

## Matthew 24 Study Notes

4/12/23

Gospel parallels Matthew 24-25, Luke 21 and Mark 13 is called the Olivet Discourse

Eschatology - a belief concerning death, the end of the world, or the ultimate destiny of humankind. Specifically, any of various Christian doctrines concerning the second coming, the resurrection of the dead, or the last judgement.

**"What does it look like to be a faithful follower of Jesus in the midst of a crazy world?"**

- Tim Mackie

### Matthew 24:1-31

Wm. Barclay - These verses are a composite vision of the future collected in a group.

We will attempt to disentangle the strands.

1. Destruction of Temple & Jerusalem - v. 1-2
2. Siege of Jerusalem - v.15-22
3. Day of the Lord - v.6-8, v.29-31
4. Persecution - v.9-10
5. Threats - v.4-5, 11-13, 23-6
6. Second Coming of Christ - v.3, 14, 27-28

### #1 Destruction of Temple and Jerusalem - v. 1-2

Matthew 24:1-2 - They transition away from \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_

Jesus is talking to \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_

What is Jesus talking about in v2 ?

Daniel 9:20-26

v.3- The disciples ask Jesus a question that has two parts:

1. When will this be (destruction of temple) AND
2. What will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age

What makes this chapter tricky is interpreting when Jesus refers to events fulfilled in AD 70 and when he refers to his future coming. It could be both, the near future and the far future. (Drawing)

### #2 Siege of Jerusalem - v.15-22

-Original temple built by Solomon was destroyed in 586 BC by Nebuchanezzar, king of Babylon - 2 Kings 25:8-17

-Second Temple tidbits:

- Epicenter of Jerusalem
- Temple complex was 1,550,000 square feet (about equal to 35 acres)
- Towered over the landscape, was covered in gold - sunny days shined like the sun
- Might have been the first time the Galilean disciples had seen it

Siege of Jerusalem tidbits:

- first Jewish-Roman war (AD 66-73)
- led by Emperor Titus - Jerusalem was ground zero for the rebel resistance
- temple and city destroyed following a five month siege
- historian Josephus main source - city was ravaged by murder, famine and cannibalism
- Josephus reports that total a million perished (contemporary figures dispute this)
- Many followers of Jesus also survived the city's destruction. They spread his teachings across the Roman Empire, giving rise to Christianity

Daniel 12:11 - "abomination of desolation"

### **#3 Day of the Lord - v.6-8, 29-31**

V.6 "but the end is not yet"

V.8 "All these are but the beginning of the birth pains"

V.29 - quotes Isaiah 13:9-10, 34:4 and Joel 2:10

V.30 - quotes Daniel 7:13

From these pictures emerge certain great truths to value: (not exact: symbols/pictures)

1. Don't Panic! God has not abandoned the world. His purpose is being worked out here.
2. Even an ever-increasing presence of evil must not discourage us. It is a prelude to re-creation.
3. Both judgment and a new creation are certain. God contemplates the world both in justice and mercy.

Other places to explore - Zeph 1:15, 1 Thess. 5:2, Joel 2: 30-31, Isa.13:10,13

### **#4 Persecution - v.9-10**

Jesus shows uncompromising honesty with his followers

What time frame was this persecution to occur?

"The awkward thing about christianity is that anyone who does not wish to be changed is bound to hate it and resent it." This reality will be present until Jesus comes back.

### **#5 - Threats - v.4-5, 11-13, 23-6**

Jesus saw two dangers for the church:

1. False leaders- the test of any leader is likeness to Christ
2. Discouragement -love that grows cold because of the increasing lawlessness of the world.

What characteristic is highlighted in v. 13?

### **#6 - Second Coming of Christ - v.3, 14, 27-28**

The NT does not ever use the phrase "the second coming".

Parousia - the word used to describe the return of Christ in glory throughout the rest of the NT. Describes a coming in authority and in power.

### **Matthew 24: 32-41**

What is Jesus referring to?

Does this sound contradictory?

V. 36-41 -These verses clearly point to the return of Jesus. We can know for sure that:

1. The hour of that event is know only to God
2. The time will come with shattering suddenness.
3. This will be a time of judgment, when Christ will gather his own.

### **Matthew 24: 42-51**

This passage teaches us that our lives should be one of \_\_\_\_\_

"Staying with it—that's what God requires. Stay with it to the end. You won't be sorry, and you'll be saved. All during this time, the good news—the Message of the kingdom—will be preached all over the world, a witness staked out in every country. And then the end will come." Matthew 24:13-14 (the Message)