

## End Time Events IV

### By Greg Rangel

The Bible clearly gives us the signs of the times. In Matthew 24 Jesus spoke about many things that would indeed take place in the last days, things that we clearly see taking place today. His disciples had asked Him a question saying; “...*Tell us, when shall these things be? And what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?*” (Matt. 24:3). Jesus answered the questions by given them details of the last days. Apart from wars and rumors of wars, Jesus said that famines would also exist.

Another sign of the last days would be pestilences (Matt. 24:7). A pestilence is any virulent and highly infectious disease that can cause an epidemic or even a pandemic. The word can also be used about parasites causing large scale sickness and death, such as Guinea worm. Some of the most common pestilences that have been very devastating throughout time have been some of the following: Hemorrhagic Fevers, Ebola Hemorrhagic Fever, Marburg, Rift Valley Fever, Tuberculosis, Malaria, Bubonic Plague, Cholera, Leprosy, Typhus, Poliomyelitis, E. Coli, Mad Cow Disease, West Nile Virus, Yellow Fever, Monkey Pox, HIV/AIDS, Hantavirus, Hepatitis B and C, Lassa Fever, Meningitis, Sexually Transmitted Diseases such as AIDS, etc., Schistosomiasis, River Blindness – just to name but a few.

Today we are dealing with another deadly pestilence called the H1N1 virus, also known as the swine flu which apparently began in Mexico of this year. And due to this flu, the world has actually gone almost into chaos trying to prevent this flu from spreading. A few years ago the chicken flu was the pestilence that was threatening the world population by ending with a great amount of deaths. But when will this stop? Will humanity have to deal with another deadly pestilence in the near future? Will there be a time in which man won't be threatened by these type of sicknesses? The answers to these questions and more can be answered through Scripture. Man will always be dealing with these type of pestilences, that is until the Lord returns.

As we continue throughout Matthew 24, Jesus spoke but yet about another and true sign of the last days. He said in the second part of verse 7 “...*and earthquakes, in divers places.*”

Earthquakes these days are very common. Unfortunately we do not have enough space in this article to give every date and time, plus the number of deaths from the earthquakes that took place this year alone. And I also would not like to bore you with too many facts. Earthquakes have indeed taken place in areas that it was not expected. After the 1960's earthquake activity increased at a much faster pace than previous years. And the amount of earthquakes just keeps increasing. It is to this that Jesus was referring to there in Matthew 24.

Jesus also said that “*All these are the beginning of sorrows*” (Matt. 24:8). In other words, things are not going to get any better. Everything is going to get worst. We live in a world that is falling apart. The words of Jesus are being fulfilled.

Even though scientists work very hard to create new drugs for the pestilences, there are always new ones coming out almost every day. Also, even there are relief workers trying to feed the poor throughout the world, there will always be millions dying due to famines. Things are only going to get worse.

The world governments are trying to find a solution to these problems. They are spending billions and billions of dollars in order that they might save the world in other words. But they will not be able to. The solution to these and many more problems that will arise is not in man. It is in God. The Lord said through Isaiah the prophet; *“I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no savior”* (Isaiah 43:11), and *“Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else”* (Isaiah 45:22). The world needs the Lord Jesus. But because man will fail to give their life over unto the Lord, and because the world governments will continue to leave God out of the picture, these words of Jesus from Matthew 24 will be fulfilled. Now, let us not blame God for man’s mistake. God has warned man about these things. But man has failed to listen.

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