

Series Title:

“The Kingdom Of Heaven Is At Hand”
(A Study of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ)

Sermon Title:

“The Signs Of The Second Coming”
(Part 3)

Sermon Text:

Matthew 24:4-14

Introduction:

- *In verses 4-14 Jesus revealed 6 specific signs that will be characteristically evident in the world at the time of the Second Coming of Christ:*

Sign #1 - Spiritual Deception (Matthew 24:4-5)

“There have always been, and as long as God permits, there will always be people who claim to be Jesus Christ, the Anointed-One, the Savior of the world”

*Jesus was referring to a time **in the future** when there will be an abundance of false Messiahs who will show up in **epidemic proportions** and try to deliver a world that will be in **absolute chaos!***

- *II Thessalonians 2:7-8*
- As we approach the Second Coming of Christ - **spiritual deception** will increase because **spiritual gullibility** will increase!
- *II Thessalonians 2:11; Matthew 24:24, 4*
- The supreme personification of that group of false Christs will be none other than the **Antichrist** himself!
- *Revelation 13:11-18, 19:19-20; II Thessalonians 2:9-10*

“Having turned away from the truth, people will follow anyone who speaks with authority and promises to help them solve their problems and give meaning to daily life!”

- *I Timothy 4:1*

Sign #2 - International Conflict (Matthew 24:6-7a)

- The second sign is not one of **deception**, rather it is one of **dissension**!
- **The Greek text literally reads** this way, “You **will be hearing.**”

“The bottom line is that this will be an age of unending international conflict, turmoil, bloodshed, and warfare!”

- *Jesus was saying was that during the Tribulation there will be worldwide warfare on a **scale** and **scope** that is simply **unknown** in all of human history!*
- *Daniel 11:40-45; 9:27*

Daniel looks all the way to the end and all he sees a **world at war!**

- *Zechariah 14:1*
- **“Such things must happen!”** The onset of wars and the rumors of wars is a necessary step leading to the return of Christ – its just one more **labor pain** that signals the approaching **delivery!**

Sign #3 - Natural Disasters (Matthew 24:7b-8; Luke 21:11)

- **“famines”** -
- **“pestilences”** -
- **“earthquakes”** -
- **“fearful sights and great signs from heaven”** -
(Joel 2:10, 31; 3:15; Isa. 13:10; Rev. 6:12-15; 8:7-13)
- *It will seem as if the world is literally **disintegrating!*** And in a sense that is exactly what will be happening, for God will withdraw His **providential mercy**, and He will unleash the full **consequence of sin!**

Conclusion:

- The **crucial question** that is before every one of us today is **not** **when will all of this happen**, but it's, **am I ready when it does?**

Matthew 24:6 - “But the end is not yet!”but **it will be soon!**

