

Treasure Hunt

- Name several events that are part of the chain of manifold fulfillment leading to the Antichrist.
- What common activity characterizes these events?
- What form does the work of Antichrist take in our day?
- How should believers respond to this work today?
- Does standing against the spirit of Antichrist mean that we should only associate with a perfect church? Explain.
- How does the instruction to “flee into the mountains” (v. 16) differ from earlier warnings to flee persecution?
- What historical precedent lies behind “fleeing into the mountains”?

Overview of the Olivet Discourse

Period	Mt 24,25	Mk 13	Lk 21	Description
1. Beginning of Sorrows (Mt 24:8)	3-13	5-13	8-19	The NT period, before the fall of Jerusalem. Corresponds to the first four seals of Rev 6.
2. Days of Vengeance (Lk 21:22)	(Lacking)		20-24a	Desolation of Jerusalem under Titus, AD 70.
3. Times of the Gentiles (Lk 21:24)	14	10	24b	Jerusalem is subdued by the Gentiles (Luke) and the gospel goes forth throughout all the world (Matthew).
4. Great Tribulation (Mt 24:21)	15-28	14-23	(Lacking)	“The abomination of desolation” (Dan 9:27), at the middle of Daniel’s seventieth week.
5. Coming of Son of Man (Mt 24:30)	29-31	24-27	25-28	Cosmic signs, return of Christ in glory, gathering of his saints
(6. Interlude)	24:32-25:30	28-37	29-36	Parables about, and exhortations to, watchfulness
7. Separation	25:31-46	(Lacking)		Final Judgment

“Filling up” the Prophecy of the Adversary

Gen 12:3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and **curse him** that curseth thee:

Psa 74:3 Lift up thy feet unto the perpetual desolations; *even all that* the enemy hath **done wickedly in the sanctuary.**

Isa 14:13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, **I will exalt my throne** above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: 14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; **I will be like the most High.**

Dan 8:13; 11:31; **1 Macc 1:54** [Greek Little Horn, Antiochus Epiphanes]

Dan 9:27; 12:11 [Roman Little Horn, post-Messianic]

Luk 21:20 And when ye shall see **Jerusalem compassed with armies**, then know that the **desolation** thereof is nigh.

Mat 24:15 When ye therefore shall see the **abomination of desolation**, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, **stand in the holy place,**

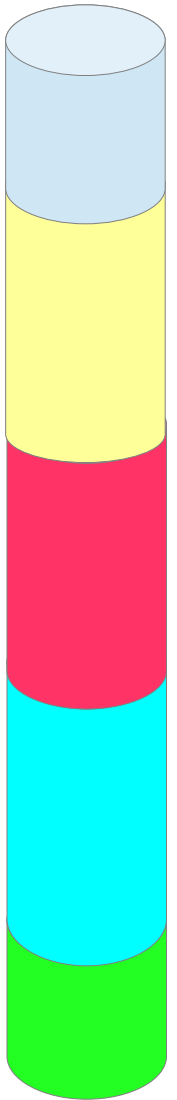
2Th 2:3 that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; 4 Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that **he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.**

1Jo 2:18 Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that **antichrist** shall come, **even now are there many antichrists**; whereby we know that it is the last time.

Jos. Wars 6.316 And now the Romans ... brought their ensigns to the temple and set them opposite its eastern gate; and there did they offer sacrifices to them, and there did they make Titus imperator, with the greatest acclamations of joy.

Rev 13:6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, **to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle**, and them that dwell in heaven.

Rev 20:10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into **the lake of fire and brimstone**, where the beast and the false prophet *are*, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.



Respect Holy Things

Eph 2:19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; 20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner *stone*; 21 In whom **all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord**: 22 In whom ye also are builded together for an **habitation of God through the Spirit**.

1Pe 2:5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a **spiritual house**, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

1Co 3:10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, **I have laid the foundation**, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. 11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. ... 16 Know ye not that **ye are the temple of God**, and *that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you*? 17 If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which *temple* ye are.

1Co 5:11 But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat.

12 For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within? 13 But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person.

1Co 6:15 Know ye not that **your bodies** are the members of Christ? shall I then take the members of Christ, and make *them* the members of an harlot? God forbid.

1Co 6:19 What? know ye not that **your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost** *which is* in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? 20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

1Jo 2:18 Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time. 19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would *no doubt* have continued with us: but *they went out*, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.

Purity vs. Perfection: Case Studies in Rev 2-3

1. True churches have lampstands:

Rev 1:12 And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks;
13 And in the midst of the seven candlesticks *one* like unto the Son of man, ... 20 the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.

Rev 2:5 Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.

2. True churches may still need rebuke:

Ephesus: 2:4 I have somewhat against thee
Pergamos, Thyatira: 2:14, 20 I have a few things against thee
Sardis, 3:2 I have not found thy works perfect before God
Laodicea, 3:17 thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked”)

3. Condition for removal is lack of love for the Lord:

Rev 2:2 I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars: 3 And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted.

4 Nevertheless I have *somewhat* against thee, because **thou hast left thy first love.** 5 Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.

2Th 2:4 he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

24:16-22, Response to Persecution

Period	When to Flee
Beginning of Sorrows	10:23 When they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another [city]
Great Tribulation	24:15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation ... stand in the holy place, ... 16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:

Why?

Rev 13:16 And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: 17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

Fleeing into the Mountains

Gen 19:17 And it came to pass, when [the angels] had brought them forth abroad, that he said [to Lot], Escape for thy life; look not behind thee, neither stay thou in all the plain; escape to the mountain, lest thou be consumed. ... 30 And Lot went up out of Zoar, and **dwelt in the mountain**, and his two daughters with him; for he feared to dwell in Zoar: and he dwelt in a cave, he and his two daughters.

Jdg 6:2 And the hand of Midian prevailed against Israel: *and* because of the Midianites the children of Israel made them the **dens which are in the mountains, and caves, and strong holds**.

1Sa 23:19 Then came up the Ziphites to Saul to Gibeah, saying, Doth not David hide himself with us in **strong holds in the wood, in the hill of Hachilah**, which *is* on the south of Jeshimon? **into the mountains, and left all that ever they had in the city**.
29 Then many that sought after justice and judgment went down into the wilderness, to dwell there: 30 Both they, and their children, and their wives; and their cattle; because afflictions increased sore upon them.

1Ma 2:15 the king's officers, such as compelled the people to revolt, came into the city Modin, to make them sacrifice. ... 25 [Mattathias protested:] God forbid that we should forsake the law and the ordinances. 22 We will not hearken to the king's words, to go from our religion, either on the right hand, or the left. 23 Now when he had left speaking these words, there came one of the Jews in the sight of all to sacrifice on the altar which was at Modin, according to the king's commandment. 24 Which thing when Mattathias saw, he was inflamed with zeal, and his reins trembled, neither could he forbear to shew his anger according to judgment: wherefore he ran, and slew him upon the altar. 25 Also the king's commissioner, who compelled men to sacrifice, he killed at that time, and the altar he pulled down. ... 27 And Mattathias cried throughout the city with a loud voice, saying, Whosoever is zealous of the law, and maintaineth the covenant, let him follow me. 28 So he and his sons **fled into the mountains, and left all that ever they had in the city**.