The Signs of Jesus' Return

Matthew 24

Matthew 24:32-5

Who is the fig tree?

Was Israel becoming a nation in 1948 the fig tree blossoming?

Who is "this generation"?

Generation guesstimating = 1948 + 40 years 1988 Book came out 88 Reasons Jesus was coming in 1988

1948 +70 = 2018 Jesus didn't come

Now some are refiguring that a generation must mean 4 score = 80 years +1948 =2028

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Key phrases to interpret Matthew 24

What does "the end of the world" mean?

What does the phrase "all these things" mean?

What do these words mean? "Tribulation" "Great Tribulation" "indignation" "abomination"

What does the phrase "days of Noah" mean?

Many have said it seems to parallel the rapture

Reasons why this can't be the rapture

- 1. Context
- 2. Taken in judgment not reward
- 3. No mention of "catching up" or resurrection

The Scriptural Exposition

Q#1 "When shall these things be?" asked Jesus' Jewish disciples.

Q#2 "What shall be the sign of thy coming,"

Q#2 part 2 "of the end of the world?"

Answers to Question #2 "What shall be the sign of thy coming,"

Tribulation is the sign of the Second Coming of Jesus (29)

Jesus calls Daniels 70th 7 years of The Tribulation (15-22)(Dan. 9:24)

1st 3 ½ years of the Tribulation (4-8)

2nd 3 ½ of the Tribulation (9-14)

Just before Jesus returns to earth to rule and reign on the throne of David in Jerusalem there will be 7 years of Tribulation.

Answer to Question #2 part 2 "sign of ...of the end of the world?"

Catastrophic Cosmic Events (vs. 29)

"Immediately after the tribulation..."

Counterfeit Signs (vs. 23-26)

"And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven:"

Just before the end of the world and the beginning of a real Utopia of peace on earth for 1000 years "The Millenium" there will be visible Catastrophic Cosmic events in the Universe.

The sign of the fig tree - Matthew 24:32/ Luke 21:29

"all the trees" when THEY shoot forth, ye see and know of your own selves that summer is now nigh at hand"
"ALL THESE THINGS" HAPPENING SIMULTANEOUSLY SIGNIFIES "THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS NIGH AT HAND"

Answer to Question #1 "When shall these things be?"

Nobody knows when (vs. 36)

The Scriptural Interpretation

Context - Jewish disciples of the Jewish Messiah in Israel who were taught in the Jewish law and prophets of the Old Testament had been asking Jesus 'when will you reveal yourself and set up the promised Kingdom of God on Earth'. They had no clue of a Jewish/Gentile "church" based on repentance and faith in the shed blood and resurrection of the Jesus they were looking at. Matthew 24 no where speaks of the "rapture" of believers to meet the Lord in the air and therefore is not a list of the signs of the "rapture" which Is later clearly taught and explained in 1 Thessalonians 4 and 1 Corinthians chapter 15. The warning to be ready for the coming of the Lord applies to both those of us in the age of "the church" and to those who will be alive in the Tribulation. "Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."

The Scriptural Application TO BOTH THOSE AWAITING THE EMMINENT RAPTURE AND THE 2ND ADVENT ARE THE SAME. Watch 42, Work 45,46, Wait 44, Waste not 48-51, Win 45
BUT for those who reject Jesus - Woe!!! 51