Sermon Date: Sunday, December 8



Today, we continue our series, "Unreasonable God." To be unreasonable means to be beyond the limits of fairness. When God sent Jesus to die on the cross for our sins, it was beyond the limits of fairness. What is fair is for us to be judged by God because of our sins. Yet God went beyond normal and fairness and, in His grace, gave us Jesus. As we approach Christmas and remember Jesus' first coming (born of a virgin in the form of a baby), today we'll turn our attention to His second coming and consider his "Unreasonable Return." It's beyond the limits of fairness that He would come once, much less twice.

Key Passage: Mark 13:24-27

Discussion Questions:

- 1. How do the differences between Jesus' first and second comings demonstrate humility and glory?
- 2. What signs of the end times does Jesus mention? How does the "birth pains" metaphor deepen our understanding of the signs leading to Christ's return?
- 3. How does Paul's description of creation "groaning" in Romans 8:22-23 relate to the idea of a broken world awaiting redemption?
- 4. What is the significance of Jesus' warnings about false messiahs and global turmoil (wars, famines, earthquakes) as signs of the end?
- 5. What is the "rapture," and how is it described in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17? How was the tribulation described in the sermon, and what purpose does it serve?
- 6. Why is it important to distinguish between "first-tier" and "second-tier" beliefs in discussions about the end times (Rapture, Tribulation)?
- 7. How should believers respond to the uncertainty of the timing of Christ's return, according to Mark 13:32-33?
- 8. What practical steps can someone take to "be ready" for Christ's return, as urged in the conclusion?