


Living in the Last Generation



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Olivet Discourse

- Found in:
 - Matthew 24
 - Mark 13
 - Luke 21
- Moving toward a one-world government requires:
 - A complete economic crash
 - A severe food shortage
 - Civil wars rising to an unprecedented level

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Ten Nation Kingdom

- Club of Rome
 - Has divided the world up into ten areas
- Daniel 7:23-24

*"A fourth kingdom on earth, Which shall be different from all other kingdoms, And shall devour the whole earth, Trample it and break it in pieces. The **ten horns** are **ten kings** Who shall arise from this kingdom. And another shall rise after them; He shall be different from the first ones, And shall subdue three kings."* (emphasis added)

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Fourth Kingdom



- ☞ Fourth kingdom of Daniel will devour the whole earth
- ☞ This has not yet happened
- ☞ From this one kingdom, the world will be divided into ten parts
- ☞ The world must experience a global crash *first*

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Global Crash Coming?



- ☞ Many nations have already gone bankrupt
- ☞ The European Union (EU) seems poised to collapse
- ☞ The United States is in danger of being swallowed by its ever-increasing debt
- ☞ We are moving toward a global crash
 - ☞ From this a one-world government will rise
 - ☞ From here, a ten-nation confederacy will exist
 - ☞ This makes it easier to control

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Global Crash Coming?



- ☞ A world that collapses based on current economies
- ☞ Will rise with a *new* economy - a global "green" one
- ☞ This coming global structure mirrors Genesis 11
 - Nimrod gained all the people's allegiance
 - All the people worked together
 - God confused languages and created culture groups
 - The world *is* becoming one in purpose...*again*
 - Yet, people seem completely *unaware*...

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Last Days Here Now?



- ☞ The Olivet Discourse describes the end of the age
- ☞ The end of the age occurs just prior to Jesus' return
- ☞ Are we living in that generation now?
- ☞ There are over 400 prophecies related to the Messiah
- ☞ Jesus fulfilled most of them 2,000 years ago
- ☞ He *will* fulfill the rest when He returns again

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The Olivet Discourse



☞ Setting the Scene

- ☞ Jesus just finished arguing with the Pharisees (Mt. 23)
- ☞ The disciples meet Him and point to the Temple
- ☞ Jesus states that they should not marvel at its beauty
- ☞ Not one stone will remain on top of another
- ☞ After hearing these comments, disciples ask three questions:
 - ☞ *When will these things happen?*
 - ☞ *What will be the sign of Jesus' coming?*
 - ☞ *What will be the sign of the end of the age?*

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Three Questions



- ☞ Disciples understood Jesus to be referring to *the* End
- ☞ Wasn't referring to *their* generation
- ☞ Jesus came as Messiah
- ☞ Religious leaders rejected Him
- ☞ The people received Him (Triumphal Entry)
 - ☞ Direct fulfillment of Zechariah 9:9

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Three Questions



- ☞ In Olivet Discourse, Triumphal Entry has already occurred
- ☞ Jesus knows His time is very short
- ☞ He will be executed as a criminal
- ☞ Disciples were confused
 - ☞ They thought He came to overthrow Roman rule
 - ☞ They did not understand His redemptive purpose
- ☞ Satan wanted Jesus dead so he could control the entire earth!

Matthew 24



- ☞ Jesus begins this section with dire warning
- ☞ *"See to it no one misleads you!"* (emphatic)
- ☞ There *will* be false messiahs who will deceive many
- ☞ Since the 70s, there has been a tremendous rise in people claiming to be the messiah
 - ☞ Sun Myung Moon
 - ☞ David Koresh
 - ☞ Apollo C. Quiboloy
 - ☞ many others!

Birth Pangs



- ☞ Birth pangs signal the approaching birth
- ☞ Means the end of the pregnancy is near
- ☞ Jesus tells us of 9 birth pangs that will occur
- ☞ We have already experienced three of them to date
- ☞ We do not know when the others will occur
- ☞ Timeline for the events has not been revealed
- ☞ Chronology for the events has been revealed

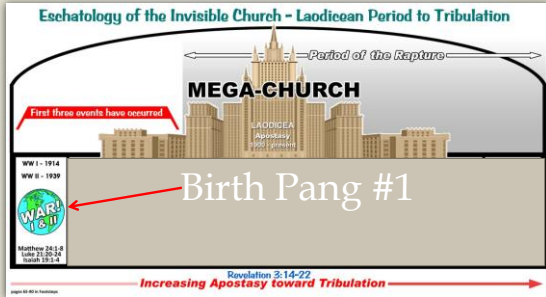
Birth Pang #1



- ☞ Matthew 24:4-6 – signs but not birth pangs
- ☞ "For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and in various places, earthquakes and famines." (Matthew 24:7)
- ☞ Jewish idiom: *nation against nation, kingdom against kingdom*
 - ☞ Like most idioms, it has one meaning
 - ☞ It essentially means complete global conflict
 - ☞ **World War I** was first global conflict

World Wars

Eschatology of the Invisible Church - Laodicean Period to Tribulation



World Wars



- ☞ World War I gave rise to Zionism
- ☞ World War II gave birth to nation of Israel
- ☞ Over 100 nations involved in WWI
- ☞ Took place on ALL continents

Famines & Earthquakes



☞ Famines and earthquakes

☞ Famines:

- ☞ 1918-1919 - 23 million died due to pestilence
- ☞ 1920 - Great Chinese famine
- ☞ 1921 - Great Russian famine

☞ Earthquakes:

- ☞ From A.D. 63 to 1896 ~ 26 recorded earthquakes
- ☞ 14th century ~ 157 major earthquakes
- ☞ 15th century ~ 174 major earthquakes

Famines & Earthquakes



☞ Earthquakes (cont'd):

- ☞ 16th century ~ 253 recorded earthquakes
- ☞ 17th century ~ 278 major earthquakes
- ☞ 18th century ~ 640 major earthquakes
- ☞ 19th century ~ 2,119
- ☞ 20th century ~ over 900,000 earthquakes & continuing

☞ Birth Pang #1 fulfilled and is first event leading up to the Tribulation

Birth Pang #2



☞ Israel will be regathered in the end times

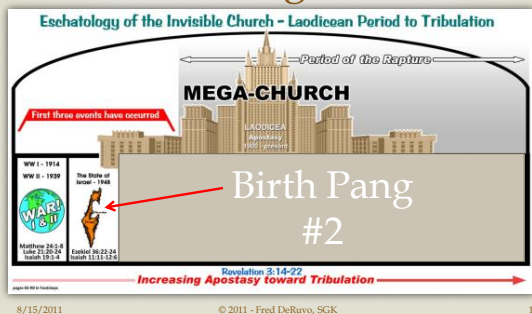
☞ Zephaniah 2:1-2 says:

☞ *"Gather yourselves together, yea, gather together, O nation not desired; Before the decree bring forth, before the day pass as the chaff, before the fierce anger of the LORD come upon you, before the day of the LORD's anger come upon you."*

☞ The nation begins to come back together in *unbelief*

☞ The Lord brings this about - they have no clue

Israel Re-gathered



Israel Re-gathered



- ☞ Ezekiel 20:33-38; 22:17-20 speaks of Israel's return
 - ☞ In unbelief
 - ☞ For judgment
 - ☞ Refers to Tribulation (included in the Day of the Lord)
 - ☞ A gathering *out of* wrath and *for* wrath
 - ☞ To purge rebels out of the nation
 - ☞ Will reserve for Himself a final Remnant

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Israel Re-gathered



- ☞ Ezekiel 36:22-24 tells us
 - ☞ Worldwide gathering *before* regeneration occurs
 - ☞ Tells us the reason God does this
 - ☞ "for the sake of My Name"
 - ☞ "will vindicate my holiness"
 - ☞ Israel is *the* reasons God's Name has been profaned among the nations

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Israel Re-gathered



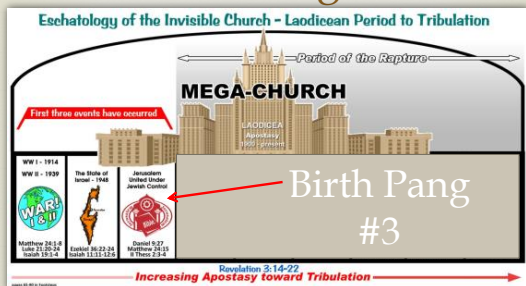
- ☞ Isaiah 11:11-12 tells us
 - ☞ God will *again* call Israel back
 - ☞ There are *two* regatherings
 - ☞ One has happened
 - ☞ The other is future
 - ☞ This gathering is in unbelief because Israel is not yet ashamed of her sins against God
 - ☞ Re-gathering will occur *before* start of Tribulation
 - ☞ This began before 1948 and has continued since

Birth Pang #3



- ☞ After Israeli War of Independence 1948-1949
 - Israeli forces controlled:
 - ✓ West Jerusalem
 - ✓ Newer Jewish section
 - Old City of Jerusalem (the biblical city):
 - ✓ Fell into hands of Jordanian Legion
 - ✓ Later annexed into the Hashemite kingdom of Jordan
 - ✓ Jerusalem was divided city for 19 years
 - ✓ OT prophecies speak of Old City of Jerusalem falling under Jewish control

Birth Pang #3



Jerusalem United



- ☞ Following Six-Day War of 1967
- ☞ Israeli forces controlled all of Jerusalem, which once again, became *reunited* under Israel
- ☞ Four passages which speak of a specific event in relation to the Tribulation Temple that will occur in the middle of the Tribulation:
 - ☞ Daniel 9:27, Matthew 24:15, II Thessalonians 2:3-4, and Revelation 11:1-2
- ☞ All the above passages speak of a **third Jewish Temple**
- ☞ They also **presuppose Jewish control** of the Temple Compound
- ☞ This presupposes **control of the Old City of Jerusalem**

Summing Up So Far



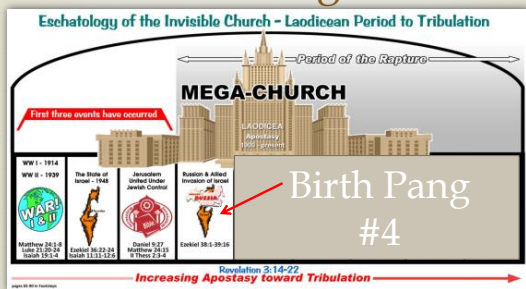
- ☞ We have experienced the first three Birth Pangs:
 - ☞ 1) World Wars, Famines, and Pestilence
 - ☞ 2) Israel became a nation in 1948 following re-gathering
 - ☞ 3) Jerusalem became united under Jewish control following 1967 war
- ☞ These three birth pangs have already *occurred*

Birth Pang #4



- ☞ Ezekiel 38:1-39:16
 - ☞ This passage describes an invasion of Israel from the **north** and...
 - ☞ **Destruction** of the invading armies once they reach the *mountains of Israel*
 - ☞ This is often referred to as the **Northern Invasion**

Birth Pang #4



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Northern Invasion



- ☞ GOG will lead this invasion
 - ☞ Title, not a name (like "Pharaoh")
 - ☞ Prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal
 - ☞ Whoever is ruling this alliance at the time of the invasion will be Ezekiel's Gog.

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Northern Invasion



- ☞ Countries involved in this invasion:
 - ☞ **Persia** (present-day **Iran**)
 - ☞ **Cush** (two places with that name):
 - ☞ **Mesopotamia** (Gen 2:13)
 - ☞ All other usages of this word refer to **Ethiopia**
 - ☞ Consistency of interpretation requires Cush to be modern-day **Ethiopia** (Scripture interprets Scripture)
 - ☞ **Put** (present-day Somaliland, or **Somalia**)
 - ☞ **Gomer** (located in present-day **Germany**)
 - ☞ The *Midrash* calls Gomer *Germania*
 - ☞ **Togarmah** (present-day **Armenia & may include Turkey**)

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Northern Invasion



- ☞ God puts "hooks in jaws" of Gog
- ☞ Turns him around
- ☞ Causes him to invade Israel
- ☞ Though God does this, Gog is held accountable
 - ☞ Ezekiel 38:1-6

Northern Invasion



- ☞ Results of Northern Invasion (Ezekiel 38:18-23)
 - ☞ Major earthquake
 - ☞ Nothing is left standing
 - ☞ Even birds, fish, and animals notice
- ☞ Soldiers will turn on one another
- ☞ Pestilence
- ☞ Blood
- ☞ God causes hail, rain, fire & brimstone

Northern Invasion



- ☞ To reiterate, the modern-day countries involved are:
 - ☞ Lower Russia or Turkey
 - ☞ Iran
 - ☞ Ethiopia
 - ☞ Somalia
 - ☞ Germany
 - ☞ Armenia (and/or Turkey)

Northern Invasion



- ☞ GOG will do this because he wants *spoils* from Israel
- ☞ Will likely causes God's judgment on Russia/Turkey at this point
- ☞ Will also possibly take place before the Tribulation period
 - ☞ When Israel is a state again
 - ☞ When waste places are inhabited
 - ☞ When Israel is dwelling in unwalled villages
 - ☞ When Israel is dwelling securely (or confidently)
- ☞ All of the above describes Israel *now* (Ezekiel 38:8, 11-12, 14)

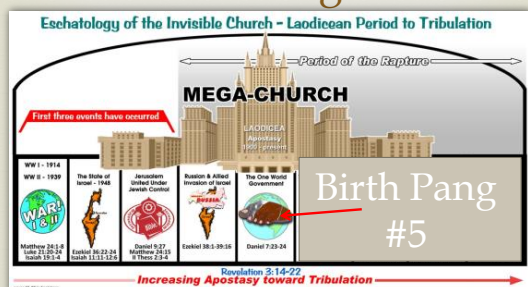
Birth Pang #5



- ☞ Daniel 7:23-24

"Thus he said: 'The fourth beast will be a fourth kingdom on the earth, which will be different from all the *other* kingdoms and **will devour the whole earth and tread it down and crush it**. As for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings will arise; and another will arise after them, and he will be different from the previous ones and will subdue three kings.'" (emphasis added)
- ☞ Note the fourth kingdom "devours" the entire world.
- ☞ Hasn't happened yet
- ☞ This is the *whole* earth, not simply the *known* world

Birth Pang #5



One-World Government



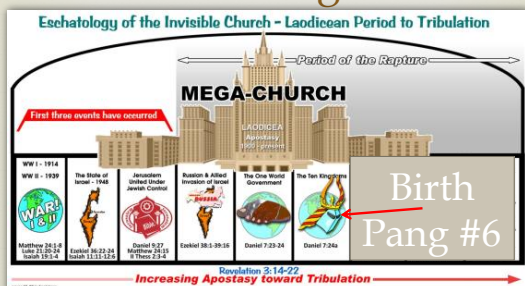
- ☞ East-West axis of power will derail/collapse (incl USA)
- ☞ Will give way to a One World Government
- ☞ Antichrist will likely begin his climb to top at this point
- ☞ Once world divides into *ten districts*, Antichrist will make his move
- ☞ Revelation 13:1 refers to beast with TEN horns
- ☞ Revelation 17:12-13 refers to TEN kings:
 - *"The ten horns you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but who for one hour will receive authority as kings along with the beast. 13 They have one purpose and will give their power and authority to the beast."*

Birth Pang #6



- ☞ One-world divides into Ten Kingdoms (Districts)
- ☞ This Ten-Kingdom stage continues throughout Tribulation under one ruler (Antichrist)
- ☞ According to 2 Thessalonians 2:1-3 two events occur prior to Tribulation:
 - ☞ Apostasy
 - ☞ Man of Sin revealed
- "For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed..." (2 Thessalonians 2:3b)*
- ☞ Man of Sin will possibly be known to the world *before* the Tribulation

Birth Pang #6



Birth Pang #7



- ☞ The Antichrist's rise to be power begins here in earnest
- ☞ Tribulation cannot begin without Antichrist
- ☞ Antichrist brokers agreement/covenant with Israel (Daniel 9:24-27)
- ☞ Covenant *begins* the Tribulation
- ☞ Antichrist is the rider on the White Horse of Revelation 6
 - ☞ He comes with bow, but no arrows
 - ☞ He conquers the world *politically*
 - ☞ Will be seen as savior of the world
 - ☞ Final Mahdi for Islam

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Birth Pang #7

Eschatology of the Invisible Church - Laodicean Period to Tribulation



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Birth Pang #8



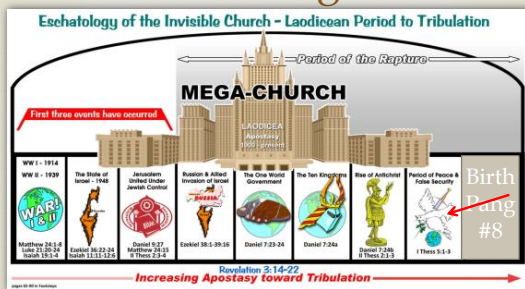
- ☞ Covenant brokered with Israel brings *false* peace
- ☞ People believe the world will see peace at last!
- ☞ This "peace" is short-lived
- ☞ Peace destroyed by start of Tribulation
- ☞ Tribulation is divided into two parts:
 - ☞ Tribulation (first 3 1/2 years)
 - ☞ Great Tribulation (Mt. 24; second 3 1/2 years)

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Birth Pang #8



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Birth Pang #9



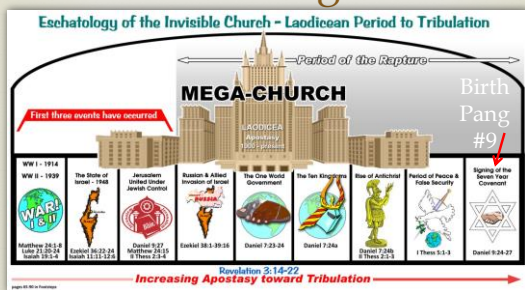
- ☞ Covenant brokered with Israel starts Tribulation
- ☞ Covenant lasts only 3 ½ years into Tribulation
- ☞ Antichrist breaks covenant by defiling Temple
 - ☞ Daniel 9:27
 - ☞ Reminiscent of Antiochus Epiphanes IV (168 BC)
 - ☞ Known as “abomination that desolates”
- ☞ From that point, it’s the Great Tribulation (Mt. 24)
- ☞ Antichrist will hunt down all of God’s children

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Birth Pang #9



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Covenant with Israel



- ☞ By signing covenant, Israel will literally sell soul to the devil
- ☞ Antichrist is devil incarnate
- ☞ This is blasphemy to God
- ☞ The worst form of idolatry
- ☞ God will begin pouring out His wrath
- ☞ Revelation 6 *begins* description of 21 judgments
 - ☞ Three seals, three trumpets, and three bowls

Birth Pangs Summary



1. World Wars I & II (with famines and earthquakes)
2. Israel becomes nation in 1948
3. Jerusalem becomes united after Six-Day War of '67
4. Northern Invasion of Ezekiel 38-39
5. One-World Government
6. Ten Kingdom Phase
7. Rise of Antichrist
8. False Peace & Security
9. Covenant Brokered with Israel (starts Tribulation)

After the Birth Pangs (4)



- ☞ The 9 birth pangs lead up to and into the Tribulation
- ☞ What then?
 - ☞ Will see tremendous persecution
 - ☞ Many professing Christians and the rest will turn in authentic believers to save themselves
 - ☞ No one who is not a true believer will risk death
 - ☞ Jesus says those who persevere to the end will be saved (Mt. 24; **not** referring to loss of actual salvation)

After the Birth Pangs



- ☞ Christians are bought with price
- ☞ Romans 8 says we are
 - ☞ No longer condemned
 - ☞ Can never be separated from God's love
- ☞ Matthew 12:29 says Satan would have to overpower "strong man" (God)
- ☞ Hebrews 12:2 tells us Jesus is Author & Finisher!
- ☞ Ephesians 4:30 says we are SEALED unto the day of redemption

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An Abomination (5)



- ☞ Matthew 24 - Jesus speaks of Abomination of Desolation (or abomination that desolates)
- ☞ What does He mean?
 - ☞ Referring to 168 B.C. when Antiochus Epiphanes marched into the Temple
 - ☞ Slaughtered a pig on the altar
 - ☞ Erected a statue of Zeus
- ☞ All Jewish men knew what Jesus referred to then

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An Abomination



- ☞ Daniel 9:27 says:

"And he will make a firm *covenant* with the many for *one week*, but in the *middle of the week* he will put a *stop to sacrifice* and grain offering; and on the *wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate*, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate." (emphasis added)

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An Abomination



- ☞ The "he" here refers to Antichrist
- ☞ He will make a firm covenant
 - ☞ This kicks off the Tribulation
- ☞ The length of the covenant will be one "week"
- ☞ One week in Daniel 9 works out to be seven years
- ☞ In the middle of the "week" – at the 3 ½ year point – Antichrist stops sacrifice
- ☞ Sacrifice stops because of abomination

An Abomination



- ☞ **Matthew 24:15 tells us:**
*"When ye therefore shall see the **abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand)**"*
 (emphasis added)
- ☞ Jesus specifically refers to Daniel here
- ☞ "let the reader understand" means the meaning was common knowledge to those alive at the time
- ☞ "stand in the holy place" refers to the Holy Place of the Jewish Temple

An Abomination



- ☞ Jesus is saying that something will defile the Temple
- ☞ Daniel says that halfway into the "week" the sacrifices will stop
- ☞ The only reason they would stop is if the Temple is defiled
- ☞ Paul tells us in 2 Thessalonians 2:4
*"He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that **he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God.**"*

An Abomination



- ☞ It is clear that the Antichrist will defile the Temple by
 - ☞ Going into the Holy Place (just like Ephiaphanes did)
 - ☞ Sitting there
 - ☞ Proclaiming himself to be God
 - ☞ Demanding that he be worshipped
 - ☞ At this point, his true identity will be revealed to Jews, who originally thought he was the Messiah
 - ☞ Jesus deliberately points readers back to Daniel for His warning in Matthew 24

An Abomination



- ☞ Nothing like this took place in A.D. 70
- ☞ Romans destroyed Jerusalem and leveled Temple
- ☞ Priests are the ones who set fire to the Temple
- ☞ This was done to protect it from defilement
- ☞ During raid, no Roman went into Holy Place
- ☞ Jesus' words were NOT fulfilled in A.D. 70 regarding abomination of desolation

Run Away - Flee! (6)



- ☞ Antichrist's true identity will be known
- ☞ Jews are to flee into the desert to remain alive
- ☞ They should pray that it does not happen on Sabbath
- ☞ Or when mothers are nursing
- ☞ They should not stop to get their coat
- ☞ They should simply RUN

Run Away - Flee!



- ☞ This begins the **Great** Tribulation (Mt. 24:21-25)
- ☞ Antichrist knows his time is very short
- ☞ Incensed that Jews won't worship him
- ☞ Declares war against Jews
- ☞ He won't be able to attack the Remnant
- ☞ He goes after any and all believers at this point
- ☞ The unsaved of the world will follow Antichrist to hell to save themselves from his persecution

Hell Breaks Loose (8)



- ☞ Second half of Tribulation is the worst world will see
- ☞ Demons of hell join the fracas
- ☞ The Church appears to be gone (before Tribulation)
- ☞ The Holy Spirit worked through the Church
- ☞ Now seals 144,000 Jewish evangelists
- ☞ Satan is allowed nearly free reign
- ☞ No life would be saved except days "shortened"
- ☞ "Shortened" means it has a set *ending*
- ☞ Won't go on forever

Afterwards...



- ☞ Matthew 24:29-31
- "Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:"*
- ☞ Sun will darken
- ☞ Stars will fall
- ☞ Powers of heavens will be shaken

Son of Man



☞ Matthew 24:29-31

"And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory."

☞ Will see sign of the Son of Man

☞ Coming in the clouds

☞ With power and great glory

☞ All people of earth will mourn

☞ They will realize they were wrong about Jesus

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Judgment



☞ Matthew 24:29-31

"And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."

☞ All people gathered for upcoming judgment

☞ This is the Sheep and the Goats Judgment

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"This" Generation...



☞ Matthew 24:34

"Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled."

☞ Does "this" mean the generation Jesus lived in?

☞ Does "this" mean the generation He is referring to?

☞ Makes more sense to understand "this" in reference to the generation He refers to - *future*

☞ The generation that experiences the things He speaks of - *our generation*

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