

Earthquakes Are They A Sign?

Earthquakes; A trembling or convulsion of the earth, often accompanied by volcanic eruptions. Earthquakes may cause fissures in the earth, avalanches, loud rumbling noises, and destructive fires.

Fissure; A narrow opening or crack.

1. A narrow opening or crack of considerable length and depth usually occurring from some breaking or parting.

2 a. a natural cleft between body parts or in the substance of an organ. "b." a break or slit in tissue usually at the junction of skin and mucous membrane.

3. A separation or disagreement in thought or view point.

Let's look in the book of Numbers.

Numbers 16:30-35 (NKJV)

30 But if the Lord creates a new thing, and the earth opens its mouth and swallows them up with all that belongs to them, and they go down alive into the pit, then you will understand that these men have rejected the Lord." 31 Now it came to pass, as he finished speaking all these words, that the ground split apart under them, 32 and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, with their households and all the men with Korah, with all their goods. 33 So they and all those with them went down alive into the pit; the earth closed over them, and they perished from among the assembly. 34 Then all Israel who were around them fled at their cry, for they said, "Lest the earth swallow us up also!" 35 And a fire came out from the Lord and consumed the two hundred and fifty men who were offering incense.

Then we look at 1Kings.

1 Kings 19:10-12 (NKJV)

10 So he said, "I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life."

God's Revelation to Elijah

11 Then He said, "Go out, and stand on the mountain before the Lord." And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; 12 and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice.

Then a notable earthquake occurred during the reigns of Uzziah, King of Judah [792-740 BC] and Jeroboam II, King of Israel [793-753 BC] Amos dates his prophecy "2 years before the earthquake"

Amos 1:1-4 (NKJV)

1 The words of Amos, who was among the sheepbreeders[a] of Tekoa, which he saw concerning Israel in the days of Uzziah king of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel, two years before the earthquake.

2 And he said:“

The Lord roars from Zion,
And utters His voice from Jerusalem;
The pastures of the shepherds mourn,
And the top of Carmel withers.”

Judgment on the Nations

3 Thus says the Lord:

“For three transgressions of Damascus, and for four,
I will not turn away its punishment,
Because they have threshed Gilead with implements of iron.

4 But I will send a fire into the house of Hazael,
Which shall devour the palaces of Ben-Hadad.

And Zechariah writes about the earthquake in the days of Uzziah King of Judah.

Zechariah 14:5 (NKJV)

5 Then you shall flee through My mountain valley,
For the mountain valley shall reach to Azal.
Yes, you shall flee As you fled from the earthquake
In the days of Uzziah king of Judah.
Thus the Lord my God will come,
And all the saints with You.

Earthquakes were common in ancient Israel. A notable earthquake took place in 31BC during the reign of Herod the Great. An earthquake occurred at the crucifixion of Jesus.

As we look at Matthew 27:51-54 (NKJV)

51Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split, 52 and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; 53 and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many. 54 So when the centurion and those with him, who were guarding Jesus, saw the earthquake and the things that had happened, they feared greatly, saying, “Truly this was the Son of God!”

And another occurred at His resurrection.

We can go now to Matthew 28:2-6 (NKJV)

2 And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door,[a] and sat on it. 3 His countenance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow. 4 And the guards shook for fear of him, and became like dead men. 5 But the angel answered and said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. 6 He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

Then a great earthquake occurred in Macedonia when Paul and Silas were in jail at Philippi, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken.

Looking at Acts 16:26 (NKJV)

26 Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed.

The Bible uses earthquakes as symbols of God's power.

Let's look now at 2 Samuel 22:7-8 (NKJV)

7 In my distress I called upon the Lord,
And cried out to my God;
He heard my voice from His temple,
And my cry entered His ears.

8 "Then the earth shook and trembled;
The foundations of heaven[a] quaked and were shaken,
Because He was angry.

And going on the Bible used earthquakes as a sign of His presence.

Psalm 68:8-9 (NKJV)

8 The earth shook;
The heavens also dropped rain at the presence of God;
Sinai itself was moved at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

9 You, O God, sent a plentiful rain,
Whereby You confirmed Your inheritance,
When it was weary.

Then the Bible also uses earthquakes as a sign of revelation as we look at Exodus 19:17-18 (NKJV)

17 And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. 18 Now Mount Sinai was completely in smoke, because the Lord descended upon it in fire. Its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain[a] quaked greatly.

Also the Bible uses earthquakes as a sign in judgments.

Let's look at Ezekiel 38:19-23 (NKJV)

19 For in My jealousy and in the fire of My wrath I have spoken: 'Surely in that day there shall be a great earthquake in the land of Israel, 20 so that the fish of the sea, the birds of the heavens, the beasts of the field, all creeping things that creep on the earth, and all men who are on the face of the earth shall shake at My presence. The mountains shall be thrown down, the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground.' 21 I will call for a sword against Gog throughout all My mountains," says the Lord God. "Every man's sword will be against his brother. 22 And I will bring him to judgment with pestilence and bloodshed; I will rain down on him, on his troops, and on the many peoples who are with him, flooding rain, great hailstones, fire, and brimstone. 23 Thus I will magnify Myself and sanctify Myself, and I will be known in the eyes of many nations. Then they shall know that I am the Lord."

Jesus said that "famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places... are the beginning of sorrows."

Let's go ahead and look at Matthew 24:4-8 (NKJV)

4 And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you. 5 For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many. 6 And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all[a] these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. 7 For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences,[b] and earthquakes in various places. 8 All these are the beginning of sorrows.

Remember and make note of one thing verse 8 says. 8. All these events are only the beginning. This will end the catastrophic disasters of the last days. The book of Revelation uses earthquakes as a symbol of the upheavals in the religious and political realms that will precede and accompany the second coming of Christ.

Revelation 6:12-17 (NKJV)

Sixth Seal: Cosmic Disturbances

12 I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold,[a] there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon[b] became like blood. 13 And the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind. 14 Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place. 15 And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders,[c] the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains, 16 and said to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! 17 For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"

Now that we have seen and read some of the scriptures I would like to ask you to stop and think about it. Is the earthquakes, the tsunamis, tornadoes, the different diseases that are attacking the world could they all be a sign of the times. This is something that I think we should all think about. You can form your own opinion. Thank You and may God Bless You.