To understand the context of Matthew 25 we need to consider what is going on in the passages just prior to and after it.

Matthew 21:

1. The “triumphal entry”, where Messiah entered Jerusalem on the donkey colt.
2. Cleansing of the Temple and departure to Beth Anyah
3. Cursing of the fig tree the next morning
4. Testing in the Temple
   1. Authority tested
   2. Parable of the Two Sons
   3. Parable of the Talents

(Matthew 22)

* 1. Parable of the Wedding Feasts
  2. Paying taxes to Caesar
  3. Questions about the Resurrection
  4. The Great Commandment
  5. Whose Son is Messiah?

Matthew 23: Woes to the Scribes and Pharisees and lament over Jerusalem

Remember, Messiah’s message to the people was, “Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near”, and all of the parables are connected to “entering the Kingdom of Heaven”.

His condemnation of the teachers in Ch. 23 was because they had NOT been teaching the people how to enter the Kingdom, which was clearly laid out in the Torah, but were making disciples for themselves, according to their own manmade traditions.

Ch. 24 begins immediately after His condemnation of the religious leaders, as He and His disciples were leaving Jerusalem. They stopped on the Mount of Olives, where He is going to prophesy to them concerning things to come.

**Mat 24:1**  And going out, יהושע went away from the Set-apart Place, and His taught ones came near to point out to Him the buildings of the Set-apart Place.

**Mat 24:2**  And יהושע said to them, “Do you not see all these? **Truly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, at all, which shall not be thrown down**.”

**Mat 24:3**  And as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the taught ones came to Him separately, saying, “**Say to us, when shall this be, and what is the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?”**

(Below I have quoted the entire passage of 24, highlighting certain things and noting their connection to other corresponding prophetic events, this represents only a basic outline)

Rev 6 First Seal

**Mat 24:4**  And יהושע answering, said to them, “Take heed that no one leads you astray.

**Mat 24:5**  “**For many shall come in My Name**, saying, ‘I am the Messiah,’ and they shall lead many astray.

**Mat 24:6**  “And you shall begin to hear **of fightings and reports of fightings**. See that you are not troubled, for these have to take place, but the end is not yet.

Second Seal

**Mat 24:7**  **“For nation shall rise against nation, and reign against reign.**

Third Seal

And there shall be **scarcities of food**,

Fourth Seal

and **deadly diseases**, and earthquakes in places.

Fifth Seal

**Mat 24:8**  “And all these are the beginning of birth pains.

**Mat 24:9**  “Then they shall **deliver you up to affliction and kill you**, and you shall be hated by all nations for My Name’s sake.

Apostacy

(1Th 2:3)

**Mat 24:10**  “And then **many shall stumble**, and they shall deliver up one another, and shall hate one another.

**Mat 24:11**  “And many false prophets shall rise up and **lead many astray**.

**Mat 24:12**  “And because of the increase in lawlessness, the love of many shall become cold.

Revelation

14:6-14

**Mat 24:13**  “But he who shall have **endured to the end** shall be saved.

**Mat 24:14**  “And **this Good News of the reign shall be proclaimed in all the world** as a witness to all the nations, and then the end shall come.

**Mat 24:15**  “So when you see the **’abomination that lays waste,’ spoken of by Dani’ěl the prophet, set up in the set-apart place”** – he who reads, let him understand –

**Mat 24:16**  “then let those who are in Yehuḏah flee to the mountains.

1Th 4:3-4

&

Daniel

11:40-12:13

**Mat 24:17**  “Let him who is on the house-top not come down to take whatever out of his house.

**Mat 24:18**  “And let him who is in the field not turn back to get his garments.

**Mat 24:19**  “And woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing children in those days!

**Mat 24:20**  “And pray that your flight does not take place in winter or on the Sabbath.

**Mat 24:21**  “For then **there shall be great distress**, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.

**Mat 24:22**  “And if those days were not shortened, no flesh would be saved, but for the sake of the chosen ones those days shall be shortened.

**Mat 24:23**  “If anyone then says to you, ‘Look, here is the Messiah!’ or ‘There!’ do not believe.

Final Warning and two pictures of what His coming will look like.

**Mat 24:24**  “**For false messiahs and false prophets shall arise, and they shall show great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the chosen ones.**

**Mat 24:25**  “See, I have forewarned you.

**Mat 24:26**  “So if they say to you, ‘Look, He is in the desert!’ do not go out; or ‘Look, He is in the inner rooms!’ do not believe.

**Mat 24:27**  “**For as the lightning comes from the east and shines to the west, so also shall the coming of the Son of Aḏam be.**

**Mat 24:28  “For wherever the dead body is, there the vultures shall be gathered together**.

Sixth

Seal

&

2TH 1:7-10

Rev 6:15-16

Hos 10:8

**Mat 24:29**  “And immediately after the distress of those days **the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give its light, and the stars shall fall from the heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken.**

**Mat 24:30**  “And then the sign of the Son of Aḏam shall appear in the heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth shall mourn, and they shall see the Son of Aḏam coming on the clouds of the heaven with power and much esteem.

1Th 4:13-18

1Cor 15:50-55

**Mat 24:31**  “And He shall send His messengers with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together His chosen ones from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.

**Mat 24:32**  “And learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that the summer is near.

The Generation that sees these events

**Mat 24:33**  “So you also, when you see all these, know that He is near, at the doors.

**Mat 24:34**  “Truly, I say to you, this generation shall by no means pass away until all this takes place.

**Mat 24:35**  “The heaven and the earth shall pass away, but My words shall by no means pass away.

Wrath and Deliverance at the same time

(Luke 17:20-32)

and

Yom Teruah

(idiom)

**Mat 24:36**  “But concerning that day and the hour no one knows, not even the messengers of the heavens, but My Father only.

**Mat 24:37**  “And as the days of Noaḥ, so also shall the coming of the Son of Aḏam be.

**Mat 24:38**  “For as they were in the days before the flood, eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noaḥ entered into the ark,

**Mat 24:39**  and they did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also shall the coming of the Son of Aḏam be.

**Mat 24:40** “Then two shall be in the field, the one is taken and the one is left.

**Mat 24:41**  “Two women shall be grinding at the mill; one is taken and one is left.

**Mat 24:42**  “Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Master is coming.

**Mat 24:43**  “And know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into.

**Mat 24:44**  “Because of this, be ready too, for the Son of Aḏam is coming at an hour when you do not expect Him.

Difference between the righteous and unrighteous servant at the Master’s Return

**Mat 24:45**  “Who then is a trustworthy and wise servant, whom his master set over his household, to give them food in season?

**Mat 24:46**  “Blessed is that servant whom his master, having come, shall find so doing.

**Mat 24:47**  “Truly, I say to you that he shall set him over all his possessions.

**Mat 24:48**  “But if that evil servant says in his heart, ‘My master is delaying his coming,’

**Mat 24:49**  and begins to beat his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunkards,

**Mat 24:50**  the master of that servant shall come on a day when he does not expect it, and at an hour he does not know,

**Mat 24:51**  and shall cut him in two and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites – there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Matthew 25:1-13 Parable of the Ten Virgins and The Coming of the Bridegroom

Matthew 25:14-30 Parable of the Servants and their Talents at the Return of the Master

Notice how all of these things are about the Master’s Return. It is in this context we must understand the who and what of the Sheep and Goat judgment in Matthew 25:31-46.

Messiah has already laid out for us what it will be like just prior to His Return and He told us what His Return will look like.

The last three events He mentions in Matthew 24 is…

1. His Return v.29-30
2. The Resurrection/Catching Away v. 31
3. The Wrath of YHWH on the Day of YHWH v. 36-42

It would do us well to remember that at His Return there will be three types of people on the earth.

1. Those who have believed and obeyed (Removed at His Return)
2. Those worshipping the Beast (Destroyed at Armageddon)
3. The Rest, those not taken at His Return but did not worship the Beast.

It is to this third group, the uncommitted that survived the Wrath, the Sheep and Goat Judgment applies.

**Mat 25:31**  “And **when the Son of Aḏam comes in His esteem, and all the set-apart messengers with Him, then He shall sit on the throne of His esteem.**

This is what He will do **AFTER** the events mentioned in Ch. 24.

**Mat 25:32**  “And **all the nations shall be gathered before Him,** and He shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates his sheep from the goats.

**Mat 25:33**  “And He shall set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left.

**THE NATION**, Yisra’el, was removed, resurrected, transformed in Matthew 24:29-31 (Rev 14:14-16 at Rev 11:15-17 to be judged in Rev 11:18 [1Cor 3:11-15]), which includes both the Native Born and Stranger (Num 15:15-16 ad Lev 19:33-34) who believed, both Jew and Gentile.

“The nations” He is referring to here has nothing to do with those of us who believed **BEFORE** His Return but refers to those who did not believe before His return from all nations.

**Mat 25:34**  “Then the Sovereign shall say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the reign prepared for you from the foundation of the world –

**Mat 25:35**  for I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me drink, I was a stranger and you took Me in,

**Mat 25:36**  was naked and you clothed Me, I was sick and you visited Me, I was in prison and you came to Me.’

**Mat 25:37**  “Then the righteous shall answer Him, saying, ‘Master, when did we see You hungry and we fed You, or thirsty and gave You to drink?

**Mat 25:38**  And when did we see You a stranger and took You in, or naked and clothed You?

**Mat 25:39**  And when did we see You sick, or in prison, and we came to You?’

**Mat 25:40**  “And the Sovereign shall answer and say to them, ‘Truly, I say to you, in so far as you did it to one of the least of **these My brothers**, you did it to Me.’

ALL those who believed BEFORE He returned are His Brothers, they are all Yisra’elis according to Leviticus 19:33-34 and Galatians 2:28 (also: Eph 2:11-19 and Rom 11:11-24).

**Mat 25:41**  “He shall then also say to those on the left hand, ‘Go away from Me, accursed ones, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his messengers –

**Mat 25:42**  for I was hungry and you gave Me no food, I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink,

**Mat 25:43**  I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, was naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.’

**Mat 25:44**  “Then they also shall answer Him, saying, ‘Master, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not serve You?’

**Mat 25:45**  “Then He shall answer them, saying, ‘Truly, I say to you, in so far as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.’

**Mat 25:46**  “And these shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into everlasting life.”

There will be two kinds of people in the Kingdom, the pre-return believers who have taken on the resurrected “spirit” body (1Cor 15) and the post-return believer who are the wedding guests and enter in the Kingdom still in this present “physical” form.

It is from this group and their descendants that Ha’Shatan will recruit his armies for the last great battle of Gog and Magog (Rev 20:7-10).