

The Gospel of Mark

Lesson 32: Mark 13:24-37

The Son of Man comes in power (vv. 24-27)

Matt. 24:29-31
Luke 21:25-28

- A number of OT passages influence this passage (not a quotation)
 - These either prophesy specific national or general judgment
 - Isaiah 13:10; 34:4; Ezekiel 32:7-8; Joel 2:10-11; 3:14-16; Amos 8:9; Zephaniah 1:14-16
- This contrasts with the other Son of Man passages in Mark
 - This section specifically links to Daniel 7:13-14
- Gathering the elect is also a recurring OT concept

After all the other Son of Man conversations, how do you think the disciples would react to this different presentation?

Parable from the fig tree (vv. 28-31)

Matt. 24:32-35
Luke 21:29-33

- Fig trees were one of the few which lost their leaves in winter
- This again is a challenge to pay attention to the signs of the time
- Jesus is here answering the first question in verse 4
- “this generation” has caused more than a little debate... *Who/when is this?*

What does Jesus mean in verse 31?

The day or hour is not known (vv. 32-37)

Matt. 24:36-44
Luke 21:34-36

How is it that Jesus could not know the day or hour since He's God?

- Now Jesus is shifting and talking about the Day of the Lord
- Jesus gives three instructions regarding His coming (v. 33)
 - “take heed” = to be discerning, observant, and perceptive
 - “watch” = stay awake and be attentive
 - “pray” = to be actively praying
- Jesus' final parable here is an exhortation to watchfulness
 - The times in verse 35 represent the four Roman night watches
- Jesus is not restricting this warning to this group, but to all believers

What does it look like for us to obey Jesus' command to be watchful?