

Signs of Christ's Coming, Part 7

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I. Introduction.

A. It is easy to take for granted the privilege of learning God's Word.

B. Text: Matthew 24:32-35.

C. The hope of every Christian is the Second Coming of Jesus Christ and our final redemption.

D. In response to questions about signs of Jesus' Coming, he talks about Antichrist and the earth being shaken. Jesus then addresses questions about the timing of his coming.

II. An uncomplicated analogy.

A. Parables were meant to make things clear. (Matthew 13)

B. Parables illustrate simple truths.

C. The parable of the fig tree.

1. The fig tree was a common teaching aide. (Hosea 9:10, Jeremiah 24, Joel 1:26-27)

2. When a fig tree buds its springs, the harvest season is near. (Philippians 4:11)

3. God is going to judge the world, and time is moving toward that point. (Matthew 13)

4. The season that is near is the kingdom of God. (Luke 21:31, Revelation 20)

III. "This generation" will not pass away until these things have come to pass.

A. "This generation" refers to the generation that will experience the signs of the end.

B. This cannot be the church because the church will be raptured. (1 Thessalonians 4, Revelation 1:7, John 14:3, Romans 11)

C. This generation refers to the people who were not raptured, both unredeemed and Jews who will be redeemed.

IV. Heaven and earth as we know it will pass away. In its place will come a new creation. (2 Peter 3:10, John 10:35)

Application Questions:

1. Why do you think Jesus gives the signs of the coming if no one knows the time of his return?

2. What does the parable of the fig tree teach?

3. Who is the generation that will not pass away until Jesus returns? Defend your answer.
