

The Olivet Discourse Parallel Accounts Outline

1. The Context that led to the Olivet Discourse – Matthew 21-23

- A. Listing of events contained in the chapters preceding the Olivet Discourse.
 - Triumphal Entry (21:1-11), fulfillment of Zech 9:9 (Jesus presented as King)
 - Jesus cleanses the Temple of the moneychangers (21:12-13)
 - Anger of the priests and scribes when Jesus healed the blind & lame (21:14-17)
 - Curses fig tree that bore no fruit (21:18-22)
 - Jesus's authority challenged by the chief priests and elders (21:23-27)
 - Parable of the two sons emphasizing doing the will of God 21:28-32)
 - Tells parable of the landowner, mistreatment of the prophets (21:33-46)
 - Parable of the marriage feast, about destruction of Jerusalem (22:1-14)
 - Pharisees tried to trap Jesus in His words, paying taxes to Caesar (22:15-22)
 - The Sadducees came questioning Him about the resurrection (22:23-33)
 - The Pharisee testing Him, asked what is the greatest commandment (22:34-40)
 - Jesus asks the Pharisees a question and silences them (22:41-46)
 - Scribes and Pharisees out to exalt themselves (23:1-12)
 - Pronounces 7 woes on the scribes and Pharisees (Matt 23:13-33).
- B. The chief priests and elders were in His face, testing and interrogating Him, trying to find fault in His words.
- C. This resistance to Christ's message is very evident in their treatment of Him and the Jewish leaders' rejection of Jesus as the Messiah.

2. Jesus prophesizes destruction of the Temple and Jerusalem

- A. Jerusalem to be destroyed – Luke 19:41-44 (did not recognize time of their visitation)
- B. Jesus pronounces judgment on "*this generation*" hearing His words – Matt 23:34-36
- C. Temple to be left desolate/destroyed – Matt 23:37-39

3. Peter, James, John, and Andrew question Jesus concerning the destruction of the temple.

- A. Mark and Luke plainly ask two questions; (1) When will these things be? ("*these things*" are every stone of the temple being thrown down). (2) What will be the sign when "*these things*" will take place.
- B. Matthew gives the same first question as Mark and Luke, but adds (3) What will be the sign of your coming (Parousia), (4) and of the end of the age?"
- C. Many people mainly read Matthew's version of the Olivet Discourse and focus on the questions, "What will be the sign of your coming, and of the end of the age?" This leads them to place what Jesus says in our future at the end of history. (*Futurist View*)
- D. Without comparing the of gospel accounts of the Olivet Discourse, one can miss the true timing of the fulfillment of what Jesus said. (*Partial Preterist View*)
- E. Mark & Luke arrange their gospels *chronologically* which Matthew's gospel is organized *topically*. While it follows a general biographical and geographical outline of Jesus's life, its internal arrangement frequently groups material by subject or theme, not necessarily the precise order in which events occurred.

4. Listing of events Jesus described in each synoptic gospel.

Matthew	Mark	Luke
When will <u>these things</u> be, and what will be the sign of your coming and the end of the age.	When will <u>these things</u> be, what will be the sign these things are fulfilled	When will <u>these things</u> be, what will be the sign these things take place
Events ("<i>these things</i>") leading up to the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple		
Deception	Deception	Deception
Wars and rumors of wars	Wars and rumors of wars	Wars and commotions
Nation rise against nation	Nation rise against nation	Nation rise against nation
Famines	Famines	Famines
Pestilences/troubles	Pestilences/troubles	Pestilences/troubles
Earthquakes	Earthquakes	Earthquakes
		Fearful sights, heavenly signs
Deliver you to tribulation/kill you, betrayal	Deliver you to councils/beaten	Deliver to prison/before rulers
False prophets		
Those who endure ... saved		
Gospel preached	Gospel preached	
Abomination desolation	Abomination desolation	Armies surround Jerusalem
Flee to mountains	Flee to mountains	Flee to mountains
		Days of vengeance
Woe to those pregnant	Woe to those pregnant	Woe to those pregnant
Great tribulation	Great tribulation	Great distress & wrath
Worst times ever	Worst times ever	
Days shortened	Days shortened	
False Christs/prophets	False Christs/prophets	
Lightning flashes		Lightning flashes
Carcass/eagles gathered		Carcass/eagles gathered
		Lead captive to all nations
		Jerusalem trampled
		Times of the gentiles
Sun, moon, darkened, stars	Sun, moon, darkened, stars	Signs in sun, moon, stars
Powers of heaven shaken	Powers of heaven shaken	Powers of heaven shaken
Sign of the Son of Man	Son of Man coming in clouds	Son of Man coming in clouds
Angels gather elect	Angels gather elect	Redemption draws near
Parable of the fig tree	Parable of the fig tree	Parable of the fig tree
This generation will not pass	This generation will not pass	This generation will not pass
All these things take place	All these things take place	Till all things take place
My Words not pass away	My Words not pass away	My Words not pass away
		Cares of this life
		Will come as a snare
		Worthy to escape

Matthew	Mark	Luke
Coming of the Son of Man		
No one knows the day/hour	No one knows the day/hour	
	Parable of the Servants	<i>From Luke Chapter 17</i>
Days of Noah		Days of Noah
His coming as the flood		Flood came & destroyed them
One taken, one left		One taken, one left
		Days of Lot
		Rained fire & destroyed them
Watch and be ready	Watch, do not be sleeping	
Faithful and wise servant		
Parable of the 10 Virgins		
Parable of the Talent		
Son of Man judges nations		

5. The questions answered in the CONTEXT of the temple being destroyed, not Christ's return in the distant future.

1. ***When will the Temple be destroyed? "When will these things be?"*** Answer: "These things" refer to the temple being destroyed that occurred within the generation (1st century) of hearing Jesus's words. (Not a future generation)
2. ***What will be the sign of these things taking place?*** Answer: When Jerusalem is surrounded by armies.
3. ***What will be the sign of your coming (Parousia)?*** Answer: Jesus's enthronement in Heaven. This "sign" is in heaven, Jesus's "*Parousia*" in the 1st century was not on earth, but in heaven (Dan. 7:13-14). His "*Parousia*" on earth will be at His 2nd coming (1 Cor. 15:23).
4. ***What will be the sign of the end of the age?*** Answer: The total desolation of the temple, end of the priesthood, and the animal blood sacrificial system. This is the end of the Jewish Age, not the end of history. In that He says, "A new *covenant*," He has made the first obsolete. Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away (Heb. 8:13).

1 Corinthians 15 & Olivet Discourse Combined Timeline

