

INSTRUCTIONS IN RIGHTEOUSNESS

Dr. Peter D. Wyns

Entry 8 - 2

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Jesus and the End Times

Like Israel, the USA will play a dynamic role in God's end-time plans. Israel is undeniably special; the scripture declares her coming revival, the restoration of her promises and the call of God for great purpose in the last days. (Read [Israel's Coming Revival](#) by Peter Wyns) Although America is not mentioned in the Bible, her special purpose is equally undeniable. She was founded on biblical principles because God designed the USA to partner with Him in the end-times. From such foundations, America has become the mission-sending, oppression-breaking, compassion-giving nation of the world. No other nation comes close to extending this amazing level of help. The church is the backbone of America, but it desperately needs to mature. In time, God will mature His church and use the USA for His end-time purpose. We will not be tossed about by every wind of doctrine. This maturity is vital, for as the church in America goes, so goes the church in the nations of the world.

The Mayans prophesied that the world would come to an end in 2012. Some Bible teachers are connecting with this as if it were a true prophecy. They believe that many people have a prophetic gift from God even though they do not have His Holy Spirit.

I am not of that opinion. The Bible teaches that there are true prophecies that come from God and false prophecies that are not from God. True prophets are mentioned in the Bible as Holy men who prophesied as the Holy Spirit came upon them. The Mayans were a demonic people, sacrificing the blood of up to a thousand humans in a day. I would never believe a prophecy that came from such darkness. If there was ever a platform set in place for false doctrine, that is it.

Others, who do not follow the Mayans, still prophesy that 2012 will bring so much devastation that the world will fall into irreversible chaos. I admire some of these leaders, but I trust Jesus more than them. He is the best prophet. He prophesied about himself, other individuals, cities and the future of the world. Through Him, the entire book of Revelation was given to John.

No prophet should contradict Jesus, so let us discover what Jesus said and let's fit into His timeline.

The disciples asked Jesus, ***"What will be the sign of your coming and the end of the age?" Mt. 24:3***

Jesus' response is given in Matthew 24. The chapter outlines 3 progressive stages regarding the end of the age. Jesus presents the 3 stages in chronological order and for simplicity, we will label them as follows;

1. ***"[The Run-up to the Book of Revelation](#)" Mt. 24:4-8***
2. ***"[The Great Tribulation](#)" Mt. 24:9-26***
3. ***"[The Return of the Lord](#)" Mt. 24:27-28***

It is clear from scripture that the Great Tribulation has not begun. (Read [Unexpected Fire](#) by Peter Wyns) That means, we are likely in stage 1, "The Run-up to Revelation" stage. The Great Tribulation is stage 2 and it starts with people being persecuted and killed.

"Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death." Mt. 24:9

Although life in America is on a downward slide, martyrdom is not yet happening, so we are not yet in stage 2, (the Great Tribulation). People have been martyred for their faith at different times throughout history but Jesus was not referring to those times. In this scripture He was talking with His disciples about the last days.

Stage 3 comes after stages 1 and 2, in chronological order, just as Jesus taught it. Stage 3 is The Return of the Lord stage, and it is presented to us in vs. 27 to 35. Jesus begins to describe this stage. He says,

“For as the lightning that comes from the east is visible even in the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. Wherever there is a carcass, there the vultures will gather.” Mt. 24: 27,28

Stage 3 is described in greater detail (including the vultures part) in Rev. 19:11-18. In this 3rd stage, Jesus teaches that within a generation of Israel’s (the fig tree) revival, He will return and the end will come. See verses 32-35.

Let us now go back to stage 1, and see what Jesus tells us about where we are today. This is our present situation, The Run-up to Revelation stage. 2012 fits into stage 1.

Here are some of the prophetic words that Jesus gave regarding this stage of the end-times:

“Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many. And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences and earthquakes in various places. (Mt. 24:4-7 NKJ) All these are the beginning of birth pains.” Mt. 24:8

Here are the 7 prophetic words and warnings from Jesus for stage 1. That is the time that we are living in. Jesus tells us,

1. Take Heed, this word is a warning.
2. Be careful and do not be deceived.
3. False Christ’s will come to deceive.
4. Expect wars and rumors of wars. Also expect famines, terrible diseases and devastating earthquakes.
5. When these things happen we should not be afraid, alarmed or troubled.
6. When these come it does not mean that the end has come - in fact Jesus clearly says that the end is not yet.
7. He tells us that these are only the beginnings of birth pains.

These 7 warnings from Jesus are so helpful. If we learn from the Lord, we will stay on track. He teaches us to be

extra cautious and discerning. He says that troubles will increase and be very traumatic during these days. 2011 was the worst year, in recent history, for world-wide calamities. We can expect 2012 to be even worse. We are in the “Run-up to Revelation.” Things will become more intense and more traumatic.

Then Jesus says that we must trust in Him and not be fearful. That word is being overlooked by many Christians. This is a time for faith, not fear. Here is great news. Jesus says that this is a time of birth pains. So what will be born? A powerful and mature, end-time church. If we are deceived, become distracted or if we become fearful then we will not rise up to partner with the Lord for this end-time preparation season.

Terrible turmoil will hit the nations especially those around Israel and Israel will face traumatic pressures.

But, 2012 in America will not be as bad as many predict. It will instead, be a year that shows some financial improvement and this will continue for a couple of years. Christians will have a breakthrough year in the USA as God takes them on personal journeys of faith and increase. So look for and believe for the favor of the Lord. Press into God, for He wants to give you maturity, mentoring and ministry. ***Israel and the USA will experience a different kind of training, but both are in a very special time of preparation.*** AΩ



Christians for Messiah Ministries

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