

But there are More Signs!

Introduction

Matthew opened up amazing end-time clues to help us know when Jesus' coming is imminent!

Collectively (~1978):

Wars

Famines

Earthquakes

Pestilences

Hurricanes/tornadoes

} Jesus would come in one generation
(approximately 40 years) from their onset.

But there are other “soon coming” signs:

1. Unrest – Fear – Insecurity

“And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken” (Luke 21:25-26).

Right now – national fear has gripped **all** the major countries of planet earth – most of it coming from:

- Terrorists
- Economic uncertainties
- Health care insurance issues
- Activists' rights at the expense of others' freedoms
- Refugees – people forcefully removed from their homes
 - As of 2014, 59.5 million people were displaced, half going into refugee camps
 - Thousands now leaving Syria daily because of the civil war
 - New refugees develop in Southern Sudan each day!

Stacks of books are coming off the presses projecting that America is about to go into chaos. The Bible says it will become **tyrannical**.

2. Lovers of Pleasure

“This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud ... lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God” (II Timothy 3:1-4).

- Time devoted to sports
 - Time entertained by television
 - Time and money for entertainment
- } TV alone: Five hours per day! Stunning!
(It’s a form of escape.)

3. Scoffers and Religious Skeptics

“For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables” (II Timothy 4:3-4).

- The growing power of atheists to shut down Christian symbols (e.g., Santa Monica nativity scene – 2012 – after 60 years)
- Increasing inattention to the times we are living in – a spiritual crisis
- Selective obedience to God’s Word
- Growing interest in mysticism and spiritual exercises
- Religious experiences without knowing Jesus

4. Moral Degeneracy – Decline Spiritually

“This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be ... Without natural affection ... despisers of those that are good ... Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away” (II Timothy 3:1-5).

- Growing problem of pornography. Seventy percent of men from 18 to 34 years of age view porn on the internet at least once per month.
- Women are dressing more and more provocatively.
- Gay and lesbian movements (it is estimated that 30+% of our federal workers are homosexual). June 2015 – gay marriage is legal in the U.S.!
- Despising what is good – right. Anti-Christian.
- Many claim church/God/Christ, but it doesn’t alter behavior.
- Added to this is the mind/heart/lust issues (Matthew 5:28).

5. Submitting to Spirits

“Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils” (I Timothy 4:1).

“For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty” (Revelation 16:14).

- The emergent church is veering away from the Bible to a mystical understanding of God. The worship hour is becoming feeling oriented.
 - God is seen as a being we can demand services from (healing, wealth, material blessings).
- The sale of indulgences by the Roman Catholics in the Year of Faith is spiritualism and against the Bible (Acts 4:12, Ephesians 2:8-9).
- *“For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect” (Matthew 24:24).*

6. Labor Troubles (James 5:4, 8).

What are we now waiting for? What’s coming soon? Stay tuned!

How can I be sure I’m ready?

“All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out” (John 6:37).

“But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ” (I Corinthians 15:57).

“Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me” (Revelation 3:20).

“But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name” (John 1:12).

