



ed ones have faithfully completed their earthly course.

<sup>15</sup> In his detailed prophecy about the conclusion of this system of things, Jesus said: “This generation will by no means pass away until all these things happen.” (**Read Matthew 24:33-35.**) We understand that in mentioning “this generation,” Jesus was referring to two groups of anointed Christians. The first group was on hand in 1914, and they readily discerned the sign of Christ’s presence in that year. Those who made up this group were not merely alive in 1914, but they were spirit-anointed as sons of God in or before that year. —Rom. 8:14-17.

<sup>16</sup> The second group included in “this generation” are anointed contemporaries of the first group. They were not simply alive during the lifetime of those in the first group, but they were anointed with holy spirit during the time that those of the first group were still on earth. Thus, not every anointed person today is included in “this generation” of whom Jesus spoke. Today, those in this second group are themselves advancing in years. Yet, Jesus’ words at Matthew 24:34 give us confidence that at least some of “this generation will by no means pass away” before seeing the start of the great tribulation. This should add to our conviction that little time remains before the King of God’s Kingdom acts to destroy the wicked and usher in a righteous new world.—2 Pet. 3:13.

### CHRIST WILL SOON COMPLETE HIS CONQUEST

<sup>17</sup> What conclusion can we draw from the three lines of evidence that we have

17. What conclusion do we draw from the three lines of evidence that we have considered?

considered? Jesus cautioned that we would not—and we do not—know the exact day or hour. (Matt. 24:36; 25:13) But we can and do know “the season,” as Paul mentioned. (**Read Romans 13:11.**) We are living in that season, the last days. If we give our full attention to Bible prophecy and to what Jehovah God and Jesus Christ are doing, we cannot fail to see compelling evidence that we are indeed living close to the end of this system of things.

<sup>18</sup> Those who refuse to recognize the awesome authority that has been given to Jesus Christ, the victorious Rider of the white horse, will soon be forced to admit their error. They will not see a way out. At that time, many will cry out in terror: “Who is able to stand?” (Rev. 6:15-17) Yet, the very next chapter of Revelation provides an answer. The anointed ones and those with an earthly hope will indeed “stand” in that day with God’s approval. Then “a great crowd” of those other sheep will survive the great tribulation.—Rev. 7:9, 13-15.

<sup>19</sup> By our consciously focusing attention now on the unfolding fulfillment of Bible prophecy in these exciting times, we will not be distracted by the noise from Satan’s world; nor will we be blind to the real meaning of world events. Christ will soon complete his conquest of this ungodly society by waging the final war in righteousness. (Rev. 19:11, 19-21) Think of what the Bible assures us can then be our happy lot!—Rev. 20:1-3, 6; 21:3, 4.

18. What awaits those who refuse to recognize God’s Kingdom?

19. As one who recognizes, accepts, and responds to the clear evidence that the last days will soon end, what are you looking forward to?

20. What vital field of study will be discussed in this publication, and what will be examined in the next chapter?

time were contemporaries of the first group. At least some of those in the second group will live to see the beginning of the coming tribulation. The two groups form one generation because their lives as anointed Christians overlapped for a time.<sup>[3]</sup>

<sup>19</sup> What may we conclude? Well, we know that the sign of Jesus' presence in Kingdom power is clearly evident around the globe. We also see that the anointed ones who are still alive and part of "this generation" are getting on in years; yet, they will not all die off before the great tribulation begins. Therefore, we can conclude that very soon indeed God's Kingdom will come and exercise its rule over the earth! How thrilling it will be to witness the fulfillment of the prayer that Jesus taught us: "Let your Kingdom come"!

<sup>20</sup> Let us never forget the words that Jehovah himself spoke from heaven regarding his Son: "Listen to him." As true Christians, we are eager to heed that divine direction. We are keenly interested in everything that Jesus said and taught about God's Kingdom. What that Kingdom has already accomplished and will do in the future is the vital field of study that will be discussed in this publication. The next chapter will examine the exciting developments that surrounded the birth of God's Kingdom in heaven.

#### FOOTNOTE

[3] Anyone who was anointed after the death of the last of the anointed ones in the first group—that is, after those who witnessed the "beginning of pangs of distress" in 1914—would not be part of "this generation."—Matt. 24:8.

## GENERATION

(Matt. 24:32-34)

Jesus indicated that the Kingdom will come after "this generation" has witnessed the fulfillment of the prophetic sign (See paragraphs 17, 18)

1914

### "This Generation"

Destruction of  
Babylon the Great

GROUP 1:  
Anointed ones who saw the beginning  
of the fulfillment of the sign in 1914

GROUP 2:  
Anointed ones who were contemporaries  
of the first group; some of these will live to  
see the great tribulation

Third Group

