

## Signs Of The Lord's Return

### Matthew 24:6-7

Each of the signs will have a short-term fulfilment in leading up to the Lord's return, but will also become more intensified and happening closer together as we approach the Lord's return.

**Matthew 24:8** - *All these are the beginning of birth pains.*

What is the difference between the *they/them* in 1 Thessalonians 5:3 and the *we/us* in 1 Thessalonians 5:9-10 below? Explain the difference.

**1 Thessalonians 5:3** - *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.*

**1 Thessalonians 5:9-10** – *For God has not appointed us to wrath but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, that, whether we wake (the Rapture) or sleep (body in the grave), we should live together with Him.*

3. The sign of \_\_\_\_\_.

**Matthew 24:6-7** - *And you shall hear of wars and rumors of wars, see that you be not troubled, for all these things must come to pass but the end (the end of the age that the disciples questioned Jesus about) is not yet (remember how birth pains occur and end). For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom...*

So where are we today in regard to a major war breaking out?

Review in your mind about the riders from Zechariah that we discussed last time. You may want to read Revelation 5 about the Lord Jesus breaking the seals that we see in Revelation 6. Who calls the riders out? Who is in control of the riders? Who are the riders? At what point do they go throughout the earth?

**Revelation 6:3-4** - When He (Jesus) opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come." And another horse went forth, bright red; and to the one sitting on it, to him was granted to take the peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another; and a great sword was given to him.

What color is the horse this rider is on? What does this rider do throughout the world? What would the color be a picture of?

What is the difference between what the 1<sup>st</sup> rider carries with him versus what the 2<sup>nd</sup> rider carries with him? What does each mean to the world?

**Daniel 11:38-45** – ...he will worship the god of forces...Claiming this foreign god's help, he will attack the strongest fortresses...He will invade various lands and sweep through them like a flood...He will conquer many countries...

What do we learn about the Antichrist from Daniel 11:38-45 above?

**Daniel 8:24** - His power will be great, but it will not be his own. He will cause terrible destruction and succeed in whatever he does. He will destroy the mighty men along with the holy people.

If it's not the Antichrist's own power that subdues the world, whose power is it that is given to him? Who does the Antichrist go after to destroy according to Daniel 8:24 above?

**Matthew 24:21** – For then shall be great tribulation, such as not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days are shortened, there should no flesh be saved. But for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.

Daniel 12:11 – 1290 days

Daniel 12:12 – 1335 days

Revelation 11:2 – 42 months

Revelation 11:3 – 1260 days

Revelation 12:6 – 1260 days

Revelation 12:14 – time, and times, and half a time (3 ½ years)

Revelation 13:5 – 42 months

4. The sign of \_\_\_\_\_.

**Matthew 24:7** - ... And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places.

**Luke 21:11** - ...and there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.

What is the meaning of “various places” in Matthew 24:7?

So where are we today in regard to major *famines, pestilences, and earthquakes* breaking out as a sign for the rapture? Is it easier since COVID to see how easily the *famines* and *pestilences* can occur? Are earthquakes being felt around the globe more often?

**Revelation 6:5-6** - And when He opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature saying, "Come!" And I looked, and behold, a black horse, and the one sitting on it having a pair of scales in his hand. And I heard a voice from among 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 wine.'

This is the first time that it is stated that John *looked* and *beheld*. What could that mean?

**Jeremiah 14:1-2** - This is the word of the LORD that came to Jeremiah concerning the drought. Judah mourns and her gates languish. Her people are black for the land, and a cry goes up from Jerusalem.

What does Jeremiah 14:1-2 tell us about the meaning of the color of the black horse of Revelation 6:5-6?

What would the *balances* be a picture of?

**Revelation 13:16-17** – And he (Antichrist) causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: and that no man might buy or sell, except he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

**Revelation 6:6** - *And I heard a voice from among 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 wine.'*

Whose voice is heard in Revelation 6:6?

**Revelation 6:12-17** – *And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every slave, and every free man...And said ...For the great day of His wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?*

So, as these birth pains begin to get closer and closer, as the whole world begins to fall apart, so to speak, there will be plagues and diseases as well as earthquakes and famines