

Forerunners for Christ Los Angeles

April 28, 2024 – Study on 150 Chapters on the End-Time Prophecy – Erlinda Cruz

The Olivet Discourse

NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew 13: Jesus first refers to the partial judgments on Israel described in Isaiah 6.

Next, He describes the characteristics of the nature of the kingdom through a series of parables. One underlying theme in these parables is that the full manifestation of the kingdom will happen after the Second Coming.

Matthew 24; Mark 13; Luke 17; Luke 21:

- Jesus' main emphasis in these four parallel chapters is to describe the Great Tribulation just before His Second Coming.
- He predicted the siege of Jerusalem and the Destruction of its Temple (Matthew 24:2) by the Roman armies in 70 AD.
- This tragedy foreshadows the siege of Jerusalem at the end of the age. Joel 3:2, 12; Zephaniah 3:8; Zechariah 12:2-3; 14:2; Revelation 16:14
- Many details in these four chapters make it clear, that Jesus' words go far beyond the events of 70 AD to describe the events at the end of the age. For example, Jesus describes the Time of the Great Tribulation as the worst time in history. Matthew 24:21
- God shortens this time frame to three and a half years in order to keep the entire human race from being physically killed. Matthew 24:22
- Jesus said this hour would come as a snare upon the entire earth, not only Israel. Luke 21:35
- The Great Tribulation will surpass all other crises in history, including the one million people who died in 70 AD and the fifty million who died in World War II.
- Neither 70 AD nor World War II threatened the existence of the human race. Jesus said this time of tribulation would not happen until after we see the Abomination of Desolation (Matthew 24:15), which includes a worldwide Antichrist worship system centered upon the image of the Antichrist, and the mark of the beast. Revelation 13:13-18
- None of these details were fulfilled in the Jewish revolt against Rome (66-70 AD)

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Matthew 25: This chapter continues with the theme of Matthew 24.

- The events at the end of the age are addressed through the description of how the End-Time Church will prepare for that hour. Matthew 25:1-30
- It then gives a description of Jesus judging the nations immediately following the Second Coming. Matthew 25:31-46

An Overview of Matthew 24-25

Jesus' prophecy in Matthew 23:38-39 provoked the questions in 24:1-3. Those questions are what Jesus is responding to in Matthew 24-25.

1. Jesus' Prophecies the Destruction of the Temple (24:1-3)
 - a. Jesus prophesies the Destruction of the Temple (24:1-2)
 - b. The Disciples ask when the End of the Age will be and about the signs (24:3)
2. Jesus' Answer: Prophecy (24:4-31)
 - a. Global Social and Ecological Disturbances Called Birth Pains (24:4-8)
 - b. Social Pressures that Correspond to the Birth Pains (24:9-14)
 - c. The Commencement of the Great Tribulation (24:15-20)
 - d. The Unequaled Severity of the Great Tribulation (24:21-28)
 - e. The Conclusion of the Great Tribulation (24:29-31)
3. Jesus Answer: Seven Parables About Preparation (24:32-25:46)
 - a. The Battle for Discernment: The Fig Tree (24:33-35)
 - b. The Battle for Messengers: The Days of Noah (24:36-41)
 - c. The Battle for Preparedness: The Thief (24:42-44)
 - d. The Battle for Leadership: The Faithful & Wise Servant (24:45-51)
 - e. The Battle for Intimacy: The 10 Virgins and the Coming Bridegroom (25:1-13)
 - f. The Battle for the Knowledge of God: The Talents (25:14-30)
 - g. The Battle for the Jews: The Least of Jesus' Brethren (25:31-46)