

BIBLE PROPHECY

What did Jesus, Daniel, Ezekiel, Zachariah, Paul, and John say about the approaching end-times?

Authored by **Paul Shonebarger**

“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea.” (Revelation 21:1)

THE ETERNAL CROWN

Jesus repeatedly told us to “keep watch” for his return to earth. You need to understand why!

I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

John 15:15

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This author wrote this publication over many years, attempting to present every concept correctly. Shonebarger's publications are available from the virtual Temple Mount of Jerusalem.



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INTRODUCTION

The Old Testament described Jesus before he was born. Only a supernatural God could have foretold in such detail so many different things about Jesus. Despite the availability the Old Testament scriptures, the first century prophecy experts completely misinterpreted the initial coming of our Savior. As a result, Israel's most prominent religious scholars openly called for Jesus' execution.

PROPHECY FORETOLD JESUS OF NAZARETH

EVENT	FORETOLD	OCCURRED
Born in Bethlehem	Micah 5:2	Luke 2:4-7
Born of a virgin	Isaiah 7:14	Luke 1:26-31
Jesus entered Jerusalem 483 years after the command of King Artaxerxes to rebuild Jerusalem, as Daniel foretold	Daniel 9:24-26 Ezra 7:11-28	Matthew 21:1-11
Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey.	Zechariah 9:9	Matthew 21:1-5
Israel rejects Jesus, and then sentences him to die.	Isaiah 53:2-7	John 1:11, Luke 23:13-46
Nails <u>pierced</u> Jesus' hands and feet; A soldier's lance <u>pierced</u> Jesus' heart.	Psalms 22:16 Zechariah 12:10	John 20:27 John 19:34

Today highly spiritual believers are once again poised for disaster. The problem is that best-selling prophecy authors have written entertaining fictional accounts about Jesus' Second Coming without teaching the related scriptures. Scriptures foretold that entertaining teaching would become popular: *For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.* (2 Timothy 4:3-4)

Tim LaHaye (*Left Behind*) and Hal Lindsey (*The Late Great Planet Earth*) sold tens of millions of books while publicizing a comforting end-times interpretation, called dispensationalism. The most critical myth is that contemporary Christians will not suffer through the final years of our Age. This optimistic interpretation teaches that God will supernaturally remove (rapture) every Christian from earth to heaven at the very onset of the end-times. (Appendix 1)

However, Jesus repeatedly and emphatically warned believers to *keep watch* for his return. Matthew quoted Jesus as saying, “Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come.” (Matthew 24:42) Jesus warned that any person who does not “keep watch” will feel robbed: *But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. So you must also be ready because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.* (Matthew 24:43-44)

What Jesus taught concerning the end-times is an appalling contrast to the popular dispensational interpretation. Jesus taught that believers should be alert and consistently watching for his return. He makes no assurances to believers concerning their safety. False assurances have led to complacency in the modern Church.

The Apostle Paul endorsed the teaching of end-times prophecy as an everyday topic. He routinely spoke about the end-times to the church in Thessalonica. To these new believers, Paul packed two letters full of end-time information. Paul was blunt in his expectation that people learn, and be able to recall end-time principles. He asked concerning end-time topics, “Don’t you remember that when I was with you I used to tell you these things?” (2 Thessalonians 2:5)

Why did Jesus clearly warn us to “keep watch” for his return?
