



COLLEGE OF THE SCRIPTURES

Greater Christ Temple APOSTOLIC CHURCH

2940 S. Anthony Blvd. Fort Wayne, IN 46806

Wednesday Evening Bible Study 6:00 PM

“End Times”

Part 05 – The Words of Jesus Christ

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Verse 15 goes back to the beginning of the Great Tribulation

Matthew 24:15-16

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."

- **Luke provides some other details:**

Luke 21:20-24

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. **22** For these are the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled. **23** But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! For there will be great distress in the land and wrath upon this people. **24** And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled."

- Luke 21:20 shows that before desolation (hence, before the abomination which causes desolation) Jerusalem will be surrounded by armies.

Zechariah 12:2-3

2 "Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of drunkenness to all the surrounding peoples, when they lay siege against Judah and Jerusalem. **3** And it shall happen in that day that I will make Jerusalem a very heavy stone for all peoples; all who would heave it away will surely be cut in pieces, though all nations of the earth are gathered against it.

- Luke 21:21 say in those day 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.
- This is a warning of extreme and sudden danger coming upon those living in Judea, which in this case would be properly used of Jerusalem and the area immediately surrounding.

Matthew 24:16

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

- Many believe the mountains that they flee to are those of the stone city, Petra.



- Petra is generally entered from the east on foot or on horseback through El Siq, a 6000 feet long narrow cleft (width: 12-30 feet) with 100-500 foot high cliff walls. Tombs and houses carved into the bed rock over a vast area at Petra would be suitable for temporarily housing many thousands of people.
- Daniel makes it clear that when the antichrist makes his move to conquer the land, he will **not** capture Moab (Jordan), which is where Petra is:
Daniel 11:41
41 He shall also enter the Glorious Land, and many countries shall be overthrown; but these shall escape from his hand: Edom, Moab, and the prominent people of Ammon.
- ** Daniel clearly states that, though he conquers the other Muslim nations surrounding Israel, the man of sin (King of the north/Syria) does not conquer (thusly does not rule) Edom, Moab, and Ammon. Hence, his kingdom is not literally a one world government holding **all** people. ⁵

Matthew 24:17-20

- 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!
- 20** And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath.

- Here it is also made clear that the danger is sudden and extreme. If you're on the housetop, jump down and run, don't even go back inside to get your coat!
- Due to the need for sudden escape, it would be terrible to need to do so while pregnant, carrying a newborn, or to have to run through several feet of snow over long distances.

Matt 24:21-22

21 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. **22** And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.

- Jesus said that, beginning with the abomination of desolation, there would come a greater level of persecution (tribulation) than has been seen since the world began, hence the term “the great tribulation”.
- “Those days” being shortened could be understood in several ways:
 - It could mean each 24 hour day has less daylight, allowing the saints better to hide from the persecution being perpetrated the Beast Kingdom.
 - See Revelation 8:12
 - It could mean that that time period (the tribulation) is cut short, being made shorter than the time the man of sin plans to spend exterminating saints.

Matt 24:23-28

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

- Jesus hits again on this point, many false christs and false prophets will rise up, so if someone, even a “prophet”, tells you that Christ is in some location where you can catch a flight on an airplane to join Him, don’t believe it!
- The deception will be tremendous as we approach the conclusion, many great signs and wonders will be done. The kingdom of darkness does have supernatural power too, don’t follow the signs, let signs follow you!

- This is something Jesus wants us to be well aware of. He said “**See, I have told you beforehand.**”, because He wants us to be keenly aware to the very real spirit of deception that will overtake many!

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. **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.

- There is great reason to suspect that “He is in the desert” would be exactly what is claimed of the Christ. Saudi Arabia to be exact. This is where Muslim end time teachings say that Jesus will spend much of his time after exterminating the unbelievers.
- The other term, “He is in the inner room”, is literally “secret chambers”, or in other words it is saying that Jesus comes secretly. Don’t believe it. When Jesus arrives it is as the lighting flashing from east to west, all will see it.

Matthew 24:29-31

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. **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.

- **Immediately AFTER THE TRIBULATION of those days (the great tribulation):**
 - The sun is darkened – Revelation 6:12 / Revelation 16:10 / Isaiah 13:6-13
 - Powers of the heaven are shaken – Revelation 6:13
 - Sign of the Son of Man appears in the heaven – Numbers 24:17(?)
 - They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven – Zechariah 12:10
 - He will send His angels with the sound of a great trumpet to gather His ELECT
 - 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 / Romans 11:7 & Colossians 3:11-13 (elect=saints)†††