

THE EXTENDED PROPHETIC DISCOURSE OF THE CHRIST

Matthew 24:1-51, Mark 13:1-37, Luke 21:5-38; pericope 171, pages 198-202

Guidelines for Understanding Prophecy in Scripture — _____



24. Why did the Christ give credence to His follower’s questions regarding the nature and quality of the Temple’s architecture? What is the significance of “no temple,” and the prophecy/fact that the Temple would be torn down? When did it finally occur? Matthew 24:1-51, Mark 13:1-37, Luke 21:5-38; pericope 171, pages 198-202

25. Why did Peter/James/Andrew/John want to know when the Temple would be destroyed? What part of Christ Jesus’ answer to them bothers you the most? Matthew 24:1-51, Mark 13:1-37, Luke 21:5-38; pericope 171, pages 198-202

26. What is a potential implication for studying Scripture given the Christ’s declaration of the destruction of the Temple? Matthew 24:1-51, Mark 13:1-37, Luke 21:5-38; pericope 171, pages 198-202

27. Why do people, even parents, siblings “take offense to” and “betray” followers of the Christ? Persecutions: good news or bad news? Matthew 24:1-51, Mark 13:1-37, Luke 21:5-38; pericope 171, pages 198-202

28. The Christ warned about false prophets. How do we know which teaching/prophesies are false, irrelevant, or true; i.e., spiritually useful? Matthew 24:1-51, Mark 13:1-37, Luke 21:5-38; pericope 171, pages 198-202

29. What do you make of the Christ’s comment as recorded in Mark 13:13? Matthew 24:1-51, Mark 13:1-37, Luke 21:5-38; pericope 171, pages 198-202

30. The Christ warns about false messiahs and prophets to come who will perform great wonders and signs (top of page 201; Matthew 24:23ff). How do we ascertain false from true, especially if they are in the words of the Christ “great wonders?” Provide an example of a “great sign” that turned out to be false. Matthew 24:1-51, Mark 13:1-37, Luke 21:5-38; pericope 171, pages 198-202

31. Why is the “Son of Man” coming so much more onerous than the “Son of God” coming (Matthew 24:30ff)? So, is the Christ referring to the literal last days (Matthew 24:36), or the last days of the Christ on earth as Jesus the Christ resurrected (Matthew 24:34)? Matthew 24:1-51, Mark 13:1-37, Luke 21:5-38; pericope 171, pages 198-202

32. How clean would you keep your house if you knew the President would be visiting soon, Secret Service in tow? Matthew 24:1-51, Mark 13:1-37, Luke 21:5-38; pericope 171, pages 198-202



33. What does Jesus say interferes with our being ready for His return? Examples please. How do we avoid these pitfalls? Matthew 24:1-51, Mark 13:1-37, Luke 21:5-38; pericope 171, pages 198-202

ILLUSTRATING THE IMPORT OF HIS RETURN

Matthew 25; pericopes 172-174, pages 202-205

34. Ten Virgins Awaiting the Bridegroom Is this incident described by Yeshua to be taken literally, metaphorically, or allegorically? Matthew 25:1-13; pericope 172, page 202

35. Ten Virgins Awaiting the Bridegroom What needs to be trimmed on our lamps? What is the oil which powers/lights those lamps? Matthew 25:1-13; pericope 172, page 202 (Literal, metaphor, allegory?)

36. Talent: Risks and Acquisitions How about much was a “talent” worth?²¹ What talent do we have that needs the widest deployment? The most risky? Matthew 25:14-30; pericope 173, page 203

37. Talent: Risks and Acquisitions What talent have you buried? Invested? To what extent is the Christ’s parable here about soteriological security, “gnashing of teeth...”? Matthew 25:14-30; pericope 173, page 203 (Literal, metaphor, allegory?)

38. Choosing Between Being the Greatest of All Time or a Slave to His Exalted Excellency the Physician How will the Christ distinguish between greatest and the slave? Matthew 25:37-46; pericope 174, page 205

39. Choosing Between Being the Greatest of All Time or a Slave to His Exalted Excellency the Physician When we do not feed the hungry, who is not being fed? When we do not visit those in prison, who is being ignored? When we do not give the thirsty something to drink, who is becomes dehydrated? Matthew 25:37-46; pericope 174, page 205

40. Choosing Between Being the Greatest of All Time or a Slave to His Exalted Excellency the Physician How did the Christ distinguish between the righteous bound for heaven, and the unrighteous bound for eternal punishment? Why have we consistently chosen to avoid preaching/teaching this principal principle? Matthew 25:37-46; pericope 174, page 205 (Literal, metaphor, allegory?)



²¹Normally used as a measure of weight, yet a talent in those days was commonly worth 6,000 denars (a denar was worth approximately one day’s wages). Ergo, assuming the person in question works 40 hours per week, and 50 weeks per year, and receives \$15 per hour, then a talent in today’s US dollars is worth 15x40x50 or \$30,000

If “talent” is used as a weight (approximately 38 kilograms) to measure silver, then as of 1/24/2024 each talent would be worth \$27,575.32 (38 x \$725.64) in today’s American dollars.

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