



THE END IS NEAR

As of October 2015, events in the Mid-East seem to be fulfilling Jesus' predictions in **Matthew 24**. He said in **v. 34**: “Assuredly I say unto you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place”. What generation is Jesus talking ab`out? In verse **24:32** He said that when the **fig tree** begins to blossom, you will know the summer season is near. Link these two verses and statements together with the rebirth of modern Israel as a nation on **May 14, 1948**—and notice the events in the Mid-East now occurring **67 years after 1948**. So what does a generation mean and how long is a generation? In **Psalms 90** the Hebrew word for generation means “**the span of a man's life—either 70 or 80 years**”. Before I go further consider the following definitions:

1—WHEN THE FIG TREE BLOSSOMS—is a sign referring to the generation when Israel became a nation in **1948**.

2—IN THE LATTER DAYS—also refers to the time after Israel became a nation on **May 14, 1948—67** years ago!

3—THE END WILL COME—refers to the period of time when the events of **Matt. 24:4-14** have occurred.

4—THIS GENERATION WILL NOT PASS AWAY (END)—means that all the events of **Matt. 24:15-35** will take place before the generation of **Israel's rebirth in 1948** comes to an end, followed by Jesus' return for the **Battle of Armageddon and the Millennial Reign**.

These events include wars and rumors of wars—which have occurred since Jesus was on earth—and today they are transitioning from “nation against nation” to Satan's kingdom against God's—and they culminate with a war against Israel just before the tribulation—which removes Israel's border nations; and then the final war against Israel (**Armageddon**) following the tribulation.

Other current events during this final generation include famines, pestilences and earthquakes; Jews and Christians being tormented and killed; false prophets; abounding lawlessness and many Christians losing their love and falling away from the faith. All of this has pretty much happened throughout the church age, and still continues to happen since Israel became a nation in **1948**. This indicates that we could be in the “**end period**” (**vs4-14**)—and moving toward “**the last days**” (**vs15-28**)—the period when the rapture, tribulation, second coming and beginning of Christ's millennium reign take place. Jesus said in **Matthew 24:34** that all of these things would happen before this last generation ends. **Matthew 24: 15—28** seems to apply to the **last 3½ years** of the tribulation and **vs. 29—31** seem to apply to the return of the Lord at **Armageddon**; using the various powers of nature (earthquakes, meteors, storms, floods)—to totally defeat **Magog's** army and demonstrate to the world that God's power is defending Israel.

And all of those events Jesus listed in **Matthew 24**, including the Gospel of the Kingdom being preached to all nations—must occur and then the end comes. All existing nations today are UN members, and only in our life-time has the technology been available to reach all nations with the Gospel by means of radio, TV, video and the internet. Yes—the Gospel has been preached to all the nations. Please remember that this is Jesus, the Son of God and our Lord—not some apostle or prophet—Who has predicted what I have just written (except for several companion references). If anyone should know what he is talking about it would surely be Jesus, the anointed Son of God.

Accepting the fact that after nearly 2000 years, modern Israel was reinstated as a nation in its ancient homeland by the United Nations in **1948**—Israel could be the fulfillment of the budding fig tree (**Matt. 24:32**). Therefore we are **67 years** into the final generation (the span of a man's life) that will see the return of Jesus. This return has two parts: **1**—His appearing to catch away the church before the wrath of God is poured out on the wicked inhabitants of earth (**1 Thes. 5:9**); and **2**—His return after the 7 year tribulation to defeat Israel's enemies—which would be the **war of Armageddon**.

To continue this discussion let me say that **I am not setting dates**, but rather focussing on what Jesus said in **Matthew 24 & 25**—which are events that signal that **in 2015 we seem to be in the 67th year** of this last generation. If this be true, 80 years would **end in 2028**. Keep in mind that all of the events that Jesus mentioned in **Matt. 24** must take place **before this current and final generation ends**, give or take a few years (**Matt. 24:34**). In **Matt. 24:15 & 21** Jesus said: *“When you see the anti-christ standing in the temple then the great tribulation shall come—such as was not seen from the beginning of the world, nor shall be seen in the future”*. This is a description of when the anti-christ announces his identity in the middle period of the seven year tribulation, and the final years before the Armageddon war against Israel at the end of the tribulation.

Those who believe that everything the Bible says about the coming again of Jesus took place **about A.D. 70** are overlooking some vital issues. **1—The Ezekiel 38 & 39 war** against Israel (**Armageddon**) has not taken place. **2—The nations bordering Israel in Psalm 83**, and as I write, will be missing in **Ezek. 38 & 39**. **3—Since 70A.D.** there has never been a Jewish temple in Jerusalem. So the events Jesus mentioned in **Matt. 24** must refer to the end-time generation when Israel would be re-established as a nation (**in 1948**)—not the destruction of Jerusalem in **70A.D.** Consider the following events before the end of this final generation—and consider the number of years needed for them to be accomplished, and see if this last generation **might end about 2028**:

Before anti-christ can be seen in the temple—it must be rebuilt.

Before the temple can be rebuilt—Israel needs peaceful borders & control of Jerusalem.

Before peaceful borders—**Psalm 83** governments must disappear (maybe a War between now and **2018?**).

Before building the temple—a probable treaty with the UN—resulting in peaceful borders and Jerusalem.

If all of the above is true, let us consider current headline news. **1—Since 2011** a number of Mid-East Islamic nations have experienced revolts and terrorist Moslems have control. **2—Since 2012** ISIS has emerged and seems to be the leading terror group capturing cities and killing Christians and Jews—first in Syria and Iraq, and now ISIS is also at the border of Israel. **3—ISIS** has announced it intends to invade Jerusalem and kill any Jews or Christians living there. **4—ISIS** is backed by Iranian money and soldiers. **5—In October, 2015 Russia—the Bible Gog/Magog**—had planes, subs, nuclear arms and ground weapons deployed in Syria within hours of Israel. **6—Iran is sending** troops into Syria to partner with Russia's military. **7—Iran and the U.S.** are negotiating an agreement which would allow Iran to continue developing nuclear weapons.

How near is the end? If the final generation ends 80 years after 1948 (**13 years away**), and the 7 year tribulation is yet to come, that leaves **only 6 years** for a war against Israel, which will remove the nations that now border Israel, but don't exist in the **Armageddon war**. This would provide peaceful borders to build the temple before the tribulation, when Jesus said the anti-christ will be seen sitting on the throne.

How then shall we live? Paul said in **Col. 3:1—17** that we should *“set our minds on things above, not on earth; put to death the works of the flesh and cultivate the fruit of the Spirit; put on the new man with tender mercies and godly love—so that God's peace can rule in our hearts; make sure the Word of God is alive within our hearts and, no matter what we may suffer—be thankful, rejoice and sing to the Lord”*. Paul also instructs us in **Ephesians 6** to put on the whole armor of God so we can stand boldly against the Devil's attacks. In **James 4** we are told to submit to God and resist the Devil—and he will flee. The writer of **Heb. 12** instructs us to run with endurance the race that is given each of us, looking to, and trusting Jesus, Who is the author and finisher of our faith—(and redemption). In **1 Pet. 4** Peter advises us to be watchful in

prayer; be good stewards of the grace and gift of God; to boldly speak the word of God; cast all our care upon the Savior; be vigilant; and resist the devil with steadfast faith. In these passages (and there are many more) we have some of the keys to a victorious life—so we will be ready for the rapture. **Even so, Lord come quickly!**

Need I say more? Stand firmly and participate in spiritual warfare to help usher in the final harvest of souls as these “**last generation**” events take place—and above all: keep your hearts in tune with what God is doing—because the enemies of Israel can launch a devastating attack against Jerusalem any day, and as unexpectedly **as 9/11**, to trigger the final events as Jesus stated in **Matthew 24**. You now know how near the end of the church age is, make sure your house is in order. **Psalm 46 & 91** are encouraging. **Maranatha!**

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