

Sermon Quotes
May 11th, 2008
End Times Series- The Birth Pains

“The dramatic return to Palestine of the Jews, the creation of the state of Israel in 1948, and the recapture of Jerusalem in 1967 have provoked a frenzy of interest in eschatology (study of End Times). The question persists: What is the significance of modern Israel and Jerusalem to biblical prophecy? Whatever one’s view of modern Jerusalem, it is essential that we examine the significance of its destruction by the Romans in the first century. If the reconstruction of Jerusalem is significant, it can only be so in light of its earlier destruction. No matter what view of eschatology we embrace, we must take seriously the redemptive-historical importance of Jerusalem’s destruction in AD 70.”

—RC Sproul

“While the city of Jerusalem was still burning the (Roman) soldiers brought their legionary standards into the temple precincts and offered sacrifices there, declaring Titus to be victor. The idolatrous representations of Caesar and the Roman eagle on the standards would have constituted the worst imaginable blasphemy to the Jewish people.”

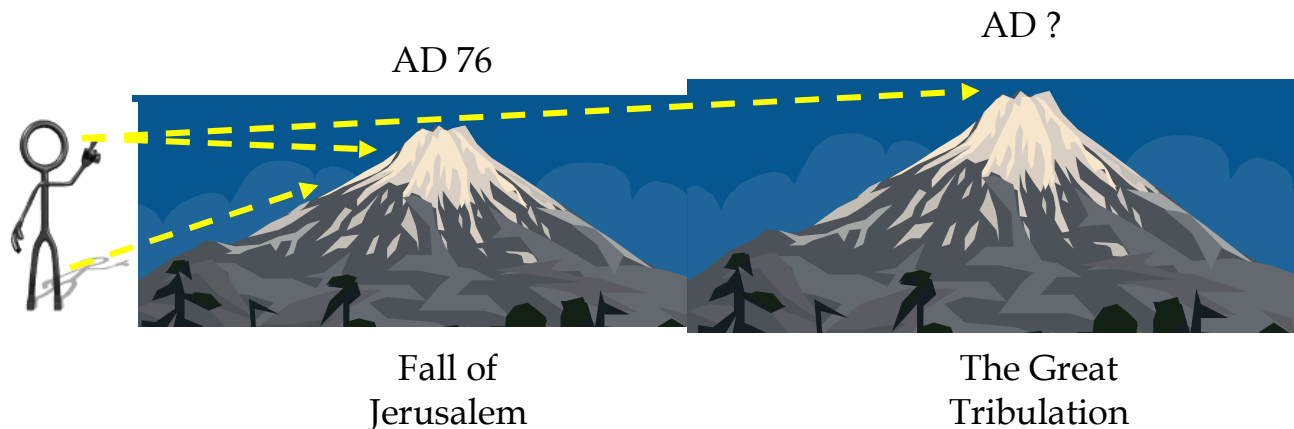
—Dr. Samuel Storms

*“By the process of prophetic foreshortening...the widely separated mountain peaks of historic events merge and are seen as one...**two momentous events are here intertwined**; namely, the judgment upon Jerusalem (its fall in the year AD 70) and the Final Judgment at the close of the world’s history. Our Lord predicts the city’s approaching catastrophe **as a type** of the tribulation at the end of the age.”*

—Dr. William Hendriksen
Commentary on Matthew

Prophecies with Dual-Fulfillments

– Matt 24



Questions to Ask Ourselves:

If these are the Last Days, is your faith strong enough to resist the “great falling away?”

How will you handle it if we start to experience more persecution, real persecution (like Christians already are in many parts of the world)?

Are you ready to meet God...even today (for none of us know if we'll live to see “that day”)?

“We are in a hurry and do not understand the infinite leisure of the Eternal One. The wondrous system of divine grace seems to hardly have room and scope enough in the few years men give to it by their prophetic calculations; but God’s prophecies are being fulfilled to the very letter. It may be that the length of time for their accomplishment will be far greater than any have imagined, yet to God it shall still be a very little while... We cry, ‘How long? how long?’ Yet, according to God’s reckoning, it is but the day before yesterday that Christ died, and only about a week ago that Adam was expelled from Eden. A thousand years is, after all, a very brief space of time. If measured by our life, it seems long; but what is the life of a man? So God does not hurry. He gives the sinner space and time and room enough in which to repent. Oh, that man would turn to God, moved by His gracious long-suffering ... So God does not hurry. He gives the sinner space and time and room enough in which to repent. Oh, that man would turn to God, moved by His gracious long-suffering... Men make great boasts concerning what they build, and there are many wonderful works of men upon the face of the globe; but the day will come when there will be no trace of them left, for they will have utterly disappeared. Why, then, should you and I live for these things—for the things which are seen, which are temporal? O beloved, live for the things which are not seen, the things which are eternal!”

—Charles Spurgeon