

“BUT WHEN YOU SHALL HEAR...

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Jesus made the statement while near the Temple. He said, *“But when your shall hear of wars and commotions, be not terrified: for those things must first come to pass: but the end is not by and by [or, immediately]”* (Luke 21:9).

It is interesting to see how in our present “state of affairs” on this earth that we are indeed, facing conditions and circumstances of “wars and commotions.” Currently, there are multiple possibilities of some major conflicts breaking out, or escalating into existential threats to mankind’s existence.

Presently, I don’t need to remind you of the conflict between the Ukrainians, Russians and by proxy, the USA. Another, is the Israeli and Hamas / Hezbollah fighting, with the added involvement of Iran in the shadows. Additionally, there are threats, which could add to these conflicts, due to tensions between China and Taiwan and North Korea fighting along side of the Russians in Ukraine. And these are just a few of the more larger disputes around the world that risks escalations in warfare that could erupt into worldwide calamities!

And yet, Christ, while at the Temple on this day, advised us to *“not be terrified: for these things must first come to pass: but the end is not immediately.”* Essentially, He is warning us about the fact it will get a lot worse before it gets better. It’s no secret, it will get so bad that no flesh would be alive if the days were not shorten (Matt. 24:22 & Mark 13:20).. In-other-words, man would reach the point of self-destruction—that is the ultimate precipice !

In the book of Revelation, scattered among the three sets of seven—Seals, Trumpets and Vials—we discover *five different wars described*. They are located in Rev. 6:8, Chapter 9—the first two woes, and Chapter 16:16-21, which describes Armageddon. The last one is at the end of the Millennium and is described in Rev. 20:7-10. That particular one, which includes Satan directly, seems to be the *last war* ever to be conducted on earth.

But, all of these wars will result in an enormous amount of destruction bloodshed, and death. it would appear when the Millennium begins there will be less than half the world’s population left. The descriptions illustrate there will be a lot of ruthless butchery and carnage ahead of us that will result in literally, *billions of people being killed!*

So, when we hear of these “rumors of war” and additional conflicts that are pending, due to tensions between nations, know this: it’s just the beginning of sorrows! So, don’t allow yourself to be terrified by rumors of WW3—why? Because, like in many parts of the world today, this hostility and the danger it exposes us too is just something we must learn to live with—because the world we live in is filled with malice, hatred and enmity among many ethnicities.

Clearly, until our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, returns to inherit this world He has qualified to rule, *man will not achieve peace*. Peace on earth will only be achievable upon Christ’s rulership; and with His resurrected saints, they will teach humanity how to live peaceably with each other. This will occur during the Millennium, after Jesus Christ returns. (Zech. 14:9 & Rev. 20:4).

So for the time, concentrate and develop, for your *short term destiny*: your “preparation” to become a king and priest for His kingdom. (Rev. 5:10). Because your *long term destiny* is to become an inheritor of everything that Jesus Christ has inherited—for we are *“joint-heirs”* with Him for all eternity (Rom. 8:15-19).

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