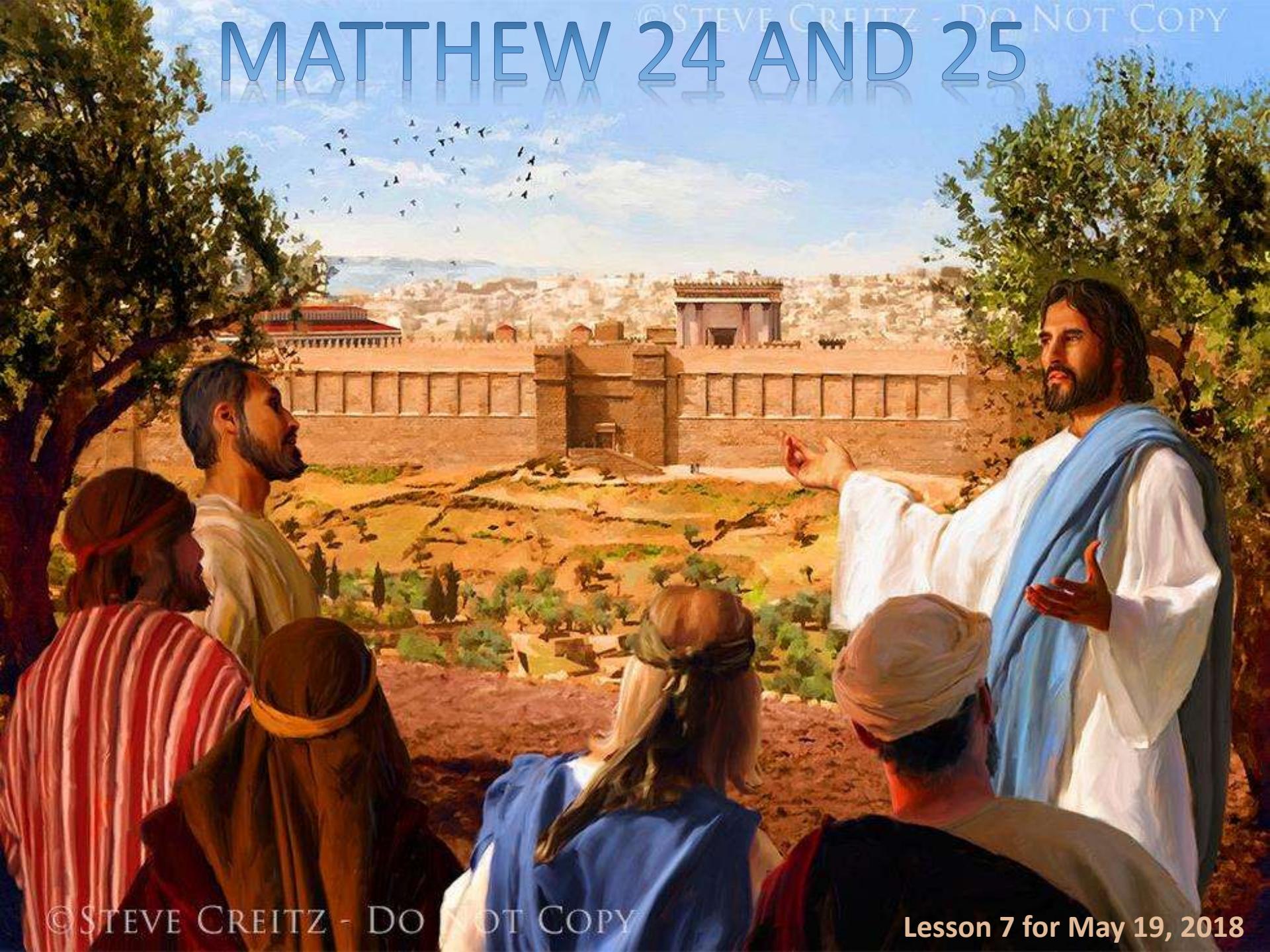


MATTHEW 24 AND 25



“And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed.” (Romans 13:11)

Jesus predicted the destruction of Jerusalem and compared it to the events that would happen before the Second Coming.

The Jerusalem events took place in year 70, and the End Time events are taking place today.



- 1. Matthew 24: The Signs of the End**
 - ▷ The condition of the world
 - ▷ Facing opposition
 - ▷ The “abomination of desolation”

- 2. Matthew 25: Preparing for the End**
 - ▷ The parable of the ten virgins
 - ▷ The parable of the talents

THE CONDITION OF THE WORLD

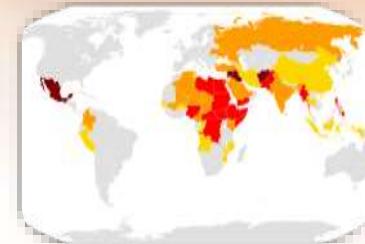


"See, I have told you ahead of time." (Matthew 24:25 NIV)

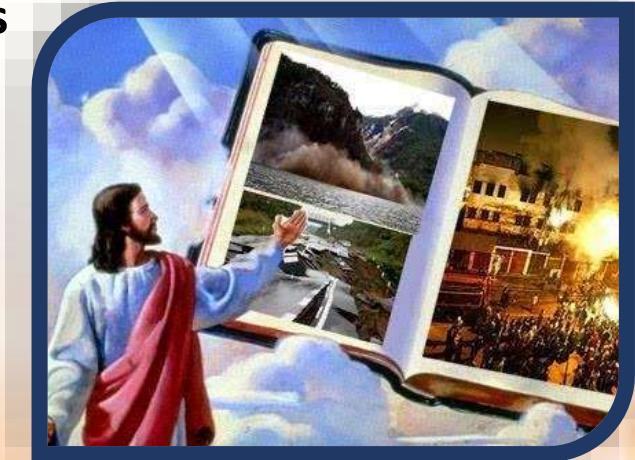
In Matthew 24, Jesus explains the physical, moral and spiritual condition of the world just before His Second Coming:

- ➊ Many will say, "I am the Christ"
- ➋ You will hear of wars and rumors of wars
- ➌ There will be famines, pestilences and earthquakes
- ➍ Faithful Christians will be loathed
- ➎ False prophets will deceive many
- ➏ Because lawlessness, the love will grow cold
- ➐ Marriage will be despised

We usually hear about those things in the news almost every day.



Armed conflicts 2017



Despite the great social and technological breakthroughs, the only hope for a better world is Jesus' promise: "I will come again." (John 14:3)

FACING OPPPOSITION

"He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed." (Revelation 13:15)



Just before the End, people will be persecuted, hated and killed because of condemning sin and remaining faithful to God's Commandments (Matthew 24:9)

That will make us decide between rejecting our faith or remaining faithful. Let's remember, "the one who stands firm to the end will be saved." (Matthew 24:13 NIV)

Read Matthew 7:24-27. How can we remain faithful to the end?



1. Knowledge. Listen and study the Word of God.
2. Obedience. Live according to what we learn from the Bible.

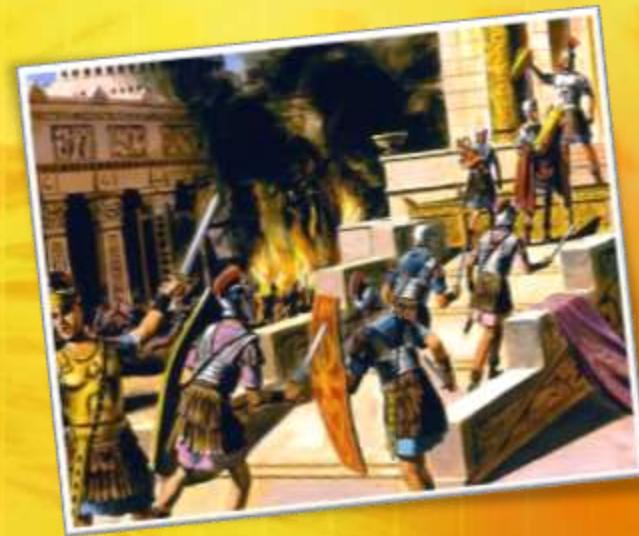
THE “ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION”

“Therefore when you see the ‘abomination of desolation,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (whoever reads, let him understand)” (Matthew 24:15)

“But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is near.”
(Luke 21:20)

The “abomination of desolation” is mentioned three times in Daniel: Daniel 9:27; 11:31 and 12:11.

Daniel 9:27 explains that Rome carries desolation on its wings. That was fulfilled in 70 AD when the city of Jerusalem and the temple were desecrated.



This quote is part of the fulfillment of prophecy in Daniel 8:11-14. It has a double fulfillment. Rome would desecrate the temple in Jerusalem, and the Papal Rome would desecrate Jesus' ministry in the Heavenly Sanctuary.

PREPARING FOR THE END TIME: THE TEN VIRGINS

"The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.'" (Matthew 25:8 NIV)



The ten virgins are a symbol of the pure Church that is preparing to meet her Lord.

All ten virgins have the Holy Spirit and are shining like little lights in this world. They all fall asleep at some moment.

The difference in the two groups of virgins is shown when crisis comes. Those living a superficial relationship with God are unable to keep their lights shining in a hostile world.

Those who place God first in their lives will persevere to the end.

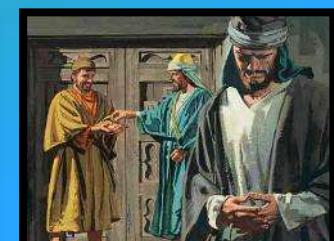
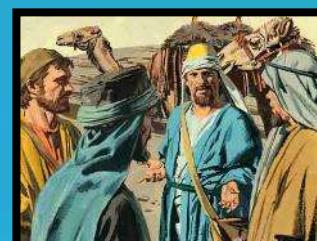
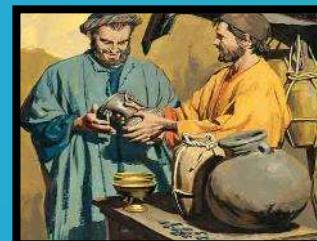
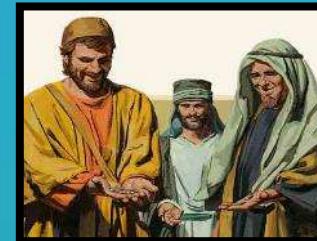
PREPARING FOR THE END: THE TALENTS

“And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey.”
(Matthew 25:15)

A businessman left one of his employees in charge of part of his business—valued in 880,168 \$*—while abroad. The employee increased the value of the business to 1,471,800 \$*.

He left another employee in charge of a value of 352,067 \$, and he increased its value to 704,134 \$.

He left a third employee in charge of a value of 176,034 \$. That employee was negligent and settled for just avoiding loss.



* 1 talent = 176,034 \$ = 147,180 €

The Holy Spirit gives talents (gifts) freely to everyone, according to our ability to administer them. He wants us to use them to serve others, so He'll receive what is His (us) with the interests (those who are reached when we use our gifts)

“God has appointed to every man his work. The lowliest as well as the mightiest have been endowed with influence that should tell on the Lord’s side, and they should devote their talent to Him, each working in his appointed place of duty. The Lord expects everyone to do his best. When light shines into the heart, He expects our work to correspond with our light, to be in accordance with the measure of the fullness of Christ which we have received. The more we use our knowledge and exercise our powers, the more knowledge we shall have, the more power we shall acquire to do more and better work.”

**“If ever there was a time when we
needed faith and spiritual
enlightenment, it is now. Those who
are watching unto prayer and are
searching the Scriptures daily with
an earnest desire to know and do
the will of God, will not be led
astray by any of the deceptions of
Satan.”**

E.G.W. (In Heavenly Places, December 9)