

# ***Forerunners for Christ Los Angeles***

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**March 4 & 11, 2024 – Study on 150 Chapters on the End-Time Prophecy – Erlinda Cruz**

## ***Session 1: Study on the 150 Prophetic Chapters of the End Times***

### **Matthew 24 and Luke 21**

We will start on the New Testament to reinforce our Discipleship study on the Mystery of the gospel.

We identified over 150 chapters in the Bible in which the end times is the main subject—we identified 31 chapters in the New Testament; 34 chapters from Genesis to Psalms; 41 chapters in Isaiah alone; and 55 chapters from Jeremiah to Malachi—totaling 161 chapters on our list.

We talk about 150 chapters knowing that some will debate some of these chapters, so we refer to 150 chapters so as to not exaggerate this number.

- There are 89 chapters in the four Gospels which give us a record of Jesus' heart and power at His first coming when He came to pay the price for our redemption.
- The 150+ chapters give us a record of Jesus' heart and power at His second coming when He comes to take over the earth.
- These 150+ chapters reveal the same Jesus operating in the same Holy Spirit as recorded in the same Bible. Almost twice as many chapters of Scripture describe Jesus' second coming than His first coming.
- We must be equipped in these glorious 150 chapters on the end times—which magnify the Jesus we love.
- The generation in which the Lord returns is clearly the generation the Bible describes the most. Jesus spoke more about that generation than the one in which He was born. He did this to prepare His Bride to be victorious in love during the most dramatic time in world history.
- Many end-time prophecies have a dual fulfillment. This is also referred to as the law of the double reference.
- There was clearly a partial fulfillment of what was prophesied in the past, while the complete fulfillment of the prophecy is yet in the future.
- Often the complete fullness of the negative prophecy will be fulfilled in the Great Tribulation and the fullness of the positive prophecies will be seen in the end-time revival and the millennial kingdom—that is what I refer to as the generation the Lord returns.

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In other words, many of the Old Testament prophecies have a partial fulfillment at some point in history, with a complete fulfillment in the generation in which the Lord returns. Sometimes the partial fulfillment also serves as a prophetic picture of what the fullness will look like at the end of the age. Therefore, descriptions here include a brief reference to the partial fulfillments of that prophecy in history. It's important to note that these prophecies have spiritual applications at any time in history for all believers, even before their complete fulfillment at the end of the age.

## **I. JESUS' PRIMARY TEACHING ON THE END TIMES (MT. 24-25)**

The best teaching on the forerunner message in the Bible was given by Jesus in “one teaching” that is recorded in four chapters—Matthew 24-25, Mk. 13, Lk. 21—which are to be studied together. These four chapters plus Jesus' teaching in Luke 17 give us a foundation for His end-time teaching. The most complete record is in Matthew 24-25— Mk. 13 and Lk. 21 give a shorter version of it.

### **Outline of Matthew 24**

24:1-3 24:4-14 24:15-20 24:21-22 24:23-28 24:29-31 24:32-36 24:37-42 24:43-44 24:45-51

- The disciples' questions about the temple and Jesus' return Signs of the times indicating Jesus' return.
- The saints will see the abomination of desolation
- The Great Tribulation
- Do not be deceived about Jesus' return
- The second coming of Christ
- The parable of the fig tree
- The command to watch: Most will not recognize the signs The parable of the thief
- The parable of the faithful and wise servants

Matthew 24-25 is called the Olivet Discourse (because Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives when giving this prophecy). Matthew 24-25 highlights various signs of the times (24:5-14), important warnings (24:15-28), the responses He wants from His people as seen in five parables (24:32-25:30), His response to them (25:21), and then He concludes by describing Himself as a King sitting on His earthly throne, judging the responses of each person and nation (25:31-46).

The interpretation of Matthew 24 and Luke 21 focuses on two events: the destruction of the temple in AD 70 and Jesus' return.

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The Spirit has intentionally connected these together in the narrative set forth by Matthew, Mark, and Luke—instead of clearly distinguishing between these two events.

Matthew 24 and Luke 21 were partially fulfilled in context to the destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70 and will be completely fulfilled in context to Jesus' second coming and the great troubles that Jerusalem will experience during the Great Tribulation (Joel 3:2, 12; Zeph. 3:8; Zech. 12:3; 14:2).

Jesus gave 14 exhortations in Matthew 24—8 exhortations are related to “knowing” the biblical narrative for the end times (24:15, 32 [2x], 33) or to not being deceived (24:4, 6, 23, 26).

Jesus revealed Himself as Bridegroom (Mt. 25:1), King (Mt. 25:31), and Judge (Mt. 25:32-46). He is a King with power, a Bridegroom with desire for deep relationship, and a Judge with zeal to remove everything that hinders love. In the end times, the Spirit will emphasize these three aspects of Jesus' personality and ministry (Mt. 25; cf. Ps. 45; Isa. 61-63; Rev. 19). The Church is best prepared to thrive spiritually in pressure by encountering Jesus as Bridegroom, King, and Judge.