

Warning Signs
Matthew 24:32-41

In His message to His disciples in Matt. 24, Jesus spoke about some warning signs God gives. Verses 32-41 present a challenge. Jesus gives 3 illustrations, and the 1st seems to _____ the last 2. The fig tree illustration indicates that God _____ certain warning signs to help us know when and where God is getting ready to act. The next examples about Noah and the people working side by side are interpreted by Jesus to mean that God will _____ advanced warnings, so you just must be _____ at all times.

The best way to explain this seeming contradiction is to know that Jesus used the fig tree illustration to warn the disciples about the coming destruction of the _____ by the Romans. His last 2 illustrations are about His _____ and the _____ of the _____. Concerning that event, He says there will be no warning so _____ preparedness is the only reasonable thing to do.

If all of this seems a bit uncertain and even frightening to you, there is much good news here. First, regarding many things, God gives us _____ to help us navigate the pitfalls and threats inherent in life on this earth. What a gift it is to have God's _____ to provide warning, instructions, the light we need.

Second, Jesus shifts His attention to the sign of His coming and the end of the age. His answer is always the same: The sign will be that everything will look _____. Therefore, we must stay _____. Throughout Scripture, that readiness is only found in a _____ to _____—"Whoever calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

The good news here is that when the final judgment comes, the judge will be _____. The one who _____ us most finally will be the one who _____ us most fully."

Jesus would have us _____ by His word and be _____ because we have heeded His word and chosen to call upon His name.