

# Mark 13:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For in those days shall be affliction, such as was not from the beginning of the creation which God created unto this time, neither shall be.

## Analysis

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**In those days shall be affliction, such as was not from the beginning of the creation which God created unto this time, neither shall be**—the Greek *thlipsis* (θλίψις, 'affliction/tribulation') describes intense pressure, distress. Jesus claimed this tribulation would be unparalleled in all history—*hoia ou gegonen toiautē* (οἷα οὐ γέγονεν τοιαύτη, 'such as has not occurred'). This echoes Daniel 12:1—'time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation.'

Partial fulfillment occurred AD 70: Josephus recorded 1.1 million Jews killed, 97,000 enslaved, cannibalism, factional violence, temple destruction. Yet hyperbolic language ('such as never was') may point beyond AD 70 to final tribulation (Matthew 24:21 adds 'no, nor ever shall be,' suggesting ultimate fulfillment remains future). Prophetic texts often have dual reference—near historical fulfillment prefiguring far eschatological fulfillment. Christians debate whether 'great tribulation' is past (preterist view) or future (futurist view). Either way, Jesus warned of unprecedented suffering connected to His prophecy.

## Historical Context

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Josephus' 'Wars of the Jews' details Jerusalem's destruction (AD 66-70). Roman siege lasted five months. Factional violence within city killed thousands before Romans entered. Starvation drove cannibalism. Josephus estimated 1.1 million deaths, 97,000 enslaved. Titus razed temple, burned city. Survivors scattered.

Jewish state ended until 1948. By any measure, catastrophic judgment. Yet world history includes comparable horrors: Black Death (25 million), Mongol invasions (40 million), World Wars (60+ million), Holocaust (6 million Jews). Does this contradict Jesus' 'such as never was'? Options:

1. hyperbole emphasizing severity
2. focus on Jewish people specifically
3. primary fulfillment future during final tribulation.

Futurist eschatology anticipates worse suffering before Christ's return.

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. How can Jesus describe AD 70 as 'such as was not... neither shall be' when history includes comparable catastrophes?
2. Does this prophecy have dual fulfillment—near (AD 70) and far (future tribulation)—or single fulfillment, and why does it matter?
3. How should awareness of unprecedented suffering (past or future) affect Christian living—does it produce fear or faithful endurance?

## Interlinear Text

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ἔσονται	γὰρ	αἱ	ἡμέραι	ἐκεῖναι	θλίψεις	οἷα	οὐ	γένηται
shall be	For	G3588	days	in those	affliction	as	not	shall be
G2071	G1063		G2250	G1565	G2347	G3634	G3756	G1096
τοιαύτη	ἀπ'	ἀρχῆς	κτίσεως	ἧς	ἔκτισεν	ὁ	θεὸς	
such	from	the beginning	of the creation	which	created	G3588	God	
G5108	G575	G746	G2937	G3739	G2936		G2316	
ἕως	τοῦ	νῦν	καὶ	οὐ	μὴ	γένηται		
unto	G3588	this time	neither	not	G3361	shall be		
G2193		G3568	G2532	G3756		G1096		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Daniel 12:1** (Parallel theme): And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.

**Joel 2:2** (Parallel theme): A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations.

**Matthew 24:21** (Parallel theme): For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

**Daniel 9:26** (Parallel theme): And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.

**Mark 10:6** (Creation): But from the beginning of the creation God made them male and female.

**Daniel 9:12** (Parallel theme): And he hath confirmed his words, which he spake against us, and against our judges that judged us, by bringing upon us a great evil: for under the whole heaven hath not been done as hath been done upon Jerusalem.

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