



~ Lesson #5 ~

Time Running Out

It is not uncommon for a man to say, as he looks at the color of the sky before dusk, “It looks as if we might be in for a storm.” Christ spoke of this very thing when He said, “When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather: for the sky is red. And in the morning, It will be foul weather today: for the sky is red and lowering. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?” [Matthew 16:2, 3](#).

Men have now developed scientific ways of foretelling weather by observing certain signs in the atmosphere. With the help of science, weather forecasting has become quite accurate. Just so, other scientific instruments save time and labor, yet most people take less time to study the Scriptures which present the signs that Christ said would foretell His coming and the end of the world.

Occasionally a misguided soul will arise to predict the exact date of the end of all things. A few people will be concerned, and some will anxiously watch the outcome of the prediction. When the time comes and nothing happens, many will breathe a sigh of relief and settle back into their regular routines.

Each crisis and unfulfilled human prediction has the effect of hardening the skeptic in his unbelief. Like the men who heard the boy cry “Wolf, wolf!” we have adjusted to such spectacular events as atomic explosions and great

earthquakes.

So, few are aware of the many signs that God has hung along the highway of life to remind all that we are nearing the end of man's rebellion against his Maker. Christ has given a number of scientific signs to show without question that time is short and His coming is near. He does this so all can make necessary preparation for the greatest event in the history of the world.

THE BIBLE SAYS

1. Who only knows the exact day and hour of the end of this world and the coming of Christ? Matthew 24:36

The Bible Says: _____

2. Is there any way by which we can know when the end is near? Matthew 24:32, 33

The Bible Says: _____

3. What will the nations be doing just before the coming of Christ? Matthew 24:6, 7; Joel 3:9-12

The Bible Says: _____

4. What signs in the natural world herald the coming of Jesus? Luke 21:11

The Bible Says: _____

5. What terms are used to describe the anxiety and trouble that will exist among the nations just before the end? Luke 21:25, 26

The Bible Says: "Upon the earth _____

_____ , with _____ .”

6. What are the signs that will be seen in the financial or economic world? James 5:1-8

The Bible Says:

Verse 1-3. Rich men have _____

Verse 4. Hire of laborer _____

Verse 8. These things show _____

7. What message will the nations be proclaiming, and what will actually happen? I Thessalonians 5:3, 4

The Bible Says: “They shall say _____

then _____ cometh upon them.”

8. What are some of the signs of moral deterioration in the last days? II Timothy 3:1-5

The Bible Says:

Verse 1. “In the last days _____”

Verse 2. “Men shall be _____”

Verse 4. “Lovers of pleasure _____”

Verse 5. “Having a form of _____”

9. What did Daniel say would happen in the time of the end? Daniel 12:4

The Bible Says: “Many shall _____ ,

and knowledge shall _____ .”

10. What will the scoffers in the religious world be saying at this time? II Peter 3:3, 4

The Bible Says: _____

11. What must be proclaimed in all of the world before the Lord can return? [Matthew 24:14](#)

The Bible Says: _____

12. When we see all these signs being fulfilled, what are we to do? [Luke 21:28](#)

The Bible Says: _____

13. How can we prepare for that day? [Luke 21:36](#)

The Bible Says: _____

For 120 years God warned the world that existed before the Flood of coming destruction. Many refused to believe that such a catastrophe could happen. Many said that it was an impossibility. Noah predicted that it would happen, and to show his faith, he invested his time and fortune in building a gigantic boat.

Only eight people cared enough about being saved to take advantage of the means of salvation that God had provided. Noah, his wife, three sons, and their wives were the only human beings who responded to God's message.

Christ said that earth's last generation would be like the one of Noah's day. "But as the days of Noe [Noah] were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the Flood they were eating, and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe [Noah] entered into the ark, and knew not until the Flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." [Matthew 24:37-39](#).

What a deliverance for those who were ready! However, many were so busy with the cares and pleasures of life that they did not take time to prepare. The same danger faces each of us. We can become so engrossed in the affairs of this present world that we may fail to prepare for the coming of Jesus. Would we not be wise to heed the admonition of Jesus given in [Matthew 24:44](#)?

I want to be ready when Jesus comes.

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