***The Olivet Discourse – Sermon Kit 201-1***

Jesus and His disciples were in the temple. After a tense encounter between Jesus and the Pharisees and a surprise declaration by Jesus, His disciples asked three questions:

1. When is the Temple going to be destroyed?
2. What are the signs of your return?
3. What are the signs of the world’s end?

The questions and Jesus’ subsequent answers happened on the Mount of Olives as He and His disciples were overlooking the Temple. This teaching is recorded in Matthew 24 and Matthew 25.

Sermon Kit 201 explores and explains Jesus’ teaching in the Olivet Discourse. It also gives application for today’s disciples. This section (**201-1**) of the kit covers **Matthew 24:1-14** and deals with the most familiar portion of the Olivet Discourse – “wars and rumors of wars.”

Not only did Jesus in this section prophecy the complete destruction of the Temple (fulfilled in 70 AD), but He also prophesied concerning events that are happening currently. Here is what He includes:

1. Increasing political and geological instability
2. Increasing number of false prophets, false Messiahs, desertions, and persecution
3. Increasing opportunities for us to show our Christian nature and impact our world with the Gospel

Jesus’ does not desire to scare us but to prepare us for coming events. There is no hope for our world (the world system), but there is hope for the people who inhabit it. As the end approaches, Jesus wants us to give hope to dying people.

There are multiple parts to this sermon kit.

1. Introduction page – explains what is in the kit.
2. Sermon notes – a resource for the people to use as they take notes
3. Sermon outline – a resource for the pastor to use
4. Teaching sample – sermon text ideas
5. PowerPoint – graphics for media application
6. Promotional helps – several resources to help promote the message

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