

7/1/18

Matthew 24:1-14

Jesus has terminated His public ministry by having pronounced the judgment of desolation over Jerusalem and that Israel would not see Him again to His Second Coming. Matt. 23:36-39

1. This is the basis and context of the words of Jesus in the next two chapters.
2. Matthew 24-25 is the fifth and last major discourse of Jesus that involves only Israel, as she goes through the 70th Week of Daniel. Dan. 9:27
3. The church and the rapture are nowhere in these two chapters, it is the Tribulation and Second Coming. Matt. 24:13-14, 27, 30, 44, 46; 25:13, 31, 37
4. The three parables deal with being faithful, ready and accountable, the parable of the faithful and unfaithful servant, the ten virgins and the one of the talents. Matt. 24:45-25:30
5. The tribulation and Great-Tribulation are clearly indicated. Matt. 24:15, 21
6. Those that use verse 40-42 for the rapture use it out of context, “Then two *men* will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. Two *women will be grinding at the mill*: one will be taken and the other left. Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming.” This is the Second Coming, the one taken, enters the Kingdom, the one left is for judgment, illustrated by the days of Noah. vs. 37-39

7. Jesus is speaking to Israel, the Jews, who will go through the period known as, “The Day of the Lord” the pouring out of God’s wrath from heaven that begins at the same time the rapture occurs. Rev. 6-18
8. No one knows when the “rapture” will occur or “the day of the LORD”, due to the fact that both occur at the same time!

24:1-3 The prediction of the destruction of the temple by Jesus.

* The parallel passages. Mk. 13:1-2; Lk. 21:5-6

24:1 The departure of Jesus from the temple for the last time.

- * “Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple.”
- 1) Jesus was in the process of leaving the temple precinct when His disciples pointed out the grandeur and the magnificence of the structures of the temple by the work of Herod the Great.
 - * Luke specifies what they were focusing on, “Then, as some spoke of the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and donations.” Lk. 21:5
- 2) The disciples of Jesus are not named.
 - * Mark supplies their names, Peter, James, John and Andrew.
- 3) The temple was the one built by Zerubbabel after captivity, Herod had enlarged the temple area by a man-made platform that is

to the present day the largest man-made platform, it and the buildings had been under construction for 46 years. Jn. 2:20

- 4) The temple was faced with polished white marble, plated with gold and when the sun shined, it blinded people.
- 5) The architecture was impressive with its huge stone weighing 100-180 tons each, some measuring 20-40 feet in length some 50' L x 24' W x 16' H.
- 6) The porches were upheld by pillars of solid marble in one piece, 37 1/2 feet high, thick enough that three men linked together barely joined arms.
- 7) His disciples, Peter, James, John and Andrew only saw the outward without any idea of the inward reality or future!

24:2 The proclamation of the coming destruction of the temple.

- 1) Jesus responded to His disciples pointing out their limited sight regarding the present impressiveness of the buildings, "And Jesus said to them, "Do you not see all these things?" vs. 2a
 - a) This was their national pride and access to God!
 - b) Jesus has declared the parable of the vineyard the kingdom of God would be taken from the Jews and given to a nation bearing the fruit to it, as well as

pronounced judgment over Jerusalem and they would not see Him until His Second Coming. Matt. 21:43; 23:36-39

- 2) Jesus revealed to the four disciples the extent of the future destruction by the judgment of God, "Assuredly, I say to you, not *one* stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down." vs. 2b-e
 - * It was unimaginable that anyone could remove the gigantic stones, let alone that God would destroy His temple, yet God did it before, Jeremiah quoted Micah. Jer. 26:6, 18; Mic. 3:12
 - a) The word assuredly "amen" is the aorist passive subjunctive, the strongest form of negation to express future action, reliable.
 - b) The judgment would be so thorough that not one stone would be left upon another, the short-term judgment of Jerusalem, the long term if before His Coming.
 - * "For I will gather all the nations to battle **against Jerusalem**; The city shall be taken, The houses rifled, And the women ravished. Half of the city shall go into captivity, But the remnant of the people shall not be cut off from the city." Zech. 14:2
- c) This is verified as the destruction through Titus in 70 A.D, the Temple was set on fire and the gold on the roof and side

melted, so to recover the gold they dimantles the stones.

- 1)) The phrase thrown down “kataluo” is one word in the Greek and means to demolish and destroy. Josephus tells us it looked like nothing had ever been on the Mount.
- 2)) All of man’s works are temporary and under God’s judgment. 2Cor. 4:18c-d
* “For the things which are seen *are* temporary, but the things which are not seen *are* eternal.”

24:3 The petition about the destruction of the temple and His return.

- * “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?”
- 1) Jesus has gone out the East Gate, down to the Kidron Valley, across it and up the Mount of Olives being able to look up to the temple as he sat.
 - 2) They came privately to Jesus to be taught by Jesus, for they were His disciples and asked Him certain questions.
 - a) The first question, “When will these things be?”, marking the destruction of the temple that Jesus does not answer, Luke does.

- b) The second question, “What shall be the sign of Your coming?”, marked His coming to the earth.
 - * The word sign “semeion”, is singular, not plural.
- c) The third question, “What shall be the sign of the end of the age?”, marking the present evil age to set up the Kingdom Age.
 - * Many see only two questions, taking the second and third as one, the second being the outcome of the third.
- 4)) All the material has to fit into one of the three questions, otherwise Jesus did not answer their questions.
- 3) The first question, “When shall these things be” is answered in greater details by Luke, “But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is near. Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those who are in the midst of her depart, and let not those who are in the country enter her. For these are the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled. But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! For there will be great distress in the land and wrath upon this people. And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away

captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.” Lk. 21:20-24

- 4) The second and third question, “what will be the sign of Your coming and the end of the age” is answered more specifically by Matthew and in reverse order, the “end of the age first, the sign of His Coming. vs. 6d, 8, 14; Matt. 24:15-31
- 5) The Jews knew only two ages, the present age and the age to come, the Kingdom Age.
- 6) Keep in mind Matthew wrote his gospel to and for the Jews, who will go through the Tribulation and Great-Tribulation.
 - * The apostles, as Jews were expecting the Kingdom Age to be establish when the got to Jerusalem, they still did not understand that there would be a church age and still asked Jesus again after the resurrection because He promised them to reign sitting on 12 thrones. Lk. 19:11; Acts 1:6; Matt. 19:28

24:4-14 The discription about the sign of His Coming and the end of the age.
 * The parallel passages. Mk. 13:3-13; Lk. 21:7-19

24:4-8 The characteristics of the Tribulation period.

- 1) These verses deal with the first 3 ½ years of Tribulation.
- 2) Some see a double application to the church age, but the context is Israel!

24:4-5 The time will be one of great spiritual deception to the world.

- * “And Jesus answered and said to them: “Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many.”
- 1) The phrase take heed “blepo”, means to perceive and discern, a present active tense, ongoing, a strong warning. vs. 4
 - * Remember this is the Tribulation, the first 3 ½ years.
 - 2) The priority given by Jesus is the warning about being spiritually deceived. vs. 4
 - a) The word decieved “planao”, means to cause to stray or be misled.
 - b) The get our word “planet” from it that have diviated from their orbit.
 - c) The deception regards spiritual truth, in context about the sign of His Coming and the end of the age.
 - d) This warnings about spiritual deception is a major topic in the New Testament. 1Tim. 4:1-5; 2Tim 3:1-5; Jude 3-4
 - 3) The decivers will be many. vs. 5
 - a) The number will by many “polos” a large number.

- b) They will declare to be Christ “Messiah”, but are False Christ successful at their deception for they “will deceive many”.
- c) The main deceiver is the Anti-Christ, “And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did **not** receive the love of the **truth**, that they might be saved. And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, that they all may be condemned who did **not** believe the **truth** but had pleasure in unrighteousness.” 2Thess. 2:8-12

24:6-7b The time will be one of violent instability of the world.

- * “And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all *these things* must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom.”
- 1) Jesus said, “You will hear of wars and rumors “akoe” in the sense of hearing, be it false or true. vs. 6a

- a) The beginning of the tribulation period the first seal is opened and the Anti-Christ will appear on a white horse, bow and no arrows, conquering through diplomacy, false peace. Rev. 6:1-2
- b) The second seal of the tribulation under the Anti-Christ wars are represented by the red horse taking peace from the earth. Rev. 6:3-4
- b) God will send a strong delusion to believe the lie because they did not believe the truth. to be saved. 2Thess. 2:10
- 2) Jesus said, “See that you are not troubled “throeo”, means to not be terrified and cry aloud. vs. 6b
 - * Paul says, “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.” 1Thess. 5:3
- 3) Jesus said, “For all these things must come to pass” vs. 6c
 - * These are only the beginning of Jacob’s Trouble. Jer. 30:7
- 4) Jesus clearly said, “But the end is not yet”, the end is at His Second Coming, ending the “Time of the Genties”, the ten toes of iron and clay, the end of the seven years of tribulation that ushers in the Kingdom Age! vs. 6d

- a) The full seven years must be fulfilled.
Dan. 2, 7. 9:27
 - b) Luke says, “And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled by **Gentiles** until the times of the **Gentiles** are fulfilled.” Lk. 21:24
 - c) Not to be confused with the fullness of the Gentiles, the total number of people to be save for the rapture to take place, “For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the **Gentiles** has come in.” Rom. 11:25
- 2) There would be world wars, “nation against nation, and kingdom against kingdom.” vs. 7a-b
- a) These indicate world wars.
 - b) We have had WWI, II during the church age, horrible times, but nothing compared to what is coming.
 - c) We have experienced in man’s history one year of peace to every thirteen years of war!

24:7c-8 The time will be one of calamities through nature in the world.

- * “And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. All these *are* the beginning of sorrows.”
- 1) There will be famines. vs. 7c
- a) These are not natural, but super-natural by the wrath of God.
 - b) The third seal brings famine symbolized by the black horse of the Apocalips, a pair of scales in his hand as the result of the wars. Rev. 6:5
 - b) “A quart of wheat for a denarius, and bhree quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not harm the oil and the wine.” Rev. 6:6
* God often withheld rain to chasten His people in judgment. Jer. 3:3; Amos 4:7
- 2) There will be pestilences. vs. 7d
- a) Again these are by the outpouring of God’s wrath.
 - b) Then the fourth seal brings forth the pale horse symbolic of pestilence, “So I looked, and behold, a pale **horse**. And the name of him who sat on it was Death, and Hades followed with him. And power was given to them over a **fourth of the earth**, to kill with sword, with hunger, with death, and by the beasts of the earth.” Rev. 6:8

- b) One quarter of the earth's population will die by pestilence, sword, hunger and death. Rev. 6:8
 * The population in July 1, 2018 is 6.9 billion, if this was the population at the time of the fourth seal about 1.725 billion people would be dead, leaving 5.175 billion people.
- c) "So the four angels, who had been prepared for the hour and day and month and year, were released to **kill** a third of mankind." Rev. 9:15
 * Leaving 5.175 billion, one-third is another 1.725 billion dead people, leaving 3.45 billion on the earth!
- d) By three plagues one third of mankind is killed. Rev. 9:18
 * At this time there would be 3.45 billion, one-third more would be 1.15 billion people dead, leaving only 2.3 billion people on the earth.
- e) The fifth seal reveals those martyred for the faith by the Anti-Christ. Rev. 6:9-11
- 4) There will be earthquakes in various places. vs. 7e
 a) The sixth seal brings a great earthquake, the sun will become black as sackcloth, the moon like blood, the stars fall on the earth, the sky recedes, every mountain and Island is moved out of its place and all hid in the caves and the rocks of the

- mountains saying to them to fall on them and hide them from Him who sits on the throne and from the **wrath of the Lamb**. For the **great day of His wrath** has come, and who is able to stand? Rev. 6:12-17
 * Earthquakes have been going on since the beginning of God's creation after the fall and are increasing in different places and we are able to detect them more with the technology we possess.
- b) The seventh angels pouring out his bowl a great earthquake like no other in man's history dividing Jerusalem in three parts, the cities of the nations fall, Babylon is punished with the cup of fierce wrath and every Island fled away, the mountains were not found. Rev. 16:17-20
 * Maybe a Polar flip?
 a)) During the first three and a half years of Tribulation.
 b)) The worst is yet to come, the last three and a half years, Great-Tribulation.
- 5) But Jesus once again indicates these are not signs in themselves of the end referring to His Second Coming, but rather, "All these are the beginning of sorrows." vs. 8
 * Verse 4-8 indicates the first 3 ½ years of Tribulation, "all these are the beginning of sorrows".

24:9-14 The characteristics of the Great-Tribulation period.

24:9-10 The time will be one of persecution and betrayal.

* “Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name’s sake. And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another.

1) The deliverance is of the Jews to persecution to the point of death for trusting in Christ, “for My name’s sake”. vs. 9a

* Certainly this took place prior to 70 A.D., in the first century and in principle throughout the church age in the world at various times, but the context is the Great-Tribulation.

a) The context is indicated by the word “then” this is a time marker, indicating the specific period of Great-Tribulation against the Jews. vs. 9

b) The word tribulation “thlipsis” means to press or crush, used for grapes and some killed.

1)) There will be many who will come to Christ during the tribulation period, but once the Anti-Christ breaks the covenant he will be relentless.

2)) Those under the fifth seal are slain for their testimony and are told many more to be killed. Rev. 6:9-11

3)) They will be beheaded by the Anti-Christ for not worshipping him. Rev. 20:14

2) The hatred is by all nations towards the Jews believing and trusting in the name of Jesus, “My name’s sake”. vs. 9b

a) This does not mean that no Gentiles will be saved or persecuted, but Jesus is focusing and speaking to the Jews during the Tribulation.

b) Anti-Christ will not tolerate any rivals, two of three Jews will die. Zech. 13:8

c) Jesus said it would be better to die than live in those days.

3) The persecution will be too great for some and will apostisize, depart from Jesus. vs. 10

a) The number of them is many “polus” a large number.

b) They will be offended “skandalizo”, to begin to distrust and desert the one they were trusting and should be obeying.

c) They will betray “paradinomi” one another, to give or deliver into the hands of another.

d) They will hate “miseo” one another, to detest and pursue.

24:11-13 The time will be one of False prophets.

- * “Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. But he who endures to the end shall be saved.”
- 1) There will be many false prophets and they will be successful in deceiving many. vs. 11
 - * This is also a warning during the church age in principle, but not in this context! Acts 20:30; 2Pet. 2:1-3
 - a) The word “then” again is a time word, indicating the specific period of the beginning of the Tribulation.
 - b) The two prophets of God, Elijah and I believe Enoch will give many of these false prophets, the False Prophet and the Anti-Christ a bad time, until God allows them to be killed. Rev. 11:3-13
 - 2) This will be a time lawless character, giving way to the treacherous betrayal, as the love of many to grow cold. vs. 12
 - a) The word love is “agape” used for God’s love through the believer for man, not none believers.
 - b) Again many will come to Christ through the preaching of the 144,000 Jews, the two witnesses and others.
 - c) This is the perseverance of those in the Great-Tribulation.
 - * “In your patience possess you your souls”. Lk. 21:19

- 3) The sharp contrast is to those who endure to the end and be saved. vs. 13
 - * This is applicable in principle throughout the church age, but the context again is the Great-Tribulation!
 - a) The word but “de” marks the sharp contrast to those who do not endure and abound to the end. vs. 12
 - b) The word endure “hupmeno”, means to remain, abide, not recede or flee.

24:14 The time will be one of the proclamation of the Gospel to the entire world.

- * “And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.”
- 1) The preaching of the gospel to all the world will never be fulfilled by the church, but an angel. Rev. 14:6-13
 - a) The word “then”, again a time word.
 - b) “Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the **everlasting gospel** to preach to those who dwell on the earth--to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people--saying with a loud voice, “Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water.” vs. 6-7

c) The 144,000 Jews are sealed. Rev. 7:1-8;
14:1-5

d) The two witnesses. Rev. 11:3-14

- 2) The time word “then” appears again “then” the end will come”, the Second Coming to set up the Kingdom Age.
- 3) Jesus has run through the entire seven years in a kind of overview, without giving many of the details, in these opening versus.