

MATTHEW (THE KING, HIS KINGDOM AND ME)
PROGRAM 43 (#910223)
WEEK 9 (910348)
©2010 PRECEPT MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL



PRECEPTS FOR LIFE
a Production of
Precept Ministries International
P.O. Box 182218, Chattanooga, TN 37422-7218
1-888-734-7707/ www.preceptsforlife.com

The following is an actual transcript of the PRECEPTS FOR LIFE Broadcast. For the purpose of filling transcript requests quickly, they have received only light editing. If you have questions concerning the material covered in this broadcast, Kay has published a number of books explaining the Scripture in depth. These books may be ordered by contacting the telephone number or address printed above.

SERIES: Matthew (The King, His Kingdom And Me)

TITLE: Program 43 – Be Alert!

WEDNESDAY

OPEN

One of the signs of the coming of Jesus Christ to reign upon the earth is all of those that are going to come, attempting to mislead us, saying that they are Christ, saying that, “If you want to see the Christ, you go here or you go there.” O Beloved, Jesus does not want you to be misled. (See Matthew 24:11) And so what He does is, He tells you how you are going to know the signs of His coming and the end of the age. We’re going to look at it today in our study in Matthew 24.

PART ONE

Once again, Beloved, we’re back on the Mount of Olives. Now we’re in Matthew chapter 24. Remember, Jesus has walked out of the Temple, He has crossed the Kidron Valley, He has come here to the Mount of Olives, He has sat down with His disciples. They’re talking about the Temple and He’s telling them that “...**Not one stone...will be left upon another....**”

(Matthew 24:2) They ask Him three questions: (1) “...**When will** [this] **happen...?**” (2) “...**What will be the sign of Your coming...?**” and (3) “...**the end of the age?**” (Matthew 24:3) In Matthew 24, in the first 14 verses, He deals with the “...**end of the age.**” (Matthew 24:3) He doesn’t answer the first question. It’s answered in Luke, as I told you before. But He doesn’t answer the first question because it doesn’t pertain to what Matthew is all about. Matthew is all about the kingdom. Matthew is all about the coming of the king. The first coming and the second coming, and so when He finishes talking about the “...**end of the age...**,” He then comes to His teaching on “...**the sign of [His] coming...**” (Matthew 24:3) Now remember we’re marking every reference to the “coming of the Lord” with a cloud, a blue cloud, coloring the inside blue, or that’s the way I do it, and then the very center, yellow, because it has to do with the “coming of the Messiah,” the “coming of the Messiah,” the “coming of the Christ,” the “coming of the Son of Man,” in all His glory. (See Matthew 24:30) Well they ask, “...**What will be the sign of Your coming...?**” (Matthew 24:3) And the sign of His coming that He gives is in verse 15: “...**When you see...**,” now once again He’s using the word “see.” “...**When you see the Abomination of Desolation...standing in the holy place...**,” and He says, that was spoken of “...[by] **Daniel the prophet...**” (Matthew 24:15) He says, “Then flee!” This is the sign of the coming. Now it’s the sign of the coming because He’s walking into that Temple. When you think about the Temple, think that the Golden Dome is where it ought to be. And so He walks in there. When He does, that begins the Great Tribulation. Daniel spoke about in Daniel chapter 12, verse 1., Joel spoke about it in Joel chapter 2, verses 1 and 2. It is a time of tribulation such as has never been, will never be again. (PARAPHRASE, Matthew 24:21) Jeremiah spoke about it in the 30th chapter when he talked about it being the time of “...**Jacob’s trouble...**” (Jeremiah 30:7, KJV) Now, in Matthew, and we’ve looked at all this, I want to pick up, “...**Immediately...**,” verse 29, “...**after the**

tribulation of those day the sun will be darkened...the moon will not give its light...the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.” (Matthew 24:29) What is going on in the heavens? It’s God’s announcement of the coming of the Son of Man. It says, **“And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky...,”** in the sky. And all, **“...Then all the tribes of earth will mourn, and...will see....” (Matthew 24:30)** In other words, all across planet earth, everyone is going to see the sign of His coming. It’s awesome! It says, **“...They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory.” (Matthew 24:30)** Not one tribe, not one tongue, not one people, not one nation will miss it. **“...Lightning comes from the east and ...the west...,” (Matthew 24:27)** cracks and gets our attention, causes us to look up, and everyone will see with their own eyes, **“...the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory.” (Matthew 24:30)** Imagine the sky filled with the majesty and the glory of Jesus Christ as He returns to earth as He promised in Acts chapter 1 when He left, [and the angel said, “As you see Him going, you will see Him coming.”] (PARAPHRASE, Acts 1:11) It says, **“And He will send forth His angels with a great trumpet and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.” (Matthew 24:31)** So He’s going to gather together His elect. Now I want us to stop, because in the last program we really didn’t look at this and I want us to go back to Deuteronomy chapter 30, verse 4, because Deuteronomy is such a significant, significant book. It was given to the children of Israel in the plains of Moab, by Moses, before they crossed the Jordan River to come in to take possession of the land that God gave to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and their descendants forever and ever. In Deuteronomy chapter 30, verse 1. **“So it shall be when all...these things have come upon you, the blessing and the curse which I have set before you, and you call them to mind in all the nations where the Lord...has banished...and you return to the**

Lord your God and obey Him with all your heart and soul according to all...I command you today, you and your sons.” (Deuteronomy 30:1-2)

Well this is what’s going to happen. [He’s going to come in the great clouds of the sky with His glory, and they are going to mourn because of Him because they are going to see who this is.] (PARAPHRASE, Matthew 24:30)

They are going to see that this is Yeshua, that this is Jesus, that He is the Christ. It says, **“Then the Lord your God will restore you from captivity...have compassion [upon] you...gather you again from all**

[your] peoples where the Lord...God has scattered you.” (Deuteronomy 30:3) Jews are dispersed, it’s called the “Diaspora” around the world, and

many of them have made “aliyah,” many of them live in the houses behind me along with their Arab neighbors. And it says, **“If your outcasts are at**

the ends of the earth, from there the Lord...God will gather you, and from there He will bring you back.” (Deuteronomy 30:4) Where is He

bringing them? He’s bringing them home! Now from there, I want you to go to Ezekiel chapter 11, verse 13. **“Now it came about as I prophesied, that**

[Petaliah] son of Benaiah died. Then I fell on my face and cried out with a loud voice and said, ‘Alas, Lord God...!’” and this is Ezekiel, **“...Will**

you bring the remnant of Israel to [an]...end?” (Ezekiel 11:13) There’s a faithful remnant that is left, there’s a faithful remnant that has believed You.

Are You going to bring them to an end? Are you going to destroy them also?

“Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying, ‘Son of man, your brothers, your relatives, your fellow exiles and the whole house of Israel, all of them, are those...whom the inhabitants of Jerusalem have said,

‘Go far from the Lord; this land has been given to us as a possession.’ ”

(Ezekiel 11:14-15) Now He’s talking about the Gentiles, He’s talking about the Arabs and the others that do not want Israel in this land. He’s talking about all the generations of the history. The Crusader, who in the name of Jesus Christ, killed Jews; it shows you what happens when the Church does not know the Word of God, and they are run by a man who is greedy and

who wants to keep the people of his kingdom occupied, and so he sends them on a crusade. Study the Crusades; they are not of God. Many Jews were killed. They were driven from this land by the Turks, by the Ottoman Empire. They were driven from this land! And it says, **“Therefore...,”** verse 16 of Ezekiel 11. **“Therefore say, ‘Thus says the Lord God, “Though I had removed them [from] far away among the nations and though I had scattered them [from] the [country], yet I was a sanctuary for them a little while in the countries where they had gone.” ’ Therefore say, ‘Thus says the Lord God, “I will gather you from the peoples and assemble you out of the countries among which you have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel.” ’ ”** (Ezekiel 11:16-17) To whom is He speaking? He’s speaking to the Jews, and He says, “I will bring you back, and I will give to you the land of Israel. This is what happens. When He comes in all of His glory, the first thing He wants you to know is that He is a God who keeps His word, and though the Diaspora have been scattered to the four corners of the earth, He is going to bring them back. It says in verse 32, **“Now learn [a] parable [of] the fig tree: when its branch has already become tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near....”** (Matthew 24:32) And this is so apparent, because there are fig trees all over. You see the fig trees, you see the leaves, you say, Hey! Summer’s coming! It’s like us. We see the daffodils come up. We see the tulips come up. It’s near—summer is near! He says, **“...So, you too...,”** so you too, and He keeps saying “you, you.” **“...When you see all these things, recognize that He is near...,”** that Messiah is near, **“...right at the door...,”** ready to come. (Matthew 24:33) Now what is He saying, what are “these things”? He says, **“Truly I say to you...,”** that means this is absolute truth, this is an “Amen, I say to you,” **“...this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.”** (Matthew 24:34) Now what does He mean? He means, obviously, I think if we let the text say what the text says, that obviously, this is what He means: He means that the generation

that sees **“The Abomination of Desolation...standing in the holy place...,”** (Matthew 24:15) the generation that flees into the wilderness, the generation that sees “these things” happen will see the coming of the Son of Man. In other words, He’s saying, “Those people that are living during that time are not going to die until they see the fulfillment of the Son of Man coming in all of His glory with the clouds from heaven.” (See Matthew 24:30) Now this is the parable of the fig tree. Some people say, “Oh, Israel’s the fig tree.” No, it’s not Israel being the fig tree. Let the text say what it says and just believe it. It’s just saying, [“When you see the fig tree, summer’s near.”] (PARAPHRASE, Matthew 24:32) We’ll talk about it in just a minute.

PART TWO

Jesus said, **“Truly this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.”** He says, **“Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away.”** (Matthew 24:34-35) The Word of God lives and abides forever and ever, and, Precious One, these are words of life. (See 1 Peter 1:23) And what He’s assuring them is, as he sits here on the Mount of Olives with His disciples and they overlook Jerusalem, and He’s explaining to them what is going to happen, He’s assuring them, “It will surely come to pass.” And the generation that sees the sign of the Abomination of Desolation, that generation, the generation that sees [the gospel of the kingdom being preached into all the world,] will see the coming of the Son of Man. (PARAPHRASE, Matthew 24:14) In verse 36, He says, **“But of that day and hour no one knows....”** (Matthew 24:36) So if anyone comes to you and says, “This is the day, this is the hour,” you can know that they’re a false Christ, that they are a false prophet, He says, or that they are just a false teacher. **“But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone. For the coming of the Son of Man will be...,”** now watch, He’s going to give you a

comparison, “...**just like the days of Noah.**” (Matthew 24:26-27) Now some people start talking about the days of Noah and how they were sinning in the days of Noah, and how they had turned their back on God in the days of Noah. But, Precious One, don’t add to the text, let the text say what it says. So He’s going to say that these days are “...**just like the days of Noah.**” (Matthew 24:37) So what does He mean? Well we keep reading, we don’t pause there, we keep reading. “**For as...,**” for as, “...**in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, [they were] marrying and giving in marriage....**” (Matthew 24:38) Now is there anything wrong with eating? No. Is there anything wrong with drinking? No. We’ve got to have fluids in our bodies. Is there anything wrong with marrying? Is there anything wrong with giving in marriage? No, we wish more people would instead of living together. What He’s saying is it was life as usual in the days of Noah before the flood. They were eating and drinking, they were marrying and giving in marriage until the day that Noah entered the ark, and it says, “**And they did not understand....**” (Matthew 24:39) “Until”-- that’s another time phrase. (Matthew 24:39) Remember we’re marking time phrases, “...[Until] **the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be.**” (Matthew 24:39) Now what does He mean? “...**So will the coming of the Son of Man be.**” (Matthew 24:39) In other words, when He’s coming is going to be like any other day. It’s going to be like any other day. People are going to be eating, they’re drinking, they’re marrying, they’re giving in marriage. It’s life as usual, and they don’t even know that it has happened! That it is about to happen! That it is about to occur. [No man knows the day, no man knows the hour, the angels don’t know, Jesus doesn’t know. Only the Father knows, and when the Father gives the word, then it happens.] (PARAPHRASE, Matthew 24:36) But it is life as usual. Now watch what He says. You need to mark all the “thens” and the “whens” and the “untils.” It says, “**Then [then] there will be two men in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be**

grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left.” (Matthew 24:40-41) Now years ago, a teacher on prophecy who was very popular said this is the rapture, this is when God is going to take the Christians off the earth. But this is not so because those in Noah’s day that were taken away were taken into judgment. Those that were left were those on the ark and they survived the judgment, and so what He’s showing us here is exactly what He showed us in the parables in Matthew chapter 13, and when it talked about the end of the age. Let the wheat and the tares grow together until the end of the age. The angels will come--they’re the reapers--and they will take the wheat and put it into barn. But the tares they will take away and they will burn with fire. (See Matthew 13:30, 37-42) It’s the parable, again, of the net being cast into the sea. At the “end of the age” the fish are gathered in, the good are left and the bad fish are done away with. (See Matthew 13:47-50) And this is what He’s saying to you and me, Beloved, at this point. It is those that are left that are blessed. It is those that are judged that are taken away. Now we are going to see this even more clearly in Matthew chapter 25, but what you have to understand is, He’s giving us truth, precept upon precept. You and I are learning truth. So when you study the Scriptures, when you study the Scriptures, let the text say what it says. Cover it thoroughly; check it in its context, because context is the scripture that is surrounding it. So now watch. What you need to see is in verse 29, and let’s mark the time phrases: **“...After the tribulation of those days...,”** then you come down and mark 30, **“...Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear....” (Matthew 24:29-30)** Okay? Now, He stops then and He tells you, okay? First there’s “tribulation.” **“... Then [there’s] the sign of the Son of Man [that’s going to] appear....” (Matthew 24:30)** And then [He’s going to gather all of His people back together.] (PARAPHRASE, Matthew 24:31) Then He pauses and He says, “I want you to learn a parable.” The parable is the parable of the fig tree. Luke says, **“...[or of] all the trees...,”** he doesn’t limit it to one tree, he says **“...all the trees....”**

(**Luke 21:29**) [When you see the trees getting ready, when the leaves are coming, you know that it is summer. When you see these things you know that He is coming, you know that He is near.] (PARAPHRASE, Luke 21:29-33) You know “...**That He is...right at the door.**” (**Matthew 24:33**) And remember, He wants them to endure. (See Matthew 24:13) And he says, “...**Of that day and hour [knows] no man....**” (**Matthew 24:36, KJV**) The Son of Man, “...**The coming of the Son of Man will be...like the days of Noah.**” (**Matthew 24:37**) They didn’t know that the flood was coming until all of a sudden the rain was falling and blub-blub-blub-blub, the water was increasing, and all of a sudden they were drowning. It was the ones that drowned that God took away. (See Matthew 24:37-39) It was the ones in the ark that were safe. If you want to be safe, Beloved, you need to be in Christ Jesus, and if you’re in Christ, then, Beloved, you’re going to live forever and ever in the presence of God. Just know this! Just know this; that the world is going to continue in their darkness. They’re not going to know that it happened until it happens. “**Two...will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken** [away into judgment]...**one will** [survive].” (**Matthew 24:41**) It says that, “...**Two...[will be] in the field; one will be...left....**,” and the other will be taken away. (**Matthew 24:40**) The time of His coming is at hand, He says, and it is the time of judgment. The Son of Man is coming in the clouds with all His glory, and when He comes, Beloved, there will be a division of the righteous and the unrighteous, of a judgment that brings the unrighteous into condemnation, but of eternal life for those who are waiting for His appearing. (See 2 Timothy 4:8) Are you waiting for His appearing? We’ll talk about that in our next lesson, the importance of being on the alert so that whenever He comes you are not caught unaware. (See Matthew 24:42)