

Associates for Scriptural Knowledge • P.O. Box 25000, Portland, OR 97298-0990, USA

© ASK, November 2015 • Telephone: 503 292 4352

Webpage on the Internet: <http://www.askelm.com> • E-Mail address: askoffice@askelm.com

Dear Associates and Friends,

November 2015

“Signs in the heavens” is the topic of this month’s article titled “[The Asteroid Destruction: Its Timing and Purpose](#).” A major sign in the heavens is to occur in the future involving an asteroid with a unique shape that obviously will not be natural. The combined efforts of mankind will not divert it from hitting the earth. It will strike our planet. It will be a sign of doom to many on the entire earth.

In Matthew 24:1–2 Jesus begins a discourse regarding the future destruction of the Temple. Then in Matthew 24:3–7, He continues to discuss worldwide events of deception, death, and destruction. Jesus concludes these prophecies saying, “**All these are the beginning of sorrows** (Matthew 24:8). The asteroid destruction Dr. Martin discusses in this article is prophesied to occur near the end of “**the beginning of sorrows.**” Here is an outline of Matthew chapter 24 from the Holman Christian Standard Bible¹:

Matthew 24:1	Destruction of the Temple Predicted
Matthew 24:3	Signs of the End of the Age
Matthew 24:9	Persecutions Predicted
Matthew 24:15	The Great Tribulation
Matthew 24:29	The Coming of the Son of Man
Matthew 24:32	The Parable of the Fig Tree
Matthew 24:36	No One Knows the Day or Hour
Matthew 24:45	Faithful Service to the Messiah

“For I say unto you, You shall not see me henceforth [from now on], till [until] you shall say, ‘Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord.’”

• **Matthew 23:39**

This means He will not enter Jerusalem again until the people of Jerusalem praise Him as they did on the so-called “Palm Sunday.” Similarly, in the last two verses of Matthew chapter 24 Jesus says:

“Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled. Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.”

• **Matthew 24:34–35**

These prophecies of Matthew chapter 24 were not fulfilled in the generation of the apostles before or after the 70 AD destruction of the Temple. Which generation was Jesus referring to? It will be the generation just before He will return. The prophecies of Matthew chapter 24 and many other prophecies will be fulfilled in a time future to us.

Good Things to Come

Sometimes, when things seem their worst, things actually do improve. The future holds not just gloom, doom, destruction, tribulation, toil, and trouble, but prosperity is also predicted for the world once God intervenes in a recognizable and positive way in world affairs. This will occur before He judges mankind in

¹ There are many Bible outline arrangements and they provide a quick “roadmap” and context for the passages you are reading.

His Day of Wrath (Zephaniah 1:15; Romans 2:5). He will apparently give prosperity to much of the world. He will do so by letting the world know that He exists, He is the Creator, and He is in control. My article "[Blessed Is He that Comes](#)" shows there will be great blessings on the earth as prophesied in Zechariah 12:10–11 and by the apostle John in John 19:37 and by Jesus Himself in Revelation 1:7. Starting from Jerusalem, this time the Gospel will be received favorably by Jews, Muslims, and even paganized Christians. From there the message will spread ...

"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and THEN shall the end come."

• **Matthew 24:14**

Although the apostle Paul did preach the Gospel "**to every creature**" or to all creation (Colossians 1:23), God did not bring fruit of repentance at that time to those that heard, not even superficially. That message did not reach open minds as it will in our era. In our future the Gospel will spread from Jerusalem around the world (Mark 16:15, Luke 24:46–48; Acts 3:19, 17:30–31; Romans 10:18). Reread "[Surprising Events for the Near Future](#)." As part of the worldwide acceptance and subsequent prosperity, national boundaries will be redrawn ("[Prophetic Geography and the Time of the End](#)").²

"**The Spirit of grace and of supplications**" (Zechariah 12:10) will be poured out upon "**the inhabitants of Jerusalem**" so they will accept Him "**whom they have pierced**" as their Messiah and Savior. Jesus said the people of Jerusalem will not see Him return until Jerusalem acclaim Him as "**He that comes in the name of the Lord.**" Jerusalem's public shall acclaim Him as Lord, just as they did before the Passover of His crucifixion. It will be an event we can "check off" on a list of fulfilled prophecies. Jesus came in the name of the Lord. That name is YHWH, which Jesus is allowed to use. He is God's representative to the nations on earth. He is our mediator. He is the Messiah of Israel. He is our Savior. He is Lord. For a period of time Jesus will allow the world to do what He allowed for His disciples:

"Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, And said unto them, 'Thus it is written, and thus it behoved [was necessary for] Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And you are witnesses of these things.'"

• **Luke 24:45–48**

The truth of the Gospel will be proclaimed, initially received with joy, but their faith will be superficial. God will subsequently blind most people of the world to believe the lie of the antichrist (2 Thessalonians 2:10–12) fulfilling God's purpose. At the end, God's judgment will come upon those who accept, then pervert, the truth (like Simom Magus, Acts 8:9, 13, 18, 24, and 2 Corinthians 7:10: "**the sorrow of the world works death**"). Our job is to make ready the understanding of the truth of Scripture, to participate and help bring the whole counsel of God to the world, as God's will is fulfilled.

Thank You

God sustains each of us — by His gift of each heartbeat and every breath — until He deems it time for our lives to end. Then comes our resurrection from the dead, reversing our death, returning us back to life. These simple facts help us understand that God is in full control. We do not exist for our own pleasure. We were created to fulfill God's will in any way He chooses. God sustains ASK through you. Thank you for sustaining us through your prayers, suggestions, encouragements, and financial support. May God bless you for doing so, in ways that ASK can help bring you closer to God and Christ.

David W. Sielaff
david@askelm.com

² New maps were produced for that article to clarify where nations have been and approximately will be when Christ returns.