

## Matthew 24:1-14 “The Coming of the Messiah Part 1”

Please Stand and open your Bibles to Matthew 23:37-39

We are now entering into a four-week study of what is known as the Olivet Discourse. This is just fancy term for the teaching that Jesus will give to a small portion of His disciples about the end times. This is extremely important to us as we believe we are living in the time right before these things will come to pass. I am taking the time to go through this as there is much confusion when it comes to this teaching. Is Jesus only talking about His Second Coming? Why did Matthew have Parables that the others did not? Who or what is the Fig tree? We will take a Biblical approach to all these questions with a whole of the Bible method. Two things we must consider as we go through this. First, this teaching is recorded in three gospels, and we must use all three to get the full meaning of many things taught here. Many teachers teach Matthew apart from the others and that is how they come up with some of their ideas that are different than ours. Second is the Context. Before we start today, we need to understand who He is speaking to and what they thought about these things.

These \* Disciples are Jewish but will be the beginning of the Church. We have mentioned that Jesus’s teaching and Parables were training these men to go out into all the world with Gospel. He was constantly trying to break them of their Jewish context that their minds are focused on. Jesus was not just the Jewish Messiah but the Messiah of the whole world. When we understand that it helps us to understand why Jesus changes the

subject after He tells them about the “Day of the Lord” Which we will talk about next week and the change of subject the week after. We see this time and again were the Disciples ask a question and Jesus answers with a Parable to teach them the truth. We saw it with forgiving our brother in Matthew 18 and who can be saved in chapter 19-20. All through the sermon on the mount we heard Him say you have heard it said, but I say unto you... This means that the same pattern can be found here. A question is asked with the wrong mindset and an answer is given that won't be fully understood until He dies for our sins and rises again from the dead.

What \* is the context and what were they thinking about?

We already have a clue by the constant argument about who is going to be the greatest. We just saw the mom of James and John come to Jesus and ask Him if they could be on the left and right hand in the kingdom. We know that they still did not get it even after this teaching...

At the last supper...

Luke 22:24

Now there was also a dispute among them, as to which of them should be considered the greatest.

We have to ask ourselves why? Why was this on their mind so much that it became a dispute right after Jesus shared the cup and the bread? To understand this, we must understand what they have been taught about the Messiah. Let's look at few

scriptures they have been taught and ask ourselves what they were thinking. Before we cast blame, let's listen and see why there was an anticipation of what they thought was coming and why Jesus did not make sense to them this side for the cross.

Isaiah 9:6-7

For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given;  
And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

Psalms 2:7-9

"I will declare the decree: The Lord has said to Me, 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You. Ask of Me, and I will give You The nations for Your inheritance, And the ends of the earth for Your possession. You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel.' "

Amos 9:11-12

"On that day I will raise up The tabernacle of David, which has fallen down, And repair its damages; I will raise up its ruins, And rebuild it as in the days of old; That they may possess the remnant of Edom, And all the Gentiles who are called by My name," Says the Lord who does this thing.

Micah 5:2

“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting.”

So, we can see that this is what they believed Jesus is about to do from Jerusalem. You can understand why they were so down after He was crucified. With this thought and that being the context of what happens next...

Matthew 24:1

Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple.

The first thing we need to point out that will go unknown is that this is the last time Jesus will be leaving the temple until His second coming. The Bible has much to say about the glory of God leaving the temple and this is it. This time they did not know it. All the work the Jews are doing to restore their worship system it will not have the glory of God in it. Jerusalem can be an exciting place to visit but as you who know the truth and are born again it becomes a very sad place. It's all full of religion but no glory. God is not in that place anymore and will not be until he comes again. Remember we just read...

Matthew 23:39

...for I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say, “Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!”

But because of their confusion they are showing off the temple that He will reign from. But notice how Jesus answers...

Matthew 24:2

And Jesus said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down."

Jesus is:

Prophet

Priest

King

He is giving them a prophecy that most of them will see in their lifetime. Much of the New Testament would be written before this event. But it will happen in 70 AD when Titus \* Vespasian will lead the armies of Rome after besieging the temple to burn it down and turn over all the stones to retrieve the gold that had melted down in the cracks. Fulfilling this exactly to the \* tee. All prophecy is fulfilled \* literally!

Now we get to the questions that they had for Him after this statement.

Matthew 24:3

Now 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?"

Three Questions are asked:

When will these things be?

What will be the sign of Your Coming?

What will be the sign of the end of the age?

We will deal with the first question today and the second two next week and the application of all three will be the following two weeks. But before Jesus answers them he tells them and us...

Matthew 24:4

And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you.

The word \* deceive is "Planao" where we get our word for planet. It is literally "To wander off the path" Why is there so much controversy of the subject of His return? Because the enemy is trying to get you off the path. He knows if we are not living as if the Lord could come back today, we will slack off on the work. So, he makes it so controversial that no one will teach it. Then those that do get caught up with timing and signs that they start debating that. This is why we take a specific stand here at this church. We know it is a biblical stand. Why? Because we use the bible to guide us and not anything else. We will cover a lot of this over the next few weeks but this week we will look at...

The Sign for all the times

Matthew 24:4-8

These are signs for all the times meaning that there will be many things that will cause people to say, “This is it!” and Jesus is telling them that not to be deceived by them or believe them. But He does give us a clue in verse 8 when he says...

Matthew 24:8

All these are the beginning of sorrows.

Sorrows = Birth Pangs

This is so important as this is the key to what Jesus is saying. These signs will be around all the time as the beginning of sorrows. You will know when the time is coming by the contractions. The closer they are to coming the closer you are to the birth. They wanted to know the sign and Jesus is giving it to them! Paul picked up on this...

1 Thessalonians 5:1-3

But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. For when they say, “Peace and safety!” then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape.

We will talk about the “Day of the Lord” next week, but Paul is letting us know that before that Day begins there will be labor pains visible by the “Times and the Seasons”. Jesus gave us what will be those signs. You have to be hiding your head in the sand to

not see that the contractions have started and are growing in intensity! The Day is coming!

But first...

Their Future

Matthew 24:9-14

Jesus does not hide the truth from them. This is their future and has been for the Christians throughout church history. We western Christians think the coming persecution as being a strange thing when the real anomaly is the 200 years of religious freedom we have enjoyed. As I shared on Wednesday, we see the coming persecution rising and will most likely happen in the next year or two if the Lord does not come back first. A few things before we close up today. One, is that Jesus gives us one last sign of the Birth Pangs before He gets into the Day of the Lord.

Matthew 24:12

And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.

If there was ever a time where this could be said it is now. Our world has grown cold and has embraced lawlessness. This is the world we live in and one we must continue in till He comes. This brings me to the second point in verse 13...



Matthew 24:13

But he who endures to the end shall be saved (Delivered from).  
This is not talking about our Salvation!

Luke 21:18-19

But not a hair of your head shall be lost. By your patience possess your souls.

Finally, the other gospels give us some context and comfort for the days ahead...

Mark 13:11

But when they arrest you and deliver you up, do not worry beforehand, or premeditate what you will speak. But whatever is given you in that hour, speak that; for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit.

Luke 21:13-15

But it will turn out for you as an occasion for testimony. Therefore settle it in your hearts not to meditate beforehand on what you will answer; for I will give you a mouth and wisdom which all your adversaries will not be able to contradict or resist.

So, as we see these things coming, we will need to be reminded what Jesus says to us, the hearers of this message...

Luke 21:28

Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near.

But in order for you to be able to look up you need to look inward and make sure you are part of the group He is talking to. Why has Jesus delayed His return? Because He wants you to be part of the group he comes to save. How do you do that? Get saved today!