

THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PROPHECY CONFERENCE
FINDING HOPE IN THE GLOBAL CRISIS

1 PETER 3:15

TAPE NUMBER JHX-245 FEBRUARY 21, 2009

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

**WHAT ARE THE LAST DAYS
AND WHY SHOULD YOU CARE ?**

*UNDERSTANDING WHAT THE BIBLE HAS TO SAY ABOUT
OUR WORLD EVENTS AND WHAT WE CAN DO TO PREPARE*

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Hope, Last Days, Prophecy, Rapture, Current Events

Introduction to the Text;

1 Peter 3:15

The Theme and Textual Summation of the Passage

FINDING **HOPE** IN THE GLOBAL CRISIS

WELCOME TO THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PROPHECY CONFERENCE

1Pet. 3:15

But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and **always be ready** to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for **the hope** that is in you, with meekness and fear;

**WHAT ARE THE LAST DAYS
AND WHY SHOULD YOU & I CARE ?**

It's Important For All of Us That We Know & Understand The Days in Which We Live.

"I find it almost amusing that whenever there's an event of significance in the world; CNN and FOX News and TIME magazine want to know if it's the end of the world or the battle of Armageddon.

BUT WHAT ARE THE LAST DAYS

THE BIBLE SPEAKS ABOUT EVENTS THAT WILL COME UPON THE EARTH IN PARTICULARS AND FOR SPECIFIC REASONS.

TERMS FOUND IN THE BIBLE LIKE

"THE LAST DAYS" AND "THE END TIMES" OR "THE END OF DAYS" "THE LAST DAY" "THE LAST HOUR" "THE LATTER TIMES" OR "THE END OF THE AGE"

DO NOT NECESSARILY APPLY TO THE EXACT SAME EVENTS, BUT ALL OF THEM COLLECTIVELY ARRIVE @ THE SAME DESTINATION WHICH IS "THE RETURN OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST TO EARTH"

**The End Times Include the
"Before Stuff" the "Stuff" and "After the Stuff"**

Its Those Events Along the Road of History that are like road-signs, indicating where we're at and what's coming on the prophetic highway... and where we get off !

The End Time Events or Prophecy

it is the "advance" announcement to mankind that God knows what the future holds. it is given that we might know what to do, how to think about our world around us and who to trust in because "knowing" and "thinking" and "trusting" are things that ultimately mean the most to us as individuals, as families as a people, as a nation !

God expects us to know what the Bible says

throughout the ministry of Jesus Christ,

Israel's religious leaders sought how they might accuse Jesus, trip him up or find in Him a theological conundrum.

Jesus responded to their narrow-mindedness;

Matt. 16:1-3

Then the Pharisees and Sadducees came, and testing Him asked that He would show them a sign from heaven. :2 He answered and said to them, "When it is evening you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red'; :3 and in the morning, 'It will be foul weather today, for the sky is red and threatening.' Hypocrites! You know how to discern the face of the sky, but you cannot *discern* the signs of the times.

FINDING **HOPE** IN THE GLOBAL CRISIS

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1Pet. 3:15

But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and **always be ready** to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for **the hope** that is in you, with meekness and fear;

WHAT ARE THE LAST DAYS AND WHY SHOULD YOU CARE ?

1.) These Events are designed to "Validate God"

it could be today - that you're doubting if God exists

The God of the Bible is The Prophetic God

Is. 46:9-10

For I *am* God, and *there is* no other; I *am* God, and *there is* none like Me, :10
Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times
things that are not yet done... = **Only He knows you and your future**

Is. 45:21-22

Declare what is to be, present it — let them take counsel together. Who foretold this long ago, who declared it from the distant past? Was it not I, the LORD? There is no God apart from me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none but I. :22 “Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other.

WHAT ARE THE LAST DAYS AND WHY SHOULD YOU CARE ?

2.) These Events are designed to “Validate the Bible”

it could be today – that you’re wondering if the Bible true

2Pet. 1:19

And so we have the **prophetic word confirmed**, which you do well to heed to as a light that shines in a dark place...

Is. 45:21-22

Declare what is to be, present it — let them take counsel together. Who foretold this long ago, who declared it from the distant past? Was it not I, the LORD? And there is no God apart from me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none but me. :22 “Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other.

WHAT ARE THE LAST DAYS AND WHY SHOULD YOU CARE ?

3.) These Events are designed to “Validate Jesus Christ”

it could be today – that you’re questioning who Jesus Christ is.

John 13:19

Now I tell you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe that I am **He**.

John 8:28

Then Jesus said to them, "When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He..."

Rev. 19:10

And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "See *that you do not do that!* I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

WHAT ARE THE LAST DAYS AND WHY SHOULD YOU CARE ?

4.) These Events are designed to "Give Understanding"

it could be today - that you're seeking answers !

Dan. 12:4

But you, O Daniel, shut up the words and **seal the Book until the time of the end. Then** (event(s) will cause) **many** (the Jews) to **run to and fro and search anxiously** (through the Book), and knowledge (the seeking of God's purposes which have been revealed by His prophets) shall be increased and become great.

Psa. 40:7

"Behold, **I** come; In the scroll of the book *it is written of me.*

Heb 10:5-7

:5 Therefore, when **He** came into the world, **He** said: "**Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, But a body You have prepared for Me. :6** In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin **You had no pleasure. :7** Then **I** said, "Behold, **I** have come - - *In the volume of the book it is written of Me.*

1.) These Events are designed to "Validate God"

2.) These Events are designed to "Validate the Bible"

3.) These Events are designed to "Validate Jesus Christ"

4.) These Events are designed to "Give Understanding"

WHAT ARE THE LAST DAYS AND WHY SHOULD YOU CARE ?

5.) These Events are designed to “Open the Eyes”

it could be today – that you’ve been shaken by world events !

John 14:1-3

“Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. :2 In My Father’s house are many mansions; if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. :3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also.

Matt. 24:4-7

And Jesus answered and said to them: “Take heed that no one deceives you. :5 For many will come in My name, saying, “I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many. :6 And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all *these things* must come to pass, but the end is not yet. :7 For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. – (on an increasing larger and bigger scale until it is globally – global events)

WHAT ARE THE LAST DAYS AND WHY SHOULD YOU CARE ?

6.) These Events are designed to “Encourage Believers”

it could be today – that you’re discouraged, wanting to give up !

Dr. Ed Hindson Says

*“Bible prophecy is not given to scare us, but to prepare us.
It’s not given to frighten us, but to invite us.”*

John 14:18-19

I will not **leave you comfortless**: I will come to you. :19 Yet a little while, and the world will see me no more; but you will see me: because I live, you shall live also.

Luke 21:26,28

in the last days men's hearts will fail them from **fear** and the **expectation** of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. – Now, we are not seeing those things yet, but we are clearly approaching these things... :28 Now when these things **begin to happen**, look up and lift up your heads, because your **redemption** (rescue) draws near.”

Heb. 10:24-25

Thus, let us consider how to **stimulate** one another to love and good deeds, :25 not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near.

παροξυσμός **paroxusmos**, *par-ox-o-moose*´; (“paroxysm”); to incite, to stir up, to provoke, to challenge one another to love and to do good.

WHAT ARE THE LAST DAYS AND WHY SHOULD YOU CARE ?

7.) These Events are designed to “Get Your Attention”

it could be today – that your fearful about the future !

2Tim. 3:1

But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come:

The Bible warned that economies would fail...

James 5:2-3

Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth-eaten. :3 Your gold and silver are corroded, and their corrosion will be a witness against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have heaped up treasure **in the last days**.

What Should We Do ?

Matt. 25:13

“Watch therefore,
for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.

WHAT ARE THE LAST DAYS AND WHY SHOULD YOU CARE ?

8.) These Events are designed to “Give Hope”

it could be that your hope is slipping away !

Rom. 15:13

Now may the God of **hope** fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in **hope** by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Jer. 29:11-12

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of **peace** and not of evil, to give you a **future** and a **hope**. :12 Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you.

1Pet. 1:20-21

Jesus Christ was indeed foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in **these last times** for you :21 who through Him you believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your **faith** and **hope** are in God.

WHAT ARE THE LAST DAYS AND WHY SHOULD YOU CARE ?

9.) These Events are designed to “Comfort the Heart”

it could be that your heart is being crushed !

John 14:1-3

“Let not your heart **be troubled**; you believe in God, believe also in Me. :2 In My Father’s house are many mansions; if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. :3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also.

John 16:33

These things I have spoken to you, that in **Me** you may have **peace**. In the **world** you will have **tribulation**; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”

Sunday Morning, Your Heart Will Soar

As Dr. Tim LaHaye will speak on the single-most thought about, talked about, wondered about issue of the last 2,000 years

- The Rapture !

1Th. 4:13-18

But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. **:14** For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. **:15** ¶ For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive *and* remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. **:16** For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. **:17** Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. **:18** Therefore **comfort** one another with these words.

comfort parakaleo, par-ak-al-eh'-o;

to call near to one another, to invite one another, to encourage one another about it ! – He's return in the sky's...

WHAT ARE THE LAST DAYS AND WHY SHOULD YOU CARE ?

10.) These Events are designed to “Create Faith”

*it could be that your faith is all but gone !
today; in the midst of these difficult times*

and the fact that; these times may very well worsen, you need to get control over your fears and conquer your emotions - - and there's only one way to do that, and that is by putting your faith in the Lord God of this Bible.

Matt. 6:25-30,33

“Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? :26 Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? :27 Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? :28 “So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; :29 and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. :30 Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, *will He* not much more *clothe* you, O you of little faith?... :33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

Perhaps Things Have Been Stripped Away – *what is it that you have hoped in or do hope in today?*

SO, WHAT ARE THE LAST DAYS AND ARE WE LIVING IN THE LAST DAYS ?

THE ANSWER IS “**YES**” -- “**AND**”

MEANING **YES WE ARE AND THERE'S MORE TO COME**

AND THAT'S WHY YOU & I SHOULD CARE?

1Pet. 1:21

**What is Your Object of Trust & Hope & Faith,
Who Are You Looking to To Rescue You?
Is It Jesus Christ Friend?**

“who through Him you believe in God, who raised Jesus from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your **faith** and **hope** are in God.”

Pastor Jack, what do I do ?

John 3:15-18

that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. :16 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. :17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. :18 "He who believes in Him is not condemned;

Rom. 10:8-11

But what does it say? *"The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart"* (that is, the word of faith which we preach): :9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. :10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. :11 For the Scripture says, *"Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame."*

2Cor. 6:2

For He says: *"In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you."* Behold, now *is* the accepted time; behold, now *is* the day of salvation.

I don't want to come across harsh or rude or arrogant about what I am about to say, but here it is.

1Pet. 3:15

But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and **always be ready** to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for **the hope** that is in you, with meekness and fear;

"How can I, a Christian be so confident and so sure that God is in control and that I can trust Him and His Bible?"

**27% of the Bible is written about Future events.
87% of that 27% has already been fulfilled in history.**

and of the remaining 13%, 98% of those scriptures will be fulfilled during the seven year tribulation period which occupies much of the bible.

WHAT ARE THE LAST DAYS AND WHY SHOULD YOU & I CARE ?

So what's next on God's prophetic clock?

Titus 2:13

looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing
of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ

End of Study
