

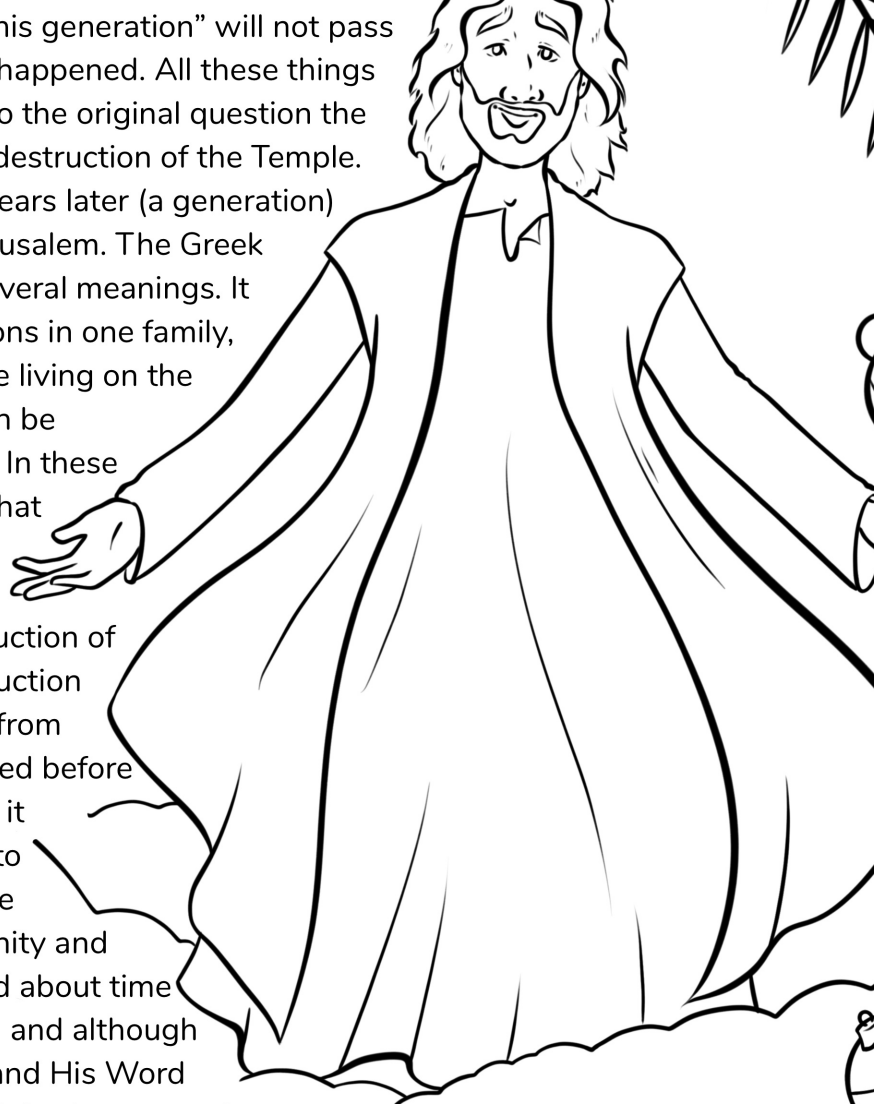


KIDS' LECTIONARY LEARNING TEACHING SUPPLEMENT

1ST SUNDAY IN ADVENT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3RD, 2023

BIBLE LESSON: MARK 13:24-37

Read Mark 13:24-37



In verse 30 Jesus says that “this generation” will not pass away until all these things have happened. All these things can very well be referring back to the original question the disciples asked Jesus about the destruction of the Temple. The Temple was destroyed 40 years later (a generation) when the Romans destroyed Jerusalem. The Greek word for generation can have several meanings. It can refer to successive generations in one family, or it can be referring to all people living on the earth at a particular age, or it can be speaking about a length of time. In these verses, it is more than possible that Jesus is talking about a specific time and the entire generation of humankind. That is, the destruction of Jerusalem (a picture of the destruction of all creation) and all peoples—from Adam to the last person conceived before Christ’s return. If we understand it that way, then Jesus is pointing to all the signs which will take place within the broad scope of humanity and before His return. When we read about time we understand it in a linear way, and although Jesus was speaking to humans and His Word was meant for those in His day, it is also meant for us, and it also reaches beyond our comprehension. So, by “this generation” Jesus can refer to the generation to come or each generation until the final generation present on the earth when all the signs come to their ultimate, climactic conclusion.

In the second half of the lesson today Jesus says to Peter, James, John, and Andrew, “Be alert!”. He is putting His servants in charge of His mission on earth, that is “The house”. Jesus gave His disciples a job to do after He ascends to be with the Father. He doesn’t tell them “Relax, sit tight and wait”, rather, He has commanded them to be active in their duty and expects them to continue working. The same goes for all Christians on earth. Jesus



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(Continued)



LUTHERAN LAYMEN'S LEAGUE
OF CANADA

expects us to use our gifts and continue His work, and not stop until He returns.

Although the words "Be on guard, Be alert!" may appear as a warning we can count on them as an expression of love and a promise. God loves us and wants as many humans as possible to be in His heaven, and promises to return so He can gather us to Him.



Prayer

Let us pray together: Dear Father in Heaven. Thank you for sending your Son to do the hard work that only He could do of dying for us and making Salvation possible. Holy Spirit, help us to be ready for the Master's return. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Notes: