

July 28, 2024
Matthew 24:29-44
“Be Ready”

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION

V 29, when the Son Of Man returns the entire heavens will be disrupted. Exactly what the sign of the Son Of Man will be is unknown. He will return on the clouds with great power and great glory. He will send His angels forth to regather His people. These people are the ones who become believers during the 70th week. This gathering will probably also involve all the OT saints whose resurrection will occur at this time, so that they may share in the Messiah’s kingdom, see **Daniel 12:1-3; 13**.

The heavens will be in an uproar, Jesus holds all things together by the word of His power, no problem if He wants to diminish that power just a bit to bring on this chaos. No problem to restore it later on either. This is God’s plan, Isaiah wrote about this very event about 700 years earlier, see **Isaiah 13:6-16; 34:1-5**. About 800 years before Matthew penned this the prophet, **Joel 1:15-2:11**, wrote about the coming day of the Lord and of the shaking and upset in the heavens.

Vv 32-35, the generation living when all of this begins to unfold will live through it to its completion. God has a very specific timeline. The words of Christ will not fail.

Vv 36-41, no one can calculate the time of His return. It will be just like in Noah’s day, no regard for God right up to the time the first rain drops began to fall. It will come unexpectedly for many. Believers in this time will know that the time is near by what is transpiring around them, but not the exact time, see **I Thessalonians 5:1-11**.

One taken, one left. Those taken are the wicked in this case. Those left will be the ones who had believed and will have the privilege of going into the Millennial Kingdom. This is not describing the Rapture. The Lord’s warning emphasized the need to be prepared.

Application:

Be alert, be ready, you do not know when this day will come. **II Peter 2:4-9**. Don’t miss heaven by 18 inches. The Word must go from your head down 18 inches to your heart. Paul wrote about this believing becoming a matter of the heart in **Romans 10:8-13**. Beloved, please take a moment to read and meditate on **II Peter 3**. Believers living today very well may not go through the Tribulation. But, if you were to die today, are you ready? As bad as the Tribulation will be it pales in comparison to eternity in hell. If you have loved ones and friends who are lost please pray for them and share the gospel with them every chance you get.