

End Times Prophecy

This Week:

Lesson: Jesus Christ

Next Week: Epistles

Jesus and End-Times prophecy:

Jesus is the promised Messiah, which means that He will come suddenly, judge both Israel and the other nations with terrible slaughter, will reestablish Israel as the preeminent world power, and will rule from Israel for 1,000 years.

Jesus knew something that the rest of the Israel didn't – His sacrificial death on the cross was the purpose to be fulfilled in His first advent. Jesus did not reveal this to the masses, only to his closest followers, but instead clarified end-time prophecies.

Matthew 24:1-2	The destruction of the temple
Matthew 24:3-14	Signs before the end – false Christs, earthquakes, wars – the sign of the Gospel being preached to all nations
Matthew 24:15-28	During the tribulation
Matthew 24:27, 29-31	The coming of Christ described
Matthew 24:32-36	Recognize the season, but not the exact time
Matthew 24:37-41	
Luke 17:34-37	During the tribulation
Matthew 24:42+, 25:1+, 25:14+	Parables of the unexpected coming of Christ
Matthew 25:31-46	Judgment of the 'Sheep' and the 'Goats'
Revelation 11:15	Great White Throne judgment (for comparison with the above)

Discussion:

- **Note** the historical destruction of Herod's great temple, the temple Jesus' disciples point to in Matthew 24:1, happened in AD 70. Because of fire, the gold melted into the stones and the stones were torn apart to get the gold, so literally fulfilling the prophecy within about 40 years.
- **Note** – Christ is a title, not part of Jesus' given name – it is Greek for "Anointed", and is the same as the Hebrew word "Messiah". Note that the first kings of Israel were anointed with oil as a pre-coronation by God into the office of king, and the oil is symbolic of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, being 'the anointed' indicates that He is the prophesied King, but the name also carries the original depiction of holy sanctification to God.
- **Note** the title "Son of Man" identifies Jesus with **Daniel 7:13-14** as God's King.
- **Discuss** the significance of "watching" for the coming of Christ.
- **Discuss** the judgment of the Sheep and the Goats – why is this placed at the second coming, before the eternal state, separate from the Great White Throne judgment? Is it possible that these are the same judgment?

Question to the Class:

How is salvation by faith reconciled with the Judgment of the Sheep and the Goats?