

SIGNS OF **CHRIST'S COMING AGAIN** **Matthew 24-25**

Let's examine what the Bible says about the signs of Christ's coming again

I. SIGN INDICATIONS

A. JESUS' ANSWER TO INQUIRING DISCIPLES - Matthew 24:1-14

1. Jesus' prediction (1-2)
2. The disciple's questions (3)
3. Jesus' answer - Matthew 24:4-25:46
 - Focused especially in vs. 4-14 providing six signs

B. THE REVEALING OF THE "MAN OF LAWLESSNESS" - II Thessalonians 2:1-4

1. A wicked, destructive ruler who opposes God and seeks to take His place
2. The Antichrist coming onto the world stage

II. SIGN INFORMATION

A. MATTHEW 24 ADDRESSES CHRIST'S SECOND COMING TO EARTH

1. The disciples are asking about the Temple's destruction that was predicted in Zechariah 14:1-2
 - a. This occurs just before Christ returns to the earth to begin His Millennial reign
 - b. The disciples, nor any before them, had any understanding of Christ coming to earth twice
2. Jesus' signs are an indication of when He will come to reign on the earth at the end of the age (3b)
 - He is not speaking of the "rapture" of when He returns in the air for us - I Thess. 4:13-18
3. The Abomination of Desolation will precede the return Jesus speaks of - Matt. 24:15-28
4. The information in Matthew 24:29-31 and 40-41 are similar to the rapture but not the same event

B. MATTHEW 25 SPEAKS OF THE NEED FOR SPIRITUAL PREPARATION

1. Three parables make up the chapter
 - Virgins (1-13), Talents (14-30), Sheep & Goats (31-46)
2. These encourage listeners to be ready when Jesus appears to reign on David's throne during the Millennial Kingdom because the unprepared will have no further chance of salvation

III. SIGN INSTRUCTION

A. THERE ARE NO SIGNS REGARDING CHRIST'S RETURN IN THE AIR

1. This return or rapture is the next event on God's prophetic calendar
2. There are no historic events that make His return more likely

B. THROUGHOUT HISTORY THERE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN LAWLESS MEN

1. Men are sinful and therefore do wicked things and seek to unseat God
2. Because Satan is not omniscient he must always have someone in place who could become the Antichrist

C. THE RETURN OF CHRIST IN THE AIR IS IMMANENT

1. The rapture of the church can happen anytime
2. Jesus' coming in the air will be like a thief in the night - I Thessalonians 5:1-3

IV. SAINT RESPONSIBILITIES - Titus 2:11-13

A. LEARN TRUTH (11)

1. Salvation is by grace alone
2. Salvation is available for all men

B. LIVE RIGHT (12)

1. Denying ungodliness and worldliness
2. Living sensibly, righteously and godly

C. LOOK FOR JESUS (13)

1. Our blessed hope: A confident certainty in what is unseen but not uncertain - See Heb. 11:1
2. The appearing of His glory: The unveiling of Christ's brilliant shekinah radiance

CONCLUSION:

We will see our Savior, not because of signs but in His time

We can serve our Savior by accepting His salvation, living right and looking for Him