



## HOMEWORK FOR March 12, 2024

### The Gospel According to Mark

**Read Chapters 11-13**

1) Read Mark 11:1-11. What are some details Mark includes in this vignette (knowing that Mark, a writer of few details includes only the important ones) that seem like they are important? Does your study Bible say anything about them? Are there some Old Testament cross-references you might want to read? \_\_\_\_\_

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2) Directly following this story, when all seemed “triumphant,” a series of conflicts arises in the rest of the chapter. (And, a “Markan sandwich!”) Chapter 12 also includes a series of run-ins, arguments, challenges. These all involve the “religious leaders” in Jerusalem. What are the kinds of things Jesus is being tested or challenged about and what kinds of “traps” are they trying to set for him? \_\_\_\_\_

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3) Why do you suppose Mark ended the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter with the example of the poor widow? \_\_\_\_\_

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4) Read Mark 13. NOTE: As you read this chapter, it will be tempting to call to mind other New Testament scriptures which use similar imagery and have the same themes. Try to keep your mind only on the words that Mark has recorded. This style of writing is called “apocalyptic.” The two major themes Jesus addresses are the fall of the temple (which was immanent at the time Mark wrote) and the future coming of the “Son of Man.” How would you summarize what Jesus says here in Mark about both of these themes? \_\_\_\_\_

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#### **FOR FURTHER REFLECTION**

At the end of chapter 13, Jesus talks about living “watchful” until the future final event happens. Looking through the entire chapter 13, what are some ways that we are to live in the “watchful” times (right now)?

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