

The GOSPEL of MARK

Our Call to Discipleship

Kingdom Inauguration: Tactics for the Tribulation

Mark 13:14-23

PASTOR'S PRAYER

Almighty Father in Heaven, you are good, true and righteous in all your ways and in who you are. Thank you LORD for granting us your Word this morning that we might be sustained. Thank you for Jesus Christ our prophet who warns us of the dangers of our days and His glory to be received fully in the days ahead. Thank you for your Spirit this morning that will give us eyes to see and ears to hear your Word that faith and repentance might spring up in our dry and weary hearts. Your Spirit that preserves our unable hearts and minds to rest in Christ. You abide with us. You go before us. You sustain us with every step. You have promised you will bring us all the way home, a better possession and an abiding one, our better country, that is, the heavenly one, our eternally blessed homeland. Oh that your kingdom will come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven that we might glory in your name and rejoice in your presence. Sustain us, then, LORD even this morning, during this very hour as we hear Christ set forward in the preaching of your Word. Left to ourselves we will listen. We may even understand some facts or gain a bit of knowledge BUT apart from your Spirit we will not receive by faith the blessings of enlightenment, wisdom, spiritual discernment. We will not know the peace you offer in Christ. We will miss the joy that only Christ can bring. And we will continue in our despair and dread allowing these to drown out the glorious, sure, and eternally blessed hope that we will sustain us in the difficult days ahead. So we ask, we plead for your Spirit to come and grant us these eternal blessings as we are careful to prayerfully hear your Word preached and Christ set before us this morning. We ask these in your blessed name, Jesus Christ our King. Amen & Amen.

OUTLINE

1. Flee to the Mountains (vv. 14-17)
2. Pray in the Tribulation (vv. 18-20)
3. Beware of the False Christs (vv. 21-23)

Central Textual Truth

Jesus calls His disciples to beware of the false christs & prophets of His day.

Central Sermon Aim

I want SGBC to live circumspect lives by faith in Christ in these dangerous days.