



THE TIMES

We Live In

BE AWAKE • BE READY • BE FAITHFUL

Main Text: 2 Timothy 3:1–5 NIV



The Bible tells us that difficult times will characterize the last days. Jesus did not call us to predict the exact day of His return, but to pay attention, remain spiritually awake, and live faithfully.

1



NO ONE KNOWS THE DAY OR HOUR

Matthew 24:36 NIV

"But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father."

We are not called to set dates.
We are called to be ready
whenever Jesus comes.

2



TERRIBLE TIMES IN THE LAST DAYS

2 Timothy 3:1 NIV

"But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days."

Paul tells Timothy to "mark this."
Difficult times should not surprise
believers. God has already told us
what to expect.

3



WHAT WILL PEOPLE LOVE?

2 Timothy 3:2–4 NIV

"People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God—"

Paul points us to the condition
of the human heart. The repeated
issue is love—love of self, money,
and pleasure instead of love
for God.

♥ What we love eventually
directs how we live.

4



WHERE IS YOUR TREASURE?

Matthew 6:21 NIV

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Before examining everyone else,
examine your own heart.

Ask yourself:

Am I consumed with myself, money,
pleasure, bitterness, or anything
that has become more important
than Jesus?

5



A FORM OF GODLINESS

2 Timothy 3:5 NIV

"having a form of godliness but denying its power."

It is possible to look religious without
experiencing genuine transformation.
You can attend church, know Christian
language, sing the songs, and know
about Jesus while never truly
surrendering to Him.

Christianity around us is not enough.
Christ must rule within us.



The deeper question is not simply, "How bad will the world become?"
But rather, "What will people love?"

JESUS TOLD US WHAT WAS COMING

6



DO NOT BE DECEIVED OR ALARMED

Matthew 24:4–6 NIV

"Jesus answered: 'Watch out that no one deceives you. For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am the Messiah,' and will deceive many. You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed.'"

Jesus warned that frightening events would come. He also gave us two clear commands:

Do not be deceived. Do not be alarmed.



The world may appear out of control, but God is still in control.

7



THE BEGINNING OF BIRTH PAINS

Matthew 24:7–8 NIV

"Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth pains."

Jesus compared these events to birth pains. They are signs that something is coming.



The signs should cause believers to **pay attention—not panic**.

SO WHAT SHOULD WE BE DOING?

8



WAKE UP!

Romans 13:11–12 NIV

"And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. The night is nearly over; the day is almost here."

Paul's message is simple: **WAKE UP**.

Do not become spiritually comfortable, distracted, or so consumed with this life that you forget eternity.



The important question is not only, "Are we living in the last days?" It is, "Am I living like Jesus could return?"

IF YOU REALLY BELIEVED JESUS COULD RETURN, WOULD YOU:



Forgive someone?



Pray differently?



Deal with a sin?



Spend your time differently?



Share Jesus with someone?



Serve God more faithfully?

9



DON'T BE AFRAID—BE READY

1 Thessalonians 5:4–6 NIV

"But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober."

We are not called to fear, but to remain spiritually awake and alert.

Instead of asking, "When is Jesus coming?" ask, "What does Jesus want me doing until He comes?"

LIVE FAITHFULLY UNTIL HE COMES:



LOVE



PRAY



SERVE



SHARE



MAKE DISCIPLES



STAND ON GOD'S WORD

10



HE IS COMING

Hebrews 10:37 NIV

"For, 'In just a little while, he who is coming will come and will not delay.'"

We do not know whether Jesus will return during our lifetime, but Scripture assures us: **JESUS IS COMING**.



Until then, we keep loving, serving, praying, sharing the Gospel, standing on God's Word, and keeping our eyes on Jesus. Whatever time it is on God's prophetic clock, our responsibility has not changed.



PERSONAL REFLECTION

1

ROMANS 13 tells believers that it is time to _____ up from spiritual slumber because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.

2

Our response to the times we live in should not be _____. Our response should be faithfulness.

3

CHALLENGE QUESTION

If you truly believed Jesus could return at any moment, what would change about the way you are living today?

Consider your relationship with God, forgiveness, family, priorities, prayer life, service, use of time, and willingness to share the Gospel. What is God calling you to change, begin, or surrender today?

**BE AWAKE.
BE READY.
BE FAITHFUL.**
Jesus is coming.



Pay attention. Stay awake. Live faithfully.

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