

Question Sheet #6

1. Did the disciples ask the Lord one, two, or three questions in Matthew 24:3?

The disciples ask two questions:

- a. When will Christ return to establish His kingdom?
- b. What will be the signs that this is about to happen?

2. Develop the Chronology of Matthew 24:5-14.

In Matthew 24:4-31, Christ is answering the “when” question of the disciples.¹ Verses 5-14 are describing events that will take place during the Tribulation. Although to a certain extent these things have been true since Christ ascended to Heaven, they will increase to unprecedented levels until Christ’s Second Coming at the end of the Tribulation.

3. Refute the concept that Matthew 24:15 looks to A.D. 70.

Matthew 24:15 falls in the middle of a chronological look at the tribulation. Therefore keeping with the chronology that Christ is establishing, this event must take place in the middle of the Tribulation. This is consistent with Daniel and Revelation, in that after a period of 3 ½ years the Antichrist will enter the Holy of Holies and defile the temple. This will begin the period referred to as the “Great Tribulation” or the last 3 ½ years of the Tribulation, which Christ goes on to describe in verses 16-31.

4. Explain Matthew 24:27-28.

Christ is giving two illustrations to describe how noticeable His second coming will be. There will be certain events that will take place that will cause the whole Earth to know that He is coming. Just as everyone notices when lightning strikes across the sky and birds of prey circle their catch.²

5. Explain the “after” in Matthew 24:29.

This is another chronological marker indicating that immediately after the “Great Tribulation” these final signs will occur ushering in Christ’s triumphant return to Earth.³

6. Does Matthew 24:37-38 describe immorality? Explain.

There is nothing inherently immoral about eating, drinking or marrying. These examples are given simply to show that people will be living their normal lives without concern for or watching for Christ’s return.

¹ Wood, 90

² Wood, 143

³ Wood, 143

7. Does Matthew 24:40-41 describe the rapture? Why?

Matthew 24:40-41 is at the least an allusion to the rapture and at most an actual description of what will take place.

It does not accurately depict the events of Christ Second coming, seeing it will not be secret and people will not be snatched up unknown to others. His Second Coming will be with great fanfare and terrible signs of impending judgment as describe above.

However, these descriptions in verses 40,41 do accurately picture the rapture as further described by Paul in 1 Thess. 4 when those who are alive will be caught up to meet Christ in the sky.