

Series "The God Who Serves"
"The Last Generation"
Mark 13:28-37
Study-55

2 Peter 3:3-4

**Revelation – The Only Book In The Bible That Offers A Triple Blessing:
Revelation 1:3**

**Our passage is recorded in Matthew 24:32-44; Mark 13:28-37; Luke
21:28-38**

"stay on the alert" – 4X in Verses 33, 34, 35, 37

The Thought Of Our Passage: "When Will Jesus Return? The Question Should Really Be How Should We Spend Our Time Until He Returns?"

1. Verses 28-31 – We Know Jesus Will Return

2. Verses 32-33 – We Don't Know When Jesus Will Return

3. Verses 34-37 – We Should Look For Jesus' Return

1. Verses 28-31 – We Know Jesus Will Return:

Mark 13:28

Mark 13:3 – "He was sitting on the Mount of Olives" – "The Olivet Discourse", Matt 24-25; Mark 13; Luke 21

Mark 13:1-13 – The Final Days

Mark 13:14-23 – The Great Tribulation

Mark 13:24-27 – The Second Coming Of Jesus

Mark 13:28-37 – The Last Generation: Jesus closed this section of His discourse with 2 practical admonitions: Fig Tree; The Servants Waiting For Their Master.

Verse 28 – Lesson From The Fig Tree: The word learn – "get it, learn this" parable – "cast alongside of"; Illustration alongside of instruction.

Mark 11:13-14 – The Cursing of the Fig Tree

"fig tree" – Hosea 9:10

Luke 21:29 – “Behold the fig tree and all the trees;

Mark 13:29

“Even so, you too, when you see these things happening,” – What things is Jesus referring to? Things just described in verses 14 to 23.

Mark 13:30

“Truly I say to you,” – “this is of the truth, this is a trustworthy statement”; “this generation”

Note 4 Different Views:

- 1. The Rebirth Of The Nation Of Israel: “generation”** – generally defined as 40 years. Some have suggested that with the event of **May 14, 1948**, Israel was rebirthed as a Nation. So the suggestion was that Jesus would come within 40 years of 1948.

Luke 21:29 – “Behold the fig tree and all the trees;

- 2. The Nation Of Israel Will Always Exist: “generation”** – means “this race”; Israel will never cease to be or exist. Jeremiah 31:35-36
- 3. The Near Fulfillment:** 70 AD – The Temple and the city of Jerusalem would be destroyed by the Roman army.
- 4. The Far Fulfillment:** The generation that is alive to see the abomination of desolation, or these events transpiring. Mark 13:24-26

“will not pass away until all these things take place.” – Revelation 6-19

Phil 3:20

Verse 31 – Jesus’ Authority: Mark 13:31

2 Peter 3:10-12

“but My words will not pass away.” – The Temporal Versus The Eternal.

Isaiah 40:8

Matthew 5:18

Luke 16:17

“When The Bible Speaks, God Speaks!” Jesus’ Word is God’s Word! His Words are to be heeded and obeyed.

2. Verses 32-33 – We Don’t Know When Jesus Will Return:

Mark 13:32

“But of that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven,”

Matthew 24:44

“nor the Son, but the Father alone.”

John 15:15

1 Tim 6:16

Phil 2:6-9

1 Thess 5:1-5

Mark 13:33

“Take heed,” – Beware, perceive. We need to study. We need to understand.

“keep on the alert” – “to lie sleepless, stay awake”

1 Corinthians 15:56-58

“and pray;” – “to pray to God, supplicate, worship, pray earnestly, make prayer”; Not being able to sleep should give way to prayer.

Acts 1:6-7

Titus 2:11-14

“When is the time?” When the question really should be “How should we spend our time profitably?”

3. Verses 34-37 – We Should Look For Jesus’ Return:

Mark 13:34

Verse 34 – Lesson Of The Servants Waiting For Their Master: “It is like a man, away on a journey,” – This is Jesus’ Ascension. Acts 1:9-11

We Are To Be About Our Father’s Business: “assigning to each one his task,”

“also commanded the doorkeeper to stay on the alert.” – Note: “stay on the alert”, Verses 33, 34, 35, 37.

Mark 13:35

Roman Watch – “whether in the evening (6-9 PM), at midnight (9 PM-12 AM), at cockcrowing (12-3 AM), or in the morning (3-6 AM).”

Mark 13:36

Luke 21:34

2 Peter 3:14

Mark 13:37

Application:

1. Keeping Alert Means Staying Awake And Living A Godly Life In Service To God.
2. This Earth Is Going To Pass Away, So Our Focus Should Be Upon God’s Kingdom, Which Is Eternal, And Living For The Spiritual.
3. When Will Jesus Return? The Question Should Really Be – How Should We Spend Our Time Until He Returns?
4. When The Bible Speaks, God Speaks; Jesus’ Words Carry The Same Authority As All Of Scripture, Being That Of God’s Word.