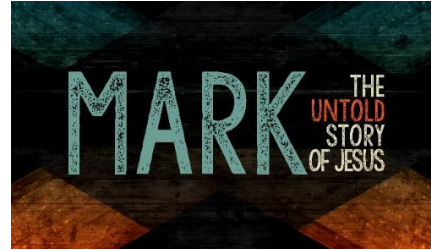


Eastridge Church
Sermon Study Questions

Series - Mark: The Untold Story of Jesus

Week 43: To Be Expected

Passage: Mark 13:1-13



Conversation Starter:

What is the most stunning architectural accomplishment you have visited or seen?

Re-read Mark 13:1-13

This passage starts with Jesus prophesying something that would have been devastating for his disciples to hear. It prompted them to ask Jesus a question that is on the mind of many believers and if we are honest, one we would love to have specific answers to. *Why are questions like this so popular for believers? What does a healthy anticipation of the “end times” look like and what does an unhealthy one look like?*

The eventual destruction of the temple would be a traumatic moment in Israel’s history, but we also know that the temple had stopped functioning as God had intended. Pastor Dwain highlighted the fact that a new “freedom” was made possible after the destruction of the temple. *In your own words, why is this true? Are there “temples” that people construct now that prevent them from truly engaging with God? What might those look like and how can we identify them around us or within us?*

Instead of giving specific details of time and day, Jesus focuses his answer on more general dangers and events. *What is the first thing that Jesus cautions his disciple about in vs. 5? Historically, this was something that happened regularly in Israel before and after the time of Jesus. What might this look like in our current moment in history? What is the best way to guard against this?*

Finally, Jesus gives His disciples a comforting truth within the difficult teaching He is giving them regarding the opposition they can expect as His followers. This truth is that the Holy Spirit will be with them and give them words to speak when they are persecuted and put on trial. We see this fulfilled on multiple occasions in the book of Acts (Acts 4; Acts 26), but many believers continue to experience this truth as the Holy Spirit brings Scripture or encouragement to mind amid difficulty. *If you are comfortable, share a time when this happened for you or someone that you know.*

Close your time in prayer, asking that God would fill this place to the point that all our requests and prayers become moot. That we will begin to see what heaven looks like here.