

Prayer:

Slide # 1

Theme: *Christ the King*

Outline:

Chps. 1-2 The Advent of the King. (Proving His LEGAL right to the throne by His genealogy.)

Chp. 3 The Forerunner of the King and the King's baptism.

Chp. 4 The Test of the King. (Proving His MORAL right to the throne by not yielding to temptation; and exhibiting His kingdom resume.)

Chps. 5-7 The Pronouncements of the King. (Proving His JUDICIAL right to the throne as seen in the wisdom of His kingdom teaching.)

Chps. 8-10 The Power of the King. (Proving His PROPHETICAL right to the throne by fulfilling prophecy.)

Chps. 11-12 The Rejection of the King.

Chp. 13 The Parables of the King.

Chps. 14-16 The Revelations of the King.

Chps. 17-20 The Instructions of the King.

Chps. 21-23 Formal Rejection of the King.

Chps. 24-25 The Predictions of the King.

Chps. 26-27 The Passion of the King.

Chp. 28 The Resurrection of the King.

I call Daniel 9:24-27 the prophetic “**seed plot**” of the Old Testament and building on that I call Matthew 24 the prophetic “seed plot” of the New Testament.

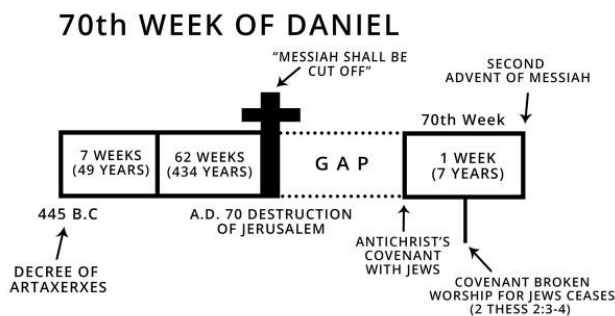
Pastor Mark Hitchcock calls Daniel 9:24-27 “The Greatest Prophecy Ever Given”. He says, “**Daniel 9:24-27 is one of the most important sections in the Bible. This passage is the indispensable key to all prophecy.**”

This is true! Once you understand that in terms of “**prophetic markers**” the whole of end time prophecy connects to the 70th week of Daniel you will be a long way down the road in the proper understanding of prophecy.

In Daniel 9:24-27 God gave Daniel an overview of His special prophetic dealings with Israel that will climax in the Messiah and His kingdom.

There God shows that there would be 490 years of special dealings with His people Israel. To date 483 of those years have been fulfilled to the letter. And then there is a large GAP period between the fulfillment of the 483 years and completion of the last 7 year period of time. We right now live in the GAP period which essentially corresponds to the Church Age.

Slide # 2



In Matthew 24 Jesus connects the timeline of "***the end***" to the 70th week of Daniel. Jesus uses Daniel 9:27 as a prophetic marker regarding "the end" as seen in Matt. 24:15. So in Matthew 24 Jesus builds on the outline of Daniel 9. Here in Matthew 24 Jesus is the first one to introduce what we know as the pretribulation rapture. The rest of the New Testament then builds on this. This is one reason I call Matthew 24 the prophetic "seed plot" of the New Testament.

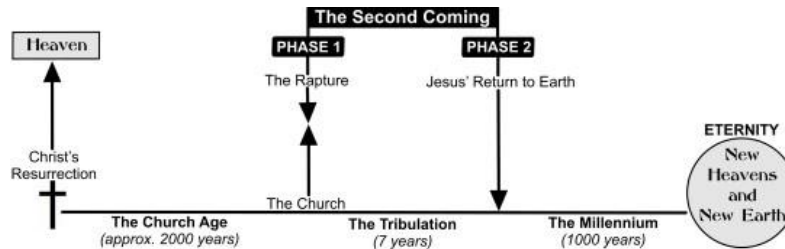
Here in Matthew 24 Jesus brings out that there would be 2 phases to His Second Coming. This was brand new revelation. Phase 2 would involve all kinds of signposts in regard to Israel in particular which will make it very clear that THE END is near. The first half of the chapter deals with this reality as seen in verses 4-35.

Then in verses 36-44 Jesus deals with the first phase of His Second Coming which comes without warning, without signs and does not principally have Israel directly in view. This first phase is commonly called the Rapture.

Both of these phases of the 2nd Coming are closely connected – but yet distinct from the 70th week of Daniel. They are the bookends of the 70th week of Daniel. The first phase ushers in the 70th week and the second phase follows immediately on the close of it.

So both phases of the second coming of Christ are very closely tied and yet distinct from the 70th week of Daniel.

Slide # 3



Slide # 4

Matthew 24 – Two Phases of 2nd Coming

24:1-3 – The Setting and Questions

24:4-35 – 70th Week (Tribulation) “Sign Events” related to Israel culminating in the Second Aspect of the Second Coming.

24:36-44 – Life as normal (no signs – no mention of Israel) – Surprise Coming – First Aspect of Second Coming (the Rapture)

Slide # 5

Outline of Matthew 24:1-35

- 24:1-3 – The Setting and Questions
- 24:4-35 – Tribulation (“**sign events**”)
 - culminating in the 2^d aspect of the Second Coming
- 24:4-8 – First Half of the Tribulation
- 24:9-14 – Second Half of the Tribulation
- 24:15-28** – Recapitulation of Second Half of the Tribulation
- 24:29-31- **Second Coming**
- 24:32-35 – **Parable of the Fig Tree**

Slide # 6 Beginning Birth Pangs – Great Trib



Last time we left off at Matt. 24:27-28 where Christ explains that His coming will be obvious to the whole world as lightning flashing from the East to the West. He comes with great glory but also in deadly judgment as seen in the language “wherever the carcass is, there the eagles will be gathered together”. Now Jesus continues in Matthew 24:29...

Matthew 24:29–35 (NKJV)

29 “Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

The timing here is very precise. Immediately after the Great Tribulation just addressed in verses 15-28, immediately after the time period of the 7-year tribulation this will take place. This concurs precisely with the timing spoken of in Joel 2:30-31.

Slide # 7

Joel 2:30–31 (NKJV)

30 “And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: Blood and fire and pillars of smoke.

31 The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD.

This is like the finale to the 70th week of Daniel marking its completion. The focus will be on the heavens and the comic upheaval that will be taking place. The sun won’t shine and its reflector the moon won’t either. The stars of heaven will plunge from heaven in a downpour. Cataclysmic events in the heavens will define the hour.

The “powers of the heavens will be shaken”. Evidently the sun, moon, stars, and planets are here addressed in summary fashion. The heavens will be shaken or dislocated. This divine disruption of the heavens will produce a terrifying spectacle.

By the way, puny mankind is desperately trying to do something about so-called “**climate change**” on earth – what are they going to do about the heavens when they start coming apart? Clearly, this is God’s domain as is the whole of His universe. **Want a message from God?** This will be it! This is a LORDSHIP message! It is the drum roll to “**the great and awesome day of the LORD**” which is to say the Second Coming.

The phrase “**the day of the LORD**” refers to a time when God intervenes in human affairs in a dramatic way so as to showcase His LORDSHIP. Hence it is called “the day of the LORD”. There are certain historical occasions referred to in this way which are a type of the ultimate eschatological coming Day of the LORD (cf. Jer. 46:2, 10; Ezek. 30:3-6).

The “**Day of the LORD**” can refer to the Tribulation Period (which it often does; cf. Isa. 2:10-22); to the whole time of the Tribulation Period and the millennial kingdom to follow (cf. 2 Pet. 3:10-12), or very **narrowly** sometimes it refers specifically to the DAY of Christ’s second coming (Joel 2:31; Zech. 14:1, 7; Acts 2:20). That is **THE DAY OF THE LORD in a superlative sense** (cf. Joel; Zeph.; Zech. – Isa. 2:10-22; Ezek. 13:5, 9, 14, 21, 23, 30;3, 8, 19, 25-26).

The Second Coming “is called ‘the great and terrible day of the Lord’[in Joel 2:31] as though it were the climax of the whole period known as ‘the day of the Lord.’” – **E.W. Bullinger**

Here is the significance of coming “Day of the LORD” related to Christ’s Second Coming (cf. Isa. 24:23; 34:4; Ezek. 32:7-8; Joel 3:15-16; Amos 5:20, 8:9; Hag. 2:6; Zech. 14:6; Rev. 6:12-17).

Slide # 8

Isaiah 13:6–8 (NKJV)

6 Wail, for the day of the LORD is at hand! It will come as **destruction** from the Almighty.

7 Therefore all hands will be **limp**, Every man’s **heart will melt**,

8 And they will be **afraid**. **Pangs and sorrows** will take hold of them; They will be in pain as a woman in childbirth; They will be **amazed** at one another; Their **faces** will be like flames.

No cocky bragging going on then. It will be shock, awe, and terror, like humanity has never known before. Every mouth will truly be stopped!

Slide # 9

Isaiah 13:9–11 (NKJV)

9 Behold, **the day of the LORD comes**, **Cruel**, with both **wrath** and **fierce anger**, To lay the land **desolate**; And He will **destroy** its sinners from it.

10 For the **stars** of heaven and their constellations Will not give their light; The **sun** will be darkened in its going forth, And the **moon** will not cause its light to shine.

11 “I will **punish** the world for its evil, And the wicked for their iniquity; I will **halt the arrogance** of the proud, And will lay low the **haughtiness** of the terrible.

Slide # 10

Luke 21:25–27 (NKJV)

25 “And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth **distress** of nations, with **perplexity**, the sea and the waves roaring;

26 men’s **hearts failing** them from **fear** and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

27 **Then** they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

30 **Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.**

Following the chaotic cosmic uproar THEN the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven. It’s like the heavens go dark with all that cataclysmic activity and then SUDDENLY the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven. Son of Man was Christ’s most favorite Messianic title for Himself during His earthly ministry as seen recorded in the gospels. Most believe this is a reference to Daniel 7:13.

Slide # 11**Daniel 7:13 (NKJV)**

13 “I was watching in the night visions, And behold, **One like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven!** He came to the Ancient of Days, And they brought Him near before Him.

The sign of the Son of Man appearing is not to be confused with all the previous tribulation signs. This is a specific SIGN announcing the Second Coming of Christ to the earth. We are not told exactly what this sign is other than it will appear at this time.

Some have speculated that it is perhaps the shining as lightning from the east to the west as mentioned in verse 27. Some think it is Christ Himself but that seems a little redundant. Many think this will be the appearance of God’s shekinah glory on a grand scale never seen before. The word “shekinah” means “to dwell” and was used of the Jews to denote God’s radiant presence as seen for example in the glory-cloud or pillar of fire that rested above the tabernacle on their wilderness journey (cf. Ex. 40:34-38).

The sign of setting aside the nation of Israel was the departure of the glory from the temple (Ezek. 10:3, 18; 11:23). Perhaps the sign of the Lord’s return will again involve the Shekinah glory.

– ***The Bible Knowledge Commentary***

Whatever this sign entails it will be obvious to the entire world and it will cause “***all the tribes of the earth to mourn***”. The second phase of the Second Coming when Christ comes to the earth will be a protracted event – which is to say it happens gradually.

Some believe since the emphasis in the surrounding context is mainly on Israel that the tribes in view here are the tribes of the land of Israel.

Slide # 12**Zechariah 12:10 (NKJV)**

10 “And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then **they will look on Me whom they pierced**. Yes, they will **mourn** for Him as one **mourns** for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.

This view thinks that the mourning here is the mourning of repentance as in conversion. Israel will then realize that Jesus is the Messiah they rejected in history and that now in contrition they will be broken because of it (cf. Zech. 13:1-2; Isa. 53).

Others prefer the view that the tribes of the earth has the whole world in view and that the mourning at this point is that of despair.

Slide # 13

Revelation 1:7 (NKJV)

7 Behold, He is coming with clouds, and **every eye will see Him**, even they **who pierced Him**. And **all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him**. Even so, Amen.

Too late the truth will dawn on all the branded dupes of the devil. They will admit to each other: “The Bible, which we have despised, was right all the time. The prophecies were not allegories, but literal actualities. The One whose peerless name we have customarily used as a cuss word is the eternal, uncreated Son of the living God. Here He is, coming back as He said, not as a carpenter but as a conqueror, not with His glory veiled, but with that glory dimming the brightness of the noonday sun.” – **John Phillips**

There could be a mixture of “mourning” going on here. It could be a mixture of worldly sorrow of despair on the part of unbelievers, but godly sorrow on the part of those repentant (2 Cor. 7:10). It will be awesome for the entire world to see. And mourning will define the collective experience.

“And they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.” Again, this is a drawn-out affair allowing for the entire world to see it happening in a gradual fashion.

In Acts 1 the angels explained that Jesus would return in the same manner as He went back to heaven.

Slide # 14

Acts 1:9–11 (NKJV)

9 Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was **taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight**.

10 And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven **as He went up**, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel,
11 who also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was **taken up** from you into heaven, **will so come in like manner** as you saw Him go into heaven.”

This means He will return physically, visibly, and gradually on the clouds of heaven. Words cannot do this justice. Jesus will return with power and GREAT glory. He does not merely come in glory, but with GREAT GLORY! He came the first time as a “Lamb”, but He is returning the second time like a LION and it will be glorious beyond description!

Slide # 15

Joel 3:16 (NKJV)

16 The LORD also **will roar** from Zion, And utter His voice from Jerusalem; The **heavens and earth will shake**; But the LORD will be a shelter for His people, And the strength of the children of Israel.

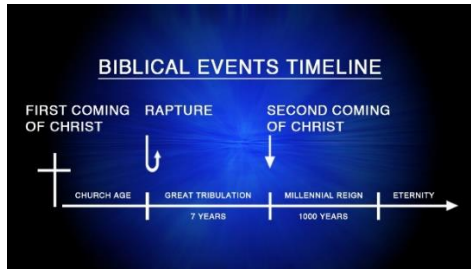
31 And He will send His **angels** with a great sound of a **trumpet**, and they will gather together His **elect** from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

The word “angel” means messenger. There are holy angels (God’s angels) who do His bidding and there are unholy angels (the devil’s angels) known as demons who do the devil’s bidding. In view here are God’s holy angels sent on a special mission (cf. Deut. 30:4; Isa. 27:13; Zech. 2:6).

They will go forth “with a great sound of a trumpet”. In the OT the trumpet was a ram’s horn, called a “shofar”. The blowing of the trumpet summoned the people to a solemn assembly (cf. Ex. 19:13, 17, 19; Num. 10:2). We see this emphasis on the trumpet in relation to assembling at the first phase of Christ second coming (the rapture) as seen in 1 Thess. 4:16 where those “in Christ” (the Church) will be assembled in the Rapture as signaled by “the trumpet of God”; and we also see it in relation to the second phase of His second coming as seen here in Matt. 24:31 as signaled by “a great sound of a trumpet”.

Both phases of Christ’s second coming involve an assembling of His people and therefore the emphasis on the blowing of a trumpet.

Slide # 16



God is at this point going to use His angels to gather the elect from every direction “from one end of heaven to the other” (cf. Ezek. 37:9; Dan. 8:8; 11:4). Mark 13:37 translates this as “*from the farthest part of earth to the farthest part of heaven.*” This would seem therefore to be a broad statement emphasizing that all of God’s family is going to share in this glorious event.

The word “**elect**” simply means “chosen”. It is used of those who are chosen by God to be His people. In the end the elect are all those who are saved.

But there is some debate about who the elect are in this verse. Does it refer to the saved Jews scattered about throughout the world who have survived the tribulation? Some argue that the context here would emphasize the elect as being saved Jews.

It is true that over and over God promises that in the end He will bring all of the saved Jews back to their homeland in the promised land (cf. Deut. 30:1-6; Isa. 43:5-6; 49:12; Jer. 16:14-15; Ezek. 34:13; 36:24; 37:21-23). And it would seem that this will involve a process evidently including angelic help as seen in Matthew 24:31.

Slide # 17

Isaiah 11:12 (NKJV)

12 He will set up a **banner** for the nations, And will **assemble the outcasts of Israel**, And gather together the dispersed of Judah **From the four corners of the earth.**

Isaiah 11:16 (NKJV)

16 There will be a **highway** for the remnant of His people Who will be left from Assyria, As it was for Israel In the day that he came up from the land of Egypt.

It would certainly seem to include “elect Israel” who have survived the tribulation (cf. Rom. 11:26-27), but it may be broader than this. We note from Dan. 12:2 and 13 that the OT saints will be resurrected at this time and have their place in the kingdom (cf. Matt. 8:11).

Some believe this has a particular reference to the nation of Israel as an elect nation. Probably the reference is to all those who are chosen, that is, the saints of all the ages, whether in heaven or on earth, for all these will converge upon the millennial kingdom scene.

– **John Walvoord**

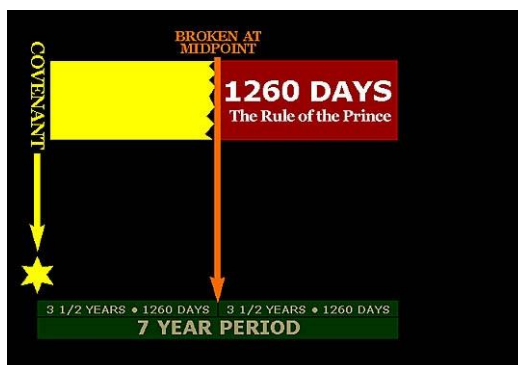
All the “elect” from heaven and earth are gathered and assembled before Christ. This is the culmination of world history, ushering in the millennial reign of Christ (cf. Rev. 20:4). – **John MacArthur**

We know from the whole Scripture that the entire family of God, the Church, the OT saints, those martyred in the tribulation, and those surviving the tribulation are all going to have part in the kingdom and therefore have part in the opening ceremonies when Christ returns.

This is the grand occasion of Christ coming to rule and the whole family of redemptive history will share in it - brought about in part by the angels in gathering of God’s people from far and wide. The focal point will then be Jerusalem – the city of the great King which will be the center of attention for the entire world.

Footnote: We know from Rev. 13:5 that the Antichrist at the midpoint of the tribulation period is given authority for exactly 42 months which comes to 1260 days. And we know from Rev. 12:6 that the Great Tribulation Period will be exactly 1260 days.

Slide # 18



However, Daniel 12:11 adds some extra days on.

Slide # 19

Daniel 12:11–12 (NKJV)

11 “And from the time that the daily sacrifice is taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up, there shall be one thousand two hundred and ninety days. [30 extra days]

12 Blessed is he who waits, and comes to the one thousand three hundred and thirty-five days. [45 additional days]

Why the extra days? We don't really know for sure but there are some hints in the text itself. Perhaps 30 days will be required to cleanse the temple.

The answer lies within the verse itself. The additional 30 days are somehow connected with Antichrist's setting up of “the abomination of desolation” and termination of “the regular sacrifice” in the Temple of God in Jerusalem in the middle of the 70th week. When our Lord returns to the earth exactly 1260 days after that event, He will presumably initiate a 30 day cleansing and purification of the Temple of God... - **John Whitcomb**

But then there is another 45 days which many think perhaps relates to the judgment of the nations and Christ separating the sheep from the goats because verse 11 speaks of those who are “**blessed**” which evidently speaks to those who are privileged to enter into the kingdom.

Slide # 20

1260 + **30** = 1290 (30 day to cleanse the temple)

1290 + **45** = 1335 (45 days in judging the nations)

Slide # 21**Matthew 25:32–34 (NKJV)**

32 All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats.

33 And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left.

34 Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you **blessed** of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

32 “Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near.

Christ now makes application with a very simple parable. When people spiritualize it – it gets confusing in a hurry. And many have done that with this parable instead of making the simple analogy that Christ intended.

Many have tried to make the fig tree symbolic for Israel in this parable saying that since Israel is back in the land it means the end is near. It is true that some contexts use the fig tree as symbolic for Israel (cf. Jer. 24; Joel 1:6-7; Lk. 13:6; Matt. 21:19). And I agree that some texts like Ezekiel 38 show that Israel being back in the land is indicative of the stage being set for the last day’s finale (Ezek. 38:8, 16). However, I think to make that point from this text is forcing it.

In the immediate context Jesus is using the illustration of the fig tree in a very natural sense illustrating “how quickly all these final events will come to pass once they have begun.” (Tim LaHaye)

Fig trees in Israel normally bring forth new leaves in late spring. When this happens, it is a clear SIGN that summer is near. No need to spiritualize it. The straight-forward common sense of it is clear.

And then Jesus makes this application...

33 So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near—at the doors!

Note the language here very carefully. When you “**see all these things**” – what things? Well, all the things mentioned in the previous verses in Matthew 24:9-28 working in concert. These things all go together and relate to the great tribulation period of the 70th week of Daniel.

Slide # 22

- v. 9-10 Christ’s people killed & hated by all nations
- v. 11 many false prophets deceive many
- v. 12 lawlessness abounds – love grows cold
- v. 14 gospel of the kingdom preached in all the world
- v. 15 **see Daniel’s abomination of desolation**
- v. 21 great unparalleled tribulation
- v. 22 so severe that if not shortened no flesh would be saved

vv. 23-26 false christs and false prophets powerfully deceptive

Note how Christ says when they see ALL these things – then KNOW that it is near – at the doors! All these things refers to the events of the tribulation period that precedes the second coming and not to the second coming itself.

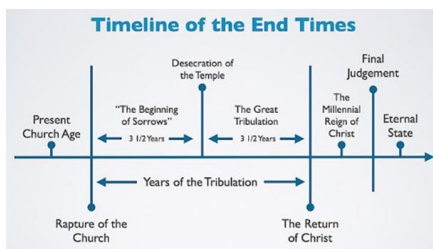
Let me ask you: Does seeing the abomination of desolation in the temple at exactly the midpoint of the 7 year covenant with Israel accompanied by unparalleled tribulation – does that fit the description of a thief coming in the night? Absolutely NOT! This is obvious. Christ says at this point they will see the end coming. They will be able to know it is near – even at the doors!

This is clearly talking about the SIGNS of the tribulation period which will usher in the second coming of Christ to the earth.

Jesus commands the disciples to “know” from these signs the nearness of His return. This is possible only if His second coming is predictable. – **John Hart**

This last phase of Christ’s coming will be very predictable in the tribulation period but not before. The first phase (which Christ will deal with next in the chapter) will not be predictable at all, but rather will come as a surprise – as thief in the night.

Slide # 23 – 2nd half of Trib will have very obvious indicators...



Slide # 24

“When its branch...puts forth leaves, you know...near.” (v. 32)

“When you see all these things, know that it is near” (v. 33)

The disciples asked, “what will be the sign of your coming, and of the end of the age?” (Mt. 24:3). The answer in effect is that the sign of the end of the age is “all these things” happening in the Tribulation Period. In short the sign of the end of the age is the events of the 70th week of Daniel. And the specific sign of Christ’s coming will be when He appears in heaven coming in power and great glory as the lightning flashes from the east to the west.

As we will see next time there are no definitive signs for the Rapture – the first phase of Christ’s second coming. There are trends of apostasy. John says we know it is the last hour because of the many antichrists on the scene setting the stage for the ultimate Antichrist (1 Jn. 2:18). Thus, we do see “the Day approaching” but we have no definitive signposts.

In contrast, once people find themselves in the Tribulation Period there will be very definitive signs such as Antichrist signing a 7-year covenant with Israel; Antichrist breaking the covenant halfway through; unparalleled tribulation, etc. When those living see “all these things” they will know the end is “near – at the doors!”

Today, in the Church Age we are told to “live ready” because Christ could come at any time. We don’t know when the Rapture will happen (Perhaps Today!). It is ever imminent. And since we don’t know when the Rapture will happen we don’t know when the Day of the Lord will come – so we have no idea on WHEN either the first phase or the second phase of Christ’s second coming will take place.

All we know is that we are getting closer (Rom. 13:11-14). We see the Day approaching generally in that we see Israel back in the land; we see the nations getting into position for the last days finale; we see growing apostasy and the spirit of Antichrist growing rampant – but we don’t know specifically how long until the Rapture will take place. We are not setting any dates! We are called to live ready – all the time. And this has been the calling of the Church down through the entire Church Age. “Live Ready!”

34 Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place.

Again, the best way to take this is in the straightforward sense. People have tried to tie generation which normally refers to a 30-100 year period of time (a human lifespan) to the idea that all these things had to be fulfilled in the lifetime of the disciples and therefore try to tie the fulfillment of all these things to what happened in A.D. 70 (cf. Mt. 23:36). But that completely misses the context that clearly relates to the 70th week of Daniel and Christ’s second coming.

Some have tried to tie it with the idea that the fig tree symbolizes Israel – claiming that within a generation of Israel becoming a nation again in 1948 that the end would come. But again, that misses the simple and clear point that Christ is making.

Some have said that “generation” (genea) here should be understood in the senses of a race, nation, or people (referring to the Jews) – meaning the promise is that the Jews will be preserved until all these things are fulfilled. That is certainly true but again I don’t think that is what Christ is saying here.

The best view is that Christ is simply saying that the generation that is alive and “sees all these things” (the tribulation signs) “will by no means pass away till all these things take place.” In other words this is another way of saying that once these things begin to happen there will be no delay – but will quickly come to pass.

Slide # 25

The word generation means what it normally means, that is, a period of thirty to one hundred years, and refers to the particular generation that will see the specific signs, that is, the signs of the great tribulation. – **John Walvoord**

The very generation that sees the beginning of these things will see the end. – **F.W. Grant**

Things will be severe to the point of being unprecedented, but that generation will survive – although many will die in the process.

35 Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.

Heaven and earth will eventually pass away, but Christ says, “but My words will by no means pass away.” (cf. 2 Pet. 3:10-13) Everything that Christ has said will have a fulfillment to the letter. Christ’s entire reputation and credibility is on the line. What He prophesied in terms of the details related to the 70th week of Daniel and His climactic return “will by no means pass away” but will be fulfilled.

In saying this Christ’s claims that His words have the same reliability and enduring quality as that of God’s Word in the OT.

Slide # 26**Matthew 5:18 (NKJV)**

18 For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle **will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled.**

The OT Scriptures are absolutely certain to be fulfilled, and just as sure are Christ's words absolutely certain to be fulfilled. Christ's Words are permanent and carry divine authority.

Someone has said that life is like a feature-length film with God as its director. Freeze- framing the film in a dark time leads to hopelessness. But as believers in Christ, we should let the film roll, knowing that in the end Jesus returns as conquering KING of kings and as LORD of lords in power and great glory.

In your life don't "freeze-frame" on the dark times. Rather, let the film role on to the end and never lose sight of how this story ends.

In Revelation 19 as heaven is opened at the Second Coming and Christ is seen coming in victory on a white horse it then says, "***And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses.***" (Rev. 19:14). My fellow believers, that is us! We are going to follow in the train of Christ coming in "***power and great glory***". What a day that will be!

Heaven and earth will pass away, but Christ's Words will by no means pass away.

Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus! (Rev. 22:20)