



SERMON STUDY GUIDE

“Matthew 24:29-51” on August 19 & 22, 2021

CONNECT

How did last week's passage we read/discussed from Matthew 24:1-28 affect your week?

DISCOVER: MATTHEW 24:29-51

1. What did the passage say (in your own words) or did you take away from the sermon this week?
2. How does this passage or did the sermon point you to Jesus (teach us about Jesus)?
3. Did you find anything challenging about this passage (words you didn't understand, phrases that didn't make sense, etc.)?

MATTHEW 24:29-51 After Jesus spoke with His disciples regarding the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem and the future they would face, the disciples were focused on questions about when the Son of Man would come again. In this passage, Jesus addresses that question, reminding the disciples to be watchful and ready for His return!

GOD'S WORD SPEAKS THROUGH THE CENTURIES: In preparation for thinking about this passage, spend some time looking at Philippians 2: 1-11 to consider the overwhelming nature of Jesus' being willing to humble Himself by walking this earth in human form for our sake. Then consider the following scriptures regarding His Second Coming: Isaiah 13:1-11 and 34:1-4; Zephaniah 1:14-18; Daniel 7:13-14; I Corinthians 15:50-58; I Thessalonians 13-17 and Revelation 1:7-8, 10:7 and 11:15. Then reread today's passage, highlighting verses 30-31.

- As a believer or as one who has not yet said 'Yes!' to Jesus, how do these scriptures impact or shape your thinking about Jesus' return? Are you, like the disciples, concerned and yearning for Jesus to come back? Do these scriptures excite you or concern you?
- As you think about your moment-by-moment living, what 'kingdom' are you truly serving? Consider what you think most about.....what do you easily jump to defend.....what things bother you when others reject them?

LIVING IN THESE PRESENT TIMES OF TURMOIL: This passage is so relevant to what we are experiencing in our nation and in the world right now! Many of the foundations of our world are being shaken, exposing the fragile footing of human wisdom and achievement and challenging our desire to know what is TRUTH. In the midst of a lot of instability, we have the opportunity to CHOOSE to realize that only God can provide the secure foundation and to respond with action. To be the hands and feet of Jesus NOW. HERE. Jesus is coming back!

- Man has accomplished so much through time! Why, then, will all tribes and nations kneel before Him when He returns? Consider the significance of man's accomplishments in light of Jesus' Second Coming.
- What does it mean to be ready? How do you know when you are ready? How do you know if you are 'awake' or 'asleep'?
- Consider Matthew 24:38-39 regarding people in the days of Noah; what do you see in today's tumult that relates to those words? Who in your world needs to hear about Jesus before they might be swept away?
- If you knew Jesus was coming in 2 days, how would you spend those days – what would your focus be? Who would be the people you would choose to communicate with, and what would be your prime message? How do your responses to this speak to you about your spiritual health and your willingness and urgency to share Jesus' love with those around you?
- Through all of Matthew 24, Jesus' message gave us prophecy, commands, warnings and promises. Then He gives us a choice – what will you choose, and what will you do with that choice TODAY?

RESPOND

- How does this passage encourage you, challenge you, or change you in your efforts to become more like Jesus?
- What is one thing you learned about yourself from God's Word? How will you respond in obedience this week?
- Who is someone you can have a conversation with about what Jesus is doing in your life or invite to join you at a CU Church gathering.

PRAY

PRAY for each other and spend time praising God. Pray that he will show you how to better love God and love people.