

Matthew 24:36-39 Handout

Matthew 24:36–39 **ESV**

³⁶ “But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. ³⁷ For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.

LET’S RECAP - HOW, WHAT

I think it’s super important for us, before we move to the next text in our End times study is to read last week’s text, because this week points us to what will happen.

Matthew 24:29–31 **ESV**

²⁹ “Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ³⁰ Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. ³¹ And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

WHEN AND WHO

While verses 29-31 answers the questions of HOW the Lord will return, these next verses illuminate the answers to our questions of WHEN and WHO. This first verse, 36, answers WHEN, even if it’s not a definitive answer.

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?”

Here is the challenge:

IF JESUS IS GOD AND GOD IS OMNISCIENT, WHY DOESN'T JESUS KNOW THE TIME OR HOUR OF THE 2ND COMING?

This is often the way that I myself have described this often complex topic of how Jesus uniquely walked this line of man and divine natures... Jesus didn't cheat for His own _____.

- When he forgave people of their sins, healed their diseases, performed miracles and signs, and rose people from the dead.... He did so as God, but for the benefit and grace of others, not for Himself.

We must be careful with this, because Christ did not lose any of his divine attributes, rather He voluntarily laid those aside, and chose not to manifest those unless the Father commanded Him to do so by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Philippians 2:6 ESV

⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,

John 5:30 ESV

³⁰ "I can do nothing on my own. As I hear, I judge, and my judgment is just, because I seek not my own will but the will of him who sent me.

John 6:38 ESV

³⁸ For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me.

There were times that Jesus used his divine knowledge:

John 2:25 ESV

²⁵ and needed no one to bear witness about man, for he himself knew what was in man.

John 1:1-18 ESV

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. ⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. ⁹ The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the

Father, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ (John bore witness about him, and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’”) ¹⁶ For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.

Now, through the life of Christ we see the Word of God _____, and the fullness of God has been revealed!

- That doesn’t mean that we won’t have guidance from the Holy Spirit regarding daily decisions and matters, but these matters of guidance are not new revelations... they are divine guidance on applying the practicality of the to our lives.

NOW THAT WE’VE SETTLED THAT ...

NOBODY SHOULD BE CAUGHT OFF GUARD, BUT MANY WILL BE!

Mark 13:32–33 *ESV*

³² “But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³ Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come.

Matthew 25:13 *ESV*

¹³ Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

1 Thessalonians 5:2 *ESV*

² For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.

SO WHAT DO WE DO WITH AN INCONCLUSIVE ANSWER?

THE ANSWER: THE SAME THING THAT THE EARLY CHURCH DID WITH THE SAME INTEL: LIVE AS IF CHRIST’S RETURN WAS _____.

Hebrews 10:24–25 *ESV*

²⁴ And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Philippians 3:20 *ESV*

²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,

James 5:8 *ESV*

⁸ You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

1 Peter 4:7 ESV

⁷ The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers.

1 John 2:18 ESV

¹⁸ Children, it is the last hour, and as you have heard that antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have come. Therefore we know that it is the last hour.

Revelation 22:20 ESV

²⁰ He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

English Standard Version Matthew 24:36

³⁶ "But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only.

WHY?

Why is Christ _____.

Revelation 14:14–15 ESV

¹⁴ Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and seated on the cloud one like a son of man, with a golden crown on his head, and a sharp sickle in his hand. ¹⁵ And another angel came out of the temple, calling with a loud voice to him who sat on the cloud, "Put in your sickle, and reap, for the hour to reap has come, for the harvest of the earth is fully ripe."

- Why would we want to see how ugly sin is?
- Because it shows us how GREAT God really is!

English Standard Version Matthew 24:37

³⁷ For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.

THE DAYS OF NOAH

To fully grasp what this means, we need to read a few Scriptures surrounding this event of the flood... the only event in the history of the world that comes close to the catastrophic events of the tribulation.

Genesis 6:5–12 ESV

⁵ The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. ⁶ And the Lord regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. ⁷ So the Lord said, "I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens, for I am sorry that I have made them." ⁸ But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord. ⁹ These are the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation. Noah walked with God. ¹⁰ And Noah had three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. ¹¹ Now the earth was corrupt in

God's sight, and the earth was filled with violence. ¹² And God saw the earth, and behold, it was corrupt, for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth.

Not only will people not know the day and the hour of the Lord's coming, but most are not even going to care.

Scientists will be scrambling to explain the natural symptoms of supernatural signs and wonders.

English Standard Version **Matthew 24:38**

38 For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark,

EVERYONE GOING ABOUT THEIR BUSINESS

THE DOOR WILL EVENTUALLY SHUT

But then what happens?

Matthew 24:39 ESV

³⁹ and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.

Just like the ark... the door shut.

Genesis 7:11-16 ESV

¹¹ In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. ¹² And rain fell upon the earth forty days and forty nights. ¹³ On the very same day Noah and his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons with them entered the ark, ¹⁴ they and every beast, according to its kind, and all the livestock according to their kinds, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, according to its kind, and every bird, according to its kind, every winged creature. ¹⁵ They went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. ¹⁶ And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him. And the Lord shut him in.

Eventually the door will _____.

DON'T LET THE DOOR CLOSE ON YOU!