

NEW TESTAMENT PROPHECY

Robert C. Newman

Cities of Galilee

Matthew 11:20-24 (NIV) *Then Jesus began to denounce the cities in which most of his miracles had been performed, because they did not repent. 21 "Woe to you, Korazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! If the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. 22 But I tell you, it will be more bearable for Tyre and Sidon on the day of judgment than for you. 23 And you, Capernaum, will you be lifted up to the skies? No, you will go down to the depths. {[23] Greek Hades}If the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Sodom, it would have remained to this day. 24 But I tell you that it will be more bearable for Sodom on the day of judgment than for you."*

Jesus pronounces curse upon Chorazin, Bethsaida and Capernaum for not repenting at miracles he worked there.

These cities destroyed during Arab period; none survive today; locations lost for centuries, Bethsaida still lost [when talk given; has since then been found]; ruins of Capernaum and Chorazin popular tourist attraction today

Jerusalem

Luke 21:20-24 (NIV) *When you see Jerusalem being surrounded by armies, you will know that its desolation is near. 21 Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those in the city get out, and let those in the country not enter the city. 22 For this is the time of punishment in fulfillment of all that has been written. 23 How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers! There will be great distress in the land and wrath against this people. 24 They will fall by the sword and will be taken as prisoners to all the nations. Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.*

Jesus warns Christians to flee Jerusalem when surrounded by armies; it will fall, people led away captive; city trodden down by Gentiles until time of Gentiles is over. First part exactly fulfilled in AD 70, so liberal theologians claim it was written later. But Jerusalem continued to exist as city, trodden down by Gentiles, for centuries until Jews regained control in 1967.

The Temple

Matthew 24:1-2 (NIV) *Jesus left the temple and was walking away when his disciples came up to him to call his attention to its buildings. 2 "Do you see all these things?" he asked. "I tell you the truth, not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down."*

Not one stone to be left upon another.

Both Paul (2 Thess 2:4) and Jesus (Matt 24:15) imply temple rebuilt when Antichrist appears.

Temple destroyed by Romans in AD 70 under Titus, though he is alleged to have tried to stop its destruction.

Julian the Apostate tried to have temple rebuilt to thwart Jesus' prediction, but project abandoned due to strange phenomena which prevented work.

Second Coming

Frequently denied by liberal theologians since Jesus did not return in 1st century AD. Yet 2 Peter 3:2-7 predicts just this sort of scoffing about Jesus' return.

2 Peter 3:2-7 (NIV) I want you to recall the words spoken in the past by the holy prophets and the command given by our Lord and Savior through your apostles. 3 First of all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. 4 They will say, "Where is this `coming' he promised? Ever since our fathers died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation." 5 But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and by water. 6 By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. 7 By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.

Last Days Characterized

2 Timothy 3:1-7 (NIV) But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. 2 People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, 3 without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, 4 treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God-- 5 having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with them. 6 They are the kind who worm their way into homes and gain control over weak-willed women, who are loaded down with sins and are swayed by all kinds of evil desires, 7 always learning but never able to acknowledge the truth.

Men will be lovers of self & money, proud, rebellious, ungrateful, unholy, unloving, brutal, haters of good, treacherous, reckless, lovers of pleasure rather than God, holding to form of godliness but denying its power.

Our [20th] century characterized by luxury, war, totalitarianism, crime, immorality, lawsuits, rebellion, divorce, dishonest businesses, general (and unprecedented) collapse of moral standards due to rise of "scientific" atheism.

Conclusions

These not just lucky guesses or selection to avoid Bible's misses; we need to read Bible to see for ourselves.

We need to turn away from our lifestyle of ignoring God, and cast ourselves upon his mercy; he can forgive us because of what Jesus did in dying to pay for our sins.