

Series Title: **“The Kingdom Of Heaven Is At Hand”**
(A Study of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ)

Sermon Title: **“Are You Ready For The Lord’s Return?”**
(Part 11)

Sermon Text: Selected Scripture

Introduction:

- I. The *Meaning* Of The Second Coming Of Christ
- II. The *Certainty* Of The Second Coming Of Christ
- III. The *Nature* Of The Second Coming Of Christ
- IV. The *Purpose* Of The Second Coming Of Christ

V. The *Time* Of The Second Coming Of Christ

A. When Will The *Rapture* Of The Church Occur?

B. When Will The *Revelation* Of *Christ* Occur?

- The Second Coming will bring an end to **this present age** and usher in the long awaited coming **Kingdom of Christ!**
- *Matthew 24 & 25*

I. The **Context Of Matthew 24-25**

- *The major theme of Matthew’s gospel is “The **King** and **His Kingdom.**”*
- In the Gospel of Matthew, we have record of the three specific Kingdom Discourses:
 - ✓ *The **Principles** of the Kingdom* (Matthew 5-7)
 - ✓ *The **Parables** of the Kingdom* (Matthew 13)
 - ✓ *The **Prophecies** of the Kingdom* (Matthew 24 & 25)
- Matthew 24 & 25 contains Christ’s most famous prophetic message, a message that is commonly known as **The Olivet Discourse**
- *In a very real sense, the gospel of Matthew is a **Jewish** book!*
- Why is neither the Church nor the Rapture mentioned anywhere in Matthew 24 & 25?

“Outside of the book of Revelation, the Olivet Discourse the longest, most important, and most straightforward teaching regarding the Second Coming of Jesus Christ and the End of the Age found anywhere in the entire N.T!”

- What is the setting of the Olivet Discourse?
- *Matthew 23:1-26; 37-39*
- *Mark 13:1; Luke 21:5*
- The fulfillment of Jesus’ chilling prediction came to pass **40** years later in **A.D. 70**.

“From where Christ sat when this Q & A took place with His disciples, they had a magnificent view of the eastern side of the Temple Mount and of the Temple itself.”

II. **The Content Of Matthew 24-25**

- The central message of the Olivet Discourse really consists of *three specific messages* that literally dominate the whole discourse:
 - 1) *The first message* is that the world’s hostility toward Jesus Christ will not **diminish**, but will dramatically **intensify** as the end of the age draws near! **(24:4-20)**
 - 2) *The second message* is that the **entire world** is headed for a time of **tribulation** the likes of which has never been seen before! **(24:21-29)**
 - 3) *The third message* is that no one will miss **the Lord’s return to earth**, and no enemy will **escape His retribution!** **(24:30-52)**
- *A simple outline of Matthew 24:*
 - A. **The Characteristics Of The Present Age** (24:4-14)
 - B. **The Signs Of The Second Coming** (24:15-31)

Conclusion:

*“While some of the specific elements of Christ’s prophecies contained here may be difficult to fully comprehend, the basic thrust is impossible miss – Jesus is **coming again**, and He will **judge the world** in Righteousness!”*

