



## SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

*Week of January 14, 2024*

### **Sermon Text Luke 21:25-38**

***[25] “And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, [26] people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. [27] And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. [28] Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” [29] And he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. [30] As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. [31] So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. [32] Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. [33] Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. [34] “But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. [35] For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. [36] But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.” [37] And every day he was teaching in the temple, but at night he went out and lodged on the mount called Olivet. [38] And early in the morning all the people came to him in the temple to hear him.***

### **Discussion Questions**

1. How do you think most non-Christians would respond if they were to read Jesus' words about the end times and His second coming to earth? How do you think most Christians respond? Is there any *practical* difference between the two responses? If so, what are they?
2. We sometimes want to relegate Jesus to something much smaller than who He truly is. To some, Jesus only shows up in our lives like a comforting blanket when our souls are cold, a little light when we're walking in darkness, a wise guru when we need enlightenment, a vending machine when we are in desperate need, or our genie in the bottle when all else fails. How does our passage this week explode these small, manageable, personalized views of Jesus?
3. In our sermon we learned that we can't have our hearts set on two competing things at the same time. How does a focus on the needs and concerns of this present life conflict with the needs and concerns of the life to come?

4. How does prayer reveal the degree of our dependence on God? How does prayer help us to stand strong and stay alert for Christ's impending return? Think about your prayer life in relation to the previous two questions and explain how your prayer life could improve.
  
5. Why is it so important for Christians to remember and believe Jesus when He says, "*Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.*" ? What can cause believers to forget or not believe Jesus' words?