

Series "Knowing The Exact Truth"
"Be Alert"
Luke 21:29-38
Study-89

2 Peter 3:3-4

Last Days Logic: It has been a long time since Jesus promised to return, and He has not returned yet so that means He will not return!

Noah Warned Of The Impending Flood, but no takers! Remember: The Eight Persons were right and the entire world was wrong!

Jesus Now Teaches His Followers That The Promise Of His Return Means We Live Differently, We Are On The Alert! Luke 21:36 "But keep on the alert at all times,

Our passage is recorded in **Matthew 24:32-44; Mark 13:28-37; Luke 21:28-38**

The Thought Of Our Passage: "The Question, When Will Jesus Return? Should Really Be, How Should We Spend Our Time Until He Returns?"

- 1. Verses 29-33 He's Coming:**
- 2. Verses 34-38 Be Ready:**

1. Verses 29-33 He's Coming:

Luke 21:29 Then Context – The Passion Week, it is at the end of the day on Tuesday called "**The Day Of Controversy.**" Jesus has left the temple (Last Time) and has told the disciple that not one stone would be left upon another. **The Nation has rejected the Messiah, Jesus foretells the doom of the city and Israel's suffering, at the same time the promise of His return.**

Mark 13:3 He was sitting on the Mount of Olives "The Olivet Discourse" Matthew 24-25; Mark 13; Luke 21

Then He told them a parable: Immediate Context – Jesus just spoke about His second coming! **Luke 21:27-28**

told them a parable – "*cast alongside of*" *Illustration alongside of instruction.*

"Behold the fig tree – In the OT Israel is often compared to a **Fig Tree,** and a **Vine - Hosea 9:10**

and all the trees; Uses the fig tree possibly traveling to Bethany over the hill known for figs. **all the trees;** follow this same pattern.

Luke 21:30 as soon as they put forth leaves, Fig tree was the last tree to bud in late springtime and early summer. When the fig tree would bud it was a sign that summer was near.

you see it and know for yourselves that summer is now near. This is not given to us in order to set dates. It is given to us as an illustration.

Luke 21:31 "So you also, Jesus is saying if you can read the sign of the trees and seasons you can read the signs Jesus is describing.

when you see these things happening, What things is Jesus referring to? Things just described in Verses 5 to 28; the Birth Pains, False Christs, prophets, DESOLATION of the temple, stars falling from heaven, time of tribulation.

recognize that the kingdom of God is near. Revelation 6-19 knowing that He is at the door. The second coming is at hand. God has made promises to Israel that have not been fulfilled but will find their fulfilment in the millennium. **Revelation 20:4**

Luke 21:32 "Truly I say to you, *"this is of the truth, this is a trustworthy statement"*

this generation – This passage has caused many comments and debates.

4 Different Views on "This Generation"

- 1. The Rebirth Of The Nation Of Israel: generation** - *generally defined as 35-40 years.* Some have suggested that the event of **May 14, 1948,** Israel was rebirthed as a Nation, so the suggestion was that Jesus would come within 40 years of 1948.
- 2. The Nation Of Israel Will Always Exist: generation** – can be translated *"this race" Israel will never cease to be or cease to exist.*
Jeremiah 31:35-36
- 3. The Near Fulfillment: generation** – 70 AD The Temple and the city of Jerusalem would be destroyed by the Roman army. What about the stars falling from the sky? 1/3 of the sun put out?

4. The Far Fulfillment: generation – “The Gospel Age” *“Gospel Age, From Jesus to His return, including both Jews and Gentiles”* The generation that is alive to see the abomination of desolation, these events transpiring. They will experience the tribulation and the second coming. **Mark 13:24-26**

will not pass away until all things take place. What generation? The generation that is alive to see the abomination of desolation,
Revelation 6-19

Philippians 3:20

Luke 21:33 **“Heaven and earth will pass away,** this is a shocking statement to many.

2 Peter 3:10-12

The Temporal Versus The Eternal: but My words will not pass away. Note that Jesus is claiming deity - **My words will not pass away.**

will not pass away. Isaiah 40:8

1 Peter 1:25

We must build our lives on Scripture! Why must we build our lives on Scripture? Because Scripture alone is eternal, **THE WORD OF THE LORD ENDURES FOREVER.”**

Mark 13:32; 1 Timothy 6:16

“But of that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, this goes against this so-called special revelation that people reveal. That an angel revealed it to them. **Matthew 24:44**

People are consumed with the question, “When is the time?” When the question really should be “How should we spend our time profitably?”

Matthew 5:18; Luke 16:17

2. Verses 34-38 Be Ready:

Luke 21:34 *“Be on guard, to pay attention to be on the alert, listen intently”*

Verse 34 - Negative Response To Jesus’ Return: so that your hearts will not be weighted down *“to be weighed down with great sorrow, to be weighted down with a burden that is too heavy”*

with dissipation *"drunkenness to the point of having a hangover"*

and drunkenness *"excess of alcohol, intoxication"* Numb your mind.

and the worries of life, *"anxious thoughts about this life"* **Luke 8:14**

and that day will not come on you suddenly like a trap; *"to happen without warning, suddenly the trap is sprung"*

1 Thessalonians 5:1-2; 2 Peter 3:14

Luke 21:35 for it will come upon all those who dwell on the face of all the earth. That at the appointed time the Lord will return.

Isaiah 24:17

Verse 36 - Positive Response To Jesus' Return: "But keep on the alert at all times, *"to beware and to stay awake continually"*

praying literally *"begging"* **that you may have strength to escape all these things that are about to take place,** *"praying, begging that our strength, will be sufficient to carry us through"* *God's power!*

and to stand before the Son of Man." In His Righteousness! Faith in Him not Me!

"A Belief That Does Not Affect Behavior Is Nonsense"

Acts 1:6-7; Titus 2:13

Luke 21:37 Now during the day He was teaching in the temple, Monday/Tuesday Jesus was in the temple. There is no record of any other time during the passion week.

Luke 21:38

Application:

1. Keeping Alert Means Staying Awake And Living A Godly Life In Service To God.
2. This Earth Is Going To Pass Away, So Our Focus Should Be Upon God's Word Which Is Eternal And Living For The Spiritual.
3. When Will Jesus Return? The Question Should Really Be How Should We Spend Our Time Until He Returns?
4. When The Bible Speaks God Speaks. Jesus' Words Carry The Same Authority As All Of Scripture, Being That Of God's Word.