



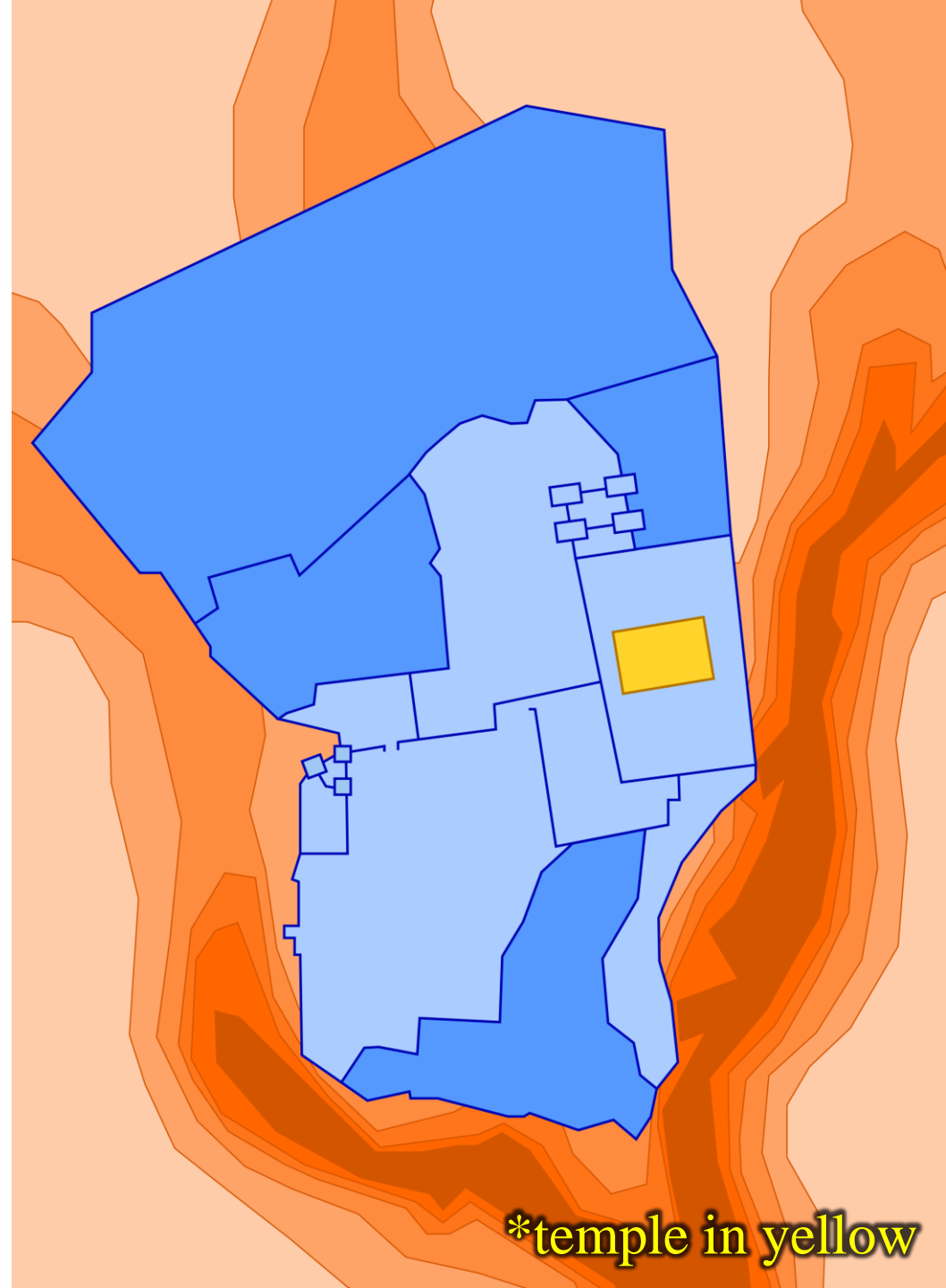
And He said to them, “Do you not see all these things? Truly I say to you, not one stone here will be left upon another, which will not be torn down.”

(Matt. 24:2)

In 70 AD Titus, son of Caesar Vespasian, surrounded the city of Jerusalem

- He wanted to save the city and especially the temple
- He attempted to destroy them without force - but negotiations failed
- Eventually they attacked, destroying the temple with fire and throwing its stones off the mount

JESUS PREDICTED THIS 40 YEARS IN ADVANCE!



***temple in yellow**


THE SACKING OF JERUSALEM WAS A **TERRIBLE** SIEGE

And truly, the very view itself was a melancholy thing; for those places which were adorned with trees and pleasant gardens, were now become desolate country every way, and its trees were all cut down. Nor could any foreigner that had formerly seen Judaea and the most beautiful suburbs of the city, and now saw it as a desert, but lament and mourn sadly at so great a change. For the war had laid all signs of beauty quite waste. Nor had anyone who had known the place before, had come on a sudden to it now, would he have known it again. But though he [a foreigner] were at the city itself, yet would he have inquired for it. *(Josephus, the War of the Jews, Book 6 Chapter 1.1)*

THE SACKING OF JERUSALEM WAS A **TERRIBLE** SIEGE

The slaughter within was even more dreadful than the spectacle from without. Men and women, old and young, insurgents and priests, those who fought and those who entreated mercy, were hewn down in indiscriminate carnage. The number of the slain exceeded that of the slayers. The legionaries had to clamber over heaps of dead to carry on the work of extermination. *(Milman, the History of the Jews, Book 16)*

1.1 MILLION JEWS DIED IN THE CITY



**SO WHY WOULD GOD
LET THIS HAPPEN?!**

**MAYBE THE REAL QUESTION IS:
WHY DID GOD WAIT SO
LONG?**

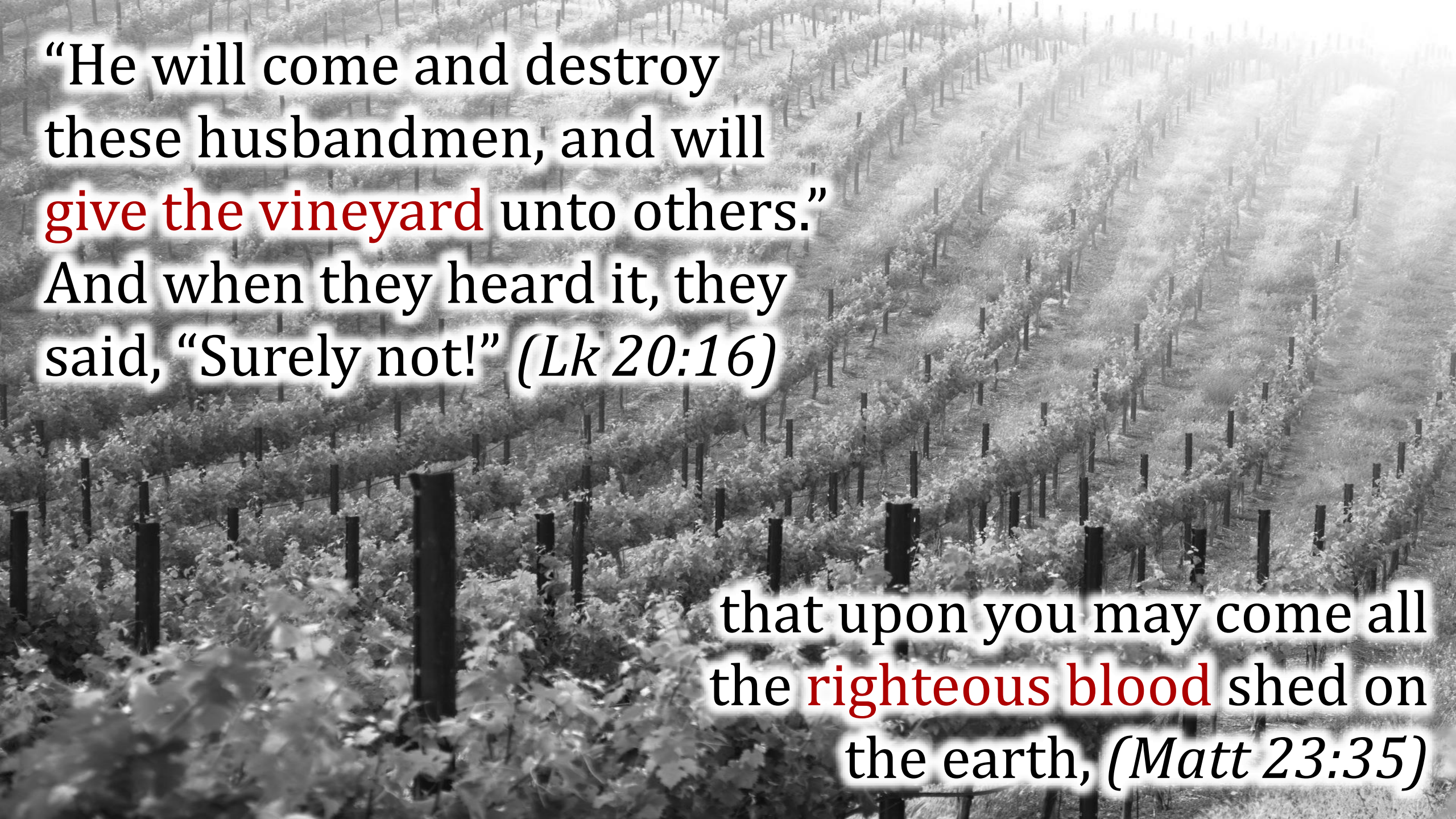
“Thus Manasseh misled Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to do more evil than the nations whom the Lord destroyed before the sons of Israel.”
(2 Chr. 33:9)

In the past, God destroyed nations for much less.

...but He didn't with Israel.

“However, the LORD was not willing to destroy Judah, for the sake of David His servant, since He had promised him to give a lamp to him through his sons always.” (2 Kgs 8:19)

**GOD HAD A PURPOSE FOR ISRAEL
THAT PRESERVED THEM!**




“He will come and destroy
these husbandmen, and will
give the vineyard unto others.”
And when they heard it, they
said, “Surely not!” *(Lk 20:16)*

that upon you may come all
the **righteous blood** shed on
the earth, *(Matt 23:35)*

But when you see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that her desolation is at hand. Then let them that are in Judea flee unto the mountains; and let them that are in the midst of her depart out; and let not them that are in the country enter therein. (Lk 21:20-21)

"The whole body, however, of the church at Jerusalem, having been commanded by a divine revelation, given to men of approved piety there before the war, removed from the city, and dwelt at a certain town beyond the Jordan, called Pella. Here those that believed in Christ, having removed from Jerusalem, as if holy men had entirely abandoned the royal city itself, and the whole land of Judea; the divine justice, for their crimes against Christ and His apostles finally overtook them, totally destroying the whole generation of these evildoers from the earth." *(Eusebius, 3:5.)*

"But the people of the church in Jerusalem had been commanded by a revelation, vouchsafed to approved men there before the war, to leave the city and to dwell in a certain town of Perea called Pella." *(History of the Church 3:5:3)*



**God waited to
destroy Jerusalem
for two reasons:**

**1. They were needed to bring in the
Christ (2 Kgs 8:19)**

**2. They were needed to bring the
Word to the Gentiles (Acts 15:17)**

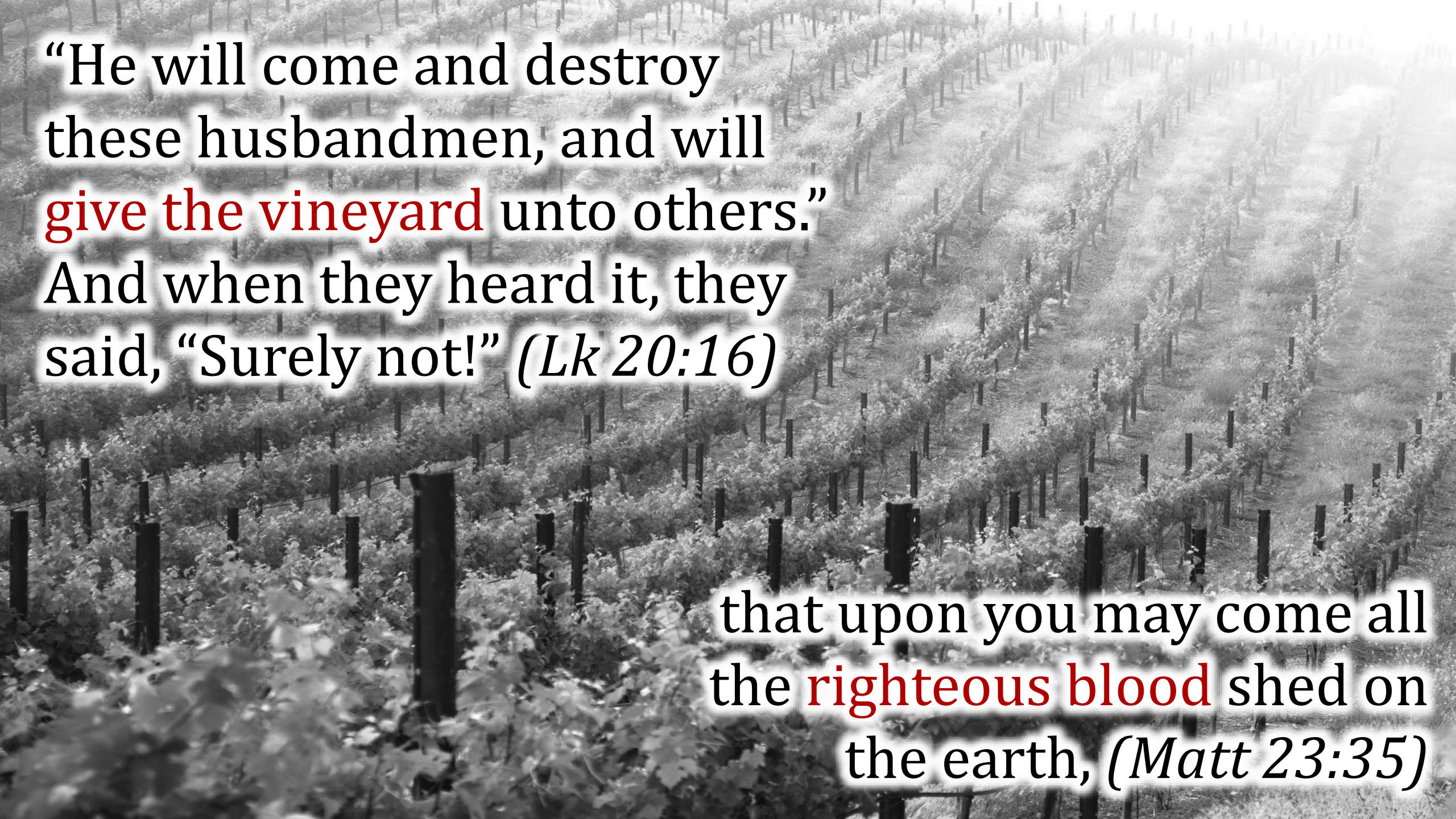
And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled. (Lk. 21:24)

For I would not, brethren, have you ignorant of this mystery, lest ye be wise in your own conceits, that a hardening in part hath befallen Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in; (Rom 11:25)

I say then, Did they stumble that they might fall? God forbid: but by their fall salvation is come unto the Gentiles, to provoke them to jealousy. (Rom 11:11)

But the Lord stood by me, and strengthened me; that through me the message might be fully proclaimed, and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion. (2 Tim 4:7)

And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all nations, and then the end will come. (Matt 24:14)



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these husbandmen, and will
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the earth, *(Matt 23:35)*

“Tell us, when will these things happen, and what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?” And Jesus answered and said to them, “See to it that no one **misleads** you.” (Matt 24:3)

- Beware of false saviors that will offer to help the nation
- Wars and rumors of wars aren't the sign of the destruction
- Famines and earthquakes aren't the sign of the destruction
- Martyrdom of the saints isn't the sign of the destruction
- False prophets and teachings isn't the sign of the destruction
- The initial fame of the church will wane amongst Jews first

“Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand) **then** those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains...” (Matt 24:15-16)

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THIS HAD ALREADY HAPPENED ONCE!

Forces from him shall appear and profane the temple and fortress, and shall take away the regular burnt offering. And they shall set up the abomination that makes desolate. (Daniel 11:31)

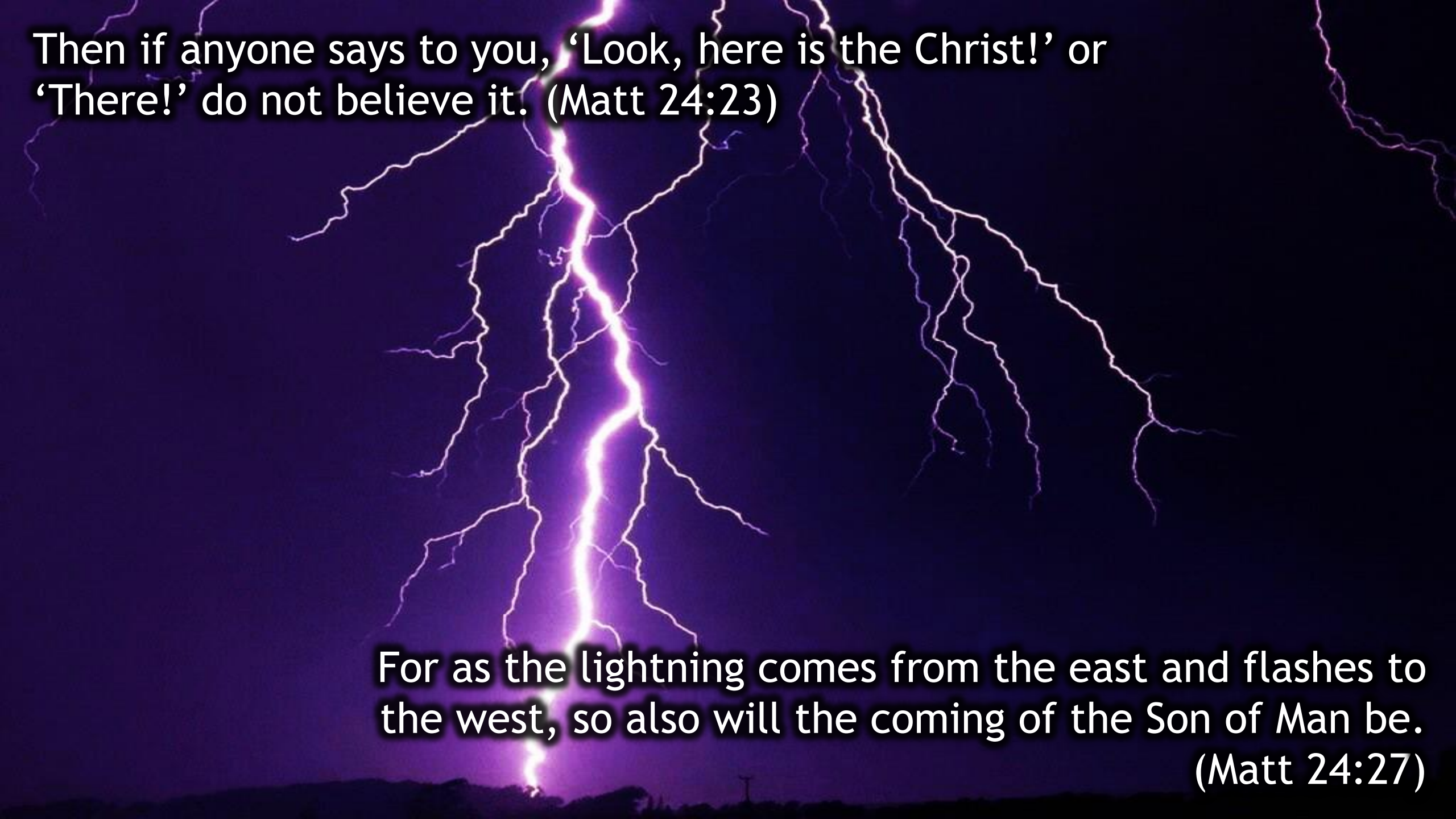


168 BC
ANTIOCHUS EPIPHANES



then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains..." (Matt 24:16)





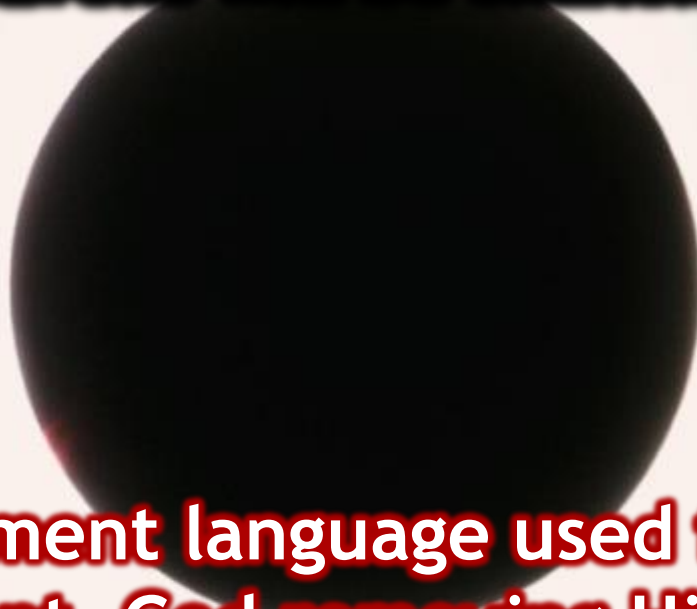
Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'There!' do not believe it. (Matt 24:23)

For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. (Matt 24:27)

For
wherever
the carcass
is, there
the eagles
will be
gathered
together.
(Matt 24:28)



Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. (Matt 24:29)



This is Old Testament language used for dark days, national judgment, God removing His light from a nation, and governments being shaken up.

(ex: Isa. 13:10; 24:21-23; Jer. 15:9, Ezek. 32:4-8; Joel 2:1-11; 3:14-15; Amos 8:9; Rev. 6:12-13)



Now learn this parable from the fig tree...
(Matt 24:32)

So you also... know that it is near - at the doors! (Matt 24:33)

I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place. (Matt 24:34)





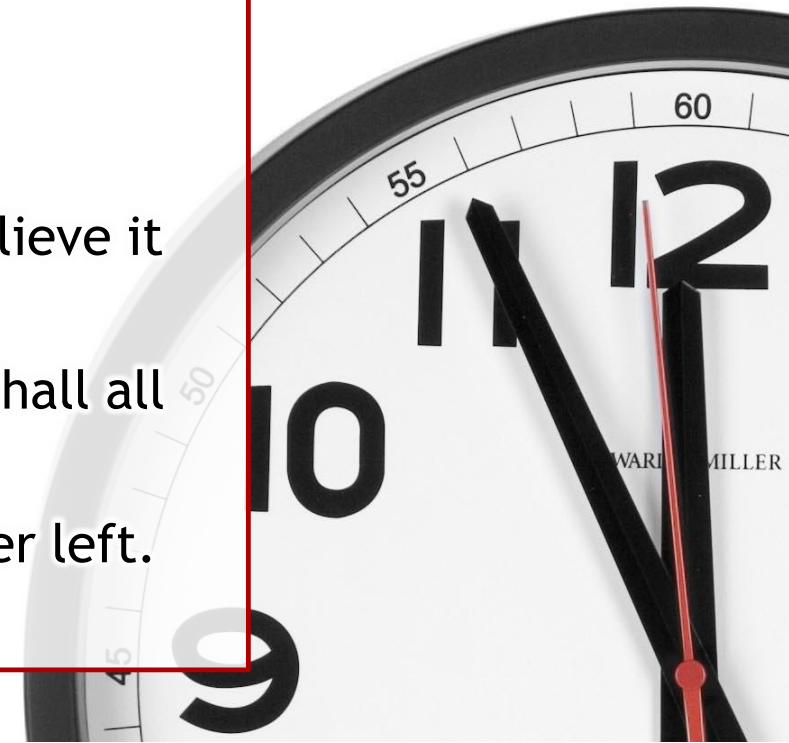
**But as the
days of
Noah
were, so
also will
the coming
of the Son
of Man be.
(24:37)**

THEN the kingdom of
heaven shall be likened to...

‘THEN’ is an **important** word!

Tote: *then* i.e. when the thing under consideration had been said or done, *thereupon*; so in the historical writers (esp. Matthew), by way of transition from one thing mentioned **to another which could not take place before it** (*Thayer’s*)

- **Then** shall they deliver you up to be afflicted... (24:9)
- **Then** shall many be offended, betray one another, hate one another (24:10)
- And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and **then** shall the end come. (24:14)
- **Then** let them which be in Judea flee into the mountains (24:16)
- For **then** shall be great tribulation... (24:21)
- **Then** if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not (24:23)
- **Then** shall appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven; and **then** shall all the tribes of the earth mourn (24:30)
- **Then** shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. (24:40)



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- After the wars, rumors, famines, and earthquakes
- After the church starts to be put to death and hated
- After the gospel is spread to the Gentile world
witness unto all nations, and then shall the end come. (24:14)
- After you see the Roman armies march toward Jerusalem
- After the Christians flee Jerusalem
- After Rome attacks the Jews
NOT (24:25)
- Then shall appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven; and then shall all
After Rome surrounds Jerusalem
the tribes of the earth mourn (24:30)
- After Rome destroys Jerusalem
(24:40)



Matthew 25:1 “**Then (tote)** the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom...”

There is A LOT of debate about **when** Jesus switches from talking about the fall of Jerusalem and **when** He begins to talk about the end of time.

‘Then’ is a **time** word.

- **After** Roman armies move into the land of Israel
- **After** the church flees Jerusalem
- **After** Rome surrounds Jerusalem
- **After** Rome destroys Jerusalem
- **After** that generation witnesses God’s judgment on a unfaithful Israel...

AFTER all that - then the church will need to be prepared to **wait** for Jesus’ judgment on ALL mankind.



BEFORE DESTRUCTION

- ❖ Church viewed as a Jewish phenomenon
- ❖ Church was told that Lord would bring judgment soon and not delay (24:34, 48)
- ❖ Church was told that Jews would be judged (24:1-2, 16)
- ❖ Church told judgment would be shortened for their sake (24:22)

AFTER DESTRUCTION

- ❖ Church viewed as a Gentile phenomenon
- ❖ Church was told that Lord would bring judgment after a lengthy wait (25:5, 19)
- ❖ Church was told all nations will be judged (25:32)
- ❖ Church was told punishment will be everlasting (25:46)