

# **Living In The End Times**

## **(Are You Ready)**



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## **Introduction**

Every generation has claimed to be living in the End Times then the next generation comes along and they have even more prophecy fulfilled and revelation revealed so they claim to be in the End Times, and so on for every generation. So the question then becomes are we living in the End Times or is it the next generation or the one after that or is it to come in the near or far future? No one can truthfully answer this with 100% certainty simply because only the Father

Knows when the End will come. (Matthew 24:36). So what can we do then? The answer is easy, we study our Bibles to prepare ourselves.

My goal in this writing is to briefly discuss topics concerning The End Times such as the Signs, and are we ready for the End Times, it is my hope that the reader will realize that we are living in the End Times that Jesus warned us of. Awareness, preparedness are the main factors concerning the end that we need to continually keep in minds. With saying that lets just get top the Scripture.

### **Signs of the end of the age**

Matthew 24:3-14 As he sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?" And Jesus answered them, "See that no one leads you astray. For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and they will lead many astray. And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not alarmed, for this must take place, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are but the beginning of the birth pains. "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for my name's sake. And then many will fall away and betray one another and hate one another. And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

There is so much to take in with this section of Scripture so I'll start with the top and work my way down. So let's begin with the statement "many will come in my name proclaiming to be the Christ".

There have been so many who have claimed to be the second coming of Jesus. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century there were 2 who made the claim, in the 19<sup>th</sup> century there were 6 people who made that claim, in the 20<sup>th</sup> century there were 29 people who claimed to be Jesus incarnate and we are only 20 years into the 21<sup>st</sup> century (that's only 20% of the time in a century) and there have already been 7 individuals who has made the false claim. Look at how these numbers have significantly gotten higher

with each passing century. Let's take one more look at the numbers, **18<sup>th</sup> = 2 people, 19<sup>th</sup> = 6 people, 20<sup>th</sup> = 29 people, and the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> already has 7 people.** You can Google "People who claimed to be Christ if you're interested in who they actually were and are. This increasing of the false claims of being Christ is the first sign that Jesus warned us to noticed. That increasing number over the last 4 centuries should be very alarming to every Christian.

The next topic in this Scripture is "wars and rumors of wars" along with "nation rising up against nation". We as the human race has made some huge advances in technology over the past few centuries. In times past it would take months, sometimes even years to hear about conflicts between different nations from across the globe, now in the age of technology we literally hear about the happening from around the world in a matter of minutes. We hear about every war going on, and even when there are heated issues between two nations in just a few minutes after the issues arise. The same can be said when it comes to hearing about earthquakes and famines, it seems like there's so much of those disasters happening, but if you think about it with the age of the internet we have an endless and immense source of information, combining that with the constant evolving technology of the cell phone, that information is literally in the palms of our hand. The bottom line is that we know and hear all of the happenings and rumors that's going on throughout the world and we receive the information almost immediately after it happens.

There are currently 52 countries that I can find that not only is being a christian illegal but just have a Bible can lead to dire consequences, here's a list of those nations,

*Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Mauritania, North Korea, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Yemen,*

*Algeria, Bhutan, Brunei, China, Cuba, Djibouti, Eritrea, Kuwait, Laos, Libya, Malaysia, Morocco, Oman, Sudan, Tunisia,*

*Bahrain, Bangladesh, Central African Republic, Columbia, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Mali, Myanmar (Burma), Nepal, Niger,*

*Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines (Mindanao), Sri Lanka, Syria, Tanzania, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Vietnam*

The reason the list is broken into three parts is that I separated them by degrees of punishment and persecution with the top group being the worse. There are 195 countries in the world, with Christianity being illegal in 52 countries this means that in ¼ of the world you will be persecuted for worshiping Christ and/or possessing the Word of God and this number is growing continually. It is my belief that this is the fulfillment of what Jesus said in this Scripture, “Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for my name's sake.” Christ also said this is just the beginning of the end.

Let's look at another Scripture concerning End Times Signs

2 Timothy 3:1-9 But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people. For among them are those who creep into households and capture weak women, burdened with sins and led astray by various passions, always learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth.

It could be just me but this sounds like the common mindset of today average person living in a Christian based country. The majority of people in Christian accepted countries say they believe in The Holy Trinity and many even go to church on Sunday, but the rest of the week they do as they please. On Sunday everybody loves everybody and the rest of the week it's all about me me me. Jesus warned us about love growing cold in the first Scripture of this pamphlet. And on top of it all every once in a while, someone comes up with a new theory and

doctrine about our God and Savior, deceiving many with their false Biblical foundations.

### **Knowing and paying attention to the signs**

Matthew 16:1-4 And the Pharisees and Sadducees came, and to test him they asked him to show them a sign from heaven. He answered them, "When it is evening, you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red.' And in the morning, 'It will be stormy today, for the sky is red and threatening.' You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times. An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah."

Jesus tells us above that we know the signs of oncoming rain and such but we don't pay attention to the signs concerning the things of God. As we clearly seen in the first section of this writing the End Times Signs can be clearly seen in both Christian and non-Christians parts of the world. There are lots of verses in our Bible that tell us to keep watch, (Luke 21:36, Matthew 24:42-44, Acts 9:24) just to name a few. So why don't we watch and pay attention to the signs the Bible warns us of? There may be many reasons people come up with concerning the question, but if you think about it, they're just excuses. When we see our Lord on Judgment Day, and He asks something like, "you knew I was coming, why didn't you pay attention to the signs and prepare yourself, what answer can we justly give Him? I believe that there are no just answers we can Give Him, simply because He warned us and told us to be ready.

**Extra.....**The Sign of Jonah was the sign that the people in Jesus' time received and ignored. Jonah died (Jonah 2) and three days later God resurrected him and sent him to a gentile people to be reconciled to God. The signs that we have in our day and age are those end times signs that most Christians ignore, or are too lazy or busy to study their Bible.

## How should we be living

2 Peter 3:10-13 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, **what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God**, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells

2 Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

Peter tells us in the first Scripture that “the Day of the Lord will come like a thief”. This means that it will come suddenly. Then Peter warns us on how we should be living our lives, (in bold above). In the second verse Paul warns us that we all will stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ, And we will receive our just due whether it be for good or evil. With everything going on in the world today I think every Christian needs to consider the way they are living and then ask themselves, “as of right now, what would be my just due from the Lord, would it be reward or punishment”.

## Are You Ready

“Are you ready”? This is the question every Christian should ask themselves. Just saying that you’re a Christian is not enough, Look what Jesus says;

Matthew 7:21-23 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.

He's talking about those of us who claim to be Christian but are living life however they seem pleased to do. Look At the last statement Jesus makes, "I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness." **Never, Never** that's serious, for there to be a chance for Jesus to tell anyone claiming to be Christian, "I never knew you". That statement alone should cause every one of us to evaluate our lifestyles. Peter also touches on this. He wrote,

1 Peter 4:18 "If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?"

Peter is talking about End Time suffering, but the statement made is probably the scariest verse I know "If the righteous is scarcely saved" along with Jesus' statement of, "I never knew you". These terrify me because it makes me evaluate my lifestyle, and to be completely honest, I am rarely pleased at what I discover about my everyday life.

When all is said and done the question we need to ask ourselves is if Christ were to come back within the next 10 minutes how would you react, would you be happy to see our Lord, or would you hide yourself like Adam and Eve because of shameful disobedience. We need to realize that we are literally living in the End times. We must read and study our Bibles (and there is a difference), to know the signs and prepare ourselves along with our loved ones for the things to come. Being ready is our responsibility, so my question to you is, **ARE YOU READY!!!**