****

# LAST DAYS PROPHECY SERIES (Part 3)

# “SIGNS OF THE TIMES!”

***> FIVE SIGNS OF THE ENDTIMES! (Romans 1:16 – 2:11):***

***> Sign #1 – SIGNS OF SALVATION! (v16-17)***

**(v16) Paul is *not ashamed of the gospel (good news) of Christ!* *For it is the power (dunamis) of God to salvation for everyone who believes!***

**- C.I. Scofield writes, “The Hebrew and Greek words for “salvation” imply the ideas of *deliverance, safety, preservation, healing, and soundness*.**

***- Salvation is in three tenses:***

***(1) The Christian has been saved from the guilt and penalty of sin (Lk. 7:50; 1 Cor. 1:18; 2 Cor. 2:15; Eph. 2:5,8; 2 Tim. 1:9) and is safe.***

***(2) The Christian is being saved from the habit and dominion of sin (Rom. 6:14; 8:2; 2 Cor. 3:18; Gal. 2:19-20; Phil. 1:19; 2:12-13; 2 Th. 2:13).***

***(3) The Christian will be saved at the Lord’s return, from all the bodily infirmities that are the result of sin and God’s curse upon the sinful world (Rom. 8:18-23; 1 Cor. 15:42-44) and brought into entire conformity to Christ (Rom. 13:11; Heb. 10:36; 1 Peter. 1:5; 1 Jn. 3:20).***

***- Salvation is by grace through faith, is a free gift and wholly without works (Rom 3:27-28; 4:1-8; 6:23; Eph. 2:8). The divine order is: first salvation, then works (Eph. 2:9-10; Titus 3:5-8).***

**(v17) The word *righteousness* is found 35 times in the book of Romans. God imparts His own righteousness to those who believe. In 2 Corinthians 5:20-21 it says-, *Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.***

***> Sign #2 – SIGNS OF SUPPRESSION! (v18-20)***

**John MacArthur defines the meaning of *“the wrath of God revealed”* as*,* “This is not an impulsive outburst of anger aimed capriciously at people whom God does not like. It is the settled, determined response of a righteous God against sin (cf. Pss 2:5, 12; 45:7; 75:8; 76:6, 7; 78:49–51; 90:7–9; Is 51:17; Jer 25:15, 16; Jn 3:36; Ro 9:22; Eph 5:6; Col 3:5, 6). The term *“is revealed”* more accurately, *“is constantly revealed.”* The word essentially means *“to uncover, make visible, or make known.”***

***> God reveals His wrath in two ways:***

**1) Indirectly, through the natural consequences of violating His universal moral law.**

**2) Directly through His personal intervention (the OT record—from the sentence passed on Adam and Eve to the worldwide flood, from the fire and brimstone that leveled Sodom to the Babylonian captivity—clearly displays this kind of intervention).**

**- The most graphic revelation of God’s holy wrath and hatred against sin was when He poured out divine judgment on His Son on the cross.**

***> God has various kinds of wrath:***

**1) eternal wrath, which is hell;**

**2) eschatological wrath, which is the final Day of the Lord;**

**3) cataclysmic wrath like the flood and the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah; the great tribulation;**

**4) consequential wrath, which is the principle of sowing and reaping;**

**5) the wrath of abandonment, which is removing restraint and letting people go to their sins (for examples of this wrath, see Ps 81:11, 12; Pr 1:23–31; see note on Hos 4:17). Here, it is that fifth form, God’s abandoning the wicked continually through history to pursue their sin and its consequences” 1**

**> God’s wrath is against *“ALL UNGODLINESS”* – Which is not accepting God or a particular religious doctrine; to be irreligious; atheistic: an ungodly era. To live sinful; wicked; impious; rebellious; not conforming to religious tenets or canons: an ungodly life.**

**- Let us read Psalm 1 & 2.**

**2 Peter 2:4-10 - *For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to pits of darkness, reserved for judgment; and did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a preacher of righteousness, with seven others, when He brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly; and if He condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to destruction by reducing them to ashes, having made them an example to those who would live ungodly lives thereafter.  and if He rescued righteous Lot, oppressed by the sensual conduct of unprincipled men (for by what he saw and heard that righteous man, while living among them, felt his righteous soul tormented day after day by their lawless deeds), then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from temptation, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the day of judgment, and especially those who indulge the flesh in its corrupt desires and despise authority Daring, self-willed, they do not tremble when they revile angelic majesties,***

***-* Romans 5:6-8** [**Unselfishness**](http://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Unselfishness)[**Need**](http://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Need)[**Grace, And Salvation**](http://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Grace,-And-Salvation)[**Propitiation**](http://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Propitiation)[**Reconciliation, Of The World To God**](http://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Reconciliation,-Of-The-World-To-God)**- *For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.***

**- *Ungodliness* is in reference to the defiance of the first four commandments of the Ten Commandments:**

***1 – You shall have no other gods before me***

***2 – You shall not make for yourself a carved image and bow before it***

***3 – You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain***

***4 – Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy***

***> God’s wrath is against “ALL UNRIGHTEOUSNESS” - Unrighteousness* is the result of *“ungodliness”; “unrighteousness”* rejects and rebels against Commandments five through ten:**

***5 – Honor your father and mother***

***6 – Thou shalt not murder***

***7 – Thou shalt not commit adultery***

***8 – Thou shat not steal***

***9 – Thou shalt not bear false witness***

***10 – Thou shalt not covet***

***> “men will suppress the truth in unrighteousness” –* We are told that unrighteous men will *suppress the truth of godliness and righteousness*.**

**- Jesus explains this concept in John 3:16-21, 36 – *“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."***

**John 3:36 – *“He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."***

**- *In verse 19 we are given two infallible proofs of God:***

***(1) What is known of God is manifest in us (via the spirit of life & conscience);***

***(2) God has shown it to us (through creation).***

***> Think about the statements of “truth suppressors” as our world proclaims ungodliness and unrighteousness:***

**- Charles Darwin himself realized that it seemed incredible that evolutionary processes had to explain human vision. He said:**

***'To suppose that the eye with all its inimitable contrivances for adjusting the focus to different distances, for admitting different amounts of light, and for the correction of spherical and chromatic aberration, could have been formed by natural selection, seems, I freely confess, absurd in the highest degree.'1***

**- Evolutionist Stephen Jay Gould stated that even if evolutionary history on earth repeated itself a *million times*, he doubts whether anything like *Homo sapiens* would ever develop again (Gould, 1989; also see Kayzer, p. 86, 1997). Complex ordered structures of any kind (of which billions must exist in the body for it to work) cannot happen except by design and intelligence, and they must have occurred simultaneously for the unit to function. Scientists recognize this problem, and therefore Stephen Jay Gould concluded that humans are a glorious evolutionary accident which required 60 trillion contingent events (Gould, 1989, see also Kayzer, p. 92, 1997).**

**The famous illustration “the probability of life originating from accident is comparable to the probability of the unabridged dictionary resulting from an explosion in a print shop” argues that information and complex systems *cannot come about by chance* but can only be the product of an intelligent designer.**

**- Aldous Huxley was a British novelist who wrote *Brave New World* (1932), and was a grandson of ‘Darwin’s Bulldog’, T.H. Huxley. He was also the brother of the leading atheistic evolutionist Sir Julian Huxley and died the same day as Christian apologist C.S. Lewis, and the assassination of JFK (22 Nov. 1963). Aldous Huxley made this frank admission about his anti-theistic motivation:**

***‘I had motive for not wanting the world to have a meaning; consequently, assumed that it had none, and was able without any difficulty to find satisfying reasons for this assumption. The philosopher who finds no meaning in the world is not concerned exclusively with a problem in pure metaphysics, he is also concerned to prove that there is no valid reason why he personally should not do as he wants to do, or why his friends should not seize political power and govern in the way that they find most advantageous to themselves. … For myself, the philosophy of meaninglessness was essentially an instrument of liberation, sexual and political.’***

**- Aleister Crowley Quote, *“Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the law”* are the infamous words of Aleister Crowley, a Satanist and a man who called himself “the Beast”. These words, part of Crowley’s “Law of Thelma”, inspired The Beatles and other Rock bands.**

**- John Lennon said, *“The whole Beatles idea was to do what you want … do what thou wilst, as long as it doesn’t hurt somebody”* (John Lennon, cited by David Sheff, The Playboy Interviews with John Lennon and Yoko Ono, p. 61). The Beatles also included a picture of Crowley on their Sergeant Pepper album.**

**- A famous rap artist, Jay-Z, is photographed wearing an iconic T-shirt in a video. The T-shirt says, *"do what thou wilt"* across the chest ("Jay-Z: A Master…”). This was not an accident. Jay-Z has been known to include many masonic and occultic symbols and references in his music.**

***> Sign #3 – SIGNS OF FALSE GODS (v21-23)***

**- *Mankind professes to be wise, yet they became fools.* False religions abound throughout our world; the Hindus worship over 330 million gods, Islam wants to take over the world and destroy the infidels, Buddhism, New Age thought, Humanism, and many others have led our world into the worship of nature, statues (idols), individuals and governments (Caesar is lord, Emperor worship in Japan, Germany’s super race, the state is god through socialism/communism, and there is a coming antichrist), the stars (astrology), extra-terrestrials, sex, money, power, fame, etc.**

**- What does Jesus say? “*I am the way, the TRUTH, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me*.” (Jn. 14:6).**

**- Jesus said in Matthew 24:4-6 - *And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many.***

**- Jesus said in Mark 8:34-38 - *"Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."***

**- Warren Wiersbe writes, “Denying self is not the same as self-denial. We practice self-denial when, for a good purpose, we occasionally give up things or activities. But we deny self when we surrender ourselves to Christ and determine to obey His will. This *once-for-all dedication* is followed by a daily "dying to self' as we take up the cross and follow Him. From the human point of view, we are losing ourselves, but from the divine perspective, we are finding ourselves. When we live for Christ, we become more like Him, and this brings out our own unique individuality.**

**But note the motivation for true discipleship: "for My sake and the Gospel's" (Mark 8:35). To lose yourself is not an act of desperation, *it is an act of devotion*. But we do not stop there: personal devotion should lead to practical duty, the sharing of the *Gospel* with a lost world.”**

***> Sign #4 – SIGNS OF SIN FILLED LIFESTYLES (v24-32)***

**- From the judgment upon the people of *Noah’s day* (Genesis 6; Matthew 24:36-44), to *Sodom & Gomorrah* (Genesis 19; Luke 17:22-30), to our day, the lust for sin is evident, prevalent and destructive; physically, emotionally, psychologically and spiritually.**

***- God’s judgment on the sin of homosexuality* (1 Corinthians 6:9-11; 1 Timothy 1:5-11; Revelation 21:1-8):**

**Matthew 10:15 *- Assuredly, I say to you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city!***

**Matthew 11:23-24 *- And you, Capernaum, who are exalted to heaven, will be brought down to Hades; for if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. But I say to you that it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment than for you."***

**Mark 6:11 - *And whoever will not receive you nor hear you, when you depart from there, shake off the dust under your feet as a testimony against them. Assuredly, I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city!"***

**Luke 10:10-12 - *But whatever city you enter, and they do not receive you, go out into its streets and say, 'The very dust of your city which clings to us we wipe off against you. Nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near you.' But I say to you that it will be more tolerable in that Day for Sodom than for that city.***

**Luke 17:28-30 - *Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot: They ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built; but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed.***

**Romans 9:29 - *And as Isaiah said before: "Unless the Lord of Sabaoth had left us a seed, we would have become like Sodom, and we would have been made like Gomorrah."***

**2 Peter 2:4-10 *- For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment; and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly; and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, making them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly; and delivered righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked (for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented his righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing their lawless deeds) — then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment,***

**Jude 6-7 *- And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day; as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.***

**Revelation 11:7-10 *- When they finish their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them. And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified. Then those from the peoples, tribes, tongues, and nations will see their dead bodies three-and-a-half days, and not allow their dead bodies to be put into graves. And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.***

**> Today’s society is filled with the sins of Romans 1:29-32!**

***> Sign* #5 – SIGNS OF AFFIRMATION OF SIN FROM WITHIN THE FALSE CHURCH OF THE LAST DAYS! (Romans 2:1-11)**

**- Laodicea (the lukewarm church) – The church of the last days in its final state of apostasy, becoming the harlot church of the “Great Tribulation!” – Revelation 3:14-22**

**- An Article from *The Hill* entitled, “The Pope’s shocking statement on gay marriage is causing an uproar among Catholics” by Alexandra Kelly, Oct. 22, 2020 -**

“Following Pope Francis’s [announcement](https://thehill.com/policy/international/522027-pope-francis-calls-for-creation-of-civil-union-laws-for-same-sex-couples) declaring support for civil union laws for same-sex couples, which breaks with traditional Catholic values that oppose homosexual relationships, the leader has garnered both criticism and support from people all over the world.”

**Dearest Christian,**

**Follow in the courage and inspiration of the Word of God found in 2 Timothy 4:7-8**

***I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.***

MacArthur, John: *MacArthur Study Bible NASB*. Thomas Nelson Publishers; Nashville, TN, 2006; 2008, S. Ro 1:18