

- I. Jesus predicts the destruction of the temple (v. 5-7)

\*pictures of temple

- II. Jesus prepares his followers for difficult times (v. 8-19)

“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart I have overcome the world.” (John 16:33)

- A. There will be times of religious deception

1. We should watch out for false teaching

“For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear.” (2 Timothy 4:3)

2. We should watch out for false Messiahs

“Dear children, this is the last hour; and as you have heard that the antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come.” (1 John 2:18)

- B. There will be times of international distress

1. There will be wars before the end comes

2. The wars should not lead us to predict the end

“No one knows about the day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.” (Matthew 24:36)

- C. There will be times of natural disasters

1. There will be earthquakes

2. There will be famines

3. There will be diseases

4. There will be signs in the sky

“In those days, following the distress, ‘the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.’” (Mark 13:24-25)

- D. There will be times of persecution

“In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.” (2 Timothy 3:12)

1. We should be ready to be witnesses for Jesus

2. We should expect rejection and hatred

3. We should stand firm in our faith in Jesus

“Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.” (James 1:12)

III. Jesus predicts the destruction of Jerusalem (v. 20-24)

A. This is the time of God's judgment

“For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead.” (Acts 17:31)

B. We live in the time of God's grace

“In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.” (Ephesians 1:8-9)