



Living in the End Times Session 5 – Dangerous Times

I. Introduction

Matthew 24:3-14 (NKJV) – ³Now 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?” ⁴And Jesus answered and said to them: “Take heed that no one deceives you. ⁵For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many. ⁶And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. ⁷For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. ⁸All these are the beginning of sorrows. ⁹“Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name’s sake. ¹⁰And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. ¹¹Many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. ¹²And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. ¹³But he who endures to the end shall be saved. ¹⁴And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.

Review

- A. The signs tell us that we are approaching our destination.
- B. Signs warn us of impending danger.
- C. Signs keep us on course so that we will arrive at our destination.
- D. The signs of the times keep us mindful that we are nearing the coming of the Lord.
- E. The signs of the Lord warn us of the dangerous times we are in so we may guard ourselves and our family.



F. Previous Sessions

- Deception/Delusion
- The love of many will grow cold/The great falling away
A falling away from truth – A falling away from God.
- Persecution – The Church must learn to stand under pressure.

II. Dangerous Times

A. 2 Timothy 3:1-5 (NKJV) – ¹*But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: ²For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, ³unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, ⁴traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, ⁵having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!*

1. **Perilous** = *Chalepos* -used 27 times in the Bible

- a. Denotes spoken words that were hurtful, harsh, cruel, ruthless, cutting or wounding.
- b. Used to describe animals that were vicious, ferocious, fierce, uncontrollable, unpredictable, and dangerous.
- c. Something that is harmful.
- d. An environment that is besieged with high risk or danger.

2. **Paul is saying** – *You emphatically must know that in the last days, periods of time will come that are hurtful, harmful, dangerous, unpredictable, uncontrollable, and high risk.*

3. We are living in a generation that faces threats that no recent generation has ever known.

4. The Holy Spirit emphatically told us that these times will come and increase as the day nears of the return of Jesus.

B. The Characteristics of Society and Culture

The Holy Spirit through Paul announced emphatically what the Spirit of the age would be like prior to the coming of Jesus.



These signs announce that we are no longer approaching the end times but that we have finally entered them.

1. The Supremacy of Self

2 Timothy 3:2a (NKJV) – *For men will be lovers of themselves.*

- a. Society will be: *Self-focused, self-centered, self-absorbed and self-consumed.*
- b. The original use of the word “Lovers” carried the meaning of profound love that was directed toward someone else.
- c. Here – the word takes on a different meaning.
Rather than possessing love , fondness, attraction, and feelings for others, they possess and excessive self-fondness or self-attraction. They become infatuated by self.
SELF FOCUSED – SELF ABSORBED – SELF CONSUMED
- d. At the end of the age, people in general will be loyal only to themselves above all.
Not family, their nation, their employer, NOT GOD!

Rick Renner “End time society will be populated with those who are chiefly loyal to themselves and whose lives are consequently and fundamentally lopsided, off-balance and off-center”.

The foundation of their life is off – therefore everything in that person’s life is become off-balance.

This is the foundation of our society – off-balance.

Rick Renner “When self is the foundation of a person’s life or society as a whole – nothing that is built afterward will go quite right because the foundation is bad”.

- e. We need to examine ourselves often to see that we are not being influenced by this spirit of self-absorption that is coming upon our culture.



2. **2 Timothy 3:2 (NKJV)** – *For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, **boasters**, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,*

a. **Boasters Gr – Alazon =**

A braggard or one so committed to his own self promotion and personal agenda that he is willing to exaggerate, overstate the facts, stretch the truth, embellish a story, and even lie if it will have a positive effect on his position or situation.

b. **Blasphemers**

1) **Blasphemos:** to slander, to accuse, to speak against, to speak derogatory words for the purpose of injuring or harming another's reputation. Behavior intended to humiliate someone.

2) **Social Media**

3) **Never intentionally use your words to harm others!**

c. **Disobedient to Parents**

1) **Disobedient – gr** – no longer able to persuade, control, lead, or exercise authority over – It depicts loss of control or lack of ability to persuade or influence.

2) **Parents are entrusted the ability to lead a child into adulthood.**

3) **Children in the last days will become unpersuadable, uncontrollable, inconvincible or unable to be led by their parents who have the God given responsibility to lead them.**

a) Parental authority will be compromised in the end times.

b) Authority in General will be compromised.

NO respect for authority!

d. Various other characteristics of the end times

1) Unthankful = ungrateful – unappreciative

Denotes that a person who once was thankful has become unthankful.

People will become unthankful, ungrateful, and unappreciative so they will feel ENTITLED to everything.

Everyone OWES me.



This sense of entitlement is a defining trait of a narcissist.

Takers vs Givers.

- 2) Unholy – irreverent and disrespectful to holy/sacred things
- 3) Unloving, Unforgiving, Slanderers

Unloving = Lack of real love other than love for oneself

2 Timothy 3:3 (KJV) – *without natural affection*

Where there should be love, it will be non-existent.

Where there shouldn't be love, love will exist.

Unforgiveness – offense toward everything/everyone.

- 4) Without self-control. *Society will cast of all restraint.*

Judges 17:6 (KJV) – *There was no king in Israel and every man did that which was right in his own eyes.*

Restraints include:

Any desire

Spending

Debt

I am entitled to have whatever I want – When I want it.

No limits or boundaries

- 5) Having a form of godliness but denying its power.

Form = an outward shape or form – appearance of

Godliness = External religious or spiritual style or outer form.

The Holy Spirit is foretelling that some religious groups at the end of the age will have a FORM of godliness, but they will lack the inner power that makes godliness real.



Rick Renner *“The people will be like spiritual mannequins, all dressed up in religious clothing having the outward form of godliness but lacking the inward life-giving power of God”.*

3. Why did the Holy Spirit tell us of these things?
 - a. So we could hide out in our homes?
 - b. So we would never travel again?
 - c. So we would respond in fear and anxiety?
 - d. NO!

4. The Holy Spirit warned us of these things so we can learn how to live victoriously, without being adversely by the times in which we live. *I MUST learn how to live in the end times without allowing the end times to rule over my life.*
 - a. Watch out for the spirit of this age.
*All of the things that Paul said would come upon the earth
These things could overtake you before you realize it.*
 - b. I didn't get to choose the days in which I would live on earth.
 - c. Since God placed me here, He must be willing to provide me with the supernatural grace for living in the end times.
 - d. Confession:
 - I can make it!*
 - I can do it!*
 - I can survive it!*
 - I can raise my children to love God in this season!*
 - I can have a godly family in this season!*
 - I can hold on to the truth of God's word in spite of how others think!*
 - I can have faith when there is great opportunity to fear!*
 - I can overcome!*