



## “Staying Awake”

November 30, 2025

Mark 13:1-13



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### Introduction:

How are you intentionally keeping yourself “spiritually awake”?

What do you think *spiritual watchfulness* means?

### Destruction of the Temple (Mark 13:1-2):

*“And as he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, “Look, Teacher, what wonderful stones and what wonderful buildings!” And Jesus said to him, “Do you see these great buildings? There will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down.”*

#### 1. The Magnificent Temple:

- One disciple makes a comment about the “wonderfulness” of the temple?
- The Temple complex was a magnificent architectural feat.

#### 2. Prophesying:

- Jesus’ prophecy about the destruction of the temple comes to pass in AD66-70 when Rome destroys both the temple and the city of Jerusalem.

### Signs of the End (Mark 13:3-8):

*And as he sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew asked him privately, “Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when all these things are about to be accomplished?” And Jesus began to say to them, “See that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am he!’ and they will lead many astray. And when you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed. This must take place, but the end is not yet. 8For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. These are but the beginning of the birth pains.*

#### 1. The Glory Departs...

- In what way might this description of Jesus leaving the temple be connected with Ezekiel 10:18-19 and Ezekiel 11:22-23?
- In response to Jesus prophecy, what do the disciples ask about?

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## 2. The Warnings

- Jesus warns of those might “lead you astray”. Who or what kind of person might Jesus be referring to? (See Matthew 24:11)
- Jesus says to **NOT be alarmed** over war, rumors of war, or natural disasters. These things **MUST** happen.
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- What is significant about the analogy of “**birth pains**”? (See Romans 8:22, 1 Thess. 5:3)

### Warning of Persecution (Mark 13:9-13):

*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. And the gospel must first be proclaimed to all nations. And when they bring you to trial and deliver you over, do not be anxious beforehand what you are to say, but say whatever is given you in that hour, for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit. And brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death. And you will be hated by all for my name’s sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.*

### 1. Be On Guard

- Jesus’ primary warning and exhortation throughout Mark 13 is: “Stay Awake” - be watchful, be ready
- Be ready for persecution - from government and from family. (2 Timothy 3:12)

### 2. The Persecution

- Don’t be anxious about the persecution - be ready - **The Holy Spirit will help you.**
- You may experience persecution from those closest to you.

### 3. The Call for Endurance

- Jesus’ warnings to “stay awake”, be on guard, be ready for persecution are all **given in love so that we may be able to endure to the very end.** (See John 16:1)

### Application:

- What do you think it might look like to *stay awake* or *be on guard*?
- How are you feeling led by the Spirit in order to be live more fully “awake”?
- What relationship does prayer have to being “spiritually awake”?

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