

Matthew Series

Lesson #157

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Dean Bible Ministries

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MATTHEW

JESUS: KING OF THE JEWS

Rapture, Second Coming

Matthew 24:29–33

Matthew 24:23–31

- 1. Review: what have we learned so far in Matt. 24?**
- 2. What is the difference between the Rapture and the Second Coming?**
- 3. What is the meaning and significance of the parable of the fig tree?**

Matthew 24:23–31

1. Review: what have we learned so far in Matt. 24?

Daniel's Seventy "Weeks"

The Time of Jacob's Trouble (Jer. 30:7)

Dan. 9:24-27

The
Coming
Prince

Messiah
Returns

The "Beginning of
Labor Pains" Matt. 24:8
"but the end is not
yet." Matt. 24:6



Increased labor
pains;
"then the end will
come." Matt. 24:14

**3½
years**

Third Temple
(Tribulation)
Dan 9:27

**3½
years**

The Tribulation is for ISRAEL

Matt. 24:3, “Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, ‘Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?’ ”

Matt. 24:30, “Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.”

“Church” *ekklesia*” used only 2× in Matthew, not at all in Mark, Luke, John.

Matt. 16:18, “And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.”

Matt. 18:17, “And if he refuses to hear them, tell it to the church. But if he refuses even to hear the church, let him be to you like a heathen and a tax collector.”

Matt. 24:4–8: The first half of Daniel’s seventieth week. “The beginning of labor pains.” (Matt. 24:8)

Matt. 24:9–14: The second half of the Tribulation, increase of persecution of Israel and Jewish believers.

Matt. 24:15–24: Warnings to Jewish believers to flee and to not be deceived by false Christs and false reports about His coming.

Matt. 24:25–29: “After the tribulation of those days” the sign of the Son of Man and His coming.

Matt. 24:29, “Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.”

Matt. 24:29, “Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.”

Mark 13:24, “But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light;”

Luke 21:25, “And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring;”

But this is preceded by:

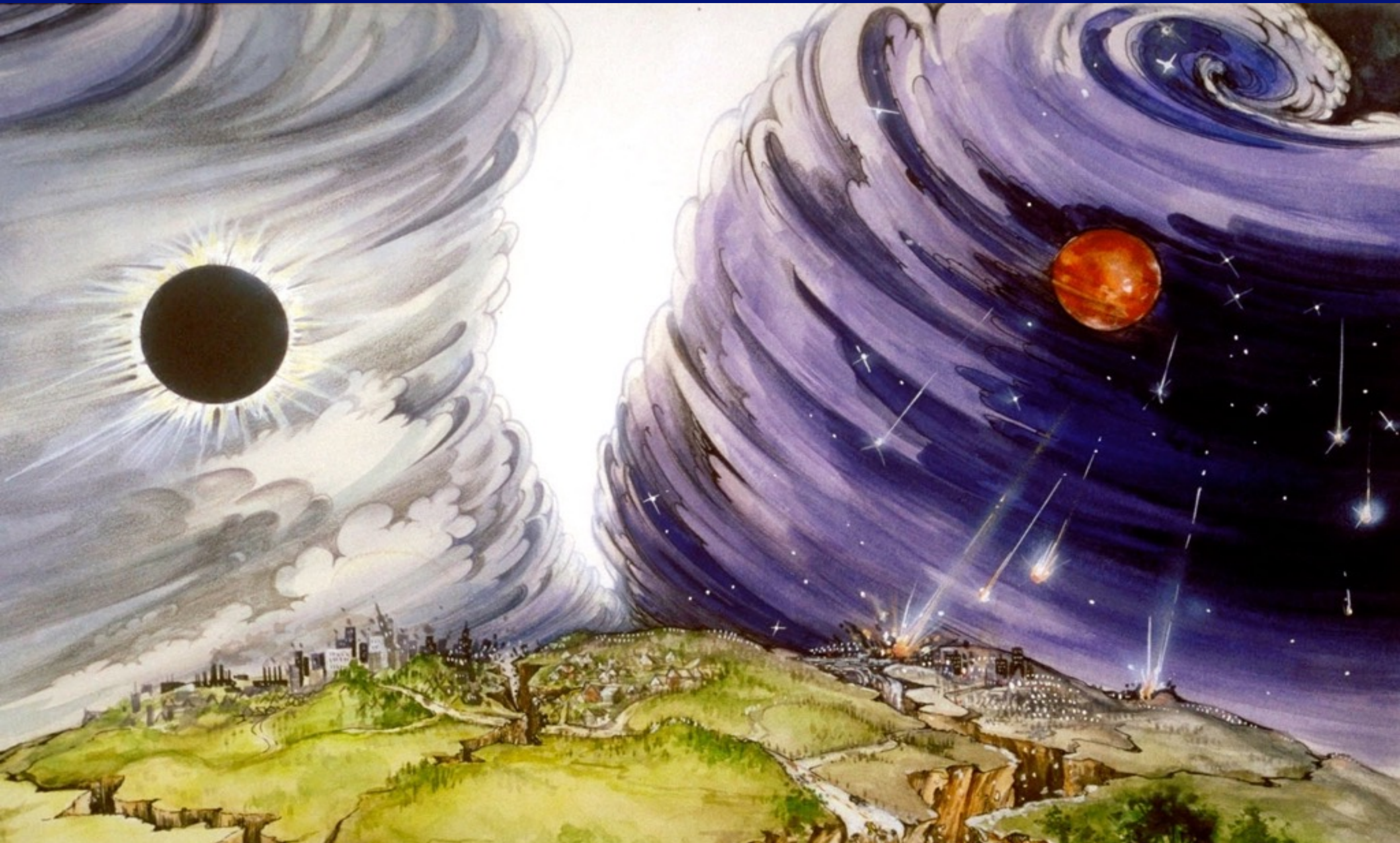
- 1. The seal judgments outlined in Matt. 24:4–7.**
- 2. The abomination of desolation in Matt. 24:15.**
- 3. The most intense period of the tribulation, Matt. 24:21, which is the period of the final bowl judgments.**
- 4. And then immediately after that period, the sun is darkened and the moon will not give its light.**

Joel 2:31, “The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD.”

***Though some uses of “day of the Lord” refer to past judgments of God on Israel or the nations, it mostly has a future use.**

And though some future uses might generally describe the whole seven-year Tribulation, most of the references describe the events immediately preceding the arrival of the Kingdom.

Rev. 6:14, “And the sky was split apart like a scroll when it is rolled up; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.”



Differences Between the Rapture and the Second Coming

1. Similarities do not mean things are the same.



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**WHAT is
the Rapture?**

The Rapture is . . .

The translation of all living believers from the earth at the end of the Church Age immediately following the resurrection of all dead Church Age believers; the Rapture occurs before the Tribulation begins.

1 Thess. 4:15, “For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, and remain until the coming of the Lord, shall not precede those who have fallen asleep.

1 Thess. 4:16, “For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first.”

1 Thess. 4:17, “Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and thus we shall always be with the Lord.”

1 Thess. 4:18, “Therefore comfort one another with these words.”

RAPTURE VOCABULARY



harpazó—“caught up”
“to seize upon with
force” “to snatch up”
(1 Thessalonians
4:17)

Similarities:

Clouds, air, the Lord, coming, resurrection

It isn't the similarities, it is the differences that matter.

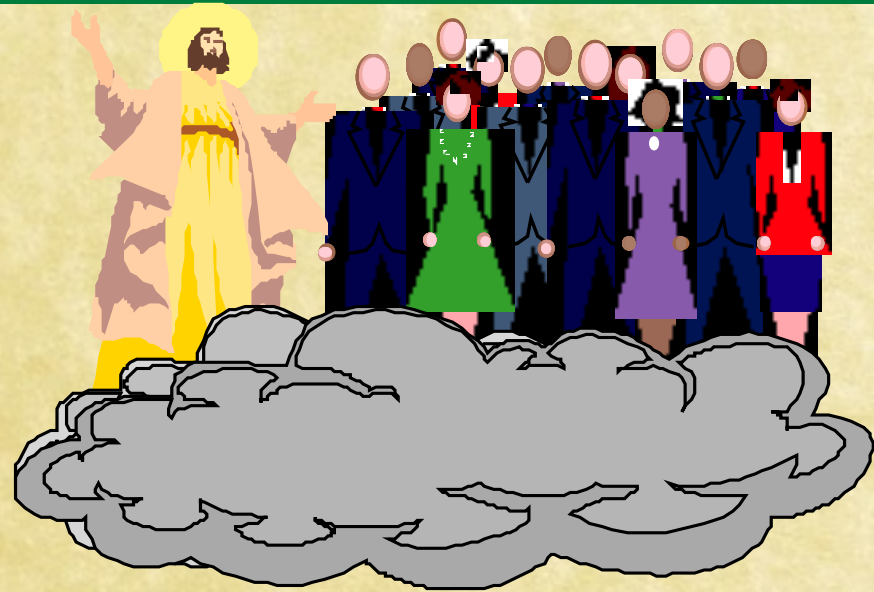
RAPTURE /2ND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture

**Second Coming
Established Kingdom**

RAPTURE /2ND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture



**1. Translation
of all believers**

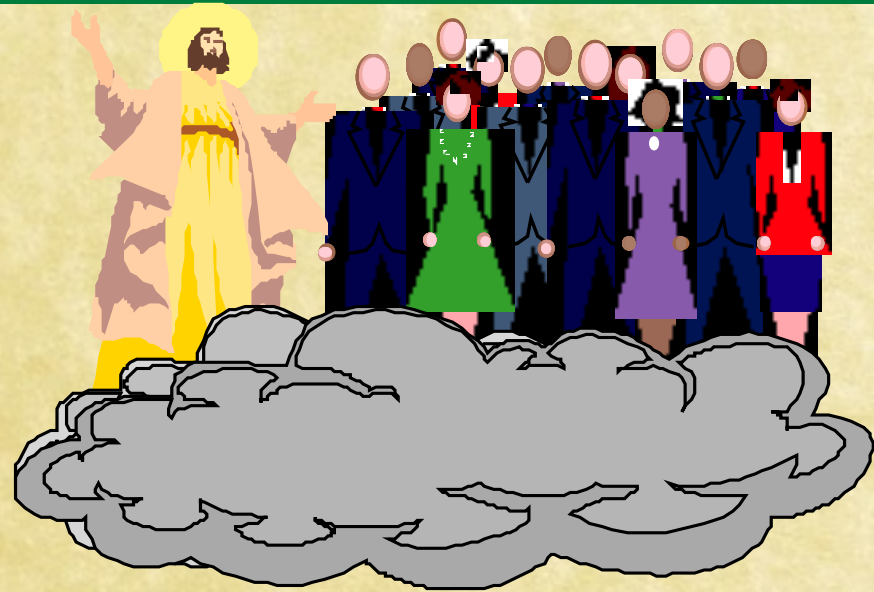
Second Coming Established Kingdom



**1. No translation
at all**

RAPTURE /2ND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture



**2. Translated
saints go to
heaven**

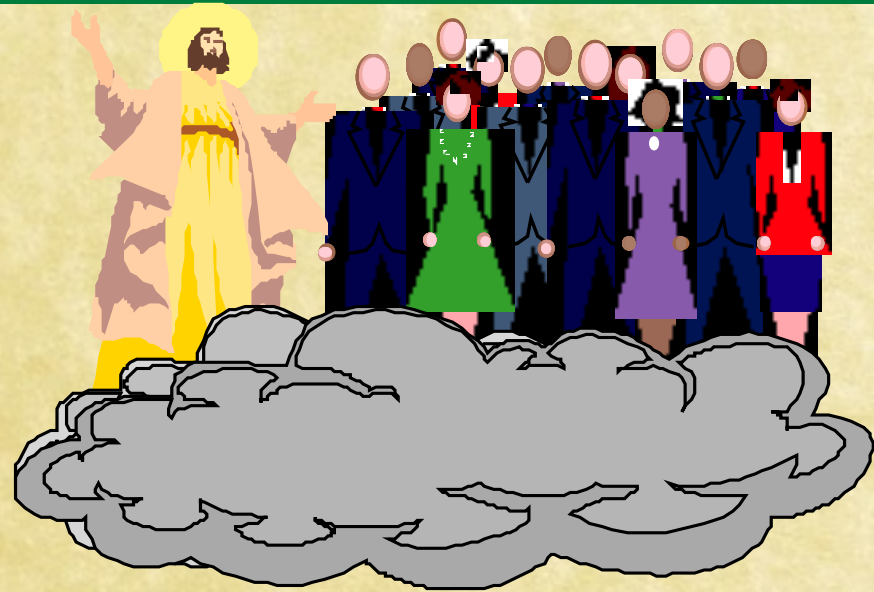
Second Coming Established Kingdom



**2. Translated
saints return
to earth**

RAPTURE /2ND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture



3. Earth is not judged

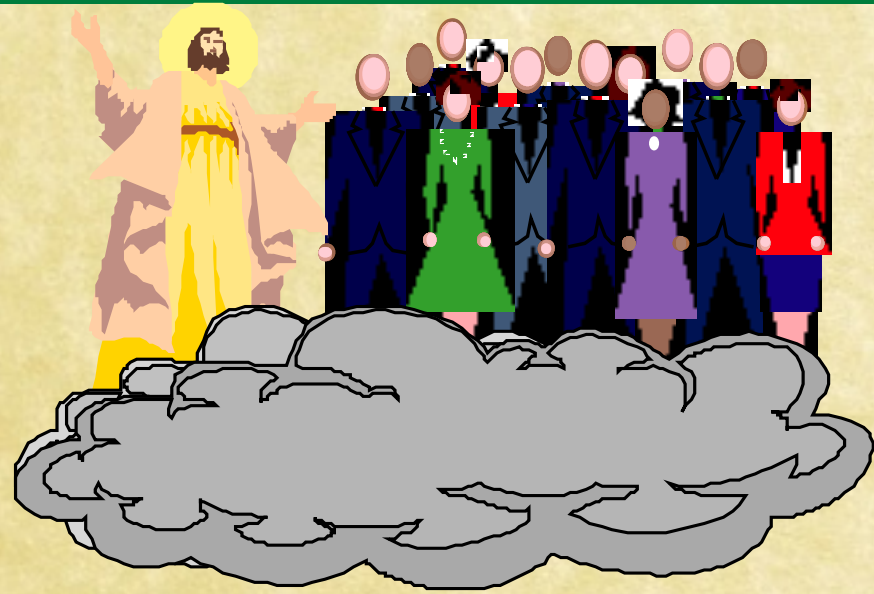
Second Coming Established Kingdom



3. Earth is judged and righteousness established

RAPTURE /2ND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture



**4. Imminent,
any-moment,
signless**

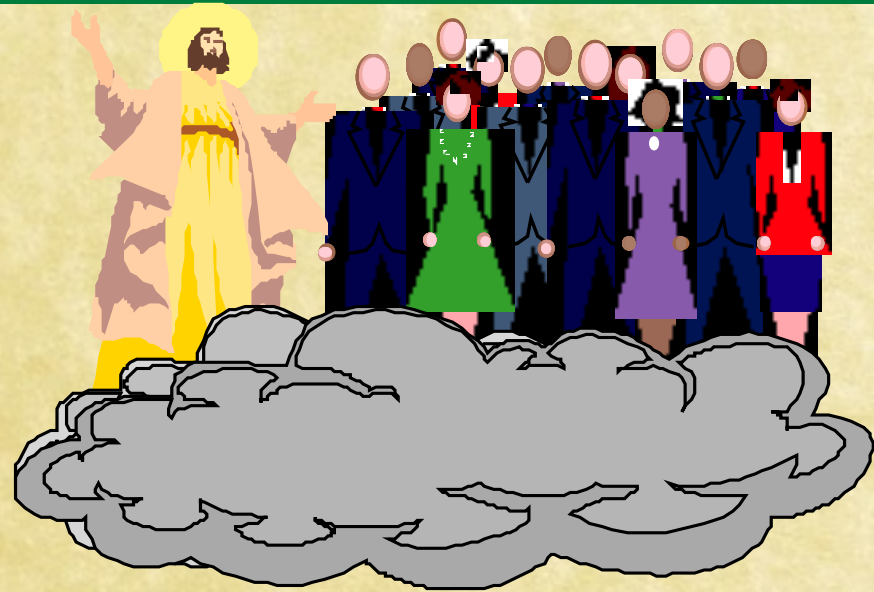
Second Coming Established Kingdom



**4. Follows
definite
predicted signs,
including the
tribulation**

RAPTURE /2ND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture



**5. Not predicted
in the Old
Testament**

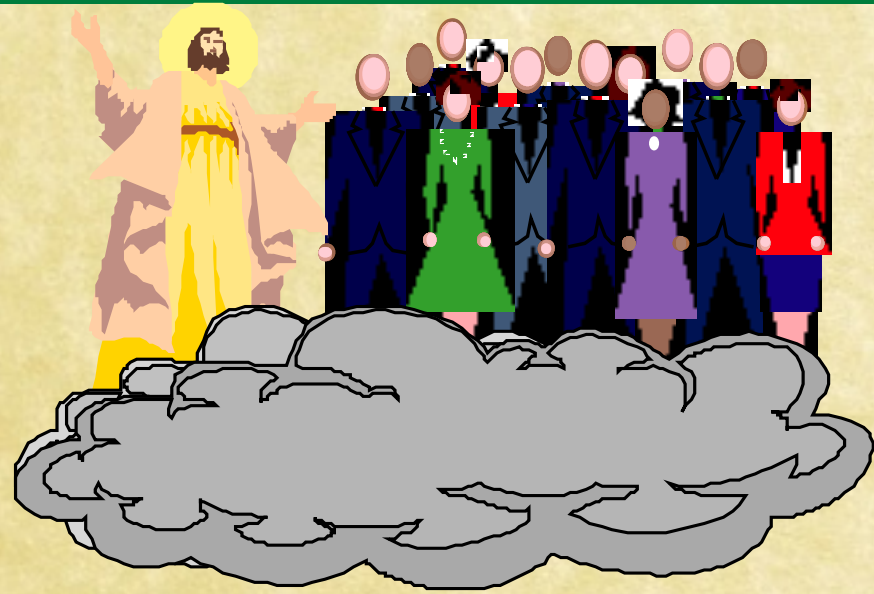
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**5. Predicted
often in the
Old Testament**

RAPTURE /2ND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture



**6. Believers
only**

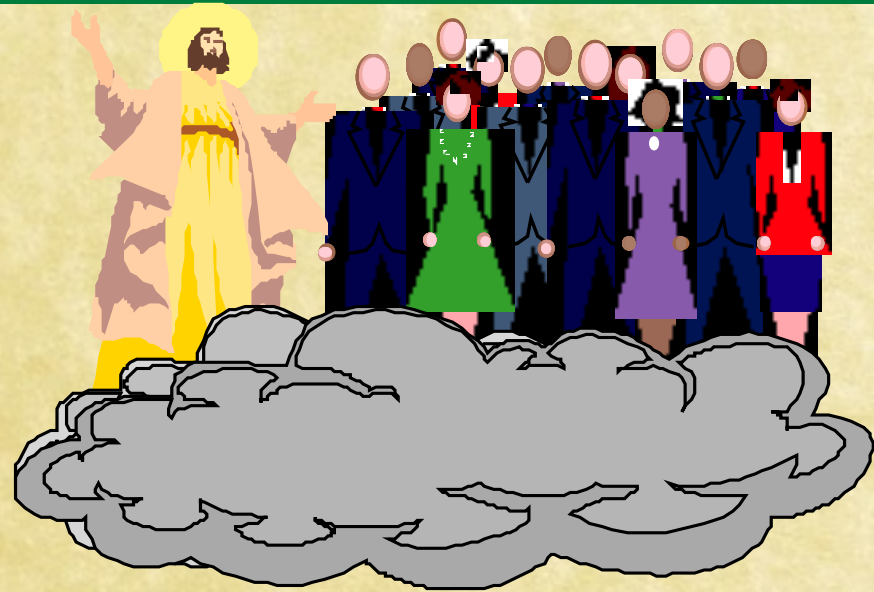
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**6. Affects all
mankind**

RAPTURE /2ND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture



**7. Before the
day of wrath**

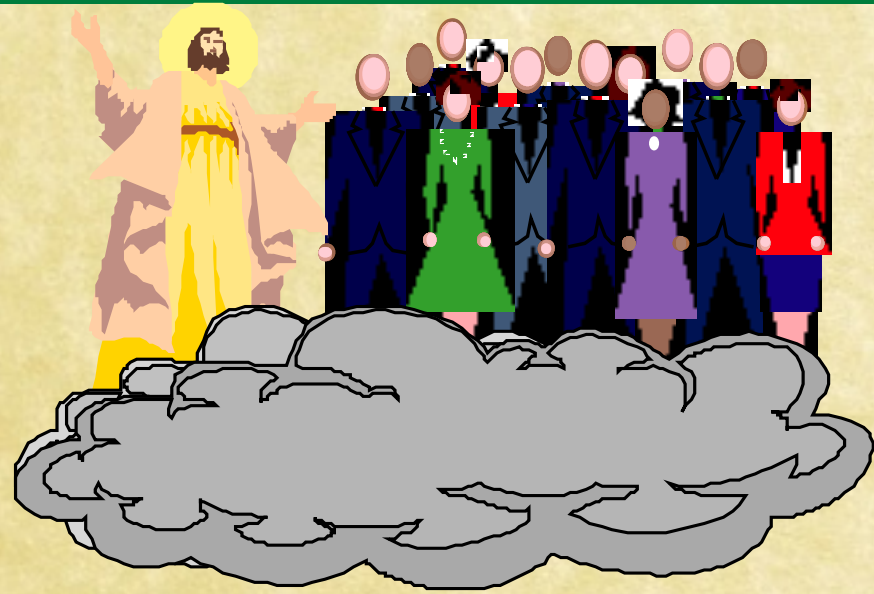
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**7. Concluding
the day of
wrath**

RAPTURE /2ND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture



8. No reference to Satan

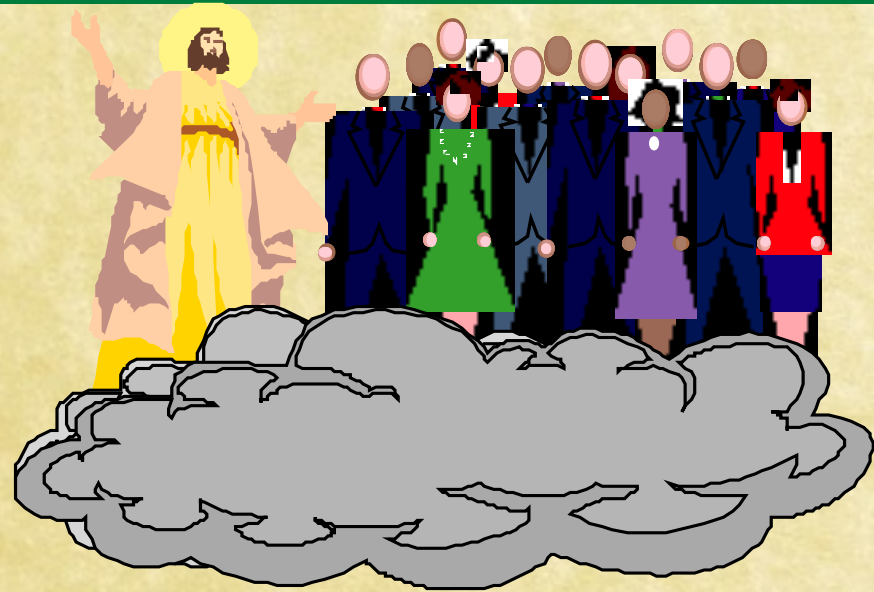
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8. Satan bound

RAPTURE /2ND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture



**9. Christ comes
*for His own***

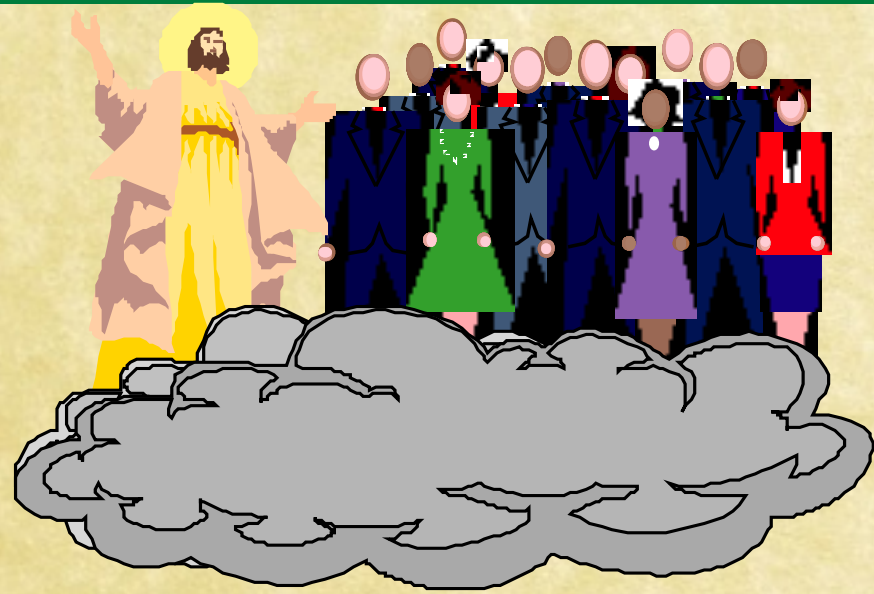
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**9. Christ comes
*with His own***

RAPTURE /2ND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture



**10. Christ comes
in the *air***

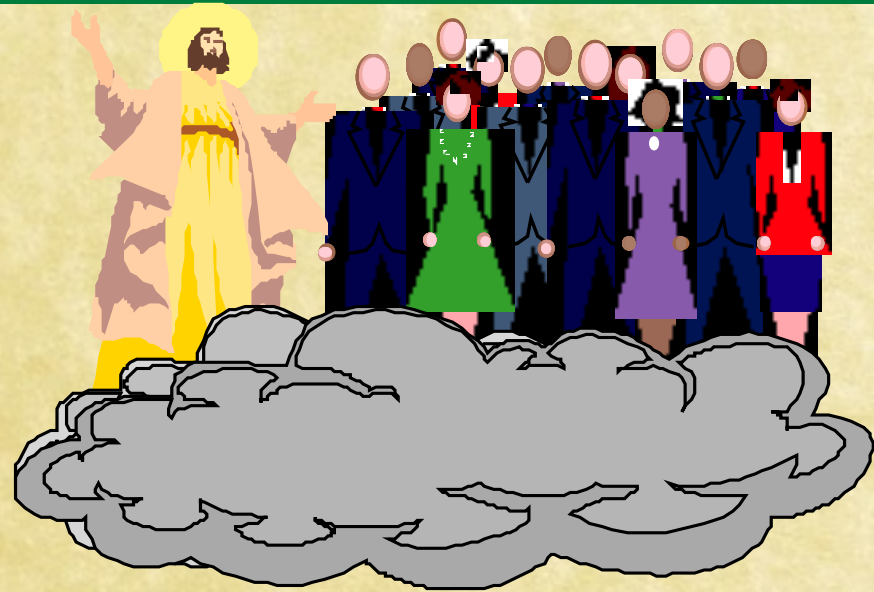
Second Coming Established Kingdom



**10. Christ comes
to the *earth***

RAPTURE /2ND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture



**11. Christ claims
His bride**

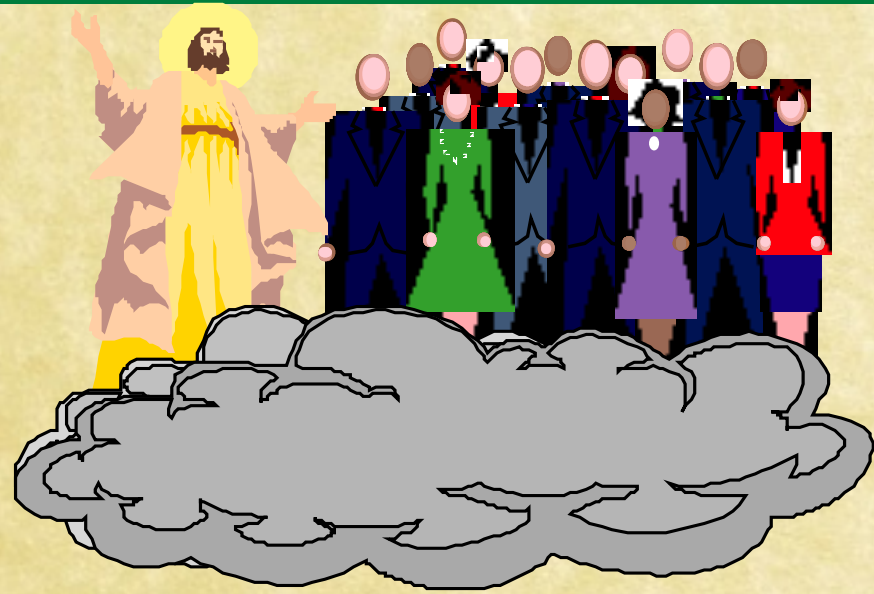
Second Coming Established Kingdom



**11. Christ comes
with His bride**

RAPTURE /2ND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture



**12. Only His own
see Him**

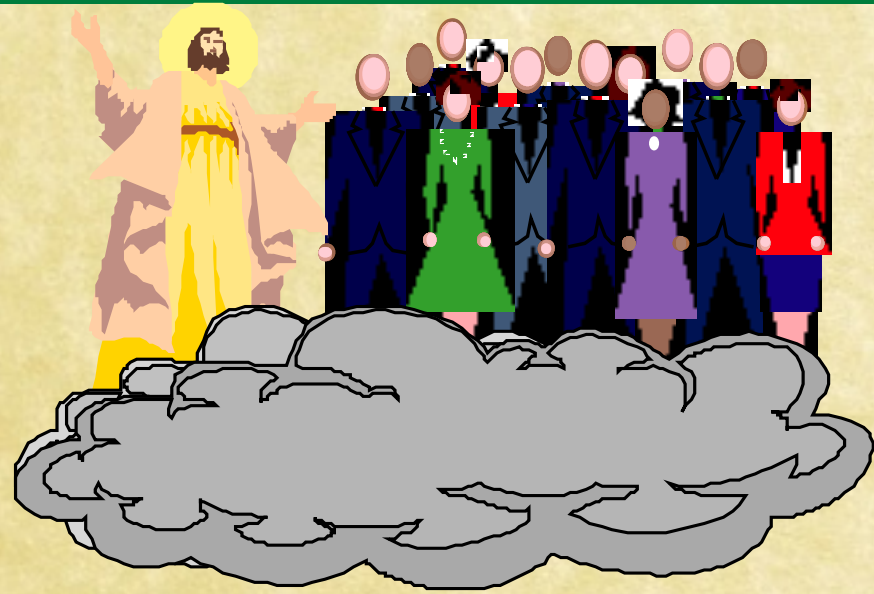
Second Coming Established Kingdom



**12. Every eye
shall see Him**

RAPTURE /2ND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture



**13. Tribulation
begins**

Second Coming Established Kingdom

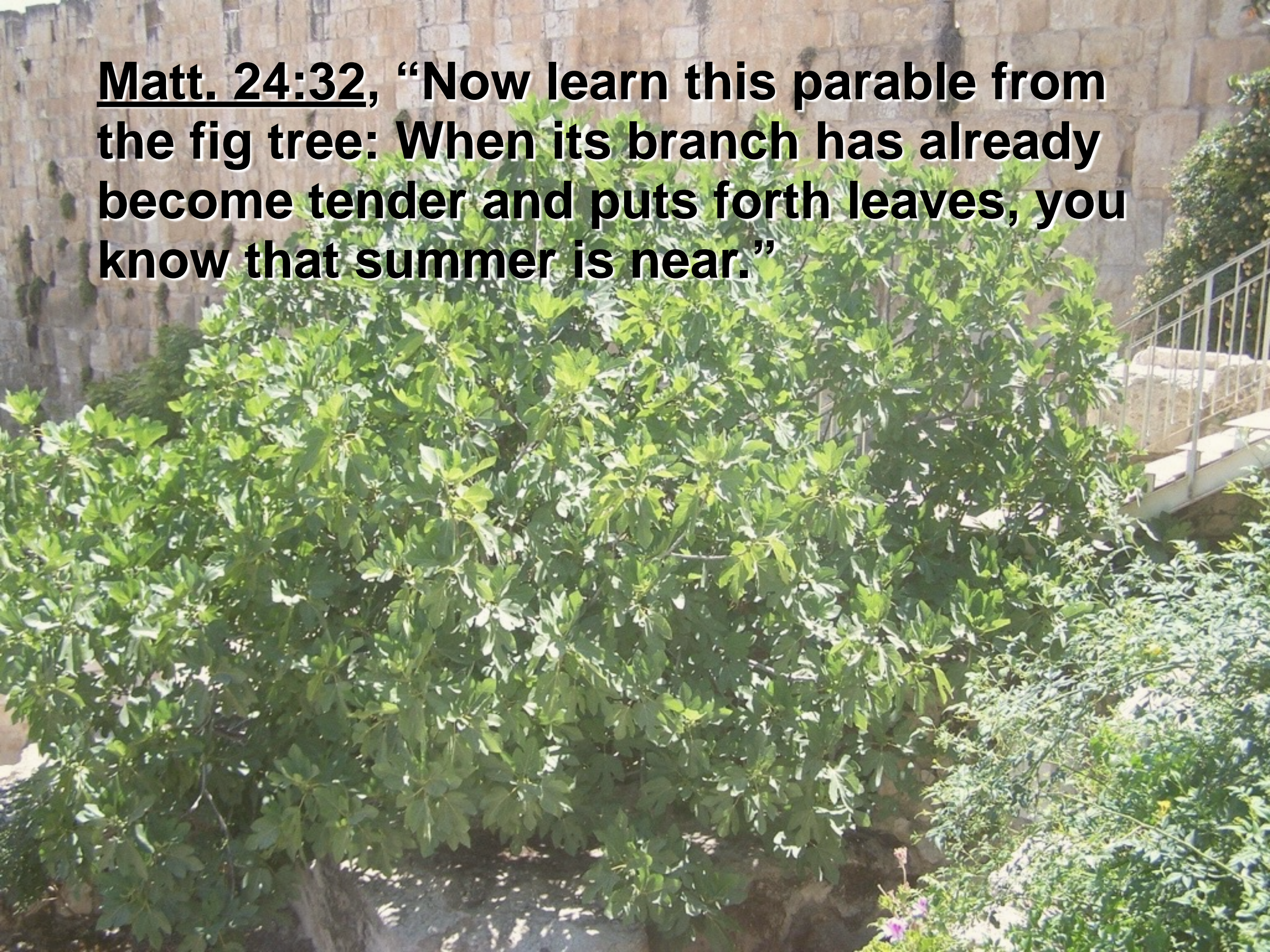


**13. Messianic
Kingdom
begins**

Matthew 24:23–31

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Matt. 24:32, “Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near.”



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**παραβολή *parabolē*
acc fem sing
proverb; poem;
parable, an allegory.
This is a broad,
general term for an
illustration.**

**An illustration from
real life, used to
instruct about some
abstract or spiritual
principle or truth.**

Matt. 24:32, “Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near.

Matt. 24:33, “So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near—at the doors!

Matt. 24:34, “Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place.”

“But the most important sign in Matthew has to be the restoration of the Jews to the land in the rebirth of Israel. Even the figure of speech ‘fig tree’ has been a historic symbol of national Israel. When the Jewish people, after nearly 2,000 years of exile, under relentless persecution, became a nation again on 14 May 1948 the ‘fig tree’ put forth its first leaves.

**Jesus said that this would indicate that He was ‘at the door,’ ready to return. Then He said, ‘Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place’ ”
(Matthew 24:34 NASB).**

“What generation? Obviously, in context, the generation that would see the signs—chief among them the rebirth of Israel. A generation in the Bible is something like forty years. If this is a correct deduction, then within forty years or so of 1948, all these things could take place. Many scholars who have studied Bible prophecy all their lives believe that this is so.”

~Hal Lindsey, *The Late, Great Planet Earth*