Jesus Reveals the Future, Part 16
The Destruction of Temple, the Church Age, the Great Tribulation
Matthew 24:1-31 | 07/31/2016
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Matthew 24:1-31
As Jesus left and was going out of the temple complex, His disciples came up and called His attention to the temple buildings. 2 Then He replied to them, “Don’t you see all these things? I assure you: Not one stone will be left here on another that will not be thrown down!” 3 While He was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples approached Him privately and said, “Tell us, when will THESE THINGS HAPPEN? And what is THE SIGN of Your coming and of THE END OF THE AGE?” 4 Then Jesus replied to them: “Watch out that NO ONE DECEIVES you. 5 For many will come in My Name, saying, ‘I am the Messiah,’ and they will DECEIVE many. 6 You are going to hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are NOT alarmed, because these things must take place, but the END IS NOT YET. 7 For nation will rise up against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. 8 All these events are the BEGINNING OF BIRTH PAINS.
9 “Then they will hand you over for persecution, and they will kill you. You will be hated by all nations because of My Name. 10 Then many will take offense (i.e. will be offended), betray one another and hate one another. 11 Many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. 12 Because LAWLESSNESS will multiply, the LOVE OF MANY WILL GROW COLD. 13 But the one who endures to the end will be delivered.
14 This good news of the kingdom will be proclaimed in all the world as a testimony to all nations. And then THE END will come.
15 “So when you see the Abomination of Desolation, spoken of by the prophet Daniel, standing in the holy place” (let the reader understand), 16 “then those in Judea must flee to the mountains! 17 A man on the housetop must not come down to get things out of his house. 18 And a man in the field must not go back to get his clothes. 19 Woe to pregnant women and nursing mothers in those days! 20 Pray that your escape may not be in winter or on a Sabbath. 21 For at that time there will be GREAT TRIBULATION, the kind that hasn’t taken place FROM THE BEGINNING of the world until now and NEVER WILL AGAIN! 22 Unless those days were limited, no one would survive. But those days will be limited because of THE ELECT.
23 “If anyone tells you then, ‘Look, here is the Messiah!’ or, ‘Over here!’ do not believe it! 24 False messiahs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders to lead astray, if possible, even the elect. 25 TAKE NOTE: I HAVE TOLD YOU IN ADVANCE. 26 So if they tell you, ‘Look, He’s in the wilderness!’ don’t go out; ‘Look, He’s in the inner rooms!’ do not believe it. 27 For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. 28 Wherever the carcass is, there the vultures will gather.
29 “Immediately after the tribulation of those days: The sun will be darkened, and the moon will not shed its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the celestial powers will be shaken. 30 “Then the SIGN of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the peoples of the earth will MOURN; and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with POWER and GREAT GLORY. 31 He will send out His angels with a loud trumpet, and they will gather His ELECT from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.
1. The DAY of the LORD … spoken of in the Old Testament … The Great Tribulation
   The O.T. Prophets foretold of that End Time Period
   - Daniel 9:27 explains it will be for 7 years … with 2 halves … 1st and 2nd half.
   - Jesus talked about that time period (Matt. 24-25; Mark 13; Luke 17:22ff, 21:5ff)
   - Paul (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 & 5; 2 Thess. 2; 1 Cor. 15:51ff; Romans 11)
   - Peter (2 Peter 2)
   - John (Revelation)

2. The Disciples asked Jesus a Question about the Future in 3 Parts …
   a. When will these Things Happen? (The Destruction of the Temple)
   b. What is The Sign of Your Coming
   c. When is The End of the Age

3. When will these things Happen?
   This relates to the Gospel Age, the Church Age … (ref. Revelation chapters 1 thru 3)
   which included the Destruction of the Temple in 70 A.D.
   Matthew 24:4-14 → ends with the completion of the Spread of the Gospel to All Nations
   - Persecution because of the Name of Jesus, Famines, Earthquakes, Wars, Pestilences,
     the rise of many false prophets, false teachers and false religions, rampant lawlessness
     and sin, difficult times (2 Timothy 3:1-5)

   vs. 14 is the Transition Verse, it completes one “age” and passes the baton onto the next.
   (hint: “… then the End will come.” → “… then the End Time Period will begin.”)

4. The End of the Age – The Great Tribulation … the Final 7 Years (ref. Daniel 9:24-27)
   This section is Matthew 24:15-28
   The Abomination of Desolation is key to unlocking this section …
   This references the time of the end, the final 7 Years (that is why Daniel is referenced)
   Jesus is giving us Big Clues …
   The Rise of the AntiChrist will coincide with a False Messiah showing great signs & wonders
   The AntiChrist will want to be worshipped as God, and will “Push” a false god upon the world
   (ref. Revelation 13, 2 Thessalonians 2 & Daniel 11:21-45)

5. The Sign of Your Coming (i.e. Your Return in Glory as Messiah & King) … Matt. 24:29-31
   He flips the order of the 2nd and 3rd Questions and answers them in the correct order of
   sequence of how the events will really unfold.
   This Parallels Revelation 16 & 19 (which is hinted at in Revelation 14, as well)