

PARABLES—Section 4, Part 9

Matthew 24:36-44

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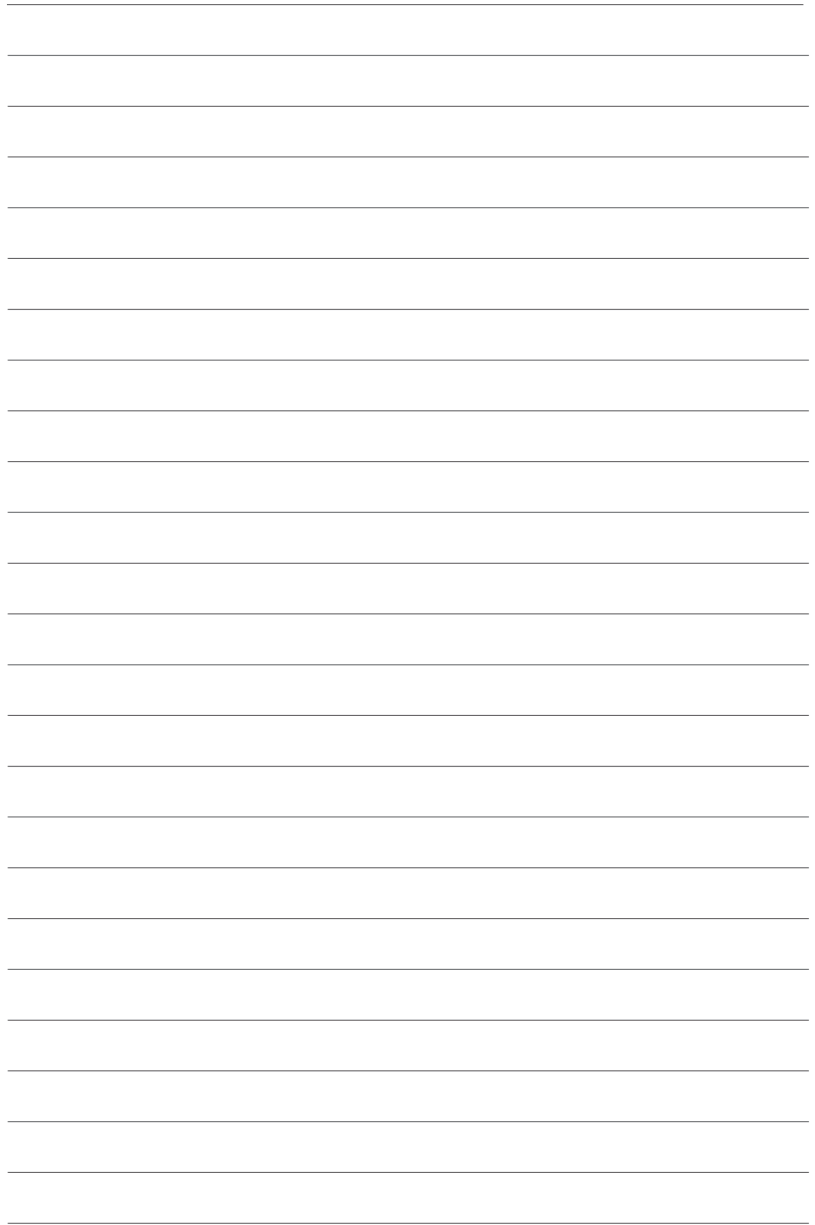


1. 24:36 Why not tell us the specific timing? God knows that humans would have one of two reactions, neither of which are good:
 - Unbelievers would put off receiving Jesus as Lord and Savior until the last possible moment, likely fooling themselves. Putting it off is evidence that they have no sincere desire to follow Him.
 - Believers would likely become careless and spiritually lazy.
2. 24:36 During that time when Jesus the Son took on human flesh, He voluntarily restricted the use of His attributes (Philippians 2:6-8). Jesus only manifested His attributes in agreement with God the Father (John 4:34; 5:30; 6:38).
3. 24:37 The days of Noah refers to a long, intervening time while everything was prepared, followed immediately by rapid judgment.
4. 24:38 In the days before Jesus' return, the global population will be following the same ordinary pursuits, self-absorbed with the things of life, with no time for the things of God.
5. 24:38 As people run deeper into every form of sin, they will become more and more impervious to truth and to God's standard of righteousness. Humanity will look everywhere for answers except to the Word of God.
6. 24:39 The Bible says everyone knows in their hearts that "God is" (Romans 1:18-22), but knowledge of God does not automatically translate into honoring God or being in a relationship with God.
7. 24:39 Just as the people of Noah's day were not ready when the flood came, the people in the last days will be unprepared.
8. 24:40-41 Jesus, in very straightforward terms, was speaking of judgment and salvation.
9. 24:42 At that time, Christians must continually be alert. But they will also be secure and should have no cause for dread.
10. 24:43 No homeowner who knows in advance a thief is coming fails to be on the alert.

11. 24:43 It is a dangerous thing to get so absorbed in the pursuits of life that we forget or reason away that Jesus is coming again.
12. 24:44 We must be ready spiritually, prepared to meet Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, rather than as Judge.
13. 24:44 Even in those final days many will turn to Christ in sincere faith and will be redeemed; your God is that merciful and patient (Acts 2: 17-21; Revelation 7:9-14).

GREEK WORDS

Parousia (par-oo-see'-ah)—a being near, (return; specially, of Christ); physically : — coming, presence



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