

The End Times According to Jesus

Small Group Guide:

The End Times According to Jesus, Week 4

Key Takeaways:

1. The prophecy of the 70 weeks in Daniel 9 is crucial for understanding end times prophecy.
2. This prophecy accurately predicted the exact day, month, and year of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem.
3. Biblical prophecy uses a 360-day prophetic year for calculations.
4. The rebirth of Israel as a nation in 1948 was also precisely predicted by biblical prophecy.
5. We are likely living in the generation that will see the fulfillment of end times prophecies.

Discussion Questions:

1. What surprised you most about the precision of Daniel's prophecy regarding Jesus' triumphal entry?

2. How does understanding the accuracy of biblical prophecy impact your faith?
3. How does the concept of a 360-day prophetic year change your understanding of biblical timelines?
4. Discuss the significance of Israel's rebirth as a nation in 1948. How does this event relate to end times prophecy?
5. Pastor Allen emphasized interpreting prophecy literally rather than allegorically. Do you agree with this approach? Why or why not?
6. How does the idea that we might be the generation to see Jesus' return affect your daily life and priorities?

Practical Application:

1. Study the book of Daniel, particularly chapter 9, to deepen your understanding of this prophecy.
2. Research the historical events surrounding Jesus' triumphal entry and crucifixion to verify the dates mentioned in the sermon.
3. Reflect on your own readiness for Jesus' return. What areas of your life might need adjustment?
4. Share what you've learned about biblical prophecy with a friend or family member who may be skeptical about Christianity.
5. Commit to studying end times prophecy more deeply, perhaps by reading some of the books recommended by the pastor.
6. Pray for the Jewish people and for Israel, recognizing God's continued plan for them as revealed in prophecy.
7. Consider how you can live with a greater sense of urgency and purpose, knowing that Jesus' return could be near.

Closing Prayer:

Thank God for His plan of redemption and the promise of Christ's return.

5-Day Devotional

Day 1: God's Precise Plan

Reading: Daniel 9:24-27

Devotional: As we read Daniel's prophecy of the 70 weeks, we're struck by the incredible precision of God's timing. Just as He planned the exact day for the Messiah's triumphant entry into Jerusalem, He has a precise plan for your life. Reflect on how God's timing has been evident in your own journey. Where have you seen His hand guiding events with perfect accuracy? Take time to trust in His divine schedule, even when things seem unclear or delayed. Remember, our God is never early, never late, but always right on time.

Day 2: The Messiah Revealed

Reading: Luke 19:28-44

Devotional: Today's passage shows Jesus fulfilling Daniel's prophecy as He enters Jerusalem. The crowds shout "Hosanna!", but Jesus weeps over the city, knowing many would reject Him. Consider how easy it is to miss God's work in our lives when it doesn't match our expectations. Are there areas where you might be overlooking God's presence or activity because it doesn't fit your preconceptions? Ask the Holy Spirit to open your eyes to

see Jesus for who He truly is - not just the Messiah you want, but the Savior you need.

Day 3: Israel's Restoration and God's Faithfulness

Reading: Ezekiel 36:22-38

Devotional: Ezekiel's prophecy about Israel's restoration, fulfilled in 1948, demonstrates God's unwavering faithfulness to His promises. Even after centuries of disobedience, God remained true to His word. This serves as a powerful reminder of His steadfast love for us. Reflect on times when you've felt unworthy of God's love or too far gone for His grace. Remember that His faithfulness is not dependent on our performance. Thank Him for His enduring commitment to you, and consider how you can reflect that faithfulness in your relationships with others.

Day 4: Living in the End Times

Reading: Matthew 24:32-44

Devotional: Jesus' words about the fig tree and the coming of the Son of Man remind us that we're living in significant times. While we can't know the exact day or hour, we're called to be watchful and ready. How does the reality of Christ's return impact your daily life? Are you living with an eternal perspective? Take some time to evaluate your priorities and ask God to help you focus on what truly matters in light of eternity. Consider one practical step you can take today to be more prepared for Christ's return.

Day 5: Hope in God's Promises

Reading: Romans 11:25-36

Devotional: Paul reminds us that God's plans for Israel and the nations are part of His mysterious and wonderful wisdom. Even when we don't understand everything, we can trust in His sovereign plan. Reflect on areas in your life or in the world that seem hopeless or confusing. How can you apply the truth of God's faithfulness and wisdom to these situations? Take time to praise God for His unsearchable judgments and inscrutable ways. Let this reminder of His ultimate control fill you with hope and peace as you face the uncertainties of life.