

Pentecostal Assembly Church
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Matthew 24 is an important conversation between Jesus and His disciples as He leaves the temple. Parallel texts are *Mark 13* and *Luke 21*.

The conversation addresses the three questions asked of Jesus in *Matthew 24:3...*

1. When will these things (temple destroyed) come to pass?
2. What sign will be of your second coming?
3. What sign will we know of the end of the world?

While not every detail is given to us in these three parallel passages, they are a fundamental beginning of our understanding of the Second Coming of Christ.

Let no man deceive you of His return.

The best interpretation of Scripture is additional Scripture.

The Rapture Detailed

1 Thessalonians 4:14-17

14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

*17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be **caught up together** with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.*

- The coming of the Lord to gather His saints
- The Lord will descend Himself with a shout
- Dead in Christ shall rise first
- Living saints caught up together
- **From this moment on the saints will forever be with the Lord**

1 Corinthians 15:51-53

51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

- The trumpet shall sound
- The timing of our changing will be in the twinkling of an eye
- Our corruptible bodies will be made incorruptible

Specific Detail concerning Jesus Return

- John 14 tells us Jesus is preparing a place for us to receive us unto Himself.

John 14:3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

- Titus declares the second coming as a blessed hope to the believer.

*Titus 2:13 **Looking for that blessed hope**, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;*

- 2 Thessalonians clarifies the second coming as...

2 Thessalonians 1:6-7

*6 Seeing it is a **righteous thing** with God to **recompense tribulation** to them that trouble you;*

*7 And to **you who are troubled rest with us**, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,*

- Righteousness Fulfilled
 - Recompensing Godly tribulation against evil tribulation
 - Rest for the troubled saint
- 2 Thessalonians corroborates detail concerning the Second Coming recorded in Matthew 24, “when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels” (2 Thessalonians 1:7).
 - 2 Thessalonians describes the judgement of the Second Coming.

2 Thessalonians 1:8-10

The Judgement Seat of Christ

- The saints/children of God must all appear to be judged according to our works.

II Corinthians 5:9 Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him.

II Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

- Paul writes of the Judgement Seat of Christ in dealing with differences of unrevealed conviction among the saints.

Romans 14:5 *One man esteemeth one day above another: another esteemeth every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind.*

The expression means that one would set a higher value on one day than on another or would regard it as more sacred than others. This was the case with the “Jews” uniformly, who regarded the days of their festivals, and fasts, and Sabbaths as especially sacred, and who would retain, to no inconsiderable degree, their former views, even after they became converted to Christianity. *Albert Barnes*

- Everything we do is unto the Lord. **Romans 14:6-9**
- Let God be the judge of the works of your brothers and sisters in the Lord at the judgement seat of Christ.

Romans 14:10 *But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.*

Romans 14:12 *So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.*

- Every saint's work will receive its reward

I Corinthians 3:13 *Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.*

I Corinthians 3:14 *If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.*

The Reward of a Crown

- The Crown of Righteousness

II Timothy 4:7 *I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:*

II Timothy 4:8 *Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.*

- The Crown of Life

James 1:12 *Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.*

- An Incorruptible Crown
***I Corinthians 9:24** Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.*
I Corinthians 9:25** And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we **an incorruptible.
- A Crown of Glory
***I Peter 5:4** And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.*

The Great White Throne Judgement

***Revelation 20:11** And I saw **a great white throne**, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.*

***Revelation 20:12** And I saw the dead, **small and great**, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.*

***Revelation 20:13** And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell **delivered up the dead** which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.*

Revelation 20:14** And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. **This is the second death.

***Revelation 20:15** And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.*

- The dead, small and great. “All ranks, degrees, and conditions of men” Adam Clarke
- The sea, death and hell delivered up their dead.
- All were judged according to their works.
- The Second death is the eternal damnation in the lake of fire.
- Whoever was not found written in the book of life.

Philippians 4:3** And I intreat thee also, true yokefellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and with other my fellowlabourers, **whose names are in the book of life.

Paul is certain that these names were written in the Book of Life. We also can live with that certainty.

Looking for the Return of Jesus

- Paul writes in Romans of the expectation of the creature. **Romans 8:18-23**
- Paul writes a testimony in II Timothy as he deals with the time of his departure to be with the Lord.

II Timothy 4:6-7

6 For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.

7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:

- Paul then tells us of a great promise. “Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day:” (**II Timothy 4:8**). This great promise is also awaiting a people who will be living at the end. He gives clarity to their expectation. “And not to me only, but unto **all them also that love his appearing**” (**II Timothy 4:8**).
- Everything we gather from the book of Revelations points to the prophetic events surrounding the second coming of Christ and the events thereafter.
- When John reaches the end of these visions and specifically the testimony given to him, John records the word of the Lord, “He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly” (**Revelation 22:20**).
- If we allow our imagination to help us, we can hear John reply with a longing heart, “Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus” (**Revelation 22:20**).