

Mark 13:14-23 "FUTURE TRIBULATION"

Here we arrive at the Olivet Discourse—paralleled in Matthew 24 and Luke 21—where the longest answer Jesus would ever give dealing with end times and future events.

Earthquakes... Famines... Pestilences...

These are the beginning of sorrows, or "labor pains."

Come on Pastor Mike. . .

"There has always been war and rumors of war." There have.

"But there have always been earthquakes," you say. And there have.

"There has always been famine," you say. There has.

But what Jesus is saying is that, like birth pains, these things will increase in frequency and intensity as the Tribulation period draws nearer.

As L.A. Marzulli says this is not business as "usual".

Prophecy is not to entertain the curious... **BUT** To bring us to a place of prayer and action

Jesus will now teach what will occur in the middle of the tribulation.

"Daniel's 70th Week"

Systematic theology... My favorite discipline in Theology...

Theology Proper... Attributes of God

Bibliology... The study of... Bible

Christology... The study of... Christ

Pneumatology... The study of... Holy Spirit

Angelology... The study of... Angels

Anthropology... The study of... Man

Soteriology... The study of... Salvation

Ecclesiology... The study of... Church

Eschatology... The study of... End Times; Last things

What about Israelology? **5/6th** of the Bible covers the plans and purposes of Israel *God has and is dealing with the Church in a completely different manner than that of Israel...*

Distinctions . . .

Different origins, different missions, different destinies

70 weeks deal specifically with Israel... **Paul speaks distinctly and uniquely** to the Jews, Gentiles and the Church

Revelation 4 speaks to these differences again

Once the Church is raptured God will re-focus on Israel and pouring out His Spirit on the Jewish population

Jesus quotes from Isaiah 61 in Luke 4:18-20 Turn there with me and let's read Luke 4 starting with verse 16 So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. 17 And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written:

18 " *The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; 19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD.*" 20 Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. 21 And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." 22 So all bore witness to Him, and marveled at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth.

The Good News of Salvation

Isaiah 61:1 "The Spirit of the Lord GOD *is* upon Me, Because the LORD has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to *those who are bound*; 2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, **NOTE: Jesus stopped here...** *His life is a fulfillment of these amazing prophecies and thus completes the 69 weeks... the 70th week is still in the future... as Isaiah Further states*

And the day of vengeance of our God; Jesus didn't continue because this day of vengeance was yet in the future... **"The Tribulation"**

This interval is defined... the interval is the Church...

Luke 19:41 *Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it, 42 saying, "If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes.*

Romans 11:25 *For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the **fullness** of the Gentiles has come in. **Church phrase** **and at it's fullness the rapture will happen***

The Church was hidden in the Old Testament... **this is the mystery now revealed...** New Testament is in the Old Testament concealed and the Old Testament is found in the New Testament revealed.

Old Testament puts all the pieces of furniture in place with the lights out... and the N.T. turns the lights on.

Paul speaks of this glorious mystery throughout his letter to Ephesus. **Eph. 5:32** *This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.*

So there is a gap of an unspecified period of time between the 69th and 70th week.

69th week fulfilled to the T when Jesus marched into Jerusalem on a donkey proclaiming Himself Messiah.

Daniel 9 Verse 26 mentions two events that occur in that gap – Messiah is cut off, or crucified, which took place 4 days later – and the city and temple is destroyed, which took place 38 years later, at the hands of Rome.

I believe we're still between the 69th and 70th week. A final seven year period has still been allotted to fulfill the remainder of the prophecy. During the Great Tribulation God will punish the wicked, purify the Jews, and establish His kingdom in Israel. In the interval (gap) God has opened the door of salvation to Gentiles.

God stopped the clock so to speak, to allow Gentiles to be saved. But when the last Gentile comes to Jesus, **"until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in."** *Beam us up Scotty!*

So once the restraining force of the Church is gone God will again turn His attention toward the Jews. **The final 7 year week begins when the king of the Revived Roman empire confirms a covenant with God's people Israel.** In the middle of that week, at 3½ years, the antichrist puts an end to the temple sacrifices and offerings.

Now we begin our text Mark 13:14 "So when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing where it ought not" (let the reader understand), "then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.

Jesus calls this the "abomination of desolation". He uses the very same terminology Daniel uses in chapter 9.

WE learn from Daniel's prophecies and from Revelation that this "abomination of desolation" will be preformed by **Satan's superman...** (AKA the Anti-Christ himself.) **He will make some kind of deal to bring peace to Palestinians and Israel. He could enforce one already established or create a new one... He will allow them to return to Levitical sacrifices. They have a serious problem... no remedy for sin...**

Hebrews 9:21 *Then likewise he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle and all the vessels of the ministry. ²² And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.*

This occurrence occurred in history as a foreshadow of the one yet to come...

Remember the foreshadowing of Antiochus Epiphanes

In the book of Daniel Chapter 8 verse 11 we read... *He even exalted himself as high as the Prince of the host; and by him the daily sacrifices were taken away, and the place of His sanctuary was cast down.*

Antiochus demanded the worship of zues. And the record of history shows that Antiochus Epiphanes set himself up to be God in place of the Prince of princes. In fact, that is why they call him Epiphanes. He was Antiochus the 4th, but Epiphanes means "THE MANIFEST GOD" He put this phrase on all the coins... *Antiochus... the manifest god.* and by him the daily sacrifices were taken away,

The books of the law that they found they tore to pieces and burned with fire. Anyone found possessing the book of the covenant, or anyone who adhered to the law: was condemned to death by decree of the King.

In a letter *Antiochus* sent to Jerusalem and the cities of Judea He

- He forbade all offerings in the sanctuary
- Decreed the Jews cannot celebrate Sabbaths or feasts
- Had his leaders build pagan altars and shrines for idols
- Encouraged the sacrifice of swine and other unclean animals
- Forbade them from circumcising their sons

Whoever does not obey the command of the King shall die!

He called himself "Theos Epiphanes," or "God Manifested or God revealed."

The Jews, aware of this madman, called him "Antiochus Epiphanes," which means "ANTIOCHUS THE INSANE ONE OR CRAZY ONE" They recognized he was deranged and history confirms this was true.

Known to slaughter pigs on the altar and cram pig flesh down priests throats killing them. THIS GUY WAS WICKED! As unbelievable as it may sound he was nothing to the sick and deranged mind of the anti-Christ.

(Barclay) As bad as this was, it did not fulfill the **abomination of desolation**, because Jesus said these words long *after* Antiochus did this.

Essentially, the **abomination of desolation** speaks of the ultimate desecration of a Jewish temple, an idolatrous image in the holy place itself, which will inevitably result in the judgment of God. It is the **abomination** that brings **desolation**.

After **69 weeks** Messiah came. But there's still one week left. The history of Israel consists of seventy weeks. Therefore, one seven-year period remains to be unfolded. At that time, the prince of the people, antichrist—a charismatic, influential, intelligent world leader—will appear on the scene. He will pull off a miraculous feat of creating peace between Israel and the muslim nations... rebuilding of the temple will occur.

Daniel 9:27 (b)

But in the middle of the week **This last week of 7 years is divided into two 3 and ½ year spans**

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 anti-Christ energized by Satan himself... Satan's superman will rise to power in the revived Roman empire... as prophesied by Daniel. As this evil world leader declares himself to be God... "abomination of desolation" God will begin to pour out His wrath upon the world.

Back to the words of Jesus regarding this future great tribulation...

Mark 13 verse 15 Let him who is on the housetop not go down into the house, nor enter to take anything out of his house. **Urgency!** **16** And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. **17** But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! **18** And pray that your flight may not be in winter. **19** For *in* those days there will be tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the creation which God created until this time, nor ever shall be. **20** And unless the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake, whom He chose, He shortened the days. **If the terrors of the great tribulation were to continue indefinitely, mankind could not survive -**

so, **for the elect's sake**, the days will be limited.

21 "Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here *is* the Christ!' or, 'Look, *He is* there!' do not believe it. **22** For false christs and false prophets will rise and show signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. **No one** should be deceived about the nature of Jesus' coming. It will not be secret or private, and it won't be a "different" Jesus. In the midst of such tribulation, men will be tempted to fall for false messiahs.

Daniel 12:1 *"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, Every one who is found written in the book.*

In 1343 bubonic plague started to sweep across Europe. Over **8** years, 2/3's of the population of Europe was afflicted with the plague, and half of those afflicted died - an almost incredible total of 25 million people. This time of **tribulation** will be worse.

HOLOCAUST.. *1 out of every 3 alive were killed.*

In this great tribulation more than 1/2 will be killed.

Worst time in the history of the world to be alive **Matthew 24:21**

Seals, and trumpets and bowls of wrath will fall upon creation and mankind.

Revelation 16:2 **Incurable open oozing sores on the worshippers of the anti-Christ those who take upon themselves the mark**

Everything alive in the Ocean will be killed Rev. 16:3... Dead sea creatures washing ashore... Shirley it will stinketh...

Outbreak of wars Rev. 6:4

deadly Famines Rev. 6:8

Uncontrollable fires *boy we know what that's like!!!* Rev. 8:7

Oceans blood Rev. 8:8

ASTERIODS HITTING EARTH AND TSUNAMIS DESTROY 1/3 OF THE SHIPS AROUND THE WORLD Rev. 8:8 and 9

Rev. 9:1-5 records **demons released and torment unbelievers for 5 months**

PROLONGED DROUGHT Rev. 11:6

Rev. 16:8 Listen to this... Then the fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and power was given to him to scorch men with fire. ⁹ And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has power over these plagues; and they did not repent and give Him glory. ¹⁰ Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain. ¹¹ They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and did not repent of their deeds.

Earthquakes so massive that islands disappear and mountains crumble ... Rev. 16:20

Largest Hailstone in U.S. History Found

The largest hailstone ever recovered in the United States, a seven-inch wide chunk of ice *almost as large as a soccer ball*. Roughly 5 pounds

You can go and visit this baby in the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, Colorado, where it will be preserved indefinitely.

Revelation 16:21 speaks of hailstones around 100lbs. **each approximately 19 inches in diameter...**

Darkness across the planet Rev. 16:10

More than ½ the worlds population will die during this unprecedented time.

WHAT WILL IT TAKE TO GET MAN'S ATTENTION NOW? Floods, fires, earthquakes, wars, moral decay... no; moral abandonment!

they just seem to jolt us. . . after 9/11 people flocked to churches... but as soon as the perceived threat diminished back to a godless life. **World wide economic failure...** Whatever package is presented will not cure... The only cure is national repentance and a return to what made us great... Full surrender and a return again to a nation is truly "One nation under God"

The God I believe in would never do this ... you are right because the **God you believe in doesn't exist. . .** The true and the living, holy God will bring judgment upon sin... He will follow through **Hosea 5:15 I will return again to My place
Till they acknowledge their offense.
Then they will seek My face;
In their affliction they will earnestly seek Me."**

During this 70th week of Daniel... **The tribulation...** the worst time in the history of mankind... **Israel in their affliction will earnestly seek Him...**

Out of the ashes of the Holocaust Israel was reborn as a nation... God took man's evil against His people and gave them back their country. **God disciplines those who He loves. His children.** We are His children. Right now in our lives God is using difficulties as discipline to change our hearts.

Don't waste your suffering! Allow God to use it to change your heart. To mold and shape you into His image. To learn to trust, to rely, to surrender, to worship to walk with Him

Jesus promised to catch His people up from the earth and meet them in the air (**1 Thessalonians 4:16-18**), and told us to pray that would be counted worthy to escape this time (**Luke 21:36**) and promised to keep His faithful from the time of judgment that would come upon the earth (**Revelation 3:10**). Jesus gave this warning primarily as a specific, amazing prophecy of events thousands of years before they happened, so the Jewish people during the days of the abomination of desolation would have a unique witness to Jesus and His Word.

Concluding His train of thought verse 23 But take heed; see, I have told you all things beforehand. **He has reasons why He wants you to take heed, anticipating and being ready for His soon return:**

- It has a purifying effect in our lives
- It gives us a sense of urgency
- IT MAKES US BOLD IN SPEAKING TO THE LOST
- IT HELPS US KEEP A LIGHT TOUCH ON THE THINGS OF THIS WORLD

If you wake up every morning and say, "Jesus could come back today and I need to be ready." would it make your life better or worse?

SOON AND VERY SOON WE ARE GOING TO SEE THE KING!