

Prophecy – Part 4

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I. Introduction.

II. Signs of the end times. (Matthew 24:1-3)

- A. Signs preceding the Rapture of Jesus Christ. (Matthew 24:4:-14)
- B. The Tribulation period. (Matthew 24:15-28)
- C. The Return in glory. (Matthew 24:29-31; Revelation 19:11-16)
- D. The fig tree blossoming. (Matthew 24:32-34)
- E. The end of the world. (Matthew 24:35-36; 2 Peter 3:10-13; Revelation 21:1; 1 Corinthians 2:9)
- F. The Rapture. (Matthew 24:37-42)

III. Three aspects that tell us the Second Coming of Christ is near.

A. The Jewish people as a nation. In 1948 the Jewish nation began to blossom as a fig tree.

B. The world government.

1. A ten nation confederacy will occur before the Rapture.
2. You can find information in Daniel 2, 7, and Revelation 13.
3. It will have the basic geography of the old Roman empire.
4. Travel will increase. (Daniel 12:4)
5. Wars will increase. (Matthew 24:6)
6. Knowledge will increase. (Daniel 12:4)
7. There will be famine. (Matthew 24:7)
8. Disease will be rampant.
9. Earthquakes will increase.
10. Crime will increase. (Matthew 27:12; 24:37; Leviticus 20:13; Luke 21:25, 26)
11. All growth production will end in collapse.

12. Men will love self, money, be boastful, ungrateful, brutal, haters of good, lovers of pleasure, false prophets (2 Timothy 3; Matthew 24:11-12)

C. The church of Jesus Christ.

IV. The Second Coming: those of us who know Jesus look forward with anticipation for the Rapture.

(2 Thessalonians 2:1-3; 2 Timothy 3:5; Luke 21:27)

V. Reasons for knowing the end times.

A. For comfort and encouragement. (1 Thessalonians 4:18)

B. To encourage holiness. (2 Peter 3:11)

C. To motivate us to share Christ with everyone.

Application questions:

1. In what way should we expect to know when the end will come? In what way should we expect it to be a mystery? Explain.

2. What are some of the signs of the end to come?

3. Why is it important to have an understanding of future events? Explain.
