

Matthew 24:29-35

Introduction:

1. Review:
 - a. (Matthew 23:36) While Jesus was speaking in the temple He pronounced destruction upon that generation.
 - b. (24:1a) Jesus left the temple.
 - c. (24:1b) The disciples showed Jesus the temple and the surrounding buildings.
 - d. (24:2) Jesus told the disciples that the temple would be completely destroyed.
 - e. (24:3) The disciples asked Jesus several questions.
 - f. (24:4-28) Jesus answered the first question: "*When shall these things be?*" [When would the temple be destroyed?]
 - 1) He warned His disciples not to be deceived.
 - 2) He gave a number of signs that would occur before the temple was destroyed.
 - 3) He gave His disciples instructions to follow so their lives would not be lost.
2. (24:29-35) Jesus concluded what He had to say about the destruction of the temple, and He introduced what He had to say about His return and the end of the world.

Discussion:

- I. (vs.29) IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE TRIBULATION OF THOSE DAYS GREAT SIGNS WOULD OCCUR
 - A. Jesus said that the sun would be darkened, the moon would not shine, the stars would fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens would be shaken.
 - B. By comparing other passages that contain similar language we can understand what Jesus was teaching.
 1. (Isaiah 13:1, 9-13, 17, 19) Similar signs are mentioned in connection with the overthrow of Babylon by the Medes.
 2. (Ezekiel 32:1-12) Similar signs are mentioned in connection with the overthrow of Egypt by Babylon.
 3. (Joel 2:28-32; Acts 2:16-21) Similar signs are mentioned in connection with the establishment of the church on Pentecost.
 - C. Jesus was telling His disciples that the Jewish kingdom would be overthrown when the temple was destroyed.
 1. The Law of Moses was taken out of the way when Jesus died (Colossians 2:14).
 2. However, the Jewish nation continued to exist until Jerusalem was destroyed.
- II. (vs.30-31) THE LORD SAID THAT HE WILL NOT RETURN UNTIL AFTER THIS TRIBULATION OCCURRED
 - A. The disciples seemed to think that the temple would be destroyed when Jesus returns.
 - B. Jesus informed them that these would be 2 different events.
 1. First, the temple would be destroyed.
 2. He will return at a later time.
- III. (vs.32-33) JESUS TOLD A PARABLE TO ILLUSTRATE THE IMPORTANCE OF WATCHING FOR THE SIGNS INDICATING THAT THE TEMPLE WAS ABOUT TO BE DESTROYED
- IV. (vs.34) THE THINGS JESUS TALKED ABOUT WOULD OCCUR DURING THAT GENERATION
- V. (vs.35) THE LORD'S WORDS ARE SURE

Conclusion:

1. Jesus showed His disciples that the temple would be destroyed before He returns.
2. Beginning at vs.36, Jesus talked at length about His return.
3. He continued talking about His return through ch.25.