

Life and Ministry of Jesus Christ

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

Last time...Jesus left the Temple with His disciples and went across the Kidron Valley to the Mount of Olives

There, Jesus prophesied (foretold) of

1. the destruction of the Temple
(as He had already prophesied the destruction Jerusalem)
2. the sign of His 2nd Coming...to earth

Asked “when” and “what shall be the sign” by James and John and Peter and Andrew, Jesus did not even speak to when the Temple would be destroyed.

His response is all about the sign before His 2nd Coming...it is a warning of judgment to Israel and the nations, NOT a warning to the Church

Jesus’ 2nd Coming to earth is NOT the same event as Jesus coming to the clouds to meet His Bride and to take Her back to the Father’s house with Him

John 14:1-3

The things of which Jesus speaks in Matt 24 (to Jews) and Matt 13/Luke 21 (to Gentiles) were set in motion when the 2nd sign (of judgment) in Isaiah 11 (Is 11:11-12) was fulfilled...on May 14, 1948

Is 66:8 Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? *or* shall a nation be born at once?

Before 1948, Jesus’ words were cloudy, NOT clear at all

Since 1948, ”the beginning of sorrows” before Jesus’ 2nd Coming to earth, (Matt 24:4-8 covered last week) characterized by great spiritual deception... are becoming increasingly clear

We are living in the days Jesus prophesied of on the Mount of Olives to His disciples!

The birth pangs have begun and are discernible

For 19 centuries the Church read about these days, not understanding “how these things could be”

To us, whose awareness of happenings in the world did not start until after 1948, the things Jesus spoke of in “the beginning of sorrows” are...normal

But in God’s Plan of Redemption (Israel being His time piece), these days in which we live are anything but normal; these are momentous days!!!

e.g. “wars and rumors of wars”: Israel and Magog Invasion (Ezk 38-39)

2/14/19

“Moscow, Ankara and Tehran see the planned US withdrawal from Syria as a positive step, Russian President Vladimir Putin said after a summit with his Turkish and Iranian counterparts on Thursday”

2/14/19 Vice President Mike Pence said Thursday that Iran is plotting a “new Holocaust” to obliterate Israel. Pence said that “the Iranian regime openly advocates another Holocaust and seeks the means to achieve it. The authoritarian regime in Tehran...openly advocates the destruction of the State of Israel,”

In these days of birth pangs, the Church is still the witness of Jesus Christ on earth.
In the days right on the horizon, the Church will be snatched off the earth to meet Jesus in the clouds and then Israel will be the witness of Jesus Christ on earth, just as they were called to be

Jesus’ warning to Israel and the nations about the days before He returns to earth to judge the world should cause each of us to

Be excited, not dulled of perception or lulled to sleep by “normal”!
Be serious about our relationship with Jesus Christ! (includes serving Him)
Be actively involved in the Father’s business of seeking and saving the lost!

This time...after “the beginning of sorrows” before Jesus Christ’s 2nd Coming to earth comes a 7 year period of time known as

- The Day of the Lord...the judgment of God upon the unbelieving world
Zeph 1:14-18
- Jacob’s Trouble...the judgment of God upon unbelieving Israel
Jer 30:5-7 thus saith the LORD; We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear, and not of peace. Ask ye now, and see whether a man doth travail with child? wherefore do I see every man with his hands on his loins, as a woman in travail, and all faces are turned into paleness? Alas! for that day *is* great, so that none *is* like it: it *is* even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it.
- The 70th Week of Daniel
Dan 9:24-27 v24 weeks = 7 days or 7 years
thy people = the Jews
thy city = Jerusalem
v25-26 483 years until...1st sign of judgment in Is 11:11
v27 last 7 years: false peace by false Christ, temple
Zech 12:2-3 Jerusalem made a cup of trembling and a burdensome stone for all nations...a problem with no solution
- Tribulation/Great Tribulation
Rev 6-19

Let's re-visit the anchors in the passage to help us rightly divide this prophesy

<u>Passage</u>	<u>Anchor</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Matt 24:4-8	v8...“the beginning of sorrows”	2 nd Sign (Is 11-11-12)
<u>Matt 24:9-14</u>	v9...“Then...afflicted”	DoL, 1 st half
Matt 24:15-20	<u>v15</u> ...“the abomination of desolation”	DoL, mid-point
Matt 24:21-31	<u>v21</u> ...“great tribulation”	DoL, 2 nd half
Matt 24:32-41	<u>v34</u> ...“this generation”	
Matt 24:42-51	<u>v42</u> ...“Watch”	

This morning we will take a closer look at the 1st half of the DoL...“The Tribulation”

Matt 24:9-14

- v9 Then...deliver you up to be afflicted...kill...hate...for My name's sake:
 The birth pangs get more frequent and more intense,
- then...after the “beginning of sorrows” set in motion by the re-birth of the nation
 of Israel, the Day of the Lord starts
- shall they...unbelievers that reject the words and Authority of Jesus Christ
- deliver...surrender to the civil authorities, imprison
- you...believers in Jesus who profess Him as their God and Messiah
 The faithful Church has been snatched off the earth and now faithful Israel
 is the witness of Jesus Christ on earth
 Faithful Israel:
- 2 Witnesses in Jerusalem (Rev 11:1-13)
 - the 144,000 (Rev 7:1-8)
 - Jewish fruit of their witness Zech 13:8-9
- During the Day of the Lord, 1/3 of Jews will and 2/3 of Jews will NOT
 believe in Jesus Christ
 Not all Israel is Israel
 Rom 2:28-29 “Jew” is not outward but inward (heart and spirit)
- you = the 1/3
- to be afflicted...“persecution”, “tribulation”, “trouble”
 Matt 23:34...by unfaithful Israel and the nations in “Tribulation”
- 2 Cor 4:6-11, 16-18 will have profound meaning in DoL
 Phil 1:29

hated of all nations for My name's sake...Israel will be the most hated nation on earth, because of the

- 2 Witnesses...who are Jewish
- 144,000 evangelists...who are Jewish

Their (hated) testimony to the world is:

- Jesus Christ is the True Christ, the Son of the True Living God
- the world's christ of "peace and safety" is a counterfeit
- the counterfeit christ's temple in Jerusalem is an abomination to God, Who is coming to judge the world

Thus, the religious and UN contention over Jerusalem will intensify

v10-11 many be offended...betray...hate...deceive:

When the heat of persecution by the nations rises, many...the 2/3, all unbelievers

- will be offended...stumble in the faith, apostatize, fall away, be unfruitful (Matt 13:20-21)
- will betray and hate one another...turn on each other
- false prophets (false peace and safety) will also rise and deceive many

v12 iniquity shall abound:

iniquity...lawlessness, wickedness

love...*agape*, God's self-less, self-last, sacrificial love

Note: *phileo* as well, as we will see in a parallel passage

of many...vs the remnant (Matt 7:13-14)

shall wax cold...cold-hearted, every man for himself, "survival of the fittest"

During the DoL, iniquity/lawlessness/wickedness will suddenly spike,
evil will be unrestrained

2 Thes 2:1-12

v6 withhold = restraining

v7 letteth = that which restrains is removed

Acts 20:28

the church of God purchased with His own
blood...Jesus Christ is God!

1 Cor 6:19-20

our body is the temple of the Holy Ghost...
we are not our own...
we are bought with a price

1 Peter 2:5, 9-10

a spiritual house of living stones
a holy priesthood offering spiritual
sacrifices
a royal priesthood
a holy nation
a peculiar/purchased people

Num 1:52-53

Num 2 camp of Israel, Tabernacle in the middle
drawn literally and proportionally: forms a cross

Num 17:13 – 18:5

A shadow...

As the Levites prevented/restrained the wrath of God from coming
upon Israel, so the faithful Church/Body of Christ does in
the world now, “camped” around the indwelling God

When the faithful Church is removed from earth, neither the evil of
man nor the wrath of God is no longer restrained (DoL)

The Rapture of the faithful Church is the removal of the Temple of
the Holy Spirit

Yet Acts 14:17 so Israel then becomes the Temple of the
Holy Spirit...2 Witnesses + 144,000 evangelists + 1/3 +

But their ministry is not the restraining of evil as in the faithful
Church's, their ministry is to witness of Jesus Christ during
unrestrained evil

v13 endure...saved:

With the warning comes a word of encouragement from the Lord

endure unto the end...persevere/stay/stand until Jesus' 2nd Coming to earth

shall be saved...protected, preserved

We will get more insight into this in the parallel passages

v14 gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world:

The preachers of the Gospel of the Kingdom of God on earth in the days before
Jesus' 2nd Coming to establish that kingdom will be...faithful Israel

- The faithful Church? No...no longer on the earth
- The 2 Witnesses...who are Jewish
- The 144,000 evangelists...who are Jewish
- 1/3 of Israel...who believe the testimony of God

Israel failed to be the witness of God to the nations...

- to the Amorites, Canaanites, etc during the days of “God was King” and the days of “Jewish kings”
- during the days of Rabbinic (self-righteous) Judaism
 - rejected God’s 1st sign of judgment (Is 11:10)
 - while dispersed to the 4 corners of the world
- in the days since being re-gathered and being God’s 2nd sign of judgment (Is 11:11-12)

BUT they will fulfill their calling to be the witness of Jesus Christ on earth during the DoL

Israel will preach the Word of God and the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all the nations...in the days of global, instant news coverage and social media
This prophesy will be fulfilled by...faithful Israel, NOT the Church

The world’s reaction is totally predictable

Darkness hates light

The world hated Jesus, hated Biblical Christianity, and will hate Israel

The servant is not above his Lord

Then the end will come...the end of the age, the end of man governing man
When Jesus comes the 2nd time to earth as Judge, God will govern man

Now let’s pick up additional information in the Gospel of Mark

Mark 13:9-13

v9-13 deliver you up to councils....synagogues:

The

- delivered up to be afflicted
- hated of all nations for My name’s sake
- betrayed and hated by one another

in Matt 24 are in Mark 13

- delivered up to councils and synagogues...Jewish people/places
- delivered up to rulers and kings...the nations
 - for a Divine purpose – to testify of Jesus Christ before them
 - given Divine help – wisdom and words by the Holy Spirit
- betrayed by brother/sister, father/mother/children

As Jesus taught His 12 disciples before sending them out 2-by-2 without Him,

Matt 10:16-22, 25

so He teaches His “Jacob’s Trouble” disciples who will delivered up, beaten, betrayed, and killed...on account of Him and their faith in Him

Matt 10:34-40 was true when Jesus first said it, true now, and true then...
but then may have a greater intensity than in any other time
These “Jacob’s Trouble” disciples of Jesus Christ will truly be hated in
antichrist’s world government and religion

These “Jacob’s Trouble” disciples are

- fruit of the 2 Witnesses and the 144,000
 - 1/3 Israel
 - of every nation
- born-again and Spirit-filled (v11b)

Rev 6:9-11

Under faithful Israel’s “watch” (not the Church’s) will the Gospel be proclaimed
to all nations
(including an angel, Rev 14:6-7)

Now let’s get additional information in Luke’s account

Luke 21:11b-19

v11b fearful sights...great signs:

In the days before the 2nd Coming of Jesus, during the DoL

- fearful sights...frightening things will be seen
- great signs...in the heaven/sky/space,
astronomical spectaculars

Joel 2:1-2a Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy
mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of
the LORD cometh, for *it is* nigh at hand; A day of darkness and of
gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness

Joel 2:10-11 The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble: the
sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their
shining: And the LORD shall utter his voice before his army: for
his camp *is* very great: for *he is* strong that executeth his word: for
the day of the LORD *is* great and very terrible; and who can abide
it?

Rev 6:12-14

Fearful sights and great signs in the heavens indeed!

v12-15 But before...persecute you:

But before v11b (which happen in the 2nd half of DoL), the persecution spoken of in the accounts recorded by both Matthew and Mark

- for My name's sake
- which will become a testimony against the enemies of Jesus

Therefore, settle it in your heart to not pre-plan your response/defense

Jesus, by the Spirit of Christ, will personally give His followers in those days the words and wisdom needed in the moment to shut the mouths of His enemies

v16-19 betrayed...hated:

The "Jacob's Trouble disciples" will be

- betrayed by...everybody
- killed...for their testimony
- hated...for Jesus' name's sake
- preserved..."saved" (not "saved" in the sense of salvation)
- overcomers...cheerfully enduring to worst time to be alive on earth, Jesus not having left nor forsaken them either

Application

These words will jump off the pages of Scriptures to those living on earth in those days
But what about now?

Believer – in a right relationship with the Lord God Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth

Rev 4-5...after Rev 1-3 and before Rev 6-19

We will be in the Throne Room of God in heaven during this time worshipping

- God Almighty, the Ancient of Days, The Father
- Jesus, the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, the Root of David, the Lamb as He had been slain

We will watch Jesus take the title deed of the earth from the Father and open the 7 seals, commencing the wrath of God in the DoL, a period of time unlike any other in the history of the world

Are all our loved ones, family, and friends "in the Ark"?

(only Way to escape God's judgment)

Then let us tend to the Father's business of seeking and saving the lost while we still have the opportunity to do so

Backslider – wanderer

Salvation from eternal death is not the issue

Whether you get snatched off the earth with the faithful Church or are left behind to be refined by fire...is a mystery (Rev 2-3)

Why wait to find out?!

Get right with your Lord Jesus Christ right now!

Unbeliever – rebel

Joel 2:10-13 The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble: the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining: And the LORD shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp *is* very great: for *he is* strong that executeth his word: for the day of the LORD *is* great and very terrible; and who can abide it?

Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye *even* to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he *is* gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil (calamity).

Do you really want to live on earth during the 7 years before Jesus Christ returns to earth?

Humble yourself before God and receive His gift of salvation in Jesus Christ and escape the DoL