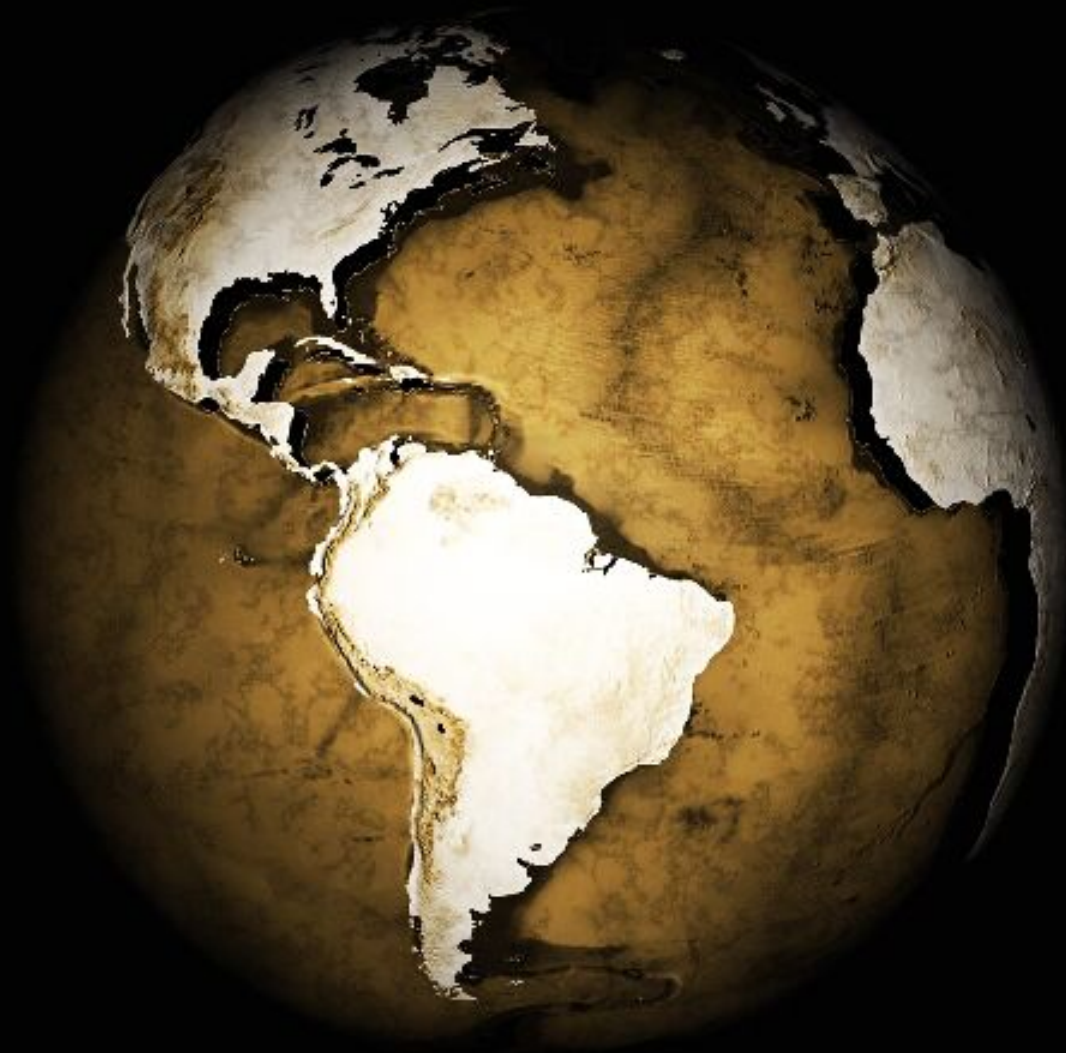


MATTHEW 24



Several Warning Signs of Jerusalem's Coming Destruction

- **False christs**
- **Wars and rumors of wars**
- **Nation against nation**
- **Kingdom against kingdom**
- **Earthquakes and famines**
- **Persecution and betrayals**
- **False prophets**
- **Gospel preached in all the world**





Understanding Matthew 24

Two Key Texts...



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BEFORE VERSE 36

time could be known
famine, pestilence, wars
fig tree, indicating nearness
those days
local events

AFTER VERSE 36

time unknown
peace, normality
thief in the night
that day, that hour
universal event



Understanding Matthew 24

The Destruction of Jerusalem—70 A.D.

The key event the disciples must watch for:

"Therefore when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place" (whoever reads, let him understand)...

Matthew 24:15



Understanding Matthew 24

The Destruction of Jerusalem—70 A.D.

Citizens must flee the city:

"...then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.

"Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house.

"And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes.

"But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days!

"And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath."

Matthew 24:16-20



Understanding Matthew 24

The Destruction of Jerusalem—70 A.D.

Jerusalem would face great tribulation:

"For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.

"And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened."

Matthew 24:21-22



Understanding Matthew 24

The Destruction of Jerusalem—70 A.D.

No personal coming of Jesus at Jerusalem's destruction:

"Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'There!' do not believe it. For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. See, I have told you beforehand. Therefore if they say to you, 'Look, He is in the desert!' do not go out; or 'Look, He is in the inner rooms!' do not believe it.

"For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.

"For wherever the carcass is, there the eagles will be gathered together."

Matthew 24:23-28



Understanding Matthew 24

The Destruction of Jerusalem—70 A.D.

Apocalyptic language describes the nation's destruction:

"Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

"Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

"And **He will send His angels** with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."

Matthew 24:29-31



Understanding Matthew 24

The Destruction of Jerusalem—70 A.D.

All these things to happen to the generation then present:

"Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near.

"So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near--at the doors!

"Assuredly, I say to you, **this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place.**

"Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away."

Matthew 24:32-35