

CHAPTER 23

THEN spake Jesus to the multitude, and to his disciples,

2 Saying, The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat:

3 All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, *that* observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not.

4 For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay *them* on men's shoulders; but they *themselves* will not move them with one of their fingers.

5 But all their works they do for to be seen of men: they make broad their phylacteries, and enlarge the borders of their garments,

6 And love the uppermost rooms at feasts, and the chief seats in the synagogues,

7 And greetings in the markets, and to be called of men, Rabbi, Rabbi.

8 But be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Master, *even* Christ; and all ye are brethren.

9 And call no *man* your father upon the earth: for one is your

Father, which is in heaven.

10 Neither be ye called masters: for one is your Master, *even* Christ.

11 But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.

12 And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.

13 ¶ But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in *yourselves*, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in.

14 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation.

15 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves.

16 Woe unto you, ye blind guides, which say, Whosoever shall

swear by the temple, it is nothing; but whosoever shall swear by the gold of the temple, he is a debtor!

17 Ye fools and blind: for whether is greater, the gold, or the temple that sanctifieth the gold?

18 And, Whosoever shall swear by the altar, it is nothing; but whosoever sweareth by the gift that is upon it, he is guilty.

19 Ye fools and blind: for whether is greater, the gift, or the altar that sanctifieth the gift?

20 Whoso therefore shall swear by the altar, sweareth by it, and by all things thereon.

21 And whoso shall swear by the temple, sweareth by it, and by him that dwelleth therein.

22 And he that shall swear by heaven, sweareth by the throne of God, and by him that sitteth thereon.

23 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier *matters* of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

24 Ye blind guides, which strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel.

25 Woe unto you, scribes and

Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess.

26 *Thou* blind Pharisee, cleanse first that *which is* within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also.

27 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead *men's* bones, and of all uncleanness.

28 Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity.

29 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! because ye build the tombs of the prophets, and garnish the sepulchres of the righteous,

30 And say, If we had been in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets.

31 Wherefore ye be witnesses unto yourselves, that ye are the children of them which killed the prophets.

32 Fill ye up then the measure of your fathers.

33 Ye serpents, ye generation of

vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?

34 ¶ Wherefore, behold, I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and *some* of them ye shall kill and crucify; and *some* of them shall ye scourge in your synagogues, and persecute *them* from city to city:

35 That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar.

36 Verily I say unto you, All these things shall come upon this generation.

37 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, *thou* that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under *her* wings, and ye would not!

38 Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.

39 For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed *is* he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

CHAPTER 24

AND Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his dis-

ciples came to *him* for to shew him the buildings of the temple.

2 And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.

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?

4. And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you.

5 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.

6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all *these things* must come to pass, but the end is not yet.

7 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.

8 All these *are* the beginning of sorrows.

9 Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.

10 And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.

11 And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.

12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.

13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)

16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:

17 Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house:

18 Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes.

19 And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days!

20 But pray ye that your flight

be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day:

21 For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

22 And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.

23 Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here *is* Christ, or there; believe *it* not.

24 For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if *it were* possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

25 Behold, I have told you before.

26 Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, *he is* in the secret chambers; believe *it* not.

27 For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

28 For wheresoever the carcase is, there will the eagles be gathered together.

29 ¶ Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not

give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:

30 And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

31 And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

32. Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer *is* nigh:

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

34 Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.

35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

36 ¶ But of that day and hour knoweth no *man*, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.

37 But as the days of Noe *were*, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

38 For as in the days that were

before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark,

39 And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

40 Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

41 Two *women shall be* grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

42 ¶ Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.

43 But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up.

44 Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.

45 Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season?

46 Blessed *is* that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing.

47 Verily I say unto you, That he

shall make him ruler over all his goods.

48 But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming;

49 And shall begin to smite *his* fellowservants, and to eat and drink with the drunken;

50 The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for *him*, and in an hour that he is not aware of,

51 And shall cut him asunder, and appoint *him* his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

Possibly with the exception of chapter 13, no part of this great book has been more misunderstood than chapters 24 and 25. Many major cults have used chapter 24:1-41, with Daniel 9:23-27, to try to prove that Christ has already returned. Even some well-meaning evangelicals confuse the issue by applying this section to the Church Age. It is important that we get the overall view of the Olivet Discourse in order to correctly understand these chapters. In this Discourse, Jesus predicted the events that still future time when He will resume dealing with Israel, just before His return to earth in glory.

Chapter 24:1,2 predicts the destruction of the Temple; verses 4-26 are prophecies dealing with Israel in the period of the Tribulation, just prior to the return of Messiah-King to establish His earthly Kingdom; and, in verses 27-30, the prophecy is recorded of the second coming of the Messiah. This event will take place immediately after the Tribulation Period, preceded by a particular sign (verse 30). The coming will be sudden (verse 27) and evident to all (verse 30). Verse 31 deals with the regathering of Israel through special angelic ministries, and verses 31-51 illustrate the certainty of His second coming, exhorting everyone to be watchful. All three illustrations in verses 37-51 emphasize the unexpectedness of the Lord's coming, by showing that the individuals concerned were occupied with the usual cares of life, without giving thought to the Messiah's return. Israel is thereby exhorted to be prepared for that great day.

As we read this chapter we must remember that no signs in the Scriptures point to the Rapture of the Church but, rather, to the second coming of Christ in power and glory. This second coming takes place immediately after the Tribulation Period. We can already see the regathering of the Jewish people in

their homeland, and we know that the world today is as much in sin as it was in the days of Noah. Since these are signs of the second coming of Christ, and the Rapture will take place seven years prior to His second coming; then we must realize that His return for the Church could be very near. It could be today! Are you ready to meet Him?

PROVERB FOR TODAY

"For by wise counsel thou shalt make thy war: and in multitude of counsellors there is safety" (Proverbs 24:6).

TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

ASSIGNMENT 32: For today's memory verses, follow instructions on page 9.

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

1821

CHARLES G. FINNEY WAS SAVED.

Here is one of the giants of all time. I have traveled in the northeastern part of our country and have seen city after city that was shaken by revival during the ministry of Charles G. Finney. Charles G. Finney was filled with the Holy Spirit and the power of God came on him the same day of his conversion. He had such power that his physical presence convicted men. He would walk down the street and men would fall on their knees and cry, "What must I do to be saved?" During revivals conducted by Charles G. Finney, it was not unusual for the entire school system to be revived. Teachers would pause during the classroom and ask for Mr. Finney to lead them to salvation. Entire classes would come to Christ because of their teacher's conversion. It is said that Charles G. Finney had an "altar in the woods" where he met God and prayed down the power of God. Do you have a place to meet God?

**APPROXIMATELY THE DAY OF ATONEMENT
FOR ISRAEL.**

1903

MRS. MOODY DIED.

Mrs. Moody's name was Emma. Thank God today for the pastor's wife. Only the Lord knows the encouragement she may need and what a word of encouragement from you would mean to her.

1845

ANNAPOLIS WAS OPENED.

Let us pray today for our Navy. Maybe you know some sailors for whom you ought to pray. There are

Navy families in our congregation at the Fundamental Baptist Church. Ask God's blessings upon them, that He will keep them pure and faithful to Christ while they are away.

**ON THIS DATE IN
AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY**

1961

Otis M. Smith appointed to Michigan Supreme Court.

1978

Death of Congressman Ralph H. Metcalfe (68), in Chicago.

A Christian Life . . .

ROBERT PIERCE SHULER (1880-1965)

Robert Shuler was born August 4, 1880, in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. At the age of nine, kneeling between his mother and his preacher-uncle in “the meetin’ house” at Comer’s Rocks, he received Christ to be his Lord and Saviour. His primary education consisted of a three-month school, where he mastered the McGuffey’s Readers. In 1897 he entered Emory and Henry College as a sub-freshman, and was graduated in 1903. Two years later he married Nelle Revees, and the same year entered the Holston Conference of the Methodist Church.

Endowed with a good mind and an even better wit, he was an excellent extemporaneous speaker. In addition to this, his great courage, coupled with his conservative theology and evangelistic fervor, prompted him to ever preach with the altar call in view.

In 1920 he became pastor of the Trinity Methodist Church of Los Angeles, a position he occupied until his death. He began with a depleted congregation and saw it grow to 5,000 in the 1930s. In 1929, he was given a radio station which was housed in the tower of his church. It became a strong voice against crime and corruption in Southern California. His life was threatened many times, his church was bombed, he was sued and put in jail. He ran for United States Senator on the Prohibition ticket in 1932 and lost by only 50,000 votes.

His writings included *The Methodist Challenge*, *What New Doctrine Is This?*, *Some Dogs I Have Known*, and *I Met Them on the Trail*. Three of his sons followed him in the ministry.



Treasure Path to Soul-Winning

MEMORY VERSE TOPIC FOR THIS WEEK:

EVIDENCE OF DIVINE INSPIRATION:

DIVINE INSPIRATION EVIDENT BY THE POWER OF GOD'S WORD

(Assignment 32)

Please recite all three components of each of these five verses aloud, five times each morning, and five times each evening, for seven days. The three components of each verse are: Subject, Scripture Reference, and Scripture Text. (For more details, see "The Treasure Path to Soul Winning" link back on the DailyKJV page.)

Power to convict of sin.

() Acts 2:37

Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

Power to produce faith.

() Romans 10:17

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Power to make wise.

() Psalms 19:7

The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.

Power to produce joy.

() Jeremiah 15:16

Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O Lord God of hosts.

Power to produce peace in the human heart.

() Psalms 85:8

I will hear what God the Lord will speak: for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints: but let them not turn again to folly.