

Lesson Notes:

Signs of the Times

It is popular in many evangelical circles to talk about what the Bible says things would be like in the end times and to speculate whether or not we are living in the end times. Some theologians agree with evangelical views on this subject while others disagree. Following is scripture which many of the evangelical prognosticators point too as signs we are living in the end times. You be the judge.

Scriptural Principles

- 1) **Humankind is now capable of completely destroying itself in an uncontrolled Nuclear War.** – In Christ’s Olivet Discourse (**Matthew 24:21-22**) Jesus tells his disciples that in the end times mankind would be capable of destroying all life on the planet and for this reason the days of tribulation would be shortened.
- 2) **The description of the effects of God’s Wrath parallels the effects of a Nuclear Bomb** – In **Zechariah 14:12** the prophet Zechariah describes the effects of God’s Wrath on rebellious people during the end times. This is exactly the effect that a neutron bomb has upon those in the path of its destructive force.
- 3) **The Holy Gospel would be preached to all nations in the very end of the age.** – In **Matthew 24:14** Jesus tells his disciples during the Olivet discourse that once the Holy Gospel had been preached to every nation that the end of the age would come. With the advent of satellite television the holy gospel is now being preached to all nations throughout the world through EWTN, TBN, Daystar and Sky Angel.
- 4) **The rebirth of the Nation of Israel** – Since the destruction of the temple and Jerusalem by the Roman General Titus in 70 AD the nation of Israel was scattered throughout the entire world. The nation of Israel was reborn on one day on May 14, 1948 just as prophesized by the prophet Isaiah in **Isaiah 66:8**.
- 5) **Many Jewish People have become “Messianic Jews”** – Paul tells us in **Romans 11:25** that the Jewish people would be blind to the gospel until the time of the gentiles is fulfilled.
- 6) **Jerusalem would be down trodden by the Gentiles until the time of Christ’s Return** – In Christ’s Olivet discourse (**Luke 21:24**) Jesus predicted that the city of Jerusalem would be ruled by gentiles until the time of his return. Israel regained control of the city of Jerusalem for the first time since Titus’ destruction in 70 AD on June 6, 1967.
- 7) **Israel would become a garden in the End Times** – When author Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain) visited Israel in the middle of the 19th century he

remarked about how desolate the land was and free of vegetation. Today Israel is a world leader in the export of fruits and vegetables second only to the United States. The prophet Isaiah prophesized this in **Isaiah 27:6**.

- 8) **Israel will be portioned by other nations** – In **Joel 3:2** Joel talks about the wrath of God being poured out upon the nations that split the land of Israel. There is currently a strong push by many nations of the world including the United States to secede portions of Israel (the Gaza Strip, West Bank of the Jordan River and East Jerusalem) to the Palestinian people as a new Palestinian state.