

Sermon Outline

“The Destruction of the Temple”

Matthew 24:1-14

- I. Jesus, the glory of God, departs the temple v. 1a
 - He “went out” and he “was going away”
 - He leaves the house that is desolate 23:38
 - He goes away from those refuse to acknowledge him 23:39
 - Jesus ascends Olivet v. 3a
 - Evokes the picture in Ezek 10:18-19 and 11:22-23
 - The glory is gathered up from the temple
 - The glory stands on the eastern mountain
 - This follows the indictment of the wicked 11:1-12, 21
- II. The disciples point to the glorious temple; Jesus responds vv. 1b-2
 - But this house is desolate and is therefore condemned
 - It shall be “thrown down”
 - Cf. Acts 5:39; II Cor 4:14-5:1
 - Contra* Mt 5:17
 - It will be the mountain thrown into the sea Mt 21:21
 - It will wither like the fruitless tree Mt 21:19 (*cf.* v. 43)
- III. The significance of the temple and its fall
 - The temple for Israel: God’s presence; the sacrifices; political symbol
 - The center and joy of the world Ps 48:1-2
 - The temple is perverted Mt 21:13
 - Is 56:1-8 All the world is to be welcomed into God’s House of Prayer
 - Jesus quotes v. 7
 - Jer 7:3-16 No justice, mercy; the temple is a center of rebellion
 - Jesus quotes v. 11
 - The temple is no longer:
 - A symbol of God’s presence
 - The place of sacrifice: justice and mercy
 - But solely a center of rebellion and insurrection
 - “robber” Lk 23:18-19; Jn 18:40; Mk 15:27; Mt 27:38
 - There is no good fruit left within it
 - Jer 8:8-13 (*cf.* Mt 21:19-20)
 - It therefore must be destroyed – Jer 7:12-16
 - It is replaced by something greater – Mt 12:6-7; Jn 2:18-21