

UNLOCKING PROPHECY #2

How Near Is the End?

- † 2 Timothy 3:16- "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness."
 - This is foundational for us as Christians.
 - Either the Bible is totally inspired, or it's not. We believe it is ALL inspired!
- † John 8:32- "And you shall know the truth, and the truth will make you free."
 - Truth can be known. We must pray ask God to teach us the truth from His Word.
- † In Matthew 24 Jesus describes two events that would take place. The destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70 and the signs of His coming and the end of the world.
- † Church historian, Eusebius, elaborates on the destruction of Jerusalem. "In the year A.D. 66, approximately 33 years after Jesus gave this prediction, the Roman armies, under Cestius, the Roman Governor of Syria, came to put down a rebellion that had broken out in Jerusalem. As they laid siege against the city, however, the city withstood the ravages of the Roman army, and finally, the Roman armies withdrew, despairing of actually being able to take the city." Eusebius, book 3, chap. 5.
- † Concerning the second coming of Jesus the Bible says, "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone" (Matthew 24:36). Lot's of people have tried to predict the exact date of the second coming, but have only failed. What we do know, according to Revelation 22:12, is that Christ is coming soon!
- † The Second Coming has been the great hope of believer's throughout the Bible and after. In Job 19:25-27, Job states that He knows that his Redeemed lives and shall stand at last on the earth. Christians often refer to the Second Coming as "the blessed hope." (Titus 2:13)

Signs of the End & Jesus' Second Coming

1. **Wars and rumors of wars.** "And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars" (Matthew 24:6-7).
 - a. Examples of fulfillment: World War I: 24 million deaths; World War II: 60 million deaths.
 - b. The Vietnam War, Korean War, Gulf wars, the War on Terrorism, etc.
 - c. Rumors of war abound. Some current examples include: North Korea, Iran, etc.
2. **Famines.** "There will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places" (Matthew 24:7).
 - a. The United nations tells us that 1 in 9 people don't get enough food to live a health and active life.
 - b. One person dies ever 5 seconds from hunger-related causes, in spite of the fact that 1/3 of the food produced on the planet is wasted.
3. **Pestilences/plagues/disease.** "There will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places" (Matthew 24:7).
 - a. Examples of fulfillment: 40 million people worldwide living with AIDS/HIV infection. Almost 1 million die annually from AIDS. Diabetes, heart disease, cancer, Ebola, COVID, Mad-Cow Disease, swine flu, and the Zika virus.
4. **Earthquakes.** "There will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places" (Matthew 24:7).
 - a. Examples of fulfillment: 35 earthquakes/day; 12,000 - 14,000/year. Earthquake in SE Asia Dec. 2004, caused tsunami which killed around 230,000 people. 2010 earthquake killed 230,000 in Haiti, etc.

5. **Violence, Crime, & Moral decay.** “But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.” (Matthew 24:37).
- Gen 6:5, “Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.”
 - Gen 6:11 says, “The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.”
 - There are more slaves today than at any time in history. Researchers estimate that 40 million are enslaved worldwide, generating \$150 billion each year in profits for traffickers. Slavery is not legal anywhere but happens everywhere! 25% are children and 71% are women and girls. (freetheslaves.net)
 - Other examples of fulfillment: The break-up of the family unit. 1995—one divorce out of every 2 marriages. Teenage pregnancy out of wedlock happens frequently, STDs plague millions, people are having multiple sexual partners; homosexuality, rape, sexual abuse in all its forms.
 - Matthew 24:8- “All these are the beginning of sorrows.” Sorrows in the original Greek literally means “birth pains.” Another earthquake doesn’t mean much, but a frequency and intensity of these events tell us that Jesus is coming back soon!
6. **Increase in knowledge.** “But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase” (Daniel 12:4).
- Examples of fulfillment: Spiritually: millions are understanding prophetic books of Daniel & Revelation. Scientifically: in past 150 years we’ve literally gone from horseback to the moon. More recently: wireless internet, smart phones, iPads/tablets, GPS systems
7. **False christs and prophets.** “And Jesus answered and said to them: “Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many. “For false christs and false prophets will arise and show great signs and wonders” (Matthew 24:24).
- Examples of fulfillment: Heaven’s Gate Cult leader Marshall Applewhite, and other cult leaders like Jim Jones & David Koresh.
8. **Gospel preached in the whole world.** “And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come” (Matthew 24:14).
- Examples of fulfillment: Satellite broadcasts can reach every continent. Radio can cross borders bodies can’t. Missionaries are going to furthest ends of the earth.
- † Luke 21:28- “Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near.” Look up to Jesus during these last days and He will see you through! Put your trust in Him now.d
- † Matt 24:33- “So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near—at the doors!” Christ is at the door. He’s wanting to come and rescue His people.
- † Daniel 12:1 tells us, ““At that time Michael shall stand up, The great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; And there shall be a time of trouble, Such as never was since there was a nation, Even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book.”
- Christ is coming soon. Will you heed the signs? Will you let him into your hearts door? (Rev 3:20).
- † Watch this presentation again, or share with a friend by searching for: Centralia SDA Church on Youtube or <https://tinyurl.com/unlockingprophecy>
- † Text your Bible Questions to: 360-322-1260