The Kingdom of God, Then

2) The Beginning of the End

'All these are the beginning of sorrows (birth pangs, travail)' (Matt.24:8)

'So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near—at the doors!' (Matt.24:33)

'And there will be great earthquakes in various places, and famines and pestilences; and there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven ... And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken' (Lk.21:11,25-26)

Wars and rumours of wars

- 300 wars in Europe in the past 300 years
- 2 world wars in the last 100 years
- 54,800,000 deaths as a result of World War 2

Famines

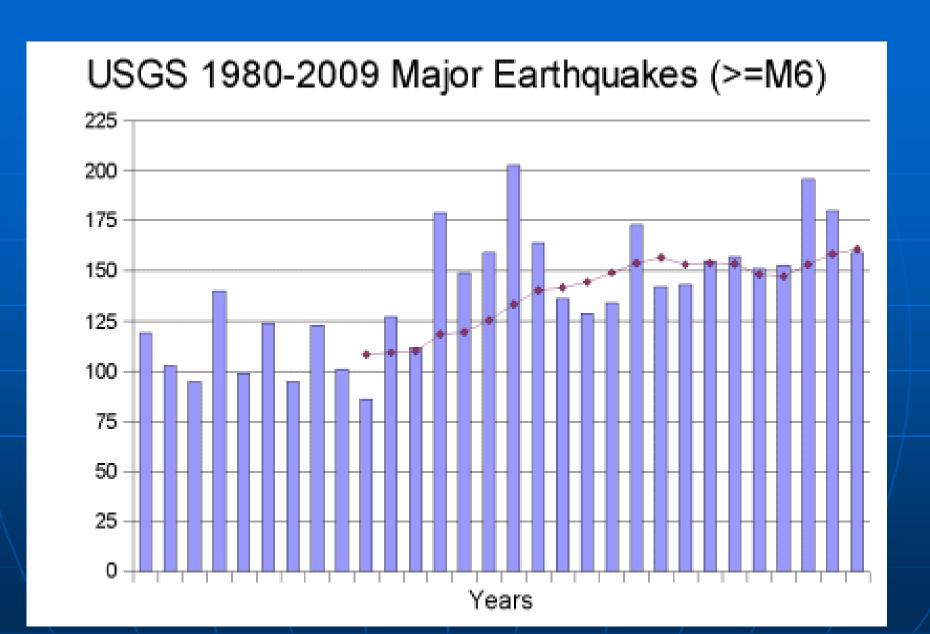
- South Sudan
- Nigeria
- Somalia
- Yemen

Pestilences

- The flu after WW 1 was first worldwide epidemic
- Once-defeated diseases returning
- Smallpox biggest killer 500 million
- Aids became the #1 killer in 1992

Earthquakes of Magnitude 6 or more

- 1900/09 averaged 28.9 quakes
- 1910/19 averaged 32
- 1920/29 averaged 31.7
- 1930/39 averaged 37.8
- 1940/49 averaged 46.6
- 1950/59 averaged 45.1
- 1960/69 averaged 65.5
- 1970/79 averaged 103.1
- 1980/89 averaged 108.5
- 1990/99 averaged 149.2
- 2000/09 averaged 161.1



Persecution

'Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake. And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another'

(Matt.24:9-10)

Deception

'Jesus answered and said to them:
"Take heed that no one deceives
you. For many will come in My name,
saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will
deceive many"'
(Matt.24:4-5)

'Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many' (Matt.24:11)

'For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect'

(Matt.24:24)

'Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition' (2 Thes.2:3)



False Teachers

'For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers, and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables' (2 Tim.4:3-5)

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