

ARE YOU READY?

SIGNS OF THE TIME

Matthew.24:1-35

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Introduction

Matthew.24, also known as the Olivet Discourse, is a prophetic message from Jesus about the end times.

One of the reasons why Jesus brought it up was to get them prepared, as we get ourselves ready.

We shall also go through the verses of the chapter.

THE TWO AUDIENCES

Jesus' Jewish disciples represented:-

1- Israel as a nation- God's covenant people, the Jews.

2- The by then future Church - Born Again believers of all nations.

THE TWO PHASES OF HIS COMING:

In His Sermon on the mountain, Jesus talked about:-

1- His second coming, also known as the Revelation of Jesus Christ.

2- The Rapture, the snatching away of the Church, His Bride.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE RAPTURE AND HIS SECOND COMING

RAPTURE

- ▶ Christ comes for His Bride the Church.
- ▶ Happens in the air.
- ▶ Sudden and Mysterious.
- ▶ Church focused.
- ▶ No preceding signs.

SECOND COMING

- Christ comes with His Bride.
- Happens on earth.
- Visible and Glorious.
- Israel & Nations focused.
- Many signs precede it.

Verse 4-8

SERIOUS WARNING OVER DECEPTION.

False messiahs, wars and rumours of wars, Nation against Nation, Kingdom against Kingdom.

Verse 9-14

TRIBULATION IN TWO PHASES:

Phase 1:

Persecution of the Elect-Israel, and the left behind, also known as THE TIME OF JACOB'S TROUBLE.

(Jer.30:7 & 11)

Verse 14 is: THE END OF THE AGE
Then comes a new age of the anti-christ

Verse 15 -22

Persecution turns into tribulation so much unbearable that the days were cut short.

Verse 23 -28

Jesus still narrates the distress of those days.

Verse 29

PERSECUTION PHASE TWO:

Also known as the great tribulation.

verse 32-34

Lesson from the fig tree.

Verse 35-

Certainty of God's Word.

CONCLUSION

Matthew. 24 calls believers to be **Watchful** and **Ready**. Our responsibility is to **Abide** in **Christ**, and be **Doers of the Word**, Prepared for **His Return**.