

**Sermon Outline**  
“The Surprise Judgment”  
Matthew 24:36-51

**I.** Overview of Matthew 24

**A.** Three views

1. Jesus predicted the Second Coming soon and was wrong
2. Jesus saw a gap – “this generation” means something else
3. Jesus speaks of the destruction of the Old Covenant order

**B.** Shift of topics at v. 36; moving to the Second Coming?

**But** remember the question of v. 3 and its context.

**C.** Preparation for the “presence and completion of the age”

1. Announcement of destruction vv. 1-3
2. Observable signs of the coming judgment vv. 4-35
3. Personal warnings of preparedness vv. 36-51

**II.** Personal preparation *cf.* Lk 17:20-37

**A.** The day and hour unknown v. 36

Not to be revealed to man, faith is required (Heb 11:6).

**B.** The days of Noah and its lesson vv. 37-41

Ordinariness and complacency to be avoided (Heb 11:7)

**C.** The command to be watchful vv. 42-44

Be prepared; remember the warnings of vv. 4-28

**D.** Watchfulness explained vv. 45-51

Be wise and faithful servants (Lk 18:1-14)

Compare v. 51 with v. 22.

**III.** Expectation of judgment & deliverance leads to holy living

II Pet 3:1-14