

Olivet Discourse

(14) The Signs of the Times

Matt 24:32-41

32 "Now learn the parable from the fig tree: when its branch has already become tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near; 33 so, you too, when you see all these things, recognize that He is near, right at the door. 34 "Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. 35 "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away. 36 "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone. 37 "For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. 38 "For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, 39 and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be. 40 "Then there will be two men in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. 41 "Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left. NASU

The 'sign of Your coming' ... Mt.24:32-50

In response to the disciples' question (24:3), what's one sign given? 24:32-33

What does this parable mean? What is "when you see all these things..."? What things? 24:4-31

What is the time interval during which 'all these things...' happen? 24:21

To further clarify that this time is really just 7 literal years, what does Jesus add? 24:33-34

But, even during the tribulation, is the *exact* time of His return knowable? 24:36 see 24:42

What history example does Jesus use to illustrate this truth? 24:37; Gen.6:3-14; IIPet.2:5

When did the sinners of Noah's day *finally understand* the Ark? 24:38-41; see 25:41-46

The separation of the faithful and the wicked...24:42-51

What is one important characteristic of the faithful and wise servant? 24:42-44

Since this passage is directed to Tribulation saints, what's the application for us today?

Regardless of the situation, what's the faithful servant doing? 24:45-46

And what about the wicked (unsaved but 'serving the Lord')? 24:48-51

How would you apply this truth to the Church today?

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Matt 24:32-41

32 "Now learn the parable from the fig tree: when its branch has already become tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near; 33 so, you too, when you see all these things, recognize that He is near, right at the door. 34 "Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. 35 "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away. 36 "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone. 37 "For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. 38 "For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, 39 and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be. 40 "Then there will be two men in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. 41 "Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left. NASU

The 'sign of Your coming' ... Mt.24:32-50

In response to the disciples' question (24:3), what's one sign given? 24:32-33

The parable of the budding fig tree. When the fig tree begins to blossom, summer is near.

What does this parable mean? What is "when you see all these things..."? What things? 24:4-31

Wars/rumors; birth pangs; great deception; abomination of desolation; universe shaken.

What is the time interval during which 'all these things...' happen? 24:21

The Tribulation and more specifically the last half (3.5 years), aka the Great Tribulation.

To further clarify that this time is really just 7 literal years, what does Jesus add? 24:33-34

The generation that sees the signs will not pass away until all takes place. Christ's return.

But, even during the tribulation, is the *exact* time of His return knowable? 24:36 see 24:42

No. But know that Christ's return is VERY close and live in continuous expectation!

What history example does Jesus use to illustrate this truth? 24:37; Gen.6:3-14; IIPet.2:5

The days of Noah. The physical Ark and Noah's preaching, ridiculed for 120 years!

When did the sinners of Noah's day *finally understand* the Ark? 24:38-41; see 25:41-46

Not until the Flood came and took them all away! Not until it was too late. See Gen.7:13-17

The separation of the faithful and the wicked...24:42-51

What is one important characteristic of the faithful and wise servant? 24:42-44

One who is ready, keeping watch, expecting the Lord to return at any time.

Since this passage is directed to Tribulation saints, what's the application for us today?

We should be ready, keeping watch, expecting the Lord to come to rapture us! Be alert!

Regardless of the situation, what's the faithful servant doing? 24:45-46

Doing what the Lord assigned him to do. Faithful is the test. Reward is the result, vs.47.

And what about the wicked (unsaved but 'serving the Lord')? 24:48-51

He concludes the Lord is *not coming*, joins with the open sinners. Judgment is severe.

How would you apply this truth to the Church today?
