

## BIBLE PROPHECIES

[Ron McRay has been emailing daily lessons concerning Bible Prophecies. These are brief, easy-to-read, and simply stated. If you are not on his mailing list, you are missing valuable information. Here is a sample issue. It is not likely that all of his good formatting will be retained in this example. There is no obligation. To get on the mailing list, contact him as he indicates below at [ronmcray@prodigy.net](mailto:ronmcray@prodigy.net) . Don't miss out on these great insights. – Cecil Hook]

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January 20, 2007

### Matthew 24

**“FOR WHERESOEVER THE CARCASE IS, THERE WILL THE EAGLES BE GATHERED TOGETHER”** [Mat. 24:28].

There are many good scholarly quotations that put the time of this illustration in the destruction of Jerusalem by the Roman army in 70 AD. Here is one of them.

*“The saying of Jesus contained in this verse most probably reflects a proverbial saying familiar to the people of his day. Its purpose is to refute the arguments of persons who claimed that the Son of Man (or Messiah) had already arrived, and that he could be found in such and such a place.*

*“The Greek word used here for eagle may also mean “vulture” or “buzzard” (RSV footnote), which is also true for the word used for eagle in the Hebrew Old Testament. But the meaning of “vulture” is better suited to the context.*

*“The argument of the parable and **its application is as follows**: Just as surely as vultures flock about a corpse, so the coming of the Son of Man will be **recognized** by everyone. Therefore to ask when or where he will make his appearance is a senseless and useless question. When it happens, there will be no doubt”* [**UBS New Testament Handbook Series**].

The context is plain enough if we will but look closely at it. As to how the apostles to whom Yahshua was speaking would know **when** He was to make His appearance (**presence** = *parousia*) known was when the carcase (the dead body of the Judahites in the destruction of

Jerusalem in 70 AD) appeared, and the vultures were **present** that preyed on the Jewish leftovers (the Romans who took everything and everyone from the temple and city that was not destroyed in the siege). The apostles would then know the day and hour that Yahweh's and Yahshua's **presence** (*parousia*) was there. That is the way that every eye could see the **presence** of Yahweh and Yahshua. That was the "*when*" and that was the "*manner*" in which they would "*see*" Him.

The **manner** of the "*coming*" of Yahshua in 66 AD to 70 AD was the same **manner** of the coming of Yahweh in the destruction of Egypt in "*old testament*" times.

*"The burden of Egypt. Behold, the LORD rideth upon a swift cloud, and shall come into Egypt: and the idols of Egypt shall be moved at **his presence**, and the heart of Egypt shall melt in the midst of it" [Isa. 19:1].*

Yahweh's **presence** was **seen** in the destruction of Egypt, but there was no physical bodily presence. His **presence** was seen in the army that he sent to destroy Egypt, and when the army destroyed Egypt, **everyone could see the presence** of Yahweh. In actuality, there was a civil rebellion in progress and Egyptian would fight against Egyptian, but the idea is that Yahweh was in control and He could be **seen** in the destruction in Egypt.

The usual Greek word for "*coming*" in the "*new testament*" is "*erchomai*." The word that is used with reference to Yahshua's appearance is not "*erchomai*," but "*parousia*." Again, let me remind the reader that "*parousia*" means "**presence**." As Yahweh's *presence* was seen in the destruction of Egypt, so Yahshua's *presence* would be seen in the destruction of rebellious Judaism between 66 AD and 70 AD. There was no bodily presence of Yahweh's *presence* in Egypt, and there was to be no bodily presence of Yahshua's *presence* in the destruction of Jerusalem, which ended in 70 AD. There will be more proof to be considered in coming comments, so stay with me. **[CONTINUED TOMORROW]**

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