

The Timeframe and Sign of the Destruction of the Temple

Matthew 24:1-34

Read Matthew 24:29-31

Read Matthew 24:1-3

1.) A General Warning About False Alarms (V. 4-8)

Read Verses 4-5.

A.) Messianic Claimants

Acts 5:36

B.) Rumors and Wars

Read Verse 6.

C.) Natural Disasters

verse 7, "...And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places."

Acts 11:28

2.) A Specific Warning About What the Church Will Endure (V. 9-12)

A.) Attacks

Read Verse 9

B.) Apostasy

Read Verse 10

C.) Antichrists

Read Verse 11

D.) Apathy

Read verse 12

3.) Two Precious Promises (V. 13-14)

Read verse 13.

A.) Those Who Endure to the End Will Be Saved.

B.) The Gospel Will Prevail

Read verse 14

Acts 11:28, "...stood up and showed by the Spirit that there was going to be a great famine throughout all the world..."

Acts 19:27, "whom all Asia and the world worship."

*Colossians 1:5-6, "the gospel, **6** which has come to you, as it has also in all the world, and is bringing forth fruit..."*

4.) The Sign: the Abomination of Desolation (V. 15-28)

Read verses 15-18

A.) Three Proposals

i.) Gaius

ii.) The Romans

iii.) The Jews

"They invaded the sanctuary with polluted feet. They also spilled the blood, not of pigs, but of people, and not just any people but God's own people."—Josephus

B.) The Jewish War was a Horrible Time of Persecution

Read verses 21-22.

"Josephus himself, who was involved in the events, claims that none of the disasters since the world began can compare to the fate of Jerusalem." —R.T. France

C.) Another Warning to His Disciples

Read verse 24.

verse 23, There! Do not believe it.

verse 26, "Look, He is in the inner rooms!" do not believe it"

Read verse 27.

D.) A Contrast of Experiences

verse 30, "...they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds..."

5.) The Depiction of the Destruction of the Temple Explained. (V. 29)

"Immediately after the tribulation of those days..."

verse 21, "For then there will be great tribulation..."

Read verse 19

Isaiah 13:10, "For the stars of heaven and their constellations Will not give their light; The sun will be darkened in its going forth, And the moon will not cause its light to shine."

Isaiah 34:4, "All the host of heaven shall be dissolved, And the heavens shall be rolled up like a scroll; All their host shall fall down As the leaf falls from the vine, And as fruit falling from a fig tree."

"Language about cosmic collapse, then, is used by the OT prophets to symbolize God's acts of judgment within history, with the emphasis on catastrophic political reversals." —R.T. France

"But the use of this prophetic imagery enables the reader to understand that what is to be destroyed is not just a magnificent building, but a center of power comparable to ancient Babylon. And when such a power structure collapses, another is needed to take its place." —R.T. France

6.) The End of the Temple Is the Sign of Jesus' Enthronement (V. 30-31)

verse 30, "*Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven...*"

*Zechariah 12:10-12, "And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn. **¶** In that day there shall be a great mourning in Jerusalem, like the mourning at Hadad Rimmon in the plain of Megiddo. **¶** And the land shall mourn, every family by itself."*

"and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory." (V 30)

"The time of the temple's destruction will also be the time when it will become clear that the Son of Man, rejected by the leaders of his people, has been vindicated and enthroned at the right hand of God, and that it is he who is now to exercise the universal kingship which is his destiny." --R.T. France,

7.) Jesus' Prophecy Now Fulfilled. (V. 32-34)

Read verses 32-34