Matthew 24 Series - Matthew 24 Part 8 in the Series - The Simple Words of Christ

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Good morning or evening if you are listening in the 9:00pm hour. As always, I'm excited to continue our series on Matthew 24 -"Tell us, when shall these things be, what shall be the sign of thy coming and of the end of the world."

Before we begin, listen now and consider this a prayer for guidance as we study the Word and Seek to walk in the Kingdom God as a present-day reality today.

It was a bit of an interesting week this past week for me. One of the things I do during the week is read a lot of articles. I read from all sorts of places. I'll read from newspapers around the U.S., I'll read from different websites and I read all sorts of articles.

Sometimes I'll read an entire article, but most of the times I read just enough of an article to get the idea of the gist of it – but then I will almost always go to the comments section. I read the comments because I think it gives a good idea of where a lot of people's minds and hearts are – and to be quite honest with you – it is generally a bit of horrifying effect – because I am contiunally amazed at how far away we have become from the very simple, basic, elemental truths of the Scripture.

I am amazed at how very little people know of the Bible and how very little people actually know about the God of the Bible and His Perfect Will.

This is not an accident. It is not the "fulfillment of Bible prophecy." It is a calculated plan that has been going on – not just in America – but all over the world – for many years now – for the purpose of removing any knowledge of God or the Bible from society.

Though this plan is absolutely Satanic in its nature – in that it's basic design is rebellion against the God of the Bible, His Son Jesus, Yeshua the Christ, His Kingdom, Yahweh's altogether perfect Laws, Statutes, Commandments, Judgements and His perfect will for mankind – a mystical fairytale Hollywood boogeyman is not behind this.

Evil men who have cloaked themselves in white robes publically – but privately they have shown themselves to be black robed, wicked deceivers whose hearts are

continually turned on rebellion against the God of the Bible.

They have made up all places of society. They have been businessmen, politicians, lawyers, doctors, scientists, men born with silver spoons in their mouths, they have been preachers from all religions – from the Catholic to the Baptist to the most separatist sect of the Nazarenes. All have worked tirelessly to take the key of knowledge found in God's Word and hide it from the simple common man who actually has a real desire to know God and His Son and walk in the Kingdom of God.

The Kingdom of God has been attacked on every level by each of these segments of society.

As I have demonstrated since our very first message in this series, the goal of all these evil machinations has been to make people believe there is no God – and for those who will not be persuaded that far – they will settle for making them believe that there is a God and He has a Kingdom – but it's not for today.

Why would the businessman not want the Kingdom of God in place today?

I have in my library, an excellent book written in 1943 by Howard Rand and its title is Digest of the Divine Law. If you can get your hands on a copy, you would do well to have it and study it in regards to the things he says concerning the Laws of God. Rand is long been gone and I have no personal knowledge of anything else he has written except for the book that I have, Digest of the Divine Law.

On page 73 of this book, he lays out a reason why an ultra rich businessman might not want the Laws of God to be in place today.

The paragraph section is called Judgements for Stealing. This is what he says.

Why would the lawyer not want the Kingdom of God in place today?

Besides the obvious, found in Luke 11:45:

[**45**] Then answered one of the **lawyers**, and said unto him, Master, thus saying thou reproachest us also.

[46] And he said, Woe unto you also, ye **lawyers**! for ye lade men with burdens grievous to be borne, and ye yourselves touch not the burdens with one of your fingers.

[**52**] Woe unto you, **lawyers**! for ye have taken away the key of knowledge: ye entered not in yourselves, and them that were entering in ye hindered.

...the lawyer is mainly focused on the laws they have enacted. Very few lawyers today have any thought or concern for the Laws of God but care only for the statutes of men.

I've seen it myself now – embroiled in an ongoing battle for almost 3 years – where lawyers at the highest levels are not interested in truth or justice – what's right or wrong. They are only interested in getting a guilty verdict or plea. They will lie, manipulate, violate their oaths – and do so with with immunity, free from any fear of repercussions from their wickedness.

Are you aware that under the Laws of God, the penalty for perjury or for bearing false witness is the same penalty for which the person being charged should receive if found guilty.

Why would the politician not want the Kingdom of God to be in place today?

The Kingdom of God is about as clear as possible when it comes to lawmaking. There is ONE lawgiver. There is one Potentate.

There is absolutely no need whatsoever for any manmade statute to be in existence. God's Law, contained in a book that's barely 2 inches thick, covers every single act that can happen between men in their communities. Man's statute books measure to the moon and back and they do nothing but destroy the liberty and freedom offered to mankind because where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

This is another reason why good must become evil, evil must become good, right becomes wrong, black becomes white – how else could you have the masses of people proclaiming that they live in the freest, greatest nation the world has ever known – yet they ask for permission to do every single thing they do in life.

Why would the doctors not want the Kingdom of God in place today?

As to the doctors, I believe we could start with about 60,000,000 reasons why. If they are willing to murder the innocent unborns, only God knows what else they have done or would do in the name of medicine. The Greek word for Pharmacy is pharmaceia – an is the same Greek translated in our Bibles as sorcery and sorcerers.

In America today, I can look around and see why most preachers would not want the Kingdom of God in place today.

They are the recipients of the tax-deductible gift and tax-exempt status. They have built palaces and monuments to themselves preaching their false doctrines of prosperity and

of a false teaching of racial superiority for a people who have not accepted Jesus Christ of Nazareth as the One Who was the Messiah prophesied about as far back as Moses.

In the 1970s and 1980s Jerry Falwell, America's foremost advocate of the false jew in the middle east jetsetted all over America and the world in his own private jet – paid for by the Israeli government.

One can only wonder how much the Israeli government is contributing to the modern day "preacher" who is helping to keep Americans deceived as to who God's people really are today.

I said all that to say this. The proponents of the New World Order – the businessmen, the politicians, the lawyers, the scientists, etc., could not have accomplished all that they have done – without their most powerful weapon – the preacher.

I believe there is no greater deception than religious or spiritual deception. And I believe the masterminds of the New World Order knew this better than anyone.

While they have used every available point of attack they could to remove God from the consciousness of man – no greater tool have they used – beyond the one who is supposed to be the shepherd, the watchman on the wall, the one who holds the Words of God in the highest esteem.

Instead, the preachers-so-called, have taken the most basic, what should be some of the easiest passages of Scripture to understand, and they've turned them into things they simply do not say – for the purpose of removing the present-day reality of the Kingdom of God from the thoughts of men.

In Matthew 24, there is a very simple statement made by Christ. When in verse two he says in regards to the temple in existence that day, "See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down."

The destruction of the temple to the Israelite hearing Christ's prophecy here was the foretelling of a catastrophic event – so awesome and terrible – that the removing of the temple in Jerusalem was synonymous with the collapse of their entire world.

Those hearing the words of Christ that day knew that He was telling them that the fulfillment of all the prophecies – from Moses – to Daniel – to Joel – to Malachi were going to be fulfilled on or before the destruction of that temple.

This is why their response was,

"Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?"

Malachi 3:1

[1] Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to this temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.

[2] But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap:

[3] And he shall sit as a refiner and purifer of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness.

[4] Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto Yahweh, as in the days of old, and as in former years.

[5] And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith Yahweh of hosts.

Malachi 4:1-6

[1] For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith Yahweh of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.

[2] But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.

[3] And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith Yahweh of hosts.

[4] Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments.

[5] Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of Yahweh:

[6] And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

When Christ told those hearers – 2,000 years ago – that that very temple was going to be destroyed they knew exactly what it meant. They knew the full implications of it and that's why they said – when is "the end of the world?"

A major major change was coming and they understood that change to be so paramount – that it was called "the end of the world."

I have shown you how in reality, the word world as found here in verse 3 is from the Greek aion – which means age. Here, it specifically refers to the Old Covenant age. Most modern Bibles even use the word "age" here – but for the modern preacher – it doesn't fit as well – so even though their modern Bibles actually say "age" - the phrase

the end of the world is indelibly burned into the minds of people that they cling to the phrase end of the world as in end of the grass, the trees, the birds, and all the physical creation of God as if God hated His creation and wants to destroy it and make a new one.

I have shown you how Hebrews 9:26 clearly says that Christ – Jesus Christ of Nazareth – 2,000 years offered Himself as a sacrifice – the sacrifice to end ALL sacrifices – and He did when? But once, in the end of the world, hath he appeared to put away sin, by the sacrifice of Himself.

In a couple messages ago, I meant to insert a few passages, then forgot to do it. So, I'll sidetrack a bit here and do it.

I showed from Colossians 1: how that Matthew 24:14 had already been fulfilled in that it says the gospel was preached – past tense – the gospel was preached to every creature which is under heaven.

In Romans 10: Paul says:

[13] For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

[**14**] How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?

[15] And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things![16] But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report?

[17] So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

[18] But I say, Have they not heard? Yes verily, their sound went into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world.

Guess what the word world here comes from? It's oikoumene. Which means the Roman empire – the exact same Greek word found in Matthew 24:14

Let's look at something else.

I have asked repeatedly – for someone, anyone – to tell me what Hebrews 9:26 means – "Christ died in the end of the world." I get no takers.

Look at I Corinthians 10:

[1] Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea;

[2] And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;

[3] And did all eat the same spiritual meat;

[4] And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that

followed them: and that Rock was Christ.

[5] But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

[6] Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted.

[7] Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.

[8] Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand.

[9] Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents.

[**10**] Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer.

[11] Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.

What's it say? UPON WHOM THE ENDS OF THE WORLD ARE COME.

Hebrews 9:26 – in the end of the world. The word world there is aion. I Corinthians 10:11 "upon whom the ends of the world are come." The word world here is aion. Matthew 24:3 – the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world. The word world here is aion – it means age – specifically the Old Covenant age.

In a day and time in which the world views the Bible as a fairytale and a book of inconsistencies and falsities – it should make you jump and rejoice to see that once again Let God be true and every man a liar! Wow. The consistency and harmony of the Word of God from Genesis to Revelation is spectacular to say the least!

So we go back to verse 3 of Matthew 24 and we can see that this whole discussion – I almost called it the Olivet Discourse – see that's what you say if you're going to charge money for the message – it makes it sound more expensive – but instead – I'll just call it the discussion between Christ and His disciples.

Christ just told a group of people that the temple was going to be destroyed. Then, privately, He was giving His disciples far greater details.

Why was He giving them far greater details? Simple. Not only did they deserve far greater details because they at times had risked their own lives by being His disciples – but they were getting ready to be tasked with delivering the Gospel of the Kingdom to the entire inhabited Roman empire and they were absolutely on a NEED TO KNOW BASIS – more than anyone else at that time.

So as we have seen before, Christ goes into more detail from verses 4 through verse 34.

He tells them things that were going to happen – to them.

He tells them things that THEY were going to see.

He said – over and over – WHEN YOU THEREFORE shall see this, or that. When you shall see the abomination of desolation spoken of by Daniel the prophet – WHEN THEY WOULD SEE IT.

In one verse – Matthew 24:15 – Christ revealed an entire prophetic book to His disciples – a book that had been sealed and could not be understood until that very time.

I can just see the disciples now talking among themselves. "Oh wow! This what Daniel's book was about. Oh wow. That's what Daniel meant when he was talking about the times of the end. Oh wow. This what Nebuchadnezzar's dream meant. Oh wow. The final Kingdom that Daniel talked about, is the Kingdom of Christ. Oh wow, I never thought of it that way."

In a word – their minds had to have been blown by that awesome revelation because the book of Daniel – for the first time in over 490 years – was able to be understood.

I had someone tell me this week basically how complicated Matthew 24 is and how that it encompasses all generations of people and time – and it has multiple interpretations and fulfillments – but no where – absolutely no where in the text of Matthew 24 does anyone find the Biblical permission or authority to make such a statement.

J. Stuart Russell, in his great book, The Parousia, written in 1887, says that Matthew 24 is an outline of the book of Revelation. In the book of Revelation, the readers are admonished NOT to add anything to or take away anything from that book.

I would warn people today to be careful also in regards to Matthew 24.

I'll go so far as to say that because people – even sincere people – not just the purposeful deceivers like C.I. Scofield – but sincere readers of the word who have added to the prophecy of Christ is Matthew 24 – are responsible for bringing the curses that are occurring in America and the world today.

Strip away all the commentary and Hollywood imagery inserted by false preachers like Tim LaHaye and Hal Lindsey and just take the dialog between Christ and His disciples and Matthew 24 is very very simple to understand.

This same fellow that I was speaking with told me that he had been trying to argue with other believers that the "rapture" according to Matthew 24:29 was going to occur AFTER the "tribulation." I asked him to simply look at the passage again to see how the rapture or the tribulation or anything discussed in Matthew 24 could been in our future

– if the Lord Jesus said to His disciples in verse 34, "This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled."

His answer was basically, well, it doesn't really mean that. That's a pretty flimsy answer - especially if you are risking your life with such a statement.

Look with me at verse 29 of Mathew 24.

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:

[**30**] 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.

Now, to any futurist that might be listening to this message – as far as what this guy said to me - "rapture after tribulation" - he is 100% correct. So for the futurist preachers out there to preach "rapture before tribulation" like Hal Lindsey does – how ridiculous?

How much clearer can verses 29 and 30 be? IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE TRIBULATION OF THOSE DAYS... Unbelievable.

So not only do they twist Matthew 24 into something it doesn't say to achieve the foundation of their future kingdom – but even inside the bubble of their deception – they twist it even further. Almost ALL the futurist preachers preach "rapture before tribulation." Ridiculous. But that's what happens when you take God's Word and begin adding something here, take something away here, spice this up a little, water this down a little. It's just crazy and leads to all kinds of crazy, ridiculous things that sadly – the ends thereof are death and destruction. These aren't just simply little mistakes that have no real consequences.

Verse

[**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.

[**32**] Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh:

[**33**] So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors.

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

This is not difficult language. This does not require 4 years of Bible college, 2 years of seminary, a degree in Greek – just believe Christ's words for exactly what he said and the Scriptures will come alive in great and perfect harmony.

Back to verse 29 – the sun darkened and the moon shall give her light – this is exactly the same wording that Peter used at the day of Pentecost. This is exactly the wording used by Joel to which Peter referred to and spoke almost word for word – in describing the Last Days.

The powers of the heavens shall be shaken. Again. Exact same language from the book of Joel. Exact same language from the book of Hebrews in describing the passing of the Old Covenant and the establishment of the New Covenant as the "heavens and the earth shaking – signifying the removing of the Old and the establishment of the New and receiving a Kingdom which cannot be moved.

And all of this – every bit of it – was fulfilled or being fulfilled in the generation – the people and the time period – to whom our Lord was sent.

As our Lord was concluding His explanation to His disciples 2,000 years ago, He looks at them – face to face – eye to eye – man to man – physically – not spiritually – and says to them -

"Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh:

[**33**] So likewise YOU, when YOU shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors.

[**34**] Verily I say unto YOU, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled."

We violently wreck the Scriptures and the words of Christ when we say He did not say what He said and mean what He meant. Who are we to make such statements?

We wrestle the Scriptures to our own destruction when we say that these easy simple words of Christ were not spoken to and for His disciples and to and for that very generation to whom the very Son of God was sent to – and to whom the very generation that He was sent to – rejected Him and executed Him.

To say that the promised wrath of God that would be poured out upon those who killed His Son did not occur in that time period is to make all the prophecies null and void and to discredit those to whom the prophecies were given. And if you discredit the prophets – you discredit the One that told them what to say.

This is the biggest reason why the attack on the very existence and belief in the God of the Bible has become the norm instead of the exception today.

By taking the fulfillment of Bible prophecy away from its rightful place in history – you must conclude that the Kingdom of God is not for today.

To say that the overwhelming majority of people today do not even believe in the Kingdom of God is not true – one's head must be firmly buried into the ground.

Then, for the biggest part of the remainder of people who claim that the Kingdom of God is for today – when pinned down on their beliefs – they will ultimately concede that Christ is really a coming king – that He's really not King now. Or that His reign is a worthless, powerless reign that is only spiritual and symbolic.

As far as the enemies of Christ are concerned – they'll take it. The enemies of Christ love Him is a helpless baby lying in a manger. They've made lots and lots of money off the commercialism of that event.

They'll even promote Jesus as a helpless man hanging on a cross.

But concerning the all-conquering – ruling, reigning King of kings and Lord of lords – they'll do everything in their power to fight against that belief system and will seek to destroy any man, woman, boy or girl who attempts to place Christ the King on the His rightful throne and allow His rule and His rule only in their lives.

Yet, the truth is, that is the only thing that will save not only America, but the rest of the world from what appears to be a full on road to destruction and a collision course with a freight train bound for total control of the lives and minds of all who live.

Friends, when it seems that all hope is lost – look to King Jesus. Joshua of old did. And he found comfort. In the face of danger – Joshua looked at his opponents and said, All the rest of you can make your own choices – but as for me and my house, we will serve Yahweh.

When it seems like there is no hope, go read the book of Hebrews that goes into great detail describing the end of the Old Covenant world and the establishment of the New Covenant world.

Read from chapter 11 what God says concerning those who put their faith in Him. Remind yourself of the faith that Moses had – apply the things that Moses learned in his life to your very own.

[24] By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

[25] Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

[26] Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

[27] By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.

[28] Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them.

[29] By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians

assaying to do were drowned.

[**30**] By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days.

[**31**] By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.

[32] And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets:[33] Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,

[**34**] Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

[**35**] Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:

[**36**] And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment:

[**37**] They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented;

[**38**] (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

[**39**] And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise:

[**40**] God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

When it seems as if there's no hope or what's the use, there seems to be so few people that even want to listen, remember that the battle belongs to the Lord.

II Corinthians 10:

[4] (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

[5] Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;[6] And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.

He called us to obedience to His Kingdom. It begins with each and every one of us. If you are waiting for a collective body to all obey in unison, you will continue in a defeated manner and you will not be contributing to building the Kingdom of God. The Kingdom of God is likened unto a mustard seed. What's that mean? If you could travel high above the earth until people begin to fade to the unseen, if you could manage to find yourself in that scene – you would be the size of a mustard seed. It starts with you. Let the Kingdom of God spread from you to your family. Once again, this is why there has been such an assault on the family. Because that's where the Kingdom of God begins.

That's it. That's where it begins. You are not called to change the world by yourself. You are called to change your world. As your world changes, so then might the world's of those around you.

In closing, I'll remind you again. It was a very short time in which once the gospel of the Kingdom began being preached and lived – that it was said of them who lived it and preached it – "These have turned the world upside down."