

2nd temple destroyed

70 AD

Luke 21: 24 - 33 "And they <the Jews in Jerusalem> shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and **Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.** <sup>25</sup>And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth **distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring;** <sup>26</sup>Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for **the powers of heaven shall be shaken.** <sup>27</sup>And then they will see **the Son of Man coming in a cloud** with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh."

<sup>29</sup>And he spake to them a parable; Behold the fig tree, and all the trees; <sup>30</sup>When they now shoot forth, ye see and **know of your own selves that summer is now nigh** at hand. <sup>31</sup>So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, **know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh** at hand. <sup>32</sup>Verily I say unto you, **this generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled.** <sup>33</sup>Heaven and earth shall pass away: but **my words shall not pass away.** "

- I. "The Times of the Gentiles," verse 24 (review): Jerusalem was the city God had promised to Moses that His name and His home (the Temple) would be there. Jerusalem was where the throne of David was, upon which all subsequent Kings of Israel would sit. See Dt 12:5, 16:2; 1 Kings 8: 20-21. Jerusalem was the city where all Jews would come once a year to offer sacrifice. The importance of Jerusalem to the Children of Israel can not be overstated. That Jesus would predict 40 years beforehand that Jerusalem would belong to Gentiles was unthinkable. **30-33 AD**

From our perspective in 2024, these 'times of the Gentiles' have lasted 2000 years. They are also referred to as 'the Church age', or 'the age of Grace'. From events happening in the world today, we anticipate these times of the Gentiles are coming to a close very soon. The Rapture of Christ's church will put an end to 'the times of the Gentiles'.

II. The Signs:

Deep space forces shaken

- A. The sun, the moon, and the stars: astronomical events. See Revelation 6:12 - 14, 8:7, 12; . **Rev 8:12**
- B. Distress of Nations, perplexity : Wars and rumors of wars, fights between nations, kingdoms, cities and neighborhoods. See Rev 11: 3 - 6; 11: 13; 12: 12, 17; 13:7 - 8 **Four Horsemen Rev 6:1-8**
- C. The sea and the waves: Unusual and severe weather events. See Rev 8:8 - 11; 9:2; **Rev 8:7-12**
- D. The powers of heaven shall be shaken, people's hearts fail because of fear: See Rev 9:3-6; 9: 15; 13: 13; **Rev 8:12**

- III. Jesus will be seen in power and glory, Rev 14:14 - 16. There is much doubt as to where this event fits in the timeline and exactly how it will happen, but there is no doubt this will happen, see Luke 21:32

No nation status for Israel between

70 AD - May 14, ~~20~~ 1948

- Nation of Israel born in one day (Is 66:8)
- Mark Twain visited Holy Land in 1867. He wrote a book about his visit - The Innocents Abroad. He described Israel as a desolate land with very few plants (like Death Valley NP).
- But a miracle happened. In last 75 years, Israel is covered with trees & plants everywhere
- \* Israel is now like a green garden (Is 35:1-2)

Beginning of Sorrows  
End is not yet

December 8, 2024

Vital Signs Connection Group

Luke 21:24 - 33

IV. The Parable:

A. When a tree starts to blossom, you know that Summer will happen very soon. This is the earthly lesson that we should all understand.

B. When you see the things Jesus told to His disciples, you'll know the following will happen very soon (the heavenly lesson we can predict from Jesus' own words):

1. The times of the Gentiles are over. The Jews will again control Jerusalem for 3½ years.
2. The signs mentioned above will start to occur.
3. The earth is in its last 7 years under the dominion of man. The Bible has several names for this time period. The two most used names are the Tribulation (Matthew 24:21, 29) and the Time of Jacob's Trouble (Jeremiah 30:7.)

Rev 11:1-3  
Tribulation  
1st 3½ yrs  
42 months  
1260 days

Mt 24:6-8

Mk 13:7-8

V. The Promises:

A. That generation: The generation which experiences the Rapture of the church and the Tribulation period will also experience the return of Jesus to the earth, providing they can survive.

B. The stability of God's Word: Jesus' words will continue past the destruction of the current heaven and earth. See Rev. 21:1

If we have time: Please examine your own heart to see if you are truly saved (2 Corinthians 13:5). For those who know they need salvation but are putting it off until a more convenient time, there is a warning that, should the Rapture occur, you will be deceived into never receiving salvation: 2 Thessalonians 2:8 - 12. Don't play games with God.

Tribulation lasts 7 years

- First half (Rev 11:1-3)

\* 42 months, 1260 days

\* based on 360 day calendar year

x banking calendar

x ancient Egyptian calendar

x Jewish calendar

\* time, times, plus half a time (Dan 12:7, Rev 12:4)  
(1 + 2 + 1/2 = 3 1/2 years)

- Second half

\* 42 months (Rev 13:5)

x Beast (Anti Christ) speaking blasphemies