

Signs of the End of the Age (Part One)

Sunday, January 7/24 --- Matthew 24:1 – 28

As He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, 'Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age? And Jesus answered them, 'See that no one leads you astray.'

Matthew 24:3 – 4

One of the problems we have when we read these prophecies is we make the assumption that the primary people to whom these prophecies are addressed, are us, as if they were written last week! But Jesus was talking to His disciples, answering a specific question about a specific time in history.

R. C. Sproul

Sermon Outline:

1.	Jesus Predicts	the Future:	<u>Prophecy</u>	of the Te	<u>emple's L</u>	<u>Destruction</u>	(24:1 – 3	,)
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- 2. Jesus Prepares His People: Persecution will lead many Astray (24:4 13)
- 3. Jesus Promises a Worldwide Witness: Proclamation of the Gospel to all Nations (24:14)
- 4. <u>Jesus Protects His People: Prophet Daniel has the Key</u> to Understanding (24:15 28)



Discussion Questions:

- 1. Jesus' prediction of the Temple's destruction was unthinkable for Jews of the first century.

 Why was it necessary? How do we know that it actually took place within His generation?
- 2. Why do you think Jesus began answering His disciples' questions about prophecy with the words in verse 4 'See that no one leads you astray.'?
- 3. Do you think the Scripture studied today (24:1 28) is about something that has already taken place, or about something in the future yet to come? Why?
- 4. What is one of the most important lessons that prophecy in Scripture has to teach us?

Application:

Perhaps you have read and formed your views on eschatology (study of last things), or perhaps you find it confusing and conflictive. Whichever describes you most, what is one thing that you think God might want to help / grow you in through this study?