Matthew 24:3-14

**Vs. 3** Threefold Question

1. When is the temple being destroyed?, and What should we look for when you come back?, and When does eternity begin? The disciples were trying to figure out if they needed to get ready and fight or what was happening? They, like we are today, were looking forward to a never ending peace and a life that the earth groans for. The disciples, like every generation since, have been expecting Jesus to return thinking it could not possibly get any worse.

**Vs. 4-5** Misleading People

1. Ever since Jesus was crucified there have been people all through the ages that have claimed to be Christ Himself. The most well known is of course the Pope, who Catholics believe, when he sits on his seat in Rome transforms into Jesus Christ.
2. Even right after the crucifixion they found people trying to say they were Christ in Greece, Israel and other places.

**Vs. 6-8** Culture of War

1. There have been wars and rumors of wars ever since people separated on this earth. It seems the longer we are on this earth the more these wars and rumors increase.
2. It was not that long ago and the USA mainland was thought of as untouchable but given what happened on 9/11 and the balloon fiasco that was last year we should not feel so safe and secure.
3. Famines and Earthquakes combined with the constant state of feeling on the edge of battle is something new to us here. There has been an increase in both in the last few years. But these are just the beginning of birth pains. Remember these things have been going on for centuries

**Vs. 9** Hated by All

1. The word tribulation here comes from a Greek word meaning pressure or oppression. As Christians in America we are being pressed on all sides from all supposed Christians to others who deny Christ to just go with the flow.
2. And as true Christians we will not, thus leading to the possible murder of us and imprisonment. We see how much Christians are hated now.
3. For the first century Christians death was a great possibility to them under various dictatorships.

**Vs. 10** Falling Away

1. We can see this in society as a whole. The people who say they are Christians are declining as time goes on. People who once professed Christ are starting to leave in droves.
2. This is not a loss of salvation. This is a true identifier of who they really were. Some are the third soil from Jesus’ teaching, and will not be willing to suffer for the sake of Jesus, but true Christians will suffer until the end as it is Christ who holds on to us no the other way around.

**Vs. 11** False Prophets

1. Everywhere we look now there are false prophets. Joel Osteen, Benny Hinn, Kennedy Copeland, and Joyce Mayer just to name a few. These are definite false prophets who claim a different Christ than the one of the bible. They are not the only ones. Think of most modern “Christian” musicians who, when pressed, will not answer questions about salvation and such. (dove award story)

**Vs. 12** Short Tempers

1. Again we see this in today’s society. People are uncaring for one another. The common man sees itself as a lone wolf and there are other predators surrounding it. It becomes more and more common as people keep leaving Christ and leaving the church.

**Vs. 13-14** The Hope

1. As true Christians we will endure until the end. We are going to be saved, either by death or the second coming of Christ. Either way we are to keep doing verse 14 and preach until the ends of the earth.
2. Christians have one mission in life and that is to proclaim Christ and Him crucified.