



Looking To The Future

Wednesday Class

What does the Bible say?

Class 2, Wednesday, March 29, 2023

“Watch out that no one deceives you. For many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am the messiah,’ and will deceive many. You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come.” Matthew 24:4-6, NIV

1. We need to study God’s word diligently, for we do not want to be among those who are deceived.
2. We need to remind ourselves that we shouldn’t be alarmed by all the bad news. Jesus is in control.
3. We need to recognize that there are many different theories within the orthodox Bible Believing Christian community.
4. It’s c_____ as we will see tonight!

Influences on our Personal Theories

1. T_____, p_____, and a_____: We are deeply influenced by the first church, pastor, teacher, or denomination who explained the end times to us.
2. H_____ and C_____: The way we look at current events influences our understanding.
3. D_____: Belief systems have a big impact on how we see the future. Our t_____ (study of God) influences our e_____ (study of the end times.)
4. The B_____ should be our dominant influence. (And you better all be able to fill in that blank before I do!)

Theological “Systems” and their Influence

Believers attempt to “organize” beliefs logically. It’s challenging, for the Bible wasn’t written that way. The Bible is a collection of 66 books—different authors, languages, cultures, time periods, and purposes. These systems impact how we view the relationship of Israel and the church and their future. Here are two of *many* “systems” of theology and their impact on Israel and the Church.

C_____ Theology: History is one continuous story. God has one plan for humanity. The church is the extension of Israel. Promises to Israel are fulfilled in the church.

D_____ Theology: History includes up to seven eras (dispensations) with different regulations. Israel is separate from the church and isn’t referred to in the Old Testament.

By the way, where do Baptists fit? We are b_____ and n_____.

With Those Two Introductions—the “Order of Events” and the Doctrine—let’s do direct Bible Study

Matthew 24

I consider Matthew 24 the key passage to understanding a timeline: (1) It’s the closest thing to a timeline in the Bible. (2) It’s clearly literal; not symbolic. (3) It’s from Jesus.

Here are the events He gives us:

1. D_____ of Jerusalem. 24: 1-3. (70 ad.)
2. T_____ T_____. 24:4-14
 - a. F_____ religions. 24:4-5
 - b. W_____. 24:6-7.
 - c. N_____ D_____. 24:7-8.
 - d. P_____ of B_____. 24:9.
 - e. S_____ A_____ (believers) 24:10-13.
 - f. G_____ S_____. 24:14.
3. T_____ (Intensification of above.) 24:15-25.
4. S_____ C_____. The G_____. A_____ (24:26-27) and R_____ (24:28-31)



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