

“Signs? Birth Pangs?”

1. General Signs

A. _____

1. Rev. 13:16-18 - Mark of the beast
2. Rev. 11:3-12 - Two witnesses
3. Zech. 14:12 (cf. Rev. 6; Zech. 13:8-9)

B. _____

1. 1 Tim. 4:1 – Apostasy; demonic doctrines
2. 2 Tim. 3:1-5 – Narcissism; materialism; practical atheism
3. 2 Thess. 2; 2 Tim. 3:12f – Escalating sin and lawlessness
4. Mt. 24 – False Christs and false prophets
5. Rev. 17-18 - Babylon

C. _____

1. Mt. 24 - famine, earthquakes, wars, rumors of wars, etc.
2. Rev. 16:12 - Euphrates dried up for Kings from the East
3. Rev. 9:16 - 200 million in army
4. Ezek. 38-39 - Political alliances of the end times:
5. Longing for political, social, economic, religious peace!

2. Specific Signs

A. _____ returned to land – a sovereign nation

- Jer. 30:1-9; Dt. 28:1-14, 15ff; Ezek. 36; Is. 11:11f; Amos 9:14f; Mt. 24

B. _____

- Mt. 24:15; Dan. 9:27; 12:11

C. Revived _____

- Dan. 2:41-42; Dan. 7:7f, 19-24; Rev. 13:1ff; 17:1-12

Discussion & Application:

1. What is a sign? What are some of the purposes of signs? What are birth pangs? What should birth pangs motivate a pregnant woman (and her husband) to do? Why do you think Jesus used the analogy of birth pangs when answering a question about His return (Mt. 24:1-8)?
2. Why should a person be cautious when observing current “signs” or “birth pangs” mentioned in Mt. 24? What are some extreme responses that we should avoid? (See Mt. 24:36; 25:1-13; 2 Pet. 3:3-4)
3. What are some explanations secular people might have for the signs that Jesus gave to His disciples?
4. Read Is. 46:5-11; 42:9; 48:3. What is it that makes the true and living God distinct from all the so-called gods (idols)? Why would people turn to idols that are lifeless and incapable of helping them rather than turn to the living God who is in control of all things?
5. If one TRULY believed in the imminent return of the Lord Jesus Christ, how would it impact his / her life? Be specific:
 - Personal Holiness
 - Passion for God and His Kingdom
 - Prayer Life
 - Personal Finances
 - Personal Evangelism
 - Participation in Local Church Ministry
6. Are you currently living that way?
 - Tell specifically how you are living that way
 - Tell specifically where you need to change / improve
7. If Jesus came back today, is there anything in your life that you would be ashamed of?
 - Personal Life
 - Family Life
 - Business Life
 - Recreation / Leisure
8. What are you doing each day to be “READY” for the coming of our Lord Jesus? (See 1 Thess. 5:1-10; 2 Thess. 2:1-15; 1 Jn. 3:2-3; 2 Pet. 3:10-14; Heb. 10:24-25; 1 Thess. 4:13-18)
9. Make a list of FIVE people for whom you will pray and then share the Gospel of Jesus.
 -
 -
 -
 -
 -

[Blanks: Technology; Religion; World Condition; Israel; Temple Rebuilt; Roman Empire]