

Matthew 24:1-3 – Background and 3 Questions Asked by the Disciples

Orlando Bible Students Special Study

Sunday January 26, 2020



General References: *Matthew 24:1-3; Mark 13:1-4; Luke 19:43-44; Luke 21:5-7; Volume 4, pp 563-565; Expanded Bible Comments (EBC) on above verses*

Setting the scene for chapter 24: In Matthew 23, Jesus was in the temple at Jerusalem. There he pronounced the various “woes” to the religious leaders of Israel, and at the end of the chapter, he cast off the nation, saying, “your house is left unto you desolate,” and that they would see him no more until they accepted him as the Messiah of promise. It is at the end of this portion of Matthew’s narrative that chapter 24 begins.

- 1) **Matthew 24:1 and Mark 13:1 say that Jesus departed from the temple, with no indication that he ever returned there again. What misunderstanding did the disciples’ have as they pointed out to Jesus the beautiful stones and buildings of the temple?** *Matt. 12:6; John 2:19-21; John 4:21-24*

- 2) **As a result of the disciples’ misunderstanding noted in Question 1 above, Jesus spoke in very vivid terms in Matthew 24:2 about the destruction of the temple. Why do you think it was needful for Jesus to speak to the disciples in such a dramatic way? Is there a spiritual lesson for us with regard to the temple symbolism?** *I Cor. 3:16,17; II Cor. 6:16; Eph. 2:20-21; Rev. 3:12; Rev. 21:2,22*

- 3) **In Matthew 24:3, what was the first question the disciples asked Jesus? Why did they ask this, and what are the “these things” (KJV) that they wanted to know about?** *EBC; Vol. 4, p. 564; Dan. 9:26-27; Mic. 3:12; Luke 19:43-44*

- 4) **What was the second question the disciples asked in verse 3, and why did they ask it?** *Note Diaglott, Rotherham & Young’s Literal Translation; Acts 1:6; I Thess. 5:5-6; I Pet. 4:7*

- 5) **What was the third question the disciples asked in verse 3? Although we can perhaps only surmise, what “world,” or “age,” might they have been thinking of in their non-spirit-begotten minds?** *Note Diaglott & Rotherham translations; EBC; Matt. 19:27-28; Luke 22:28-30*

- 6) **How was God’s providence shown in the questions raised by the disciples, and during what period has the import of these, as well as Jesus’ response, been more fully understood?** *Vol. 4, p. 565; Dan. 8:16-17; Dan. 12:4,8-9,13; Hab. 2:3; Matt. 13:39; Rev. 5:5-10*