THE COMING WORLD WAR

Tensions in the Middle East will continue to mount. Then suddenly the Antichrist will ride in on a white horse (so to speak) and will broker a 7-year peace plan with Israel. The world will celebrate but the whole thing will be based on DECEPTION and will be short-lived (cf. 1 Thess. 5:3).

Matthew 24:6 (NKJV)

6 And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.

No sooner does the world celebrate the coming of the deceptive "man of peace" bringing "Peace and safety", than suddenly wars and rumors of wars break out all over the place. This corresponds to the 2nd seal of warfare being broken as seen in Rev. 6:3-4.

Revelation 6:3–4 (NKJV)

3 When He opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come and see." 4 Another horse, fiery red, went out. And it was granted to the one who sat on it to take peace from the earth, and that people should kill one another; and there was given to him a great sword.

I personally believe this is probably where the war of Gog and Magog comes in (see Ezekiel 38-39). But there may be other wars involved as well because this involves the entire world being all a stir with wars and rumors of war. This truly is a WHOLE WORLD WAR phenomenon in which peace is taken from the earth.

Jesus says to those living at this time to not be troubled "for all these things must come to pass" meaning it has been sovereignly ordained by God. God will allow this to transpire in fulfillment of prophecy.

This phrase "must come to pass" shows the prophetic nature of the discourse and that these things belong to the future.

Even now we see a HUGE build-up for war all over the world. This is where it is going. The world is building up to all-out war breaking out all over the place. We see the buildup – those left behind at the Rapture will see the fulfillment! As Revelation says peace will be taken from the earth. It truly will be "World War" on an unprecedented WHOLE WORLD scale.

We have always known about wars. We have even had what we called two "World Wars" but there have always been places of refuge in the world where war was not happening.

This will be different. There will be no place in the world not affected as the entire world will be engulfed in turmoil and conflict with essentially all nations and kingdoms in conflict either externally or internally or both. The spirit of the day will be that of killing and murder. It will not be safe anywhere.

But note it very carefully, Jesus at this point says, "but the end is not yet." The word "end" here

in the Greek word "telos" which means "the very end". The very end here refers to the climactic end of the Tribulation Period which ushers in the Coming of the Lord. In verses 13 and 14 Christ goes on to speak of those enduring to the end who will be saved, and that the gospel of the kingdom must first be preached in all the world and then the end will come. Again, "the very end" is in view which means the end of the Tribulation Period.

The word "Then" in verse 9 denotes a transition to the second half of the seven-year tribulation. This means that verses 4-8 are dealing with only the first half of the seven-year Tribulation. Wars and rumors of wars break out all over the world in the first half of the Tribulation but that is not the end. As Jesus says in Matt. 24:8 "All these are the beginning of sorrows." This is just the beginning. There is more to come before we get to the end.

Depraved man speaks peace but lives WAR (cf. Ja. 4:1). "Hateful and hating one another" defines the world (Titus 3:3). Stage setting for the last days involves a build-up of military stockpiles in preparation for the last days WORLD WAR. The world talks "peace" but in truth, there will be no lasting peace upon the earth until the "Prince of Peace" comes and rules with a rod of iron (Isa. 9:6; Rev. 19:15).

"Even so, come, Lord Jesus!"