

Making Sense of The Last Days

What an incredible age we live in. Change is occurring at record speed in every area of life. Confusion, fear, questions, and uncertainty abound in the hearts of people all over the world, but not in the heart of God, or his people. For the believer, it is without a doubt the most exciting time in history to be alive!

God is in full control of history, and God never does anything without letting his people know first. Believers are not to be afraid or confused about end time events.

God See's Only Three Groups Of People.

The Jews, the Gentiles, and the Church of God (1 Corinthians 12:32). God loves the Jews, God loves the Gentiles (unbelievers), and God loves the Church of God. In these last days God is dealing with each group differently.

Jews

After 2000 years of exile, God is supernaturally bringing the Jewish people back home to Israel. He promised he would do this before the return of Jesus.

Gentiles (Unbelievers)

Jesus died for all mankind. God is trying to save all mankind. In 2 Peter 3:9 we read, "The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent."

The Church of God.

The church, the body of Christ, is doing the work of the ministry, serving mankind. Matthew 16:15 (NKJ) Jesus said, "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned."

Living In The Last Days.

We have been living in the last days for some 2000 years. The last days began when Jesus came out of the grave. Jewish time stopped, with seven years remaining to be fulfilled, that is the tribulation, and the time of the gentiles began. We call this the church age.

Signs of the Last Days (End Times)

The Bible gives us things to look for.

Matthew 24:3 (NLT) “Tell us when will all this happen? **What sign will signal your return and the end of the world?** Jesus told them, “Don’t let anyone mislead you, for many will come in my name, claiming I am the Messiah.” They will deceive many. And you will hear of **wars and threats of wars**, but **don’t panic**. Yes, these things must take place, but the end won’t follow immediately. Nation will go against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be **famines and earthquakes** in many parts of the world. But all this is only the first of the birth

2 Timothy 3:1-5 (NLT) You should know this, Timothy, that in the **last days** there will be very **difficult times**. For people will **love only themselves** and their money. They will be boastful and proud, **scoffing at God, disobedient to their parents**, and **ungrateful**. They will consider nothing sacred. They will be **unloving and unforgiving**; they will slander others and have **no self-control**. They will be **cruel** and hate what is good. They will betray their friends, be **reckless**, be puffed up with pride, and love pleasure rather than God. They will **act religious**, but they will reject the power that could make them godly. Stay away from people like that.”

Jude 17-19 (NLT) “But you my dear friends, must remember what the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ said. They told you that in the **last times** there would be **scoffers** whose purpose in life is to satisfy their ungodly desires. These people are the ones who are **creating divisions** among you. They follow their natural instincts because they do not have God’s Spirit in them.”

Acts 2:17-18 (NLT) And it shall come to pass in the **last days**, says God, that I will **pour out of my Spirit on all flesh**: your **sons and your daughters shall prophesy**. Your young men shall **see visions**. Your old men shall **dream dreams**. And on my menservants and on my maidservants I will pour out my Spirit in those days; and **they shall prophesy**.

The last days, a scary time for some, a blessed time for others.

A One World Economy Is Coming

Revelation 13:16 (NLT) He (Anti-Christ) required everyone – small and great, rich and poor, free and slave – to be given a mark on the right hand or on the forehead. And **no one could buy or sell anything** without that mark, which was either the name of the beast or the number representing his name.

This cannot happen until after the rapture of the church. We have a job to do. Preach the gospel. Help the poor, the widows, the orphans, those sick and in prison. That takes money. The one world economy may be getting set up but cannot come into affect until we are gone. That is why Jesus said:

Luke 17:26-30 (NLT) When the Son of Man returns, (the rapture not the second coming) it will be like it was in Noah's day. In those days, the **people enjoyed banquets and parties and weddings** right up to the time Noah entered his boat and the flood came and destroyed them all.

And the world will be as it was in the days of Lot. People **went about their daily business – eating and drinking, buying and selling, farming and building** – until the morning Lot left Sodom. Then fire and burning sulfur rained down from heaven and destroyed them all. Yes, **it will be business as usual right up to the day when the Son of Man is revealed.**

God Cares For His People

1 Chronicles 12:23 (NLT) From the tribe of Issachar, there were 200 leaders of the tribe with their relatives. All these men **understood** the signs of the **times** and knew the **best course** for Israel to take.

Isaiah 33:6 (NKJ) **Wisdom and knowledge** will be the **stability** of your **times**, and the **strength** of salvation.

Isaiah 54:13 (NKJ) All your children shall be **taught by the Lord**, and great shall be the **peace** of your children.

John 16:13 (NLT) When the Spirit of truth comes, **he will guide** you into all truth. He will not speak on his own but will tell you what he has heard. He will **tell you about the future.**

John 10:27 (NKJ) My sheep **hear my voice**, and I know them, and **they follow me.**

Isaiah 45:11 (NKJ) Thus says the Lord, The Holy one of Israel, and his Maker: "Ask me of **things to come** concerning My sons; and concerning the work of my hands **command ye Me.**"

Psalms 37:23 (NKJ) The **steps** of a good man **are ordered** by the Lord, and he delights in his way.

Without The Bible Nothing Makes Sense

Thank God he has given us his Word to lead us and guide us.

Psalms 119:105 (NKJ) Your word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

1 Corinthians 2:13 (NLT) But people who aren't spiritual can't receive these truths from God's Spirit. **It all sounds foolish to them** and they can't understand it, for only those who are spiritual can understand what the Spirit means. Those who are spiritual can evaluate all things, but they themselves cannot be evaluated by others. For, who can know the Lord's thoughts? Who knows enough to teach him? But we understand these things, for we have the mind of Christ.

Thank God Jesus is our Lord and Savior and he orders our steps and directs our paths. He talks to us when we sleep, when we wake up, and when we walk during the day. He guides us into all truth and shows us things to come. We are his sheep and he is our shepherd. We hear his voice and the voice of a stranger we do not follow. We know we are children of God because we are led by the Spirit of God. We are in the world but we are not of this world. We get to use our faith and walk in victory every day. Whatever evil tries to come on us God will work to our good. We are blessed and highly favored. God will prosper all we set our hand to. Praise God!

Psalm 112

How joyful are those who fear the Lord
And delight in obeying his commandments.
Their children will be successful everywhere;
An entire generation of godly people will be blessed.
They themselves will be wealthy,
And their good deeds will last forever.
Light shines in the darkness for the godly.
They are generous, compassionate and righteous.
Good comes to those who lend money generously,
And conduct their business fairly.
Such people will not be overcome with evil.
Those who are righteous will be long remembered.
They do not fear bad news;
They confidently trust the Lord to care for them.
They are confident and fearless
And can face their foes triumphantly.
They share freely and give generously to those in need.
Their good deeds will be remembered forever.
They will have influence and honor.
The wicked will see this and be infuriated.
They will grind their teeth in anger,
They will slink away, their hopes thwarted.

Thank God for the honor to be alive in the last days!