

Asteroids: Coming to Cities Near You”

(“The Beginning of the End” #1)

1. Jesus made three predictions in Matthew 24:29, but first He said:
 - “Immediately after the tribulation of those days”
 - Both Daniel & Revelation refer to this period of time as the 1260 years period when the Church of Rome united with the church and state; from 538AD and 1260 years later to 1798.
 - Did something actually happen around 1798 where we find Jesus’ three predictions in Matthew 24:29 taking place?
 - #1 “the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light”
 - The Great Dark Day of May 19, 1780
 - #2 “The stars will fall from heaven”
 - The Falling of the Stars, November 13, 1833
 - #3 “and the powers of heaven will be shaken”
 - yet future
2. Mark 13:24, 25 basically give the same prophecy, with all three predictions. It is only in Luke’s gospel account that Jesus gives a detailed account of prediction #3.
3. Luke 21:25, 26
 - #1 “There shall be signs in the sun and moon” (vs. 25)
 - The Great Dark Day of May 19, 1780
 - #2 “...and in the stars;” (vs. 25)
 - Falling of the stars on November 13, 1833
 - #3 “and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and waves roaring;” (vs. 25)
 - “nations” – International reaction
 - The entire human race will react with “anguish” or “distress” (as if to say, ‘That’ hurts a lot”)
 - “and perplexity” – (Like saying, “What are we going to do now?!”)
 - Jesus said this of the entire human race: “Men’s hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth.” (vs. 26) – What will cause the entire world to be in “anguish and distress” and cause “men’s hearts to fail them for fear” (vs. 26) and “cause the sea and waves to roar” (vs 25)? – Not because of an earthquake, a hurricane, or a terrorist attack, but because “the powers of heaven shall be shaken” (vs. 26).
4. For another detail of Jesus’ 3rd prediction, consider what Jesus said in Luke 17:28-30 (read)
 - What happened to the city of Sodom? It rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all.” That’s burning stones falling from the sky – maybe meteorites
 - According to Jesus, He is going to do the same thing again prior to His 2nd Coming. Read Luke 17:30.
 - Read it again. Luke 17:28-30; Luke 21: 25, 26. Wicked cities across the world will be destroyed by balls of fire as warnings and judgment signs prior to the 2nd Coming of Jesus Christ.
5. Natural Disasters are sent by God as warning judgments because of sin (Deut 11:14-17,28; Isa. 2:19; Psa. 148:7,8; Amos 3:6;4:6-13; Hag. 2:6,7; Rom. 12:19)
6. Could something like what is recorded in Luke’s gospel actually happen? What does science and astronomy say?

Time Magazine, April 10, 2000 had an article entitled "Will a Killer Asteroid Hit the Earth?" And the very first paragraph the scientist wrote:

"When it comes to asteroids wreaking disaster on earth, the real question is not if, but when."

Ad Astra, the magazine of National Space Society said this in 1992:

"As recently as 1908, a small rocky asteroid or chunk of a comet exploded five miles above the Tunguska region of Siberia, felling trees, starting fires and killing wildlife over an area of more than 1000 square miles."

A 1989 National Geographic Magazine spoke to this issue as well:

"If a Tunguska-sized comet hit a typical rural portion of the United States today, as many as 70,000 people would be killed and property damage would exceed \$4 billion. An impact in an urban area would kill 300,000 people, with property damage exceeding \$280 billion."

"An asteroid six miles in diameter would create a fireball with a radius of several thousand miles. Winds of hundreds of miles an hour would sweep our planet for hours, drying trees like a giant hair dryer and burning up some 90 percent of the earth's forests!...

...If such an asteroid were to plunge into the ocean, it would kill most of the world's fish. And it would create a tidal wave 3 miles high! The tidal wave from an impact in the Gulf of Mexico would wash over much of the North American continent...

"...An asteroid crashing into either the Pacific or the Atlantic Ocean would inundate the US, Mexico, and Canada as far in as the major mountain ranges." National Geographic, June 1989

The 1991 issue of Astronomy Magazine says:

"An impact from even a small asteroid might do little more than disrupt the ecosystem for a few years. Yet such a "minor" event could destroy civilization. Why is this? Because civilization depends on the exploitation of natural resources... If our food supply is totally disrupted as it would be in the case of an impact winter, crops would die all over the world. The fragile strands of civilization would quickly unravel. Our species, if not driven to extinction, would be decimated, driving survivors to a stone-age existence."

7. As Jesus nears the end of his message He implies that at the same time the whole world will be in panic over the signs of the heavens striking cities across the world, God's people will be rejoicing (Luke 21:28). How can you hope to rejoice too when these things begin to happen? Answer: Accept Jesus Christ Who says in John 6:37 "...him (anyone) who comes to me (Jesus Christ) I will not cast out."

-Why Jesus Christ? (Acts 4:12) What does He have that I do not have? (Rom. 3:10, 21, 22)

-The Bad News of the Gospel is that God requires you to be perfect in nature, thought, and action from the time you are born to the moment you die.

-The Good News of the Gospel is that God knows you cannot bring to Him such righteousness. This awesome God has provided the very righteousness that He Himself requires by giving to you His Son, Jesus Christ. Jesus is your one and only Substitute; God's perfect Offering. Accept Him and rejoice!