

**THE NEED FOR “WATCHFULNESS” CONCERNING
THE SECOND COMING
(Matthew 24:32-51)**

I. The Olivet Discourse (Mt 24-25)

A. A General Overview of the Tribulation Period (Mt. 24:4-14)

B. Some Specifics of Note During the Tribulation Period (Mt 24:15-31)

1. The Beginning Birth pains - the first 3 ½ years
2. The Abomination of Desolation spoken of by Daniel the prophet
3. The Great Tribulation – intense hard labor pains - the last 3 ½ years
4. The Second Coming of Christ.

5. The Parable of the Fig Tree (Mt. 24:32-36)

- What is a parable? (*parabole*) {par-ab-ol-ay'} =
- What are “*all these things*” spoken of in vs 33?
- What does “*at the doors*” of appearing referring to?
- Which generation is “*this generation*” that Jesus is referring to in vs 34?
- How certain can we be of these things coming to pass? (Mt. 24:35)

a. While possessing the certainty of _____ coming, the Jewish remnant still would not know the _____ of this event!

- The reason: Jesus said, in vs 36 ... “*but of that day and hour no one knows not even the angels of heaven, but my _____.*”

b. Because this was true, Jesus Himself would _____ give the disciples the exact _____ of His return. This demanded _____ for those of that generation!

c. Because of this, Jesus gives more _____. He likens the coming day of _____ at His return, to the time of _____ and his day of Judgment!

- Well, what was it like in the days of Noah? (Mt 24:38-39)

*What exactly is “grace”?

*Why did Noah find grace in the eyes of the Lord? (Gen 6:9)

d. All the _____perished & were taken away in Noah’s day, so all the _____ will perish when Christ returns in judgment in the future!

- Who was taken away in Noah’s day?
– the _____ – they all _____in the flood
- Who was saved in Noah’s day?
– just _____- those who _____God’s word through Noah, & got in the Ark_____!
- Who will be taken away when Jesus returns?
– the _____will be taken away in _____
- Who will be left to enter the Millennium when Jesus returns?
– only those who have put their_____!

e. The bottom line for remnant Israel, at this time, is to... “_____therefore, for you do not _____ what hour your Lord is _____(Mt. 24:42)

- As this chapter closes, our Lord gives us 2 parables to illustrate the need for **watchfulness!**

1) That of a watchful prepared _____(Mt 24:43-44)

*How are they to be ready?

2) That of a _____ vs. _____ servant (Mt 24:45-51)

The faithful wise servant is prepared & watchful as he _____in Christ during the tribulation, while the evil servant did_____, but lived his life selfishly by abusing his authority & carousing with drunkards.

- What does all this mean to you?