

“Do Not Be Led Astray!” based on Mark 13:1-8

Saw beautiful cathedrals, castles, and government buildings on recent trip. Disciples were equally amazed by Temple in Jerusalem. Jesus’ response: “Not one stone will be left upon one another, all will be thrown down!”

-Disciple wondered, “When will it take place?”

-Jesus responded: “Beware of false prophets, don’t be alarmed to hear of wars, there will be earthquakes, famines, etc.”

-early Christians faced with persecution.

-threats continue even today, although not as drastic with us.

Words of Jesus meant to give hope, not bring fear; to provide comfort, not anxiety.

-situation, when Mark wrote, was persecution in early church.

-words were to encourage Christian to focus on message, reaching the people with message

-Tunnel from England to France, the ‘chunnel’, was completed in 1994. Connected adversaries at great cost. There have been many other great connections – canals, bridges, railroads, etc.

Greatest connection of all time – the link between heaven and earth – made by Jesus on Calvary

-body and blood of Christ, Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross, has brought humankind forgiveness and reconciliation with God. Not even the great Temple in Jerusalem could accomplish that.

-One thing needs to be on our minds: Carrying out our mission of sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ!