

**Introduction:**

Today we will be in our third study looking at, *the Passion Week*.

**Things we will look at in this lesson:**

Matthew's Account (Part Two): The Passion Week, Day Three

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***01. Why would the prophecy of the destruction of the temple stun the disciples?***

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**Note) Believers Must Be Prepared**

Matthew 4–14 these verses describe events that will happen between Jesus's prophecy and the end of the age.

False Christs and false prophets will arise to deceive. Christian persecution will increase. Lawlessness will multiply; love will wane. But the good news of the kingdom will be proclaimed in all the world. In spite of the adversity, the gospel will not be hindered.

***02. How can the period from the temple's destruction to Christ's return be described?***

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***03. What is the abomination of desolation?***

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**04. Who will see the second coming of Christ?**

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**05. What may be the sign of the coming of the Son of Man that Christ spoke about?**

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**06. What should Christ's followers always be ready for?**

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**07. How should Jesus' followers live each day?**

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**Article 1)**

Jesus' Prophetic Address:

Jesus' prophecy was primarily a reply to the disciples' question: "What will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?" Jesus gave them:

(1) general signs and a summary of key events leading up to the last days (24:4–14).

(2) special warning signs that would announce the final days of the present age, which will be the Great Tribulation (24:15–28).

(3) spectacular signs that will occur when Christ triumphantly returns to earth at the end of the Great Tribulation "with power and great glory" (24:29–31).

(4) a warning for those who have chosen to trust Christ during the horrible tribulation period, calling them to be alert to the signs leading up to Christ's expected return to end the tribulation (24:32–35).

(5) a challenge for believers living before the tribulation to be spiritually ready for the unknown time when Christ will come to take his faithful followers from this world, sparing them from the severe tribulation judgments he will unleash on the earth (24:36–51; 25:1–30; Jn 14:3).

Note that although Christ will remove his true church from the world prior to the tribulation judgments, some people will come to Christ during the tribulation; but they will do so under great persecution from the antichrist. Those who survive are the believers that Christ will rescue when he physically returns to earth to end the tribulation and destroy the forces of the antichrist.

(6) a description of the judgment of nations after Jesus' return to earth (25:31–46).

Many details of Christ's coming (and the end times in general) are not revealed in Mt 24. For that matter, no one has so far been able to interpret or figure out all of the Bible's prophecies about the end times with complete certainty. In some cases, the timing or order of events is uncertain; in other instances, the specific details of signs or events are not completely clear. No doubt, this is in the plan of God, as the NT writers and Jesus himself were not trying to reveal all the details about the end times. Their main concern was to challenge God's people to "keep watch" (v. 42; 25:13) and to be ready for Christ's coming. For this reason, Jesus' prophecy contains an element of mystery requiring humility, readiness and a heart focused on the Lord Jesus himself. We can expect God to give his people additional insight and understanding about end-time events as they unfold (Da 12:9).

**08. Who do the foolish virgins in Matthew 25:10-13 represent?**

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**09. What do the talents in Matthew 25:14-30 represent?**

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**10. What is the passage about the sheep and the goats a description of?**

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**11. What was Passover a celebration of?**

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**12. What does the timing of Jesus' death at Passover confirm?**

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