

The Destruction of Jerusalem & the Coming of Christ

Matthew 23:31-39

Today people teach the 24th chapter of Matthew is talking about the end of the world when Jesus plainly says these things would take place in that generation meaning in the next 40 years.

Matthew 24:34

God has often used heathen nations to punish His people when they backslide.

During the period of the Judges God raised up the Philistines among others to punish His people.

God came in judgment against Israel in 722 BC using the Assyrians to destroy and punish that nation with a captivity in which they became the 10 lost tribes of Israel.

God came in Judgment against Judah and Jerusalem in 586 BC and the city was taken and the temple was destroyed on the 9th of Av of the Jewish calendar.

It was 40 years between His crucifixion in 30 AD & the destruction of Jerusalem by Titus of Rome in 70AD. The siege of Jerusalem began on Passover in April 70 AD and on the 10th of August which was the 9th of Av by the Jewish calendar the city was taken and the temple was destroyed. This is the very same day the first temple was destroyed by the King of Babylon.

What we have is the use of figurative language such as Isaiah 13 where God describes the destruction of Babylon using the same figurative language. This is just a metaphor for I'll knock your lights out. Jesus uses this metaphor to describe the coming destruction of Jerusalem in 70 AD cf:

Isaiah 13:10 For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine.

Matthew 24:29

Luke 19:41-44

Matthew 24:1-5

They have reckoned there has been as many as 15 false Christs among the Jews from the first to the 17 century.

Matthew 24:6-7

wars

Caesarea 20,000 Jews killed

Alexandera 50,000 Jews killed

Damascus 10,000 Jews killed

Famines

Four famines are mentioned in history during the reign of Claudius and Nero.

The Jewish historian Josephus wrote “The Wars of the Jews” in 75 AD. He had been captured by Titus and befriended by him and was therefore an eye witness of the destruction of Jerusalem. Josephus records:

A star shaped as a sword appeared in the sky.

A comet (Hailey’s comet had it’s greatest display at that time.)

A bright light shining around the altar in the temple.

A vision of chariots and soldiers running around among the clouds was seen in all cities of Palestine.

A Quaking.

A great noise.

The sound of a great multitude saying “Let us remove hence” .

Matthew 24:8-11

cf;

II Corinthians 11:13-15 For such [*are*] false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. 14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. 15 Therefore [*it is*] no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

Matthew 24:12-14
cf

Mark 16:20 And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with [*them*], and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

Romans 1:8 First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world.

Romans 10:13-18 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. 14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? 15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! 16 But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report? 17 So then faith [*cometh*] by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. 18 But I say, Have they not heard? Yes verily, their sound went into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world.

Colossians 1:5-6 For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel; 6 Which is come unto you, as [*it is*] in all the world; and bringeth forth fruit, as [*it doth*] also in you, since the day ye heard [*of it*], and knew the grace of God in truth:

Colossians 1:23 If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and [*be*] not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have

heard, [and] which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;

I Thessolians 1:6-8 And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost: 7 So that ye were ensamples to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia. 8 For from you sounded out the word of the Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad; so that we need not to speak any thing.

Matthew 24:15 cf:

Daniel 9:1-2 cf,

Jeremiah 25:10 Moreover I will take from them the voice of mirth, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride, the sound of the millstones, and the light of the candle.

Jeremiah 29:10 For thus saith the LORD, That after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place.

Daniel 9:24-27

The abomination of desolation was when the Roman army surrounded Jerusalem & showed their idolatrous standards (like a flag) with an eagle upon a pole. The word coming is often used in the Old Testament to describe God Coming in Judgment Note Isaiah 13 same language used about Babylon,

The same language about Egypt

Ezekiel 32:7-9 And when I shall put thee out, I will cover the heaven, and make the stars thereof dark; I will cover the sun with a cloud, and the moon shall not give her light.³ 8 All the bright lights of heaven will I make dark over thee, and set darkness upon thy land, saith the Lord GOD.⁴ 9 I will also vex the hearts of many people, when I shall bring

thy destruction among the nations, into the countries which thou hast not known.⁶

Joel 2:1ff

uses the same language to prophecy the destruction of Judah by Babylon & the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in 70 AD Note after Spirit poured out

Joel 2:28-32