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Psalm 19 : 7-11 (NKJV)

⁷ The law of the LORD *is* perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the LORD *is* sure, making wise the simple;

The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.

Psalm 119:130



Where do we start?

1

We all look forward to Jesus's return. He will wipe away the tears from our eyes and there will be no more sorrow, or crying or pain for us, His children (Revelation 21:4).



With so many scriptures about Jesus' return, where do we start.

We start with the dependable words of Jesus.

Interpreting prophecy is just like putting together the pieces of a human skeleton.

If we want to do it successfully, we have to start with the right piece—and the right piece is the spine. When we get the spine in place, we can begin to fit the other parts onto it.

The spine is Jesus' talk to His followers on the Mount of Olives, recorded in Matthew 24–25.

Jesus was a prophet as well as God's Son, the greatest of all the Hebrew prophets, and His greatest prophetic talk is found in these two chapters.

Derek Prince: ~~Prophetic Guide to the End Times~~

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Jesus tells us that we can trust His Words. **We can stand on them!**

What will be the Signs of Your Coming and of the End of the Age? Matthew 24:3

2



In Matthew chapter 24, His followers ask Jesus for the signs of His coming.

Three Times Jesus Warns about Deceit in the Days before His Return.

Verse 4,5 *"Watch out that no one **deceives** you. For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am the anointed one,' and will **deceive** many."*

Verse 11 *"Many false prophets will appear and **deceive** many people."*

Verse 22,23 *"For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and wonders to **deceive**, if possible, even the elect."*

We are warned to be aware of false teachers and prophets. These do not need to be only 'religious' people and can include politicians and the media.

Revelation 18:23 prophesies that in the last days all nations will be deceived by sorcery, which in the original language means drugs or potions.

By your sorcery all the nations were deceived. Revelation 18:23



In the original greek the word for sorcery and sorcerer was pharmakeia and pharmakos. The english of these words is pharmacy and pharmacist.

We believe this may refer to the **global pharmaceutical companies** and **vaccine mandates** that we are seeing now in many countries.

Verses 6,7,8 Next Jesus tells us the last days will be times of **wars, rumours of wars, famines, and earthquakes**. We see all these in the world today.

**You will hear of wars and rumors of wars,
but see to it that you are not alarmed.
Such things must happen, but the end is
still to come. Nation will rise against
nation, and kingdom against kingdom.
There will be famines and earthquakes in
various places. All these are the beginning
of birth pains.**

Matthew 24:6-8 (NKJV)

Verse 6: See to it that you are not alarmed. Jesus tells us not to be alarmed or troubled when we see these things. Jesus is with us. If we look at circumstances, we can become afraid, but when we **fix and lock** our eyes on Jesus, He gives us peace and faith to rise above circumstances. He is our Shepherd and Guide in these times and is with us all the time!

**So do not fear,
for I am with you;
do not be dismayed,
for I am your God.
I will *strengthen* you
and *help* you;
I will *uphold* you with
my righteous right hand.**

—Isaiah 41:10



Verse 8: All these are the beginning of birth pains. Jesus says that these signs of the times are like 'birth pains'. He is comparing the process of His return to a birth process. The world will experience 'birth pains' or 'contractions' of difficult events before Jesus returns. If we are prepared and know God's word, we will be like a woman prepared for her birth process and we will be fine! You are preparing by reading this booklet!

Verse 9,10 You will be hated of all nations.

The last days will be a time of persecution for Christians. This will create division in the church. Many Christians will be offended by persecution and betray their brothers and sisters.

Verse 9 "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake.

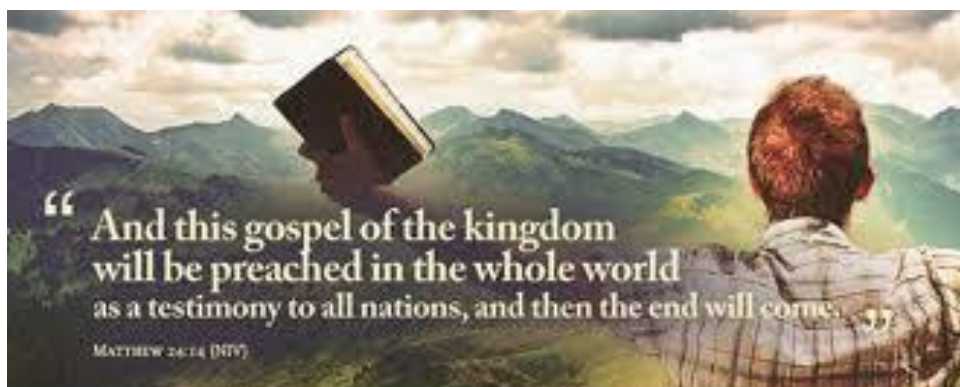
Verse 10 And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another.

Verse 12: The love of most will grow cold, because of the wickedness.



Verse 13: But he who endures to the end shall be saved.

Verse 14 Jesus then teaches us that the Gospel will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations and then the end will come.





Signs of the Times Summary

Matthew 14:1-14

1) Deception, False Teachers

Matthew 24: 4,5,11,23

2) Wars, earthquakes, famines

6-8

3) Persecution of Christians

9-10

4) Increase in Wickedness

12

5) The Love of Many Going Cold

13

6) The Gospel preached in all the world 14

*Jesus replied, "You are good at reading the weather signs of the skies,
—red sky tonight means fair weather tomorrow;
red sky in the morning means foul weather all day
—but you can't read the obvious signs of the times!"*

Matthew 16:3

May God help us to recognise the signs of the times!

The Final Signs of Jesus Return

6

Matthew 24:15-31

Jesus now teaches us the final signs of His return.

So when you see standing in the **holy place**
‘the abomination that causes desolation,’
spoken of through **the prophet Daniel**
—let the reader understand—
Matthew 24:15-20

The **holy place** refers to the **Jewish Temple** in Jerusalem, Israel.

An **abomination** is something **wicked** and **blasphemous**.

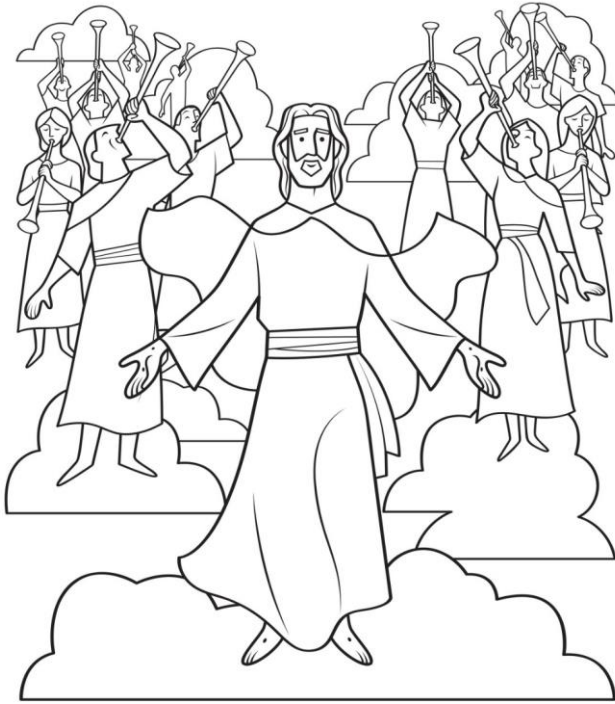
Desolation means **destruction**.

So Jesus is telling us that the abomination of desolation is something that will **stand in in the Jewish temple** that is **wicked** and will cause **destruction**. Jesus tells us to look in the book of Daniel to learn more. We will go there soon!

Jesus tells us that **a time of great trouble will follow the ‘abomination of desolation’**. This time is often called the Great Tirbulation.



Jesus tells us that He will return immediately after this time of trouble!



***“Immediately after the tribulation of those days
The sun will be darkened, the moon will not give her light
And the stars will fall from heaven,
and the powers of the heavens will be shaken
then will appear in heavens the sign of the son of Man,
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.”***

Matthew 24:29-30

When Jesus appears, He will send His angels with a sound of a great trumpet and they will gather us, His children to be with Him in the air. Then we will always be with Him!

***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. Matthew 24:31***



The Final Signs of Jesus' Return

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1. The Abomination of Desolation | Matthew 24:15-20 |
| 2. The Great Tribulation | 21-28 |
| 3. The Return of Christ | 29,30 |
| 4. The Rapture: He sends His angels
to gather His children to Him. | 31 |

Last Days Timeline According to Matthew 249

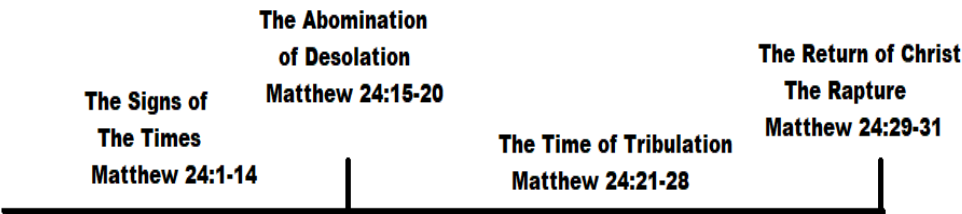
The Signs of the TimesMatthew 24:1-14

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|----|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. | Deception, False Teachers | Matthew 24: 4,5,11,23 |
| 2. | Wars, earthquakes, famines | 6-8 |
| 3. | Persecution of Christians | 9-10 |
| 4. | Increase in Wickedness | 12 |
| 5. | The Love of Many Going Cold | 13 |
| 6. | The Gospel preached in all the world | 14 |

The Final Signs of Jesus’ ReturnMatthew 24:15-31

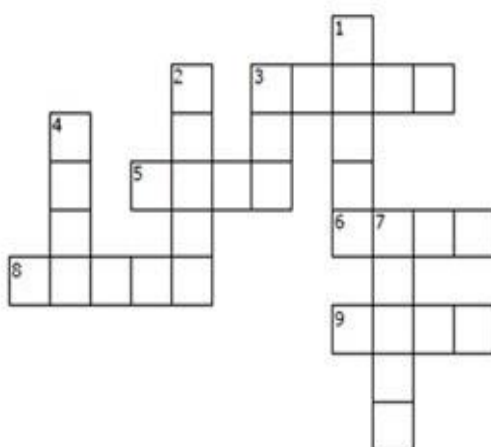
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|----|-------------------------------|------------------|
| 7. | The Abomination of Desolation | Matthew 24:15-20 |
| 8. | The Great Tribulation | 21-28 |
| 9. | The Return of Christ/Rapture | 29,30 |

The Timeline of Jesus Return according to Matthew 24



Christ Is Coming Again

At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Luke 21:27 (NIV)



ACROSS

3. Twinkling points of light in the sky at night
5. The large heavenly body visible in the night sky
6. The part of the body containing the brain, eyes, ears, nose, mouth
8. To rise to an upright position on your feet
9. To make a request to God

DOWN

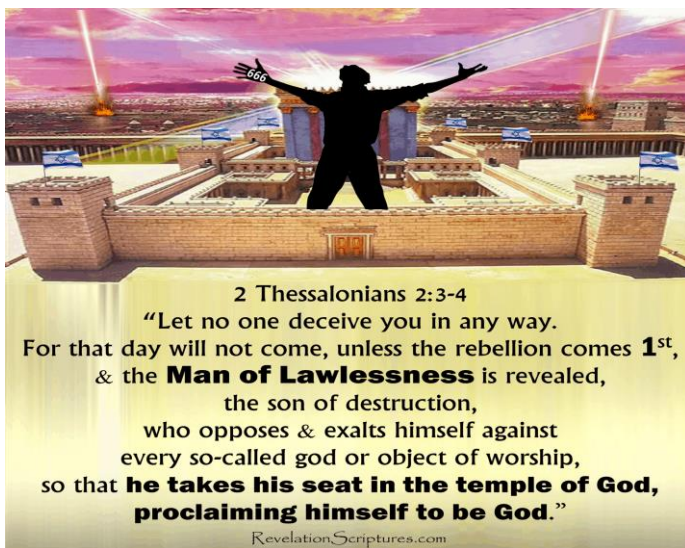
1. To observe very carefully
2. Large, white, fluffy things floating in the sky
3. The earth's source of heat and light
4. To raise from a lower to a higher position
7. The planet on which we live

earth	moon	cloud	pray	head
sun	stars	watch	lift	stand

What is the Abomination of Desolation? 11

The 'abomination of desolation' is something that is wicked that leads to complete emptiness or destruction. It will stand in the 'holy place', the Jewish temple in Jerusalem.

Paul speaks of a final world leader before Jesus' return, who will sit in the Temple of God, saying that he is God: a great abomination!



We read in Revelations that

*It ordered them to **set up an image** in honor of the beast,..... so that the **image could speak and cause all who refused to worship the image to be killed.***

Revelation 13:14,15

Could it be that the abomination of desolation is the speaking image of a final world leader, who demands worship, on point of death? We believe so. This would certainly be a great abomination that causes destruction.

(The picture above is of a new speaking image called the Giant, that is going to go to 21 cities in 2022 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wF2JaU7KMwk>)

Jesus directs us to the prophet Daniel 12

So when you see standing in the holy place
'the abomination that causes desolation,'
spoken of through **the prophet Daniel**
Matthew 24:15

Gabriel Visits Daniel



Daniel is visited by the Angel Gabriel in Daniel 9:21-27. Gabriel announces a heavenly decree that encompasses the 1st and 2nd Coming and concludes with the coming of **'everlasting righteousness when all prophecy and vision will be fulfilled'**, the coming of God's Kingdom.

In the final part this vision Gabriel speaks of the 'abomination of desolation'

He will confirm a covenant **with many for one 'seven.'**

In the middle of the 'seven'

he will put an end to sacrifice and offering.

And at the temple **he will set up
an abomination that causes desolation,**
until the end that is decreed is poured out on him.

Daniel 9:27

A seven represents a **seven year period**.

This ruler will make a **7 year covenant** or treaty.

But **in the middle** of the seven years, he will stop the Jewish sacrifice and **set up the abomination of desolation** in the Jewish Temple. At the end of the seven year period he will meet his end!

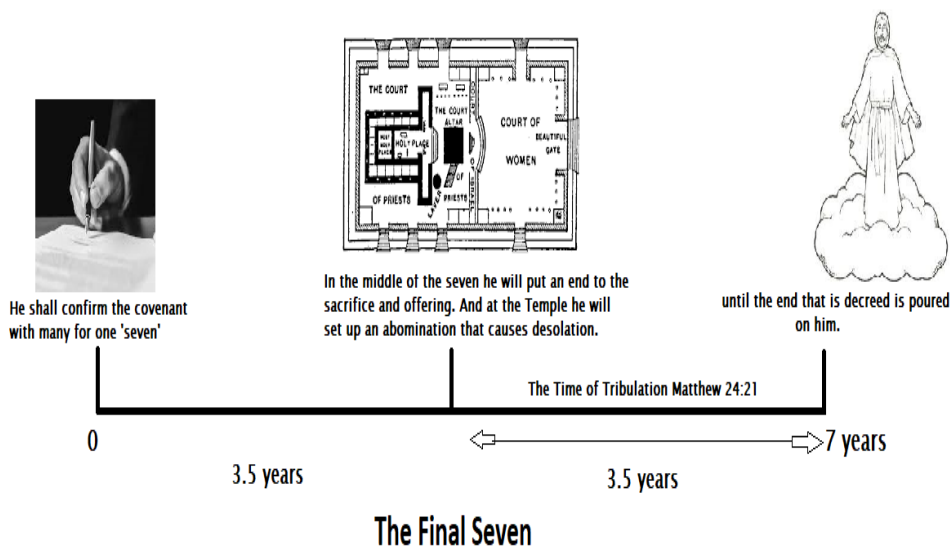
We know that this final world leader, called the Anti-Christ will be defeated when Jesus returns.

**And then the lawless one will be revealed,
whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth
and destroy by the splendor of his coming.**

2 Thessalonians 2:8

So therefore we believe/know that Jesus will return at the end of this 7 year period.

Below is a diagram of what we have learnt from Daniel 9.



We are given vital information about Christ's return by the Angel Gabriel. We learn that the time of tribulation will last 3.5 years. This is also confirmed in Revelation 13:5, Daniel 7:25, 12:7, Revelation 12:6,14, 11:2,3- seven more times!) We can trust this time limit when it is repeated this many times.

The Mark of the Beast

14

One of the great last signs of the last days is the mark of the beast. The Anti-Christ will make everybody in society receive a 'mark'. If they do not get the mark, they will no longer be able to participate, buy and sell, in society.

It also **forced all people**, great and small, rich and poor, free and slave,
to receive a mark on their right hands or on their foreheads,
so that they could not buy or sell unless they had the mark,
which is the name of the beast or the number of its name.

Revelation 13:16,17

Just as God made a covenant with Abraham and made circumcision the 'mark' of that covenant, so the Anti-Christ will ask for people to 'receive a mark' to be part of His covenant. It will likely come in the form of **computer chip or QR code**.

We are told that this mark has a number.

Let the person who has insight calculate the number of the beast,
for it is the number of a man. **That number is 666**

Revelation 13:18

In Revelation 14, we read the fate of those who worship the beast and receive His mark.

**"If anyone worships the beast and its image
and receives its mark on their forehead or on their hand,
they, too, will drink the wine of God's fury,**
which has been poured full strength into the cup of his wrath."

Revelation 14:9,10

So this is why there will be time of tribulation. It will become impossible to survive in society. We read that the Anti-Christ,

..... was given power to wage war against God's holy people
and to conquer them

Revelation 13:7

So where will the church find its place and its role?

The Place of the Church in the Tribulation 15

Jesus tells His disciples that, when they see the 'abomination of desolation', they should flee to the mountains .

"So when you see standing in the holy place
'the abomination that causes desolation,'
spoken of through the prophet Daniel—let the reader understand—
then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.
Matthew 24:15

The time of tribulation or trouble will be here on the earth.

During this time of tribulation we are told that the Anti-Christ will be '*given authority over every tribe, people, language and nation.*' (Rev 13:7) It will be a world-wide government. The church will no longer be able to survive in the cities, but God will make a way for the church '**in the wilderness**'.

The woman (the church) was given the two wings of a great eagle,
so that she might fly to the place prepared for her in the wilderness,
where she would be taken care of for a time, times and half a time (**3 ½ years**),
out of the serpent's reach.
Revelation 12:14

God is going to make a way for His children. He will care for us **in the wilderness**, just as He did for Moses and the Children of Israel when He brought them out of Egypt on the way to the Promised Land (The Book of Exodus). Like Moses , we are on way to our 'Promised Land' of the Kingdom of God of Jesus' return. Like Moses we will leave 'Egypt', the modern Anti-Christ system of our day. Like Moses we will be fed and cared for in the wilderness by God. Like them we will be carried on 'eagles' wings'.

**'You yourselves have seen
what I did to Egypt,
and how I carried you
on eagles' wings
and brought you to myself.
Exodus 19:4**



The Role of the Church in the Tribulation 16

Teaching

Only those who are willing to learn will know what it means.

Daniel 12:10

**Those with spiritual understanding
will have a wide ministry of teaching in those days.**

Daniel 11:33

Thanks to the Word of God, we have understanding and will be able to teach many others about what is happening and how they can respond.

Jesus offers great rewards to those who teach His word in the last days.

“Are you a wise and faithful servant of the Lord?

Have I given you the task of managing my household,

to feed my children (His word) day by day?

Blessings on you if I return and find you faithfully doing your work.

I will put such faithful ones in charge of everything I own!

Matthew 24:45-47



It is important to learn how to handle God's Word so that we can teach it to others.

Ministering

17

God will show his strength and sovereignty through His people in these last days.

**The people who know their God shall be strong
and do great things.**

Daniel 11:33

God promises that His spirit will be available in abundance in the last days. Those who evangelise, teach and exercise their gifts whether of healing, miracles, tongues, interpretation, faith, wisdom or knowledge will be blessed!

**In the last days, God says,
I will pour out my Spirit on all people.
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,
your young men will see visions,
your old men will dream dreams.**

**Even on my servants, both men and women,
I will pour out my Spirit in those days,
and they will prophesy.**

Acts 2:17-19



Let us be filled with His spirit today! The Spirit will guide us and empower us through all the tomorrows of these last days!

Preparations: The Words of Jesus 18

Jesus teaches us how to prepare for these times

Watch out that no one deceives you Matthew 24:4

- Come to know the Word of God. (Psalm 19:7) Pray for the Holy Spirit to give us discernment through the Word of God. (John 14:26)

See to it that you are not troubled Matthew 24:6

- Keep your eyes on Jesus. He is with us and has promised He will guide us individually and make a way for us. Psalm 23 He will!

All these are the beginning of birth pains Matthew 24:8

- The last days is a process, like a birth. If we prepare in spirit and practically, the journey will be much easier.

Therefore keep watch.... Matthew 24:42

- Be watchful and prayerful

So you also must be ready..... Matthew 24:44

- As we pray , follow Jesus and His word, He will help us to be ready.

Parable of the Wise Bridesmaids Matthew 25:1-13

- Make sure our lamp (heart and mind' is filled with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will guide us, empower us, teach us, comfort us and join us together with other believers. (Romans 8:14, Acts 1:8, John 14:26, 1 Corinthians 12:13)

Parable of the 10 Talents Matthew 25:14-30

- Stay busy for God. Use your gifts and talents for the blessing of His kingdom. (Matthew 6:33)

Matthew 24: The Olivet Discourse

1 Jesus left the temple and was walking away when his disciples came up to him to call his attention to its buildings. ² "Do you see all these things?" he asked. "Truly I tell you, not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down."

³ As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately. "Tell us," they said, "when will this happen, and **what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?**"

⁴ Jesus answered: "**Watch out that no one deceives you.** ⁵ **For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am the Messiah,' and will deceive many.** ⁶ **You will hear of wars and rumours of wars but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come.** ⁷ **Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places.** ⁸ **All these are the beginning of birth pains.**

⁹ "Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me. ¹⁰ At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, ¹¹ **and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people.** ¹² Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, ¹³ but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. ¹⁴ **And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.**

¹⁵ "So when you see standing in the holy place 'the abomination that causes desolation,' spoken of through the prophet Daniel—let the reader understand— ¹⁶ then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. ¹⁷ Let no one

on the housetop go down to take anything out of the house. ¹⁸ Let no one in the field go back to get their cloak. ¹⁹ How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers! ²⁰ Pray that your flight will not take place in winter or on the Sabbath. ²¹ **For then there will be great distress (tribulation) unequalled from the beginning of the world until now—and never to be equaled again.**

²² "If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened. ²³ At that time if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Messiah!' or, 'There he is!' do not believe it. ²⁴ **For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.** ²⁵ See, I have told you ahead of time.

²⁶ "So if anyone tells you, 'There he is, out in the wilderness,' do not go out; or, 'Here he is, in the inner rooms,' do not believe it. ²⁷ **For as lightning that comes from the east is visible even in the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.** ²⁸ Wherever there is a carcass, there the vultures will gather.

²⁹ **"Immediately after the distress of those days**

**"the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light;
the stars will fall from the sky,
and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.'**

³⁰ **"Then will appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven. And then all the peoples of the earth[Ⓜ] will mourn when they see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory.** ³¹ **And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.**

