

What Jesus Prophesied About the End Times

Part 1: Matthew 24:1-39

Matt. 24:15 ¶ “Therefore when you **see** the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through **Daniel the prophet**, standing in **the holy place** (let the reader understand),

Matt. 24:36 ¶ “**But [Gk. *peri de* = Now concerning] of that day [= time period] and hour [= point of time] no one knows**, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, **but the Father alone**.

Let’s look at the context:

Matt. 23:34 ¶ “Therefore, behold, I am sending you [= non-believing Jews] prophets and wise men and scribes [= the Church or “assembly” of Jesus prophesied in Matthew 16]; some of them you will kill and crucify, and some of them you will scourge in your synagogues, and persecute from city to city,

Matt. 23:35 so that upon you may fall the guilt of all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah [= the whole Old Testament - Gen 4 to 2 Chron 24], the son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar [note: he was stoned to death in the Temple courtyard!].

Matt. 23:36 “Truly I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation [= people/nation = Israel].

*Matt. 23:37 ¶ “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.***

Matt. 23:38 “Behold, your house [= Temple] is being left to you desolate!

*Matt. 23:39 “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!’”***

Jesus prophesied that the time was coming when He would not be _____ to the nation of Israel until She believed in, received and openly celebrated Him as Her _____.

This becomes an important theme in what we are about to read. When can you _____ Jesus?

*Matt. 24:1 ¶ Jesus came out from **the temple** and was going away when His disciples came up to point out the temple buildings to Him.*

*Matt. 24:2 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.**”*

Not only was God’s presence going to leave the Temple, but the Temple would be completely _____!

*Matt. 24:3 ¶ 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 [= arrival/presence]**, and of the end of the age?”*

There are two questions here:

- 1. When will “these things” happen? When will the Temple be destroyed? When will you not be seen and then be recognized as the Messiah?**
- 2. What will be the visible sign of Your coming as the Messianic King over the earth and the beginning of the Millennial Kingdom when this time period ends?**

Matt. 24:4 ¶ And Jesus answered and said to them, “See to it that no one misleads you [= Jewish believers and disciples of Jesus].

*Matt. 24:5 “For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will **mislead** many.*

*Matt. 24:6 “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.*

*Matt. 24:7 “For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom [= Gentiles will be warring], and in various places there will be **famines and earthquakes** [= ecological disasters].*

*Matt. 24:8 “But all these things are merely **the beginning of birth pangs** [=Gk. odin = first pains of labor].*

The end times or Tribulation will begin with false saviors, wars and ecological disasters, but Jewish believers should not act on _____ (yet).

Matt. 24:9 ¶ **“Then they [= Gentile nations, deceived Jews] will deliver you [= Jewish disciples of Jesus] to tribulation [= Gk. thlipsis = final birth pains!!!], and will kill you, and you will be hated by all nations [= Gentiles] because of My name.**

Matt. 24:10 **“At that time many will fall away and will betray one another and hate one another.**

Matt. 24:11 **“Many false prophets will arise and will mislead many.**

Matt. 24:12 **“Because lawlessness is increased, most people’s love will grow cold.**

Matt. 24:13 **“But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved [= delivered].**

Matt. 24:14 **“This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations [= Gentiles], and then the end will come.**

Things will turn for the worse for Jewish believers, and many will give up following Jesus as _____. But some will preach and endure. Those faithful believers will _____ this terrible time.

Jer. 30:5 *This is what the LORD says: “I hear cries of fear; there is terror and no peace.*

Jer. 30:6 *Now let me ask you a question: Do men give birth to babies? Then why do they stand there, ashen-faced, hands pressed against their sides like a woman in labor?*

Jer. 30:7 ***In all history there has never been such a time of terror. It will be a time of trouble for my people Israel. Yet in the end they will be saved [= rescued]!***

Matt. 24:15 ¶ **“Therefore when you see the abomination of desolation which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand),**

Matt. 24:16 **then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains.**

NET Bible:

Dan 9:27 *“The ruler will make a treaty with the people [= Jews] for a period of one set of seven [= seven years], but after half this time [= 3.5 years], he will put an end to the sacrifices and offerings. And as a climax to all his terrible deeds, he will set up a sacrilegious object that causes desecration, until the fate decreed for this defiler is finally poured out on him.”*

Jesus prophesied that at the moment Jewish disciples see *this* _____ in the Temple, they should flee Jerusalem for the Judean mountains.

Matt. 24:17 "Whoever is on the housetop must not go down to get the things out that are in his house.

*Matt. 24:18 "Whoever is in the field **must not turn back** to get his cloak.*

Matt. 24:19 "But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days!

Matt. 24:20 "But pray that your flight will not be in the winter, or on a Sabbath [note: Jews are supposed to "rest" on a Sabbath and would not be ready to flee].

*Matt. 24:21 "For **then** there will be a **great tribulation** [= Gk. *thlipsis* = **final birth pains**], **such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will.***

*Matt. 24:22 "Unless those days had been cut short, **no life would have been saved** [= **delivered/physical rescue of life**]; but for the sake of the elect [= distinguished] those days will be cut short.*

The Jewish believers who heed Jesus's warnings and _____ will be distinguished in the Messianic Age and Jesus's judgments on mankind are only _____ for their sake.

*Matt. 24:23 "Then if anyone says to you, 'Behold [= Look], here is the Christ,' or 'There He is,' **do not believe him.***

Matt. 24:24 "For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect [= distinguished].

*Matt. 24:25 "Behold, **I have told you** [= **Jewish disciples**] **in advance.***

*Matt. 24:26 "So if they say to you, 'Behold, He is in the wilderness,' do not go out, or, '**Behold, He is in the inner rooms,**' do not believe them.*

Believers in the Tribulation should not be _____ into believing that Jesus can be _____ and found anywhere on the Earth.

Matt. 24:27 "For just as the lightning comes from the east and flashes even to the west, so will the coming [= arrival] of the Son of Man be.

Matt. 24:28 "Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.

Jesus was not going to simply "arrive" in glory in an instant, but would reveal Himself _____ during the Tribulation time.

Matt. 24:29 ¶ “But immediately after the tribulation [Gk. thlipsis = final birth pains!!!] of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

*Matt. 24:30 “And then the **sign of the Son of Man will appear [= become visible] in the sky [= heavens/sky/space], and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory.***

*Matt. 24:31 “And He will send forth His angels with a great trumpet and they will **gather together His elect [= distinguished] from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.***

The _____ sign of Jesus establishing His Kingdom will be Jesus Himself gloriously appearing in the _____ at the end of the Tribulation.

Matt. 24:32 ¶ “Now learn the parable from the fig tree: when its branch has already become tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near;

*Matt. 24:33 so, you [= Jewish disciples in Judea] too, **when you see all these things, recognize that He is near, right at the door.***

*Matt. 24:34 “Truly I say to you, this generation [= nation/Israel] will not pass away **until all these things take place.***

Matt. 24:35 “Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away.

Jesus guarantees that He will _____ believing Israel at the end of the Tribulation. The important point is that this is _____!

*Matt. 24:36 ¶ “But [Gk. *peri de* = Now concerning] of that day [= time period] and hour [= point of time] no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone.*

You can absolutely know when the Tribulation will END. But you cannot know when it will _____. *Jesus does not even know that time!*

*Matt. 24:37 “**For [= because]** the coming [= arrival] of the Son of Man will be **just like the days of Noah.***

*Matt. 24:38 “For as in those days before the flood **they** were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, **until the day that Noah entered the ark,***

*Matt. 24:39 and **they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away;** so will the coming [= arrival] of the Son of Man be.*

The “arrival” of Jesus the Messiah back to Earth will be marked, not with His being _____ visibly, but with God’s judgments on evil mankind in the Tribulation. This will be a time comparable to Noah’s time when evil mankind was _____ with God’s judgment.

And that leaves us to wonder where is the Church in all of this?