

THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST: THE SIGNS AND DECEPTION

*4 And Jesus said to them: Not let anyone mislead you, 5 for many will come in my name , claiming, 'I am the Messiah ' and shall deceive many . **Matthew 24: 4 NLT***

Interaction questions :

- What are the signs that we are in the end times ?
- What are the tricks that confuse many ?

***Introduction:** The Bible teaches us that Jesus came once, died on the cross, rose again the third day, then ascended to heaven but He returns again for His church. The book of Matthew chapter 24 speaks of some signs indicating the second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. You may say that such things have happened for a long time, but the truth is they have not happened to the intensity of the moment. Today we continue with the theme of the Second Coming, including signs and deception that the Bible teaches us and what we are seeing in the times of today.*

1. SIGNS Mat. 24 : 4-24 NTV

- INCREASE OF FALSE PROPHETS** - a false prophet is someone who has a false spirit. These people are called the Christ or Messiah but it's really a hoax. Examples of these false prophets are David Koresh and Warren Jeff's.
- WARS AND RUMORS OF WAR.** Mat. 24: 6 NTV- there have always been wars but they are intensifying at this time. There are currently problems of war and nations wanting to make nuclear bombs evil. In Syria people are fleeing because of the war.
- NATIONS WILL RISE AGAINST NATIONS. RACIAL TENSION** Mat. 24: 7- South Korea and North Korea are fighting against themselves. South Korea is warning that North Korea a communist country, hopefully not attacked with a nuclear bomb.
- PESTS. Epidemics, infections and contagious diseases** - pests and diseases without cure are intensifying. There are diseases such as Ebola , Huntington 's disease , polio, cancer, HIV and among many more that are still expanding.
- HUNGER ALL OVER EARTH** - Famine on the earth have been seen around the world, many suffer or starve, even in the US. Here in our country much food is thrown while the less fortunate are in need. Hunger is on the earth when there is mismanagement of resources.
- EARTHQUAKES**- Today earthquakes happen very frequently. Earthquakes that have been exposed in the news are extremely strong earthquakes, but scientists are predicting and detecting every earthquake occurring in oceanic and continental plates.

1. DECEPTION 2 Thes. 2: 9-11 NIV

- The deception of the gospel of the super grace** - is the greatest belief that we can sin again and again, and repent when we please. Many trample the blood of Christ when they take advantage of the grace that was given to us through the cross. When we believe a lie it is because we reject the truth.

- b. **The delusion that hell is not real**- there are some who think the earth is hell, but hell is really a much worse place. That is why Jesus spoke more about hell than heaven because he did not want any of us to go to hell.
- c. **The deception of "once saved always saved"** - salvation is individual and can be lost if one returns to constant sin. It is normal that one sins and repents immediately, but tolerate deception and to think that one can continue to live in adultery or other sins is not okay. We must cultivate genuine intimacy with God, so that when He returns for His church, He knows us and we don't get denied to enter the Kingdom of Heaven.
- d. **The deception that denies the second coming of Christ** – Unfortunately, many, even the selected have ignored the signs of the end times. Others, for lack of intimacy with God have failed to discern the signs. Do not be ignorant, it's time to wake up and be ready.
- e. **The deception of making acceptable sin before God** – let's not tolerate sin in our lives because we will only reap death (Rom. 6:23). When we believe a lie it is because we reject the truth.

2. OUR RESPONSIBILITY. Mat. 24:42 NTV

- a. **Develop a sense of urgency**- as part of our values we also believe in winning the largest number of souls in the shortest time possible.
- b. **Develop fear of God** - the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom . We need to not fear a leader, but only fear God. The fear of God keeps us meek and obedient.
- c. **Occupy ourselves in what is important to God**- What have you been focusing on? Sometimes we focus on passive things and not seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness. We are not our own owners, we must confess our dreams, plans, ego etc. to deal in what matters to God, because that is why we exist.

Conclusion: Since God has given us a short life in this world, enjoy every moment you're your beloved woman or beloved man. Let us enjoy every day of this life without meaning because it is He only thing we have left after we both work! Let's do everything with joy. We're headed to the grave, and there is no work, planning, knowledge nor wisdom. Best fulfill our assignment minding what is important for God. There is still time to make changes in your life, today accept Jesus as your Lord and personal Savior.

Sinner's Prayer:

Lord Jesus I recognize that I have sinned and you have died for me. Today I repent and ask for your forgiveness. I give you my heart and my life to be My Lord and Personal Savior, amen.