

## **GOD'S WORD HAPPENS**

### **Matthew 24:37-38**

**Introduction:** People make promises, pledges, oaths and swear on their mothers' graves that they will do or not do this or that. Sometimes they keep their word, sometimes they don't. Sometimes circumstances prevents one from keeping his/her word. Nobody is ever sure that what is promised can or will be kept. The good intent is there but sometimes it is just impossible to do or not do what was promised. Sometimes promises are made with no thought in mind from the beginning to keep that promise, just words said to appease someone. However with God things are different. Whatever God has said He would do or not do, He has done just that. God's Word happens! Just like He said it would.

### **I. GOD SAID THAT HE WAS SENDING A FLOOD (*Genesis 6:13*)**

1. The people were exceedingly wicked.
  - They were worldly, had fallen away from Him.
  - They had no fear and depended upon no one.
  - They pursued their own pleasures and NEVER thought of God.
2. The people had a preacher, Noah.
  - God had told Noah what to do and what He was going to do.
  - All his life Noah preached, begged, warned, pleaded with the people to turn back to God.
3. God gave the people 120 years to repent.
  - From the time God gave the warning to the time of the flood was 120 years.
4. God gave an additional seven (7) days for the people to repent.
  - God closed the door of the Ark and it waited 7 days before the rains came.
5. During all the years between the warning and the flood, the people laughed and mocked at Noah and God.
6. The people had left God.
  - They had forsaken the GOD of their fathers.
  - They didn't need any GOD.
7. God did what He said He was going to do - He flooded the entire earth.

### **II. GOD SAID THAT JERUSALEM WOULD BE DESTROYED (*Matthew 15:7-9*)**

1. The people were "religious" in sight and sound only.
  - They wanted to be seen and heard.
  - Prayed on street corners
  - Fasted loudly
  - Put their money in the treasury loudly.

2. The religious leaders "rewrote" God's laws.
  - They added heavy burdens on the people.
3. They refused to share God's Kingdom with any non Jew.
  - No one was to worship God as they did.
  - All non Jew was a "heathen."
4. They had a history of disobeying and even killing and running off God's messengers/prophets.
  - The Old Testament is full of God's men being persecuted by their very own people, Jews.
  - Stephen was stoned to death, Jesus was crucified, Paul and the disciples were jailed.
5. Jesus told of a day coming of judgment of the Jews.
  - He called the religious leaders hypocrites, whited sepulchers, vipers.
  - He told them that their day was coming.
  - They refused to accept Jesus as God's promised Messiah.
6. Jerusalem was totally destroyed by the Roman empire in 70 A.D., a few years after Jesus warned them that it was going to happen.

### **III. GOD'S WORD SAYS THAT JESUS IS GOING TO RETURN (*Matthew 24:4-14*)**

1. God said that there would be wars and rumors of wars before Jesus returns.
2. God said that there would be famines, earthquakes and pestilences before Jesus returns.
3. God said that false prophets would rise (create different cults, etc.) before Jesus returns.
4. God said that iniquity would abound (crime, dishonesty, immorality) before Jesus returns.
5. God said that love for Him would grow cold and there would be no fear of Him nor any care for Godly things before Jesus returns.
6. God said that the Gospel would be preached to all nations before Jesus returns.
7. Since Jesus left the world has had 2,000 years to prepare for Jesus' return. Are you ready?

### **CONCLUSION:**

1. The world is the same as in Noah's day, wicked, evil, not fearing God nor caring for Jesus.
2. People are the same as in Jesus' day.
  - religious in sight and sound only
  - refuse to share the gospel with the rest of the world
  - have had plenty of time to prepare for Jesus' return
  - iniquity, immorality and selfishness abounds
  - love for God has grown cold

- God's own Children, Christians have become indifferent:
  - do not attend faithfully their Church services
  - do not give back to God what is His
  - do not study God's Word
  - do not pray regularly or faithfully
  - do not help spread the Word
  - do not participate in their Church's efforts
  - do not keep God's Day holy
  - do not listen to their God-called leaders

3. Jesus will indeed return any day now. What are you going to do?
4. When Jesus comes, separation will happen. Jesus will call to Himself ONLY those who have believed in Him. Enemies, friends, relatives, family members will be left behind.
  - Will you be called up to be with Him or will you be left behind?
5. God's Word Happens! Sooner or later what God has said will happen. Only God's grace has kept the promise of Jesus' return from already happening.
  - God gave the world seven (7) extra days before the flood
  - God gave Jerusalem several years extra before it was destroyed.
  - NOW is the time to make sure that you are ready for Jesus to return.