

August 9, 2020



"ARE THESE THE END TIMES?"

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MATTHEW 24: 3-14

CORE QUESTION: Is this virus one of the biblical signs marking the beginning of the end times?

Romans' clear path to salvation:

1. Romans 3:23, "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."
2. Romans 6:23, "the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God, is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."
3. Romans 10:9, "if you confess with your mouth the LORD Jesus and BELIEVE in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, **you will be saved**. For it is by believing in his heart that a man becomes right with God; and with his mouth he tells others of his faith, confirming his salvation."

*How the Bible speaks of "the end times":

1. Luke 21:10
2. Luke 21:11
3. Luke 21:12

What do you need to know to be ready?

I. THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH MUST COME FIRST (1 Thessalonians 4:15-18; 2 Corinthians 5:8; Revelation 4:1).

II. THE END TIMES

TRUTH: In Eastern religions there's no moving toward anything.

*The four major world events to the end:

1. Creation
2. The fall of humanity and expulsion from the Garden of Eden

TRUTH: In Adam's sin, God's curse of death fell on men and animals and the earth.

3. God's redemptive act at Calvary
4. The end of time

III. THE ANTI-CHRIST

1. He's coming (1 John 2:18).
2. He is evil personified (Revelation 13:1).

INSIGHT: The Anti-Christ will be a demon-possessed individual, and the demon is Satan himself.

3. He will have great power (2 Kings 19:35; Revelation 13:2).
4. He will lead the entire world (Revelation 13:4, 6).

INSIGHT: The power of the Anti-Christ to rule and control the planet will be the power to control buying and selling.

TRUTH: The Anti-Christ will control every livelihood and every business and hold over the world the threat of starvation and abject poverty.

5. He will set himself up as God (2 Thessalonians 2:3-4).

IV. JESUS' SEVEN SIGNS OF THE END (Matthew 24:3-14)

1. Wide-spread spiritual deception...Do we have it? Check
2. Wars and the threat of war...Do we have it? Check
3. Natural disasters...Do we have them? Check
4. Persecution of true believers...Do we have it? Check
5. Widespread apostasy...Do we have it? Check

TRUTH: In the last days apostasy will increase, and church rolls will dwindle.

6. Insensitivity will grow toward immorality (Jeremiah 6:15) ...Do we have it? Check
7. The preaching of the gospel worldwide...Do we have it? Check

INVITATION: "Are you ready?"