

November 29, 2015
The Bridge Bible Fellowship
Pastor Paul S. Brown
Mark 13:19-27

“The Tribulation – Part 4”

- 3) Tribulation (13:1-27)**
- a) The Prophecy (1-2)**
 - b) The Private Questions (3-4)**
 - c) The Pastoral Answer (5-27)**
 - i. First Half of the Tribulation (5-13)**
 - ii. Middle of the Tribulation (14-18) – Abomination of Desolation**
 - iii. Second Half of the Tribulation (19-27)**

...tribulation (cf. Dan. 9:24-27; Jer. 30:7) such as has not occurred since the beginning of the creation which God created until now, and never will.

...shortened *those* days...

‘Behold, here is the Christ’...

...for false Christs and false prophets will arise, and will show signs and wonders, in order to lead astray, if possible, the elect.

“But take heed; behold, I have told you everything in advance.

“But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers that are in the heavens will be shaken.

“Then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory.

“And then He will send forth the angels, and will gather together His elect from the four winds, from the farthest end of the earth to the farthest end of heaven.

Discussion & Application:

1. What does the word “tribulation” mean? Jesus said that the Tribulation that was coming would be the worst ever in the history of man. Could that have been fulfilled in 70 A.D.? Did everything that is recorded in Revelation 6-18 happen in 70 A.D.? Was 70 A.D. the worst tribulation ever or is the Tribulation yet future?
2. In Mark 13:20, what does it mean that the Lord shortened the days for the sake of the elect? Who are these elect people? Why does He preserve their lives? What does He have planned for their future?
3. Read Acts 1:11. What does it mean that Jesus will come in just the same way they saw Him go up into heaven? How does this help us when people tell us that Jesus returned and He is in Korea (or South America or the Philippines...)? Where will Jesus return to earth? How will He come? How many will know about it when He does?
4. Read Mark 13:21-22. Does a miracle automatically validate the message of a so-called prophet? According to Deuteronomy 13:1-5, what is the true test of a prophet? What does this say about the importance of knowing sound doctrine? How well are you grounded in what you believe and why you believe it?
5. Mark 13:24-27 is our blessed hope... the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. Read the following passages and be encouraged to persevere until He comes:
 - John 13:36-14:3
 - Phil. 3:20-21
 - James 5:8
 - 1 John 2:28
 - Titus 2:11-14
 - 2 Thess. 1:6-10
6. Read 2 Peter 3:1-18. What is Peter’s purpose in explaining to his readers that they were living in “the last days” (see verses 11- 12)? Why do you think that Christ has not returned already? What encouragement can you find in this passage that will help you to “be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless?”
7. Read 1 Peter 4:1-19. For the true believer, what is the proper response to knowing that the end of all things is near? In verses 17-19, Peter says it is “time for judgment to begin with the household of God...” What does this mean? How should this affect your walk with God and how does this affect the way you interact with those outside the household of faith?
8. Read Revelation 22:7-21. Jesus said three times that He was coming quickly. Until He comes what are we supposed to be doing? (See v. 17) Are you fulfilling your duty? To whom will you extend the invitation this week to “come” to Jesus? Who will you invite to some upcoming outreach events?