



From Bad to Worse, to Really Ugly: The Beginning of the End (Part 1 of 2)





The End Times



The End Times

Pre-Tribulational



The End Times

Pre-Tribulational





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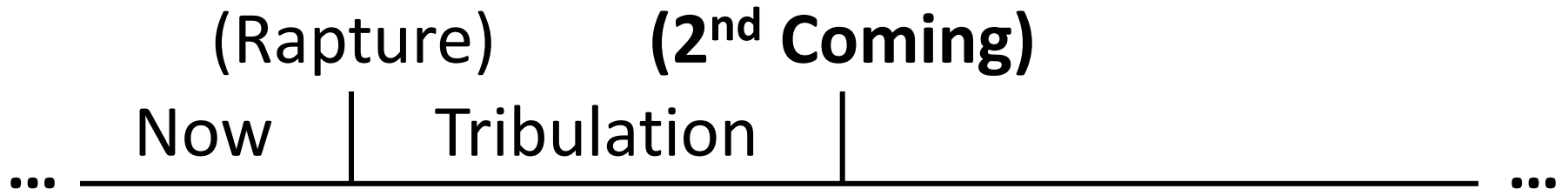
(Rapture)





The End Times

Pre-Tribulational





The End Times





The End Times

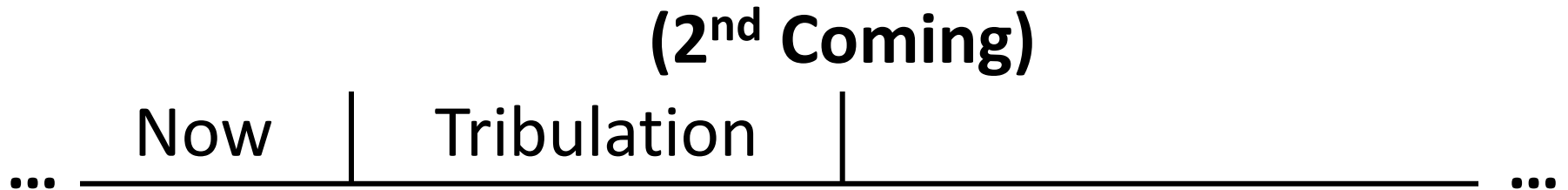
Post-Tribulational





The End Times

Post-Tribulational





Jesus talks about the end times to prepare us, to empower us to keep trusting until He returns.



It's going to get bad.



Mark 13:1-8

¹ And as he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, “Look, Teacher, what wonderful stones and what wonderful buildings!” ² And Jesus said to him, “Do you see these great buildings? There will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down.” ³ And as he sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴ “Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when all these things are about to be accomplished?” ⁵ And Jesus began to say to them, “See that no one leads



Mark 13:1-8

you astray. ⁶ Many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. ⁷ And when you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed. This must take place, but the end is not yet. ⁸ For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. These are but the beginning of the birth pains.



What tempts followers of Jesus to stop following Him?



What tempts followers of Jesus to stop following Him?

DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES



It's going to get bad.



It's going to get bad.

- **People pretending to be Jesus**



Mark 13:1-6

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It's going to get bad.

- **People pretending to be Jesus**



It's going to get bad.

- People pretending to be Jesus
- **Civil, national, and international instability and turmoil**



Mark 13:1-8

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It's going to get bad.

- People pretending to be Jesus
- **Civil, national, and international instability and turmoil**



It's going to get bad.

- People pretending to be Jesus
- Civil, national, and international instability and turmoil
- **Natural catastrophes**



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It's going to get bad.

- People pretending to be Jesus
- Civil, national, and international instability and turmoil
- **Natural catastrophes**



It's going to get bad.

- People pretending to be Jesus
- Civil, national, and international instability and turmoil
- Natural catastrophes
- **All this bad is just the beginning of the end**



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It's going to get bad.



It's going to get bad.

Then it's going to get worse.



Mark 13:9-13

⁹ “But be on your guard. 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. ¹⁰ And the gospel must first be proclaimed to all nations. ¹¹ 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. ¹² And brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them



Mark 13:9-13

put to death. ¹³ And you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.



Then it's going to get worse.



Then it's going to get worse.

- **Intense spiritual persecution**



Mark 13:9-13

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Then it's going to get worse.

- **Intense spiritual persecution**



Then it's going to get worse.

- Intense spiritual persecution
- **Good things amidst the worse**



Then it's going to get worse.

- Intense spiritual persecution
- Good things amidst the worse
 - **Opportunities to demonstrate and articulate Jesus' love**



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- Intense spiritual persecution
- Good things amidst the worse
 - Opportunities to demonstrate and articulate Jesus' love
 - **God will empower us**



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- Intense spiritual persecution
- Good things amidst the worse
 - Opportunities to demonstrate and articulate Jesus' love
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 - **Gospel will be shared broadly**



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- Good things amidst the worse
 - Opportunities to demonstrate and articulate Jesus' love
 - God will empower us
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- Intense spiritual persecution
- Good things amidst the worse
- **Betrayal by those we most love and trust**



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Then it's going to get worse.

- Intense spiritual persecution
- Good things amidst the worse
- **Betrayal by those we most love and trust**



Then it's going to get worse.

- Intense spiritual persecution
- Good things amidst the worse
- Betrayal by those we most love and trust
- **Bitter and widespread hatred for us because of our faith**



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It's going to get bad.

Then it's going to get worse.



It's going to get bad.

Then it's going to get worse.

Then it's going to get really ugly.



Mark 13:14-23

¹⁴ “But when you see the abomination of desolation standing where he ought not to be (let the reader understand), then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. ¹⁵ Let the one who is on the housetop not go down, nor enter his house, to take anything out, ¹⁶ and let the one who is in the field not turn back to take his cloak. ¹⁷ And alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! ¹⁸ Pray that it may not happen in winter. ¹⁹ For in those days there will be such tribulation as has not been from the beginning of the creation that



Mark 13:14-23

God created until now, and never will be. ²⁰ 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. ²¹ And then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'Look, there he is!' do not believe it. ²² For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform signs and wonders, to lead astray, if possible, the elect. ²³ But be on guard; I have told you all things beforehand.



Then it's going to get really ugly.



Then it's going to get really ugly.

- **Somebody with notoriously evil will have significant influence**



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- **Somebody notoriously evil will have significant influence**



Then it's going to get really ugly.

- Somebody notoriously evil will have significant influence
- **Worse than anything the world has ever seen**



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Then it's going to get really ugly.

- Somebody notoriously evil will have significant influence
- **Worse than anything the world has ever seen**



Then it's going to get really ugly.

- Somebody notoriously evil will have significant influence
- Worse than anything the world has ever seen
- **Attention getting false Christs will be rampant**



Mark 13:14-23

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Then it's going to get really ugly.

- Somebody notoriously evil will have significant influence
- Worse than anything the world has ever seen
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Then it's going to get really ugly.

- Somebody notoriously evil will have significant influence
- Worse than anything the world has ever seen
- Attention getting false Christs will be rampant
- **God is still in control**



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Jesus' Message:



Jesus' Message:

- **Be prepared.**



Jesus' Message:

- Be prepared.
- **It's going to get ugly.**



Jesus' Message:

- Be prepared.
- It's going to get ugly.
- **The ugliness is necessary to the “birth” of 2nd coming.**



Jesus' Message:

- Be prepared.
- It's going to get ugly.
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- **Lots of people pretending to be the Christ.**



Jesus' Message:

- Be prepared.
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- **God is in control of it all.**



Jesus' Message:

- Be prepared.
- It's going to get ugly.
- The ugliness is necessary to the "birth" of 2nd coming.
- Lots of people pretending to be the Christ.
- God is in control of it all.
- **Trust through it all and be saved.**



Jesus' Message:

- Be prepared.
- It's going to get ugly.
- The ugliness is necessary to the “birth” of 2nd coming.
- Lots of people pretending to be the Christ.
- God is in control of it all.
- Trust through it all and be saved.
- **When Jesus comes back, it will be obvious.
And fabulous for those who love Him.**



Jesus' Big idea:



Jesus' Big idea:

“Be prepared and be faithful. Don't drift”



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13:5 And Jesus began to say to them, “See that no one leads you astray.”



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“Be prepared and be faithful. Don't drift”

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Takeaways:



Takeaways:

- **Thank God for our life now.**



Takeaways:

- Thank God for our life now.
- **Prepare to be prepared.**



Takeaways:

- Thank God for our life now.
- Prepare to be prepared.
 - **Read the Word**



Takeaways:

- Thank God for our life now.
- Prepare to be prepared.
 - Read the Word
 - **Hang with others preparing**



Takeaways:

- Thank God for our life now.
- Prepare to be prepared.
 - Read the Word
 - Hang with others preparing
 - **Hang with those who need to meet Jesus**



Takeaways:

- Thank God for our life now.
- Prepare to be prepared.
- **Trust that God is working in our present circumstances.**



Takeaways:

- Thank God for our life now.
- Prepare to be prepared.
- Trust that God is working in our present circumstances.
- **Come back next week.**