

- positive things in this chapter
- Warnings and “watching’s” in this chapter

Conclusions

Watch! Watch, don't worry. 13:28-37

Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will never pass away. 13:31

Application Questions

Go through your homework, not legalistically, but conversationally. What questions helped you? What are you still thinking about?

What do you need to change in your life to be on your guard, watching and alert to Jesus' return?

Are you willing to be defamed, denied, betrayed, and demoted for the sake of Jesus? He says these things will come because of Him. He did those very things for you. Give your whole life to Him!

How can you keep from living in fear about these things? I do not believe it is God's will for you to live in fear. He says, "Watch!" He does not say, "Be afraid! Let the fear of these happenings rule your mind and emotions!"

Do you think that these predictions have already come to pass, or do you think they are still in the future? Do you believe that they've happened in the past and will happen again (mystery), and then Jesus will return?

What is your personal "assigned task" from verse 34? What do you think the church's "assigned task" is until Jesus' return?