

**Stay Alert – The End is Always Nearer – Every Generation believed the end is near...every one right**  
**Aside Revelation – No important biblical eschatology (End Times) Olivet Discourse M24 – L21 – M13**  
**Difficult – What event is Jesus talking? End times? Destruction Temple A.D. 70 | Both | Picture - SG**  
Some scholars say texts only address the end human history and His Second Coming | **LB Series**  
Others advocate Jesus was describing the fall of Jerusalem and destruction of Temple in 70 AD  
Or perhaps Jesus describing **both** the events 70 AD and the end of human history | Compelling  
**As read: Absolutely see how that's AD 70 | That happens all the time | I don't think that's happened**  
**I will argue the possibility** Jesus envisioned the events of 70 AD as little picture (foreshadowing) of the big picture events (fulfillment) associated with the End of this World and Jesus' second coming.

This "now" and "not yet" fulfillment of prophecy is standard issue in Scripture  
Overlap ages - Messianic age arrived, only inaugurated — awaits fulfillment 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming  
It is essential to recognize this phenomenon in Scripture if we are to understand biblical prophecy  
We must be careful not to force "not yet" aspects of given prophecies into final fulfillment "now"  
**Earthquakes – Wars & Rumors Wars – Pin the Tail on the Antichrist | Discussion of End = Orthodox!**  
1) There will be a personal, visible, and bodily return of Christ  
2) We do not know when Christ will return – I know when = WRONG | JW's have made this a hobby  
3) We should eagerly long for and be ready for Christ's return – Excited and ready  
4) Christ's return will bring eternal judgment for unbelievers and eternal reward for believers  
**apture: Beginning – End | Millennium & Tribulation: Literal – Figurative | Pantheist – Pan Out**  
**Orthodox – The only way orthodox views become dangerous is if they become divisive | JMac - RC**

**What to do while we wait...and confidence in the Lord in that waiting!**  
**Big Idea: Take shelter in God's power and love...When the world is in distress**

**Don't be distracted by worldly beauty (1-2)**  
And as he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what wonderful stones and what wonderful buildings!"  
We've no reference grandeur Temple – Herod's obsession with greatness and permanence on display  
2x Solomon's | 325m x 500m | Circumference nearly mile | 35-acre enclosure = 12 football fields  
Southwest corner retaining wall 15 stories above Kidron Valley | Eastern wall covered w/gold  
Built with polished white stones – 50 to 300 TONS - 'Gleamed light like a jewel'  
picenter religious – Meeting God / man – Most important religious architectural achievement ever  
**Unfinished...still building...never...?** And Jesus said to him, "Do you see these great buildings? There will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down." – Unquestionably A.D. 70 | Insane!  
Pompey (63 BC) | Herod (20 BC) 130 Years | Jesus (33 AD) | What end? Zealot Revolt (66 AD)  
o Zealots = Aggressive Political | Law & Nation Israel | Rome out of Jerusalem & Jews supportive  
o (66-68) Nero Vespasian | Nero Death (68) – Year Four Emperors | Vespasian – Titus  
o April 70 Surrounded & Starved | August 70 slaughtered

**ires stones crumbled – Took the gold from the walls...Kidron Valley...Down to Foundation | Picture**  
'That splendid city of world renown...Cesar ordered the whole city and temple be so razed to the ground...so leveled as to leave future visitors no reason for believing it ever existed' – Josephus  
**1.1 MILLION Killed + 100K Slavery – Jews lost city...1947 - Promised by God...Fulfilled by God...why?**  
Temple had become a place of man-made religious idolatry that rejected the Son of God  
Enamored with their outward appearance and beauty temple – Jesus sees a pile of rubble  
Temple Full Beauty but Empty Truth | Covered Gold but Concealing Corruption | Busy Activity but Idle Worship  
Jesus preparing disciples for day when every outward religious help would be gone...faith all left  
Jesus isn't impressed with our man-made religion void of Godly dependence - He will tear it down  
God isn't interested in outward beauty of person or property...condition of your soul  
**on't be distracted by worldly beauty – End...it will be you alone with God...stuff won't matter**

**Don't be deceived by false messiahs (3-6)**  
And as he sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple (explain), Peter and James and John and Andrew asked him privately, "Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when all these things are about to be accomplished?" (Matt 'your coming and the close of the age?') (Explain) And Jesus began to say to them, "See that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray.

This has been happening since Jesus left and is still happening now...

- (Acts 5) Theudas – 400 away – Boasted Signs – Part the Jordan River
  - AD 66 Josephus writes about the 'Many Led Away by the False' – War of the Jews
  - Ann Lee – Shakers | Sun Myung Moon – Unification Church 2M | David Koresh – Branch Davidian
    - o Joseph Smith – LDS 17 million | Charles Russel - Jehovah Witnesses – 9 million | Good person!
- Marshal Applewhite - Heavens Gate Cult — Mass Suicide 1997 HB – Bible lens extraterrestrial contact**  
Be able to spot a lie...how? By knowing the Truth! First Century...21<sup>st</sup> century...KNOW THE TRUTH  
**Why does happen? People don't know Truth...fear leads grasping | See that no one leads you astray**  
**Don't be deceived by false messiahs...End there will only be one answer for messiah...Biblical Jesus**
- 3. Don't be distraught by troubles (7-12) | World Wide – Political – Societal – Familial Woes**  
<sup>7</sup> And when you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed. This must take place, but the end is not yet. <sup>8</sup> For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. These are but the beginning of the birth pains.  
'Beginning of the Birth Pains' – Illustration contractions of a mother in labor...increase in intensity & duration
- Rumor of War – Emperor Caligula (37-41) Threatened build a statue of himself in the Temple
    - o Rumors of War – Friday Soviets running nuclear exercises – Easter Ukraine evacuated cities
  - War Erupted – When hasn't the world been in war? America's nation 246 years major war 1/3
  - Earthquakes: Phrygia (Fri-jee-uh) (61) – Pompey (63) | Haiti (2010) = **CONTINUE WORSEN END**  
**What does Jesus say? 'Do not be alarmed' – Take shelter in God's power and love!**  
<sup>9</sup> But be on your guard. For they will deliver you over to councils, and you will be beaten in synagogues, and you will stand before governors and kings for my sake, (explain) to bear witness before them.  
<sup>10</sup> And the gospel must first be proclaimed to all nations. <sup>11</sup> And when they bring you to trial and deliver you over, do not be anxious beforehand what you are to say, but say whatever is given you in that hour, for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit. <sup>12</sup> And brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death.
- Feels like the whole book of Acts – Zealots rose to power = 12 K | brothers – Fathers
  - George Weigel – 'Christian Number Crunching' | 270 – 24hrs | 2000-2010 = 1M | 1900-1910 = 34K
- Persecution will continue to rise...but what is our role?**
- 'Be on Guard...persecution...for my sake...to bear witness before them = GOSPEL  
Suffering will give unprecedented opportunities to declare faith before kings – rulers – authorities
  - 'Do not be anxious' ...All Nations - Holy Spirit speak through you = **Incredible Comfort evangelism**  
**Persecution for the Gospel always has a Purpose for the Gospel**

The purpose of the litany of woes is not to lure believers into speculation about the end, but to anchor them to watchfulness and faithfulness in the present – We have a job to do...do it we must!

**Don't be distracted by worldly beauty – Deceived by false messiahs – distraught by troubles**  
**4. Depend on God's salvation (13)**

<sup>13</sup> And you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.  
**Jesus prophetically describes what will occur between his First Coming and His Return**

- **Destruction of Temple – Deception of Many – Devastation on Earth – Distress in Persecution**  
**Deliverance of True Believers**

Some improperly interpreted passage – Salvation can be earned through/lost by perseverance – NO

- Reiterating those who endure suffering for His sake DEMONSTRATE they are true believers

**Only way orthodox views become dangerous is if become divisive | Real danger outside orthodoxy**  
**Genesis = Didn't believe God | Flood = Didn't believe God | Moses = Didn't believe God**  
**Jerusalem = Didn't believe God | Satan = Didn't believe God | Demons = Didn't believe God**  
**All have been punished...some temporarily...some eternally...What will you do now?**

Believe God...Go nuts about the Gospel...Communion...pass / take together

Stay Alert – The End is Always Nearer – Closer to then end now than when I started talking  
Did these things happen AD 70...Yes | Have they continued to happen...yes | Will they get worse...yes