The Way: The Coming of the Last Day

Mark 13:1-13 English Standard Version (ESV)

1 And as he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what wonderful stones and what wonderful buildings!" **2** And Jesus said to him, "Do you see these great buildings? There will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down."

3 And as he sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew asked him privately, **4** "Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when all these things are about to be accomplished?" **5** And Jesus began to say to them, "See that no one leads you astray. **6** Many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. **7** And when you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed. This must take place, but the end is not yet. **8** For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. These are but the beginning of the birth pains.

9 "But be on your guard. For they will deliver you over to councils, and you will be beaten in synagogues, and you will stand before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them. **10** And the gospel must first be proclaimed to all nations. **11** And when they bring you to trial and deliver you over, do not be anxious beforehand what you are to say, but say whatever is given you in that hour, for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit. **12** And brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death. **13** And you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

Discussion/Journal Questions

How is everyone doing with the Resolve 2021 goals? How is your time in prayer, Bible, and Christian community going?

What is your favorite Olympic sport (Summer or Winter)?

Read Mark 13:1-13. What prompted this teaching by Jesus? What were the disciples doing?

Why do you think Jesus would try to redirect their attention away from the temple?

In your own words, what was Jesus telling His disciples to expect leading up to the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem?

How does Jesus call us to respond to various signs?

Have you had an encounter with a false teacher? How did it go? How did you recognize that he or she was a false teacher?

How should Christians respond to persecution? How do American Christians often respond?

Read Hebrews 12:1-3. How can we build endurance?

How can your group pray for you this week?

Who are you praying for to accept Jesus, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?

Who are you currently discipling, and what specifically did you do this week to help them know, love, and follow Jesus?

Who are you considering for future discipleship relationships, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?