

The Question of the Week

“Jesus said: In those days after that tribulation the sun will be darkened, the moon will not give its light...but of that day or hour, no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.”

Mark 13: 32

After reading the passage from Mark’s gospel quoted above two things struck me. The first is that Jesus speaks about the tribulation that will come before the end of the world. The implication is that we should live our lives in a state of preparedness and readiness. There is a Day of the Lord coming. This Day will usher in the end of time. Not the end times. We are actually living in the end times right now, Mark Zuckerberg’s Metaverse notwithstanding.

We need reminders from time to time that this world is not all there is; that all that is has been created by the One Creator God whom we call Father as did Jesus of Nazareth in whom we believe as the Holy One sent to liberate us from our sins and to offer us a way to fullness of life and salvation. We believe that Jesus is the Son of God incarnate, in our human flesh.

But the other thing that intrigues me is that Jesus says that no one knows when the world will end. Not the angels in heaven. Not even the Son. Huh?! Not even the Son of God knows when Father God will bring everything to a conclusion? Don’t the three persons in the trinity share all knowledge? Would not the Son and the Holy Spirit know? But the Father is not the Son and the Son is not the Holy Spirit. Each is God. Each is real. Each is fully God but they are none of them the same. There are certain aspects of divinity particular to each. Why isn’t everything to be shared all the time? Well, where would there be any place for trust in the divinity itself? But the Son implicitly trusts the Father that the Father will do just the right thing always and forever. The Son trusts the Father. The Son does not need to know all the Father knows precisely because the Son absolutely and completely trusts the Father. Intriguing isn’t it? The question of the week.