

Days of Noah

Matthew 24:36-39

- 36 *“But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone.*
- 37 *“For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah.*
- 38 *“For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark,*
- 39 *and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be.*

It is amazing how many people will follow some man or woman (*Mary Baker Eddy—founder of Christian Science*). And how multitudes follow

charlatans like Joseph Smith (*Mormons*) or some insults to Christianity like Joel Osteen but some of the more ‘humorist’ are those who lead their followers to sell everything and meet on some mountain top (*generally in California*) because Jesus was coming on a certain date at a certain time. I would think that one, not even being Filled of the Holy Spirit could read Matthew 24:36-39 and not fall into a trap like that.

But that just proves the point of our absolute dependency on the Holy Spirit to correctly understand the Word of God.

In this passage Jesus Christ clearly teaches that no one should attempt to date—set the time of the Rapture—His return for the Church, for no one knows the time of His return, not supernatural creatures –angels –not even the Son knows, but only the Father, and that is a very sobering thought.

Matthew 24:36

36 *“But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone.*

Look at Matthew 24:3

³ *As He was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things happen, and what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?"*

JESUS CHRIST now tells them that as to the exact day and hour no one knows.

Matthew 24:36

³⁶ *"But of that day and hour no one knows,*
[Days and hours are the measurements we use to fix a date. But with God there are things that will happen that will determine the day and the hour. What day and what hour?] *When He is near,*
right at the door [That is the return of JESUS CHRIST] *not even the angels of heaven,*
[God's super creatures who have been here since before the time of man] *nor the Son,* [you will note in the next verse, He is called] *the son of man* [The reference to JESUS CHRIST as the Son

refers to and is limited to the humanity of JESUS CHRIST, the incarnation of JESUS CHRIST, the Christmas story.]

Here we could spend a great deal of time on CHRISTOLOGY.

JESUS CHRIST is undiminished Deity and true humanity in one person, called the **Hypostatic Union. He is **The God-man**.**

And references like this refer to His humanity.

For example, when we study the death of JESUS CHRIST we are limited to the death of the humanity of JESUS CHRIST, Deity cannot die.

Matthew 24:36 (Parable of the Fig Tree)

But of that date and hour no one knows not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son But [in contrast] the Father alone.

The Father alone knows the day and the hour of **His Return** . Here is yet another point we could spend a great deal of useful time. The study of the Father and the Son.

The titles **Son of man**—emphasizes His humanity and the **Son of God**, emphasizes His Deity.

Please remember that God the Father is greater than the son,
and that the son came to bring us to God the Father.

John 14:28

28 [JESUS CHRIST Himself tells us]

*I go to the father for the father is greater
than I.*

I love the precious address we make in our
prayers...**Our Father.** In the Old Testament they knew Him
as Father but never prayed to Him as Father, this is something
new for the Church Age, because of the coming of the Son,
and by faith in JESUS CHRIST we share His SONSHIP, we have
the privilege of addressing Him as **OUR FATHER.**

And always remember that
All Three Members of the Godhead
Are Our Lord;

God the **Holy Spirit** is our Lord
Who takes us to our Lord, **Jesus Christ,**
Who takes us to our Lord, **God the Father.**

[Now we must also note the last *phrase*] *but the father alone.*

The Greek translated *alone* is used here as an adverb of persons and things.

Certainly God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit all know all things, all things possible and all things that are.

Matthew 24:37

37 *“For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah.*

We have studied a number of reasons why and ways in which the Old Testament is quoted in the New Testament. JESUS CHRIST often quotes or refers to the Old Testament; here He is making a **parabolic comparison** between His coming and the antediluvian days of Noah.

Sometimes I much prefer the wording in the original for emphasis: *for just as the days of Noah so will be*

[or in this way] *will be the coming of the Son of man*

[again, Jesus goes from the known to the unknown.]

Luke also records this similarity.

Luke 17:26

26 “And just as it happened in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man:

27 they were eating, they were drinking, they were marrying, they were being given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all.

There are three main ways in which the coming of the Son of man and days of Noah strike similarities.

1. The world was and will be characterized by gross immorality and anti-God.
2. The **suddenness** of the judgment of God.
3. The earth is directly affected by both.
But Jesus does not mention any of these.
In verse 38 Jesus gives another similarity and this similarity should strike fear and alertness in us all.

Matthew 24:38

38 *“For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark,*

That you can begin to grasp the impact of what our Lord is saying and what he is NOT saying, let us look at...

Genesis 6:5-7

5 *Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.*

6 *The LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart.*

7 *The LORD said, “I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, from man to animals to creeping things and to birds of the sky; for I am sorry that I have made them.”*

But He says nothing about their degeneracy!

So with as *bad, evil* the whole human race was upon the earth, JESUS CHRIST says nothing about that. He comments on how they were eating and drinking and marrying and giving in marriage.

None of these issues are sinful,
eating and drinking are not sinful,
marrying and giving in marriage is not sinful.

So since these are not sinful, what is the point?

They are so caught up in the things of this life, they give no attention to God or to the Messiah. They are totally unconcerned about what Word of God says.

Today in the Church Age, so many Christians are too involved in their lives; they do not have time to attend church, regularly for the study of God's word.

"Things" they substitute for study of God's word are not sinful... they are just too distracted from worship of God... they are just too busy... (absorbed in pursuing the things of this world.)

IT IS MOST INTERESTING THAT JESUS CHRIST DOES NOT EVEN MENTION HOW BOTH GENERATIONS WERE ABSORBED IN SIN, IN PERVERSIONS IN WICKEDNESS, BUT THAT THEY WERE JUST SO ABSORBED IN WORLDLY PURSUITS.

They were living in such a way as if there is no God,
there is no right and wrong,
just pursue whatever you want,
there is no judgment coming,
because there is no God,
everything is here by chance of evolution,
we are just in a chain of higher creatures,
oh, but while there is no God
there are extraterrestrial creatures out there.

The point is, **if there is no God** (in their thinking), then, there is nothing to concern us about after death. We must understand that before God there is no real difference between one we consider a horrible sinner and another unbeliever who is really moral and a wonderful person who rejects JESUS CHRIST as Savior.

Before God they both are unrighteous (-R) sinners condemned to an eternity in the lake of fire.

But oh, there is a day coming in history that will shock them back into **THE TRUTH.**

³⁸ *Marrying and giving in marriage*

Marrying [refers to males while]

giving in marriage [refers to females given by her parents in marriage.]

We have seen how eating and drinking are not sinful.
In fact the first blessing God gave man was food, he could eat of all the trees in the garden... except one.

Then the next blessing God gave man was a woman...
...(marriage)

Man's original sin involved eating. So since both of these are from God, they can be abused, and here in our current study they are abused by becoming so occupied with them.

Eating and drinking relates to **daily unpreparedness**.

As Tommy Ice has well said, marrying and giving in marriage illustrates **long range unpreparedness**.

The point is that people take care of their daily lives and long range plans without even considering, much less preparing for impending judgment. And while we are studying the time of The Tribulation, this is becoming more and more the norm in the world at the closing days of The Tribulation.

The point Jesus Christ is making is that "it made no sense to marry or even eat, with judgment coming suddenly."

**Today
In The Church Age
We Should Live Each Day In Light Of Eternity!**

Another point concerning the days of Noah...

...during this time Noah preached a strong message warning of the coming judgment, **BUT NO ONE LISTENED.**

38 But note the phrase:

until the day Noah entered the ark

What is so special about that day?

The world had never seen *rain!*

From the time of Adam and Eve it did not rain on this earth.

But on this day, rain started falling from above and I am talking about the kinds of rains we get here in Texas, a rain that can cause a flood within an hour.

Before we leave verse 38, we do not know exactly when Adam and Eve were created or exactly when the flood occurred but let's say the flood was about 4000 bc. So from 4000 bc to the coming of JESUS CHRIST is already some 6000 years and still counting. And man has not changed.

With all the discoveries through the centuries, especially since the 19th century, man has not changed.

He eats, drinks, marriage, reproduces and **is in need of the same simple grace gospel for salvation.** Man has not changed, the gospel has not changed.

Matthew 24:39

39 and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be.

Question:

Why did they not understand?

This question introduces the saddest words in the Word of God from Isaiah 28:12

12 they would not listen.

They would not listen to the Word of God.

No one will be able to say in the time of Noah, we did not know, how were we to know?

Because of the **“Faithfulness of God”** in sending Noah to preach the warning message, they have no excuse.

But they did not listen so they did not understand.

Until [this can be a frightening adverb: it marks the continuance of an action up to the time of another decisive action.]

Ok, in the Church Age I am not to judge One Another; how long do I have to not judge another believer?

1 Corinthians 4:5

5 Therefore do not go on passing judgment before the time, but wait until the Lord comes who will both bring to light the things hidden in the darkness and disclose the motives of men's hearts; and then each man's praise will come to him from God.

Matthew 24:39

39 and they did not understand until the flood came [Never had they seen anything like this; doesn't this sound nice...] *until the flood came* see that word] *flood* [Well, the Greek is more descriptive and frightening from ***kataklyzein*** to overflow with utter destruction; the English derivative ***cataclysm.***]

I wish we had time to study **THE FLOOD**. Modern day scientists say it took millions of years to form the Grand Canyon. But now, after the sudden and cataclysmic eruption of Mount St. Helens, geologist like Steve Austin have made some startling discoveries.

What happened in the 1980 eruption, caused such rapid formations of geologic structures that they saw shortly after eruption of Mount St. Helens that resemble exactly that of the Grand Canyon, that if they had not known it took just days to form they would have said thousands of years.

God has a wonderful way of making things look much older than they are. (Google Steve Austin and Mount St. Helens) Example: had they examined Adam on the day of his creation, doctors would have said surely he is something like 25 years old. They would not believe that he was less than one day old. And so it is with the miracles on this earth, like trying to judge that a human being is million years ago. The Genesis flood was cataclysmic and swept over the whole earth, and so the Second Coming of JESUS CHRIST will be cataclysmic.

Matthew 24:39

³⁹ *and took them all away;* [From living on earth by judgment, what is interesting here is that when they see the floods coming they will understand what Noah was preaching about, and why he was building this extremely large boat *on dry land* and it is not a matter that it is too late, the real problem is even seeing the floods come will not change their minds about God or the Messiah. Oh, they want on

the Ark, but they do not want the Lord.

so will the coming of the Son of Man be.

His coming will be a cataclysm on earth!

When all these things JESUS CHRIST has prophesied from verse 4 begin to happen, the people will then know what is going on and instead of changing their minds about Jesus as the Messiah-Savior they will simple mourn in fear.

So as most of the earth did not believe in the days of Noah,
so in the days before the coming of Jesus Christ,
most people will not believe.

Oh, they will know... for Jesus Christ will send 144,000 male Jewish evangelists to preach the gospel and He will send an angel to preach the everlasting gospel throughout the world
(Revelation 14:6)

So that all Mankind are without excuse.

But as they disregarded Noah, they will disregard even these supernatural declarations of the gospel.

Matthew 24:40-41

40 *“Then there will be two men in the field; one will be taken and one will be left.*

41 *“Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left.*

Luke 17:34

34 *“I tell you, on that night there will be two in one bed; one will be taken and the other will be left.*

35 *“There will be two women grinding at the same place; one will be taken and the other will be left.*

the body is, there also the vultures will be gathered.”

36 *[“Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other will be left.”]*

37 *And answering they *said to Him,
“Where, Lord?” And He said to them,
“Where Lord?”*

On a casual reading this may not seem to be frightening, but think about what it says, think about these two people, and all of a sudden one is gone!!!

In all of these illustrations it is clear that there is a sudden separation of people. One will be taken and the other left behind. It is also clear from the context that one of these is a believer while the other is an unbeliever.

Question:

Which One Is Taken And Which One Is Left Behind?

These two passages have caused a great deal of confusion and debate. First, many people (Christians) today are immediately led to believe this is a description of the rapture, where it is the believer who is taken, because of Tim LaHaye's *Left behind* series.

We have to stay within the context, and we have not had one reference to the **Rapture of the Church**. This entire passage, Matthew 24-25, is about The Tribulation and the return of JESUS CHRIST and has nothing to do with the Church.

Now let us look at what happens immediately after JESUS CHRIST returns to earth.

He is getting ready to move into His Millennium Kingdom. This kingdom will be made up of believers only.

So what happens historically is that all unbelievers will be removed from the earth.

At the Rapture of the Church, all believers will be removed and The Tribulation will begin with unbelievers only, which is why we have the 144,000 Jewish evangelist and why JESUS CHRIST will send an angel throughout the earth proclaiming the Gospel.

But at the Second Advent of JESUS CHRIST all unbelievers will be removed from the earth.

The Millennium will begin with believers only, and not only this, they will be [1] Indwelt by the Holy Spirit and they will be [2] filled with the Holy Spirit until they sin.

In the parabolic lesson of the days of Noah...; think about it.

Every unbeliever is removed from earth and only believers remain after the flood and Jesus said that the **Coming Of The Son Of Man Will Be Just Like The Days Of Noah.**

Unbelievers will be removed and only believers will remain on earth. Jesus will start out His Kingdom with believers only. This removal of unbelievers includes both unbelieving Jews and unbelieving Gentiles.

This is called **Baptism of Fire**.

1. This is the judgment of Tribulational unbelievers at the Second Advent of JESUS CHRIST. All unbelievers will be removed from the earth and placed in fire for the 1000 years of the Millennial reign of Jesus Christ on earth, until the last judgment. (Great White Throne Judgment) It is called a **Baptism of fire**—
Matthew 3:11-12 and Luke 3:16.
2. The time of the baptism of fire is at the Second Advent
2 Thessalonians 1:7-9; Matthew 3:11-12
3. The announcement of the Baptism Of Fire was given to John the Baptist. Matthew 3:11-12; Luke 3:16-17. In these verses the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and of Fire demonstrates the Plan of God the Father and the Power of JESUS CHRIST.
4. The parabolic teaching of the Baptism of Fire is
Matthew 24:36-41 and Luke 17:24-37 where the ones left are believers and the ones taken are the unbelievers.

5. Other parables of the Baptism of Fire:
 - a. The wheat and the tares Matthew 13:24-30, 36-40.
 - b. The good and bad fish Matthew 13:47-50.
 - c. The ten virgins Matthew 25:1-13.
 - d. The sheep and the goats Matthew 25:31-46.
 - e. The talents Matthew 25:14-30.

6. The Jews have been warned of the Baptism of Fire for Jews: Ezekiel 20:34-38; Isaiah 1:25-27; Malachi 3:1-6; 4:1-2.

7. Gentile baptism of fire: included in Matthew 25:31-46.

8. The Baptism of Fire is used to motivate –evangelize Jews–of the Church Age Hebrews 12:27-29.

9. The Baptism of Fire vindicates the character of our Lord JESUS CHRIST. Revelation 19:11.

10. The Baptism of Fire is necessary for the beginning of a new civilization in the Millennium. **Each civilization begins with believers only.** In each civilization man has a different life span, it's own climate, A civilization is the divine protection of the human race during the **ANGELIC CONFLICT.**

There are four civilizations:

- 1 **Antediluvian**---Adam to the universal flood
- 2 **Postdiluvian** – beginning with Noah and his family
- 3 **Millennium**
- 4 **Eternity**

Even so, come quickly Lord Jesus