

Matthew 24



By Randall Ricker July 24, 2021

Sabbath Church of God

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Two questions

Matthew 24:1-3

1 Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple. 2 And Jesus said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down." 3 Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, **(A) when will these things be?** And **(B) what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age** [165 age] **?**"

The answer to the first question

Matthew 24:15-19

15 "Therefore when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place" (whoever reads, let him understand), 16 then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. 17 Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. 18 And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. 19 But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days!

Luke 21:20-21

20 "But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is near. 21 Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those who are in the midst of her depart, and let not those who are in the country enter her.

What the signs are not

Matthew 24: 4-7, 11-12

4 And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you. 5 For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many. 6 And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, **but the end is not yet**. 7 For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places... 11 Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. 12 And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.

Not a done deal

Matthew 24:13

But he who endures to the end shall be saved.

The answer to the 2nd question

Matthew 24:14

And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world [3625 land, globe] as a witness to all the nations, and **then the end will come**.



The tribulation on the Church

Matthew 24:21-22

21 For then there will be **great tribulation** [2347 pressure (literal or figurative)], such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. 22 And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but **for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.**

Matthew 24:23-26

23 Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'There!' do not believe it. 24 For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great **signs and wonders to deceive**, if possible, even the elect. 25 See, I have told you beforehand. 26 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.

Matthew 24:27

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

The tribulation on the Church

Matthew 24:28

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

Colossians 1:18

And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

Matthew 13:3-4, 19

3 Then He spoke many things to them in parables, saying: "Behold, a sower went out to sow. 4 And as he sowed, some seed fell by the wayside; and the birds came and devoured them... 19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside.

The tribulation on the Church

Matthew 24:29

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.

Psalms 84:11

For the LORD God is a sun and shield; The LORD will give grace and glory; No good thing will He withhold From those who walk uprightly.

Malachi 4:2

But to you who fear My name The Sun of Righteousness shall arise With healing in His wings; And you shall go out And grow fat like stall-fed calves.

God leaves the spiritual temple



Ezekiel 10:4, 18-19

4 Then the glory of the LORD went up from the cherub, and paused over the threshold of the temple; and the house was filled with the cloud, and the court was full of the brightness of the LORD's glory.... 18 Then the glory of the LORD departed from the threshold of the temple and stood over the cherubim. 19 And the cherubim lifted their wings and mounted up from the earth in my sight. When they went out, the wheels were beside them; and they stood at the door of the east gate of the LORD's house, and the glory of the God of Israel was above them.

Ezekiel 11:23

23 And the glory of the LORD went up from the midst of the city and stood on the mountain, which is on the east side of the city.

God leaves the spiritual temple

Isaiah 54:7-9

7 **For a mere moment I have forsaken you**, But with great mercies I will gather you.

8 With a little wrath I hid My face from you for a moment; But with everlasting kindness I will have mercy on you," Says the LORD, your Redeemer. 9 "For this is like the waters of Noah to Me; For as I have sworn That the waters of Noah would no longer cover the earth, So have I sworn That I would not be angry with you, nor rebuke you.

Satan will be restrained

Revelation 1:20

The mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: The seven **stars are the angels** of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands which you saw are the seven churches.

Ephesians 6:12

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against **spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.**



The return of Christ

Matthew 24:30-31

30 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. 31 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.

1 Thessalonians 4:15-17

15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

1 Corinthians 15:51-52

51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed-- 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

The Church as a fig tree

Matthew 24:32-33

32 "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. 33 So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near--at the doors!



The Church as a fig tree

Jeremiah 8:8-9, 13

8 How can you say, 'We are wise, And the law of the LORD is with us'? Look, **the false pen of the scribe** certainly works falsehood. 9 The wise men are ashamed, They are dismayed and taken. Behold, they have rejected the word of the LORD; So what wisdom do they have? ...13 "I will surely consume them," says the LORD. "No grapes shall be on the vine, **Nor figs on the fig tree**, And the leaf shall fade; And the things I have given them shall pass away from them." ‘

Matthew 7:15-19

15 Beware of **false prophets**, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. 16 You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? 17 Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. 18 **A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit.** 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

The Church as a fig tree

Joel 1:4, 6-7, 12

4 What the chewing locust left, the swarming locust has eaten; What the swarming locust left, the crawling locust has eaten; And what the crawling locust left, the consuming locust has eaten... 6 For a nation [1471 a foreign nation; ...a flight of locusts] has come up against My land, Strong, and without number; His teeth are the teeth of a lion, And he has the fangs of a fierce lion. 7 He has laid waste My vine, And ruined My fig tree; He has stripped it bare and thrown it away; Its branches are made white... 12 The vine has dried up, And the fig tree has withered; The pomegranate tree, The palm tree also, And the apple tree-- All the trees of the field are withered; Surely joy has withered away from the sons of men.

Revelation 9:1-3

1 Then the fifth angel sounded: And I saw a star fallen from heaven to the earth. To him was given the key to the bottomless pit. 2 And he opened the bottomless pit, and smoke arose out of the pit like the smoke of a great furnace. So the sun and the air were darkened because of the smoke of the pit. 3 Then out of the smoke locusts came upon the earth. And to them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power.

The Church as a fig tree

1 Peter 5:8

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary **the devil walks about like a roaring lion,** seeking whom he may devour.

Business as usual

Matthew 24:36-39

36 "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only. 37 But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. 38 For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, 39 and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.

Some are changed

Matthew 24:40-41

40 Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. 41 Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left.

Matthew 24:42-43

42 Watch therefore, for **you do not know what hour your Lord is coming**. 43 But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into.

Who are rewarded

Matthew 24:45-48

45 Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, **to give them food in due season**? 46 Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing. 47 Assuredly, I say to you that **he will make him ruler** over all his goods. 48 But if that evil servant says in his heart, 'My master is delaying his coming,'