Behold Your King!

Studies in the Gospel of Matthew

The King Prophesies

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Creation</th>
<th>Abraham</th>
<th>1st Coming of Christ</th>
<th>Return of Christ</th>
<th>Eternity</th>
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<td>New Covenant</td>
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### Great Tribulation – 4 Views

<table>
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<tr>
<th>1st Coming of Christ</th>
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<tr>
<td>Preterist</td>
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<td>Historicist</td>
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<td>Idealist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Futurist</td>
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### Millennium – 3 Views

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<tr>
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<th>1000 years</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Postmillennial</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premillennial (Historic or Dispensational)</td>
<td>7 years</td>
<td>1000 years</td>
<td>Eternity</td>
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### Rapture of the Church – 3 views

<table>
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<th>Pre-Tribulation</th>
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<th>Eternity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Tribulation</td>
<td>1000 years</td>
<td>Eternity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-Tribulation</td>
<td>1000 years</td>
<td>Eternity</td>
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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 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