

Lesson 29: The End of the World, Part 2

Memory Verse: "Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Matthew 26:41

1. What had Christ said in the prophecy of Jerusalem's destruction? Matthew 24:12-14
"And because _____ shall _____, the _____ of many shall wax cold. But he that shall _____ unto the _____, the same shall be _____. And this _____ of the kingdom shall be _____ in all the world for a _____ unto all nations; and then shall the _____ come."

Note: "This prophecy will again be fulfilled. The **abounding iniquity** of that day finds its counterpart in this generation. So with the prediction in regard to the **preaching of the gospel**.

Before the fall of Jerusalem, Paul, writing by the Holy Spirit, declared that the gospel was preached to 'every _____ which is under heaven.' Col. 1:23.

So now, before the coming of the Son of man, [Rev. 14:14] the everlasting gospel is to be preached 'to every _____, and _____, and _____, and _____.' Rev. 14:6. God 'hath appointed a _____, in the which He will _____ the world.' Acts 17:31. Christ tells us when that day shall be ushered in.

He does not say that all the world will be converted, but that 'this gospel of the kingdom shall be **preached** in all the world for a **witness** unto all nations; and then shall the end come.' By giving the gospel to the world it is in our power to **hasten** our Lord's return. We are **not only to look for** but to **hasten** the coming of the day of God. 2 Peter 3:12, margin. Had the church of Christ done her appointed work as the Lord ordained, the whole world would before this have been warned, and the Lord Jesus would have come to our earth in power and great glory." DA 633.3

2. How will the people of the world react to the things that are happening? Luke 21:26
"Men's hearts failing them for _____, and for _____ after those things which are _____ on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken."
Today, as people see the world falling apart, they are truly afraid.

3. What does He say we should do when these signs begin to happen? Luke 21:28
"And when these things _____ to come to pass, then look _____, and lift up your _____; for your _____ draweth _____."

4. Read 2 Timothy 3:1-5 This is a description of the _____ days.
What will the times be like in those days? They will be _____ times.
How many things are listed in verses 2-4? _____

Can we see these things all around us and in the news today? YES NO

Are we in the "last days"? YES NO

Ask Yourself: Am I doing any of these things that are listed? YES NO

If I am, I must go to Jesus right away to surrender everything to Him and become a true child of God. What is one of the worst things which will be going on at this time?

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Read verse 5. People have a _____ of godliness, but they deny the _____ of God to change their lives. People think they can go to heaven just the way they are. They think they don't need to change because they think it doesn't matter what you do. But Jesus made it clear that this is not true when He said in Matthew 7:21 "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall _____ into the kingdom of _____; but he that _____ the _____ of my Father which is in heaven."

5. Are things in this world going to get better before Jesus comes? YES NO
2 Timothy 3:13 "But _____ men and seducers shall wax _____ and _____, deceiving, and being _____."

6. Right in the last days when there are signs all around to show us that Jesus' coming is near and when things in the world are getting worse and prophecies are being fulfilled, what would some people do? 2 Peter 3:3-4 "Knowing this first, that there shall come in the _____ days scoffers, walking after their _____ lusts, And saying, Where is the _____ of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, _____ things _____ as they were from the _____ of the creation."

What do scoffers do? They sneer, they taunt, they belittle, they jest or joke about it, they mock, they ridicule, and they scorn. They are making fun of the idea that Christ is coming soon. They say that Christ's coming is not going to be soon, so don't worry about it.

7. It is not surprising to hear even some ministers say these things. Why?
2 Corinthians 11:14-15 "And no marvel; for _____ himself is transformed into an angel of _____. Therefore it is no great thing if his _____ also be transformed as the ministers of _____; whose end shall be according to their works." Whose ministers are they? _____
What do they pretend to be? ministers of _____.

8. How does Jesus tell us to relate to these things? Matthew 24:42-44
"W_____ therefore: for ye know _____ what hour your Lord doth come. But know this, that if the goodman of the house had _____ in what watch the thief would come, he would have _____, and would not have suffered his house to be _____ up. Therefore be ye also _____: for in such an hour as ye think _____ the Son of man _____."

Note: "God has always given men warning of coming judgments. Those who had **faith in His message** for their time, and who **acted out their faith**, in **obedience to His commandments**, escaped the judgments that fell upon the disobedient and unbelieving." DA 634.1

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9. What examples do we have of this?

A. N_____: Genesis 7:1 "And the Lord said unto _____, Come thou and all thy house _____ the _____; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation."

What did Noah do? Genesis 7:5 "And Noah _____ according unto _____ that the Lord _____ him."

Noah obeyed and was saved.

B. L_____: Genesis 19:12-14 "And the men said unto Lot, Hast thou here any besides? son in law, and thy sons, and thy daughters, and whatsoever thou hast in the city, _____ them _____ of this place: For we will _____ this place, because the _____ of them is waxen great before the face of the Lord; and the Lord hath _____ us to _____ it. And Lot went out, and _____ unto his sons in law, which married his daughters, and said, Up, get you _____ of this place; for the Lord will _____ this city. But he seemed as one that _____ unto his sons in law." Lot warned his sons in law and married daughters, but they did not believe the warning. Lot was reluctant to leave them in the city, but they would not come out. So what did the angels do? Genesis 19:15,16 "And when the morning arose, then the angels _____ Lot, saying, Arise, take thy wife, and thy two daughters, which are here; lest thou be _____ in the iniquity of the city. And while he lingered, the men laid _____ upon his _____, and upon the hand of his _____, and upon the hand of his two _____; the Lord being _____ unto him: and they brought him _____, and set him without the city." The angels led him out of the city. **Lot placed himself under the guardianship of the heavenly messengers, and was saved.** He did not obey as readily as Noah did, but he did go.

C. Christ's disciples: What warning was given them? Luke 21:20-21 "And when ye shall _____ Jerusalem compassed with _____, then know that the desolation thereof is _____. Then let them which are in Judaea _____ to the _____; and let them which are in the midst of it _____; and let _____ them that are in the countries _____ thereinto." They "were given warning of the destruction of Jerusalem. **Those who watched for the sign of the coming ruin, and fled from the city, escaped the destruction.** So now we are given warning of Christ's second coming and of the destruction to fall upon the world. **Those who heed the warning will be saved.**" DA 634.1

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10. There is cause for alarm in the condition of the religious world today. God's mercy has been trifled with. What are most of the religious teachers doing? Matthew 15:9. "But in _____ they do _____ me, teaching for _____ the commandments of _____."

Note: "Infidelity prevails in many of the churches in our land; not infidelity in its broadest sense – an open denial of the Bible – but an infidelity that is robed in the garb of Christianity, while it is **undermining faith in the Bible as a revelation from God**. **Fervent devotion** and **vital piety** have given place to hollow formalism. As the result, apostasy and sensualism prevail." PP 166.1

11. What did Christ say about the days of Lot? Luke 17:28-30

"Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did _____, they _____, they _____, they _____, they _____, they _____; But the same _____ that Lot went _____ of Sodom it rained _____ and brimstone from heaven, and _____ them _____. Even _____ shall it _____ in the day when the Son of man is revealed."

Note: "The **daily record** of passing events testifies to the fulfillment of His words. The world is fast becoming **ripe for destruction**. **Soon** the judgments of God are to be poured out, and sin and sinners are to be consumed." PP 166.1

12. Because of this, what warning did Christ give us? Luke 21:34-36

◆ "And take _____ to yourselves," – Watch out!
◆ "lest at _____ time your hearts be _____ with surfeiting, [overeating] and _____, and _____ of _____ life, and _____ that day come upon you _____."

Note: We must watch out that our eating and drinking and the things of this life on earth do not **absorb our time and attention** so that we are spend little or no time **preparing** for the coming of Jesus.

◆ "For as a _____ shall it come on _____ them that _____ on the face of the whole earth." It will be like that for those whose interests are centered in this world.

◆ "W_____ ye therefore, and _____ always, that ye may be accounted worthy to _____ all these things that shall come to pass, and to _____ before the Son of man."

13. For what are we to watch? Jesus said in Matthew 26:41: "Watch and pray, that ye _____ not into _____: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is _____."

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Note: "First, you are to watch.

Watch, lest you should speak hastily, fretfully, and impatiently.

Watch, lest pride should find a place in your heart.

Watch, lest evil passions should overcome you, instead of your subduing them.

Watch, lest you become light and trifling,
and your influence savor of death, rather than life." FLB 224.4

"Watch against the stealthy approach of the enemy,

Watch against old habits and natural inclinations,
lest they assert themselves; force them back, and watch.

Watch the thoughts, watch the plans, lest they become self-centered.

Watch over the souls whom Christ has purchased with His own blood.

Watch for opportunities to do them good. 6T 410.3

"Second, you are to pray. Jesus would not have enjoined this upon you,
unless there was actual necessity for it.

It is well known to Him that **of yourself you cannot overcome the many temptations of the enemy,**
and the many snares laid for your feet.

He has not left you alone to do this;

but has **provided a way** that you can obtain help.

Therefore He has bid you to pray." FLB 224.5

"Pray much. While at your work let your heart be uplifted to God. When you have committed to God the keeping of your soul, do not go away and act directly contrary to the prayer you have made. **Watch as well as pray,** lest you be overcome with temptation. Resist the first inclination to do wrong. Pray in your heart, 'Jesus, help me; preserve me from evil,' and then do what you know Christ would be pleased to have you do." TMK 41.3

"There is but one way to be victorious. Serve God with all your heart because you love Him. Seek Him daily **because you love Him** and know what He is to you. **Be faithful in the little things,** although no eye but the Lord's may review your work. Remember that **you are doing service for Christ.** You may now be obtaining a precious experience every day in serving God. Plant the principles of truth in your own soul, and reveal Christ in your character. **Do not be satisfied with a common, low level.** You can ... resemble Christ in character. TMK 41.5

"Look unto Jesus constantly if you would advance step by step in the narrow path cast up for the chosen of the Lord to walk in, **saying in your heart,** 'Thee will I seek, O God; Thee will I follow; Thee will I serve; under Thy guidance I can and will go forward.'" TMK 41.6

"We are in an enemy's country. He who was cast out of heaven has come down with great power. With every conceivable artifice and device he is seeking to take souls captive. **Unless we are constantly on guard** we shall fall an easy prey to his unnumbered deceptions." TMK 351.5

"A great crisis is just before us. To meet its trials and temptations and to perform its duties will require persevering faith. But we may triumph gloriously; not one watching, praying, believing soul will be ensnared by the enemy." HP 279.5

14. What else does He want us to learn from the example of Lot, Noah, and the Disciples? "Before the destruction of Sodom, God sent a message to Lot:"

Genesis 19:17: "E_____ for thy life; look not behind thee, neither _____ thou in all the plain; escape to the _____, lest thou be consumed."

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"The same voice of warning was heard by the disciples of Christ before the destruction of Jerusalem: Luke 21:20, 21: 'When ye shall _____ Jerusalem compassed with armies, then _____ that the desolation thereof is _____. Then let them which are in Judea _____ to the _____.' They must not tarry to secure anything from their possessions, but must make the most of the opportunity to escape."
PP 166.3

Note: "There was a **coming out**, a **decided separation** from the wicked, an escape for life. So it was in the days of **Noah**; so with **Lot**; so with the **disciples** prior to the destruction of Jerusalem; **and so it will be in the last days**. Again the voice of God is heard in a message of warning, **bidding His people separate themselves from the prevailing iniquity**." PP 166.4

15. What is the call to us today? Revelation 18:4

"Come _____ of her, _____ people, that ye be not partakers of her _____, and that ye receive _____ of her _____."

Note: "The state of corruption and apostasy that in the last days would exist in the religious world, was presented to the prophet John in the vision of Babylon. ... Before its destruction the call is to be given from heaven, 'Come out ...' As in the days of **Noah** and **Lot**, there must be a **marked separation from sin and sinners**. There can be **no compromise** between God and the world, no turning back to secure earthly treasures." PP 167.1

16. What is God's call to us? 2 Corinthians 6:17-18 "Wherefore come _____ from among them, and be ye _____, saith the Lord, and touch _____ the _____ thing; and I will _____ you."

17. **If** we listen to His call and obey it, what precious promise do we have? 2 Cor. 6:18 "And will be a _____ unto you, and ye shall be my _____ and _____, saith the Lord Almighty." This is why God wants us to be separate from all the customs and practices of the world. He wants us to be His children!

18. With such a wonderful promise, what should we be doing? 2 Corinthians 7:1 "Having therefore _____ promises, dearly beloved, _____ us _____ ourselves from _____ filthiness of the _____ and _____, perfecting _____ in the fear of God." God wants us to be His children and He wants to prepare us so that we will be able to live in His holy presence where sin cannot dwell. This is why He longs to have us co-operate with Him to get ALL sin out of our lives.