

Clash of Kingdoms
Matthew 24:32-51
Study Guide**Big Idea: Be ready, faithful and wise.**

1. Read Matthew 24:32-35. What signs are we seeing that indicate the end could be near? What does it mean for you and I to “learn the lesson of the fig tree”?
2. Read Matthew 24:36. Why do you think God gives us a general idea of the signs of His coming, but not the exact day or hour?
3. Read Matthew 24:37-44. What was it like in the days of Noah (see also Gen. 6:5&11). What is the lesson for us? What does it mean to be “ready” for His return?
4. Read Matthew 24:45-51. Discuss:
 - a. Ready- Am I ready for the return of Christ? Is there something God may want me to do to prepare for His eternal Kingdom?
 - b. Faithful- Am I using my time and resources for God’s will or my will? How can I be a faithful steward?
 - c. Wise- Am I being a wise servant? Am I getting too comfortable? What influences do I surround myself with? How can I develop more self-control?

Prayer

Take a few moments to pray for each other, that God would help us to live in light of His imminent return. Pray for wisdom and the ability to be a faithful steward.

Message Slides

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A. The Lesson of the Fig Tree (v.32-35)

³²“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out 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 say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. ³⁵Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.”

1. Harvest (v. 32)
2. Imminency (v. 33)
3. Swiftness (v.34)
4. Trustworthy (v.35)

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B. The ‘When’ Question (v. 36)

³⁶“But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only.”

C. The Days of Noah (v.37-44)

³⁷For as were the days of Noah, 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 when Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.

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1. Constant Evil (v. 37)

Genesis 6:5- “The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.”

2 Tim. 3:1-4

“But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. ²For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy,³heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, ⁴treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God.”

C. The Days of Noah (v.37-44)

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1. Constant Evil (v. 37)
2. No Urgency (v. 38-39)

C. The Days of Noah (v.37-44)

1. Constant Evil (v. 37)
2. No Urgency (v. 38-39)
3. Sudden Separation (v. 40-42)

⁴⁰Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. ⁴²Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.

C. The Days of Noah (v.37-44)

1. Constant Evil (v.37)
2. No Urgency (v.38-39)
3. Sudden Separation (v. 40-42)
4. Readiness (v.43-44)

⁴³But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

Rapture of the Church

>each on mouse click<

- a. Shift in Context
- b. Prophecy- zoom in/out
- c. Those taken away
- d. No distress

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D. The Faithful and Wise Servant (v. 45-51)

⁴⁵“Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom his master has set over his household, to give them their food at the proper time?⁴⁶Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes. ⁴⁷Truly, I say to you, he will set him over all his possessions.

1. Stewardship

D. The Faithful and Wise Servant (v. 45-51)

⁴⁸But if that wicked servant says to himself, ‘My master is delayed,’⁴⁹and begins to beat his fellow servants and eats and drinks with drunkards, ⁵⁰the master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he does not know ⁵¹and will cut him in pieces and put him with the hypocrites. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

1. Stewardship
2. Love

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1. Stewardship

2. Love
3. Self-control

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Reflective Prayer Time

>90 seconds each- on mouse click<

1. Ready- Am I ready for the return of Christ? Is there something God may want me to do to prepare for His eternal Kingdom?
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3. Wise- Am I being a wise servant? Am I getting too comfortable? What influences do I surround myself with? How can I develop more self-control?