

Sunday, October 19, 2025

Matthew 24:1-14

Matthew 24:1-14

Jesus left the temple and was walking away when his disciples came up to him to call his attention to its buildings. 2 "Do you see all these things?" he asked. "Truly I tell you, not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down." 3 As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately. "Tell us," they said, "when will this happen, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?" 4 Jesus answered: "Watch out that no one deceives you. 5 For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am the Messiah,' and will deceive many. 6 You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. 7 Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. 8 All these are the beginning of birth pains. 9 "Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me. 10 At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, 11 and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. 12 Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, 13 but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. 14 And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

1. Introduction:

While there are items, we are not certain of, we can agree on these items:

- Jesus is coming back.
- Day of judgment will occur.
- Heaven and hell are real.
- Dying work that needs us to show them Jesus on earth.

Do not be so focused on what is coming that you lose touch with your current reality. We need to be the hands and feet of Jesus.

2. ***“Tell us how we will know?”***

Matthew 24:4–5 (cf Mark 13:5–6, Luke 21:8)

Stay rooted. Be careful that you do not begin to move away from the truth. We think “not us, we know the truth,” but look at the church in Galatia:

Galatians 1:6 I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you to live in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— 7 which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let them be under God’s curse! 9 As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let them be under God’s curse!

3. ***Wars, rumors of war and more:***

Matthew 24:6–8 (cf. Mark 13:7–8)

All around us, we see some of the signs Jesus alluded to.

4. ***The Persecution of Believers:***

Matthew 24:9 (cf Mark 13:9–11)

Is persecution real? Yes.

James 1:2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers, and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. 4 Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

5. ***Lies and Betrayals:***

Matthew 24:10–13 (cf Mark 13:12–13)

If we struggle with each other already, will we turn against each other even quicker when it gets “hard”?

6. Then come now Lord!

Matthew 24:14

2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead, he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

The gospel must first be preached to all nations. He cannot come back until this happens. Still about 1 in 5 people have not heard the gospel in their language.

7. Life Application:

We have work to do.

"Pan-tribulation: if Jesus is in it, then it's all going to pan out in the end."

QUESTIONS:

1. Today, if you could ask God any question you wanted to and knew that He would give you a very direct and clear answer, what would that question be and why would you ask that question?
2. How often do you think about the "last days"? What do you think about when you do ponder them? Do you usually think of them in terms of "your experience" or "how others will experience" them?
3. How comfortable are you sharing the gospel message? What are the key points that you include? Scriptures that you call upon. Have you shared the gospel message with anyone ever?
4. One take away and/or life application from today's message for you.