

# The Harmony of the Olivet Discourse

By Kevin Lea, Pastor, Calvary Church of Port Orchard, WA, calvarypo.org  
 © December 5, 2003, Updated February 2026, all rights reserved

Only a few days before His crucifixion, the Lord Jesus spoke with His disciples about the future of Israel and the world. This teaching, referred to as the Olivet Discourse because it took place on the Mount of Olives, is recorded in Matthew Chapters 24 and 25, Mark 13, and Luke 21.

There has been much debate over the centuries about how to interpret the Olivet Discourse. Pieces of the puzzle were solved after the rebirth of the nation of Israel in 1948. However, various views are still debated by sincere Christians. After more than 50 years of pondering different views, I feel led to contribute my thoughts, which I summarize in this document. Here, I present parallel passages from the three gospels side-by-side with my commentary below. All Scriptures are from the New King James Version, 1985 Thomas Nelson.

## Jesus Predicts the Destruction of Herod's Temple

As Jesus and His disciples are leaving the temple, the disciples remark on the beauty and grandeur of this magnificent structure, built by Herod the Great. Jesus' response was shocking:

Matthew 24	Mark 13	Luke 21
v. 1-2 - Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple. And Jesus said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down."	v. 1-2 - Then as He went out of the temple, one of His disciples said to Him, "Teacher, see what manner of stones and what buildings are here!" And Jesus answered and said to him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone shall be left upon another, that shall not be thrown down."	v. 5-6 - Then, as some spoke of the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and donations, He said, "These things which you see - the days will come in which not one stone shall be left upon another that shall not be thrown down."

This prophecy (and Daniel 9:26) was fulfilled literally when Titus and the Roman legions under his command burned and destroyed the second (Herod's) temple and the city of Jerusalem in AD 70. The fire that consumed the burnable material in the temple melted the gold, which flowed into the gaps between the stones. Afterwards, the people pushed over every massive stone to recover this gold. (*Josephus, Wars of the Jews, Book 6, Chapters 4-6.*) Some of the stones were thrown over the southwest portion of the wall of the temple mount, which landed on the road below and are there to this day.



**The Four Questions**

All the disciples heard Jesus predict the destruction of the Temple, but only four, Peter, James, John, and Andrew, came to Him for greater understanding:

<b>Matthew 24</b>	<b>Mark 13</b>	<b>Luke 21</b>
v. 3 - Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?"	v. 3, 4 - Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked Him privately, "Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign when all these things will be fulfilled?"	v. 7 - So they asked Him, saying, "Teacher, but when will these things be? And what sign will there be when these things are about to take place?"

Today, many Christians are aware of end times prophecies but put little effort into actually studying them. There is a blessing for those who seek to fully understand what Jesus said.

As we study the three accounts, we need to keep in mind that the disciples asked four specific questions:

1. When will these things be [the casting down of the stones]? (Matthew 13:3 and Mark 13:4)
2. What will be the sign of your coming [the Second Coming]? (Matthew 13:3, Mark 13:4)
3. What will be the sign of the end of the age? (Matthew 13:3, Mark 13:4)
4. What sign will there be when these things are about to take place [the destruction of the Temple]? (Luke 21:7, Mark 13:4)

As we will see, some of Jesus' answers address the things leading up to the destruction of the Temple in AD 70 while other passages deal with the things leading up to His Second Coming and the end of the age, yet future to us. Further, some answers could apply to *both* events. For example, Josephus records that false prophets and professing Messiahs were in Jerusalem during the siege of the Romans leading up to AD 70 and afterwards (*Wars of the Jews*, Book 6, Chapters 4-10). These false prophets assured the Jews that they need not fear the Romans nor leave the city because God was going to destroy the Romans and set up messianic kingdom at that time. Therefore, when Jesus warned against false prophets who would say the Messiah is coming (see verses below), He was clearly speaking to those living in Jerusalem in AD 70. However, we also know from 2 Thessalonians 2 (which was not fulfilled in AD 70 and thus must be future), and from The Revelation (written after AD 70), that the future Antichrist will also claim to be the Messiah. As such, Jesus' warning also applies to a future Jewish people living in Jerusalem in the last days. Prior to 1948, this dual understanding was obscured because it seemed impossible that the Jews would ever be in the land of Israel and in possession of Jerusalem again.<sup>1</sup>

It is also important to understand that Jesus' audience for this discourse was Jewish. In context, His responses were clearly directed to the Jewish people, then and now – not to believers in the church age.

**False Messiah(s) and False Prophets**

Jesus begins His discourse by warning the disciples that a false messiah(s) and prophet(s) signify the time of His coming and of the end of the age. (I include later verses on this topic here for ease of comparison):

<b>Matthew 24</b>	<b>Mark 13</b>	<b>Luke 21</b>
v. 4, 5 - And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many."	v.5, 6 - And Jesus, answering them, began to say: "Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am He,' and will deceive many."	v.8 - And He said: "Take heed that you not be deceived. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am He,' and, 'The time has drawn near.' Therefore do not go after them."
v. 11-14 - "Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. But he who endures to the end shall be saved." And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.		
v. 23-27 - "Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the	v.21-23 - "Then if anyone says to you,	

<p>Christ!' or 'There!' do not believe it. For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. See, I have told you beforehand. Therefore 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 it. For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.</p>	<p>'Look, here is the Christ!' or, 'Look, He is there!' do not believe it. For false christs and false prophets will rise and show signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. But take heed; see, I have told you all things beforehand."</p>	
---	---	--

**False Messiahs/Christs.** As previously stated, I believe these verses applied to the time immediately before AD 70 and also apply to a future time when the Antichrist will be able to deceive most Jews. Jesus alludes to this last-days embracing of a false messiah when in John 5:43 He said, *"I have come in My Father's name, and you do not receive Me; if another comes in his own name, him you will receive."* This prophecy has not yet been fulfilled and therefore awaits a time when the Jews in Jerusalem ignore this warning and embrace a future false messiah.

It is clear that Jesus was not talking to church-age Christians when He voiced these warnings. A biblical Christian *knows* that Jesus is the Messiah and so cannot be deceived by another, false messiah. Here, Jesus warns His chosen people (the Jews) – those living in AD 70 and in a time still future to us – to not be fooled by an imitation messiah.

Tragically, many Jews then and now do not recognize Jesus as their true Messiah because of spiritual blindness (Romans 11:25).<sup>2</sup> The Scriptures say this blindness will for the most part continue until the "fullness of the Gentiles has come in" (Romans 11:25). At this time, the church age will end as Jesus takes believers out of the world in the Rapture. At some time after this, Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> Week (the seven-year Tribulation Period) will begin as described in Daniel 9:27. During the Tribulation Period, the Jews will once again become God's witness people. Those still alive when Jesus returns at the end of this terrible time will recognize that Jesus is their Messiah, and all Israel will be saved (Isaiah 59:20, Zechariah 12:10, Romans 11:26).

As covered in detail below, Jesus warns against the deceptions of the Antichrist and his global ten-nation government, which will promise the last-days Jews peace and the ability to build their temple and reestablish animal sacrifice.

**False Prophets.** Several other New Testament passages that speak of false teachers in the last days, teachers who will cause many people to turn their ears from the truth in order to believe a lie and to follow doctrines of demons (1 Timothy 4:1; 2 Timothy 4:3-4; and 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12). But here, Jesus describes these false prophets as being those who deceive people to go after false messiahs (Matthew 24:5), **something that cannot apply to the church as explained above.**

However, after the church is taken out of the world and the global government is established, **the Jews will be deceived, convinced that their time of peace has arrived.** They will also be **easily deceived into trusting the man who enforces a covenant that allows the Jewish Temple to be rebuilt and animal sacrifices to be reestablished (covered in detail later).** Jesus warns these **future Jewish people** that they must not believe in these prophets, even if they and the world leaders let the Jews build the third temple in Jerusalem!

### **War and Rumors of Wars**

Next, Jesus tells the disciples there will be wars and rumors of wars, but they do not signal the end:

<b>Matthew 24</b>	<b>Mark 13</b>	<b>Luke 21</b>
v.6-8 - “And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, <b>but the end is not yet.</b> For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of sorrows [ <i>birth pangs</i> ].”	v. 7-8 - “ <b>But when you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be troubled; for such things must happen, but the end is not yet.</b> For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be earthquakes in various places, and there will be famines and troubles. These are the beginnings of sorrows.”	v.9-11 - “ <b>But when you hear of wars and commotions, do not be terrified; for these things must come to pass first, but the end will not come immediately.</b> ” Then He said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be great earthquakes in various places, and famines and pestilences; and there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.”

As the Jews began hearing of wars and rumors of wars leading up to the destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70, they would have been thinking, “This is the end of the Jewish people,” and understandably so. But Jesus promised the Jews who would see this future destruction that “the end” was not yet, nor would the end come “immediately” after this.

How perfectly His prophecy has been fulfilled! Josephus recorded the brutality of the Roman conquest. Every man, woman, and child in any Jewish city that resisted the Romans was killed. Even in cities that did not resist, the Romans killed most of the men and sent survivors into slavery throughout the Roman empire. Afterwards, the Jews were dispersed throughout the world for nearly 1,900 years. Miraculously, they survived extreme persecution throughout this period, even Hitler’s holocaust, while maintaining their ethnic identity as Jews. But any idea of being in the land of Israel again would have seemed absurd. Now in the land since 1948, the Jews have continued to face wars and rumors of wars to the present day. In light of such threats, some believe the Jews will likely be destroyed as a nation and as a people. But Jesus promised the Jews they would survive until His coming.

Historical Note: After the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple in AD 70, a small group of about 1,000 Jewish rebels fled to the hilltop Roman fortress of Masada. When the Romans finally breached the walls in AD 74, they discovered that all the rebels (except four) had committed suicide the night before rather than be taken as Roman slaves. In October 1963, under the floorboards of a building that the Jews had used as a synagogue, the Israelis discovered a scroll of Ezekiel, open to Chapters 36-37, which prophesy the return of the Jews to the land after a long time!

Even though Jesus was addressing the Jews in His Olivet Discourse, the prophecy of wars and rumors of wars is the history of our world to the present day, as history has shown nation rising against nation (literally ethnos against ethnos) and kingdom against kingdom for most of human history.<sup>3</sup> Worldwide racial tensions and extreme nationalism have set the stage for this prophecy to be fulfilled on a global scale in our day, made possible by the technological revolution, global communications, and rapid travel. With the advent of weapons of mass destruction, it is entirely conceivable that the wars and rumors of wars that are in the news every day could at some time in the future escalate until a world war could result in the loss of all human life on Earth – the end.<sup>4</sup> But Jesus promised that this is not how the world “will end” and alludes to this later in His discourse: *Matthew 24:22 And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect’s sake those days will be shortened.*

**The Command to Flee Judea / Jerusalem**

We skip ahead a few verses in order to stay on the topic of wars and rumors of wars, which Jesus said would signify the last days:

<b>Matthew 24</b>	<b>Luke 21</b>
v. 15-22 - "Therefore when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place" (whoever reads, let him understand), then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath. For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.	v. 20-24 - "But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is near. Then let those in Judea flee to the mountains, let those who are in the midst of her depart, and let not those who are in the country enter her. For these are the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled. But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! For there will be great distress in the land and wrath upon this people. And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled."

I list both of these passages here for ease of comparison. At first glance, they seem to be parallel passages. However, note that Matthew mentions the abomination of desolation spoken of in Daniel 9 and 12, which describes the last days' kingdom of the Antichrist, while Luke does not. Hence, they are not the same prophecies. Here, I discuss the Luke passage; I discuss Matthew 24:15-22 in detail below.

Only Luke records Jesus' answer to the disciple's question about when their temple was going to be destroyed such that "not one stone shall be left upon another that shall not be thrown down" (Matthew 24:2, Mark 13:2, and Luke 21:6). This was literally fulfilled in AD 70 as described previously. Jesus warned his audience that when the Roman army surrounded Jerusalem, those who were in the city should flee. According to early church historians Eusebius and Epiphanius, the believers fled across the Jordan River to Pella before the city was surrounded, thereby avoiding the massacre and devastation.<sup>5</sup>

The "Time of the Gentiles" to which Luke refers began in 586 BC when Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon destroyed Solomon's temple and Jerusalem. The Jews have never again had sovereign control of Jerusalem and the Temple Mount. The Gentiles have continued to "trample" Jerusalem to this day.<sup>6</sup> On June 7, 1967, during the Six-Day War, the Jews regained control of Jerusalem and the Temple Mount for the first time since 586 BC. However, the next day General Moshe Dayan gave control of the Temple Mount back to Jordan as a gesture of peace. This portion of Jerusalem remains "under the foot of the Gentiles," just as Jesus prophesied, and will so remain until Jesus returns, at which time the "Time of the Gentiles" will end (Revelation 11:2).

Historical Note: In one recollection, the entirely secular General Dayan is quoted as asking, "What is this? The Vatican?" as he watched orthodox rabbis flocking in celebration on the Temple Mount shortly after Jerusalem was captured in 1967 (Wikipedia). Dayan later ordered the Israeli flag removed from the Dome of the Rock and gave administrative control of the Temple Mount over to the Waqf, a Muslim council. Dayan believed that the Temple Mount was more important to Judaism as an historical rather than as a holy, religious site.

Had General Dayan not given back control of the Temple Mount, the "Time of the Gentiles" would have ended on June 7, 1967. This would have made several other yet unfulfilled prophecies about the last days difficult if not impossible to reconcile. We again see God's sovereign hand in world affairs.

**Famines, Pestilences, and Earthquakes in Various Places**

<b>Matthew 24</b>	<b>Mark 13</b>	<b>Luke 21</b>
v. 7-8 - "For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of sorrows [birth pangs]."	v.8 - "For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be earthquakes in various places, and there will be famines and troubles. These are the beginnings of sorrows."	v.11 - "And there will be great earthquakes in various places, and famines and pestilences; and there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven."

Although there have been many famines and widespread disease outbreaks (pestilences) in the past (40 percent of Europe died in the plague (“Black Death”) of the mid fourteenth century), Jesus warns that in the last days there will be such widespread famine and disease, that people will fear the end of *all* life on Earth.

Earthquakes have been part of Earth’s history since the flood of Noah. Luke records that Jesus spoke of *great* earthquakes. Isaiah and Revelation predict a future *global* earthquake during which “every island fled away, and the mountains were not found.”

*The earth is violently broken, the earth is split open, The earth is shaken exceedingly. The earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard, and shall totter like a hut; Its transgression shall be heavy upon it, And it will fall, and not rise again. It shall come to pass in that day That the Lord will punish on high the host of exalted ones, And on the earth the kings of the earth. They will be gathered together, as prisoners are gathered in the pit, and will be shut up in the prison; After many days they will be punished. Then the moon will be disgraced And the sun ashamed; For the Lord of hosts will reign On Mount Zion and in Jerusalem and before His elders, gloriously. (Isaiah 24:19-23)*

*I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood. And the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind. Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place. And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains, and said to the mountains and rocks, “Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?” (Revelation 6:12-17)*

*Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, “It is done!” And there were noises and thunderings and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth. 19 Now the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And great Babylon was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath. Then every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. And great hail from heaven fell upon men, each hailstone about the weight of a talent. Men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, since that plague was exceedingly great. (Revelation 16:17-21)*

Since the time Jesus spoke these warning in Luke, there have been no “great earthquakes” of this magnitude. Therefore, this prophecy must apply to a future event.<sup>7</sup>

Jesus also said that earthquakes will occur in “various places.” Currently, about 90% of all earthquakes occur along what is called the “Ring of Fire,” which encircles much of the Pacific Ocean. However, according to Dr. Walt Brown’s Hydroplate Theory, the inner earth is becoming increasingly unstable with time due to the accumulated stresses from deep earthquakes, those that occur more than 220 miles beneath the earth’s surface. Below this depth, the magma (melted rock) generated along fault lines during an earthquake is denser than solid rock from which it came, so it wants to “shrink” in volume. This condition creates localized low-pressure areas, which in turn results in increased stresses along the fault line. This instability will someday cause earthquakes to occur in “various places,” ultimately becoming global.<sup>8,9</sup>

Jesus foretells “fearful sights and great signs from heaven” (Luke 21:11). Josephus records that there were fearful sights and great signs from heaven when the city of Jerusalem was under siege in AD 70 (*Wars of the Jews*, Book 6, Chapter 5). However, later in the Discourse, Jesus states that signs in the heavens will include the sun *and* the moon being darkened, something that has not yet happened. So it is possible that this portion of His answer to the disciples had both a near and far meaning.

Since 2008, some have taught that combinations of lunar and solar eclipses on Jewish feast days are what Jesus was talking about when He spoke of “great signs from heaven.” However, solar and lunar eclipses are not “great

signs” since they have occurred since the creation, are only seen by a small percent of the earth’s population, only last for short time during one night. We have since lived through several periods of hype around eclipses occurring on Jewish Feast Days, but none of their speculations came to pass. **What Jesus was predicting is something so great that everyone on the planet will see it and will know.**

**The Coming Persecution**

Matthew 24	Mark 13	Luke 21
v.9-10 - “Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name’s sake. And then many will be offended [ <i>literally – fall away, i.e., from the faith</i> ], will betray one another, and will hate one another.”	v. 9-13 - “But watch out for yourselves, for they will deliver you up to councils, and you will be beaten in the synagogues. You will be brought before rulers and kings for My sake, for a testimony to them. And the gospel must first be preached to all the nations. But when they arrest you and deliver you up, do not worry beforehand, or premeditate what you will speak. But whatever is given you in that hour, speak that; for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit. “Now brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death. 13 “And you will be hated by all men for My name’s sake. But he who endures to the end shall be saved.”	v. 12-19 - “But before all these things, they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons. You will be brought before kings and rulers for My name’s sake. But it will turn out for you as an occasion for testimony. Therefore settle it in your hearts not to meditate beforehand on what you will answer; for I will give you a mouth and wisdom which all your adversaries will not be able to contradict or resist. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. And you will be hated by all for My name’s sake. But not a hair of your head shall be lost. By your patience possess your souls.”

To the present day, there have always been two groups of people who are hated solely for what they believe – Christians and Jews. Jews are hated because they are the historical chosen people of God and therefore an enemy of Satan and those who serve him. Christians know that Jesus is the only way and truth whereby man can be saved (Acts 4:12). Therefore, Satan wants to kill all Christians (Jew and Gentile) to keep the gospel message from spreading, but as Jesus promised, he has failed to do so (Matthew 16:18).

The first Christians were Jews. The book of Acts records how Jesus’ predictions were literally fulfilled in the early church when Jews who believed in Jesus as their Messiah were brought before the leaders of the synagogues and were persecuted and sometimes killed. Jesus is also addressing the combined (Jew and Gentile) Christian church (then and now) which has also been persecuted and hated by all nations “for My name’s sake.”

Although Jesus was clearly talking about those who would be persecuted in His name, this warning also seems to apply to the Jews who believe in the name of God (YHWH) and the promise of the Messiah (even though for a season the unbelieving Jew is blinded so as not to see Jesus as their Messiah – Romans 11:25). A poll taken in Europe in November of 2003 showed that 59 percent of the Europeans believe that Israel is the biggest global threat – this has grown to 70% in 2026. There is no logical basis for this belief; it can only be understood in spiritual terms. God has called the Jews His chosen people, and Satan in his demented attempt to prove that God cannot keep His promise to His witness people wants to destroy them and those who believe in the Jewish Messiah.

Jesus told His disciples that Christians and Jews would be hated until the end of time as a sign of His coming. He also predicts **that some will fall away from the truth as a result of that persecution.** Certainly, this has been fulfilled in the centuries leading up to our day, and it will only worsen. However, it is likely that the betrayal that Jesus warns about (those turning their own relatives into the authorities for execution) will find its ultimate fulfillment in the last three and a half years of the Antichrist’s rule, when the Antichrist demands that the entire world worship him and receive the mark of his name in their hand or forehead (Revelation 13:15-17). Failure to worship the Antichrist results in certain death, and it is likely those who take his mark will be required to turn in those who have refused to do so, even if they are members of their own family.

**Lawlessness**

Matthew 24	Mark 13	Luke 21
v. 11-13 - "Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. But he who endures to the end shall be saved."		

We looked at Jesus’ prophecies about false prophets previously. Jesus also warned that in the last days, people will lose their love for one another. Rampant violence, betrayal, treason, and other evils will cause people to live in fear and suspicion of others instead of love.

Many Jews and Gentiles will place their trust in Jesus during the 70<sup>th</sup> week of Daniel (the Tribulation). They will be under great pressure to abandon their faith in Jesus and worship the global leader. Those who hold onto the gospel of Jesus Christ to the end will be physically killed but spiritually saved. Those who do not remain faithful to the gospel will show that they never truly believed and, like Judas, had other motives for calling themselves Christians. They may temporarily save their physical life, but will lose their eternal soul into hell as a result.

### The Sign of His Coming and of the End of the Age

Now, Jesus answers Questions 2 and 3 (What will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?):

Matthew 24	Mark 13	Luke 21
v.14 - "And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come."	v.10 - "And the gospel must first be preached to all the nations."	

Jesus promises that the end will not come until *all* the nations of the world have one last chance to repent. Some have interpreted this to mean that the church must fulfill the Great Commission of Matthew 28 before Jesus will return. Yes, Jesus did command His followers to go into all nations to spread the gospel, and since then, the Holy Spirit led those willing to heed the call. But the Church has not, and probably will not, succeed in taking the gospel to *every* tribe, tongue, and nation before the Tribulation.

When the believers are taken away in the Rapture, which will occur some months or even years before the Tribulation begins, the gospel will continue to spread by means of Bibles and teachings left behind on Earth, by the 144,000 witnesses of Revelation 7 and 14, and by the two witnesses of Revelation 11. But midway through the Tribulation, the 144,000 are in heaven (Revelation 14) and the two witnesses have been slain by the Antichrist, resurrected, and translated to heaven. Now, God sends angels to warn the entire surviving population of the earth (Revelation 14). These angelic missionaries call the world to repent during the remaining 3-1/2 years of the Great Tribulation before Jesus physically returns.

- *"Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water"* (Revelation 14:7).
- *"Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication"* (Revelation 14:8).
- *If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name"* (Revelation 14:9-11).

The three angels will fulfill Jesus’ prophecy that the gospel will be preached to the entire world before He returns. Tragically, most will ignore this angelic warning. But only after *all* nations have heard the gospel during this time, and given one final chance to repent, will the *final* phases of God’s wrath be poured out upon the unbelieving world.<sup>10</sup>

### The Abomination of Desolation

Matthew 24	Mark 13	Luke 17
<p>v.15-22 - “Therefore when you see the ‘abomination of desolation,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place” (whoever reads, let him understand), then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath. For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect’s sake those days will be shortened.’</p>	<p>v.14-20 - “So when you see the ‘abomination of desolation,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing where it ought not” (let the reader understand), “then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. Let him who is on the housetop not go down into the house, nor enter to take anything out of his house. And let him who is in the field not go back to get his garment. But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! And pray that your flight may not be in winter. For in those days there will be tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of creation which God created until this time, nor ever shall be. And unless the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect’s sake, whom He chose, He shortened the days.’</p>	<p>v.31-33 - “In that day, he who is on the housetop, and his goods are in the house, let him not come down to take them away. And likewise the one who is in the field, let him not turn back. Remember Lot’s wife. Whoever seeks to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it.”</p>

Notice that both Matthew and Mark mention the “abomination of desolation,” but Luke 21 does not, as discussed above. However, Luke 17 records a similar teaching that Jesus gave in Jerusalem, which could have been given just before Jesus gave the Olivet Discourse and so is included here as a parallel passage.

A background of the book of Daniel is critical to understanding this portion of the Olivet Discourse. In Matthew 24 and Mark 13, Jesus refers to the “*abomination of desolation spoken of by the prophet Daniel.*” The following are the applicable verses from Daniel Chapters 9 and 12, with my interpretation/comments in bold brackets or indented. For a more detailed teaching on the reasoning behind this interpretation, I refer the reader to [calvarypo.org](http://calvarypo.org) or [calvarypo.com](http://calvarypo.com) to listen to my in-depth teaching on Daniel Chapters 9 and 12.

Daniel 9:24 - “*Seventy weeks [in Hebrew literally reads, “seventy sevens” interpreted to be 70 times 7 years, or 490 years] are determined for your people [the Jews] and for your holy city [Jerusalem], to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy.*

**In other words, there will be a total of 490 years of prophetic time dealing with the Jews and Jerusalem until the Jewish Messiah comes to rule on Earth. As we will see, this is not a continuous time frame. Instead, the 490 years are broken into two blocks of time – 483 years and 7 years, separated by hundreds of years.**

Daniel 9:25 - “*Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince, there shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublesome times.*

**A total of 483 years out of the 490 years will comprise the time between a commandment to restore and rebuild Jerusalem and the coming of the Jewish Messiah. Dr. David Reagan makes a strong case for the starting and stopping dates of this prophecy in his article, *Daniel’s 70 Weeks of Years*, July 7, 2014, online at [raptureready.com/2014/07/07/daniels-70-weeks-of-years-dr-david-r-reagan/](http://raptureready.com/2014/07/07/daniels-70-weeks-of-years-dr-david-r-reagan/). Dr. Reagan contends that the commandment to rebuild Jerusalem (in 457 BC) is recorded in Ezra 9:9:**

Ezra 9:9 — “*God has not forsaken us, but has extended loving kindness to us in the sight of the kings of Persia, to give us reviving to raise up the house of our God, to restore its ruins, and to give us a wall in Judah and Jerusalem.*”

**Then, exactly 483 years later, Jesus reads from the scroll of Isaiah in the synagogue of Nazareth declaring that He was fulfilling the prophecies of the Messiah.**

*Luke 4:17 – 21 - And He [Jesus] was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written [Isaiah 61:1], “The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; he has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.” Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. And He began to say to them, “Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”*

**The commandment to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem is the starting point, and Daniel says the end point of the 483 years is defined as “until Messiah the Prince” meaning the beginning of Jesus’ three years of ministry before He was crucified and risen from the dead on our behalf. Then Daniel continues with his prophecy.**

*Daniel 9:26 - “And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off [killed], but not for Himself [Jesus did not die on His own account, but for the sins of the world]; and the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary.*

**As we see, Daniel clearly prophesied that the Jewish Messiah would be *sacrificially killed* (one meaning of *kāraṭ*, the Hebrew word translated “cut off”<sup>11</sup> for making a covenant). Then a people would destroy the Jewish Temple and the city of Jerusalem, all fulfilled by the Romans in AD 70.**

**Daniel prophesied these events in about 530 BC, when the Medes and Persians were ruling the world. The Roman Empire did not exist and could not be named. Since “the people” who destroyed the city were the Romans, we can know “the prince who is to come,” is a reference to the future Antichrist coming out of a revived Roman or Western Empire.**

*Daniel 9:26 - The end of it [the city and sanctuary] shall be with a flood [literally = dispersion] and till the end of the war desolations are determined.*

**Again, this was literally fulfilled in AD 70 and continues to this day as the Jews continue to be in dispersion and/or wars.**

**In the next verse, the prophecy skips over the time of the church age (as of now, 2000 years) to the future. None of the Old Testament prophecies deal with the time of the Church Age except to mention that the Jewish Messiah would be a light to and would be embraced by the Gentiles. (A possible exception is Hosea 6:1-2 with 2 Peter 3:8.) Instead, the Old Testament prophets deal with the Jewish nation and people. During this period (since Jesus was crucified, risen, and ascended into heaven), the progression of the last seven of the 490-year prophecy has been put on hold. Verse 27 records the event that will start the last seven-year period of history until the Messiah comes to rule and to be “anointed as the Most Holy” (verse 24), which means when Jesus returns in glory.**

*Daniel 9:27 - Then he [The Prince who is to come, from verse 26 - the future Antichrist] shall confirm [enforce] a covenant [contractual agreement] with many [nations?] for one week [literally one seven = one seven-year period of time, the last seven of the 70 sevens of verse 24]; but in the middle of the week [3.5 years into the covenant] he shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering [which requires the Jews to be sacrificing in a third Jewish Temple in Jerusalem]. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate [the antichrist will bring global destruction – the event Jesus was referring to in the Olivet Discourse], even until the consummation [until the end – when Jesus returns], which is determined, is poured out on the desolate [Jesus brings wrath to those making desolation].”*

What does Daniel mean when he says that the Antichrist will confirm a covenant with many for one week (of years, or seven years)? I think the answer is found in the words which immediately follow, when Daniel says the Antichrist breaks the covenant by bringing an end to the reinstated Jewish sacrificial system coinciding with the rebuilt Jewish temple. Therefore, the covenant must have been an agreement between the rest of the world and Israel that the Jews would be allowed to reestablish Mosaic law animal sacrifice for the first time since their previous temple was destroyed in AD 70. It appears the rest of the world is required to join the global religion which does not tolerate any religious fundamentalists (no one is allowed to say their god is the only god). If this is the case, the Jews alone will be given a seven-year trial run promise allowed them to return to the “fundamentals” of their faith. However, just three and a half years into the agreement, the Antichrist rips up the contract. Isaiah seems to allude to this covenant that the last-day’s Jewish leaders will make with the Antichrist:<sup>12</sup>

Isaiah 28:14-15 - *Therefore hear the word of the Lord, you scornful men, who rule this people who are in Jerusalem, because you have said, “We have made a covenant with death, and with Sheol [hell] we are in agreement. When the overflowing scourge passes through, it will not come to us, for we have made lies our refuge, and under falsehood we have hidden ourselves.”*

The last days’ rulers will apparently make a covenant with the Antichrist global leader in order to keep an overflowing scourge from affecting Israel. My speculation is that the scourge will be a global religion mandate that no people or member states of the ten-nation global union will be allowed to worship any deity, except for the Jews who will be allowed to build their Third Temple and perform sacrifices according to the Mosaic law. This exception by the global leader will deceive the Jews into thinking the world leader is their messiah.

Isaiah 28:16 - *Therefore [because of this deal by the scornful men ruling from Jerusalem] thus says the Lord God: “Behold, I lay in Zion a stone for a foundation, a tried stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation; whoever believes will not act hastily.*

God says that the true Messiah, Jesus, will/was laid in Zion – so do not be deceived by the false messiah of the last days.

Isaiah 28:18-19 - *Your [scornful men] covenant with death will be annulled, and your agreement with Sheol will not stand; when the overflowing scourge passes through, then you will be trampled down by it. As often as it goes out it will take you; for morning by morning it will pass over, and by day and by night; it will be a terror just to understand the report.”*

The Jewish leaders will regret that they made a deal with the Antichrist/devil, in that it will be annulled. Daniel and Revelation tell us that the annulment will come 3.5 years after the deal was made.

There is one other place that Daniel speaks of a future abomination:

Daniel 12:11-13 - *And from the time that the daily sacrifice is taken away [by the Antichrist, 3.5 years into a seven year covenant/treaty], and the abomination of desolation is set up [image of the Antichrist where he declares himself to be god – 2 Thessalonians 2, Revelation 13], there shall be one thousand two hundred and ninety days [until Jesus physically returns to rescue the remnant]. “Blessed is he who waits, and comes to the one thousand three hundred and thirty-five days [possibly meaning those who survive the “sheep/goat” judgment of Matthew 25:32-46]. “But you, go your way till the end; for you shall rest, and will arise to your inheritance at the end of the days.”*

Notice that a person living during the tribulation period will be able to know the exact day of Jesus’ return. This means that the church must be gone because Jesus said that no one (in the church age) will know the day or the hour of His return (to take the church to heaven – the Rapture) – Matthew 24:36.

Going back to Matthew 24:15-22: Matthew and Mark record Jesus' warning to the Jews who will be living in Jerusalem and the surrounding areas of Israel during the last days (during the seven-year "Tribulation" period). According to Daniel 9, three and one half years into a seven year covenant, the Antichrist will break his agreement with the Jews. He will also commit an abomination in the rebuilt temple (currently not possible since the third temple has not yet been built). Paul tells us in 2 Thessalonians 2, that the Antichrist will go into the Holy Place of the future rebuilt Temple in Jerusalem, where he will declare that he alone is god and will force the world's inhabitants to worship him (or an image of him) as god (Revelation 13). It appears this is the abomination that Jesus was referring to. Some think the Antichrist will also sacrifice a pig, as Antiochus IV (the Seleucid ruler over Israel) did in 167 BC.

Whatever actual event fulfills the "abomination of desolation," it is clear from the warnings of Jesus that those Jews living in Israel at the time will need to immediately leave Jerusalem and Judea in order to escape a slaughter. If they take the time to go to their houses, they will be overcome by the "overflowing scourge" of Isaiah 28:14 and be killed. Therefore, the urgency is such that they are to pray that the abomination does not occur on the Sabbath. This would mean the Jews will become increasingly observant of the Sabbath law as the last days approach.

Notice that in Luke 21:20-24, there is concern for those who are nursing children, but not that the Jews pray that their need for flight doesn't fall on a Sabbath. Remember Luke was recording Jesus' answer to the question of when the Temple *of their day* was going to be destroyed. Jesus said it would be when the Jews saw Jerusalem surrounded by armies. In the days and years leading up to the fall of Jerusalem, and destruction of the Jewish temple by the Romans in AD 70, Jews living in Jerusalem would have had many days to flee the city; and thus there was no reason to pray that that it would not come on a Sabbath. In contrast, Matthew and Mark record the need for Jews to flee Jerusalem in a future judgment of the Antichrist when it will be critical to *immediately* leave the city as soon as they see the abomination of desolation, with no time to spare.

For the sake of conjecture, assume the following events have occurred by this point. (As history unfolds, any errors in the following are the result of my lack of understanding of God's Word and not in the prophecies themselves):

Note: My views on the timing of the Psalm 83, Isaiah 17, and Ezekiel 38 and 39 wars, discussed below, are similar to those held by Dr. Bill Salus of Prophecy Depot Ministries, [www.prophecydepotministries.net/](http://www.prophecydepotministries.net/).) For links to my in-depth teaching on these passages, see End Note 13.

(1) The church will be raptured some time before: (a) the Antichrist is revealed to the world, as he fully establishes his power over the ten-nation global government (2 Thessalonians 2), and (b) before peace is taken from the world leading to the loss of one-fourth of the world's population (Revelation 6). After the Rapture, God will again deal specifically with Israel. (Note that the Christian church is never mentioned again after Revelation Chapter 3).

(2) Possibly before (1) above, but likely part of peace being taken from the world (Revelation 6), a future war in the Middle East results in the fulfillment of Psalm 83 and Isaiah 17. Psalm 83 talks about (using modern names) Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Gaza and Saudi Arabia and Egypt being burned as "the fire burns the woods, and as the flame sets the mountains on fire." Isaiah 17 speaks of a future war where Damascus, the current capital of Syria, is destroyed / ceases to be a city. Isaiah 17 also says that many other "strong cities" will be forsaken "because of Israel." At the same time, Israel's northern military bases are destroyed, and Israel's strength is greatly weakened.

I suspect that this will be fulfilled in a widespread nuclear war. It is not hard to conjecture that such a global conflagration could result in a demand for disarmament and a global government to maintain peace. Israel will then become defenseless against their other neighbors, who come to destroy her in the next prophetic war, the Gog/Magog war of Ezekiel 38-39).<sup>13</sup>

(3) Then (possibly after the Psalm 83 and Isaiah 17 wars), the Gog/Magog war of Arab/Muslim/Russian “second tier” nations, those that surround Israel’s immediate neighbors, now destroyed, will come to invade Israel behind the leadership of Russia, as prophesied in Ezekiel 38-39 (possibly as a result of Israel’s weakened military might after suffering the blows of Isaiah 17 and because Israel has either expended her weapons on the immediate neighbors or has been disarmed during the formation of the global government).

Note: It is clear from Ezekiel 38 and 39 that the other nations of the world do not come to Israel’s defense as the invading armies approach. This means something must happen to remove America’s pro-Israel influence in the Middle East. It might even mean that other nations have also been destroyed as a result of a larger scale nuclear exchange that erupted during the Middle East wars of Psalm 83 and Isaiah 17.

(4) As the invading armies approach the mountains of Israel, God intervenes on Israel’s behalf and destroys the armies, as described in Ezekiel 38 and 39. Ezekiel 39 prophesies that from that day forward, God will again pour His Spirit on the house of Israel. (It is possible that these wars over the course of months or years will result in the death of one-fourth of the world’s population, thus fulfilling the four horsemen of the Apocalypse, Revelation 6).

(5) As the world’s survivors reel from the destruction caused by the fulfillment of Psalm 83, Isaiah 17, Ezekiel 38-39, and Revelation 6, a man rises to power with a plan to end all wars and the Middle East conflict specifically. The globalization process is accelerated and culminates in a seven-year covenant wherein Israel is allowed to realize her millennia-long dream to reestablish temple worship, including animal sacrifices. This may be what Isaiah refers to as the covenant with death (Isaiah 28:17-22 as previously discussed). I believe this compromise toward the Jews will be the result of a global recognition of Israel’s miraculous preservation during two separate conflicts, each of which should have wiped her off the map (Psalm 83:4). The entire world will realize that only divine intervention could have saved Israel, and she will experience a revival back to God but will not yet recognize her true Messiah, Jesus.

The enforcement of this covenant will signal the beginning of the last seven-year portion of Daniel’s 490 years as discussed earlier. The plan will allow the Jews to rebuild their temple in Jerusalem (Revelation 11:1-2), to reinstate animal sacrifice (Daniel 9 and 12), and enforce Sabbath observance (Matthew 24:20). This plan will be so favorable to the Jews that they will be deceived into believing that the man behind its inspiration is none other than the promised messiah. In fact, he will be the Antichrist about whom Jesus warned them. Jews from around the world will all flock to Israel to complete the fulfillment of the Old Testament about the re-gathering of Jews to the land (Ezekiel 39:25-27). The whole world will now say, “Finally! Peace and safety throughout the world!” But their joy and hopes will soon be dashed as the Antichrist brings death to the world 3.5 years into the seven-year Tribulation:

*1Thessalonians 5:3 - “For when they say, “Peace and safety!” then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape.”*

Note that even during the first 3.5 years of human “peace and safety” under the global government, the world will still experience unprecedented judgments from God as recorded in the trumpet judgments of Revelation 8 and 9. Peace and safety will also elude those left behind after the Rapture, but some will realize their error and trust in Jesus as their Savior. These “tribulation saints” will be hunted down and killed as part of the scourge to remove those who do not go along with the global religion of the Antichrist.

(6) Three and a half years into the seven-year peace plan, the Antichrist will reveal his true nature and will commit the abomination of desolation. Some think it is at this time that someone attempts to assassinate him, but he recovers from a deadly wound:

*Revelation 13:3-5 - And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast [Antichrist]. So they worshiped the dragon [Satan] who gave authority to the beast [Antichrist at this time will be possessed by Satan]; and*

*they worshiped the beast, saying, “Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?” And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months [for another 3.5 years, which is when Jesus returns and judges the Antichrist (Revelation 19:20)].*

*Zechariah 11:17 - “Woe to the worthless shepherd, who leaves the flock! A sword shall be against his arm And against his right eye; His arm shall completely wither, And his right eye shall be totally blinded.”*

(7) When the Antichrist miraculously recovers from his deadly wound, he begins a demonically-inspired rampage against the Jews. Those Jews who heeded Jesus’ warning to flee Judea when they see the abomination of desolation will have already taken their families to the wilderness. They realize they were deceived by the Antichrist, and now, in repentance, follow the instructions of their true Messiah, Jesus. The Antichrist will try to annihilate these fleeing Jews, but God miraculously defends them.

*Revelation 12:13-17 - Now when the dragon [Satan] saw that he had been cast to the earth [losing the battle to have access to heaven], he persecuted the woman [Israel] who gave birth to the male Child [the Messiah, Jesus. Satan attempts this persecution against Israel by possessing the Antichrist and using him against the Jews]. But the woman [Israel] was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place [believed to be the rock city of Petra, in Jordan], where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time [three and a half years], from the presence of the serpent [Satan possessing the Antichrist]. So the serpent spewed water out of his mouth like a flood after the woman [either literal flood of water or a flood of troops], that he might cause her [escaping Israelites] to be carried away by the flood. But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the flood which the dragon had spewed out of his mouth. And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ [those who during the tribulation period believe in the Jewish Messiah, Jesus, but were not among those fleeing to the wilderness and therefore not under complete protection by God].*

At the end of the Tribulation period, Isaiah makes it clear that Jesus comes first to Jordan to rescue these Jews who fled to the wilderness in obedience to Matthew 24:

*Isaiah 63:1-6 - Who is this who comes from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah, this One who is glorious in His apparel, traveling in the greatness of His strength? — “I who speak in righteousness, mighty to save.” Why is Your apparel red, and Your garments like one who treads in the winepress? I have trodden the winepress alone, and from the peoples no one was with Me. For I have trodden them in My anger, and trampled them in My fury; their blood is sprinkled upon My garments, and I have stained all My robes. For the day of vengeance is in My heart, and the year of My redeemed has come. I looked, but there was no one to help, and I wondered that there was no one to uphold; therefore My own arm brought salvation for Me; and My own fury, it sustained Me. I have trodden down the peoples in My anger, made them drunk in My fury, and brought down their strength to the earth.”*

Here we see further confirmation that the Church is gone before the Antichrist commits the abomination of desolation. Jesus warns the Jews living in Israel to flee to the wilderness. If the Christian Church were still on the earth, why does Jesus not warn them? If Christians are still on the earth, what are they supposed to do when they see the Antichrist commit the abomination? The answer must be that Church Age Christians do not need to be warned because they have been taken out of the world in the Rapture.

In Revelation 3:10, Jesus promises the church of Philadelphia that He “will keep them from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.” Although the church of Philadelphia was a literal church at the time John the Apostle was given the vision of Revelation, many believe this promise of Jesus had a broader meaning, since the literal church of Philadelphia in John’s day was never spared of a global time of testing. Therefore, it is believed that the church of Philadelphia actually symbolized the faithful Christian church in the last days, the church that would be raptured before the tribulation period begins.

Consistent with this is the promise of 1 Thessalonians 1:10 that Jesus delivers us (Church age believers) from the wrath to com.

According to Revelation, many people, Jews and Gentiles, will come to faith in Jesus after the Rapture, but Scripture never refers to these believers as the church. These “saints” will not be spared the outpouring of God’s wrath. Most will be killed for their faith during the Tribulation (Revelation 13:7).

As we discussed above, Jesus next gives another warning about of false messiahs and false prophets:

<b>Matthew 24</b>	<b>Mark 13</b>	<b>Luke 21</b>
v. 23-27 - “Then if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here is the Christ!’ or ‘There!’ do not believe it. For false christ and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. See, I have told you beforehand. Therefore 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 it. For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.	v.21-23 - “Then if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here is the Christ!’ or, ‘Look, He is there!’ do not believe it. For false christ and false prophets will rise and show signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. But take heed; see, I have told you all things beforehand.”	

**The Fate of Those Who do not Heed Jesus’ Warnings**

<b>Matthew 24</b>	<b>Mk 13</b>	<b>Luke 17</b>
v.28, 38-41 -“For wherever the carcass is, there the eagles will be gathered together... For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left.”		v. 26-37 - “And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot: They ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built; but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed. In that day, he who is on the housetop, and his goods are in the house, let him not come down to take them away. And likewise the one who is in the field, let him not turn back. Remember Lot’s wife. Whoever seeks to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it. I tell you, in that night there will be two men in one bed: the one will be taken and the other will be left. Two women will be grinding together: the one will be taken and the other left. Two men will be in the field: the one will be taken and the other left.” And they answered and said to Him, “Where, Lord?” So He said to them, “Wherever the body is, there the eagles will be gathered together.”

I have again included Jesus’ teaching in Jerusalem as recorded in Luke 17:26-37 and later verses from Matthew 24 (v. 38-41) since they help provide the full context of Matthew’s record of the Olivet Discourse.

Admittedly, these verses are difficult to understand. One possible interpretation is that this passage refers to the Jews who do not heed Jesus’ warning to flee Jerusalem when they see the abomination of desolation. They will be rounded up and half will be killed; their dead bodies will be left outside for the vultures and eagles. Zechariah 13:8-9 teaches that only one third of the Jews will survive this time of Jacob’s trouble. It is clear from the context that this is not speaking of the Rapture of the church, as some state.

Jesus’ teaching about “As in the days of Noah” also fits into the mid-tribulation timeframe. Those Jews who have embraced the Antichrist as their messiah are living the good life. They have survived two wars of attempted annihilation of the Jews, the law of Moses is again in observance, their long-dreamed-of third temple is built, and they have a contract with the global leader who has made it all possible. The recent horrors are behind them and the future looks bright. Then, in one day, their world comes apart when their “messiah” turns on them. The next three and a half years will then become **as in the days of Noah**, a time of **Jacob’s trouble**, (for the Jews and the rest of the world).

Jeremiah 30:3-7. *“For behold, the days are coming,” says the Lord, “that I will bring back from captivity My people Israel and Judah,” says the Lord. “And I will cause them to return to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall possess it.” Now these are the words that the Lord spoke concerning Israel and Judah. For thus says the Lord: “We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear, and not of peace. Ask now, and see, whether a man is ever in labor with child? So why do I see every man with his hands on his loins like a woman in labor, and all faces turned pale? Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it; and it is the **time of Jacob’s trouble**, but he shall be saved out of it.”*

**The Second Coming**

The end of the seven-year tribulation period will culminate in an outpouring of the wrath of God such as the world has never seen:

<b>Matthew 24</b>	<b>Mark 13</b>	<b>Luke 21</b>
v.29-30 - “Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.”	v.24-26 - “But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars of heaven will fall, and the powers in heaven will be shaken. Then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory.”	v.25-28 - “And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; <b>men’s hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth</b> , for the powers of heaven will be shaken. Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to happen, look up and <b>lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near.</b> ”

Revelation Chapters 6 and 16 tie the dimming of the sun and moon to a great earthquake:

Revelation 6:12-14 - *I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood. And the stars of heaven [asteroid impacts?] fell to the earth, as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind. Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place.*

Is it possible that the impacts of asteroids will result in a global earthquake which also coincides with eruptions of volcanoes, or super volcanoes, which spew ash into the air, thus blocking the sun and moon?

Scientists speculate that the Super Volcano of Yellowstone Park would create such an event when it erupts again. Recent land surveys indicate that portions of Yellowstone have bulged and uplifted several inches since the turn of the century. Studies of earthquake seismic waves also reveal that about two thirds of Yellowstone National Park is sitting on top of a massive magma chamber about ten miles below the surface. If the bulging continues, it is only a matter of time until the lid blows off, releasing the unimaginable forces of the magma chamber. The earth would then be subjected to the effects of an eruption that is tens-of-thousands of times more powerful than the Mount Saint Helens eruption. (Search the Internet for “super volcanoes” for more information).

March 2026 update: Yellowstone Caldera is experiencing a new, localized, and largely inactive phase of ground uplift (bulging) on its north rim, which began in July 2025. The deformation, near the Norris Geyser Basin, has caused about 2 cm of ground rise, likely due to magma or gas pressure nine miles deep. While uplift occurred between July 2025 and January 2026, it is currently in a pause, according to U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) data from early 2026. **The Norris Uplift Anomaly:** This is a recurring, 19-mile-wide bulge—roughly the size of Chicago—that previously appeared in 1996, 2004, and 2020.

These kinds of eruptions, possibly triggered by asteroid impacts could also hurl rocks into space that would then return, due to gravity, and fall all over the earth. Could this be “the stars of heaven falling to the earth?” And could this be why people of the Earth will hide in caves?

Revelation 6:15-17 - *And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains, and said to the mountains and rocks, “Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! “For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?”*

The parallel passage to this is in Revelation 16 during the seventh bowl of wrath:

Revelation 16:17-21 - *Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, “It is done!” And there were noises and thunderings and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth. Now the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And great Babylon was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath. Then every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. And great hail from heaven fell upon men, each hailstone about the weight of a talent. Men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, since that plague was exceedingly great.*

Isaiah 24 is another parallel passage for this coming global earthquake and fire cataclysm:

Isaiah 24:19-23 – *The earth is violently broken, the earth is split open, the earth is shaken exceedingly. The earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard, And shall totter like a hut; Its transgression shall be heavy upon it, And it will fall, and not rise again. It shall come to pass in that day That the Lord will punish on high the host of exalted ones, And on the earth the kings of the earth. They will be gathered together, As prisoners are gathered in the pit, And will be shut up in the prison; After many days they will be punished. Then the moon will be disgraced and the sun ashamed; For the Lord of hosts will reign On Mount Zion and in Jerusalem And before His elders, gloriously.*

Luke records Jesus’ warning that men’s hearts will fail them in the expectation of things that are coming on the earth. This could possibly refer to the knowledge of an asteroid or comet on a collision course with the earth and people dying of heart attacks and anxiety because of the things literally coming upon the earth, knowing that when the asteroid hits they will die and there is no chance for them to escape to safety.



#### Close call – Asteroid near miss for Earth yesterday

On Friday November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 2132 UT (16:32/ 4:32PM EST) asteroid [2009 VA](#) barely missed Earth when it flew just 14,000 km above the planet’s surface. **This** flyby of asteroid 2009 VA is the third closest on record. (That we know about.) **The** fact that there was so little warning is troubling **as it was discovered just 15 hours before closest approach by astronomers working at the Catalina Sky Survey.**

NASA is saying that in the next 50 years, no **[known]** major, civilization-ending asteroids are expected to hit Earth. While thousands of near-Earth objects are tracked, only about 35 have a greater than 1-in-a-million chance of hitting in the next century. The most notable current concern is [2024 YR4](#), a ~60-meter asteroid with a ~1–2% chance of impacting in 2032, currently rated low-risk.

But this asteroid was only detected in 2024, just two years ago. Space agencies around the world are frantically looking to find any near earth asteroid that is on a trajectory that would impact earth which has until now not been detected.

Based on data from [NASA](#), there is no risk of the asteroid Apophis impacting Earth for at least the next 100 years. Radar observations in 2021 officially ruled out impact risks for 2029, 2036, and 2068, with current projections

indicating a safe flyby in 2029 on April 13, 2029, Apophis will pass within 38,000 km (23,600 miles) of Earth, closer than some satellites.

If the Apophis asteroid (approx. 340 meters wide) hit Earth traveling at 28,185 mph, it would release energy equivalent to over 1,000 megatons of TNT—20 times more power than the largest hydrogen bomb ever detonated (by the Russians – 50 megatons) — which would cause widespread devastation for hundreds of kilometers, potentially destroying a major city or creating massive ocean tsunamis if it hit in the ocean.

Others believe that Jesus’ prophecy about the sun being darkened and the moon turning to blood will be fulfilled in a total solar and lunar eclipse occurring in the days immediately preceding Jesus’ visible return to Earth. But lunar and solar eclipses are not seen all over the world at the same time. This view is now out of favor following the hype of Sept 2015’s lunar and solar eclipses failing to live up to the book selling hype.

No matter how these warnings of Jesus’ are actually fulfilled, Matthew, Mark, and Luke make it clear the global cataclysms will be unprecedented and will immediately precede the second coming of the Lord Jesus. They also make it clear that Jesus will come in a way that will be visible by all the inhabitants of the world (as He comes from the sky in power and great glory).

**Angels Gather the Elect**

<b>Matthew 24</b>	<b>Mark 13</b>	<b>Luke 21</b>
v. 31 - “And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.”	v.27 - “And then He will send His angels, and gather together His elect from the four winds, from the farthest part of earth to the farthest part of heaven.”	

When Jesus returns, His angels will gather all those who have survived the Tribulation and bring them to Israel for the judgment of Matthew 25:32-46 and Joel 3. Here, “His elect” refers to those who are the “sheep” as defined in Matthew 25. They will be allowed to enter the Kingdom of God on Earth, where they will live under the rule of Jesus for 1,000 years (Revelation 20). Those who fail the test of Matthew 25 are the goats (unelected), and they will be judged by God and sent to the Lake of Fire (See teaching on Matthew 25:32-46 in the attached addendum.)

**The Sign of the Fig Tree**

<b>Matthew 24</b>	<b>Mark 13</b>	<b>Luke 21</b>
v.32-35 - “Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near. So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near-- at the doors! Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.”	v.28-31 - “Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender, and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near. So you also, when you see these things happening, know that it is near-- at the doors! Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.”	v.29-33 - Then He spoke to them a parable: “Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. When they are already budding, you see and know for yourselves that summer is now near. So you also, when you see these things happening, know that the kingdom of God is near. Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.”

This prophecy has generated much controversy over the years. Preterists, those who believe all end times prophecies, specifically the Olive Discourse and Revelation, were fulfilled in AD 70, believe that Jesus was saying that the prophecies of the Olivet Discourse would be fulfilled during the lifetime (generation) of the Apostles. Thus, all these global cataclysms, the Antichrist committing an abomination in the temple, etc. were fulfilled prior to and during the destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70. However, the actual events of the Roman army’s destruction of Jerusalem and the temple do not fulfill all the specifics of Jesus’ prophecies of Jesus.

For example, the Romans did not cause an abomination in AD 70. In fact, Josephus, the Jewish historian, records (War of the Jews, Book VI, Chapter IV, paragraphs 6-7) that the Roman General (Titus) tried to order his men to spare the temple, which Titus considered a wonder of the world. His orders could not be heard over the slaughter of the Jews that was taking place and the temple continued to burn (but was not defiled with an abomination).

Therefore, those who hold the Preterist view have to twist the Scriptures to make them fit, even though the evidence is very strong that the Apostle John wrote Revelation about twenty-four years **after** the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple. In addition, there are dozens of apocalyptic events spelled out in Revelation that have clearly never been fulfilled in the past, and certainly not in AD 70.

Those who hold to the premillennial, dispensational view of Bible prophecy believe that, since the events that Jesus prophesied have never literally taken place in the past, then they must still be future. The following interpretations of the above Scriptures fit into this “yet future” frame of reference.

Some teach that the fig tree is symbolic of Israel, and the budding of the fig tree was the reestablishment of Israel in 1948. Those who hold this view use Jeremiah 24 and Matthew 21:19 as examples of where God used the figs or the fig tree to symbolize Israel. Therefore, they believe that when Jesus said, “When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves” He was saying, “when Israel puts forth leaves” – that is, becomes a nation again. The next statement by Jesus, “Assuredly, I say to you, this generation...” is then interpreted as a reference to a generation period of time applying to Israel becoming a nation (variously interpreted).

This understanding has given rise to many speculations about dating the Second Coming of Jesus. For example, some have taught that a biblical generation is 30 years long. Therefore, if one adds 30 years to 1948 (the budding of the fig tree), we have Jesus returning to set up His kingdom in 1978. In order to date the Rapture, subtract 7 years, and the Rapture should have occurred in 1971. When 1971 passed, a generation was reinterpreted as 35 years, placing the Rapture at 1976.

Then a generation was assumed to be 40 years, which led to a popular book titled “*88 Reasons Why the Rapture Will Be in 1988*” by former NASA engineer Edgar Whisenant who predicted Jesus Christ’s return during Rosh Hashanah (September 11–13, 1988). It sold 4.5 million copies. Then the budding of the fig tree was reinterpreted as 1967 when the Jews gained control of most of Jerusalem.

But all of these predicted dates of the Rapture and Second Coming have come and gone. Reinterpretation of the above passages based on the birth of the nation of Israel, or Israel taking control of most of Jerusalem (1967) continues to this day, but it appears this interpretation of Jesus’ teaching is also incorrect and has resulted in much confusion. There are two alternative views offered below.

It should be noted that during all of these interpretations, there was great revival happening in America and around the world. A cursory view of God’s nature during times leading up to past judgments (Noah’s flood, Sodom and Gomorrah, Destruction of Jerusalem twice) shows that God’s judgment does not fall during revivals, but when the populations being judged have completely apostatized (*Then he [Abraham] said, “Let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak but once more: Suppose ten should be found there [Sodom]?” And He [God] said, “I will not destroy it for the sake of ten”* (Genesis 18:32).)

Both of the following alternate views believe Jesus’ reference to the fig tree is not a symbolic reference to the birth of the nation of Israel. Jesus was simply pointing out a fact about a fruit bearing tree; that is, when a fig tree is in bud, people can know that summer is near. With this view, we can now look at this prophecy the same way as when the Jews of the past saw the events leading up to AD 70, who could then know that Jerusalem would soon be destroyed, but that the Jewish people would survive.

For “far fulfillment”, Jesus was telling a far future audience that the events leading up to His Second Coming (birth of the nation of Israel, rebuilding of the temple [allowing the abomination of desolation], global earthquakes, etc.) would reveal that the prophecies pertaining to His visible return would soon (within “that”

generation) follow. Therefore, the generation seeing the signs leading up to the tribulation period (all of them, not just the birth of the nation of Israel) would also be the generation that would witness the visible return of Jesus.

In the second view, some also believe that when Jesus said, “*This generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place*” that He was not talking about a generation of time. The Greek word for generation is “genea,” which, according to Thayers Greek Dictionary can refer to, “what has been begotten, men of the same stock, a family.” In other words, Jesus was saying the “Jewish” stock would not pass away until all the prophecies of the Olivet Discourse were fulfilled. If this view is correct, then this statement by Jesus is the third time He encouraged His Jewish listener that, no matter what it may look like at the time, the Jewish people will *not* be destroyed before their Messiah returns to set up His kingdom as promised.

Consider this prophecy in light of the current war with Iran (March 2026). I have non-believing Jewish friends in Israel who are lamenting at this moment the current strategic conditions of their country. They realize that the increasing strength of the surrounding hostile Muslim nations could result in the destruction of the Jewish nation. And if the Jews were to again be dispersed to the nations, it is unlikely that the Jewish race would continue to exist as a “generation” or family that was distinct from the other nations of the world.

However, the prophetic Scriptures are clear that the Jews will never again be dispersed. Ezekiel, Zechariah and others make it clear that when the Jews are brought back into the land in the last days, they are there to stay until the Messiah comes. The prophet David (Psalms 2) makes it clear the nations plot *in vain* against the Lord and His anointed, Jesus. As Jesus said, heaven and earth will pass away but His Word will not pass away, and He will return before the Jewish nation and people would otherwise be destroyed.

I have discussed this last view (“generation” meaning the Jewish people rather than a period of time) with Dr. Thomas Ice. He disagrees with Dr. Thayer’s dictionary stating that the Greek word “genea” can refer to a people group rather than a period of time. Therefore, he holds to the first view that the generation (of time) that sees the beginning of the events described in the Olivet Discourse pertaining to Jesus’ return will be the generation that sees the second coming of Jesus.

As with all Bible prophecy, full understanding will come once they are fulfilled. What we do know is that they will be fulfilled, literally and exactly, just as they were with Jesus First Coming.

**Be Ready!**

<b>Matthew 24</b>	<b>Mark 13</b>	<b>Luke 21</b>
v. 36-44 - “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only. But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. But 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. Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”	v.32-33 - “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is.”	v. 34-36 - “But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

We partially covered these verses previously when discussing Matthew 24:28 previously and will not duplicate those thoughts here.

Note that Luke alone includes Jesus' promise that anyone who watches and prays will be found worthy and allowed to escape all these things that will come to pass. The pre-tribulation rapture view sees these verses as a promise from God that the believing church will escape the horrors of God's judgment which will be poured out on the world, starting with Jesus opening the seals of the scroll in Revelation 6.

The post-tribulation rapture advocates believe there is no rapture of the church and that Christians will be experiencing all the seal, trumpet, and bowl judgments that are poured out on the inhabitants of the world. They use other translations of Luke 21:36 which say, "may have strength to escape" instead of the promise "to escape." Therefore, they feel the need to "**have strength**" in the weapons and bomb shelters so that they can survive the onslaught of the plagues and genocide of the global kingdom of the Antichrist.

But Daniel has stated in Daniel 7 and 12, that there are no "Christian" survivors at the end of the Tribulation: *Then I heard the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand to heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever, that it shall be for a time, times, and half a time; **and when the power of the holy people has been completely shattered, all these things shall be finished** [at the Second Coming of Jesus] (Daniel 12:7). It is this fact of Scripture that explains why the Sheep-Goat Judgment of Matthew 25 is not about believers being allowed to live into the Millennial Reign of Jesus. (For more on this, see the attached supplement on Matthew Chapter 25.)*

Also, as stated earlier, Revelation 3:10 is a parallel passage to the New King James version of Luke 21:36: *Because you have kept My command to persevere, **I also will keep you** [allow you to escape] **from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth** (Revelation 3:10). If the Jewish listeners shortly after Jesus' day had watched and prayed with believing hearts about the warnings of Jesus prior to AD 70, then they would have **escaped** the Roman slaughter in Jerusalem. If the future Jewish reader who is caught in the Tribulation reads this passage, watches the news, and prays with a believing heart, he/she will flee Jerusalem when the Antichrist commits the abomination of desolation. Some will not flee and will be caught in the Antichrist's cleansing campaign. Those who take heed and flee will be protected [**allowed to escape**] by God in the wilderness (of Jordan?).*

But how can one watch and pray to avoid global earthquakes and famines and other cataclysms written about in the Book of Revelation and here? Why does Jesus warn the reader to "*Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming?*" Is He talking to Christians before the Tribulation? Or to believers *during* the Tribulation? Or perhaps to non-believing Jews during the Tribulation?

These are difficult questions to answer. The prophet Daniel records that the Messiah will come 1,290 days after the abomination of desolation (Daniel 12:11). Therefore, anyone who is aware of the day that the Antichrist commits the abomination of desolation, lives through the remaining 3.5 years of the Tribulation, and is aware of Daniel 12 will also know the exact day of Jesus' physical return to Earth (as the lightning flashes across the sky).

But Jesus said to "watch," which implies that his audience does *not* know the day of His coming. If we can know the exact day of His glorious Second Coming, then here, Jesus must be referring to His appearance in the skies to gather His Church in the Rapture as Paul describes in 1 Thessalonians 4:17. When Jesus returns to Earth in glory, the Scriptures record the saints are *with* Him (Zechariah 14:5, Jude 14, Revelation 19:13-15). Therefore, the **unknowable** day of the Rapture (where the Saints meet the Lord in the air) must precede, and be separate from, the **knowable** day of the Second Coming, when the saints return with Him. As such, this refers to the Rapture, when those who, "*watch and pray will be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man.*"<sup>14</sup>

**Watch!**

<b>Matthew 24</b>	<b>Mark 13</b>	<b>Luke 21</b>
v. 45-51 - "Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing. Assuredly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all his goods. But if that evil servant says in his heart, 'My master is delaying his coming,' and begins to beat his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunkards, the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him and at an hour that he is not aware of, and will cut him in two and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."	v.34-37 - "It is like a man going to a far country, who left his house and gave authority to his servants, and to each his work, and commanded the doorkeeper to watch. Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming-- in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning--lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping. And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!"	v.36 - "Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Today, many Americans who have professed to be Christians in the past are turning away from the faith. This is another sign of the last days according to some interpretations of 2 Thessalonians 2:3: *Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the **falling away** comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition.* Their professions of faith were made with ulterior (hypocritical) motives. Some profess faith in Jesus so they can enjoy the company of "good" people while enjoying life on Earth, not because they truly believe in Jesus as their Savior.

Many count on the Christian "Rapture" to get them to heaven before any hardship and persecution comes. But as *"the Lord delays His coming,"* and as the persecution is worsening in the Western world, many are beginning to turn against true Christians and join in the drinking, drugs, and carousing of this wicked world, thus revealing their hypocrisy. They are like Judas, who appeared to be a sincere follower of Jesus, but was actually motivated by the financial benefits he thought he would enjoy with Jesus as the Messiah (John 12:6). I believe this is the final sifting phase, as Jesus prepares to take the true believers into heaven with Him, before plunging the unbelieving world into the tribulation period.

Jesus said He would spew the lukewarm out of His mouth (Revelation 3:16), and it appears that this is happening now, soon to be followed by the Rapture of the Church. I pray you are watching and praying, so that you *"may be counted worthy to escape **all** these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man"* (Luke 21:36).

Only Matthew records, in Chapter 25, the final portion of Jesus' teaching on that day (see attached notes). Jesus emphasized several times the need to watch and pray. The three parables in Chapter 25 were given to further emphasize the need for those caught in the tribulation period to persevere until the end. Jesus knew that God's mercy and grace will tolerate more of man's wickedness than His believing saints would want Him to:

*The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. (2 Peter 3:9-10)*

*And they cried with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" Then a white robe was given to each of them; and it was said to them that they should rest a little while longer, until both the number of their fellow servants and their brethren, who would be killed as they were, was completed. (Revelation 6:10-11)*

He also knew that many would become burdened under the weight of persecution and would question whether Jesus was really going to come as He promised. Matthew 25 becomes a strong encouragement that true

Christians must persevere till the end, trusting in Jesus' promise that His Kingdom will come, His will, *will* be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven.

---

<sup>1</sup> Even before 1948 however, some students of Bible prophecy understood these prophecies to mean a literal restoration of the nation of Israel, even though such seemed preposterous. One such was Sir Robert Anderson (1941-1918), who wrote, "The minds of most men are in bondage to the commonplace facts of their experience. The prophecies of a restored Israel seem to many as incredible as predictions of the present triumphs of electricity and steam would have appeared to our ancestors a century ago" (The Coming Prince, 1894, Chapter XII, Fullness of the Gentiles, p 64).

<sup>2</sup> We must not forget that the first Christians were Jews who *did* believe in Jesus as their Messiah, even though most of their countrymen rejected Him.)

<sup>3</sup> Jesus addressed both ethnic (ethnos) and political (kingdom) conflicts, both of which we have seen throughout history and to the present day. "Of the past 3,400 years, humans have been at entirely at peace for 268 years of them, or just 8 percent of recorded history" ("What Every Person Should Know about War," The New York Times, July 6, 2003, online at: [nytimes.com/2003/07/06/books/chapters/what-every-person-should-know-about-war.html](https://www.nytimes.com/2003/07/06/books/chapters/what-every-person-should-know-about-war.html)).

<sup>4</sup> Consider the following article: "The Human Race Is at its Closest Point Yet to Destroying Itself, According to A Reset of The Ominous but Symbolic 'Doomsday Clock,'" by Doyle Rice and Janet Loehrke, USA TODAY, January 27, 2026, online at [usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2026/01/27/doomsday-clock-announcement-2026/88365758007/](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2026/01/27/doomsday-clock-announcement-2026/88365758007/)

<sup>5</sup> "Pella: A Safe Haven for Christians in 70 AD," online at [biblereflection.org/pella/](https://www.biblereflection.org/pella/)

<sup>6</sup> King Cyrus of Persia allowed the Jews to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple in 539 BC, but the city remained under Persia control until they were conquered by Alexander the Great. The Greeks and then the Romans controlled the land until Jerusalem was again destroyed in AD 70 in order to quell the rebellion of the Jews fighting to regain sovereignty.

<sup>7</sup> Evolutionary geology says it is impossible for a global earthquake to occur. But the Bible predicts there will be global earthquakes in the last days. Therefore, the evolutionary paradigm about the root causes of earthquakes is wrong.

<sup>8</sup> The Bible also warns us that just as the world was once destroyed by a global flood, God will one day judge the earth by fire (2 Peter 3:5-7). For a detailed explanation of why the earthquakes will increase in number, occur in unexpected places, and ultimately become a global, fiery cataclysm, see my "Earthquakes 2012 update," which is based on Dr. Walt Brown's Hydroplate Theory, at [youtube.com/watch?v=XWUXW6B-5Ro](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XWUXW6B-5Ro). (You can read Dr. Brown's book, *In the Beginning, Compelling Evidence for Creation and the Flood*, online for free at [www.creation-science.com](http://www.creation-science.com). You can view other presentations based on the Hydroplate Theory at Calvary Chapel Port Orchard's YouTube Science and the Bible Playlist, <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLqkjinJeZTWF5EGMaeKazckh3-wYgpEpG1>).

<sup>9</sup> For decades, some have claimed that earthquakes are increasing in fulfillment of this prophecy. But this claim is currently easy to challenge depending on what data you look at, i.e., whether you query the total number of earthquakes, the number of earthquakes above a certain magnitude, energy released by all earthquakes, or other variables. For example, consider the following year-to-date data for North American earthquakes greater than magnitudes 2.5 and 4.5:

Number of Earthquakes > 2.5 Feb 4, 2024-Feb 4 2025 = 2804

Number of Earthquakes > 2.5 Feb 4, 2025-Feb 4 2026 = 2569 (a decrease compared to the previous year)

Number of Earthquakes > 4.5 Feb 4, 2024-Feb 4 2025 = 43

Number of Earthquakes > 4.5 Feb 4, 2025-Feb 4 2026 = 21 (a decrease compared to the previous year)

However, the day is coming when earthquakes, pestilence, famines will be so frequent, widespread and sever that no one will dispute that Jesus' prediction has been fulfilled.

<sup>10</sup> The wrath of God upon the earth begins when Jesus starts opening the seals of the scroll in Revelation 6.

<sup>11</sup> [blueletterbible.org/lexicon/h3772/kjv/wlc/0-1/](https://blueletterbible.org/lexicon/h3772/kjv/wlc/0-1/)

<sup>12</sup> I am indebted to Dr. Bill Salus of Prophecy Depot Ministries, <http://www.prophecydepotministries.net/>, for helping me recognize how Isaiah 28 relates to the covenant of Daniel 9 and also how the four horsemen of Revelation 6 are events that happen between the rapture and the start of Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> week.

<sup>13</sup> For an in-depth teaching on these prophecies, see my teachings on Isaiah 17 ([youtu.be/cAMmnXojb80](https://youtu.be/cAMmnXojb80)), Psalm 83 ([youtu.be/g5HzmbfJAN8](https://youtu.be/g5HzmbfJAN8)), and the Timing of the Gog/Magog War (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w3vhfZHMMmk>)

<sup>14</sup> Some speculate that Jesus' choice of words that no one will know the day or hour is a clue that the Rapture will come on the Feast of Trumpets. This view stems from the fact that this feast is the first day of the New Year, which coincides with the New Moon. Since it is very hard to determine on which night the moon is really "new" as opposed to the last day of the waning moon, no one can actually know when Trumpets really begins. This is why to this day, the one-day Feast of Trumpets is actually observed over two days.

## **Addendum**

### **Pastor Kevin Commentary on Matthew 25:1-46**

*All verses are from the New King James Version, 1985 Thomas Nelson*

Matthew 25:1 "Then the kingdom of heaven [*physical – the millennium*] shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.

**Ten virgins = Jews, not the bride, Bridegroom = Messiah, Virgins are waiting for a wedding feast with the groom's bride. When is the wedding of the bride (church) with Jesus (groom)?**

Rev 19:1 After these things I heard a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honor and power belong to the Lord our God! 2 For true and righteous are His judgments, because He has judged the great harlot who corrupted the earth with her fornication; and He has avenged on her the blood of His servants shed by her." 3 Again they said, "Alleluia! Her smoke rises up forever and ever!" 4 And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who sat on the throne, saying, "Amen! Alleluia!" 5 Then a voice came from the throne, saying, "Praise our God, all you His servants and those who fear Him, both small and great!" 6 And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! 7 **Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.**" 8 **And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.** 9 Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'" 10 And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God."

Matthew 25:2 "Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish.

**Five foolish virgins are thinking the Messiah is coming as the one to build the temple and allow sacrifice – Ends up being the antichrist.**

**Five wise are thinking the Messiah is not the coming world leader but rather the Messiah promised in scripture – coming later as prophesied by Daniel.**

**Possibly reflecting those Jews who are believing the 144,000 who will be preaching after the church is gone.**

Matthew 25:3 "Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them,

**No extra oil in case they are wrong**

Matthew 25:4 "but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.

**Were waiting for the true Messiah at the timing given by Daniel and Jesus**

Matthew 25:5 “But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept.

**Delayed = God’s timing and true Messiah – not man’s timing and false Messiah**

Matthew 25:6 “And at midnight a cry was heard: ‘Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!’

**When does this become clear to all ten virgins? – At the abomination of desolation.**

Matt 24:15 “Therefore when you see the ‘abomination of desolation,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place” (whoever reads, let him understand), 16 “then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. 17 Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. 18 And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. 19 But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! 20 And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath.

**This will be seen as the bridegroom coming in 3.5 years to those who have listened to Daniel, the 144,000, the two witnesses and the scriptures of Jesus’ Olivet Discourse.**

Matthew 25:7 “Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. 8 “And the foolish [*who had followed the A.C. as their messiah*] said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ 9 “But the wise answered, saying, ‘No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.’

**We are heading to the hills of Jordan like Jesus told us to and we don’t have any for you who have been deceived.**

Matthew 25:10 “And while they went to buy [*for 3.5 years*], the bridegroom came [*at the Second Coming*], and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut.

**The believing Jews were able to enter into the millennium to witness the bride/church, living and reigning with the Groom/Jesus during the 1,000 year reign.**

Matt 24:29 “Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 30 Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

Matthew 25:11 “Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, Lord, open to us!’ 12 “But he answered and said, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, **I do not know you.**’

Matthew 24:40 Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. 41 Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. 42 Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming.

**Reflecting that the five foolish virgins are killed by being left out of the groom’s protection because they did not watch.**

Matthew 25:13 “**Watch therefore**, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.

**The following parable must also be interpreted in the context of the parable of the Ten Virgins and of what follows in the Sheep/Goat judgment.**

**All three of the Chapter 25's parables are about tribulation survivors who are about to be judged as either being sheep or goats. They will either be allowed into the millennial reign of Jesus or sent to the Lake of Fire.**

Matthew 25:14 “For the kingdom of heaven [*Millennial reign*] is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants [*missed the rapture and were left behind*] and delivered his goods to them. 15 “And to one he gave five talents [*money by weight*], to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey [*to heaven after the rapture of the church*]. 16 “Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. 17 “And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. 18 “But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money. 19 “After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them. 20 “So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, ‘Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.’

**These servants invested what God had given them to give to others in the name of his Master and did so to increase the assets of the Master.**

Matthew 25:21 “His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you **ruler over many things**. Enter into the joy of your lord. [*Millennium*]

**They are allowed to live and enter the kingdom of Jesus during the millennium. They are not being saved by faith, but rather are allowed into the kingdom based on the works of compassion toward others. They will still be in human bodies.**

Matthew 25:22 “He also who had received two talents came and said, ‘Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.’ 23 “His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you **ruler over many things**. Enter into the joy of your lord. [*Millennium*]

**Same reward as the one who received five talents – allowed to live into the millennium**

Matthew 25:24 “Then he who had received the one talent came and said, ‘Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. 25 ‘And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.’

**Kept what the lord gave him in his bunker and was able to live through the tribulation, but never invested into the lives of those who were being persecuted and killed.**

Matthew 25:26 “But his lord answered and said to him, ‘You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. 27 ‘So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. 28 ‘Therefore take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. 29 ‘For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. 30 ‘And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

**The wicked servant in this parable is the same as a goat in the coming parable.**

#### Judgment of the Sheep and Goats

Chapter 25 ends with the final teaching by Jesus about His return. Verses 31-46 are commonly referred to as the “Sheep and Goat” judgment. I rarely hear a teaching of this passage that keeps the context in mind. If

the context is not maintained, the result is a twisting of what Jesus said by trying to apply this judgment of sheep and goats to our present day.

To prevent misunderstanding, we must emphasize the context of verse Matthew 25:31. Jesus starts by defining the timing of when verses 32-46 apply, that is, “**When the Son of Man comes in His glory.**” This is clearly a reference to His coming at the end of the tribulation period when He sets up His kingdom on earth. Therefore, any teaching about the “Sheep and Goat” judgment (of the following verses) which does not apply this judgment to the time when Jesus visibly returns to earth is in error.

Matthew 25:31 “**When the Son of Man comes in His glory**, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory.

**Jesus returns and kills all who have fought against Him – Rev 19**

**Second coming – The actual wedding of the bride. This ceremony is not to take place until after 3.5 years of having the door shut in the parable of the Ten Virgins.**

**Second coming – After the man of the talent parable has returned from traveling to a far country wanting to see what the survivors of the tribulation have done with what he gave them.**

Matthew 25:32 “All the nations [*gentiles who survived the tribulation period*] will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats.

**The survivors of the Tribulation period will then be gathered by the angels – Matthew 24:31**

**Who are these survivors?**

They can't be the church or even those who became believers during the tribulation. The church was taken to heaven before the Wrath of God started when Jesus loosed the seals of the scroll (Rev 4-6).

The survivors can't be those who became believers in Jesus during the tribulation (tribulation saints) because the Antichrist was given power to kill them all (Dan 7:25, Dan 12:7, Rev 6:9-11, 7:14, 12:17, 13:7 – discussed below). Those believers who are killed during the tribulation are given glorified bodies as Jesus returns in Revelation 20:4-6, thus completing the “first resurrection”. It should be noted that these verses make it clear that there cannot be a “post-tribulation rapture” because there are no living believers to rapture.

The survivors cannot be those who took the Mark of the Beast (Rev 13), because all those who do are sent to the Lake of Fire (Rev 14:9-10).

Therefore the survivors who take part in the “Sheep/Goat Judgment” of Matthew 25 below are those who did not openly profess faith in Jesus as their savior, did not take the Mark of the Beast, but somehow remained hidden from the Antichrist security apparatus and survived not being able to buy and sell for 3.5 years.

Matthew 25:33 “And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left.

**The right hand is the side of honor, the left hand the side of judgment.**

Matthew 25:34 “Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: 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; 36 'I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.'

**The surviving "sheep" will be allowed to continue living on Earth for 1,000 years under the rule of Jesus as King.**

Matthew 25:37 "Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? 38 'When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? 39 'Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' 40 "And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'

**What defines these survivors as sheep rather than goats is by their actions towards what Jesus refers to as His brethren. But who are these? Jesus answers this question in Matthew:**

Matthew 12:46-50 While He was still talking to the multitudes, behold, His mother and brothers stood outside, seeking to speak with Him. Then one said to Him, "Look, Your mother and Your brothers are standing outside, seeking to speak with You." But He answered and said to the one who told Him, "Who is My mother and who are My brothers?" And He stretched out His hand toward His disciples and said, "Here are My mother and My brothers! **"For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother."**

**What is the will of the Father? Jesus again answers in John:**

**John 6:29** Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent."

**It is clear from this passage that Jesus considers those who "do the will of His Father" are those who believe in Jesus whom the Father sent, who are also "His brethren". Therefore, Jesus declares that these "sheep" (unlike the sheep of the church age) are those who ministered food, clothing, hospitality, and compassion to Jews and believers in Jesus before they were killed by the antichrist. These martyrs came to faith during the tribulation period, after the rapture of the church saints.**

**Therefore, the "sheep" of this parable invested their "talents of money" to minister to the Jewish and Gentile tribulation saints.**

**But these tribulation saints are the people who are being hunted down and beheaded by the Antichrist during his last 3.5 years of tyranny. Daniel and Revelation make it clear that the Antichrist will concentrate his wrath on the saints who are confessing Jesus as their savior, to the extent that there are no believers in Jesus who are still alive at the second coming of Jesus.**

Daniel 7:21 "I was watching; and the same horn was making war against the saints, and **prevailing against them,**

Daniel 12:7 Then I heard the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand to heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever, that it shall be for a time, times, and half a time; and when the power of the holy people has been **completely shattered,** all these things shall be finished.

Revelation 6:9 When He opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the testimony which they held. 10 And they cried with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" 11 Then a white robe was given to each of them; and it was said

to them that they should rest a little while longer, **until both the number of their fellow servants and their brethren, who would be killed as they were, was completed.**

Revelation 12:17 And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war **with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.**

Revelation 13:6 Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven. 7 It was granted to him to make war with the saints **and to overcome them.** And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation.

Revelation 14:13 Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: **'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.'**" "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."

But anyone who was **not** on the "Saint" hit-list, because they did not have the "testimony of Jesus", but who refuse to take the Mark of the Beast, have somehow survived "off the grid." These unbelieving survivors tried to comfort the "Saints" who were being hunted down and killed. These investors of God's "talents" are judged by Jesus at His coming to be the "Sheep" who are allowed to live into the thousand-year reign on earth.

Matthew 25:41 "Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:

**It is important to note that the Lake of Fire was made for the Devil and his angels, not for man. It is man's foolishness for joining in Satan's rebellion that causes him to go to the same eternal punishment.**

Matthew 25:42 'for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; 43 'I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' 44 "Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' 45 "Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' 46 "And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

**Those who were survivalists without any motive to serve Jesus or to have compassion on Jesus' brethren, the Tribulation Saints, will not be allowed to live into Jesus' one-thousand year reign on Earth. Since they are being judged by Jesus, they now join the Antichrist and False Prophet in the Lake of Fire.**

**These are the ones who "hid" their talents of money in the earlier parable.**