

Matthew 24 And the Lord's Second Coming

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Matthew 24 is the Lord's answer to the disciples' question in Matthew 24:3. The disciples had drawn Jesus' attention to the buildings of the temple. Jesus replied that, "Not one stone shall be left upon another that shall not be thrown down".

So the disciples asked Jesus, "When will these things be? **And what will be the sign of Your coming, and the end of the age?**"

Jesus' first point, in Matthew 24:4, is to **be very wary of deception**. And this warning is repeated in verses 5, 11, 23, 24, 26.

Jesus does not give a clear statement of when the temple will be destroyed. (Actually in AD 70 by the Roman army under Titus.)

Jesus' second point, is that there will be wars and rumours of wars, Matthew 24:6, v7, and famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in different places. v7. "These are the beginning of sorrows", v8. "Sorrows" or labour pains, of the birth of a new age: God's Kingdom is coming upon this earth, and it will come in fullness at the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus third point, Matthew 24:9 to v13, is that His disciples will have trouble and persecution, and be hated by all nations. Some will be offended and betray the others. False prophets will deceive many. Lawlessness will increase and the love of many will grow cold. John 16:33.

But he who endures to the end will be saved. Matthew 24:13.

Jesus gives the first sign of His Coming. Matthew 24:14. **It is that the Gospel of the Kingdom will be preached to all the nations.** Matthew 4:23, 9:35, 10:7, 8, 12:28.

Then the end will come!

Jesus gives the second sign of His Coming . Matthew 24:15. It is the appearance of the "**abomination of desolation**", spoken of by Daniel, standing in the Holy Place. Daniel 8:11-13, (find the explanation of the "horn" in Daniel 8:21-25), Daniel 11:31, Daniel 12:11, 2Thessalonians 2:3-12, 1John 4:3-5, Revelation 13: 3-10. **The antichrist continues for three and a half years:** Revelation 13:5, 1260 days, or "time, times and half a time". **The explanation in 2Thessalonians 2:3-12 explains the Daniel references.**

Jesus directs those who believe in Him, **to flee from Jerusalem** when **the antichrist appears**. Matthew 24:16-20.

Jesus explains that the antichrist causes the "**great tribulation**", suffering, and trouble, (for three and a half years- Daniel 7:25 calls it "time, times and half a time", or forty two months), during which there will be **a lot of deception and false "christs" appearing**. Matthew 24:21-28.

Jesus gives the third sign of His Coming. Matthew 24:29. It is the signs of the sun, moon and the stars. Joel 2:30-32, Revelation 6:12-14.

Jesus gives the fourth sign of His Coming. Matthew 24:30. **It is the sign of the Appearing of the Son of Man, the Lord Jesus Christ, coming on the clouds of Heaven in great power and glory.**

This is the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. (Jesus first Coming: Matthew 1:18-25, 2:1-6.)

The tribes of the earth will mourn because they fear the wrath of the Lamb. Revelation 6:12-17.

Now Jesus has answered the disciples' questions in Matthew 24:3: "What will be the sign of your Coming, and of the end of the Age?" Jesus has given them the signs of His Coming and the end of this present Age.

At this point the Lord Jesus will send His Angel with the sound of a great trumpet, and will gather together His elect from one end of heaven to the other. See Mark 13:27, which explains Matthew 24:31 a bit more clearly. 1Corinthians 15:52, 1Thessalonians 4:13-18.

Please note Jesus teaches that there is only one Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is after the "Great Tribulation" and before the wrath of God is poured out on all who refuse to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. Revelation 6:12-17, John 3:36.

In Matthew 24, colour in the word "you", which occurs right through to verse 34 and later in verses 44 to 51.

Jesus is saying that His disciples will be on earth to see all the signs of His Coming, until the Angels gather them to the Lord.

They will not be raptured before the "Great Tribulation". God will keep His people during the "Tribulation". Rev 12:6, 14.

God's wrath is not poured upon His children, who are believers in, and servants of, Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord.

1Thessalonians 5:9. Noah and Lot were taken out of the way of God's wrath. Matthew 24:38. Luke 17:24-30.

The Angels take one to be gathered to Jesus, and leave the other: Matthew 24:40, 41.

Jesus says, "watch", "be ready", and "keep serving the Lord Jesus" until the Angels gather you to Him. Matthew 24:42-51.

Please note that the "tribulation" is caused by the antichrist. The "wrath" is caused by the Lord Jesus Christ.