

BibleTalk Radio



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Christ for the Philippines Mission

End Times Bible Study Part 9

Message by Tony Tirse, Missionary

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Tonight will be Part 9 of a series that we've been on for several weeks now, Part 9 of the end times Bible study. The Lord laid it on my heart a few weeks ago to start a study on this because I have found that there was so much misinformation regarding the end of the world and what's going to happen, and there are so many things happening in the news right now. There are so many wars and rumors of wars, all kinds of things happening. So, of course, this gives rise to a lot of teachers and, unfortunately, it gives rise to a lot of false teaching on the end times. Some of it is to scare people, to control people, and some of it is to make money.

But what we're doing here on the BibleTalk Radio Show is we're simply presenting to you what the Bible says. I'm giving you some information regarding context, regarding the place and the time that the Bible is talking about, that Jesus is talking about, how that applies to us today. If we're talking about end times prophecies, we need to find out how that affects us today and how we can apply that today.

I'll tell you this, dear listener. The number one way to apply anything that we're talking about here is to apply it to your life by asking yourself this question: If you were to die today, are you 100 percent sure that you would go to Heaven? You see, that's the only thing that matters in this life. We're not talking about religion here. We're talking about a relationship with the

living God. There are so many people and so many religions and there's so much information out there, including this show and what we're trying to teach, but there's an abundance of people that don't know. They're not sure. And because there's so much misinformation out there, the people don't even know where to begin. So people say to themselves, "I'll just take my chances. I'll live my life the way I want to and I'll have fun while I'm here, and then we'll find out when I get there."

But it doesn't work that way, dear listener, because even Jesus Christ Himself was very clear that there is a place called Hell. He talked about it very many times. In fact, maybe one day we'll start a study on Hell and find out exactly what the Bible says about it. But the problem is that, if you're going to take your chance and you're going to find out once you die, it's too late. The decision has to be made now.

Jesus Christ said, *I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father but by me.* What does that mean when He said that? That's something that's very important, and when we talk about the end times, it's very important. How it applies to our lives is that it could occur today. In fact, that's what we're going to pick up on in our lesson here is the end of the world. There are movies about it. There are TV shows about it. There's teaching and stuff about it on YouTube and other



places. People post all kinds of things on Facebook, but the fact of the matter is, according to the Bible, the end of the world can occur at any moment. And I am astounded, I am surprised at how many people do not take that seriously.

Here, where we're sitting right now, the chair that I'm sitting in right now, was only two or three meters above the water line, because we're on the third floor of a building. Where I'm sitting right now, the ground was under 25 feet of water when Yolanda came, and within one square kilometer of where I'm sitting, there were thousands that died on November 8, 2013, and they had no idea on November 7, 2013, that they were going to step into eternity the next morning.

So this is something that we need to take seriously, dear listener. Where are those people today? It's not about, "I hope they're okay. I hope they're in Heaven. I hope they're resting in peace." It's not about that. It's about where actually are they now because where they are now is where they will be for all of eternity. So we need to think about that because the same thing could happen to us today.

I know where I'm going, and where I'm going I will be for all of eternity. And that's because I'm sure of where I'm going. I'm going to Heaven. I'm not going to Heaven because I'm a good guy or because I'm a pastor or because I'm a Baptist. I'm going to Heaven simply because of the Lord Jesus Christ. I have placed my faith in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ and what He has done for me, that He came down from Heaven. He humbled Himself and became a man, that He died on the cross for me, that He took all of my sins, and that He died and was buried, and on the third day He

rose again, proving that He was not only the God of this world who was the God of the living, but He was also the God who conquered death and is alive today.

He's not dead. He's not hanging on the cross. He's not crucified over and over again. He's not in a grave. He's not in a tomb. He is in Heaven right now seated at the right hand of the Father. And because He lives, I will live, not because I'm perfect or because I'm not a sinner because I sure am, but I am a recipient of the grace of God. And the faith that He has given me I placed right back on the Person of Christ and it's Him alone who I'm trusting for Heaven. That's what you need to do, dear listener. So, what to do with the information that you're going to receive on the BibleTalk Radio Show? That's how you apply it to your life.

Let's get into our lesson. Tonight is going to be Part 9 of the end times Bible study. Last week, if you were listening, we left off at Matthew 24:28, so please open your Bibles to the book of Matthew, the first book in the New Testament, Chapter 24, verse 28. We left off there. We were talking about how all the world's armies are going to be set against one nation, the nation of Israel. We had touched on last week and the week before how the key to prophecy is Jerusalem and Israel, because prophecy is almost always surrounding them. Even when it comes to us Gentiles, there's still a lot of prophecy that has to do with them, the majority of the things that we're talking about.

We'll be talking about the rapture in just a moment, and even though the rapture applies to the church, it also has to do with Jerusalem and the Jews because, when the church, that is,



all those who are in Christ, when we are taken out of the way in the rapture, God still has seven more years on the Earth to deal with a certain people, and that people that He will be dealing with are the people of Israel. There will also be Gentiles at that time, but it'll be a time when God is specifically dealing with Israel.

So in verse 28 it says, *For wheresoever the carcase is, there will the eagles be gathered together.* And that is a reference to the fact that, towards the end of the tribulation time, the world's armies will be gathered together in what really we could call World War III. The Bible calls it a battle called Armageddon in the Valley of Megiddo to the east of Israel. The armies will be gathered there and they think they will finally be able to destroy Israel. And remember that all these will be under the leadership of a man, a world leader called the Antichrist. Who is the power behind the Antichrist? Well, it is Satan Himself. We will study all those things. We haven't gotten into the tribulation part in detail.

We started in the book of Matthew Chapter 24 because we want to know what Jesus said first. We're in the New Testament. We're New Testament Christians. The New Testament of the Bible, placed on the foundation of the Old Testament, is our final authority for faith and practice, so we want to know what Jesus Christ said first before anybody else, so we started in Matthew 24.

I want to direct your attention, dear listener, where we're going to pick up today in verse 29. This is where we're going to start, and verse 29 is very important because there are people who have read the book of Matthew here in Chapter 24 and have misinterpreted and misapplied several of the things that Jesus said, not because

what Jesus said needed to be reinterpreted, not because what Jesus said was not true and correct, but because they misapplied the time. Remember, one of the rules of interpretation is when is this spoken about. So here we're going to pick up in verse 29.

²⁹Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken. ³⁰And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

Now, obviously, what this is talking about is the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. What's very interesting is at the end of the section which was verse 28 we saw that, *For wheresoever the carcase is, there will the eagles be gathered together.* We talked about how that is representing that Jesus is talking about Israel being encircled by the vultures, that is, all the other nations that are encompassing about Israel at the battle of Armageddon. But what's interesting there is He says, immediately after the tribulation, the battle of Armageddon will occur at the very end of the seven years' tribulation. So now He's saying immediately after the tribulation.

There are things that we're going to continue reading in verses 31, 32, 33, all the way to the end of the chapter. There are many people who get those things wrong because they are not applying it to the correct time. There are many people who apply this to before the tribulation period or even some who hold the position of after. There are all kinds of views. But up until verse 28, Jesus gets into the time that we're



living right now. We saw something that He referred to as the abomination of desolation which is already at the middle of the tribulation, and then He's talking about the eagles being gathered together around the carcass. That's at the end of the tribulation. Now in verse 29, He plainly states immediately after the tribulation.

You see, the world, planet Earth, is still going to be here after the tribulation. There are some certain things that are going to happen we're going to see in a moment, but, *²⁹Immediately after the tribulation of those days, [He says,] shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken.* He's describing all these things, which by the way are parallel to some things that are going to happen in the book of Revelation.

³⁰And then [He says,] shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven. Now, a few verses before that, He said, "If somebody tells you that Christ is in the desert, that Christ is in the wilderness, don't go," He says, "because you'll know when I get here," He said, "because just like lightning strikes in the east but it shines even to the west so shall the coming of the Son of man be." So here He says, *³⁰And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.*

It's very interesting that He says, *Then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn.* That has a double meaning actually. When you see that, the first meaning that comes into your mind, which is the obvious one, is, yeah, everybody when they see Christ they'll mourn; they'll be

scared; they'll be frightened because here's this sign of the great power and glory of whoever this is.

I'll tell you right now, and this is something that we're going to study later on because we don't have time to do it tonight, but at the battle of Armageddon when all of the militaries, all of the armies of the world are gathered together to destroy Israel when Jesus comes back and it's going to be a great light, it's going to be a great sign. When the armies of the Antichrist, all the armies of the Earth, when they see that, they're going to turn their weapons and they're going to actually try to fight against God. This is documented in other parts of the Bible. It's very silly thinking that any army could ever fight against the Almighty God, but that's how Satan is going to have everybody so deceived. Actually, it's not that hard to imagine right now, because the devil has so many people deceived already.

[Ms. Ypille:] Oh, yes. You wouldn't believe how minds have changed. Like, the frame of thinking has changed, and so many things that were not godly before are being accepted now as the will of God or coming from God. It's blasphemous.

And the thing is, too, you have all these people today shaking their fists at God. You have these atheists. I know their names because I try to study and try to keep up with these. There's one named Neil deGrasse Tyson, the physicist; there's Michio Kaku; he's another physicist; he's Japanese. And there are several.

[Ms. Ypille:] Richard Dawkins, because Christopher Hitchens is dead now, so there's Dawkins who presents himself as a scientist.



Yes, and what these guys are doing, they very publicly shake their fists at God, and they have no fear. They're extremely deceived because, if you knew who God is, if you knew the glory, the highness, the awe of who God is, you wouldn't dare. In fact, the Bible says that every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. But it's not hard to imagine that the armies would be deceived when they turn all their weapons to try to fire against and fight God.

But here's what it is. He says here all of the tribes, in verse 30, will mourn. Again, the obvious meaning to that is everybody on the Earth, because when He arrives, it's all over. In the book of Revelation in Chapter 19, it's very interesting. It says the sword of His Word. The sword proceeds out of His mouth and He instantly kills everybody, all the unbelievers in the world. There are several billion that are left, so they'll mourn.

But I told you this has a double meaning. What is the other meaning of that? Well, the Holy Spirit very carefully here in Matthew 24:30 chose the word "tribes." We would be somewhat correct in taking that to mean all the families of the Earth, but He specifically uses the word "tribes." Why? Because, again, He's dealing with and referring to Israel. Whenever you see "tribes" in the Bible, it's usually referring to the twelve tribes of Israel. It doesn't really refer to tribes very often outside of the context of Israel, so it has a double meaning.

Of course, there are other parts of the Bible, and we're going to get to those, that say that when Israel sees Jesus coming, they'll look on Him whom they pierced. Obviously, that's talking about Him being nailed to the cross. And who was responsible for Him being nailed

to the cross? It was the Jews. They rejected Christ. Yes, He was crucified by the authority of the Roman Government, Pontius Pilate, but who was the one that put political pressure on Pilate to crucify Christ? That was the Pharisees and the Sadducees and the Sanhedrin and the Jewish people. One day they were cheering Christ and the next day they were yelling, "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!" So He says then they'll mourn.

It's after the tribulation that the Lord Jesus comes back. The Bible says it; I'm not saying it. But the reason I'm emphasizing that is for a couple of different reasons. First of all, when it comes to the tribulation time, and earlier in the study, I had mentioned the word "rapture." The word "rapture" does not occur in the Bible but the teaching does.

We started this study with the book of I Thessalonians, Chapter 4. We began in verse 13 because it said, *I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren.* God doesn't want us to be ignorant. Jesus says here in Matthew 24:4 don't be deceived. Many times He is warning us about being deceived. People who are ignorant are easily deceived because they don't know the truth, and so He doesn't want us to be ignorant and He doesn't want us to be deceived.

There are people who teach several other views regarding the rapture. There is what we call the pretribulation rapture, which is what we hold to here. There is a view called the midtribulation rapture, which basically states that the rapture happens at the abomination of desolation. There is a view called the posttribulation rapture, which says that the rapture happens here when he says "immediately after the tribulation of those days." There are other views that are lesser in prominence, but they are out



there. There's partial rapture. Part of the people get raptured at this time; part of the people get raptured at the other time. So there are all kinds of views. We already saw earlier in this chapter where Jesus was talking about people being taken. He says two will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left behind. So the rapture will happen before the tribulation. Here, He says immediately after the tribulation, and He talks about Him coming back.

And so we go into verse 31 and He says, *And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.*

In the book of Revelation, by the way, we read something about that when Jesus comes back. He smites, He destroys all the enemies, but then there are those that are left on the earth after He kills the enemies, the unbelievers. After he destroys them all, there are those that are left on the earth at the end of the tribulation who are saved. First of all, according to the Scripture, all of the surviving Jews, all of surviving Israel, will be saved at that time. And then, of course, there'll be several, perhaps millions and millions of Gentiles who will have also believed the Gospel at that time and they'll be saved.

So at the end of the great tribulation, at the end of the seven years when Jesus returns and He destroys all the enemies, all the unbelievers because all those unbelievers at that time have taken the mark of the beast, there'll be perhaps several million people or a few million people on the earth who are tribulation survivors, and so this is where He's saying the angels shall gather the elect from the four winds, from the four corners of the earth, from one end of

heaven to the other. And, of course, the book of Revelation gives us some insight on what happens after that. We go into a thousand-year age called the millennial reign where Jesus Himself, because He's returned, sits on the throne of David in Jerusalem and He reigns for a thousand years. But He doesn't get into detail about that here.

But here in verse 32, He starts giving an illustration. Jesus was a good preacher and good preachers give good illustrations. He says, *³²Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh.* It's toward the end of spring. At the beginning of spring, the farmers are putting in their seed, sowing and everything, so after a few weeks stuff begins to come up, sprout, and the existing trees and bushes and so forth will begin to give their flower and they'll begin to bloom and everything.

So He says, when the branch is tender and putting forth leaves, you know that the summer is near. So He's giving an earthly illustration. He says, look, you know this. It happens every year. You can be very sure that, even if you don't have a calendar or a clock but you're paying attention, that it was cold for a few months and now it's starting to warm up again, and you're looking at the crops out there and new leaves and new flowers are starting to come up. Then you go, "Oh, we're getting close to summer now because it's the end of spring and things are starting to bloom." So He says, "You know this. I'm giving you an earthly example that's sure. It happens every year."

He says in verse 33: *So likewise* [or like this, in the same way] *ye* [remember, "ye" means you all], *when [you all] see all these things...* What



things? Everything that we've just talked about, wars, rumors of wars, nation against nation, kingdom against kingdom, earthquakes in diverse places, pestilences, all this unrest, everything that we've talked about in the last few weeks and Jesus has talked about here in this entire chapter. He says, "Like that, in the same way that, when you see the branches are tender and the flowers are starting to bloom, the leaves are going forth, you'll know that the summer is here. And the same way, when you see everything that I'm telling you, He says, *Know that it is near, even at the doors.*

What's interesting about that, folks, is we're living in a time today where it's a great time. It's a wonderful time in history for several reasons, not because of our technological advances, not because of world peace, because none of that really matters. What's really awesome about the time that we're living in is that most of us, even the poorest of us, at the tips of our fingers have the ability to see world events as they unfold.

All you need is a 20-peso, one-day subscription on your Smart or Globe phone. You can get a one-day, 500-megabyte Internet or something like that, or 50 megabytes, whatever, and you can get on Facebook; you can get on YouTube; you can get on Yahoo; you can get on Google; and you can see the news of what's happening all over the world. You can walk into almost anyplace downtown where they're playing the TV and there's ABS-CBN News, and they are playing satellite video of some kind of terrorist attack that happened in England or some kind of war that's happening in Syria or an earthquake that happened in Japan, whatever. You can see all that right now.

Most of the world can see what's going on, and we can see that there has been an increase in earthquakes and typhoons and tsunamis. There's been an increase in comets and asteroids that are near misses to the Earth. There's been an increase in tension. Some foolish people actually contend that we're living in the most peaceful time in history right now. I do a lot of reading. I get on a lot of news sites. I have to keep myself informed. I'm responsible for that to my people.

There are people that are actually saying, no, it's really the most peaceful time. They're foolish, and, of course, their contention is it's because there's no world war going on right now. But there's more turmoil in the world right now than probably there really was during the world wars, because there are a lot of things going on under the radar, tensions, and each one of those is a powder keg. It can ignite something.

[Ms. Ypille:] The United States alone is involved in 40 wars right now.

And the United States domestically is under more unrest right now than it's been in a long time, if at all before. I mean, it's ready to split in half with what's going on in the States right now.

[Ms. Ypille:] It's not full on, but there is its presence. Russia, too, has it.

And there were protests in Moscow a couple of days ago. They said there were 30,000 people protesting corruption in Moscow a couple of days ago. And the police there arrested over 300 in Moscow. So there's all kinds of stuff going on in the world right now and it's exciting because we can see all these things and Jesus told us that we would see all these



things. And he said, when you see all these things, you'd better know that the time is near. It's almost at the door.

In verse 34, He says, *Verily* [or truly] *I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.* The generation that starts seeing these particular things. Now, this can also have a double meaning, but I'm going to be careful with this because I don't want to confuse too many people, but there are scholars, Bible school students out there, and I'm not saying any of them are right or wrong because I, myself, am not sure on exactly the timing of this particular phrase.

There are those that say a generation is 70 years. There are those that say a generation is 40 years. There are those that say that, when Jesus says these words, that this generation shall not pass till all things be fulfilled, it's referring to the people who are alive during the reestablishment of the Israeli state on May 14, 1948. There are those that say this is referring to those that were alive in 1967 when Israel was able to recapture Jerusalem and put it under their control. Of course, there are different opinions by different scholars on these things.

I'm not sure myself a hundred percent which one of these He's referring to; however, my personal opinion, and this is just me, dear listener. There's probably somebody out there that will have a better conviction about this than I do. But I myself am persuaded that the generation that Jesus is talking about here is those that are alive when the rapture occurs.

Mathematically, it's easy to come to that logical conclusion because from the time of the rapture to the end of the tribulation is only seven years. So that's much less than a

generation, so obviously the generation that sees these things happening shall not pass. In other words, that's the last generation. There's not going to be anything past the seven years in this age until Jesus sets up His righteous kingdom and the thousand-year reign. So I believe personally that's what He's talking about, but I'm not going to be a hundred percent dogmatic on that because there could be some other thought.

There are some very compelling arguments regarding what a generation is and what marks the generation. Indeed, there are some passages in some of the other prophets like Daniel, Ezekiel, Joel that when you read some of what they say and you get into some of the math of it, it's possible that it could be talking about a generation that was born 40 years ago or 70 years ago or something like that.

The problem with those things... and here's where some of the false teaching comes in. I enjoy getting into some of the deeper things and doing the mathematics and looking at the dates and so forth, but the problem that you get into and the danger that people get into is that sometimes they get so into the mathematics and dates and stuff that they begin to find themselves date-setting, and then you get those false prophecies of, "Well, according to my studies, and I've been studying this for 20 years, it looks like Jesus is going to be returning on September 23, 2017." Or, "The rapture is going to happen on July 7, 2017." Or, "The end of the world is going to come on such and such day and such and such date."

That's already happened numerous times, and every time it does happen, we Christians get looked at as looney tunes, as crazies, because they say, "Oh, see those Christians. They're



crazy. They're saying the world's going to end and nothing happens." Unfortunately, they're right and we're going to get into some of the timing of that because He says, first of all in verse 35, because we're going to continue here, He says, ***³⁵Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.*** So we can be very sure of this.

In fact, Matthew 24:35 is on our church logo, because we believe only in the Word of God and everything else will pass away, but nothing from the Word of God will pass away. But verse 36 is a key point here. He says, ***³⁶But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.***

What's interesting about this... now, I don't want to lose you, dear listener. If you get confused, 0999-862-7229 is the number to text or leave me a message on Facebook. Jesus just finished telling us here in verse 29 "immediately after the tribulation of those days." I take "immediately after" to mean immediately, like the very day or the day after the tribulation, He says, the Son of man will come. He gave us a time, yet in verse 36 He says, ***But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.***

Is there a contradiction there? First, He says immediately after the tribulation. Okay, so when we've seen all the things from the tribulation happen and the book of Revelation chronicles everything; the first seal is opened, the first trumpet sounds, the vial judgment is poured out, there's going to be plagues, there's going to be fires, there's going to be demons out of Hell, the sun's going to get darkened. I mean the book of Revelation goes down the line, dot, dot, dot, dot. It's telling you what's going to happen very clearly. When the River

Euphrates dries up and unclean spirits, demons come out and frogs come out everywhere, that's pretty specific. If the date on that is such-and-such date and you're paying attention to the book of Revelation, then you know there's only this much time left and then after that tribulation the Son of man comes back. Yet, here He says, ***But of that day and hour knoweth no man....*** The question is, is there a contradiction?

We here at the BibleTalk Radio Show know there's no contradiction in the Bible, but let me take you back, dear listener, to a time where He's saying here in the same chapter in the book of Matthew, Chapter 24. He starts off in verse 4 by saying, ***Take heed that no man deceive you.*** And He goes on, ***For many shall come in my name....***

Nation shall rise against nation, kingdom against kingdom, and so forth, and many false prophets. Iniquity shall abound. The love of many shall wax cold. He says the Gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world for a witness to the nations, and He goes on and on and on. Then He starts getting into something very specific, which He talks about the abomination of desolation, which he does there in verse 15. The abomination of desolation is something very important because it's a marker. It's the middle point of the seven-year tribulation.

We know that, from the abomination of desolation until the return of Jesus Christ, here He's talking about it in verse 36, no man knows the hour, but He says in verse 29 immediately after the tribulation of those days. We know that from verse 16, the abomination of desolation to the time of the return of the Son of man is three and a half years. So if we know



it's three and a half years between verse 15 and verse 29, how can He say then in verse 36 no man knoweth the day and the hour?

Well, let's go back further then, before verse 15, going back to verse 14, *And the Gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world.* Verse 13, *But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.* Okay. *Because iniquity, verse 12, shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.* Verse 11, see, we're going backwards. *And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.* Verse 10: *And then shall many be offended.*

Now, we're looking for the beginning of the tribulation. We're looking for the beginning of the seven-year period. Well, you don't really find it. You don't find it here in Matthew 24. The reason you don't find the beginning point, the seven years before Christ comes back, is because He tells us in verse 36, *Of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.* In other words, the day and the very hour where the rapture occurs, nobody knows when that's going to happen. That's the one that could happen tonight.

From that point forward, anybody who's paying attention can count forward from the signing of the seven-year treaty, the covenant that Daniel is talking about in Daniel Chapter 9. He's talking about a covenant for one week, that's seven years, some kind of a treaty, some kind of peace agreement. From the signing of that going forth is seven years.

Now, the rapture is going to happen before that, but the rapture could happen the day before the signing of that covenant or a month before the signing of that covenant or even a year before the signing of that covenant. Most

Christians are people who have heard of this study. Most people hear and teach that the rapture marks the beginning of the seven-year tribulation period, but nowhere in the Bible does it say that the rapture marks the beginning of the seven-year tribulation. All the rapture does is take the church, the believers in Jesus Christ, those that are born again, out of the way.

But Daniel tells us the exact beginning of the tribulation, the signing of the seven-year covenant. So that's why Jesus can plainly say in Matthew 24:36 the day and hour knoweth no man, because the beginning of these events, nobody knows when that's going to happen. It's going to be a surprise.

A lot of people have confused this and they try to apply erroneously to the end of the tribulation, but that can't be till the end of the tribulation because we have a clear timeline when Jesus is going to come back at the end of the tribulation. So, when is the covenant that Daniel Chapter 9 speaks of? When is that peace treaty between the Antichrist and his following nations and Israel going to be signed? We don't know. And when is the rapture going to happen? We don't know. It could happen simultaneously. Thirty seconds before the nations sign that document, the rapture could happen. The rapture could happen and millions of Christians disappear off the face of the Earth while they're in that room signing the covenant. It could happen.

But it could also happen a month before that agreement. The rapture could happen and the world economies could collapse because millions of Christians, good workers, people who are holding mortgages, people who need to pay back loans for vehicles, for houses, for



everything, people who work and earn money, people who are in government jobs, pilots, all of them will disappear off the face of the Earth. The whole world will be thrown into chaos and maybe there will be some kind of breakdown of all the societies and this world leader who's out there somewhere probably already will be able to take control of everything and say, "Calm down, calm down. Here, we have a plan."

Of course, Israel will be there and maybe it'll take a month or even a year from the time the rapture happens and all the weirdness is going to happen as a result of the rapture. Maybe it'll take a month or six months or a year before everything is in such turmoil that Israel finally signs her covenant of a seven-year peace between the Palestinians and all the surrounding Muslim nations and the European Union and the remnants of the U.S. and all that stuff. Maybe it'll take a year, but maybe it'll happen the same night. We don't know, and that's what Jesus is saying. He says, *But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.*

Which brings me to one quick little thing that I want to get to, because some people will say, Wait a minute, wait a minute. Jesus didn't know? Well, wasn't Jesus God? The answer, of course, is, yes, Jesus was God, but as far as did He know? I think He didn't at that moment when He was saying that standing there. I think He probably didn't know, because remember, Jesus, God the Son, emptied Himself to become a man and He was walking and living by the power of the Holy Spirit. He humbled Himself and He even submitted to death. You can't kill God, but you certainly can kill a human body. Well, Jesus was inhabiting a human body, but He emptied Himself of Himself and lived by the power of the Holy

Spirit, and that's another study. There's several reasons He did that, to prove to us that we could also follow in the footsteps of Jesus and also live by the power of the Holy Spirit.

At that time, most likely He did not know. He couldn't tell them, yes, it's going to happen exactly 2,031 years from now on what you're going to call August 31 of the year 2017 on the Gregorian calendar. And the disciples go, "What's a Gregorian calendar?" So He probably most likely did not know, because it's not something He was talking about or needed to tell them. So He probably didn't and that's it.

People today, many Bible scholars and stuff are trying to set dates and I'll tell you by the authority of the Bible according to what Jesus just said here in verse 36, these date setters are in error. It is wrong. Why are we going to set dates? I love mathematics, but I don't care how they can try to prove it mathematically and Bible codes and this and that and the other. If you're hearing a teacher who says that the Lord's going to come back on this date, that's a false teacher, because God Himself, Jesus Christ Himself said, "Nobody knows and I'm not going to reveal it to you." If one of the many false teachers actually by accident got the date right, God would probably change the date.

Dear listener, we've come to the end of our show again so quickly, and I'd like to say thank you for listening. This is an in-depth study. Next week, Lord willing, we'll have part 10 and we're going to pick up on verse 37, because it tells us a little bit more. He says no one knows the day or the hour, but He does give us signs to look for so we won't be caught by surprise, so that we will be ready no matter what day it comes.