

Signs of the End Time

Speaking of the end times, Jesus said, “Learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh; So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things [signs of the end of the age], know that He [Jesus] is near, even at the doors” (Matthew 24:32–33). Are we seeing the “fig tree” beginning to bud? Have we finally entered the “season” of the end times? Is the return of Christ “near, even at the doors”?

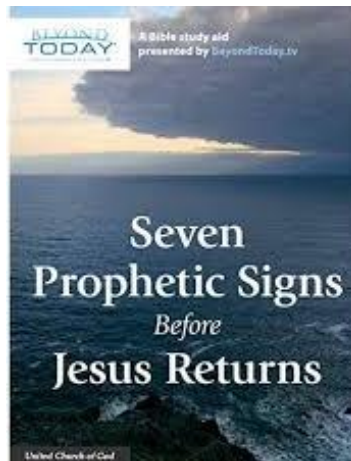
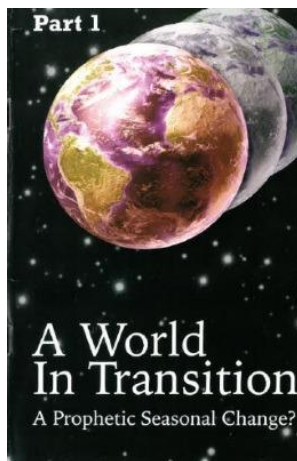
Scripture is filled with prophecy about the ***end of the age*** – people are keenly interested to understand what will happen in the future. The CGI and other groups in the Church of God make it a **high priority doctrine** and **evangelistic tool** to Watch for the world events that Jesus, the Prophets & the apostles proclaimed... and to make these events known ***before they occur*** as a **witness** and a **warning** from God, to the world.

Witness = evidence; proof (...of God & His power to declare the end from the beginning)

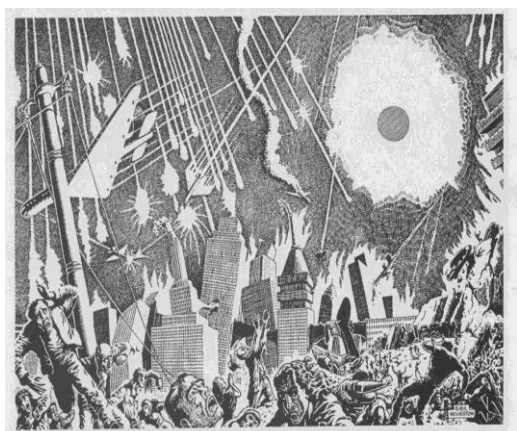
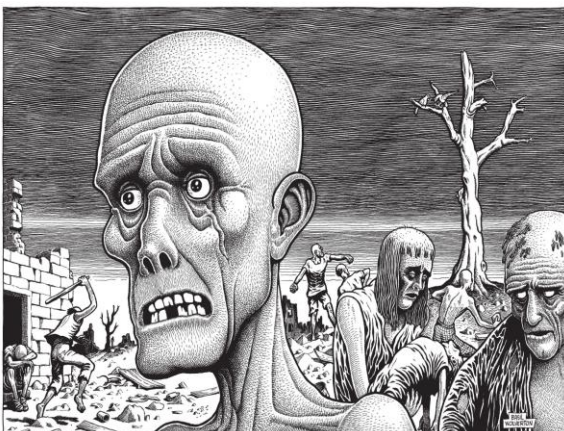
Warning = cautionary advice

advance notice of something

an experience or sight that serves as a cautionary example to others



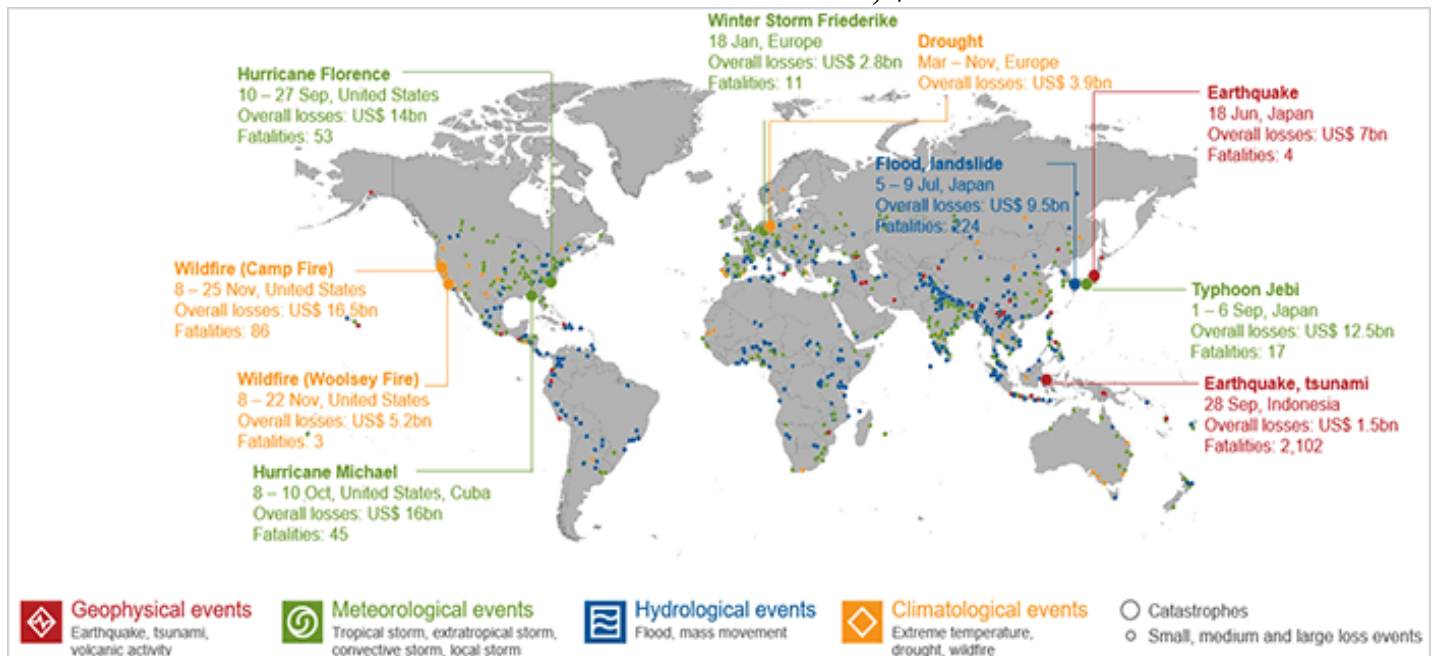
Using information from many Church of God writers who have harvested end time prophecy from Scripture ... This sermon will provide us a good overview of what things Scripture has **us** looking for ... as we come to the frightening climax at the close of this age!



GTA (1930-2003) – “Things to Look for” – Video 3:35

- 1 Rise of a Charismatic Arab Leader (Islamic King of the South)
- 2 Creation of multinational all-European Army / Rapid Deploy Force (capable of occupation of Palestine)
- 3 Intervention of a great false prophet - to give his blessing to United Europe & it's advance into Palestine
- 4 Construction of a Temple or Dedication of cornerstone in Jerusalem (with restoration of priestly sacrifices)
- 5 Major disaster in Israel causing government or military to approve destruction of Arab mosques
- 6 Combined attack of Arab Armies against Israel
- 7 Global "great depression" - economic meltdown, skyrocketing prices
- 8 Emergence of dictators & kings to take over chaotic governments mired in depression, civic unrest, race wars & anarchy
- 9 Major attacks against the west from terrorists - using possibly chemical, biological or nuclear dirty bombs - attacking water supplies, transportation, nuclear plants, & centres of population
- 10 Major persecution against God's Church & people by a great false church & her sympathizers
- 11 Look for the King of the South to "push at" the European Beast power (eg Oil embargo?) and result in immediate occupation of Middle East
- 12 Look for possibility that invasion of Israel by Europe will be to save remaining Jews alive as a "peacekeeping mission" rather than as an occupying enemy
- 13 Earthquakes, disease, regional wars around world (North Korea, China, etc)
- 14 Increase in heavenly signs (meteor showers, comets)
- 15 Look for the time the work of God will be put down & out - censored and unable to proclaim a witness & warning

Loss Events 2018 = 850 events, \$80 Billion



Bill Watson – A World In Transition

What Major Cataclysmic Event Is On the Horizon?

Revelation 6:1–6 This is the chapter in which we are introduced to the four horsemen of the Apocalypse. We are told about the fourth horseman **verse 8**: “And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hades [the grave] followed with him...” Now notice what’s next: “And power was given unto them [Death and Hades] over the fourth part of the earth [**25 percent of the world’s population**], TO KILL with the sword [second seal: war], and with hunger [third seal: famine/pestilence], and with death [fourth seal], and with the beasts of the earth.”

- that equates to **about 1.75 billion human casualties**, based on a current world population of about seven billion people. This translates to a death toll of more than **twenty times that of World War II**, based on 50 to 75 million total casualties in that war!
- But notice another very interesting point beyond this fourth seal: the **fifth seal** describes a **Christian martyrdom**, which is followed by the **sixth seal**, described as **great signs in the sky!** And while you’re trying to comprehend the magnitude of this cataclysmic event, keep in mind this sobering fact: **Christ doesn’t return yet!** This is just the fourth, fifth, and sixth seals—not the trumpet plagues! There remains much more pain, suffering, and devastation yet to come!
- This is just the beginning of sorrows (**Mark 13:8**). Remember what our Lord said:

“But when you shall hear of wars and commotions, be not terrified: for these things must first come to pass; but the end is not immediately” (Luke 21:9).

- Also, consider this additional biblical fact: there are **two more major world wars beyond this one** mentioned in chapter 6, described in Revelation 9. These are the fifth trumpet (first woe) and sixth trumpet (second woe). These two trumpet wars result in another invasion with weapons that cause pain and suffering, but not necessarily death (**Revelation 9:1–12**), followed by another war resulting in the obliteration of **one third of the remaining three-fourths of the world’s population** (Revelation 9:18). This would leave **approximately half the earth’s population remaining** at the time of the beginning of the seventh trumpet, which heralds our Lord’s return and the final battle of Armageddon in the valley of Jehoshaphat (Joel 3:11–17; Revelation 16:16–21).

Joe 3:11 Come quickly, all you nations from every side, and assemble there. Bring down your warriors, LORD!

Joe 3:12 "Let the nations be roused; let them advance into the Valley of Jehoshaphat, for there I will sit to judge all the nations on every side.

Joe 3:13 Swing the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, trample the grapes, for the winepress is full and the vats overflow-- so great is their wickedness!"

Joe 3:14 Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision.

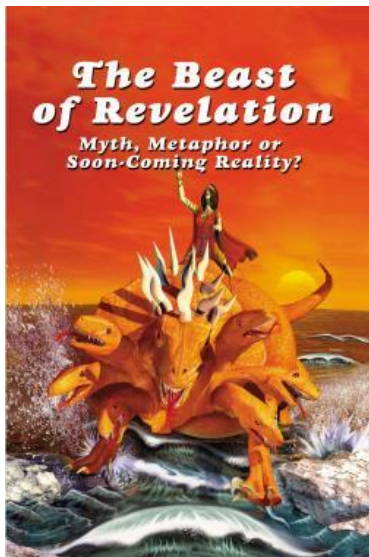
Joe 3:15 The sun and moon will be darkened, and the stars no longer shine.

Joe 3:16 The LORD will roar from Zion and thunder from Jerusalem; the earth and the heavens will tremble. But the LORD will be a refuge for his people, a stronghold for the

people of Israel.

Joe 3:17 "Then you will know that I, the LORD your God, dwell in Zion, my holy hill. Jerusalem will be holy; never again will foreigners invade her.

- Let me reiterate: the present world and geopolitical arrangement of the community of nations is not currently matched up with what is described in our Bible as this ten nation confederation, led by an autocrat, or tyrant, who runs a very affluent Babylonian system of commerce (Revelation 18), in conjunction with a religious leader described by John the apostle as a false prophet (Revelation 13:11–18).
- It's apparent, then, that some kind of huge, gargantuan, enormous shake-up is ahead that will result in the removal of the major obstacles obviously blocking much of this from happening. Let me remind you: one of those major obstacles just happens to be the birthrighted cultures of the United States of America and, to a lesser extent, the United Kingdom! And when the removal of these two major balances of power occurs, there simply won't be any place for "Christian freedom lovers" within this coming Greco-Babylonian, Roman, socialist system that emerges. If you're a true Christian, you will find yourself in conflict with the Socialist Greco-Babylonian system described in Revelation 17:11–13 and chapter 18, which ultimately fights Christ upon His return (Revelation 17:14).



Rev 17:11 The beast who once was, and now is not, is an eighth king. He belongs to the seven and is going to his destruction.

Rev 17:12 "The ten horns you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but who for one hour will receive authority as kings along with the beast.

Rev 17:13 They have one purpose and will give their power and authority to the beast.

Rev 17:14 They will wage war against the Lamb, but the **Lamb will triumph** over them because he is Lord of lords and King of kings--and with him will be his called, chosen and faithful followers."

- Notice the advice God gives to all real Christians about this coming system and any who receive the "mark" that is required in order to become a working constituent of this governmental system.

“And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her my people [be you separate], that you be not partakers of her sins, and that you receive not of her plagues” (Revelation 18:4).

- Furthermore, we are told this government requires you to receive this “**mark**” in order to make a living (**Revelation 13:16–17**),

Rev 13:16-17 It also forced all people, great and small, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hands or on their foreheads, so that they could not buy or sell unless they had the mark, which is the name of the beast or the number of its name.

and it’s those who **don’t** receive the mark who are to rule and reign with Christ for a thousand years in the Millennium (Revelation 20:4). It’s obvious that this “mark” will cause those who accept and receive it to compromise God’s laws and the testimony of Jesus Christ in their lives for social peace and acceptance with the governance of the state system. It will be crucial for Christians at that time to choose **not** to participate in this Babylonian Mystery system, and then just **accept the consequences** of their resistance. Otherwise, based on **Revelation 20:4**, it appears they may **forfeit their birthright to eternal life!**

- The physical events and resulting conditions, which will include **martyrdom** for some (Luke 21:12–19; Revelation 6: 9–11; Daniel 7:21, 25), are going to be enormously **intense Christian character building opportunities** for these latter-day Christians, especially throughout the former Commonwealth countries of England and the United States of America.

Dan 7:21 As I watched, this horn was waging war against the **holy people** and **defeating** them ...

Dan 7:25 He will speak against the Most High and oppress his **holy people** and try to change the set times and the laws. The holy people will be **delivered into his hands** for a time, times and half a time.

Fourteen Signs Announcing Christ’s Return (LCG)

1. Wars, Violence and Lawlessness
2. Drought and Famine
3. Earthquakes and Other Natural Catastrophes
4. Disease Epidemics
5. The Rise of an Aggressive, Fundamentalist Islamic Power
6. An Ascendant European Union
7. A Powerful Religious Figure Leads a Religious Revival
8. The Gospel of the Kingdom of God Preached to All Nations
9. Faith Again Becomes a Matter of Life or Death
10. A Crisis Strikes Jerusalem
11. The Abomination of Desolation
12. The Collapse of the English-Speaking Nations—The Great Tribulation
13. Heavenly Signs and the Day of the Lord
14. The Seven Last Plagues

7 Prophetic Signs Before Jesus Returns (UCG)

1. Mankind must have the ability to exterminate itself.

Matthew 24:22, describing world conditions prior to His second coming, Jesus said that “if that time of troubles were not cut short, **no living thing could survive**; but for the sake of God’s chosen it will be cut short” (Revised English Bible).

2. A Jewish homeland will be established in Israel.

Zec 14:1-4 A day of the LORD is coming, **Jerusalem**, when your possessions will be plundered and divided up within your very walls. I will gather all the nations to Jerusalem to fight against it; the city will be captured, the houses ransacked, and the women raped. Half of the city will go into exile, but the rest of the people will not be taken from the city. Then the LORD will go out and fight against those nations, as he fights on a day of battle. On that day his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives...

3. The “king of the North” and “king of the South” will rise as regional powers.

(Dan 11) The latter part of Daniel’s prophecy of the North-South conflict describes a **clash of civilizations** between the leader of a soon-coming European superpower—a revived Roman Empire (successor to Seleucid Syrian rule)—and a leader who is the successor to the Ptolemaic rule of Egypt, which is now part of the Arab-Islamic world.

4. A dominating Roman system will come to power.

Rev 17:12-13 "The ten horns you saw are **ten kings** who have not yet received a kingdom, but who for one hour will receive authority as kings along with **the beast**. They have one purpose and will give their power and authority to the beast.

5. The United States and Great Britain will fall with the state of Israel.

Hos 5:5-7 **Israel's** arrogance testifies against them; the Israelites, even **Ephraim**, stumble in their sin; **Judah** also stumbles with them. When they go with their flocks and herds to seek the LORD, they will not find him; he has withdrawn himself from them. They are unfaithful to the LORD; they give birth to illegitimate children. When they celebrate their New Moon feasts, he will devour their fields.

New moons occur a month apart. A new moon “devouring” them would seem to mean that Israel, Ephraim and Judah will all **fall within one month**. This prophecy was not fulfilled in ancient times.

6. The gospel of the Kingdom will be preached in the entire world. (Matt 24:14)

7. Instant worldwide communications will be possible at the time of God’s final two witnesses.

Rev 11:8-9 Their bodies will lie in the public square of the great city--which is figuratively called Sodom and Egypt--where also their Lord was crucified. For three and a half days some from every people, tribe, language and nation will gaze on their bodies and refuse them burial.

Jesus Himself said that once these things begin, the generation alive at that time “will by no means pass away till all these things take place” (Matthew 24:34). It’s both sobering and encouraging to think that we appear to be living in the generation that will ultimately witness the most important event in the history of mankind.

Middle East In Prophecy (UCG)

Psa 83:3 With cunning they conspire against your people; they plot against those you cherish.

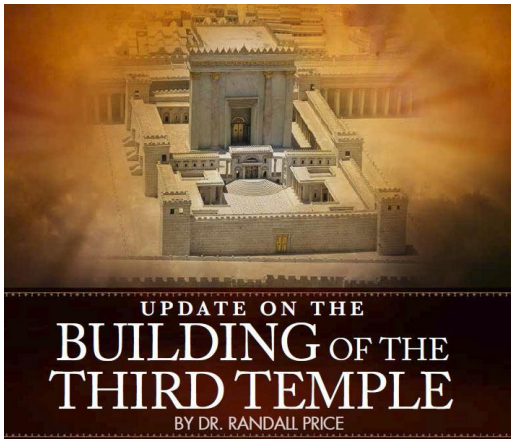
Psa 83:4 "Come," they say, "**let us destroy them as a nation, so that Israel's name is remembered no more.**"

Psa 83:5 With **one mind** they plot together; they **form an alliance** against you--

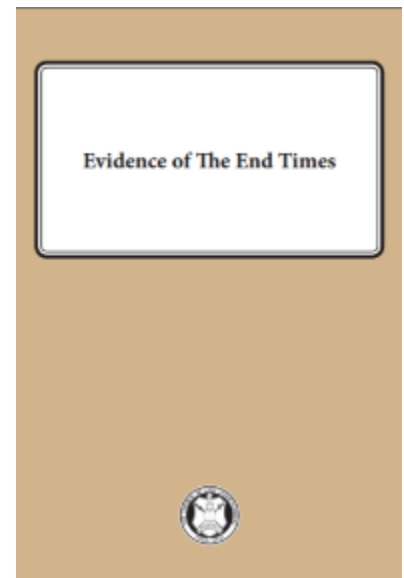
Psa 83:6 the tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites, of Moab and the Hagrites,

Psa 83:7 Byblos, Ammon and Amalek, Philistia, with the people of Tyre.

Psa 83:8 Even Assyria has joined them to reinforce Lot's descendants.



- Never before has there been an Israeli Sanhedrin in place driving ahead to **construct a Temple**. Currently, though without Israeli government recognition, this Sanhedrin is moving ahead to assemble engineers and architects for the development of detailed working plans to bring this project to an operational stage. The Sanhedrin is presently calling upon the Jewish people to contribute towards the acquisition of materials for the purpose of rebuilding the holy Temple! As described in the Daniel 12, it is clear that “**daily sacrifices** shall be taken away” (Daniel 12:11). That, of course, presumes the fact that there must be a sacrificial system in place that will be stopped. We understand that this happens around the time when “he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished” (Daniel 12:7). It is further clarified that these things happen at the “time of the end” (Daniel 12:9).
- Additionally, with a temple built and the daily sacrifices stopped, conditions conducive for “**the abomination that makes desolate**” can be set up (Daniel 12:11; Matthew 24:15; Mark 13:14). Remember, at some point even the apostle Paul recognized that a man would come along “Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God” (1 Thessalonians 2:4).



Things to Do While Waiting for Jesus to Return

After His resurrection Jesus Christ ascended up into heaven, and we are awaiting His return. In the meantime, are we as 10 by patiently and doing what? Or is there something we should be doing?

We have all heard the weak groan, "Lord, give me patience...and give it to me right now!" In today's songs, the word "patience" seems to be a plea, almost wistful word, denoting passivity or weakness. But in the Bible, patience is a bold, courageous word, denoting a confident endurance.

There are many Bible examples of impatience leading to sin. Take, for instance, the rebellion of Israel while they were tragically waiting for Moses to return from the mountains (Exodus 32:1-6), or King Sennacherib's impatience in waiting for Sennacherib before he presumptuously offered sacrifices on Sennacherib's behalf (Isaiah 37:36-38; Isaiah 37:36-38).

In the Bible, the patient was in undivided, standing firm, and though inclined by his, steadfastly persistent in doing good. In the Old Testament, undoubtedly the most important prophesy given for our last days, Christ said, "Ye have patience possess ye your souls" (Luke 21:19). The Greek word for patience here, *hypomonē*, means steadfast or hopeful endurance, expectancy or perfect confidence. Hebrews 10:36 says, "For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise."

We spend a great deal of our time impatiently waiting for something or someone, yet we seldom have time to do it well, either physically or spiritually. We grow impatient in traffic, impatient for the mail carrier to come, for the doctor to see us, or for the mechanic to finish our car. Instead of making good use of our time reading a good book or looking, writing a letter, or simply thinking about solutions to some vexing problem, we impatiently waste time by passing nervously about or idling our fingers in idleness.

These impatient, wasteful minutes of time can add up to large segments of our lives. By procrastinating and organization, we can reduce the time and accomplish much. Likewise, there is much we can do to reform the time while waiting for Jesus to return.

When Jesus told His followers He would come, He did not say how long they would have to wait. Many have given themselves and given up the clock (Matthew 24:42). In Acts 1:7-11, Christ's disciples were told not to stand around watching the heavens for His return. Rather, they were commanded to be busy about the work He gave them to do in the meantime, as we are to be doing something today.

Christ gave a very important promise concerning what we should be doing until His return. It is found in Luke

12:41-48: "Then Peter said unto him, Lord, quicken thou this people unto us, or even to us? And the Lord said, Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his lord shall make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of meat in due season? Blessed is that servant whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. O woe is them that say unto him, We will make him ruler over all that he hath. For and if that servant say to his house, My lord delayeth his coming; and shall begin to beat the menservants and maidens, and to eat and drink, and to be drunken, the lord of the servant will come in a day when he looketh not for him, and will cut him in two, and will appoint him his portion with the unbelievers."

The many in today's society—and more every in God's church today—have a "far too distant" life attitude. What should we be doing and how should we be doing it?

If you cannot get at you any other way, we will waste your time by distraction, interruption, and idleness. Many are excluded by "inactivity," "inattention," and "inaction," drifting from idea to idea and from church to church. In fact, many "have out," given themselves, and then quit. God is not the author of confusion (1 Corinthians 14:33). First and foremost, we need to trust God and get down to the business—the work of the new, divinely speaking!

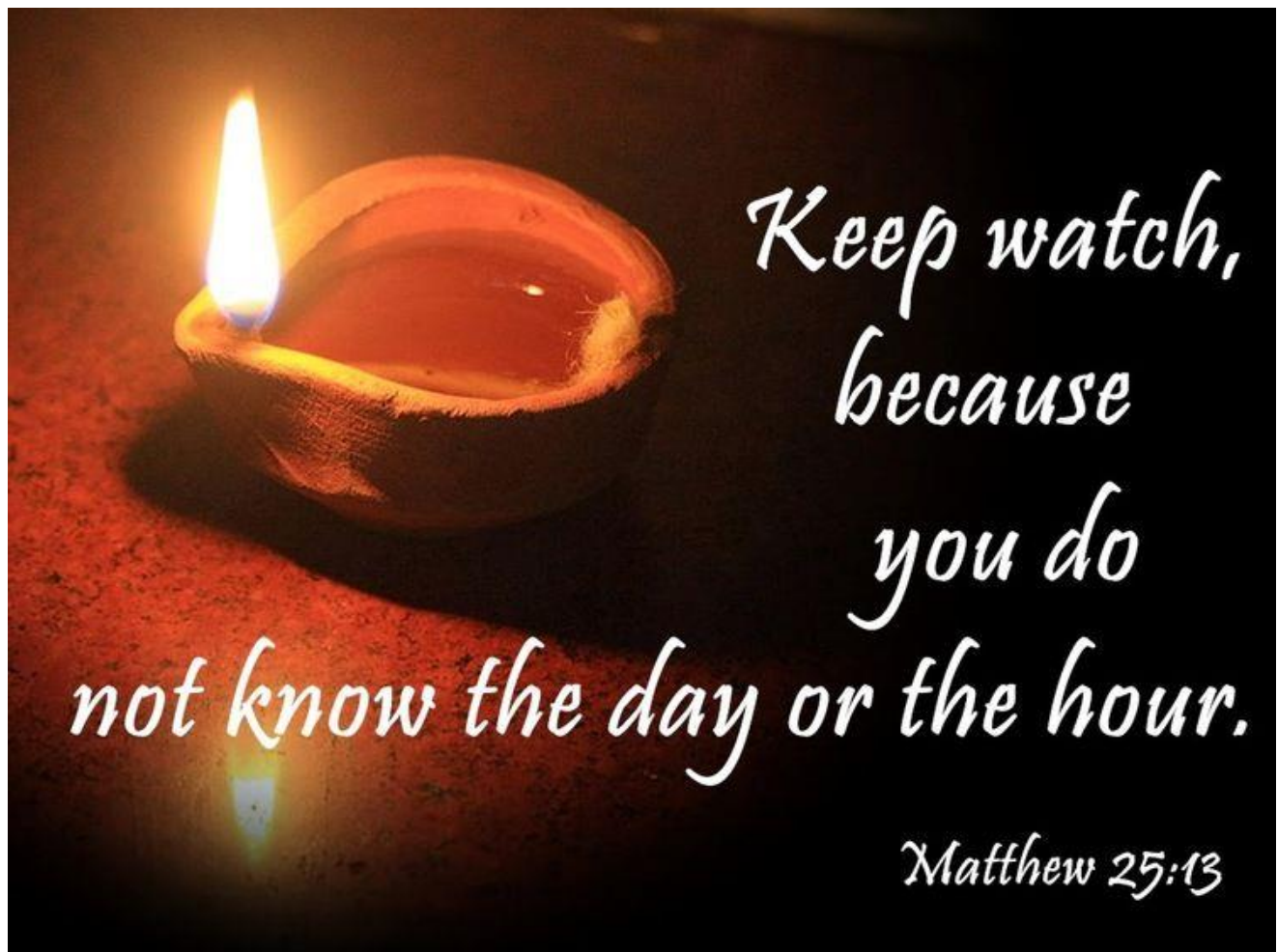
By analogy, they were made that, when he was a carpenter, he was made of a tall tree, perhaps "just because it was there." As long as he clung to the main body—the trunk of the tree—will not fall. But one day he was cut on a limb, away from the security of the trunk. The feller he was cut, the main the branches bent, and soon, because his body weight passed the branches down, he was made to fall. Turned up back at the safety of the trunk. Now panic attack! Fortunately, in this instance, he was able to reattach them back to trunk, lower and lower to safety.

The spiritual analogy, many have given "out on a limb," so to speak, doctrinally, doctrinally, over-ambitious, over-ambitious, and adding in vain arguments or personal agendas, and unfortunately were unable to reattach themselves. One who the Bible has to say about this is 1 Timothy 1:4; 4:7, 8-10; 2 Timothy 2:14-22, and Titus 1:14, 2:14. A wise man once said that if we go not on a limb — if we get away from the trunk, or the work of the tree, doctrinally speaking—ambition will work along and cut it off behind you. How true!

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Things to Do, While waiting for Jesus to Return

- Humble yourself before God, repent & do good works
- Read your Bible
- Study your Bible
- Learn to pray as Jesus prayed
- Meditate on God's Word
- Individually & collectively, Do the Work
- Work on personal Overcoming



Keep watch,
because
you do
not know the day or the hour.

Matthew 25:13