

Hello, let's start with a prayer.

Jesus, I pray that every word spoken be anointed by the Holy Spirit and that every person will listen with their spiritual ears and open their spiritual eyes to the truth of God's Word. Jesus by divine revelation help the people to realize that now is the time to seek God and righteousness. Help the listeners see that governments and mighty military weapons and modern technology and state of the art medical science combined will not be able to provide protection or answers regarding the suffering that will come upon the earth in the end times. I pray this teaching on your Word will not return void, but it will accomplish the purposes of God. In Jesus name, Amen.

Last week, I started going through Matthew 24 a few verses at a time and gave some insights and commentary about these scriptures. I am going to continue to teach on Matthew 24 this week. Let's look at

Mat 24:1 And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples pointed out the buildings of the temple.

In the first part of this verse we see that Jesus is leaving the temple. His departure from the temple on that day marked a very important and somber occasion. If you read the preceding chapter, you will see that Jesus is departing the temple for the last time as a teacher. Jesus had lingered in the temple that day because He knew He was going to be taken captive and crucified in a few days. He warned the multitude in the temple about how wicked the Pharisees were and exposed their hypocrisy. Finally, Jesus lamented for His people the Jews. He had come to redeem them, but they had just hated and rejected Him and His message. Here is what Jesus had just said before He left the temple for the last time in Matthew 23:37-39.

O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you kill the prophets, and stone them which are sent unto you, how often I would have gathered your children together, even as a hen gathers her chickens under *her* wings, and you would not!

Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.

For I say unto you, You shall not see me again, till you shall say, Blessed *is* he that comes in the name of the Lord.

Here we see the heart of Jesus and it is breaking because He knows very difficult times are coming. Jesus knows that the Romans are going to lay siege to Jerusalem and the suffering will be great. He knew the Pharisees were already plotting to kill Him and that the Jewish people would perish by the thousands and be scattered all over the world. Jesus knew that this beautiful temple in which He had taught the Word of God, was going to be completely destroyed. Jesus was deeply grieved in His spirit because one more time God had sent a prophet to the Jews and one more time the Jews were not just rejecting God's plan of salvation, but they were literally planning to kill the one that God had sent to rescue their nation from oppression and destruction. Jesus knew He was the LAST prophet God would send to the Jewish people.

I see a parallel between the Jewish nation and America. Is America going to wake up and repent and turn back to Godly behavior or is America going to continue to reject the path of righteousness offered by God. I pray our nation has a true change of heart and that God will heal our land once again.

I also hope that you personally don't reject Jesus and His message of love, hope, and salvation. Do not let this opportunity to hear the Word of God pass you by. Today is your day that Jesus is offering you a chance to accept Him as Savior because there is no guarantee that you will ever get another chance. Your soul could be required of you in an instant and you will not be prepared for eternity.

Now let's look at the second half of that verse and also the first part of verse 2: and his disciples pointed out the buildings of the temple. And Jesus said unto them, **See ye not all these things?**

Now we know that when Jesus was departing from the temple He was in a very somber mood. Jesus was probably not very concerned about how grand or impressive this manmade group of temple buildings appeared. Jesus used this as an opportunity to instruct His disciples to not look at and admire these buildings that would be laid ruin by the Roman army.

Jesus wanted them to stop focusing on the designer fabrics and majestic architecture and the ornate decorations. These were all temporal and earthly things that were going to rot and decay. The attraction or the beauty that Jesus saw in the temple rested in the fact that God's presence inhabited the sanctuary.

Jesus wanted the disciples to focus on eternal things, like the condition of their soul. Jesus wanted to warn them that God does not wait forever on sinful people. In addition, Jesus knew that after He accomplished His work

on the cross the Holy Spirit would be sent to dwell within born-again believers and the presence of God would inhabit individuals. Believers were going to be the temple of the Holy Spirit. Jesus wanted them to see that earthly structures will fall in ruins in time, but the spiritual temple and Church of Jesus Christ whose builder and maker is God was eternal and would never be destroyed.

I believe the warning that Jesus gave His disciples departing the temple that day, is one that Christians need today. What are we focusing on? What are the priorities in our life? What are the things that impress us?

I think American Christians are too consumed with building up treasure on earth that will rot and decay. We have neglected the things of God. The things of this earth are temporary, but your soul is eternal. What is the condition of your soul? What are you accomplishing for the Kingdom of God?

In Matthew 25: verses 31-46, Jesus tells us what will happen to the nations at judgment that made the work of God a priority and to those nations that neglected to perform God's work on earth.

31 "But when the Son of Man* comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit upon his glorious throne.

32 All the nations* will be gathered in his presence, and he will separate the people as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.

33 He will place the sheep at his right hand and the goats at his left.

34 "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world.

35 For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home.

36 I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.'

37 "Then these righteous ones will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink?

38 Or a stranger and show you hospitality? Or naked and give you clothing?

39 When did we ever see you sick or in prison and visit you?'

40 "And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters,* you were doing it to me!'

41 "Then the King will turn to those on the left and say, 'Away with you, you cursed ones, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his demons.*

42 For I was hungry, and you didn't feed me. I was thirsty, and you didn't give me a drink.

43 I was a stranger, and you didn't invite me into your home. I was naked, and you didn't give me clothing. I was sick and in prison, and you didn't visit

me.'

44 "Then they will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and not help you?'

45 "And he will answer, 'I tell you the truth, when you refused to help the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were refusing to help me.'

46 "And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous will go into eternal life."

So after reading this scripture, do you think you as an individual or our nation America is a sheep nation, a righteous nation, or do you think you are a goat and America is a goat nation. If you are not sure, now is the time to repent, accept Jesus as your savior, and start performing the deeds that Jesus describes in this scripture.

Please repeat this prayer with me.

Jesus I confess I am a sinner. I repent of my sins. Please forgive me as I forgive others who have hurt me. Jesus come into my heart and be my Lord and Savior. Jesus help me focus on eternal treasures and to do the work and will of God. Jesus heal me of all my diseases. Jesus give me peace and a good night sleep. In Jesus name, Amen.

I am going to continue to discuss Matthew 24 in the coming weeks. Please email me and let me know if you are enjoying this Bible study or if you have any questions or if I can pray for you. The whole world is suffering because of the Covid19 virus. I believe that if you humble yourself and repent and ask God to help you, God's Word promises that God will hear from heaven and God will restore health, jobs, peace of mind, and our very souls.

Thank you for listening and I hope you have been blessed.