

Life and Ministry of Jesus Christ

The Destruction of Jerusalem and The 2nd Coming of Jesus Christ, Part 5

Last times...after Jesus leaves the Temple for the last time

(Matt 24:1-3, Mark 13:1-4, Luke 21:5-7),

a very important prophesy regarding the days before He returns to earth (2nd Coming)

First, “the beginning of sorrows” (Matt 24:4-8, Mark 13:5-8, Luke 21:8-11a),
which is a period of time

- of unspecified length
- set in motion by the fulfillment of God’s 2nd sign of judgment
(Is 11:11-12, to Israel and the nations, fulfilled on May 14, 1948),
- characterized by intense spiritual deception

Second, “The Tribulation” (Matt 24:9-14, Mark 13:9-13, Luke 21:11b-19),
the 1st Half of Jacob’s Trouble

- Israel “Most Hated Nation” status during the ministry of God’s 2 Witnesses in Jerusalem
- more deception
- love is fading on earth

Third, “Abomination of Desolation” (Matt 24:15-20, Mark 13:14-18, Luke 21:20-21),
the mid-point of Jacob’s Trouble/70th Week of Daniel

A deception of the whole world, except the faithful believing Jews
(whoso reads, let him understand)

Fourth, “Great Tribulation” (Matt 24:21-31)

The 2nd Half of Jacob’s Trouble

This time...more ”Great Tribulation”, in Mark 13:19-27 and Luke 21:22-28

Mark 13:19-27

Review of Matt 24:21-31

v19-20 affliction, such as was not from the beginning of the creation:

After the “Abomination of Desolation (v14) comes “affliction”;
“tribulation” in v24 is the same Greek word

Matt 24:21 says “great tribulation”

This is the 2nd Half of Jacob’s Trouble/70th Week of Daniel is a unique period of
time in the history of the world

A time unparalleled in the history of the creation...
which would include

- the Flood, a worldwide judgment,
- the 1st Half of Jacob's Trouble (Rev 6, 8, 9)

A time for Jews that will be a time worse than Hitler's Holocaust

A time of unmitigated wrath of

- Satan (Rev 12:7-17) upon all, esp Jews, believers
 - Creator God (Rev 15:5 – 16:21) upon all unbelievers
- 7 Bowls of the Wrath of God

If those days last longer than 3½ years, no human will survive

But, for the elect's sake, those days are shortened, because God is faithful to His promises of AIJJ&D

Who are "the elect"?

Israel (Rom 2:28-29), the believing Jews, His "Jacob's Trouble disciples"

Ezk 20:33-44 God will pass Israel under the rod (Shepherd's) and
purge the rebels

Zech 13:8-9 Israel refined (fire of judgment) as silver and gold
2/3 will perish and 1/3 will call on name of the Lord
(Jesus) their God

Gal 3:29 Christ's, Abraham's seed and heirs according to the
promise

NOT the faithful Church...which is already in heaven

1 Thes 1:10 Jesus delivered from the wrath to come

1 Thes 5:9 not appointed to wrath but to obtain salvation by
our Lord Jesus Christ

Rom 5:9 justified by His blood, saved from wrath thru Him

v21-23 here...there...false...if it were possible:

In the Great Tribulation, the slanderer/deceiver pulls out all the stops

- false christ...Greek word is singular
Antichrist, the "Christ" of the Abomination of Desolation
- false prophets...Greek word is plural
imposters speaking lies, speaking the words of Antichrist
- signs and wonders...lying miracles

2 Thes 2:8-12

Jesus prophesies of a global deception, with hard hearts (not believe God's
2 Witnesses) being hardened by God.

Satan (again) working to annihilate the Jews

The elect...the believing 1/3...will not be deceived

Rev 12:11 they will overcome satan by the blood of the Lamb and by the Word of their testimony

Rev 12:17 they have the testimony of Jesus Christ

Rev 14:12 that keep the commandments of God and the faith **of** Jesus

The Word of God will be their Final Authority unto eternal life

v24-26 after the tribulation...sun...moon...stars...see the Son of Man coming:

At the end of the Great Tribulation, before King Jesus returns to earth,

- the sun will be further darkened...Creator will turn His dimmer switch
- the moon will not reflect the sun's light
- the stars will fall from heaven..."fail", be turned off as the Creator pulls back the curtain (Ps 104:2, Rev 6:12-14)
- the powers of heaven will be shaken...waver, topple

On earth, all hell is NOT breaking loose, all Heaven is breaking loose!

What kind of powers that are in heaven will be shaken?

- Spiritual – principalities and powers
 - Eph 2:2 in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience
 - Eph 6:12 we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*
 - The deceiving "angel of light" (2 Cor 11:14) being toppled
 - Satan's kingdom is coming down! (Rev 11:15, Rev 19:6)
- Material – Laws of Physics
 - Sun, moon, and stars literally being darkened
- both

So that, against the back drop of incomparable physical and spiritual darkness, every eye on this globe will see the revelation of Jesus Christ coming from heaven to earth

The glory of God who clothes Himself in Light is going burst upon a dark world!
The Revelation of Jesus Christ will be a "universal" event that will be terrifying to the inhabitants of the earth

Jesus affirms the Word of God given to the prophet Joel over 800 years prior

Joel 2:30-32

Joel 3:1-2, 9-17

Kidron Valley, "the LORD judged"

v27 send His angels:

The Lord will dispatch His angels to gather His elect from wherever they may be

Luke 21:22-28

Acts 17:11

v22 the days of vengeance:

After v20, the armies of the world moving to deal with the Jerusalem problem
(Joel 3) i.e. the Jewish problem
triggered by the “Abomination of Desolation” recorded in Matt 24 and Mark 13

Matthew called these days Great Tribulation

Luke calls them “days of vengeance”...”vindication” and “punishment”

God’s vengeance upon all who do not believe, have rebelled against Him
The penalty for not believing God is very severe

Is 61:1-2a

Luke 4:19-20, closed the book (1st Coming)

Is 61:2b-3

this day Jesus proclaims the day of vengeance (2nd Coming)

Almighty God’s vengeance for all who reject His love and grace

Heb 10:30-31 we know him that hath said, Vengeance *belongeth*
unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And
again, The Lord shall judge his people. *It is a*
fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God

In these days of vengeance, all things written,
foreknown and spoken/recorded in advance,
the substance of all the shadows ala Joshua 11:19-20, 23,
hundreds of prophecies regarding the 2nd Coming of Jesus Christ,
will happen – just as God said they would

All prophetic Scripture is fulfilled...literally, just as it is written

v23-24 with child...give suck...great distress...wrath...times of the Gentiles:

v5-7

v24 is recorded only in Luke; no corresponding words in Matt or Mark

v24a is prophetic foretelling when Jesus spoke these words but is to us history
past...the destruction of Temple and Jerusalem and Diaspora in 70AD,
after which Joel 3:1 is fulfilled (1948)

v24b reaches much further into the future than 70AD...”the times of the Gentiles”

Periods in the history of Israel (important to us because by Israel we know where we are in God's Plan of Redemption of fallen man, 1 Cor 10:11):

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 1. God was King | Gen thru 1 Sam 8 |
| 2. Jewish kings | 1 Sam 8 thru 2 Chron 36, prophets |
| 3. Gentile kings | Ezk, Dan, Ezra, Neh, prophets, NT thru Rev 19:10 |
| 4. God is King | Rev 19:11 – forever |

As we sit here this morning, we live in the times of Gentile kings lording over the Jews aka “the times of the Gentiles”

Start: Neb in 586 BC

End: King Jesus' return to earth to judge and set up His kingdom

In the last days of the “times of the Gentiles”,

- Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles/heathens
With the fulfillment of Joel 3:1 in mind:

UN Resolution 181 (11/29/1947):

- 2 State Solution – Arab and Jewish
- Jerusalem is an “international city”

UN presence on “the mount of evil counsel”
in the Valley of Jehoshaphat

June 6, 1967

Jerusalem unified under control of Israel

(except Temple Mount, governed by Jordan)

Jerusalem declared to be the eternal capital of Israel

Was v24b fulfilled then?

Is the “times of the Gentiles” fulfilled?

Bear in mind:

UN Resolution 181 stands to this day

UN remains on the “mount of evil counsel” in the valley of
decision

Zech 12:2-3 distresses and perplexes the nations

Nearly half of UN Resolutions since 1947

Multiple “land for peace” attempts, parting the land
(Joel 3:1)

Next: USA's/Trump's possibly next month

Muslims live in East Jerusalem (1/3 total population)

Muslims claim all of Jerusalem as theirs, reject Jewish rule
over Jerusalem

v22 and Still future/Not fulfilled:

Deut 28:13-14 vs Deut 28:44b, 47

Ezk 37:23-28 (v23 Tel Aviv?!)

Ezk 38-39

Ezk 40-48

Dan 2:34-35

the image still stands

Dan 7:8-14

little horn revealed, King returns

Zech 13:8-9

Zech 12:10

Joel 2:28-32

Joel 3:16-17

Rom 11:11-12

fulness of the Jews

Rom 11:25

fulness of the Gentiles

- great/mega distress on earth
- wrath...satan's and God's...upon the "2/3 Jews" who
 - fulfill John 5:43
 - worship the counterfeit christ (Rev 13)
 - make full Deut 31:27-29
 - slaughtered by armies of the kings of the world following the counterfeit Christ (v20)

v25-26 thee shall be:

Also in the last days of "the times of the Gentiles" will be more "fearful sights and great signs from heaven" (v11b in "Tribulation")

- darkened sun, moon, and stars
- distress/anguish with perplexity ("a state of quandary", unsolvable problems) of Gentiles/nations on earth

Is 5:20 good is evil and evil is good

Zech 12:2-3 Jerusalem

Events of Rev 6-9

- major disruptions in the oceans
 - natural: tsunamis due to earthquakes, islands disappearing (Rev 16:20, part of the 7th Bowl)
 - supernatural

- inhabitants of the world fainting out of
 - fear/terror
 - anticipation/apprehension of what else is going to happen to attack the earth (from heaven and the God of heaven)
- powers of heaven wavering and toppling
 - Spiritual – principalities and powers
 - Material – Laws of Physics
 - both

So that...

v27 then shall they see:

THEN saw every eye on earth see Jesus coming!
A terrifying sight!

v28 these things begin...look up:

In conclusion to His prophetic answer to v7, Jesus gives an exhortation, a word of comfort (Is 61:2b) to His disciples, not recorded in Matt 24 or Mark 13.

When what things begin to happen?

v22?

His entire prophetic answer to the disciples' questions, which begins with...the "beginning of sorrows"?

(Matt 24:4-8, Luke 21:8-11a when "the time draws near" for v7)

This word of comfort is for disciples living when Is 11:11-12 is fulfilled, the 2nd Sign of God's judgment

And that includes the time in which we are living

We see the birth pangs...we "feel" the birth pangs!

This is a word of encouragement and comfort for us, the disciples of Jesus Christ living in "the beginning of sorrows"!

We should be...looking up to heaven

Because our redemption draws near

Where is our redemption/ransom already paid for in full completed?

In the clouds...the Rapture

Is the Rapture of the Bride of Christ in the white space between "the beginning of sorrows" and "Tribulation"?

Matt 24:8 and Matt 24:9

Mark 13:8 and Mark 13:9

Luke 21:11a and Luke 21:11b

Application

Believer

Fear not! God is in absolute control

2 Peter 2:9 The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished

LOOK UP!!!

LIFT UP YOUR HEADS!!!

Do not let

- the problems of life
- the storms of life
- circumstances in your life
- the cares of this world

keep your head down...distracted, discouraged, defeated

Our redemption draws near!!!!

And while you are looking up, be witnessing of Jesus Christ to the inhabitants of the world, inviting/exhorting them to “get on the Ark!” (only Way of escape from worldwide judgment by the Almighty God)

The time is urgent!

Fall in love with the Word of God!

Make it/Him your Final Authority so you can discern between Truth and deception

Read, study, share

With fear and trembling, preach and teach the Good News...and the very serious warning

Unbeliever

Deut 30:15-20

The penalty for not believing God is VERY severe!!!

2 Peter 3:1-10