

THE SIGNS OF CHRIST'S RETURN Matthew 24:4-14

I. **False Messianic identity is a sign of the return of Christ (4-5).**

Acts 5:36: For some time ago Theudas rose up, **claiming to be somebody**. A number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was slain, and all who obeyed him were scattered and came to nothing.

2 Peter 2:1: But there were also false prophets among the people, **even as there will be false teachers among you**, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, *and* bring on themselves swift destruction.

II. **Fighting among nations is a sign of the return of Christ (6-7a).**

Luke 21:10: Then He said to them, "**Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom.**"

III. **Fateful devastation throughout the world is a sign of the return of Christ (7b-8).**

Romans 8:20-21: For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected *it* in hope; **because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption** into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

Colossians 1:20: and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, **whether things on earth or things in heaven**, having made peace through the blood of His cross.

IV. **Fierce treatment of believers is a sign of the return of Christ (9).**

Matthew 10:17-18: But beware of men, for **they will deliver you up to councils and scourge you in their synagogues. You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake**, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles.

John 16:2: They will put you out of the synagogues; yes, **the time is coming that whoever kills you** will think that he offers God service.

V. **Falling away of false believers is a sign of the return of Christ (10-13).**

Matthew 13:20-21: But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. **For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles.**

1 John 2:19: They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; **but they went out that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us.**

Matthew 10:22: And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But **he who endures to the end will be saved.**

Philippians 1:6: being confident of this very thing, that **He who has begun a good work in you will complete *it*** until the day of Jesus Christ.

VI. Flourishing of the gospel is a sign of the return of Christ (14).

Mark 13:10: And the gospel must first be **preached to all the nations.**