

"Life In The Final Days"
Matthew 24:1-14
Sunday, January 17, 2021

Revelation 1:1 the things which must soon take place; The word **soon** – Greek word *tachos*, English word (Tachometer) "*short time, speed, quickly.*"

Our passage has been referred to as "**The Little Apocalypse**" or "**The Olivet Discourse**" **Matthew 24:3** Recorded in **Matthew 24-25, Mark 13, and Luke 21** (Longest discourse in all 3 Gospels).

Background: This passage describes the condition of the world before the second coming of Christ. It deals with a period called the "**Tribulation.**"

"**The Tribulation**" is a period of 7 years; the "**Great Tribulation**" is the last 3½ years of the Tribulation period. **Daniel 9:24-27; Jerimiah 30:7 "Jacob's Trouble."**

1 Thessalonians 5:9 For God has not destined us for wrath,
Revelation 3:10

1 Thessalonians 4:17 caught - is the Latin word "*Rapture.*" If we had a Latin translation. Greek is the word "Harpazo," which means "*to seize, to catch up, snatch away.*" **Revelation 6-19**

Thought Of Our Passage: "God's Revelation Of The Future Is Not To Puff Us Up But Provoke Us To Live And Develop Christlikeness."

1. Verses 1-3 Destruction Of The Temple
2. Verses 4-14 Relentless Troubles

1. Verses 1-3 Destruction Of The Temple

Matthew 24:1 Context - This is The **Passion Week**. Jesus has just given His most scathing message addressed to the **Scribes and Pharisees.**
Matthew 23:38-39

when His disciples came up to point out the temple buildings to Him. It was 46 years in the building and was completed in 63 AD.

Matthew 24:2 not one stone here will be left upon another, which will not be torn down." This was fulfilled in 70 AD when the Roman General Titus placed a siege on Jerusalem. He surrounded the city and held the city captive for two months. The famine was great, food was cut off and starvation hit. People were so starved that they were too weak to bury the dead, so they threw them over the wall.

Matthew 24:3 As He was sitting on the Mount of Olives,
This is a mountain ridge 2,600 feet high that is East of Jerusalem. The Kidron valley separates The Mount of Olives from the Temple Mount.

the disciples came to Him privately,
His disciples **ask Jesus 3 questions:**

- 1. When Will These Things Happen?** (He has just spoken of the Destruction of Temple) **Matthew 23:37-39**
- 2. What Will Be The Sign Of Your Coming?** (Second Coming) **Matthew 24:29-44** Rapture not taught until the upper room **John 14**
- 3. And The End Of The Age?** (The Last Days) **Matthew 24:4-8**
Matthew and **Mark** focus on the future tribulation; **Luke**, on the destruction of the temple.

2. Verses 4-14 Relentless Troubles

We will look at 8 General Signs: (Some Not So General)

- 1. Verse - 4 Deception: Matthew 24:4 said to them, "See to it - "Stay awake, don't sleep, stay awake and keep watch."** Use your eyes and mind to discern a matter. (Spiritual and physical)

that no one misleads you. This is the key to this discourse.

Verses 5-11 "many will come in My name, wars and rumors of wars, nation will rise against nation, famines and earthquakes, hated by all nations on account of My name, many will fall away, many false prophets will arise, and will mislead many, lawlessness is increased, most people's love will grow cold."

- 2. Verse 5 False Messiahs: Matthew 24:5 "For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will mislead many.**

"For many will come in My name, there have been many. saying, 'I am the Christ,'

Sun Myung Moon (1920)
Billy Meier (1937)
David Koresh (1959-1993)
Yahweh Ben Yahweh (1935-2007)

Psalm 46:10 (NLT) "Be still, and know that I am God! I will be honored by every nation. I will be honored throughout the world."

and will mislead many. This deception is going to be very effective.
(Politicians)

3. Verses 6-7 Wars: Matthew 24:6 "You will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars.

World War I many thought it was the end of the world, then **World War II**; they thought it was the end of the world.
Desert Storm, Iraq War.
and rumors of wars.

See that you are not frightened, for those things must take place, but that is not yet the end.

Professing Christians are frightened of a virus (Fear of death).

Matthew 24:7 The kingdom of God versus the kingdoms of this world.

The driving force is for the prize of power and money, the here and now versus eternity. Philippians 3:8

4. Verse 7 Natural Disasters: Matthew 24:7 famines – Jesus just spoke about wars, that the aftermaths of war are famines and disease. The land is devastated after the war. **Revelation 6:6**

earthquakes – 3 million earthquakes a year. Revelation 16:18, 20

Luke 21:11 plagues – "*virus*" COVID, bacterial diseases.

Unnatural Disasters: Luke 21:11 and there will be terrors and great signs from heaven.

Stars falling from heaven, destroying water, oceans eco-system.

Revelation 6:12-17 (Not Green House Emissions, but God Himself!)

Revelation 9:5 that death will be suspended for 5 months.

Matthew 24:8 beginning of birth pangs "*birth-pangs*" are a symbol of the Tribulation; Labor pains – that when they begin, they intensify with time. **Isaiah 13:8**

5. Verses 9-10 Persecution & Apostasy: Matthew 24:9 they will deliver you to tribulation, and will kill you,

Paul stood before Herod, Festus, and Agrippa, eventually Caesar and was murdered (Socialism, Liberalism).

Deuteronomy 6:4

you will be hated by all nations because of My name.

The early church did suffer from Rome, but it was not all nations.

**Apostasy: Matthew 24:10 "And at that time many will fall away
1 Timothy 4:1; 2 Thessalonians 2:3**

**and will betray one another and hate one another. Luke 12:51
2 Timothy 3:12**

The name of "Jesus Christ" brings a great division.

**6. Verse 11 False Prophets: Matthew 24:11 "Many false prophets
will arise and will mislead many. *Many false Prophets and cults.***

*Islam Muslims – False Prophet Mohamed -
Liberal Church -
Word-Faith Church –*

**7. Verse 12 Increased Lawlessness: Matthew 24:12
"Because lawlessness is increased, 2 Timothy 3:13**

Defunding the police is lawlessness!

most people's love will grow cold. 2 Timothy 3:1-4

8. Verses 13-14 Living The Message: Matthew 24:13-14

Revelation 7:1-8 teaches that God will choose and seal 144,000 Jewish evangelists.

Application:

- 1.** Jesus Warns Of Deception. The Way To Avoid Being Mised Is By Staying True To Jesus And His Word.
- 2.** Between The First And Second Coming Of Jesus, History Will Be Marked By Relentless Troubles.
- 3.** This Prophecy Should Produce A Humble Heart, A Christ-like Character, And A Love And A Concern For The Lost.
- 4.** The Name And The Relationship With Jesus Christ Brings A Great Division.
Luke 12:51