

## **Living in Light of His Coming**

Matthew 24:1 And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the temple. 2 And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down. 3 And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, **when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?** 4 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. 5 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many. 6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye **be not troubled:** for all *these things* must come to pass, but **the end is not yet.** 7 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. 8 All these **are the beginning of sorrows.** 9 Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations **for my name's sake.** 10 And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. 11 And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. 12 And because **iniquity shall abound,** the love of many shall wax cold. 13 But he that shall **endure unto the end,** the same shall be saved. 14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be **preached in all the world** for a witness unto all nations; and **then shall the end come.**

- . These are questions about His coming and the end
- . This refers to future events and hinges around the Jews and Israel
- . A major lesson is to not be deceived so that means you will have to study the Bible and continue doing so
- . Terms we use when we talk about the return of Christ
  - . Premillennialism
  - . Postmillennialism
  - . Amillennialism

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- . Preterism is the view that these verses and others that appear to talk about future events have already taken place. There is nothing remaining but the end and the final judgment. This is the view of the Reformed or Calvinist
  - . Tribulation period
  - . Pre-tribulation
  - . Mid-tribulation
  - . Pre-wrath
  - . Post tribulation
  - . Rapture
  - . Second coming
  - . Imminent
  - . Remember that we take the Bible as literal as the text allows
  - . We think He means what He says as written unless He gives us reason to understand differently
    - . That can be the genre or type of literature
    - . That can be when He uses figurative terms such as like or as
- 
1. This chapter is referring to the future
    - a. These things being discussed are just the beginning 8 All these are the **beginning of sorrows.**
      - i. False Christs
      - ii. Wars
      - iii. Famines and earthquakes
    - b. The apostles didn't endure to the end 13 But he that shall **endure unto the end**, the same shall be saved.
      - i. This refers to the tribulation period
      - ii. Believers will have been raptured out

I Thessalonians 4:17 Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be **caught up**

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**together** with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

- iii. Those that can hang on till the end will get out of the tribulation alive
- c. The gospel will be proclaimed to all the world 14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be **preached in all the world** for a witness unto all nations; and **then shall the end come.**
- d. The abominations of desolation has taken place yet Matthew 24:15 When ye therefore shall see the **abomination of desolation**, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) Daniel 9:27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall **cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease**, and for the overspreading of **abominations** he shall make *it desolate*, even until the **consummation**, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.
- e. Jesus speaks of a Great Tribulation 24:21 For then shall be **great tribulation**, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.
- f. The sun and moon have not been darkened nor the stars fall from the sky 24:29 Immediately after the **tribulation** of those days shall the **sun be darkened**, and the **moon shall not give her light**, and the **stars shall fall from heaven**, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: 30 And **then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven**: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.
- g. The fig tree shows that these things are happening just before He returns 24:32 Now learn a **parable of the fig tree**; **When** his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, **ye know** that summer *is* nigh: 33 So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, **know** that **it is near, even at the doors.** 34 Verily I say unto you, **This generation shall not pass**, till all these things be fulfilled. 35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

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2. Don't worry 6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye **be not troubled**: for all *these things* must come to pass, but **the end is not yet**. 7 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. 8 All these are the **beginning of sorrows**.
- a. War is pretty much a constant so don't get to thinking that means He is coming now
  - b. Wars and the talk of war will increase more and more
  - c. There will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in all sorts of places
  - d. Natural disasters taking place as the world falls apart
  - e. These are warning signs but the end is not yet
  - f. They have been happening for a long time and will happen right up until the end II Thessalonians 2:2 That ye be not soon **shaken in mind, or be troubled**, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand.
  - g. The end discussed here is the end of the world as we know it, the age, the power of Satan ruling over this world that is in rebellion to God
  - h. These are like birth pain, contractions, that grow stronger and stronger Revelation 6:1 And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, **Come and see**. 2 And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer. 3 And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, **Come and see**. 4 And there went out another horse *that was red*: and power was given to him that sat thereon to **take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another**: and there was given unto him a great sword. 5 And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, **Come and see**. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand. 6 And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, **A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny**; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine. 7 And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, **Come and see**. 8 And I looked, and

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behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the **fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.**

3. Suffering is coming 9 Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations **for my name's sake.** 10 And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.
  - a. God's people are going to be afflicted and even killed
  - b. God's people will be hated by everybody
  - c. All Christians should be prepared to suffer persecution  
II Timothy 3:12 Yea, and **all** that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall **suffer persecution.**
  - d. People are getting saved during this time Revelation 7:9 After this I beheld, and, lo, a **great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues,** stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, **clothed with white robes,** and palms in their hands; **10** And cried with a loud voice, saying, **Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.**
  - e. Many will be offended
  - f. People will betray one another
    - i. They will find the false prophets to be too convincing
    - ii. Sin will be too attractive
    - iii. People that proclaim faith will fall away
    - iv. The persecution will be too great
  - g. Hatred will happen between supposed brothers
  - h. God's people will suffer and die Revelation 6:9 And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the **souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held: 10** And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? **11** And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it

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was said unto them, that they **should rest yet for a little season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.**

4. Sin makes hearts cold 12 And because **iniquity shall abound**, the love of many shall wax cold.
  - a. Sin, wickedness, perversion will be more and more prevalent
  - b. Sin, loving this world, doing your own thing will choke the work of God in your heart  
Matthew 13:21 Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when **tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended.** 22 He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the **care of this world**, and the **deceitfulness of riches, choke the word**, and he becometh unfruitful.
  - c. The last days has lots of sin abounding II Timothy 3:1 This know also, that in the **last days** perilous times shall come. 2 For men shall be **lovers of their own selves**, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, 3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, 4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; 5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.
    - i. Love themselves
    - ii. Want stuff more and more
    - iii. Make fun of the things of God
    - iv. Not loving their own families
    - v. Out of control, no self control
    - vi. They will hate those that love God
    - vii. They will love pleasure more than anything

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5. The gospel will be preached to the entire world before the end 14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be **preached in all the world** for a witness unto all nations; and **then shall the end come.**
- a. In spite of all the problems, the sin, the persecution God's Word will go forth
  - b. Before it is all over God will see to it that the gospel is preached to the entire world
  - c. Many will be saved Revelation 7:13 And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, **What are these** which are **arrayed in white robes?** and whence came they? **14** And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, **These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.** **15** Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. **16** They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. **17** For the **Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.**
  - d. Those that have never heard will have their opportunity
  - e. God will use Israel to get the gospel to the world
6. Lessons to be applied to our lives today
- a. This is not the time to sit down and wait on the coming of the Lord but to work like never before
  - b. This chapter was written for the Jews but has application and motivation for us
  - c. We know the truth and the future so we will not worry but trust God
  - d. We will be prepared to face persecution that comes to all that truly love Jesus
  - e. We will work at keeping a tender heart towards God and stay away from sin and its pleasures
  - f. We will share the gospel while we have time

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