

Wake Up! (Mark 13:28-37)

Introduction

- What does Jesus exhort us to do in this passage?
- What sorts of trials will Christians face in the here-and-now according to v1-23?
- What will happen at the end of time according to v24-27?
- What will our thinking about the future do to us?
- What should all our theology do to us?

i Two Tricky Sections

Tricky Section One

- What does Jesus do in v28-29?
- What does “generation” mean in v30?
- Why does this make v30 a bit tricky?
- When Jesus says, “...until all these things have happened,” what could his words actually mean?
- What is Jesus saying then about the things He’s spoken about in v1-27?
- When, then, did the difficulties he’s mentioned start?
- To what extent was v30 fulfilled?

Tricky Section Two

- What does Jesus say he does not know in v32?
- Why is that a problem for those who believe that he is both God and man?

Part of the Chalcedonian Creed says that Jesus is one person who possesses “two natures without confusion, without change, without division, without separation, the distinctiveness of the natures being by no means removed because of the union, but the properties of each nature being preserved”.

- How many persons is Jesus?
- How many natures does he have?
- Do his natures interfere with each other?
- How can Jesus say that he is ignorant of something in v32, then?

ii Three Practical Applications

- What will our thinking about the future do to us?

Be Awake and Watchful

- What commands does Jesus give in v33-37?
- What is the main thrust of them?
- What should we always keep in front of us as Christians?
- Why?
- How much time do you keep your eyes on the goal?
- What is likely to happen if you do not do this very much?
- What do you need to do if you are not a Christian?

Do Your Duty

- What are we not to do as Christians according to v34-36?
- Why?
- What should you do if you are weary in your Christian service?

Trust

- What has been the tone of our Lord's words in this chapter?
- Why do we not need to panic?
- What do you need to do if you enter into some of the sufferings mentioned in Mark 13?