Before the End of the World (The Last Times)

*Matthew 24:3-14*

*Matthew 24:3-14 (NLT)*

 *3 Later, Jesus sat on the Mount of Olives. His disciples came to him privately and said, “Tell us, when will all this happen? What sign will signal your return and the end of the world?”*

 *4 Jesus told them, “Don’t let anyone mislead you, 5 for many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am the Messiah.’ They will deceive many. 6 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. 7 Nation will go to war against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in many parts of the world. 8 But all this is only the first of the birth pains, with more to come.*

 *9 “Then you will be arrested, persecuted, and killed. You will be hated all over the world because you are my followers. 10 And many will turn away from me and betray and hate each other. 11 And many false prophets will appear and will deceive many people. 12 Sin will be rampant everywhere, and the love of many will grow cold. 13 But the one who endures to the end will be saved. 14 And the Good News about the Kingdom will be preached throughout the whole world, so that all nations will hear it; and then the end will come.*

***Big Picture: Urgency! We need to study the Scriptures and start developing a relationship with God at a personal level.***

*Intro:*

*Why do we have to study the Scriptures on our own? Why develop a personal relationship with God? Isn’t attending church each week enough? With the complexity of the world today, with the many media and influences we face throughout the week, the two hours spent in church each week is not sufficient to sustain our spiritual lives and remain close to God. This is why in the “last times,” it may seem hard to find God. So, we must make it our priority to get to know God better through personal Bible studies and cultivating a personal relationship with God. Jesus is coming back, and soon.*

We’re living in the last times, and it’s harder to sustain a relationship with God. Yet, we must persist, for the Bible warns us of these difficult times, and come to know God. We need to personally study the Scriptures and develop a deep relationship with God, so that we are not deceived by false teachings. Jesus is coming back, and soon.

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A great revival is coming – like that of my twitter

(Challenge)

20091101 - The End of the World – the urgency needed for us to study the Scriptures and develop a relationship with God at a personal level.

20091025 - The Need for More Prayer during Hard Times

20091011 - The Love Story

20091004 - The Unknown God

20090920 - Decision Points in the Life of Grace

20090913 - God We Can Trust

20090906 - Offering – God loves a cheerful giver – don’t do anything because you feel you need to, give because you want to. God doesn’t need your money, you give because you trust that He will take care of your needs

20090830 - Be Naked and Die – We tend to cover up in many ways, let’s come naked before God. He wants us to come as we are, and He will take care of us from where we are. We ought to also die to our desires and pursuits – seek after God and go after His guidance (He’s our GPS!).

20090816 - Church, Whats That - ###

20090809 - 6000 (Six-Thousand) – There’s nothing our God cannot do. 300 vs 135,000 – no problem.

20090802 - Are You Serving the Right God - ### Parable of the talents

20090726 - Two Prodigal Sons, Which One Are You - We need to reach for the lost – there’s many that are lost (and can you relate to those that are lost? Do you sometimes feel lost? That’s ok – it’s good to not know exactly where we’re going – Let God guide us)

20090719 - Be Different – God is Holy (Qadosh), which means to be different – we ought to be different