

Talk Six

When will the temple fall?

Week 6, Mark 13:1-11 Discussion Questions

Choose a selection from the questions below.

Read 13:1-11

1. What was the common expectation of people of what would happen when Messiah came?
2. What did the Temple represent in the context of Jesus' ministry?
How did Jesus' prophecy about the Temple's destruction relate to the end of the Old Covenant and the beginning of the New Covenant through his sacrifice? See Hebrews 10:1-4 and 10-12.
3. Why is trusting in one's own righteousness insufficient for salvation?
4. How does Jesus' statement, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life; no one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:6), relate to our understanding of salvation?
5. What kinds of global and personal sufferings did Jesus predict, and how have these been fulfilled historically and continue to unfold today?
6. What is the message here for Christians today who undergo suffering for following Jesus? What assurance does Jesus offer to believers facing trials and persecution?
7. What can/should we expect about persecution and even martyrdom in the future?

See Kevin's three concluding points and discuss

8. Do we show by the way we reflect on world events that we really do believe that God is entirely in control of the world and that history is being played out as he said it would?
9. Do we show by how we live that we know God is with us to strengthen us through difficult times?
10. Do we show by the way we live, that we have grasped that Jesus alone can save us – so that we have left behind our efforts to save our ourselves and have thrown ourselves entirely on God's mercy?
11. What role does patience and perseverance play in the Christian's response to a worsening world?

From Kevin: "this is my prayer for you, that you would come to trust in his saving grace in your own life, and rest in his comfort and strength through all your days in this troubled world.."

Reflection: *What will you take away from this message and today's discussion? Share with the group if you feel able, then pray for one another.*