

What on Earth is going on?

Seminar handout 3b Prophecy for the future 2: '...as a thief in the night

The name **Jesus** is derived from the Hebrew name Yeshua/Y'shua, which is based on the Semitic root y-š-ʿ (Hebrew: ישׁע), meaning "to deliver; to rescue."
Wikipedia

Jesus: "But understand this: If the homeowner had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour you do not expect." Luke 12:39 ESV

- Why did Jesus use the analogy of a thief when talking to the crowd about the time when the 'Son of Man' would come?
- Who is the 'Son of Man'?

Jesus: "You see all these, do you not? Truly, I say to you, there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down." Matthew 24:2 ESV

- What is Jesus telling his disciples regarding the Jews' temple of worship?
- Was Jesus correct in his prophecy - does history back it up?

Disciples: "Teacher, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when these things are about to take place?" Luke 21:7 ESV

- What is the first thing that Jesus says to look out for? Luke 21:20-24
- What does Jesus mean 'until the times of the gentiles be fulfilled'? Luke 21:20-24
- What musical instrument will be heard loudly when the 'Son of Man' comes? Matthew 24:30-31

Jesus: "For as in those days (of Noah)...they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage **until the day** when Noah entered the ark and **they were unaware** until the flood came and swept them all away – so will be the coming of the Son of Man." Matthew 24: 38,39 ESV

Jesus "...but **on the day** when Lot went out from Sodom, fire and brimstone rained from heaven and destroyed them all." Luke 17:29 ESV

- Why does Jesus refer to the days of Noah and Lot when talking about the coming of the 'Son of Man'?
- What parable does Jesus tell to teach about the coming of the 'Son of Man' being on a day and time not expected?

“Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, “There is peace and safety”, then sudden destruction will come upon them as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman and they will not escape. (Part 1)

- Who wrote these words in 1 Thessalonians 5:2-11 and when?
- What will people be talking about when the ‘day of the Lord’ comes?

“But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. So then, let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober....for God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us so that....we might live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build one another up...” (Part 2)

- Does the ‘day of the Lord’ need to be a surprise according to this passage?

“(God) has fixed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom He has appointed; and of this He has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead. Acts 17: 31
ESV

- Who has God appointed to ‘judge the world in righteousness’?
(OED definition of righteousness- the quality of being morally right or justifiable)

“But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. But stay awake at all times...” Luke 21:34,35

To think about

- Is Jesus warning us today of a future catastrophic event coming upon the whole world?
- Has God warned others in the Biblical record, about catastrophic events in the past and why?
- Do I need rescuing?
Can I trust the Bible on what action to take if this is true?

My questions...

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