

ARE WE LIVING IN THE LAST DAYS

ARE WE LIVING IN THE LAST DAYS? Recent events have caused a resurgence of many asking, “Are we living in the last days?” The short answer is yes, we are living in the last days and have been for over two thousand years since the time Jesus walked on the earth. In fact, Jesus’ arrival marked the beginning to the end of our present age. This is confirmed by Jesus himself with his first recorded message declaring, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel” (Mark 1:15). Each of the writers of the New Testament confirmed that Jesus’ arrival ushered in the last days as stated in the following Scriptures: Hebrews 1:1-2, 9:26; 1 Peter 1:20.

Not only did Jesus usher in the last days, his second longest recorded teaching was on the events, ordering, and timing of the last days in Matthew 24 and 25. For a brief commentary on Matthew 24 and 25 check out my book, *COMING SOON*. You can download it free at hope-for-today.com.

THE REAL QUESTION

The real question on people’s mind when asking, “Are we living in the last days?” is, “Are we living in the last of the last days when we can expect the Antichrist to arrive and the return of Jesus and the rapture to take place for my eyes to see?”

The short answer is a definite yes. The outlined answer is in the next paragraph. The longer answer may be found in my book, *REVELATION AND THE AGE OF THE ANTICHRIST* which may be downloaded at hope-for-today.com.

It is without question that we are living in the last of the last days when the one called the Antichrist will soon be in power. We know we have entered the last of the last days when Israel was reformed as a nation and Jerusalem was reclaimed as her capital (Deuteronomy 30:3; Luke 21:24). This took place in 1948 and 1967 respectively. The events that let us know the world is being prepared for the Antichrist’s arrival are those events Jesus called “the beginning of sorrows.” These sorrows lead us to the great sorrows brought by the Antichrist in what we know as “the great tribulation” and Israel knows as the “time of Jacob’s trouble” (Jeremiah 30:7). These events are recorded in Matthew 24:7-8 and are identified as ethnic/racial conflicts, world wars, famines, diseases, and earthquakes. What makes these events signs of the last of the last days is that they will be more destructive, more frequent, and will affect more people.

WE CAN KNOW WHEN WE ARE IN THE LAST OF THE LAST DAYS

We can know we have entered the last seven years of earth’s final days when the Antichrist is on the scene. We will know when he is here when all nations are realigned under ten economic regions, a cashless economic system becomes mandatory in order to buy and sell, and Israel has peace with her neighboring countries. We know we are getting close to his appearing because the technology and political structure is now being put into place and is almost complete for the realignment and cashless economy to be made international law.

WHAT THEN SHALL WE DO?

To prepare for these days we need to keep alert so that those days don't take us by surprise, as in the days of Noah (Matthew 24:37-39; 1 Thessalonians 5:2, 6-8; 1 Peter 5:8). We need to see world events from God's perspective. This requires a study of Scripture. Some important Scripture concerning the last days include Daniel 2 and 7, which records the empires that rises to advance us to the world's last seven years. Matthew 24, Mark 13, and Luke 21 outlines Jesus' teaching on the ordering and timing of the main events leading to the Antichrist and earth's last seven years. In the book of Revelation, the events of earth's last seven years are revealed.

As we approach the arrival of the Antichrist and the return of Christ, deception among God's people will increase and many will lose the power of the Holy Spirit and their faith in Christ will decrease, so much so that Jesus asked, "When the Son of man comes, shall he find faith on the earth?" (2 Thessalonians 2:3-4; Luke 18:8). We need to be even more determined and stubborn in our Christianity than ever before (Hebrews 10:22-25). We need to always be checking our spiritual armor to ensure it is polished and in good working order as our days grow darker and more evil (Ephesians 6:10-18). We need to go into the public square, the marketplace, the highways and byways and declare the need for repentance, believing in Jesus, and obeying the teachings of God (Matthew 24:14; Mark 16:15; Luke 14:23).

As we move forward, let us all be as the Apostle Paul who kept his eyes on the eternal inheritance that will be his and not on the present troubles of our days: "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us."

With Prayer and the love of Christ,
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