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The Key

By Elder Keith Ellis

"Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled."

Matthew 24:34

'Verily' means, "of a truth." Christ spoke truth.

This is the verse which has been referenced several times already. I do not want the reader to think I am relying upon this verse alone to show the fulfillment of Matthew chapter twenty-four. I believe ample evidence has been given from the scripture to show the humble Bible student the truth of Jesus' statement.

I am aware there are certain Christian sects (so called) which use the above verse to attempt to teach the events of Matthew Twenty-four are yet future. Jehovah's Witness' are one such group. They remove this text entirely from its context (the destruction of Jerusalem) and teach it to mean the last generation which will be alive before The Lord's return. Hal and his buddies do the same thing with this verse. I often wonder how they can sleep at nights. I earlier mentioned some of the motivation why certain groups do so.

Let it not be forgotten how we have shown from scripture who Jesus was speaking to when He uttered the words of verse thirty four. It was Peter, James, John and Andrew. (Mark 13:3) Also we need to keep in mind this was a private conversation. (Mark 13:3, Matthew 24:3) The fundamentals of proper Bible study requires us to consider the context of a subject. They also require us to consider, '*who*' is doing the speaking and '*who*' is being addressed. If we are not able to get past this fundamental rule of Bible interpretation, we are likely to be found in error in our understanding of God's word.

The above passage is not the only one to support the fulfillment of Matthew twenty-four, yet it is the key to unlocking other verses in the Bible to help us understand what Jesus was saying.

The word '*all*' as used in the title text is "*all inclusive*." Everything which Jesus mentioned would come to pass before the apostles generation would pass away. Yet if I were to rely upon human reasoning I might just think Jesus was either mistaken or the generation he spoke of would have to be future. Thank God we do not rely upon human reasoning, but rather we reason from the scriptures. All of the events listed in

Matthew twenty-four have either seen their completion or the apostles generation is still alive! I choose to believe the former.