The Essene expected the End of the World to be at hand. The Essene were Pythagorean Astronomers & had records of previous comet & planetary approaches & knew that something was approaching Earth & the possible electric interaction of the planet with Earth’s magnetosphere would cause destruction & abrupt climate changes, droughts, famines & pandemics (known as the plague) caused by mutated or new viruses or poisonous & toxic elements, radiation sickness known as leprosy, accompanying the passing of the Comet’s plasma tail... The Essene prepared for the upcoming upheaval, moved away from the cities a group of men, women & children that belonged of their tribe to the high mountains of the Qumran. They built a small city with a a good source of water & many small pools as well as possibly some kind of safety area like a bunker carved inside the mountain, just like the ancients have been doing since the time of Atlantis. They observed good hygienic techniques in order to keep from getting sick & forbid anyone who had any kind of disease from being part of the group.

They got busy writing down copies of all the records they possessed, including astronomical & scientific knowledge, genealogies of the Hebrew people & other information recorded in sacred texts, in order to protect them inside the caves so the survivors of the catastrophes to come find them at later date. The dead sea scrolls were found until 1947, so this must mean that the tribe of the Essene who knew about the scrolls did not survive.
In the reign of Nero (who killed most of his family to avoid them taking the power from him due to the catastrophes) occurred the next pestilential period. Two comets are noted, one A. D. 62 and a second in 66. In the year 62, Laodicea was overwhelmed by an earthquake. In the year 68, occurred a most violent tempest in Campania which destroyed villages, trees and grain; and a violent earthquake. At the same time, raged a mortal plague in Rome, which is said to have carried off 30,000 people; but by the description of its ravages, it is probable the number was much greater. Tacitus remarks that the "houses were filled with dead bodies and the streets with funerals; neither age nor sex was exempt; slaves and ingenuous plebeians were suddenly taken off, amidst the lamentations of their wives and children, who, while they assisted the sick, or mourned over the dead, were seized with the disease, and perishing, were burnt on the same funeral pile. To the knights and senators, the disease was less mortal, tho these also suffered in the common calamity."

As Rome, at the time under consideration, contained more than a million of inhabitants, so mortal a plague must have extinguished a much larger number than 30,000 people—it is not improbable, a numeral or figure has been omitted by the transcribers of the original history.

The earthquakes of this period were experienced in Asia Minor, at Laodicea and Hierapolis.

Seneca mentions that a flock of 600 sheep were killed by the pestiferous vapor, discharged during the earthquake in Italy.

Dion Cassius relates, that at this period, a most formidable inundation laid waste the Egyptian coast.
It must not be omitted that the violent tempest in which St. Paul was shipwrecked on the island of Melita, now Malta, was in the year 61 or 62, during the approach of the first comet.

Seneca places the great earthquake in Campania under Regulus and Virginius, which, according to common chronology, was in the 65th year of the Christian era. The next pestilential period is one of the most remarkable in all the circumstances, that is recorded in History.

Comet Halley was seen during this period of 66 or 70 AD. The passing of the Comet caused catastrophes such as conflagration, earthquakes, including the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem, therefore the destruction of Temple was caused by the Comet & not by the Roman army, as told in history books. Around that time, Jewish convert Saul, changed his name to Paul & became preacher of Christianity after having persecuted the Christians & followers of Yeshua/Jesus himself; when he saw the visions of the plasma formations caused by the Comet he perceived it as a sign of the Christian god and the End of the World, therefore he converted to Christianity & preached conversion & repentance in order to receive salvation during these catastrophes. He ended up getting executed in 67 AD during the start of the Jewish Great Revolt against Rome in Israel. He is depicted as ascending to heaven like a Comet & like Caesar & Yeshua allegedly did.

The Conflagration in Rome.
Nero was considered by the Christians as the Return as Antichrist. For such a demon in human shape, the murder of a crowd of innocent Christians was pleasant sport. Nero blamed the Christians for having caused the conflagration of Rome which was a hellish & fearful spectacle and one of the most destructive and disastrous fires that ever occurred in history. It broke out in the night between the 18th and 19th of July, [519] among the wooden shops in the south-eastern end of the Circus Maximus (or the Great Circus, near the Palatine
hill) & the Colosseum was rebuilt circa 72 AD after these catastrophes. Lashed by the wind, raged with unabated fury for seven nights and six days. Then it burst out again in another part, near the field of Mars, and in three days more laid waste two other districts of the city. The calamity was incalculable. Only four of the fourteen regions into which the city was divided, remained uninjured; three, including the whole interior city from the Circus to the Esquiline hill, were a shapeless mass of ruins; the remaining seven were more or less destroyed; venerable temples, monumental buildings of the royal, republican, and imperial times, the richest creations of Greek art which had been collected for centuries, were turned into dust and ashes; men and beasts perished in the flames, and the metropolis of the world assumed the aspect of a graveyard with a million of mourners over the loss of irreparable treasures. This fearful catastrophe must have been before the mind of St. John the Baptist who was also a pythagorean astronomer, in the Apocalypse when he predicted the downfall of imperial Rome (Apoc. 18).

The following are ORIGINAL CONTEMPORARY TESTIMONIES

Josephus Flavius (A.D. 75) - Jewish Historian

During the festival seasons of the year 66 AD. Josephus continues in his report: “While the people were assembling for the Feast of Unleavened Bread, on the eighth of the month of Nisan, at the ninth hour of the night [3:00 A. M.] so bright a light shone round the altar and Temple that it looked like broad daylight; and this lasted for half an hour. The inexperienced regarded it as a good omen, but it was immediately interpreted by the sacred scribes in conformity with subsequent events.”

I suppose the account of it would seem to be a fable, were it not related by those that saw it, and were not the events that followed it of so considerable a nature as to deserve such signals; for, before sun-setting, chariots and troops of soldiers in their armour were seen running about among the clouds, and
surrounding of cities. Moreover, at that feast which we call Pentecost, as the priests were going by night into the inner temple, as their custom was, they said that, in the first place, they felt an earthquake, and heard a great noise, and after that they heard a sound as of a great multitude, saying, "Let us depart hence" (Jewish Wars, VI-V-3)... For before sunset chariots were seen in the air over the whole country, and armed battalions speeding through the clouds and encircling the cities." (rendered in Chilton)

Tacitus (A.D. 115) - Roman historian"13. Prodigies had occurred, but their expiation by the offering of victims or solemn vows is held to be unlawful by a nation which is the slave of superstition and the enemy of true beliefs. In the sky appeared a vision of armies in conflict, of glittering armour. A sudden lightning flash from the clouds lit up the Temple. The doors of the holy place abruptly opened, a superhuman voice was heard to declare that the gods were leaving it, and in the same instant came the rushing tumult of their departure. Few people placed a sinister interpretation upon this. The majority were convinced that the ancient scriptures of their priests alluded to the present as the very time when the Orient would triumph and from Judaea would go forth men destined to rule the world." (Histories, Book 5, v. 13).

HISTORICAL TESTIMONIES

Eusebius of Caesarea (A.D. 325)"For before the setting of the sun chariots and armed troops were seen throughout the whole region in mid-air, wheeling through the clouds and encircling the cities" (Eusebius' Ecclesiastical History, Book 3, Ch. 8).

As expected & mentioned above & predicted by the Essene, they were correct & many catastrophes took place, including conflagrations due to fire “raining
down" & extreme lightning, floods, tempests, plagues & earthquakes that destroyed their city & the Temple & surrounding areas.

Thomas Newton (1754) "To these St, Luke addeth, xxi. 11, that 'there shall be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.' Josephus, in the preface to his history of the Jewish war, undertakes to relate "the signs and prodigies, which preceded the taking of the city;" and he relates accordingly, that "a star hung over the city like a sword, and the comet continued for a whole year;" that "the people being assembled to celebrate the feast of unleavened bread, at the ninth hour of the night there shone so great a light about the altar and the temple, that it seemed to be bright day, and this continued for half an hour;" that "at the same feast a cow, led by the priest to sacrifice, brought forth a lamb in the middle of the temple;" that "the eastern gate of the temple, which was of solid brass and very heavy, and was scarcely shut in an evening by twenty men, and was fastened by strong bars and bolts, was seen, at the sixth hour of the night, opened of its own accord, and could hardly be shut again;" that "before the setting of the sun there were seen over all the country chariots and armies fighting in the clouds, and besieging cities;" that "at the feast of Pentecost, as the priests were going into the inner temple by night as usual to attend their service, they heard first a motion and noise, and then a voice as of a multitude saying, Let us depart hence;" and what be reckons as the most terrible of all, that one Jesus, an ordinary country fellow, four years before the war began, when the city was in peace and plenty, came to the feast of tabernacles, and ran crying up and down the streets day and night, 'A voice from the east, a voice from the west, a voice from the four winds, a voice against Jerusalem and the temple, a voice against the bridegrooms and the brides, a voice against all the people.' The magistrates endeavoured by stripes and tortures, to restrain him; but he still cried with a mournful voice, 'Woe, woe to Jerusalem!' This he continued to do for seven years and five months together, and especially at the great festivals; and he neither grew hoarse nor
was tired; but went about the walls, and cried with a loud voice, 'Woe, woe to the city, and to the people, and to the temple;' and as he added at last, 'Woe, woe also to myself,' it happened that a stone from some sling or engine immediately struck him dead. These were indeed fearful sights and great 'signs from heaven:' and there is not a more creditable historian than the author who relates them, and who appeals to the testimony of those who saw and heard them. But it may add some weight to his relation, that Tacitus, the Roman historian, also gives us a summary account of the same occurrences. He saith that "there happened several prodigies, armies were seen engaging in the heavens, arms were seen glittering, and the temple shone with the sudden fire of the clouds, the doors of the temple opened suddenly, and a voice greater than human was heard, that the gods were departing, and likewise a great motion of their departing." Dr. Jortin's remark is very pertinent. "If Christ had not expressly foretold this, many, who gave little heed to portents, and who know that historians have been too credulous in that point, would have suspected that Josephus exaggerated, and that Tacitus was misinformed; but as the testimonies of Josephus and Tacitus confirm the predictions of Christ, so the predictions of Christ confirm the wonders recorded by these historians." (author’s note: by the way, Jesus was also a prophet with astronomical knowledge, versed in the signs of approaching comets or planetary disruptions, like all prophets & seers). But even allowing all that incredulity can urge that in the great calamities of war, and famine, and pestilence, the people always grow superstitious, and are struck with religious panics;-- that they see nothing then but prodigies and portents, which in happier seasons are overlooked;-- that some of these appear to be formed in imitation of the Greek and Roman historians as particularly the cow's bringing forth a lamb;-- that armies fighting in the clouds, seen in calamitous times in all ages and countries, are nothing more than meteors (from Comets), such as the aurora borealis;-- in short allowing that some of these prodigies were feigned, and others were exaggerated, yet the prediction of them is not the less divine
on that account. Whether they were supernatural, or the fictions only of a disordered imagination, yet they were believed as realities, and had all the effects of realities, and were equally worthy to be made the objects of prophecy. 'Fearful sights and great signs from heaven' they certainly were, as much as if they had been created on purpose to astonish the earth."  (The Prophecy of Matthew 24, Dissertation XVIII).

Conclusion:
Throughout the history of our civilization, many catastrophes that have decimated the population, destroyed cities & kingdoms caused by planets & comets interacting electrically with Earth’s plasma sheath, have been blamed on the enemies of the ruling bloodlines & used by the rulers as an excuse to have never ending wars & to have obedient subjects. This is the reason the astronomical knowledge was kept secret & our history books never speak of comets being involved at the time of the fall of kingdoms. Historical records always refer to comets as ‘visions’, omens, armies of angels, archangels, bulls, serpents, cows, dragons, monsters, witches’ brooms, swords, lances, sun disks, etc and the blame of the destruction of great buildings & castles always falls on the armies of the enemies. Perhaps these were the comets & “End of Times” that John the Baptist had predicted to take place 34 years previously; during the “Passover” of 33 AD. For more on John the Baptist’s prophecies of the End Times please read my eBook ‘Yeshua, Constantine & the Fall of the Roman Empire’.

Sources:

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Book source: MYTHOS DECODED by Tess Clark
https://mythosdecoded.wixsite.com/mythos