



MARK

THE SURPRISING  
KINGDOM

**Since Jesus could return at  
any moment, live in  
constant readiness for His  
return.**

# Keep watch for Christ's return (Mark 13:1-13).

The destruction of the temple prefigures what will happen in the future, the end times.

Persecution is the norm for Christians rather than the exception.

*What typically distracts you from keeping watch for Jesus to return?*

# Stay faithful to Him and focused on the hope of His return (Mark 13:14-27)

The “abomination who causes desolation” comes from the book of Daniel about a figure who would defile the Jerusalem temple.

The gospel proclaims the hope of Jesus’ return to set all things right, to defeat all evil completely, and to make a new creation.

*How does the promised return of Jesus bring you hope?*

# Remember Jesus' return is always near (Mark 13:28-31)

The fig tree sheds its leaves in the winter, but then only gets them back late in spring as warmer weather approaches, thus the signs reveal Jesus' imminent return.

Believing Jesus will return later can remove our focus and our hope.

*How does the promised return of Jesus bring you hope?*

# Continue His mission until He returns (Mark 13:32-37)

Jesus will bring home the point that it doesn't matter about knowing when the end will come but being faithful to the end while we wait for Christ to return.

We've been left with a task to complete, and we better be doing it when our master returns.

*Have you been focused on the mission of making disciples while we await Jesus' return?*

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