

Commentary on Matthew, chapter 24

24:1 And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the temple.

***Verse 1:** Jesus' departure, never to return to that temple of stone again, signifies departure from the Old Covenant of rituals and ceremonies to the New Covenant of transformation of the Inner Man into the Image of Christ. Please study my videos on the meaning of 'Image of God' to understand the transformation process currently ongoing inside of all true believers in Christ, in their Inner Man. This process will be completed when our redemption is complete at the Second Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

2 And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.

***Verse 2:** The first covenant was written on tables of stone, which signified, mankind's hearts of stone. Moses broke those tables of stone signifying that redemption would not come through the commandments written on Stone, which were impossible for sinful man to keep, but through transformation of the heart of man, from a stony heart to a living heart of flesh, that would be the heart of God Himself.*

***Exodus 32:19** And it came to pass, as soon as he came nigh unto the camp, that he saw the calf, and the dancing: and Moses' anger waxed hot, **and he cast the tables out of his hands, and brake them beneath the mount.**

Under the Old Covenant, access into the Holy of Holies, where God dwelt above the Mercy Seat, was not available to anyone except the High Priest, and that only once a year. Through the shedding of the Blood of Jesus, a new and living way was opened up into the Most Holy Place, which would no longer be situated in a building made of stone, but of living stones with hearts of flesh in which God would dwell through The Holy Spirit. Just as Moses' breaking of the Stone Tables signifies that Salvation would not come through the Law of Moses, so too the destruction of the Temple of Stone signified that God would not dwell in stone buildings made by man's hands but in Living Temples, that are not made by hand, or made of stone.

Heb. 9:12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained **eternal redemption** for us.

*Eternal redemption was not possible under the first covenant, and once the new way had been made, the old would forever be done away with; beware of people that teach that there will be a third Temple of God built in Jerusalem. Whether a temple is built or not, it will not be a Temple of God because God has departed from the Temple, and the Holy Place will never again be found in a building made with man's hands! **And since we have already obtained Eternal Redemption, what need is there for building again temples that never could bring redemption in the first place?***

3 And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him **privately**, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?

***Verse 3:** Jesus taught His disciples privately, not just in Matthew 24 but as a rule; He would speak to the masses in parables, and would later expound on these parables to His Disciples. Those who seek Revelation need to spend time privately with Jesus, which we do through study of the Word, and by prayer. Only then will the Word of God become Revelation in the hearts of His Disciples, who are True Disciples that continue in His Word (John 8:31-32). The disciples wanted to know when the things that Jesus was prophesying would come to pass? In order for them to know the time, they needed signs that they could see that would tell them that those prophesied events had begun to be fulfilled, and what to watch for as they were being fulfilled. Matthew 24 is a*

series of signs of events from the Beginning of Sorrows to the Second Coming of Jesus. These signs were greatly expanded upon in the Book of Revelation; Jesus did not leave us with a shortage of signs, so we need not be guessing what to look for, or be in doubt as to which signs are from God, and which are not. What we need is to know what these signs are, and watch for Jesus given signs, and not man-made signs, so that we will not be deceived, as many will be, and already are, just as Jesus warned in the next two verses, and more than once in this very chapter. The three specific questions that the disciples asked Him were as follows:

- The **Timing of the Prophesied Events**; when will these things happen?
- What shall be **THE SIGN of His Coming**? Later on, Jesus gave them a specific sign that would signal His Second Coming; this sign will be discussed in detail when we get to the latter part of Matthew 24.
- What will be **the SIGNS of the End of the World**?

Since the questions were quite specific, Jesus gave the disciples clear answers, so that neither they themselves, nor the true disciples of Jesus would be left in confusion as to what they needed to be on the lookout for; so that they would be able to say with confidence that the End Times events had begun!

4 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you.

5 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.

Verses 4-5: Deceptions will come because false prophets will give false signs, which many will be looking for, they will be looking for signs that that are actually not from God; for example, the alleged Revelation 12 sign of September 2017 that hundreds were teaching was a major sign from God, came and went, and as usual, nothing happened; and now the same false prophets are running around promoting signs in May 2018, and the date-setting never ends, and millions keep on falling for these deceptions! There are already legions of deceivers and false prophets running around; they are not coming in the future, they already here. In addition to false signs, the other area of **GREAT Deception will be in the timing of Jesus' Second Coming**. Many false teachers will try and convince people that Jesus' coming is imminent, is at hand, or has already happened, when as yet many signs given by Him will not have been seen! So, we need to know these signs, especially **THE ONE SIGN** that will herald His Second Coming! So, what are the signs that we need to be looking out for, and be confident that they are signs from God?

6 And ye shall hear of **wars and rumours of wars**: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.

Verse 6: Wars and rumours of wars are a sign, but, no one pays much attention to wars that do not involve major countries such as the US, China, Russia, Britain, and other major powers like France, and India. So, the wars and rumours of wars that signify the beginning of the End of the World have to be great wars, not minor wars between two small African countries, or even a war such as the one going on between Saudi Arabia and Yemen right now. As a matter of fact, all the signs have to be of a much greater magnitude than what we would consider normal. One of the meanings of the word **SIGN**, which is the Greek Word **sēmeion**, is **an unusual occurrence, transcending the common course of nature**.... We have to keep this definition in mind as we read the next verse, but we must also keep in mind that Jesus said that even when these things are happening, the end is not yet, is not yet close at hand! The End will come with The Second Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ!

7 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.

Verse 7: Nation shall rise against Nation; The word translated Nation in verse 7 is the Greek word Ethnos, which means Ethnicity, or Race; so, various **ethnicities or races** will rise up against each other. The Great Wars that have been prophesied to come by Jesus will not just be wars between countries, but also **Wars WITHIN countries, namely major Civil wars, and genocidal Race wars**, as we saw in Rwanda in the late 90's. Kingdom shall rise against Kingdom: **Kingdom means country**; so, countries will go to war with each other, and not just minor countries but will involve some of the major countries of the world. Simultaneously, as these

*Wars will be raging, there will be famines, pestilences or disease outbreaks, and earthquakes, and other natural disasters, in different parts of the world. These cataclysms will all transcend the common course of nature, which is one of the meanings of the Greek word *sēmeion*, translated **SIGN**; the **EARTHQUAKES** will be of greater magnitude than we have seen till this time, as will the extent of the droughts and other natural disasters that will lead to **FAMINES**; and **EPIDEMICS** or **PANDEMICS** that will come will be like the plague of the Middle Ages, devastating whole countries and regions. The word that describes these signs best is the word **MEGA**, which is a transliteration from the Greek word *Megas*, which means **GREAT**. This is the word that Jesus used in **Matthew 24:21** when he warned that then there will be **GREAT** or **MEGA** Tribulation. One of the meanings of this word is **GREAT IN INTENSITY OR DEGREE**. These end times events are going to be of such intensity and magnitude that they are going to cause men's hearts to fail from fear of seeing all these things happen. Don't believe any of the people that tell you that the Seals have already been opened, or that the Trumpets have already been blown. When the Seals are opened, the wars and other cataclysms that will follow will be of **MEGA Intensity**, like a 10.0 Earthquake or a Category 6 hurricane, or a Tsunami that will come miles and miles inland. People down in Florida that are used to hurricanes, or Earthquakes in California, you have not seen anything yet. It may be a good idea to have a plan to move away from coastal areas: I can picture great or Mega devastation along coastal areas, especially in North America.*

8 All these are the beginning of sorrows.

***Verse 8:** Already by verse 7, Jesus gave us at least four signs that parallel the opening of the first four seals in Revelation 6, from which we will be able to know for certain that the End has begun, but only begun, not finished! There will be much more that will need to happen before the end comes! **What are 'ALL THESE' events that Jesus said were the beginning of sorrows?** We can literally start writing a timetable of signs and events to watch for; signs that will confirm that the Sorrows or Birth Pangs that will Birth the Eternal Kingdom of Jesus Christ have begun. Until we see these things happen on a worldwide scale with loss of life in the hundreds of millions, the end will not yet have begun! So, the first group of Signs, four in all that we need to watch for are the following as based on Matthew 24:7, and Revelation 6: 1-8, when the first four seals are opened:*

- ***Mega wars:** both civil wars or race wars, and between countries, or groups of countries.*
- ***Mega Famines** caused by mega droughts, or other disasters that destroy crops, and kill livestock, as happened in Egypt, over huge areas and Regions.*
- ***Mega Epidemics**, maybe even **Pandemics**. Epidemics are disease outbreaks in a given area, whereas **pandemics** are disease outbreaks all over the world. These may be a result of manmade diseases or biological warfare, but whatever the origin, tens, possibly hundreds of millions will die as a result.*
- ***Mega Earthquakes:** These earthquakes, which I believe will strike many regions of the world will be truly Great or Mega earthquakes, and will cause catastrophic destruction, even in heavily populated areas. In Luke 21:11, Jesus used that very word, **MEGA**, or **GREAT** to describe these earthquakes. Even though we have seen some major earthquakes in recent times, I believe the earthquakes that signify the Beginning of Sorrows will be of an even greater magnitude. Hollywood does some great predictive programming, and there were two TV movies titled **Apocalypse** and **Apocalypse 10.5** that are a good visual guide as to what can be expected, such as the total devastation of the West Coast, and whole cities, like Las Vegas being swallowed up by the Earth.*

*So, there you have it; the signs of events that will occur on the Earth in the very first quarter of the timeline of the End of the World, prior to the return of Jesus, have been given to us, and therefore, we ought not to look for fake signs such as the Sept. 23rd sign in 2017, and the sign of the four blood moons in 2016, and whatever new signs the false prophets will come up in 2018, and into the future. These **FOUR SIGNS** will begin simultaneously, or nearly simultaneously, very close to each other in time. Furthermore, these signs will cause widespread destruction in every part of the world, no matter how remote. I am not saying that there will be war in every country, or famines in every place, but every region of the world will suffer destruction through one or more of these signs at the same time. For example, there may be big wars going on in The Middle East and Europe, there may be great famines in Africa, there may be pestilences in Asia,*

and there may be great earthquakes and other disasters in the Americas, and Australia. **When we see the whole world under attack by at least one of these four signs, then and only then can we say that the ‘Sorrows’ have begun!** The Beginning stage of the Sorrows will end with the opening of the 6th Seal when the Greatest Ever Earthquake that has hit the Earth will strike, and will cause major volcanic activity that will darken the skies so that even the Sun will be hid for a season.

In addition to Signs of Events that will occur on the Earth, Jesus also said that there would be **Signs in the Heavens** at the same time; let’s look at the Gospel of Luke, chapter 21:

Luke 21:11 And **great (MEGA) earthquakes** shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and **fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven.**

How did Jesus describe the events that signal the beginning of sorrows?

On the Earth, he said, there would be MEGA wars, earthquakes, famines, and pestilences. And in the heavens, there would be FEARFUL Sights, and unmistakable SIGNS. Some of you may remember all the videos about the Revelation 12 sign that allegedly appeared on September 23 of last year, which was supposed to be a great sign from heaven, and how it fizzled out? This sign was not even visible in the heavens, and all the videos about it had to Photoshop it to make us believe that it was a great sign. However, Jesus said that **FEARFUL SIGHTS would be seen in the heavens; sights that will fill people with FEAR; that would make men’s hearts fail with fear!** I don’t recall one person dying of fear because of the alleged Rev. 12 sign last September. We have not yet seen these fearful sights, and when we do, we won’t have to guess that these are signs from God because Jesus also said in Luke 21:11 that **Great or MEGA Signs shall there be from heaven.** We already know what events to expect on Earth in the first stage or the first quarter of the times of the End of the World. **These are 1. Mega Wars, 2. Mega Earthquakes, 3. Mega Famines, and 4. Mega Pestilences.** God also understands that mankind is very thick headed, even those who believe in Him, and so, **to make sure that we don’t miss the fact that the sorrows have begun on Earth, He will show Fearful sights and Great, Mega signs in the heavens.** People just don’t understand that **when God says MEGA, he means MEGA.** As, for instance, when he brought the Israelites out of Egypt, as if the 10 plagues were not big enough signs for His people, He parted the Red Sea to make them understand that it was God that was performing these great signs and wonders. So too, will it be in the End; we will see cataclysms devastate the Earth and destroy life in the billions, and as confirmation that Jesus’ Second Coming is drawing nigh, He will also show Mega signs and fearful sights in the heavens. Almost every day, we hear someone say that there was a flash of light over Wisconsin or Minnesota or somewhere else, and that it must be a sign from Heaven. No, nothing we have seen so far are signs of the beginning of sorrows; when they come, those who are watching and praying will know with utmost certainty that the End has begun, and from that time onwards, the sorrows will only intensify, and become even greater, even more Mega in magnitude! When the Sorrows do begin, they will be of Mega magnitude and Intensity, and many people will recognize that these are the end of days. However, many will falsely preach that it will all be over within Seven years, when in fact the Beginning of Sorrows stage alone will probably last longer than seven years! This is why Jesus warned again in verse 11 that many (more) false prophets shall arise, and shall deceive many by telling that it will be over soon, just as the false prophets in Jeremiah’s days deceived the people that the captivity would be short, when in fact it was going to be very long! In Luke 21:19 Jesus warned that we need **Patience**, and in Matthew 24:13 He warned that only those who Endured to the End would be saved!

Luke 21:19 In your patience possess ye your souls.

Matthew 24:13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

The Tribulation, or the Time of Sorrows will be much longer than the 7-year timeframe generally allotted to it. My video on the length of the Tribulation will help you understand Jesus’ several warnings that The End is not yet; to be Patient, to Endure, to Stand, and to Withstand, to not be Deceived! To be continued...