

# **The Blessed Hope**

**The Olivet Discourse ~ Matthew 24**

**Titus 2:13 & 1 John 3:3**

## Titus 2:12-13

(12) . . . we should live . . .

(13) looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

## 1 John 3:2-3

(2) Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when **He** is revealed, we shall be like **Him**, for we shall see **Him** as **He** is.

(3) And everyone who has this hope in **Him** purifies himself, just as **He** is pure.

# Review

## **Two Major Questions To Be Answered:**

- **When will the return of Jesus be in relationship to the Millennium?**
- **When will the return of Jesus be in relationship to the Great Tribulation?**

# The Length of Time of the Great Tribulation

- **Revelation 11:2-3**
- (2) But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city underfoot *for* **forty-two months**.
- (3) And I will give *power* to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy **one thousand two hundred and sixty days**, clothed in sackcloth."

# The Length of Time of the Great Tribulation

- **Revelation 12:6**
- (6) Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there **one thousand two hundred and sixty days.**

# The Length of Time of the Great Tribulation

- **Revelation 13:5**
- (5) And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for **forty-two months**.

# The Length of Time of the Great Tribulation

- **Daniel 7:25**
- (25) He shall speak *pompous* words against the Most High, Shall persecute the saints of the Most High, And shall intend to change times and law. Then *the saints* shall be given into his hand For **a time and times and half a time.**

# The Tribulation and the Rapture

## The Pretribulation View

The rapture spoken of in 1 Thessalonians 4 will take place prior to the tribulation. Those raptured will be taken off the earth and kept safe during this time of tribulation. (Note: for those who hold this view, the rapture and the return of Christ are separate events.)

# The Tribulation and the Rapture

## The Post-tribulation View

The rapture will bring the Great Tribulation to a conclusion. Christ will raise the dead saints to life. They will be caught up along with the saints who are alive at that time to **meet** Him in the air. This will take place as He returns to earth to destroy the Antichrist and set up His literal 1,000 year Kingdom on earth.

# The Tribulation and the Rapture

## The Mid-tribulation View

The rapture will take place in the middle of a seven year period of tribulation, just prior to the 3½ year period of the Great Tribulation. Those raptured will be taken off the earth and kept safe during this time of tribulation. (Note: for those who hold this view, the rapture and the return of Christ are separate events.)

## The Timing of the Rapture Major Views

Related to: <b>The Millennium</b>	Related to: <b>The Great Tribulation</b>	<b>Adherents</b>
Revelation 20	1 Thessalonians 4 Matthew 24 2 Thessalonians 2	
<b>The Premillennial View</b> Christ will return prior to His literal 1,000-year reign on the earth.	<p><b>The Pretribulation (Pretrib) View</b> (Dispensational Premillennialism) The rapture spoken of in 1 Thessalonians 4 will take place prior to the tribulation.</p> <hr/> <p><b>The Post-Tribulation (Post-trib) View</b> (Historic Premillennialism) The rapture spoken of in 1 Thessalonians 4 will conclude the tribulation.</p> <hr/> <p><b>The Mid-Tribulation (Mid-trib) View</b> (Pre-wrath View) The rapture spoken of in 1 Thessalonians 4 will take place during the tribulation prior to the time of God pouring out His wrath on the earth.</p>	<p>John N. Darby, John MacArthur, Steve Lawson, Lewis Sperry Chafer, J. Dwight Pentecost, Charles Ryrie, Hal Lindsey</p> <hr/> <p><b>Early church fathers:</b> Ireneaus, Justin Martyr, Papias. <b>More recent history:</b> John Gill, Charles Spurgeon, George Ladd</p> <hr/> <p>Gleason Archer, Norman Harrison, James Oliver Buswell, Marvin Rosenthal, Harold J. Ockenga,</p>
<b>The Postmillennial View</b> Christ will return at the end of a 1,000-year golden age of Christian influence on the earth	Do not believe in a future time of tribulation. Several categories, including: <b>Preterists &amp; Partial Preterists</b> <b>Christian Reconstructionists</b>	Many Puritans, John Owen, Jonathan Edwards, Charles Hodge, R.J. Rushdoony, Gary DeMar, R.C. Sproul
<b>The Amillennial View</b> The Biblical reference to a 1,000-year reign of Christ is symbolic, not literal. It is a reference to the entire church age since Christ's first coming.	Do not believe in a future time of tribulation. Several categories, including: <b>Preterists and Partial Preterists</b>	Augustine, Most of the Reformers, William Hendricksen

# **The Olivet Discourse**

## **Matthew 24 - 25**

### **Outline**

**The Background 24:1-2**

**The Question Jesus Was Asked 24:3**

**Labor Pains or Birth Pangs 24:4-8**

**Christians Hated and Martyred for the Sake of  
the Gospel 24:9-14**

**The Great Tribulation 24:15-28**

# **The Olivet Discourse**

## **Matthew 24 - 25**

### **Outline**

**The Rapture 24:29-31**

**Those Alive at the Time Will Be Able to Know  
the Time is Near 24:32-35**

**Be Ready! 24:36-25:46**

# The Olivet Discourse

## Background 24:1-2

This discourse is covered in all 3 of the synoptic gospels. Each account has a slightly different emphasis. Matthew's account is the most comprehensive. Matthew's account emphasizes Jesus' teaching about end time events most clearly.

# The Olivet Discourse

## The Question Jesus Was Asked 24:3

In the minds of the disciples it was all one question with 3 parts or aspects.

Jesus answered in a way that addressed His immediate disciples who were in front of Him, but He also looked down through the portals of time to speak to those who would be alive in the last days.

He uses words that present a sequence of events, especially the word “then” – 11 times: 1, 9, 10, 11, 14, 16, 21, 23, 30, 40, 45

# **The Olivet Discourse**

## **The Question Jesus Was Asked 24:3**

The disciples may have meant something different when they asked, “what will be the sign of Your coming?”

But Jesus clearly answered their question in terms of His Second Coming at the end of the age.

# The Olivet Discourse

## Labor Pains or Birth Pangs 24:4-8

Deception of many false Christs

Wars and rumors of wars

Nations rising against nation

Famines

Pestilences

Earthquakes in various places

“the end is not yet” (v.6) ... “all these are the beginning of sorrows” (v. 8)

# **The Olivet Discourse**

## **Labor Pains or Birth Pangs 24:4-8**

### **What do we know about labor pains?**

Labor pains come prior to the birth and indicate that the time for the birth is drawing near

Labor pains come with ever increasing intensity as the birth draws nearer.