

Is the End of the World at Hand?

This question is on the minds of many people today, especially in light of the current events transpiring in the Middle East. Church people tend to interpret the Bible through the lens of the daily news events.

When terrorists began bombing Israel and killing many men, women, and children; even their own countrymen in such savage ways: beheading children and burning babies, the world took notice and cried out against these terrorist groups.

Now, even today, other terrorist groups from other countries in the Middle East are declaring that they want to destroy Israel and to kill all Jews and Americans. This all stems from an immense hatred for the Jews of Israel.

Many preachers today are telling their congregations to prepare for the Return of Jesus Christ. They say that we are living in the End Times when the things that Jesus and Apostles said are being fulfilled.

They say we are living in the Last Days and that the Antichrist and the Battle of Armageddon are very soon to take place. They continue by saying, for many years, the Middle East has been a ticking time bomb just waiting for certain things to take place when all the world will stand against Israel and gather together in the great Battle of Armageddon.

This is what has been taught in churches around the world because it has always been believed that the Jews have always been and are still God's chosen people today. They say that when Jesus Christ returns, the Jews will believe that Jesus is their Messiah and accept Him and will then be saved.

This is what has always been taught and believed. A famous leader once said, ***“The bigger the lie, the more people there are that will believe it.”*** God said in ***Romans 3:4 “....let God be true, but every man a liar....”***

The answer to the question, **“Is the end of the world at hand?”** can only be found in the inspired Scriptures.

What does the Bible actually say about the End of the World or the End of the planet Earth and the End of the Universe? Contrary to what many church people believe today, it says nothing, absolutely nothing about our Planet and the Universe ever ending.

Jesus Christ was asked the question by His disciples 2,000 years ago, **“.... What shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?” (Matthew 24:3)** In the original language of Greek, the word “world” is **“aion”** which means Age. In **Matthew 24:3**, the **“the end of the world”** did not mean the end of the planet Earth.

Mat 24:3 And^{G1161} as he^{G846} sat^{G2521} upon^{G1909} the^{G3588} mount^{G3735} of Olives, ^{G1636} the^{G3588} disciples^{G3101} came^{G4334} unto him^{G846} privately, ^{G2596} ^{G2398} saying, ^{G3004} Tell^{G2036} us, ^{G2254} when^{G4219} shall these things^{G5023} be? ^{G2071} and ^{G2532} what^{G5101} shall be the^{G3588} sign^{G4592} of thy^{G4674} coming, ^{G3952} and ^{G2532} of the^{G3588} end^{G4930} of the^{G3588} world?^{G165}

G165

αἰὼν

aion

ahee-ohn'

From the same as **G104**; properly an **age**; by extension *perpetuity* (also past); by implication the *world*; specifically (Jewish) a Messianic period (present or future): - age, course, eternal, (for) ever (-more), [n-]ever, (beginning of the, while the) world (began, without end). Compare **G5550**.

It was the End of the age that they were living in. Jesus answered their question with a whole list of events that can be found in **Matthew chapter 24** which **were all going to take place in their lifetime**, in their generation.

The list of events that Jesus gave included:

- Wars and rumors of wars,
- Nation rising against Nation,
- Kingdom against Kingdom,
- Famines,
- pestilences,
- Earthquakes, and
- False Prophets with great deception.

He also spoke of:

- Great Tribulation,
- false Christs, and
- His Return.

What was actually coming to an End?

Not the planet Earth, but rather the Covenant that God made with the twelve tribes of Israel at Mt. Sinai fifteen hundred years prior to Jesus' earthly ministry.

Jesus also said that the Gospel would be preached in all the world and then the End would come. **(Matthew 24:14)** This was their known world which was **the Roman Empire**.

Mat 24:14 And^{G2532} this^{G5124} gospel^{G2098} of the^{G3588} kingdom^{G932} shall be preached^{G2784} in^{G1722} all^{G3650} the^{G3588} world^{G3625} for^{G1519} a witness^{G3142} unto all^{G3956} nations^{G1484}; and^{G2532} then^{G5119} shall the^{G3588} end^{G5056} come.^{G2240}

G3625

οἰκουμένη

oikoumenē

oy-kou-men'-ay

Feminine participle present passive of **G3611** (as noun, by implication of **G1093**); *land*, that is, the (terrene part of the) *globe*; specifically the **Roman empire**: - earth, world.

Jesus concluded this list of events with a very clear time statement: He stated that all of these events would happen **in their lifetime**, in **their generation**.

Matthew 24:33-34, 33 so likewise ye, **when ye shall see all these things**, know that it is near, even at the doors. **34** Verily I say unto you, **This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled**.

Jesus clearly states here that **ALL** of the events that He just listed were to happen before **that generation** passed away. Jesus said in Matthew 23:36 that all these things were to happen to **THIS** generation.

The phrase **“this generation”** meant the generation that was alive and living in the first century. That same generation that was alive 2,000 years ago was also addressed by Jesus in **Mark 13:30**, and in **Luke 21:32**.

Mark 13:30 Verily I say unto you, that **this generation shall not pass, till all these things be done.**

Luke 21:32 Verily I say unto you, **This generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled.**

All the events listed were fulfilled before that generation passed.

So, it is today that these same types of events are happening and have actually happened over and over again through the centuries. The things that preachers today are claiming the Bible says are taken out of their original context and are misapplied to our generation.

There have always been wars and rumors of wars, famines, pestilences, earthquakes, False Prophets and religious persecution.

Because of what is happening in the Middle East and Israel, it is assumed that the world is going to end, and that Jesus will return.

All the things that are written in **Matthew 24**, in **Mark 13**, and in **Luke 21** were the **“Last days”** events of the Covenant that God made with the 12 tribes of Israel at Mt. Sinai. It was the **End of their world, their Age**. God’s Judgment was coming on them.

The Apostle Peter said in **Acts 2:17** that they were living in the Last Days when the Holy Spirit first came on the Day of Pentecost.

Acts 2:15-17, 15 for these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day. **16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;** **17** And it shall come to pass **in the last days**, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

In **Hebrews 1:1-2**, the Scripture says that Jesus spoke to them in the Last Days.

Hebrews 1:1-2, 1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, **2 hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son**, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

Hebrews 9:26 says that Jesus appeared in the End of the world. This was almost 2,000 years ago and yet the planet is still here.

Hebrews 9:26 *for then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: **but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared** to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.*

There are many Scriptures that speak of the Last Days events that occurred in the First Century such as:

- **The Antichrist,**
- **Armageddon,**
- **the Rapture,**
- **the Resurrection, and**
- **the Return of Jesus.**

These events are in our past **NOT** in our future. It is the input of information that will determine what we believe. Many people are confused because their leaders are confused. They are blind to the Truth of the Bible. They are blind leaders that are not following God's Word. (**Isaiah 9:16, Jeremiah 23:30-32, John 3:34, Romans 10:15**)

If you do what you have always done and believe what you have always believed, the results will always be the same. Open your heart when you open the Bible.

Conclusion

This world is **NEVER** going to end. (Eph. 3:21, Ecc. 1:4, Ez. 37:26-28)

Ephesians 3:21 *unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, **world without end.** Amen.*

Ecclesiastes 1:4 *One generation passeth away, and another generation cometh: **but the earth abideth forever.***

Ezekiel 37:26-28, 26 *Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them; **it shall be an everlasting covenant** with them: and I will place them, and multiply them, **and will set my sanctuary in the midst of them for evermore.** 27 My tabernacle also shall be with them: yea, I will be their God, and they shall be my people.*

28 *And the heathen shall know that I the Lord do sanctify Israel, when **my sanctuary shall be in the midst of them for evermore.***

The New Covenant Age that Jesus established in the first century is everlasting. It is eternal. This is how to become born again into this New Covenant.

Acts 2:37-39, 37 *Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, **what shall we do?** 38 Then Peter said unto them, **Repent,** and **be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins,** and **ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.** 39 *For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.**

There is **NO** end of time.

Yes, there have been times of turmoil, distress, and perplexity in our world and there always will be, but God is faithful; He never changes.

Hebrews 13:8 *Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever.*

His Word is settled in Heaven **FOREVER.**

Psalms 119:89 **For ever,** O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven.

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