

## Matthew Chapter 24

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### Luke 21:5-36

(Parallel account)

- These are the final days of the life of Christ.
  - Sunday was the triumphal entry to Jerusalem on a donkey, He was despised and rejected.
  - Monday He came back and cleansed the temple.
  - Tuesday He came back again and taught in the temple, and now He leaves the temple for the last time.
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V: 1 The temple is still actually under construction. The Temple had been 46 years in the making and was still not complete. . The stones were very large, hard to imagine it all being destroyed. Many of the stones were 40' X 20' X 10', weighing up to 160 tons. They were fitted together perfectly without mortar, many were covered with marble and gold.

*“Jesus went out and departed from the Temple...”*

**1 Samuel 3:1** “... And the word of the Lord was precious / scarce / rarely given in those days; there was no open vision.”

**1 Samuel 4** - describes some difficult events. Eli was the high priest, his sons Hophni and Phinehas were priests after him. Eli's sons were wicked, they abused the people in various ways and were immoral.

**1 Samuel 4:12** “Now the sons of Eli were sons of Belial; they knew not the Lord.”

- The Israelites went out to fight the Philistines and when the battle went poorly, they brought out the ark of the covenant. Then the battle still went poorly and the Philistines took the ark, and Eli's two sons were killed. Then when Eli heard this, he fell off his donkey and broke his neck and died.
- Then when Phineas' wife heard all these things she began to give birth to a child that she then named “Ichabod” – meaning “the glory is departed” because the ark of God had been taken away. **1 Samuel 4:21**

**Samson:**

**Judges 16:20** “And she said, the Philistines be upon thee, Samson. And he awoke out of his sleep, and said, I will go out as at other times before, and shake myself. And he wist not that the Lord was departed from Him.”

**Describing Jesus:**

**Hebrews 1:3** “Who being the brightness of His glory, and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high.”

- Jesus departs from the Temple for the last time, the glory has departed – and the people didn't even know it!

**Jeremiah 8:20** “The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved.”

V: 2 A shocking statement, but He is referring to the temple's destruction in 70 AD.

- This was all fulfilled within 40 yrs. By Emperor Vespasian and his son General Titus with 3-4 Roman legions.

## V: 2 (cont.)

- Josephus records that after the destruction / siege it was “just as though there had never been a building there.”
- The current Western Wall / whaling wall is actually the old retaining wall to the foundation of the temple. This current location is approximately 70’ above the original ground level / Tyroplan valley that Jesus walked through. This is because all the stones and rubble filled up the valley to that point, some of which were later used to build portions of old Jerusalem, including the temple mount area.
- This had all been prophesied before the birth of Jesus:

**Daniel 9:26** “And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.”

**Micah 3:12** “Therefore shall Zion for your sake be plowed as a field, and Jerusalem shall become heaps, and the mountain of the house as the high places of the forest.”

Jesus is challenging the disciples. What will they do when the Temple is gone? What are the things that we cling to, what are the central things in our lives, what will we do if these things were to be removed? Will we be moved from our faith?

- V: 3 Jesus probably had a favorite spot on the Mt. of Olives, a quiet location at or near the Garden of Gethsemane, two days later he was arrested at the same location. It probably had a good view of Jerusalem, the Temple, and the wall.

Three questions, not answered in chronological order.

1. When shall these things be?
    - ❖ The destruction of the Temple / City. (1)
  2. What will be the sign of your coming again? (3)
    - ❖ “in your kingdom”, they thought this would be immediate.
  3. When shall the sign of the end of the world be? (2)
    - ❖ The end of the rule of the gentiles.
- These questions are answered throughout this discourse in Luke and Matthew. They are somewhat intertwined responses

V: 3 (cont.)

1<sup>st</sup>: When shall these things be? The destruction of the Temple / City.

**Luke 21:20-24** “<sup>20</sup>And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh. <sup>21</sup>Then let them which are in Judaea flee to the mountains; and let them which are in the midst of it depart out; and let not them that are in the countries enter thereinto. <sup>22</sup>For these be the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled. <sup>23</sup>But woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck, in those days! For there shall be great distress in the land, and wrath upon this people. <sup>24</sup>And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.”

3<sup>rd</sup> question answered 2<sup>nd</sup> :When shall the end of the world or the ages be? The end of the rule of the Gentiles?

**Matthew 24:36** “But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.”

**1 Thessalonians 5:1-4** “<sup>1</sup>But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. <sup>2</sup>For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. <sup>4</sup>But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. <sup>5</sup>Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.”

**Luke 21:36** “Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.”

2<sup>nd</sup> question answered 3<sup>rd</sup> / last: What will be the sign of your coming again?

- “in your kingdom”, they thought this would be immediate.
- There is a difference between Jesus’ 2<sup>nd</sup> coming and the rapture of the church.
- Daniel ch. 2 & 7, Nebuchadnezzar and Daniel’s respective dreams on the 4 world kingdoms.

Nebuchadnezzar: idol / statue:

1. Head of gold.
2. Breast & arms of silver.
3. Belly & thighs of brass,
4. Legs of iron.
5. Feet iron and clay.

Daniels vision; beasts.

1. Lion with eagle’s wings: Babylon
2. Bear: Persia with three ribs in it’s mouth.
3. Leopard with four wings and four heads: Grecian.
4. Dreadful & powerful, exceeding strong, great iron teeth, 10 horns.

- The remainder of this chapter gives us the answer to this question; what are the signs of His coming.

V: 4 The time period just prior to Jesus coming back will be marked by “deception”.

- Jesus was the first to claim to be the Messiah, counterfeits / fakes came later, they always do. First the genuine, then the false. First there were prophets of God, then there were false prophets.

- Also further explored in V:24
- How do you know who is telling the truth?

Teaching about the scriptures.  
“Based” on the Bible...

**John 8:31-32** <sup>31</sup>“If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; <sup>32</sup>and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make free.”

**2 Tim. 2:15** “Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

**2 Tim. 3:16-17** <sup>16</sup>“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: <sup>17</sup>that the man of God may be perfect (mature), thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”

**Acts 17:11** “These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.”

**1 John 4:1-3** <sup>1</sup>“Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup>Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God. <sup>3</sup>And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.”

**1 John 3:7-8** <sup>7</sup>“Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as He is righteous. <sup>8</sup>He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.”

**Col. 2:8, 18.** <sup>8</sup>“Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.” - <sup>18</sup>“Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind,”

**Eph. 4:14**“That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;”

**Matthew 7:15-20** <sup>15</sup>“Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. <sup>16</sup>Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? <sup>17</sup>Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. <sup>18</sup>A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. <sup>19</sup>Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. <sup>20</sup>Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.”

V: 5 Many shall seek to come in the place of Jesus, but none have His credentials.

1. Fulfilling prophecy.
2. Doing signs and wonders that validated His ministry.
3. Absolute obedience to and consistency with the word of God.
4. Willing to die sacrificially; a substitutionary death for the sheep.

**John 5:43** “I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive.”

- “Anti-Christ” - “Anti” means both “opposed to” and “in place of”

**Revelation 6:1-2** “<sup>1</sup>And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see. <sup>2</sup>And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer.”

**1 John 4:1-3** “<sup>1</sup>Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup>Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God. <sup>3</sup>And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.”

**Jeremiah 23:13-21** false prophets

V: 6 Wars don't mean it's the end of the age, only the beginning of the signs.

- They would later see the Roman troops gathered around Jerusalem, the siege prior to the destruction, then the destruction, but the end was not yet.

V: 7 War, strife, etc. are all the result of rejecting the Prince of Peace.

- Nations against nations, world wide state of war: WWI & WWII.
- Famines, mostly created and manipulated.
- Pestilence, HIV / AIDS, bird flu, swine flu.
- Earthquakes, frequency on the increase both in numbers and severity. Arkansas, NY, Midwest, tornados in Northern Arizona.
- Storms, hurricanes, tidal waves, etc. Katrina, tsunami Thailand, Haiti.....

**Romans 8:22** “For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now.”

**Revelation Ch. 6 – seals opened:**

V: 7 (cont.)

**Revelation Ch. 6 – seals opened:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> seal - white horse / rider conquering
- 2<sup>nd</sup> seal - red horse take peace, kill one another.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> seal – black horse – famine.
- 4<sup>th</sup> seal – pale horse – pestilence.

V: 8 The beginning of the end, not necessarily the end itself.

- The beginning of sorrows, Jacob's trouble...

V: 8-9 This is a turning point, a transition, possibly the rapture / trigger / start of the tribulation period.

- This has also been repeated, there have been similar situations and conditions over the years, different era's of persecution from 10 different Roman emperors to the inquisitions of the dark ages (also generated from Rome), to modern day persecutions from the communist Chinese government, to the Muslim persecution of believers in Sudan and throughout Africa.
- The rapture of the church (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17) is the "trigger", that is when things start happening.

**2 Thessalonians 2:3-4** <sup>3</sup>Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away (apostacia) first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition. <sup>4</sup>Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God."

- "Anit-Christ": opposed to, in place of, both fit here.

V: 9 Applies primarily to the Jews, but there is a dual application for us today and for the church in general.

**Revelation 12:13** "And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child."

**Revelation 6:9** "And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held:"

**Matthew 5:10-11** <sup>10</sup>Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>11</sup>Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake."

- Jesus was speaking about the destruction of the temple, but there is also a current application considering the level of anti-Semitism in our world today.
  - Also the current bias against fundamental Christians.

V: 10 Many shall be offended, stumbled – turn from their faith.

- Along with deception; a general apostasy or turning away from the faith will mark this period of time.
- It will be a time of betrayal and hatred mark this period of time.

**2 Timothy 3:1-4** “<sup>1</sup>This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. <sup>2</sup>For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, <sup>3</sup>without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, <sup>4</sup>traitors, heady, high minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;”

- Truce breakers – don’t keep their word, abide by their agreements, whether it’s divorce or not paying their debts, a period filled with deceit.
- Hatred – fierce, violence, anti-Semitism, political name calling, vitriol.
- Josephus describes in graphic detail the destruction and siege of Jerusalem. He records that more Jews were killing each other during the siege than were killed by the Romans, betraying one another.

V: 11 False prophets: falsely representing God, twisting the word of God, deceivers.

**2 Peter 2:1-3** “<sup>1</sup>But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. <sup>2</sup>And many shall follow their pernicious (destructive, shameless, deliberately immoral) ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. <sup>3</sup>And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.”

**1 Timothy 4:1-2** “<sup>1</sup>Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; <sup>2</sup>speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;”

V: 12 **Revelation Ch. 3 / Laodicea** – self sufficient, distracted, caught up in materialism, not loving God.

- When the rapture happens and the church is removed, the Holy Spirit no longer restrains evil as it once did, sin runs rampant and unchecked.

**2 Timothy 3:4** “traitors, heady, high minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;”

- We can't love sin and God at the same time. Our involvement in sin, un-repenting of causes our love for God to grow cold.
  - Iniquity abounds because it is not properly judged and dealt with. Evil must be judged, whenever man has refused to do so, God has always stepped in and done so.
  - Some people think that is what the great tribulation is really all about, but it's not.
  - Hell, outer darkness is the final judgment for un-repentant sinners, the tribulation time period is much like Leviticus Ch. 26, it is intended to drive sinners to the cross.
  - None the less sin must be dealt with; sin has become the norm, acceptance of evil.

**2 Timothy 4:3-4** “<sup>3</sup>For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; <sup>4</sup>And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.”

**Isaiah 5:20-21** “<sup>20</sup>Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! <sup>21</sup>Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!”

V: 13 **Revelation Ch.'s 2-3**, the promises to the 7 churches.

**Revelation 2:10** “Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life. “

**Hebrews 12:1** “ Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,”



**Hebrews 3:6** “But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.”

**James 5:11** “Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; and the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.”

- What about those that don't endure to the end? No promises to them.

V: 14 Dominion Theology? No. (2<sup>nd</sup> question, sign of the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming?)

**Matthew 28:19** “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:”

The dis-believing Jews in Thessalonica made accusation:

**Acts 17:6** “And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, these that have turned the world upside down are come hither also;”

**Revelation 14:6** “And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people,”

**Romans 10:18** “But I say, Have they not heard? Yes verily, their sound went into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world.”

**Colossians 1:6** “Which is come unto you, as it is in all the world; and brings forth fruit, as it does also in you, since the day you heard of it, and knew the grace of God in truth:”

**2 Peter 3:9** “The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.”

V's: 15-20 This is speaking to the Jews in the tribulation. We can't flee from Judea, nor do we care about the Sabbath etc.

V: 15 During the tribulation the big sign is the abomination of desolation. VS: prior to the tribulation / the rapture, we're to look for Christ.

- As opposed to the rapture where we're looking for Jesus to call us to Himself.

**Titus 2:12-13** “Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;”

- This abomination of desolation has already happened once with Antiochus Epiphenes in 170 B.C.

V: 15 (cont.)

**Daniel 11:31** “ And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate.” - “And forces shall be mustered by him, and they shall defile the sanctuary of strength; then they shall take away the daily sacrifices, and place there the abomination of desolation.” NKJV

**Daniel 9:24-27** (p.1320) <sup>“27</sup>... And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.”

**Daniel 12:11** “And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days.” (1290 /360 = 3.58 or 1290 / 365 = 3.53, not accounting for leap years etc.)

**2 Thessalonians 2:3-4** <sup>“3</sup>Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; <sup>4</sup>Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.”

V: 16 Speaking to the Jews, they are the ones in Judea. Why do they flee?

**Zechariah 13:8-9** <sup>“8</sup>And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein. <sup>9</sup>And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God.”

- 1/3 of the Jews survive, 2/3 are killed.
- Where are the rest going to flee too?

**Isaiah 16:1-4** <sup>“1</sup>Send ye the lamb to the ruler of the land from Sela to the wilderness, unto the mount of the daughter of Zion. <sup>2</sup>For it shall be, that, as a wandering bird cast out of the nest, so the daughters of Moab shall be at the fords of Arnon. <sup>3</sup>Take counsel, execute judgment; make thy shadow as the night in the midst of the noonday; hide the outcasts; betray not him that wandereth. <sup>4</sup>Let mine outcasts dwell with thee, Moab; be thou a covert to them from the face of the spoiler: for the extortioner is at an end, the spoiler ceaseth, the oppressors are consumed out of the land.”

**Revelation 12:14** “And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.”

- At the entrance to the great rock city of Petra there are two huge eagles wings carved into the rocks as you enter. God’s word is to be taken literally!

V’s: 17-20 Scram!

- “Sabbath” day, only the Jews would care about this.

V: 21 Scope and intensity of the great tribulation.

**Jeremiah 30:7** “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.”

**Joel 2:2** “A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations.”

**Isaiah 13:6-12** <sup>6</sup>Howl ye; for the day of the LORD is at hand; it shall come as a destruction from the Almighty. <sup>7</sup>Therefore shall all hands be faint, and every man's heart shall melt: <sup>8</sup>And they shall be afraid: pangs and sorrows shall take hold of them; they shall be in pain as a woman that travaileth: they shall be amazed one at another; their faces shall be as flames. <sup>9</sup>Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it. <sup>10</sup>For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine. <sup>11</sup>And I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogancy of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible. <sup>12</sup>I will make a man more precious than fine gold; even a man than the golden wedge of Ophir. <sup>13</sup>Therefore I will shake the heavens, and the earth shall remove out of her place, in the wrath of the Lord of hosts, and in the day of His fierce anger.”

V: 22 The elect is not the church, that would put them in the tribulation. God doesn’t judge the righteous with the un-righteous.

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

- “Elect” = Israel

**Isaiah 45:4** “For Jacob my servant's sake, and Israel mine elect, I have even called thee by thy name: I have surnamed thee, though thou hast not known me.”

**Isaiah 65:8-9** “<sup>8</sup>Thus saith the LORD, As the new wine is found in the cluster, and one saith, Destroy it not; for a blessing is in it: so will I do for my servants' sakes, that I may not destroy them all. <sup>9</sup>And I will bring forth a seed out of Jacob, and out of Judah an inheritor of my mountains: and mine elect shall inherit it, and my servants shall dwell there.

**Romans 11:28** “As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the fathers' sakes.”

- Regarding no flesh would be saved – meaning God holds back.

**Isaiah 1:9** “Except the LORD of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant, we should have been as Sodom, and we should have been like unto Gomorrah.”

V: 24 False Christ's, mentioned 3 times. Verse 5, 11, and here.

- Doing great signs and wonders:

**2 Thessalonians 2:9-12** “<sup>9</sup>Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, <sup>10</sup>and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. <sup>11</sup>And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: <sup>12</sup>That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.”

**1 John 4:1-3** “<sup>1</sup>Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup>Hereby know ye the spirit of God: every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: <sup>3</sup>And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: And this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.”

**Revelation 13:13-14** “<sup>13</sup>And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, <sup>14</sup>and deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.”

- Elect, again is Israel. That is exactly who Jesus is talking to, context.

V: 25 Yep, 3 times. Prophecy serves many purposes including that of authenticating and warning.

**Isaiah 46:9** “Remember the former things of old, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure,”

V: 26-27 Everybody will see, no secrets, it will be a big deal.

**2 Peter 1:20** “Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.”

- By the time we see it, He will be here.

**Revelation 1:7** “Behold, He cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see Him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.”

- He’s coming quickly, like lightning.
- The word for “quickly” is not so much as in MPH / speed, as suddenly, a surprise, un-expectedly.

**Revelation 22:7** “Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.”

**Revelation 22:12** “And, behold, I come quickly: and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.”

**Revelation 22:20** “He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.”

V: 28 Speaking of future judgment, the battle of Armageddon.

**Revelation 19:17-18** “<sup>17</sup>And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; <sup>18</sup>That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great.”

**Ezekiel 39:17-20** “<sup>17</sup>And, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD; Speak unto every feathered fowl, and to every beast of the field, assemble yourselves, and come; gather yourselves on every side to my sacrifice that I do sacrifice for you, even a great sacrifice upon the mountains of Israel, that ye may eat flesh, and drink blood. <sup>18</sup>Ye shall eat the flesh of the mighty, and drink the blood of the princes of the earth, of rams, of lambs, and of goats, of bullocks, all of them fatlings of Bashan. <sup>19</sup>And ye shall eat fat till ye be full, and drink blood till ye be drunken, of my sacrifice which I have sacrificed for you. <sup>20</sup>Thus ye shall be filled at my table with horses and chariots, with mighty men, and with all men of war, saith the Lord GOD.”

V: 29 Continuing with a description of that time: The great tribulation; Jacob's trouble.

**Revelation 6:12-13** “<sup>12</sup>And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; <sup>13</sup>And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.”

**Isaiah 13:10-11** “<sup>10</sup>For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine. <sup>11</sup>And I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogancy of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible.”

**Acts 2:20** “The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come:”

V: 30 Different scriptures speak of the same thing, but don't describe a distinct sign:

**Zechariah 12:10** “And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.”

**Zechariah 13:6** “And one shall say unto him, what are these wounds in thine hands? Then he shall answer, those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends.”

**Daniel 7:13-14** “<sup>13</sup>I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. <sup>14</sup>And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is and everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.”

**2 Thessalonians 1:7-10** “<sup>7</sup>And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, <sup>8</sup>In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: <sup>9</sup>Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; <sup>10</sup>When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.”

**Revelation 1:7** “Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.”

V: 31 This is not the rapture. It is the re-gathering (1948) after the Diaspora.

- Scattered / dispersed: **Deuteronomy 28:64-67**

**Deuteronomy 28:64-67** “<sup>64</sup>And the Lord shall scatter thee among all people, from the one end of the earth even unto the other; and there thou shalt serve other gods, which neither thou nor thy fathers have known, even wood and stone. <sup>65</sup>And among these nations shalt thou find no ease, neither shall the sole of thy foot have rest: but the Lord shall give thee there a trembling heart, and failing of eyes, and sorrow of mind: <sup>66</sup>And thy life shall hang in doubt before thee; and thou shalt fear day and night, and shalt have none assurance of thy life: <sup>67</sup>In the morning thou shalt say, would God it were even! And at even thou shalt say, would God it were morning! For the fear of thine heart wherewith thou shalt fear, and for the sight of thine eyes which thou shalt see.”

- Angels aren't involved in the rapture, apart from being spectators.
- The elect is still Israel, and the rapture will involve more than just them.
- If we try to make the elect the church (spiritualize), then that puts the church in the midst of the great tribulation, wrong on both counts.

**Exodus 19:13** “There shall not an hand touch it, but he shall surely be stoned, or shot through; whether it be beast or man, it shall not live: when the trumpet soundeth long, they shall come up to the mount.”

**Isaiah 11:11-12** “<sup>11</sup>And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Asyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. <sup>12</sup>And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.”

**Jeremiah 23:3, 8** “<sup>3</sup>And I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase.” - “<sup>8</sup>But, the Lord liveth, which brought up and which led the seed of the house of Israel out of the North country, and from all countries whither I had driven them; and they shall dwell in their own land.”

**Isaiah 27:12-13** “And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall beat off from the channel of the river unto the stream of Egypt, and ye shall be gathered one by one, O ye children of Israel. And it shall come to pass in that day, that the great trumpet shall be blown, and they shall come which were ready to perish in the land of Assyria, and the outcasts in the land of Egypt, and shall worship the Lord in the holy mount at Jerusalem.

**Isaiah 43:5-6** “<sup>5</sup>Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; <sup>6</sup>I will say to the north, give up; and to the south, keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth; even every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him.”

*NOT: 1 Corinthians 15:52, 1 Thessalonians 4:16*

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Digression and review begins at this point, 3 answers to 3 questions.

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V: 32 Fig tree = Israel

**Hosea 9:10** “I found Israel like grapes in the wilderness; I saw your fathers as the firstripe in the fig tree at her first time: but they went to Baalpeor, and separated themselves unto that shame; and their abominations were according as they loved.”

**Jeremiah Ch. 24** Israel likened to good figs, and bad.

**Joel 1:7** “He hath laid my vine waste, and barked my fig tree: he hath made it clean bare, and cast it away; the branches thereof are made white.”

**Ezekiel Ch. 37** Israel brought back to life, a dried and withered fig tree, brought back to life.

- When we see Christmas decorations, we know that Thanksgiving is around the corner.
- We’ve seen Israel, the fig tree begin to bud in 1948, summer is almost here!

V: 33 When ye shall see these things, be watching for it! (V:42)

- We’re not looking for signs, we’re looking for Jesus!

**Luke 21:28** “And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.”

V: 34 “Generation” = national ethnic group, Israel.

- No other group in history has been able to maintain their culture, language, and national identity for more than two generations without a homeland, Israel did it for over 2,500 years. This generation / Israel has yet to pass still.
- Other possible numeric suggestions. The problem being that they all make sense from a scriptural point of view, and are different, or haven’t come true. The national ethnic view is the only one that has proven true thus far.

1. Generation = **38-40 years**. Basis of Hal Lindsey’s The Late Great Planet Earth.

**Numbers 32:13, Deuteronomy 2:14** - 40 yrs. until that generation passed that was unfaithful.

1948 + 40 = 1988, subtract 7 years for tribulation = 1981 or so.



2. Generation = **100 years**. Genesis 15:13-16, 4 generations = 400 years, 2048?  
(I hope not)
3. Generation = **51.4 yrs**. Matthew 1:17, 42 generations from Abraham to Jesus, 14 X 3. Backing up thru genealogies, Christian and Jewish scholars agree that Abraham was called by God in 2085 BC. Genesis 12:4 says he was 75 years old at the time, so he was born in 2160 BC. Divide that by 42 generations = 51:4 years, which means that you get to Oct. 1999, then subtract 7 years = Oct. 1992?
4. The law of redemption. 6,000 years of bondage, Adam to present age, redemption / freedom given in the 7,000<sup>th</sup> year.

We have about 6,000 years of recorded history from Adam to present, the time of our redemption draws nigh!

5. The generation that was living on May 14, 1948 – during their lifetime, these things would come to pass.
  - Whichever one you pick, I say Maranatha!

V: 35 Heaven and earth shall pass, but God's word remains forever!

**Isaiah 34:4** “And all the host of heaven shall be dissolved, and the heavens shall be rolled together as a scroll: and all their host shall fall down, as the leaf falleth off from the vine, and as a falling fig from the fig tree.”

**Revelation 20:11** “And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.”

- “My words shall not pass away” AMEN!!

**Isaiah 40:8** “The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand forever.”

V: 36 Jesus says no man knows, that means no man knows!

- We don't and won't know the day or the hour, but we're expected to know the “time and the seasons”, if we're watching and paying attention.
- The emphasis at this point is on the condition Vs the timing.

**1 Thessalonians 5:1-4** “<sup>1</sup>But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. <sup>2</sup>For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as

travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. <sup>4</sup>But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.”

**Zechariah 14:7** “But it shall be one day which shall be known to the Lord, not day, nor night: but it shall come to pass, that at evening time it shall be light.”

V: 37 Before the flood, Enoch was raptured.

**Genesis 5:21-24** <sup>21</sup>And Enoch lived sixty and five years, and begat Methuselah: <sup>22</sup>And Enoch walked with God after he begat Methuselah three hundred years, and begat sons and daughters: <sup>23</sup>And all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty and five years: <sup>24</sup>And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him.”

**Hebrews 11:5** “By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.”

**Genesis 6:1-12** The days of Noah...bad bad stuff.

- Key words: perverse, wicked, evil, violent, corrupt.
- There are 3 kinds of people in God's 2 worldly judgments, the flood during Noah's time and the judgment of fire that is to come.

	<u>3 kinds</u>	<u>flood</u>	<u>fire</u>
a.	pulled out prior to	Enoch	Church
b.	saved during	Noah & fam.	Trib. Saints
c.	perish in	world	un-believers

**2 Timothy 3:1-7** More bad stuff, perilous times.

V: 38 Judgement day revisited. First the flood, next the fire.

**1 Thessalonians 5:3** “For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.”

**Genesis 7:1** “And the Lord said unto Noah, come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation.”

- Why didn't they hear the warnings? Too involved in the cares of this world. Just like Jesus said in the parable of the 4 soils:

**Matthew 13:22** “He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.

- “The economy is good!”

V: 39 The Greek word used for “took” is “airo” (G-142) which literally means “taken away”

**2 Peter 3:3-6** <sup>3</sup>Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, <sup>4</sup>and saying, where is the promise of his coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. <sup>5</sup>For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: <sup>6</sup>Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:”

- Surprise!

**V: 40-41** There are two views on this passage. One is that this refers to judgment, the wicked being taken away, the remaining be left for the millennium, the other is that this refers to the rapture. (my view) There are valid reasons for both perspectives. One is supported by the context, the other is supported by the Greek language used.

**1<sup>st</sup> View:** Those taken, are taken away to judgment while the others are left to go through the millennium, the context seemingly supports this view.

- Jesus has generally been speaking to the Jews, “the elect” and could be viewed as the Jews that survive to the end will be working in the field etc, and the wicked will be taken away to judgement.
- The previous verses are about the days of Noah. Prior to this Enoch walked with God and was no more: symbolic of the rapture, those taken up prior to the tribulation time period. Noah and his family represent those who are preserved through the tribulation.
- V: 39 the phrase “took them all away” refers to those who perished during the flood and were judged.
- The word for “took” is (G-142) airo / aheero which means to take up or to take away.
- V: 39 also refers to the coming of the Son of Man, meaning the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Jesus. The rapture is an event that takes place before the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Jesus.

- V: 40 Begins with the word “Then” meaning 1<sup>st</sup> the things from V: 39, then the events of V: 40 follow.
- Possibly supporting this view is **Matthew 13:47-50**, the Kingdom parable about the drag net, which also represents the Laodicean church. All are gathered, some to eternal life, the rest being cast out to eternal damnation.
- Part of the basis for this perspective is that the word “taken” in verses 40 & 41 are the same as “took” in verse 39, which is not the case.

2<sup>nd</sup> view: Rapture.

- The Greek word in both verses for “taken” is “para Lombanomi” (G-3880) which literally means “to take”, “to receive”, “taken with”, “to take with or to one’s self”, “to join to one’s self”.
- This same word is used in other significant verses as follows:

**Matthew 1:24** “Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife:

- Joseph, the groom took Mary, the bride to be his wife at God’s urging – **Bride**.

**Matthew 17:1** “And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart,”

- Jesus took his disciples to the Mt. of transfiguration – **Glory**.

**John 14:3** “And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.”

- Jesus promises to come again and receive us unto Him to be with Him in **Heaven**.
- One group is taken, taken with, received, the other group is left, as in left behind.
- Regardless of the view taken the point is made also that this applies to both men and women, men in the field, and women working at home.

**Galatians 3:28** “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.”

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V: 42 Summarizes the chapter:

1. Jesus is coming soon.
2. Watch for Him.
3. Be ready.

**Titus 2:13** “Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;”

**Philippians 3:20** “For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:”

**Hebrews 12:2** “Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

V: 43 No sleeping on the job!

**1 Thessalonians 5:6** “Therefore let us not sleep, and do others; but let us watch and be sober.”

**Revelation 3:3** “Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.”

**Revelation 16:15** “Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.”

V: 44 Be ready. (how many times has He said this?)

**1 John 2:15-17** “<sup>15</sup>Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. <sup>16</sup>For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. <sup>17</sup>And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.”

**Luke 21:34-36** “<sup>34</sup>And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and care of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. <sup>35</sup>For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.”

V: 45 Key words: faithful & wise.

- Faithful: #4103, trustworthy, believing, true, true believer.
- Wise: #5429, knowing, seeing, prudent, good judgement, informed.

**Hebrews 11:1** “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”

**Proverbs 1:7** “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.”

**Psalm 111:10** “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth for ever.”

V: 46 Obedience is the key.

**1 John 2:28** “And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming.”

**1 Cor. 4:1-2** “Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.”

**1 John 2:3-4** “And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.”

**Luke 12:48** “... For unto whosoever much is given, of him shall be much required...”

**John 15:14**

V: 47 There is a reward waiting for those who are faithful and obedient.

**1 John 3:2-3** “<sup>2</sup>Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.”

V: 48 “Evil” = Greek “kakos” = started out good, turned bad. Similar to spoiled fruit, or an instrument gone out of tune.

- If we put any event or condition before the rapture then we are in effect saying “my Lord delays His coming”, and we aren’t looking for Jesus, we’re looking for the event / Anti-Christ. (Mid-trib & post trib.)

V’s: 48-51 We’re talking about a servant in the household who turns away from the faith, he says “my Lord” like a believer. He’s tossed out of the house to the outside where there is weeping and gnashing of teeth, with the hypocrites. **He is not describing Heaven!**

**Revelation 3:5** “He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before His angels.”

**Hebrews 6:4-6** “<sup>4</sup>For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, <sup>5</sup>and have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, <sup>6</sup>if they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.”

**2 Peter 2:20-21** <sup>20</sup>For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. <sup>21</sup>For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.”

**Romans 8:35-39**  
**Hebrews 13:5**

**John 15:5** “I am the vine, ye are the branches, he that abideth in Me and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit, for without Me ye can do nothing.”

V: 49 The effect of not looking for Jesus; no sense of accountability, no real love for the master produces slovenliness in spiritual things, the fruit of the flesh. The opposite of the fruit of the Spirit.

**Galatians 5:19-21, 21b-23**

- Seems to be the opposite of **Psalm 1:1-3**

**Psalm 1:1-3** <sup>1</sup>Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. <sup>2</sup>But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in His law doth he meditate day and night. <sup>3</sup>And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither, and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.”

**1 John 3:3** <sup>3</sup>And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.”

V: 51 “cut him asunder” / cut off – cast “out” – to a place of weeping and gnashing of teeth.

- There are no more tears in heaven.

**Hebrews 10:31** “It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”

**James 4:17** “Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.”

**Psalm 11:6** “Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup.”

**Hebrews 10:26-27** <sup>26</sup>For if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, <sup>27</sup>but a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.”

**Ezekiel 3:17-21** “<sup>17</sup>Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from Me. <sup>18</sup>When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. <sup>19</sup>Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul. <sup>20</sup>Again, When a righteous man doth turn from his righteousness, and commit iniquity, and I lay a stumblingblock before him, he shall die: because thou hast not given him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he hath done shall not be remembered; but his blood will I require at thine hand. <sup>21</sup>Nevertheless if thou warn the righteous man, that the righteous sin not, and he doth not sin, he shall surely live, because he is warned; also thou hast delivered thy soul.”