MARK 13: 1-37

Birth Pains

- **False Messiahs –** Acts 5.36, Acts 21.38

- **Famines –** Acts 11.28

- **Persecution of believers –** Acts 4.3, Acts 5.18 and 40, Acts 8.1-4

- **Gospels to the nations –** Jerusalem (Acts 2.14-41), Judea (Acts 8.1, 9.31), Samaria (Acts 8.4-8), Ends of the earth (Acts 13-20)

- **Witness to governors –** Acts 13.7, Acts 18.12, Acts 24-26

- **Witness to kings –** Acts 25-26

MARK 13: 1-37

Abomination that causes desolation

- **Daniel 9.27 -** And at the temple he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him.

- **Daniel 11.31** - His armed forces will rise up to desecrate the temple fortress and will abolish the daily sacrifice. Then they will set up the abomination that causes desolation.

- **Daniel 12.11** - From the time that the daily sacrifice is abolished and the abomination that causes desolation is set up, there will be 1,290 days.

MARK 13: 1-37

Abomination that causes desolation

- **Antiochus Epiphanes** – 167BC; set up altar to Zeus in Temple; sacrificed pig on it; alter not used for 3yrs

- **Titus –** enters Temple victoriously in 70AD; destroys it; see Lk 19.43-44

- **Antichrist –** the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction. He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God (2Thes 2.3-4.)

MARK 13: 1-37

Watch out- be on guard; beware

- v5, v9, v23, v33

Two major concerns:

- **Deception**
  - **2Cor 11.14** - for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light
  - Know the Truth

- **Falling away during times of distress** (persecution, tribulation)
  - **Shallow soil** – roots are not deep enough to withstand difficulty
  - Disciple + desire = deep roots

MARK 13: 1-37

Keep watch - be prepared for return of Jesus

- v34, v35, and v37

How to be prepared?

- **Mt 24.45 –** Who is the faithful and wise servant…

    - **Be wise** – Mt 25.1-13; bridesmaids

        - **Persevere** - have enough 'oil' to wait for as long as it takes

    - **Be faithful** - Mt 25.14-30; talents

        - **Steward** - as we wait, use what God has given us to further His purposes