

## **The Return of Christ**

Mark 13:14-26

**Context:** During the week before Jesus dies on the cross, Jesus shares with his disciples the unfolding events of the end of the world.

### **As Jesus teaches on the end times...**

#### **I. \_\_\_\_\_ the Tribulation (vs. 14-23)**

- A. The Abomination of Desolation is described in detail in the Old Testament book of Daniel (9:27; 11:31; 12:11) and in the New Testament in 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12 and 1 John 2:18. It refers to a desecration of the Jewish Temple by the Antichrist.
- B. While there are diverse views on interpreting these passages, many scholars believe that when the Antichrist appears, a period of great tribulation will unfold on the earth.

#### **II. \_\_\_\_\_ His coming return (vs. 24-31)**

- A. At some point after a time of tribulation, Christ will return and consummate the end of the age - bringing judgment on the world.
- B. There is a great mystery in scripture as to the timing of the return of Jesus. This uncertainty has led to many diverse views today as to when Christ might return.
- C. Whatever view you hold to, all Christians need to maintain a humility towards an imminent return of Jesus - that Jesus could return at any moment.

#### **III. \_\_\_\_\_ awake (vs. 32-36)**

- A. Four times in the closing verses of Mark 14 (vs. 33a; 34b, 35a, & 37b) we are told to "Stay Awake." This means to be on guard, to watch and be alert and look for the approaching signs.
- B. We must all live as if His return could come today.