

Matthew 24:32-44

“The Kingdom and the Fig Tree”

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After Jesus told His disciples the temple would be completely destroyed (Matthew 24:2), they pressed Him for more details. Jesus responded by describing a number of events and circumstances which He said must occur prior to His return. The information He shared reveals much about when He is coming back, why we can have confidence that what He said will indeed happen, and what we should do while we're waiting.

subject: Jesus' 2nd Coming
objective: watch and be ready

Q: When is Jesus coming back? (vv. 32-35)

all these things (vv. 5-24):

false Christs
wars and rumors of wars
famines, pestilences, earthquakes
increased persecution of Christians
false prophets
increased lawlessness
the preaching of the gospel to all the nations
abomination of desolation
great signs and wonders done by false Christs and prophets

A: Very shortly after all these things happen.

Q: How can we know for sure all these things will happen? (v. 35)

“But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.” (2 Pet. 3:10)

“Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away.” (Rev. 21:1)

A: Because Jesus' words are more sure and lasting than heaven and earth.

Q: At what exact time will Jesus return? (v. 36)

A: No one knows, or will ever know.

hypostatic union = combination of divine & human natures in the single Person of Jesus Christ

“...made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.” (Phil 2:7-8)

"For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead dwells bodily." (Col. 2:9)

Q: What should we be doing while we wait? (vv. 37-44)

A: We should be getting ready!

Discussion Question: What can we do now to get ready for Jesus' return?