



THE OLIVET DISCOURSE WHAT JESUS SAID ABOUT THE LAST DAYS

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I. The Historical Setting – Mark 13:1-2; Matthew 24:1-2; Luke 21:5-6

Mark

¹ And as he went forth out of the temple, one of his disciples saith unto him, Teacher, behold, what manner of stones and what manner of buildings!

² And Jesus said unto him, Seest thou these great buildings? there shall not be left here one stone upon another, which shall not be thrown down.

Matthew

¹ And Jesus went out from the temple, and was going on his way; and his disciples came to him to show him the buildings of the temple.

² But he answered and said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.

Luke

⁵ And as some spake of the temple, how it was adorned with goodly stones and offerings, he said,

⁶ As for these things which ye behold, the days will come, in which there shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.

2. The Three Questions – Mark 13:3-4; Matthew 24:3; Luke 21:7

Mark	Matthew	Luke
<p>³ And as he sat on the mount of Olives over against the temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew asked him privately,</p>	<p>³ And as he sat on the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying,</p>	
<p>⁴ Tell us, when shall these things be? and what <i>shall be</i> the sign when these things are all about to be accomplished?</p>	<p>Tell us, when shall these things be? and what <i>shall be</i> the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?</p>	<p>And they asked him saying, Master, when therefore shall these things be? and what <i>shall be</i> the sign when these things are about to come to pass?</p>

3. The General Characteristics of the Church Age – Mark 13:5-7; Matthew 24:4-6; Luke 21:8-9

Mark	Matthew	Luke
<p>⁵ And Jesus began to say unto them, Take heed that no man lead you astray.</p>	<p>⁴ And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man lead you astray.</p>	<p>⁸ And he said, Take heed that ye be not led astray: for many shall come in my name, saying, I am <i>he</i>; and, The time is at hand: go ye not after them.</p>
<p>⁶ Many shall come in my name, saying, I am <i>he</i>; and shall lead many astray.</p>	<p>⁵ For many shall come in my name, saying, I am the Christ; and shall lead many astray.</p>	
<p>⁷ And when ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars, be not troubled: <i>these things</i> must needs come to pass; but the end is not yet.</p>	<p>⁶ And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars; see that ye be not troubled: for <i>these things</i> must needs come to pass; but the end is not yet</p>	<p>⁹ And when ye shall hear of wars and tumults, be not terrified: for these things must needs come to pass first; but the end is not immediately.</p>

4. The Sign of the End of the Age- Mark 13:8; Matthew 24:7-8; Luke 21:10-11

Mark

⁸ For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there shall be earthquakes in divers places; there shall be famines:

these things are the beginning of travail.

Matthew

⁷ For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; and there shall be famines and earthquakes in divers places.

⁸ But all these things are the beginning of travail.

Luke 21

¹⁰ Then said he unto them, Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom;

¹¹ and there shall be great earthquakes, and in divers places famines and pestilences; and there shall be terrors and great signs from heaven.

5. The Personal Experiences of the Apostles – Mark 13:9-13; Luke 21:12-19

Mark

⁹ But take ye heed to yourselves: for they shall deliver you up to councils; and in synagogues shall ye be beaten; and before governors and kings shall ye stand for my sake, for a testimony unto them.

¹⁰ And the gospel must first be preached unto all the nations.

¹¹ And when they lead you to *judgment*, and deliver you up, be not anxious beforehand what ye shall speak: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye; for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Spirit.

¹² And brother shall deliver up brother to death, and the father his child; and children shall rise up against parents, and cause them to be put to death. [*see Micah 7:6*]

¹³ And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake:

but he that
endureth to the end,
the same shall be
saved.

Luke

¹² But before all these things, they shall lay their hands on you, and shall persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, bringing you before kings and governors for my name's sake.

¹³ It shall turn unto you for a testimony.

¹⁴ Settle it therefore in your hearts, not to meditate beforehand how to answer:

¹⁵ for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to withstand or to gainsay.

¹⁶ But ye shall be delivered up even by parents, and brethren, and kinsfolk, and friends; and *some* of you shall they cause to be put to death.

¹⁷ And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake.

¹⁸ And not a hair of your head shall perish.

¹⁹ In your patience ye shall win your souls.

6. The Sign of the Fall of Jerusalem – Luke 21:20-24

²⁰ But when ye see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that her desolation is at hand.

²¹ Then let them that are in Judea flee unto the mountains; and let them that are in the midst of her depart out; and let not them that are in the country enter therein.

²² For these are days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled.

²³ Woe unto them that are with child and to them that give suck in those days! for there shall be great distress upon the land, and wrath unto this people.

²⁴ And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led captive into all the nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.

7. The Great Tribulation – Mark 13:14-23; Matthew 24:9-28

a. The First Half – Matthew 24:9-14

⁹ Then shall they deliver you up unto tribulation, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all the nations for my name's sake.

¹⁰ And then shall many stumble, and shall deliver up one another, and shall hate one another.

¹¹ And many false prophets shall arise, and shall lead many astray.

¹² And because iniquity shall be multiplied, the love of the many shall wax cold.

¹³ But he that endureth to the end, the same shall be saved.

¹⁴ And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world for a testimony unto all the nations; and then shall the end come.

b. The Second Half – Mark 13:14-23; Matthew 24:15-28

Mark

¹⁴ But when ye see the abomination of desolation standing where he ought not

(let him that readeth understand),

then let them that are in Judea flee unto the mountains:

¹⁵ and let him that is on the housetop not go down, nor enter in, to take anything out his house:

¹⁶ and let him that is in the field not return back to take his cloak.

¹⁷ But woe unto them that are with child and to them that give suck in those days!

¹⁸ And pray ye that it be not in the winter.

¹⁹ For those days shall be tribulation, such as there hath not been the like from the beginning of the creation which God created until now, and never shall be.

²⁰ And except the Lord had shortened the days, no flesh would have been saved; but for the elect's sake, whom he chose, he shortened the days.

Matthew

¹⁵ When therefore ye see the abomination of desolation, which was spoken of by Daniel the prophet [see Daniel 9:27; 11:31; 12:11], standing in the holy place

(let him that readeth understand),

¹⁶ then let them that are in Judea flee unto the mountains:

¹⁷ let him that is on the housetop not go down to take out things that are in his house:

¹⁸ and let him that is in the field not return back to take his cloak.

¹⁹ But woe unto them that are with child and to them that give suck in those days!

²⁰ And pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on a sabbath:

²¹ for then shall be great tribulation, such as hath not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, nor ever shall be.[see Dan. 12:1]

²² And except those days had been shortened, no flesh would have been saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.

Mark

²¹ And then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is the Christ; or, Lo, there; believe it not:

²² for there shall arise false Christs and false prophets, and shall shew signs and wonders, that they may lead astray, if possible, the elect.

²³ But take ye heed: behold, I have told you all things beforehand.

Matthew

²³ Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is the Christ, or, Here; believe it not.

²⁴ For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect. [*see Deut.13:1*]

²⁵ Behold, I have told you beforehand.

²⁶ If therefore they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the wilderness; go not forth: Behold, he is in the inner chambers; believe it not.

²⁷ For as the lightning cometh forth from the east, and is seen even unto the west; so shall be the coming of the Son of man.

²⁸ Wheresoever the carcase is, there will the eagles be gathered together.

8. The Sign of the Second Coming – Mark 13:24-26; Matthew 24:29-30; Luke 21:25-27

Mark	Matthew	Luke
<p>²⁴ But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light,</p> <p>²⁵ and the stars shall be falling from heaven,</p>	<p>²⁹ But immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven,</p>	<p>²⁵ And there shall be signs in sun and moon and stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, in perplexity for the roaring of the sea and the billows;</p>
<p>and the powers that are in the heavens shall be shaken.</p>	<p>and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:</p>	<p>²⁶ men fainting for fear, and for expectation of the things which are coming on the world: for the powers of the heavens shall be shaken. [<i>see Isa. 13:9-10; Ezek 32:7-8; Joel 2:1-2, 10-11, 30-31; Amos 8:9; Zeph. 1:14-16</i>]</p>
<p>²⁶ And then shall they see the Son of man coming in clouds with great power and glory.</p>	<p>³⁰ and then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven [<i>see Zech 12:12</i>]: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory</p>	<p>²⁷ And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.</p>

9. The Regathering of Israel – Mark 13:27; Matthew 24:31

Mark	Matthew
<p>²⁷ And then shall he send forth the angels, and shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from the uttermost part of the earth to the uttermost part of heaven.</p>	<p>³¹ And he shall send forth his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.</p>

10. The Exhortation – Luke 21:28

Luke 21:28

²⁸ But when these things begin to come to pass, look up, and lift up your heads; because your redemption draweth nigh.

11. The Parable of the Fig Tree – Mark 13:28-31; Matthew 24:32-35; Luke 21:29-33

Mark

²⁸ Now from the fig tree learn her parable: when her branch is now become tender, and putteth forth its leaves, ye know that the summer is nigh;

²⁹ even so ye also, when ye see these things coming to pass, know ye that he is nigh, *even* at the doors.

³⁰ Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass away, until all these things be accomplished.

³¹ Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.

Matthew

³² Now from the fig tree learn her parable: when her branch is now become tender, and putteth forth its leaves, ye know that the summer is nigh;

³³ even so ye also, when ye see all these things, know ye that he is nigh, *even* at the doors.

³⁴ Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass away, till all these things be accomplished.

³⁵ Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

Luke

²⁹ And he spake to them a parable: Behold the fig tree, and all the trees:

³⁰ when they now shoot forth, ye see it and know of your own selves that the summer is now nigh.

³¹ Even so ye also, when ye see these things coming to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh.

³² Verily I say unto you, this generation shall not pass away, till all things be accomplished.

³³ Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.

12. The Rapture of the Church – Mark 13:32; Matthew 24:36-42; Luke 21:34-36

Mark

³² But of that day or that hour knoweth no one, not even the angels in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father.

Matthew

³⁶ But of that day and hour knoweth no one, not even the angels of heaven, neither the Son, but the Father only.

³⁷ And as *were* the days of Noah, so shall be the coming of the Son of man. [See Gen. 6:11-13, 7:7, 21-23]

³⁸ For as in those days which were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, ³⁹ and they knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall be the coming of the Son of man.

⁴⁰ Then shall two men be in the field; one is taken, and one is left:

⁴¹ two women *shall* be grinding at the mill; one is taken, and one is left.

⁴² Watch therefore: for ye know not on what day your Lord cometh.

Luke

³⁴ But take heed to yourselves, lest haply your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that day come on you suddenly as a snare:

³⁵ for so shall it come upon all them that dwell on the face of all the earth.

³⁶ But watch ye at every season, making supplication, that ye may prevail to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

13. Parables Urging Watchfulness, Readiness, and Labor – Mark 13:33-37; Matthew 24:43-25:30

a. The Parable of the Porter – Mark 13: 33-37

³³ Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is.

³⁴ *It is as when* a man, sojourning in another country, having left his house, and given authority to his servants, to each one his work, commanded also the porter to watch.

³⁵ Watch therefore: for ye know not when the lord of the house cometh, whether at even, or at midnight, or at cockcrowing, or in the morning;

³⁶ lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping.

³⁷ And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.

b. The Parable of the Master of the House – Matthew 24:43-44

⁴³ But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what watch the thief was coming, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken through.

⁴⁴ Therefore be ye also ready; for in an hour that ye think not the Son of man cometh.

c. The Parable of the Faithful Servant and the Evil Servant –
Matthew 24:45-51

⁴⁵ Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath set over his household, to give them their food in due season?

⁴⁶ Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing.

⁴⁷ Verily I say unto you, that he will set him over all that he hath.

⁴⁸ But if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My lord tarrieth;

⁴⁹ and shall begin to beat his fellow-servants, and shall eat and drink with the drunken;

⁵⁰ the lord of that servant shall come in a day when he expecteth not, and in an hour when he knoweth not,

⁵¹ and shall cut him asunder, and appoint his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be the weeping and the gnashing of teeth.

d. The Parable of the Ten Virgins – Matthew 25:1-13

¹ Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom.

² And five of them were foolish, and five were wise.

³ For the foolish, when they took their lamps, took no oil with them:

⁴ but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.

⁵ Now while the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept.

⁶ But at midnight there is a cry, Behold, the bridegroom! Come ye forth to meet him.

⁷ Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps.

⁸ And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are going out.

⁹ But the wise answered, saying, Peradventure there will not be enough for us and you: go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves.

¹⁰ And while they went away to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage feast: and the door was shut.

¹¹ Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us.

¹² But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not.

¹³ Watch therefore, for ye know not the day nor the hour.

e. The Parable of the Talents – Matthew 25:14-30

¹⁴ For it is as *when* a man, going into another country, called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods.

¹⁵ And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one; to each according to his several ability; and he went on his journey.

¹⁶ Straightway he that received the five talents went and traded with them, and made other five talents.

¹⁷ In like manner he also that received the two gained other two.

¹⁸ But he that *received* the one went away and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money.

¹⁹ Now after a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and maketh a reckoning with them.

²⁰ And he that received the five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: lo, I have gained other five talents.

²¹ His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will set thee over many things; enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

²² And he also that *received* the two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: lo, I have gained other two talents.

²³ His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will set thee over many things; enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

²⁴ And he also that had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art a hard man, reaping where thou didst not sow, and gathering where thou didst not scatter;

²⁵ and I was afraid, and went away and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, thou hast thine own.

²⁶ But his lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I did not scatter;

²⁷ thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the bankers, and at my coming I should have received back mine own with interest.

²⁸ Take ye away therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him that hath the ten talents.

²⁹ For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not, even that which he hath shall be taken away.

³⁰ And cast ye out the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness: there shall be the weeping and the gnashing of teeth.

14. The Judgment of the Gentiles – Matthew 25:31-46

³¹ But when the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the angels with him,*[see Zech 14:5]* then shall he sit on the throne of his glory:

³² and before him shall be gathered all the nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as the shepherd separateth the sheep from the goats;

³³ and he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

³⁴ Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

³⁵ for I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat; I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink; I was a stranger, and ye took me in;

³⁶ naked, and ye clothed me; I was sick, and ye visited me; I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

³⁷ Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or athirst, and gave thee drink?

³⁸ And when saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?

³⁹ And when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?

⁴⁰ And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it unto one of these my brethren, even these least, ye did it unto me.

⁴¹ Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into the eternal fire which is prepared for the devil and his angels:

⁴² for I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat; I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink;

⁴³ I was a stranger, and ye took me not in; naked, and ye clothed me not; sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not.

⁴⁴ Then shall they also answer, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee?

⁴⁵ Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not unto one of these least, ye did it not unto me.

⁴⁶ And these shall go away into eternal punishment: but the righteous into eternal life.*[see Dan. 12:2]*