

## WORD OF THE WEEK

### The Subject: Can we see the signs of the end?

Matthew 24:3 -- (the apostles ask of Jesus) *What shall be the sign of thy coming and of the end of the world?*

Matthew 24:36 -- *But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels but my father only, -- But as the days of Noe (Noah) were, so shall also the coming of the son of man be.*

Matthew 16:3 -- *O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?*

signs - Greek: semeion - indication; mark or signify; to distinguish persons or events

1 Thessalonians 5:2,4,6 -- *For yourselves known perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night -- But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief -- Therefore let us not sleep, (spiritually) as do others; but let us watch and be sober.*

watch - Greek: gregoreuo - keep awake; stand alert or watch.

Jesus said no one knows the exact time of His coming. However, we can know the approximate time by the signs he has given us in the corresponding chapters of Matthew 24, Mark 13, and Luke 21. As a result of Jewish idol worship (Baal, the groves, the golden calf) we see sword, famine, and pestilence as prophesied by the prophets, as well as John in Revelation (The 7 trumpets - Rev. 6-10; the 7 vials - Rev. 16). We see the prophecy of Daniel's 70 weeks (weeks of years Dan. 9:24-27 - chronological time concerning judgment of this idolatry) beginning with the decree of Artaxerxes (Neh. 2:1-9) to rebuild the city and wall of Jerusalem (Dan. 9:25) and ending the 69th week (483 years) with the coming of Messiah the Prince (Jesus - Luke 19:38-42). The Prince (Jesus) was rejected as king (of Israel), thus ushering in the interval between the 69th and 70th week called the times of the Gentiles (Luke 21:24), by the blinding of the eyes of the Jews (Luke 19:42; Rom. 11:7, 8, 25). We see 2000 years (two days - 1 Peter 3:8), which are the last (two) days of a six day period (6000 years) given to the Gentiles (all who are not Jews) to repent. Then we see the fulfillment of Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones (Ezek. 37:1, 2) in the calling back of Israel to their homeland in order to unite them into one army and one kingdom (Ezek. 37:4-10, 16-22). For the first time in 2600 years they are no longer two nations, the kingdom having split under Rehoboam the son of Solomon (1 Kings 12:16-33). Northern Israel was carried into captivity in 722 B.C. (1 Kings 17:5, 6; 18:11,12); southern Judah in 586 B.C. (1 Chron. 36:17-21). God will never allow Israel to be rooted up again (Amos 9:14, 15). Declaring themselves a nation on May 14, 1948, God has brought them back that he may accomplish Daniel's 70th week which we call the 7 year tribulation. At the end of which Israel shall know and do all righteousness (Dan. 9:24; Ezek. 37:23-28). As the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the son of man (Jesus) be at the end of time. The world will be eating and drinking (partying, fulfilling their own desires), marrying and giving in marriage (marrying truth and a lie) (Matt. 24:38). The world will be asleep and overtaken as a thief, being blinded to these events by their own lusts (Matt. 24:42-44). The gentile rule over the Jews is finished (Luke 21:24). There will be a confirmation of God's covenant with his people throughout the 70<sup>th</sup> week of Daniel's 70 weeks (at the end of time). His covenant concerns their God and "their land" (Gen. 17:7, 8). The end is coming. The signs are everywhere. Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

### GRACE AND TRUTH MINISTRIES

P.O. Box 1109 Hendersonville, TN 37077

Jim Brown - Bible Teacher • 824-8502

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