

PROPHECY in the NEWS

- ✓ A **world** facing troubles.
- ✓ A **people** needing answers.
- ✓ A **God** offering promises.

Bible tells us what WILL happen

News tells us what IS happening

Matthew 24

Luke 21

Jesus came out from the temple and was going away when His disciples came up to point out the temple buildings to Him. Matthew 24:1



*The year was likely 29 AD...
1,992 years ago

***Model of Jewish Temple
in the days of Jesus***

And He [Jesus] said to them [12 disciples], “Do you not see all these things? Truly I say to you, not one stone here will be left upon another, which will not be torn down.” Matthew 24:2

And while some were talking about the temple, that it was adorned with beautiful stones and votive gifts, He said, “As for these things which you are looking at, the days will come in which there will not be left one stone upon another which will not be torn down.” Luke 21:5-6

*The conversation likely took place in year 29 AD

As He was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, “Tell us, when will these things happen, and what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?” Matthew 24:3

They questioned Him (Jesus), saying, “Teacher, when therefore will these things happen? And what will be the sign when these things are about to take place?”

Luke 21:7

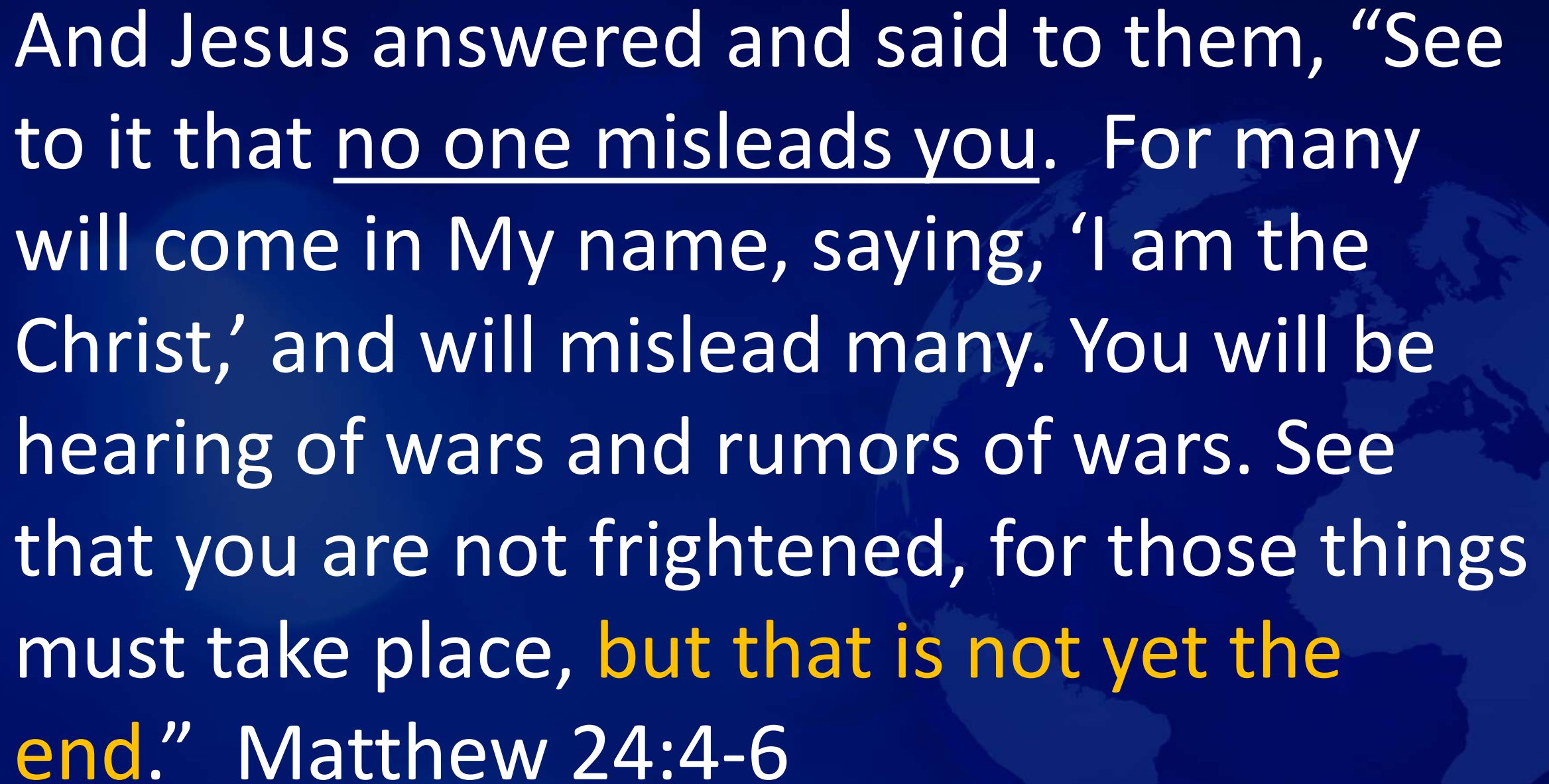
*This conversation takes place about 2.5 years into Jesus' 3-year earthly ministry

Questions we are still asking Jesus in 2021

1. When will these things happen?
2. What will be the sign of Your coming?
3. What will be the sign of the end of the age?

PROPHECY in the NEWS

- ✓ A **world** facing troubles.
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And Jesus answered and said to them, “See to it that no one misleads you. For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will mislead many. You will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not frightened, for those things must take place, **but that is not yet the end.**” Matthew 24:4-6

Jesus said, “For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and in various places there will be **famines** and **earthquakes**.” Matthew 24:7

Then He (Jesus) continued by saying to them, “Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be great **earthquakes**, and in various places **plagues** and **famines**; and there will be terrors and **great signs from heaven**.” Luke 21:10-11

Jesus said, “But all these things are merely the **beginning** of birth pangs [ὠδίν *odin*].”

Matthew 24:8

- The Greek term ὠδίνες *odines* refer to the birth pangs a woman experiences while in labor.
- In Hebrew, this is referred to by the phrase “chevlei Moshiach” חבלי משיח, literally “the birth pangs of the Messiah.”

Jesus said to the disciples, “Then they will deliver you to tribulation, and will kill you, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name.”

Matthew 24:9

THE WORLD WATCH LIST

The top 50 countries where its most difficult to follow Jesus

Top Ten

1. North Korea
2. Afghanistan
3. Somalia
4. Libya
5. Pakistan
6. Eritrea
7. Yemen
8. Iran
9. Nigeria
10. India

Jesus said, “But before all these things, they will lay their hands on you and will persecute you, delivering you to the synagogues and prisons, bringing you before kings and governors for My name’s sake.

It will lead to an opportunity for your testimony.”

Luke 21:12-13

<https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/16-americans-1-canadian-among-kidnapped-christian-missionaries-haiti-ministries-2021-10-17/>



The image shows a screenshot of a Reuters news article. The Reuters logo is in the top left corner. The article is dated October 17, 2021, at 1:42 PM CDT, and was last updated 3 days ago. The article is categorized under 'Americas' and has a '1 minute read' indicator. The headline reads: '16 Americans, 1 Canadian among kidnapped Christian missionaries in Haiti- ministries group'. The article is attributed to Reuters.

Jesus said, “So make up your minds not to prepare beforehand to defend yourselves; for I will give you utterance and wisdom which none of your opponents will be able to resist or refute.” Luke 21:14-15

*Followers of Jesus in today’s culture are desperate for wisdom

WISDOM... PLEASE

- **Pray** – ask God for wisdom, courage, hope, discernment
- **Learn** – spend as much time studying God’s Word as you do learning about today’s culture
- **Explain** – tell the truth about today’s struggles and what is happening in our world
- **Act** – offer positive, helpful, biblical solutions to today’s problems
- **Stop** – avoid actions and words that dishonor God, attack others, create fear, or cause disunity
- **Encourage** – tell people how they can know and follow the Savior who has all the answers

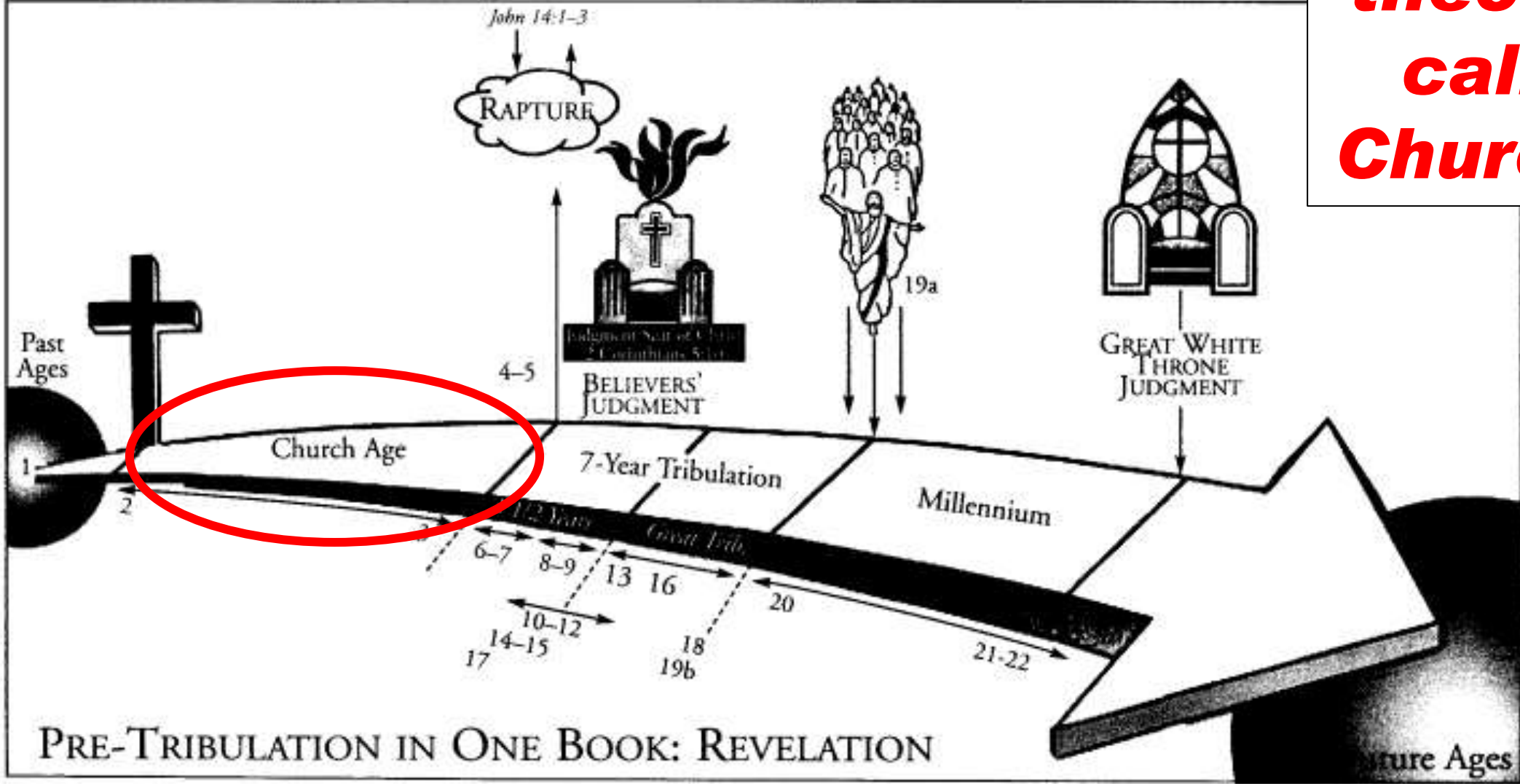
Jesus said, “At that time many will fall away and will betray one another and hate one another.” Matthew 24:10

Jesus said, “But you will be betrayed even by parents and brothers and relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death, and you will be hated by all because of My name.”

Luke 21:16-17



We presently live in what theologians call "The Church Age"



Jesus said, “Many false prophets will arise and will mislead many.” Matthew 24:11

Jesus said, “And then if anyone says to you, ‘Behold, here is the Christ’; or, ‘Behold, He is there’; do not believe him; for false Christs and false prophets will arise, and will show signs and wonders, in order to lead astray, if possible, the elect. But take heed; behold, **I have told you everything in advance.**”

Mark 13:21-23

“Many false prophets will arise and will mislead many.” Matthew 24:11

18 Photos Of People Who Believe That They're Jesus Christ

"I've tried to take each Messiah's claims as seriously as possible and tried to see what the world looks like from that perspective."



Gabriel H. Sanchez
BuzzFeed News Photo Essay Editor

BuzzFeed.News

Posted on September 25, 2017, at 5:33 p.m. ET

Jonas Bendiksen is a Norwegian photographer whose work examines the fringes of culture to capture a wider perspective of the world we live in. Since 2014, Bendiksen has been following seven self-proclaimed Messiahs from around the world, each truly believing that they are the second coming of Jesus Christ. His book, [The Last Testament](#), chronicles his journey.



Inri Cristo from Brazil (actual name is **Alvaro Theiss**, formerly a waiter) is wheeled around a compound on a rolling pedestal by female disciples. INRI are the initials that Pontius Pilate had written on top of Jesus's cross, which translates from Latin to "Jesus Christ, King of the Jews."

Moses Hlongwane of South Africa has set himself up as the reincarnation of Jesus Christ in a compound with a dozen disciples in KwaZulu-Natal town.

Moses uses his disciples welfare payments to fund his Jesus compound.



Vissarion of Siberia addresses his disciples on his birthday, January 14, known as Christmas to his followers. A traffic policeman in the 1980s, Vissarion got his first revelation that he was Jesus Christ at the same time as the breakup of the Soviet Union. He has a following of 5,000-10,000 disciples in the Siberian forest.



Bupete Chibwe Chishimba of Zambia started claiming he was Jesus Christ in 2013 and claims that he fell from heaven in 1999. The taxi driver who was originally beaten by townsfolk for claiming to be Jesus, now says he is even more senior to Jesus in the hierarchy in heaven.



Jesus said, “Because lawlessness is increased, most people’s love will grow cold.” Matthew 24:12



SHOWS

CORONAVIRUS



'Lawless city?' Worry after Portland police don't stop chaos

A crowd of 100 people wreaked havoc in downtown Portland, Oregon, this week, smashing storefront windows, lighting dumpsters on fire and causing at least \$500,000 in damage

By SARA CLINE Associated Press

October 16, 2021, 11:30 AM • 3 min read



adjective

- 1 contrary to or without regard for the law:
lawless violence.
- 2 being without law; uncontrolled by a law; unbridled; unruly; unrestrained:
lawless passion.
- 3 illegal:

<https://www.dictionary.com/browse/lawlessness>

“lawlessness is increased”

FOREIGN POLICY

Tiny Nicaragua is becoming a big problem for Joe Biden

The ruling family — colorful, corrupt and ruthless — has embraced the Kremlin and crushed what remains of the country's democratic opposition.



POLITICO

By NAHAL TOOSI
10/26/2021 04:30 AM EDT

On the sidelines of an international gathering in Costa Rica earlier this year, Secretary of State Antony Blinken tried to make headway with the foreign

On the sidelines of an international gathering in Costa Rica earlier this year, Secretary of State Antony Blinken tried to make headway with the foreign minister of a government that is increasingly dictatorial and hostile to the United States... During the next two months, Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega dramatically escalated a crackdown on people he and his wife, Vice President Rosario Murillo, deemed a threat to their continued rule of 14 years and counting. By mid-August, Ortega and Murillo had detained at least seven potential presidential rivals and barred the genuine opposition parties from participating in the Nov. 7 presidential election — effectively wiping away any real competition. They've also detained or otherwise threatened dozens more human rights activists, business leaders, students, journalists and others in the Central American country of 6.5 million. The repression is among the most intense a Western Hemisphere country has experienced in decades. Ortega and Murillo have a long and bloody history in Nicaraguan politics. But now, U.S. officials and prominent Nicaraguans say, they appear to be taking things to a new level, imposing a police state with the goal of bringing about dynastic rule to the country.

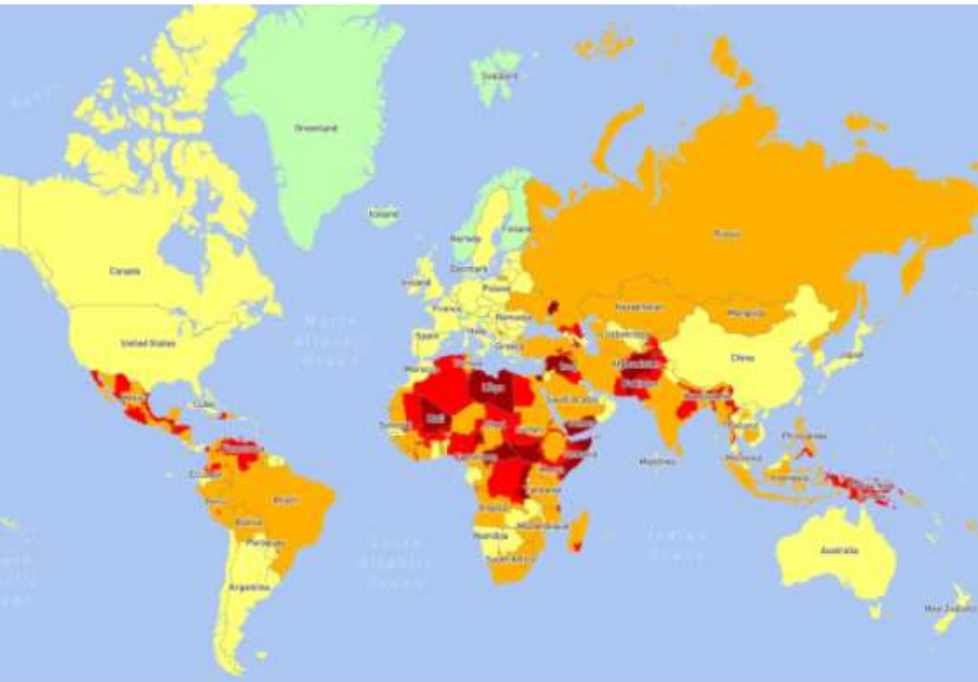
ATLAS & BOOTS

BEST OUTDOOR TRAVEL BLOG 2021

MOST DANGEROUS COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD

2021 - RANKED

7TH DECEMBER 2020 BY PETER
THIS ARTICLE MAY CONTAIN AFFILIATE LINKS



MOST DANGEROUS COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD

These are the nine most dangerous countries in the world according to International SOS. They have been assessed as carrying an 'extreme travel security risk'.

- Afghanistan
- Central African Republic
- Iraq
- Libya
- Mali
- Somalia
- South Sudan
- Syria
- Yemen

A further six countries include regions (known as Security Risk Zones) that have been rated as an 'extreme travel security risk'.

- DR Congo
- Nigeria
- Ukraine
- Pakistan
- Egypt

“Because lawlessness is increased, most people’s love will grow cold.” Matthew 24:12

“Government control and law and order may be minimal or non-existent across large areas. Serious threat of violent attacks by armed groups targeting travellers and international assignees. Government and transport services are barely functional. Large parts of the country are inaccessible to foreigners.”

Jesus said, “Because lawlessness is increased, most people’s love [ἀγάπη agape] will grow cold.” Matthew 24:12

The New York Times

Briefs Draw Battle Lines as Texas Abortion Law Nears Supreme Court

The justices, who will hear arguments on Monday in two cases challenging the state’s near-total ban, required the parties to file their briefs with extraordinary speed.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/10/27/us/politics/supreme-court-texas-abortion.html>



Supreme Court to take up Texas abortion law but declines to block it

SB8 will remain in effect until the high court issues its decision.

By Devin Dwyer

October 22, 2021, 2:07 PM • 6 min read



<https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/supreme-court-texas-abortion-law/story?id=80730478>

“But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved.” Matthew 24:13

Jesus said, “Yet not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your lives.” Luke 21:18-19

*Jesus promises that difficult times will come AND promises protection for those who believe in Him

Jesus said, “This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and **then the end will come.**” Matthew 24:14

- Jesus promised that everyone will have a chance to hear the story of salvation before His 2nd coming.
- How will 7+ billion people hear the gospel story?



What is a UPG?

“The Greek phrase for ‘all nations’ is ‘panta ta ethne’ which refers to all of the ethnicities or people groups of the world. We believe that Jesus was very clear in stating that His gospel would be preached to all nations/ ethne/ people groups before He would return.”

It is estimated that of the **7.75 billion** people alive in the world today, **3.23 billion of them live in unreached people groups with little or no access to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.** According to [Joshua Project](#), there are approximately 17,446 unique people groups in the world with 7,400+ of them considered unreached (over 41% of the world’s population!). The vast majority (85%) of these least reached groups exist in the 10/40 window and less than 10% of missionary work is done among these people.

Jesus
promised
that everyone
will have a
chance to
hear the
story of
salvation.

How will
they hear?

How Many People Have Smartphones In The World?



6.37 Billion

smartphone users in the world today



80.76%

of people have smartphones today

According to Statista, the **current number of smartphone users in the world today is 6.378 billion**, and this means **80.76% of the world's population owns a smartphone**. This figure is up considerably from 2016 when there were only 3.668 billion users, 49.40% of that year's global population.

How Many People Have Mobile Phones In The World?



7.10 Billion

mobile phone users in the world today



89.90%

of people own mobile phones today



In 2021, including both smart and feature phones, **the current number of mobile phone users is 7.10 billion**, which makes **89.90% of people in the world cell phone owners**. Feature phones are the basic cell phones without apps and complex OS systems, more prominent in developing countries.



GodTools

Learn simple ways to talk with others about Jesus using the GodTools app. It provides a clear and concise way to share the gospel in over 80 languages.



Jesus Film Project

The Jesus Film Project app is a tool that enables you to use media to start spiritual conversations and share the story of Jesus in person and online with anyone around the world in their own heart language.



Technology for evangelism exists today that our grandparents could never have imagined!

“Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through **Daniel the prophet**, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains.” Matthew 24:15-16

Jesus refers to the Book of Daniel, written 600 years earlier

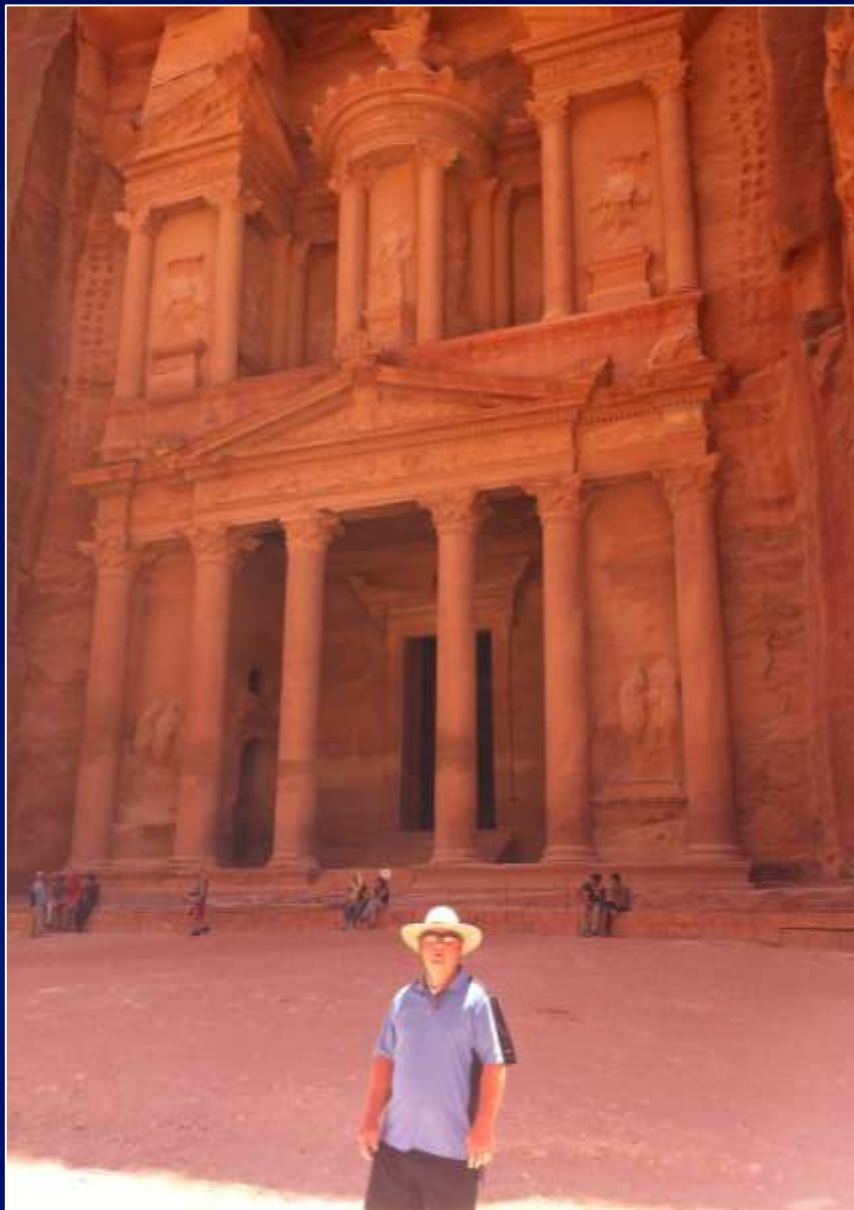
- “And he [antichrist] will make a firm covenant with the many [nations of the world] for one week [7 years], but in the middle of the week [after 3.5 years] he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of **abominations will come one who makes desolate**, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate.” Daniel 9:27
- “Forces from him will arise, desecrate the sanctuary fortress, and do away with the regular sacrifice. And they will set up the **abomination of desolation**.” Daniel 11:31
- “From the time that the regular sacrifice is abolished and the **abomination of desolation** is set up, there will be 1,290 days.” Daniel 12:11

“Flee to the mountains” Matthew 25:16

Petra?

“Then those who are in Judea **must flee to the mountains**, and those who are in the midst of the city must leave, and those who are in the country must not enter the city; because these are days of vengeance, so that all things which are written will be fulfilled.”
Luke 21:21-22





Petra in Jordan



***The
Petra
Monastery***

***Known as
“Ad Deir” in
Arabic***

***154 feet
tall, carved
out of the
rock***

When the Antichrist appears

“Whoever is on the housetop must not go down to get the things out that are in his house. Whoever is in the field must not turn back to get his cloak. But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! But pray that your flight will not be in the winter, or on a Sabbath.” Matthew 24:17-20

“Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days; for there will be great distress upon the land and wrath to this people; and they will fall by the edge of the sword, and will be led captive into all the nations; and Jerusalem will be trampled under foot by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.” Luke 21:23-24

“For then there will be a great tribulation [θλίψις *thlipsis*], such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will. Unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short.” Matthew 24:21-22

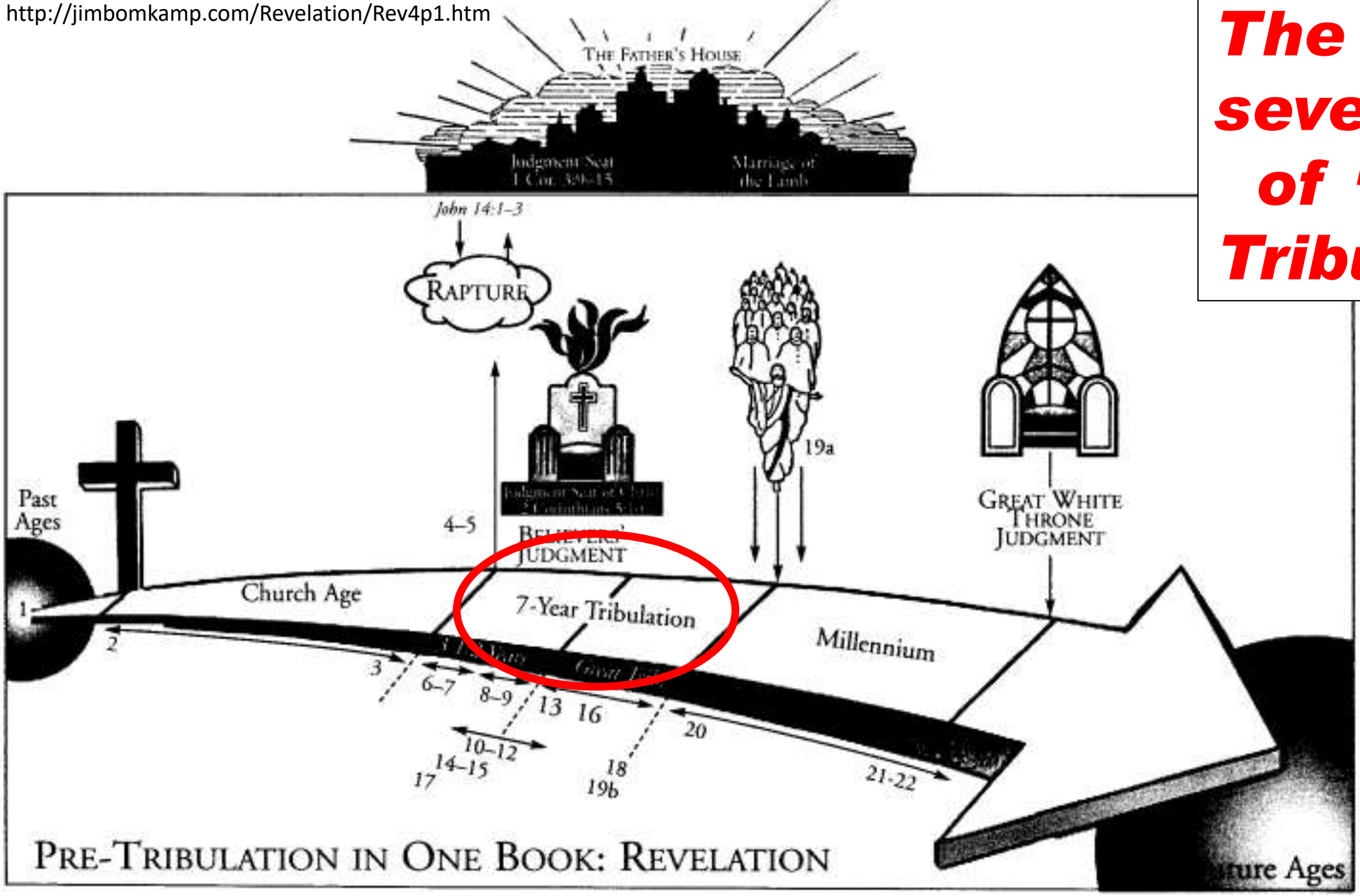
- Who is the Antichrist?
- What is the Tribulation?
- We will answer these questions and more later in this series.

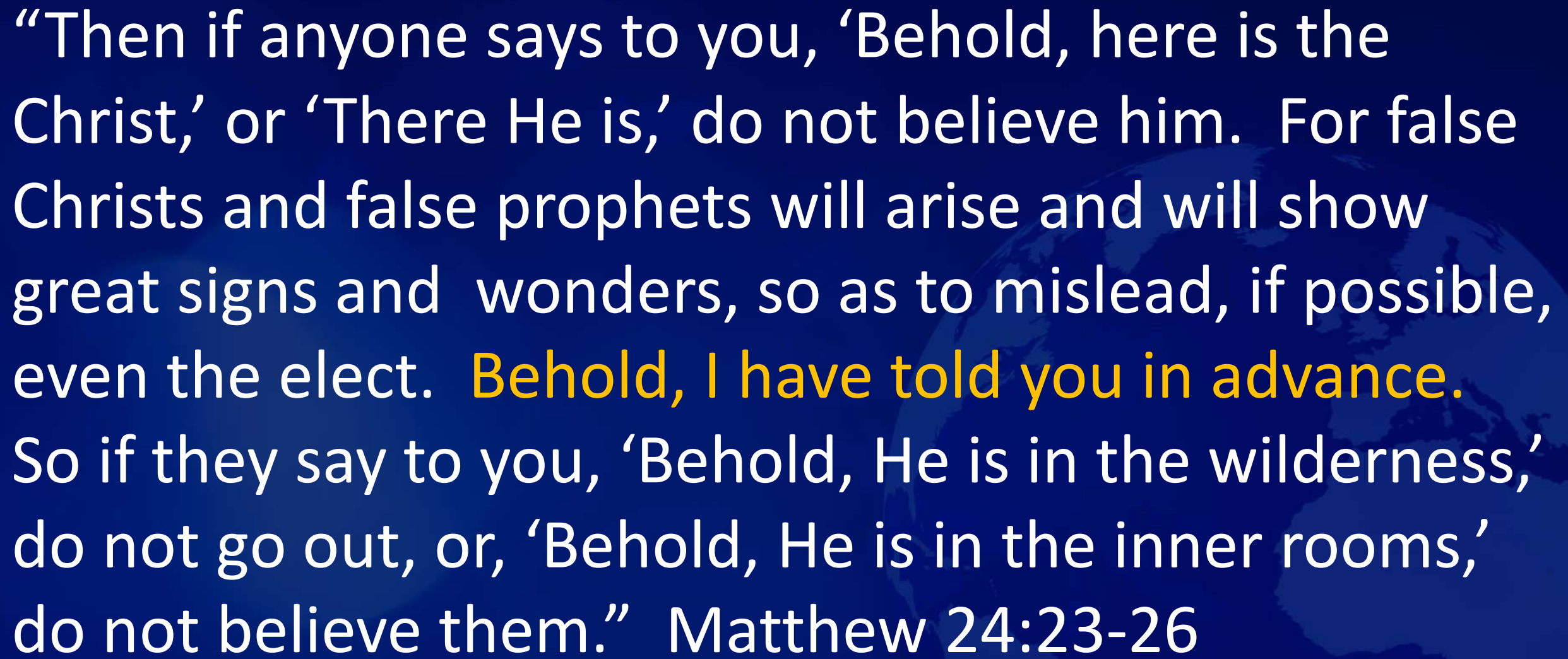
“Tell us, when will these things happen, and what will be the **sign** of Your coming, and of the end of the age?” Matthew 24:3

14 Signs of the Second Coming of Jesus

1. Rebirth of the nation of Israel
2. Re-unification of Europe
3. Rise of radical Islam
4. **Revealing of the antichrist**
5. One-world government and religion
6. Rebuilding of the Jewish Temple
7. Gospel will be preached in the whole world
8. Ease of worldwide travel, technological advances
9. Increase in deadly diseases
10. Worldwide earthquakes
11. Possession of Jerusalem disputed
12. Return of Jews to their homeland
13. Worldwide Famines
14. All of the signs coming together

The coming seven years of "Great Tribulation"





“Then if anyone says to you, ‘Behold, here is the Christ,’ or ‘There He is,’ do not believe him. For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect. **Behold, I have told you in advance.** So if they say to you, ‘Behold, He is in the wilderness,’ do not go out, or, ‘Behold, He is in the inner rooms,’ do not believe them.” Matthew 24:23-26

*The Second Coming of Jesus will not be secretive

Jesus said, "There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth dismay among nations, **in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the waves**, men fainting from fear and the expectation of the things which are coming upon the world; for the powers of the heavens will be shaken." Luke 21:25-26

*Events in the days of the Tribulation... What about today?

ENVIRONMENT

A rising sea is eating away this Brazilian town

The encroaching Atlantic Ocean is forcing existential losses in Atafona, a tragedy occurring around the world as climate change accelerates.



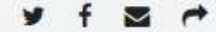
PUBLISHED OCTOBER 21, 2021 • 15 MIN READ

ATAFONA, BRAZIL – It is high tide, and the waves are getting closer to the oceanfront home where José “Nenê” Rosa lives. He gets up from his lunch of sergeant fish, which he caught at dawn. Barefoot and shirtless, his skin tanned from 46 years under the sun, the fisherman checks the stability of a four-foot-tall rock wall surrounding his house that protects it from the turbulent Atlantic Ocean. He sighs in relief to see that his property is safe, at least for another day.

RIISING TIDES
SINKING FUTURE

‘Ugly’ mud may hold key to saving vital ecosystems off Georgia, Carolinas coastlines

BY SAMMY FRETWELL
UPDATED OCTOBER 25, 2021 8:26 AM



Sea level rise threatens salt marshes

South Atlantic salt marshes most threatened by rising sea levels are on the southern North Carolina coast, the Murrells Inlet and Charleston areas of South Carolina, and Jacksonville, Fla., according to resiliency maps from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Threats also exist in the

<https://www.newsobserver.com/news/weather-news/article254872837.html>

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/article/a-rising-sea-is-eating-away-this-brazilian-town>

Environmental Impact Assessment: Higher seas: a clear and present danger to Taiwan

As one of the world's most densely populated countries, the nation can't afford to lose dry land, which means building resilience in low-lying communities

By Steven Crook



In almost every part of the world, the mean sea level (MSL) is rising for three reasons, all of which are linked to the planet getting hotter. Firstly, water expands as it heats up. Secondly, glaciers around the world are in retreat. Thirdly, the ice sheets that cover Greenland and Antarctica are shrinking, and scientists fear they could collapse with catastrophic consequences for oceanfront cities throughout the world.

Not only are the seas rising, but the speed with which they're rising is increasing. According to the US Environmental Protection Agency's website, the annual average increase in global MSL between 1880 and 2013 was 1.5mm. Since 1993, however, the average rise per year has been 3 to 3.6mm.

<https://www.taipeitimes.com/News/feat/archives/2021/10/27/2003766830>

Swollen tides, wild waves to become more common, scientist warns

Tom Hunt · 11:00, Oct 14 2021



A raising of the sea's average height meant, when there were big waves, they could reach land and property much easier, Scott Stephens said. "Sea levels in New Zealand have risen by almost 20 cm over the last 100 years." Wellington's climate change-induced "relative" sea level rise was faster than the rest of the country because the land was actually dropping due to tectonic movement under the ground. The sea was creeping up on New Zealand at a rate of 1.81mm per year but in Wellington the rate was 2.3mm. "We will see more extreme weather events in the coming years, it's critical that the public agencies working on this have the best modelling and analysis in order to protect people and property."

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/126664609/swollen-tides-wild-waves-to-become-more-common-scientist-warns>

Jesus said, “For just as the lightning comes from the east and flashes even to the west, so will the coming (παρουσία *parousia*) of the Son of Man be.”

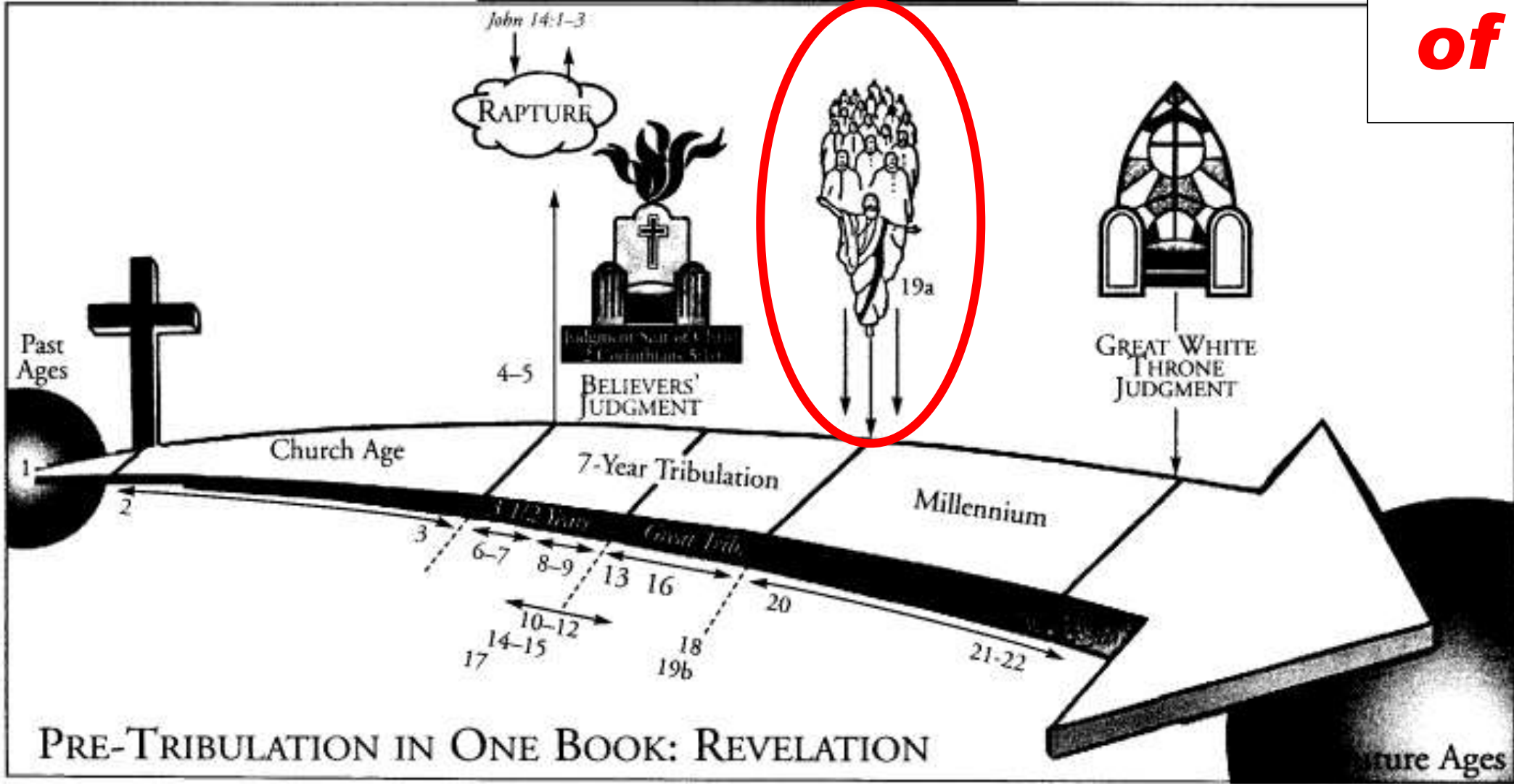
Matthew 24:27

*Lightening is both NOTICEABLE and SWIFT

*The Second Coming of Jesus will NOT be missed

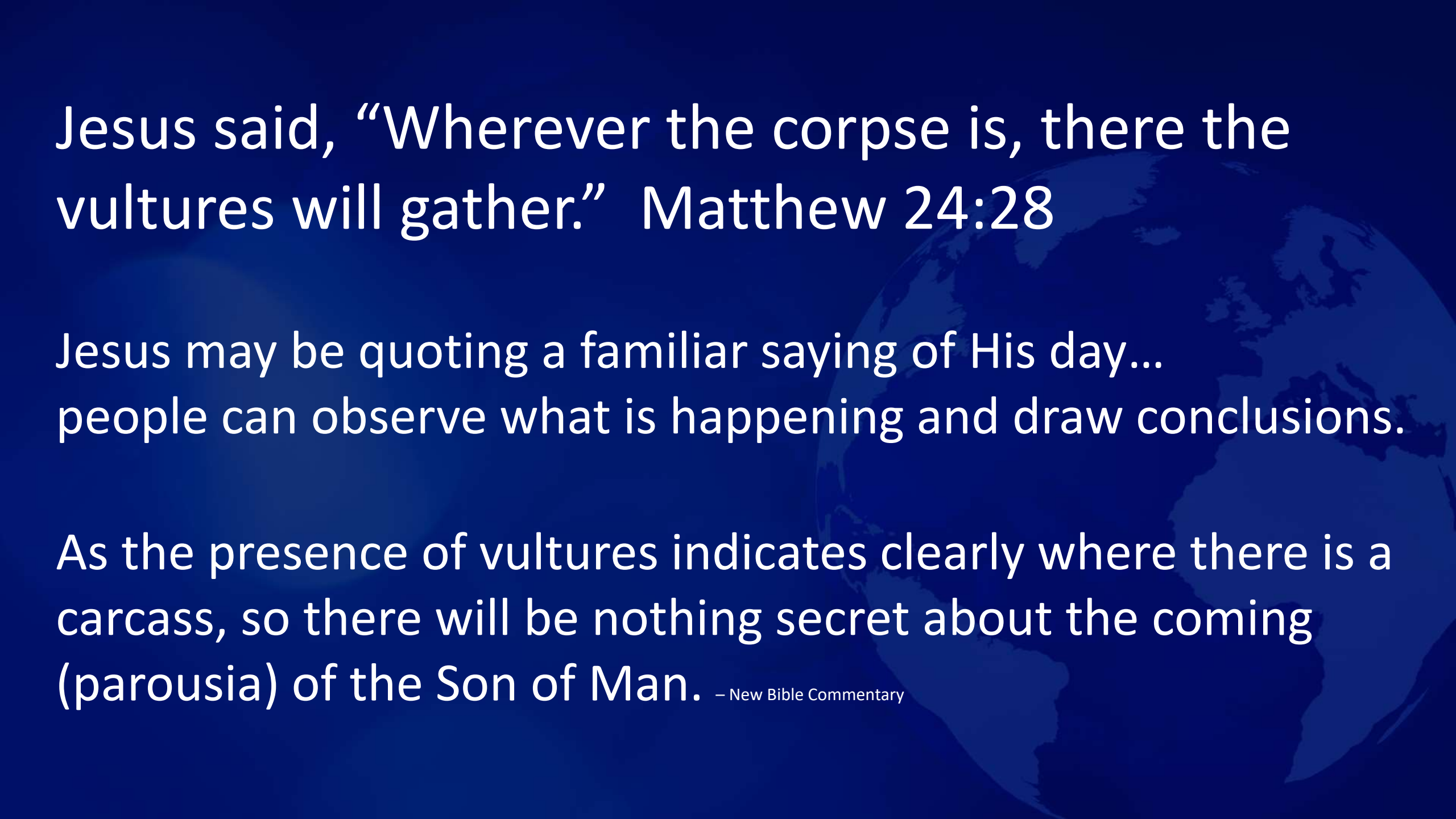
Behold, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him. So it is to be. Amen. Revelation 1:7

Second Coming of Jesus



PRE-TRIBULATION IN ONE BOOK: REVELATION





Jesus said, “Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.” Matthew 24:28

Jesus may be quoting a familiar saying of His day...
people can observe what is happening and draw conclusions.

As the presence of vultures indicates clearly where there is a carcass, so there will be nothing secret about the coming (parousia) of the Son of Man. – New Bible Commentary

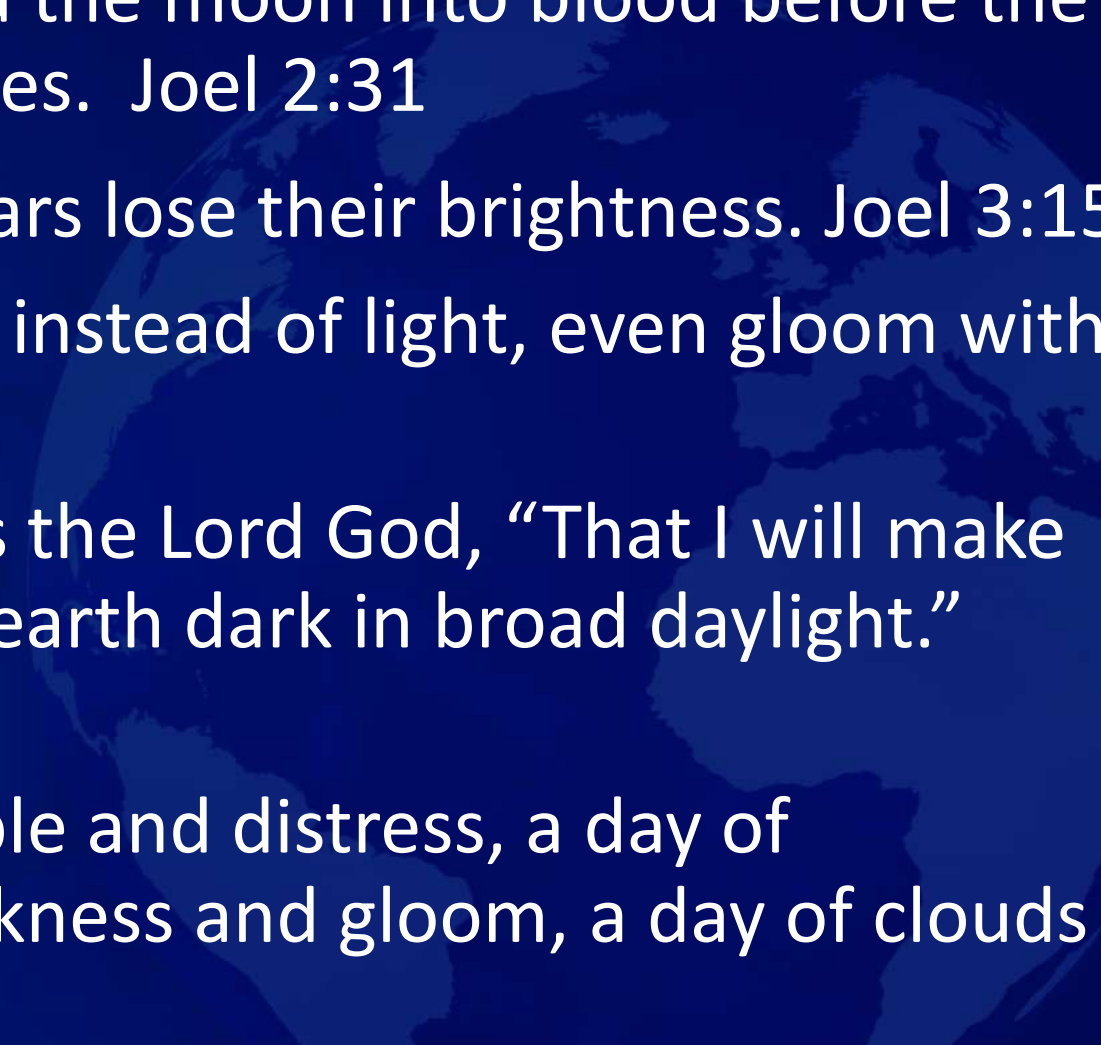
“But immediately after the tribulation [θλίψις *thlipsis*] of those days THE SUN WILL BE DARKENED, AND THE MOON WILL NOT GIVE ITS LIGHT, AND THE STARS WILL FALL from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.” Matthew 24:29

“There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth dismay among nations, in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the waves, men fainting from fear and the expectation of the things which are coming upon the world; for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.” Luke 21:25–26

“And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great glory. And He will send forth His angels with A GREAT TRUMPET [shofar] and THEY WILL GATHER TOGETHER His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.”

Matthew 24:30-31

*A day of darkness and judgment spoken of by multiple Old Testament prophets

- 
- Before them the earth quakes, the heavens tremble, the sun and the moon grow dark and the stars lose their brightness. Joel 2:10
 - The sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes. Joel 2:31
 - The sun and moon grow dark and the stars lose their brightness. Joel 3:15
 - Will not the day of the Lord be darkness instead of light, even gloom with no brightness in it? Amos 5:20
 - “It will come about in that day,” declares the Lord God, “That I will make the sun go down at noon and make the earth dark in broad daylight.” Amos 8:9
 - A day of wrath is that day, a day of trouble and distress, a day of destruction and desolation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, Zephaniah 1:15

What's Next?

So far, we have studied biblical prophecy in only 31 verses of 1 chapter.

Jesus has so much more to say to us.

Don't miss next Sunday!



**CHRIST
IS COMING**

ARE YOU READY?

What do we do NOW?

Now, little children,
abide in Him, so that
when He appears, we
may have confidence and
not shrink away from
Him in shame at His
coming. 1 John 2:28