

Nevertheless we,
according to his
promise, look for
new heavens &
a new earth,
wherein
dwelleth
righteousness.



Wake Union Baptist Church

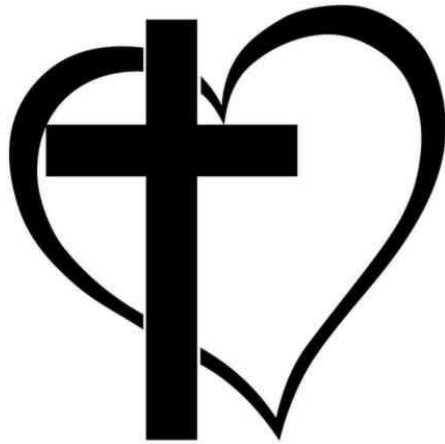
“Where the good news of Jesus Christ
is proclaimed in truth and love”

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The Lord's Day

June 13, 2021

Call to Worship	<i>Midnight Cry</i>	
Invocation		
<u>Welcome & Announcements</u>		
Scripture Reading	<u>Matthew 24</u> , selection	
Hymn	<i>Send the Light Medley</i>	
<u>Morning Prayer</u>		
<u>Offertory Prayer</u>		
Doxology	<i>Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow</i>	253
Hymn	<i>One Day</i>	193
Sermon	THE MIDNIGHT CRY! Matthew 25:1-13	Pastor Joel
Invitation	<i>The Lily of the Valley</i>	189



Life Questions

Is God King , or is He dead?

What does Jesus expect of citizens of His kingdom?

What does Jesus as King relate to Judaism as God's revealed religion?

God's Answers

God led a former Roman tax collector (Matthew) to record the teachings of Jesus. Matthew thus wrote a Gospel to the Jews showing how Jesus was the promised Messiah and King, fulfilling God's promises to the Jews and extending God's salvation to the nations.

Matthew shows: Jesus' birth fulfilled Jewish prophecy (1-2); obedient to the Father, Jesus invites people to kingdom service (3-4); Jesus taught God's way to live (5-7); Jesus' power and call reveal His authority (8-10); Jesus' call for faith, mercy, repentance, and obedience led to controversy (11-12); Jesus' kingdom teachings involve new and old understandings (ch. 13); knowingly facing rejection and death, Jesus calls for compassion, personal sacrifice, faith, and confession of Him as Messiah (14-17); Jesus described kingdom life as radical, childlike faith, forgiveness, and obedience (18-20); unbelieving authorities unable to interpret Scripture reject Jesus (21:1-23:36); Jesus reveals the future judgment (23:37-25:46); obeying God and Scripture, Jesus prepared to die (ch. 26); Jesus conquered death and sent His disciples on mission (26-28).

Matthew invites you to join Jesus, the Jewish Messiah, in kingdom living and in kingdom mission.

KJV Master Study Bible Notes

The Bible teaches a kind of “already” and “not yet” view of the Kingdom of God. Already, It is with us--or in us (because Jesus reigns in our heart

and through us into the world). But we are also waiting for the “not yet” fulfillment to be established in all the promises of the New World when God will again live and reign among His people (those who believe, have faith in Jesus Christ).

The already/not-yet view actually encompasses a number of views of eschatology. The common denominator of these views—already/not-yet—says that the kingdom of God and the signs of the times actually began with the first coming of Jesus (the “already” aspect) but that they were not completely fulfilled then (the “not-yet” aspect). The latter will only happen at the Second Coming of Christ. One way to demonstrate this view would be to see how the already/not-yet eschatological tension characterizes the Olivet Discourse as it occurs in Matthew 24:7.

The Already: The Fall of Jerusalem Matthew 24:4–20	The Not-Yet: The Return Matthew 24:21–31
A. Tribulation (Matthew 24:8)	A. Tribulation (Matthew 24:21, 29)
B. Messianic pretenders (Matthew 24:4–5)	B. Messianic pretenders (Matthew 24:23–26)
C. Wars (Matthew 24:6–7)	C. Wars (Matthew 24:22)
D. Persecution (Matthew 24:9–10)	D. Persecution (Matthew 24:22)
E. Apostasy (Matthew 24:11–13)	E. Apostasy (Matthew 24:24)
F. Fall of Jerusalem (Matthew 24:15–20)	F. Return (Matthew 24:30–31)

The upshot of this view is that Jesus and His followers entered into both the kingdom of God and the “signs of the times/great tribulation/messianic woes” (all the same) during the first coming of Christ. The conclusion of the not-yet aspect awaits the Second Coming of Christ. In other words, the church will not be raptured before the arrival of the eschatological tribulation but, rather, the church will have to endure it by being faithful followers of Jesus Christ, as the true churches have been doing for some two thousand years.

On this reading of Revelation 1:1–3, “soon” and “near” mean “imminent” (not “immediate”; contrary to the preterist and futurist rapture views). The signs of the times and the kingdom of God arrived with Jesus and continued with the first believers. We await the second coming. “Imminent” means anytime, not “immediate.”

Marvin Pate, Interpreting Revelation and Other Apocalyptic Literature

We are blessed to have and know so much about the return of the Lord. Knowing that He is coming back is an invitation, first for us that we would believe and trust Him to be our Savior. Then, to share that good news with others so they can also know the Lord Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord.

Jesus Loves you!

The Return of Jesus

1. When will Jesus come back?
2. Why didn't Jesus tell us more about His return?
3. How can I know if I'm ready for Jesus to come back?

Answer the Questions above, by looking at the Scriptures below:

- Matthew 25:13
- Mark 13:33
- Luke 12:37
- 1 Thessalonians 5:5-6
- Revelation 3:11
- Revelation 16:15

After you're finished, read the text at the bottom of the page.

Scripture tells us a lot about the return, but not when it will happen. Don't assume you can wait forever to get ready. Get ready now by accepting Jesus as your Savior and sharing the good news that He is King and Savior with others!

Sermon Points on Matthew 24

- 1) Faithful or Foolish (1-5)
- 2) Faithful or False (6-9)
- 3) Faithful or Flouting (10-13)

Questions and Concepts

Parables of the Lord's return (25:1-30)

1. In your own words, retell the story Jesus developed in 25:1-13. What is the main point?

Optional Application: How often do you meditate on the truth that none of us knows when the Lord will return? How do you obey the Lord's command to "keep watch"? What are some practical steps you can take to keep watch?

Bag of gold (25:15). First used to signify a unit of weight (about seventy-five pounds), then for a unit of coinage.

2. Read through yet another parable about the Lord's return in Matthew 25:14-30. Do you identify with anyone in the story? If so, with whom? Why?

3. a. What is the main point of the parable in 25:14-30?

- b. Why do you think that this story also ends with a warning?

Optional Application: Think about the gifts and talents God has given to you. What are those talents, and how are you using them for Christ's kingdom?