

# LAST THINGS FIRST: ESCHATOLOGY & ENDURING THE END TIMES

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- **Future of Temple in Jerusalem (Mt 24:1-2)**

1. Totally destroyed--by Titus Vespasian & Romans in 70 AD

- **2 questions (Mt 24:3; Mk 13:3)**

1. When will Temple be destroyed?
2. What are signs of Jesus' return & the end?

- **Church/New Testament Age--from Jesus' time to ours (Mt 24:4-8)**

1. False Christs (5)
2. Wars (6-7a)
3. Famines (7b)
4. Earthquakes (7b)
5. These are only beginnings (8)

- **Age of Tribulation--time of worldwide persecution of Christians (Mt 24:9-14)**

1. Persecution (9)
2. Falling away from faith--apostasy (10)
3. False prophets (11)
4. Increased sinfulness (12)
5. Gospel preached all over (14)

- **Destruction of Temple in Jerusalem (Mt 24:15-20)**

1. Run when you see "the detestable (offensive) thing that lays waste (destroys)" in Temple (15; Da 11:31)
  - *Daniel prophesied about Antiochus Epiphanies (Greek/Seleucid ruler 175-164 BC); Josephus (1st century Jewish historian) records he plundered Temple; built altar to Zeus; sacrificed pigs; boiled flesh & poured broth in Temple (169-168 BC)*
  - *Jesus prophesies about Titus Vespasian (Roman ruler 79-81 AD); surrounded & attacked city; plundered & burned Temple; entered Holy of Holies (70 AD)*
2. Eusebius (3rd century church historian) records all Christians escaped Jerusalem, going to Pella as Roman armies approached (Lk 21:20)

- **Age of Vengeance--time of God's wrath on unbelievers for persecution (Mt 24:21-29)**

1. Unequaled, terrible events (21-22)
2. False Christs performing signs (23-26)
3. Signs in sun, moon, & stars (29; Lk 21:25-28)

- **Second Coming of Christ (Mt 24:30-31)**

- **Watch (Mk 13:37)**

1. Some will not due to (Luke 21:34)
  - *Partying (wasting time)*
  - *Drunkenness*
  - *Worry (over life)*

- **Judgment--reason for separation of believers & unbelievers for eternity (Mt 25:31-46; 2 Co 5:10)**

1. Believers saved by faith (Ep 2:8-9)  
- *Judged on works--no sin, only good works (1 Co 3:11-15; Co 2:13)*
2. Unbelievers damned by lack of faith (Jn 3:18)  
- *Judged on works--all sins (Re 20:12-13)*

- **Eternal state--new heaven & new earth after old ones destroyed by fire (Is 65:17; 2 Pe 3:10-13; Re 21:1)**

- **Damnation--separation of unbelievers' soul & body from God in eternal state of hell (Dn 12:2)**

1. Weeping & gnashing (Mt 8:12)
2. Body & soul destroyed (Mt 10:28)
3. Degrees (Mt 11:20-24; Lk 12:47-48)
4. Worm & fire? (Mk 9:48)
5. Separation (2 Th 1:6-10)
6. Eternal torment (Re 14:11)
7. Fiery lake of burning sulfur? (Re 20:14-15)

- **Exaltation--joining of believers' soul & body with God in eternal state of heaven (Jb 19:25-27; Dn 12:2)**

1. No marriage (Mt 22:30)
2. Like wedding (Mt 25:10; Re 19:9)
3. Like banquet (Lk 22:30)
4. Place to belong (Jn 14:2)
5. Perfect (Re 7:15-17; 21:1-4)
6. All new (Re 21:5)
7. No sin ever (Re 21:27)

#### Amillennialism

1. "1000 years" = a complete time (10 is symbolic number for completion)
2. Church Age is the time from Jesus' ascension until near the end ("1000 years")
3. Satan's Little Season is a time of persecution or "tribulation" for the Church
4. Christ returns on the Last Day and judges all people

