

**Message #83****Matthew 24:4-14**

As we come to this passage of Scripture, there is one thing we clearly need to understand—this text is all about Israel and it is not about the Church. The signs described in this chapter are not signs for the end of the Church Age; these are signs which will be a prelude to the coming of Jesus Christ to reign as King of the Jews. Now one verse in this context that clearly proves this point is **verse 9**. The “all nations” refers to all Gentile nations, and the nation they hate is Israel.

**THERE ARE SPECIFIC SIGNS THAT WILL BE A PRELUDE TO JESUS CHRIST RETURNING TO REIGN AS KING AT THE END OF THE AGE AND JESUS WANTED HIS DISCIPLES TO KNOW THEM.**

Now we may notice that **verse 4** begins with “see to it that no one misleads you.” This language clearly relates to verse 2, which says, “Do you not see all these things?” The misleading would be to think that when the temple is destroyed that the end has come. Jesus did not want His disciples misled into thinking that when the temple and Jerusalem would be destroyed that this meant the end was at hand and He was immediately coming back. Jesus gives a series of signs that would be an actual prelude to His second coming. The signs given here corresponds consistently with the signs given in the seal judgments of Revelation chapter 6. In other words, these are the signs that will begin to unfold in the Tribulation period which will lead to the second coming of Jesus Christ. Not every sign here shows up named in the seal judgments, but many do.

**SIGN #1** – The sign of false Christ's. **24:5**

This coincides with the first seal judgment in Revelation 6:2a. There will be many who will actually claim they are coming in the name of Christ and actually claim they are Christ. There will be a major masquerading of people during the Tribulation claiming to be Jesus. There will be religious confusion.

**SIGN #2** – The sign of wars. **24:6-7a**

This coincides with the second seal judgment in Revelation 6:3-4. Just before Christ returns there will be worldwide unrest and lack of peace and war. Now **verse 6** seems to suggest that wars will initially be civil wars and **verse 7** means wars will be national. In other words, there will be war talk locally, nationally and internationally. During the Tribulation, no one will be immune to threat of war no matter where one lives.

**SIGN #3** – The sign of cosmic disasters. **24:7b**

This coincides with the third seal judgment in Rev. 6:5-6. Famines and earthquakes will cause major worldwide social, geographical, financial, physical and medical chaos and crises.

It will be these first three signs that will lead to many people dying (seal judgment four—Rev. 6:7-8). In fact, one-quarter of the world’s population will die through these first three signs. Predator animals will attack and kill and eat people for food. Now having listed three terrible signs, Jesus makes a startling statement in **verse 8**—this is just the beginning of trouble. The beginning of birth pangs is not the worst pain.

**SIGN #4** – The sign of hatred and martyrdom. **24:9**

This coincides with seal judgment number five (Rev. 6:9-11). I want you to notice that before Christ comes Israel will be hated by all nations. They will be hated, hounded and killed because of Jesus Christ. During the Tribulation, this will be true for any who believe on Christ, but specifically this will be true for Israel.

**SIGN #5** – The sign of betrayal. **24:10**

Family members will turn against family members. Friends will turn against friends.

**SIGN #6** – The sign of false prophets. **24:11**

Before Christ returns, many pretenders will exist that will claim they are getting messages from God. Notice carefully they “will mislead many.”

**SIGN #7** – The sign of no love. **24:12**

Most people will be hateful people, not loving people.

**(Statement #1)** - During this time, one who endures to the end of it will be saved. **24:13**

When one reads the list of signs, one would wonder if any would make it or survive it. Jesus says yes, there will be Jews who will survive it.

**(Statement #2)** - During this time, the kingdom Gospel will be preached to the whole world.  
**24:14**

The main message of the Tribulation will not be the Gospel of grace, but the Gospel of the kingdom, which specifically says the King of Kings will come back and establish a kingdom for Israel. It is during this time when God’s Word will reach the whole world. Truth is in seven years something will take place which the Church could not do in 2000 years.

It is at this time when the end will come. Now “the end” refers to the end of Israel being mistreated and finally being esteemed as the nation of God. This is not the end of the Church Age, this is not the end of the universe—this is the end of the Tribulation and the end of Israel not being in her kingdom with her King.