

Behold Your King!

Studies in the Gospel of Matthew

The King Prophecies

Matthew 24-25

Lesson 19

Trinity Bible Church Sunday School

May 6, 2012

The Olivet Discourse

- ▶ Answers 2 questions:
 - When will these things be?
 - What signs of Christ's return and the end of the age?
- ▶ Signs of His coming – 24:4-28
- ▶ The Son of Man returns – 24:29-35
- ▶ Be ready! – 24:36-25:30
- ▶ Separation of the sheep and goats – 25:31-46

Behold your King is coming!


- ▶ Jesus entered Jerusalem as King (21:1-22)
 - Jesus cleansed the Temple – “My House”
 - Jesus cursed the fig tree
- ▶ Jesus’ authority despised and affirmed (21:23-23:39)
- ▶ A lament over Jerusalem: desolate . . . hope
- ▶ “Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the Lord.”
- ▶ The disciples respond by asking for specifics: “When?”
- ▶ Future desolation and future blessing (24-25)

Eschatology

- ▶ *eskhatos* (Greek) – “last” – the study of last things
- ▶ Five issues in Biblical Eschatology:
 - Return of Jesus Christ and the end of world history under the curse
 - Great Tribulation (24:21-22)
 - Millennial Reign of Jesus Christ (O.T. prophecy and Revelation 20)
 - The rapture of the Church (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)
 - The eternal state – heaven or the Kingdom of Heaven on earth

Coming of Christ to Reign

- ▶ The ultimate hope of the Old Testament
- ▶ The ultimate hope of the New Testament

World History				
Creation 	Abraham	1 st Coming of Christ †	Return of Christ	Eternity
		Old Covenant	New Covenant	

Great Tribulation – 4 Views				
1 st Coming of Christ †			Return of Christ	Eternity
	Preterist			
	Historicist			
	Idealist			
	Futurist	7 years		

Millennium – 3 Views				
	Amillennial			Eternity
	Postmillennial	?		Eternity
	Premillennial (Historic or Dispensational)	7 years	1000 years	Eternity

Rapture of the Church – 3 views					
	Pre-Tribulation	↻↻	↓	1000 years	Eternity
	Mid-Tribulation		↻↻↓	1000 years	Eternity
	Post-Tribulation		↻↻	1000 years	Eternity
			↻↻	Eternity	

The Olivet Discourse

- ▶ When will these things be?
- ▶ What will be the sign of Your coming and the end of the age?
- ▶ See that no one leads you astray.

An Era of Tribulation (24:5-14)

- ▶ False Christs lead many astray
- ▶ Wars and rumors of wars
- ▶ Famines and earthquakes
- ▶ Tribulation and death for Christ's sake
- ▶ Apostasy and betrayal
- ▶ False prophets lead many astray
- ▶ Lawlessness will increase – love of many will grow cold
- ▶ Gospel preached through the whole world
- ▶ Then the end will come

An Era of Great Tribulation (24:15-28)

- ▶ The sign – Abomination of Desolation in the holy place
- ▶ Spoken of by the prophet Daniel
 - Daniel 9:27 – middle of 70th week
 - Daniel 11:29-39 (31) – Antiochus IV Epiphanes
- ▶ A person to come – at the end of the age
 - Revelation 13:1-10
- ▶ A time of Great Tribulation follows

An Era of Great Tribulation (24:15-28)

- ▶ Get away from Judea – focal point of wrath
- ▶ Nothing like this in world history
- ▶ Days shortened to preserve the elect
- ▶ False Christs and false prophets – Beasts of Revelation
- ▶ Clear signs of the coming of the Lord (24:27-28)

The Son of Man will Appear (24:29-35)

- ▶ Immediately after the Great Tribulation
- ▶ Universal events – powers of heaven shaken
- ▶ The sign of the Son of Man – a visible return of Christ with power and great glory
- ▶ A loud trumpet sound and the gathering of the elect
- ▶ The lesson of the fig tree: in *this* generation

Christ's Answer

- ▶ General age of tribulation
- ▶ Abomination of desolation in the Holy Place
- ▶ A time of great tribulation
- ▶ Great Tribulation is short
- ▶ Christ returns and gathers His people to Himself

A Lesson from History (24:36-44)

- ▶ No one knows that day and hour except the Father
- ▶ The days of Noah
- ▶ Unaware until the flood came . . .
- ▶ Stay awake and be ready

Three Parables (24:45-25:30)

- ▶ Matthew 23:39 – “Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the Lord.”
- ▶ Matthew 24:4 – “See that no one leads you astray.”
- ▶ Matthew 24:44 – “You must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”
- ▶ How do we prepare for His coming?

A faithful and wise servant (24:45-51)

- ▶ A servant with a charge from the Master
- ▶ The blessed servant continues despite delay
- ▶ The accursed servant uses delay as excuse to rebel
- ▶ Be ready: Persevere

Wise and foolish virgins (25:1-13)

- ▶ Preparation for the bridegroom
- ▶ Lamps with and without oil
- ▶ They all became drowsy and slept
- ▶ Unexpected arrival of the bridegroom
- ▶ Personal preparation is non-transferrable
- ▶ Be ready: Be prepared

Investing talents (25:14-30)

- ▶ A trust given to servants
- ▶ Variable amount but equal duty to increase the profit of the master
- ▶ Good and faithful servant v. wicked and slothful
- ▶ Be ready: Be productive

Final Judgment (25:31-46)

▶ Time of judgment

- Pre-millennial
- Post-millennial
- Context: “When the Son of Man comes in His glory . . .” (25:31)
 - Eternal life v. eternal punishment (25:46)
 - Great White Throne judgment (Revelation 20:11-14)

▶ Basis of judgment

- Treatment of Christ
- Treatment of Christ’s people (1 Peter 4:4-5)

Eschatology Applied

- ▶ Do not be deceived
- ▶ Be ready – unexpected hour
- ▶ Be faithful – persevere in service
- ▶ Be wise – prepare personally
- ▶ Be good – produce for the glory of God
- ▶ Love the saints