



**EPISODE 9: Last Things—Olivet and Armageddon**  
**Matthew 24-25; Revelation 16:12-16 (Also Luke 21:5-38)**  
**Mar 22/23**

**CONTEXT: *THE MOUNT OF OLIVES* and the view of *THE KIDRON VALLEY***

**What does Jesus mean in 24:34?**

<sup>34</sup> *Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.*

**THE OLIVET DISCOURSE PART I: The Second Coming (Matthew 24)**

**Jesus foretells the future while speaking to his disciples on the Mount of Olives.**

I. THE CONTENT OF THE DISCOURSE (24:1–26, 29).

A. Jesus' remarks concerning the Temple destruction (24:1–3).

1. *The prophecy* (24:1–3).

- a. Jesus' revelation (24:2): The Temple will someday be completely demolished!
- b. The disciples' request (24:3): The disciples want to know when!

B. The Tribulation.

1. *A time of apostasy* (24:4–5, 11).

- a. The rise of false prophets (24:11): False prophets will lead the people astray.
- b. The rise of false Christs (24:4–5): False messiahs will lead the people astray.

2. *Anarchy* (24:6–8): Wars will break out!

3. *Apathy* (24:12–13): The love of many will grow cold.

4. *Affliction* (24:9–10): Believers will be hated, betrayed, and martyred.

5. *Accomplishment* (24:14): The gospel will be preached to all nations.

6. *The wickedness against God* (24:15–26).

- a. What the enemy will do (24:15, 23–26): Construct the “*abomination of desolation*” that desecrates the temple.

(1) The statue (24:15): Assumed from Revelation 13:14–18.

(2) The subtlety (24:23–26): Many claim to be Christ.

- b. What the elect are to do (24:16–22): Run for the mountains!

7. *The wrath of God* (24:29).
  - a. The sun will be darkened (24:29a).
  - b. The moon will not give light (24:29b).
  - c. The stars will fall from the sky (24:29c).
  - d. The powers of heaven will be shaken (24:29d).

## II. THE Second Coming (24:27–28, 30–31, 40–41).

- A. The Son of Man will appear in the heavens. (24:30).
- B. Angels will be sent forth with a mighty trumpet blast to gather the people of Israel from the farthest ends of the earth and heaven. (24:31) .
- C. ARMAGEDDON (24:28, 40–41):
  1. *The Division of the Living and the mistering of the armies* (24:40–41): One will be taken, another left.
  2. Revelation 16:12-16
    - a. The Dragon, the Beast and the false prophet begin to gather an army for war against God.
    - b. Revelation 16: <sup>12</sup> *The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, to prepare the way for the kings from the east.* <sup>13</sup> *And I saw, coming out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet, three unclean spirits like frogs.* <sup>14</sup> *For they are demonic spirits, performing signs, who go abroad to the kings of the whole world, to assemble them for battle on the great day of God the Almighty.* <sup>15</sup> (*“Behold, I am coming like a thief! Blessed is the one who stays awake, keeping his garments on, that he may not go about naked and be seen exposed!”*) <sup>16</sup> *And they assembled them at the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon.*
    - c. Har- Megiddo (Literally *the “Hill of Megiddo”*).  
Megiddo is a plain that dominates the main pass that goes through the hill country from the plain of Sharon to the Valley of Jezreel. As such, it is strategically located and thus the site of many battles for thousands of years.
    - d. The Warning: <sup>15</sup> *“Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed is he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame.”*

## III. The Rebirth of Israel. (24:32–35).

- A. The Parable: A sprouting fig tree. (24:32)
- B. The Prophecy (24:33–34).
  1. *When* (24:33).
  2. *Who* (24:34).
- C. Heaven and earth will pass away, but his word is eternal (24:35).

## IV. Christ’s CHALLENGE (24:36–39, 42–51): Be watchful.

- A. Be watchful because no one knows when Christ will come! (24:36, 42).
- B. The Parable of the Servants (24:43–51).
  1. *The wise servant* (24:43–47): He watches and is rewarded.
  2. *The wicked servant* (24:48–51): He ignores the warning and is condemned.

## THE OLIVET DISCOURSE PART 2: The New Kingdom (Matthew 25).

Jesus tells two stories to illustrate the Kingdom of Heaven, and he talks about the final judgment of unbelievers.

I. THE PARABLE OF THE TEN VIRGINS (25:1–13). Jesus relates this parable to explain the Kingdom of Heaven, comparing it to ten bridesmaids who go out to meet the bridegroom. (25:1).

- A. *Five of the bridesmaids are foolish and don't fill their lamps with oil* (25:2a, 3).
- B. *Five of the bridesmaids are wise, for they have extra oil* (25:2b, 4).
- C. *The cry* (25:5–6): At midnight, a shout is heard: “The bridegroom is coming!”
- D. *The crisis* (25:7–9).
  - 1. The request by the foolish (25:7–8): “Give us some of your oil!”
  - 2. The refusal by the wise (25:9): “We don't have enough for all of us. Go to a shop and buy some for yourselves.”
- E. *The closed door* (25:10–12): Upon returning with fresh oil, the foolish bridesmaids find the door to the marriage feast closed.
- F. *The challenge* (25:13): Maintain a diligent watch, and be prepared for the bridegroom's return!

II. THE PARABLE OF THE TALENTS (25:14–30).

- A. Jesus likens the Kingdom of Heaven to a man entrusting his property to three servants before going to another country. (25:14–15)
  - 1. *The first servant is given five bags of gold* (25:14–15a). *The first servant doubles his money* (25:16).
  - 2. *The second servant is given two bags of gold* (25:15b). *The second servant also doubles his money* (25:17). *The third servant buries his one bag of gold* (25:18).
- B. Upon his return, the man meets with his three servants. (25:19–30).
  - 1. *The first servant is rewarded for his faithfulness* (25:19–21).
  - 2. *The second servant is also rewarded for his faithfulness* (25:22–23).
  - 3. *The third servant is severely rebuked for his unfaithfulness* (25:24–30).

III. THE PARABLE OF THE SHEEP AND GOATS (25:31–46): Jesus compares the final judgment to a shepherd's separating sheep from goats.

- A. **The Judge** (25:31): The Savior himself will occupy this role.
- B. **The separation** (25:32–33): The goats (lost people) will be placed on his left hand, and the sheep (saved people) on his right hand.
- C. **The separated** (25:34–46).
  - 1. *The sheep* (25:34–40): They will be rewarded!
    - a. They will receive the Father's Kingdom, prepared for them from the foundation of the world. (25:34)
    - b. It is due to their loving ministry in feeding, clothing, caring for, and even assisting Jesus in prison. (25:35–36).
    - c. The saved ask when all this takes place. (25:37–39).

- d. Jesus says that when they ministered to others, they ministered to him! (25:40).
- 2. *The goats* (25:41–46): They will be punished!
  - a. Eternal hell! (25:41).
  - b. They did not minister to Jesus! (25:42–43).
  - c. The unsaved ask when it was that they did not minister to Jesus. (25:44).
  - d. Jesus says because they did not minister to others, they did not minister to him! (25:45–46).