christian advance archives

# advance in the word - one way to look at mark 13 – 07/19/18

**ONE WAY TO LOOK AT MARK 13**

In Inductive Bible Study you will discover there is a structure authors use called "parallelism" in order to make their point. Parallelism would be the start of a story (A) followed by another story parallel to the first (B). You can have many interwoven stories (A, B, C, etc.) Then the author picks back up on the same theme again (A', B', C') and so on. Look at Mark 13 through the lens of parallelism:

(A) = 13:14-23. View this as prophesy for the destruction of the Temple which takes place in 70 AD.

(B) = 13:24-27. This speaks of Christ's Second Coming ... yet to be fulfilled.

(A') = 13:28-31. This again speaks to the destruction of the Temple in 70 AD.

(B') = 13:32-37. This again returns to the future event of Jesus' Second Coming.

This makes sense when you look at it this way instead of one prophetic future passage, especially v. 30.

Notice that all the signs are for the destruction of the Temple and that this event was survivable. Then notice there are no signs for Christ's second return which matches the idea that He will come like a thief in the night. No one knows when it will happen! The important thing is to "watch", "be alert", be ready (as Jesus informs His disciples) when He does return.