

GOOD NEWS and BAD NEWS



SERMON NOTES NOVEMBER 17, 2024

26th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Mark 13:1-8

MARK 13:1-8 (NRSV)

As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!" 2 Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down."

3 When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, 4 "Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?" 5 Then Jesus began to say to them, "Beware that no one leads you astray. 6 Many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. 7 When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. 8 For nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.

This passage in Mark's Gospel is commonly referred to as the "Little Apocalypse" what does apocalypse mean?

As we read this chapter in Mark's Gospel does it bring you fear or hope?

How do we recognize false prophets?

Is it helpful to try and determine the day and time of Jesus' return?

How do we keep our faith and perspective in the midst of chaos, confusion, and disaster?