



MARCH 17, 2024  
ABOUT THE END  
MATTHEW 24:1-35

## Introduction

**Eschatology:** Theology about “the last things

**Parousia:** Coming, Arrival – refers to the Second Coming of Jesus

Before the Parousia (vv. 1-28)

During the Parousia (vv. 29-31)

A Lesson While We Wait (vv. 32-25)

**BIG IDEA:** As we wait for Jesus in this painful present reality, we can trust His promise to return.

**HARBOR OF HOPE**  
CHRISTIAN CHURCH



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A disciple of Jesus is someone who is **following** Jesus, is being **changed** by Jesus, and is **committed** to the **mission** of Jesus. (Matthew 4:19)

#### Reflection Questions for Groups or Individuals:

1. Take a moment to read Matthew 24:1-35
2. When you think about "the end of times", what has informed your understanding of those things? Books, movies, your church background?
3. Jesus said that there would be chaos in the world and chaos in the Church as we wait for Jesus' return. Spend a few minutes sharing how you see these today.
4. How does knowing that Jesus said it would be this way encourage you that despite how hard things seem, Jesus has a plan?
5. We said that Jesus tells his disciples what to expect as a way of encouraging them to long for HIS return and reign, more than the rule or reign of any human being. How have you seen a tendency to long for earthly rulers in yourselves?
6. We said that Matthew includes this section to encourage his readers that Jesus is trustworthy. So we can trust that He will return. Spend some time talking about what you long for with Jesus' return. What are you longing for Him to return and set right?
7. Close with a time of prayer, telling Jesus about your longing to see Him return. Ask for His help to fix your longings on Him and not on any earthly person or system.

#### Discovery Bible Study Method for Groups or Individuals

(for more information on this method of Bible study- see <https://www.dbsguide.org/>)

**1. Talk:** To begin the study, each person answers these questions:

- What are you thankful for?
- What is causing you stress?
- Who needs our help? How can this group help them?

#### **2. Look Back (session 2+)**

- Retell story from the previous meeting.
- What did you do differently because of this story?
- Who did you tell and what was the reaction?

#### **3. Read & Re-tell**

- One person reads the Bible passage out loud, and the rest follow along.
- Someone else retells the passage by memory, if possible. Others can fill in what is missing.

#### **4. Look**

- Read the passage again.
- Discuss what this passage says about God, Jesus or his plan.

#### **5. Look again**

- Read the passage once more
- Discuss what this passage says about humans
- Discuss what this passage says about being a disciple of Jesus

#### **6. Inside me**

- According to this study, what am I doing well?
- What do I need to change?

#### **7. Who else?**

- Who needs to hear this story?
- How can I tell them?
- Who can I invite to study the Bible?

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