

JESUS DISCUSSES THE END OF THE AGE

THE GOLDEN TEXT

Matthew 24:44---"Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."

THE LESSON TEXT

Matt. 24: 32-51

Supplemental Scriptures: Matthew 24: 1-31; 25:1-46; Luke 12: ³⁵⁻⁴⁸ 35-48; 21: 1-38; 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18.

INTRODUCTION

This month all four of our lessons deal with events during the last week of the life of Christ. This was a busy time for the Lord Jesus. After His triumphal entry, which we studied the first week of this month, He proceeded to do many things. He cleansed the temple; He cursed the barren fig tree; He gave a number of interesting parables which explained spiritual lessons to His disciples. It was necessary for Him to spend much time denouncing the apostate leaders of Israel, and showing the grievous injury which their deception was bringing upon the people of God. He had to make preparations for His last Passover with His disciples, to hold His Last Supper, and to prepare Himself for the terrible experience of the trial, scourging, and crucifixion which was just ahead of Him. He understood fully how important a time it was.

The disciples, on the other hand, doubtless felt as if their experience of discipleship and intercourse with their wonderful Master and Lord would last forever. They did not realize how important these days were. In the midst of all the many things He was doing, there was one need that Christ could hardly pass by: