

THE SIGNS OF CHRIST'S COMING, PART 1:
INTRODUCTION
(Matthew 24:1-3)

- I. Prophetic EXPECTATIONS in Judaism
 - A. The PROMINENCE of the topic of Messiah's COMING
 - 1. They had intense INTEREST in their FUTURE
 - 2. They had great HOPE for their FUTURE
 - B. The PROGRAM they ANTICIPATED
 - 1. He will be preceded by TERRIBLE TRIBULATION
 - 2. He will be announced by an ELIJAH-like HERALD
 - 3. He will VINDICATE Israel and establish His KINGDOM
 - 4. He will be ATTACKED by an alliance of ALL NATIONS
 - 5. He will DESTROY all OPPOSITION
 - 6. He will RESTORE JERUSALEM
 - 7. He will REGATHER all JEWS
 - 8. He will make PALESTINE the CENTER of the WORLD
 - 9. He will inaugurate an ETERNAL kingdom of PEACE, RIGHTEOUSNESS, and GLORY
 - C. The PROBLEM with their EXPECTATION

1. They had no idea He must COME TWICE
2. They had no concept of an INTERVENING AGE

II. Prophetic DISCUSSIONS with Jesus (Matt. 24:1-3)

A. Conversation near the TEMPLE (Matt. 24:1-2; cf. Mk. 13:1)

1. Jesus was LEAVING it for the LAST TIME
2. His disciples were ADMIRING it
3. Jesus declared its imminent DESTRUCTION

B. Questions on the MOUNT of OLIVES (Matt. 24:3; cf. Mk. 13:3)

1. “WHEN will THESE THINGS happen?”
 - a. They meant steps THREE through NINE above
 - b. They EXPECTED it IMMEDIATELY
2. “What will be the SIGN of Your COMING and of the END of the AGE?”
 - a. They meant, “By what MEANS will you make EVIDENT that You HAVE COME?”
 - b. They thought they’d REACHED the END of the AGE