

THE SIGNS OF CHRIST'S COMING, PART 7:  
THE FINAL GENERATION  
(Matthew 24:32-35)

- I. The "PARABLE" of the FIG TREE (Matt. 24:32)
  - A. It is not a COMPLICATED ALLEGORY
    1. The FIG TREE does not represent ISRAEL
    2. The BUDS do not represent its RE-ESTABLISHMENT in 1948
  - B. It is a SIMPLE ANALOGY
    1. In SPRING its branches become TENDER and BUD
    2. That indicates that SUMMER is NEAR
    3. You can expect a HARVEST in a SHORT TIME
- II. The APPLICATION of the "Parable" (Matt. 24:33-34)
  - A. It is parallel to seeing "ALL THESE THINGS"
  - B. These events SIGNAL that He IS NEAR
  - C. "This GENERATION will not pass away UNTIL all these things TAKE PLACE"
    1. Cannot refer to the DISCIPLES' generation
      - a. Too much DID NOT OCCUR in AD 70

- b. Jesus did not make a BAD GUESS because He didn't KNOW FOR SURE (see v. 36)
  - 2. Cannot refer to the JEWS in general
  - 3. Cannot refer to the CHRIST REJECTORS in general
  - 4. Can refer only to those STILL LIVING to witness the SIGNS
    - a. Probably does not apply to the CHURCH, with the RAPTURE at the CLOSE of the Tribulation
    - b. It applies to TRIBULATION converts only, with the RAPTURE of the church PRECEDING the Tribulation
- III. The Inevitable PASSING of HEAVEN and EARTH (Matt. 24:35a; cf. 5:18; Lk 16:17)
- IV. The Infallible ENDURING of Jesus' WORDS (Matt. 24:35b)