

# Bethany Bible Study & Discussion



## II TIMOTHY

### Part-4

(chapter 3)  
KJV

4.24.2023

3:1-13

## OVERCOMING THE PERIL OF LAST DAYS

**PERILOUS TIMES (1-5):** When will the 'last days' begin and end? What are the 19 signs of 'last days'? Is 2024 part of 'last days'?

**WHO TO REJECT? (6-9):** What power are false teachers missing? How should we respond to them? Who do such people tempt? Why doesn't learning lead to truth? Who will win in the end?

**WHO TO FOLLOW? (10-13):** Who must Timothy follow to be an overcomer? What can he learn from the experience of Paul?

# PERILOUS TIMES

(1-5)

When will the 'last days' begin and end? What are the 19 signs of 'last days'? Is 2024 part of 'last days'?

## Perilous times of Last Days

This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

<sup>2</sup> For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

<sup>3</sup> Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

<sup>4</sup> Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

<sup>5</sup> Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

# LAST DAYS?

**LAST DAYS:** Days before Jesus Christ returns to set up his millennium Kingdom.

- Are 'last days' a few days or an extended period?
- Are we already in 'last days'?
- Can we distinguish between 'last days' and 'end times'?
  
- What do the scriptures and signs suggest about last days?

**19 Signs of  
'last days' ...**  
declining morality  
and dismissal of  
spiritual values

1. Lovers of themselves (focus on 'self' triggers many bad habits and sins; "Selfies", **Narcissism**) (NPD – narcissistic personality disorder)
2. Covetous (greedy, never content, **Materialism**)
3. Boasters
4. Proud
5. Blasphemers (speak against God)
6. Disobedient / disrespectful / abusive to parents
7. Unthankful
8. Unholy
9. Without natural affections

# 19 Signs of 'last days'...

declining morality  
and dismissal of  
spiritual values

10. Trucebreakers (unforgiving)
11. False accusers (Slanderers)
12. Incontinent (lack of self-control)
13. Fierce
14. Despisers of good
15. Traitors (not loyal)
16. Heady (impulsive, rash, act without thinking through)
17. High-minded
18. Lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God (**Hedonism**)
19. Hypocrites (form of godliness)

*Are these 19 signs present today?*

*If yes, we must be living in the last days*

# Beginning of 'Last days'

Joel 2:28-29 prophesy fulfilled at Pentecost.

## **ACTS 2:16-17**

<sup>16</sup> But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; <sup>17</sup> And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

**LAST days began at Pentecost**

## Last days are Now

**I JOHN 2:18** Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time. (we have antichrist now)

**II PETER 3:3-4** Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, <sup>4</sup> And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation (we have scoffers now)

**JUDE 17-18** But, beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ; <sup>18</sup> How that they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts. (we have mockers now)



# Jesus Christ on signs of 'last days' and end-times

**Mathew 24: 4-13 (signs between Ascension and second coming of Jesus Christ)**

False Messiahs

Wars

Natural calamities

Persecution

False Teachers

Compromising Believers

Jesus Christ  
on signs of  
'last days' and  
end times ...  
signs between  
his ascension  
and second  
coming

**Mathew 24: 4-13**

<sup>4</sup> And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you.

**False Gods** <sup>5</sup> For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.

**WARS** <sup>6</sup> And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.

<sup>7</sup> For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom:

**Natural calamities** and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. <sup>8</sup> All these are the beginning of sorrows.

**Persecution** <sup>9</sup> Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. <sup>10</sup> And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.

**False Teachers** <sup>11</sup> And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.

**Compromising Believers** <sup>12</sup> And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. <sup>13</sup> But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

# The End Times

## **DANIEL 12:1**

And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.

**II Thessalonians 2:3** Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

# End-times Calendar (from Daniel)

- **RAPTURE**
- **Judgement Seat of Christ and Marriage supper of the Lamb**
- Antichrist
- 7-years of Tribulation ( at 3.5 years – Antichrist breaks covenant with Israel, followed by conversions and intense persecution)
- Battle of Armageddon
- Satan bound for 1000 years
- **Millennial Kingdom** (Jesus Christ reigns with Saints)
- End of 1000 years – Satan cast into lake of fire
- Great white throne Judgement
- **New Jerusalem** and rest of eternity

# Last days vs end times

Last Days began with Pentecost

and will end with the return of Christ to establish the millennium kingdom.

The 19 signs will get worse and spirituality will decline as we approach the return of Christ

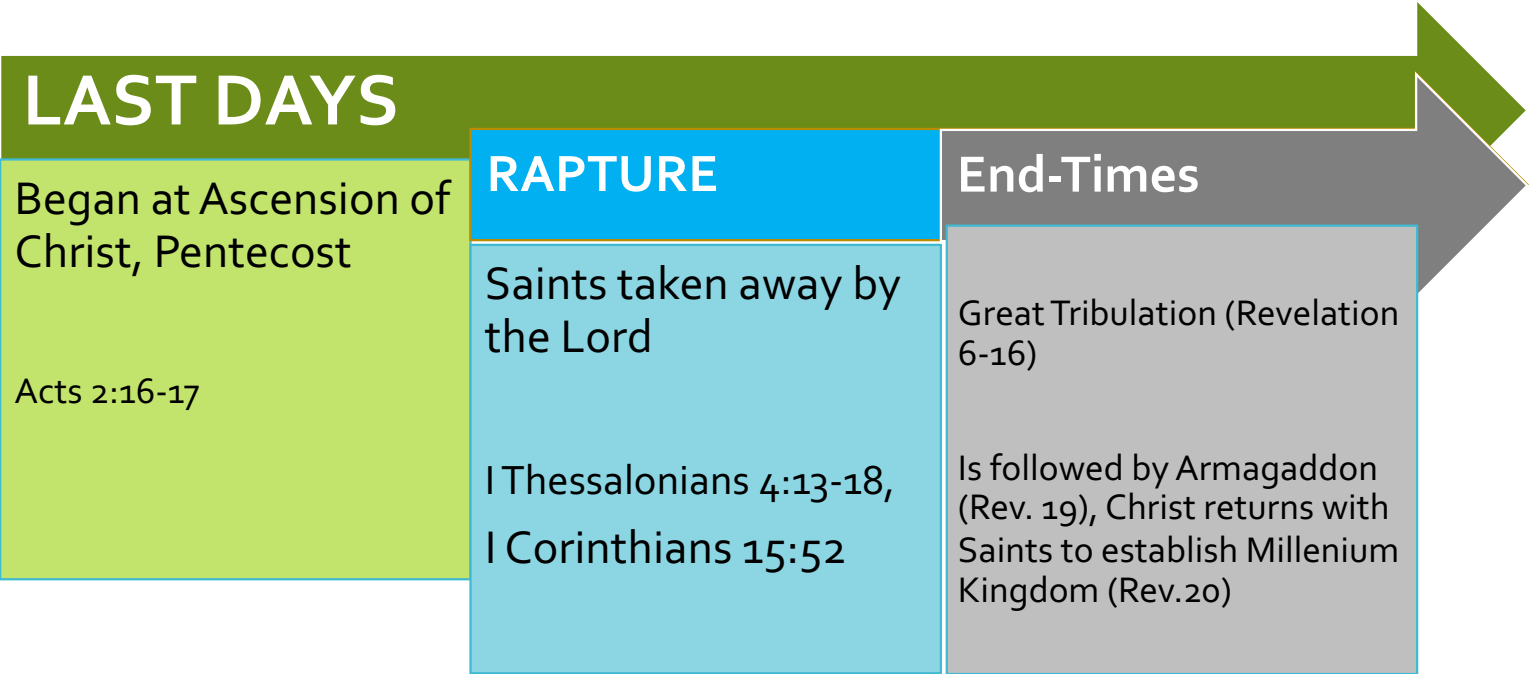
“End-times/tribulation” period can be seen as a subset of “Last Days”

**Last days**

Last days began with Pentecost  
and will end with the return of Christ to establish the  
millennium kingdom.

The 19 signs will get worse as day of Christ return  
nears

"End-times/tribulation" period can be seen as a subset  
of "last days"



**What can we  
conclude  
about 2024?**

Scriptures and evidence suggests that  
we are living in the 'last days'  
but not  
the 'end times of intense tribulation'

# Who to Reject? (6-9)

What power are false teachers missing? How should we respond to them? Who do such people tempt? Why doesn't learning lead to truth? Who will win in the end?



## People with missing power (5-9)

<sup>5</sup> Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

<sup>6</sup> For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts,

<sup>7</sup> Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

<sup>8</sup> Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith.

<sup>9</sup> But they shall proceed no further: for their folly shall be manifest unto all men, as their's also was.

# The missing power

**5** Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof

## Resurrection Power

- Power to defeat sin
- False teachers and hypocrites may have the 'knowledge' of this power but do not 'possess' the resurrection power.
  - They have a "form of godliness" but lack the power!
  - Jesus considered scribes and pharisees as 'hypocrites' as they had a form of godliness but no power.

**How do we receive this power?**

# Getting the missing power

## Redemption leading to Resurrection Power

- Available only to those who are born-again and blessed with the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit.
- Jesus told Nicodemus, “You MUST be born again” (John 3:7)

## We can receive resurrection power by believing in Christ

**John 11:25** Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

**Romans 8:11** But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

## Paul’s desire

**Philippians 3:10** That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection,

Faith without works is *dead*

Christianity without power is *useless*

**Mathew 5:13** Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.

# Responding to powerless people

5 ... from such turn away.

## HOW TO RESPOND? REJECT (5)

### RUN AWAY FROM FALSE TEACHERS

In general, we should stay away from unprofitable associations/friendships. Any association/friendship must be with the intent of leading them to Christ.

- Psalm 1

## Evil works of deceptive false teachers

<sup>6</sup>For of this sort are they  
which creep into houses, and  
lead captive silly women  
laden with sins, led away  
with divers lusts,

Creep into unguarded homes and take advantage of foolish, confused, insecure, gullible, sinful women.

reference to women as women most likely stayed home in those times.

But equally applies to men who also easily fall victims to false teachers!

Cults often target single, lonely, and confused people.

# Foolish Learning

<sup>7</sup> Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

## Learning does not always lead to knowledge

- If the learning is focused on lies (False teaching) rather than truth
- Discovery of Truth requires forming relationship with Christ and not intellectual pursuit of knowledge ... Jesus is “The Truth”
- Unless we come to Christ, we will remain in darkness and clueless about the important questions of life.

# Truth resistors

<sup>8</sup> Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith.

Jannes and Jambres (magicians, Exodus 7) resisted truth like the false teachers.

Did tricks through demonic power but eventually lost.

Demonic power has power, but power is limited.



# final victory (9)

<sup>9</sup> But they shall proceed no further: for their folly shall be manifest unto all men, as their's also was.

War against the truth continues today (with false religions, false philosophies, and false teachers)

The magicians of Pharaoh were put to shame

In the end, victory will always belong to the truth of gospel and sound doctrine. False teachers will be exposed and condemned.

# Who to Follow?

## (10-13)

Who must Timothy follow to be an overcomer? What can he learn from the experience of Paul?

**Who should  
Timothy  
Follow so that  
his life will be  
different?**

<sup>10</sup> But thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience,

<sup>11</sup> Persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of them all the Lord delivered me.

<sup>12</sup> Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

<sup>13</sup> But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

**BUT**

**Timothy** must have a different testimony (even if living in last days with 19 sinful signs)

Remember Paul's life and experience (10-13)

Remember upbringing in the Word (14-17)

## Character & Conduct of Paul (10-11)

Thou hast fully known (about Paul, 10-11) ... continue (14)

Paul's teaching of sound doctrine

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Paul's manner of life (lived for others, not self; followed Christ)

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Paul's purpose (Acts 9:15-16, 20:24)

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Paul's Faith (in God), faithful in ministry

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Paul's Longsuffering/endurance (II Corinthians 6:4-10)

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Paul's Love for church (Philippians 1:7-8)

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Paul's Patience (with people and circumstances)

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Paul's suffering for the sake of gospel

# Persecutions and Deliverance (11)

Proclaiming Christ lead to repeated persecutions

**But** Lord delivered me from all (11, Psalms 34:19)

Antioch – Jews provoked people , Paul kicked out (Acts 13:50)

Iconium – ready to be stoned, Paul fled (Acts 14: 1-6)

Lystra – stoned, dragged out, Paul left for dead (Acts 14:19)

**PAUL RETURNS with SAME MESSAGE TO SAME CITIES DESPITE FORMER PERSECUTION**

**ACTS 14: 20** Howbeit, as the disciples stood round about him, he rose up, and came into the city: and the next day he departed with Barnabas to Derbe.<sup>21</sup> And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch,<sup>22</sup> Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

## Persecution of saints

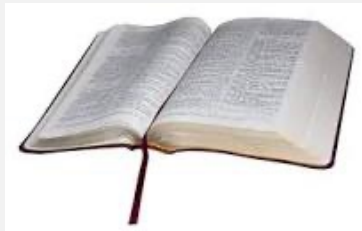
<sup>12</sup> Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

Godly will suffer persecution ... but are destined for glory

**Philippians 1:29** For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;

Evil men will continue to deceive and be deceived ... but are destined for destruction

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