

# Chapter 8

*"The Messiah:  
First Advent"*

Now we will segue to Jesus' role as the instrument of redemption to restore the Jews, and by extension, bring all mankind back into fellowship. God's master plan hangs on this one premise, God's plan begins and ends with His son, Jesus. Without the authentication of Jesus' validation as the Messiah, all of God's promises would be worthless. Jesus is the cornerstone. [Psalm 118:22](#) "The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone." It's confirmed in [Luke 20:17](#) "Then He looked at them and said, "What then is this that is written: "The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone?" He is seen as the Lion and the Lamb. A Lion is a symbol of authority and strength. He is called the Lion of the tribe of Judah. [Revelation 5:5 \(NKJV\)](#) "But one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals." A lamb symbolizes humility and purity. [Isaiah 53:7](#) "He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep, before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth." Jesus is the Messiah, the Paschal Lamb of God, a prophet, and a covenant/promise keeper. [John 13:19](#) "Now I tell you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe that I am He."

- First and foremost, He was to be Messiah. Messiah is from the Hebrew for "anointed one" or "chosen one." In the Greek, the language of the New Testament, the word used is "Christos," which then translates to English, as "Christ." So, Jesus Christ means Jesus is the chosen one. The obvious question is what was He chosen to do? He was chosen to be the conduit as Redeemer and Savior to both Jew and Gentile. Remember [Isaiah 6:9-10](#) said "the Jews eyes were blinded and did not recognize Jesus as the Messiah." To be clear, Orthodox Jews did not then and do not now acknowledge Jesus as Messiah. To them, the coming of the Messiah has still not happened. For them, when the Messiah does come, He will be making a First Appearance. The Gentile church does recognize Jesus as Son of God, and therefore, the Messiah as do some Jewish converts known as Messianic Jews. We acknowledge his birth, death, and resurrection as the fulfillment of the Messianic prophecies. Paul addresses this in [Romans 11:7-8](#) "7 What then? Israel has not obtained what it seeks, but the elect have obtained it, and the rest were blinded. 8 Just as it is written: "God has given them a spirit of stupor, Eyes that they should not see and ears that they should not hear, to this very day." The day of the Lord will remove the blindness of which [Isaiah](#) spoke. The following prophecies and their fulfillment support the belief that God intervened supernaturally into our world. As we said in the beginning, there are at least over 400 prophecies concerning the Messiah and Jesus fulfilling them, but this list we only have 21 that cover both His birth and time at the cross.

Prophecies About Jesus as the Messiah	Old Testament Scripture <a href="#">NIV</a>	New Testament Fulfillment <a href="#">NIV</a>
1 The Messiah would be born in Bethlehem.	<a href="#">Micah 5:2</a> "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times."	<a href="#">Matthew 2:1</a> "After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem."

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| 2 | The Messiah would be born of a virgin. And call His name Immanuel. | <a href="#">Isaiah 7:14</a> “Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.”   | <a href="#">Matthew 1:22-23</a> “ <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: <sup>23</sup> “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel (which means “God with us”).” |
| 3 | The Messiah would come from the line of Abraham.                   | <a href="#">Genesis 22:18</a> “And through your offspring, all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.”  | <a href="#">Matthew 1:1</a> “This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, and the son of Abraham.”   |
| 4 | The Messiah would come from the tribe of Judah.                    | <a href="#">Genesis 49:10</a> “The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet, until He to whom it belongs shall come and the obedience of the nations shall be His.”   | <a href="#">Hebrews 7:14</a> “For it is clear that our Lord descended from Judah, and in regard to that tribe Moses said nothing about priests.”  |
| 5 | The Messiah's throne will be anointed and eternal.                 | <a href="#">Daniel 2:44</a> “In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure forever.” | <a href="#">Luke 1:33</a> “And He will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever; His kingdom will never end.”   |

- 6 A massacre of children would happen in the Messiah's birthplace. **Jeremiah 31:15** “This is what the Lord says: “A voice is heard in Ramah, mourning and great weeping, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted because they are no more.” **Matthew 2:16-18** “<sup>16</sup> When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. <sup>17</sup> Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: <sup>18</sup> “A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more.”
- 7 The Messiah would spend a season in Egypt. **Hosea 11:1** “When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son.” **Matthew 2:14-15** “<sup>14</sup> So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, <sup>15</sup> where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called my son.”
- 8 A messenger would prepare the way for the Messiah. **Isaiah 40:3-5** “<sup>3</sup> A voice of one calling: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. <sup>4</sup> Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. <sup>5</sup> And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.” **Luke 3:3-6** “<sup>3</sup> He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>4</sup> As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: “A voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight paths for him. <sup>5</sup> Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth. <sup>6</sup> And all people will see God’s salvation.’ “

- 9 The Messiah would be rejected by His own people. **Isaiah 53:3** “He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain. Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and we held him in low esteem.” **John 1:11** “He came to that which was His own, but His own did not receive Him.”
- 10 The Messiah would be a prophet. **Deuteronomy 18:15** “The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him.” **Acts 3:20-22** “<sup>20</sup> And that He may send the Messiah, who has been appointed for you, even Jesus. <sup>21</sup> Heaven must receive him until the time comes for God to restore everything, as He promised long ago through His holy prophets. <sup>22</sup> For Moses said, ‘The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you must listen to everything he tells you.’”
- 11 The Messiah would be declared the Son of God. **Psalm 2:7** “I will proclaim the Lord’s decree: He said to me, ‘You are My son; today I have become your father.’” **Matthew 3:16-17** “<sup>16</sup> As soon as Jesus was baptized, He went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on Him. <sup>17</sup> And a voice from heaven said, ‘This is my Son, whom I love; with Him, I am well pleased.’”
- 12 The Messiah would speak in parables. **Psalm 78:2-4** “<sup>2</sup> I will open my mouth with a parable; I will utter hidden things, things from of old <sup>3</sup> things we have heard and known, things our ancestors have told us. <sup>4</sup> We will not hide them from their descendants; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, His power, and the wonders He has done.” **Matthew 13:34-35** “<sup>34</sup> Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; He did not say anything to them without using a parable. <sup>35</sup> So was fulfilled what was spoken through the prophet: ‘I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter things hidden since the creation of the world.’”

- 13 The Messiah would be called King. [Zechariah 9:9](#) “Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.” [Mark 11:7-11](#) “<sup>7</sup> When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, He sat on it. <sup>8</sup> Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. <sup>9</sup> Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted, “Hosanna!” “Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!” <sup>10</sup> “Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!” “Hosanna in the highest heaven!” <sup>11</sup> Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple courts. He looked around at everything, but since it was already late, He went out to Bethany with the Twelve.”
- 14 The Messiah's hands and feet would be pierced. [Zechariah 12:10](#) “And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on Me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for Him as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for Him as one grieves for a firstborn son.” [Luke 24:39](#) “Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.” [John 19:37](#) “And again another Scripture says, “They shall look on Him whom they pierced.”
- 15 The soldiers would gamble for Messiah's garments. [Psalm 22:18](#) “They divide my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment.” [Luke 23:34](#) “Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.”

- 16 The Messiah's bones would not be broken. **Psalm 34:20** “He protects all his bones, not one of them will be broken.” **John 19:33-36** “<sup>33</sup> But when they came to Jesus and found that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. <sup>34</sup> Instead, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus’ side with a spear, bringing a sudden flow of blood and water. <sup>35</sup> The man who saw it has given testimony, and his testimony is true. He knows that he tells the truth, and he testifies so that you also may believe. <sup>36</sup> These things happened so that the scripture would be fulfilled: “Not one of His bones will be broken.”
- 17 The Messiah would be buried with the rich. **Isaiah 53:9** “He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though He had done no violence, nor was any deceit in His mouth.” **Matthew 27:57-60** “<sup>57</sup> As evening approached, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who had himself become a disciple of Jesus. <sup>58</sup> Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus’ body, and Pilate ordered that it be given to him. <sup>59</sup> Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, <sup>60</sup> and placed it in his own new tomb that he had cut out of the rock. He rolled a big stone in front of the entrance to the tomb and went away.”
- 18 The Messiah would resurrect from the dead. **Psalm 16:10** “Because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, nor will you let your faithful one see decay.” **Matthew 28:5-6** “<sup>5</sup> The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. <sup>6</sup> He is not here; He has risen, just as He said. Come and see the place where He lay.”
- 19 The Messiah would ascend to heaven. **Psalm 24:9-10** “<sup>9</sup> Lift up your heads, your gates; lift them up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. <sup>10</sup> Who is he, this King of glory? The Lord Almighty, He is the King of Glory.” **Luke 24:51** “While He was blessing them, He left them and was taken up into heaven.”

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| 20 | The Messiah would be seated at God's right hand. | <a href="#">Psalm 110:1</a> “The Lord says to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.”   | <a href="#">Mark 16:19</a> “After the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, He was taken up into heaven and He sat at the right hand of God.”   |
| 21 | The Messiah would be a sacrifice for sin.        | <a href="#">Isaiah 53:10</a> “Yet it was the Lord’s will to crush Him and cause him to suffer, and though the Lord makes His life an offering for sin, He will see His offspring and prolong His days, and the will of the Lord will prosper in His hand.” | <a href="#">Romans 5:6-8</a> “ <sup>6</sup> You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” |

Remember at the outset of our exploration, we looked at why we should study prophecy, we mentioned there were 400 prophecies that were fulfilled by Christ’s first coming when He came as a baby, which we call the Advent, and at His crucifixion and resurrection, at the time we call Easter. We also mentioned that there are over 1,400 prophecies yet to be fulfilled and will do so at Christ’s second coming as the Conquering King Messiah. Jesus knew He needed to return to heaven, so He would be able to make a second appearance. Again, [John 14:1-3](#) “<sup>1</sup> Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. <sup>2</sup> In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.” The next appearance is called His Second Coming or Second Advent. However, there appears to be conflicting accounts of this arrival. This will be better explained after we finish exploring Jesus’ role as a prophet, and covenant/promise keeper sections, where we look at the Rapture vs. the Second Coming. For now, though, remember when we looked at Jesus being the Son of God and the Son of man, the Jewish leadership of the time had a preconceived narrow idea of what the Messiah would be. Below is a partial list of Old Testament prophecies that will reinforce and herald the arrival of the Messiah as the Conquering King. That event will be unmistakable and seen by the whole earth.

[Isaiah 66:15-16 \(NKJV\)](#) “<sup>15</sup> For behold, the LORD will come with fire and with His chariots, like a whirlwind, to render His anger with fury, and His rebuke with flames of fire. <sup>16</sup> For by fire and by His sword. The LORD will judge all flesh, and the slain of the LORD shall be many.”

[Jeremiah 25:30-31](#) “<sup>30</sup> Therefore, prophesy against them all these words, and say to them: “The LORD will roar from on high, and utter His voice from His holy habitation; He will roar mightily against His fold. He will give a shout, as those who tread the grapes, against all the inhabitants of the earth. <sup>31</sup> A noise will come to the ends of the earth for the LORD has a controversy with the nations; He will plead His case with all flesh. He will give those who are wicked to the sword,’ says the LORD.”

[Daniel 7:13-14](#) “<sup>13</sup> I was watching in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him. <sup>14</sup> Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples,

nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, And His kingdom the one Which shall not be destroyed.”

**Jeremiah 3:17** “At that time Jerusalem shall be called the Throne of the LORD, and all the nations shall be gathered to it, to the name of the LORD, to Jerusalem. No more shall they follow the dictates of their evil hearts.”

**Isaiah 24:19-20** “<sup>19</sup> The earth is violently broken, the earth is split open, the earth is shaken exceedingly. <sup>20</sup> The earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard, and shall totter like a hut; its transgression shall be heavy upon it, and it will fall, and not rise again.”

- Jesus is The Lamb of God. **Isaiah 53:7-8** “<sup>7</sup> He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth. <sup>8</sup> He was taken from prison and from judgment, and who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgressions of My people He was stricken.” **John 1:29** “The next day John (the Baptist) saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!” He was chosen and sent by God His Father, as planned at the beginning of creation, to be the substitute sacrifice or spotless lamb to bring man back into relationship with Him. **1 Peter 1:20** “He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you.” Jesus is sometimes called the Paschal Lamb referring to the lamb which was selected to be sacrificed at Passover. Like the lamb that the Jewish priests sought out, Jesus was without sin, spot, or blemish. **1 Peter 1:19** “But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.” **2 Corinthians 5:21** “For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.” **1 Peter 2:21-23 (NKJV)** “<sup>21</sup> For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: <sup>22</sup> “Who committed no sin, nor was deceit found in His mouth; <sup>23</sup> who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously;” **Hebrews 9:28** “So Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.” He allowed Himself to be sacrificed and become the actual Paschal Lamb. **John 10:18 (NKJV)** “No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have the power to lay it down, and I have the power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father.” Each Easter is an opportunity to pause and reflect at just how deep God’s love for us is that He sent His Son to provide a pathway back to restoration with God the Father. **John 15:13** “Greater love has no one than this than to lay down one’s life for his friends.” Jesus could have chosen not to go through the humility and intense unspeakable persecution. **Luke 22:42-44 (NIV)** “<sup>42</sup> Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not My will, but yours be done.” <sup>43</sup> An angel from heaven appeared to Him and strengthened Him. <sup>44</sup> And being in anguish, He prayed more earnestly, and His sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground.” **Mark 14:32-36** “<sup>32</sup> Then they came to a place which was named Gethsemane; and He said to His disciples, “Sit here while I pray.” <sup>33</sup> And He took Peter, James, and John with Him, and He began to be troubled and deeply distressed. <sup>34</sup> Then He said to them, “My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch.” <sup>35</sup> He went a little farther, and fell on the ground, and prayed that if it were possible, the hour might pass from Him. <sup>36</sup> And He said, “Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Take this cup away from Me; nevertheless, not what I will, but what You will.” He was searching for any other way for God to redeem mankind, but there was none. **Hebrews 9:22** “And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission (of sins).” It is crucial to understand that the basis for God’s whole plan to be effective, that without Jesus willingly choosing to go through the agony, death, and resurrection, Jesus’ gesture would have been futile. This is the lamb the 24 elders in heaven refer to when they exclaim Worthy is the Lamb.

**Revelation 5:9-12** “<sup>9</sup> And they sang a new song, saying: “You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, <sup>10</sup> And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth.” <sup>11</sup> Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, <sup>12</sup> saying with a loud voice: “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain To receive power and riches and wisdom, And strength and honor and glory and blessing!”

- Jesus as a prophet. Let’s put some chronological context in this story. Up until this time, His disciples thought Jesus was a great rabbi or prophet. **John 11:8** “The disciples said to Him, “Rabbi, lately the Jews sought to stone You, and are You going there again?” Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey or colt at the beginning of the week under the shouts of Hosanna! Up to this point, He had overturned the tables in the temple courtyard and evaded the Pharisees attempt to trick Him regarding paying taxes as told in **Matthew** and **Mark**. **Matthew 22:21** “They said to Him, “Caesar’s.” And He said to them, “Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” **Mark 12:17** “And Jesus answered and said to them, “Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” And they marveled at Him.” Jesus’ popularity grew daily and was considered a threat by the Pharisees. The following interaction with His disciples occurred after a day of teaching to the public in parables and two days before they would retire for the day to eat the meal before Passover. Although we, as Christians, accept His words by faith, a historical fact proves Jesus’s ability to precisely declare prophecy in **Matthew 24:1-2 (NKJV)** “<sup>1</sup> Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple. <sup>2</sup> And Jesus said to them, “Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down.” The disciples were puzzled at this so they asked Him three more questions **Matthew 24:3 (NKJV)** “Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, 1) “Tell us, when will these things be? 2) And what will be the sign of Your coming, 3) and of the end of the age?” His answer is recorded in **Matthew 24**, **Mark 13**, and **Luke 21**, and which church theologians labeled the Olivet Discourse. Just a word to keep in mind, Jesus was speaking pointedly to His Jewish brethren, the disciples, as the “Church” at this time was not yet in existence. Earlier, we spoke about Daniel’s 70<sup>th</sup> week prophecy, Jesus is speaking specifically about that time period here.

A. The answer to the first question, “when will these things be?” is found only in the Luke account. **Luke 21:20-24** “<sup>20</sup> But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is near. <sup>21</sup> Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those who are in the midst of her depart, and let not those who are in the country enter her. <sup>22</sup> For these are the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled. <sup>23</sup> But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! For there will be great distress in the land and wrath upon this people. <sup>24</sup> And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.” Just as predicted in **Ezekiel 30:3 (NKJV)** “For the day is near, Even the day of the LORD is near; it will be a day of clouds, the time of the Gentiles prophecy.” In 70 AD, the Roman Emperor Titus sacked Jerusalem and destroyed Solomon’s temple, a second time, thereby fulfilling Jesus’ prediction. Furthermore, the “Gentiles” will have control over Jerusalem until their time is concluded. In 1967, Jerusalem was reacquired and controlled by Israel thereby bringing “the times of the Gentiles” to a close as it relates to God’s Holy City.

B. To answer the second question, “what will be the signs of Your coming?” Jesus gave the below signs of what to look for before He returns. For your convenience, you will see the

corresponding passages from the [Book of Revelation](#) and the Four Horseman of the Apocalypse. These points illustrate that Jesus certainly had a knowledge of future events, though God limited the extent of that knowledge. [Mark 13:32](#) “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.” The phrase is repeated in [Matthew 24:36](#) and omitted in the [Luke 21](#) account.

theme	biblical quote	foreshadow	companion reference
deception	<p><a href="#">Matthew 24:4-5, 11, and 23-26 (NKJV)</a>  <sup>4</sup>And Jesus answered and said to them: “Take heed that no one deceives you. <sup>5</sup>For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many. <sup>11</sup>Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. <sup>23</sup>Then if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here is the Christ!’ or ‘There!’ do not believe it. <sup>24</sup>For false Christ’s and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. <sup>25</sup>See, I have told you beforehand. <sup>26</sup>“Therefore if they say to you, ‘Look, He is in the desert!’ do not go out; or ‘Look, He is in the inner rooms!’ do not believe it.”</p>	<p>False Christs, ritualistic religion, new age practices, nonbiblical doctrine, Jonestown, Branch Davidians, LGBTQ agenda</p>	<p><a href="#">Revelation 6:1-2</a> <sup>1</sup>Now I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals; and I heard one of the four living creatures saying with a voice like thunder, “Come and see.” <sup>2</sup>And I looked, and behold, a white horse. He who sat on it had a bow, and a crown was given to Him, and He went out conquering and to conquer.”</p>

war

[Matthew 24:6-7a \(NKJV\)](#)  
“<sup>6</sup> And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.  
<sup>7a</sup> For nation\* will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom.”

[Zechariah 14:12](#) “And this shall be the plague with which the Lord will strike all the people who fought against Jerusalem: Their flesh shall dissolve while they stand on their feet, their eyes shall dissolve in their sockets, and their tongues shall dissolve in their mouths.” This is a description of a nuclear blast.”

famines,  
pestilences,  
earthquakes

[Matthew 24:7b-8 \(NKJV\)](#)  
“<sup>7b</sup> And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. <sup>8</sup> All these are the beginning of sorrows.” \*\*

Nuclear war is coming to Israel. The “Iranian Deal” ultimately allows Iran to develop a nuclear program while supplying Hamas and Hezbollah with conventional weaponry, including a vast array of rockets. Russia, Iran, and several other radical Islamic countries will conspire to attack Israel. Radical Islam is looking to totally destroy Israel and Russia wants to make a deal for oil so it can once again be a super power. The Gog/Magog war of [Ezekiel 38](#) and [39](#) is detailed below. News of Iran’s nuclear production is at the top of the world’s biggest watch list items. Their goal is to “wipe Israel off the map.”

There are several African nations, as well as Southeast Asia and parts of South America (Venezuela) that have existing famines. Pestilence such as Aids, Ebola virus, avian flu, and zika have the WHO worried.  
Earthquakes

[Revelation 6:3-4](#) “<sup>3</sup> When He opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, “Come and see.” <sup>4</sup> Another horse, fiery red, went out. And it was granted to the one who sat on it to take peace from the earth, and that people should kill one another, and there was given to him a great sword.”

[Revelation 6:5-8](#) “<sup>5</sup> When He opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, “Come and see.” So, I looked, and behold, a black horse, and he who sat on it had a pair of scales in his hand. <sup>6</sup> And I heard a voice in the midst of the four living creatures saying, “A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not harm the oil and the wine.” <sup>7</sup> When He opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice

		Katrina, Japan, Hurricane Sandy, dramatic measurable increases in the ring of fire, Cascadia Fault Zones, San Andreas zone, Yellowstone caldera. All three areas are overdue for an eruption.	of the fourth living creature saying, "Come and see." <sup>8</sup> So I looked, and behold, a pale horse. And the name of him who sat on it was Death, and Hades followed with him. And power was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, with hunger, with death, and by the beasts of the earth."
anti-Semitism	<a href="#">Matthew 24:9-10 (NKJV)</a> "9 Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake. <sup>10</sup> And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another."	Holocaust, increase of antisemitism in the US and Europe. Jewish cemeteries are vandalized by kicking over headstones or spray painting swastikas on them or synagogue walls, BDS movement, UN resolution, the Pittsburgh Temple Massacre.	<a href="#">Revelation 6:12-14</a> " <sup>12</sup> I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood. <sup>13</sup> And the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind. <sup>14</sup> Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place."
breakdown of social values and tribulation saints	<a href="#">Matthew 24:12-13 (NKJV)</a> " <sup>12</sup> And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. <sup>13</sup> But he who endures to the end shall be saved (tribulation saints)."	Law enforcements officers under attack, increase in hate crimes, domestic and international terrorism. 9/11, Boston marathon.	<a href="#">Revelation 6:9-11</a> "9 When He opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the testimony which they held. <sup>10</sup> And they cried with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" <sup>11</sup> Then a white robe was given to each of them; and it was said to them that they should rest a little while longer, until both the number of their fellow servants and their brethren, who would be killed as they were, was completed."
preach to all the world	<a href="#">Matthew 24:14 (NKJV)</a> "And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations,	Technology, global positioning satellites for communication	<a href="#">Daniel 12:4</a> "But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end:

and then the end will come.”

including television. The increase of knowledge. Computers, GPS, the internet, genetic manipulation, medical advancements, cashless transactions

many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.”

Abomination of desolation [Matthew 24:15-20 \(NKJV\)](#) “<sup>15</sup> Therefore when you see the ‘abomination of desolation,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place “ (whoever reads, let him understand), <sup>16</sup> “then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. <sup>17</sup> Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. <sup>18</sup> And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. <sup>19</sup> But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! <sup>20</sup> And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath.”

The Third Temple must be in place for the abomination of the AC being worship as god. Architectural plans with reconstructed furniture and implements. Temple priests are currently in training for the sacrifices. The ground work for a one world religion is being laid as people are starting to say God and Allah are the same, albeit with different names.

[Daniel 9:27](#) “Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; but in the middle of the week, he shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, even until the consummation, which is determined, is poured out on the desolate.”

\* The word for “nations” in vs 7 according to the Strong’s #G1484 in the original Greek is “ethos.” This is where we get our word for ethnic. A better translation is ethnic group vs ethnic group, such as Sunni vs Shiites, Saudis vs Yemenis, Arabs or Muslims vs Jews, the Sudan, the Civil war in Syria, Iraqis vs Kurds, Iran/Hezbollah, Hamas, PLO vs Israelis, N. Korea vs USA, refugees vs Europeans, and so on.

\*\* The word for “sorrows” in vs 8 according to Strong's #G5604, this original Greek word was “odin.” The word means the “pain of child birth.” [Matthew 24:8 \(NKJV\)](#) “All these are the beginning of sorrows.” [Matthew 24:8 \(NIV\)](#) “All these are the beginning of birth pains.” This an example of an idiom. The Old English referred to childbirth as “sorrows” and the contemporary versions translates to “birth pains.” It is believed that Jesus wanted to

express the idea that just before He returns, the calamities listed would occur more frequently and with greater intensity, just like a woman experiences when she goes into labor and is about to deliver.

Jesus ends His answer for this second question when He says in [Matthew 24:21-22 \(NKJV\)](#) “<sup>21</sup> For then there will be great Tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. <sup>22</sup> And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect’s sake those days will be shortened.” The above events will be very horrific and will snowball from the beginning of the Tribulation until His triumphant return. The Tribulation will be studied at the close of this section. The verses [Mathew 24:23-26](#) are part of the above outline.

- C. To answer the final question, “what of the end of the age?” He says in [Matthew 24:27-31 \(NKJV\)](#) “<sup>27</sup> For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. <sup>28</sup> For wherever the carcass is, there the eagles will be gathered together. <sup>29</sup> “Immediately after the Tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>30</sup> Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. <sup>31</sup> And He will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather His elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.” This coming will be loud, vivid, unmistakable, and predictable. The first sentence of [Daniel 9:27 \(NKJV\)](#) says “Then he (the Antichrist) shall confirm a covenant with many for one week (7 years);” has two important elements. First, it confirms the length of time for the coming seven years, and second, that the beginning will start when he delivers the confirmation of a peace treaty between Israel and her enemies. So, if we know the length and the beginning, we can count the seven years of Daniel’s 70<sup>th</sup> week to the expected second coming. Luke gives an additional point. [Luke 21:27-28](#) “<sup>27</sup> Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup> Now when these things begin (verses 4-20) to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near.” To emphasize, when these things ([vs 4-20](#)) BEGIN (not the middle or end) to happen our redemption, Christ’s return, is close at hand. Jesus then switches back to teaching in parables. Usually, when he wanted to give His disciples a deeper or meaningful lesson, He would take them off privately and speak with them. [Mark 4:33-34](#) “<sup>33</sup> And with many such parables He spoke the word to them as they were able to hear it. <sup>34</sup> But without a parable, He did not speak to them. And when they were alone, He explained all things to His disciples.” [Matthew 13:10-11](#) “<sup>10</sup> The disciples came to him and asked, “Why do you speak to the people in parables?” <sup>11</sup> He replied, “Because the knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them.” However, when He wanted to speak to the general public, He used His tried and true teaching method, parables. Jesus gives His disciples a lesson by telling them a few of parables.

1. The Fig Tree Parable. [Matthew 24:32-35 \(NKJV\)](#) “<sup>32</sup> Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. <sup>33</sup> Even so, when you see all these things, you know that it is near, right at the door. <sup>34</sup> Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. <sup>35</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.” [Luke 21:28](#) “Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near.” There are four short but important points in this parable.

- i. The lesson of this parable is portrayed in that we know the coming of summer is relatively soon when we see the clues of the spring's budding leaves. We may not know the day, but we can be aware of the season.
  - ii. The generation that sees all these happening together at the same time will be THE generation that will see Christ come. All the signs must happen at the same time for the end to begin. If there are only 1 or 2 signs the start date cannot happen. This generation is sometimes called the Terminal generation
  - iii. He reaffirms His character trait He shares with His Father God that He never changes His word after HE has given it.
  - iv. Some also suggest the "fig tree" is a symbol for Israel, so that when we see Israel reassert itself, as they did in 1948, it heralds that the return of the King is near.
2. The Days of Noah. [Matthew 24:36-39 \(NKJV\)](#) <sup>36</sup> But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only. <sup>37</sup> But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. <sup>38</sup> For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup> and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be." There are three important points in this lesson.
- i. The first part of the sentence of vs [36](#) was a common Jewish idiom in Jesus' day. It is believed to have referred to either of two contexts. One was from an ancient Jewish wedding custom. After the groom and prospective bride were officially promised to each other, (think Joseph and Mary), the groom would return to his father's house where he would create a new living space for him and his new bride. He could not go get her to bring her to her new home until the father told him it was time to go. While the groom was waiting for someone to ask him when he could go, his answer was, "no one knows the day or the hour." This correlates to [John 14:1-3](#) again about going to His Father's house to prepare a room and if He goes, He will return." The second was associated with the Feast of Trumpets, or Rosh Hashanah (Jewish New Year), or the Wedding Feast of the Messiah. Because this Feast day does not begin until the new crescent moon is seen by two Jewish men and then reported to the Sanhedrin (high court), the beginning of the month was unknown. Unlike the other Feasts, which were scheduled to fall on full moons, if someone asked when the beginning of the month was, the phrase "no one knows the day" is said to have referred to this Feast.
  - ii. The next point "the days of Noah." is covered in vs [37-39](#). Luke also weighs in. [Luke 17:22-27](#) <sup>22</sup> Then He said to the disciples, "The days will come when you will desire to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it. <sup>23</sup> And they will say to you, 'Look here!' or 'Look there!' Do not go after them or follow them. <sup>24</sup> For as the lightning that flashes out of one part under heaven shines to the other part under heaven, so also the Son of Man will be in His day. <sup>25</sup> But first He must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation. <sup>26</sup> And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man. <sup>27</sup> They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given

in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all.” As the texts suggest, during Noah’s time, people were going about living their lives, without any thought or consideration of God. There must have been some deep level of rebellion or debauchery that would cause God to wipe the slate clean and start over in [Genesis 6:5, 11 and 12](#) <sup>5</sup> “And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. <sup>11</sup> The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. <sup>12</sup> So God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth.” If we take a look at the moral indicators of today, I think a case can be made that we are close to those times before the flood. The divorce rate is 1 out of 2, in both the church and secular world, an increase of unmarried people living together and producing children, grandparents raising the 2<sup>nd</sup> generation because either or both parents are absentee, in jail or hooked on drugs, gay marriage is now as the law of the land. In America, in the first six months of 2016, alone the leading cause of death is abortion with over 500,000 cases reported. The Bible clearly states that God views anyone, and He will hold him or her accountable, who is involved with the killing of the innocents is an abomination. [Proverbs 6:16-19](#) <sup>16</sup> “These six things the LORD hates, yes, seven are an abomination to Him: <sup>17</sup> a proud look, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, <sup>18</sup> a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that are swift in running to evil, <sup>19</sup> a false witness who speaks lies, and one who sows discord among brethren.” [Jeremiah 1:5](#) “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations.” [Psalm 139:13-14](#) <sup>13</sup> “For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother’s womb. <sup>14</sup> I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well.” As in Noah’s day, no one is looking or listening for God, let alone believing that one day God will sit in judgment of us. In this illustration, the storm clouds have gathered, the sky is growing dark, and the first few drops have just started to fall. The flood took them by surprise because they did not heed Noah and his message from God. When Jesus returns, it will take those who are not watching by complete surprise. Those who do not follow Christ’s teachings, and prophecy is one of them, will not have the fore knowledge of what signs to watch for. Paul highlights that believers, as sons of light, will have the ability to know the general time of Christ’s return and that it will not surprise those who are keeping watch. [1 Thessalonians 5:1-5](#) <sup>1</sup> “But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. <sup>2</sup> For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup> For when they say, “Peace and safety!” then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. <sup>4</sup> But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. <sup>5</sup> You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness.” Conversely, the sons of darkness will sow and reap condemnation. [John 3:19-21](#) <sup>19</sup> “And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup> For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. <sup>21</sup> But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God.” The only surprise for Christians will experience when we are called into Jesus’ presence is who is and who is not

there. As a point of interest, there is a movie produced by [www.livingwaters.com](http://www.livingwaters.com) in Bellflower, CA on YouTube titled “Noah Movie HD Official Full Version.” It has been viewed over 2.7 million times. Ray Comfort interviews several people in southern CA. It is shockingly eye opening about the seemingly total blissful ignorance or unbelief of the people who were interviewed. This random slice cross-section of people will leave you shaking your head.

- iii. One will be taken. [Matthew 24:40-44 \(NKJV\)](#) “<sup>40</sup> Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. <sup>41</sup> Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. <sup>42</sup> Watch, therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup> But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. <sup>44</sup> Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.” The taking away of one of two people in vs [40-43](#) and the master of the house being caught unaware suggests this coming is in secret and without warning. In vs [44](#), it states that one should be ready for Christ’s return because the time could come at any moment. It is unpredictable. This causes a logistical question, “How can this be when we just learned in vs [27-31](#) His coming will be loud and predictable?” [Luke 12:40 \(NKJV\)](#) “Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.” This apparent inconsistency can only be explained in that the Second Coming must have two phases. Peter and Paul both have insight on this aspect so we will address this when we get to them shortly.
3. The Faithful and Wise Servant [Matthew 24:45-51 \(NKJV\)](#) “<sup>45</sup> Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? <sup>46</sup> Blessed is that servant whom his master when he comes, will find so doing. <sup>47</sup> Assuredly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all his goods. <sup>48</sup> But if that evil servant says in his heart, ‘My master is delaying his coming,’ <sup>49</sup> and begins to beat his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunkards, <sup>50</sup> the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him and at an hour that he is not aware of, <sup>51</sup> and will cut him in two and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” Simply put Jesus is reinforcing the concept of being prepared so you are not caught unaware of the master’s return. Luke and Mark say it better and strongly emphasizes the command to watch. [Luke 21:34-36](#) “<sup>34</sup> But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day (will) come on you unexpectedly. <sup>35</sup> For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup> Watch, therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man.” [Mark 13:35-37](#) “<sup>35</sup> Watch, therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning <sup>36</sup> lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping. <sup>37</sup> And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!” Jesus admonished us to be ready and keep alert. [Luke’s and Mark’s](#) narrative ends here whereas [Matthew](#) continues with parables in chapter 25. The theme of keeping watch and ready for His return is reinforced with these parables.
4. The Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins. [Matthew 25:1-13](#) “<sup>1</sup> Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the

bridegroom. <sup>2</sup> Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish. <sup>3</sup> Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, <sup>4</sup> but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. <sup>5</sup> But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept. <sup>6</sup> “And at midnight a cry was heard: ‘Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!’ <sup>7</sup> Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup> And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps, are going out.’ <sup>9</sup> But the wise answered, saying, ‘No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.’ <sup>10</sup> And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding, and the door was shut. <sup>11</sup> “Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, Lord, open to us!’ <sup>12</sup> But he answered and said, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.’<sup>13</sup> “Watch, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.” The lesson here is that all ten virgins were initially looking for the return of their beloved. However, after a time, five of them were distracted and lost sight of his return. The remaining faithful five stayed the course and remained faithful, so when the beloved did arrive they were ready and were taken to His home.

5. The Parable of the Talents. This parable is well known. The short version is. It deals with the master giving one servant, 5 talents, one servant 2 talents and one servant 1 talent and what they did with the money as good stewards. [Matthew 25:14-29](#) <sup>14</sup> “For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. <sup>15</sup> And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. <sup>16</sup> Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. <sup>17</sup> And likewise, he who had received two gained two more also. <sup>18</sup> But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord’s money. <sup>19</sup> After a long time, the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup> “So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, ‘Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.’ <sup>21</sup> His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’ <sup>22</sup> He also who had received two talents came and said, ‘Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.’ <sup>23</sup> His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’ <sup>24</sup> “Then he who had received the one talent came and said, ‘Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. <sup>25</sup> And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.’ <sup>26</sup> “But his lord answered and said to him, ‘You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. <sup>27</sup> So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming, I would have received back my own with interest. <sup>28</sup> Therefore take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. <sup>29</sup> ‘For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away.”
6. The Son of Man will judge the Nations. [Matthew 25:31-46](#) <sup>31</sup> “When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. <sup>32</sup> All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. <sup>33</sup> And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. <sup>34</sup> Then the King will say to

those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: <sup>35</sup> for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; <sup>36</sup> I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' <sup>37</sup> "Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? <sup>38</sup> When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? <sup>39</sup> Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' <sup>40</sup> And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.' <sup>41</sup> "Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: <sup>42</sup> for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; <sup>43</sup> I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' <sup>44</sup> "Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' <sup>45</sup> Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' <sup>46</sup> And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life." The chief prophetic point here is in vs [32](#) where God will sit in judgment over the nations after He returns at the end of the Tribulation.

- Jesus is a covenant/promise keeper. In the first opening topic, why we should study prophecy, Jesus promised He would return. To be able to fulfill that promise of Jesus' birthright to being legitimate, a lawful conduit for God's plan was established by presenting Jesus within a NEW COVENANT. [Jeremiah 31:31-33](#) "<sup>31</sup> Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a NEW COVENANT with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah <sup>32</sup> not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD. <sup>33</sup> But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people." At the evening meal the night before Passover, Jesus prophesied about His betrayal. [Matthew 26:20-21](#) "<sup>20</sup> When evening had come, He sat down with the twelve. <sup>21</sup> Now as they were eating, He said, "Assuredly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me." He then instituted His NEW COVENANT sacrament, The Lord's Supper. [Matthew 26:28](#) "For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." [Luke 22:20 \(NKJV\)](#) "Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you." We traditionally remember His sacrifice and commandment when we celebrate this covenant the first Sunday of each month when we take the communion sacrament. [1 Corinthians 11:25](#) "In the same manner, He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." This is the one covenant that believers can point to assure the plan of salvation for the forgiveness of sins. [Ephesians 1:7](#) "In Him, we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace." Without this covenant, God is not obligated to uphold His word about anything. The symbolism of the wine in the cup is that this covenant is sealed in blood. A blood oath is the most sacred rite that lasts for life, in God's case forever. It comes out of the traditions of Judaism. The ritual mingles the essence of the two participating entities into one. The Bible also mentions a warning about a prerequisite for and judgment against abusing the sacredness of this sacrament. [1 Corinthians 11:27-29](#) "<sup>27</sup> Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. <sup>28</sup> But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. <sup>29</sup> For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and

drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body." In essence, this means any person who is out of a relationship with Him is not allowed to take communion. The major differences between God's previous covenants and this covenant are;

- A. That it is not exclusive to the Jewish people it is free to all (Jew or Gentile) who ask. [Matthew 10:40 \(NKJV\)](#) "He who receives you receives Me, and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me." [Matthew 11:28](#) "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." It cannot be earned as it is a gift that can only be accepted. [Luke 2:10](#) "Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to ALL people." [John 8:32](#) "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." [John 8:36](#) "Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed." Jesus bridges the Hebrew world with the gentile world.
- B. Paul reinforces and explains that one cannot acquire the gift of salvation by working for it or by being good enough. [Romans 10:13](#) "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the LORD shall be saved." [Ephesians 2:1-5 \(NIV\)](#) "<sup>1</sup>As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, <sup>2</sup> in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. <sup>3</sup> All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. <sup>4</sup> But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, <sup>5</sup> made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved." [Ephesians 2:8-9](#) "<sup>8</sup>For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: <sup>9</sup>Not of works, lest any man should boast." [Galatians 2:15-16](#) "<sup>15</sup>We who are Jews by nature, and not sinners of the Gentiles, <sup>16</sup> knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified." The attraction of Jesus' message was radically different in that it can only be acquired by acceptance and not adherence to the law. Jesus lived by example. He came to elevate and move beyond the original purpose of the Law. In other words, He wanted to remove the shackles of slavery by the misunderstanding the Law had become. A prime example is when the Pharisees plotted to trip Jesus up by His ministering to a sick man on the Sabbath. [Mark 3:1-6](#) "<sup>1</sup>And He entered again into the synagogue; and there was a man there which had a withered hand. <sup>2</sup>And they watched Him, whether He would heal him on the sabbath day; that they might accuse Him. <sup>3</sup>And he saith unto the man which had the withered hand, Stand forth. <sup>4</sup>And He saith unto them, "Is it lawful to do good on the sabbath days, or to do evil? to save life, or to kill?" But they held their peace. <sup>5</sup>And when He had looked round about on them with anger, being grieved for the hardness of their hearts, He saith unto the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it out: and his hand was restored whole as the other. <sup>6</sup>And the Pharisees went forth, and straightway took counsel with the Herodians against him, how they might destroy Him."
- C. It reaffirms and specifies the promise of life in heaven with God for eternity to Jew and non-Jew alike. [John 3:16-17](#) "<sup>16</sup>For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. <sup>17</sup>For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved." [John 5:24](#) "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life,

and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.” [John 10:28 \(NKJV\)](#) “And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.” [John 17:3-4 \(NIV\)](#) “<sup>3</sup> Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup> I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do.” He came to bring life. [John 10:10 \(NKJV\)](#) “The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

- D. Jesus declared He was the only avenue by which one can connect to God His Father. [John 6:44](#) “No man can come to Me, except the Father which hath sent Me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.” [John 14:6 \(NIV\)](#) “Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” As we mentioned earlier Jesus’ initial audience was primarily Jewish. As He gained notoriety He moved from teaching in temples to evangelizing in open air amphitheaters or fields. The Gospels also show that His message of love and grace resonated with not only the average Jew but also with the Gentiles. [Luke 21:37-38](#) “<sup>37</sup> And in the day time He was teaching (to the Jews) in the temple, and at night He went out and abode in the mount of Olives. <sup>38</sup> And all the people (Jew and Gentile) came early in the morning to Him in the temple to hear Him.”

It should be noted here that there is a prophetic correlation between Jesus, the Feasts of the Lord, and what is to come. As we established earlier, God works in patterns and sets His own calendar. The logical understanding is if God revealed His plan by having Jesus fulfill the Messianic Lamb prophecies in the Spring Feasts, why wouldn’t He do so again for the Fall Feasts? These fulfillments are sequential, in a specific order, and grouped together. The fulfillment of the Spring Feasts all happened in a three day period of the same week. Not one Feast on one year and another Feast in a second year. We must keep three things in mind as well look at the Feasts below. 1) As we discovered in the opening of the New Testament and Matthew, Jesus’ ministry was to His fellow countrymen. The Feasts of the Lord were established for the Ancient Hebrews as a rehearsal for the rituals of worshipping God. All believers, Jews and Gentiles alike, will need to know them in the Millennium. This will be explained when we look at the four categories in the Millennium later on. 2) If indeed God truly wants us to know His plan, and He does, would He not make it so that we would be able to understand His plan in His word? 3) To truly grasp the progression, one must first understand that the Jewish orthodox day is from sundown to sundown. Events that transpire from dusk through the early morning and into the daylight hours are considered one day. The second day begins at sundown and repeats. God says what He means and means what He says. All that we need to know about His plan is in the Bible. We have had thousands of years to study, discern, and recognize God’s word. Only until relatively recent times can we actually see the prophecies coming together. [Daniel 12:4](#) “But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.” We will look at the signs more closely when we unpacked the Book of Revelation.

### Spring Feasts

☪ Passover. Jesus was sacrificed on the cross as the Paschal Lamb on Passover. [John 19:17-18](#) “<sup>17</sup> And He bearing His cross went out to a place called the Place of a Skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha. <sup>18</sup> Where they crucified Him, and two others with Him, one on either side and Jesus in the midst.” Jesus and the Disciples were in

Jerusalem for Passover because all men were required to come to Jerusalem as listed in the Spring Feast Days when we looked at them with Moses in Leviticus.

☞ Unleavened Bread. Jesus was wrapped and hidden away in the tomb. [John 19:40](#) “Then they took the body of Jesus, and wound it in linen clothes with the spices, as the manner of the Jews is to bury.” [1 Corinthians 5:7](#) “Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.”

☞ Offering of First Fruits. Jesus rose from the dead being the first fruits of blessing to all subsequent believers that die in the Lord. [Matthew 28:5-6 \(NIV\)](#) “<sup>5</sup>The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. <sup>6</sup> He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay.”

☞ Feast of Weeks / Pentecost. Like the God Himself coming down to earth after the Exodus, He reinforces the pattern by having the Holy Spirit arrive in a whirlwind of fire. [Acts 2:1-3](#) “<sup>1</sup> And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. <sup>2</sup> And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.”

## Fall Feasts

☞ Feast of Trumpets/Rosh Hashanah This Feast could have two purposes prophetically. The first could be either the Rapture of the church or the beginning of the Tribulation. [1 Corinthians 15:51-52](#) “<sup>51</sup> Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, <sup>52</sup> In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.” [1 Thessalonians 4:16-17](#) “<sup>16</sup> For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trump of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup> Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so shall we ever be with the Lord.” The text states that this coming will only be as far as the clouds and be quick. Faster than the blink of an eye or space of time between two heartbeats. The second appearing will require some time to have His angels announce and gather every eye. [Matthew 24:31](#) “And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.” [Joel 2:1](#) “Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in My holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble; for the day of the LORD is coming, for it is nigh at hand.” Bear in mind that this is the only Feast that puts an emphasis on the blowing of the shofar in a specific pattern as we learned earlier when we examined the Feasts of the Lord with Moses. The second could be when Christ arrives with His saints and angels at the end of the Tribulation, but does not actually touch the earth until the Day of Atonement. This would fit in the thought that all three Fall Feasts have to happen sequentially and together like the Spring Feasts. We will put the main differences side by side between the Rapture and the Second Coming further on in chapter 12 when we look at what’s on the horizon for the church or the bride of Christ.

☞ Day of Atonement/Yom Kippur. God established the pattern of His physically visiting the Hebrews in the Tabernacle and Temple. Furthermore, High Priests made petitions of Atonement on behalf of the people. The prophetic relevance the Second Coming is that when the Messiah does return He will actually place His foot on terra firma. [Zechariah 14:4](#) “And His feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.” Jesus will intercede for us as High Priest. [Hebrews 2:17](#) “Wherefore in all things it behoved Him to be made like unto His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.” We will explore Jesus’ role as High Priest when we look at the millennium. This is also the day that the nations will be brought before God to be judged for their treatment of Israel. [Joel 3:1-2 \(NKJV\)](#) “<sup>1</sup> For behold, in those days and at that time, when I bring back the captives of Judah and Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> I will also gather all nations, and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; and I will enter into judgment with them there on account of My people, My heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations; they have also divided up My land.” God will place Jesus in the position of authority from where He will judge all humanity. [Hebrews 10:12](#) “But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God.” [Isaiah 11:4](#) “But with righteousness He shall judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth; and He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked.” [Psalm 72:7](#) “In His days shall the righteous flourish, and the abundance of peace so long as the moon endureth.”

☞ Feast of Booths/Tabernacles. This is the beginning of the Millennium, which we will explore in detail later in chapter 21. [Revelation 20:4](#) “And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.”