

The Son of God, in His humanity as Jesus Christ, is God the Father's ultimate resolution for evil

Truth is always directed our focus toward the Kingdom of God

2

Judgment. Jesus is Coming to set up THE KINGDOM

1 Timothy 3:16-17 (NASB)
16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,
17 so that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Jesus is coming to set up His kingdom:

Jesus second COMING and the Kingdom are the major motivations for all believers

Matthew 24:1-14 (NASB)
14 Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple.
15 And Jesus said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Truly I say to you, no stone will be left here upon another that shall not be torn down."

The question that underlies the rest of the chapter:

Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately saying,

"Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your COMING, and of the end of the age?"

How will we know when you are going to prevent Yourself as the King and bring in Your Kingdom?

In answering this question Jesus begins by addressing the Tribulation generation of Israel as a nation

The tribulation:

1 And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you.
2 For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many.
3 And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but that you are not troubled for all these things must come to pass, but that end is not yet.
4 For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places.
5 All these are the beginning of sorrows.
6 "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake.
7 And that many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another.
8 Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many.
9 And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.
10 But he who endures to the end shall be saved.
11 And this gospel of the Kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.
12 "Therefore when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by the prophet, standing in the holy place" (whom no one knows, let him understand),
13 "Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains,
14 "For he who is in the heavens will send his angels to gather up the elect.
15 And let those who are pregnant and who are nursing infants in those days flee to the mountains and stay there until they are gathered up by their fathers.
16 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.
17 And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.

Assurance for the Tribulation Generation of Israel against darkness, in relation to the arrival of Jesus/Christ:

18 "Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ' or 'There' about hidden treasures,
19 for false Christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.
20 "Say, I desire you to be deceived!
21 "Therefore if they say to you, 'Look, He is in the desert' or 'Look, He is in the inner room,' do not believe it."

The second coming, Jesus Christ arrives for the second time, this time to establish His Kingdom Domain over all the Earth:

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

After whatever the sun is, then the signs will be subject to nature:

22 "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.

There will be an exceeding great darkness over the face of the Earth, as a result of the scroll judgments

The day of the Lord:

Although the phrase "day of the Lord" is not used here in Matthew 24, often "day of the Lord" terminology is used!

Here in this setting the phrase is used in a narrow sense, referring to the last few days, of the Tribulation period

In all the passages that include the sun in the moon rising in light, these are all the last few final days of the Tribulation period, immediately before Jesus returns

In other passages it is used in a broad sense referring to the entire 7 year tribulation

The narrow sense

Matthew 24:29 (NASB)
29 "The sun and moon will be dark, and the stars will fall from heaven.

Matthew 24:30 (NASB)
30 "The sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will come and gather up their elect.

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.

This passage talks about the angels gathering the elect - the saved people before the tribulation begins - and returning them to earth.

Matthew 24:31 (NASB)
31 "Therefore behold, I am sending My angels to gather up the elect of the world from the land of the east and from all the lands where He has driven them." For it will bring them back into their land which I gave to their fathers.
32 "I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.
33 "For heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.

When interpreting passages unless they are linked to their immediate text, they should not be used to interpret some another.

As you don't use parables from another gospel, just because it sounds similar

Since the immediate context here is talking about Israel and the return of Jesus at His second coming to establish His Kingdom, there are many interpret this in that light, and in terms of the context and argument of the text.

1. This is a Jewish book talking about the Kingdom and the Jewish religious establishment,
2. The idea of the Kingdom, and then,
3. The judgement of the Kingdom.

In this is what is being interpreted.

Parable of the Fig Tree:

24 "Have you not this parable? Even the fig tree, when its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near.
25 "So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near, even at the door.
26 "Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.
27 "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.

28 "For the that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only.

Using the days of Noah to illustrate a point of judgment:

But as the days of Noah were, so also will THE COMING of the Son of Man be.

29 For as it was in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark.

These people were not being going on their merry way in the middle of judgment, as if nothing is happening.

The Seal judgments begin early on in the Tribulation, so the observations associated with these judgments. What you can read in the phenomena of life, including the signs of the earliest stage of the Tribulation

This is what is being interpreted

Romans 1:18 (NASB)
18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness.

Unbelievers who reject God's Word are in fact saying it's not going to happen.

So they are in as much denial about the return of Jesus and the establishment of His Kingdom at the end of the Tribulation, as they believe the flood was.

They were in complete denial of everything that Noah said, therefore they were going about normal activities of life.

They were suppressing the truth in their land for this world.

The same thing happens leading up to, and during the Tribulation

the flood came and took them all away

This passage is often cherry picked, and incorrectly used as an illustration describing

THE RAPTURE

Could we say otherwise is needed, it doesn't relate to the rapture at all

18 "Then this generation will be in the state: one will be taken and the other left

19 And because of the coming of the Son of Man, one will be taken and the other left

20 Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming

21 "For he will come like a thief in the night, when no one is expecting him, and he will take away the elect

22 "Therefore, be ready for the Son of Man is COMING

Two Servants are used to illustrate a point:

23 "Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household to give them food in due season?

24 Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing, faithful and well-pleasing to his master, to be made ruler over all his goods.

25 But if that evil servant says in his heart, 'My master is delaying his coming,' and begins to beat the other servants, and to eat and drink and to get drunk,

26 His master will come on a day when he is not looking for him, and will cut him off and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

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