

“A Message from the Mount”
Matthew 24:1-51

Introduction: One of the greatest subjects that we can discuss in our time is the Coming of the Lord. The events that are occurring in the news reveal that the Second Coming is nigh at hand. Knowing this, we must prepare for His coming and warn others about it. When we study this area of the Coming of the Lord, we see:

1. His Coming for a Redemption I Timothy 1:15- *“This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.”*
 - a. His Incarnation John 1:14- *“And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.”*
 - b. His Identification John 1:1- *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”*
 - c. His Illustration Galatians 3:13- *“Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree”*
 - d. His Information Romans 10:13- *“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”*
 - e. His Initiation John 6:44- *“No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.”*
 - f. His Invitation Revelation 22:17- *“And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.”*
 - g. His Innovation II Corinthians 5:17- *“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”*
2. His Coming for a Rapture Revelation 4:1- *“After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.”*
 - a. The Situations of the Rapture II Timothy 3:1-9
 - b. The Sureness of the Rapture Hebrews 10:37- *“For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry.”* John 14:1-4, Acts 1:9-11
 - c. The Sound of the Rapture I Thessalonians 4:13-18
 - d. The Sight of the Rapture Hebrews 9:28- *“So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation”*
 - e. The Strategy of the Rapture I Corinthians 15:52- *“In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.”*
Philippians 3:20-21- *“For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile*

body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.”

- f. The Shame of the Rapture I John 2:28- *“And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming.”*
3. His Coming for a Revelation Revelation 19:11- *“And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.”*
 - a. The Wailing during His Coming Revelation 1:7- *“Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.”*
Matthew 24:29-30- *“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: 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.”*
 - b. The Wrath during His Coming Jude 14-15- *“And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.”*

Body: In order to understand the context of this passage, we must realize to whom Jesus is talking. It is evident, in verse one, that Jesus is speaking to His Jewish disciples. We know that He came only to the Jew and not the Gentile from Matthew 10:5-6 and 15:24. Therefore, the following verses must refer to the Jew and their time of trouble (Jeremiah 30:7- *“Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it.”*). This chapter reveals the three different phases of the Tribulation and discusses some of the events that will occur during that time. Hence, let us notice what is unveiled during the time of Jacob's trouble.

I. The Calamity of the Temple vs. 1-2

- A. The Departure from the Temple v. 1- *“And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple...”*
- B. The Display of the Temple v. 1- *“...and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the temple.”*
- C. The Destruction of the Temple v. 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.”*

II. The Commencement of the Tribulation vs. 3-14

- A. There is a Discussion v. 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?”*

1. Concerning the Temple- *"Tell us, when shall these things be?"*
 2. Concerning the Tribulation- *"and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?"*
- B. There is a Deception vs. 4-5, 11- *"...deceive you...deceive many... deceive many..."*
1. The Deception of a Man v. 4- *"And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you."*
 2. The Deception of a Ministry v. 5, v. 11
 - a. In a Person v. 5- *"For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many."*
 - b. In a Prophecy v. 11- *"And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many."*
- C. There is a Division vs. 6-7- *"...ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars..."*
1. The Raging of Nations v. 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."*
 - a. The Talk it Brings- *"And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars"*
 - b. The Trouble it Brings- *"see that ye be not troubled"*
 - c. The Transition it Brings- *"for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet."*
 2. The Rising of Nations v. 7- *"For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom..."*
- D. There is a Distressing vs. 7-8- *"...and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places."*
1. The Burden it Sends v. 7- *"...and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places."* Revelation 6:5-6
 2. The Beginning of Sorrows v. 8- *"All these are the beginning of sorrows."* Isaiah 13:6-11
- E. There is a Deliverance vs. 9-10- *"Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted..."*
1. Deliverance for Affliction v. 9- *"Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted..."*
 2. Deliverance for Assassination v. 9- *"...and shall kill you..."*
 3. Deliverance for Anger vs. 9-10- *"...and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake."*
 - a. The Degree of the Anger v. 9- *"...and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake."*
 - b. The Disloyalty of the Anger v. 10- *"And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another."*
- F. There is a Disharmony v. 12- *"And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold."*
1. The Reason for Disharmony- *"And because iniquity shall abound..."*
 2. The Results of Disharmony- *"...the love of many shall wax cold."*

- G. There is a Dedication v. 13- *“But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.”*
1. The Strength of the Dedicated- *“But he that shall endure unto the end...”*
 2. The Salvation of the Dedicated- *“...the same shall be saved.”*
- H. There is a Declaration v. 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.”*
1. The Contents of the Message- *“And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations...”*
 2. The Consummation of the Message- *“...and then shall the end come.”*

III. The Center of the Tribulation vs. 15-22

- A. The Abomination of Desolation v. 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:)”*
1. The Unveiling- *“When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place...”* Daniel 9:27, Revelation 13:11-17
 2. The Understanding- *“...(whoso readeth, let him understand:)”*
- B. The Abandoning of the Dwellings vs. 16-20- *“...let them which be in Judaea flee...”*
1. The Place of the Flight v. 16- *“Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains”*
 2. The People of the Flight vs. 17-19
 - a. Those in Private v. 17- *“Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house”*
 - b. Those in Public v. 18- *“Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes.”*
 - c. Those that are Parents v. 19- *“And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days!”*
 3. The Period of the Flight v. 20- *“But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day”*
 - a. Concerning the Effects of the Season- *“But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter...”*
 - b. Concerning the Effects of the Sabbath- *“...neither on the sabbath day”*
- C. The Agony of the Days vs. 21-22- *“For then shall be great tribulation...”*
1. The Extent of the Tribulation v. 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.”*
 2. The Exception of the Tribulation v. 22- *“And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.”* Revelation 8:12

- IV. The Closing of the Tribulation vs. 23-44
- A. The Recognition of Christ vs. 23-28- *"...For there shall arise false Christs..."*
1. The Sound of the False Christs v. 23- *"Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not."*
 2. The Signs of the False Christs v. 24- *"For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect." II Thessalonians 2:9-12*
 3. The Scriptures and the False Christs v. 25- *"Behold, I have told you before."*
 4. The Secrecy of the False Christs v. 26- *"Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, he is in the secret chambers; believe it not."*
 5. The Shinning of the Faithful Christ v. 27- *"For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." Revelation 19:11-16*
 6. The Summons of the Faithful Christ v. 28- *"For wheresoever the carcass is, there will the eagles be gathered together." Revelation 19:17-19*
- B. The Revelation of Christ vs. 29-31- *"...they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds..."*
1. The Greatness of His Revelation v. 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"*
 2. The Glory of His Revelation v. 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." Revelation 1:7*
 3. The Gathering of His Revelation v. 31- *"And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."*
- C. The Readiness for Christ vs. 32-44- *"...Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."*
1. His Coming Taught by a Tree vs. 32-35- *"...learn a parable of the fig tree..."*
 - a. The Space of Development v. 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" Luke 21:29*
 - b. The Saviour at the Door v. 33- *"So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors."*

- (1) The Fulfillment of His Word v. 34- *“Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled”*
 - (2) The Faithfulness of His Word v. 35- *“Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away”*
2. His Coming Taught by a Time vs. 36-41- *“...as the days of Noe were...”*
 - a. Concerning the Days vs. 36-37
 - (1) Secret Day v. 36- *“But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only”*
 - (2) Similar Days v. 37- *“But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be”*
 - b. Concerning the Defilement v. 38- *“For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark”*
 - c. Concerning the Damnation v. 39- *“And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.”*
 - d. Concerning the Division vs. 40-41- *“Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left.”*
3. His Coming Taught by a Thief vs. 42-44- *“...if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched...”* II Peter 3:10-13
 - a. The Uncertain Watch v. 42- *“Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.”*
 - (1) Refer to Matthew 24:36.
 - (2) “Jesus used Noah to warn that men will not know *the day*, and He used the picture of the burglar to warn that they will not know *the hour*.”
(Warren Wiersbe)
 - b. The Unprepared Watch v. 43- *“But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up.”*
 - c. The Unknown Watch v. 44- *“Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.”*

Conclusion: It was this message from the mount that Jesus chose to reveal to man what the signs of His coming would be like. He revealed the three phases of the tribulation period and concluded with the admonition for His saints to watch. After studying these verses, we should be ready for His coming and warn others. The Bible admonishes us to:

1. Labor before His Coming John 4:35- *“Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.”*
2. Look for His Coming Titus 2:13- *“Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ”*