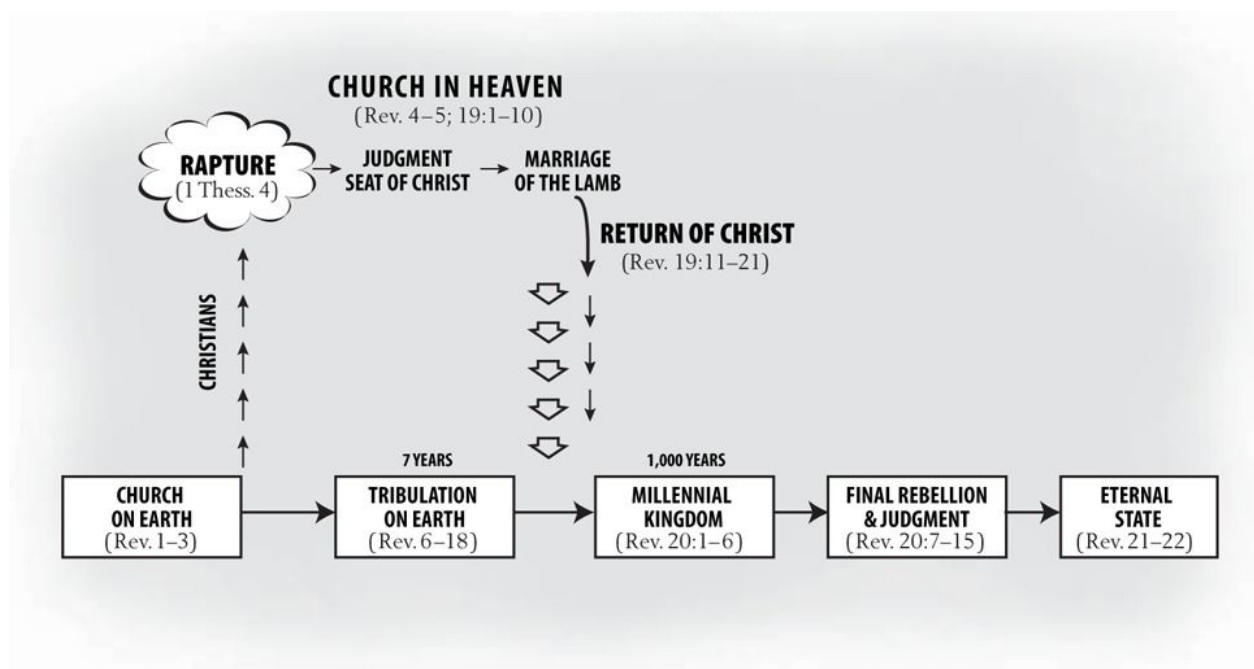


MATTHEW 24:1-3 HANDOUT

Omega / Matthew 24:1-3

Matthew 24:1-3 ESV

¹ Jesus left the temple and was going away, when his disciples came to point out to him the buildings of the temple. ² But he answered them, “You see all these, do you not? Truly, I say to you, there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down.” ³ As he sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, “Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?”



INTERPRETING MATTHEW 24

- It seems to be talking about two different timeframes at the same time.

One thing is clear... as Jesus presents these two different timelines and events, there is a clear, but maybe not always obvious, theological connection between the two.

Our study and understanding of [Matthew 24](#) presents THREE big challenges:

1. First, it's difficult because Jesus uses somewhat unfamiliar language... a mix of prophetic and _____ language in this discourse.
2. Second, it's difficult because Jesus makes few clear chronological distinctions.
3. Third, it's difficult because there is not a consensus amount Christian scholars as it's interpretation.

So with this being the case... what is the healthy way to approach the Olivet Discourse?

1. Recognize Jesus' primary objective was to encourage his _____ to think, feel, and do.
2. We must recognize also that the primary concern for believers is:
 - a. Personal
 - b. _____ through hard times
 - c. Discernment of the times
 - d. Approach the topic with great humility

THEMES OF THE OLIVET DISCOURSE

Here are the FIVE primary themes of the Olivet Discourse:

- a. The end of the current era (Apocalyptic)
- b. The fall of Jerusalem (Prophetic - came to pass in AD70)
- c. The return of Jesus Christ (Apocalyptic)
- d. The place of the signs (Prophetic - currently coming to pass)
- e. The folly of date-fixing (Prophetic - currently coming to pass)

☑ The following chart summarizes Jesus' prophecies, their fulfillment in ⚡ AD 70, and the way they may be fulfilled in the last days:

Predictions and Texts	Fulfillment by ⚡ AD 70	Final Fulfillment
False christs will come (24:5, 23, 24).	Jewish prophets predict God will deliver Jews from Rome.	The great Antichrist deceives many by his words and deeds.
Wars, famines, and earthquakes will strike (24:7, 8).	Rome is often at war; there is famine in the reign of Claudius (⚡ AD 41-54).	The troubles of this life intensify near the end.
The gospel will be preached in the whole world (24:14).	The gospel is proclaimed through the <i>known</i> world.	The gospel is preached to <i>every</i> people.
The abomination that causes desolation will stand in the holy place (24:15).	Idolatrous Roman armies invade Jerusalem and fight and kill many, even in the temple.	Final rebellion against God brings religious abomination and desolation.
The sun and moon will be darkened when Jesus comes (24:29-31).	Jerusalem's fall foreshadows the end of earth's powers.	This world order ends when Christ returns.
The sign of the Son of Man will appear in Heaven (24:30).	Fulfillment of prophecy shows Jesus reigns in Heaven.	Jesus returns on clouds of the sky with angels.

SET THE SCENE

Jesus gathers his pupils on the top of the mountain of Olivet to give his final discourse.

- This is not a public sermon, this is a _____ sermon.

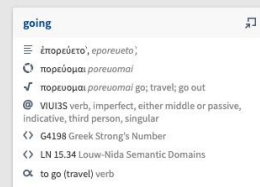
It's as if Jesus here is looking at the end of the world through the lens of the end of Jerusalem.

Matthew 24:1 **ESV**

¹ Jesus left the temple and was going away, when his disciples came to point out to him the buildings of the temple.

Jesus Foretells Destruction of the Temple

24 Jesus left the temple and was going away, when his disciples came to point out to him the buildings of the temple.



Matthew 24:1

The phrase “was going away” is one Greek word... *poreuomai* (*por - ever- may*)

1. GOD HAS LEFT THE BUILDING

- God is _____

So when I say that God has left the building, I don't mean that He's by space and has moved from one place to another, but rather there is a symbolic gesture that by Jesus leaving the temple He's physically demonstrating what is happening _____... that God is removing His concentrated presence and protection over the _____.

Ezekiel 11:23 ESV

²³ And the glory of the Lord went up from the midst of the city and stood on the mountain that is on the east side of the city.

Matthew 23:38 ESV

³⁸ See, your house is left to you desolate.

Matthew 23:37–39 ESV

³⁷ “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁸ See, your house is left to you desolate. ³⁹ For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’ ”

Jesus gave Israel many chances.

- They continually were **rebellious** and _____.

Isaiah 30:15 ESV

¹⁵ For thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel, “In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength.” But you were unwilling,

Joshua 24:15 ESV

¹⁵ And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”

Matthew 24:2 ESV

² But he answered them, “You see all these, do you not? Truly, I say to you, there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down.”

Micah 3:12 ESV

¹² Therefore because of you Zion shall be plowed as a field; Jerusalem shall become a heap of ruins, and the mountain of the house a wooded height.

2. WE HAVE TO SEE BEYOND WHAT OUR PHYSICAL EYES CAN SEE

Matthew 24:1

Jesus Foretells Destruction of the Temple

24 Jesus left the temple and was going away, when his disciples came to point out to him the buildings of the temple.

Jesus Foretells Destruction of the Temple

13 And as he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what wonderful stones and what wonderful buildings!" ² And Jesus said to him, "Do you see these great buildings? There will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down."

Mark 13:1-2

Matthew 24:1 ESV

¹ Jesus left the temple and was going away, when his disciples came to point out to him the buildings of the temple.

Mark 13:1-2 ESV

¹ And as he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what wonderful stones and what wonderful buildings!" ² And Jesus said to him, "Do you see these great buildings? There will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down."

God is on the move... but the disciples attention is pointed back to the _____.

Matthew 12:6 ESV

⁶ I tell you, something greater than the temple is here.

The disciples couldn't get their minds off the _____ things their eyes could see.

- Jesus is trying to get them to see beyond the physical.

Something way greater than the temple is right before them!

**DO WE MISS GOD AT TIMES BECAUSE WE ARE TOO BUSY
LOOKING WITH THE WRONG EYES?**

Colossians 3:1-17 ESV

¹ If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³ For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. ⁵ Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming. ⁷ In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. ⁸ But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. ¹¹ Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all. ¹² Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³ bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Isaiah 43:19 ESV

¹⁹ Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

In this time, God is preparing His Church for the last days.

Matthew 24:3 ESV

³ As he sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?"

Christ's return is _____. Are you living as if it's true?