

In Matthew 22 we read the parable that Jesus gave to the religious leaders, His disciples, and those in the general population who wanted to listen to what Jesus had to say. Jesus was explaining that He, the son of God was sent to His family tree first (to be the example), to let them in on what He was fulfilling, the New Covenant before anyone else.

Jeremiah 31:31-34 AMPC

31 <u>Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new</u> <u>covenant</u> with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah,

32 <u>Not according to the covenant which I made with their fathers</u> in the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, <u>My covenant which they broke</u>, although I was their Husband, says the Lord.

33 But <u>this is the covenant which I will make</u> with the house of Israel: <u>After those days, says the Lord,</u> I will put My law within them, and on their hearts will I write it; and I will be their God, and they will be My people.

34 And they will no more teach each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, <u>Know the Lord, for they will all know Me [recognize,</u> <u>understand, and be acquainted with Me], from the least of them to the</u> <u>greatest, says the Lord</u>. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will [seriously] remember their sin no more.

Luke 22:20 AMPC

20 And in like manner, He took the cup after supper, saying, T<u>his cup is</u> <u>the new testament or covenant [ratified] in My blood</u>, which is shed (poured out) for you.

Let's read Jesus Words and be reminded of how He is setting this up...

Matthew 22:1-15 AMPC

1 And again Jesus spoke to them in parables (comparisons, stories used to illustrate and explain), saying,

2 The kingdom of heaven is like a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son

3 And sent his servants to summon those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they refused to come.

4 Again he sent other servants, saying, Tell those who are invited, Behold, I have prepared my banquet; my bullocks and my fat calves are killed, and everything is prepared; come to the wedding feast.

5 But they were not concerned and paid no attention [they ignored and made light of the summons, treating it with contempt] and they went away—one to his farm, another to his business,

6 While the others seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and put them to death.

7 [Hearing this] the king was infuriated; and he sent his soldiers and put those murderers to death and burned their city.

8 Then he said to his servants, The wedding [feast] is prepared, but those invited were not worthy.

9 So go to the thoroughfares where they leave the city [where the main roads and those from the country end] and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.

10 And those servants went out on the crossroads and got together as many as they found, both bad and good, so [the room in which] the wedding feast [was held] was filled with guests.

11 But when the king came in to view the guests, he looked intently at a man there who had on no wedding garment.

12 And he said, Friend, how did you come in here without putting on the [appropriate] wedding garment? And he was speechless ([a]muzzled, gagged).

13 Then the king said to the attendants, Tie him hand and foot, and throw him into the darkness outside; there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

14 For many are called (invited and summoned), but few are chosen.

15 Then the Pharisees went and consulted and plotted together how they might entangle Jesus in His talk.

Then, in Matthew 23, Jesus is continuing the conversation from Chapter 22 speaking to His disciples, religious leaders and those in the general population who wanted to listen to what Jesus had to say... He said that many spiritual/religious leaders (modern day pastor, preacher and teacher) would lead many astray because they would be blind or asleep about sin, judgment, righteousness and the signs or things to come to wake us up to Jesus return. (Jesus would address these time periods and the things that would happen as He continued His conversation in Matthew 24).

Jesus called out the pastor, preacher teacher to their face, in the front row, while everyone was listening about the lies, errors, deception that were currently practicing and would even more so in the latter days. There response... let's kill HIM.

Matthew 23 AMPC

1 Then Jesus said to the multitudes and to His disciples,

2 The scribes and Pharisees sit on Moses' seat [of authority].

3 <u>So observe and practice all they tell you; but do not do what they do,</u> <u>for they preach, but do not practice.</u>

<u>9 And do not call anyone [in the church] on earth father, for you have</u> one Father, Who is in heaven.

13 But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, pretenders (hypocrites)!...

14 Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, pretenders (hypocrites)!...

15 *Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, pretenders (hypocrites)!* For you travel over sea and land to make a single proselyte, and when he becomes one [a proselyte], you make him doubly as much a child of hell (Gehenna) as you are.

16 Woe to you, blind guides, ...

23 Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, pretenders (hypocrites)!...

24 **You blind guides**, filtering out a gnat and gulping down a [j]camel!

25 Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, pretenders (hypocrites)! For you clean the outside of the cup and of the plate, but within they are full of extortion (prey, spoil, plunder) and grasping self-indulgence.

26 <u>You blind Pharisee!</u> First clean the inside of the cup and of the plate, so that the outside may be clean also.

27 Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, pretenders (hypocrites)!...

28 Just so, you also outwardly seem to people to be just and upright but inside you are full of pretense and lawlessness and iniquity.

29 *Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, pretenders (hypocrites)!* For you build tombs for the prophets and decorate the monuments of the righteous,

30 Saying, If we had lived in the days of our forefathers, <u>we would not</u> <u>have aided them in shedding the blood of the prophets.</u>

31 Thus you are testifying against yourselves that you are the descendants of those who murdered the prophets.

Matthew 24:5 AMPC

5 For many will come in (on the strength of) My name [[a]appropriating the name which belongs to Me], saying, I am the Christ (the Messiah), and they will lead many astray.

Isaiah 56:10-12 AMPC

10 [Israel's] watchmen *(modern day pastor, preacher or teacher)* are blind, they are all without knowledge; they are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark; <u>dreaming, lying down,</u> <u>they love to slumber.</u>

11 Yes, the dogs are greedy; they never have enough. And such are the shepherds who cannot understand; they have all turned to their own way, <u>each one to his own gain</u>, from every quarter [one and all].

12 Come, say they, We will fetch wine, and we will fill ourselves with strong drink! And tomorrow shall be as this day, a day great beyond measure.

Jeremiah 14:13-15 AMPC

13 Then said I, Alas, Lord God! Behold, the [false] prophets say to them, You will not see the sword, nor will you have famine; but I [the Lord] will give you assured peace (peace that lasts, the peace of truth) in this place.

14 Then the Lord said to me, The [false] prophets prophesy lies in My name. I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, nor have I spoken to them. They prophesy to you a false or pretended vision, a worthless divination [conjuring or practicing magic, trying to call forth the responses supposed to be given by idols], and the deceit of their own minds.

15 Therefore thus says the Lord concerning the [false] prophets who prophesy in My name—although I did not send them—and who say, Sword and famine shall not be in this land: By sword and famine shall those prophets be consumed.

Jesus completed his teaching in Matthew 22 and Matthew 23 and then started walking away from outside of the Temple area...

Matthew 24:1-6 AMPC

1 Jesus departed from the temple [a]area and was going on His way when His disciples came up to Him to call His attention to the buildings of the temple and point them out to Him.

2 But He answered them, Do you see all these? Truly I tell you, there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down.

3 While He was seated on the Mount of Olives, <u>the disciples came to</u> <u>Him privately and said, Tell us, when will this take place, and what will</u> <u>be the sign of Your coming and of the end (the completion, the</u> <u>consummation) of the age?</u>

4 Jesus answered them, Be careful that no one misleads you [deceiving you and leading you into error].

5 For many will come in (on the strength of) My name [[b]appropriating the name which belongs to Me], saying, I am the Christ (the Messiah), and they will lead many astray.

6 And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars; see that you are not frightened or troubled, *for this must take place, but the end is not yet.*

We studied some of these "things" in the following verses in Matthew 24 that must take place and in other books of the Bible as well. From the "things" or *signs* that must take place on the earth and sky that we will see coming to pass...the beginning early pains of the birth pains.

Matthew 24:8 AMPC

8 All this is but the beginning [the early pains] of the birth pangs [of the intolerable anguish].

You and I will see some limited "things" or signs, the early pains that must occur to wake us up that Jesus is coming but He said "don't be frightened or troubled". Jesus said, I need to go away first so these things/signs can and must happen before I rapture you and then 7 years later the consummation of the age when I set up the 1,000 year reign. John 14:1-6, 15, 23-29 AMPC

1 **Do not let your hearts be troubled (distressed, agitated).** You believe in and adhere to and trust in and rely on God; believe in and adhere to and trust in and rely also on Me.

2 In My Father's house there are many dwelling places (homes). If it were not so, I would have told you; for I am going away to prepare a place for you.

3 And when (if) I go and make ready a place for you, I will come back again and will take you to Myself, that where I am you may be also.

4 And [to the place] where I am going, you know the way.

5 Thomas said to Him, Lord, we do not know where You are going, so how can we know the way?

6 Jesus said to him, I am the Way and the Truth and the Life; no one comes to the Father except by (through) Me.

15 If you [really] love Me, you will keep (obey) My commands.

23 Jesus answered, If a person [really] loves Me, he will keep My word [obey My teaching]; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home (abode, special dwelling place) with him.

24 Anyone who does not [really] love Me does not observe and obey My teaching. And the teaching which you hear and heed is not Mine, but [comes] from the Father Who sent Me.

25 I have told you these things while I am still with you.

26 But the Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengthener, Standby), the Holy Spirit, Whom the Father will send in My name [in My place, to represent Me and act on My behalf], He will teach you all things. And He will cause you to recall (will remind you of, bring to your remembrance) everything I have told you.

27 Peace I leave with you; My [own] peace I now give and bequeath to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. **Do not let your hearts be troubled**, <u>neither let them be afraid</u>. [Stop allowing yourselves to be agitated and <u>disturbed</u>; and do not permit yourselves to be fearful and intimidated <u>and cowardly and unsettled.]</u>

28 You heard Me tell you, I am going away and I am coming [back] to you. If you [really] loved Me, you would have been glad, because I am going to the Father; for the Father is greater and mightier than I am.

29 <u>And now I have told you [this] before it occurs, so that when it does</u> take place you may believe and have faith in and rely on Me.

John 15:18-27 AMPC

18 If the world hates you, know that it hated Me before it hated you.

19 If you belonged to the world, the world would treat you with affection and would love you as its own. But because you are not of the world [no longer one with it], but I have chosen (selected) you out of the world, the world hates (detests) you.

20 Remember that I told you, A servant is not greater than his master [is not superior to him]. If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you; if they kept My word and obeyed My teachings, they will also keep and obey yours.

21 But they will do all this to you [inflict all this suffering on you] because of [your bearing] My name and on My account, for they do not know or understand the One Who sent Me.

22 If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not be guilty of sin [would be blameless]; but now they have no excuse for their sin.

23 <u>Whoever hates Me also hates My Father.</u>

24 **If I had not done (accomplished) among them the works which no** <u>one else ever did</u>, they would not be guilty of sin. But [the fact is] now they have both seen [these works] and have hated both Me and My Father.

25 But [this is so] that the word written in their Law might be fulfilled, They hated Me without a cause.

26 <u>But when the Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Advocate, Intercessor,</u> <u>Strengthener, Standby) comes,</u> Whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of Truth Who comes (proceeds) from the Father, He [Himself] will testify regarding Me.

27 But you also will testify and be My witnesses, because you have been with Me from the beginning.

John 16 AMPC

<u>**1** I have told you all these things, so that you should not be offended</u> (taken unawares and falter, or be caused to stumble and fall away). [I told you to keep you from being scandalized and repelled.] 2 <u>They will put you out of (expel you from) the synagogues;</u> but an hour is coming when whoever kills you will <u>think and claim that he has</u> <u>offered service to God.</u>

3 And they will do this because they have not known the Father or Me. 4 But I have told you these things now, so that when they occur you will remember that I told you of them. I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you.

5 But now I am going to Him Who sent Me, yet none of you asks Me, Where are You going?

<u>6 But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts [taken complete possession of them].</u>

7 However, I am telling you nothing but the truth when I say it is profitable (good, expedient, advantageous) for you that I go away. Because if I do not go away, the Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Advocate, Intercessor, Strengthener, Standby) will not come to you [into close fellowship with you]; but if I go away, I will send Him to you [to be in close fellowship with you].

8 And when He comes, He will convict and convince the world and bring demonstration to it about <u>sin and about righteousness (uprightness of</u> <u>heart and right standing with God) and about judgment:</u>

9 About sin, because they do not believe in Me [trust in, rely on, and adhere to Me]; 10 About righteousness (uprightness of heart and right standing with God), because I go to My Father, and you will see Me no longer; 11 About judgment, because the ruler (evil genius, prince) of this world [Satan] is judged and condemned and sentence already is passed upon him.

<u>12 I have still many things to say to you, but you are not able to bear</u> them or to take them upon you or to grasp them now.

13 But when He, the Spirit of Truth (the Truth-giving Spirit) comes, He will guide you into all the Truth (the whole, full Truth). For He will not speak His own message [on His own authority]; but He will tell whatever He hears [from the Father; <u>He will give the message that has been given to Him], and He will announce and declare to you the things that are to come [that will happen in the future].</u>

Let's pick up this conversation Jesus is having with His disciples - not the religious leaders but His disciples only...they were then ones that asked the question because they understood there were 2 different times when Jesus would return. In the clouds (rapture) and on the earth for the battle of Armageddon.

Matthew 24:33-42 AMPC

33 So also when you see these signs, [m]all taken together, coming to pass, you may know [n]of a surety that He is near, at the very doors.

Matthew 24:33 KJV

33 So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors.

34 Truly I tell you, this generation ([o]the whole multitude of people living at the same time, [p]in a definite, [q]given period) will not pass away till all these things [r]taken together take place.

35 [s]Sky and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away. 36 But of that [exact] day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

37 As were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.

38 For just as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, [men] marrying and [women] being given in marriage, <u>until</u> the [very] day when Noah went into the ark.

39 And they did not know or understand until the flood came and swept them all away—<u>**so will be the coming of the Son of Man**</u>.

40 <u>At that time two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one</u> <u>will be left.</u>

41 Two women will be grinding at the hand mill; <u>one will be taken and</u> <u>one will be left.</u>

42 Watch therefore [[t]give strict attention, be cautious and active], for you do not know in what kind of a day [[u]whether a near or remote one] your Lord is coming.

The parallel in the synoptic gospels for when Jesus answers His disciples what will it be like or look like when He returns in the clouds or His coming in the clouds is also found in Luke 17. Jesus likens *His Coming* to as in the days of Lot as well as Noah.

Luke 17:26-30 AMPC

26 And [just] as it was in the days of Noah, so will it be in the time of the Son of Man.

27 [People] ate, they drank, they married, they were given in marriage, right up to the day when Noah went into the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all.

28 So also [it was the same] as it was in the days of Lot. [People] ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built;

Jesus said when He returns or when He comes in the clouds (not on the earth for the Battle of Armageddon, the consummation of the age which He then begins to set up His kingdom during the Millennial Reign) it will look like the days of Noah and Lot. They were removed from harms way prior to the judgment that came upon the earth.

Matthew 24:37-42 AMPC

37 As were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.

Matthew 24:3

3 While He was seated on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately and said, Tell us, when will this take place, and <u>what will be the sign of Your coming</u> and of the end (the completion, the consummation) of the age?

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Matthew 24:37, 39 AMPC

37 As were the days of Noah, <u>so will be the coming of the Son of Man.</u>
39 And they did not know or understand until the flood came and swept them all away—<u>so will be the coming of the Son of Man.</u>

What will happen at *the coming* of the Son of Man?

Matthew 24:40-41 AMPC

40 <u>At that time</u> two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left.

41 Two women will be grinding at the hand mill; <u>one will be taken and</u> <u>one will be left.</u>

42 Watch therefore [[t]give strict attention, be cautious and active], for you do not know in what kind of a day [[u]whether a near or remote one] your Lord is coming. Jesus said give strict attention to and be cautious that no one deceives you and I regarding the signs of the coming of the Son of Man or the Rapture of the church and: sin, judgment and righteousness which prepares us for the Rapture.

<u>2 Peter 1:12-16 AMPC</u>

12 So I intend always to remind you about these things, although indeed you know them and are firm in the truth that [you] now [hold]. 13 I think it right, as long as I am in this tabernacle (tent, body), to stir

you up by way of remembrance,

14 Since I know that the laying aside of this body of mine will come speedily, as our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me.

15 Moreover, I will diligently endeavor [to see to it] that [even] after my departure (decease) <u>you may be able at all times to call these things to</u> <u>mind.</u>

16 For we were not following cleverly devised stories when we made known to you the power and <u>coming of our Lord Jesus Christ</u> (the Messiah), <u>but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty (grandeur, authority</u> <u>of sovereign power).</u>



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