



# JESUS: KING AND JUDGE



## Gospel Life Communities Study Guide

Matthew 24:36-51

*Be Prepared*

Welcome to the Fall 2024 GLC Season!

We hope the Lord is blessing, challenging, and encouraging you through this sermon series thus far.

This season, we will be in Matthew chapters 22-25, which covers Jesus's interactions with his disciples and the religious leaders of the day, in the last week before his arrest, trial, and crucifixion.

Our weekly studies will have four parts, following the four categories that we've set for GLC's, and then end with prayer.

### exploring

**We will explore God's word together, looking at the actual words of the passage each week.**

### digging

**We will dig deeper into the word, discussing the context and meaning of the passage.**

### growing

**We will discuss how the passage is applied to our own lives.**

### going

**We will discuss how the passage informs, challenges, and encourages our gospel witness.**



## exploring

Matthew 24:36-51 ESV

36 “But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. 37 For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. 38 For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, 39 and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. 40 Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. 41 Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. 42 Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. 43 But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. 44 Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

45 “Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom his master has set over his household, to give them their food at the proper time? 46 Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes. 47 Truly, I say to you, he will set him over all his possessions. 48 But if that wicked servant says to himself, ‘My master is delayed,’ 49 and begins to beat his fellow servants and eats and drinks with drunkards, 50 the master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he does not know 51 and will cut him in pieces and put him with the hypocrites. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

1. Read Matt 4:36-51 together.

- Try to find 8 occurrences of the word “come”, “coming”, and derivatives in this passage.
- How many times is the idea of unexpectedness expressed?
- Our passage is about “that day and hour”, “the coming of the Son of Man”. List any biblical passages and events that come to mind that this “coming” might refer to.

## digging

2. What do we learn about “that day and hour” from the preceding context?

What is the only thing that will stand through it all?

3. Scripture gives us no dates for this particular event. What does this imply?

4. List various ways in which this coming of the Son of Man is compared to the days of Noah.

## growing

5. Read Ephesians 2:8-9

- Pastor Paul referred to God’s instructions for a “vessel of salvation” for Noah, one way alone to be saved. As Noah had to enter the ark, we also must enter into Christ, God’s provided “vessel of salvation” for us. Neither we nor Noah are saved by our works. God’s one and only way is clearly and concisely encapsulated by the 5 “solas” (sola – alone, only) of the Reformation.
- Review the “5 solas” and the implications of each one
  - Sola Gratia- Grace Alone
  - Sola Fide- Faith Alone
  - Solus Christus- Christ Alone
  - Sola Scriptura- Scripture Alone
  - Soli Deo Gloria- For the Glory of God Alone

6. The fact that no one knows the hour does not mean we can't be prepared. It is actually for this very reason that Jesus says we must be ready (vs.44).
- What do we learn about readiness in the faithful and wise servant described by Jesus and exemplified by Noah in Genesis 6:5-9
7. What reward is promised to these faithful servants?
8. Read the parable of the wheat and the tares in Matt. 12:24-30.
- In the light of this, compare the plight of the wicked servant who is unprepared for his master's coming (Matt. 24:48-51) with the 2 men and 2 women in verses 40-41 of our passage.
9. What does the Lord want me to do to be prepared for that unknown "day and hour"?

## **going**

If we have heard and know the message, the "5 solas", and have entered the "vessel of salvation" provided by God, we are ready for "the coming of the Son of Man".

- Think of a man or a woman, perhaps one who works beside you, who is not ready, unaware, and does not know the Lord or expect his coming. What will you do to help him/her be prepared and not taken away to judgement?

# Pray “Kingdom Prayers”

Kingdom prayers are prayers that don't only focus on the immediate need, but also on God's glory.

For example, if someone has a sore knee instead of just praying “God, please heal Betty's knee”, you would pray something like “God, please heal Betty's knee so that she can continue to serve you and your people; so that she can continue attend worship services pain free and give you glory for your healing hand.”

See the difference?

## Some ideas of what to pray for:

- Each other's needs/requests
- King Road's ministries, missionaries, members, and pastors
- Opportunities to share the gospel