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**Transformation, the single most important thing He does.  
Matthew 23:37–24:14 NASB**

### **Introduction**

**<sup>37</sup> “Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling. <sup>38</sup> Behold, your house is being left to you desolate! <sup>39</sup> For I say to you, from now on you will not see Me until you say, ‘BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!’”**

<sup>1</sup> Jesus came out from the temple and was going away when His disciples came up to point out the temple buildings to Him. <sup>2</sup> And He said to them, “Do you not see all these things? Truly I say to you, not one stone here will be left upon another, which will not be torn down.”

<sup>3</sup> As He was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, “Tell us, when will these things happen, and what *will be* the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?” <sup>4</sup> And Jesus answered and said to them, “See to it that no one misleads you.

<sup>5</sup> For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will mislead many. <sup>6</sup> You will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not frightened, for *those things* must take place, but *that* is not yet the end. <sup>7</sup> For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and in various places there will be famines and earthquakes. <sup>8</sup> But all these things are *merely* the beginning of birth pangs. <sup>9</sup> “Then they will deliver you to tribulation, and will kill you, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name. <sup>10</sup> At that time many will fall away and will betray one another and hate one another. <sup>11</sup> Many false prophets will arise and will mislead many. <sup>12</sup> Because lawlessness is increased, most people’s love will grow cold.

<sup>13</sup> But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved. <sup>14</sup> This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.

**So What?!**

**How did the disciples of Jesus respond to His message?**

**#1. They trusted in the COMPASSION of the Lord Jesus Christ.**

**“How often I wanted to gather...”**

**#2. They persevered in the POWER of the Lord Jesus Christ.**

**“...the one who endures to the end...”**

**#3. They participated in the MESSAGE of the Lord Jesus Christ.**

**“...this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world...”**

**Questions for further discussion.**

**Transformation: the single most important thing He does.**

**Prayer Requests:**

**Group Discussion: When you were a child, and you did something wrong or got in trouble, how would your mom or dad say your name? Do you say the names of your own children differently when they're in trouble?**

**Read: Matthew 23:37 – 24:14**

**Jesus says, “Jerusalem, Jerusalem...” in vs. 37 and thereby changes the mood of the reading from judgment of His generation (vs. 36) to pity (vs. 37.) As the disciples looked around at the magnificent buildings of Jerusalem and the powerful people, do you think they thought, “Why does he pity them? They’ve got all the power!” What if your small group went to Washington DC and at the end of the tour your small group leader said, “Not one stone will be left upon another!”**

**What would be your response to your small group leader, what questions would you ask her/him? What would Jesus have rather had happen than ending up destroying Jerusalem?**

**Why did he want them to say, “Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord?”**

**In verses 5-12 Jesus says there will be a lot of signs about the end of the “apostolic age.” Signs like: False Messiahs, wars, rumors of wars, famines, earthquakes, false prophets. All of these were a part of the Roman destruction of the nation of Israel and Jerusalem in particular.**

**Finally Jesus says in verse 14 that the gospel of the kingdom shall be preached to the whole world. What are the vital theological ideas of the gospel? What does a person have to believe or understand in order to be saved, to be a Christian?**

**Do they have to understand certain theological words or just believe? What do they have to believe?**

**How would you describe the compassion of Jesus?**

**In what way have you persevered through the power of Jesus?**

**What is the most important part to you of the message of Jesus?**

**Family Time: Talk to your kids at dinner or bedtime and ask them how Jesus helps them during the day. You may need to give them some ideas like: thinking well, making good choices, helping others etc.**