

1. Opening Prayer

2. Intro: Apocalypse

a. Definition

Apocalypse: origin. *apokalypsis* (Greek): apo (off) + kalypto (to cover): to uncover, to manifest

b. Characteristics in Jewish Apocalypse

Revelation of secret

Literary in form

Symbolic in language

Rigid determinism

Dualism

Vindication and judgment

Eschatological in content

Savior as Messiah or Son of Man

Recollection of the past and revelation of the future

Persecution or suffering

Question. Can you find any of those in Gospel Mark?

3. Read Ch. 12

4. Discussion

- a. What does the verse 1 tell us about the disciples' attitude to the Temple?
- b. Why do you think the disciples asked Jesus again in verse 4?
- c. In verse 4, the disciples asked about "these things." Why do you think they used the plural forms instead of singular?
- d. What is the sign of cosmic eschatology, according to Jesus?
- e. How many kinds of "false christ" do we know or see?
- f. Verses 3-8 are about the beginning and verses 9-13 might be after the beginning. What is an important thing that we need consider?
- g. How serious would be the persecution upon Christians?
- h. What are the last persecutions before the end of the world?
- i. How would the Christians be comforted during the persecutions?
- j. What does "keep awake" mean?
- k. Why would the master in the parable come back like a thief?
- l. Someone says that this chapter has the substance of Jesus' farewell speech: prediction, promise, and prescription. Can you find them in this chapter?

5. Closing Prayer