

Prophecies of His Return

"As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately. "Tell us," they said, "when will this happen, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?" - Matthew 24:3

The Background...

- the location — *The Mount of Olives*
- the situation — *Privately*
- the question(s) — *When will it happen? What will be the sign?*

Six things we know will happen...

1. The abomination that causes desolation (v. 15)

"He will confirm a covenant with many for one 'seven.' In the middle of the 'seven' he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on a wing [of the temple] he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him." - Daniel 9:27

• Antiochus IV

- | | |
|------------|---------------|
| • his name | • his pattern |
| • his act | • his end |

"...not to become easily unsettled or alarmed by some prophecy, report or letter supposed to have come from us, saying that the day of the Lord has already come. Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction." - 2 Thessalonians 2:2-3

• Antichrist

- | | |
|------------|---------------|
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"The beast was given a mouth to utter proud words and blasphemies and to exercise his authority for forty-two months. He opened his mouth to blaspheme God, and to slander His name and His dwelling place and those who live in heaven." - Revelation 13:5,6

"In the whole land," declares the LORD, "two-thirds will be struck down and perish; yet one third will be left in it. This third I will bring into the fire; I will refine them like silver and test them like gold." - Zechariah 13:8,9

2. The flight of the Jews

"So when you see standing in the holy place 'the abomination that causes desolation,' spoken of through the prophet Daniel—let the reader understand—then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains." - Matthew 24:15,16

- When this happens, run!
- 70 AD

3. Unparalleled distress

"For then there will be great distress, unequaled from the beginning of the world until now—and never to be equaled again." - Matthew 24:21

"There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then." - Daniel 12:1

- God will cut these days short for the sake of the elect.

4. False messiahs will appear and do great miracles

"For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect." - Matthew 24:24

"Pharaoh then summoned wise men and sorcerers, and the Egyptian magicians also did the same things by their secret arts." - Exodus 7:11

5. Heavenly bodies will be altered

"Immediately after the distress of those days

"the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light;
the stars will fall from the sky,

and the heavenly bodies will be shaken."

- Matthew 24:29

6. The sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky

"Then will appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven. And then all the peoples of the earth will mourn when they see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory." - Matthew 24:30

- Nations will mourn
- Jesus will appear in great power and glory
- He will send His angels

Jesus' Warning...

- "Now learn this lesson" — *the fig tree*
- "This generation" — *the generation that sees these signs*
- "My words will never pass away" — *a guarantee*

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