

SESSION 1: THE OLIVET CONTEXT

And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come. (Matthew 24:14)

I. THE OLIVET DISCOURSE

- A. Jesus describes the “birth pangs” that will be seen leading up to His return (Matthew 24:7)
 - 1. Arrival of Antichristic deception
 - 2. Nation against nation: ethnic and racial tension
 - 3. Kingdom against kingdom: geopolitical military conflict
 - 4. Famines and earthquakes
- B. Jesus describes the condition of the churches and the global body of Christ leading up to His return (v. 9-12)
 - 1. Pressure on the church by persecution (v. 9)
 - 2. There will be great levels of deception (v. 11)
 - 3. Many will fall away, there will be division, betrayal, hatred (v. 10)
 - 4. Lawlessness is the opposite of righteousness
 - a) The arrival of the Man of Lawlessness (2 Thessalonians 2)
 - b) Lawlessness increases, love decreases
- C. BUT the one who endures to the end will be saved (Matthew 24:13)
 - 1. Jesus gives a promise, “they will be saved”
 - 2. Through them, the work will be done
- D. There is great falling away, but also great harvest