

# Watch Out and be Ready 33

## Signs of the End of the Age AND COUNTING

### END TIMES CRAZINESS

- \*A few prophets in Thessalonica caused all sorts of problems proclaiming that Jesus had already returned. 2 Thessalonians 2:2
- \*Mid 100's Montanus predicted that the New Jerusalem would soon show up in Pepuza, a perish in Phrygia. He was disfellowshipped but before that he claimed that he spoke for the Holy Spirit declaring "I am Father, Word and Comforter."
- \*In 1534 a Dutch baker named Jan Matthys claimed the New Jerusalem would soon be located in Munster Germany. After many visions his followers subjugated the city of Munster. In the end the New Jerusalem didn't arrive but an army did. The dead bodies of the leaders were suspended in iron cages above the city. To this day the cages hang from the steeple of St. Lambert's Church.
- \*In the 1800's Joseph Smith claimed that Jesus would establish the New Jerusalem in Missouri. Mormonism was born and the believe that Jesus will establish an "American Zion" on the eastern outskirts of Kansas City, Missouri.
- \*David Koresh believed that the end times prophecy of Daniel would be fulfilled in his communal compound near Waco, Texas In 1993 David Koresh and 75 followers were killed after a 51 day siege of the compound. His followers are still awaiting his return.
- \*Jose Luis de Jesus Miranda founder of the Growing in Grace International Ministry, Inc. based in Miami. He claims to be Jesus Christ returned. He has 287 radio programs and a 24 hour Spanish Language TV Network.
- \*Harold Camping who is predicting Judgment day on May 21, 2011.

### KEEPING THE RIGHT FOCUS

- \*Jesus is more than just the source of God's story; he is also the goal of all that God is doing. Revelation 22:13
- \*The Key is to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus—Hebrews 12:2

### HEAVENS ARE SHAKEN V. 24-25

- \*The key to understanding is our willingness and ability to hear the prophetic imagery as it would have been heard by those in Jesus' day who were at home with the Old Testament prophetic language.
- \*In the original prophetic language the use of 'cosmic' language convey a powerful symbolism of political changes within world history and not to be understood in a literal collapse of the universe and end of the world. Ezekiel 32:7, Joel 2:10, 31, 3:15, Amos 8:9, Isaiah 13:10, 34:4.

**Mark 13:24-37 (NIV)**  
(24) "But in those days, following that distress, "the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; (25) the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken." (26) "At that time men will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory.

### "SON OF MAN COMING IN THE CLOUDS" V. 26-27

- \*Prophecy in Daniel 7:13-14— is a vision of enthronement.
- \*Earthly Evidence that the Son of Man is on his throne was the destruction of the temple and the gathering of the people of God from all over the world.
- \*The national people of God (Israel) becoming the international people of God (The Church). The powerful growth of the church (Power and glory – the message, miracles, etc) will provide evidence within 'this generation' that the Son of Man is now the supreme authority.

- \* Angels—the image is of the Son of Man having authority and dispatching his servants to tell and gather those who have chosen to believe. Hebrews 13:2
- \*Angels gathering the elect. Isaiah 11:11-16, 27:12-13, 43:5-7, 49:12, 60:1-9, Psalms 107:2-3, 147:2, Jeremiah 31:10, Ezekiel 11:16-17, 39:27, Nehemiah 1:9, Deuteronomy 13:7, 30:4, Isaiah 48:20, 62:11, Jeremiah 3:18.

### FIG TREE V. 28-29

- \*The point of the fig tree is the appearance of the one is announcing the arrival of the other. So when you see these things realize what is coming next.

### WILL NOT PASS V. 30-31

- \*Jesus is speaking of the disciples generation, all this was going to take place now.
- \*Jesus is tell them that 'you can rely on me' Echoes of Isaiah 40:7-8.
- \*The reliability of Jesus words are the same for those of God because he is the Son of God. Heaven and earth will pass away (in the future) but Jesus' words . . . never!

### BE READY V. 32-33

- \*Jesus changes the subject from what is going to happen in Jerusalem and what is going to happen in the future. He did this in Mark 12:24-26.
- \*To stay awake, to be vigilant, not caught unprepared.
- \*Watchfulness is commanded, Titus 2:13, 1 Corinthians 16:22, Revelation 22:20, Matthew 6:20, 1 Thessalonians 4:18, 2 Timothy 4:8.
- \*The knowledge of Jesus return is only known by the Father—Acts 1:7

### THE PARABLE V. 34-37

- \*We have been put in charge of the Master's house.
- \*We have appointed tasks, Ephesians 4:11-16, Colossians 4:17.
- \*Waiting for the Return does not mean being idol. 2 Thessalonians 3:6-15, Colossians 3:23
- \*Remaining faithful until he returns – Watch!!

(27) And he will send his angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the heavens. (28) "Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. (29) Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that it is near, right at the door. (30) I tell you the truth, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. (31) Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. (32) "No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. (33) Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come. (34) It's like a man going away: He leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with his assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep watch. (35) "Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come--whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn. (36) If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. (37) What I say to you, I say to everyone: "Watch!"

So what will He find when He returns?