Greco-Roman life in Asia Minor (modern Turkey) had broken apart by 700 CE. Cities were abandoned, economic networks reconfigured, and social relationships renegotiated. This is often understood as collapse into a “dark age”. What did this process of change feel like for those living through it – and why did it happen in the first place? Did Greco-Roman life really collapse, or just change into something new? Answers to these questions have traditionally been sought in evidence from cities alone. Doing so ignores the broader landscapes in which these cities were embedded. Our speaker provides a new approach that looks beyond the city to investigate rural conditions with regional survey and environmental archaeology to understand the end of Greco-Roman antiquity in this part of the Mediterranean.