



THE GOSPEL OF
MATTHEW



Loving Lament

Matthew 23:37–24:2



Gospel of Matthew

21-28 Overview

Chapters	Section	Subsections / Key Events
21–23	Temple Conflicts	Arrival in Jerusalem (21:1–11) First Temple Visit (21:12–17) Fruitless Fig Tree (21:18–22) Second Temple Visit—Series of Conflicts (21:23–23:39)
24–25	Olivet Discourse	Signs of the Future (Ch 24) Christ's Return (Ch 25)
26–28	The Passion of Christ	Betrayal (Ch 26) Death (Ch 27) Resurrection (Ch 28)



What are the consequences of rejecting and receiving Jesus?

I. Departure

II. Destruction

III. Design



I. Departure | Matthew 23:37-39

A. God's Desire

B. Desolate



Departure

Matthew 23:37-39

37 “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!



Departure

Matthew 23:37-39

³⁸ See, your house is left to you desolate. ³⁹ For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'"



Departure | God's Desire

Psalm 17:8-9

⁸ Keep me as the apple of your eye;
hide me in the shadow of your wings,
⁹ from the wicked who do me violence,
my deadly enemies who surround me.



Departure | God's Desire

Psalm 36:7–9

- ⁷ How precious is your steadfast love, O God!
The children of mankind take refuge in the
shadow of your wings.
- ⁸ They feast on the abundance of your house,
and you give them drink from the river of
your delights.



Departure | God's Desire

Psalm 36:7–9

⁹ For with you is the fountain of life;
in your light do we see light.



Departure | God's Desire

Isaiah 31:5–6

- ⁵ Like birds hovering, so the Lord of hosts
will protect Jerusalem;
he will protect and deliver it;
he will spare and rescue it.”
- ⁶ Turn to him from whom people have deeply
revolted, O children of Israel.



Departure | Desolate

Jeremiah 12:7

7 “I have forsaken my house;
I have abandoned my heritage;
I have given the beloved of my soul
into the hands of her enemies.



Departure | Desolate

Jeremiah 12:10

¹⁰ Many shepherds have destroyed my
vineyard; they have trampled down
my portion;
they have made my pleasant portion
a desolate wilderness.



Departure | Desolate

Jeremiah 12:11

¹¹ They have made it a desolation;
desolate, it mourns to me.
The whole land is made desolate,
but no man lays it to heart.



Departure | Desolate

Ezekiel 10:18–19

¹⁸ Then the glory of the Lord went out from the threshold of the house, and stood over the cherubim. ¹⁹ And the cherubim lifted up their wings and mounted up from the earth before my eyes as they went out, with the wheels



Departure | Desolate

Ezekiel 10:18–19

beside them. And they stood at the entrance of the east gate of the house of the Lord, and the glory of the God of Israel was over them.



I. Departure | Matthew 23:37-39

A. God's Desire

B. Desolate



I. Departure | Matthew 23:37-39

God's Departure from the Temple

God loves his people and his promises will never fail, but the blessing of his presence will not remain with those who reject him.



II. Destruction | Matthew 24:1-2



Destruction

Matthew 24:1-2

¹ Jesus left the temple and was going away, when his disciples came to point out to him the buildings of the temple. ² But he answered them, "You see all these, do you not? Truly, I say to you, there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down."



Destruction

Jeremiah 22:5–7

⁵ But if you will not obey these words, I swear by myself, declares the Lord, that this house shall become a desolation. ⁶ For thus says the Lord concerning the house of the king of Judah:



Destruction

Jeremiah 22:5–7

“You are like Gilead to me,
like the summit of Lebanon,
yet surely I will make you a desert,
an uninhabited city.



Destruction

Jeremiah 22:5–7

⁷ I will prepare destroyers against you,
each with his weapons,
and they shall cut down your choicest cedars
and cast them into the fire.



Destruction

Isaiah 64:10–11

¹⁰ Your holy cities have become a wilderness;
Zion has become a wilderness,
Jerusalem a desolation.

¹¹ Our holy and beautiful house,
where our fathers praised you,
has been burned by fire, and
all our pleasant places have become ruins.



II. Destruction | Matthew 24:1-2



II. Destruction | Matthew 24:1-2

God's Destruction of the Temple

God loves his people and his promises will never fail, so he cannot allow sin to go on without meeting his wrath.



III. Design | Matthew 23:39

A. See Him

B. Receive Him

C. He Will Save



Design

Matthew 23:39

39 For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'"



Design | See Him

Zechariah 12:10

10 “And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.



Design | Receive Him

Psalm 118:25–27

25 Save us, we pray, O Lord!

O Lord, we pray, give us success!

26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of
the Lord!

We bless you from the house of the Lord.



Design | Receive Him

Psalm 118:25–27

27 The Lord is God,
and he has made his light to shine upon us.
Bind the festal sacrifice with cords,
up to the horns of the altar!



Design | He Will Save

Ezekiel 11:19–20

¹⁹ And I will give them one heart, and a new spirit I will put within them. I will remove the heart of stone from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh, ²⁰ that they may walk in my statutes and keep my rules and obey them. And they shall be my people, and I will be their God.



Design | He Will Save

Romans 11:25–27

²⁵ Lest you be wise in your own sight, I do not want you to be unaware of this mystery, brothers: a partial hardening has come upon Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. ²⁶ And in this way all Israel will be saved, as it is written,



Design | He Will Save

Romans 11:25–27

“The Deliverer will come from Zion,
he will banish ungodliness from Jacob”;
27 “and this will be my covenant with them
when I take away their sins.”



Design | He Will Save

Ephesians 2:19–22

¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, ²¹ in whom the whole structure, being joined



Design | He Will Save

Ephesians 2:19–22

together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord.
22 In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.



Design | He Will Save

Ezekiel 11:23

23 And the glory of the Lord went up from the midst of the city and stood on the mountain that is on the east side of the city.



III. Design | Matthew 23:39

A. See Him

B. Receive Him

C. He Will Save



III. Design | Matthew 23:39

God's Design for the New Temple

God loves his people and his promises will never fail, so he made a way back to himself through Jesus—the New Temple.



What are the consequences of rejecting and receiving Jesus?

- I. **Departure** | Matthew 23:37–39
- II. **Destruction** | Matthew 24:1-2
- III. **Design** | Matthew 23:39



Concluding Challenge

Are you receiving Jesus or rejecting him?



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