

**INTRODUCTION**

- \* Last week, we began to consider Jesus' teaching regarding His Return.
- \* Jesus stated that the time of His return would be marked by International Conflicts, Natural Disasters & Spiritual Struggles – including Deception, Persecution & Distraction! However, on a positive note the Gospel will be carried to every ethnos – nation or people group!
- \* Today we continue in Jesus' teaching as He gives an Exhortation to His followers based upon the Environment and Expectation of His return – using several parables and word pictures to accent His teaching.

**INSTRUCTION****I. THE ENVIRONMENT OF HIS RETURN (24: 3-14)**

**A. It Will Be Marked By International Conflicts (24: 6-7)**

**B. It Will Be Marked By Natural Disasters (24: 7-8)**

**C. It Will Be Marked By Spiritual Struggles (24: 5, 9-14)**

1. NEGATIVELY

a. DECEPTION (v. 5,11, 23-26; 2 Cor 11:3-4,13-15)    b. PERSECUTION (v. 9-10)    c. DISTRACTION (v. 12-13; Rom 12:2; 2 Tim 3:1-5; Rev 2:1-5)

2. POSITIVELY (v. 14) ... *The gospel of the Kingdom will be preached to all peoples – as a witness!*

**II. THE EXPECTATION OF HIS RETURN (24: 23-39)**

**A. The Unmistakable Nature of His Return (v. 23-31) ... *He will not be on the earth ... He will come in the clouds w/ a trumpet!***

**B. The Unrevealed Nature of His Return (v. 32-36) ... *of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only***

**C. The Unexpected Nature of His Return (v. 37-39) ... *The picture of Noah ... did not know until the flood came!***

**III. THE E \_\_\_\_\_ OF HIS RETURN (v. 24: 40 – 25: 30)**

**A. Be R \_\_\_\_\_ (24: 42-44)**

**B. Be F \_\_\_\_\_ (24: 45-51)**

**C. Be P \_\_\_\_\_ (25: 1-13)**

**D. Be F \_\_\_\_\_ (25: 14-30)**

**IV. THE E \_\_\_\_\_ OF HIS RETURN (v. 25: 31-46)**

**A. The N \_\_\_\_\_ Will Be G \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 32)**

**B. The R \_\_\_\_\_ Will Be S \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 33-46)**

1. THE R \_\_\_\_\_

a. Their Works (v. 34-36)

b. Their Humility (v. 37-39)

c. Their Reward (v. 34,40,46)

2. THE C \_\_\_\_\_

a. Their Works (v. 41-43)

b. Their Denial (v. 44)

c. Their Reward (v. 41,45-46)

**INTROSPECTION**

- \* ARE YOU READY FOR THE MESSIAH TO RETURN ... EVEN RIGHT NOW?  
NO MAN KNOWS THE DAY OR THE HOUR!
- \* HOW FRUITFUL IS YOUR LIFE?  
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH THE GIFT THAT GOD HAS GIVEN YOU?  
WILL YOU HEAR THE “WELL DONE”?
- \* HOW DO YOU TREAT “THE LEAST OF THESE?”
- \* IS THERE A NEED TO CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK ... AND THEREFORE ACT?

**INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion**

*It may be helpful to re-read the passage before the discussion.*

- \* What affect should the return of Christ have upon our lives today? How do we balance living in light of His imminent return with the knowledge that He might not return in our lifetime?
- \* What place does the return of Christ have in our witnessing opportunities?