

(2.) Matt 5: 22. **“But I say unto you,** that whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and Whosoever shall say to his brother, raca. This is an Aramaic term meaning, good for nothing or, empty one, the verse continues to say, "Shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, fool". Here the word fool means more than just a dunce. It signifies—a moral fool, who ought **not** to be alive. Finishing verse 22, “Shall be in danger of hell fire.” God condemns these three kinds of angers, because they contain the seeds to murder.

(3.) Verse 28 of Matt 5, **“But I say unto you,** that whosoever looks on a woman to Lust after her has committed adultery with her already in his heart.” Jesus is reminding us His disciples, that mere abstinence from the physical act, was not enough, there must be inward purity. Sin begins in the mind if nourish long enough, human nature will eventually commit the act!

(4.) Verse 32, **“But I say unto you,** that whosoever shall put a way his wife, except for the cause of fornication, causes her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced commits adultery. Divorce was never God's intention for man. God's ideal is that one man and one woman remain married until their union is broken by death. We find in the Old Testament, Moses allowed it, because of Israel's **hardness of their heart**. Matt 19:7- 8, we read of Jesus addressing divorce, “They say unto Him, why did Moses then command to give a Writing of divorcement, and to put her away? Moses saith unto them, **because of the hardness of your Hearts** suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so.” Today that hardness still exists. For more on this subject you can read Matt 19:4-10 — Mal 2:16 — Rom 7:2-3. God’s word has a lot to say about D & R.

(5.) Matt 5:34, **“But I say unto you, swear not at all;** neither by heaven; for it is God's throne.” A Christian is to **affirm**, not use the term, I swear! An honest **yes** are to mean, **YES** and honest **no** are to mean **NO!**

(6.) Matt 5:39, **“But I say unto you,** that you resist not evil.” That is, do not seek revenge for wrongs suffered, verse 39 continues, “but whosoever shall smite you on your right cheek, turn to him the other also.” We are to submit to injury, rather than to seek revenge or the opportunity to inflict it.

(7.) Matt 5:44, **“But I say unto you,** love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you.”

All 7 of these **“but I say unto you”** are given to us through the voice of Christ. We can choose to obey His words or we can ignore them, this choice is ours to make. Each person is responsible for his own actions. How much or how little are we willing to sacrifice to be in God's kingdom? Are we building the character today, for a job in the millennium? We have been encouraged through-out God's word to make the right choices to those questions! But the final decision is left in our hands.

Those who ignored the 7 warnings, **“ but I say unto you,”** will be judged at the end time. The spiritual lead Christian must have the ability to discern God’s truth from error or he will miss God’s promised salvation. Reading the prophecy God told Daniel in His last message to Daniel, “But you, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book even to the time of the end: Many shall run to and fro, and Knowledge shall be increased” (Dan 12:4).

We cannot ignore the fact that this is going on today! When drawing attention to the facts of prophecy, we are often met with doubt and skepticism, yet no subject is more fascinating than prophecy! Particularly: the forecasting of the future for God's people and world events. Speaking of prophecy, some of you have heard me say there are four things about prophecy we need to understand: (1), Prophecy has not been given to man to make them prophets. (2), Prophecy in God's word is for the purpose of confirming His words. (3). Prophecy is to enable men who walk by faith to know and recognize the truth. (4), Prophecy is an important part of God's revelation to His people.

Who are His people? We are a part of His first-fruits, His chosen and His elect. Look at an example in: 2 Pet 1:19, “We have also a more sure word of prophecy; where unto you do well that you take heed, as unto a light that shines in a dark place, until the day

“Listen to God”

“Trust in God”

“Obey God”

dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: But holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.” Peter and his companions derived their firm convictions of Christ from the way in which Christ life fulfilled Old Testament prophecies! In the Apostle Peter's second sermon: he said “But those things, which God before had showed by the mouth of all His prophets, that Christ should suffer, He has so fulfilled” (Acts 3:18). Peter here is stressing the fact that Old Testament prophets foretold of Christ's works.

It is because of prophecy that Paul could say: “But of the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, peace and safety; then sudden Destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. But you, brethren, are not in darkness, that day should overtake you as a thief. You are all the children of light, and the children of the day: We are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober” (1 Thess 5:1) . Paul makes it clear, that it is only the children of light, children of understanding, who will be fully informed. Prophecy is given for the purpose of identification and is not given to make prophets of men. There are three necessary factors that must be recognized in order to accurately date prophetic fulfillment! **These are:** time – place– and event. (1). The time of occurrence is important; (2). The place where it happens is important; (3). To these two, must be added the predicted events! This is to occur at the exact junction of time and place if any one of these three factors is missing the particular prophecy is not in the process of fulfillment.

Daniel was told - “But you, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall **run to and fro, and Knowledge shall be increased.**” When reading Daniel 12:4, it has to be obvious to us that at the time of Daniel's writing (600 BC), people did not have the means to run to and fro.” (Like today) Run to and fro in Hebrew is shuwt, Strong's # 7751, found 13 times in the Old Testament. Meaning, to travel; to go about; physically roving, like traveling down a highway or flying some where in an airplane.

Daniel was also told: “Knowledge would increase.” There has been stupendous advances in science and general knowledge in this last two centuries. What you buy or learn today, is obsolete tomorrow! The scattering of God's called is evident, that we are at the end of the age, as: the running to and fro and knowledge being increased.

More prophesy from the book of Daniel is going to be evident during the time of the ending of the age. “And I heard the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and swear by Him that lives for ever that it shall be for a time, times, and an half; and when He shall have **Accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people**, all these things shall be finished. And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, O my Lord what shall be the end of these things? And He said, go your way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end. Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried (tested); but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand” (Dan 12:7).

Daniel recorded many prophecies, but did not understand what he wrote, nor did God intend for him to, but God does intend for us today to understand the most basic keys to understand. Bible prophecy, is to reverence God and His word, (the Bible). Not many today really stand in awe of the great God and His instruction book.

Take note of what God tells us in Isa 66: “For all those things have Mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the Lord: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembles at My Word” (Isa 66:2). Do we tremble at God's word? Are we humbled by it?

Another event at this end time will be a time of financial upheaval. People are putting more money in the stock market than ever before. Today it is bouncing between 25, 000 and 27, 000 points. On Aug 14 2019, there was an 800 point drop. Then it went back up again. What you and I need to understand is: the Israelite nations are broke, and they are living off there credit cards and the printing press.

This is just another prophecy that is going on today? We need to read the blessing and curses chapters of Lev. 26 and Deut. 28, to find the warnings for us today, for - instance, “He shall lend to you, and you shalt

not lend to him: He shall be the head, and you shalt be the tail. Moreover all these curses shall come upon you, and shall pursue you, and overtake you, till you be destroyed; **Because you hearkened not unto the voice of the Lord your God, to keep His commandments and His statutes which He commanded thee**" (Deut 28:44-45).

As God's first-fruits, we can not bury our heads in the sand and ignore what is going on all around us today! When we read the major and minor prophets books like: 1. Joel; 2. Hosea; 3. Amos; 4. Daniel; 5. Isaiah 6. Jeremiah; 7. Malachi; 8. Revelation; 9. Matthew, Mark and Luke and many others. I pray we all see clearly that we are witnessing end time events. Satan's allotted time on earth is about over. Christ in the New Testament, inspired Matthew, Mark, and Luke to write down end time issues that are to be evident at the end time.

Reading Gen 6 in the Old Testament, we find God talking with Noah. **He said**, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repents Me that I have made them. But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord" (Gen 6:7 - 8). Why did God want to destroy mankind? Because God saw the evil being done! "And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, And that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only Evil continually. And it repented the Lord that He had made man on the earth, and it grieved Him at His heart" (Gen 6: 5-6).

That sounds just like today! Evil and hate is the order of the day. Young people are **not** taught to honor God and His commandments. This is the main reason for the evil going on today! Young people are being taught to hate our country by teachers that have been taught in the liberal colleges of today. Most professors are left wing radicals that only obey their own emotions and their own idea's. There is no self discipline being taught our children today, so immorality and evil abounds.

Young people are killing innocent people who are in their way, when they don't agree on something, they take up guns and knives to murder anyone who disagrees with them, be it man, women or children. In August, we read where 9 children since April had been murdered by a drive by shooter. Some were standing with their families on the public streets.

Deception is what is on the menu of today! Looking back to what Christ said to his disciples, in Matt 24:4-5, "And Jesus answered and said unto them, take heed that no man **Deceive you**. For many shall come in My Name, saying, I am Christ; and shall **deceive** many." This was the first warning Christ gave to the disciples.

This warning has not been brought to light like it should have been. Look at verses 11 and 12 of Matt 24, "And many false prophets shall rise, and shall **deceive** many. And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold."

In the gospel of Mark, we find the disciples asking Christ, "Tell us, when shall these things be? And what shall be the sign when all these things shall be fulfilled? And Jesus answering them began to say, take heed lest any man **Deceive you**" (Mark 13:4-5). From the beginning of time, Satan has worked on deceiving God's people and this world.

Reading Matthew 24 again, we will read more of Noah's sign of the times, that sounds like the time we are living in today. "But of that day and hour knows no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but My Father only. But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be" (Matt 24:36-39). Mark 13: 22 follows up to say, "For false christ's and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce [DECEIVE], if it were possible, the very Elect." The elect is God's called today. We cannot let false doctrine and error be taught us, as if it's God's truth, causing us to believe Satan's lies. We, as God's chosen must be prepared as Noah was, to obey God's word.

Noah listen to God, Noah trusted God and Noah obeyed God! That's the pattern we should want to follow! Noah's faith was unshakable, building an ark in the middle of the desert took dedicated faith.

He was ridiculed, mocked and laughed at, but he was faithful to his Creator God! For over 120 years he diligently followed and obeyed what God had instructed him to build– THE ARK. **Noah was made fun of and hated for obeying God.**

We must be prepared to be mocked for our Godly faith and beliefs. We are told in Luke 21, we will be

hated, just as Jesus, the Christ, was hated, mocked, beaten and crucified. “And you shall be betrayed both by parents, and brethren, and kinsfolk, and friends; and some of you shall they cause to be put to death. And you shall be **hated** of all men for My Name's sake. But there shall not an hair of your head perish. In your patience possess you your souls” (Luke 21:16-19). Mark 13:13, backs up **the statement “you will be hated.”** “And you shall be **hated** of all men for My Name's sake: but he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.” We are told to be **watching** for all these signs of Noah, so we will be prepared to know when the end of this age will be. Christ said in Matt 24:42-44, “**Watch therefore:** for you know not what hour your Lord doth come. But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have **watched**, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. Therefore be you also **ready:** for in such an hour as you think not the Son of man cometh.”

We are told by all three of the disciples to watch and pray! “Watch you therefore, and pray always, that you may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man” (Luke 21:36). **When we see these things come to pass:** we are exhorted to be watching for **all** the signs. When we see all these things happen at **one time**, we know the end of this age is upon us. Luke 21:28, reminds us, “And **when these things begin to come to pass**, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draws nigh.” Verse 31, “**When you see these things come to pass**, know you that the Kingdom of God is nigh at hand. Verily I say unto you, this generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled.”

Matthew 24,verses 33 and 34 tells us, “So likewise you, when you shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors. Verily I say unto you, this generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.” **Mark 13**, “So you in like manner, when you shall see **these things come to pass**, know that it is nigh, even at the doors. Verily I say unto you, that this generation shall not pass, **till All these things be done**” (Mark 13:29-30).

It is vitally important that we, as God's called, chosen and faithful, be watching the events of this world! We are to be **"listening to God," "trusting God"and "obeying God."** This is the whole duty of mankind!

Is the trumpet of God being heard today? 📣

James Russell

