

# WATCHING THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES

COREY STARK

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## Learning to “Watch” in the Midst of a Prophetic Generation

### I. SEEING AND UNDERSTANDING THE “SIGNS OF THE TIMES”

A. Clearly, a growing number of people are recognizing that something ***never before seen*** is occurring in the earth, throughout the nations and even within the Church. Reminiscent of the book of Joel, many voices from diverse places are coming to the same conclusion, “*We have never seen this happen before!*” and asking the question, “*Why?*” “*What does it mean?*” and most importantly “*What should we do?*”

***Joel 1:2 Hear this, you elders, and give ear, all you inhabitants of the land! Has anything like this happened in your days, or even in the days of your fathers?... 5 Awake, you drunkards, and weep...***

B. Jesus rebuked the “spiritual” in His day for priding themselves in having eyes to see and discern natural things, yet in all their wisdom not being able to perceive the spiritual truths that these ***signs*** were pointing towards (Ps. 19:1-6; Mt. 16:1-3; Lk. 12:54-56; Rom. 1:18-20). In fact, they were so blind that couldn’t even discern the greatest “sign from heaven” that was standing right before them (Lk. 2:12, 34; 11:29-32)!

***Mt. 16:1 The Pharisees... asked a sign from heaven. 2 He said... “When it is evening you say, ‘It will be fair weather, for the sky is red’; 3 and in the morning, ‘It will be foul weather... for the sky is red and threatening.’ Hypocrites! You... discern the face of the sky, but you cannot discern the signs of the times.***

C. Surprisingly, the ***vast majority*** of “***signs***” that indicate we’re in the ***final generation*** of natural human history, just prior to Jesus’ return are found within the ***created order*** (Job 9:1-10; Eccl. 12:1-7; Isa. 13:1-22; 24:1-23; 34:4; Ezek. 32:1-16; Joel 2:1-11, 28-32; 3:9-17; Mt. 24:7-8, 15-31; Mk. 13:8, 14-27; Lk. 21:10-11, 25-28; Acts 2:19-20; Rev. 6:12-14; 8:5, 7, 8-9, 10-11, 12; 9:1-11, 13-19; 11:6, 13, 19). Even the Gentile Magi understood a simple “star” as ***the sign*** of the coming Jewish Messiah (Num. 24:17; Mt. 2:1-12).

***Lk. 21:25 There will be SIGNS in the sun, the moon, and the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; 26 for the powers of the heavens will be shaken... 28 When these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near.***

D. Make no mistake about it, though God will use ***creations groan*** (Rom. 8:22), ***man’s sin*** (Dan. 8:23), and even ***Satan’s rage*** (Rev. 12:12) to accomplish His eternal purpose, it is ultimately ***God’s zeal*** for relationship with His people that is behind this present shaking (Hag. 2:6-9; Heb. 12:26-29). And if God is the Source and He is love, then we know the ***shaking is for us and not against us*** (1 Pet. 3:20)!

***Hag. 2:6 Thus says the Lord of hosts: ‘Once more... I will shake heaven and earth, the sea and dry land; 7 and I will shake ALL nations, and they shall come to the Desire of All Nations... (Heb. 12:25-29)***

E. We’ve entered a “new season” in which the Church must no longer ***ignore***, ***minimize*** or be ***afraid*** of the signs, but rather ***understand*** them (aware), ***look for*** them (alert) and be ***ready to act in partnership*** with the Lord to accomplish His purposes. God’s missions strategy is to ***shake*** and ***magnify*** (Mt. 24:14)!

***Zeph. 2:11 The Lord will be awesome to them, for He will reduce to nothing all the gods of the earth; people shall worship Him, each one from his place, indeed all the shores of the nations.***

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F. Jesus and Paul exhort us to watch and be sober, lest we be found sleeping or drunk like unbelievers.

**1 Thes. 5:5 You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. 6 Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober. 7 For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. 8 But let us who are of the day be sober...**

1. To be “spiritually drunk” speaks of being intoxicated with the spirit of this age. It numbs and impairs one’s spiritual senses, causing them to be disoriented and completely “out of touch” with reality. It is usually accompanied by being overly confident in their own resilience with a false sense of peace and security (Jer. 6:14; 8:11; Mt. 24:49; Lk. 12:45; 21:34; 1 Thes. 5:3; 2 Pet. 3:3-7; Rev. 17:2; 18:3, 7).

2. To be “spiritually asleep” speaks of remaining under the numbing influence of darkness to the point of willfully shutting their eyes and are therefore caught unaware, unprepared and inactive in kingdom work.

## II. THREE PROPHETIC SEASONS IN GOD’S END-TIME PLAN

A. There is almost a universal belief among *pre-millennial* scholars that natural human history will end with a unique 7-year period of time, as described in the book of Daniel (Dan. 9:24-27). Scripture describes **three distinct prophetic timeframes** related to this final 7-year period of natural human history, which are compared to the “labor pangs” that a woman experiences just prior to the birth of her child (Isa. 13:6-8; Mt. 24:8; 1 Thes. 5:2). This is a prophetic picture of the growing trauma that the earth will endure just prior to Jesus’ return, resulting in a “new world order” being birthed at the Millennium (Isa. 66:8).

**Isa. 66:8 Who has heard such a thing? Who has seen such things? Shall the earth be made to give birth in one day [MK]? Or shall a nation [Israel] be born at once? (Zech. 12:10; 13:1, 6-9; Rom. 11:26-27)**

B. In Matthew 24, when questioned by His closest disciples concerning the end of the age, Jesus describes three distinct timeframes in the **final generation** of natural human history, using language analogous to giving birth. They are the “beginning of birth pangs”, which are the preceding years leading up to the final seven, “increased labor pangs”, which is the first 3½ year period within the final seven, and finally “hard labor pangs”, which are the final 3½ years of natural human history, also called the “**Great Tribulation**”.

**Mt. 24:3 Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples [Peter, James, John, Andrew Mk. 13:3] 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?” (Mk. 13:3-4; Lk. 21:7)**

1. **Beginning of birth pangs**: The first prophetic timeframe is characterized by “increased turmoil” in the nations that is discernible, simultaneous and universal. Jesus gave **18 major trends** to be seen as prophetic “signs” to help the Church prepare for the coming years (Mt. 24:4-8; Mk. 13:5-8, Lk. 21:7-19).

**Mt. 24:4 Jesus said... “Take heed no one deceives you. 5 For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many. 6 And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end [of age] is not yet. 7 Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom [ethnos] against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. 8 All these are the beginning of sorrows [birth pangs]”.**

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2. **Increased labor pangs:** The second prophetic timeframe is characterized by “**great deception and persecution**”, such as the rise of Harlot Babylon, counterfeit world peace (Dan. 9:27), the great falling away (confusion, fear, offense), relational betrayal, increased lawlessness, martyrdom of the saints and Kingdom witness to all nations. During this time the global political, economic, military and religious infrastructures for the Antichrist to infiltrate the nations will be established. This occurs during the first 3½ year period of the final 7-years of natural human history (Mt. 24:9-14; Mk. 13:9-13; 1 Thes. 5:2-3).

***Mt. 24:9 “Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name’s sake. 10 And many will be offended, betray one another and hate one another. 11 Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. 12 And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. 13 But he who endures to the end shall be saved. 14 And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all nations, and then the end will come.”***

3. **Hard labor pangs:** The third prophetic timeframe is initiated by the breaking of a covenant between the Antichrist and “many” in the Middle East, including Israel (Dan. 9:27), and the establishment of the “**Abomination of Desolation**” (Mt. 24:15; 2 Thes. 2:3-4), thus revealing with certainty the true identity of the Antichrist. This occurs at the beginning of the last 3½ year period of the final 7-years of natural human history, called the “**Great Tribulation**” (Jer. 30:5-7; Mt. 24:15-31; Mk 13:14-27, Lk. 21:25-28). It is characterized by the “**fullness**” of creations groan (Rom. 8:22), man’s sin (Dan. 8:23), Satan’s rage (Rev. 12:12) and God’s zeal, displayed in a 7-fold shaking (Hag. 2:6-9) of both wrath (Rev. 15:1) and glory (Acts 2:17-19). It will be greatest time of pressure the world has ever experienced (Mt. 24:21; Dan. 12:1) and “**catalyst**” to transition the earth into the age-to-come, called the Millennium (Isa. 66:8).

***Mt. 24:15 “Therefore when you see the ‘abomination of desolation,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place... 16 then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. 17 Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. 18 And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes... 21 For then there will be GREAT TRIBULATION, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. 22 And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect’s sake those days will be shortened.***

## III. COULD WE BE EXPERIENCING THE BEGINNING OF BIRTH PANGS NOW?

A. The “**beginning of birth pangs**” speaks of the escalating turmoil in the nations that is discernible, simultaneous and universal. Jesus gave **18 global trends** [13 international and 5 within the Church] that are “signs” to help prepare the Church to prevail through the unique dynamics and unprecedented events of the end-times in great victory (Mt. 24:4-8; Mk. 13:5-8, Lk. 21:7-19).

1. Matthew gives eight major trends, Mark adds one and Luke describes nine more. They are false christ’s, national and international warfare, rumors of war, ethnic conflict, economic warfare, famines, pestilences, great earthquakes, troubles, commotions, fearful sights, great heavenly signs, anti-Semitism, persecution of the saints, supernatural proclamation of the Gospel, relational betrayal, martyrdom of the faithful and increased maturity within the Church.

2. When a first time mother begins to experience birth pangs, sometimes because she’s never experienced them before coupled with the fact that it happens so gradually that she may be quite far along before she realizes that what she is actually experiencing is in fact birth pangs.

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B. These **global trends** (Mt. 24:4-8; Mk. 13:5-8, Lk. 21:7-19), combined with **prophetic people** and **sign events**, signal the final generation in which Jesus will return (Rev. 11:15-19)! Therefore, Jesus commands us to prepare by **learning the parable** of the fig tree (Mt. 24:32-35; Mk. 13:28-31; Lk. 21:29-33). Many see the parable of the “fig tree” as Israel becoming a nation in 1948 (Hos. 9:10), however this is about **ALL the signs** happening in the same generation, which necessitates Israel being in the land (Am. 9:15; Mt. 24:15).

**Mt. 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. 33 So you also, when you see all these things [sign trends, people, events], know that it is near—at the doors! 34 Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place [including Jesus’ return and victory].**

1. A woman doesn’t experience “birth pangs” her entire life, but just prior to the birth of the baby. Some see these as occurring for 2000 years, but they require a **simultaneous** and **universal** “acceleration” that is **discernable**, causing the Church to prepare in the decades leading up to the final 7 years. Each trend may have occurred individually for 2000 years, but not as “signs” for 2,000 years. It is the **discernable escalation** of these 18 trends (v. 33), occurring in a **simultaneous** and **universal** way (v. 33) in the **same generation** (v. 34) that gives us confidence that a “**new season**” has begun for the planet (v. 33).

2. My first option is to see this period beginning in **1948** when **Israel became a nation**. My second option is to see it beginning in **1967** when **Israel captured Jerusalem**, bringing it under Israel’s authority.

C. A biblical generation can range from **40 to 100 years** (Gen 15:13-16; Num. 32:13; Ps. 90:10; Mt. 1:17; Acts 7:6). Moses spoke of Israel’s captivity in Egypt as lasting 400 years or four generations, thus **100 years** (Gen. 15:13). Moses also described our days as being **70-80 years** (Ps. 90:10). There were 14 generations from Abraham to David covering 1,000 years, averaging **70 years** (Mt. 1:17). Adding 100 to 1948 = 2048.

## IV. THE WISE SHALL TAKE HEED, WATCH AND PRAY WHILE INSTRUCTING MANY!

A. God has always had those who know Him, having “eyes to see” and “ears to hear”, who understand the prophetic times and seasons in order to give clear direction to the people (1 Chr. 12:32; Dan. 11:33; 12:10).

**1 Chr. 12:32 The sons of Issachar who had understanding of the times to know what Israel ought to do...**

**Dan. 11:32 The people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits. 33 And those of the people who understand shall instruct many... (Dan. 12:10)**

B. Noah was such a man, who knew God, had understanding of the times and was sent by God to give understanding to the people. His **life**, **work** and **message** were to be a “sign” to his generation. Surprisingly, Jesus described the years preceding His return to be like the “days of Noah”, which are an **example of warning** to all generations (Mt. 24:36-44; Lk. 17:26-27, 30).

**Lk. 17:26 And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: 27 They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all... 30 Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed.**

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C. Jesus, Peter and Paul taught that the Day of the Lord activities would come as a **“thief”** upon all those sleeping, causing them to suffer an unnecessary loss that could have been easily avoided had they heeded the warning to **watch** (Mt. 24:42-44; Lk. 12:35-48; 21:34-36; 1 Thes. 5:1-10; 2 Pet. 3:10-12; Rev. 3:3; 16:15). To **“watch”** speaks of being aware (what to look for) and alert (actively looking) and ready to act.

*1 Thes. 5:2 For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night...  
4 But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. (Lk. 21:34-36)*

D. Therefore Jesus commands us to take heed, watch and pray (Mt. 24:36-44; Mk. 13:32-37; Lk. 21:34-36).

*Mk. 13:33 Take heed [Lk. 21:34-36], watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is. 34 It is like a man going to a far country, who left his house and gave authority to his servants, and to each his work, and commanded the doorkeeper to watch. 35 Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming—in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning—  
36 lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping. 37 And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!”*

## V. LEARNING THE MESSAGE OF JOEL – A SIGN OF THE TIMES

A. **Why? What does it mean?** In Joel’s day, he understood that God was ultimately behind the “signs” of Israel’s imminent captivity because of their persistent national disobedience (Joel 1:15; 2:1, 11, 25). The “signs” included a locust plague that created an agricultural crisis (Joel 1:4-7), a drought that created a food and water shortage (Joel 1:8-12, 16-18), a fire that burned up Israel’s reserves (Joel 1:19-20) and finally a military invasion carrying them away to Babylon in three waves – 605 BC, 597 BC, 586 BC (Joel 2:1-11).

B. **What should we do?** The message of Joel is that when God begins to shake a nation (Hag. 2:6-9) there is only one response He is looking for – a wholehearted “turning of the heart” demonstrated through both, individual repentance and corporate sacred assemblies of prayer with fasting (Joel 1:13-14; 2:12-17).

*Joel 2:12 “Now, therefore,” says the LORD, “Turn to Me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning.” 13 So rend your heart, and not your garments; return to the LORD your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness; and He relents from doing harm. 14 Who knows if He will turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind Him...*

*Joel 2:15 Blow the trumpet in Zion, consecrate a fast, call a sacred assembly; <sup>16</sup> gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children and nursing babes... (Joel 1:14)*

C. **What will God do in response to our response?** God’s response to a wholehearted corporate “turning of the heart” is to pour out His Spirit and send revival (Joel 2:28-32), lessening and in some cases totally averting the disaster altogether (Jon. 3).

*Joel 2:28 And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions... 30 And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth... 31 before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD. 32 And... whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved...*

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D. Jesus taught His disciples this pattern and promise after the resurrection (Acts 1:1-14; Acts 2:1-21).

*Acts 1:3 He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.*

E. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Acts 2:2-4; 16-19 is dynamically linked to the corporate gathering of prayer with fasting in Acts 1:12-14; 2:1.

*Acts 1:14 These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.*

*Acts 2:1 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues...*

*Acts 2:16 But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: 17 'And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, that I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions, your old men shall dream dreams... 19 I will show wonders in heaven above and signs in the earth beneath: blood and fire and vapor of smoke. 20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD. 21 And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.'*

F. The divine pattern that was experienced *partially* in the book of Joel (Joel 1:14; 2:12-17; 28-32) was walked out *substantially* in the book of Acts (Acts 1:14; 2:1-4; 2:16-19). However, it will only be *ultimately* experienced by the end-time church, as seen in Revelation with all components fulfilled, including the sun darkened, and moon turning to blood, etc. (Isa. 42:10-13; 62:1, 6-7; Rev. 5:8; 6:9-11, 12-17; 8:3-5; 12:7-12).

## VI. COMMON LIES AGAINST KNOWING THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES

A. *Lie #1*: we cannot understand the “signs of the times” or any end-time Scriptures, because no one can. The truth is that Scriptures on the end-times were simply written to be understood by all. The majority of people throughout history have been uneducated peasants and the bible was written for them.

B. *Lie #2*: some think that understanding the end-times will minimize the work of the Kingdom. The truth is that the wrong view of the end-times will, such as the pre-tribulation rapture theory, which will leave many unprepared (confused, afraid) and possibly offended. Our labors have dynamic continuity with the next age.

C. *Lie #3*: since we are not able to know the “day or hour” of Jesus’ return, we should not try to know the times and seasons or the “signs of the generation” in which Jesus returns. The truth is that Scripture requires those in the generation the Lord returns to know it and prepare accordingly. Jesus (Mt. 24:32-34) and Paul emphasized the know-ability of the prophetic signs for all (Lk. 21:25-29; 1 Thes. 5:1-6; 2 Thes. 2:1-11).

D. *Lie #4*: that every generation believed they were the final one. It’s probably true that a very small number (less than 1%) in each generation believed this. Other than Jesus’ generation, there has only been *one generation* that believed in a universal (majority of God’s people) and sustained way (for decades) that they would see Jesus’ return. Some notable figures of Church history had a temporary emphasis of it in light of a great crisis. There was also Millennial fervor for a short time just before 1,000 AD, but it wasn’t sustained.

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E. *Lie #5*: it will all pan out in the end. Yes it will! However, the question is how well it pan's out for you?

## **VII. TRENDS, EVENTS AND PEOPLE IN THE END-TIMES**

### ***A. Positive Sign People***

1. Prophet Elijah (Mal. 4:5-6)
2. Two Witnesses (Rev. 11:3-6)
3. 144,000 sealed Jewish believers (Rev. 7:1-8; 14:1-5)

### ***B. Negative Sign People***

1. False Christ's (Mt. 24:24; Mk. 13:22)
2. False Prophets (Mt. 24:24; Mk. 13:22)
3. False Teachers (2 Pet. 2:1-22; Jude 4-19)
4. The Ten Kings (Dan. 7:24; Rev. 17:12)
5. The False Prophet (Rev. 13:11-18)
6. The Antichrist (Rev. 13:1-10), called the "Beast" 36 times in the book of Revelation.

C. ***Positive Spiritual Sign Trends and Events*** There are positive spiritual events prophesied in the Scripture that will occur in the generation the Lord returns, as well as, trends that will occur in a unique measure and intensity on a global basis. They are clearly measurable.

1. Gospel Preached to All Nations (Mt. 24:14)
2. Salvation of Israel (Mt. 23:39; Rom. 11:26; Matt. 25; Rev. 12)
3. Bridal Identity (Isa. 62:4-5; Matt. 25:1-13; Rev. 22:17)
4. Global "House of Prayer" Movement (Isa. 62:6-7; Lk. 18:7-8; Rev. 6:9-11; 8:3-5)
5. Global Prophetic Worship Movement (Isa. 42:10-13; Mal. 1:11)
6. Outpouring of the Holy Spirit (Joel 2:28-32; Act 2:17-21; Rev. 12:10)
7. Understanding of End-Time Prophecy (Jer. 23:20; 30:24; Dan. 11:33; 12:10)
8. Focus on the Youth, Fatherless, Orphans and Elderly (Mal. 4:5-6)
9. Emergence of Forerunner Messengers in "spirit of Elijah" (Isa. 40:2-5; Dan. 11:32-35; Mal. 4:5-6)
10. Seals, Trumpets and Bowls (Rev. 6; 8-9; 15-16)
11. Greater Works, great exploits (Dan. 11:32-33; Mt. 16:18-19; Jn. 14:12)
12. Unity in the Church (Jn. 17:20-23; Rev. 22:17)

### ***D. Negative Spiritual Sign Trends & Events***

1. Harlot Babylon Worldwide Religion, both rise and destruction (Rev. 17:2-6)
2. Persecution of the Saints (Matt. 24:9)
3. Great Falling Away (2 Thes. 2:3; 1 Tim. 4:1-2; 2 Tim. 3:1-7; 4:3-5)
4. Increased Lawlessness (Dan. 8:23; Matt. 24:12; Rev. 9:21)
5. Anti-Semitism and hostility (Ezek. 35:1-15; Rev. 12).
6. City of Babylon Rebuilt (Rev. 18)
7. Antichrist suffers mortal head wound (Rev. 13:3, 12, 14; 17:8 [2x], 11)
8. Man of Sin revealed (2 Thes. 2:3-4)
9. Abomination of Desolation (Mt. 24:15)
10. Mark of the Beast (Rev. 13)

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11. False Christ's
12. Wars and Rumors of Wars
13. Ethnic Conflict
14. Economic Warfare
15. Famines
16. Pestilences
17. Great earthquakes
18. Troubles
19. Commotions
20. Fearful sights
21. Great signs from Heaven
22. Ten nation confederation (Dan. 7:24; Rev. 17:12)
23. Satan cast from Heaven (Rev. 12:7-9)
24. Satanic worship movement (Rev. 13:4)
25. Demonic Signs and Wonders (2 Thes. 2:9; Rev. 13:13)

## ***E. Israeli Sign Trends and Events***

1. State of Israel (Dan. 9:24-27)
2. Control of Jerusalem (Dan. 9:24-27)
3. Israeli Defense Force
4. Rebuilt Temple (Mt. 24:15; 2 Thes. 2:4; Rev. 11:1-2; 13:12-18; Dan. 9:26, 27; 11:31; 12:11)
5. Reinstitution of Animal Sacrifices (Dan. 9:24-27)
6. Re-establishing Hebrew Language (Zeph. 3:9)
7. Reinstitution of Sabbath (Mt. 24:15-20)
8. Center of Political Controversy (Zech. 12:1-3; 14:1-3; Lk. 21:20-24)
9. Covenant of Peace made (Dan. 9:27)
10. Covenant of Peace broken (Dan. 9:27)
11. Anti-Semitism, especially Arab/Muslim hostility (Ezek. 35:1-15; Rev. 12).
12. Remnant protected in Wilderness (Rev. 12:14)

## ***F. Global Political Sign Trends and Events***

1. Peace and Safety (1 Thes. 5:3; Dan. 9:27)
2. Prosperity (Luke 17:26-30; Rev. 6:6; 18)
3. Political Unification (Dan. 7:23; Rev. 13:7; 17:17)
4. Military Unification (Dan. 2:41-42; 7:7, 20, 24; 9:26-27; Ez. 38; Rev. 12:3; 13:1; 17:3, 7, 12, 16)
5. Economic Unification (Rev. 6:5-6; 13:14-17)
6. Globalization - finances, commerce, communication, religion, and geopolitics (Rev. 17-18)
7. Increased Travel (Dan. 12:4)
8. Increased Knowledge - Internet fueling immorality and murder (Dan. 12:4; Rev. 9:21)
9. Increased Technology - Instant communication (Rev. 11:9; 13:13-18)
10. Changing of times and law (Dan. 7:25)