



Sermon Overview

Sunday, October 20 (Matthew 24.15-34)

Jesus' prophecies concerning the destruction of Jerusalem and His second coming are a call for His disciples to trust in His authority. Jerusalem is going to be destroyed (and it has from where we currently stand) and that Jesus is going to return. So, as Christ's disciples may we trust in the authority of Christ and His permanent Word.

Discussion Questions

1. In of reminder, what is the context of Matthew 24-25? What has Jesus just said about Jerusalem and the temple (23.37-39; 24.1-2)? What are the two questions that the disciples are asking Jesus (24.3)?
2. What are the two specific prophecies that we can definitely be sure of from Jesus' answer? What do we need to be careful about getting caught up in when looking at Matthew 24? Instead what truths should we be seeking most? How should we respond to others who have a different view than us about the end times and about the prophecies we read in Matthew 24? According to Luke 19.11, what do we learn about the disciples' view about the coming kingdom appearing immediately? What were they not aware of?
3. What do we learn about the destruction of Jerusalem in this text? Why does the destruction come upon Jerusalem? What does the *abomination of desolation* refer to (Daniel 8.13; 9.27; 11.31; and 12.11)? When did the horrifying destruction of Jerusalem occur? What was that time described as? What do we learn about the judgment of God with this event?
4. From this text, should we expect ease or suffering?
5. Explain how the authority and divinity of Jesus Christ is spoken of in Matthew 24.
6. According to Jesus, what *will pass away* and what *will not pass away* (24.35)? According to Revelation 21 what will replace the first heaven and first earth?
7. Are you ready for whatever may happen in your life this week or in the next year? Are you prepared from what may happen in the world in the next ten years? And are you absolutely certain of where your life will be in eternity?