

My Bible School

Lesson # 6

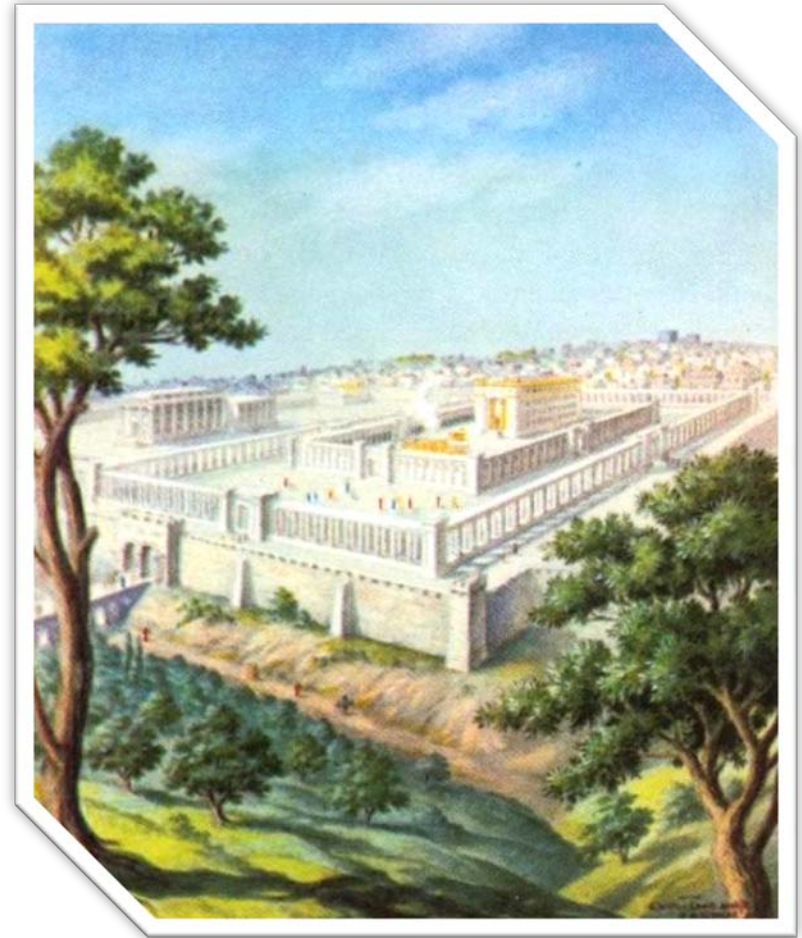
Signs of the End

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



Not one stone upon another!

Every Hebrew felt an understandable pride in the Temple at Jerusalem. This feeling was shared by Christ's disciples who, one day, pointed out its beauties to the Master. Instead of expressing wonder at the magnificence of the Temple, however, Jesus took the opportunity to say. "See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another that shall not be thrown down.



Not one stone upon another!

As He sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto Him privately. saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of Thy coming and of the end of the world?"



From this question it seems apparent that the disciples thought the destruction of Jerusalem and the end of the world would take place at the same time. Hence, in His answer, Christ outlined the parallel conditions that would prevail before both of these events.

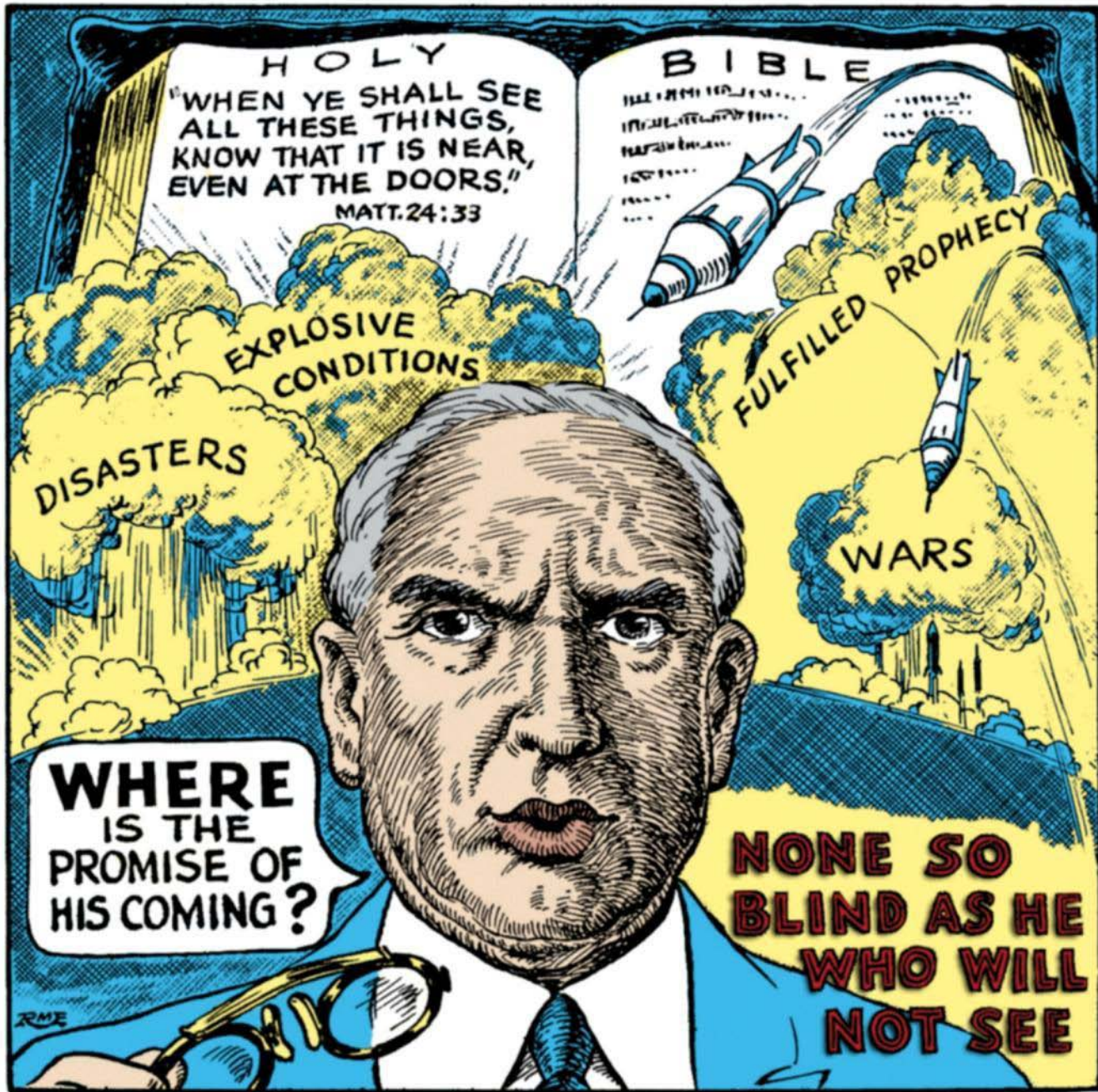


1: WHAT THREE GREAT SIGNS DID CHRIST SAY WOULD APPEAR IN THE POLITICAL WORLD?

1. Fear and perplexity.

“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; 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. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.” Luke 21:25-27.





H O L Y B I B L E

"WHEN YE SHALL SEE ALL THESE THINGS, KNOW THAT IT IS NEAR, EVEN AT THE DOORS!"
MATT.24:33

THE FIRST...
THE SECOND...
THE THIRD...
THE FOURTH...
THE FIFTH...

EXPLOSIVE CONDITIONS
DISASTERS
WARS
FULFILLED PROPHECY

WHERE IS THE PROMISE OF HIS COMING?

NONE SO BLIND AS HE WHO WILL NOT SEE

RME

2. Spirit of war.

“Ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom.” Matthew 24:6-7



3. Great efforts for peace.

“The day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them.” 1 Thessalonians 5:2-3.

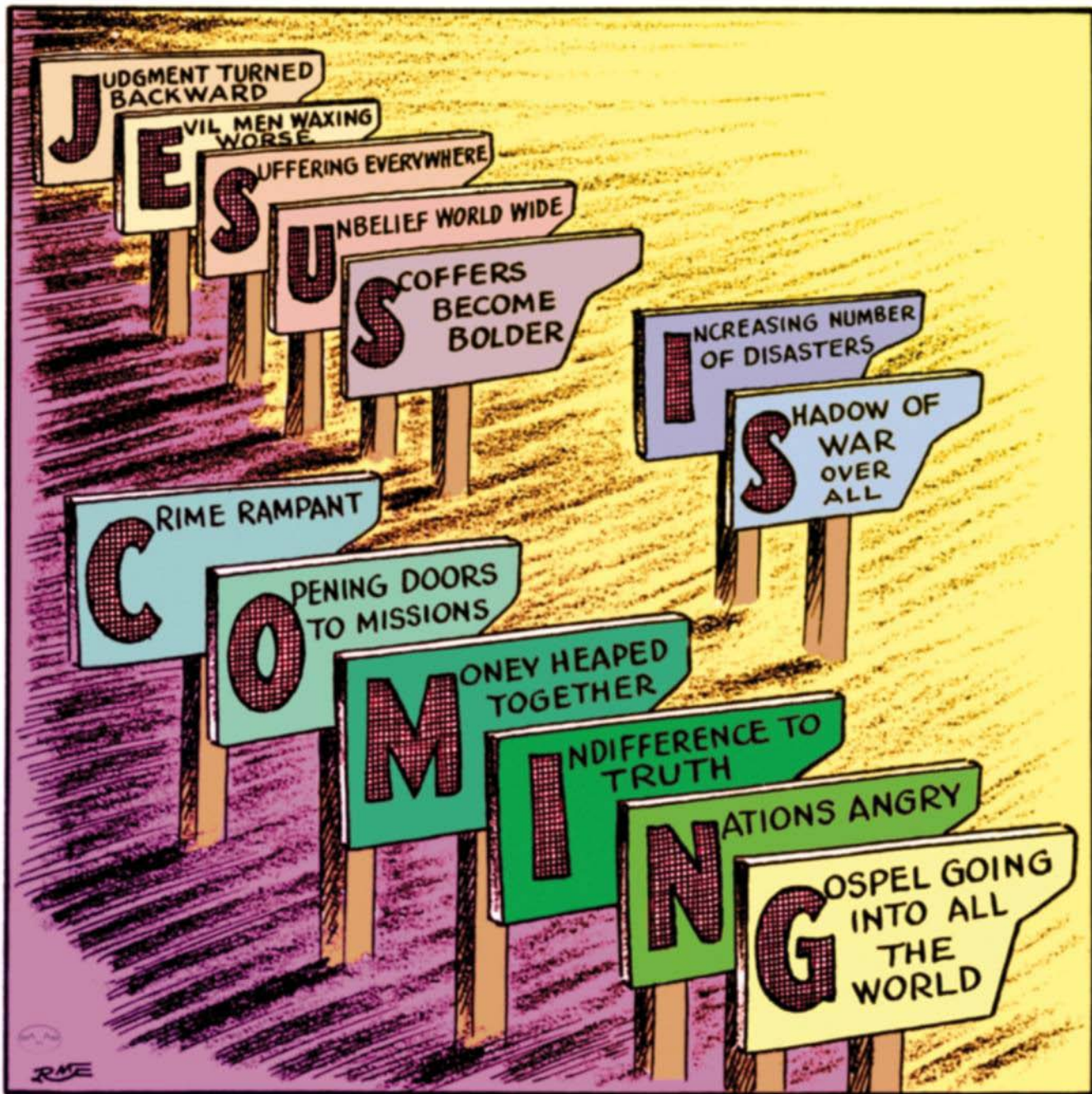
“They have healed also the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace.” Jeremiah 6:14.

The accuracy of Bible prophecy is here demonstrated by predicting that, in the very midst of unprecedented preparation for war, there would be widespread talk of peace. The historian, Hazen, has confirmed this by saying, "The contemporary world, to a degree altogether unprecedented in history, has been dominated by the thought of war, by extraordinary preparations for war, and by zealous and concerted efforts for peace."

**2: WHAT
CONDITIONS WILL
PREVAIL IN THE
SOCIAL WORLD IN
THE LAST DAYS?**



“This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of there own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful. unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.” 2 Timothy 3:1-5.



JUDGMENT TURNED
BACKWARD

EVIL MEN WAXING
WORSE

SUFFERING EVERYWHERE

UNBELIEF WORLD WIDE

TREASURES
BECOME
BOLDER

INCREASING NUMBER
OF DISASTERS

SHADOW OF
WAR
OVER
ALL

CRIME RAMPANT

OPENING DOORS
TO MISSIONS

MONEY HEAPED
TOGETHER

INDIFFERENCE TO
TRUTH

NATIONS ANGRY

GOSPEL GOING
INTO ALL
THE
WORLD

RME

3: IN THE ECONOMIC WORLD, WHAT CONDITIONS POINT TO CHRIST'S RETURN?

“Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire.

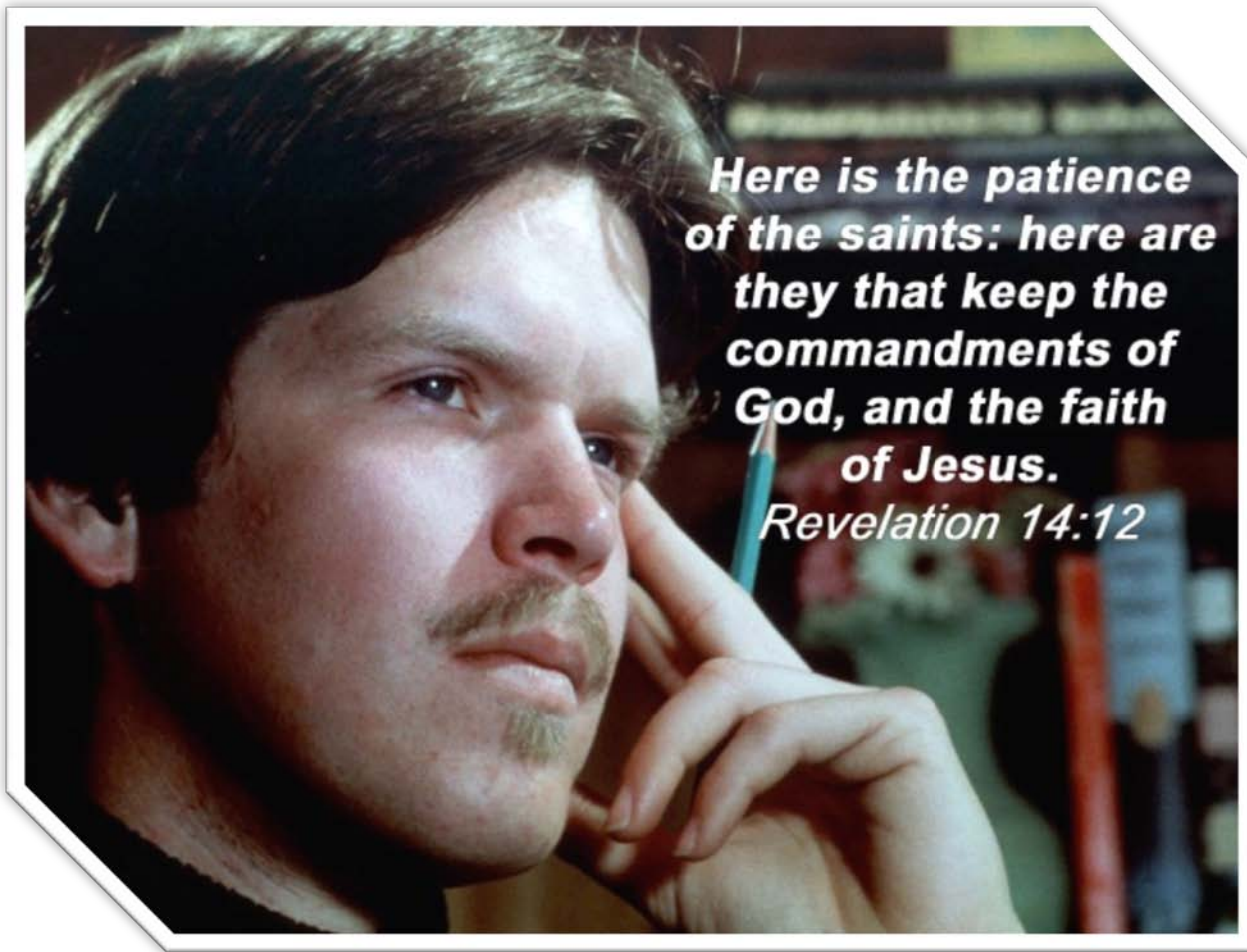
Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days. Behold, the hire of the labourers, who have reaped down your field, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord sabaoth.

Ye have lived in pleasure on earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter. Ye have condemned and killed the just; and he doth not resist you.”

James 5: 1-8.

As **"the coming of the Lord draweth nigh,"** the age long conflict between employer and employee is destined to assume larger proportions. Now it is no longer one individual bargaining with another. Instead great corporations negotiate with the organized forces of labor, representing millions of workers. Since the dispute between management and labor will not end until Jesus comes, the Christian is urged to be patient until that time"



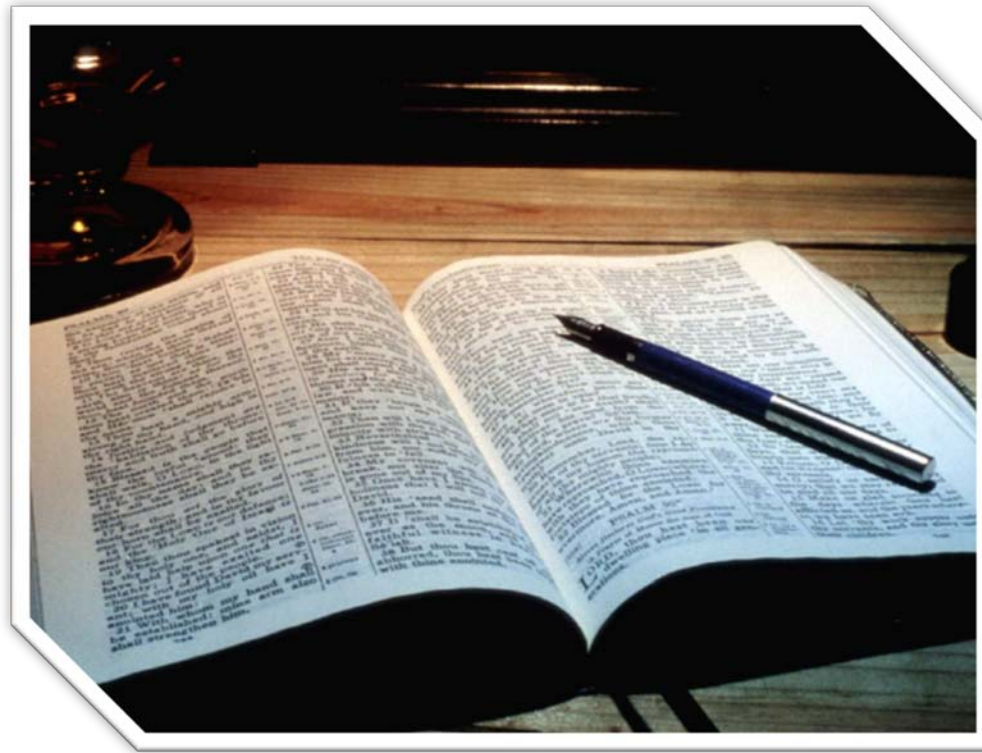


“Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and the latter rain. Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.” James 5:8.

4: WHAT TWO GREAT CHANGES WERE TO APPEAR IN "THE TIME OF THE END"?

“But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end. Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.” Daniel 12:4.

The past 200 years stand apart from all previous history by reason of the sudden increase of knowledge in science, general learning, and invention. The patriarch, Abraham, who lived four thousand years ago, would hardly be more startled by the tremendous changes than would George Washington, who died just before the nineteenth century began.



The great increase of knowledge concerning God's Word has been as extraordinary as advances in the world of science. Whereas the Bible was available only to a comparatively few two centuries ago, today it is being circulated on a worldwide scale, by hundreds of millions of copies. This has largely been accomplished since the great Bible societies were organized after 1798. Truly we are living in "the time of the end."

Daniel's prediction that "many shall run to and fro" has likewise received most striking fulfillment. Many commentators believe that this expression refers primarily to the increased activity in searching the Bible and its prophecies that has been evident during the past century.

Although we recognize this as its first application, beyond a doubt it also forecasts the tremendous increase of travel on a global scale that has characterized the past fifty years. The restless populations of the world are on the move by foot, automobile, rail, ship, and airplane. No longer do the great oceans isolate continents and nations; for air travel has shrunk distances until statesmen transact business today in foreign capitals across the seas, and tomorrow they can be back in their own offices.

5: WHAT SIX OUTSTANDING SIGNS ARE IN THE RELIGIOUS WORLD?

1. Scoffers.

“Know this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, saying. Where is the promise of His coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation.” 2 Peter 3:3-4.





2. Form of godliness; mere profession.

“In the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves.. having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof.” 2 Timothy 3:1, 2, 5

3. Lovers of pleasures.

**“Lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God.”
2 Timothy 3:4.**



4. Lack of faith.

**“When the Son of Man
cometh, shall He find faith
on the earth?” Luke 18:8.**

5. Lack of love.

“Because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.”

Matthew 24:12:





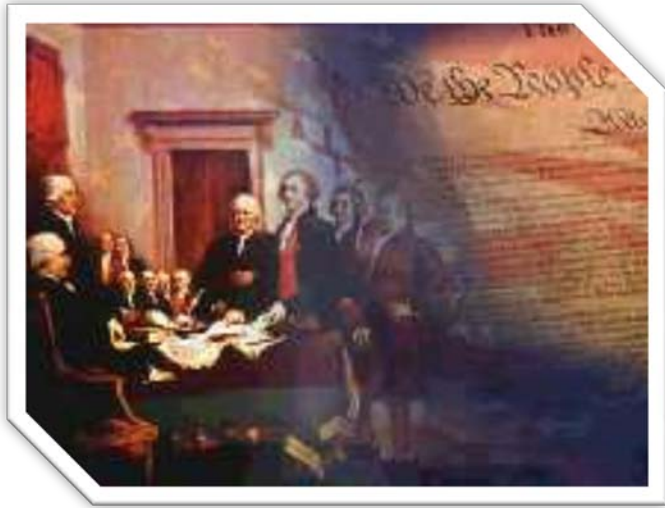
6. The gospel shall be preached in all the world.

“This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.” Matthew 24:14.

6: WHAT THREE UNUSUAL SIGHTS IN THE HEAVENS WERE FORETOLD AS SIGNS OF THE END?



“Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened. and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:” Matthew 24:29.



The great period of tribulation mentioned in connection with these unusual sights in the heavens is known in history as the Dark Ages. As you will learn, God had revealed, through Daniel, the prophet (Daniel 7:25), that this time of papal supremacy would commence in AD. 538 and last until AD. 1798 Public persecution ceased, however, about 25 years before the full 1,260 years had elapsed, due to the combined influence of the Protestant Reformation and the opportunities for religious freedom in America.



Now note the accuracy of Christ's prediction in Mark 13:24, where He says, "In those days, after that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light." The first of these signs appeared after persecution ended, "in those days," or shortly before 1798. God's Word never fails: hence on May 19, 1780, the sun was darkened. Early in the day the birds disappeared, domestic fowl went to roost, and grazing cattle in the pasture wended their way toward the barnyard. That same night the moon was darkened and gave the appearance of blood (*Revelation 6: 12*).



"The stars shall fall from heaven," These, of necessity, would be shooting stars. As predicted, the greatest meteoric shower ever recorded seemed to set the very heavens ablaze on the night of November 13, 1833. The minds of men were made sober at the time, and contemporary writings indicate that many feared the final Day of Judgment had come.

7: IN THE PHYSICAL WORLD, WHAT CONDITIONS POINT TO OUR LORD'S RETURN?

“And there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.” Matthew 24:7.

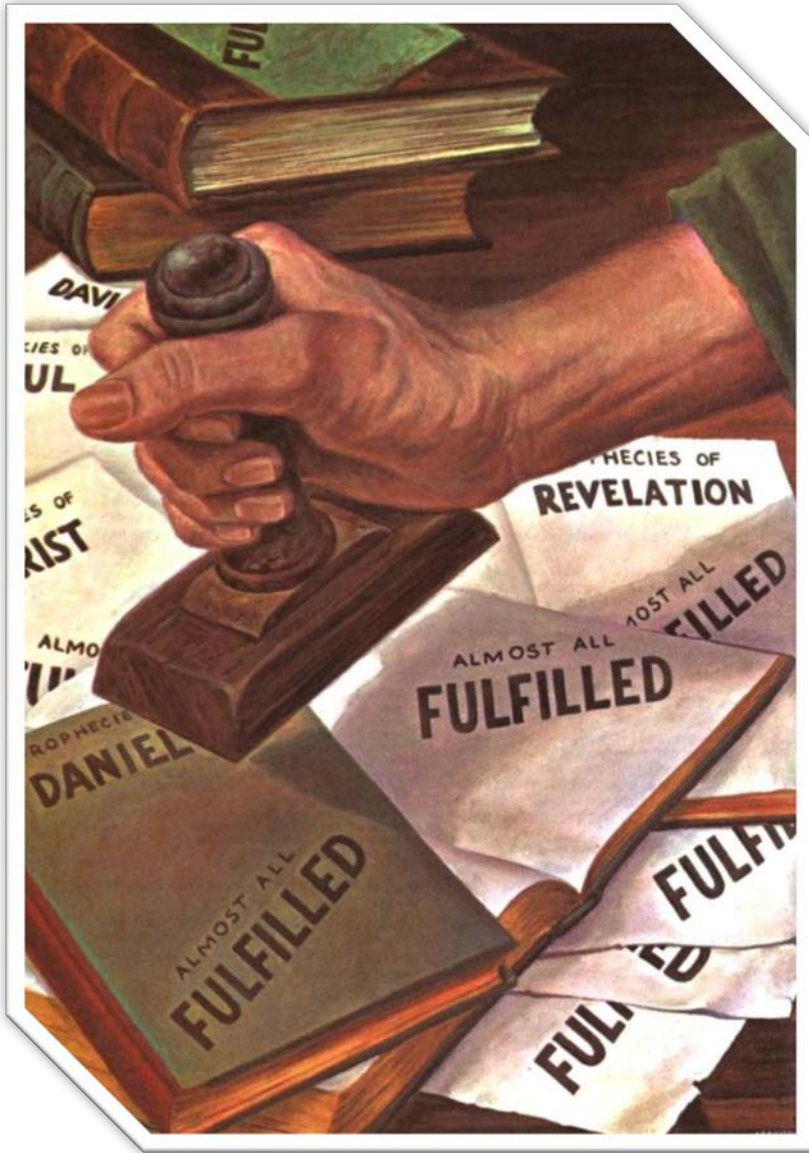
8: HOW NEAR IS CHRIST'S COMING WHEN WE SEE ALL THESE SIGNS?

**“Now learn a parable of the fig tree. When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh: so likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors. Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.”
Matthew 24:32-34.**

9: WHAT ATTITUDE OF LIFE SHOULD WE MAINTAIN IN THESE DAYS OF EXPECTATION?

“As the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so also the coming of the Son of man be . . . Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.” Matthew 24:36-42.

The people of Noah's day had received adequate warning of the coming Flood, but they were afflicted with the same sins that beset modern man; unbelief, preoccupation with pleasure seeking, and procrastination.



In His great love, God has given us many signs that show Christ's coming to be near. Evidences all about us that indicate that soon we shall see Jesus face to face? The world around us may be in perplexity and strife, but we can rejoice that soon all this will pass away and an eternity with Christ will stretch out before us. There is no doubt about it. If we follow the advice of Jesus to "watch therefore," we will be ready.