

The Gospel of Matthew

"The Coming of the Son of Man"
Matthew 24:29-36



The Olivet Discourse

Overview

- Jesus warns that there will be a delay before the End – a delay characterized by tribulation
- The destruction of the temple will be a piece of this tribulation, but it is not yet the End
- The coming of the Son of Man will be unmistakable and unpredictable

“But immediately after the tribulation of those days
THE SUN WILL BE DARKENED, AND THE MOON WILL
NOT GIVE ITS LIGHT, AND THE STARS WILL FALL from
the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be
shaken,

and then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in
the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn,
and they will see THE SON OF MAN COMING ON THE
CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great glory.

And He will send forth His angels with a great
trumpet and they will gather together His elect from
the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.”

“Now learn the parable of the fig tree: when its
branch has already become tender, and puts forth its
leaves, you know that summer is near;

even so you too, when you see all these things,
recognize that He is near, right at the door.

Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away
until all these things take place.

Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words
shall not pass away.

But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the
angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone.”

Matthew 24:29-36

Coming of the Son of Man

1. His coming will be unmistakable

- He will come visibly in power and great glory
- His coming will bring world-wide mourning
- His coming will bring ultimate redemption and relief for His elect

For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first.

Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and thus we shall always be with the Lord.

(1 Thessalonians 4:16-17)

It is just for God to repay with affliction those who afflict you, and to give relief to you who are afflicted and to us as well when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire.

(2 Thessalonians 1:9-10)



Coming of the Son of Man

2. His coming is near

- all the things that must happen before His coming is considered near, happened within the lifetime of the generation then living
- the coming of Jesus is “imminent” – the next major step in God’s redemptive purposes



Coming of the Son of Man

3. His coming is unpredictable

- the timing of Jesus’ coming cannot be calculated and foreseen – it will be unexpected
- we are to be ever-ready for His coming, not sign-seeking or date-setting



Coming of the Son of Man

Why the “long” delay?

“the Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing any to perish but all to come to repentance”

(2 Peter 3:9)