

Unexpected: The Gospel of the Servant King

Are You Ready for Jesus' Return? Part 1

Brad McConnaughey // January 12, 2020

Mark 13:1-31 (Pages 825-826,1006-1007, or 1017-1019)

"At that time men will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory." Mark 13:26

Big Idea: Jesus is calling his followers to trust in his authority, persevere in his power and long for his coming.

1. _____ in Jesus' authority and his sovereign control of your future.

A. Understanding what Jesus is saying

(1) Jerusalem and the temple are going to be destroyed. (v. **1-4**)

(2) Jesus is going to return in power and glory. (v. **24-27**)

B. Applying what Jesus is saying

(1) The things of this world are passing. (v. **2, 31**)

(2) The truth of Jesus' Word is permanent. (v. **31**)

2. _____ in the power and presence of Jesus.

A. Followers of Jesus will face deception. (v. **5-6**)

B. Followers of Jesus will face tribulation. (v. **7-8**)

C. Followers of Jesus will face persecution. (v. **9, 12-13**)

D. Followers of Jesus will focus on the proclamation of the Gospel.
(v. **10-11**)

3. _____ for the Second Coming of Jesus.

- A. Jesus' second coming will be spectacular and evident to all.
(v. 24-25)
- B. Jesus will come in power and glory to execute judgment.
(v. 26)
- C. Jesus will come and create a new heaven and a new earth.
(Revelation 21-22)
- D. No one knows the day or the hour (v. 32) therefore, we are to be ready and alert. (v. 32-33)

Read the Bible this year

Pastor Brad encouraged us to read the Bible in 2020. Here's some help getting started. Each day this week read from the Old and New Testament. Or, if you prefer, read just from one testament. Enjoy!

- 1. **Genesis 20-22**
- 2. **Genesis 23-24; Matthew 7**
- 3. **Genesis 25-26**
- 4. **Genesis 27-28; Matthew 8**
- 5. **Genesis 29-30; Matthew 9**
- 6. **Genesis 31-32**
- 7. **Genesis 33-35; Matthew 10**

For Further Study

- 1. Conversations about end times reveal two extreme perspectives on prophecy. Gullible people believe every "so-called prophet" of God. On the other end of the continuum is cynicism. The gullible believe everything and the cynics nothing. Where would you place yourself on this continuum when it comes to beliefs about end times?

Gullible ----- Cynical

2. Read **Mark 13:5-23**. What does Jesus say will characterize the time before His return?

3. Read **Mark 13:13**. What application does this verse have to your life now as a follower of Jesus?

4. Read **Mark 13:22**. Jesus said there will be "false prophets" in the end times. Do you think you could be deceived by a false prophet? What can you do now to prevent this?

5. Read **Mark 13:4**. How do you think the disciples would have responded if Jesus had told them that He would not return to earth for over 2,000 years?
- Read **Mark 13:32**. Why do you suppose God has chosen not to reveal when Jesus will return to earth?
6. Read **Mark 13:9-13**. Jesus says His followers can expect to be hated, arrested, and flogged. If that were to come in your lifetime, do you believe you would have enough courage to stand true to your beliefs? What gives you that confidence?
7. Pastor Brad asked, “Are you ready?” What do you need to do today and every day to be ready for Jesus’ imminent return?