



**ACCM**

**Bible Study:** Thursday, December 14th, 2017. **Topic: THE TIMES OF THE SIGNS IV**

**TEXTS:** I Thess 5:1-7, Matthew 24:32-34

When Jesus spoke about His return in the new testament, there were certain things that He said could make people to miss it. He talked about carelessness: Matthew 25: 1-13, nonchalance; Matthew 24:37-39, sin: Matthew 24:12-13. In our days the same things coupled with ignorance could make some people to miss it. Christians have become so politically minded that we are becoming spiritually stupid. We can no longer decipher between the will of God and the will of men. Many of us will judge God as guilty with what happened in II Sam 6:6-8. We are learning to judge the decisions and the sovereignty of God because of democracy.

In November, we began to talk about the times of the signs which was basically the situations that will occur before the second coming of Christ. Many of these talks were wound with the rapture. In other-words they could be signs before or after the rapture. Just while we were discussing this, a very remarkable situation happened. That is the recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel by the United States of America. God wants us to understand the times and to understand the times, we have got to compare the word of the Lord with the happenings of our days.

#### **RECOGNITION OF JERUSALEM BY THE UNITED STATES**

What is the implication for the world?

According to Global news, 'Heribert Adam, a professor emeritus adds in an email statement that while Trump's announcement does not change the status of Jerusalem immediately, it will provide leverage for Israeli negotiations going forward. "In the foreseeable future, there will be neither a two-state solution or a one-state solution, but a cementing of the status quo with Israel being able to dictate further settlement expansion and reduction of Palestinian rights, despite rhetorical protests from world leaders."'

What is the implication for Christians and why are some Christians Rejoicing? Apart from what the Psalmist says in Psalm 122:6, that we should pray for the peace of Jerusalem, you will find out as a Bible student that Jerusalem looks like the clock with which God measures time of the earth.

Zachariah spoke a few things about the future of Jerusalem. Zec 12:2-3, 8-9, 14:1-4.

I have read some stories about enumerations and population distribution in Jerusalem. We think this way because we read politics to every situation. This has very little to do with the believers' joy. I believe that a Christian might choose to be political or otherwise but the he should just know and be ready for the coming of his master. As a Christian, if your concern is more about the politics of Jerusalem, you

might be arguing here on earth about the morals of the happenings in Jerusalem and Jesus will come and leave you behind.

Obama was picked by God to fulfil Prophecy? Matthew 24:12. Obama accelerated the foundation for the perfection of iniquity. Before President Obama, mankind has had a of struggle to dwarf or expunge the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence we removed BC and AD, changing them to BCE (Before Common Era) and CE (Common Era) respectively. There is so much joy in this generation to do what is anti-God.

Trump was picked by God to fulfil prophecy? How could the prophecies in Zachariah be fulfilled with a power like President Donald Trump in the Picture?

When America has finished what God chose it to do, it will give way.

Do you still want to know why a true believer will rejoice over this news?

I will give you a hint: It has to do with the temples:

Temple 1 - (Solomon's Temple) built around 964 BC was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar in 586 BC.

Temple 2 – The building was led by Zerubbabel in 516, expanded by Herod the great in 12 BC but was destroyed by the Romans (70 AD)

Temple 3 – Where is it and why is it important to the Jews, the Christians and indeed to the whole world? Zec 1:14-16

Why is the temple so important? Must things happen in the temple. Yes to the Jew, the temple is very important I Kings 8:29-31, Daniel 6:10. And also there is a thing referred to by Daniel that cannot happen anywhere else except the temple.

More Hints Matt 24:15, Mark 13:14, Daniel 9:27, 12:11.

### **MORE SIGNS OF HIS COMIING**

On your own, think of the peculiar happenings in the world today that indicates that something is not really right with the world.

1. Church hatred Matthew 24:9, Mark 13:9, Luke 21:12, John 16:2, It has become a past time for some people to ridicule Christians.
2. Church principles and God's institutions under attack. Name some church principles that are under attack. Pure religion (**James 1:27**), Marriage **Gen 5:2, Gen 1:27**, sexual relationship **Lev 18:22, Lev 20:13; Rom 1:27; 1Cor 6:9; 1Tim 1:10**, church doctrines, **II Tim 3:1-5, Titus 2:1**.

How are God's institutions been attacked?

e.g. Institution of Marriage –

#### **Attack on our homes**

1. Men losing their headship, Eph 5:23,
2. Children disobeying parents, II Tim 3:2
3. Women will lose compassion. Titus 2:3-5

### **Other signs**

1. Churches are becoming entertainment centres. **II Tim 3:4**
2. Justification of Iniquity **Matthew 24:12.**
3. Unserious believers: **Matthew 24:12, Matthew 24:37-39**
4. Stubborn people. **II Tim 4:3-4**
5. Deceptive church leaders **Phil 3:18-19.**

**CONCLUSION:** Luke 18:8b says nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth? With the break down of sound doctrines daily, it is easy to get frightened if true faith will still exist when Jesus comes. The Bible says in I Cor 10:11 that these things were written for us. Having heard these things, are you taking them seriously or you have become very tough headed that they do not move you anymore? Some of us appears to have switches that we could turn off at will when things are been said that we do not want to hear. posited