

“Are You Ready?”
Faith for Life
Part 8

“Be very careful, then, how you live – not as unwise but as wise. Making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.” Ephesians 5:15

Wisdom: provides guidance; how to live today in light of what is going on & what the future holds

Matthew 24:7-14 “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. ⁸All these are the beginning of birth pains.

⁹“Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me. ¹⁰At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, ¹¹and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people.

12Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, 13but whoever stands firm to the end will be saved. 14And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.”

“You should know this, Timothy, that in the last days there will be very difficult times. ² For people will love only themselves and their money. They will be boastful and proud, scoffing at God, disobedient to their parents, and ungrateful. They will consider nothing sacred. ³ They will be unloving and unforgiving; they will slander others and have no self-control. They will be cruel and hate what is good. ⁴ They will betray their friends, be reckless, be puffed up with pride, and love pleasure rather than God. ⁵ They will act religious, but they will reject the power that could make them godly. Stay away from people like that!”

2 Timothy 3:1-5 NLT

Most importantly, I want to remind you that in the last days scoffers will come, mocking the truth and following their own desires” “But the day of the Lord will come like a thief.

¹¹Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be?

2 Peter 3:3 NIV

“What kind of people should we be?”

You ought to live holy and godly lives ¹²as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. ¹³But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.

2 Peter 3: 11 -13 NIV

“And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.”

Matthew 24:14

Do some cleaning!

James 1:20-21 "...our anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires. Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

Paul says it this way;

“Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. ⁶Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. ⁷You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. ⁸But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.

Colossians 3:5-8

Draw near to Jesus

1 John 2:28 “And now, dear children, continue in him, so that when he appears we may be confident and unashamed before him at his coming.”

James 4:5, 7-8 “Do you think the Scriptures have no meaning? They say that God is passionate that the spirit he has placed within us should be faithful to him So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come close to God, and God will come close to you.

1 John 3:2-3 “Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. ³All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.”

Use problems to develop character

Romans 5:3-5 “when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. ⁴ And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. ⁵ And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love.” NLT

Work on Loving Everyone

1 Thessalonians 3:12- 13 “..may the Lord make your love for one another and for all people grow and overflow, just as our love for you overflows. ¹³ May he, as a result, make your hearts strong, blameless, and holy as you stand before God our Father when our Lord Jesus comes again with all his holy people.” NLT

Use God's Gifts to Help & Reach Others

1 Timothy 6:18-19 “Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.”

1 Corinthians 1:4 & 7 “I always thank my God for you and for the gracious gifts he has given you, now that you belong to Christ Jesus..... Now you have every spiritual gift you need as you eagerly wait for the return of our Lord Jesus Christ.”