

## WATCH AND BE READY

- since the time of the Jesus the Church has been praying for what we commonly call the Lord's Prayer

- Why don't we say it all together
  - [Matthew 6:9-13](#) – Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

- the hope of the church has been the coming of the Lord since Jesus taught His disciples that model prayer

- Paul reminded Titus to keep that thought in front of the people he ministered to-

- [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.

- Paul reminded the Thessalonians to comfort one another with the fact that we would meet the Lord in the air

- [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.

- many in our day have either lost the hope of Jesus returning, or worse, believe it to be some fairy tale made up to keep people in bondage

- That in itself is another prophecy that Peter said would be fulfilled in the days preceding the coming of the Lord
  - [2 Peter 3:3-4](#) – knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation."

- as Jesus was leaving the city of Jerusalem, He said = [Luke 13:34-35](#) – "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 brood under her wings, but you were not willing! "See! Your house is left to you desolate; and assuredly, I say to you, you shall not see Me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!' "

- 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

- Jesus then told them that the Temple would be torn down stone by stone

#### 1. WHEN WILL THESE THINGS BE?

#### **(3-4) THE DISCIPLES ARE CURIOUS ABOUT THE FUTURE**

- the statement about the destruction of the Temple aroused the curiosity of the disciples and prompted them to ask a couple of questions

- When will all these things be fulfilled?
- What will be the sign when all these things will be fulfilled?

- as we watch the events happening around us, many today are wondering the same thing

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

- 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

- first warning = Do not be deceived

- the beginning of sorrows

- wars and rumors of war
- 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

- this means that the Temple will be rebuilt in the city of Jerusalem
- Matthew speaks of the person standing in the Holy place

- the people in Israel fleeing to the mountains

- the worst time in the history of humanity

- These are the events described in Revelation 6-19, where half the world's population will die

- unless the days were shortened, the human race would be destroyed

- there will be world-wide deception and Satanic working of miracles

- Jesus said "take heed" you have been warned

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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