

Life and Ministry of Jesus Christ

The Destruction of Jerusalem and The 2nd Coming of Jesus Christ, Part 1

Last time...Jesus delivered His Final Sermon to the nation of Israel

He has spoken His final words to Israel

John 1:11 in His 1st Coming (the subject of Stephen's message in Acts 7)

The Jews require a sign (1 Cor 1:22) and the sign is about to be given to Israel

Is 11:10

This time...Jesus leaves the Temple with His disciples and goes over to the Mount of Olives

There, Jesus prophesies (foretells) of

1. the destruction of the Temple
(as Jerusalem, which He has already prophesied)
2. the sign of His 2nd Coming

After the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple and before His 2nd Coming to earth,
the Lord will give the 2nd sign...to Israel and the nations

Is 11:11-12

Started with the Zionism movement in 1880s and culminated with Israel's
Declaration of Independence on May 14, 1948

These prophesies given by Jesus on the Mount of Olives are recorded in

Matt 24	written to Israel
Mark 13	written to Gentiles/nations
Luke 21	written to Gentiles/nations

These prophesies are NOT recorded in

John	written to the Church
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The audience of these prophesies are Israel and the nations, to whom the 2nd sign is given.
Jesus is warning Israel and the nations about the Day before His 2nd Coming

The Church can discern the times with these prophesies, but the Bride/Body are not the
direct recipients of this warning from Jesus

The Church, comprised of Jews and Gentiles,

1. believes God's 1st sign (Is 11:10)...The Messiah lifted up on a Cross
2. is made into a new people (1 Cor 10:32, 1 Peter 2:1-11a, Rom 11:30-32,
Eph 2:11-16)...neither Jew nor Gentile reconciled to God in one body by
the Cross
3. will not face the wrath/judgment of God (1 Thes 1:10, 1 Thes 5:9, Rom 5:9)
4. will be snatched off the earth to meet Jesus **in the clouds** (before which is
no sign) before Jesus' 2nd Coming **to earth** (John 14:1-3, 1 Thes 4:12-18)
5. is the contemporary (the days after the fulfillment of God's 2nd sign in
Is 11:11-12) voices of Jesus' warning to Israel and the nations

Right up front:

- a. Acts 17:11
- b. Prophecies become more clear the closer their fulfillments gets

Matt 24:1-8

v1-2 Jesus went out...departed...disciples...to shew Him:

Recently, in the flow of this Final Week

- Luke 19:41-44 His Triumphal Entry as the King of Israel
- Matt 23:37-39 including a promise to return
- A poor widow at the collection boxes
- John 12:36b-37
- John 12:49-50...last words to Israel

Now, Jesus leaves the Temple

His 12 disciples proudly boast of the architecture and external beauty of the (Herod's) Temple

Given the very recent words of Jesus, what are the disciples thinking?!

Perhaps what they think so much of – Jesus setting up the Kingdom of God on earth and returning the glory to Israel

Even in Acts 1:6 as Jesus is about to ascend to the right hand of the Father!

They were “Kingdom Now” in their thinking...and they were wrong
And “Kingdom Now” is still wrong thinking, a false doctrine

Jesus' answer is blunt in order to correct the thinking of His disciples
Verily I say unto you...of a truth, thus saith the Lord

Not be left one stone upon another, all will be thrown down...prophesying the destruction of the Temple

This was literally fulfilled (as all prophecies are) in 70AD by the Roman Legions of Titus

The Temple was the last stronghold where Jews were hiding so Titus, who believed there could be no peace as long as this Temple stood, set fire to it

The fire melted the gold inside so the Romans dismantled the Temple, stone by stone, to recover all the gold

For those who have gone to Israel, your Bible certainly “reads” differently, doesn't it?!

Come to Israel with us in Feb 2020 and see the evidence of literally
fulfilled prophesy!
See some of those stones...and their damage to the street below

[photos]

v3 Mount of Olives...when...what:

Having crossed the Kidron Valley, Jesus and His disciples are sitting on the
western slope of the Mount of Olives, with a clear view of the Temple

The disciples...to be identified in a parallel passage...come to Jesus with
2 questions regarding what He said in v2

1. When...shall these things be?
the destruction of the Temple
2. What...shall be the sign of (1 Cor 1:22)
 - a. Your coming?
Matt 23:37-39 including a promise to return
His 2nd Coming...to earth

The Church and Her meeting Jesus in the clouds are
mysteries not yet revealed
There are NO signs before the Rapture of the Church
 - b. The end of the world/age?
when the Kingdom of God is set up on earth

Before we jump into Jesus' answer to these questions,

- Jesus did not answer the 1st question:
When will the Temple be destroyed?
- His comprehensive answer is to the 2nd question:
What shall be the sign of Your (2nd) Coming and Kingdom?
- Exact times are not revealed by Jesus; Hence, watch and be ready
- His answer to the 2nd question is "built" on the 2nd sign of Is 11:11-12
- The days concerning Israel and the nations preceding Jesus'
2nd Coming and His Kingdom are known as...
 - Day of the Lord
 - Jacob's Trouble
 - The 70th Week of Daniel (Dan 9:24-27)
 - (most detailed) Rev 6-19

Let's read Jesus' complete answer to His disciples in Matt 24 to

- get an overview of this very important prophetic teaching
- establish some "anchors" to help us rightly-divide His words

Passage	Anchor	Comment
Matt 24:4-8	v8..."the beginning of sorrows"	2 nd Sign (Is 11-11-12)
Matt 24:9-14	v9..."Then...afflicted"	DoL (Rev 6-19)
Matt 24:15-20	v15..."the abomination of desolation"	DoL (Rev 6-19)
Matt 24:21-31	v21..."great tribulation"	DoL (Rev 6-19)
Matt 24:32-41	v34..."this generation"	
Matt 24:42-51	v42..."Watch"	

v4-5 Take heed that no man deceive you:

The hallmark, the "calling card", the nature of the days before the 2nd Coming of Jesus Christ to earth is deception

Jesus is warning Israel and the nations of a time defined by great spiritual deception

Take heed...be very careful and discerning

that no man...Acts 17:11 everything you hear

deceive you...seduce, lead astray

For many...not just a few

shall come in My name...My authority, but not My character

saying...boasting

I am Christ...the Messiah, the Savior of the world

The True Christ was rejected by Israel so the god of this world who is rabid about annihilating all Jews will send many imposters and counterfeits with false gospels...

one in particular

John 5:43 come in his own name that Israel receives

Dan 9:27 false peace and safety

2 Thes 2:3-9 the son of perdition, that Wicked

and shall deceive many...who receive/know not the Truth, not diligent or honest in their seeking of Truth

v6-7 wars and rumors of wars...nation...kingdom...famines...pestilences...earthquakes:
Other signs of the days before the 2nd Coming of Jesus Christ to earth:

1. wars and rumors of wars...whose wars? (remember Is 11:11-12)

- Israel
 - Near future: Romans, ending in global Dispersion of the Jews
 - Distant future
 - 1947-1948, War of Independence
 - 1956, war with Egypt in the Sinai (Russia in the background)
 - 1967, The 6 Day War (Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Russia in the background)
 - 1967-1970, “The War of Attrition” with Egypt (Russia in the background)
 - 1973, The Yom Kippur War (Egypt, Syria, Russia in the background)
 - 1972 – present, the war on terrorism
 - 1981 – present, the war with Lebanon (Iran)
 - 2011 – present, the civil war in Syria (Russia and Iran in the background)
 - Gog and Magog (Russia, Iran, Turkey)
- the nations (as it affects Israel)
 - World War I – collapse of the Ottoman (Muslim) Empire, establishment of the British Mandate in ME
 - World War II – Nazi Holocaust, cry for Jewish homeland

But do not be fearful, these things MUST happen

Including the Holocaust!!

This is not the end of the age but to set the stage for the end

2. nation against nation...race/tribe/nation

3. kingdom against kingdom...sovereign realms

4. famines

- Near term fulfillment: Roman sieges in Jerusalem and Masada
- Far Term fulfillment:
 - one of the consequences of war
 - in a time of deception, the most serious is a famine of the Truth (Amos 8:10-11)

5. pestilences...diseases, plagues (another consequence of war)

6. earthquakes...in various places (even some not known for them)

Wars, famines, pestilences, earthquakes...global in impact,
all over the earth (signs to Israel and all the nations of His Coming)

v8 beginning of sorrows:

These are birth pangs, which over time become...more frequent and more intense

We get more information in Mark's account

Mark 13:1-8

v1-4 one of His disciples...Peter and James and John and Andrew:

When Jesus departed the Temple, "one of His disciples" pointed to the physical
majesty of the Temple

We don't know which, but I wonder:

Judas? Who tried to "force Jesus' hand" to set up the kingdom of God

Peter? Usually the first to speak, and usually with his foot in his mouth

Jesus foretells the destruction of this majestic building made by man

On the other side of the Kidron Valley, who comes with inquiring minds that
want to know?

The fishing business partners

2 disciples of John the Baptist (John and Andrew) and their brothers

The 2 questions by the 4 disciples: when and what,

the what being condensed compared to the 2-parter in Matthew

v5-8 Take heed...deceive...beginning of sorrows:

The only difference between Mark's account and Matthew's account is

Matthew: pestilences

Mark: troubles...disturbances

The 20th Century

- was the bloodiest, most war-ravaged century in human history
 - 2 world-wide wars
 - war on every continent except Antarctica
 - multiple genocides
 - advent of “WMD” (chemical, biological, nuclear)
 - religious wars
- had more major earthquakes than previous centuries combined
- had more famines than the previous centuries

But it will get even worse...more intense and more frequent...in the final days before Jesus’ 2nd Coming to earth...in The Day of the Lord

We get more information in Luke’s account

Luke 21:5-11a

v5-7 spake of the Temple, He said:

The Temple was the crown jewel of the nation, the nation was so very proud of it
Jesus prophesies its destruction (about 38 years in advance)
“When? What?”

v8-9 commotions...but the end is not by-and by:

Take heed that ye be not deceived, do not follow any of the imposters

commotions = “instability, disorder, confusion, tumult”

Wars and instabilities/tumults will happen...and increasingly so...
but the end (of man’s rule on earth) is not soon

v10-11a nation...kingdom...great earthquakes:

In the days before the 2nd Coming of Jesus, not just earthquakes but
great earthquakes (“commotion of the ground”)...
as the world’s topography changes before Jesus “touches down” on the
Mount of Olives

Application

Believers

Recognize that we live in the days after the fulfillment of the 2nd sign in Is 11:11-12
Realize we see the beginning of sorrows, the hallmark of which is spiritual deception

- a. Be on guard...lest you be deceived!
- b. Be diligent in learning the voice of your Good Shepherd...
so you can discern the voices of the counterfeits
- c. Be diligent in your study of the Word of God...the entire counsel of God...
so you will know the Truth (John 14:6, John 17:17)...
and discern all the lies
- d. Be a Berean!
- e. Be bold in your declaration of the warnings to Israel and the nations

Time is urgent, time is of the essence!

Rom 13:11-14 Knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep,
for now is our salvation (redemption) nearer than when we
believed

1 Cor 7:29-31 time is short, the condition of this world is passing away

Backsliders

If you received Jesus Christ as your Savior, but you

- do not submit to Him as Lord (Supreme and Final Authority)
- have walked away from the Lord, being distracted and discouraged by the
world

repent and come home!

The hour is very late!

Unbelievers

Every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus is Lord

Hear the words of God and believe them, for they are certain!

Like every other person born, you are a sinner, having fallen short of the glory/perfection
of God

Confess your sin to Jesus, ask Jesus to forgive you, by faith receive the gift of eternal life,
profess to God and man that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God

Get plugged into the family of God and begin a wonderful journey of learning about
Jesus Christ and how to follow Him

You are running out of time!