



COMING SOON

A guide through the last days as
recorded in Matthew 24 and 25

Steve Magill

COMING SOON

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Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version unless otherwise noted. Author replaced some old English words to modern English, such as thee, thou, didst, etc.

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“ Verily I say unto you,
This generation shall not pass,
till all these things be fulfilled.”

Matthew 24:34

Dedicated to my sister, Brenda,
who encouraged me to write
a shorter book on the last days

Contents

<i>Introduction</i>	7
Chapter One	
Toward the Coming King	9
Chapter Two	
Be Alert! The King is Coming	25
Chapter Three	
Considerations	29
<i>Resources</i>	33
<i>Study Guide</i>	35

COMING SOON

INTRODUCTION

Introduction

THIS LITTLE BOOK CAME about at the request of my sister. She started to read one of my longer books and then gave up and proceeded to encourage me with, “You need to write a shorter book so I can understand it.” She smiled. I smiled. A few days later Jesus’ teaching on the last days in Matthew 24 came to mind. As I reread it, I realized that Jesus was giving new light on prophecy—and in only 28 short verses (Mat. 24:4-31). In 28 verses Jesus outlined the beginning of the last days to the end of the last days, ending with Christ’s coming, the gathering of His people, and the end of the world. After this outline, He ended Matthew 24 and continued with Matthew 25 encouraging His hearers to be alert to His coming.

The amazing thing about Jesus’ last day’s teaching is that He didn’t go into a lot of detail and it was not hard for anyone—the educated and uneducated, the poor and rich, the young and old—to understand. He pointed to

COMING SOON

events that were already part of everyday life (wars, rumors of wars, diseases, earthquakes, famines). He told His hearers that these events would increase in frequency, intensity, and quantity until the world reaches the perilous times of the great tribulation. What He taught didn't require higher education or special insight to understand—only the power of observation to distinguish between a few and many.

Jesus' Matthew 24 teaching outlines the main events of the last days and the ordering of these events allowing us to understand where we are on the prophetic timeline without having to know all the details found in the books of Daniel and Revelation. This basic outline also agrees with the ordering of events recorded in the books of Daniel and Revelation.¹

Understanding the last days and how close we are to Christ's coming, the gathering of His people, and the world's end was never meant to be complicated or a mystery. Jesus taught so that everyone—young and old, highly educated and the illiterate—would know how close we are to His coming. All that is necessary is to observe how the events He spoke of were becoming more intense, more frequent, and more in number.

¹ A comparison chart comparing Daniel, Matthew 24, and the book of Revelation is in my book, *"The Age of the Antichrist, ARE WE THERE YET?"* page 95.

CHAPTER ONE

Toward the Coming King

Matthew 24

JESUS WAS WALKING OUT of the temple with four of His disciples, Peter, James, John, and Andrew, when one of the disciples commented on how great and beautiful the temple was.²

Imagine the disciples surprise when Jesus responded by telling them the day was coming when the temple would be completely destroyed so that not one stone of the temple would be left in its place.³ After all, they believed He was the coming Messiah foretold by the prophets. He would be the one to sit on David's throne and establish God's Kingdom on earth. Now He tells them the temple would be destroyed, the very temple they thought would play a vital role in establishing God's kingdom. At this point they did not know that Jesus needed to come first as

² Mt 24:1; Mk 13:1; Lk 21:5

³ Mt 24:2; Mk 13:2; Lk 21:6

COMING SOON

the suffering Messiah who must be rejected, die on the cross for their sins, rise from the dead, ascend into heaven, and then return as their eternal King to establish God's kingdom.

As they continued walking, the disciples thought about what Jesus had said. When they came to the Mount of Olives, Jesus sat down and His disciples asked Him three questions:⁴

1. When will these things take place?
2. What will be the sign of His coming?
3. What will be the sign of the end of the world?

The questions were the result of Jesus saying that the temple would be completely destroyed; this prophecy was fulfilled in 70 AD by the Romans. Not all of what Jesus taught was fulfilled at this time. The fulfillment of this prophecy, in the generation of those hearing His teaching, witnessed to the truth and surety of the prophecies that would be fulfilled later.

QUESTION 1

When will these things take place?

Matthew 24:3-14

With this first question, Jesus outlines the events leading to His coming as King by giving an overview and ordering

⁴ Mt 24:3; Mk 13:3,4; Lk 21:7

of the entire last days prior to His coming. His answer is organized into two categories of events.

The First Category of Events identifies events that “must come to pass” before Jesus returns as King.⁵ These events take place from the time of Jesus and are considered everyday events. They do not tell us the end is coming soon, only that the beginning to the end has started.⁶ These events are:

1. False Christ’s / Deception
2. Wars
3. Rumors of wars

No one can deny that these events have always been with us throughout history and continues in our present day.

The Second Category of Events identifies the events called “the beginning of sorrows.”⁷ They are called the “beginning” because they increase until they bring us into the fully developed sorrows of the great tribulation.⁸ Recent Bible translations call this the “beginning of birth pains.”⁹ This creates the image of a woman whose pregnancy pain and discomfort increases in intensity, frequency, and quantity until there is great pain and the

⁵ Mt 24:4-6; Mk 13:5-7; Lk 21:8,9

⁶ Mt 24:6; Mk 13:7; Lk 21:9

⁷ Mt 24:8; Mk 13:8; Lk 21:10,11

⁸ Mt 24:7-14; Mk 13:8-13; Lk 21:10-19

⁹ “All these are the beginning of birth pains.” (Mt 24:8 NIV)

child is born. In the same way, the “beginning of sorrows” events increase. These events are:

Nation Against Nation.¹⁰ There will be more nations and more ethnic groups fighting each other than at any other time in history. In an article by the *Independent*,¹¹ of the 162 countries watched by the *Institute for Economics and Peace*, only 11 were not in conflict of one kind or another. The article went on to make this unsettling statement:

“Worse still, the world as a whole has been getting incrementally less peaceful every year since 2007....”

Overall, the world has been getting incrementally less peaceful since the last days were ushered in.

Concerning the increase in nations, at the beginning of the 1900’s there were only about 50 nations in the entire world. Today there are over 200 nations.¹² The continual conflicts of the nations and people groups exploded in the

¹⁰ Mt 24:7; Nations here is distinguished from kingdom in that the Greek for nation, “*ethnos*,” refers to people groups, ethnic groups, and nations versus empires.

¹¹ Adam Withnall, *World Peace? These are the only 11 Countries in the world that are actually free from conflict* (Independent: 2014), www.independent.co.uk.

¹² Political Geography Now, *How Many Countries Are There in the World in 2018?* (Political Geography Now: 2018) www.polgeonow.com. Matt Rosenberg, *Independence or Birthday for Every Country* (ThoughtCo.com: 2017), www.thoughtco.com.

twentieth century so that today there are daily conflicts among nations somewhere.

Kingdom Against Kingdom.¹³ Kingdom refers to a large territory ruled by a king or president. A kingdom is the same as an empire, such as the United States, Great Britain, and Russia, which rule over large portions of land, not always on the same continent.

Never in the history of the world have we had empires warring against each other on a global scale involving the majority of nations aligning with one side or the other, not until WWI. Then we had WWII, and now we have most of the world in conflict with Islam.¹⁴

Famines, Diseases, Earthquakes.¹⁵ We have more of these happening at the same time and everyday than at any other time in history.

Concerning famines, more than 795 million people experience famine.¹⁶ In the year 1750 there were only 700 million people in the entire world.¹⁷ Famine's today total

¹³ Mt 24:7

¹⁴ According to the *Global Terrorism Index 2017* published by *Vision of Humanity*, out of the 163 countries it tracks, only 41 are not impacted by Islamic terrorism (visionofhumanity.org).

¹⁵ Mt 24:7

¹⁶ Food Aid Foundation, *Hunger Statistics* (Food Aid Foundation), www.foodaidfoundation.org.

¹⁷ Matt Rosenbergn, *Current World Population* (ThoughtCo.com: 2017), www.thoughtco.com.

COMING SOON

the world's population of the 1800s. They have certainly increased exponentially in the twentieth century.

Concerning diseases, over 95% of the world's populations have health problems, with over a third having more than five ailments.¹⁸ In 2013, only one in twenty people had no health problems. Even though we do live longer than ever before, we now suffer with disease to a degree never seen in the past, even affecting our children with chronic illnesses, which has quadrupled in the past 50 years.¹⁹ Without question, a global disease epidemic permeates the world, dominates our current times, and is guaranteed to grow worse.

Concerning earthquakes, it is estimated that there are 500,000 detectable earthquakes in the world each year. Every day earthquakes are happening somewhere. 100,000 of these can be felt, and 100 of them cause damage.²⁰ The quantity of these earthquakes, combined with the other "beginning of sorrows" events, certainly qualifies our current age as the last generation prior to the coming of Christ.

¹⁸ Science Daily, (*Over 95% of the world's population has health problems*); June 18, 2015. ScienceDaily.com

¹⁹ Charles Q. Choi, *Why Are Humans Always So Sick.* (Live Science: 2009), livescience.com.

²⁰ *Earthquake Facts*, earthquake.usgs.gov

EARTH'S FINAL EVENTS

After these beginning of sorrow events, the transitioning word “then” is used in verse 9 to reveal the final events that would take place.

The Great Tribulation.²¹ The beginning of sorrow events will develop into the great sorrows of the great tribulation.

Our present growing persecution will eventually reach its highest point when the “abomination of desolation” is in the temple. This abomination is the Antichrist. He unleashes the great tribulation upon the world. This is the time that every Jew, Christian, and anyone opposed to him will be persecuted.²²

Our present global persecution is spreading throughout all nations. Presently there are over 215 million Christians experiencing high levels of persecution. This represents 1 in 12 Christians throughout the world.²³

This persecution will be so great that we will go through many troubles, be killed, hated, and betrayed even by family, parents, children, fellow Christians, and friends.²⁴

²¹ Mt 24:9-13

²² Mt 24:15-22

²³ Open Doors, *World Watch List 2018*. (OpenDoorsusa.org: 2018), p-4

²⁴ Lk 21:12-19

COMING SOON

Because of the troubles, many Christians will be offended, and their love for others will grow cold.²⁵

The encouragement during these times is to endure—hold on just a little while longer. Here’s how Matthew 24:13 puts it:

“But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.”

During this time many will say that Christ has returned and is on the earth, but it will not be Jesus. There will be many false Christ’s and false prophets²⁶ who will deceive many of you by showing great signs and miracles, so that if it were possible even God’s strongest people would be deceived.²⁷ The Apostle Paul’s warning in 1 Corinthians 10:12 needs to be taken to heart as a way to guard against our being deceived:

“Wherefore let him that thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.”

When Jesus returns as king it will be a spectacular event. He will come in such splendor and swiftness that it will be similar to lightning that comes out of the east and shines toward the west. There will be no

²⁵ Mt 24:12

²⁶ Prophets are those who speak on God’s behalf. False prophets are those who say they speak for God, but do not, speaking for their own benefit. Today it is becoming more difficult to distinguish the false prophet from the true spokesman for God.

²⁷ Mt 24:23-25

need to wonder if that person in Texas or India or Israel or down the street is Christ—all will know Him.

The Gospel Will Be Preached In All the World for a witness to all nations; after this, the end will come.²⁸

God's mercy is shown to all before Christ returns. His mercy is shown through the preaching of the Gospel, giving everyone the opportunity to prepare. Just as Noah preached for 120 years²⁹ to give the people of his day the opportunity to prepare before the flood came, so is the door open today to warn others about the judgment that is coming. The sadness is that in Noah's day the majority rejected the warnings...so will the warnings be rejected in our generation.

That this event has been fulfilled in the twentieth century is reflected in one man, Billy Graham, who brought the gospel to 185 different countries. Not until the twentieth century has this ever happened or was it even possible. God used one man as a sign to his generation that the gospel has been preached throughout the entire world.

In Question 2 and 3 below we are given the timing of Christ's return, the rapture, and the end of the world.

²⁸ Mt 24:14

²⁹ 2Pe 2:5; Gn 6:3

QUESTION 2

What will be the sign of your coming?

Matthew 24:3, 29, 30

This is an interesting question in that Jesus was sitting in front of them and they were asking when He was coming. The disciples were referring to His coming as the King who would sit on David's throne and establish God's kingdom on earth.

Jesus tells them that immediately after the great tribulation,³⁰ the sun will be darkened, the moon shall not give her light, and the stars will fall from heaven—all of the heavens will be shaken. These events take place immediately prior to the appearing of the sign of Christ, and Christ's appearing in the clouds with great power and great glory.

When Jesus returns, it is not a happy occasion for those left on earth who do not belong to Christ. They will mourn knowing that the coming of Christ is also the coming of eternal judgment.³¹ For those who belong to Christ, it is a day of great celebration, because our redemption has come.³²

³⁰ Mt 24:29,30; Mk 13:24-26; Lk 21:25,26

³¹ Mt 24:30

³² Lk 21:28

QUESTION 3

What will be the sign of the end of the world?

Matthew 24:3, 31

In answer to this third question, Jesus tells how, after He returns, a trumpet will blow loudly to send His angels to gather all His people from out of the earth.³³ This is the rapture. It is after the rapture that the end to the world will then take place.

BE WATCHFUL, BE ALERT

After teaching on the events that tell us how close we are to the coming of Christ, Jesus then used an object everyone was familiar with—the fig tree, to let us know when we can know we are the generation that will see Christ’s coming.³⁴ With this illustration, anyone—young and old, the highly educated and illiterate—is able to observe when the leaves appear on the fig tree or any tree. The leaves let us know that summer will soon be here.

So it is with the events Jesus spoke of. When the last day events (leaves) all converge at the same time in the same generation, then we know that Christ will soon be here. The generation in which these events converge will be the generation that also will see their fulfillment: the coming of Jesus, the gathering of God’s people, and the end of the

³³ Mt 24:31; Mk 13:27

³⁴ Mt 24:32-36; Lk 21:29-33

COMING SOON

world. It is without question that we are the “this generation” of Matthew 24:34—the last generation this earth will see.

In the next passage of Scripture encouraging us to be watchful, Jesus compares the final generation with the final generation of Noah’s day.³⁵ He encourages us to be alert and not like the people during Noah’s time.

Noah and the events of the flood would have been well known historical events that all Jesus’ hearers could relate to. While Noah built his ark and preached, the people around him carried on with their daily lives—eating, drinking, marrying—but were not concerned with the warnings of Noah until it was too late and the “flood came, and took them all away.”³⁶

The day of Christ’s coming is not going to look any different than any other day. Life will continue on with the people focused on their daily lives—eating, drinking, marrying. These daily pleasures and cares can be a distraction to move us away from being alert to Christ’s

³⁵ Mt 24:37-42

³⁶ Gn 6, 7; 2Pe 2:5

coming.³⁷ All of life should revolve around Christ, not the pleasures and cares of life.³⁸

In the next passage of Scripture Jesus teaches a parable about the faithful and wise servants.³⁹

In this life, each of us is entrusted by God to take care of His people in His absence. It is our responsibility to treat them well and live a righteous life before them. When we take our focus off Christ, and stop looking for His soon coming, our focus turns to the ways of the world and we stop caring for those of God's household.

Those who are not faithful in this responsibility will not enter God's kingdom, will be separated from God, and punished in a place where there will be "weeping and gnashing of teeth."⁴⁰

The encouragement here is to keep alert by being faithful and wise in the care of God's household. Faithfulness in this is of the utmost importance since Christ will come on a day and in an hour we are not expecting.

³⁷ The parable of the sower warns how the cares of life and the deceitfulness of riches choke out God's word. (Mt. 13:7, 22)

³⁸ Matthew 6:25-34 is a great illustration how even the lack of the necessities of life should not be of great worry to us.

³⁹ Mt 24:43-51; Mk 13:33-37

⁴⁰ Mt 24:50, 51. Due to using the phrase "weeping and gnashing of teeth" this place is thought to be hell See also Matthew 13:42, 50.

COUNTING DOWN

All of the last day events taught by Jesus have increased exponentially in the twentieth century. During this time we have seen that large parts of this prophesy has been fulfilled and parts are now being fulfilled; this tells us that we are rapidly moving toward the convergence of the final last day events, the coming of Christ, and the end of the world.

When we chart Jesus' last day's teaching in a *countdown* format, it helps us to visualize how close we are to the arrival of Jesus, the gathering of His people, and the end of the world.

EVERY DAY EVENTS 24:4-6

10,9,8

deception, wars, rumors of wars

BEGINNING OF SORROWS 24:7-8

7,6

nation against nation, kingdom against kingdom

5

famines

4

diseases

3

earthquakes

FINAL EVENTS 24:9-14

2

The Great Tribulation 24:9-13

1

The Gospel in All the World 24:14

0

World Ends

*Timing of the Great Tribulation
24:15-28*

*Timing of Christ's Return
24:29-30*

*Timing of the Rapture
24:31*

According to Christ's teaching, we are currently living at the end of the beginning of sorrows with the gospel being preached in all the world. The next event to take place is the arrival of the Antichrist and his great tribulation.

For insight on the Antichrist and earth's last seven years, check out my book *Revelation and the Age of the Antichrist*.

For insight on the timelines leading to the Age of the Antichrist, check out my book, *The Age of the Antichrist, ARE WE THERE YET?*

COMING SOON

CHAPTER TWO

Be Alert!

The King Is Coming

Matthew 25

HERE IN MATTHEW 25 Jesus continues to teach the importance of being on the alert for His coming as king.

Parable of the Ten Virgins⁴¹

This parable informs us that if we are not alert and watchful for Christ's coming, the fire of the Holy Spirit will go out. Here the virgins represent all who claim to be Christian and teaches that though a person may set themselves apart for Christ, keep themselves pure for Him, even hearing the announcement that the King is arriving, does not mean they are Christian.

⁴¹ Mt 25:1-13

COMING SOON

The difference between the wise and foolish virgins is that the wise took oil (the Holy Spirit)⁴² in their vessels (body)⁴³ to resupply their lamps (spirit).⁴⁴ The foolish did not have the Holy Spirit within their bodies. They were given the Holy Spirit, but did not have a continual filling of the Spirit. The foolish had the image of being Christian without the power of the Holy Spirit to be Christian.

To be prepared for Christ's return, there must be the experience of the Holy Spirit bearing the fruit of good works within our body, mind, and spirit. The foolish relied on their works without the Holy Spirit. Without the Holy Spirit, it is impossible to be Christian—even if our works, going to church, and reading the Bible give the appearance that we are.⁴⁵

The encouragement here is to be alert by not letting the fire of the Spirit go out—keep it burning, burning, always burning.

Parable of the Talents⁴⁶

This parable informs us that if we are not letting the Holy Spirit increase within us, the Holy Spirit is not alive within us.

⁴² Lk 4:18; Acts 10:38; Is 61:1

⁴³ Ac 9:15; 2Co 4:7; 1Th 4:4; 2Ti 2:21

⁴⁴ Pr 20:27

⁴⁵ Rm 8:9

⁴⁶ Mt 25:14-30

This parable tells of a man taking a long journey into a far country (Jesus who entered heaven). Before he goes, he gives each of his servants (believers) a certain amount of money (gifts of the Holy Spirit) to use to make more money (increase the gifts). He gives each an amount according to their ability to increase their gifts.

When the man returns (Jesus), he will ask each of his servants to give an account of how they used their gifts (allowed the Holy Spirit to increase). The servants who did not allow the Holy Spirit to increase had the Holy Spirit taken from them and given to those who did. The unprofitable servant is then cast into outer darkness to experience weeping and gnashing of teeth.⁴⁷

The encouragement here is to be alert to Christ's coming by using the spiritual gift(s)⁴⁸ given to you—don't keep the Holy Spirit hidden within you.

The Judgment to Come⁴⁹

This Scripture is not a parable or story, but a warning to be watchful and alert by living righteously until Christ returns.

When Jesus comes, He takes His seat on the throne of glory—God's throne—no longer sitting at the right hand

⁴⁷ Due to using the phrase "weeping and gnashing of teeth" outer darkness is thought to be hell. See also Matthew 13:42, 50.

⁴⁸ 1Co 12:8-10; Rm 12:6-8; 1Pe 4:11

⁴⁹ Mt 25:31-46

COMING SOON

of the throne of God.⁵⁰ Now sitting on the throne, Jesus returns not as our advocate, but as our judge, as our King. His requirement for bringing us into God's kingdom is righteousness.⁵¹ Righteousness is defined in this passage as simply to love one another: visit and help the sick; visit and encourage the prisoners; provide shelter to the stranger; extend your love without discretion to even the "least of these my brethren."⁵²

The encouragement here is that alertness to Christ's coming reveals itself in our love toward our brothers and sisters in Christ—don't let your love grow cold. The closer we are to Christ's coming, the more God's people will need your help.

⁵⁰ Mt 25:31-46

⁵¹ Mt 25:37

⁵² By using the word "brethren" Jesus distinguishes it from "neighbors." Here the emphasis is on helping those of the same family, referring to God's family. Neighbors refer to all people whether they are of the same family or not.

CHAPTER THREE

Considerations

THE EVENTS OF THE last days are now converging in our present time, confirming that we are the final generation. Many are disheartened and disturbed by what is taking place throughout the world with all the wars, diseases, earthquakes, change in morals, etc. Our hope through Christ is that a better world is coming for those who receive it through *believing* in the message Jesus taught, *accepting* this message, and *living in relationship* with God through His Holy Spirit living within us. This message is summarized in John 3:16:

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

My encouragement to my readers is to *learn* about Jesus, *understand* what He did for you, and *make* the decision to

COMING SOON

choose Christ and to *live* according to His teaching and Spirit.

What is written in Matthew 24 and 25 lets us know *what* is coming, *how* it is coming, and *where* our focus is to be during these times. These chapters encourage us to *be alert* for Christ's coming, *prepare to endure* hard times, and to *tell others* about why things are happening as they are and *help* them prepare.

Matthew 24 and 25 also indicates the only true solution to what is happening in our world is to *hold tight* to the hope of eternal life that is given to all when Jesus comes, *to endure* whatever we may face, and *to do all* within our ability to inform others of this blessed hope.

Many are realizing there is a dark cloud hovering over, not just America, but the entire world. There is the sense that the world as we know it is about to change in drastic ways—and not for the better. As the people with the truth, the responsibility to spread this truth and to help as many as we can to embrace this truth and hope given by Jesus is on our shoulders.

The time is short. We must be about the business of helping our family know Christ and the salvation He offers. So to our friends, co-workers, and any other person who moves in and out of our lives. The ultimate destiny of all really is eternal life or eternal hell.

The time is short. If you do not know God, I encourage you to *consider* carefully Jesus Christ, *believe* His message, and

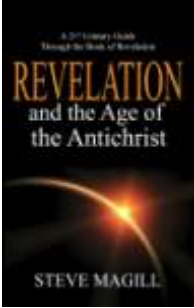
Considerations

live in harmony with Him. *Read* the four Gospels to learn more about Jesus. *Talk* with God to get to know Him one-on-one for yourself. *Live* your life without those thoughts, emotions, and behaviors that detour you from focusing on the things belonging to God and the coming of Christ.

As we continue to watch and pray, may God bless and keep us through all that we experience, now and in the future.

COMING SOON

Resources



Book: *Revelation and the Age of the Antichrist* is a brief commentary on the book of Revelation. The Revelation is the timeline of the age of the Antichrist and earth's final seven years.

Chart: CHART OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION is a companion to the book, *Revelation and the Age of the Antichrist*.



Book: *Age of the Antichrist: ARE WE THERE YET?* focuses on the timelines recorded in the books of Daniel, Matthew 24, and the book of Revelation to form a comprehensive timeline of the last days.

Chart: THE CHART OF THE PROPHETIC TIMELINE is a companion to the book *The Age of the Antichrist, ARE WE THERE YET?*



Book: COMING SOON. Understanding the last days does not have to be complicated. Jesus made this clear when in Matthew 24 He outlined the events and ordering of last day events in only 28 verses.

Study Guide available

COMING SOON



Book: *100% Guaranteed, You Have An Appointment With Destiny* is a forty-eight-page book that explores the evidence for God and eternity. It is an excellent follow up after sharing the Gospel and a practical handbook that puts the essential arguments for God at a person's fingertips.

Study Guide available

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Study Guide

COMING SOON

INTRODUCTION

1. Jesus gave the outline of the entire last days in how many verses?
2. What did Jesus outline in 28 verses?
3. What was so amazing about Jesus' teaching?
4. Why was Jesus' teaching easy for anyone to understand?
5. What is required to understand what Jesus taught?

COMING SOON

6. What two things do Jesus' last day's teaching outline?

CHAPTER ONE
TOWARD THE COMING KING

1. What three questions began Jesus' teaching on the last days?

2. What was the first question asked by the disciples?

3. What does the first category of events in this first question tell us?

4. What three events characterize this first question?

5. What does the second category of events tell us?

6. What does Jesus mean when He calls these events the “beginning” of sorrows?

7. What six events are characterize in this second category?

8. What is the second question asked by the disciples?

9. What two events take place during this second question?

10. After what event does Jesus return?

COMING SOON

11. What is the third question asked by the disciples?

12. What is the first thing Jesus does after He returns?

13. What is everyone able to observe about a fig tree or any tree?

14. How do the fig leaves encourage us to be watchful?

15. What warning this illustration give to us?

16. What is the second encouragement about?

17. How did the people in Noah's day respond to his preaching?

Study Guide

18. What will the world look like as we get closer to Christ's return?

19. What is the third encouragement about?

20. What does God entrust us to do?

21. What encouragement is given here?

22. What does organizing Jesus' teaching in chart form help us to do?

23. According to the "countdown" chart, where are we on the prophetic timeline?

COMING SOON

CHAPTER TWO
BE ALERT! JESUS IS COMING SOON

1. How is this fourth encouragement illustrated?
2. What is the main difference between the true and false Christian?
3. What must there be to be alert and prepared for Christ's coming?
4. What are we encouraged to do in this fourth encouragement?
5. What is the fifth encouragement about?

Study Guide

6. Describe what happens when Jesus returns.

7. What does Jesus expect to happen with the Holy Spirit He gives?

8. What happens if the Holy Spirit has not increased?

9. What is the encouragement here?

10. What is the sixth encouragement?

11. What happens when Jesus returns?

12. Jesus returns as our _____ and _____?

COMING SOON

13. What encouragement is given in this sixth encouragement?

CHAPTER THREE CONSIDERATIONS

1. The last day's events are doing what in our time?
2. What is our hope through Christ?
3. The message Jesus taught is summarized in what verse?
4. The author encourages his readers in four ways.
5. What three things do Matthew 24 and 25 let us know?

Study Guide

6. What four encouragements does the author give?
7. What is the only true solution to our troubled world?
8. What are many realizing?
9. What is our responsibility as people with the truth?
10. The time is short, what encouragements does the author give?

ANSWER KEY

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