

Sunday, October 10, 2021

Pastor Jake Magee

The Journey | Don't Be Deceived | Luke 21:7-8



“Teacher, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when these things are about to take place?”⁸ And he said, “See that you are not led astray. For many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is at hand!’ Do not go after them. - Luke 21:7-8

Satan is So Good at Lies

We're So Bad at Truth

Spotting the Serpent

- The Supremacy of Jesus' Person?

- The Sufficiency of Jesus' Salvation?

- The Scope of Jesus' Authority?

“³ But I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ” – 2 Cor. 11:3

Small Group Questions



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The Big Idea

For the month of October, we're looking at a sermon Jesus gives about the end of the world. He uses the destruction of Jerusalem (which happens in the 1st century) to talk about the end of the world. It's a dress rehearsal for the 2nd coming. Jesus tells us to prepare for his coming in five distinct ways: *don't be distracted* (vss.5-7); *don't be deceived* (vs.8); *don't be afraid* (vs.9-11); *don't be quiet* (vss.12-19); and *don't give up* (vss.20-33).

Getting Started

1) Imagine that you are a survivalist. You receive good information that America will crumble into anarchy in a year. You have a lot to prepare for.

a) What are the top three things you will do to prepare?

b) Let's say you knew that Jesus was coming back in a year. What are the top three things you'd do to prepare?

Digging Deeper (Read Verse 8)

2) In verse 8, Jesus tells us the very first thing to do to prepare. What is it?

3) Compare verse 8 with 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5. Paul says the very first thing to watch out and prepare for is a great "falling away" (*apostasia* = departure from the truth), which culminates in a person who tricks most of the world into thinking he's God. What does this tell you about what really makes the end of the world so dangerous to people?

4) Take some time and read 1 John 2:18 and 4:3. John says that a person known as "the antichrist" will come one day, but he also warns that the dark force of antichrist is already at work. In other words, a powerful force of deception is working in the world and will grow until it culminates in a person (cf. 2 Thess. 2:1-5; Rev. 13:1-8). What is that dark deceptive force at work (cf. John 8:44; Rev. 12:7-9), and when do we see it beginning to deceive?

5) In verse 8 (cf. Matthew 24:23-24) Jesus warns against being led astray by people and movements that bear the name of Christ. "Antichrist" literally means "a substitute" or forgery of Christ. Counterfeits of Christ can be usually identified when the following three truths about Jesus are denied. Discuss what these areas mean and where you might see this forgery at today:

The Supremacy of His Person

The Sufficiency of His Salvation

The Scope of His Authority

6) The disciples spent three years with Jesus. Some will go on to live many decades as Christians. Despite all that, the first thing Jesus warns them about is the possibility of being deceived.

a) What does that tell us about *our* susceptibility to deception and need to address it?

b) Discuss some strategies for not being deceived.

Making It Real

7) Before we outright deny any of the truths listed in question 5, it usually starts with the practical struggle of embracing them practically in our daily life. Which one of these three do you have the hardest time embracing in your daily life?