



Major Bible Themes

52 VITAL DOCTRINES OF THE SCRIPTURE
SIMPLIFIED AND EXPLAINED

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REVISED BY

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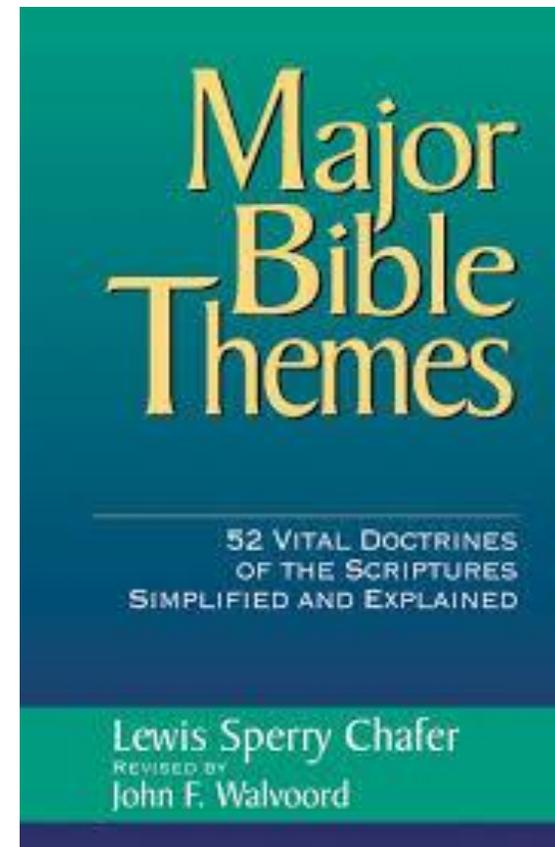
Chapter Forty-Four

Events Preceding the Second Coming

Chapter Forty-Four

Step # One Events Preceding the Second Coming

Find the Outline



Chapter Forty-Four

Events Preceding the Second Coming

A. Major Events of the **Present Age**

B. Period of **Preparation** following the Rapture

C. Period of **Peace**

D. Period of **Persecution**

Understand It



Chapter Forty-Four

Events Preceding the Second Coming

A. Major Events of the **Present Age**

The general character of the age is presented in seven parables in Matthew 13. In the parable of the Sower, which is introductory in nature, the varied reception to the truth of God is described. Truth sometimes falls on the hard, beaten path where it is destined to be eaten by the fowls.

Other falls on ground that is too shallow and stony, and while beginning to spring up it is killed for lack of roots. Other falls on good ground but is infested with thorns, which choke it. Only a portion of the seed falls on good ground and brings forth fruit a hundred fold, sixtyfold, or thirtyfold



The parable of the tares sown among the wheat indicates the danger of false profession which will not be judged until the time of harvest). The parable of the mustard seed indicates the rapid growth of Christendom from a small beginning to a large movement. The parable of the leaven speaks of evil intermingled with the good meal until the whole is permeated.

The hidden treasure of probably refers to Israel hidden as to its national entity in the present age, but nevertheless bought by Christ in His death. The pearl of great price seems to speak of the church as that for which Christ died, a major feature of the present age during a period when Israel's national identity is somewhat hidden. The final parable of the dragnet illustrates the separation of the saved from the unsaved at the end of the age.

Understand It



In general, Matthew 13 speaks of the entire period between the first and second comings of Christ without reference to the rapture or the particulars of the church as the body of Christ. It describes the sphere of profession of faith and the mingled picture of good and evil. The dual development of both good and evil throughout the age, climaxing in judgment and separation, characterizes the period.

A similar picture of the present age with focus on the end of the age is found in Matthew 24. Nine signs of the end are given: (1) false Christ's (v. 5), (2) wars and rumors of wars (v. 6), (3) famines (v. 7), (4) pestilences (v. 7), (5) earthquakes (v. 7), (6) martyrs (vv. 9-10), (7) false prophets (v. 11), (8) abounding iniquity and cooling ardor for Christ (v. 12), (9) the gospel of the kingdom to be preached in all the world (v. 14).

Understand It



Another feature of the present age will be the growing apostasy on the part of the unsaved within the professing church. 2 Peter 2 - 3 summarizes the progression in four categories: (1) denial of the person and deity of Christ (2:1), (2) denial of the work of Christ that He bought us when He died on the cross (2:1) , (3) moral apostasy over departure from moral standards (2:2-22), (4) departure from the doctrine of the second coming of Christ and the judgments related to it (3:1- 13).

The present age, in terms of the purpose of God in calling out His church, will be brought abruptly to its close at the Rapture. This event - nowhere dated in the prophecies of the Old Testament - describes the dramatic removal of the church

Understand It



B. Period of **Preparation** following the Rapture

The first phase immediately after the Rapture will be a period of preparation for the major events which follow. These events will relate to the three major areas of prophecy, which concern the church, Israel, and the Gentiles.

1. The professing church will remain on earth after the Rapture.

The professing church after the Rapture is symbolized by the harlot of Revelation 17, pictured astride the scarlet-covered beast bespeaking the political power of that time. Her dominion is over the whole world, symbolized by the many waters (Rev. 17:1, 15). Religiously, it will be a movement toward a world church and a world religion, devoid of redeeming features of true Christian doctrine.

Understand It



2. For Israel the period of preparation will be a time of revival.

According to Romans 11:25, Israel's present blindness will be alleviated, and many in Israel will have their eyes opened to the fact that Jesus Christ is indeed their Messiah and Savior. However, not all Jews will turn to Christ and salvation will be only for those who believe.

3. Politically the Roman Empire will Revive.

The feet stage of Daniel 2 and the ten-horn stage of the fourth beast of Daniel 7:7 have never been fulfilled. This prophecy, with the added light given in Revelation 13, indicates that the Roman Empire will be revived in the form of ten nations banding together into a confederacy.

Understand It



When these ten nations are joined together, a ruler will emerge described as the "little horn" of Daniel 7:8, who apparently will be a dictator who gains control, first of three, then of all ten.

C. Period of **Peace**

The dictator of the Middle East will make a Seven Year Covenant with Israel. The details of this covenant are not given in Scripture, but it is implied as a covenant of protection. Apparently, the dictator desires to settle the controversy between Israel and the nations surrounding Israel; he uses the device of setting up a protectorate for Israel and by this means brings a measure of peace and tranquility to the political situation in the Middle East.

Understand It



During this period also, the world church will continue to grow in power, working with the ruler in the Mediterranean area to accomplish worldwide religious dominion.

The tranquility of the Middle East will be shattered, however, by a dramatic event described in Ezekiel 38 - 39, an attack upon Israel by Russia and her allies.

Instead God intervenes supernaturally to save His people and wipes out the invading force by a series of catastrophes described in. This war shatters the period of peace and prepares the way for the next and final period.

Understand It



D. Period of **Persecution**

The destruction of the God and Magog brings a change to the political landscape. Over night the anti-christ seizes control politically, economically, and religiously. He proclaims himself ruler over every kindred, tongue, and nation (Rev. 13:7), and Daniel predicts that he "shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces" (Dan. 7:23). He likewise seizes control of the entire world economically, and no one can buy or sell without his permission (Rev. 13:16-17).

Understand It



For Israel it is also an abrupt reversal, as the ruler breaks his covenant with her and overnight becomes her persecutor. This introduces what Jeremiah 30:7 describes as the time of Jacob's trouble. Elsewhere, the same period is described as the Great Tribulation.

Israel's trials begin with the sudden stopping of their sacrifices (Dan. 9:27; 12:11; Matt. 24:15). Israel, accordingly, is advised by Christ to flee at once to the mountains (Matt. 24:16-20). It will be a time of unprecedented trouble for Israel, and thousands of Jews will be massacred (Zech. 13:8).

Understand It



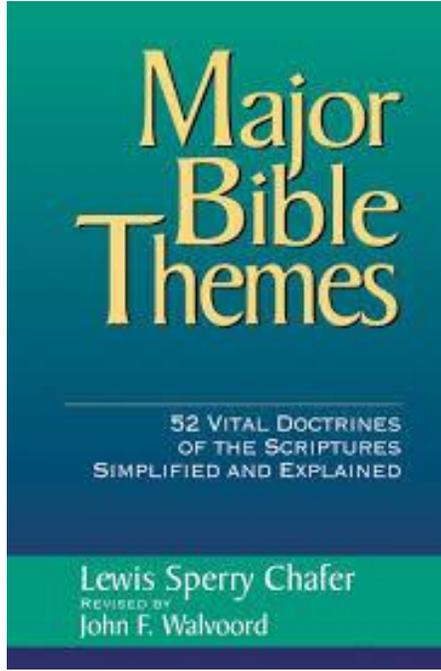
The Temple itself will be described and an idol of the world ruler set up in it and at times the ruler himself will sit in the Temple to be worshiped.

This final period will begin in the middle of the seven years will last for forty-two months

Unprecedented judgments will take place on the earth. Wars, pestilence, famines, stars falling from heaven, earthquakes, demon possession, and great disruption of natural forces in the world apparently destroy a majority of the world's population.

There is a great battle with Israel. At the height of this conflict, Jesus Christ returns in power and glory to bring to judgment the wicked men gathered in this struggle and to establish His own millennial kingdom.

The next principle is to build a physical file cabinet



Mike Borland

What does the Bible
teach about Events
Preceding the
Second Coming

Chapter 44 : Events Preceding
The Second Coming

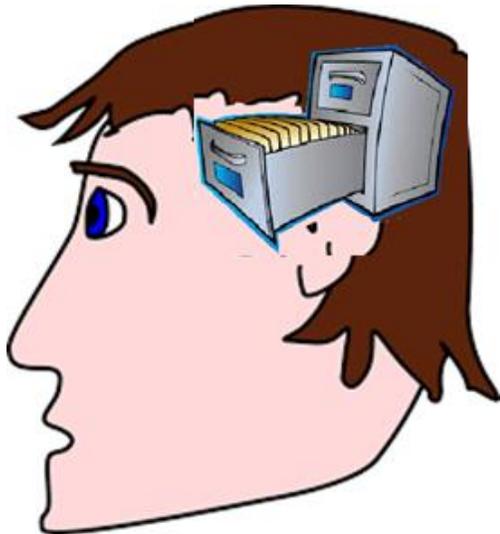
Using Major Bible Themes
write a study about the
Events Preceding the
Second Coming

Memorize it



Chapter Forty-Four Events Preceding the Second Coming

- A. Major Events of the Present Age
- B. Period of Preparation following the Rapture
- C. Period of Peace
- D. Period of Persecution



Chapter Forty-Four

Events Preceding the Second Coming

- A. Major Events of the Present Age
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Write it Down



**Underline Main
Words...**



Step # Two

Read the Section and look up the passages

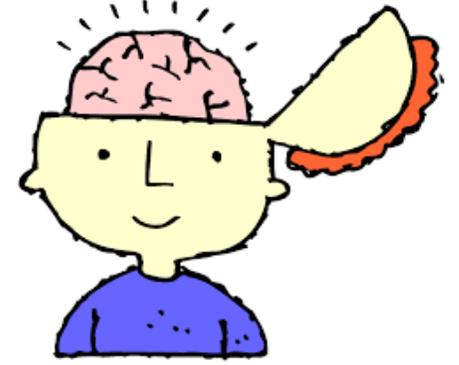


Step # Three

Memorize one Passage per section

Learn general and specific later.

- Highlight key words
- Understand difficult words and the meaning



Read out loud 5 times what you are trying to memorize



Write the verse on paper or put the verse into you phone



A. Major Events of the **Present Age**

The general character of the age (a mixture of false and true) is presented in seven parables in Matthew 13.

Read the parable of the tares (13: 24-30, 36-43).

Read the parable of the mustard seed 13:31-32

Read the parable of the leaven 13:33-35

Read the hidden treasure of Matthew 13:44

Read the final parable of the dragnet (13: 47-51)

A similar picture of false profession of the present age is found in Matthew 24:5-14

Mat 25:5-10 *While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept. And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps. And the **foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out. But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but **go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves.** And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the **door was shut.*****

Another feature of the present age will be the growing apostasy on the part of the unsaved within the professing church.

(1) denial of the person and deity of Christ (2 Pet. 2:1)

2Pe 2:1 *But there were false prophets... even **denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.***

(2) denial of the work of Christ that He bought us when He died on the cross (2:1)

2Pe 2:1 *But there were false prophets... even denying the Lord **that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.***

(3) moral apostasy over departure from moral standards (2:2-22),

2Pe 2:2-3 *And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the **way of truth shall be evil spoken of**. And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingers not, and their damnation slumbers not.*

(4) departure from the doctrine of the second coming of Christ and the judgments related to it (3:1- 13).

2Pe 3:3-5 *Knowing this first, that there shall come in the **last days scoffers**, walking after their own lusts, And saying, **Where is the promise of his coming?** for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. For this they **willingly are ignorant** of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:*

Other passages contribute to the doctrine of apostasy in the New Testament

2Ti 3:1-5 *This know also, that in the **last days perilous times** shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.*

Christ are raised and living Christians are caught up to heaven without dying (1 Cor. 15:51-58; 1 Thess. 4:13-18).

1Co 15:51-52 *Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we **shall all be changed**, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.*

B. Period of Preparation following the Rapture

1. The professing church will remain on earth after the Rapture.

The professing church after the Rapture is symbolized by the harlot of Revelation

Rev 17:1-2 *And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the **great whore that sitteth** upon many waters: With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the **inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk** with the wine of her fornication.*

Rev 17:15 *And he saith unto me, **The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.***

2. For Israel the period of preparation will be a time of revival.

According to Romans 11:25, Israel's present blindness will be alleviated,

Rom 11:25-26 *For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that **blindness in part is happened to Israel**, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. And so all **Israel shall be saved**: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:*

3. Politically the Roman Empire will Revive.

Dan 7:7 *After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns.*

A ruler will emerge described as the "little horn" of Daniel 7:8,

Dan 7:8 *I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them **another little horn**, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a **mouth speaking great things**.*

C. Period of **Peace**

The tranquility of the Middle East will be shattered, however, by a dramatic event described in an attack upon Israel by Russia and her allies. (Read: Ezekiel 38 - 39)

D. Period of **Persecution**

Anti-Christ proclaims himself ruler over every kindred, tongue, and nation

Rev 13:7 *And it was given unto him to **make war with the saints**, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.*

Daniel predicts that he "shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces"

Dan 7:23 *Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and **shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces.***

He likewise seizes control of the entire world economically, and no one can buy or sell without his permission

Rev 13:16-17 *And he causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that **no man might buy or sell**, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.*

The time of Jacob's trouble

Jeremiah 30:7 *Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of **Jacob's trouble**; but he shall be saved out of it.*

The Great Tribulation (Dan. 12:1; Matt. 24:21; Rev. 7:14)

Dan 12:1 *And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a **time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation** even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.*

Israel's trials begin with the sudden stopping of their sacrifices (Dan. 9:27; 12:11; Matt. 24:15).

Mat 24:15 *When ye therefore shall see **the abomination** of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, **stand in the holy place**, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)*

It will be a time of unprecedented trouble for Israel, and thousands of Jews will be massacred

Zec 13:8-9 *And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the LORD, **two parts therein shall be cut off and die;** but the third shall be left therein. And I will **bring the third part through the fire**, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God.*

Israel, accordingly, is advised by Christ to flee at once to the mountains

Mat 24:16 *Then let them which be in Judaea **flee into the mountains:***

The Temple itself will be desecrated and an idol of the world ruler set up in it

Rev 13:14-15 *And deceives them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should **make an image to the beast**, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that **as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.***

The ruler himself will sit in the Temple to be worshiped

2Th 2:4 *Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; **so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God**, shewing himself that he is God.*

This final period will begin in the middle of the seven years will last for forty-two months (Rev. 11:2; 13:5; cf. Dan. 7:25; 9:27; 12:11-12).

Rev 13:5 *And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue **forty and two months.***

Unprecedented judgments will take place on the earth.

Read Matthew 24:21-22

Step # Four Take the Test at the end of the chapter

Chapter Forty-Four Events Preceding the Second Coming

1. What does the parable of the tares teach concerning the general character of the period between the first and second comings of Christ?

There will be both good and bad in the Kingdom

2. Name the other six parables of Matthew 13, and indicate their general teachings.

In the parable of the Sower, which is introductory in nature, the varied reception to the truth of God is described. Truth sometimes falls on the hard, beaten path where it is destined to be eaten by the fowls.

Other falls on ground that is too shallow and stony, and while beginning to spring up it is killed for lack of roots. Other falls on good ground but is infested with thorns, which choke it. Only a portion of the seed falls on good ground and brings forth fruit a hundred fold, sixtyfold, or thirtyfold

The parable of the tares sown among the wheat indicates the danger of false profession which will not be judged until the time of harvest). The parable of the mustard seed indicates the rapid growth of Christendom from a small beginning to a large movement. The parable of the leaven speaks of evil intermingled with the good meal until the whole is permeated.

The hidden treasure of probably refers to Israel hidden as to its national entity in the present age, but nevertheless bought by Christ in His death. The pearl of great price seems to speak of the church as that for which Christ died, a major feature of the present age during a period when Israel's national identity is somewhat hidden. The final parable of the dragnet illustrates the separation of the saved from the unsaved at the end of the age.

3. Taken as a whole, what does Matthew 13 teach concerning the entire period between the first and second comings of Christ?

There will be false and true professions and the Devil will be active

4. Does Matthew 13 give any justification for the teaching of post millennialism?

No, the world is not getting better. It will always have corruption until the return of the King

5. What are the nine signs of the end of the age found in Matthew 24:3-14?

Nine signs of the end are given: (1) false Christ's (v. 5), (2) wars and rumors of wars (v. 6), (3) famines (v. 7), (4) pestilences (v. 7), (5) earthquakes (v. 7), (6) martyrs (vv. 9-10), (7) false prophets (v. 11), (8) abounding iniquity and cooling ardor for Christ (v. 12), (9) the gospel of the kingdom to be preached in all the world (v. 14).

6. What are the four major aspects of apostasy predicted in 2 Peter 2-3?

2 Peter 2 - 3 summarizes the progression in four categories: (1) denial of the person and deity of Christ (2:1), (2) denial of the work of Christ that He bought us when He died on the cross (2:1) , (3) moral apostasy over departure from moral standards (2:2-22), (4) departure from the doctrine of the second coming of Christ and the judgments related to it (3:1- 13).

7. After the Rapture occurs, what three major periods follow which lead up to the second coming of Christ to set up His kingdom?

Period of **Preparation**

Period of **Peace**

Period of **Persecution**

- (1) denial of the person and deity of Christ (2 Pet. 2:1)
- (2) denial of the work of Christ that He bought us when He died on the cross (2:1)
- (3) moral apostasy over departure from moral standards (2:2-22),
- (4) departure from the doctrine of the second coming of Christ and the judgments related to it (3:1- 13).

8. What will be the situation for the church, Israel, and the Gentiles in the period of preparation which follows the Rapture?

1. The professing church will remain on earth after the Rapture.
2. For Israel the period of preparation will be a time of revival.
3. Politically the Roman Empire will Revive.

9. In what sense will the church be on earth after the Rapture?

The professing church after the Rapture is symbolized by the harlot of Revelation

10. What will be Israel's important role in the period of preparation?

For Israel the period of preparation will be a time of revival.

According to Romans 11:25, Israel's present blindness will be alleviated, and many in Israel will have their eyes opened to the fact that Jesus Christ is indeed their Messiah and Savior. However, not all Jews will turn to Christ and salvation will be only for those who believe.

11. What important political events will take place in the period of preparation?

Politically the Roman Empire will Revive.

The feet stage of Daniel 2 and the ten-horn stage of the fourth beast of Daniel 7:7 have never been fulfilled. This prophecy, with the added light given in Revelation 13, indicates that the Roman Empire will be revived in the form of ten nations banding together into a confederacy.

12. Describe the situation for Israel and the world church during the period of peace following the covenant with Israel.

During this period also, the world church will continue to grow in power, working with the ruler in the Mediterranean area to accomplish worldwide religious dominion.

13. What will shatter the tranquility of the Middle East at the close of the period of peace?

The tranquility of the Middle East will be shattered, however, by a dramatic event described in Ezekiel 38 - 39, an attack upon Israel by Russia and her allies.

14. Describe the sudden change, as the period of persecution begins, in relation to Israel, the world, and the world church.

The destruction of the Gog and Magog brings a change to the political landscape. Over night the anti-christ seizes control politically, economically, and religiously. He proclaims himself ruler over every kindred, tongue, and nation (Rev. 13:7), and Daniel predicts that he "shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces" (Dan. 7:23). He likewise seizes control of the entire world economically, and no one can buy or sell without his permission (Rev. 13:16-17).

15. What judgments will God pour out on the world during the period of persecution?

Unprecedented judgments will take place on the earth. Wars, pestilence, famines, stars falling from heaven, earth quakes, demon possession, and great disruption of natural forces in the world apparently destroy a majority of the world's population.

16. Describe the final, gigantic world war.

There is a great battle with Israel. Two thirds of the inhabitants of Jerusalem will be killed. The anti-Christ will go to Bosrah to destroy the Jews who fled Jerusalem. At the height of this conflict, Jesus Christ returns in power and glory to bring to judgment on the wicked men gathered to fight Israel from all nations.

17. In the light of world preparation for these events, what is indicated about the imminency of the Rapture?

As we see world events set up for the end times it indicates that the rapture is imminent. The Rapture requires no sign to be fulfilled for it to happen,