

## BACK TO THE FUTURE: UNDERSTANDING REVELATION IN LIGHT OF JESUS' PROPHECY

### *Signs of the End of the Age*

(Matthew 24:1–35; Revelation 6:1–17)

Listen very carefully, Church, I need you to see and understand this scene in Matthew chapter 24.



*"Truly, I say to you, there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down"*

(Matt. 24:2)



*"Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?" (v. 3)*

Now fast forward to Revelation 6. John is on Patmos, caught up in the Spirit, watching as the Lamb of God breaks open seven seals on the scroll of God's purposes.



So let's begin with Matthew 24 and ...

### ❖ The Disciples' Threefold Question

- When will these things be? (*The destruction of the Temple*)
- What will be the sign of your coming in judgement be? (*Christ's coming in judgment on Jerusalem*)
- And of the end of the age? (*Not the end of the world, but the end of the old covenant age*)

When John sees the Lamb opening the scroll in Revelation 6,



### ❖ False Christs, Wars, Famine, Pestilence, and Persecution – Olivet and Seals Side by Side

Now let's compare Jesus' prophecy with the seals. Watch how perfectly they line up.



- False Christs (Matt. 24:4-5; Rev. 6:1-2)

*"See that no one leads you astray. For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and they will lead many astray." (Matthew 24:4-5)*

- Wars and Rumors of Wars (Matt. 24:6-7; Rev. 6:3-4)

*"You will hear of wars and rumors of wars... Nation will rise against nation." (Matthew 24:6-7)*

- Famine (Matt. 24:7; Rev. 6:5-6)
- Pestilence and Death (Matt. 24:7-9; Rev. 6:7-8)
- Persecution of Believers (Matt. 24:9-13; Rev. 6:9-11)

*They will deliver you up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations." (Matthew 24:9-13)*

- Cosmic Signs (Matt. 24:29; Rev. 6:12-17)

## ❖ The “Birth Pains” and Their First-Century Fulfillment

*“the beginning of birth pains” (Matt. 24:8)*

## ❖ Seals as Covenantal Judgments, Not Random Disasters

Let’s get this straight: these seals are not random catastrophes. They are covenantal judgments.

## ❖ The Great Tribulation and the Fall of the City *(Matthew 24:15–28; Revelation 11:1–13; Luke 21:20–24)*

- Daniel’s Prophecy and Jesus’ Warning to Flee Judea

Six centuries before Christ, Daniel received a vision of a coming “abomination of desolation” (Dan. 9:27; 11:31; 12:11)

In Matthew 24, Jesus warns His disciples: when you see this abomination, when you see the holy place defiled and armies closing in, don’t hesitate.

- Luke’s Plain Explanation – Armies Surrounding Jerusalem

*“When you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation has come near” (Luke 21:20)*

*“great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now” (Matt. 24:21)*



- Revelation's 42 Months and the Trampling of the Holy City

*"trampled by the nations for 42 months" (Rev. 11:2).*

*"a time, times, and half a time" (Dan. 7:25)*

- The Two Witnesses and Faithful Testimony Before Destruction

John introduces us to the Two Witnesses (Revelation 11:3–12)