

The End Times Sign of Wars

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By [Nathan Jones](#)

Vic: Our topic for today will be that of the wars found in Matthew 24 verses 6-7. Nathan, we've been talking about these incredible signs of the times found in Matthew 24 and I wanted to ask you if you could give a quick recap of verses 1-5 just in case someone may have missed our discussion in the previous program. So I'll start out reading them and then would you explain them to our listeners?

Nathan: Whatever you'd like sir.

Vic: Great. Matthew 24:1 says, "Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple and His disciples came to show Him the building of the temple and Jesus said to them, "Do you not see all these things?" Assuredly I say unto you, not one stone shall be left upon another that shall not be thrown down." And then as He sat on the Mount of Olives we read in Matthew 24:3, "The disciples came to Him privately saying, "Tell us, when will these things be and what will be the sign of your coming and the end of the age?" "And Jesus answered and said unto them," "Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in my name saying, "I am the Christ" and will deceive many." So Nathan, would you explain the significance of these verses?

Nathan: Certainly, Pastor Vic. Jesus and the apostles are there at the temple and what you have to remember is the temple was the religious heart of Judaism. It was the most magnificent building ever created in Israel's history and people would come from all over to Jerusalem to make their sacrifices for their sins and be near God so to speak. Because God lived in what was called the Holy of Holies, the inner room within the temple.

The disciples believed that the temple was absolutely the most magnificent building ever made and they were just in awe of it. Something to remember to is these were just poor fisherman who weren't accustomed to such things so seeing the temple just amazed them. And then while they're sitting there all the sudden Jesus says, "You see this building? There won't be one stone left upon another. This whole thing will be destroyed."

Vic: Wow! I can just imagine how shocked they were.

Nathan: Yes, you can imagine the apostles just sitting there stunned. As a matter of fact, we read that it wasn't till they got across to the Mount of Olives that they even dared asked Him what this was all about. And they asked Jesus three different questions. One, they wanted to know when the temple would fall. And we know historically this prophecy was fulfilled in 70 A.D. when the Romans came and destroyed Jerusalem and the temple and scattered the Jews to the four corners of the earth. And then the second question they asked Him was what would be the signs of the end of the age. You have to remember that the Jews didn't understand the Church Age at that time, but we know the "end of the age" ends when Jesus comes and raptures all

who believe in Him as Savior up to heaven. So the question, "What will the signs be?" shows the end of the age, the Church Age. The third question they ask is, "What will be the sign of Jesus's coming?" Not only the Rapture, but after the Rapture the earth will experience the worst time in human history. Seven years of 21 judgments that befall the earth and almost destroy the earth and decimate the population. But at the end of it, Jesus returns with us who were raptured and He defeats Satan and the Antichrist and false prophet. Jesus destroys evil and sets up His kingdom on this earth for a thousand years.

So the disciples wanted to know three things, when will the temple fall, what will be the sign of the end of the age and what will be the sign of Jesus's coming. And throughout the rest of Matthew 24, and also in Luke 21 and Mark 13, Jesus answers those questions with ten signs of the end times that will point to His soon return.

Vic: Nathan, that is just incredible. Another sign found in verses 4-5 is that of deception, right? It says that many deceivers will come claiming to be the Christ. We dove into this one previously and probably stepped on some peoples toes speaking about the false prophets and prophetesses of today including Oprah and the likes. Can you briefly recap that for us?

Nathan: In Matthew 24 there are three specific verses where Jesus warns that false Christs, false teachers and false prophets would be a very prolific sign of the end times. There were definitely false prophets in Jesus' time up till the fall of the temple. There was Judas the Galilean which we read about in Acts 5:37, Sadus in Acts 5:36 and an unnamed Egyptian Jew in Acts 21. Each of them were false teachers and false Messiahs of their time period. Now as we are nearing the end of the Church Age we see that there are over 500 cults today just in the United States alone.

Vic: Amazing.

Nathan: There are the Mormons, Jehovah's witnesses, Jim Jones of the People's Temple Church and one that's in the news alot today and really popular is José Luis de Jesús. This man claims he's Jesus and all of his followers have 666 tattooed on them.

There are many false prophets and false teachers today trying to get everybody confused about what God's word really says about the future. And that's why we see so many false Messiah's and false teachers today, but during the Tribulation there will only be two. There will only be the Antichrist who will be the one world ruler and also his PR man, his false prophet. And those two will be the ultimate in false teachers and the Antichrist will claim that he is God and he will be possessed by Satan and which is how Satan will get the global worship he has always wanted.

Vic: Amazing. Nathan, would you take us a little bit further there to verses 6-8 in Matthew chapter 24 and speak to us regarding this incredible sign we're going to read about because we have wars everywhere. We have wars, rumors of wars, future biblical wars, tribulation wars and Millennial wars. There's so many, but maybe you can quickly go through give us some insight into them?

Nathan: Sure. The first sign like we said, was false teachers and false messiahs and that's what we're seeing so much of today. But another sign of the end times that we're seeing that's just as frightening is found in verses 6, 7 and 8, "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 is not yet. For nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom, there will be famines, pestilence and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginnings of sorrows."

Now the famines, the pestilence and the earthquakes are other signs in the list of ten that Jesus gave, but for this discussion let's focus on the wars and how Jesus says these are the beginnings of sorrows, not the end of sorrows, unfortunately. In other words, as we get to the end times Jesus says we will hear more and more about wars and rumors of wars.

Vic: Looking at the opening verses it says, "You will hear of wars and rumors of wars," that's happening right now. We keep hearing, "It's the end of the world. Who's going to press the red button?"

Nathan: That's right. Now I know we've always had war. Human history is soaked in blood, but when it comes to these end times signs and when you look at prophecy there's a near view and a far view so to speak. Jesus compared it to labor pains. I didn't go through labor, but I watched my wife do it three different times and when she started there was some discomfort. There were some contractions and all that and it wasn't bad, you know we could get to the hospital on time and all. But as the baby came closer her contractions got more frequent and more intense and more painful the closer and closer the baby came. And Bible prophecy is just like that. Jesus said that closer we get to His return, the more frequent and the more intense and the more painful the signs of the end times will be. So even though we've had wars throughout history as we get closer to Jesus return it will get more frequent and more intense and more painful the closer to His coming.

Vic: That's exactly why we see this increase in wars lately, right? Just look at the Middle East and all these different groups that are rising up and a lot of that has to do with these signs. Not only that, but these wars seem to be getting more intense as time goes on, right?

Nathan: Right. Now the time period of the Jews before the temple was destroyed they were under the yolk of the Romans. The Roman Empire had conquered the known world at the time and the Jews were just a regent area. As a matter of fact King Herod and his sons were kings, but they were just regent kings, they weren't the ultimate, which was Caesar. And the Jews hated living under the Romans and they were constantly having revolts and trying to overthrow the Romans. And that's why the Romans finally destroyed Jerusalem and the temple in 70 A.D. They were tired of the Jews constantly revolting against them, so they thought what better way to get rid of them than to destroy their capital and to disperse the people. That way they couldn't organize themselves once they were dispersed and the Jews remained that way for almost 1900 years, until 1948. And so they knew about wars and rumors of wars because the Roman war machine never stopped moving, it was constantly at war with one group or another. Now there were wars before the fall of the temple, but to answer the second question, what would be the signs of the ends of this age, the signs of Jesus coming to rapture His church out of this earth and for the Tribulation to begin then we'd have wars and rumors of wars this time too and man, they have gotten more frequent and more intense just in the last century alone.

Vic: Excellent point. A lot of people don't understand that when we talk about wars we're not talking about all these major wars such as World War I and World War II that we experienced,

but you mentioned something to us before that something like 35 wars are happening right now?

Nathan: Actually, there are 38, but some come and some go. Operation Protective Edge with Israel against Hamas has wound down to a temporary cease fire and of course ISIS is now marching through Iraq and slaughtering everybody in their path. Also, we're not sure yet if we can officially call Russia invading the Ukraine a war yet, but if you want to talk about wars and skirmishes there are 38 going on just in the world today. Now back in the 20th century, Margaret Drabble; a British novelist, called the 20th century a beastly century and the reason was the amount of wars and genocide that happened. Pastor Vic, can you guess how many millions of people died from wars in the 20th century?

Vic: Oh Nathan, I want to say that's a big number and I know I'm probably going to get it wrong, but I want to say something like 5 million?

Nathan: Wow! My guess was a lot higher. Would you believe 160-187 million people were killed?

Vic: Are you serious? Wow!

Nathan: Seriously. In the book Wars and Genocides of the 20th Century by Piero Scaruffi, he writes that, when you collect all the numbers of the wars during the 20th century, it's about 160-187 million people killed in war. Now that's a bigger number than the amount of people that lived during Jesus'. As a matter a fact, about 20 million people were killed in World War I. And in the Soviet Revolution of 1917 - 1921, five million people were killed. And when Stalin purged his own people in 1936 - 1937, 13 million people were killed. And in World War II 55 million people were killed and when Moa took over China in 68 - 61, 38 million people were killed. We lost three million people in the Vietnam war and in the second USA war the Iraq war, 160 thousand. So when you add up all the wars that happened around the world and those are ones that the United States wasn't even involved in, about 160 - 187 million people died. Now you think the United States is about 350 million people. So it's equivalent to killing half of the American population today, just in the 20th century alone.

Vic: These are staggering numbers and we hope that people will recognize that these are some incredible signs and when we talk about wars and rumors of wars they are not to just easily be set aside. This is really happening today. Now that you're used to quizzing me I'll have to prepare myself a little better.

Nathan: I'm sorry man. I don't mean to put you on the spot, but I think by asking you that, it will show the significance of the situation. It's sobering to realize that humanity left without God's restraining hand will result in us killing ourselves. And humanity does almost kill itself off we read that when time of Tribulation comes the Bible says that the restrainer - the Holy Spirit's work through the church will be removed off this planet when the church is raptured up to Heaven. So if God has been holding back all these wars to the point where only 187 million people died, what's it going to be like during the Tribulation when God's restraining hand is totally taken off of humanity?

Vic: That's a scary thing to think about. And the Bible tells us about wars that are coming soon, like the Psalm 83 war and the Ezekiel 38 and 39 war, right?

Nathan: Yes. There are actually 9 end time wars that the Bible speaks about. Seven of them deal directly with the Tribulation. There are quite a number and I can go through them, but hold onto your seat because it's some frightening stuff that's coming upon this world.

Vic: Yea, this is a very extensive topic and if you would share with us regarding some of those wars, I think that would really help people understand what we're referring to when we talk about these signs of the end times.

Nathan: Sure. Part of understanding these end time wars is that the wars and rumors of wars will come more frequently and more intensely and more painfully the closer we get to Jesus's return. As a matter of fact when the Bible says that nation will rise against nation, the word nation is really means ethnic. It's saying, "ethnic group will rise up against ethnic group," so it doesn't mean it has to be the United States vs Iran or Israel vs Lebanon or anything like that. It could also mean races against races. I don't know about you, but for the great American melting pot in our generation we're color blind. All the sudden everybody's upset about each other's race. When did that happen? I thought we dropped the whole racism thing. But now all the sudden it's back and not just in our country. You have the Iraq's against the Kurd's and of course everybody against Israel. It's like all the sudden races just can't get along anymore. It's like someone dumped itching powder on us all and we're getting real itchy with each other and angry and if you really stop and think you can see that it's all part of the process of getting the world down to the end time wars so that God can bring His judgment on humanity for the evil they've done. Vic: Yes. Nathan, you made a good point and I have a news article here talking about this group Boko Haram where they beheaded a six year old Christian boy, as a group reports. And this is all part of these smaller internal wars, right? That are waging in our own time.

Lamb & Lion Ministries supports a ministry led there by Standfast. Now he is a pastor in northern Nigeria and Boko Haram is a radical Islamic group that is trying to like every radical Islamic group, conquer the land for Allah. And Boko Haram wants Nigeria which used to be primarily a Christians nation, to wipe out all the Christians and send them south. And they first had claimed northern Nigeria as their own and now they want to take all of Nigeria. They are blood thirsty monsters just like ISIS. Constantly, truckloads of Boko Haram come in and shoot up the place and they use machetes to kill the church members. One of the church members had their hand chopped off while he was protecting his head. And they'll take the kids and throw them down wells. Many of the Christians are hiding out in the woods.

You hear about how Boko Haram comes and steals all the teenage girls and they march them off and force them marry their own people. Just last week Stand Fast's village was burned to the ground. His library, relief efforts, everything is gone. They're are now living in a tent in a refugee camp. This is what Christians are constantly dealing with around the world and it's because Satan hates Christians and he hates the Jews and he hates God's work through us and wants us all destroyed.

We read that during the Tribulation there will be much persecution of believers in Christ. Now it won't be us because we will have been raptured off this planet before God's wrath comes to this earth and those wars begin, but it will be a terrible time for those who are left.

Vic: And, Nathan, we pray that anyone who is tuned in will also be in prayer for these people who are being persecuted for their faith. We know that Satan is deliberately going after these believers. You made a great point regarding the signs comparing them to labor pains. Just like when a woman before she gives labor we see that these things are going to intensify, as a matter of fact we have someone in our ministry here that's actually going to give labor at any moment so if I run out in the middle of the program that means I have to go to the hospital.

Nathan: Okay. That's fine, I'll just keep talking.

Vic: But the idea like you mentioned these are incredible times and things are just going to intensify even more. And I wanted to see if you could take us at least through this first segment and hopefully we'll cover more in the second segment of our program. So were going to have general wars in our time and they're going to escalate to some other wars that are going to lead through the time of the Tribulation and the end times. So for us living now in 2014 - 2015, what else might we expect as far as wars as things continue to escalate?

Nathan: Like you said, things will continue to escalate. It's like the world is shattering and falling apart and that's necessary because the world will get to a point where it will cry out for a one world ruler to stop all the chaos. The world has to get on the brink of its own destruction before it'll turn to someone to lead them. Now they should naturally turn to Jesus Christ, but no, they will turn to a man that Daniel says will rise out of Europe, the European Union and he will supposedly put an end to all the world wars.

Another sign will be an economic collapse and so the whole world will turn to this one world ruler. So like you said it will get more frequent and more intense, the weather disasters, the wars and rumors of wars, the economic chaos, the social chaos and it'll continue to build and build to just like before Jesus comes to rapture the church off and then the earth will just be let loose. Mankind's inhibitions will be let loose and those wars that we'll talk about in the second segment during the Tribulation will be the worst time in human history. But for believers in Christ now we can be sure that if we put our faith and trust in Jesus Christ now that even though the storms rage around us, we can trust that Jesus will protect us and guide us and love us and give us a future past this life to be with Him forever.

Vic: Excellent! Thank you, Nathan, for those wonderful words of encouragement. And of course Nathan, our time goes quickly in our first segment and we pray that those who are tuned in will stay tuned into the second segment of our program as we continue looking at these incredible passages in Matthew chapter 24 verses 6 and 7.

Part 2

Vic: Our topic today for the second segment of our program is wars and rumors of wars found in Matthew 24:6-7. We read how Jesus talks about the signs of the times and He says, "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 is not yet. For nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom and there will be famines and pestilence and earthquakes in various places." Nathan, I'm so excited about this second segment of our program because in the first segment you did an incredible job showing us these incredible signs of the times before the Lord returns. And you mentioned to us that they compare to labor pains. Can you explain why that is?

Nathan: Sure. It's kind of hard to make a comparison for us guys who haven't gone through labor, but for those of us husbands who have watched our wives go through it and God bless them, we can understand the comparison. Jesus compares the end time signs to a woman going in labor and to birth pain. You know when a woman goes into labor its uncomfortable and contractions are far apart and infrequent, but the closer it comes to the baby coming the more frequent and the more intense and the more painful the labor pains get, until eventually the baby comes. So when the apostles were asking Jesus when would the temple fall, and what were the signs of the end of the age and what are the signs before your second coming, Jesus was able to tell them that the end time signs would grow more frequent and more intense over history.

Now there were certainly signs of the end times that Jesus gave us and ten of them can be found in Matthew 24, Luke 21 and Mark 13. The first one is that there will be a proliferation of false prophets and false messiahs in the end times. There are 500 cults in the United States today. We've got more false teaching, false doctrines than ever before. The second sign, He said, was that there would be a proliferation of wars and that the wars would come more frequently and more intensely and more painfully and in the 20th century alone we talked about how 160-187 million people have died in recent wars. More people died in wars during the 20th century than all the wars before. So we are definitely getting more frequent and more intense and more painful wars before Jesus comes to rapture His church and take them up to Heaven.

Vic: Amen. And also because of modern technology now our capabilities are even greater. I know you created an awesome video about wars and I thought it was just exceptional. Can you tell people about all the resources they can find on your site?

Nathan: Sure. Just go to lamblion.com. That's our website for Lamb & Lion Ministries. There you'll find tons of information about Bible prophecy, articles, our television show Christ In Prophecy, our short 1 minute Bible prophecy insights videos and we also have a Facebook group and other social networks and if you need a daily dose of Bible Prophecy check out our blog at lamblion.us.

Vic: Amazing! And as we mentioned before as modern technology continues to develop we see the possibility for even greater destructive wars and more of them. And Nathan, I had a question about something found in Matthew 24:6, it appears to me that there seems to be a word of encouragement in the middle of everything because it says, "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 is not yet."

Nathan: Well, I don't know if I'd call that encouraging or not. Maybe if you're a Christian living in Iraq or Nigeria or North Korea right now and you're fleeing for your life as the government tries to destroy you it might be. You know it's kind of hard to say be not troubled about this, but obviously the Lord isn't refereeing to, "oh don't worry about it," obviously we have to worry about

it, but be not troubled for eternal sake because God is in control and that's what Jesus is saying here. We're seeing the world shake and shimmy. You know when you've got an engine that's not firing on all cylinders how it shakes and smokes and you're worried that the engines going to explode, but just not yet. And that's what Jesus is saying here. You know the world looks like it's is on the brink of self-destruction here but it's not self-destruction yet. It's going to get close to that which we'll talk about more in the Tribulation, but don't be worried that you're looking at the end of the world right now. It's just the beginnings of the end of the world and we have to trust that Jesus will take care of us and protect us even unto death. Because many Christians are dying right now at the hands of Muslims and they will be going to Heaven and we have to get our hope and encouragement in that.

Vic: Excellent clarification, Nathan! I really believe that is so right on. Our eternal security is found on a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. And that's an encouragement even for right now. Anyone who's listening to this program. All these things are going to come to pass, but they don't have to freak you out if they know Jesus personally.

Nathan: I just wonder why when you see the world falling apart like it is and I guess for us Americans it's a little harder because we do live in a time of peace and prosperity, why is that we turn to ourselves or the government or something else to give us hope and encouragement. It's a false sense, it's a false hope. What man by themselves or what government can stop the wars around them? It seems like the governments are incapable of stopping wars. The UN has been around for like 67 years and they can't stop the wars around the world. You can't depend on man, but you can depend on God. And you know what? I'm going to skip to the end; when Jesus returns at the Second Coming He defeats evil, He ends human government and sets up His kind of kingdom for 1000 years. Peace, righteousness and justice will be the way the world will be during that 1000 year kingdom. So it's to Jesus we need to turn our faith and our trust to because He's the only one who can bring peace to this world.

Vic: That's amazing. And Nathan, that's a great point. It's sad because so many people today are looking for peace in all the wrong places. In a bottle or drugs, but the reality is that the only thing that's going to fill that void is Jesus Christ and His Holy Spirit.

Nathan: Exactly, only Jesus Christ. I mean He's not called the prince of peace for nothing. When we pray for the peace of Jerusalem we're not praying for the Netanyahu government to get things in order, it's about Jesus returning to defeat evil and set up His kingdom.

We have thought ever since Adam and Eve, that we can rule the world by ourselves and we don't need God and we can do it ourselves. But that's like letting a toddler drive a car. They just can't do it and we can't do it either. We have failed. Nations might last, empires might last a few hundred years at the most, but that's about it. They fall apart. We're seeing America fall apart at the seams morally and politically and we as humans cannot do anything about that, but we can trust that God is in control and He's bringing all of human history to that point where the world is in such dire straits that they have to call out for Jesus Christ to save them.

Vic: Nathan, that's an excellent point and I believe to anyone that is tuned into the program that when they hear about more developing wars and rumors of wars whether it's North Korea,

Nuclear weapons or whatever, it really should be a sign that they need to recognize that this is an urgent call for individuals to turn to Christ now while there's still time, right?

Nathan: Yes. Jesus says that when He returns, the answer to that second question the apostles asked, "When is the end of the age?" The end of the age is the rapture of the church. You can read about that in 1 Corinthians 15 and 1 Thessalonians 4, that Jesus will come down from the clouds, He'll call those who have accepted Him as Savior, we will be raptured, taken up to be with Him into Heaven and the world will be then left to face the 21 judgments that God's going to unleash upon the world.

Jesus says He's coming like a thief. Now I don't know about you, but a thief doesn't call your house and fill you in for 3 AM on Monday. He just shows up and you're like, ahhh! You're surprised. In the same way the Bible says people will be given in marriage, they'll be trading and selling and living normal lives - He could even come back right this second! And all the sudden the trumpet will sound, the Archangel will call up those who believe in Jesus as Savior and we will be raptured off this planet. So it could happen at any time and we need to make sure that our minds and our hearts are prepared for Jesus's return by surrendering our lives to Jesus Christ.

Vic: Wow! That's so true. Thank you, Nathan. Now as things move forward in terms of Bible prophecy there are a few other wars that are going to develop that are going to lead possibly into the end times. First the Psalm 83 war. Can you talk to us about that? As well as the Ezekiel 38 and 39 war?

Nathan: Certainly. Well there are seven end time wars that directly relate to the Tribulation that happen on this earth. Not counting where Satan tries one last time to overthrow God in Heaven and God casts him out finally and totally and that is a war in the heavens that happens in the middle of the seven year tribulation. But there are seven wars that are coming to this earth that the Bible prophesies about.

The first one we can read about in Psalm 83 and we call it the war of extermination. The war of extermination is where the nations surrounding Israel, now that is Syria and Jordan and Gaza and Egypt, will try one more time to defeat Israel. Now they have tried numerous times since Israel became a nation in 1948, but finally Israel's going to have to deal with them once and for all. Kind of like Gaza, they're not going to stop and let Hamas keep fooling around. They will finally have to subjugate the nations around them because the nations around them want to destroy them. So Israel will actually grow into a super power at that time and conquer the nations around them. We read in Zachariah 12:6 that Israel will be a fire pot among pieces of wood and a flaming torch among sheaves so they will consume on the right hand and on the left all the surrounding peoples. So we know that Israel at some point becomes tired of being bullied and pushed around by the nations around them and they will subjugate them at some point.

Vic: Nathan, that is a great point that you made. God is really doing some incredible things with such a small nation.

Nathan: Israel's really only the size of New Jersey. Their a population of about 6 million Jews and the Bible says in Zachariah 12 and 14 that Israel and who controls Jerusalem will be the

center of world attention. And you know we've been talking about all these wars and rumors of wars and yet the world always seems focused on Israel. Israel can't do anything without world condemnation. And people wonder, will Israel last? Well Amos 9:15 tells us, "They will not again be rooted out of their land."

Vic: Amen.

Nathan: God brought them back and it's one of the greatest events in history. A nation coming back from the dead after 1900 years just like Ezekiel 37 said and Israel will be in the land permanently forever going forward. Now the Antichrist will drive part of them out during the middle of the Tribulation, but overall Israel is not going anywhere.

Vic: That's right. And it was proved back in 1967 in the Six Day War?

Nathan: Yes. They drove Jordan out of eastern Jerusalem and they took different lands that were promised them by the UN, but then the UN backtracked and gave over the Jordan. Jordan was always meant to be the Palestinian State and those who are actually Palestinians who are in Israel were invaders and who were promised that once the nations of Israel conquered Israel then they could move in and just take the Jews land. Unfortunately, what they didn't expect was that a bunch of Kibbutz workers would push back their mighty armies thanks to the Lord and the Palestinians were left there and their countries wouldn't take them back. They then formed refugee camps and now the Islamic world uses the Palestinians as a PR tool against the Jews. But that won't last forever because as we said the War of Extermination as the neighbors around Israel try to destroy them one last time and Israel finally has to get up and defeat them. That war could happen just before the Tribulation or it could happen during the Tribulation we're not quite sure. There are certain wars that are definitely given to us during the Tribulation, but the War of Extermination could happen before the Rapture or it could happen after the Rapture, but it will happen.

Vic: Absolutely. We will also have the Gog and Magog war spoken of in Ezekiel 38 and 39 and I'm not sure of the sequence that you have, but can you talk to us a little further about this war?

Nathan: There is no other end time war in the Bible, not even Armageddon, that's explained in more detail than the the Gog and Magog war found in Ezekiel 38 and 39. This is a war where if you look up the nations and compare them to today, you see it talking about Russia and how they lead a coalition of Islamic countries; Iran, Turkey, Libya and all those "stan" countries to come against Israel. Now you got to wonder why all these nations would want to destroy Israel. I mean we're talking about the might of Russia against little Israel, but it's because they want to plunder them for spoil. Israel will become richer and richer as it grows, they will have the oils of the world and the natural gas lines in the Mediterranean. And Gog which I assume is the name of the demon that rules this war, comes down from Russia against Israel.

Now the nations surrounding Israel are missing so we know that Israel has already defeated them and this horde this mighty horde of enemies will come upon Israel like a storm on the horizon and Israel will be absolutely overwhelmed. They cannot stand against the might of Russia and all these other nations, but this is where God steps into human history again. Literally, like the Old Testament, fire, brimstone and earthquakes fall on them and the armies

even start turning on each other and start attacking each other and God destroys those armies and it says that God sends fire to their nations.

So we're looking at a future where Russia, Iran and Turkey and all those other nations won't even be a player in world politics because God destroys them in the Gog and Magog battle. So Israel will stand there amazed that God has stepped into history and it says that they will give up their humanism and turn to God. Now they haven't accepted Jesus yet during that time and the remaining Jews of the planet will finally go back to Israel. They'll feel that it's safe in Israel, likely the Antichrist will make a peace treaty with them guaranteeing seven years of peace that nobody can attack Israel because God protects them. Pastor Vic, you live in a highly Jewish area. Calvary Chapel, Aventura is a predominantly Jewish area, right?

Vic: Very Jewish. I think I'm the only Dominican in the area.

Nathan: Well, man, you will be the only one living in that area because after the Gog and Magog battle it says all the Jews of the world go back to Israel. America, half the world's Jews live here in the United States. They will leave the United States because they will feel this need to return to Israel and all the Jews of the world will regather back into Israel after the Gog and Magog battle.

Vic: That's amazing. Truly amazing. And Nathan, this is just incredible information for anyone that is tuned in. Hopefully they are writing these things down or taking notes because all this is going to develop according to what the Bible says, exactly like the it says. Revelation 6 talks about the wars and then also in Revelation chapters 14 and 19 it says that the Lord is the one who is going to put an end to all this.

Nathan: Right. Because the world is in for the worst time in human history. Revelation 6 talks about the conventional war of the Tribulation. This is the Antichrist as he marches across the planet conquering it. And it says a quarter of the world's population will die. Brother, that is 1 ½ billion people in today's numbers.

Vic: Wow!

Nathan: Just picture almost 2 billion people dying. This war will ravage the earth, it'll be like World War III. Then it'll be followed by a nuclear war talked about in Revelation 8 and 9. Man, we have not been building up all these stores of nuclear bombs just to let them sit there.

Vic: That's right.

Nathan: God has been holding it back to protect us from ourselves. And we read that as the world is destroyed by nuclear war another third of the world's population dies. That's 1 ½ billion people. So by the middle of the Tribulation because of all this world war, half the world's population will be destroyed. It'll make the 20th century seem like a school yard brawl.

Vic: 160 something million compared to billions is just astounding.

Nathan: God's restraining hand is off the earth and that leads man to do what they wish. And Satan is also free to do as he wishes and he wants to steal, kill and destroy. Now the Antichrist wants to be worshiped and he will set himself up to be worshiped in the Jewish temple. He'll

break the peace treaty half way through the Tribulation and then he will spend the rest of the Tribulation obsessed with killing those who have accepted Jesus as Savior during the Tribulation. We'll call them the Tribulation Saints to differentiate them from the church today. And the Jews, as a matter of fact he will kill two thirds of the Jews around the planet and so many of those believers in Christ during that time that it says the numbers are uncountable. It'll be an obsession of his to kill Jews and Christians and that's what the fifth war is, a war against the Jews and the Saints.

Vic: Sadly, there are still more wars to come, right?

Nathan: Yes, there's still three more to go. The Antichrist's empire starts falling apart because he is so focused on killing the Christians and Jews that he is not really paying attention to the other nations and that's when the the kings of the east and China and Japan and all those see an opportunity to rebel. So the Antichrist in Daniel 11 has to deal with a civil war in his kingdom and so he spends a lot of time fighting his own people, but something up in the north bothers him. He knows that Jesus is coming back exactly at the end of the seven years of Tribulation so he gets up to the valley of Jezreel in Israel and that's where we read about the battle of Armageddon.

Joel 3, Zachariah 14 and Revelation 19 say that the world's armies are engaged in battle there, but then Jesus comes, He returns with us. Man, you and I will be riding there with Him. We will see Jesus return, but we won't be engaged in battle it'll be all Jesus. Jesus destroys those armies just by speaking a supernatural word. He's got that much power. He defeats the Antichrist and the false prophet and sends them to Hell. He sends Satan into a deep pit for a thousand years and the Jesus sets up His kingdom of peace, righteousness and justice for a thousand years. However, there's still one last war at the end of that.

Vic: That is wild! Nathan, could you give us a sneak peak of that one?

Nathan: Sure. At the end of the thousand years, Satan will be released and all the people who populate the millennial kingdom which are people who accepted Jesus as Savior and they have children during the millennial kingdom. Well those children still have to accept Jesus or not. And Satan's released as a rallying point and sadly many of them turn to him. They want to overthrow Jesus, they want to live by the flesh and not by the spirit and they will march upon Jerusalem where Jesus has His capital and they will try to destroy Jesus one last time. But again, Jesus just by speaking burns them up and sends Satan to Hell and that's the very last war which is called the Second Gog and Magog Battle. That's it. War no more. God sets up His great White Throne Judgment and those who have rejected Him throughout history are sent to Hell and those who have accepted Jesus as Savior live on with Him throughout eternity in the city called the New Jerusalem on a new revived earth.

Vic: Wow! And we say hallelujah and amen to that.

Nathan: Hallelujah!

Vic: What incredible prophesies. You know someone tuned into the program when we first opened up talking about wars and rumors of wars are probably just thinking maybe one or two, but they probably have no idea this is what's going to develop, right?

Nathan: Yes. I mean we're talking about 9 end time wars that the Bible tells us about. And those wars are coming soon.

Vic: Incredible! I hope we have given all our listeners a better understanding now of Bible prophecy, Eschatology and the things that are to come. And really the point of sharing all of this is not to scare people, but to show people the seriousness of this and to warn them to turn to Christ now while there's still time. Because really all this is in a future time, but those of us who have placed our trust in the Lord will not see any of this, right, Nathan?

Nathan: Correct. Just like Matthew 24:6 said, "Jesus said see that you are not troubled." In other words we know that the world is raging around us and falling apart and death is at every corner, but if we put our hope and faith in Jesus Christ we know we have eternal life with Him. And that is a fantastic hope and it helps us stay sane in a world that's gone crazy.

Vic: Nathan, I always like to end our program by giving an invitation to anyone tuned in so they will have an opportunity to come to the feet of Jesus and maybe you can do that for us. Would you lead us in prayer and show them how they can come to know the Lord?

Nathan: I'd be happy too. Jesus Christ loves you. God sent His one and only Son to die in your place. We are condemned because of our sin, our rebellion against God. So Jesus sacrificed himself, He's perfect and pure. The perfect for the imperfect died for us. And if we accept Jesus as our Savior, if we pray in our heart, Dear Jesus please forgive us of our sins. Be our Savior and He promises us to forgive us of our sins. His death has taken our place so that we don't face judgment in Hell. And He promises to give us eternal life and forgive us of our sins and cleanse us of our guilt and we'll get to. The promise is He says the church doesn't have to experience the wrath of God. We will be taken up to Heaven in the Rapture. We will not see these wars of the Tribulation.

Vic: Praise the Lord. Nathan, it's always a pleasure to have you on the program and always an incredible blessing when you're able to share the good news of Jesus Christ with those tuned in and we pray also for those tuned into the program that you would recognize that God loves you and He has a wonderful plan for your life. Nathan, thank you so much for being part of this segment and thank you for the wonderful insights into the wars and rumors of wars that are coming.

Nathan: Praise the Lord. Thank you, Pastor Vic.

End of Program