The Times and Seasons of Christ's Return

Why must we talk of "times and seasons"?

Times and Seasons?

- We cannot know the day nor hour of Christ's return Matt. 25:13; Lk. 12:35-40
- Premillennialists claim we can't know the day nor hour, but can know the times and seasons.
- If this distinction were true...
 - Christ's warning in Luke 12 wouldn't apply to the ones he warned!
 - If Christ revealed signs that tell the general time of his return, why would he tell his disciples his return would happen when they did not expect it?

"Times and Seasons" and 1 Thessalonians 5:1-2

Times/Seasons VS. Day/Hour

- Premillennialism claim Paul taught we can know time/season (general), while not knowing day/hour (specific) of His coming – 1 Thess. 5:1-2
- The passage doesn't say they knew of the times and seasons of Christ's return!
- It ignores Paul's reason why he didn't have to write about times/seasons.
 - Reason: They knew Christ's coming would be "as a thief in the night."
 - Point: Because they knew Christ's return is unpredictable, there was nothing to discuss about times/seasons.
 - Thieves don't announce the season they are coming!

Why do Premillennialists insist that Christ has revealed the times/seasons of his return?

Matthew 24!

- Premillennialism claim Matthew 24 lists the signs of Christ's return.
- Truth: Jesus listed signs that apply to the destruction of Jerusalem
 - Jesus prophesied of the destruction of Jerusalem 24:1-2
 - These signs were given in answer to the apostles' question concerning when this prophecy would be fulfilled – 24:3-14
 - The signs were revealed to warn the disciples so they could escape the destruction coming on Jerusalem by the Roman army — 24:15-16; Lk. 21:20-22

Premillennial Objections

- Premillennialism claim Matthew 24 can't be about the destruction of Jerusalem because...
 - Jesus spoke of apocalyptic events 24:29; Isa. 13:1, 9-10, 13
 - Jesus said this would be the time of his coming in the clouds –
 24:30; Isa. 19:1
 - Jesus said he would send out his angels to gather the elect from the world – 24:31; 2 Thess. 2:13-14
- All these objections fly in the face of Jesus' time frame that limited all these events to *their generation!* 24:32-35

Are there any signs of Jesus' 2nd Coming?

The List

Conclusion

- If there were times/seasons revealed by Christ concerning his return, the apostles were not allowed to know them Acts 1:6-7
- Our duty is not to speculate, but to be ready at all times for Christ's return – Lk. 12:40
- Are you ready...right now?