

Mark 13

The Olivet Discourse

A 13:1-2 The stones will fall

οὐ μή ×2

¹And as he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, “Look, Teacher, what wonderful stones and what wonderful buildings!” ²And 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.”

B 13:3-4 The question — *when?* and *what sign?*

πότε · σημείον · συντελέω

³And 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?”

C 13:5-6 False Christs — do not be led astray — *false shepherds*

πλανάω · “I am he”

⁵And Jesus began to say to them, “See that no one **leads you astray**. ⁶Many will come in my name, saying, ‘**I am he!**’ and they will **lead many astray**.”

D 13:7-8 When you *hear* — not yet; the pains begin

ὅταν δὲ ἀκούσητε · δεῖ · ὠδίνων

⁷And when you **hear** of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed. This **must** take place, but the end is not yet. ⁸For 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**.

E 13:9 Four tribunals — witness before them

παραδίδωμι · four venues · ἕνεκεν ἐμοῦ

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.

F 13:10 The gospel to all nations

δεῖ · πρῶτον UNPAIRED PIVOT

¹⁰And the gospel **must first** be proclaimed to all nations.

E' 13:11-13 Four relations — the Spirit speaks; endure to the end

παραδίδωμι ×2 · four roles · ὄνομά μου

¹¹And 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. ¹²And **brother** will **deliver** brother over to death, and the **father** his **child**, and children will rise against **parents** and have them put to death. ¹³And you will be hated by **all** for **my name's sake**. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

D' 13:14-20 When you *see* — the crisis; the days cut short

Ὅταν δὲ ἴδῃτε · οὐ δεῖ · ἐκολόβωσεν

¹⁴“But when you **see** the abomination of desolation standing where he **ought not** to be (let the reader understand), then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. ¹⁵Let the one who is on the housetop not go down, nor enter his house, to take anything out, ¹⁶and let the one who is in the field not turn back to take his cloak. ¹⁷And alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! ¹⁸Pray that it may not happen in winter. ¹⁹For in those days there will be such tribulation as has not been from the beginning of the creation that God created until now, and **never will be**. ²⁰And if the Lord had not cut short the days, no human being would be saved. But for the sake of the elect, whom he chose, he **shortened the days**.

C' 13:21-23 False Christs — do not be led astray — *false shepherds*

ἀποπλανάω · “here is the Christ”

²¹And then if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here is the Christ!’ or ‘Look, there he is!’ do not believe it. ²²For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform signs and wonders, to lead astray, if possible, the elect. ²³But be on guard; I have told you all things beforehand.

B' 13:24-27 The answer — The signs of His coming — *the Shepherd gathers His sheep*

ὄψονται · ἐπισυνάξει

²⁴“But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷And then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

A' 13:28-31 The timing — and the words that will stand

οὐ μή ×2 · παρέρχομαι ×3

²⁸“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

CODA — THE DAY, THE WATCH, THE DOORKEEPER

a 13:32 No one knows

ἡμέρα + ὥρα — the only pairing

³²“But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

b 13:33 You do not know when

οὐκ οἶδατε γὰρ πότε

³³Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come.

C 13:34 The householder departs

ἀφείς τὴν οἰκίαν

CODA PIVOT

³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake.

b' 13:35 You do not know when — the four watches

οὐκ οἶδατε γὰρ πότε

³⁵Therefore stay awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or in the morning—

a' 13:36-37 Lest he come suddenly

ἐξαίφνης answers v. 32

³⁶lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake.”