

Study Notes for Matthew Chapter 24

1. Review the context of this chapter by reading 24:1-3. Why do you think Jesus' words prompted the disciples to ask him questions about the future?

Share an example in your life where you were thinking or wondering about the future. (pregnancy / job change / serious illness / economy) What questions did you have?

2. Matthew chapter 24 is divided into three major sections. Give a title or summary statement to each section after you read each one.

24:3-14

24:15-28

24:29-31

3. Look in more detail at the first section (3-14) – what are some of the things you notice about what life will be like before the “great Tribulation”? (4-12)

How will it be possible for the Gospel to be preached in the whole world? (14)

Note: the people who “will be saved” in verse 13 probably refers to those who survive these difficult times. It does not refer to “salvation” since we are only saved by grace through faith, not of works (Ephesians 2:8-9 / Titus 3:5)

4. What is the specific “sign” that Jesus says will indicate that the “Great Tribulation” has come? What other passages refer to this “abomination of desolation” (the Antichrist)? Compare: Daniel 9:27 / II Thessalonians 2:1-5 / Revelation 13

5. In what ways is the “Great Tribulation” unique in all of history? (24:21-22) Remember that Revelation 6-19 gives more details about the great Tribulation. Notice the three series of judgments poured out on the earth (Rev 6 / 8-9 / 16)

6. What does Jesus say will happen after the end of the Tribulation? (29-31)

7. What do you think is the point of the lesson of the Fig Tree? (32-35)

8. When will these things take place? (36) compare: Acts 1:7

9. What do you think is the point of Jesus' example of Noah and the Flood? (36-39)

10. What lesson does Jesus teach in verses 42-44?

11. How does the lesson of the good vs. the lazy servant relate to this chapter? (45-51)

