

# BibleTalk Radio



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Christ for the Philippines Mission

## End Times Bible Study Part 5

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Our Bible study topic for the last few weeks and probably for the forthcoming few weeks is a very interesting one and it's a very in-depth one, to say the least. It is, of course, an end times Bible study.

There is a lot of misinformation. There's a lot of stuff going on regarding the end times. If you ever go to the Internet and you look up anything that says "end times," you look at Websites that talk about the last days and the end times, and you go to YouTube and watch videos, you'll see all kinds of information out there. If you've been taught by any of the religions anywhere nearby here and they've ever talked about the end times, there's a lot of information out there. But unfortunately, there is a lot of misinformation. There is a lot of amateur and unlearned information.

What we're interested in here, dear listener, as the name of the show implies, The BibleTalk Radio Show, we are interested in finding out what the Bible says, not what Pastor Tony says. I'm not here to give you my opinion. That's why we open up the Bible every single week and I tell you exactly what Scriptures we're turning to so you can also read it and let the Holy Spirit of God guide you and teach you from His own Word.

Now, speaking of that, if you don't have your own Bible, I know not everybody does. I know

after Yolanda a lot of people lost their belongings, and I know that sometimes Bibles can be expensive. Well, we're here to help you because we have free Bibles that we can give away and they're pretty good quality Bibles. If you need a Bible, I invite you to text us at 0999-862-7223. Please include your name and your address and we will be glad to send you free of charge and with no obligation a Bible of your very own.

Dear listeners, today we're going to jump into Part 5 of our end times Bible study. We have been in the book of Matthew Chapter 24 for a couple of weeks, and we're going to be here for another couple of weeks, I'm sure. The thing with Matthew Chapter 24, the reason we started here basically, because there are many places we could have started, but when you hear end times Bible study, probably the first thing that you're thinking of is the book of Revelation. A lot of people have heard of the book of Revelation. A lot of people are afraid of the book of Revelation, and in deed there are some interesting, strange and even scary things in the book of Revelation. Lord willing, dear listener, we are going to go to the book of Revelation and there are several other places in the Bible that we need to explore and tie together in order to get this study done correctly. However, I started in Matthew Chapter 24 because these are the very words of Jesus Christ Himself.



One thing that I know is that most people, when they want to hear something about the Bible or some kind of doctrine or some kind of teaching, most people here in this country anyway are interested in what Jesus Christ said. Because we know that Jesus Christ is the Lord. He is the Saviour. So I started here in Matthew 24 because He has a lot to say, actually, regarding the end times.

One thing that I want to bring to your attention... I want to go back to verse 4 of Matthew chapter 24. One thing that He said that was very, very solemn, very serious, He said, *Take heed* [or take care] *that no man deceive you*. Why was Jesus Christ so concerned about us being deceived? That is because there is a lot of deception going on today. There is a lot of deception from false religions. There is a lot of deception from false Bible teachers who usually do it just because they want to make money. There is a lot of deception from the forces of the spiritual world and, of course, I'm talking about Satan and his angels. So Jesus warned us to be careful that no one deceived us.

Picking up where we left off last week, we've only been through about the first ten verses, and last week we talked about people being offended. Verse 10 says: *And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another*.

Jesus gives us a whole list of things that are going to happen here from verse 5 through verse 10. He says many people are going to come in His name. They're going to try to come in His authority. They're going to say that they are the Messiah, the Christ, and we've heard for the last couple of thousand years about wars and rumors of wars. He said, "Listen, don't

worry about that. Don't be troubled for these things are the beginning. All these things must come to pass but the end is not yet." And He continues. He says nations, kingdoms, they're going to rise against each other. There are going to be famines, pestilences, earthquakes, in many different kinds of places. He says these are the beginning of sorrows. And then He starts talking on a personal level about people. He says, *Then* [unbelievers] *shall deliver you up to be afflicted and shall kill you: and ye* [that is, Jesus Christ's disciples, as in "we," myself included in that] *shall be hated of all nations... Why?... for my name's sake*. Remember, dear listener, they hated Jesus first. That's why they crucified Him. How are they not going to hate us, His followers?

In verse 10, He says, *And then shall many be offended*. That word "offended" does not mean, "Oh, you said something that hurt my feelings. That offends me." Actually, it does mean that, but there's a deeper meaning behind that here in the Scripture. If you do a word study on the word "offended" in the Bible, you will quickly discover that it's not really talking about, "Oh, somebody said something to hurt my feelings, and it offended me."

The "offended" in the Bible is actually talking about people who claim to become Christians, who claim to be followers of Christ, but whenever a hard time comes or whenever persecution comes, they get offended. In other words, they get removed from religion and from whatever it is that they're claiming, because to that person what they have clung to, what they have professed to believe in their own minds, even if it's true Christianity, in their own minds it's nothing more than just another religion. So when the hard time comes, when the persecution comes, they go away. That's what it



means to be offended and that's why Jesus said in verse 10 many shall be offended, because many who are proclaiming to be Christians today will get away from anything that has to do with Christianity, anything that's going to bring them a hard time when those hard times come.

Many of us know them. Many of us have seen them. They come to church. They profess to be Christians, but, boy, whenever their lifestyle is called into question, they go away. They don't want to have anything to do with it anymore, or when trials come or when the slightest bit of persecution comes or when they face maybe not getting a promotion at their job or something like that, they go away. That's what it means to be offended.

And Jesus continues in verse 10. He says, *[Many] shall betray one another and shall hate one another.* That's the world that we're seeing today. Many of the things that we have seen from verse 5 through verse 10 have already happened and have been happening for the last 2,000 years. It's not really anything new. It's not really what we would call a surprise. This has been happening for a long, long time.

So what we need to do is we need to try to discern or figure out what is the difference between what we have already been seeing anyway and what is to come. Dear listener, listen to that again. What is the difference between what we have been seeing for the last 2,000 years and what is to come? Because many people will say, "The Bible says wars and rumors of wars and nations against nations. We've been seeing that for 2,000 years." This is true. But what makes today or the time that Jesus is talking about different from all the past 2,000 years of history?

The fact of the matter is, dear listener, and I pointed this out to you last week, just one of the differences is that today we have access to see any event happening anywhere in the world live as it happens. Today, news of things gets across the world at the speed of light. Today we have an opportunity to see the whole world panicking over a single event. That was not there before. We're in the age of technology, the age of satellites, the age of the Internet where things happen and we can see them and know about them immediately like never before.

One of the things that's very interesting when we do get to the book of Revelation, there's one part in there that's telling us about an event, about two prophets that get killed. And these two, when they're killed, the Bible says in the book of Revelation that the whole world will behold or will watch their dead bodies for three and a half days. Now, back in the time that the book of Revelation was written, that was impossible. There was no way for the entire world to see one event and one location happening all at the same time.

But today, we are living in an age where that is possible. There's CC TV. There's a camera that is hooked up to the Internet. There's CNN, Fox News, Associated Press, all these news outlets in the world today. Even here in the Philippines, they have access to the Internet. They can upload their CC TV. Even right now, as I'm broadcasting here on the radio, this is going over UStream. This is being broadcast all over the world for anybody that wants to tune in. So the Bible is coming true right before our eyes today.

But let's continue, going past verse 10, because that's where we left off last week, and here's what He's telling us that we're



beginning to see more and more of today than we ever did before.

Verse 11: *And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.* Now, dear listener, go back to verse 4 and look what the warning was that Jesus gave us. Jesus said, *Take heed that no man deceive you.* And He's telling us that because in verse 11 He's telling us the day is coming where *many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.*

Really, all we have to do is turn on the TV, turn on the Internet, and see how many different people who call themselves preachers and prophets are teaching a message that is contradictory to the teaching of the Word of God, and they are deceiving many. Many people are giving their money. They're sending money to these false preachers. They're sending their loyalty and their allegiance to these false preachers, and they have no idea what the Bible says. They're just going along with what these false teachers, these false prophets, are saying. So that prophecy is coming true today.

And, again, the main difference between the last 2,000 years of history and today is that even a hundred years ago, a false prophet, a false teacher, could fool an entire city or even an entire region, and that's it. All the believers would spread out and try to spread that message to other places, but today, a false prophet, a false teacher, doesn't even have to leave his bedroom, because he can put an Internet camera on his face and he can broadcast himself all over the world. And that is what we're looking at today. And this is something that Jesus says is that these false prophets shall deceive many, because anybody in the world that has an Internet connection or has a friend that has an Internet connection, all

they have to do is log onto any kind of Website or do a search and, boom! You'll have a false prophet deceiving many because they're spewing out lies.

We have to be very careful, dear listener, even with this show. I give you these Bible verses, and if you notice, dear listener, I'm not giving you a simple verse and say, "Look what this verse says. You see, all of these things are happening and this verse, blah, blah, blah."

Dear listener, with this particular passage that we're looking at, Matthew Chapter 24, we're looking at the entire chapter and we've been in this chapter for two weeks, and we're going to be in this chapter for probably a couple more weeks. In other words, I'm not trying to take one verse of Scripture and take it out of context and try to build a doctrine on it. We're going through an entire chapter so we can see verse by verse all the context that Jesus is talking about, and we're going to go to other Scriptures, as well, throughout this study, and we'll see how all the different Scriptures of Bible come and match together. They match together like different pieces of a puzzle, but once you have all the pieces in place, they make a picture that is very clearly seen.

So, dear listener, my warning to you, my encouragement to you is always, always have the Bible in your hand when you're listening to these kinds of studies and follow along and write down the verses and write down some notes so that you will not be one of the ones that are deceived. Dear listener, I don't want you to be deceived.

Verse 12, and this is, again, where we are in the world today: *And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.* What



is iniquity? Iniquity in the simplest definition is another word for sin. Iniquity is a little bit more involved than just sin, but for the sake of simplicity, we'll call it sin. It is another word for sin. But believe it or not, dear listener, a lot of people here are guilty.

Have you ever done a job that you know was supposed to be done a certain way, but you did it and you started getting bored or you started getting tired and there came a point where you said, "Okay, this is good enough. I know it takes ten steps, but I did nine steps. It's good enough."

Dear listener, that's a classic example of iniquity in its other form. Iniquity is sin, but it's also that, where somebody says, "It's good enough." They come short. It's related to Romans Chapter 3 where it says, *For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.* We all come short of the glory of God. Iniquity is part of that. It's sin, but it's also coming short, and it's coming short out of laziness, out of not caring, out of apathy, and many times just on purpose.

Now, Jesus is saying iniquity, that kind of thing, shall abound. In other words, it'll increase. There'll be plenty of it. The word "abound" means plenteous. It says, iniquity, sin, laziness, not doing good enough, coming short, it shall abound. There'll be a lot of it. There's a lot of that today, isn't there, dear listener.

You know, I'm so worried for this generation. Have you seen the kids, dear listener? Have you seen the kids? It's all about slacking off. They don't care about their schooling. They just try to do the minimum possible to still get some kind of mark so they can go on to the next grade or the next course. But you know what's sadder than that? A lot of teachers, these kids

can't read. They can't do their mathematics. They're coming out of the schools dumb, but the teachers are so frustrated that they're just saying to a kid who can barely read and can barely do any of the mathematics, "Okay, it's good enough. I'll pass him. Good enough." You see? That iniquity is abounding today.

That's really sad, dear listener. There's a lot of sin and there's a lot of just halfway done things going on in the world today. Our systems, our societies, they're falling apart because people don't want to pull their weight anymore and every day it's less and less and less of the people that actually work, that earn, that make a difference in the lives of other people, the people that show courtesy. It's less and less and less and less with each passing day. And our societies are beginning to fall apart.

And that's related to the next statement here in verse 12. It says, *And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.*

You know what we're missing in the streets, dear listener? It's not so much that the streets are dirty and we're missing garbage cans, we're missing trash bins, but that's not what I'm talking about. You know what we're missing in the streets? Love. There's no love in the streets out there. Dear listener, look how people treat each other out there. I'm out on the streets every single day and I see how it is here. People put on a show. There are certain societal and cultural norms, but people here hate each other. There is no love.

I drive the streets every single day, and every single day I'm almost in an accident ten times every times I drive because people don't care. Nobody shows love or courtesy. People run out in the street. People throw things out into the



street. People have their animals in the street. Other drivers are swerving into your lane. It's wild. There is no love. Even if you're walking, if you're not talking about driving in a vehicle, you're walking into the store, there are three or four or five or six or ten or twelve people all trying to go through the door at the same time. And they're pushing each other out of the way. There's no love. There's no courtesy. And when somebody does show courtesy, it's a strange thing here.

As an American here in the Philippines, dear listener, I am guilty of something very strange, that whenever I do it, people look at me like I'm crazy. When I go to Robinson's, when I go to SM, when I go to any store, when I go into a building and there's anybody near me that's following me in, I take the door, I open the door, and I hold the door open for the next person that's coming in. Or if somebody is coming out when I'm arriving to the door, I open the door and I back off and allow the person to exit. People look at me like I'm absolutely walking from a spaceship because nobody here is used to that kind of courtesy, simple courtesy. Dear listener, I have my own complaints about my country, about the States because it's pretty bad there, too, but I'll tell you as a guest here in the Philippines I can tell you that we have arrived at verse 12. This is really, really bad. If you want to see prophecy, if you want to see what Jesus said, it's already happening here in the Philippines, in the Philippines that I love with all my heart that I'm here to minister to. It breaks my heart the way the people act here every single day.

Now, before you start shaking your head, saying, "That's right, Pastor. People here are really rude. People here don't care. There's no courtesy here." Dear listener, when's the last

time you held the door open for somebody? When is the last time you showed simple courtesy to somebody else, you'd let somebody else go first? When you go to the grocery store, when you're falling in line, when you're having to pay a bill or something like that, when's the last time that when you fell in line you let somebody else go first instead of just pushing and pushing and pushing and pressing against the person in front of you?

Don't complain about somebody else, dear listener, if you yourself are part of the problem. I'm telling you the words that Jesus Christ said. He said, *[T]he love of many shall wax cold.* That's what we're seeing in the streets today. People don't love each other. People are cold to each other. What's going on in this world, dear listener?

We're talking about some of the things that we're seeing right here in our very own country, but in case that wasn't enough to convince you about how the love of many has waxed cold, all you can do is look at some of the news from around the world. Where I come from in the States, they're shooting each other. They're shooting each other all over the place. People are coming into stores, businesses, market-places, sporting events, or just randomly in the streets and they're shooting and killing innocent people, including women and children. That's horrible. That's the love of many waxing cold. You go to some of these other countries where they're cutting people's heads off because they don't agree with their religion and so forth.

We have really come to a time in 2017 where this verse of prophecy, this verse of Scripture, has really, really come to pass. *[T]he love of many shall wax cold.* I can't even imagine what



it's going to be like if this world continues another ten years.

But I want to continue here in our study because we need to get through this. I want to go to verse 13. Now this is a very interesting verse of Scripture that many teachers throughout the ages have taken and built upon this verse of Scripture false doctrine. And so I want to take some time to address verse 13 tonight to really dissect what it means. Even some Christians are worried about this particular verse. So I'm hoping that this will be a blessing to you tonight.

Verse 13 says, *But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.* Many people have looked at this verse of Scripture and said, "Well, there you go. In order to be saved, I have to endure unto the end. First of all, that's not what it's saying. It's isolating Scripture in the middle of this entire chapter. Remember earlier, just a few minutes ago, I said we don't want to take one verse of Scripture out of context and build a doctrine on it because that's not proper Bible exegesis or Bible interpretation. We need to look at everything in context.

When you see this in the middle of everything that He's saying, and remember, Jesus started off by saying, *Take heed that no man deceive you,* because people are going to try to deceive us and we want to stay with the Word of God and make sure that we are not deceived. He says here, *But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.* You have to take a look at even the way it's worded, dear listener. What does it mean, *he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved?* What is Jesus saying here?

I can pull out so many passages of Scripture, but let me just off the top of my head pull out something like Philippians 4:13. It's a verse that's commonly quoted by many of us Christians because it's a very encouraging verse. But let's take a look at what it says. Philippians 4:13: *I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me... or strengthens me.* Very plainly I can do all things, anything that I try to do, anything I can do, but through Christ. And that is my strength. That is what strengthens me.

That's Scripture I pulled off the top of my head because the reason I took it is because it proves that we can endure to the end, but only through Christ. You see, dear listener, many people have taken this particular verse of Scripture, verse 13, *But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.* They have taken it to mean, in order to keep your salvation, you have to endure unto the end. If you don't endure to the end, then you cannot be saved. If you simply endure to the end, then you can be saved. That's not what it says here. It doesn't say, "But he that shall endure unto the end shall be saved." It's a different wording. Don't let this go over your head. It says "the same." That's a comparison. "The same shall be saved."

Now, before I give you an example of what that means, I want to take you to another verse of Scripture that's very important because it's even better than Philippians 4:13 in showing us about enduring unto the end. Follow me if you would to the book of I Peter. First and Second Peter are in the New Testament going towards the end, or a few books before Revelation, a few books before the end. I want to show you something very interesting regarding keeping our salvation.



Dear listener, if you are a born-again, blood-bought, saved child of God, if you've trusted in Jesus Christ and Him alone as your Saviour, the Bible very plainly says you don't have to do anything to keep your salvation. You do not have to endure unto the end in order to keep your salvation. Remember, dear listener, the Bible does not contradict itself. The Bible does not contradict itself. It's not going to be saying in Matthew Chapter 24 that you have to endure unto the end in order to be saved and then say what we're about to read here. Look at this what it says here in I Peter 1:3:

*<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope... That means a living hope... by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>2</sup>To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away... That's all talking about Heaven. We have an inheritance, and we're going to receive something called Heaven. It's incorruptible. It means it cannot be corrupted. It cannot rust. It cannot become old. It says... *undefiled*... It cannot be soiled; it cannot be made dirty... *and that fadeth not away*... meaning it lasts forever. And then this last part here, it says, *reserved in heaven for you [saved child of God]*.*

If your salvation is uncertain, that is, only those who endure unto the end shall be saved, if your salvation is uncertain, then why would God reserve something for you if He doesn't know if you're going to make it there or not? We have something reserved for us because our salvation is sure, but in case that's not enough, let's continue to verse 5.

<sup>5</sup>*Who are kept [by enduring to the end]? No. By continuing good works? No. [We] are kept by*

*the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. We are kept not by enduring to the end, not by good works, not by trying to do anything to maintain our salvation. We are kept for that reservation that's for us in Heaven; we are kept by the power of God. And how do we know that? It says there "through faith." We do not need to endure unto the end in order to be saved.*

So what does it mean? Once again, dear listener, let's take a look at the wording of it. It does not say, "But he that endureth unto the end shall be saved." It says, *But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.* What is it saying? That word or that phrase there "the same," when you look at the word "same," what does the word "same" mean? It's a comparison. For example, I have two objects in front of me. Are they the same or are they different? That's what the word "same" means, and that's why the Holy Spirit very carefully worded His words this way.

Let me give you an example that I said I was going to give you. Let's say that I am hosting a basketball game. There's going to be a big basketball game. Unfortunately, you're not able to watch the basketball game because it's a secret basketball game. The only people who can watch it are the families of the basketball players. But I have good news for you. You will find out who the winning team is because do you see that door to the right? The same shall be coming out of that door. Now, the winner of that game shall be coming out of that door. I'm not saying that they have to come out of that door to win the game. I am saying that you will know who the winner is because they'll be coming out through that door.





When you're looking at Matthew Chapter 24, it's exactly the same language that's being used there in verse 13. It says, "Do you want to see who are going to be the saved ones? The ones that make it through? They're the ones that are going to endure unto the end. They're the ones that you're going to see going through that door. How are they going to endure to the end? We just saw it in I Peter Chapter 1, the ones who are kept by the power of God. In Philippians 4:13, the ones who are strengthened by Christ Jesus.

Dear listener, don't ever let anyone deceive you saying that once you are saved you now have to keep your salvation. No, that is not true. If God is powerful enough to save you, God is powerful enough to keep you saved forevermore. Amen. Hallelujah.

But Jesus already warned us that many will come and try to deceive us and many false doctrines have been built on some other verses, as well, but especially here in Matthew 24:13. They say, "See, look, you have to endure unto the end in order to be saved." It's not saying that. That's not what the Bible is saying. The Bible is saying, "You see the ones that are going to endure to the end? That's how you know those are the ones that were saved." Why does He have to say it that way? Because there will be many false prophets and many false professing Christians in the last days, so that in the last days the only ones that we're going to know that were truly saved are the ones that made it; they endured; but they didn't endure because they were able to keep their salvation. They endured by the power of Almighty God.

Dear listener, our number here is 0999-862-7223. This is a very difficult passage of Scripture for many people, so in order for me not to spend

the rest of this program on that one verse, I invite you to go ahead and text me or contact me on Facebook if you have any more questions if someone has tried to prove to you that you need to keep your salvation yourself, and I'll be glad to give you some more Scripture on eternal security. The reason I don't want to spend too much time on that is because this lesson is not about eternal security. It's about the prophecy. So please, if you have any more questions about this keeping your salvation or whatever, text to 0999-862-7223 or go to the Facebook page and post your question there.

All right, so let's continue, dear listener. Now we're going to take a look at verse 14. This is another interesting thing that has to do with the end times. People think that this has already been fulfilled, but not quite yet. Verse 14: *And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.*

Actually verse 14 has a double meaning to it. I'm going to give you the first meaning, and actually I'm going to give you the second meaning, too, but I'm not going to go to the book of Revelation where it's referring to the second meaning, because that's going to divert us. I want to stay in Matthew Chapter 24 until we finish it and then we're going to revisit some of the things that it says from the book of Revelation and other places.

Okay. Verse 14, what does this mean: *And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.* Well, the first meaning is exactly what it says. The Gospel of the kingdom, the Gospel of Jesus Christ will at some point be preached in all the world, and at that point the end will come, at least the end of



this age, which is the Rapture, the last trumpet, the voice of the archangel. We read about this at the very beginning of our study in I Thessalonians 4:13-18.

I, your host, Tony Tirse, am a missionary. I come from the United States of America. I have been sent out from the United States as a missionary to the Philippines. This is the other side of the world. People like me are fulfilling the Scripture here in verse 14 where it says the Gospel of the kingdom shall be preached into all the world. Because we are preaching the Gospel, all of us missionaries, all pastors in different parts of the world, we are trying to reach the entire world for Christ. And one day the Scripture will be fulfilled where all the missionaries, all the pastors, all the preachers, all the evangelists who have the true Gospel of Jesus Christ will have fulfilled that mission for this age. And then, the trumpet will sound. That's the first meaning.

What's the second meaning? There are some passages in the book of Revelation, which we will get to at a later time, that talk about the Gospel being preached all over the world. The Gospel is preached all over the world first by an angel, then by 144,000 male Jewish virgins, and then the rest of the way by all the believers that will get saved during the seven-year tribulation time. It's only going to take between three and a half and seven years for the whole world to be evangelized at that time. And then the end of the world will come at that time. I don't have time with this study to get into that, but we will get to that part in the book of Revelation when we start studying some of the prophecies from the book of Revelation.

All right, let's take a look at verse 15. *When ye therefore...* This is before I even finish this

verse, He's shifting gears. He's gone into the times that we've been living in. He's gotten more and more specific to pretty much the time that we're living in now. He is giving us a double meaning with the Gospel being preached throughout the whole world, both in the time that we're living in now and also at a future time that's going to come in prophecy. But now He has crossed the line, if you will, into a different age. So here's where I've got to kind of give some explanation.

Dear listener, I want to give you some Bible college instruction right now. In Bible interpretation or Bible study or Bible exegesis, basically Bible study, there are certain rules. We call them rules of interpretation. There are certain rules that we must follow in order to make sure that what we are interpreting or what we are seeing and studying out of the Bible is correct. So let me give you these rules, because it has a lot to do with verse 15 where it says, *When ye therefore...* because I have to define who are the "ye," which is Old English for "you all." What does it mean? All right. Let's look at these rules of interpretation.

Number one rule of interpretation of the Bible is... and by the way these are questions that must be answered. Question number one or rule number one is who is doing the speaking or who is speaking? It's very important to know who is speaking. In this case, it's Jesus Christ speaking. In another case it might be a prophet. In another case it might be a king. In another case it might be a king. In another case it might be an enemy. In another case it might be Satan himself, so it's very important to know who is doing the speaking lest we make a mistake and apply some kind of doctrine because we didn't know who it actually was that was speaking.



Rule number two, who is being spoken to? It's very interesting to know who is being spoken to for several reasons, not the least of which is, is He speaking to you? I mean, is He speaking to you specifically. And what I mean by that is the Bible, of course, is written to everybody, but there are certain groups of people who certain portions of the Scripture are written to. For example, are you a Jew? Are you a Gentile? Do you know what the difference is between a Jew and a Gentile? It's very important.

You see, certain things are spoken to or said to specifically Jews and they don't apply to Gentiles. Other things are said specifically to Gentiles and they don't apply to Jews. And yet other things are said that apply both to Jews and Gentiles. And then there are other things that are said that apply to both Jews and Gentiles but they apply more to the Jews than the Gentiles, or vice versa.

It sounds kind of complicated, and I don't mean it to be, but it's very important to study the Bible to find out who is being spoken to in which context, especially in verse 15 here. It says, *When ye [you all] therefore*. Who is the "you all"? Is He talking to you all as in all of us humans? Is He talking to a certain group of people, like, for example, just believers? Or is He talking to unbelievers? Or is He talking to Gentiles? Or is He talking to Jews? Those things are very important to know.

Notice the next rule of interpretation. The next rule of interpretation is when was this spoken? When was it spoken? Was it spoken 2,000 years ago? Was it spoken 3,000 years ago? Was it spoken 4,000 years ago? And so forth. It's very important to know when something was said, because it might have been said during a time that won't make sense to you unless you

know what time is being spoken to or spoken at. For example, there are times when Jesus talks about, and in fact, it'll be later down in our Chapter 24, there are certain times when Jesus talks about being on a housetop. And there are many times where when being on a rooftop is mentioned. And you're thinking that's strange. Who walks around on their rooftop? Well, it's important to know during the time that it's being spoken of that the rooftop of a house was not a slanted, sloped roof like what we have today. They were flattop roofs and that was a place where people used to hang out. So it's important to know when something was spoken.

What's the next question or the next rule? When is it being spoken of? When something is said in the Bible, when Jesus is talking here, is He talking about something that happened before? Is He talking about something that's happening today? Or is He talking about something that's going to happen in the future? When is the thing spoken about spoken about?

So those are rules of interpretation that are very important to apply, especially here. And there are some other things that we need to discuss regarding verse 15, but we're going to get into that later. I want to finish Matthew Chapter 24 first, and we are going to go back over some of these verses, because verse 15 talks about something that happens in the book of Revelation that is mentioned in the book of Daniel. Let me repeat that. Verse 15 of Matthew Chapter 24 speaks about something that happens in the book of Revelation but is first mentioned in the book of the prophet Daniel. Let's read the verse.

***15**When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet,*



*stand in the holy place, whoso readeth, let him understand: <sup>16</sup>Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains.*

Now, let me stop there. I read verses 15 and 16. Dear listener, this is very important and I want to spend some time on this. I do not want to rush through this, and we're going to finish the show with this for today.

It says, *When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet...* So Daniel the prophet is an Old Testament prophet, an Old Testament book, and he speaks of something called the "abomination of desolation." Dear listener, does the phrase "abomination of desolation" mean anything to you? Probably not. That gives you a hint that you're probably not the one that he's speaking to right now, but let's confirm that. Let's go forward.

When he says, *When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place...* What is the holy place? Do you know what that is, dear listener? I'm going to explain that to you later on. And it says, *[W]hoso readeth, let him understand...* There, dear listener, I'm trying to help you with the rules of interpretation. That's why I've given you some Bible college stuff like knowing who is speaking, knowing who is spoken to, knowing when something was said, when was it speaking of, and there are some other rules. Because Jesus says, "Whoever is reading this, you need to understand." How do you understand what the Bible says? You have to study it.

Now He says, "Whoever is reading this, understand." Verse 16, *Then let them which be in... Where?... Judaea...* Judaea is basically Israel. It was a Roman province in the day of Jesus Christ which contained pretty much the nation of Israel. He says, *Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains.*

Dear listener, He's not talking to us. He's not talking to you and me, because we don't live in Judaea. So who is He speaking to? Very obviously by now, hopefully it's obvious to you He's speaking to the Jews. That's where the word *Hudyo* comes from. From Judaea, it's named after where they come from and their religion.

Dear listener, we've come to the end of our show and it's been very interesting. For me the time has absolutely flown, but feel free to text me 0999-862-7223. Feel free to post on our Facebook page and, Lord willing, I'll have this program uploaded to our Website where you can access it and listen to it again if you need to.

Dear listener, we are into some deep stuff and I have reservations about doing this on the radio because it's a deep study, but my heart is convinced that this is going to help somebody. We're talking about the end times here and it's important because we're closer to the end times than ever before.