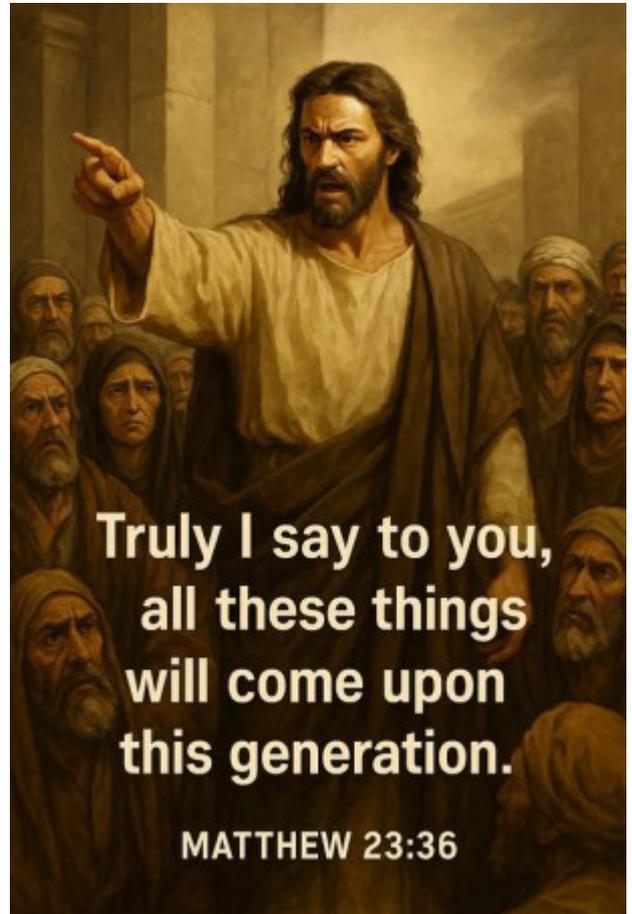


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Generation - Matthew 23:36 – Truly I Say to You, All These Things Will Come Upon This Generation



By Dan Maines

Matthew 23:36 – Truly I Say to You, All These Things Will Come Upon This Generation

Introduction:

Matthew 23:36 says, **"Truly I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation."**

This is one of the clearest time statements in the entire New Testament. Spoken by Jesus Himself, it confirms that the judgment He warned about was not for some far off future era,

but for His very own generation.

Main Points:

Context is Key – The Judgment on Jerusalem

Matthew 23 is Jesus' scathing rebuke of the scribes and Pharisees.

In verses 29–35, He lays out the guilt of their fathers who killed the prophets.

Verse 35 says, **"so that upon you will fall the guilt of all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah..."**

Then comes verse 36: **"Truly I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation."**

"This Generation" Meant Exactly That

Jesus did not say a future generation or *some* generation, but *this* generation.

He uses the same phrase in Matthew 24:34, **"Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place."**

The Greek word is *genea*, meaning a contemporary group of people, not an age or race.

This aligns with how Jesus repeatedly warned *His* generation of impending judgment.

The Consistency of Prophetic Fulfillment

Luke 21:20-22: "But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then recognize that her desolation is near... because these are days of vengeance, so that all things which have been written will be fulfilled."

Jesus was clear. The siege of Jerusalem, which occurred in 70 AD, was the fulfillment of these prophetic warnings.

This Was the Culmination of Covenant Judgment

Matthew 23:37-38: "Jerusalem, Jerusalem... Behold, your house is being left to you desolate!"

This judgment was about the Old Covenant system being removed.

Hebrews 8:13 says, "When He said, 'A new covenant,' He has made the first obsolete. But whatever is becoming obsolete and growing old is about to disappear."

That disappearance happened in the destruction of the temple in 70 AD.

Conclusion:

Jesus was not mistaken. His words were not symbolic of events thousands of years in the future. He was warning His contemporaries, and everything He said came true. Matthew 23:36 is not just a warning, it is a timestamp. It anchors all the events of Matthew 24 and the book of Revelation in the first century, not in our future.

Let us stand firm on what Jesus said, trust His timing, and understand that the judgment He spoke of has already come. We now live in the age of the New Covenant, the kingdom that cannot be shaken.

"Truly I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation." He said it, and it happened, just as He promised.

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