

# ONE HUNDRED YEARS FROM NOW

Mark 13:1-4

## INTRODUCTION:

- A. In Mark 12, we find Jesus going into the temple for probably the last time.
- B. When He came out of the temple, His disciples talked about the beauty of the temple, **Mark 13:1-4.**
  - 1. He had just observed the poor widow putting in her two mites (the smallest Jewish coin).
  - 2. As Jesus was coming out of the temple, one of His disciples was so impressed with the beauty of the temple that he said, "Teacher, see what manner of stones and what buildings are here!" (v.1.)
    - a. I wonder what Jesus was thinking on this occasion.
    - b. Although we don't know what the Lord was thinking, we do know what some of His disciples were thinking: they had rocks in their head and rocks in their eyes - they were thinking about architecture!
  - 3. Jesus shocked His disciples by saying that all the great stones in the temple would be cast down, v.2.
  - 4. His disciples didn't understand, and questioned Him about it, v.3,4.
  - 5. His disciples were shocked because they had thought that the temple would be there Forever.
- C. The disciples' problem was in understanding what was permanent and everlasting and what was not.
- D. I think one of the most successful and useful tools that Satan has ever used has been this very thing: He has deceived man with the lie that what you see is what really matters.

## I. SATAN'S LIE: WHAT YOU SEE IS WHAT REALLY MATTERS.

- A. What do you suppose EVE was thinking about when she reached for the forbidden fruit?
  - 1. Was she thinking, "For generations, people are going to hate me for doing this."? Was she thinking, "A lot of people are going to suffer for my actions."?
  - 2. No, she was thinking, "I want that fruit right now." (Does that remind you of anyone you know?)
- B. What do you suppose ESAU was thinking about when he came home hungry and found Jacob cooking a pot of stew, **Genesis 25:29-34.**
  - 1. Esau had been out in the field hunting and came home really hungry.
  - 2. Jacob offered him a deal -- Esau could eat if he would sell his birthright to him.
  - 3. What was Esau thinking? About the present or the future? V.32 And Esau said, "Look, I am about to die; so what is this birthright to me?"
  - 4. At least Esau thought about it for a moment anyway, v.32.
- C. What do you suppose DAVID was thinking about when he was on his rooftop and saw

Bathsheba bathing? 2 Samuel 11:3.

1. Do you suppose he thought to himself, "This is going to wreck the rest of my life, and destroy my family."?
  2. No, he was just thinking of the present and the fact that he wanted that woman right then.
- D. What do you suppose JUDAS was thinking when he contracted with the chief priests to betray Jesus?
1. Was he thinking, "*No one will ever name their child Judas because of what I am about to do.*"? Was he thinking, "*I am going to go down in history as one of the greatest traitors that ever lived.*"?
  2. He wasn't thinking of the consequences of his actions, because the Bible says that he felt remorse when he saw that Jesus had been condemned, (Matthew 27:3).
  3. He wasn't thinking about the future -- he was just thinking of the moment.
- E. Now, tell me, what is the person thinking about who looks at the Bible, sees what he to do to get his life right, but decides to do something else?
1. To be honest, I can't say I know what he is thinking about.
  2. But I can tell you what he is NOT thinking about.
  3. He is NOT THINKING ABOUT THE FUTURE.

## II. I WANT TO ASK YOU TO DO SOMETHING THAT PEOPLE DON'T USUALLY LIKE TO DO: *THINK ABOUT THE FUTURE.*

- A. I guess you could say that the only people who want you to think about the future
1. Insurance salesmen want you to make sure you are providing for your family if "pre-decease" them.
  2. Morticians encourage you to "pre-arrange" your funeral.
  3. Both of them make the point that even if you feel great right now, you will not live and you need to be prepared to take care of your family.
- B. Tonight I want to take you on a little journey...let's go one hundred years into the future.
1. Try your best to imagine what life will be like *TEN YEARS* from now.
    - a. Some of our teenagers will be married with children of their own in ten years.
    - b. What will happen in ten years? Will you graduate from college? will you get married?
  2. What about *TWENTY YEARS* from now?
    - a. How old will you be? Do you even want to think about it?
    - b. Will you have grandchildren? Great-grandchildren?
  3. What about *THIRTY YEARS*? Where will you be?
  4. What about *FIFTY YEARS* from now? How old will you be in 2048? Some of you are to look weak.
  5. What about *SEVENTY YEARS* from now? *NINETY YEARS*? The only hope for some of us would be the advancements of modern science.
  6. What about *ONE HUNDRED YEARS* from right now? What about 2106?  
\*Unless things change drastically, all of us will have experienced death one hundred from tonight.

Insuran

- C. One hundred years from now, your existence will be beyond that which is in THIS world.

### III. ONE HUNDRED YEARS FROM NOW, WHAT WILL BE IMPORTANT TO YOU

- A. Consider what Paul wrote in **2 Corinthians 4:16-18**.
1. The affliction of this world is temporary and unimportant in comparison the next one.
  2. The things we can see are temporary, the invisible things of God are eternal everlasting.
- B. Imagine that somehow I could give each of you a pair of *magic glasses* that would you to see what would be really important to you one hundred years from now.
1. If I could do that, I think you would be amazed.
    - a. You would not see *any material thing* that you see in this building tonight.

Why?

- a. Because none of this will matter.
  - b. What else can you see with those glasses? Your car? House? Clothes? Jewelry? Guns? No, because those things will not mean anything one hundred years from now.
  2. Those and other things will not mean a thing. Why Not? Because you can see them -- therefore they are temporary, as Paul said in **2 Corinthians 4:18**.
  - \*3. The sad thing is that many people will sacrifice their mate, children, even God, for something that is temporal in nature. They will lose their souls for something that won't mean anything one hundred years from now!
  4. One more item that you would not be able to see with those magic glasses: your body.
    - a. This is just a "fleshly wrap" given to house the eternal soul from God.
    - b. We do a lot to try to preserve, protect and beautify this body.
      1. Try to keep young, wear make-up, use Oil of Olay, pull out gray hairs, etc.
      2. We try to keep this body as healthy as we can.
    - c. This body that we fight to keep functioning as long as possible will one day be useful no longer.
- C. Tonight God is looking down from heaven and telling us that if you can see it, feel it, taste it, buy it, it is temporary and is not going to last forever.

### IV. IF THESE THINGS ARE NOT ETERNAL, THEN IS THERE ANYTHING THAT IS

- A. There is something that you and I cannot see, yet it is something that IS eternal -- something so great that is worth the whole world.

- B. I am talking about your soul: **Matthew 16:26** "For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?"
- C. One hundred years from now, this is what will be most important to you...more than anything in this life, your soul. That is what matters most.

## **CONCLUSION:**

- A. Stop and think -- one hundred years from now, what will you wish that you had done today?
  - 1. Stayed home and watched TV? No.
  - 2. Gone out to eat? No.
- B. One hundred years from now will you wish that you had come forward and obeyed the Lord? Will you wish that you had repented and returned to Him?
- C. Let me ask you another, this time going BACK in time: What if you had died five minutes ago in your current spiritual condition, and the Lord allowed you to come back and sit right here in your usual spot in this building for one more invitation song? What would you do?
- D. One hundred years from now, where will you be? What will really matter?

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