**TITLE: WHAT ARE THE SIGNS THAT WE ARE IN THE END TIMES?**

 **AIM: Because of the things happening in the world, every generation has said, “We are living in the last days.”**

 **What are the actual signs that we are in the end times?**

**CONTENT:**

**MATTHEW 24:3-31**

* 1. **Two Questions:** ***3****Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying,*
		1. *“Tell us,* ***when will these things be****?*
		2. *And* ***what will be the sign of Your coming****, and of the end of the age?”*
	2. **Five Answers**
		1. ***4****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.***
		2. ***7****For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places.* ***8All these are the beginning of sorrows****.*
		3. ***9****“****Then they will deliver you up to tribulation*** *and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name’s sake.* ***10****And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another.*
		4. ***11****Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many.* ***12****And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.* ***13But he who endures to the end shall be saved****.*
		5. ***14****And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and*

***then the end will come****.*

* 1. **The Great Tribulation:** According to Jesus in verse 9 and the following verses, Christians will go through the Great Tribulation. Many Christians have taught that those who are saved will not go through the Great Tribulation. However, Jesus makes it clear through these verses that Christians will go through the Great Tribulation.
		1. ***15****“Therefore when you see the ‘abomination of desolation,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place” (whoever reads, let him understand),* ***16****“then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.* ***17****Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house.* ***18****And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes.* ***19****But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days!* ***20****And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath.*
		2. ***21****For then there will be* ***great tribulation****, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.* ***22****And* ***unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect’s sake those days will be shortened****.*
		3. ***23****“Then if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here is the Christ!’ or ‘There!’ do not believe it.* ***24****For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders* ***to deceive, if possible, even the elect.******25****See, I have told you beforehand.*
		4. ***26****“Therefore if they say to you, ‘Look, He is in the desert!’ do not go out; or ‘Look, He is in the inner rooms!’ do not believe it.* ***27****For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.* ***28****For wherever the carcass is, there the eagles will be gathered together.*
		5. **Revelation 7:4-17,*****4****And I heard the number of those who were sealed. One hundred and forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel were sealed…* ***9****After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands,* ***10****and crying out with a loud voice, saying, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”…* ***13****Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, “****Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?****”* ***14****And I said to him, “Sir, you know.” So he said to me, “****These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation****, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb…*
	2. **The Parousia: Jesus’ Second Coming**
		1. ***29****“****Immediately after the tribulation*** *of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.*
		2. ***30Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven****, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and* ***they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven*** *with power and great glory.* ***31****And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.*
		3. **John 5:28, 29,*****28****Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice* ***29****and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.*
		4. **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18,*****13****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****.* ***17Then 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.*
		5. **2 Thessalonians 2:1-4,** *Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you,* ***2****not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us,* ***as though the day of Christ had come****.* ***3****Let no one deceive you by any means;* ***for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first****, and the* ***man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition****,* ***4****who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.*
		6. **I Corinthians 15:50-58,*****50****Now this I say, brethren, that* ***flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God****; nor does corruption inherit incorruption.* ***51****Behold, I tell you a mystery:* ***We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed— 52in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye****, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.* ***53****For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.* ***54****So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: “Death is swallowed up in victory.”* ***55****“****O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?****”* ***56****The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law.* ***57****But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.* ***58****Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.*
		7. **2 Timothy 3:1-***5, 1**But know this, that****in the last days perilous times will come****:****2****For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,****3****unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good,****4****traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,****5****having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!*