



THE GOSPEL OF
MATTHEW



Return of the King

Matthew 24:15-35



End Times Q&A Recap



The Disciples' Questions

Matthew 24:3

³ As he sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?"



Jesus' Answers Structure

Matthew 24

A | When will these things be (v. 3b)

B | What will be **the sign of your coming** (v. 3c)

C | . . . and [what will be the sign] of the end of the Age (v. 3d)

C' | General signs of the end of the Age (v. 4–11)

B' | Specific signs of Jesus' coming (v. 15–35)

A' | The question of timing (v. 36–51)

Disciples' Questions		Jesus' Answers (<i>in reverse order</i>)	
v3b	Question One	v36–51	Answer (16 verses)
v3c	Question Two	v15–35	Answer (21 verses)
v3c	“. . . and what [will be] the sign of your coming. . . ”	v27 v29–30	“For as the lightning comes from the east and shines as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ” “Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man. . . and they will see the Son of Man coming. ”
v3d	Question Three	v4–14	Answer (11 verses)



Specific Signs of Jesus' Return

Matthew 24:15-35



Specific Signs of Jesus' Return

- A. The Signs | Great Tribulation**
- B. The Event | Great Return**
- C. The Promise | Great Guarantee**



The Signs: Great Tribulation



The Signs – Abomination of Desolation

Matthew 24:15-20

15 “So when you see the abomination of desolation spoken of by the prophet Daniel, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand),



The Signs – Abomination of Desolation

Matthew 24:15-20

¹⁶ then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. ¹⁷ Let the one who is on the housetop not go down to take what is in his house, ¹⁸ and let the one who is in the field not turn back to take his cloak.



The Signs – Abomination of Desolation

Matthew 24:15-20

- 19** And alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days!
- 20** Pray that your flight may not be in winter or on a Sabbath.



The Signs – Abomination of Desolation

Daniel 9:25, 27

25 Know therefore and understand that from the going out of the word to restore and build Jerusalem to the coming of an anointed one, a prince, there shall be seven weeks. Then for sixty-two weeks it shall be built again with squares and moat, but in a troubled time.



The Signs – Abomination of Desolation

Daniel 9:25, 27

27 And he shall make a strong covenant with many for one week, and for half of the week he shall put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall come one who makes desolate, until the decreed end is poured out on the desolator.”



The Signs – Abomination of Desolation

Daniel 11:31

31 Forces from him shall appear and profane the temple and fortress, and shall take away the regular burnt offering. And they shall set up the abomination that makes desolate.



The Signs – Abomination of Desolation

Daniel 12:9–11

⁹ He said, “Go your way, Daniel, for the words are shut up and sealed until the time of the end. ¹⁰ Many shall purify themselves and make themselves white and be refined, but the wicked shall act wickedly. And none of the wicked shall understand, but those who are



The Signs – Abomination of Desolation

Daniel 12:9–11

wise shall understand. ¹¹ And from the time that the regular burnt offering is taken away and the abomination that makes desolate is set up, there shall be 1,290 days.



The Signs – Great Tribulation

Matthew 24:20-22

²⁰ Pray that your flight may not be in winter or on a Sabbath. ²¹ For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be.



The Signs – Great Tribulation

Matthew 24:20-22

22 And if those days had not been cut short, no human being would be saved. But for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short.



The Signs – Great Tribulation

Joel 2:1–2

- ¹ Blow a trumpet in Zion;
 sound an alarm on my holy mountain!
Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,
 for the day of the LORD is coming; it is near,
² a day of darkness and gloom,
 a day of clouds and thick darkness!



The Signs – Great Tribulation

Joel 2:1–2

Like blackness there is spread upon the
mountains

a great and powerful people;
their like has never been before,
nor will be again after them
through the years of all generations.



The Signs – Great Tribulation

Jeremiah 30:7

⁷ Alas! That day is so great
there is none like it;
it is a time of distress for Jacob;
yet he shall be saved out of it.



The Signs – Great Tribulation

Daniel 12:1

¹ “At that time shall arise Michael, the great prince who has charge of your people. And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book.



The Signs – 70 Weeks

Daniel 9:24–27

24 “Seventy weeks are decreed about your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to put an end to sin, and to atone for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal both vision and prophet, and to anoint a most holy place. **25** Know therefore and understand that from the going out of the word



The Signs – 70 Weeks

Daniel 9:24–27

to restore and build Jerusalem to the coming of an anointed one, a prince, there shall be seven weeks. Then for sixty-two weeks it shall be built again with squares and moat, but in a troubled time. ²⁶ And after the sixty-two weeks, an anointed one shall be cut off and shall have nothing. And the people of the prince who is



The Signs – 70 Weeks

Daniel 9:24–27

to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. Its end shall come with a flood, and to the end there shall be war. Desolations are decreed. ²⁷ And he shall make a strong covenant with many for one week, and for half of the week he shall put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall

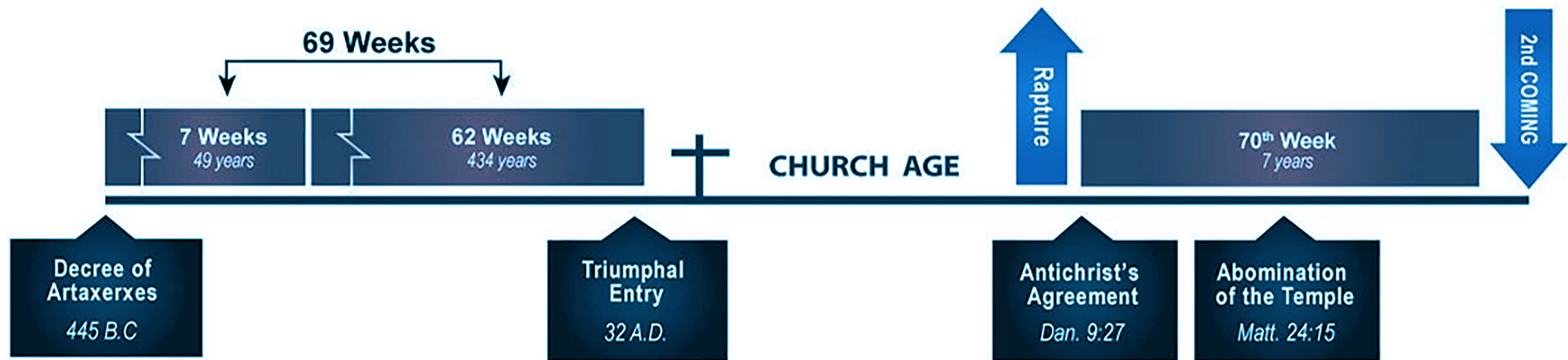


The Signs – 70 Weeks

Daniel 9:24–27

come one who makes desolate, until the decreed end is poured out on the desolator.”

SEVENTY WEEKS OF DANIEL



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The Signs – Rapture

1 Thessalonians 1:10

¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.



The Signs – Rapture

Revelation 3:10

¹⁰ Because you have kept my word about patient endurance, I will keep you from the hour of trial that is coming on the whole world, to try those who dwell on the earth.



The Signs – Rapture

1 Thessalonians 4:13–17

¹³ But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴ For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁵ For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that



The Signs – Rapture

1 Thessalonians 4:13–17

we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.



The Signs – Rapture

1 Thessalonians 4:13–17

¹⁷ Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.



The Signs – Rapture

Revelation 12:1–5

¹ And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. ² She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pains and the agony of giving birth. ³ And another sign appeared in heaven:



The Signs – Rapture

Revelation 12:1–5

behold, a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems.
4 His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child he might devour it.



The Signs – Rapture

Revelation 12:1–5

⁵ She gave birth to a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child was caught up to God and to his throne,



The Signs – Warnings

Matthew 24:23-26

23 Then if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here is the Christ!’ or ‘There he is!’ do not believe it. **24** For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect.



The Signs – Warnings

Matthew 24:23-26

25 See, I have told you beforehand. **26** So, if they say to you, ‘Look, he is in the wilderness,’ do not go out. If they say, ‘Look, he is in the inner rooms,’ do not believe it.

Structural Elements	First Warning (23–25)	Second Warning (26–28)
Condition	Then <i>if anyone says</i> to you, ‘Look, here is the Christ!’ or ‘There he is!’	So, <i>if they say</i> to you, ‘Look, he is in the wilderness,’ . . . <i>If they say,</i> ‘Look, he is in the inner rooms,’
Response	. . . <i>do not believe it.</i>	. . . <i>do not go out.</i> . . . <i>do not believe it.</i>

Structural Elements	First Warning (23–25)	Second Warning (26–28)
Reason	For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect.	For as the lightning comes from the east and shines as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.
Reinforcement	See, I have told you beforehand.	Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.



The Event: Great Return



The Event – Great Return

Matthew 24:29-33

29 “Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. **30** Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then all the tribes of the



The Event – Great Return

Matthew 24:29-33

earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. ³¹ And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.



The Event – Great Return

Matthew 24:29-33

³² “From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. ³³ So also, when you see all these things, you know that he is near, at the very gates.



The Event – Great Return

Isaiah 13:9–11

⁹ Behold, the day of the LORD comes,
cruel, with wrath and fierce anger,
to make the land a desolation
and to destroy its sinners from it.



The Event – Great Return

Isaiah 13:9–11

¹⁰ For the stars of the heavens and their
constellations
will not give their light;
the sun will be dark at its rising,
and the moon will not shed its light.



The Event – Great Return

Isaiah 13:9–11

¹¹ I will punish the world for its evil,
and the wicked for their iniquity;
I will put an end to the pomp of the arrogant,
and lay low the pompous pride of the
ruthless.



The Event – Great Return

Daniel 7:13–14

13 “I saw in the night visions,
and behold, with the clouds of heaven
there came one like a son of man,
and he came to the Ancient of Days
and was presented before him.



The Event – Great Return

Daniel 7:13–14

14 And to him was given dominion
and glory and a kingdom,
that all peoples, nations, and languages
should serve him;
his dominion is an everlasting dominion,



The Event – Great Return

Daniel 7:13–14

which shall not pass away,
and his kingdom one
that shall not be destroyed.



The Event – Great Return

Isaiah 43:5–7

- ⁵ Fear not, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you.
- ⁶ I will say to the north, Give up,
and to the south, Do not withhold;
bring my sons from afar



The Event – Great Return

Isaiah 43:5–7

and my daughters from the end of
the earth,
7 everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.”



The Promise: Great Guarantee

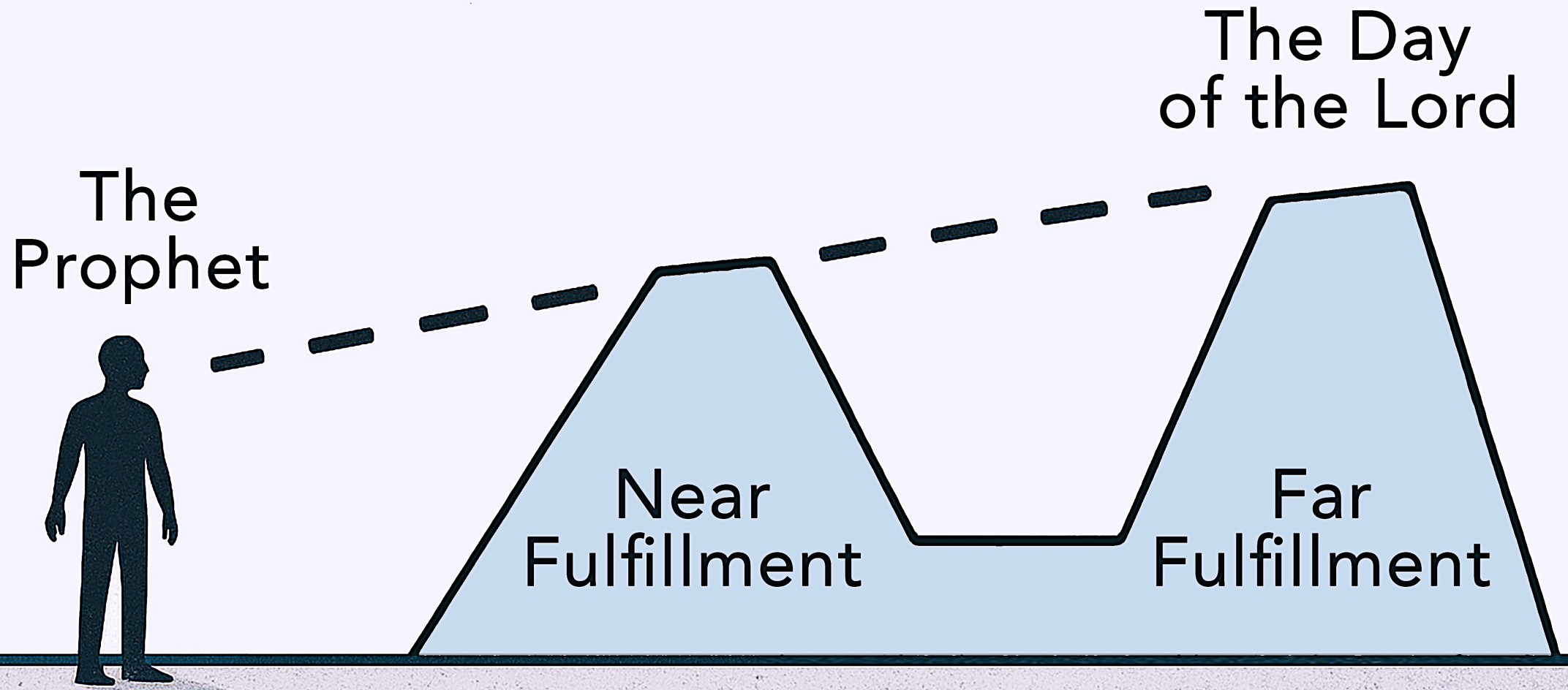


The Promise – Great Guarantee

Matthew 24:34-35

34 Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. **35** Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

DUAL PROPHECIES



Genesis 1–8

Genesis 8 –
Revelation 20

Revelation 21–22

**Original Heavens
and earth**

**Judged
by
Flood**

**Current Heavens
and earth**

**Judged
by
Fire**

**Future Heavens
and earth**

"The world at that time
was destroyed, being
flooded with water."
(2 Peter 3:6 NASB)

"The present heavens
and earth are being
reserved for fire."
(2 Peter 3:7 NASB)



End Times Q&A

When will the end come and how
will we know it's coming?



Specific Signs of Jesus' Return

A. The Signs: Great Tribulation

Before Jesus Returns, there will be a **Great Tribulation**—the Ultimate **Day of the Lord**.

- When those in Jerusalem see the Abomination—**RUN**.
- When any see False Messiahs—**Don't Believe**.



Specific Signs of Jesus' Return

B. The Event: Great Return

- Jesus will come at the end of the Great Tribulation.
- Those alive should look with hope to his coming—he will save them.



Specific Signs of Jesus' Return

C. The Promise: Great Guarantee

- Jesus' Return is more certain than the sun rising tomorrow.
- We can all rest assured that the King will return.



Conclusion

**Don't fear the future,
but rest in the returning ruler.**



THE GOSPEL OF
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