

A Story About Watchfulness

Matthew 24:36-44

1) The Occasion of the Story

- a) The broad context – the book of _____ . (Matt. 23:37-39)
- b) The immediate context – the Olivet Discourse. The King is providing _____ to His people related to the time when He will again _____ to establish His _____ .
(Dan. 9:25-27; Matt. 24:29-35)

2) The Content of the Story

- a) *At the time of Christ's teaching*, only the _____ knew the day and the hour that Christ, the King, would _____. (Matt. 24:36-44; Mark 13:32; John 4:3-4, John 5:19; Heb. 4:15)
- b) The _____ of the Son of Man at His glorious coming at the end of the tribulation will be like the days of _____. (Matt. 24:36-39; 1 Thes. 4:16-17)
- i) There were _____ in the days of Noah. (Gen. 6:1-3, 13; 7:2-4; 2 Peter 2:5)
- ii) The signs and timeline of the _____ of Christ parallel the signs and timeline of the _____ coming of Christ.
- iii) Though a seven-year timeline was provided, and signs were promised, the _____, the signing of the covenant, was (at the time of Christ) and still is _____.
- iv) The _____ demands that the parable of Noah refer to the _____ of Christ in glory at the _____ of the tribulation. (Gen. 6:4-6; 11-13)
- c) The _____ of _____ will be distracted by the mundane things of life and will not be _____ for the revelation of Christ. (Matt. 24:38-41)

d) Those who are ready and those who are not ready will live and work _____, being indistinguishable, but those not ready will be taken in _____.

(Luke 21:34-36; Eph. 2:8-9)

e) The tribulation Jew must be _____ so as not to _____ the coming of the Son of Man. (Matt. 24:23-28, 43-44)

3) The Interpretation of the Story

a) What this story does not teach -

i) This story does not teach that your salvation is dependent on your _____ at _____ for Christ's return. (1 Cor. 3:13-15; John 10:27-30)

ii) This story does not teach that a _____ believer who fails to watch for the return of Christ will _____ the rapture. (1 Cor. 15:51-52; 1 Thes. 5:5-10)

b) What this story does teach - This story teaches that in the days before Christ's return, the world will not be _____ and will be suddenly judged. The tribulation Jew must be watchful lest they miss the return of their _____.

4) The Application of the Story (2 Peter 3:10-18)

a) We should be motivated to _____ . (2 Peter 3:14)

b) We should understand God's patience is meant for salvation, and we should be careful to _____ the Word when it comes to prophecy. (2 Peter 3:15-16)

c) We should be _____ and not be led away by the error of the wicked who in context (of 2 Peter 3:17) scoff at the return of the Lord, saying, "Where is His _____?" (2 Peter 3:17)

d) We should _____ in Christ and _____ in His Word, so that we can grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. (2 Peter 3:18)

Rapture	Revelation
Christ Comes for His Bride 1 Thes. 4:16-17	Christ Comes with the Bride Rev. 19:14; 1 Thes. 3:13; Jude 15
Christ Comes in the Air 1 Thes. 4:17	Christ Returns to the Earth Zech. 14:4-9
The Tribulation Follows 1 Thes. 1:10; Rev. 6-18	The Millennial Kingdom Follows Isa. 9:6-7, 11:1-16; Rev. 20:1-6
Translation is Imminent 1 Thes. 1:10; Titus 2:13; Ja. 5:7-9	A Multitude of Signs Precede Matt. 24; Luke 21:25-27
A Message of Comfort is Given 1 Thes. 4:18; 2 Thes. 2:3-7	A Message of Judgement is Given 2 Thes. 1:7, 2:8-12; Rev. 14:14-20, 19:15-21
For the Church John 14:1-3; 1 Cor. 15:51-58	For Israel and the World Dan. 7:13-14, 19:15-21
Translation is a Mystery 1 Cor. 15:51-52	Predicted in Both Testaments Mal. 4:1-3; Matt. 24:27; 2 Peter 1:16
Believers are Judged 2 Cor. 5:10-11; 1 John 2:28; 2 Tim. 4:7-8	Gentiles and Israel Judged Matt. 25
Israel's Covenants Unfulfilled	Israel's Covenants are Fulfilled Isa. 66; Zech. 14
Only Believers are Affected John 14:2-3	All People are Affected Psa. 2:6-9; Micah 4:3; Rev. 1:7
Church Taken into the Lord's Presence John 14:1-3; Rev. 3:10	Israel Brought into the Kingdom Acts 1:6; Rom. 11:26-27; Isa. 61
Identified with Day of Christ 1 Cor. 1:8; 2 Cor. 1:14; Phil. 1:6, 10	Identified with the Day of the Lord 1 Thes. 5:1-2; 2 Thes. 2:1-12; 2 Peter 3:4-13