

Matthew 24:1-51 Yeshua's Prophecy Pt. 1

Messiah Yeshua's earthly Ministry set the record straight concerning the preeminence of YeHoVaH's Word in the earth in the lives of the people of Israel and the people of the world. From the very beginning of the New Testament writings, John the Baptist proclaimed Messiah's coming and Yeshua made clear He did not come to do away with the Law or the Prophets.

Included in the Law was the proclamation of YeHoVaH that He would raise up a Prophet from amongst the brethren liken unto Moses. Yeshua's Teaching Ministry reaffirmed the Words of YeHoVaH given to Moses and the Prophets, as well as it fulfilled what Moses and the Prophets had said concerning Yeshua. As a Prophet, Yeshua's Prophetic Ministry is put on full display in this portion of Matthew as He prophesies concerning future events.

Many of Yeshua's prophetic proclamations of events unfolded in the First Century and some, hundreds of years later at this time, have yet to come to pass.

Chapter 23 closes with these words:

Mt 23:37 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, *thou* that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under *her* wings, and ye would not!

Mt 23:38 Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.

Mt 23:39 For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed *is* he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Mt 24:1 And Yeshua went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to *him* for to show him the buildings of the temple.

Over the course of His lifetime, Yeshua had seen the Temple numerous times so there would have been no need to show Yeshua the Temple. The conversation was about more than simple showing Him the Temple.

According to Luke, there were those who marveled at the Temple's edifice and how it was adorned with goodly stones and gifts.

Lk 21:5 And as some spake of the temple, how it was adorned with goodly stones and gifts, he said,

Mt 24:2 And Yeshua said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.

Mt 24:3 And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what *shall be* the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?

The disciples asked Yeshua three questions.

Tell us, when shall these things be?
What *shall be* the sign of thy coming,
and of the end of the world?

Yeshua did not answer their questions directly and did not give dates or timelines. Instead, Yeshua gave them signs to look for. He began by warning them of being deceived by men that would deceive many.

Mt 24:4 And Yeshua answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you.

Mt 24:5 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Messiah; and shall deceive many.

Future signs for them to look for.

Mt 24:6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all *these things* must come to pass, but the end is not yet.

Several wars have been waged since Yeshua's statement.

Rome waged war against Jerusalem beginning around Passover in AD 70; the Romans burned the Temple.

Josephus claims that 1.1 million people were killed during the siege, of which a majority were Jewish. Josephus attributes this to the celebration of Passover which he uses as rationale for the vast number of people present among the death toll.

... The revolt had not deterred pilgrims from Jewish diaspora communities from trekking to Jerusalem to visit the Temple at Passover, and a large number became trapped in the city and perished during the siege. Armed rebels, as well as the frail citizens, were put to death. All of Jerusalem's remaining citizens became Roman prisoners ...

... After the Romans killed the armed and elder people, 97,000 were still enslaved, including Simon bar Giora and John of Giscala. Of the 97,000, thousands were forced to become gladiators and eventually expired in the arena. Many others were forced to assist in the building of the Forum of Peace and the Colosseum. Those under 17 years of age were sold into servitude.

Mt 24:7 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.

Since Yeshua's prophecy, many of those things have happened and continue to happen.

Mt 24:8 All these *are* the beginning of sorrows.

Mt 24:9 Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.

The prophecies were fulfilled as pertaining to those Yeshua was speaking to at the time. The Hebrew people have been hated and persecuted practically wherever they went.

Biblical History

In Acts 4, Peter and John were seized and jailed by the Sanhedrin.

In Acts 7, Stephen was killed.

In Acts 8, the believers were persecuted and scattered.

In Acts 12, James was killed with the sword and Peter was arrested.

All the Apostles are dead.

Mt 24:10 And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.

Mt 24:11 And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.

Mt 24:12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.

Mt 24:13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

Mt 24:14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

- The Gospel of the Kingdom ceased to exist when the Roman Catholics got a hold of the faith and changed it into Catholicism.
- Catholicism was protested and the Protestant religion was established with Martin Luther.
- The True Gospel of the Kingdom did not come to the shores of America with the Pilgrims.
- The Native American religions in their variation of forms, practices, and deities were already here when the Pilgrims reached these shores.
- Protestant Christianity was brought to America beginning with the Puritans.

Mt 24:15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)

Fulfilled: These begin to happen in 70 AD along with the destruction of the Temple.

According to Josephus, Titus begin his invasion on the 14th of April, a few days before Passover while hundreds of thousands of people had come up to celebrate Passover.

The Temple was captured and destroyed on 9/10 Tisha B'Av, sometime in August 70 CE, and the flames spread into the residential sections of the city. Josephus described the scene:

... As the legions charged in, neither persuasion nor threat could check their impetuosity: passion alone was in command. Crowded together around the entrances many were trampled by their friends, many fell among the still hot and smoking ruins of the colonnades and died as miserably as the defeated ...

... As they neared the Sanctuary, they pretended not even to hear Caesar's commands and urged the men in front to throw in more firebrands. The partisans were no longer in a position to help; everywhere was slaughter and flight. Most of the victims were peaceful citizens, weak and unarmed, butchered wherever they were caught ...

... Round the Altar the heaps of corpses grew higher and higher, while down the Sanctuary steps poured a river of blood and the bodies of those killed at the top slithered to the bottom.

Mt 24:16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:

Mt 24:17 Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house:

Mt 24:18 Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes.

Mt 24:19 And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days!

Mt 24:20 But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day:

Mt 24:21 For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

Josephus wrote:

This was the end which Jerusalem came to by the madness of those that were for innovations; a city otherwise of great magnificence, and of mighty fame among all mankind.

... And truly, the very view itself was a melancholy thing; for those places which were adorned with trees and pleasant gardens, were now become desolate country every way, and its trees were all cut down. Nor could any foreigner that had formerly seen Judaea and the most beautiful suburbs of the city, and now saw it as a desert, but lament and mourn sadly at so great a change ...

... For the war had laid all signs of beauty quite waste. Nor had anyone who had known the place before, had come on a sudden to it now, would he have known it again. But though he [a foreigner] were at the city itself, yet would he have inquired for it.

Mt 24:22 And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.

After the Fall of Jerusalem and the destruction of the city and its Temple, there were still a few Judean strongholds in which the rebels continued holding out, at Herodium, Machaerus, and Masada. Both Herodium and Machaerus fell to the Roman army within the next two years, with Masada remaining as the final stronghold of the Judean rebels ...

... In 73 CE, the Romans breached the walls of Masada and captured the fortress, with Josephus claiming that nearly all of the Jewish defenders had committed mass suicide prior to the entry of the Romans. With the fall of Masada, the First Jewish–Roman War came to an end.

Mt 24:23 Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here *is* Messiah, or there; believe *it* not.

Many have come, over the course of history, claiming to be the Messiah beginning with Simon Bar Kochba in 135 AD.

Mt 24:24 For there shall arise false Messiahs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if *it were* possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

Mt 24:25 Behold, I have told you before.

Mt 24:26 Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, *he is* in the secret chambers; believe *it* not.

When the Messiah comes, the people of the earth will know from the east to the west. No one will have to tell anyone else when the True Messiah comes, the whole earth will know.

Mt 24:27 For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

Mt 24:28 For wheresoever the carcass is, there will the eagles be gathered together.