

# MARK 13 vs 19

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Mark was the son of a wealthy family in Jerusalem, he was a cousin of Barnabas, who traveled with Paul. Since earliest times it was understood Peter was the primary source of information for this gospel.

Mark says, Now the Lord answers more specifically their 2<sup>nd</sup> question:

## What is the sign when all is fulfilled?

**19 For those days will be tribulation** / the days leading up to His coming in power and glory, to judge the nations; it will be: trouble, and pounding and suffering,

**such as has not occurred since the beginning of the creation that God created** / So Jesus is NOT talking about **4.5 x 10<sup>9</sup> years**... I guess plus 1... that those people who monkey around debate. Nope! The one God created. We've seen no such tribulation since He created.

**until this time, and never will be** / Not even Noah's flood can compare; this tribulation coming will deal with God's anger and putting down the rebellion, so He can get on with the rest He had planned. **no one has seen anything like it; no one has heard anything like it; no one has imagined anything like all that God has prepared... for those who trust Him**... and for far too long He has patiently waited while dealing with this problem on earth.

**20 And except the Lord shortened those days** / but except those terrible days were reduced, **no one would be saved: but on account of the elect whom He chose** / those God has selected, men and women, slapped awake by the terrible period of testing; by the way, this verse is not about **His Church – the Love of His life**... but those of the **House of Judah** who did not embrace the Messiah who gave His life for them. Daniel says, **many will be purified and whitened and tested**... still they are who GOD votes for and because of them, He has already declared His plans,

**He has shortened those days.**

Next, Jesus continues where He began speaking, and for a second time... reminds us, warning us...

**21 So if anyone says to you, Lo!** / **mark this!** Take a **highlighter**; or, make a note, don't forget it,

**Christ / the Messiah... is here; or, lo, He is over there** / He is here at this convention; or over there at that gathering; or yonder at some weird-ass place on the other side of the mountain.

Jesus says, Keep your heads screwed on.

**Do not believe them:**



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<sup>22</sup> **Because false Christs and false prophets** / pseudo-chrestos: **lying messiahs**, / pseudo-prophetes: **lying prophets**. He is talking about false teachers and religious pretenders... and like the old song: She'll be coming around the mountain when she comes... **you can count on it**. Busloads are coming! Many are coming. They arrive in town every day.

**many false Christs and false prophets will arise, and will show signs and wonders to seduce if it was possible, even the elect** / WOW! to deceive... and lead away into error; even God's chosen men and women of faith!

<sup>23</sup> **But take heed, behold, I have foretold you** / be warned! pay attention, I let you know in advance; no one can say, I didn't know. Jesus has told us in advance what we need to know... what is important to Him; and what He did not tell us, was not important for us to know.

<sup>24</sup> **But in those days, after that tribulation** / after the terrible time of pounding and suffering,

**the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light** / now honestly, that is creepy! It certainly can happen due to intense warfare; and in this context read what prophet Joel wrote about the Day of Darkness – **Joel 2**. It creeps me out; it is creepy! But read that later... Jesus is talking

<sup>25</sup> **And the stars will fall from heaven** / we might wonder: is this literal? Or like C.S. Lewis indicates, Everything in life can be used as a **metaphor**; and Jesus expects His disciples to do the math! If that is literal...WOW! Most are larger than the sun. Only one needs to crash into the earth. Are they falling-stars? meteorites? asteroids?

Living in Los Angeles, we know how stars rise and fall. We bring the world Hollywood! The city of Stardom! And that's something to think about...**the stars will fall from heaven** / Jesus said He paid attention and saw Satan, eternity's Star musician fall from heaven. When did Jesus see it? in time or in eternity?

**and the administrative powers, that are in heaven will be shaken** / so maybe, that is the Asteroid-of-heaven that fell? He's the biggest Asteroid I've ever heard of.

**and the administrative powers in heaven will be shaken.**

<sup>26</sup> **And then**, they will see the Son of Man / the Son of all mankind, the beautiful Savior,

**coming** / In parallel verses, Matthew writes with precision: **parousia**; His official coming again, His second appearing; this speaks of **the 6<sup>th</sup> great Day** belonging to the Lord;

which means **the 5<sup>th</sup> great Day, the Day of Trumpets** has come and gone!



**they will see the Son of man coming in the clouds** / descending from above with all the saints, like the great cloud of witnesses with Him; which suggests all the armies of heaven and also His Bride, the **Love of His life** will be among His entourage, attending Him as He triumphantly leads the way;

**coming with great power and glory.**

<sup>27</sup> **And then** He sends His angels / at that time... when He comes in great glory! He will send His powerful citizens of eternity, who, by the way are ready; they have been ready for a long time,

**and they will safely gather His elect from the four winds, from the utmost part of the earth, to the utmost part of the heavens** / some angels sent to **the House of Israel** -- **the ones ruled by God**, and the **House of Judah** -- **the ones to the Praise of God**, north, south, east and west; where they are on **earth**, to gather the saints of God now awake, in every nation who actually survived the great tribulation. And some angels to escort the great congregation, **the Love of His Life** who were already caught up to Him, the dead who rise first with the remainder who were caught up. This is a great gathering. It is the first time they all meet, and they wouldn't miss it for anything!

<sup>28</sup> **Now learn a parable of the fig tree** / and it seems Jesus, the good Teacher, pauses and backs up a little having assured His people how the story ends. He says, learn an eternal truth found in a common, very familiar lesson: the fig tree represents the **House of Judah**; the nation of Jewish people -- different than the **House of Israel**. Jesus says, Learn a lesson from Judah;

**When her branch is yet tender and puts forth leaves, know that summer is near** / when the fig tree blossoms, when the nation of Judah shows its new growth; Jesus is talking about the growing season during the time of the Gentiles, immediately before **the ingathering of the harvest**:

<sup>29</sup> **So in like manner, when you see this happen** / so when you see this birth occur, **then know that it is near, even at the doors** / then know that the end of summer is near; the time for gathering the harvest will follow, which means that the time of severe testing on all the earth is near, followed by the Son of all mankind appearing; when He comes in power and great glory,

**it is near even at the doors** / what doors? What does that mean? Well... where is Jesus when He gives this prophecy? When He tells us these things? He is in His favorite place **sitting on the Mount of Olives**. And right in front of their noses... is the Eastern Gate: the only double-door ancient gate... where all the ancient traditions say, The Messiah will one day enter through those gates.

Right now, they are sealed shut. But can't you see Jesus pointing?

**even at the doors** / we are supposed to pay attention to all His words; to guard them and ponder them in our hearts.



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And here is the application...

<sup>30</sup> **Truly / AMEN!** trust what Jesus tells us:

**I say to you, this generation will not pass, until all this happens** / this seeing-generation... which sees the fig tree spring forth and blossom. The people who see this House of Judah after centuries of being carried away... once again recognized a nation in 1948; this generation; those of the WW2 generation who see this happen; will also see the Son of mankind come in power with all His people.

**until all this happens.**

<sup>31</sup> **Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away** / someday the first creation will be gone, but what Jesus said will never go away; so we can take our stand on His words.

<sup>32</sup> **But of that day, and hour no one knows; not the angels who are in heaven, not the Son, but the Father** / that specific moment when all creation goes away, nobody knows. Jesus came to do His Father's will; at the time, He did not need to know that future event; read Acts 1:6-7, **and** we don't need to worry; God the Father has it all under control. He doesn't need our help.

Anyone who says they do know the day when... **heaven and earth will pass away**... or the hour when... the **Son of Mankind comes in glory**... run from them!

By the way, **the Day of Trumpets** is the next great Day the Lord Jesus intends to fulfill, and the apostle Paul would not have us ignorant about it; that joyous Day of Trumpets... is neither of those days;

<sup>33</sup> **Take heed, watch and pray**...with your eyes open: **for you do not know when the time is.**

A final parable for the **House of Israel**:

<sup>34</sup> **For the Son is like a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, assigning each one work, and ordered the door-keeper to watch** / they all have work to do; the doorkeeper was to watch, eyes open! no snoozing; the doorkeeper could be a man or a woman!

<sup>35</sup> **Therefore watch** / with your eyes open: **for all of you know not when the master of the house comes, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning** / and did you notice? Jesus just took us on a world tour... a worldwide time-tour. Where will we be in our daily or nightly routine... when He comes? Mark wrote to all of us.

<sup>36</sup> **Lest coming suddenly** / and unexpectedly, **He finds you sleeping** / and that is not resting after a long day's work. Jesus is talking about... spiritually snoring! Don't panic if you're tired from working all day. He's got a trumpet blast planned... that will raise the dead!

<sup>37</sup> **And what I say to each of you, I say to all of you, Watch.**