

Title: “The Future: Jesus Tells Us What to Wait For”

Date: 5/24/20

Series: Jesus for Skeptics, Beginners, and Strugglers (sermon 15 of 16)

Text: Mark 13:1-4

“Jesus predicted, and even promised, certain things would happen. This matters more for the present than you might think.”

Outline

Listen to Mark 13:1-4. What is it about?

A cool job: a futurist. (A difficult job, though.)

The Christian life, and why both the past and future matter:

- *The past.* Guilt-Grace-**Gratitude**. Heidelberg Catechism.
- *The future.*
 - What you believe about the future matters! It matters for you today. *Death of the universe. Hitler got away with it. You will be forgotten.*
 - **Hope** comes to mind, and we talked about it last week. It’s more than that. Read John Piper’s *Future Grace*.

Jesus’ three key predictions/promises: the future of the Temple, the Kingdom, and the King

(1) *The temple.* It will be destroyed. fulfilled in 70 AD through the Romans

- a. *The temple was broken before it was destroyed. It was broken because it was obsolete. The curtain already ripped! (Mark 15:37-38)*
- b. So this is a past event for us. We have access to the Holy of Holies even now through the blood of Jesus. A great example of guilt->grace->gratitude.

(2) The Kingdom will arrive (consummation)

- a. There will be a long delay, but it will come (ex. Luke 19:11)
- b. What is the Kingdom of God/heaven like when it comes in full? Food, reclining at the table (Luke 13:29). It is “the renewal of all things.” (Matt 19:28) Including our bodies!
- c. We wait for physical perfection of the Kingdom! This world is not God’s *magnum opus*. That’s coming.

(3) The King will arrive (Matt 25:31, 24:27)

- a. The second coming. “So Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.” (Heb 9:28)
- b. The arrival of the perfect leader!

Questions for Application and Review

1. How does the future Jesus proclaimed affect our living in this coronavirus moment? (Part of the answer has to do with the word “moment”!)
2. Read Matthew 25, a whole chapter on the arrival of the King and Kingdom.
 - a. How do these things affect your life now?
 - b. What does Jesus tell us to do in this passage?