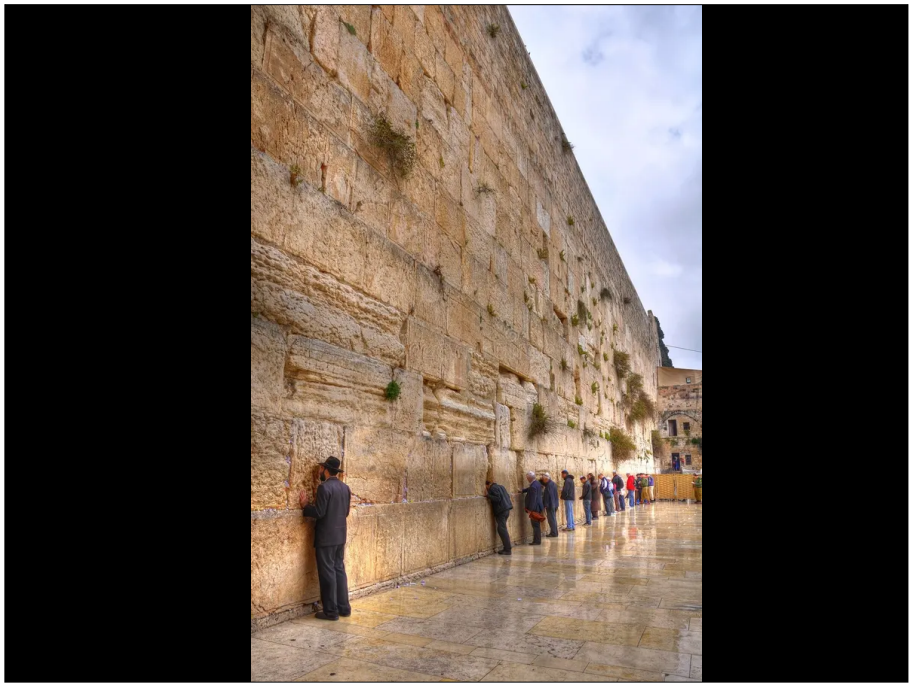
Apocalypse/apocalyptic

- The end times
- A time in the future of a great cosmic shift and talks about God's judgment
- The Day of the Lord
- Mark was written in the 60s CE
  - Christians were persecuted
  - The temple was destroyed 70CE

Walk through Mark 13

- v.1: leaving the temple grounds



Walk through Mark 13

- V.1: leaving the temple grounds
- V.2: “Do you see all these great buildings?... Not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down.”

Walk through Mark 13

- At the Mount of Olives
  - Olivet Discourse
- Peter, James, John, and Andrew
  - V.4: “Tell us, when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that they are all about to be fulfilled?”

Walk through Mark 13

- vv.5-23: The temple will be destroyed, time of persecution and struggle
- vv.24-27: end times; The Day of the Lord

Mark 13:5-23: temple destruction

- Rise of false prophets (vv.5,6,22)
- Wars (vv.7,8), earthquakes (v.8), famines (v.8)
  - Only the beginning (v.8), the start of the order of events
- Struggle, persecution, etc (vv.9-23)

Mark 13:24-27: The Day of the Lord

- After the destruction of the temple, the end will happen one day
- Quote from Isaiah that highlights big changes (vv.24-25)
  - Metaphor for power shifts
- Day of redemption/saving - the Lord will gather his people to him (v.27)

The Day of the Lord

- Humans have a great capacity for good or great capacity for evil
- Humans redefine what is acceptable
- Try to hold power using death
- Exodus 15: “the day” - moment of liberation/freedom
- Long for saving again - long for “the day of the Lord”

The Day of the Lord

- Amos: the people need saving... from themselves
  - The oppressed have become the oppressor (Amos 5)
- Years later... the people long to be freed from their new oppressor: Rome
  - Jesus is concerned with the true enemy: our capacity for evil

The Day of the Lord

- Jesus will confront evil by dying on the cross
- We continue to battle for power and redefine evil
- Revelation: vision about The Day of the Lord
  - Jesus on a white horse, pre-bloodied (Revelation 19)
    - Jesus’ mouth: a sword
      - Authority to define what is good/evil

Walk through Mark 13

- Filled with assurances and words of calm toward the community
  - "Beware" or to keep awake and alert (vv.5, 9, 23, 33, 35), not be alarmed and not to worry (vv.7, 11), encourages them to rely on their faithful practices like prayer (v.18), and reminds them to prepare

Walk through Mark 13

- vv.5-23: Temple destroyed
  - The temple is destroyed in 70CE
  - v.30 "Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened"
- vv.24-27: The Day of the Lord
  - Unknown time (v.32)

Walk through Mark 13

- Vv.33-37: be vigilant
  - v.34: Parable: man leaving his house, servants carry on with their assigned tasks
  - Carry on with what Jesus has instructed us to do: love God and love people

Takeaways

- Be prepared and do not worry
- Our assigned task: love God and love people
- Olivet: a significant place of God's presence, Jesus' ministry and sacrifice
  - We would be a church community where God's presence is known, experienced, encouraged; known by the love of Christ