

MATTHEW 24

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1. Jesus told His disciples that the temple would be destroyed in Matthew 24:2.
2. His disciples asked after Jesus said the temple would be destroyed:
 - (1) *"When shall these things be?"*
 - (2) *"What shall be the sign of thy coming?"*
 - (3) *"And of the end of the world?"* -- Matt. 24:3.
3. The difficult thing is to determine just what statements in the answer pertains to the destruction of Jerusalem and what statements to the coming of Christ and the end of the world.
4. Mark gives us the KEY to this difficulty.
 - (1) Mark deals with only one of the things which is asked in Matt. 24:3.
 - (2) The only question in Mark had to do with the destruction of Jerusalem -- Mark 13:4.
5. So, we must conclude that similar passages in Matthew 24 can apply to the destruction of Jerusalem.
6. Mark 13: 28 - 30 and Matt. 24: 32 - 34 are parallel.
 - (1) All that goes before verses 28 - 30 in Mark have to do with the destruction of Jerusalem.
 - (2) So, we conclude all that goes before verses 32, 33, 34 is having to do with the destruction of Jerusalem.
7. Matthew 24: 34 is a key passage -- a time text . . .

PRELIMINARY SIGNS TO THE DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM

Jesus answers the question on the destruction of Jerusalem first -- and gave some signs to warn the disciples of the impending persecution and destruction.

1. FALSE CHRISTS -- vs. 4 - 5

- (1) Many deceivers

2. WARS AND RUMORS OF WARS -- vs. 6 - 7

- (1) *"For nation shall rise against nation"*
- (2) Josephus states that all nations were at war with Rome.
- (3) The Jewish nation was at war with other nations.

3. PESTILENCE AND FAMINE -- vs. 7

- (1) Agabus signified by the Spirit that there should be great dearth throughout all the world; which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar -- Acts 11: 28.

4. EARTHQUAKES -- vs. 7

- (1) There were numerous earthquakes in this period.

5. PERSECUTION AND DELIVERED TO DEATH -- vs. 9

- (1) The Jerusalem church dispersed -- Acts 8: 1 - 4.
- (2) Stephen killed -- Acts 7: 57 - 60.
- (3) James killed -- Acts 12: 1- 2.
- (4) Paul and Peter were martyrs before the destruction of Jerusalem.

6. APOSTASIES -- vs. 10 - 12.

- (1) Widespread desertion of the faith.

7. GOSPEL UNIVERSALLY PREACHED -- vs. 14; Mk. 13: 10

- (1) Paul affirms this was done eight years before the destruction of Jerusalem -- Col. 1:23, A.D. 62; Rom. 10:18.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

JESUS SAID AFTER THE GOSPEL HAD BEEN PREACHED TO THE WORLD, "*And then shall the end come.*" vs. 14

1. THE ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION SPOKEN OF BY DANIEL -- 24:15; Dan. 9: 26 - 27; 11:31; 12:11.

- (1) Luke tells when they would know DESOLATION WAS NIGH -- Luke 21:20 -- "*And when ye shall see Jerusalem, compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh*".
- (2) They were to flee into the mountains -- vs. 16.
- (3) They were not to tarry to gather extra possessions, for time would be very precious -- vs. 17 - 18.
- (4) It would be hard on mothers with child and mothers giving suck -- vs. 20.
- (5) They should pray that the flight would not occur on the Jewish Sabbath, for then the gates of the city would be shut -- vs. 20.
- (6) Pray for good weather -- vs. 20.
- (7) Warning against deceivers -- vs. 21 - 26.
- (8) The eagles and the carcass -- vs. 27 - 28.

2. AFTER THE TRIBULATION --vs. 29.

- (1) "*Immediately after the tribulation those days*" -- the siege and destruction of Jerusalem.
- (2) "*The sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven*".
 1. The sun, moon, and stars are figurative of the Jewish nation and its glories.
 2. The Jewish nation has been darkened and no longer shines for God.
 3. In Isaiah 13:10 we find the same language as in verse 29 of Matt. 24; Here in Isaiah 13:10 it refers to the judgment of God against the nation of BABYLON.
 4. Isaiah 34: 4 - 5 -- the same kind of language is used to talk about Judgment of God against IDUMEA.
 5. The same type of language in Ezekiel 32: 7 - 8 to talk about the downfall of EGYPT.
 6. Joel 2: 28 - 32; Acts 2; 17 - 21.

3. THE COMING OF THE SON OF MAN -- vs. 30.

- (1) Sign of the Son of Man. . . They had to ask "*What shall be the sign of thy coming?*" -- Matt. 24: 3.
- (2) The Son of Man came in power in the transpiring events.
- (3) "*Then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn*" -- Jews all over the world would mourn at the fall of the Jewish nation, and the destruction of the temple.

(4) "*And they shall see the Son of Man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory*" -- Matt. 28:8.

1. Jesus told Caiaphas he would see him coming in the clouds of heaven -- Matt. 26: 64 -- in judgment on Jewish nation.
2. The prophet Isaiah used the same kind of language to talk about God's judgment against Egypt -- Isa. 19:1.
3. The Psalmist uses this kind of language -- Psa. 104: 3.

4. THE SENDING FORTH OF THE GOSPEL -- vs. 31.

1. Send His angels -- Messengers; Greek term *aggelos* -- James 2: 25; Rev. 2:1.
2. Trumpet of Jubilee -- Lev. 25: 9 - 13; 39 - 41 -- gospel
3. Luke 13:29