

people, who will remain, from Assyria, Egypt, Pathros, Cush, Elam, Shinar, Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. And He will lift up a standard for the nations, and will assemble the banished ones of Israel, and will gather the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth. (Is. 11:11-12)

Wrap up

It is not true that ***“Ever since our ancestors died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation.”*** (2 Peter 3:3-4) We are living in Biblical days!

Let’s be reminded of Paul’s admonition (1 Thessalonians 5:20): ***“Do not treat prophecies with contempt.”***

Peter wrote: ***“We have the prophetic message as something completely reliable, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet’s own interpretation of things. For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. (2 Peter 1:19-21)***

In light of God’s inspired prophetic word, what kind of life should you live? Peter answers: ***“You ought to live holy and godly lives as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming.”*** (2 Peter 3:11b)

“Signs of the End Times” Message Outline

Mackey Church of the Nazarene (October 24, 2021)

Introduction

Peter writes: ***“... in the last days scoffers will come, They will say, ‘Where is this coming he [Jesus] promised? Ever since our ancestors died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation.’ (2 Pet. 3:3-4)***

Peter goes on to say (vv. 8-9) that God will keep his promise, for ***“But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, ... ”***

Jesus assures us that He will return back to earth someday. ***“I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again”*** (John 14:2-3, NKJV)

“The Olivet Discourse” found in Matthew 24-25, Mark 13 & Luke 21 reveals many teachings of the “end times”. ***“As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately. ‘Tell us,’ they said, ‘when will this happen, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?’”*** (Matthew 24:3)

The answer Jesus gives is one of the most complete revelations of end time signs found in the Bible.

Six Categories of "Signs of the End Times"

#1: Signs of nature.

"There will be great earthquakes, famines and pestilences in various places, and fearful events and great signs from heaven." (Luke 21:11). Matthew & Mark both include the additional phrase ***"All these are the beginning of birth pains."*** (Matthew 24:8).

In a Scientific American article written in November of 2020 we find this summary report: " ... **major disasters are increasingly happening in succession**, such as the half-dozen typhoons and tropical storms that have hit Southeast Asia since early October. **Severe flooding, violent storms, earthquakes and deadly heat waves have risen almost 35% since the 1990s.** These natural disasters have killed more than 410,000 people in the past ten years."

#2: Signs found in culture/society.

Jesus said He would return at a time when society would resemble ***"the days of Noah"*** (Mt. 24:37).

The Old Testament tells us that Noah's age was one of wickedness and violence. ***"The Lord saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time."*** (Genesis 6:5).

Romans 1:18-32 describes the current moral equivalent to ***"the days of Noah"*** (humanism and growing acceptance of homosexuality, ... etc.)

"But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God— having a form of godliness but denying its power... ." (2 Timothy 3:1-5)

#3: Spiritual signs

- A. False prophets (Mt. 24:5)
- B. Christian persecution (Mt. 24:9)
- C. Spiritual apostasy (1 Tim. 4:1)

#4: Signs of technology (satellites, computers and nuclear warheads).

#5: Signs in world politics (ethic hatred, China's military power, the European Union/Anti-christ and Russia's growing influence).

#6: Signs of Israel

"Then it will happen on that day, that the Lord will again recover the second time with His hand the remnant of His