

CLIFF NOTE VERION OF WHY DOOMS DAY PROPHETS ARE WRONG

Reading from Mark 13:3-20. *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. ... when you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed. ...There will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. These are but the beginning of the birth pains. Earthquakes and wars have always been and will always be, as long as men dwell on this sinful earth. This was especially true across the Roman empire previous to 70 AD. Jesus said, "Do not be alarmed."*

"...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. This was accomplished by AD 58, according to Colossians 1:6, 23.

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. This was the "comforting" work (by definition of the Greek term) of the Spirit, promised by Jesus and only available in the early part of the first century.

..."But when you see the abomination of desolation standing where he ought not to be ... Explained in Luke 21:20 to be (Roman) armies surrounding Jerusalem

..., then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. Fleeing to the mountains will do little good on the last day, but actually did great good at the destruction of Jerusalem. No Christians perished among the untold thousands who died at that time.

...Let the one who is on the housetop not go down, nor enter his house, to take anything out, and let the one who is in the field not turn back to take his cloak. Again, quickly fleeing would do no good on the last day, but did much good at Jerusalem's destruction.

And alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! Pray that it may not happen in winter. This is because these things would make it difficult to flee the destruction of Rome coming upon them in 70 AD. These things will make no difference on Judgment Day.

For in those days there will be such tribulation as has not been from the beginning of the creation that God created until now, and never will be. And if the Lord had not cut short the days, no human being would be saved. But for the sake of the elect, whom he chose, he shortened the days. Roman General Titus was called back to Rome which prevented him from chasing down all the Jewish Christians who fled Jerusalem when the opportunity presented itself. Thus, the days were cut short. When blood ran ankle deep in the streets of Jerusalem none of it was the blood of Christians.

Reading a text correctly, instead of sensationally makes all the difference.

- by Carl McMurray