

“The End of Time”

Matthew 24:15-31

Prophetic Foreshortening

I. Abomination of Desolation

A. Background & First Fulfillment

B. Second Fulfillment

Luke 21:20,21

But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then recognize that her desolation is near. Then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains, and those who are inside the city must leave, and those who are in the country must not enter the city

I. Abomination of Desolation

A. Background & First Fulfillment

B. Second Fulfillment

C. Third Fulfillment – The Antichrist

1. His Coming Predicted

1 John 2:21,22

I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you do know it, and because no lie is of the truth. Who is the liar except the one who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, the one who denies the Father and the Son.

1 John 4:2,3

By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God; and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God; this is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming, and now it is already in the world.

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B. Second Fulfillment

C. Third Fulfillment – The Antichrist

1. His Coming Predicted

2. The Man of Lawlessness

3. The Beast of Revelation 13

4. Attempts to Identify Him

II. The Great Tribulation

A. Transitional Labor

B. The Severity of it

C. The Church Escapes??

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C. The Church Escapes??

III. The Return of Christ

A. The Timing

B. Upheaval in the Sky

C. Response of People

Revelation 6:12-17

And I looked when He broke the sixth seal, and there was a great earthquake; and the sun became as black as sackcloth made of hair, and the whole moon became like blood; and the stars of the sky fell to the earth, as a fig tree drops its unripe figs when shaken by a great wind. The sky was split apart like a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place. Then the kings of the earth and the eminent people, and the commanders and the wealthy and the strong, and every slave and free person hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains;

and they said to the mountains and the rocks, “Fall on us and hide us from the sight of Him who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb; for the great day of Their wrath has come, and who is able to stand?”

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C. Response of People

D. The Great Harvest

IV. How Now Shall We Live

A. Be Alert

B. Take Cover

C. Warn Others

D. Pursue Holiness

1 John 3:2,3

Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is. 3 And everyone who has this hope set on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

2 Peter 3:11,12

Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat!

“Prophecies were intended to motivate mortals into conformity with divine holiness. God wants to assure us that he knows where history is going and to convince us to live in such a way that if he should appear suddenly, we would have no need for excuse or embarrassment.” - Walter Kaiser

“The standard of practical holy living has been so low among Christians that very often the person who tries to practice spiritual disciplines in everyday life is looked upon with disapproval by a large portion of the Church. And for the most part, the followers of Jesus Christ are satisfied with a life so conformed to the world, and so like it in almost every respect, that to a casual observer, there is no difference between the Christian and the pagan.” - Hannah Smith

"If there is anything that characterizes God's people in America today, it is the loss of the fear of God. When you do not fear God, you will not fear sin. The troubling result of this issue is that many Christians fail to recognize that they have sinned against God. The lack of holiness within the Church has reached epidemic levels."

- Henry Blackaby

IV. How Now Shall We Live

A. Be Alert

B. Take Cover

C. Warn Others

D. Pursue Holiness

E. Be Obedient to God's Calling

Luke 21:25-28

“There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress among nations, in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the waves, people fainting from fear and the expectation of the things that are coming upon the world; for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. But when these things begin to take place, straighten up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

