

Mt. 25:14-30 ANOTHER PARABLE BY JESUS TO ILLUSTRATE THE NEED OF TRIBULATION BELIEVERS TO BE READY FOR HIS 2ND ADVENT

Mt. 25: 31-46 JUDGMENT OF THE NATIONS IN PREPARATION FOR THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM

Review: The Olivet Discourse (Mt. 24 & 25) is Jesus' answer to the two questions of his disciples recorded in 24:3, *And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? And what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world* (better, "the consummation" or "end of the age")?

In his answer Jesus made it apparent that two unmistakable signs will precede his 2nd Advent:

- a. 24:15, fulfillment of Daniel's prophecy of the _____ that makes desolate the Temple of God in Jerusalem, and,
- b. 24:21, The Great Tribulation.

The surety of his return in the vicinity of these signs is his emphasis in 24:29-33, but he also made it clear that the exact moment of his return is known only by the Father, v.36.

And because his return will be sudden and unexpected in that day, believers of that period (The Tribulation) are commanded to be _____ and _____, 24: 44 & 25:13. He gives 3 parables to illustrate his point, 2 of which we covered in the last session (#4).

Mt. 25: 14-30 Another Parable to Illustrate Readiness for & Faithful Service in view of His Certain Return: The Talents

Observations

1. The connective _____ in v.14 links this parable to the application (of the previous parable) given in v.13. The parables are connected to the same issue: _____ & _____.

- Parable of the 10 Virgins illustrates the need for persons in the Tribulation Period to be prepared for the certain return of the Christ.

- Parable of the Talents illustrates the need for thoughtful _____ in view of the assured return of Christ.

2. Both parables illustrate that a _____ of the human race must take place when Christ returns to set up his Millennial Kingdom.

The same is taught in the parables in _____ (see Mt. 13: 37-43; 47-50).

3. Both 5 and 2 talent slaves are rewarded for their _____ service.

Their reward includes _____! Over what if the Kingdom does not follow?

4. The 1 talent slave is judged and condemned to “outer darkness” (hell).

Why? Because he was _____ (like Judas).

Mt. 25: 31-46 Judgment of the Nations in Preparation for the Millennial Kingdom

Amillennialists and Postmillennialists teach that this judgment is the same as the Great White Throne judgment recorded in Rev. 20: 11-15; that it is universal in nature thus including all men; and that it ushers in the eternal state. A close look at the passage will demonstrate their weak exegesis and misapplication of the text.

v.31 The **WHEN** of this judgment: AT THE _____ WHEN CHRIST SITS ON HIS KINGLY THRONE. Note references to him as King, v. 34 & 40.

This is _____ the Millennial Kingdom: the Great White Throne is _____ it.

v.32,33 The **WHO** (Objects) of this judgment

SHEEP Nations (Peoples)

GOAT Nations (Peoples)

Question: ARE THESE LIVING PEOPLE OR RESSURRECTED DEAD PEOPLE?

Contrast those at the Great White Throne (the dead small & great stand before God)

v.34 The **PURPOSE/DETERMINATION** of this judgment

SHEEP Nations (Peoples)

GOAT Nations (Peoples)

“ _____ into the Kingdom”

v.46 “ _____ into everlasting punishment” (Hell)

Contrast: the destiny of those at the Great White Throne is the lake of fire, Rev. 20:15

v.35 ff The **BASIS** of this judgment

v.40 “Treatment of my brethren:” in context, treatment of the believing-righteous Jews of the Tribulation, a time of unparalleled anti-Semitism

SHEEP Nations (Peoples)

GOAT Nations (Peoples)

a symptom that they were saved

a symptom of their lost condition

Note v. 46: they are called “righteous” ones

Four Major Judgments by God/Christ in the New Testament

1. Judgment for the sins of the cosmos via the death of Jesus Christ. John 12: 30-33.
2. Judgment of Believers’ works at the Bema Seat of Christ. 2Cor. 5:10; 1Cor. 3:12-15.
3. Judgment of the Nations just before the inaugural of the Millennial Kingdom. Mt. 25: 31-46; 13:24-30.
4. Judgment of all resurrected unbelievers of all ages at the end of the Millennium: the Great White Throne. Rev. 20: 11-15.

World Powers in End Times According to Prophetic Scripture

World Powers in End Times

➤ The West, Antichrist's Ten Kingdom Federation

- ◆ Ten toes of *Dan. 2:42-44*
- ◆ Ten horns of *Dan. 7:7, 8, 24*
- ◆ Ten horns of *Rev. 12:3; 13:1; 17:12-16*

These represent revived Roman imperialism (not the revived Roman Empire) in the West. The United States is part of the West.

➤ The Northern Confederacy (Names below from *Ezekiel 38* passage)

Ezekiel 38:1-6 (RV); Ezekiel 38:6, 16; context Ezekiel 38-39; Daniel 11:40; Joel 2:1-27, see. v. 20

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| Perhaps these refer to the southern confederacy in alliance with Russia. | { | ◆ Magog | – Russia |
| | | ◆ Persia | – present-day Iran |
| | | ◆ Ethiopia | – either a portion of Arabia or present-day Ethiopia (used 11 times in scripture in reference to Arabia, 9 times it refers to the present Ethiopian area in Africa) |
| | | ◆ Libya (or Put) | – either Libya in North Africa or an area near Iran-Iraq |
| | | ◆ Gomer | – possibly East Germany |
| | | ◆ Togarmah | – Turkey |

➤ The Kings of the East — an Oriental hegemony

Only mention in the Bible — *Revelation 16:12*. Apparently a coalition of the nations in Asia, compare *Daniel 11:44*.

➤ The King of the South — an alliance of Arab or African states

Daniel 11:40 — apparently allied to the king of the North (Russia).

➤ Israel — in alliance with West

Daniel 9:24-27; 7:18, 22, 27; Ezekiel 20:37-38; 37:1-2

An Attempted Collation and Chronology of End Time Events

- Re-gathered Israel (still in unbelief) makes a covenant with Antichrist and occupies her land in false security (*Daniel 9:27; Ezekiel 38:8, 11*). Apparently Antichrist seeks to settle the Arab-Israeli dispute.
- The king of the North (most probably near the middle of Daniel's 70th week) invades Palestine. He is both satanically and divinely motivated (*Ezekiel 38:16-17*). *Ezekiel 38:11-12* indicate that spoil is at least part of this motivation.
- Antichrist in covenant relation with Israel moves into the land to fulfill his military obligation (*Dan. 11:40, 41*).
- The king of the North is destroyed by God in the mountains of northern Palestine (*Ezekiel 38:18-22; 39:1-4*).
- The king of the South in alliance with the king of the North also has moved against Israel (*Daniel 11:40*), but forces of Antichrist destroy him (*Daniel 11:42-43*). Thus, the dominion of the beast to this point includes the West, the North, and the South.
- Antichrist is now the virtual ruler of the earth. He breaks his covenant with Israel and sets up his image in the temple, *Matthew 25:15; 2 Thessalonians 2:4; Revelation 13:4-6*. The middle of Daniel's 70th week has come, *Daniel 9:27*. Apparently the kings of the East voluntarily (though with mental reservations) bow to his authority. Antichrist is now supreme (*Revelation 13:7, 8*).

The Great Tribulation now hits Israel as they reject the mark of the beast.

- Toward the end of the great tribulation God removes the influence that has long restrained the kings of the East and they move against the beast (*Revelation 16:12; compare Daniel 11:44*).
- The nations of the earth are thus gathered around Israel for the final campaign of Armageddon sometime in the last half of Daniel's 70th week. Jerusalem is virtually surrounded; a military confrontation from the valley of Jehoshaphat in the north to the east side of Jerusalem in the south is apparent.

With these forces drawn in array, the Lord returns (*Revelation 19:11-20*) to destroy all Gentile powers so that he might rule the nations Himself (*Zechariah 12:1-9; 14:1-4; Isaiah 66:15-16; Revelation 16:14-16; 19:11-16*). The institution of Christ's Millennial Kingdom on earth is the climax to which world history is moving. Christ by virtue of His cross not only conquered spiritual forces and enemies, He won deliverance for the physical world, which deliverance will largely be realized in His great kingdom on earth.