

His disciples asked Him two questions. The first question was, when was the temple going to be destroyed and the second was a two-part question: 1) What shall be the sign of this coming 2) and of the end of the world?

The reason that the disciples asked these questions in this particular order was that they figured if the temple were destroyed, it would unquestionably be the end of the world. Remember, even after Christ's resurrection, the disciples didn't understand about Christ and His Kingdom (the Church) Acts 1:6. The disciples thought that if the temple was destroyed, it would be the end of time and Christ would establish an earthly kingdom. This was not Christ's intent at all, as He stated in John 18:36 "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jews. But now my kingdom is from another place." NIV

In Matthew 24, Jesus is not describing what the end of time will be like, but rather the destruction of Herod's temple and the events that would precede this distressing destruction. Herod's temple was destroyed in 70 A.D. This is what Matthew 24 is concerning, that being the events leading up to the destruction of that temple, in the year 70 A.D.

In Revelation 16 another chapter is used by many to prop up their "Tribulation Theory." They use this

Tribulation of Revelation was fulfilled in the Roman persecutions of the church or in great catastrophes occurring over the last twenty centuries. There is a saying as old as the ages which needs to be applied especially to scriptures which are found in symbolic passages. That being, "That is, IN THE BIBLE, THE MAIN THINGS ARE THE PLAIN THINGS, AND THE PLAIN THINGS ARE THE MAIN THINGS".

May God help us all to be good students of His Word. It is very easy to be misled concerning spiritual matters. The world has always had its share of false teachers and it probably always will until the end arrives. Thus, I have said all of this to make you aware that just because it is written on a piece of paper or a minister proclaims it from a pulpit, it just is not true unless it can be substantiated from the Word of God itself.

Matthew 7:15,16 records that false teachers will appear to be in sheep's clothing, but inside they are ferocious wolves. They must be tested.

Matthew 15:9 records that some false teachers lead others falsely by teaching the traditions (rules and commands) of man.

I Timothy 4:1-3 states that in latter times some will depart from the faith and turn into false teachers.

II Timothy 4:3 gives forewarning concerning those promoting false teachings, by rejecting sound doctrine and seeking that which is not God's.

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chapter as the end of the "Tribulationary Period." They say that the "Battle of Armageddon" will be fought at the last part of the tribulation and it will be like a "Termination." They say Satan and all of his forces will fight against Christ and all of His saints, but the victory will belong to Christ.

First, we must realize that Revelation is written in very symbolic language. It may seem to say one thing on the surface, but if you let the Bible explain itself, it may be saying something totally different. An overview of chapter 16 is as follows. Seven angels proceed to pour out vials full of God's wrath. Remember to keep in mind that this is symbolic language. After six of these angels have dispersed of the contents in their vials, we come to the much talked about Armageddon in verse 16. To be blunt and to the point Armageddon, or the battle that is being referred to in Revelation 16 was fought years ago. This battle was fought when Christ fought Satan while He was on the earth. And Christ did, in fact, come out the victor. Read the next few verses of Revelation 16 and see what happened after the seventh angel poured out the seventh vial. Sounds exactly like what happened when Christ defeated Satan on the cross and resurrected, doesn't it? This is no coincidence, it is that very victory that Revelation 16 is referring to.

Those who are not premillennialists (like this author) hold that the