

PORTRAIT  
OF THE  
*King*



ATONEMENT

# **“The Signs of the Return of the King” (Part 2)**

**MATTHEW 24:1-14**



1. The Sermon on the Mount – Chapters 5-7
2. The Sermon on the Cost of Following Christ – Chapter 10
3. The Sermon on the Nature of Salvation – Chapter 13
4. The Sermon on Relating to Sinners – Chapter 18
5. The Olivet Discourse – Chapters 24-25

## Five Major Sermons of Jesus in Matthew



## KEY POINT:

While we don't know when Jesus will return,  
we can know what Jesus will return to.



I. A Question About the Messiah's Return (vs. 1-3)



“He who has not seen the Temple  
of Herod has never seen a  
beautiful building.”

**A Rabbi in Jesus' Day**



1. The use of the term “birth pains” (vs. 8)

## Reasons Against a Preterist View of History



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2. Believers who will endure (vs. 13-14) would be those who are saved in the Tribulation.

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5. The events of the Tribulation are global (vs. 21), not local.
6. The supernatural events of vs. 29-30 have not occurred.

## Reasons Against a Preterist View of History



- O.T. promises of future blessing
- An eternal kingdom to come with the Messiah
- The Messiah was from the line of David
- Prosperity and peace in this kingdom

**What the Disciples Knew  
About the Messiah**



*<sup>1</sup> The oracle of the word of the LORD concerning Israel: Thus declares the LORD, who stretched out the heavens and founded the earth and formed the spirit of man within him: <sup>2</sup> “Behold, I am about to make Jerusalem a cup of staggering to all the surrounding peoples. The siege of Jerusalem will also be against Judah...*

**Zechariah 12:1-3**



*...<sup>3</sup> On that day I will make Jerusalem a heavy stone for all the peoples. All who lift it will surely hurt themselves. And all the nations of the earth will gather against it.*

**Zechariah 12:1-3**



*<sup>8</sup> In the whole land, declares the LORD, two thirds shall be cut off and perish, and one third shall be left alive.*

*<sup>9</sup> And I will put this third into the fire, and refine them as one refines silver, and test them as gold is tested.*

*They will call upon my name, and I will answer them.*

*I will say, 'They are my people'; and they will say,*

*'The LORD is my God.'"*

**Zechariah 13:8-9**





*<sup>1</sup> Behold, a day is coming for the LORD, when the spoil taken from you will be divided in your midst. <sup>2</sup> For I will gather all the nations against Jerusalem to battle, and the city shall be taken and the houses plundered and the women raped. Half of the city shall go out into exile, but the rest of the people shall not be cut off from the city...*

**Zechariah 14:1-3**



*...<sup>3</sup> Then the LORD will go out and fight against those nations as when he fights on a day of battle.*

**Zechariah 14:1-3**



## KEY POINT:

While we don't know when Jesus will return,  
we can know what Jesus will return to.



- I. A Question About the Messiah's Return (vs. 1-3)
- II. The Signs of the Messiah's Return (vs. 4-14)
  - A. More False Christs (vs. 4-5)



*while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.*

**II Timothy 3:13**



- I. A Question About the Messiah's Return (vs. 1-3)
  
- II. The Signs of the Messiah's Return (vs. 4-14)
  - A. More False Christs (vs. 4-5)
  - B. More Wars (vs. 6-7a)



*<sup>3</sup> When he opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature say, "Come!" <sup>4</sup> And out came another horse, bright red. Its rider was permitted to take peace from the earth, so that people should slay one another, and he was given a great sword.*

**Revelation 6:3-4**



- I. A Question About the Messiah's Return (vs. 1-3)
  
- II. The Signs of the Messiah's Return (vs. 4-14)
  - A. More False Christs (vs. 4-5)
  - B. More Wars (vs. 6-7a)
  - C. More Natural Disasters (vs. 7b-8)





*And I looked, and behold, a pale horse! And its rider's name was Death, and Hades followed him. And they were given authority over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by wild beasts of the earth.*

**Revelation 6:8**



*19 The earth is utterly broken, the earth is split apart, the earth is violently shaken. 20 The earth staggers like a drunken man; it sways like a hut; its transgression lies heavy upon it, and it falls, and will not rise again.*

**Isaiah 24:19-20**



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  - A. More False Christs (vs. 4-5)
  - B. More Wars (vs. 6-7a)
  - C. More Natural Disasters (vs. 7b-8)
  - D. More Persecution (vs. 9)



*<sup>9</sup> When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the witness they had borne. <sup>10</sup> They cried out with a loud voice, “O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?”*

**Revelation 6:9-10**



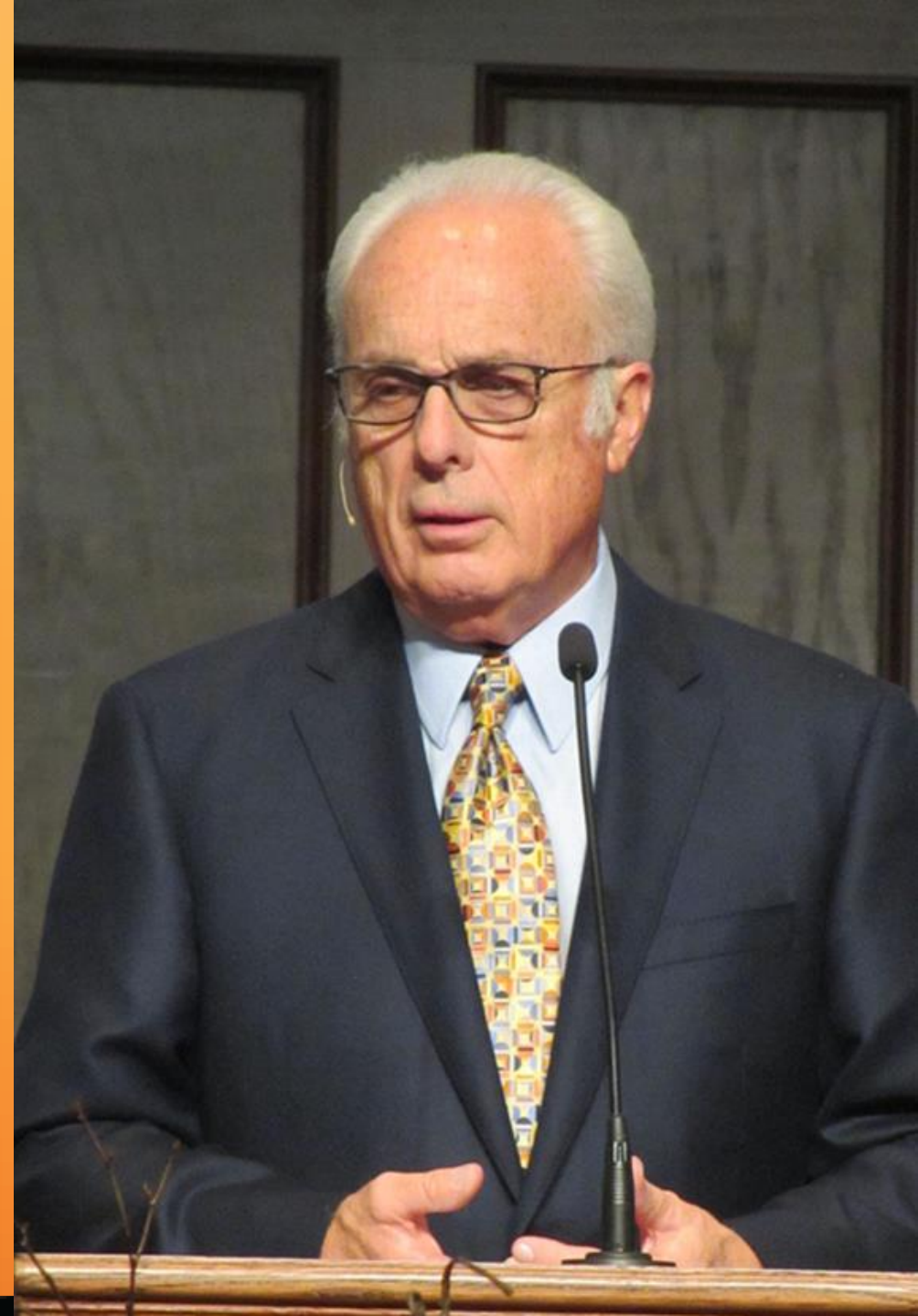
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  - D. More Persecution (vs. 9)
  - E. More Apostasy (vs. 10-13)



“A professed Christian who turns his back on Jesus Christ and refuses to suffer for His sake was not a true believer in the first place. A person who genuinely belongs to Christ may sometimes falter and be disobedient,...

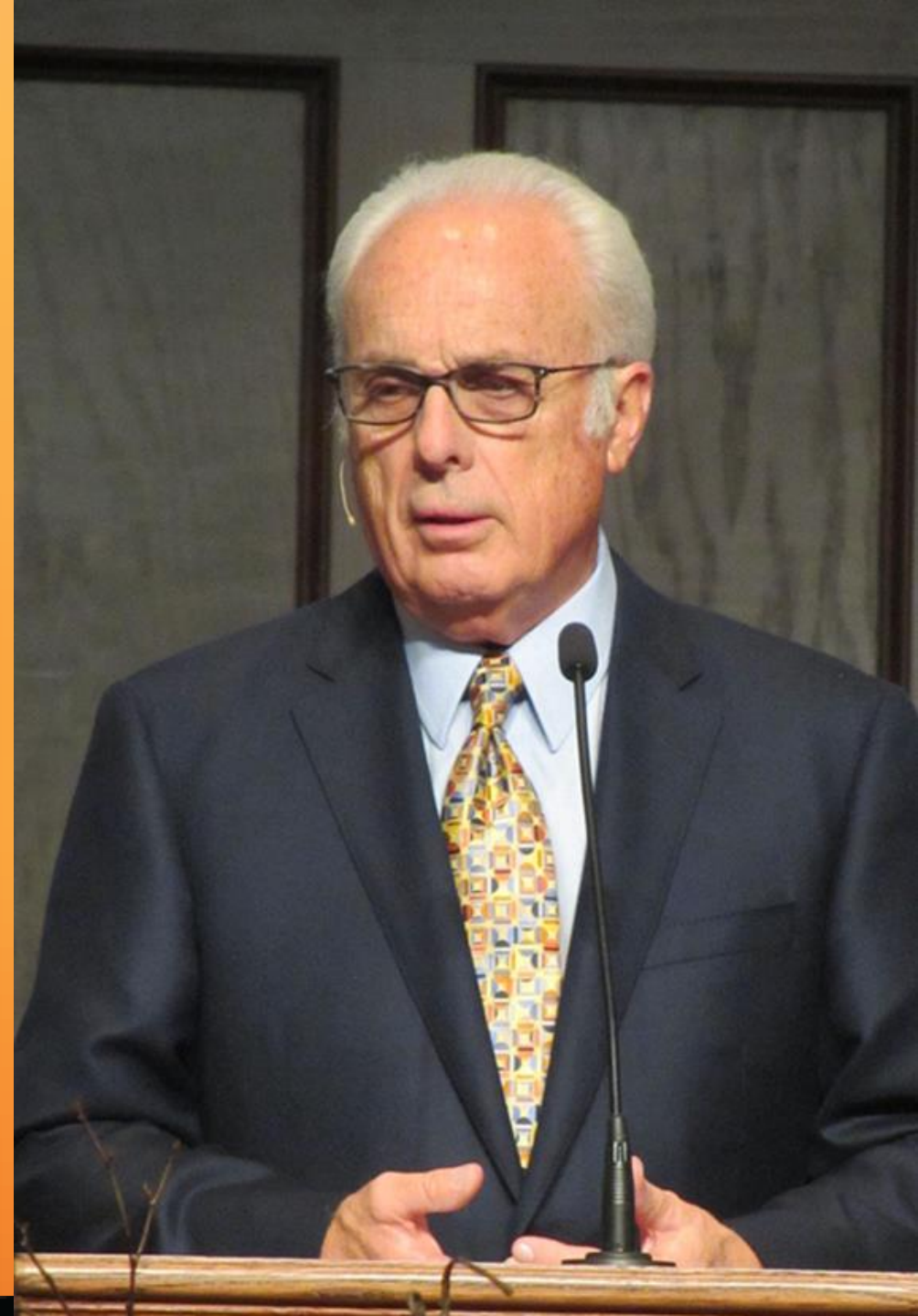
**John MacArthur,**

***Commentary on Matthew***



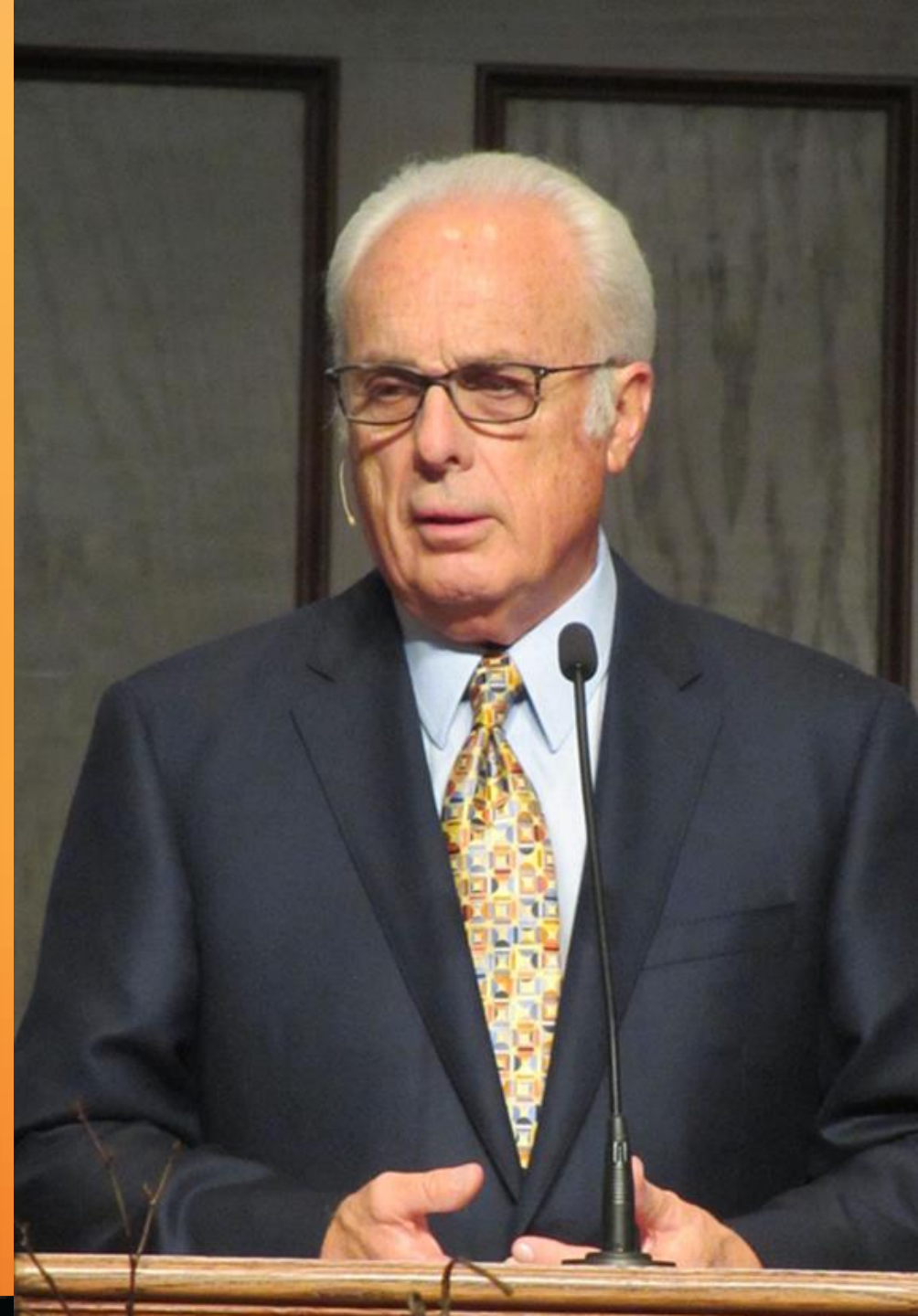
“... but he will never reject His Lord. The person who belongs to Christ continues to confess Him, to serve Him, and to suffer for Him when that is necessary. He does not endure because of his own strength...

**John MacArthur,**  
*Commentary on Matthew*



“... and fortitude but because he is indwelt by Christ’s own Spirit, who never fails to give sustaining grace to God’s children.”

**John MacArthur,**  
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*They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us.*

**I John 2:19**



- I. A Question About the Messiah's Return (vs. 1-3)
  
- II. The Signs of the Messiah's Return (vs. 4-14)
  - A. More False Christs (vs. 4-5)
  - B. More Wars (vs. 6-7a)
  - C. More Natural Disasters (vs. 7b-8)
  - D. More Persecution (vs. 9)
  - E. More Apostasy (vs. 10-13)
  - F. More Evangelism (vs. 14)



## KEY POINT:

While we don't know when Jesus will return,  
we can know what Jesus will return to.



“The mission will go forth in the teeth of adversity. Disciples will die. Opponents will flourish. Faith will seem rare. But all nations will finally hear the message.”

**Darrell Bock**

