

**Summer Series – “Facts for the Future”**

**Message Summary:** Jesus had outlined what the world would be like before His coming. The descriptions Jesus and the prophets give look very much like the world today. As we read through the fulfillments of the prophecies, we notice that the world has never look like this before today.

## **The World at Christ’s Second Coming, Part 2**

### **1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

**1 Thessalonians 5:1-11** – “But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. <sup>2</sup> For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup> For when they say, “Peace and safety!” then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. <sup>4</sup> But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. <sup>5</sup> You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. <sup>6</sup> Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be <sup>[a]</sup>sober. <sup>7</sup> For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. <sup>8</sup> But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup> For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup> who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him.”<sup>11</sup> **Therefore <sup>[b]</sup>comfort each other and <sup>[c]</sup>edify one another, just as you also are doing.**

### Continued:

6. PROPHECY: Israel which was nothing but desert up until the 1940’s would become a fertile land. **Isaiah 35:1,2**

Isaiah 35:1,2 – “The wilderness and the wasteland shall be glad for them, and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose. It shall blossom abundantly and rejoice, even with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the excellence of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the excellency of our God.”

FULFILLMENT: Since 1950, Israel began planting trees and invented the drip irrigation system. Joel 2:23 predicted “the former rains” would return.

7. PROPHECY: Israel would provide food for the world. **Isaiah 27:6**

Isaiah 27:6 – “Those who come He shall cause to take root in Jacob; Israel shall blossom and bud, and fill the face of the world with fruit.”

FULFILLMENT: Today, 90% of Europe’s citrus crop comes from Israel.

8. PROPHECY: Nation of Israel would be a massive unwalled village. **Ezekiel 38:11**

Ezekiel 38:11 – “You will say, I will go up against a land of unwalled villages; I will go to a peaceful people, who dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates”

Ezekiel predicted the Nation of Israel would re-establish again in the final days. They would be in massive unwalled villages. Now imagine a 6<sup>th</sup> Century BC man envisioning a nation without walls. That was unheard of. Ridiculous prophecy. Today in Israel there are no walls. Ancient Jerusalem has a wall built by the Turks years ago. But, that’s just a little bitty thing. They do have a few terrorist barrios.

FULFILLED: Israel for the first time is a nation with-out walls.

9. PROPHECY: There would be a peace treaty among the nations of the Middle East in the final days. Ezekiel 34:25

FULFILLMENT: In 1993, Rabin and Arafat signed a peace treating with then President Clinton.

10. PROPHECY: People say “peace and safety” then suddenly destruction comes upon them. **1 Thessalonians 5:2,3**

1 Thessalonians 5:2,3 – “For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. For when they say, “Peace and safety!” then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape.”

FULFILLMENT: We’re living in a world that is very unstable in terms of terror and fear from military powers.

11. PROPHECY: John wrote that an army of 200 million would march against Jerusalem one day. **Revelation 9:16**

Revelation 9:16 “Now the number of the army of the horsemen was two hundred million; I heard the number of them.”

Apostle John describes the events once the Sixth Trumpet: releasing the 4-Angels from the Euphrates v.15-They had been prepared for the hour and day and month and year, were released to kill a third of mankind then v.16

DEVELOPMENTS: China has boasted it was able to produce an army of 200 million soldiers.

12. PROPHECY: Bible reveals that a way of the Kings from the east would march toward the battle of Armageddon. **Revelation 16:12**

Revelation 16:12 – “Then the sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the east might be prepared.”

DEVELOPMENTS: China is building a super-highway across Asia toward Israel.

13. PROPHECY: Bible talks about the sun becoming hotter & hotter and scorching everyone with its fire. **Revelation 16:8,9**

Revelation 16:8,9 – “Then the fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and power was given to him to scorch men with fire. And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has power over these plagues; and they did not repent and give Him glory.”

DEVELOPMENTS: Scientific study on global warming declares profound changes in climate everywhere on Earth.

**LifeGroup QUESTIONS:**

BEGIN IT (5min) – Praise the Lord & pray that God leads the study.

OPEN IT (10min) - What do you think of people who make predictions about the future?

EXPLORE IT (60min) – Read through the sermon points and make time for any comments people might have.

1. Which of the signs from Sunday's message detailed do you believe have been fulfilled or are being fulfilled today? Why?
2. Why does the Bible reveal to us these prophecies about the last days?
3. What distinguishes Jesus' view of the future from the predictions of modern-day seers and astrologers?
4. How can a Christian avoid being deceived by the events the Bible describes?
5. Why should we not allow our hearts to be weighed down with the anxieties of life? (read 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11)

APPLY IT (15min) - How could you use the message from Sunday to engage a non-Christian friend in a discussion about Christ?