

THE COMING OF THE SON OF MAN

A Study in Cosmic Signs, the Hidden Hour, and Watchful Readiness

Matthew 24:29-44

A Scripture-Based Study Workbook

KJV Translation

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HOW TO USE THIS WORKBOOK

(Read First)

This workbook is designed to help you interact directly with the text of Scripture. The learning flow is organized into five layers:

1	Observation — <i>What does the text say?</i>
2	Interpretation — <i>What does the text mean using its own wording?</i>
3	Contrast — <i>What does God define versus what is false, empty, or opposed?</i>
4	Synthesis — <i>What unified definition, chain, or conclusion emerges?</i>
5	Application — <i>Where must belief, thinking, and conduct change?</i>

Rules for This Study:

- Keep your Bible open.
- All answers must come from the passages listed.
- Avoid outside commentary.
- Preserve the wording of the translation provided (KJV).

I. OBSERVATION LAYER – WHAT DOES THE TEXT ACTUALLY SAY?

SECTION HIGHLIGHTS *This section examines the exact wording, sequence, and contrasts in Jesus' Olivet Discourse on His coming. We will identify the specific cosmic signs, commands, comparisons, and statements Jesus places in Matthew 24:29-44.*

Objective: *Identify the specific signs, commands, comparisons, and stated sequence found within the anchor passage of Matthew 24:29-44.*

ANCHOR PASSAGE

Matthew 24:29-44 (KJV)

"**29** Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: **30** And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. **31** And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. **32** Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh: **33** So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors. **34** Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled. **35** Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away. **36** But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. **37** But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. **38** For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, **39** And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. **40** Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. **41** Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left. **42** Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. **43** But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. **44** Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."

OBSERVATION EXERCISES

A. Identify the Cosmic Signs in Matthew 24:29.

1. The sun shall be _____ (v. 29).
2. The moon shall not give her _____ (v. 29).
3. The stars shall fall from _____ (v. 29).
4. The powers of the heavens shall be _____ (v. 29).

B. Identify the Sign of the Son of Man in Matthew 24:30.

5. There shall appear the sign of the Son of man in _____ (v. 30).
6. All the tribes of the earth shall _____ (v. 30).
7. They shall see the Son of man coming in the _____ of heaven (v. 30).

8. He shall come with power and great _____ (v. 30).

C. Identify the Gathering in Matthew 24:31.

9. He shall send his _____ with a great sound of a
_____ (v. 31).

10. They shall gather together his _____ from the four winds (v. 31).

D. Identify the Fig Tree Parable in Matthew 24:32-35.

11. When the branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that
_____ is nigh (v. 32).

12. When ye shall see all these things, know that it is _____, even at the
doors (v. 33).

13. Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my _____ shall not pass away (v. 35).

E. Identify the Hidden Hour in Matthew 24:36.

14. Of that day and hour knoweth no _____ (v. 36).

15. No, not the _____ of heaven, but my Father only (v. 36).

F. Identify the Days of Noah in Matthew 24:37-41.

16. As the days of Noe were, so shall also the _____ of the Son of man be (v. 37).

17. They were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in _____ (v. 38).

18. They knew not until the _____ came, and took them all away (v. 39).

19. Two shall be in the field; the one shall be _____, and the other left (v. 40).

G. Identify the Watch and Ready Commands in Matthew 24:42-44.

20. _____ therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come (v. 42).

21. If the goodman of the house had known in what watch the _____
would come (v. 43).

22. Therefore be ye also _____ : for in such an hour as ye think not the
Son of man cometh (v. 44).

✦ REFLECTION & ALIGNMENT — OBSERVATION ✦

1. According to verse 36, who is excluded from knowing the day and hour of His coming?

2. What single command in verse 42 names the disposition Jesus requires of His disciples?

3. According to verses 43-44, what is the practical reason Jesus gives for the command to watch?

II. INTERPRETATION LAYER — DEFINE USING SCRIPTURE ALONE

SECTION HIGHLIGHTS *In this layer, we use the wording of related passages to define what Jesus meant by the Son of Man, watching, the trumpet, and the gathering of the elect.*

Objective: Trace the definitions of the Son of Man, watching, the hidden hour, and the trumpet by comparing the anchor passage with parallel passages from Daniel, Mark, Acts, and the Epistles.

DEFINITION PROMPTS

1. Use **Daniel 7:13-14** to define “the Son of man”: “I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the _____ of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days.”
2. Use **Revelation 1:7** to confirm the witness of His coming: “Behold, he cometh with _____; and every eye shall _____ him.”
3. Use **Mark 13:33** to define watching: “Take ye heed, _____ and pray: for ye know not when the time is.”
4. Use **Acts 1:7** to define what is hidden: “It is not for you to know the _____ or the _____, which the Father hath put in his own power.”
5. Use **1 Thessalonians 4:16** to define the trumpet: “The Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the _____ of God.”

Write a one-paragraph definition of “watching” using only Matthew 24:42-44 and Mark 13:33-37.

◆ REFLECTION & ALIGNMENT — DEFINITION ◆

1. According to Mark 13:33, what action accompanies watching?
2. According to Acts 1:7, what is reserved to the Father alone?

III. STRUCTURAL CONTRAST — VISIBLE SIGNS VS. HIDDEN HOUR, WATCHFUL VS. UNAWARE

SECTION HIGHLIGHTS *The discourse is built on direct contrasts: visible signs versus the hidden hour, knowing the season versus knowing the day, watchful versus unaware. This section forces a comparison between what is given and what is withheld.*

Objective: Contrast the visible signs, the hidden hour, and the postures of watchful versus unaware across Matthew 24:29-44.

A. Visible Signs vs. Hidden Hour (Matthew 24:29-30 vs. 24:36).

Passage: Matthew 24:29-30, 36

1. The visible signs are: sun darkened, moon not giving _____, stars falling, powers of heaven shaken (v. 29).
2. But of that day and hour knoweth _____ man (v. 36).

B. Knowing the Season vs. Knowing the Day (Matthew 24:33 vs. 24:36).

Passage: Matthew 24:33, 36

3. When ye shall see all these things, _____ that it is near (v. 33).
4. Of that day and hour _____ no man (v. 36).

C. Watchful vs. Unaware (Matthew 24:42-43 vs. 24:38-39).

Passage: Matthew 24:38-39, 42-43

5. They were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, and knew _____ (vv. 38-39).
6. Watch therefore: for ye _____ not what hour your Lord doth come (v. 42).

◆ REFLECTION & ALIGNMENT — CONTRAST ◆

1. What is the primary contrast Jesus draws between the days of Noah and the days of His coming?

2. According to verse 33, what is the proper response to seeing the signs that have been given?

IV. CONDUCT TEST — EVIDENCE OF WATCHFUL READINESS

SECTION HIGHLIGHTS *Watching is shown by conduct, not claim. This section examines the specific actions and conditions Scripture names as evidence that one is ready for the unexpected hour.*

Objective: *Trace the specific evidences of readiness named across Matthew 24, Mark 13, and Luke 12.*

1. According to **Matthew 24:42**, the command to all is “_____ therefore.”
2. According to **Matthew 24:44**, “Therefore be ye also _____ : for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.”
3. According to **Mark 13:35**, “_____ ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh.”
4. According to **Mark 13:37**, “And what I say unto you I say unto all, _____.”
5. According to **Luke 12:37**, “Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find _____.”
6. According to **Luke 12:40**, “Be ye therefore _____ also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not.”

REFLECTION SET

1. Has your daily conduct given evidence that you are watching, or are you living as though the hour were known?
2. When the hour comes, will you be found “watching,” or will you be found among those who “knew not”?

V. PATTERN MAPPING COMPARISON

SECTION HIGHLIGHTS *By comparing Matthew 24 with related Old and New Testament passages, we see consistent patterns: cosmic signs preceding the day of the Lord, the Son of Man coming with clouds, the trumpet and the gathering, the hidden hour, the days of Noah, and the call to watch.*

Objective: Map the shared wording and themes across Matthew 24:29-44 and parallel passages.

1. Cosmic Signs Preceding the Day.

1. **Matthew 24:29:** “Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be _____.”
2. **Joel 2:31:** “The sun shall be turned into _____, and the moon into _____.”
3. **Isaiah 13:10:** “For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their _____.”

2. The Son of Man Coming with Clouds.

4. **Matthew 24:30:** “They shall see the Son of man coming in the _____ of heaven.”
5. **Daniel 7:13:** “One like the Son of man came with the _____ of heaven.”
6. **Revelation 1:7:** “Behold, he cometh with _____; and every eye shall see him.”

3. Trumpet, Gathering, and Caught Up.

7. **Matthew 24:31:** “He shall send his angels with a great sound of a _____.”
8. **1 Thessalonians 4:16:** “The Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the _____ of God.”
9. **1 Corinthians 15:52:** “In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last _____: for the trumpet shall sound.”

4. The Hidden Hour.

10. **Matthew 24:36:** “Of that day and hour knoweth no _____.”
11. **Mark 13:32:** “Of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the _____.”
12. **Acts 1:7:** “It is not for you to know the times or the _____.”

5. The Days of Noah.

13. **Matthew 24:37:** “As the days of _____ were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.”
14. **Matthew 24:39:** “They knew _____ until the flood came.”

15. Genesis 7:11: “The same day were all the fountains of the great deep _____ up.”

6. Watch Therefore.

16. Matthew 24:42: “_____ therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.”

17. Mark 13:35: “Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house _____.”

18. Luke 12:40: “Be ye therefore _____ also.”

SYNTHESIS QUESTION

What pattern becomes unmistakable across these passages regarding the visible signs, the hidden hour, and the call to watch?

◆ REFLECTION & ALIGNMENT — PATTERN RECOGNITION ◆

1. How many of these passages place the cosmic signs alongside the coming of the Lord?

2. In how many passages does the command to watch appear beside an unknown hour?

VI. SEQUENCE CONSTRUCTION EXERCISE

SECTION HIGHLIGHTS *The discourse contains tight sequences. The cosmic signs follow the tribulation. The Son of Man's appearing follows the signs. The trumpet and gathering follow the appearing. And the days of Noah show eating and drinking continuing "until" the flood came.*

Objective: Summarize the logical sequence of actions in Matthew 24:29-31 and the comparative sequence in Matthew 24:37-39 with Genesis 7:11-13.

Sequence 1: From Tribulation to Trumpet. Trace the sequence in one paragraph from Matthew 24:29 ("immediately after the tribulation of those days") to Matthew 24:31 ("they shall gather together his elect").

Sequence 2: From Eating and Drinking to the Flood. Look at Matthew 24:37-39 and Genesis 7:11-13. Describe the order: ordinary life continues, Noah enters the ark, the floods come, the unprepared "knew not."

Final Clarity Question: According to Matthew 24:42-44, what is the only proper response to a coming whose hour is hidden?

VII. THEOLOGICAL THESIS CONSTRUCTION

SECTION HIGHLIGHTS Write a five-sentence summary answering: What is the meaning of the cosmic signs, the purpose of the hidden hour, and the necessity of watchful readiness? Each sentence must have at least one verse reference from this study.

Objective: Construct a theological summary using the required five-sentence format.

1.

(Verse: _____)

2.

(Verse: _____)

3.

(Verse: _____)

4.

(Verse: _____)

5.

(Verse: _____)

VIII. SELF-EXAMINATION INVENTORY

SECTION HIGHLIGHTS *Examine your current spiritual walk against the conditions and descriptions found in the text.*

Objective: *Evaluate your current readiness based on the specific requirements of the passages.*

1. Are you actively “watching” today, or living as if the hour were known?

2. Have the visible signs of our age called you to greater readiness, or have they only fed anxiety?

3. When the trumpet sounds, will you be found among the “elect” gathered, or among the “tribes” that mourn?

4. Are you mistaking the delay of His coming for the absence of His coming?

5. Have you assumed time remains, as the days of Noah assumed the flood would not come?

IX. MASTERY CHECK — CLOSE THE BIBLE

SECTION HIGHLIGHTS *Test your recall of the specific wording emphasized in the study.*

Objective: *Answer the following questions from memory based on the phrases emphasized throughout this workbook.*

1. What four things in the heavens are affected immediately after the tribulation (Matthew 24:29)?

2. With what does the Son of Man come (Matthew 24:30)?

3. What does He send His angels with (Matthew 24:31)?

4. Whom does He gather (Matthew 24:31)?

5. Who alone knows the day and hour (Matthew 24:36)?

6. To what former event is His coming compared (Matthew 24:37)?

7. What single command closes Matthew 24:42-44?

X. FINAL SYNTHESIS STATEMENT

SECTION HIGHLIGHTS *Complete these statements based strictly on what you have observed in the text.*

Objective: *Synthesize the final themes of cosmic signs, the hidden hour, and watchful readiness into the provided statements.*

1. "The **cosmic signs** precede _____."
2. "The **Son of Man** comes with _____."
3. "The **hidden hour** is hidden so that _____."
4. "The **days of Noah** show that _____."
5. "**Watching** is the proper response to _____."

MEMORY ANCHOR

Choose one verse from Matthew 24:29-44 that most clearly defines the study's main claim. Write it in full below:

FINAL REFLECTION

The hour is hidden so that watching may be continual. The signs are given so that the watchful may not be deceived. The trumpet shall sound at an hour none can predict, and only those who watch shall be found ready.

Based on this study, what is one area where you must trim your watch this week?

FULL SCRIPTURE INDEX

Reference	Reference
Matthew 24:3	Mark 13:32-33
Matthew 24:29-44	Mark 13:34-37
Genesis 7:11-13	Luke 12:35-40
Genesis 7:21-23	Luke 12:39-40
Joel 2:30-31	Acts 1:6-7
Isaiah 13:10	1 Corinthians 15:51-52
Daniel 7:13-14	1 Thessalonians 4:16-17
Revelation 1:7	

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