

THE WORD WITH YOUR PASTORS ~ THE GOSPEL OF MARK
Bookends of Revelation & Fulfillment in Mark Study Guide
Pastor Kalland
Second of Four Presentations ~ Winter 2022

OVERVIEW

At both his baptism and death (and in his life), Jesus is marked with breaking into this world. God no longer hides. God intervenes. God is here. The kingdom of God is among us in the person of Jesus Christ. You are loved. God is on the loose.

SCRIPTURES

The Baptism of Jesus - Mark 1:9-11

⁹ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The Death of Jesus - Mark 15:33-39

³³ When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. ³⁴ At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" ³⁵ When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah." ³⁶ And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." ³⁷ Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. ³⁸ And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. ³⁹ Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

Opening the Doors of Heaven -

Deuteronomy 28:12 - The Lord will open the heavens, the storehouse of his bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the work of your hands.

Psalms 78:23-25 - Yet he commanded the skies above, and opened the doors of heaven; ²⁴ he rained down on them manna to eat, and gave them the grain of heaven. ²⁵ Mortals ate of the bread of angels; he sent them food in abundance.

Ezekiel 1:1 - In the thirtieth year, on the fifth day of the fourth month, while I was among the exiles by the River Kebar, the heavens opened and I saw visions of God.

Isaiah 48:21 - They did not thirst when he led them through the deserts; he made water flow for them from the rock; he split the rock and water gushed out.

Exodus 14:21 - Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the Lord drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land; and the waters were divided.

Isaiah 64:1 - Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains would tremble before you!

QUESTIONS

- If God is on the loose... if the kingdom of God is here now, not hidden in heaven or behind a curtain Temple... so what? What difference does that make?
- Have you ever had a moment in your life where it looked like or felt like the tearing of the heavens, the outpouring of God's love for us in Christ Jesus?
- Have you ever been given a glimpse of the place where God Dwells?