

# END TIMES: BACK TO THE FUTURE

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## Lesson 5

## Matthew Chapters 24 and 25 – Part 1

In this lesson we begin a two-lesson study of Matthew Chapters 24 and 25, which is comprised of Christ's teachings on End Time events and his Second Coming. Since Christ conveyed these teachings to his disciples on the Mount of Olives, these passages are also referred to as the "Olivet Discourse." Following our study of these two chapters, we will begin our study of the book of Revelation.

As we observed in our earlier studies, the Old Testament scriptures are full of references to the coming Messiah and the events that would surround that period of judgment and the establishment of His earthly Millennium Kingdom. On the day that we now refer to as "Palm Sunday", the disciples following Jesus were becoming more and more convinced that Jesus was indeed the promised Messiah. His triumphant entry into Jerusalem certainly reinforced that view, as they saw much of the earlier prophecies about the Messiah fulfilled before their eyes during their time with Christ, and now His entry into Jerusalem.

As the week progressed, however, they continued to find themselves unable to understand the *full* ramifications of all the prophecy surrounding the Messiah and his coming crucifixion and death on the cross, and his resurrection. Following his last day in the Temple, as they were leaving the city and conversed regarding its great buildings; Christ got their attention by foretelling its coming destruction. Later, in response to their questions about the timing of End Time events and the establishment of His earthly kingdom, Christ provided a more elaborate response. That response, contained in Chapters 24 and 25 of Matthew, provides us great insight into the coming events; particularly now that we too understand the Old Testament scriptures and the impact of Christ's death and resurrection.

As you respond to the questions in this lesson, consider them from a Jewish perspective. After all, Christ was talking to twelve fellow Jews that he had hand-picked to be his Apostles. His answer is directed first to them, then to us. By reading this passage and responding to the reading as though you were Jewish, it will add context and understanding to the passage.

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***Read Matthew Chapters 24 and 25 and answer the following:***

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1. In Matthew 24:2, Christ refers to what event that actually later occurred in 70 AD?
2. Camped on the Mount of Olives during Passover Week, the Disciples approached Jesus and asked him three questions which are recorded in Matthew 24:3. What were they?



9. In Matthew 24:27-31, Christ says that the coming of the Son of Man will be like "lightning that comes from the east" and "is visible even in the west". He tells us that the "the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light". What did Zechariah tell us that the day of the Christ's coming would be like in terms of illumination and light?

In our next lesson, we will conclude our study of Matthew Chapters 24 and 25, observing the rest of the signs that Christ referred to as indications of his return, as well as his recounting of what establishing His kingdom will be like. It is amazing how much deeper our understanding is of these passages will be, having previously studied all of the Old Testament prophecy relating to them. As we move closer and closer to our examination of the book of Revelation, God is building a framework for us that will allow us to better understand His revelation of Jesus.

I pray that this study continues to strengthen your walk and deepen your faith in the one true Messiah, Jesus The Christ, our Lord and Savior.

In Christ,

**Wes**