

“The Return of the King”
Matthew 24: 1 – 35

Parallel passages to Matthew 24 are found in Mark 13 and Luke 21

This passage of Scripture must be segmented to better understand it:

- (v. 1-2)** Jesus gives them a rather cryptic warning about the Temple
- (v. 3-28)** Jesus describes the “church age” as being filled with evangelism and distress (i.e. difficult things that must be endured)
- v. 4 deception
 - v. 5 false Christ’s making claims others follow
 - v. 6 conflicts such as wars
 - v. 7 famines and earthquakes (natural disasters)
 - v. 9 persecution, opposition, hatred, death
 - v. 10+ people’s faith will wane & love grow cold

But... Those who stand firm to the end will be saved! (v. 13)
The gospel will be preached across the whole world. (v. 14)

Jesus is referring to the period of time that will follow his crucifixion, burial, resurrection, and ascension. This period will end with his return to fully consummate his kingdom rule & reign.

(v. 15-21) A specific prophecy for Jerusalem and God’s people

Within the larger “church age” will be specific time of tribulation for Jerusalem that is fulfilled in A.D. 70 with the Roman siege and destruction of the 2nd Temple. (v. 29 ties in too)

(v. 22-28) Often, prophecy will deal with events near & far

“If those days”, would seem to be connected with the preceding verse, but this is where Jesus pivots back to the general context of the “church age” which is marked by evangelism and distress as a whole.

(v. 29-31) The Return of the King!

(v. 32-35) Our takeaway should be: Watch, Pray, Prepare