

**STUDIES IN THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW**

**Text: Matthew 24**

*23 "Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'There!' do not believe it.*

*24 For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.*

*25 See, I have told you beforehand.*

*26 "Therefore if they say to you, 'Look, He is in the desert!' do not go out; or 'Look, He is in the inner rooms!' do not believe it.*

*27 For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.*

*28 For wherever the carcass is, there the eagles will be gathered together.*

*Matthew 24:23-28*

**I HAVE TOLD YOU BEFOREHAND**

1. This may be understood as:

- a) Foretelling
- b) Forewarning

2. This was done

- a) To help the Disciples to be better prepared
- a) That they may be forearmed

**CONTENTS OF THE FOREWARNING**

- 1. "Look, here is the Christ!"      Matthew 24:23a
- 2. "There" (is the Christ!)"      Matthew 24:23b
- 3. "Look, he is in the desert!"      Matthew 24:26a

4. "Look, *He is* in the inner rooms!" Matthew 24:26c

5. Response:

a) "Do not go out" Matthew 24:26b

b) "Do not believe it." Matthew 24:23b, 26d

### **FALSE CHRISTS AND FALSE PROPHETS**

1. These are false messiahs/ false prophets

2. These would arise

3. They would use any and every means to deceive

a) Great signs

b) Wonders

4. Who are their targets?

a) Anyone/ everyone

b) Even the elect (believers)

### **A SIMILAR WORD OF WARNING**

<sup>9</sup> *The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders,*

<sup>10</sup> *and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.*

<sup>11</sup> *And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie,*

<sup>12</sup> *that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.*

*2 Thessalonians 2:9-12*

1. The lawless one and his deeds

a) Power, signs and lying wonders

- b) All unrighteous deception
- c) Strong delusion sent by God

## 2. Consequences

- a) Those who did not receive the word of truth
- b) They will end up believing the lie
- c) They will be condemned
- d) They have chosen unrighteousness

## **THE COMING OF THE SON OF MAN**

### 1. His Second Coming is likened to Lightning

### 2. The word translated as "coming"

- a) Parousia
- b) It is used to describe a person of great significance

### 3. Figure of speech

- a) When a carcass is found
- b) There the "eagles" or "vultures" (aetos) will gather