When Will These Things Be? The Coming of the Son of Man

Matthew 24:29-36

From 'Near Horizon' to 'Far Horizon' – v. 29a

"Immediately after the tribulation of those days…"

Jesus is using the prophetic method of _____ …

When Jesus says "immediately after the tribulation," He's connecting the destruction of Jerusalem (A.D. 70) and His second coming as _____ acts of _____ story.

Today's text answers a new question:
If the temple's destruction was not the end, **what happens after**?

The Language of Cosmic Upheaval – v. 29b

"The sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken."

The imagery communicates that the entire order of the present world—its rulers, systems, and powers—will be overturned. It is the language of _____ and _____.

The Visible Return of the Son of Man – v. 30-31

"Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."

After describing the shaking of creation, Jesus turns to the appearing of the Son of Man Himself. Here the language is no longer symbolic but literal and universal. The return of Christ will not take place in secret or in stages—it will be _____, _____ seen by all.

Theological Coherence: Heaven and Earth United

- Creation:
- Fall:
- Redemption:
- Consummation:

The New Testament uses the word *parousia* ("coming") consistently for _____ event: the visible, final return of Christ.

The Lesson of the Fig Tree – v. 32-35

"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near.
So also, when you see all these things, you know that he is near, at the very gates.
Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.
Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away."

"This generation" …

The Parable of the Fig Tree teaches us _____ and _____ …

What Jesus Knows – And What He Does Not – v. 36

"But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only."

He _____ know that Jerusalem would fall within a generation—He said so plainly in verse 34, and history confirmed His word. But He _____ reveal the timing of His return.

Conclusion

The question before us is not when He will come, but whether we are _____ when He does.

One lesson for every unbeliever:

Don't _____. Respond now to the gracious offer of the King.

Four lessons for every believer:

Be prepared for _____.

Live _____ every day.

Stay focused on the _____.

Find your peace and hope in the _____ of Jesus Christ.

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