

Jesus' lessons on when the end will come. In answer to the Disciples 3 questions (Matthew 24:3): Jesus gives some signs and suggestions. Matthew 24:24-41, Mark 13:1-29, Luke 21:5-36 (see also Luke 17:22-37)

- When will the temple be destroyed?
 - What will be the sign(s) of your coming?
 - When will be the end of the age?
1. A lot will happen before the end of the world
 - a. Many false prophets will arise and lead many astray (Mt. 24:4&11)
 - b. Wars, earthquakes, and etc. (cf Mt 24:4-14)
 - c. Christian witnesses will be rejected, arrested, tortured (Mt. 24:9)
 - d. There will be a "falling away" (culture rejecting Christianity as a whole: Mt 24:10)
 - e. but Gospel will go to the ends of the earth before the end (Mt. 24:14)
 - f. Jerusalem will remain trampled until "the times of the Gentiles come to an end" (Luke 21:24)
 2. When you see Jerusalem surrounded ---temple will be destroyed (70ad, and at end)
 3. When you see the "desolating sacrilege" (bad things done in the temple) – it's a sign of the end of the world.
 4. After this event will come a time of unparalleled human suffering: Mt 24:21
 5. False Messiahs will proclaim their arrival (Mt. 24:23)
 6. After those days (Tribulation?) Sun and moon darkened Stars fall "powers of the heavens shaken" Mt. 24:29
 7. Then Messiah will return in a VERY visible way (Mt 24:27) Mt 24:30

Jesus' advice on knowing when these things will happen:

8. Parable of the "fig tree" when you see bad things beginning to happen you know the time is near Mt. 24:32-33
9. **But no one knows the day or hour except God the father** (not even the Son) Mt. 24:36
10. The end will come as a surprise Mt. 24:37-41 *With these verses, he seems to be describing a Rapture event – but Jesus puts it at the end.*

Jesus Advice on what to do while waiting for the end of the world.

Jesus description about the coming end takes 37 verses. His advice about how to prepare for the end takes 48.

11. So always be watching (like watching for a thief) Mt. 24:43-44
12. So always be faithfully doing your duty (like the faithful servant) Mt .24:45-50
13. So be prepared for a longer than expected wait (like the wise virgins) Mt. 25:1-13
14. So be using the talents given you – so you can be honored when the master returns (1,2,5 talents) Mt. 25:14-30
15. So be caring for the poor, sick and homeless as if caring for Jesus (Sheep & goat judgment) Mt. 25:31-46

Matthew 24

24As Jesus came out of the temple and was going away, his disciples came to point out to him the buildings of the temple.²Then he asked them, 'You see all these, do you not? Truly I tell you, not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.'

³ When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, 'Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?'

⁴Jesus answered them, 'Beware that no one leads you astray. ⁵For many will come in my name, saying, "I am the Messiah!" and they will lead many astray. ⁶And you will hear of wars and rumours of wars; see that you are not alarmed; for this must take place, but the end is not yet. ⁷For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places: ⁸**all this is but the beginning of the birth pangs.**

Mark 13

As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, 'Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!' ²Then Jesus asked him, 'Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.'

³ When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴'Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?'

Then Jesus began to say to them, 'Beware that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name and say, "I am he!" and they will lead many astray. When you hear of wars and rumours of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. **This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.**

Luke 21

⁵ When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, ⁶'As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.'

⁷ They asked him, 'Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?' ⁸And he said,

'Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, "I am he!" and, "The time is near!" Do not go after them.

⁹ 'When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.' ¹⁰Then he said to them, 'Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

¹² **'But before all this occurs,**

Matthew 24

9 'Then they will hand you over to be tortured and will put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of my name. ¹⁰Then many will fall away, and they will betray one another and hate one another. ¹¹And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. ¹²And because of the increase of lawlessness, the love of many will grow cold. ¹³**But anyone who endures to the end will be saved.**

Mark 13

9 'As for yourselves, beware; for they will hand you over to councils; and you will be beaten in synagogues; and you will stand before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them. ¹⁰And the good news must first be proclaimed to all nations. ¹¹When they bring you to trial and hand you over, do not worry beforehand about what you are to say; but say whatever is given you at that time, for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit. ¹²Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; ¹³and you will be hated by all because of my name. **But the one who endures to the end will be saved.**

Luke 21

they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. ¹³This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴So make up your minds not to prepare your defence in advance; ¹⁵for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹**By your endurance you will gain your souls.**

70ad – destruction of Jerusalem ? →

Matthew 24

¹⁴And **this good news of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the world, as a testimony to all the nations; and then the end will come.**

20 'When you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation has come near. ²¹Then those in Judea must flee to the mountains, and those inside the city must leave it, and those out in the country must not enter it; ²²for these are days of vengeance, as a fulfillment of all that is written. ²³Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing infants in those days! For there will be great distress on the earth and wrath against this people; ²⁴they will fall by the edge of the sword and be taken away as captives among all nations; and **Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.**

Matthew 24

15 'So when you see the desolating sacrilege standing in the holy place, as was spoken of by the prophet Daniel (let the reader understand),¹⁶ then those in Judea must flee to the mountains; ¹⁷someone on the housetop must not go down to take what is in the house; ¹⁸someone in the field must not turn back to get a coat. ¹⁹Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing infants in those days! ²⁰Pray that your flight may not be in winter or on a sabbath. ²¹For at that time there will be great suffering, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be. ²²And if those days had not been cut short, no one would be saved; but for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short. ²³Then if anyone says to you, "Look! Here is the Messiah!" or "There he is!"—do not believe it. ²⁴**For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and produce great signs and omens, to lead astray, if possible, even the elect.** ²⁵Take note, I have told you beforehand. ²⁶So, if they say to you, "Look! He is in the wilderness", do not go out. If they say, "Look! He is in the inner rooms", do not believe it. ²⁷For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ²⁸Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.

Mark 13

14 'But when you see the desolating sacrilege set up where it ought not to be (let the reader understand), then those in Judea must flee to the mountains; ¹⁵someone on the housetop must not go down or enter the house to take anything away; ¹⁶someone in the field must not turn back to get a coat. ¹⁷Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing infants in those days! ¹⁸Pray that it may not be in winter. ¹⁹For in those days there will be suffering, such as has not been from the beginning of the creation that God created until now, no, and never will be. ²⁰And if the Lord had not cut short those days, no one would be saved; but for the sake of the elect, whom he chose, he has cut short those days. ²¹And if anyone says to you at that time, "Look! Here is the Messiah!" or "Look! There he is!"—do not believe it. ²²**False messiahs and false prophets will appear and produce signs and omens, to lead astray, if possible, the elect.** ²³But be alert; I have already told you everything.

← *Or the end of the world?*

Matthew 24

29 'Immediately after the suffering of those days
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light;
the stars will fall from heaven,
and the powers of heaven will be shaken.

³⁰Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see "the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven" with power and great glory. ³¹And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

Mark 13

24 'But in those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵ and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in clouds" with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

Luke 21

25 'There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

²⁷Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in a cloud" with power and great glory.

²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.'

Matthew 24

32 'From the **fig tree** learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near.

³³So also, **when you see all these things, you know that he is near**, at the very gates. ³⁴Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³⁵Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

36 '**But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.**' ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴²**Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.**

Mark 13

28 'From the **fig tree** learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near.

²⁹So also, **when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near**, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

32 '**But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.**

Luke 21

29 Then he told them a parable: 'Look at the **fig tree** and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near.

³¹**So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near.** ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

34 'Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'