

Signs of the Times

Lesson Sixty

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1. For what did Christ censure the Jewish people?

“O Ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not _____ the face _____?” Matthew 16:3.

2. What sign had Isaiah given by which Christ might be known as the Messiah?

“Therefore the Lord Himself shall give you a sign: behold, a _____ and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.” Isaiah 7:14.

3. Was this fulfilled?

“Now all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, _____, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call His name Emmanuel.” Matthew 1:22, 23.

4. Where had the prophet said Christ should be born?

“But thou, _____, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto Me that is to be ruler in Israel.” Micah 5:2.

5. Where was Christ born?

“Jesus was born in _____.” Matthew 2:1.

6. What had been predicted of His ride into Jerusalem?

“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem; behold, _____ unto thee; he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass.” Zechariah 9:9.

7. Was this fulfilled?

“All this was done that it might be _____ which was spoken by the _____, saying Tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass.” Matthew 21: 4, 5.

8. Did the believers of these and other evidences of His Messianism, expect a sign of His second coming?

“And as He sat upon the Mount of Olives, the disciples came unto Him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the _____, and of the end of the world?” Matthew 24:3.

9. How does Luke record our Saviour’s answer to this query?

“And there shall be _____ in the _____, and in the _____, and in the _____; and upon the earth _____, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; men’s hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth.” Luke 21: 25, 26.

10. What is said of these signs by an Old Testament prophet?

“And I will _____ and in the _____, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord come.” Joel 2:30, 31.

11. Have the sun and the moon been darkened in fulfillment of these predictions?

They have, “But especially I mention that wonderful darkness on May 19, 1780. Then as in our text, the sun was darkened; such a darkness as probably was never known before since the crucifixion of our Lord. People left their work in the house and in the field. Travelers stopped; schools broke up at eleven o’clock; people lighted candles at noonday; and the fire shown as at night. Some people, I have been told, were in dismay, and thought whether the Day of Judgment was drawing on. A great part of the following night, also, was singularly dark. The moon, though in the full, gave no light, as in our text.” From the manuscript sermon by Rev. Elam Potter, delivered May 28, 1780.

“My father and mother, who were pious, thought the Day of Judgment was near. They sat up that night, during the latter part of which they said the darkness disappeared, and then the sky seemed as usual, but the moon was at its full, had the appearance of blood.” Milo Bostwick.

13. Has there been a display of falling stars that would meet the specifications predicted?

The celebrated astronomer and meteorologist. Prof. Olmstead, of Yale College, says ‘Those who were so fortunate as to witness the exhibition of shooting stars on the morning of November 13, 1833, probably saw the greatest display of celestial fireworks that has even been since the creation of the world, or at least within the annals covered by the pages of history...The extent of the shower of 1833 was such as to cover no inconsiderable part of earth’s surface...This is no longer to be regarded as a terrestrial, but as a celestial, phenomenon; and shooting stars are now to be no more viewed as casual productions of the upper regions of the atmosphere, but as visitants from other worlds, or from the planetary voids.’ See “Our Lord’s Great Prophecy.” Lesson 58.

14. What other sign is to indicate the time of the end?

“But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, _____” Daniel 12:4.

15. What is predicted of the moral condition of the world in the last days?

“This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers...lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God have a form of _____, but _____.” 2 Timothy 3:15.

16. How will the message of the Lord’s coming be generally treated?

“Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days, scoffers, walking after their own lusts, and saying, Where is the _____? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.” 2 Peter 3:3, 4.

17. What will God’s faithful servants be doing at this time?

“Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made _____, to give them meat in due season?” Matthew 24:45.

Note: The “meat in due season” here spoken of can refer to nothing else than a proclamation of the signs which indicate the near approach of the Lord. The preaching of these is evidently what causes scoffers mockingly to ask, where is the promise of His coming?

18. What are all admonished to do when these signs have appeared?

“Therefore _____; for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.” Matthew 24:44.

19. What will be done to those evil ones who say in their hearts that the Lord delays His coming?

“The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of, and shall _____, and appoint him _____ with the _____: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” Matthew 24:50, 51.