

JESUS
26. ALPHA & OMEGA: Sermon on the 2nd Coming
(Matthew 24)
STUDY AHEAD

Matthew, Mark and Luke all record a version of Jesus' "Second Coming Discourse." This discourse, along with material found in 1 & 2 Thessalonians, 2 Peter and the book of Revelation, constitutes the bulk of the N.T. teaching on the return of Christ.

- 1. Matt.24:1-3.** What prompted Jesus' discourse on the end times?
- 2. Matt.24:4-8.** Why would Jesus call the events described here "the beginning of birth pains?" How are beginning birth pains different from the final labor a woman endures?
- 3. Matt.24:9-14.** What events did Jesus describe as the birth pains increase?
- 4. Matt.24:15-21.** Jesus describes a singular event that would signal the onset of "the great tribulation" (or the final labor). What is that event? See v.15. and compare Daniel 9:27; 11:31; 12:11.
- 5. Matt.24:21,22.** This is described as a time of "great distress", or "great tribulation." How severe will this period of time be?
- 6. Matt.24:23-26.** What kinds of deceivers will appear during this difficult time on earth? Why would they appear at this time?
- 7. Matt.24:27-31.** This passage describes the second coming of Jesus to earth. How will His coming occur, in contrast to the false Christ's mentioned earlier?
- 8. Matt.24:31.** What will Jesus do for those who belong to Him?
- 9. Matt.24:32-35.** What does the parable of the fig tree teach us in relation to the events Jesus described?
- 10. Matt.24:36-41.** While we are taught to keep alert for the "signs of the times," Jesus also taught that no one (not even Himself) knows the precise day and hour set for His return.
- 11. Matt.24:37-41.** How will the world be acting when Jesus returns?
- 12. Matt.24:42-44.** How should Jesus' followers be acting?
- 13. Matt.24:45-51.** What does the closing parable teach us?