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"THE END OF TIME"

1 CORINTHIANS 15:24

~ BILLY LAMBERT

WHAT THE BIBLE HAS TO SAY ABOUT THE
SECOND COMING OF CHRIST



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Lesson 1
THE END
1 Corinthians 15:24

JESUS IS COMING BACK

- JN. 14:1-3; HEB. 9:28; 1 PET. 5:4; MT. 24:42; 25:13; ACTS 1:11; 1 THESS. 4:13-18; 2 THESS. 1:7-9; REV. 1:7
- HE IS COMING AT THE END OF TIME

THE BIBLE SPEAKS OF THE LAST DAYS

- ACTS 2:17; 2 TIM. 3:1; HEB. 1:1-2; 2 PET. 3:3
- WE ARE IN THE LAST DAYS, THAT IS THE LAST AGE OF BIBLE HISTORY.

THERE WILL BE A LAST DAY

- JN. 6:39, 44, 54; 11:24; 12:48
- IT IS CALLED "THAT DAY". MT. 7:21-23; 2 TIM. 1:12; 1:16-18; 4:8; MT. 24:35-36
- IT IS CALLED "THE DAY". 2 PET. 3:10, 12; 1 THESS. 5:2; MT. 25:13 (JN. 5:28-29)
- IT IS CALLED "THE GREAT DAY". REV. 6:17; JUDE 6

IN SUMMARY

- JESUS WILL RETURN SOMEDAY.
- WHEN HE RETURNS IT WILL USHER IN THE *END* OF TIME.
- SEVERAL SIGNIFICANT THINGS WILL HAPPEN ON THAT LAST DAY.

Lesson 2
CHRIST'S SECOND COMING
1 Thessalonians 4:16

THE FACT OF HIS SECOND COMING

- JESUS SAID HE WOULD COME. MT. 16:27; 24:35-39
- ANGELS SAID HE WOULD. ACTS 1:11
- PAUL DECLARED IT. 1 COR. 11:26; 1 THESS. 4:13-17; 2 THESS. 1:7-9; 2 TIM. 4:1; TITUS 2:13
- JAMES TAUGHT IT. JAMES 5:7
- JOHN PROCLAIMED IT. 1 JN. 3:2
- JUDE DECLARED IT. JUDE 14

HOW SHALL HE RETURN

- PERSONALLY. ACTS 1:11
- AUDIBLY. JN. 5:28; 1 THESS. 4:16
- VISIBLY. REV. 1:7
- WITHOUT WARNING. 1 THESS. 5:2
- IN A CLOUD. LK. 21:27
- IN FLAMING FIRE. 2 THESS. 1:7-9
- WITH ANGELS. MT. 25:31

WHEN SHALL HE RETURN?

- NO ONE, EXCEPT THE FATHER, KNOWS. MARK 13:32
- AT AN UNSUSPECTING HOUR. 2 PET. 3:10

WHY IS HE COMING

- TO RAISE THE DEAD. JOHN 5:28-29
- TO JUDGE THE WORLD. ACTS 17:30-31
- TO SEPARATE. MATTHEW 25:31,32
- TO REWARD THE RIGHTEOUS. MT. 25:34
- TO SENTENCE THE WICKED. 2 THESS. 1:7-9
- TO DELIVER UP THE KINGDOM. 1 COR. 15:24
- TO DESTROY THE EARTH. 2 PET. 3:10
- TO BE GLORIFIED IN HIS SAINTS. 2 THESS. 1:10

THIS BEING TRUE

- WE SHOULD WATCH. MATTHEW 25:13
- BE FAITHFUL. REV. 2:10
- OBEY THE GOSPEL. 2 THESS. 1:8

LESSON 3

THE SECOND COMING

INTRODUCTORY THOUGHTS

- We have established the fact that Jesus is coming again.
- There are many theories about his coming again.
- Some doubt he will come again.
- Some think he has already come.
- Some think you can predict it.
- Some think he will reign 1000 years on earth.

PREMILLENNIALISM

- Kingdom in Daniel. 2:44 has not yet come into existence.
- Kingdom was postponed because Jews rejected Christ.
- Christ went back to heaven to wait until the Jews get ready to receive Him.
- He will return and set up his throne in Palestine.
- Christ is king now by right and not in reality and that He is not now reigning on David's throne.
- Pagan Rome will be restored to fulfill Daniel's prophecy.
- The Jews will be restored to Palestine as a nation.
- Christ will leave His throne in heaven and occupy an earthly throne in Jerusalem and be king on earth for one thousand years.
- The resurrected and living saints will meet the Lord in the air and accompany Him somewhere in the heavens for a time. This is called the rapture.
- There will be an interval between “the first stage” and the real second coming which the millennialists call the *tribulation* which those caught up in the rapture will miss.
- After the thousand-year reign Satan will fight against Christ and will be defeated.
- Christ will then take His saints to heaven to stay.

KINGDOM NOT POSTPONED

- Kingdom of Daniel's prophecy was not postponed because the Jews rejected Christ.
 - It was predicted they would reject Him. Isa. 53:3
 - Christ mentioned that He would be rejected. Mt. 21:42; Acts 4:11
- The kingdom was set up in the days of the Roman kings. Dan. 2:44
 - The Roman Empire has long been destroyed, and if the kingdom did not come in the days of these kings, the Lord missed the time.

- If the kingdom has not been established, we must believe that Christ perpetrated a falsehood, Daniel lied, and the disciples taught error.
- How could one be translated into a kingdom that does not exist?
Colossians 1:13
- How could one be in an immovable kingdom that does not exist?
Hebrews 12:28
- Those who propose this postponement theory about the kingdom teach that the church is a substitute for the kingdom and that it was an after - thought of God.
 - This would reflect on the wisdom of God. Ephesians 3:10-11
- Christ told the disciples they would eat His supper in the kingdom. Mk. 14:22-25
- They were eating the supper in the church, thus the church or kingdom was established during the days of Paul. 1 Corinthians 11:20-22
- John affirmed he was in the kingdom. Rev. 1:9
- The Hebrews were in the kingdom. Hebrews 12:28
- The kingdom had its beginning on Pentecost in Acts 2.
 - Jesus promised the kingdom would come with power. Luke 24:49; Mark 9:1
 - The apostles were told that the power would come with the Holy Spirit. Acts 1:8.
 - The Holy Spirit came upon the apostles on Pentecost. Acts 2:1-4 the kingdom of Daniel's prophecy had its beginning on Pentecost.

LESSON 4

Premillennial Doctrine Continued

CHRIST ON DAVID'S THRONE

- The fact that Christ has a kingdom, and is reigning over His saints should be proof enough that He is on the throne.
 - God promised that Christ would sit upon the throne of David. Isa. 9:6-7
 - While upon this throne He was to reign, and His kingdom was to have no end. Dan. 2:44; Lk.1:32-33

CHRIST ON DAVID'S THRONE

- David's throne is in heaven for it is the same as the throne of the Lord. In the fullest sense of the word, David never had a throne, it belonged to God.
 - Solomon sat upon the throne of David. 1 Kgs.1:46-48
 - Solomon sat upon the throne of God. 1 Chronicles 29:23

CHRIST ON DAVID'S THRONE

- We conclude that to sit upon David's throne is to sit upon God's throne, hence, if Christ is sitting upon the throne of God (and He is) He is sitting upon the throne of David.
- God's throne is in heaven, thus if Christ is to sit upon God's throne, it must be a heavenly throne and not of the earth. Ps. 89:35-37

CHRIST ON DAVID'S THRONE

- If God's throne is in heaven (and it is) and David's throne is the same as God's throne (and it is), then David's throne is in heaven.
- This is why Christ was raised from the dead – to sit on David's throne. Acts 2:30-31

CHRIST ON DAVID'S THRONE

- He had to ascend to heaven to be seated on David's throne and to receive His Kingdom. Dan. 7:13-14; Lk.19:11-12
- This promise was made by the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:33
- Christ, according to Peter, received this promise. Acts 2:33

CHRIST ON DAVID'S THRONE

- Christ now has all authority in heaven and on earth. Mt. 28:18
 - If He is King now only in right and not in fact, then at His coming He will either have more authority than He presently has or:
 - He will have less authority than He presently has or:
 - He will have the same authority as He now has.

CHRIST ON DAVID'S THRONE

- The idea that Christ is not now King but will be at some future time is false.
 - Christ was to sit upon His throne. Zech. 6:13. He is now sitting. Acts 2:30; Col. 3:1. Therefore, He is now on His throne.

- He was to rule upon His throne. Zech. 6:13 He is now ruling. Rom. 15:12. Therefore, He is now on His throne.

CHRIST ON DAVID'S THRONE

- He was to be a priest on His throne. Zechariah 6:13. He is now priest. Hebrews 4:14. Therefore, He is now on His throne.
- He was to reign as King. Jer. 23:5. He is now reigning. 1 Cor. 15:25. Therefore, He is now King.

CHRIST ON DAVID'S THRONE

- According to prophecy, it is impossible for Christ to sit upon David's throne in the city of Jerusalem as some insist He will. Jer. 22:30
 - The king mentioned here was Coniah, the last king of Judah that was appointed by the Lord.
 - Coniah had a son whose name was Salathiel. 1 Chron. 3:17 Jesus was of the lineage of Salathiel. Mt. 1:12

CHRIST ON DAVID'S THRONE

- Now since Christ is the seed of Coniah, and no man of his seed can sit on David's throne and rule anymore in Judah, it follows that Jesus Christ cannot occupy the throne of David on earth.
- Since it cannot be done on earth, it follows that Jesus Christ would sit on David's throne not on earth but in heaven.

CHRIST ON DAVID'S THRONE

- According to the argument made by James, God would rebuild the tabernacle of David and set it up so the residue of men may seek the Lord and the Gentiles, upon whom his name is called. Acts 15:14-17 (If Christ is not now on David's throne, the Gentile world is without God and without hope.)

CHRIST ON DAVID'S THRONE

- Christ is on David's throne now and shall be until His second coming at which time is the "end" of His reign, not the beginning of His kingdom and then the kingdom will be delivered back to the Father. 1 Cor. 15:24-25

LESSON 5

Premillennialism Continued

RESTORATION OF THE JEWS

- It is affirmed by some religious speculators that Christ is coming to the city of Jerusalem and all the Jews of the nations will gather in the city of Jerusalem and be saved, and reign with Christ their King for 1000 years.
 - There is no statement in the Bible that suggests such an arrangement.
 - Men have taken certain prophecies from the Bible, which have already been fulfilled, and by manipulation have made honest and sincere people believe their claims.
 - It is taught by some that when God made certain promises to Abraham concerning his seed, He promised to give the land of Jerusalem to the Jews for a reign of peace on earth at Christ's coming.
 - God made three covenants with Abraham:
 - The first was a land covenant or promise. Gen. 15:18-21; 17:18
 - God fulfilled this promise. Josh. 21:43-45. God does not owe the Jews one foot of land.
 - Some make much out of the word "everlasting". Gen. 17:8
 - This is explained by the covenant of circumcision. Gen. 17:9,13
 - When the circumcision covenant ended, their generations ended.
 - Circumcision ended with the coming of the New Covenant. Rom. 2:28-29; Gal. 5:1-6
 - So, when the Bible spoke of the land being an everlasting possession, it meant throughout their generations.
 - It was an everlasting covenant and lasted till its purpose was accomplished.
 - God has given Israel ALL the land which He promised them. Josh. 21:43-45
- "all came to pass."
- The second covenant with Abraham was the seed covenant. Gen.12:1-3; 22:17-18
 - This covenant was fulfilled in Christ. Gal. 3:6-9, 16, 19
 - This covenant with Abraham was a spiritual one and its blessings belonged to the Gentiles as well as the Jews. Gal. 3:26-29 [THERE ARE NO SPECIAL BLESSINGS TO THE JEWS AS A NATION]
- The third covenant is the one concerning circumcision. Gen. 17:9-13
- All Christians, whether Jews or Gentiles, are heirs according to the promise God made to Abraham.

- There is no such thing as a special hope for Israel, or restoration of the Jews to Palestine for the coming of Christ.
- The Bible teaches that the Jews as a nation have been rejected by God.
Rom. 9 – 11
- Both Jew and Gentile may obey the gospel and be saved. Rom. 1:16; 11:26

THE JEWS HAVE BEEN RESTORED TO PALESTINE

- There were three carryings away of Israel into Assyrian captivity.
 - During the reign of Pekah. 2 Kgs. 15:29
 - At the close of Pekah's reign. 2 Kgs. 15:37
 - During the reign of Hoshea. 2 Kgs. 17:4-6

BY 722-721 B.C. ALL ISRAEL HAD BEEN CARRIED INTO ASSYRIAN CAPTIVITY

- There were three carryings away of Judah into Babylonian captivity.
 - 606 B.C. during reign of Jehoiakim. During third years of his reign. 2 Chron. 36:5-8
 - 597 B.C. 1st year of Jehoiakim's reign. 2 Chron. 36:10
 - 586 B.C. 11th year of Zedekiah. 2 Chron. 36:17-21

THERE WERE THREE RETURNS FROM CAPTIVITY

- By Sheshbazzar. Ezra 1:8; 2:2; 2:64
- By Ezra. Ezra 7:1-10
- By Nehemiah. Neh. 2:1-6

WHO RETURNED FROM CAPTIVITY?

- Babylon became a world empire from 620 – 626 B.C.
 - Nebopolassar overtook Assyria in 609 B.C.
 - Babylon ruled the world including those who had been taken captive in Assyria.
- Though divided in captivity, when they returned, they returned united as a nation. Ezra 2:2; Neh. 7:7; 1 Chron. 9:1-3; Ezra. 2:10; 3:1; 6:16; 7:13; 8:35

A REMNANT OF THE 12 TRIBES DID RETURN FROM CAPTIVITY AND DWELT IN EACH ONE'S TRIBAL INHERITANCE.

LESSON 6
THE THOUSAND YEAR REIGN
Revelation 20:4-6

- It is commonly held by many in the religious world that Christ will return to reign on earth for a thousand years.
- When asked where the Bible teaches such a theory, invariably we are directed to Rev. 20:4-6.
- It is true that the Bible says something about a thousand years, but does it teach a thousand-year reign of Christ on earth?
- Christ reigns, but the reign in Rev. 20 is not the reign of Christ.

THINGS NOT MENTIONED IN REV. 20

- It does not mention the second coming.
- It does not mention the bodily resurrection.
- It does not mention a reign on earth.
- It does not mention a literal throne (David's).
- It does not mention Jerusalem of Palestine.
- It does not mention us.
- It does not mention Christ on earth.

IS THIS VERSE LITERAL OR SYMBOLIC?

- It is taught by those who teach the thousand-year reign say this is a literal 1000 years.
- John wrote in symbols. Rev. 1:1
- A literal chain could not be put on a spirit being. Rev. 20:1-2
- The word "thousand" is not always literal. Deut. 7:9; 1 Chron. 16:15; Ps. 50:10; Ps. 90:4
- The number "thousand" is sometimes used figuratively for a great, complete number as in Rev. 20:4-6.
- In John's day the people had no figures for numbers and the letters of the alphabet were used as numbers as well. Examples: C = 100; X=10; XL=40
- Someone wrote on the walls of Pompeii: "I love her whose number is 545."

JOHN WAS SPEAKING OF THOSE IN HIS DAY v. 4

- What John saw was the souls of martyred saints.
- He saw those who had been beheaded.

- He saw those who had not received the mark of the beast. During the reign of Domitian, Caesar worship became compulsory. When people had made their act of worship, they were issued a certificate reading: “We, the representatives of the emperor, Serenos and Hermas, have seen your sacrifice.”
- Who lived and reigned? Those who were beheaded lived and reigned!
- If “lived” is limited to 1000 years, “reigned” is limited as well.
- If the reigning ends in a thousand years so does the living.

THE FIRST RESURRECTION v. 5

- John had to explain this symbol. “This is the first resurrection.”
- There are figurative resurrections mentioned in the Bible. Ezk. 37:1-14- Israel in Babylon; Isa. 26:13,14 – wicked lords; Rev. 6:9; 20:4-5 – martyred saints; Rev. 2:11; 20:6 – exempt from the second death.
- To have part in the first resurrection equaled to being exempt from the second death.
- To overcome these persecutions equals to overcoming the second death
- Things equal to the same thing are equal to each other.
- Overcoming persecution and having part in the first resurrection were the same thing therefore they are equal to each other.

THE LOOSING OF SATAN vv.7-10

- There was a revival wickedness against the church. V. 7
- There was a desperate effort on the part of the persecuting power to stop the advance of the church. V.8
- The persecutor went down in defeat. V. 9-10
- This is symbolic of the ruler who oppressed the church who went down in humiliation and defeat never to rise again.

THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE PREMILLENNIAL DOCTRINE

- The kingdom prophecies are made void. Dan. 2:31-45; Isa. 2:2-4
- Christ is dethroned. Zech. 6:12,13; Acts 2:29-36; Eph. 1:20-23; Heb. 8:1
- A material kingdom is sought. Lk. 17:20,21; Jn. 18:36-38
- The church is made a substitute for the kingdom. Eph. 3:10,11; Mt. 16:16-19
- The NT writers are made to sound confused. Col. 1:13; Rev. 1:9
- The plan and purpose of Christ’s death is ignored. Acts 2:23
- The Gentile world is robbed of salvation. Acts 15:13-17

LESSON 7
THE ANTICHRIST
1 John 4:1-3

- Over the years there has been much speculation about the antichrist.
- It is generally thought by speculators that some personality will arise near the end of time – the antichrist.
- Some have thought it to be Hitler, Stalin, Saddam Hussein or some other world leader.
- All speculation has proved to be false.

What Does The Bible Say?

- 1 Jn. 2:18 – there are many antichrists
- 1 Jn. 2:22 – He is antichrist that denieth
- 1 Jn. 4:3 – every spirit that confesseth not ..is antichrist
- 2 Jn. 7 – who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh...is a deceiver and antichrist

LOOKING AT THE CONTEXT

- Any passage is better understood if studied within its context.
- In John's day some were teaching a new doctrine concerning Christ.
- They denied He had come in the flesh.
- They believed that matter was essentially impure or evil and they could not bring themselves to believe Jesus came in the form of man.
- Those who held to this theory, along with the Gnostics (so-called because they claimed to have superior knowledge) taught that when Jesus was baptized the divine Spirit (Christ) came upon Him but left Him before the crucifixion, so that while Christ was divine, Jesus was not.
- This heresy was disturbing the fellowship of the church.
- John called them "liars" (1 Jn. 2:22), "false prophets" (1 Jn. 4:1), "deceivers" (2 Jn. 7) and "antichrists" (1 Jn. 4:3).
- To develop their theories modern false prophets have lifted the verses about antichrist out of the context and made them mean things never intended.
- They associate them with the "little horn" of Dan. 7, "the man of sin" 2 Thess. 2 and the "beasts" of Rev. 13.
- No book in the Bible, including Revelation connects the antichrist with those passages of scripture.
- To understand the antichrist it must be studied in view of what it meant in John's time.

- The antichrist:
 - Is not one personality. “There are many antichrists.” 1 Jn. 2:18.
 - Was already present in John’s day. 1 Jn. 4:3
 - Is one who denies Jesus Christ. 1 Jn. 4:3; 1 Jn. 2:22; 2 Jn. 7
 - Were former Christians. 1 Jn. 2:19
- There were those in John’s day who denied Christ and His teaching.
- Of course, we have those today who do the same.
- The antichrist was not something that was to appear in some distant time.
- The antichrist denied that Christ came in the flesh. Not some force in the 21st century.

LESSON 8
THE MARK OF THE BEAST
Rev. 13:10-18

- In the Bible a mark could be for a variety of purposes:
 - At times it was a sign of God's favor or grace. Cain was marked after he killed his brother, so that he would not be harmed. Gen. 4:9-15
This was an act of God's grace.
- A mark was used to give protection. When God judged Judah the faithful were "marked so that they would not be harmed." Ez. 9:6
- The Hebrew letter "taw" (or T) was made more like an X from the English alphabet and was used to sign documents. Job 31:35 Job saw himself signing God's charges against him with his signature or "taw." "Here is my mark." NKJV
- The mark was also used to show ownership. Gal. 6:17 "Marks of the Lord Jesus" - evidence of allegiance to Him.
 - Some try to associate the antichrist with the mark of the beast and speak of the mark of the antichrist.
 - We are told that the mark is worn by those who follow the antichrist.
- The figurative language in Revelation is taken literally and it is supposed that a literal mark is placed on the foreheads of those who follow the antichrist.
- The number 666 is thought to apply to the antichrist.
- Be it noted that the word *antichrist* never appears in the book of Revelation.
- Some think 666 points to Nero and if we are looking for a single person this is the most likely one.
- If this is the true that defeats the theory of pre-millennialism for Nero lived in John's time.
- A favorite theory is that it refers to the Roman Catholic church, the pope being the antichrist. What meaning could that have had for those of John's day?
- During WWII some thought Hitler was the antichrist and 666 was his number.
- The number 6 was one of humanity and 7 was a number that stood for perfection.
- The number 666 stood for great evil and is stressed by using the 6 three times.
- Evil men have lived in all times (even now) but this meant something to those in John's day.

- I take the Bible over the theories of men.
- The number 666 points to someone in John's day.
- Most likely refers to the emperor of Rome who was a great evil force in the world and persecuted Christians in an unbelievable way.
- Faithful Christians refused to wear the mark of Caesar. Rev. 20:5
- Listen to the words of the 19th century Baptist preacher Charles Spurgeon:
 "So, too, certain persons who are always given to curious speculations need warning. When they read the Bible, it is not to find out whether they are saved or no, but to know whether we are under the third or fourth vial, when the millennium is going to be, or what is the battle of Armageddon.....
-Ah, sir, search out all these things if thou hast time and skill, but look to think own salvation first. The book of Revelation, blessed is he that understands it, but not unless, first of all, he understands this, 'He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved.'"

LESSON 9

THE RAPTURE

- The word rapture is not in the Bible.
- It comes from a Latin word, which means “to take away” or “snatch out.”
- It is believed that a special group of God’s people will be taken from earth to heaven without first dying, signifying that they call the “rapture.”
- It is taught that a period of trouble (tribulation) will come and God will snatch His people from the earth before this happens.
- This is described as a sudden disappearance of the righteous.
- Dave McPherson, after making a complete research of this doctrine, wrote this: “After taking all available facts into consideration, I can say it occurred on an unknown evening between February 1 and April 14 in 1830.”
- What is wrong with this doctrine?

THE BIBLE TEACHES THAT CHRISTIANS ARE TO STAND TRIBULATION

- John 16:33; 1 John 2:13; 5:4-5; Revelation 2:11; 3:12; 21:27
-

IT IS CONFLICTED WITH SCRIPTURE

- It has too many comings of Christ. Jude 14-15. Hebrews 9:28; Acts 17:31; 2 Timothy 4:1
- A contradiction of John 5:28-29. Rapture has 7 years between resurrection of righteousness and unrighteousness.
- A contradiction of “last day” passages. John 6:39-40, 45, 55; 11:24; 12:48. The last resurrection will occur on the last day.
- A contradiction of 2 Thessalonians 1:6-10. In “that day” (v. 10) some will be comforted, and some will be punished. Not time in between.
- A contradiction of 2 Peter 3:10-13. Describes the Lord’s coming in a DAY. Earth will be destroyed. Rapture theory calls for continuation of the earth.
- Contradiction of Matthew 13:37-43. Jesus said the righteous and wicked were together till the end of time. Rapture theory will not stand this test.

THE RAPTURE WILL NOT PASS A WORD STUDY TEST

- The rapture theory states that when the Lord comes “for His saints” it will be the time of His “presence” (PAROUSIA), but when He comes “with His saints” it will be His manifestation (EPIPHANEIA). This period is called the RAPTURE of the saints in heaven while the tribulation is blasting out on earth.
- Plainly stated, according to the rapture theorists, Christ will come FOR His saints and seven years later will come WITH His saints.

- His coming FOR His saints in the Parousia and His coming WITH His saints is the Epiphaneia. Seven years between each coming according to the rapture doctrine.
- PROBLEM: 1 Thessalonians 3:13. Coming (Parousia) – with all His saints. Here Paul has Jesus coming for His saints at the same time he comes with His saints. The words are used interchangeably to refer to the same coming. The coming of Christ is not two events.

LESSON 10
SIGNS OF THE END
MATTHEW 24:3

Introduction

- A. Men often predict that the end is near.
- B. Are their claims valid? Can you predict the end?
- C. What does the Bible teach?

I. SETTING (Verses 1-4)

- A. At the temple area.
- B. Time coming when one stone not left upon another.
- C. This was a startling statement.
- D. The disciples asked some questions.

II. SIGNS TO ACCOMPANY THE END OF THE JEWISH STATE

- A. False teachers. (Verse 5) Josephus verifies there were many false teachers.
- B. Wars. (Verse 6) Josephus said, " From every part of the empire wars followed in succession."
- C. Famine. (Verse 7) There was a famine in the days of Claudius Caesar. Acts 11:27-30.
- D. Earthquakes. (Verse 8) There were earthworks in the time of Nero.
- E. Delivered to each. (Verse 9) Peter, Paul, James, and James the Less died violent deaths.
- F. Apostasies. (Verse 10-11)
- G. Gospel to all the world. (Verse 14)
 - 1. Colossians 1:23
 - 2. Evsebius. "The spread gospel like the sun enlightening the world at one."
- H. End of the Jewish world. (Verse 14)
- I. Abomination of desolation. (Verse 15) "The encirclement of Jerusalem by the Roman armies. The Army of Titus, commanded by Cestius Gallas, for some unknown reason, lifted the siege, providing Christians time to escape. Heathen symbols were in the temple."
- J. Disciples flee. (Verse 16-18)
 - 1. They fled to Pella.
 - 2. Didn't have to time to pack their belongings.
- K. False signs. (Verse 23-26)
 - 1. Many false christs arose.

2. They had pretended claims.
- L. Eagles and carcasses. (Verses 27-28)
 1. Vespasian and Titus were returning from a campaign against the Panthians.
 2. They decided to go to Jerusalem to put down the rebellion.
 3. They came from the east to the west.
 4. The carcass (the Jews).
 5. The eagle (Rome).
 6. The Roman standard was raised in the Holy City.
- M. After tribulation. (Verse 29)
 1. August 10, A.D. 70, 1,100,000 Jews were slaughtered.
 2. Darkness settled over Jerusalem.
- N. Coming of the Son of Man. (Verse 30)
 1. Coming In Judgement.
 2. Often found in the Old Testament. Isaiah 13:9. "Behold the day of the Lord cometh."
- O. Angels. (Verse 31)
 1. Announced worldwide success of the gospel.
 2. Knowledge of God covered the earth.
- P. Signs that the end was near. (Verses 32-33)
 1. When you see these signs.
 2. The end is near.
- Q. All fulfilled. (Verse 34)
- R. Word will never pass away. (Verse 34)
- S. Heaven and earth will pass away, (verse 36), but no one can predict this day. (Matthew 13:22)

III. THE RETURN OF THE LORD (VERSES 37-42)

- A. Life as usual. (Verses 37-38)
- B. Without warning. (Verses 38-39)
- C. Unexpected. (Verses 41-42)
- D. Be ready. (Verse 44)