THE SON OF MAN COMING

Matthew 24:1-51 Key Verse 24:30b

"And then all the peoples of the earth will mourn when they see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory."

1. Read verses 1-3. How was Jesus' view of the temple different from that of the disciples'? (Cf. Mk 13:1)To what future event(s) was Jesus probably referring? What was the disciples' response? (3)

2. Read verses 4-8. What did Jesus teach about the climate of the world at the end of the age? What warnings did he give his disciples? What was Jesus' attitude toward these things? Why? (6, 8)

3. Read verses 9-14. What other things will happen in the last days? How will many people react under such pressure? What should Jesus' people do? What did Jesus promise?

4. Read verses 15-22. What does this "abomination" refer to? (cf. Da 9:27;11:31) When abominable things happen, what must God's people do? Why might worldly attachments ensnare people? (16, 17, 18) How will God help his own?

5. Read verses 23-35. How will false prophets try to deceive God's people? How can we not be deceived? Who will mourn and who will rejoice when the Son of Man comes? What lesson can we learn from the fig tree?

6. Read verses 36-51. What does it mean to be ready? What can we learn from the faithful steward? What happens to the unfaithful steward? (45-51)