

Structure of Jesus' Olivet Discourse

Matthew 24—25

Introduction (24:1-3)	When will these things be? What will be the sign of your coming? What will be the sign of the end of the age?
Eschatological Timetable (24:4-31)	First Half of the Tribulation: <i>Birth Pains</i> (24:4-14)
	Midway Point: <i>Abomination of Desolation</i> (24:15-20)
	Second Half: <i>The "Great Tribulation"</i> (24:21-28)
	Second Coming (24:29-31)
What You Do Know and What You Do Not Know (24:32-51)	What You Know: <i>Fig Tree</i> (24:32-35)
	What You Do Not Know: <i>The Day or the Hour</i> (24:36-51)
Three Parables (25:1-46)	Ten Virgins (25:1-13)
	Talents (25:14-30)
	Sheep and Goats (25:31-46)

In the tradition of the great prophets before Him, in His final discourse in Matthew Jesus predicts the destruction of the temple because of Israel's rejection of her Messiah (24:2). The majority of this discourse, however, concerns events immediately preceding Jesus' second coming and the end of the age.