

Bible Study April 8, 2026

Matthew 24: 1-2 Jesus Foretells Destruction of the Temple

Jesus left the Temple and was heading out of the city towards Bethany. As one heads out of the city up to the Mt of Olives, you can see a magnificent view of the Temple and all of Jerusalem. Jesus foretells of the destruction of the Temple which happens in AD 70. The entire Temple area was flattened and only the Wailing Wall and the Muslim constructed Dome of the Rock is there today. This Islamic shrine located on the Temple Mount was constructed between 688 and 691 AD. The Muslims once prayed towards this mosque but now pray towards Mecca.

Many Jews this site is the location of the place from which the creation of the world began. Also, the site where Abraham prepared to sacrifice his son Isaac. Some Jews believe the Dome of the Rock should be moved and the third temple be built. Some Christians believe the rebuilding of the temple will bring the second coming of Christ.

Mt. 24: 3-14 Signs of the Close of the Age The disciples ask Jesus when this event will take place and what will be the sign of His coming? Many interpret this as His Second Coming. Christians are called to be aware and discerning as to events and those who claim to be a messiah. There will be all types of weather and seismic events, famines and war. There has been and will be suffering in the life of the Christian, false prophets, and ongoing persecution before the Messiah returns. Almost every generation has seen such events. Many believe that once the Gospel has been proclaimed to all the world Christ will return.

Mt. 24: 15-28 The Abomination of Desolation the prophet Daniel prophesied in Daniel 9:27 there would be an abomination of desolation. Some believed this happened during the days of the Maccabees when the Seleucid king, Antiochus IV Epiphanes ordered that an altar to the Greek god Zeus be placed in the temple (167 BC) and that swine be sacrificed, the sabbath abolished, and circumcision cease. Jesus indicates that people will flee Jerusalem when the temple is destroyed and the picture of the antichrist will be posted. There will be no time to

pack up belongings or to get away. Pray it is not in winter or on the sabbath. False messiahs will emerge and lead people astray. People will see the vultures and judgement take place.

Mt. 24: 29-31 The Coming of the Son of Man The heavens will be transformed, and a new heaven and a new earth will appear. There will be no doubt it is Jesus, as He will arrive on the clouds of heaven with power and glory. The elect will be gathered by the angels of God, “caught up in the air”, and meet the redeemed who are in heaven. (I Thess 4:14; Rev. 19:11-16)