

# Matthew 24:32-51

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- **REJECTION OF THE KING - Matthew 19-25**

- o The Tribulation...

- Having given the SIX signs that mark the BIRTH pains [the end is close]
- Jesus told the DISCIPLES [Jews] to watch for the Abomination of Desolation...
- Israel is how God tells TIME - He gave them 490 years - **Daniel 9:24-27**
- After 483 years the Messiah came - but was killed - and the countdown STOPPED...
- The final SEVEN years begin when the ANTICHRIST signs a peace treaty with Israel...
- Half way through [3.5 years] - he was stand in the THIRD temple and claim to be God...
- When this happens - RUN - because the GREAT Tribulation has begun!

- o The Return of Jesus...

- Immediately at the END of those last 3.5 years - Jesus will return...
- The stars [angels] will fall from heaven - Satan will be cast out - **Revelation 12:9**
- Jesus will come riding out of the clouds on a white horse - **Revelation 19:6**
- And all of the nations of the earth will MOURN - because their JUDGMENT has come...
- The time of men has come to an END - and God will establish His KINGDOM [1000 years]!

- **1<sup>ST</sup> - NEAR THE END... vs. 32-35**

- o 1<sup>st</sup> - The Fig tree... vs. 32-33

- The Parable... vs. 32
  - Now learn this parable from the fig tree!
  - Having given the DISCIPLES the SIX signs the END was near...
  - And having explained to them what would take place at the END...
  - The Abomination of Desolation - the Great Tribulation - and Return of Jesus Christ...
  - The obvious question was WHEN would all of this begin...
  - To which Jesus gave a PARABLE [παραβολή] that they HAD [imperative] to learn!
- Rebirth... vs. 32
  - When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves.
  - You know that summer is near!
  - When a FIG tree begins to grow new leaves [spring time]
  - The DISCIPLES knew [γινώσκω] that summer is NEAR [indicative]!
  - Fig tree are DECIDUOUS trees - they lose their leaves in the COLD of winter...
  - But every SPRING - the trees are REBORN - and grow new leaves!
- At the door... vs. 33
  - So you also when you see all these things - know that [He] is near - at the doors!
  - Likewise [οὕτως] - if [subjunctive] the DISCIPLES saw all [πᾶς] THESE things [tree blossoming]
  - They would KNOW [γινώσκω] they were at the DOOR [near the end]!
  - Israel is often described as a FIG tree in the Old Testament - **Hosea 9:10**
  - Therefore - like a FIG tree - those who see the REBIRTH of Israel - are near the END!

- o 2<sup>nd</sup> - Nation of Israel...

- The Death...
  - The valley of dry bones prophecy – **Ezekiel 37:1-14**
  - God showed Ezekiel a valley full of dry bones – it was the nation of Israel dead!
  - 722 B.C. - the Northern Kingdom of Israel was conquered by Assyria...
  - 586 B.C. - Southern Kingdom of Judah was conquered by Babylon...
  - 70 A.D. - the Tenth Roman legion burned Jerusalem and the Temple to the ground...
  - For 2000 years the remnant of Israel was scattered to the FOUR winds [the Diaspora]!

- Gentile city...
  - **Luke 21:24** - "Jerusalem will be trampled down by the Gentiles until the... end." [NLT]
  - For 2000 years Jerusalem was under the rule of Gentile nations!
  - The Romans ruled it for 250 years - 70 A.D. to 313 A.D.
  - Byzantine Empire [Rome converted to Christianity] for 320 years - till 635 A.D.
  - Arab Caliphate [Muslim conquerors] for 400 years - - till 1098 A.D.
  - The Crusaders [European Christians] for 100 years - till 1184 A.D.
  - Ottoman Empire [Muslim] for 700 years - till 1917 A.D.
  - English Empire [after World War] for 30 years - until 1948 A.D.
- Rebirth...
  - God went on to ask Ezekiel: Can these dry bones live?
  - God told Ezekiel: Speak to them... hear the Word of the Lord - **Ezekiel 37:4**
  - Ezekiel watched as the bones stood up - and came back to life!
  - May 14 - 1948: Israel was declared a nation - Israel was REBORN...
  - Since 1948 the Jewish population in Israel has surged to over SEVEN million...
  - For the FRIST time in 2000 years - more Jews in Israel today than any other nation on earth!
  - **Isaiah 43:5-6** - "I will bring your descendants from the east and gather you from the west; I will say to the north: Give them up! And to the south: Do not keep them back! Bring My sons from afar... from the ends of the earth."
- The Fig Tree blossoms...
  - Since 1948 Israel has literally blossomed into a fruitful GARDEN...
  - Before 1948 the Land was all deserts and swamp - no trees - a wasteland...
  - Israel has planted over 250 MILLION trees in the Land...
  - Israel has become a major world agricultural exporter [146 BILLION pesos a year]!
  - The Fig tree has indeed blossomed - just as the Word of God foretold!
  - **Isaiah 27:6** - "Israel shall blossom and bud - and fill the face of the world with fruit."
- o 3<sup>rd</sup> - Last Generation... vs. 34-35
  - Will not pass away... vs. 34
    - Amen I say to you - this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place!
    - AMEN [ἀμήν] - the generation [γενεά] that sees the REBIRTH of Israel...
    - Will NOT [οὐ μὴ subjunctive] pass away till ALL [πᾶς] of THESE things take place...
    - The Abomination of Desolation - the Great Tribulation - Return of Jesus...
    - Which leaves us with TWO question!
  - The Start...
    - What was the EXACT day that Israel was Reborn!
    - Some say it was May 14 - 1948 - when Israel was declared a nation by the United Nations...
    - Others say it was June 7 - 1967 - when Israel reclaimed the Temple Mount [Six day war]
  - A generation...
    - A generation might be at little as 20 years [time it takes to have kids]
    - But God told Abraham that a generation was 100 years - **Genesis 15:16**
    - Do a little math - add 100 years to 1967 - and we get 2067 at the LATEST!
    - **We are have seen the REBIRTH of Israel - we are the LAST generation...**
    - **Therefore we KNOW we are CLOSE to the END!**
  - The guarantee... vs. 35
    - Heaven and earth will pass away - but My words will by no means pass away!
    - Heaven and earth will pass away [fiery end] - **II Peter 3:10**
    - But the WORD [λόγος] of the Lord will NEVER [οὐ μὴ subjunctive] pass away!
    - **How certain can we be that this is the LAST generation...**

- We have absolute certainty - because Jesus [λόγος] is the one who said it!
- **II Corinthians 1:20** - "All the promises of God in Him are Yes - and in Him Amen."

● **2<sup>ND</sup> - THE TIMING... vs. 36-44**

○ 1<sup>ST</sup> - The Hour... vs. 36

- Only the Father...
  - But of that day and hour no one knows - not even the angels of heaven - but My Father only!
  - We are the LAST generation - the FIG tree has blossomed...
  - But the DAY [ἡμέρα] and HOUR [ώρα] when the END begins - NO one knows [εἶδω]
  - Not even the ANGELS - or the SON - ONLY the Father - **Mark 13:32**
  - This is NOT talking about the RETURN of Jesus Christ...
  - He will return 3.5 years - or 42 months - or 1260 days after the Abomination of Desolation...
  - This is talking about the start of the TRIBULATION - **Daniel 9:27**
- The Rapture...
  - That is IMPORTANT - because the RAPTURE [ἄρπάζω] happens before the TRIBULATION...
  - Meaning ONLY the Father knows WHEN the RAPTURE [ἄρπάζω] will occur!
  - William Miller was a Pastor in the 1800s – he said Jesus was coming in the year 1844...
  - Millions sold everything to prepare - Jesus did not come – called the GREAT disappointment!
  - Bottom line - if anyone tells you they knows the DAY or the HOUR - they are WRONG...
  - What we can say is that we are CLOSE - our GENERATION will see the RAPTURE!

○ 2<sup>ND</sup> - Days of Noah... vs. 37-39

- Wicked world... vs. 37
  - But as the days of Noah were - so also will the coming of the Son of Man be!
  - We do NOT know the DAY or HOUR - but we can know we are CLOSE...
  - Jesus said that before the RAPTURE - which happens before the TRIBULATION...
  - Which happens before the second COMING [παρουσία] of the Jesus [Son of Man]
  - The world will be like [οὕτως] is was in the day of Noah!
  - **Genesis 6:5** – "Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth - and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually."
  - We live in a world dominated by greed - violence - godlessness...
  - As in the days of Noah – is just like the world today!
- Like any other day... vs. 38-39
  - For as in the days before the flood - they were eating and drinking.
  - Marrying and giving in marriage - until the day that Noah entered the ark.
  - And did not know until the flood came and took them all away!
  - Before the FLOOD - men were going about their lives [imperfect]
  - They were EATING [present] - and DRINKING [present] - and getting MARRIED [present]
  - Completely oblivious to the JUDGEMENT that was about to take place...
  - Right up until the DAY [ἡμέρα] when Noah went into the ARK...
  - They did NOT know [γινώσκω] it was the DAY - until the flood came the took them away!
  - Noah was a PREACHER - and he did WARN them for 120 years - **II Peter 2:5**
  - But people did NOT listen - they thought TOMORROW would be just like TODAY!
- No warning... vs. 39
  - So also will the coming of the Son of Man be!
  - It will be [future] the same [οὕτως] when Jesus [Son of man] comes [παρουσία].
  - Like the Flood – Jesus will come on a day like any other!
  - **I Corinthians 15:52** – "In a moment [ἄτομος] - in the blink of an eye."
  - Just there was only one DOOR that Noah could walk through to avoid the JUDGEMENT...
  - But when the DAY came - God shut the door - and the JUDGMENT started - **Genesis 7:16**

- There is only one DOOR we can walk through to be SAVED...
  - The Door is OPEN – anyone can enter in – and Jesus wants to save everyone...
  - But there will come a day – in a blink of an eye – when the door will CLOSE!
  - **John 10:9** – “I am the door. If anyone enters by Me he will be saved.”
- o 3<sup>rd</sup> - Left behind... vs. 40-42
- Two people... vs. 40-41
    - Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left.
    - Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left!
    - At that time [τότε] - TWO men will be working [in a field]
    - ONE of them will be TAKEN [passive] - and ONE will be LEFT behind [passive]
    - TWO women will be cooking in the kitchen [at the mill]
    - One will be TAKEN [passive] - and ONE will be LEFT behind [passive]
    - The picture is that of ANY given day - men are working - women are baking...
    - There is NO warning that anything out of the ordinary will take place...
    - But when we LEAST expect it - that I when the RAPTURE takes place!
  - Watch... vs. 42
    - Watch therefore - for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming!
    - That is why we MUST [imperative] WATCH [be on guard]
    - Because we do NOT know [εἶδω] the exact HOUR [ώρα] when our Lord [κύριος] comes!
    - **I John 3:3** - “Everyone who has this hope... purifies himself.”
    - PURIFIES – [ἀγνίζω] – from the ROOT word HOLY – to be separate for God...
    - If we are LIVING [present] our LIVES like Jesus could come back at ANY moment...
    - It will cause us to be HOLY – so we are ready to meet God!
    - Israel has blossomed - we are the LAST generation...
    - We are living in wicked times - like the DAYS of Noah...
    - Are we READY – if the RAPTURE happened – what would Jesus find in us doing...
    - We might think – PLEASE come back NOW – I am in CHURCH...
    - But what if He came this AFTERNOON – or TOMORROW morning...
    - When we CHOOSE [active] to live our lives like Jesus could come at ANY moment...
    - It causes us to WATCH - and be HOLY – so we are READY to meet our LORD!
  - Lots wife...
    - We might ask - what is the difference between those TAKEN and LEFT...
    - In the parallel account in Luke - Jesus added the story of LOT!
    - Sodom and Gomorrah were very prosperous cities on the Dead Sea...
    - But along with their prosperity came GREAT evil and wickedness - **Genesis 18:20**
    - Lot was told to flee the city - along with his whole family...
    - But his wife looked BACK [longingly] - and was left BEHIND - **Genesis 19:26**
    - What is the MOST important thing to us in life - what do we THINK about the most...
    - Because if we LOOK longingly at the things of the world - LOOK back...
    - We run the danger of being LEFT behind when the Lord comes!
    - **Luke 17:32** - “Remember [imperative] Lots wife.”
- o 4<sup>th</sup> - The Thief... vs. 43-44
- Do not know... vs. 43
    - Know this - that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come.
    - He would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into!
    - We cannot KNOW [εἶδω] what DAY or HOUR the Lord will come [rapture]
    - But we can KNOW [γινώσκω] the lesson of the THIEF [κλέπτης]
    - Also found in - **Luke 12:39** - **I Thessalonians 5:2** - **II Peter 3:10** - **Revelation 3:3**

- If the owner of a house could have [pluperfect] KNOWN [εἶδω] when the THIEF would come...
- Then he would have watched [aorist] - and been ready for him...
- Yet the way a THIEF works - is they come when LEAST expected!
- We may NOT know when a THIEF is going to break into our house - but we can be READY...
- We can LOCK our door - we can put a DOG outside...
- We can set up SECURITY cameras - we can PRAY for angels to keep guard!
- Be ready... vs. 44
  - Therefore you also be ready for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect!
  - Therefore we MUST [imperative] always [present] be READY...
  - Because when we are NOT thinking [δοκέω] about the RAPTURE - it will happen!
  - While we may not know when a Jesus will come – we can be PREPARED...
  - Spending time with Jesus through His Word - and through prayer...
  - Preparing ourselves for the day when we will see Him face to face!
- 3<sup>RD</sup> - WAITING FOR THE LORD... vs. 45-52
  - 1<sup>st</sup> - The work... vs. 45
    - Who then is a faithful and wise servant whom his master made ruler over his household.
    - To give them food in due season?
    - The question might be asked - what do we do UNTIL the end comes [rapture]
    - In response Jesus gave the EXAMPLE of a SERVANT [δοῦλος]
    - Who was given the command from the Lord [κύριος] - how to use their TIME [καιρός]
    - CARE [θεραπεία] for and GIVE [present] food to those in His house...
    - Then Jesus asks - who is FAITHFUL and WISE to complete the task - TWO options!
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> - Good Servant... vs. 46-47
    - Blessed is that servant whom his master when he comes - will find so doing.
    - Assuredly I say to you that he will make him ruler over all his goods!
    - HAPPY [μακάριος] is the SERVANT whom the Lord [κύριος] finds doing it [present]
    - AMEN [ἀμήν] - the Lord will set him over ALL [πᾶς] of His possessions!
    - If you gave someone P100 and asked them to HOLD it for you...
    - And when you came back a MONTH later - and they immediately handed you the MONEY...
    - You would have NO problem entrusting them with a LOT more!
    - If we are FAITHFUL and WISE - constantly ready for the END to come [rapture]
    - We will be HAPPY [μακάριος] - because we will be with in HEAVEN during the Tribulation...
    - And when Jesus returns - and we come with Him – **Jude 1:14**
    - We will be BUSY for a THOUSAND years helping Jesus to RULE the world!
    - **I Corinthians 6:2-3** – “Do you not know that the saints will judge the world!”
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> - Wicked Servant... vs. 48-52
    - Slow to come... vs. 48
      - But if that evil servant says in his heart: My master is delaying his coming!
      - BUT [δέ] if the evil [κακός] SERVANT says in his heart [not out loud]
      - That the Lord [κύριος] is taking His time [χρονίζω]
      - **II Peter 3:8** - “The Lord is not slack concerning His promise.”
      - Paul thought Jesus might come back in his lifetime – **Philippians 4:5**
      - James thought Jesus might come back in his lifetime – **James 5:8**
      - John thought Jesus might come back in his lifetime – **Revelation 22:20**
    - But the Lords TIMING is not our TIMING – He is not in a RUSH...
    - He is PATIENT - because He wants to give time for more people to REPENT!
    - If Jesus had come back THIRTY years ago - how many of us would be in heaven...

- Just because Jesus has NOT come yet – does NOT mean that He is not coming...
- God has shown amazing PATIENCE - because He desires for MANY to be saved - **II Peter 3:9**
- Not looking... vs. 49-51
  - [Wicked servant] begins to beat his fellow servants - and to eat and drink with the drunkards.
  - The master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him.
  - And at an hour that he is not aware of - and will cut him in two.
  - Appoint him his portion with the hypocrites. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth!
  - The WICKED servant does NOT take care and feed the others in the HOUSE of God [church]
  - Instead he BEATS them - and eats and drinks with DRUNKS [first time in NT]
  - The Lord [κύριος] will come in a DAY - HOUR - that is NOT known [γινώσκω]
  - CUT them TWICE [διχοτομέω] - only used here and - **Luke 12:46**
  - The lord will KILL them physically - and spiritually [second death]
  - And give them their REWARD [portion] with the HYPOCRITES [fake Christians]
  - He will say to them I NEVER knew you - **Matthew 7:23**
  - And cast them into the Fire [weeping and gnashing] - **Matthew 13:50**
  - We have everything to GAIN by being prepared for the END [rapture]
  - We cannot say we did NOT know - we see the SIGNS [Israel reborn - days of Noah]
  - We have the COMMAND - we are to CARE for others...
  - The question is are we READY - are we WATCHING for the Lord!
  - **Mark 13:37** - "I say to you - I say to all: Watch!"