

Jesus' Second Coming Lesson

Tim Day 2023



Acts 1:11 ... **Jesus**, which is taken up from you into heaven, **shall so come in like manner** as ye have seen him go into heaven.

Jesus is coming back one day, just as He promised. We are to watch for His appearance.

Mark 13: 33 Take ye heed, **watch** ... 35 **Watch** ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh ...37 And what I say unto you I say unto all, **Watch**.

Matthew 24:42 **Watch** therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.

What do we watch for? How can you watch without knowing what to watch for?

Six Positions

There are **six prevalent positions** regarding Christ's Second Coming. They are all mutually exclusive from one another. Thus, logically speaking, they cannot all be right. In fact, Logic 101 would dictate that at most one could be right, and the rest are wrong.

For example, if I say the sky is purple-polka-dot, and you say it is pink, at least one of us is wrong. They are mutually exclusive positions. In this case, assuming the sky is blue, we are both wrong.

Yet, we hold these six positions in our churches as if they are all equally valid. It is insanity. They simply cannot all be right. There is only one right answer, and that is the Word of God. So the question becomes, if one is right, which is it?

Olivet Discourse – What Jesus Said

I can tell you with all confidence, based on God's Word, **they are all wrong**. Not one lines up with Scripture. In fact, not even one of them even comes close to lining up with Jesus' description in the **Olivet Discourse**. The Olivet Discourse is the '**decoder ring**' to all of eschatology.

Note: The *Pre-Wrath Rapture position*, essentially the seventh, is entirely congruent with Scripture.

You see, walking up to the Mount of Olives, after a crazy three days, the disciples – Peter, James, John and Andrew – asked Jesus a very straight-forward question: '**when are You coming back, what will be the sign of Your coming and the end of the age?**'

We act like Jesus did not answer the question. But, He did, and in brilliant detail. In fact, He went through six of the Seven Seals on the Scroll of the Book of Revelation in numerical order. The Book of Revelation had not yet been written by John. It would not be written for another 60 years.

It is like Jesus knew. (*Sarcasm*) Furthermore, the order Jesus spoke of the events leading up to His Second Coming, is the same order you find it throughout all of scripture – without exception.

Scroll of Revelation

Before I move forward, what is in this **Scroll**? It defines God's wrath, or **His judgment** of the nations for how they have persecuted His elect – especially, Israel. It contains the *Trumpet and Bowel judgments*.

What is the scroll held closed by? Seals. How many? Seven Seals.

[Think Roman red-wax seals.]

What do you have to do to open the Scroll? Break the Seals. How many? All seven. You say, well duh. But, it is another point of logic that seems to escape many Christians on this subject. You will see why I point this out in a few moments.

Note: The Seal numbers are in the text. They were not added like verse and chapter numbers.

Remember **John** was crying because no one was worthy break the seals and open the Scroll. It turns out Jesus is worthy. All authority both in heaven and earth has been given unto Him.

Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, **All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.**

As Jesus is breaking the Seals, literally or figuratively – I do not know – corresponding events are playing out here on planet earth and in the heavens. Jesus goes through them in numerical order. Again, it is the same order found everywhere in Scripture, without exception.

These Things

Skipping over Jesus' answer for a moment, once He answered the question, Jesus likened it to a **fig tree**. The fig tree is often a metaphor in Scripture for Israel. In this case, when it buds out, you know summer is near. You will know the **season**, the general timeframe, if you know what to look for.

Matthew 24:32 Now learn a parable of the **fig tree**; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh: 33 So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, **know that it is near**, even at the doors.

Then He said, but 'you *will not know the day not the hour.*' That is a very finite period of time. Sadly, many Christians use this as an excuse to ignore what Jesus said we are to look for. However, in context **Jesus was telling us exactly what to look for** to know His coming is near.

Matthew 24:36 But of that **day and hour knoweth no man**, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.

After this comment, Jesus said four times:

1. When you see these things, look up for your redemption draweth nigh.
2. When you see these things, know the end is near.
3. This generation shall not pass away until all these things are fulfilled.
4. Lastly, He said to pray that you are found worthy to escape all these things.

Can you name the "*these things*?" In teaching this for 35 years, I have found that virtually no one can. That strikes me odd. It should strike you odd too. Jesus told us exactly what to look for to know when He is coming back, and no one knows!?

The question is, do you want to know what the "**these things**" are? If so, we will continue on.

First Half of the 70th Week of Daniel



Lets dive into what is known as the 70th Week of Daniel; the last seven years of Jewish prophetic history. It is, in fact, the **last seven years of earth history** – that is the earth as we know it, without Christ's rule. End-time Israel, the Church Age, and the Age of the Gentiles all culminates in the 70th Week of Daniel.

Beginning of Sorrows

In the first half of the Olivet Discourse, Jesus is describing the **first half** of the 70th Week of Daniel. He calls it the “**Beginning of Sorrows**.” In the Beginning of Sorrows, Jesus goes through the first Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse, the first four Seals of the Scroll in the Book of Revelation.

Who is the **First Horseman** of the Apocalypse? It is the **antichrist**. He comes on a *White Horse* impersonating Jesus.

When the person of the antichrist comes on the scene, and even negotiates a peace treaty with Israel launching the 70th Week of Daniel, do we know that he is to be the antichrist? No. We do not know for sure until the middle of the 70th Week of Daniel, as you will see here shortly.

[Abram Accords – Mike Pompeo, Jared Kushner; Temple mount – prayer and temple]

Who are the next **Three Housemen**? *War, Pestilence & Famine, and Death*. The Red Horse, Pale Horse and the Black Horse.

We have War, Pestilence & Famine, and Death going on **now**, don't we? We have had Pestilence & Famine, War and Death going on for **centuries**, haven't we? Is that much of a sign? No, not really; however, I suspect is will **amp-up** dramatically during this 3-1/2 years.

[**Current Events**: *Economy, supply chains, plandemics, War: Ukraine, China, Russia*]

It is as if Jesus covers these things briefly as a mere statement-of-fact.

Midpoint of the 70th Week of Daniel Forward



Now, here is where it gets interesting. We are about to cover the “*these things*.” Jesus launches the next segment with the **Abomination of Desolation** as he begins to discuss the **second half** of the 70th Week of Daniel.

Abomination of Desolation

The Abomination of Desolation is a key event. It tells us exactly where we are in the 70th Week of Daniel as it plays out.

Matthew 24:15 When ye therefore shall see the **abomination of desolation**, *spoken of by Daniel* the prophet, stand in the holy place, (*whoso readeth, let him understand*.)

We know from Daniel, that the Abomination of Desolation occurs in the **Middle** of the 70th Week of Daniel. It is at the Abomination of Desolation that we finally know for certain that the person of the antichrist, is indeed, the antichrist.

He desecrates the Jewish Temple like **Antiochus Epiphanes**, leading to the Maccabean Revolt 200 years before Jesus foretold these events; and, also like **Titus** in 70 AD leading to the Diaspora. Antiochus and Titus were “types of” antichrist.

Daniel 9:27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and **in the midst** (middle) **of the week** he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of **abominations he shall make it desolate**, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

Daniel 11:31 And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and they shall place **the abomination that maketh desolate**.

Daniel 12:11 And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the **abomination that maketh desolate** set up, there shall be a *thousand two hundred and ninety days* (3-1/2 years, second half of the 70th Week of Daniel).

Middle of the 70th Week

A lot of things happen in the *middle of the 70th Week* of Daniel. It seems few Christians know these things. First, **Michael** the Archangel, the defender of Israel, is told to “**stand up.**”

Daniel 12:1 And **at that time shall Michael stand up**, the *great prince which standeth for the children of thy people*: and there shall be a **time of trouble**, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.

What does “*stand up*” mean? I believe it like telling a *military unit to stand down*, and to not engage. Michael is told to “*stand up*,” meaning stop defending Israel for a season. As you see in this verse, “**a time of trouble**” (Great Tribulation) commences.

Then, Michael and his angel armies throw **Satan permanently out of Heaven**. Satan presently has full access to God in Heaven; he is currently the “*accuser of our Brethren.*”

Revelation 12:7 And there was war in heaven: **Michael and his angels fought against the dragon**; and the dragon fought and his angels, 8 And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. 9 And the great **dragon** was cast out, that old serpent, called the **Devil, and Satan**, which deceiveth the whole world: **he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.** 10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: **for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.**

He is thrown to earth. He knows “*his doom is sure, and his time is short.*” It is just like the lyrics of the wonderful hymn, “**A Mighty Fortress is our God.**”

Revelation 12:12 Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, *having great wrath*, because **he knoweth that he hath but a short time.**

He has “*great wrath*” and sets out in one last attempt to thwart God’s plan of redemption and persecute the Elect one last time. The devil empowers the person of the antichrist.

Revelation 13:5 And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and **power was given unto him to continue forty and two months.** 6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in

heaven. 7 And it was **given unto him to make war with the saints**, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.

Great Tribulation

Now what does Jesus say to do when you see this event? Let me paraphrase, He says, “*run like heck, because all heck is going to break loose in Jerusalem and Israel*” and maybe, the rest of the Middle East, or even the whole world.

Matthew 24:16 Then let them which be in Judaea **flee** into the mountains: 17 Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house: 18 Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes. 19 And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days! 20 But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day: 21 For then shall be **great tribulation**, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

Those who know their prophecy and run, God promises to protect in “the **wilderness**,” he will even ‘*swallow up*’ the antichrist’s armies he sends to devour them, because he is “*wroth*” with the children of God.

Revelation 12:6 And the **woman fled into the wilderness**, where she hath a place **prepared of God**, that they should *feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days*. ... 14 And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might **fly into the wilderness**, into her place, where she is nourished for a *time, and times, and half a time*, from the face of the serpent. 15 And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood. 16 And the earth helped the woman, and **the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood** which the dragon cast out of his mouth. 17 And **the dragon was wroth with the woman**, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

This is the **Great Tribulation**; the **Fifth Seal**. Jesus says of it, nothing like it in the history of the world has happened like it, and never will happen again. Thus, *ISIS, Hitler, Stalin, Mao* were a mere **warm-up act** for how bad this is going to be.

Matthew 24:21 For then shall be **great tribulation**, such as was **not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be**.

So now we have been through **Seals One through Four**, the mid-point - the **Abomination of Desolation** - and now the **Fifth Seal** – the Great Tribulation. Jesus said that if it were *not cut short*, '*no flesh would be saved*.'

Matthew 24:22 And except those days should be **shortened**, there should **no flesh be saved**: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.

Cosmic Disturbances

How does He cut it short? Yes, the **Sixth Seal** – if you are counting. What is the Sixth Seal? Eschatologists call it the **Cosmic Disturbances**. I like that phrase. However, you and I know it as '*the moon turns to blood, the sun no longer gives its light and the stars fall to the earth from the heavens*.'

Joel 2:31 The **sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood**, before the great and terrible day of the Lord come.

Mark 13:24 But in those days, after that tribulation, the **sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light**, 25 And the **stars of heaven shall fall**, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken.

This is the **Sixth Seal**. Let me unpack that for a second.

Will the **Moon** literally turn to "*blood*?" I don't know; but, I doubt it. It may look blood red; you will see why in a moment.

Will the **Sun** burn out? Beats me! If it did the last light would reach earth in **8 minutes**. Then we would be dark. In days and weeks, we would become deep-space cold and life would begin dying. But, Christ is going to rule the earth from Jerusalem for 1,000 years. Thus, I doubt it will burn out. But, it will look dim. Again, hang on for a moment to see why.

Are the stars going to fall to the earth? I strongly doubt it. The closest star is the **Sun** at about **94 million miles** from the earth. It is a medium sized star, but **1.3 Million earths** could fit inside the sun. Thus, if the sun fell the 94 million miles, it would swallow the earth and no even know it.

The next closest star is in the Alpha Centauri cluster, **Alpha Proxima** at 4.2 light years or **25 trillion miles** from earth. As a small, but bright star, it is seven times bigger than the earth. Thus if it fell the 25 trillion miles it would swallow the earth and maybe belch. That would be about it.

What could these verses be describing? Well, just beyond Mars orbit, our next-door neighbor going away from the Sun is what is known as an **Asteroid Belt**. It is huge. In width is 2.0-2.5 times bigger than the distance from Earth to Mars. It goes all the way

around the Sun, and is in our elliptical plane. It is filled with enormous asteroids, meteors, and comets. What is it doing there? Beats me!

This is **speculation**, but what if God, or gravity, pulled this Asteroid Band into our orbit. We would be flying around the sun through it. Remember we are spinning, so the astral objects would bombard the earth on all sides. As these hit the earth, they would blow **debris and dust up into our atmosphere**.

If we go into the Book of Revelation we get more detail about the Sixth Seal:

Revelation 6:12 And I beheld when he had opened the **sixth seal**, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the **sun became black** as sackcloth of hair, and the **moon became as blood**; **13 And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth**, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.¹⁴ And the **heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places**. ¹⁵ And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and **every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains**; **16 And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us**, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:

Luke 21:25 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; **26 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.

Men were hiding under rocks and in caves for fear. Men's hearts were also failing them for fear. Furthermore, the mountains, oceans, and islands where '*moving out of their place*.' If this is taking place, we would have **tectonic plate movement**. Meaning, we would have *earthquakes, tsunamis, and tidal waves*, and significant **volcanic activity**. The asteroid collisions and volcanoes throwing ash into the atmosphere would surely darken the skies.

[Italian volcano a few years ago; ash darkened our skies.]

Maybe, the darkened skies would make the sun appear dim and the moon reddish. Remember, this is my speculation. No doubt, some of the figurative language is difficult to discern perfectly.

Lights: By the way, what has God done with the Cosmic Disturbances? God **turns out the lights**. When Christ returns he will be the light; no eye will miss His appearing. Scripture describes Jesus' countenance when He

comes backs as: *glowing, in glory, transfigured, like light, like lightening, etc.*

Cut Short: As a side note, how do the Cosmic Disturbances cut the Great Tribulation short? Simple! In my opinion, who would have time, or an inclination, to persecute anyone with all this going on? I suspect it will be every man for himself.

The Rapture

The Sixth Seal, the Cosmic Disturbances, is a '**marker verse**.' It is mentioned 23 times in the Bible. In every case, without exception, it is announcing the Day of the Lord. The **Day of the Lord** is mentioned some 54 times. It is always Christ's Second Coming to gather His elect and pour out His judgment.

So what should we expect to see next? Yes, the **Rapture**. What do we see next?

Matthew 24:30 And then shall appear the **sign of the Son of man** in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man **coming in the clouds** of heaven with power and great **glory**. 31 And **he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.**

What does that sound like? Sounds like the Rapture to me!

So we have now gone through **Seals One through Four**, the mid-point - the **Abomination of Desolation** - the **Fifth Seal** – the Great Tribulation, the **Sixth Seal** – the Cosmic Disturbances, and now the **Rapture**.

Notice the **Seventh Seal** is not yet broken. The Scroll is still closed. The wrath of God has not started. Thus, we should be able to go into the Book of Revelation to look **between the Sixth and Seventh Seals** to see if there is any evidence of the Rapture taking place? What do we find?

John asked, who are all these people and where did they come from? A **great multitude** appeared out of nowhere that no man could number.

Revelation 7:9 After this I beheld, and, lo, **a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues**, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; ... 13 And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, **What are these** which are arrayed in white robes? and **whence came they?** 14 And I said unto him, Sir, thou

knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

This is **right where they should be** in the sequence of event. Remember this includes *the living in Christ at His Return, and those who died in Christ since Genesis*. That is, no doubt, an enormous huge crowd.

Sequence Note: The sequence of events we just looked at is the same everywhere we find it in Scripture, without exception.

Wrap-Up



After His description of the “*these things*,” Jesus likens it to a *Fig Tree*, and says *that no one will know the day or hour*. But, He just described the “***these things***” in great detail. Clearly He wanted you to know the “*these things*.”

So the begging question is now, can you name the “*these things*?” What are they?

- **Abomination of Desolation** in the Middle of the 70th Week of Daniel
- **The Great Tribulation**, the Fifth Seal
- **The Cosmic Disturbances**, the Sixth Seal, announcing Christ’s Return.

Then, we see the **Rapture** of the Saints. It follows, and is announced by these events; especially, by the Cosmic Disturbances.

The **Beginning of Sorrows**, the first four Seal, will be harder to discern. Although, I suspect the *War, Pestilence & Famine, and Death* will **amp-up dramatically**.

Those with eyes to see, and ears to hear – those have discernment and know their prophecy – will likely suspect that we are in the first half of the 70th Week of Daniel when these events heat up.

But, the events from the **middle of the 70th Week forward** will be impossible to miss – to those who know the “*these things*.”

Maranatha!

“I regret that more and more Christian believers are being drawn into a **hazy, fuzzy kind of teaching** that assures everyone who has ever “accepted Christ” that he or she has **nothing more to be concerned about**. He is OK and he will always be OK **because Christ will be returning before things get too tough.**” – *AW Tozer*