"Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when all these things are going to be fulfilled?" (Mark 13:4; also, Matt. 24:3; Luke 21:7)

I. They Wanted To Know Three Things From Jesus:

(1) <u>WHEN</u> will these things occur?

(2) <u>WHAT</u> will be the sign that Christ is coming?

(3) When will the <u>END</u> of the present age be? (Matt. 24:1-3)

"For you do not know which day your Lord is coming," (Matt. 24:42).

II. Four Essentials From Jesus

1. Do not be led <u>ASTRAY</u>.

In Mark 13:5, Jesus says, *"See that no one leads you astray."*

<u>1 John 2:18</u> *"Children, it is the last hour, and as you have heard that antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have come. Therefore we know that it is the last hour."*

2. Do not be <u>ALARMED</u>.

Jesus continues, in Mark 13:7, *"And when you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed."*

<u>Verse 8</u> *"For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines."* But *"these are but the beginning of the birth pains."*

3. Be on <u>GUARD</u>.

Mark 13:9, Jesus says, *"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."*

<u>1 Peter 4:12-13</u> *"Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed."*

4. Do not be <u>ANXIOUS</u>.

<u>2 Peter 3:9</u> *"The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance."*

III. Four Principal Parameters

1. Seriousness, Not <u>SENSATIONALISM</u>

2. Scripture First, Not <u>HEADLINES</u>

3. Second Coming, Not the <u>RAPTURE</u>

4. Stage-Setting, Not <u>FULFILLMENT</u>