

JESUS FINAL WEEK – THINGS TO COME

- we have been looking at the event of the final week in the life of Jesus that will lead up to His crucifixion and resurrection
- we are now at the third day, Tuesday, of His final week.
- It had been a day of confrontations with the religious leaders
- At this point, Jesus leaves the temple area, and heads back to the Mount of Olives

1. (1-2) JESUS PREDICTS THE DESTRUCTION OF THE TEMPLE

- Jesus had confronted the religious leaders about their hypocrisy, and had accused them of being dead spiritually
- after lamenting over Jerusalem and their rejection of Him, Jesus leaves the temple and heads back across the Kidron Valley to the Mount of Olive
- as they were leaving, the disciples point out the magnificence of the Temple structure
- show video [\(12\) Quick Tour of the Mount of Olives - YouTube](#)
 - What prompted these comments
 - Perhaps it was the comment Jesus made as He was leaving the city of Jerusalem
 - [Matthew 23:37-39](#) – "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing! "See! Your house is left to you desolate; "for I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say, 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!' "
- Jesus talked to them about the Temple being destroyed
 - literally fulfilled in 70 A.D., when Titus and the Romans marched into Jerusalem to quench the Jewish rebellion
- if this happened just as Jesus said that it would, what should we think about the rest of this chapter

2. WHEN WILL THESE THINGS BE?

(3-4) THE DISCIPLES ARE CURIUOS ABOUT THE FUTURE

- one of the greatest questions that often think about is, what does the future hold
- for many, that is translated into worry and stress
- others are fearful
- for the person who has committed their life to following God, the future looks bright because we know how the story ends
- we have a blessed hope
 - [Titus 2.11-15](#) - For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously,

and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works. Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you.

- sometimes in the waiting, it is easy to lose hope and become discouraged

- that's why Paul said that we should encourage and comfort each other with the fact of the Rapture

- [1 Thessalonians 4.16-18](#) - For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words.

- that's why it is important that we hang out together as much as we can

- [Hebrews 10.24-25](#) - And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as [is] the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

- here in an abbreviated account of what is called the Olivet Discourse, Jesus talks about what has been the hope of the Church for 2,000 years - His Coming and the end of the world

(5-13) A PANORAMIC VIEW OF THE TIME LEADING UP TO THE TRIBULATION

- first warning = Do not be deceived

- the danger of many coming claiming to be the Messiah

- why is it that before Jesus came, we have no record of someone claiming to be Christ, but after His coming there have been many

- the epidemic of spiritual deception

- the beginning of sorrows

- wars and rumors of war
 - what are we hearing today?
 - Russia and Ukraine
 - The Middle East
 - China and Taiwan
 - North Korea
 - Central America
 - infighting and conflict between sects of Islam and tribal leaders in Afghanistan
 - think of all that we hear of massive amounts of money being spent on military hardware

- earthquakes
- famine
- pestilences
- world-wide persecution of both Jews and Christians

(14-23) THE LAST HALF OF THE GREAT TRIBULATION

- the abomination of desolation spoken of by Daniel
- the people in Israel fleeing to the mountains
- the worst time in the history of humanity

3. (24-27) THE RETURN OF JESUS

4. LESSONS AND WARNINGS

(28-31) LEARN FROM THE FIG TREE

(32-37) WATCH, PRAY, LOOK

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