



The Signs Of The End Times

by B. R. Hicks

Introduction

God always has used Signs as proofs of His divine Power and demonstrations of His infinite Sovereignty. The Hebrew word for *sign* is *ooth*, which means *a flag, a beacon, monument, omen, prodigy, evidence, mark, token*. Like the luminous hands of a clock, God's Signs, the lights in the natural Heavens and His prophetic Light from the Spirit and Word of God, point to the movement of His divine Master Plan.

A *sign* is a *prophetic light* which points to the fact that a change of action, condition, or quality is about to occur. For example, the great lights of Heaven prophesy change as they fulfill their purpose of distinguishing between day and night. The sun prophesies that night will come, bringing a change from light to darkness. The lights in the nighttime sky — the moon and the stars — point to a change from darkness to light.

Besides ruling over day and night, the heavenly lights were created to serve as Signs in other ways. The regular paths of the heavenly bodies prophesy the progress of the years, months, days, hours, and minutes, and they foretell the seasons.

In the spiritual and intellectual realms of human life, God has foretold the events that will occur, visibly, in order to lead and awaken our thoughts to the Power of the LORD God and His Rulership of this world. God uses light to rule His Creation. Even in darkness, God puts forth His prophetic lights, using light to rule over the darkness.

The analogy of the lights or signs in the natural sky to the Lights or Signs in God's Spiritual Sky is both striking and instructive. For instance, God's great Lights or Signs are His timekeepers; both naturally and spiritually. They are God's Clock. God's lights or signs in the natural realm compel us to reckon with time and to count its value. In the spiritual realm, God's spiritual Signs help us to reckon and to value time on God's Spiritual Clock and Calendar. God's Time Clock in the natural realm governs, rules,

and reigns over the Creation, causing the flowers of earth to open, to close, to blossom, and to fade. God's Spiritual Clock has Lights and Signs that point to changes of dispensations. His Clock rules and reigns over dispensations, opening and closing them according to His holy, righteous Will.

The purpose of this book is to show where the world stands in relation to God's dispensational Plans and to point out the hour in which we are living, according to God's Spiritual Clock. Is it early or late on God's Clock? Could it possibly be the last hour? When will God's Spiritual Time Clock change the present dispensation? Are there signs that prophesy a new dispensation? Does God's Word say when Jesus Christ is coming back to this Earth? What will happen at the end of this Age?

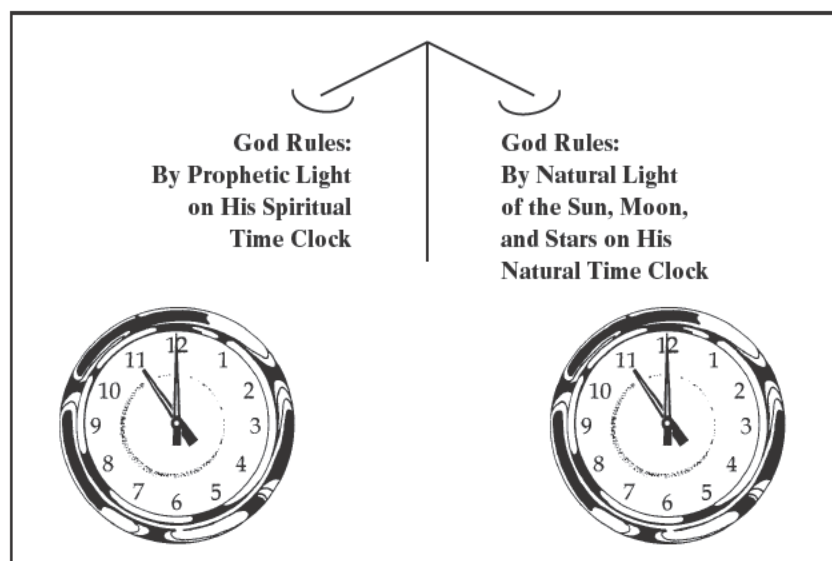
The exact time that our present dispensation will change and the exact time that the LORD Jesus Christ will return to Earth are hidden with God. Nevertheless, He has left prophetic Lights and Signs that point to the closing of this dispensation and the opening of a new dispensation. The prophetic Signs reveal where we stand time-wise on God's Clock. God has dealt mercifully with mankind during the dispensation of Grace, but many Scriptures clearly indicate that the time of dispensational Grace shall come to a close, and the Wheel of God's Justice and Judgment will open a new dispensation for mankind.

In fact, God's Word gives twelve Signs that herald the end of this dispensation of Grace before God opens His door of Judgment for mankind. Therefore, we need to be making our spiritual preparation for the future, *today*. Time is *loaned* to us to be used for learning God's Word and serving Him. We must be diligent with time. We must consider it for what it is: precious, short, uncertain, and irrevocably gone when it has passed. We should take advantage of every opportunity we are given in Time to gain more of God's Word as our personal possession. Thus, we can increase the eternal weight of Glory that shall be ours when God declares that "Time shall be no more."

— The Author

The Signs Of The End Times

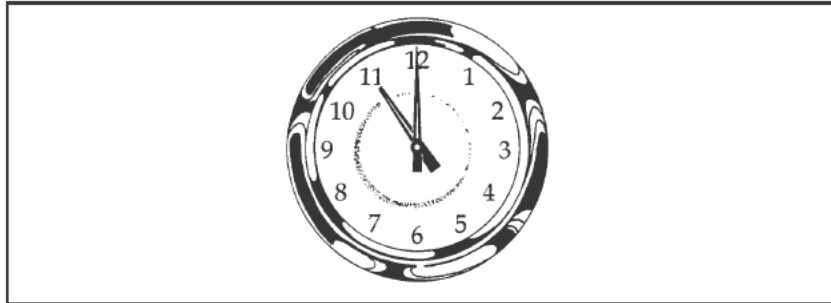
God rules His Creation in both the natural and spiritual realms by the *Light* of His Time Clock.



I. God's Natural Time Clock Controls Man's Activities.

Each person, from the beginning of his life on Earth, is controlled by time. People rise from their beds and return to their beds according to the clock. Eating, working, and playing are governed by God's time clock in the natural realm. Man consciously is aware of time every day.

A. Natural Light Rules the Daytime and the Nighttime.



The first ministry of natural light is to rule or to govern and to guide time through the day and the night. A natural clock keeps a numerical account of the amount of time consumed by the movement of the heavenly bodies of light on a day-to-day basis, while the calendar keeps track of their movement from month to month. God's Purpose in creating the natural lights was for them to rule over His natural Creation. God's Word says: "And God made two great lights; the greater light *to rule* the day, and the lesser light *to rule* the night: he made the stars also" (Genesis 1:16).

It is easy to see, in the natural realm, how light governs or rules, but God's Word tells us that ruling the day and night is only one function of the heavenly lights.

B. Natural Light Divides the Day and the Night.

The second ministry of natural light is to divide or separate between day and night.

And God said, **Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night;** and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years: (Genesis 1:14).

There would be no division between day and night if the sun, moon, and stars shone with equal brilliance. But God has ordained for the bright sunlight to tell man when it is time to stand up and go to work. The lesser light of the moon and stars tells man when it is time to lie down and rest.

C. Natural Light Is for Signs.

The third ministry of natural light is to be Signs or prophetic Witnesses.

And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and **let them be for signs**, and for seasons, and for days, and years: (Genesis 1:14).

In addition to dividing between day and night, the natural lights of the sun, moon, and stars serve as prophetic Signs to indicate that a change of action, condition, or quality is about to occur. Clearly, the sun and moon are prophetic Lights. The sun shines down on man in the daytime and says, “My light soon will be gone; then, darkness will come; therefore, work diligently. When night comes, a change of action will occur, and work will cease.” The moon and stars shine down on man in the nighttime and say, “Our light soon will be gone; and the light of the sun will come back to change this night into day. Then, you can stand up and return to your work.” The heavenly lights of the natural Creation are prophetic lights that warn man of an imminent change in his existing conditions, whether they bring darkness or light.

D. Natural Lights Are for Seasons.

The fourth ministry of natural light is for seasons.

And God said, **Let there be lights** in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let

them be for signs, **and for seasons**, and for days, and years: (Genesis 1:14).

God's natural Time Clock brings in the spring season, unlocking the budding crocuses in the warming soil, in spite of the chill of winter's snow. God's light of spring clothes the valleys with lilies, the fields with daffodils and dandelions, the hills with roses of Sharon, and gardens with all pleasant and blushing colours. Miraculous changes are wrought in the Earth through the silent working of natural light. God perpetually exercises the Power of His Time Clock in spring to fill the Earth with sweet days. Spring hangs her infant blossoms upon every seemingly dead tree so that they can be rocked in her cradle of balmy air.

God's natural Time Clock brings in the summer season, unlocking the lush fruitfulness of the fertile soil of Earth's cultivated fields and gardens. Summer is the appropriate season for the hay harvest and for the ripening of the earlier fruits, filling man with pleasant and delightful satisfaction resulting from the labor of his hands.

God's natural Time Clock ushers in the special season called autumn when the increase, abundance, and growth of Earth's fruits are harvested. Autumn is when days and nights become equal. At this time, the sun is perpendicular to the equator on its journey southward. The autumn landscape is magnificent with its glorious, colourful array of falling leaves and its fleeting, white clouds drifting through clear blue skies. When the fruit of the trees has ripened and the leaves have completed their labours, the leaves fall. The beautiful and splendid colouring of the leaves is a witness of their graceful and beautiful offering of service to their Creator and to man, after their work of summer has finished.

The falling leaves of autumn teach us a beautiful spiritual lesson. We, too, should do our work well and be willing and ready to surrender our life in glory and beauty to our Creator. The frost enhances the beauties of the leaves, increasing the tints of autumn. God's Cold Breath of Humility enhances our life, adding the beauty of His Humility Love and Obedience to our heart.

God's natural Time Clock brings in the icy chill of the piercing, congealing cold of the winter season. Winter begins in northern latitudes when the sun enters Capricorn. Winter is the Sabbath season for the Earth, a time for Earth to receive the nutrients from the rainwater and the snow, replenishing the Earth's chemicals.

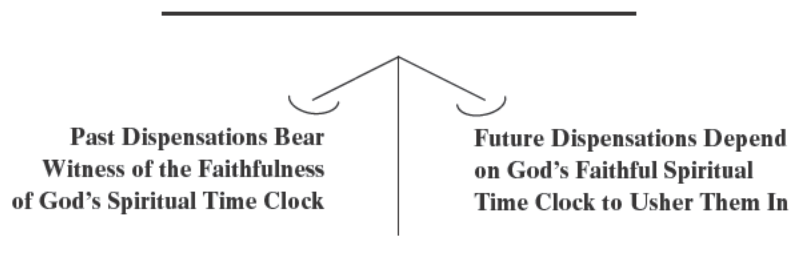
While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease (Genesis 8:22).

If God's natural Time Clock did not faithfully usher in each season, Earth soon would be destitute of inhabitants. His natural Time Clock helps God in His Government and Management of the Earth and its world of inhabitants.

God's natural Time Clock rules the day and the night, divides the day and the night, uses light as a prophetic sign or witness of change; and ushers in the seasons of spring, summer, autumn, and winter.

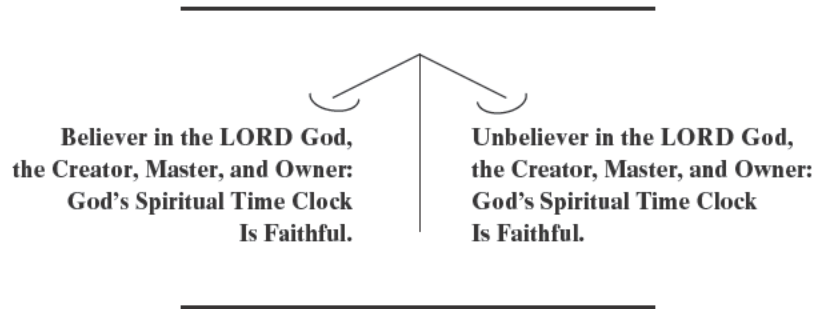
II. God's Spiritual Time Clock Brings in New Dispensations.

In past dispensations, God's Spiritual Time Clock has ruled faithfully over the spiritual days and nights and spiritual seasons of mankind. Therefore, man can depend, safely and securely, on God's Spiritual Time Clock to bring in the new dispensations of the future. The events preceding the end of this present dispensation are all a part of God's Spiritual Calendar, according to His Master Plan.



God has foretold many things that will happen on Earth, according to His Purposes and Plans for mankind. He has given many Signs that pertain to the end of this dispensation in order to help man recognize what time it is on God's Spiritual Clock. God intends for man to use this knowledge of Spiritual Time that has been given to him so that he can choose to live the kind of moral life that will be pleasing to his Creator.

Whether a man believes and acknowledges God as his Creator, his Master, and his Owner is not relevant. Man still is subject to God's Time Clock on His Master Plan. All Creation moves according to God's Time Clock, in both the natural and the spiritual realms.



Relentlessly, God's Spiritual Time Clock "ticks" on, moving in faithfulness to God's Master Plan, marking time for believers and unbelievers.

Although man has been keenly perceptive in heeding the prophetic warnings of the natural seasons on God's natural Time Clock, he has ignored, as a whole, God's prophetic warnings of the spiritual seasons on His Spiritual Time Clock. The fact that we constantly see people dying, from newborn babies to old people, should serve as a warning to everyone because death prophesies to the brevity and fragility of this life. Yet many people refuse to heed God's warnings, whether they are young, or whether they are nearing the end of their existence in this world, simply because they are

old. Few people consider the spiritual Signs that God has given on His Spiritual Time Clock to warn them of the coming end of this life. God desires to use His spiritual Signs to point people to Eternal Life in Jesus Christ.

God's spiritual Signs of His Light of Truth in Christ Jesus also prophesy about man's *spiritual* seasons of spring, summer, autumn, and winter.

The Light of Christ, the Sun of Righteousness, brings the Resurrection Life of spring into our heart and soul by causing the Seeds of the Word of God to burst forth into new life within us. Therefore, we experience a springtime season of joy and delight in God's Word.

Then, in the summer season, the Light of Christ, the Sun of Righteousness, is faithful to bring us into the labours and toils of the hot summer so that we may enjoy the early fruit of our labours.

The autumn season faithfully arrives next, with its rich harvest, the result of our labours during the summer.

And, finally, the Light of Christ, the Sun of Righteousness, steadfastly brings us into a Sabbath rest with Him as we enter a winter season of rest from the heat of the day and the labours of reaping the harvest.

The spiritual Light of Truth foretells which season is next in order on God's Spiritual Time Clock so that man can be ready for it. The Prophetic Light in God's Word foretells His spiritual dispensational seasons for man, personally, and for man generally.

God reveals Himself and His Master Plan through Jesus Christ so that man can know the LORD in his heart and serve Him with his will. Therefore, man can be ready to meet the LORD God, His Creator, his Owner, and his Master.

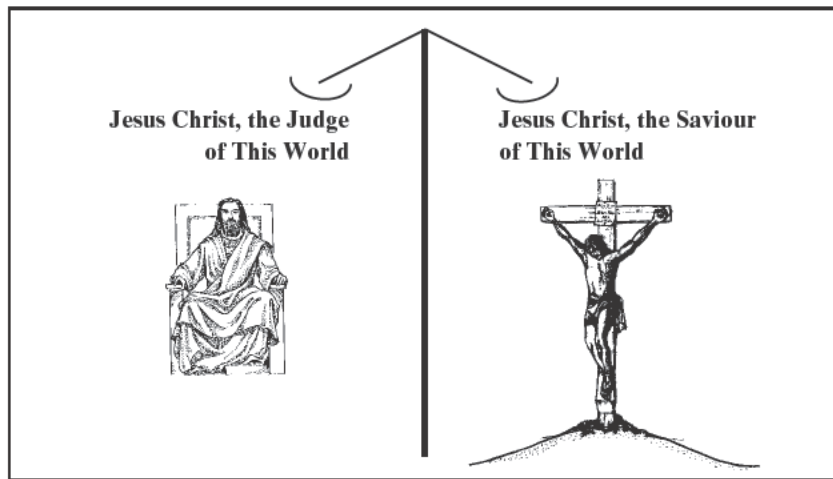
God gives His spiritual Signs or prophetic Lights to lead and guide man through the dark night of this present evil world and to bring him into the radiance and brilliance of His eternal New Day. God has not left man in darkness in either the natural realm or in the spiritual realm. He established sufficient natural light and spiritual Light to rule over all darkness in both worlds. God's

great Lights are His spiritual Signs or luminous Hands on His Time Clock. They are His Timekeepers.

God's Light has Power to control His Creation and to subdue it. With God in control, nothing happens by chance. It is expedient, then, that, as finite beings, we heed the *Signs of the End Times* as God reveals them in His Word.

We can know the spiritual hour in which we live because God has given us a Spiritual Clock. Instead of a clock's face with numbers and hands to point to the hour, God has given us Hands of prophetic Light that point to numbers of events and world conditions on the face of His Master Plan, which reveal the hour in which we are living.

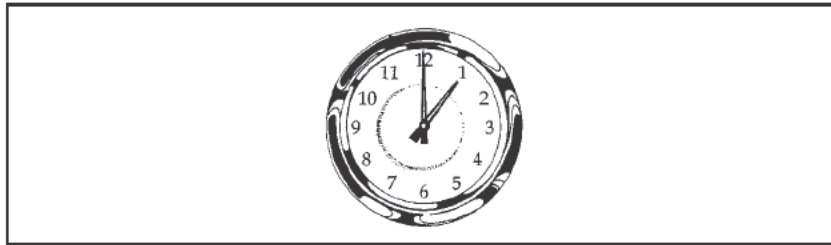
God's Word gives twelve major Signs that herald the End of this Dispensation of Grace. These twelve Signs, like twelve hours on the face of the clock, mark the closing events of this dispensation. After God closes the door on this dispensation of Mercy and Grace, in which His Son Jesus Christ is revealed as the Saviour of this world, He will reveal Jesus Christ as the Judge of this world.



God's dealings with rebellious mankind will change from His Merciful Grace in Christ Jesus as Saviour to His Merciful Grace in Christ Jesus as Judge, Who will judge the world according to the

righteousness of His *Torah*. When Jesus came to this Earth the first time, He took the sinner's place on the Cross in Death, in order to become man's Saviour. When the world fills up her cup of rejection of Jesus Christ as Saviour, by accepting the Antichrist as God, the LORD Jesus Christ will return to this world as the Judge, to punish the wicked offenders with Death. If man rejects the *Life* in Christ Jesus, the Saviour, he must accept the *Death* that will be administered by Christ Jesus, the Judge.

A. The Worldwide Dispersion and Preservation of Israel Marks Hour One on God's Spiritual Time Clock.



The first prophetic hour on God's Spiritual Time Clock foretold the worldwide dispersion and preservation of Israel, and, then, her regathering as a nation.

God's Judgment fell upon the Jewish Nation after the close of the Old Testament Dispensation of the Mosaic Ceremonial Law because, as a nation, they rejected the New Testament Dispensation of Saving Grace in Christ Jesus. Israel refused to be ruled by God's Spiritual Light, Christ Jesus, the Sun of Righteousness.

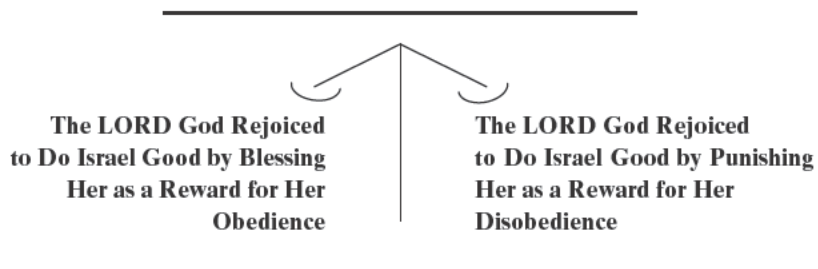
God's Judgment always will fall on a person, a nation, or a world that rejects the Light of His Spiritual Time Clock. Man either willingly comes under the Light of God's Merciful Sovereignty, by keeping in step with His Spiritual Time Clock, or he rebels and steps out under the darkness of his own authority and falls under God's Judgment.

Hour one on God's Prophetic Time Clock was revealed to Moses by God's Spirit. In the Book of Deuteronomy, chapter

twenty-eight, the LORD spoke of His intention to bless Israel, but God's *continued blessings* hinged upon Israel's *continual obedience* to Him. If Israel would walk according to His Will, God would bless her; but if she failed to obey, God promised to punish her with disease, pestilence, oppression, and, ultimately, to disperse her among the other nations of the world.

And it shall come to pass, *that* as the LORD rejoiced over you to do you good, and to multiply you; so the LORD will rejoice over you to destroy you, and to bring you to nought; and ye shall be plucked from off the land whither thou goest to possess it. And **the LORD shall scatter thee among all people, from the one end of the earth even unto the other;** and there thou shalt serve other gods, which neither thou nor thy fathers have known, *even* wood and stone. **And among these nations shalt thou find no ease, neither shall the sole of thy foot have rest: but the Lord shall give thee there a trembling heart, and failing of eyes, and sorrow of mind: And thy life shall hang in doubt before thee; and thou shalt fear day and night, and shalt have none assurance of thy life:** (Deuteronomy 28:63-66).

The real connotation of these precious verses of Truth is this: As the LORD God rejoiced for Israel's sake to do her good when she obeyed, the LORD God would rejoice for Israel's sake to bring her to ruin as a nation when she disobeyed.



The LORD God rejoiced for Israel's sake, making her extraordinarily *fortunate* when she obeyed Him and walked in the Light of His Time Clock. However, the LORD God rejoiced for Israel's sake, doing her good by making her extraordinarily *unfortunate* when she disobeyed Him by refusing to walk in the Light of His Spiritual Time Clock.

The LORD God punished Israel as a nation for her rejection of Jesus Christ by tearing her away from her land and scattering her to the ends of the Earth. Titus conquered Jerusalem in A.D. 70, scattering Israel among the nations of the world. God allowed the Nation of Israel to go to temporary ruin and destruction, to be completely banished from her land, until she could be cured of her rejection of Jesus Christ. God promised Israel that she would not find any real rest and peace of mind among the nations if she rebelled against Him. Israel was destined to be restless, like the restless, continuous flow of an ever agitated sea. As long as Israel stayed out of her land because of disobedience, she was sure never to find a spot that provided either secure footing for her feet or rest and peace for her spirit and soul.

God rejoiced for Israel's sake, to do her good by making her *fortunate*, as long as she clung to Him as her LORD and the Rock of her Salvation. However, when she forsook the Ruling and Reigning Power of the Light of her God and His Time Clock, He rejoiced for her sake, to do her good by destroying her and allowing her to go to ruin so that she might learn, as a nation, to choose the Light of Truth.

It is God's Blessed Goodness and Favour to man to bring him to destruction and ruin when he rebels against the LORD, his Saviour.

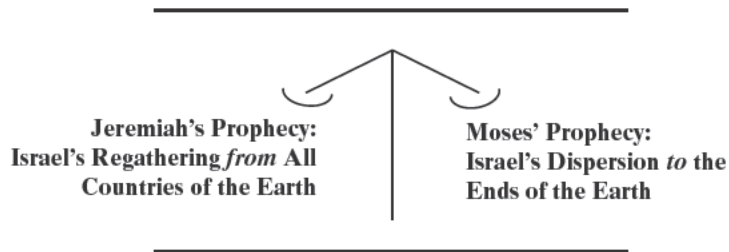
Although Israel was scattered among the nations of the world to be persecuted and killed, God promised, through the Prophet Jeremiah, to preserve a remnant, a seed, so that she would not be destroyed completely as a nation.

And I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; **and they shall be fruitful and increase** (Jeremiah 23:3).

God warned Israel that when He scattered her, the majority of them would be lost in captivity, and only a remnant would be brought back into the land.

Miraculously, God has preserved Israel by never allowing her to be absorbed into other nations. The Gentile nations, among whom she has been scattered, never considered her worthy of being entitled to equal rights. This has been God's way of protecting Israel and preserving her nationality. Thus, the LORD Jesus Christ will have a remnant when He returns to Earth again.

Jeremiah's Prophecy to Israel also was a miraculous, prophetic Light, pointing her to the time in which she would return as a remnant to her land, just before the Coming of the Messiah. Moses prophesied the dispersion of Israel; Jeremiah prophesied the preservation and regathering of Israel to her homeland and the blessing that, ultimately, would follow.



Greater than any other of the twelve major signs of the End Times is God's *miraculous preservation of the Nation of Israel* throughout multiplied years of suffering and persecution and, then, His miraculous guidance of Israel back to her own land.

Again and again, men have tried to destroy Israel. Hitler, the most recent example, had his fiendish plan to exterminate the Jewish people. Although he succeeded in killing more than six million of them, Israel was preserved as a nation.

In accordance with God's Time Clock, the 1940's and succeeding years have seen the Jewish people returning to their own land in a steady march. This is Prophecy being fulfilled before

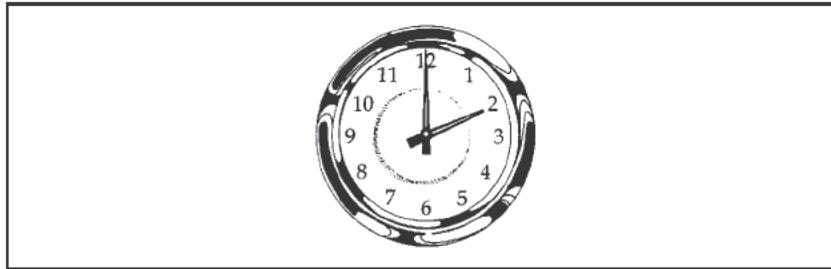
our eyes. God will continue preserving a remnant of the Nation of Israel until she is firmly established in the land under the true Messiah, Jesus Christ. Until then, her sufferings will continue.

We can see the hands of God's Spiritual Clock moving from event to event as it ticks off the final hours of this present Dispensation of Grace.

More Judgments are to come upon the Nation of Israel during the Tribulation Period, known in the Old Testament as the "Time of Jacob's Trouble." The Almighty God, the Lamb, will pour out justice and judgment upon the entire world when, during the time of the Tribulation, Israel and the nations, as a whole, will accept the Antichrist as the true Christ or Messiah.

The return of Israel to her own land and her establishment as a strong nation, after almost 2,000 years, mark the end of the first hour on God's Prophetic Time Clock.

B. Increased Travel and Knowledge Marks Hour Two on God's Time Spiritual Clock.



The second hour on God's Clock is the fulfillment of a Prophecy given by the Prophet Daniel about the increase of travel and knowledge, which happenings are a sign of the End Times. Our generation has witnessed the fulfillment of Daniel's Prophecy.

But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, *even* to the time of the end: **many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased** (Daniel 12:4).

Daniel said, “Many shall run to and fro.” Everyone knows that tourist trade is a major industry today. People flit and scurry all over the entire globe in search of new, thrilling experiences. Fast cars line the highways; fast airplanes streak through the skies. Speed is one of the highest priced commodities on the market. Airlines promise, for instance, to get you there quicker; deliver sooner; fly faster and higher. So much emphasis in selling today is on speed. Gone are the slow, hot summer days when a person had time to lie in the shade and watch the clouds drift by. Gone are the cold, wintry days when people sat by a warm fire reading the evening hours away. The world is too busy — busy going, busy coming, busy running to and fro as never before. Daniel said, “This is a sign; be watching God’s Clock.” The End of Time is near!

The spirit of restlessness that is in the world causes people to talk constantly and to be continually on the go as they try to attain a perpetual, new state of learning and excitement outside of a relationship with God

We must be still and let God speak to our heart; we need to let Him quicken His Word to us. It takes time for God to increase the spiritual Knowledge of His Word in our heart and soul. Christians need to be on guard against the restless spirit of this Age that causes them to be so rushed that they have no time to be quiet, to pray, to wait in God’s Presence, or to meditate upon His Word.

Daniel also said, “Knowledge shall be increased.” There has been a greater increase of knowledge in the last eighty-five years than in the previous thousand years.

As never before, man is hurrying about, collecting, researching, and searching for the hidden treasures of knowledge. Man is increasingly busy collecting, copying, and collating his knowledge. People are gripped with a strange, restless fervour to improve opportunities and apprehend knowledge.

A great upsurge in the pursuit of higher learning is evidenced as, in ever-increasing numbers, adult Americans return to school. The quest for knowledge ever widens as illiterate people around the world awaken to the need for education.

The flow of discoveries is so great in the scientific world that before one invention can be put into a manufactured form it often becomes obsolete. Text books rapidly become obsolete because facts are added or changed so rapidly. God revealed that there will be a tremendous increase in knowledge just before the closing of this dispensation that will last until the Messianic Era occurs.

Increased speed and knowledge are outstanding signs of our present day. We are living today at a faster pace than man ever has lived. There are two main reasons that people are dashing about at such breakneck speeds: (1) to search for knowledge and (2) to find pleasure. Man's quest for knowledge has led him even beyond probing the depths of the earth and the ocean; he also searches outer space. One nation races against the other to learn and to develop new technology.

However, it is more important to gain Knowledge of God's Son, Jesus Christ, and His Salvation than it is to gain all knowledge of God's natural Creation. Man can have an abundance of all natural knowledge and still be *lost* in his soul. All natural knowledge is temporal and will pass away. But, the Spiritual Knowledge that one gains from receiving Jesus Christ and studying God's Word is Eternal and will abide forever. Knowledge of Jesus Christ and His Word will save the soul; and it will cause the Christian to grow and mature in Spiritual Stature, which is a lasting eternal attainment.

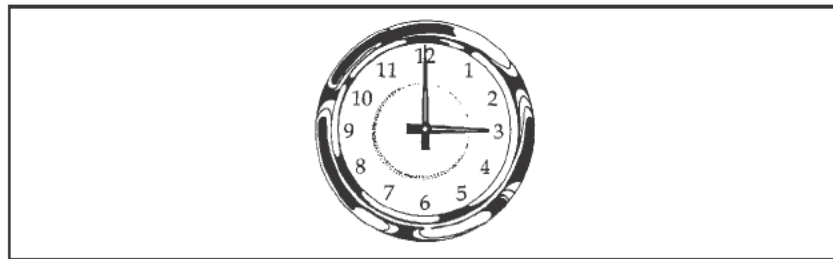
In almost every area of learning, mankind has grown in the stature of Knowledge to the mature head-realm, whether it be in the political, scientific, medical, educational, or spiritual realms. The synagogue of Satan, the kingdom of evil, also is developing into a full stature of evil and knowledge of wickedness. Satan's followers are learning and experiencing some of the greatest degrees of stolen knowledge that the Devil possesses. Wickedness is growing, not only in the number of wicked people, but in the depths of the knowledge of evil.

There also is a greater revelation of God's Spiritual Truths today. God will not let fallen Lucifer have the supremacy. God is preparing a people in this generation who will be a part of the mature Bride of

Jesus Christ. The Bride of the LORD Jesus Christ in this generation is experiencing an increase of spiritual Knowledge and Growth unto the Measure of the Stature of the Fullness of Christ.

Much Knowledge and Truth that Christians have today were given as a legacy from the past. The Truth of Jesus Christ as Saviour has been preserved because the blood of martyrs has been shed through the millennia of this present world. In addition, God is giving an increase of Revelation and Understanding of the Knowledge of His Bridegroom and Bride Relationship in Christ Jesus. Christians who wait upon the LORD, sitting at His precious Feet as they study and pray, are increasing in Head-realm Knowledge and Understanding. This increase of Knowledge is a prophetic Light or Sign to instruct us about the approaching new season, the New Day of the Messiah, Jesus Christ.

C. Modern Modes of Transportation Mark Hour Three on God's Spiritual Time Clock.



Hour three on God's Spiritual Time Clock was pointed to by the Prophet Nahum. God's prophetic Light in Nahum shed illuminating Rays of Truth about the closing days of Grace when the Prophet described our modern means of transportation and the many accidents that continually occur.

He that dasheth in pieces is come up before thy face:
keep the munition, watch the way, make *thy* loins strong,
fortify *thy* power mightily. For the LORD hath turned

away the excellency of Jacob, as the excellency of Israel: for the emptiers have emptied them out, and marred their vine branches. The shield of his mighty men is made red, the valiant men *are* in scarlet: **the chariots shall be with flaming torches in the day of his preparation**, and the fir trees shall be terribly shaken (Nahum 2:1-3).

The Prophet Nahum's main message was a declaration that the God Who was faithful to judge and punish the proud, idolatrous cities of Jerusalem and Samaria also would judge and punish the proud, idolatrous City of Nineveh.

Many Prophecies have a threefold meaning, in that they refer to the past, the present, and the future, all in one message. This one by the Prophet Nahum refers not only to his day and the City of Nineveh but also points to the future and the time of preparation for the Judgment of Israel.

When the Prophet referred to the "day of his preparation," he described chariots with flaming torches, which was his prophetic Vision of modern vehicles of transportation. The Prophet saw these peculiar chariots appearing in Israel's history at the time in which God begins to prepare Judgment for her. Israel has come and will come under God's Judgment for her *rejection* of her true Messiah, Jesus Christ, and for her *acceptance* of the Antichrist.

Except for a remnant of Israel that God will protect during the Tribulation Period, by having them sealed with His Living Seal, all Israel will receive the Antichrist when he arrives and will follow him as their LORD and King. Israel rejected the true Messiah the first time that He came to Earth, although she knew from the Scriptures Who He was. As a nation, Israel was disobedient and rebellious toward her Messiah and hardened her heart against Him. So, she rejected Jesus Christ and asked the Romans to crucify Him.

Nahum also said:

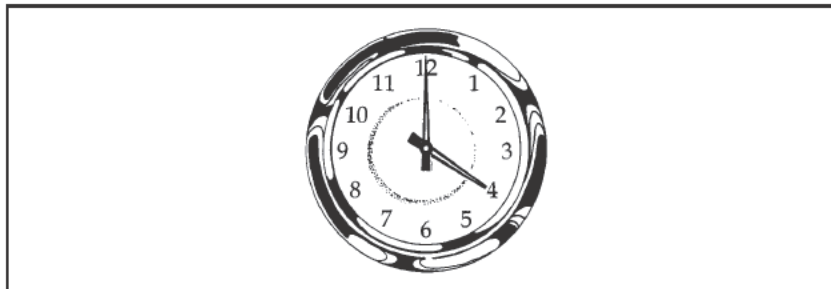
The chariots shall rage in the streets, they shall jostle one against another in the broad ways: they shall seem like torches, **they shall run like the lightnings** (Nahum 2:4).

When this Prophecy was written, man had not conceived the vision nor developed the need for a turnpike, expressway, or freeway. Yet Nahum foretold that these “broad ways” would exist in the End Time. With the acceleration of traffic also came the increase of accidents and highway tragedies.

The real connotation of this verse, in Hebrew, is that the chariots “rush madly” in the streets. This is very descriptive of the way reckless, dashing, and impetuous drivers of our day propel their swiftly moving automobiles. And they “jostle one against another in the broad ways.” This is descriptive of the accidents that occur when the automobiles shove, push, and roughly bump each other in the streets. Man is constantly faced with serious traffic hazards in our generation. Statistics reveal that more deaths occur from traffic accidents than from wars. All these accidents are part of the signs of the times and reveal that the day of preparation for Judgment is drawing near.

Likewise, our airways are plagued with the same problem of traffic hazards. The powerful progress in travel and transportation reveals another sign pointing to where we are in relation to God’s Time Clock. These raging, crashing, speeding chariots of modern transportation and the accidents that happen in the “broad ways” prophesy that we are in the End Time. They mark another hour passed on God’s Time Clock.

D. Troublesome Times Mark Hour Four on God’s Spiritual Time Clock.



Jesus' Prophecy, spoken to the Disciples on the Mount of Olives, pointed to the fourth hour on God's Spiritual Clock. This Sign of the End Time is recorded in the Gospel of Matthew. In answering His Disciples' questions, Jesus revealed the trouble that will exist at the close of this Age. There will be increased mental agitation, worry, harassment, vexation, pain, discomfort, and affliction. We see this troublesome hour being lived now. The increased use of drugs and alcohol prove the increase of mental stress upon mankind in this dispensation.

And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, **when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?** (Matthew 24:3).

At the time mentioned in this Scripture, the Disciples asked Jesus three questions. First, "...When shall these things [the destruction of the temple] be?" Second, "...And what shall be the sign of thy coming?" Third, "...And of the end of the world?"

Jesus did not answer their questions in the order in which they were asked. He addressed their last question first. In verses four through fourteen, He discussed the signs of the end of this Age. In verses fifteen through twenty-six, He answered their first question by describing the great abomination and tribulation that would precede the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem. In verses twenty-seven through thirty-one, He revealed the sign of His Second Coming.

Jesus had just spoken prophetically to them about the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem. It was to be thrown down; not one stone was to be left upon the other. Naturally, their first concern was to know when this would happen. When would the Temple be destroyed? When would the pompous building of the Temple be laid in ruins? When would the Temple, with its worldly glory, be defaced, demolished, and laid waste? This question was answered when Titus could not restrain his enraged soldiers from their utter destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70.

Their second question was: “What shall be the sign of thy coming?” These men were Israelites, so they were deeply concerned about understanding when Jesus would come again as “KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.” When could they expect Him to return to Earth, to the House of Israel, to set up His Messianic Kingdom? They were looking forward to the time that Israel, as a nation, would recognize and receive Jesus Christ as her Messiah and when Jesus Christ would set up His Millennial Kingdom on Earth. The Rapture of the Church in the air was *not* in question here; they were asking about His return *to the Earth*.

The third thing they wanted to know was the sign of the end of the world or the End of the Age. The twenty-fourth chapter of Matthew records sixteen signs of the troublesome times that indicate the End of this Present World Dispensation that is soon to come.

SIGNS OF THE END OF THIS AGE — TROUBLESOME TIMES

1. The Sign of the Rise of Pseudo-Christ Denotes the End of this Age.

The first sign of the troublesome times at the End of this Age is the rise of pseudo-Christ.

For **many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ;**
and shall deceive many (Matthew 24:5).

From the beginning, man’s desire was to make a god out of the Creation. This corrupt desire in man makes it easy for him to accept a false Christ, a creature who pretends to be a god.

Before the actual Antichrist appears on the scene, many others will rise and profess to be the Christ, the Anointed One. Even, today, there are men in the world who are trying to deceive people by claiming to be Christ, and even God. The

pseudo-Christ's lead people into strong delusion to follow and worship them as gods. When mankind rejects the true Messiah, Jesus Christ, the Light of the World, it is easy for him, in his darkness, to choose a false Messiah.

2. The Sign of War

War is the second Sign of the troublesome times at the End of this Age.

And **ye shall hear of wars...** (Matthew 24:6).

Since the First World War, mankind has been in a state of constant, open, armed conflict in some part of the world. Earth is filled with hostility, contention, and strife. This is the *beginning* of the End — not the End. The First World War was the first birth pain of the beginning of the End of this dispensation. Prior to this, war had been more limited and somewhat localized in nature.

3. The Sign of Rumors of Wars Denotes the End of this Age.

The third Sign of the troublesome times at the End of this Age is rumors of wars.

And **ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars:** see that ye be not troubled: for all *these things* must come to pass, but the end is not yet (Matthew 24:6).

The rumor mill is one of the greatest Signs of the times. With the increased inventions that make global communications possible, the rumor mill is able to produce an endless amount of unconfirmed reports, gossip, and indefinite knowledge. Rumors keep mankind in a state of continual warfare, both mentally and emotionally. This inward warfare, then, produces loud, verbal clamor and uproar. Mankind, as a whole, has refused to hear the message of peace;

therefore, they will hear the message of war. The constant rumor of war puts man's heart into confusion and commotion.

4. The Sign of Nation Rising Against Nation Denotes the End of this Age.

The fourth sign of the troublesome times at the end of this Age is reflected in the way the nations rise against other nations.

For nation shall rise against nation,... (Matthew 24:7).

The nations of the Earth compete against each other for the superior place in the world of sports, politics, economy, production, power, art, music. The opposition that we see between the nations proves that the pseudo-Christ, with their exaggerated claims of being able to bring peace to the world, have failed to produce love and harmony among the nations.

5. The Sign of the Opposition of Kingdom Against Kingdom Denotes the End of this Age.

The fifth Sign of the troublesome times at the End of this Age is kingdoms opposing one another.

For nation shall rise against nation, and **kingdom against kingdom:...** (Matthew 24:7).

We do not have to look outside the United States to see the constant struggle and competition in every realm and dominion for power, position, authority, and rank. It seems as though everyone is trying to build himself a kingdom these days. The business world, for instance, has its kingdoms. They are in conflict and keen competition with each other. The religious world also has its kingdoms that strive and struggle against one another. Denominations have built their kingdoms and produced a competitive spirit in the Body of Christ. This ought not to be! The carnal kingdoms of this world

always produce strife and conflict. Beloved, when the Kingdom of Jesus Christ is formed in our heart, in reality, we will not be against the Kingdom of Jesus Christ that is in the heart of someone else. The Kingdom of Christ in its Fullness brings Unity, Loyalty, and Oneness in the LORD.

The Devil is joyful when he succeeds in dividing God's people into all sorts of little kingdoms. Some ministers even turn their churches into little kingdoms; and those who do this invariably become more interested in their own kingdom than in the Kingdom of Christ. Their jealousy for their kingdom makes them envious of someone else's revival or work, for fear it will be blessed and become greater than their kingdom.

Likewise, when an individual church member lets his carnal man predominate in his life, the kingdom of his carnal man constantly wars against someone else's carnal kingdom. Thus, enmity and strife reign, while multitudes of souls continue rushing down the broad road of destruction to be lost in Eternity. May God have Mercy upon us and open our eyes to the realization that the Kingdom of Christ is more important than the carnal kingdoms of this world. Then, we will rejoice instead of being jealous and envious when God chooses to use somebody else to further His Kingdom.

6. The Sign of Famine Denotes the End of This Age.

The sixth Sign of the troublesome times at the End of this Age is famine.

For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and **there shall be famines**,... (Matthew 24:7).

There shall be natural famines and spiritual famines in the last days. We are fortunate to live in a land where food production is overabundant. Such a condition is a definite advantage, on one side of the scales; however, on the other side of the scales, it causes us to be forgetful and unconcerned about other nations of

the world that live in a state of constant hunger. As a nation, we deliberately waste food while masses of humanity exist in semi-starving and totally starving conditions. The famines in different parts of the Earth, today, bear witness of God's Time Clock.

Likewise, the spiritual famine that exists in the world, as a whole, is a Sign of the lasts days. There is a real dearth in the land of spiritual knowledge and revelation of the Word of God. Few Christians are taught how to crucify, to sanctify, and to cleanse their hearts and souls; nor are they instructed in how to grow into the Full Stature of Jesus Christ.

God can and does, however, feed His people. Even in the time of famine, there need be no lack. The Prophet Elijah, for example, was one of God's true servants who lived in Israel during a time of terrible famine, in both the natural and spiritual realms. God always cares for His own; therefore, He provided natural and spiritual Food for Elijah during the famine. Every morning and evening, God sent ravens to the Brook Cherith to serve Elijah bread and meat. Later, when the brook dried up, God fed Elijah by miraculously refilling the widow's cruse and barrel each time she used some oil or flour from them. God also miraculously provided Elijah with natural bread, twice, by the hand of an Angel. God also fed Elijah, spiritually, with His Holy Word, by personally speaking and communing with him.

God is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Therefore, what He did for Elijah, in both the natural and spiritual realms, He is able to do for us. If we will be true and faithful to God, He will open His "natural pantry" in order to provide us with natural bread, and He will open His "spiritual cupboard" in order to feed us the spiritual Bread and Meat of His Quickened Word. As we wait in humble obedience before Him, He will feed us in the midst of famine.

7. The Sign of Pestilence Denotes the End of this Age.

The seventh Sign of the troublesome times at the End of this Age is the pestilence that will be present.

For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and **pestilences**,... (Matthew 24:7).

In this iniquitous End Time, mankind as a whole has rejected God's Cure and Medicine for his soul — the LORD Jesus Christ. Consequently, mankind is reaping the many virulent, fatal, contagious diseases of the present day.

In the Old Testament times, God used the plague of leprosy as a judgment for uncleanness, disobedience, and rebellion against God's Word. Today, He sometimes uses physical afflictions to chasten the disobedient. Many Christians are filled with the fear of cancer. However, the disease of cancer is not what we need to fear. We need to reverence and fear *God*. The fear of God keeps one walking and living in a way that is pleasing to Him. Beloved, there is security under His Shadow of Protection. "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty" (Psalm 91:1). Under His Shadow, there is safety for us — spirit, soul, and body. But, there is no safety nor security when we venture out from under His Shadow and go our own way. All manner of things can befall us.

The prevalence of pestilence is a Sign to us that we are living in the last days, so we especially need to know how to appropriate the protective shelter of the LORD's Presence.

8. The Sign of Earthquakes Denotes the End of this Age.

The eighth Sign of the troublesome times at the end of this Age is the increase of earthquakes.

For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, **and earthquakes, in divers places** (Matthew 24:7).

An *earthquake* means a *shaking*. This shaking is taking place today in both the natural and spiritual realms. In recent years, there has been a marked increase in the number and the severity of natural

earthquakes in divers places. This Earth is being shaken and moved as never before by earthquakes that are bringing great desolation, death, and terror to mankind wherever they happen.

Likewise, there is a spiritual shaking in the religious realm. The deadness, the inadequacy, the failure of churches, today, are all deeply troubling problems to church leaders, which cause them to shake and tremble in fear. And the religious world is grasping at all manner of solutions.

On the other hand, God is shaking the world by His Spirit, and many eyes are being opened to a deeper and higher way in God than His people ever have dreamed. Many have been shaken to discover, through the Light of God's Word, the Fullness of the Spiritual Stature of the LORD Jesus Christ and the fullness of their own carnal stature. While many people slumber, many others are being awakened to recognize the Signs that are pointing to the lateness of the hour on God's Time Clock. Those who are awake spiritually are the ones who are making the necessary spiritual preparation to be ready to go with Jesus Christ when He comes in the air to catch away overcoming believers.

9. The Sign of Sorrows Denotes the End of this Age.

The ninth Sign of the troublesome times at the End of this Age is sorrows.

All these *are* the beginning of **sorrows** (Matthew 24:8).

Sorrow is another word for *travail*. Sorrows are the first travailing birth pains of the world as it prepares for the End of this Age and the bringing to birth of the New Age that is coming. In His Wrath, God begins with the travailing pains of violent, quick Judgment. These sorrows are just the beginning of the long, continued mental anguish that follows in the hearts and minds of people who survive wars, famines, and earthquakes. The losses and disappointments produced by these events will fill people's hearts with sorrowful fear, torment, and dread.

10. The Sign of Affliction Denotes the End of this Age.

The tenth Sign of the troublesome times at the End of this Age is sorrows.

Then shall **they deliver you up to be afflicted...**
(Matthew 24:9).

Jesus prophesied about the persecutions and afflictions that will come upon His people and His servants at the End of this Age. Whenever Christianity has been real, vital, and aggressive, we find that there always has been affliction. The followers of Christ always have been subjected to distress, calamities, loss, misfortune, and pain. These afflictions will increase in the End of this Age. We already have seen the tremendous affliction laid upon the Christians by the hands of Communism.

Today, many Christians are suffering persecution, imprisonment, torture, and pressure of every kind. Only real Holy Ghost Prayer and Intercession can prevail against the powers of darkness and oppression in these last days. As we near the End of this dispensation, we are to expect afflictions.

11. The Sign of Martyrdom of God's People Denotes the End of this Age.

The eleventh Sign of the troublesome times at the End of this Age is martyrdom of God's people.

Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, **and shall kill you:...** (Matthew 24:9).

Before the End of this Age, there will be an increase in the number of martyrs who will lay down their lives for the cause of Christ. Christ's enemies were satisfied with nothing less than having His precious Blood poured out on the Cross. They also

hungered and thirsted after the blood of His saints and shed it as though it were water. Yet the martyrs would rather have given up their life's blood than to give up their faith in Christ. Blood is only temporal; faith is eternal.

The Book of Revelation records a Prophecy about the souls under the Great Altar who will die as martyrs for the cause of Christ *at the beginning* of the Tribulation Period. There are countries in the world, today, where Christians are having to shed their life's blood because of their faith in Jesus Christ.

The tongue is another weapon by which another kind of "killing" or martyrdom is accomplished. In the tongue is the power of life and death. The tongue can be a beastly serpent, full of deadly poison, or it can be a sweet fountain, overflowing with Kindness and Mercy. Because of the increase of modern methods of communication, the tongue has increased its deadly, mischievous workings in the world. There are constant attacks being made upon people as someone tries to assassinate the other's reputation and honour. The merciless, deadly pens and tongues of men are sharper than razors, and they grow keener and sharper with constant use. The human tongue is set on fire with the flames of Hell, and it devours and destroys with its slander, falsehoods, malice, envy, idle-talking, and elongated tales. The murderous tongue, which proceeds out of the heart, can be cured only by Jesus Christ. A guileful heart produces guileful lips and tongue.

Words can be used to slay another person's testimony and influence. The tongue can kill or hinder someone's desire to keep walking in his spiritual journey and serving God; or it can hinder someone from finding Christ as his Saviour. Watch for tongue-murder; it also is a Sign of the End Times.

12. The Sign of Hatred of God's People Denotes the End of this Age.

The twelfth Sign of the troublesome times at the End of this Age is hatred of God's people.

Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and **ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake** (Matthew 24:9).

The world is leavened with hatred, enmity, and malignity against Christ. Therefore, those who truly bear His Name can expect to become the target of the world's spiteful hatred. People hate those whom they have wounded or others whom they do not even know. When people crucify Christ afresh and anew in their own lives, they viciously hate those who are loyal and faithful to His Name. Hatred always can find a mark at which to shoot and an excuse to fire.

The obnoxious, loathsome, detestable feelings that fill the world as a whole also fill the hearts of individuals with vicious hatred. Hatred is like a lodestone; it will submerge a soul beneath the things it hates. Hatred against Christ and His followers is a Sign of the End of this Age.

It is necessary for us, as Christians, to allow Jesus Christ to sanctify our hate-energies so that we can hate the right thing. We are to have holy hatred for intolerance, injustice, hypocrisy, and oppression.

The Name of Jesus is hated by the world. Speaking of the "LORD" or "God" often is more acceptable to the general public, but the Name of "Jesus" often provokes resistance, rejection, and hatred. As we near the End of this Age, hatred toward His Name is mounting. This is another Sign of the End Times.

13. The Sign of Offense Denotes the End of this Age.

The thirteenth Sign of the troublesome times at the End of this Age is offense.

And then shall **many be offended**,... (Matthew 24:10).

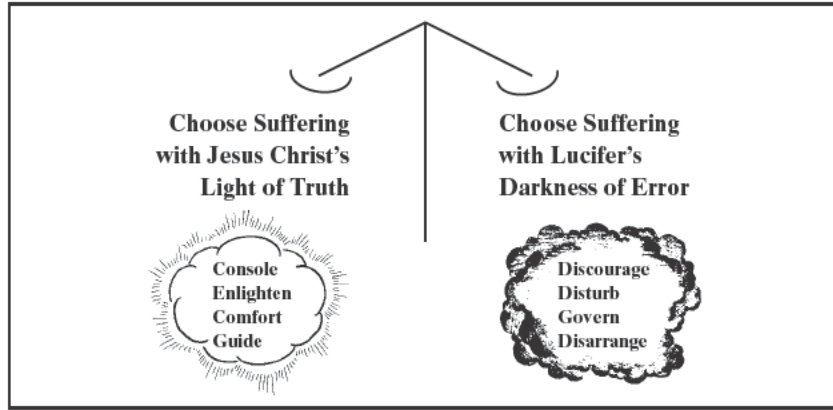
The word *offense* means *to be displeased or to have feelings as a result of slights, insults, injuries, criticisms, and resentments*. Persecution reveals those who are Christ's and those who are

mere professors of Christianity. When the sun of persecution radiates its heat into the mind and soul, those who do not love the Light of Truth in Jesus, in their wills and hearts, become offended.

In the early days of Jesus' earthly Ministry, great crowds followed Him. They freely ate of the loaves and fishes that He miraculously supplied, and they gladly received the marvelous healings from His Hands. Jesus Christ was not deceived by the large crowds; He knew that they followed because they were receiving visible, material blessings in this present world. Their motive for following Him was not based on pure love for the Truth. When Jesus and His Truth began to suffer persecutions, many in the crowd turned away from the Truth and from Jesus because they were offended at the suffering that goes with the Truth.

When the Truth of God's Word goes forth, it meets with angry resentment and criticism from those who reject the Truth. Therefore, unless we are surrendered in our heart to suffer the inimical attitudes that come from the rejecters of the Truth, we eventually will be offended and turn away from the Truth in the hope of delivering ourselves from suffering. The suffering we encounter when we turn away from the Truth will be greater, however, than the suffering we experience because of our union with the Truth. We can choose either to accept the Sufferings of Christ, the Light of Truth, with His Comfort, Consolation, and Enlightenment that will guide us through the suffering, or we can choose to accept the sufferings of Lucifer, the darkness of error, with his discouragement, disturbance, and disarrangement that will govern our thinking through suffering.

(See scales on following page.)



We can choose suffering with Lucifer and his darkness of error and falsely accuse God's Rulership in our life, or we can choose suffering with the LORD and rejoice in His Rulership through the Light of Truth.

In the Parable of the Sower, Jesus referred to the four kinds of ground in which the Seed of the Word of Truth was planted. The thorny ground received the Seed of the Word with joy; it sprang up quickly and gained a little growth in the beginning. However, when the heat of the sun began to beat upon that little plant, it was offended. It died because of its angry pride that resented having to suffer the scorching heat of trials and tribulations.

Beloved, we have to be willing to endure the same trials and tribulations that Jesus Christ endured *without offense* if we are going to endure and be counted worthy to be a disciple. It is true that many shall be offended, but what about you? Are you willing to bear the offense of His Name and His Cross?

14. The Sign of Betrayal Denotes the End of this Age.

The fourteenth Sign of the troublesome times at the End of this Age is the betrayal that people will endure from others.

And then shall many be offended, and **shall betray one another,...** (Matthew 24:10).

With each passing year it becomes more fashionable for people to persecute and betray others. Unfortunately, enmity, malice, and hatred are strangely contagious; they diffuse their poisons into the minds and hearts of seemingly “best” friends. Love, kindness, tenderness, forgiveness, and loyalty are looked upon as a flock of strange, speckled birds. The person who treacherously deserts the Light of Truth in his own life eventually betrays even his so-called best friends who adhere to the Truth.

It is easy to be deceived about the loyalties and depth of commitment that people have to friendships. The closer a person walks in communion and fellowship with Jesus Christ, the more likely he is to have some of his friends “drop by the wayside.” Sometimes these so-called friends betray, reject, and become enemies to those they once professed to admire and love. As Christians, we must be prepared to suffer betrayal.

15. The Sign of False Prophets Denotes the End of this Age.

The fifteenth Sign of the troublesome times at the End of this Age is the many false prophets who will arise.

And **many false prophets shall rise**, and shall deceive many (Matthew 24:11).

False prophets are servants of Satan, sent to seduce believers into walking in the ways of idolatry and transgression of the Law of the *Torah*. They endeavor to lead people astray from the LORD God, Who is the Sovereign Guide and Leader of man’s destiny; they labor to lead men astray from God’s proven Way of Redemption, the LORD Jesus Christ. Satan anoints his false prophets to speak untruths; consequently, their false prophecies about troubles increase the mental sufferings of the hearers.

False prophets are in the world today, preaching a strange gospel of salvation through another way besides the LORD Jesus Christ. God’s Message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ has not changed. His

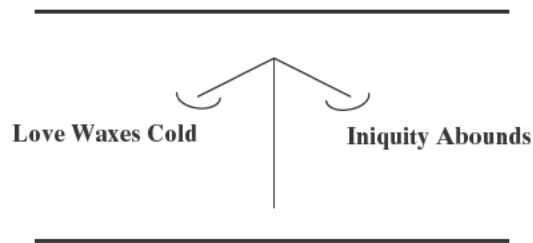
Plan of Salvation by faith in Jesus Christ is the same today as it was yesterday. God is a God of Purity and Holiness, and His people are called to be a clean, separated, and holy people. He does not want His people to be like the world or to partake of the spirit of the world. "All that is in the world,... is not of the Father, but is of the world" (I John 2:16). God is looking for a sanctified, separated, undefiled people who will acknowledge Him as the LORD God and who will acknowledge His Son, Jesus Christ, as the Saviour of the world.

16. The Sign of the Abounding of Iniquity Denotes the End of this Age.

The sixteenth Sign of the troublesome times at the End of this Age is the abounding of iniquity that will chill the fervent love of Christians.

And because **iniquity shall abound**, the love of many shall wax cold (Matthew 24:12).

Abounding iniquity produces an abating of love for God and Holiness.



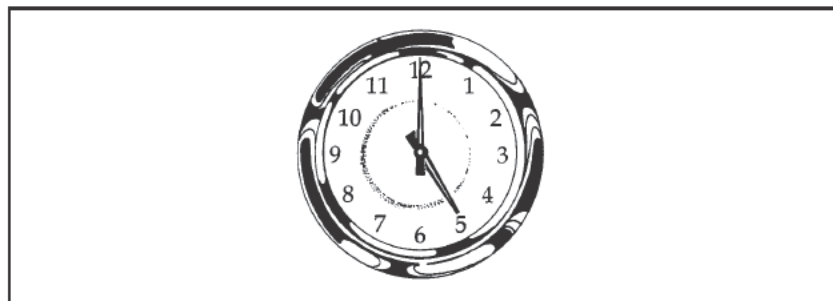
The disintegration of American family life and the mounting juvenile problems are related directly to the increase of the many shapes and forms of iniquity and sin that are flourishing throughout the land. All of this is happening in spite of the fact that the majority of people in America have had some form of Christian background.

Most people have Christian influence through their homes, Sunday schools, Churches, daily vacation Bible schools, radio, and television. Yet they have grown cold in their love for the House of God, for the Word of God, and for a personal relationship with God. Attitudes of indifference toward God, hardness, and coldness in the hearts of God's people become the breeding ground for the alienation of Christians' affection toward other Christians. This explains why so many Christians become critical, suspicious, and distrustful of one another. When people lose their concern for one another, they begin to live selfishly instead of selflessly.

Today, Christians who once loved to seek God in His Word and in prayer are selfishly catering to the love of the flesh. Increasing numbers of believers who once faithfully attended worship services in God's House are forsaking the assembling of themselves together in the House of God. They have allowed themselves to become afflicted with the love of ease and pleasure. Many churches across our land stand empty because there is a lack of love for God in the hearts of believers. Men would rather *play than worship*. The love of many shall wax cold — lukewarmness is abounding everywhere!

The sixteenth Sign of the troublesome days in the End of Time is the abounding of iniquity that chills love for God, His House, His Word, and for one another.

**E. False Sense of Security and Sensuality as in Noah's Day
Mark the Fifth Hour on God's Spiritual Time Clock.**



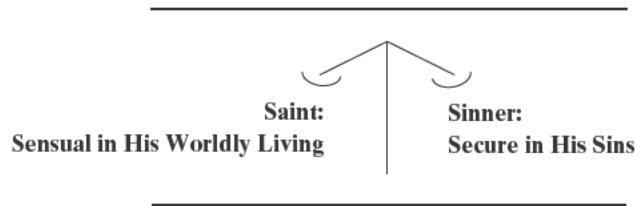
As Jesus continued His discourse with His Disciples, He prophesied about the conditions that would be prevalent during the last days of this Age, which parallels His description of the false sense of security and sensuality of Noah's day.

But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood **they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark,** And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be (Matthew 24:37-39).

The End Time will be like the days of Noah. The people in Noah's day were falsely secure and sensual. The false sense of security made them oblivious of the gathering of the storm clouds of God's Judgment. Sin had so seared the conscience of the people that Noah's preaching about the impending flood sounded like a fairy tale. They felt free from any sense of fear, anxiety, trouble, worry, apprehensiveness, or danger from Noah's prophetic warning. They felt secure in continuing their lawlessness and violence. Their sense of security allowed them to pursue their sensual desires of eating, drinking, marrying, and giving in marriage. These are lawful things to do because they preserve and propagate life, but if these things are managed lawlessly, unreasonably, and inordinately, they become destructive. Destruction was at the door, so the people should have been repenting, fasting, and praying instead of giving themselves totally to sensual pleasures.

A false sense of security and sensuality produces carelessness, blindness, and deafness to God's Time Clock. The foolish virgins carelessly went to sleep, not seeing the low supply of oil in their lamps. They were deaf to the Voice of the Bridegroom; someone else had to awaken them, but it was too late.

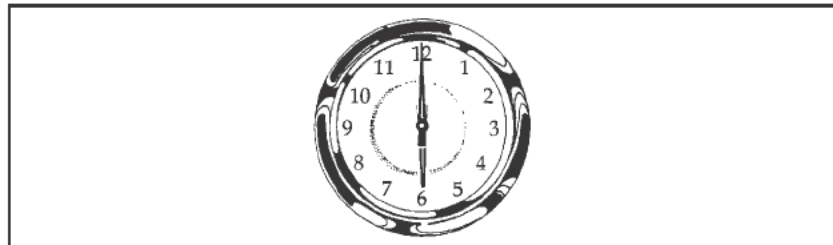
In our day, the two epidemic diseases of false security and sensuality are running rampant. *Secure sinners* and *sensual saints* both are careless and sightless so far as God's Time Clock is concerned.



The posture of the falsely secure sinner and the position of the sensual saint are the same as they were in the days of Noah. The fact that our times so closely resemble the days of Noah lets us know that the end is near. “When ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors.” The people in Noah’s time mocked, scoffed, and scorned the message of God’s Time Clock, as many pleasure-mad people do today. The fact that the LORD has delayed His Coming does not change the Truth that He *is* coming back again. Man’s scoffing cannot change the scheduled arrival of God’s Day of Judgment. The Second Coming of Christ is sealed and sure.

The Hope of Christ’s Return has kept sincere and earnest Christians of past generations alive, alert, and in a state of constantly purifying themselves in anticipation of His Coming. This Truth should awaken Christians to live more holy lives, and it should encourage them to spend the time they have left in making proper preparation for His Coming. Since Jesus Christ is coming for believers, personally or collectively in the air, it is necessary for them to be looking and watching in order to be ready when He comes.

F. Signs, Distress, Perplexity, Fear Mark the Sixth Hour on God’s Spiritual Time Clock.



The sixth major prophetic Sign of the End Time is recorded in the Book of Luke. Disturbances in Heaven and in Earth mark the sixth hour on God's Spiritual Clock.

And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken (Luke 21:25,26).

The End of this Age will be marked by the great upheavals that will occur in the Heavens, in the upper world of the sun, moon, and stars, and by the uproar that will occur in the Earth, in the lower world of the sea and in the hearts of men.

Man's attention in the End Time will be drawn toward the sky. Many frightful sights and Signs will be seen in the sun, moon, and stars, in the upper world of the Heavens. Even now, we certainly can be labeled as a "generation of sky-watchers." Man's arrival on the moon also is a Sign of the End of this Age. And we can look for more strange and unusual Signs in the celestial realm.

In the lower world of the Earth, there will be "distress of nations, with perplexity." The governments of the Earth will become entangled, confused, uncertain, doubtful, and hesitant in their answers to world problems.

"The sea and the waves roaring" refers to terrible storms, tempests, and hurricanes that will occur, which will be beyond the ordinary results of natural causes.

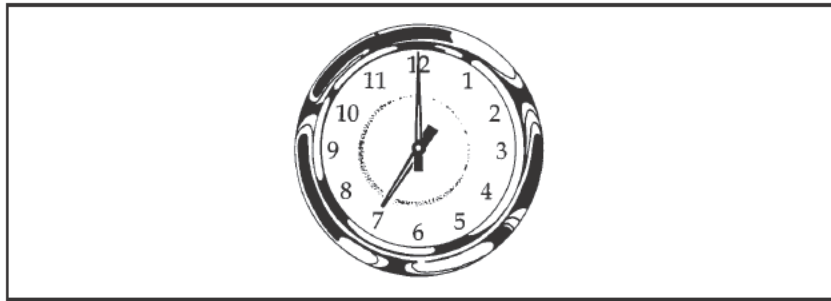
What a fitting description of our modern world today! Heads of government in confusion and distress, peace conferences without peace, a shrinking world tottering on the brink of self-destruction — this is our world.

"Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken" (Luke 21:26). Feelings of anxiety, bewilderment,

and confusion are overtaking the hearts of men as they see the threat of nuclear warfare coming upon this world. Men's hearts are failing them for fear. Their souls are becoming dispirited with no faith or hope with which to cope with earthly situations. Mental disorders are mounting in alarming proportions today. Heart disease is the main cause of death in America.

It is time to awaken and look upon God's Time Clock. We are living in the time of the fulfillment of the Signs that Luke prophesied, as we approach the End of this Age.

G. Creation Groaning Marks the Seventh Hour on God's Spiritual Time Clock.



The seventh major Sign given prophetically that marks the seventh hour on God's Spiritual Time Clock is recorded in the Book of Romans. At the End of this Age, all Creation will be groaning and travailing for redemption and deliverance from the bondage of corruption.

For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time *are* not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected *the same* in hope, Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from

the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that **the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the first-fruits of the Spirit**, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, *to wit*, the redemption of our body (Romans 8:18-23).

Paul reckoned, reasoned, or deliberately considered the Truth on both the temporal and eternal sides of the Scales. He weighed the sufferings that a Christian must endure for Christ in this present time. Then, he weighed Christ's Glory, which shall be revealed in us in Eternity, and he found that there was no comparison. He found that Christ's Glory transcended all suffering.

Paul was not speaking theoretical platitudes. He knew, experientially, the suffering of this present time, in the lower world.

Are they ministers of Christ? (I speak as a fool) **I am more; in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft. Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness.** Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches. Who is weak, and I am not weak? who is offended, and I burn not? If I must needs glory, I will glory of the things which concern mine infirmities. **The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which is blessed for evermore, knoweth that I lie not.** In Damascus the governor under Aretas the king kept the city of the

Damascenes with a garrison, desirous to apprehend me:
And through a window in a basket was I let down by the
wall, and escaped his hands (II Corinthians 11:23-33).

It is not expedient for me doubtless to glory. I will
come to visions and revelations of the Lord. **I knew a
man in Christ** above fourteen years ago, (whether in
the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I
cannot tell: God knoweth;) **such an one caught up to
the third heaven. And I knew such a man,** (whether in
the body, or out of the body, I cannot tell: God
knoweth;) **How that he was caught up into paradise,
and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful
for a man to utter** (II Corinthians 12:1-4).

Paul was competent to judge between the pain of this world
and the Glory of Paradise, having experienced both. His judgment
was not a sudden and rash verdict; rather, it was built on his theo-
retical and empirical Knowledge. The suffering of the present time
is small, short, temporal, and finite. But the Glory of the Heavenly
Paradise is Eternal, Great, Infinite, and Unending!

Man's sin caused the whole Creation to be subjected to vanity,
the bondage of corruption, and painful groaning and travailing. Sin
placed a painful cry in all Creation. For example, God's Word
teaches that the land cries. "If my land cry against me, or that the fur-
rows likewise thereof complain" (Job 31:38). The land, with its fur-
rows, cries and weeps in protest if it has been unjustly seized through
murder of the rightful owner, as Naboth was murdered and his vine-
yard taken. Should the land be unjustly seized through oppressive
penury and misery of the rightful owner, the land groans and travails
in protest until the false owner dies.

The beasts groan under the burden of the idols that they are
forced to carry. "Bel boweth down, Nebo stoopeth, their idols
were upon the beasts, and upon the cattle: your carriages were
heavy loaden; *they are a burden to the weary beast*" (Isaiah 46:1).

The Hebrew word for *burden* has the connotation of *utterance*. The beast could not refrain from groaning under the load of a false god. The Hebrew word for *weary* means *thirsty and faint*. The weary beast is thirsty; he groans and longs to be set free from the bondage of man's sin.

The stone and beam crieth out against sin. "For the stone shall cry out of the wall, and the beam out of the timber shall answer it" (Habakkuk 2:11). The stone and beam shall cry and groan, said Habakkuk, in protest against the violent method in which they were to be seized and plundered for use in the construction of houses in Israel.

When Christ comes again, He will set all Creation free from this bondage and vanity of sin. He will cleanse and purify all Creation and clothe it with a suitable dress of His Glory.

Christians groan and travail for the Coming of the LORD and for the liberating and changing of their corrupt, vile, mortal bodies into the likeness of His Glorious, Resurrected Body. The groans that ascend from Creation and from Christians are a sign of the times. As never before, an expectant cry is going forth from much of the Christian world as they wait for the Coming of the LORD.

The nineteenth chapter of the Book of Revelation tells about the Bride of Jesus Christ, the mature Christians, who will appear with Christ at His Second Coming. They will be clothed in Fine Linen, riding upon White Horses behind their Captain, Jesus Christ, Who also will be riding upon a White Horse. His Vesture will be dipped in Blood; and on His Thigh, He will bear the Name "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."

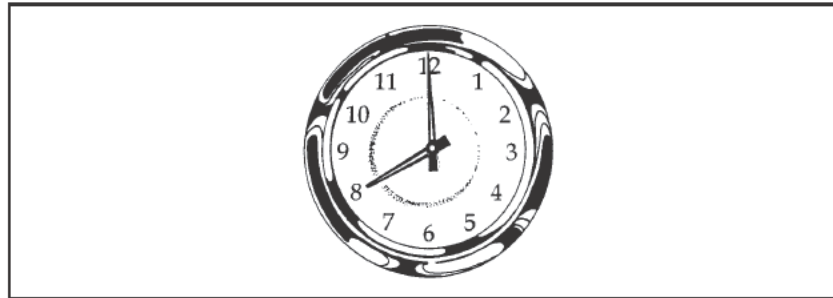
Beloved, the insignificant, temporal suffering that we go through in this present day in order for Christ to grow within us until we become a mature (not a child) Bride of Christ, is not worthy to be compared to the Glory that shall be revealed in us in Eternity. After the saints have been caught away in the Rapture and after the Tribulation has taken place, the mature Bride, dressed in her pure White Linen, will come back again to the Earth with the LORD to reign and rule with Him for a thousand

years. In that day, the whole Creation will be delivered from its vanity and bondage of corruption.

All the Creation of this present world is unified by the bondage of vanity and corruption that is increasing with each passing year. Scientists are working constantly in order to discover new insecticides and various means to prevent destruction and corruption in the growth of our food. As quickly as an effective pest control is discovered, insects develop a resistance and an immunity to it; then, the search for a new control begins again.

Creation is groaning for its deliverance. The world is in an upheaval; strange things are happening in Creation; seasons are disturbed and climates are changing. But when Jesus comes again, this Creation is going to be delivered. He will liberate and cleanse this world from all conflict and corruption. All Creation is to be delivered into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

H. Departing from Faith in God Marks the Eighth Hour on God's Spiritual Time Clock.



The eighth major Sign given prophetically, which marks the eighth hour on God's Spiritual Time Clock, was noted by the Apostle Paul in his letter to Timothy. Paul, under the anointing of the Spirit of God, spoke of the time that Christians, in general, would depart from their fundamental faith in Christ.

Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times **some shall depart from the faith**, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; Forbidding to marry, *and commanding* to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth (I Timothy 4:1-3).

People, today, are departing from the sound faith of the Gospel of Christ. Many people who once professed to believe in God and in the fundamental teachings of the Bible are being swept away by the flood of humanistic teachings that have become so popular in recent years. It is no longer fashionable to believe in Salvation by Faith in the precious shed Blood of Christ.

Our day is one of spiritual compromise and apostasy. Churches that once knew the Power of God and the Truth of God have given way to the seducing spirit of the world. When the seducing spirit of the world invades a Church, it is not long before the Church denies the existence of sin, the Devil, Death, and Hell. Consequently, the seducing spirit persuades the Church to become disloyal and disobedient to Christ. The Church soon disowns the Virgin Birth of Christ, the Divine Inspiration of the Scriptures, the Redemptive Work of Christ at Calvary's Cross, and the necessity for a new spiritual birth (being born again). The very Churches that once proclaimed the sound Faith of Christ now are denying the Redemptive Power of the Blood of Jesus Christ, the Baptism of the Holy Ghost, and the Second Coming of the LORD Jesus Christ.

Compromise, worldliness, modernism, apostasy — what a subtle process of decay the Devil's seducing spirit produces. As a child, I remember visiting several of our larger denominational Churches. You could not tell one from the other because they preached the Redemptive Gospel of Christ, and the Power of God fell in all the Churches. Sinners were slain under the Power of God as they wept and repented around the altar and found a new experience with God in Salvation. But, beloved, they began to take on the spirit of the world. And, as they began to look and act more and more like

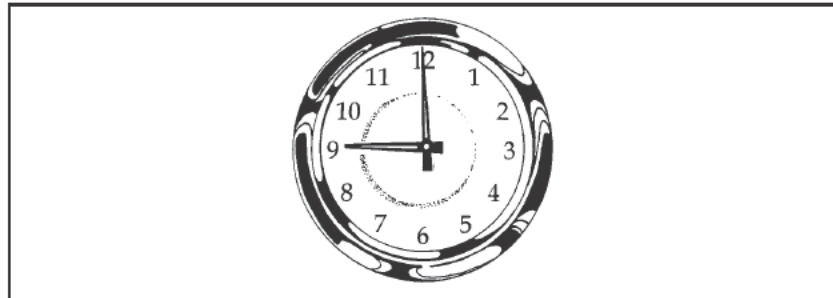
the world, they transferred their loyalties from Christ to the world. Proud dignity began to rule and reign, and they soon rejected having anyone say “Amen” or “Praise the LORD” in their services.

The same situation arose when Jesus Christ made His triumphal entry into Jerusalem; some people resented and rejected the people’s praises. The Pharisees told Jesus to rebuke His Disciples. Jesus answered them, saying: “I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out” (Luke 19:40). If man withholds praises to God, the Creation, the very stones, will be forced to increase their groaning and crying out against the sin of disloyalty in man. God must have His praise, and He always will raise up a people who will cast off pride and open their mouths in praise and adoration to Him.

When Christians generally cast off their faith in Christ and forsake their loyalty to Him, these actions mark another sign of the End Times. Forsaking the old ways and the old Truth is a clear Sign pointing to one of the last hours left in this dispensation.

When men do not have a great love for the Truth, it is easy for their hearts to be led astray by seducing spirits, doctrines of devils, and commandments of men that are contrary to the Word of the LORD.

I. Perilous Times Mark the Ninth Hour on God’s Spiritual Time Clock.



The ninth major Sign, which marks the ninth hour on God’s Spiritual Clock, was also described by the Apostle Paul as the Spirit

of God moved on him. In his letter to Timothy, Paul told about the perils that will mark the End of this Age — perils that will expose men to harm, injury, jeopardy, and furious and fierce dangers.

This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away (II Timothy 3:1-5).

This ninth Sign is evidence of the soon Coming of Jesus Christ. God has no intention of keeping His people in the dark about the time and season of the LORD's Second Coming, when He shall judge the world. Also, God always is faithful to give Signs that let man know where he is in relation to the LORD's Spiritual Time Clock.

For example, during the days of Noah, the people were not ignorant about the coming Judgment of the flood. Later, when it was time for God's Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to come into the world in a Body of mortal flesh, Mary and Joseph brought the Baby Jesus to the Temple; and, there, Simeon and Anna both gave a Sign, a Witness, that He was Christ the LORD, the Salvation of mankind. Added to their Signs were the lowly shepherds who received the announcement of His First Coming as a Babe in Bethlehem. Then, miraculously, wise men received the Sign of the star that announced the Coming of Jesus, into the lower world, for the first time. There were many Signs and announcements about Jesus Christ's First Coming to the Earth. Likewise, He again has given a multitude of Signs to indicate the time of His Second Coming. "In the last days perilous times shall come."

The Apostle Paul told Timothy that the risky, injurious times near the End of this dispensation would be recognizable by the following Signs or conditions.

SIGNS OF THE PERILOUS TIMES NEAR THE END OF TIME

1. Sinful Self-love Is a Sign of the Nearness of the End.

During these last days, there is an increase of the sinful, instinctive principle of love for one's own person, interest, and happiness. There is an increase in the impelling desire of the human mind that makes a person want to preserve his own life, selfishly, and to promote his own so-called happiness, selfishly.

“For men shall be lovers of their own selves.” Sinful self-love, which gratifies its own selfish lust, is perilous and dangerous. **Carnal, selfish love breaks homes, injures children and companions in order to achieve self-gratification instead of edification of God and home and family.** Many people have forsaken the old-fashioned, neighborly concern for others because they prefer not to be obligated to share the responsibility of caring. This class of selfishness is evidenced everywhere in our present time.

2. Covetousness Is a Sign of the Nearness of the End.

The perilous times of these last days are recognizable by the inordinate desire and eager longing for gain that abounds in people's hearts. Unquestionably, people today have more illicit desires for objects of gratification. The hateful characteristic of accumulating or wanting to accumulate wealth and prestige is everywhere. Sacrificing others in order to indulge oneself is considered all right in our world.

Love of self breeds covetousness and self-centeredness; it prevents a person from seeking God in the Word and in prayer.

Covetousness is like an octopus which entwines its tentacles around its foe to squeeze the life out of the soul. With spiritual life strangled by covetousness, there is no spiritual reasoning or desire left to serve God.

Covetousness is a perilous and pernicious disease. Its prevalence is a sign of the End Times. When man's desire to possess and own becomes abnormal, covetousness is born. **Covetousness will not permit a soul to be grateful for what it already has because of its greediness to obtain more.** Possessions become the "master" instead of the "servant" when greed rules in the heart. Covetousness chains the soul in bondage, making a person a slave to wealth, making him fearful, discontented, suspicious, and sorrowful about his possessions. The covetous soul fears the loss of his possessions; he suspects that everyone is trying to steal his wealth, and he is sorrowful at the thought that death will separate him from his treasures.

3. Boasting Is a Sign of the Nearness of the End.

The way people boast of themselves, speaking vaingloriously of themselves and ostentatiously displaying their exploits and achievements, is a sign of the perilous times in which we live. A vaunting spirit is seen and heard everywhere today. This present generation is a proud, punctilious, and boastful generation.

Boasting is man's proud, vainglorious bragging about his abilities, talents, deeds, titles, and positions. We all are guilty of doing that in one way or another, but we are living in a day in which this problem is a marked Sign of the Times. People do not use simple language anymore. Everything has to be described with *superlative* adjectives.

The proud, boastful spirits of the world and "Hollywood sensationalism" even seem to have crept into the Church and into God's people. Instead of becoming more humble at the Feet of Jesus Christ, Christians are becoming boastful by scorning and despising their fellowmen.

4. **Pride Is a Sign of the Nearness of the End.**

In these last days, pride adorns the minds of people as never before. Inordinate self-esteem or unreasonable conceit abounds in our generation, promoted by lecturers in seminars and written about in “self-help” books.

Pride means to adorn. On one side, man is busy adorning himself with his own superiority: in rank, talents, accomplishments, and position. On the other side, he is busy denuding others by his evident contempt and distant airs. Man’s increasingly proud, haughty, insolent treatment of others is indicative of the day in which we live.

Pride is the master evil. It cracks the head of the creature and allows his mind to swell until he thinks he is the Creator. **Pride is a fretting leprosy of an ungrateful mind. Pride’s ingratitude never gets what it imagines it deserves.** The leprous sore of pride ever runs with its corruption of detracting from the virtue of others and oozing with corruption of acclaiming vainglory for one’s own virtues. Pride ruins all it touches as it seeks and searches for the highest place for self. It hates all who are superior and scorns all who are inferior. Both dangerous and destructive, pride began in Heaven, continued in Earth, and will end in Hell and the Lake of Fire. The abnormal growth of pride is a sign of the End Times.

5. **Blasphemy Is a Sign of the Nearness of the End.**

Blasphemy pours out of the mouths of people today, raging against God in a perilous way. There is an increase of the use of profane language toward God, which is highly irreverent, contemptuous, and abusive. Also, man uses written words against God, claiming God’s prerogatives as his own. The spreading of evil slander toward others has increased. No one nor anything is held sacred today. People are habitually irreverent, both to God and to each other.

Blasphemy is a manifestation of proud arrogance and contempt for God. The change in people’s general attitude toward God in the past few years is amazing. The person who witnesses

publicly for the LORD often experiences the blasphemous attitudes of the people. There is neither *respect for* nor *fear of* God; nor are leaders of our nation, family members, elders, teachers, or ministers held in any respect.

6. Disobedience Is a Sign of the Nearness of the End.

Perilous times are here when we see (which *we are* seeing) an increased manifestation of disobedience. The commands or prohibitions of a superior rank and authority are glibly ignored by more and more people. Increasingly, people willfully neglect or violate their duties. **Disobedience and resistance is the theme of the day. The spirit of disobedience refuses to yield to power, influence, or the force of superior authority.**

Disobedience is displayed first in the home. Children are disobedient and disrespectful to their parents in the day in which we live. When there is no respect at home, there is no respect at school or at church. The spirit of lawlessness throughout the land is bred by disobedience.

Parents do a great injustice to their children when they do not correct them for disobedience. It is the duty of a parent to train a child to obey and respect authority. Disobedience is a dangerous thing that will break down all phases of respect. It is a Sign of perilous times.

7. Ingratitude Is a Sign of the Nearness of the End.

Ingratitude has spread like a cancerous disease over the world's population, creating perilous times. The majority of today's generation lack gratitude for kindness and favors received or done. People's insensibility toward favors or kindnesses that are given to them causes them to return evil for good. How cruel to heap ingratitude upon deeds of love and Truth that have been freely given. What an ungrateful savage and inhuman creature we become when we ungratefully return evil for good.

There never has been a time that people had so much and, yet, were so unthankful. Beloved, we ought to be thankful to God that we have so much! How often we ought to express thankfulness for God's daily blessings when we have eyes to see, legs to walk, air to breathe, food to eat, a mouth to praise God, and ears to hear His Word.

Ingratitude is dangerous; it makes the time perilous. **Ingratitude is an act of treason against God and man. To return evil ingratitude to God or man for goodness received is diabolical.** Looking with an envious eye at the blessings of others or looking more to ourself and what we do rather than to the blessings that God already has given us breeds ingratitude.

Always searching for what one does not have and never being grateful for what one does have are signs which reveal the perilous times at the End of this Age.

8. Unholiness Is A Sign of the Nearness of the End.

The eighth sign of perilous times is the unholiness that people exhibit in these last days. Without a doubt, wickedness and profaneness are increasing in the land. The statistics of crime and drug abuse and social disease in almost every town, almost everywhere on the Earth, prove the increase of immorality, corruption, degeneracy, and the waywardness of this generation.

Unholiness creates a perilous world of evil, baseness, and heartlessness. God's Word prophesied that gross unholiness and depravity will exist in the End Times. Impurity takes the precious Gifts of God and makes them food and fuel for fleshly lusts. In the last days of this Age, man is feeding the lusts of his flesh; therefore, the Day of Christ's Coming will take unholy men unaware.

9. Absence of Natural Affection Is a Sign of the Nearness of the End.

Perilous times is also evidenced by the absence of natural affection between people. The word *affection* means *to do something to*

affect the mind or the body. The absence of natural affection forces one to mistreat his own mind and body and the mind and body of others. Unnatural affection is ill-composed affection which consists of abnormal joy, grief, fear, and anger.

Many times, parents and children are devoid of natural love and affection for one another. What awesomely abnormal behavior we read about in our newspapers when they print accounts of children being abused by parents and parents being murdered by children!

Then, too, *sexual perversion* is abnormal, distorted, and unnatural affection. It is *natural* for people of opposite sexes to be attracted to each other and to fall in love. In the beginning, God created Adam-male and Adam-female and gave them *natural affection* for each other. God created *Adam and Eve*, not *Adam and Steve*. We live in a selfish society in which many people prefer to live in a state of sick, unnatural affection, which does not contribute to the replenishing of the human race. But natural affection in God's Master Plan provides for a marriage relationship and family ties that *do contribute* to the continuance of the human race. When natural affection ceases, it creates perilous times for the human race.

10. Truce Breakers Are a Sign of the Nearness of the End.

The abundance of truce breakers is the tenth sign of perilous times. The word *truce* means *a pledge of Truth or a covenant of faith*. It means *a promise of suspension of arms by agreement of the commanders of opposing armies, a temporary cessation of hostilities*. **A truce breaker is one who violates a truce, compact, covenant, or engagement.**

Men and nations, in these last days, think no more of breaking a covenant than some people think of reading a newspaper and, then, laying it down. Nations, now, put on and take off covenants according to their own political lust and pleasure. Covenant breakers are a sign of the perilous times near the end of this dispensation.

11. False Accusers Are a Sign of the Nearness of the End.

False accusers become the eleventh sign of the perilous times of the last days. There never have been so many false accusations as are being made in our present day. The courts are full of civil cases and criminal cases regarding those who have been accused. Complaining and faultfinding abound in the religious world. In society, in general, there is betrayal among people; and in the home, riotous and unruly children make life miserable.

There are false inventors and slanderers in all walks of life. **False accusers are the “mice” who, in front of one’s face, appear humble and grateful while they eat one’s cheese, but who, behind one’s back, gnaw with the greatest of ease on one’s good name.** False accusers create perilous and dangerous situations. Their poisonous slander is more deadly than a serpent. A serpent can strike only one person at a time, but a slanderous false accuser can strike a whole family, church, neighborhood, city, state, nation, and world, destroying peace, trust, and confidence.

12. Incontinence Is a Sign of the Nearness of the End.

Incontinence abounds during these perilous times. There is no holding in or back, no restraining of the passions and appetites of today’s crowd. **People today have written their own law that says that they are free to do what they want to do, when they want to do it.** The incontinent spirit of the flesh says, “I must have my desires satisfied immediately!” **The sullen and dark spirit of incontinence forces people to destroy their homes and families.**

Incontinence comes from the unrestrained wills and passions of people. Such abandonment of moral restraint creates perilous times for the human race. The lawless spirit of the last days fills carnal man with such moral powerlessness that he has no desire to restrain his sexual activity. Sexual sins accompany excessive eating and drinking, which are glowing Signs of the generation in which we live. The divorce statistics and broken homes are witnesses of the incontinence of the land.

13. Fierceness Is a Sign of the Nearness of the End.

Fierceness is the thirteenth sin that helps make the last days perilous. By their reports, the news media proclaim daily that there is an increase of violence and crime. Man is becoming more cruel, wild, ferocious, and violent than the wild animals. Man is fierce in his language, fierce in his looks, and fierce in his attacks on others.

Wicked, beastly ferociousness is a sign of the End of the Age. **Mankind will become even more and more rude, inhumane, and barbarous in their dispositions as time nears its End.** Men will be like fierce lions, slaying and devouring all that oppose them. The fierceness of man is growing excessively in this present time, pointing to the soon return of the LORD Jesus Christ.

14. Despisers of Good Are a Sign of the Nearness of the End.

An evidence of the perilous times in which we live is the number of people who are despisers of good. **It has become increasingly popular to scorn and to hold in contempt all things that are good and honourable.** The Word of God and God's Moral Laws are looked upon with disdain and disrespect. The world is filled with rude despisers of even simple good manners.

Since sin entered the world, the sin of hate has existed. However, it is increasing at an alarming rate. Men, today, contemptuously look with disdain and scorn upon those who are good. Sinners exercise an abnormal, haughty, arrogant contempt for those who try to be led and guided by God's Divine, Moral Laws.

15. Traitors Are a Sign of the Nearness of the End.

The fifteenth sign that helps to make the last days perilous is the sin of betrayal. The increased activity of the traitor is seen in all forms of life in today's world. There is the traitor who violates his allegiance to his country and, in breach of trust, delivers his country to his enemy. There is the traitor-friend who, while pretending to be

a true friend, is really an enemy and a traitor. In every place, it is possible to see people handing over confidential information.

A traitor artfully ingratiates himself into the confidence of another and then, like Judas, conspires to betray his friend. The traitor-spirit is working as never before in the political world, the religious world, the domestic world, the business world, and the educational world. **People betray one another for the purpose of gain, which can be for financial gain, or for the gain of power and prestige.**

16. Heady Highmindedness Is a Sign of the Nearness of the End.

The word *heady* means *rash, hasty, headstrong, and thoughtless; liable to be hurried on by passion or will; ungovernable; intractable.* Many of today's youth have grown so heady that they have run away from home in order to avoid any form of authority. It is common for people to spend their lives changing the places in which they work in order to escape authority. Christians hop from church to church to avoid any form of governmental restraint. Some Christians stay in a particular church and spend their lives in an impetuous and violently critical attitude toward every pastor who graces their pulpit. **People's heady pride so intoxicates and inflames their minds that, in some cases, they deceitfully believe that the pew is called to rule over the pulpit.** They are so heady and highminded that they spend their lives letting their mouths foam out their own shame and disgrace.

The heady, highminded pride that this generation possesses works to fill people's heads with such deceitful arrogance and rebellion that gradually their deceitful hearts and minds become fertile ground that will cause them to receive the Antichrist, when he appears as the true LORD Jesus Christ.

17. Lovers of Pleasure Are a Sign of the Nearness of the End.

In these last days, people love pleasure more than God. Fondness for worldly pleasure leads people to violate God's

Commands because they choose to indulge in forbidden things. **Fondness of worldly pleasure forces the heart to spend time inordinately pursuing temporal satisfaction instead of seeking God.** Man's conscience, which convicts him of wrong, is dulled by fondness for worldly pleasure. The gentle tugs of conviction from God's Spirit are overridden by man's choice for worldly pleasure. After fondness for worldly pleasure has killed God's gentle Spirit of Conviction in man's conscience, he imagines that he is totally free and that there is nothing wrong with his worldly pursuits. **Those who are unwilling to give up any worldly pleasure for Christ's sake are lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God.** This class of people is in a guilty, deceived, and dangerous condition. They are enemies of their own true eternal satisfaction.

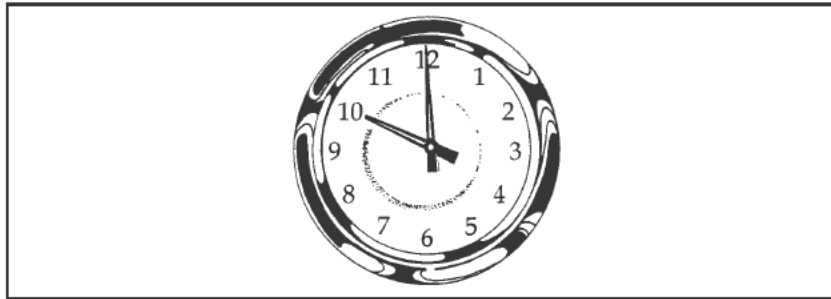
The present world is pleasure mad. Entertainment has become one of the leading businesses of our day. **Love for pleasure lures men's hearts away from God and leads them to violate God's Holy Commandments.** Man indulges in forbidden pleasure. He inordinately pursues pleasure, forsaking God and His Word and prayer. Few people find pleasure in taking up the Cross, denying themselves, and following in the Footsteps of Jesus Christ. Man staggers under his load of guilt and sin, still preferring his pleasure more than he prefers God.

18. Having a Form of Godliness without the Power Is a Sign of the Nearness of the End.

Having a form of Godliness but denying the power thereof is the eighteenth sin that helps create perilous or dangerous times at the End of this Age. A form of Godliness is an empty profession of the mouth that puts on an *outward appearance* of Holiness, professing external religious duties, but in the heart, it denies the need of the power of an *inward experience* of the Saving Grace of Jesus Christ. **The outward form of Holiness is empty and lifeless without the inward power and possession of Christ's full Forgiveness and Life.** Church membership is respectable and acceptable, but few Church members take pleasure in true Godliness.

From such turn away, separating yourself from empty profession; turn unto full profession and possession of Truth by the Power of the Life of Christ.

**J. Scoffers Who Ask for the Promise of His Coming
Mark the Tenth Hour on God's Spiritual Time Clock.**



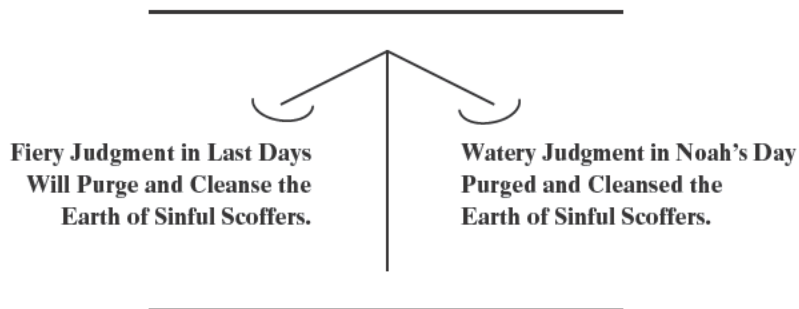
The Apostle Peter foretold the Sign which marks the tenth hour on God's Spiritual Time Clock. He described the scoffers in these last days who sneer at the Promise of the Second Coming of God's Son to Earth, as foretold in God's Word. The sin of scoffing has grown to unparalleled magnitude during our present generation.

Knowing this first, that **there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming?** for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as *they were* from the beginning of the creation. For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men (II Peter 3:3-7).

The contemptuous scorn that scoffers show toward the LORD is a manifestation of the doubts, cynicism, and irreverence that they feel for God's Holy Word. Modern day scoffers ridicule the Person of the LORD Jesus Christ and His Second Coming. The LORD is not willing that any should perish, so He is long-suffering toward those scoffers who mock sin and Christ's Salvation from sin because He wants to give them time to repent. Yet because they foolishly think that all things in this world will continue as they were from the beginning, they scornfully laugh at the thought of God's coming Judgment on this present evil world. Walking after their own desires, devices, and lusts, they say, "Eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die!"

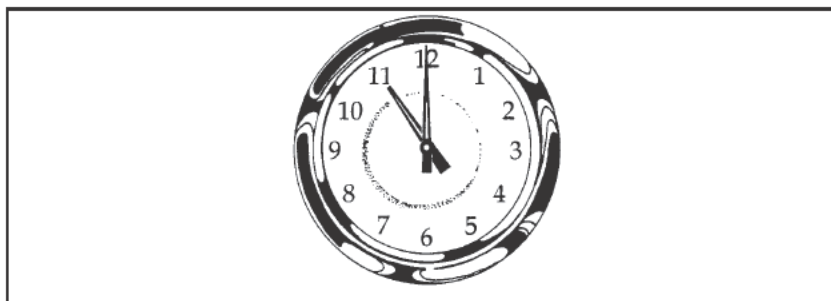
Paul reminded the scoffers of his day of God's past Judgment on the Earth in the days of Noah, which was an example of what man could expect in the future.

God's Word was faithful to warn Noah's generation of the coming Judgment on the Earth by *water*, and God was faithful to fulfill His Word by sending the flood to purge and cleanse the Earth of the great scoffers and sinners. Likewise, God's Word is faithful to warn our generation of the coming Judgment on the Earth by *fire*. God will be faithful to fulfill His Word by sending fire to purge and to cleanse the Earth, again, of its great scoffers and sinners.



The scoffers' argument is based on falsehood. All things have *not* continued the same from the beginning. God moved in His Judgment by pouring out *water* upon ungodly mankind on the Earth in Noah's day. Likewise, He will move again in His Judgment by raining *fire* down upon ungodly men at His Second Coming. God is not slack concerning His Promises. He promised *Judgment by water* in the days of Noah, and He performed His Promise. He has promised *Judgment by fire* at the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, and He will perform it.

K. Mockers Mark the Eleventh Hour on God's Spiritual Time Clock.



The eleventh major Sign was recorded prophetically in the Book of Jude. The mockers of our day are fulfilling the eleventh hour on God's Spiritual Clock. The world is filled, in this present generation, with an overflowing crowd of Lucifer's cruel crew, who set at nought God's Person, defy His Power, and ignore the warnings in His Holy Word. They mumble and mutter against God's Son, Jesus Christ, and His precious and priceless Sacrifice at Calvary's Cross. They deride and laugh at God's children and treat them with scorn. They contemptuously ridicule those who would dare to listen to the Gospel of Christ. They imitate and mimic God's true saints who worship Him in Spirit and in Truth. They label God's Truth and Holy Spirit as something false, counterfeit, a shame, not genuine or real. However, their mocking will be of short duration.

But, beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ; How that **they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts.** These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit (Jude 1:17-19).

Jude prophesied that the sin of mocking would increase and abound in the End Times. He warned man of the generation that would scorn the Truth and ridicule the Spirit of God. It is popular now to imitate, to mimic, to make fun of, and to hold in derision true worship to God by His Holy Spirit.

I can remember when, as a child, I attended the old-fashioned Methodist revivals that were filled with the glorious Fire of God's Spirit. As God's Spirit moved upon His people to worship Him with powerful praises and glorious shouts, sinners from the town reverently gathered around the open windows to watch them. God's Spirit moved upon the hearts of the sinners, convicting them of their sins, and many of them went inside the church to give their hearts and lives to Christ. This is not so today. I have watched the sin of mocking increase at an unparalleled rate in this very generation.

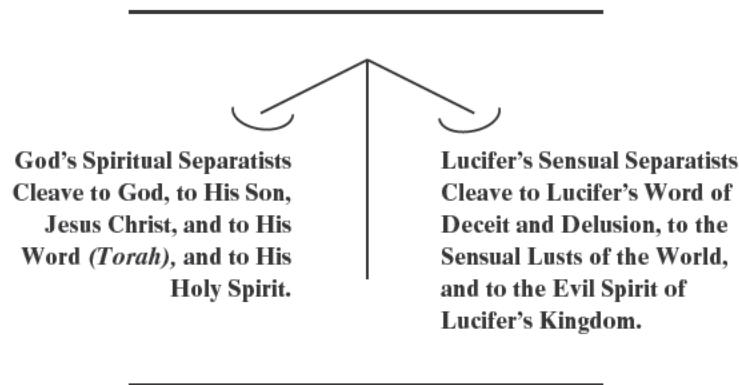
A beloved Christian brother who spent seventeen years in a Communist prison told me, personally, some of the degrading incidents to which he was subjected as a believer in Christ. In the prison where he was incarcerated, believers were forced to eat feces and drink urine as the Communion of the LORD Jesus while their keepers mocked. What blatant, blasphemous mockery of God's Holy, Sacred Bread and Wine on which rest the Omnipresent, Resurrected, Broken Body and Sacrificial Blood of Jesus Christ! It is a Sign of the lateness of the hour on God's Spiritual Time Clock, warning us that the End of this Age is quickly drawing to a close.

Mockers murmur against God and His Master Plan for mankind and against the conduct and behavior of mankind. The mocker is angry with everything and everyone; he is angry with his position and possessions in this world. His proud anger

makes him feel that nothing he obtains, achieves, or attains is good enough for him. The mocker lives in a melancholy state of constant misery and murmuring. Mockers walk by their own wills, lusts, and sinful appetites, writing their own *Torah* or Law. They are filled with frustrating, ungovernable, passionate anger when they are unable to rule or to reign or to establish their own lawless wills in their lives and in the lives of others.

Sensual mockers are the worst separatists in the whole world. They deride and degrade Christians because they separate themselves from the world, the flesh, and the Devil.

Christians are separatists, but theirs is spiritual separation *unto* God. Mockers are sensual separatists who separate themselves *from* God and Christ and His Spirit by perpetually railing against the Truth and murmuring against the Holy Spirit of God.



Man's choice is not whether or not to be a separatist. His only choice is this: to which side of the Scales will he choose to cleave?

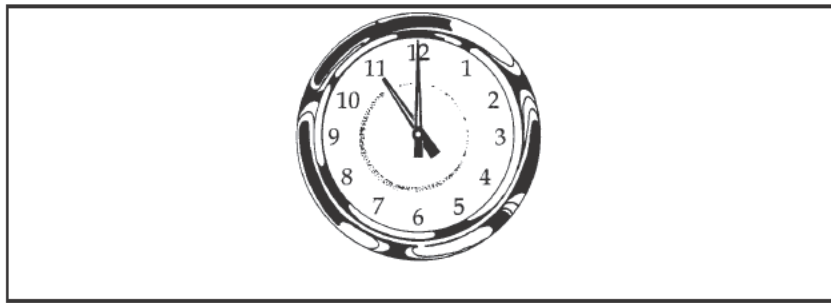
The more ferocious the mockers are in their practices of drawing others away from the Truth, in this generation, the more violently and zealously Christians should stand for the Truth. Christians, in this generation, should hold, tenaciously and persistently, to the faithful Word of Truth and to the Spirit of Holiness;

and they should influence as many people as possible to draw nigh to Jesus Christ and His Living Truth.

In the last times, there will be mockers who deny the Second Coming of Christ, holding this Truth up for ridicule, derision, and contempt. Those who reject this Truth are described in the Book of Jude as sensual, walking after their own ungodly lusts, and having not the Spirit. We need to be grounded in the Word of God, lest we be ensnared with the carnal reasoning of sensual mockers.

The Eternal Truth of the Second Coming of Christ was a basic and vital Truth to the faith and hope of the Apostles and the early Church. Likewise, in this present time, in the closing hours of this Age, this Eternal Truth is a basic and vital Truth for the Church. Rejecters of this Truth are “mockers” in the sight of God.

**L. Spiritual Pride, Self-Righteousness, and Lukewarmness
Mark the Eleventh Hour on God’s Spiritual Time Clock.**

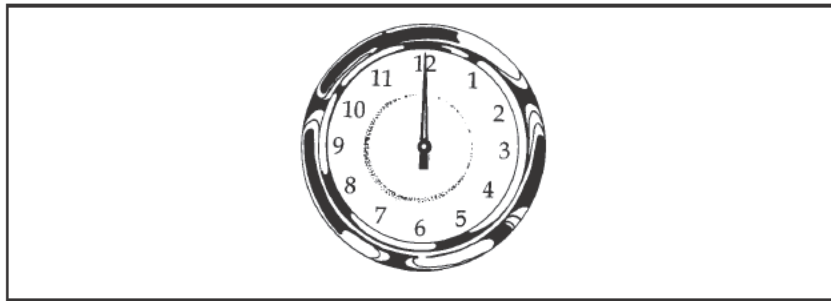


Events foretold by Prophets of old, by New Testament Apostles, and by the LORD Jesus Himself mark the hours on God’s Spiritual Time Clock. They are the Signs that God uses to inform man of the Times in which he lives so that he will be aware of where the world stands in relation to God’s Master Plan; and he can, therefore, make preparation for his eternal destiny.

We have seen that, in the first eleven prophetic hours that point to the End of this Dispensation of Grace, many hours are

past history, while others are being fulfilled now. The Signs that God has given man encompass many happenings, from natural events in man's history, to natural phenomena in the Earth and in Heaven, to the rapid advancement of civilization.

M. The Twelfth Hour on God's Spiritual Time Clock Marks the Spiritual Conditions Existing at the End of this Age.



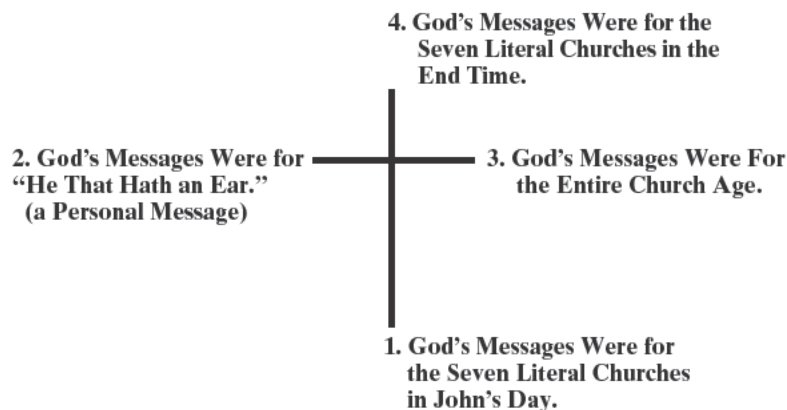
The twelfth hour on God's Spiritual Time Clock shows man the *spiritual* conditions that will exist at the End of this Age so that he might be aware of the soon coming of the LORD Jesus Christ.

Prevalent among the Churches will be the sin of spiritual pride, self-righteousness, and lukewarmness. The characteristics that mark the present Church Age were prophesied by the Apostle John. His Prophecies tell us that we are living in the last hour before the End of this Age.

And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; I know thy works, that **thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because **thou art lukewarm**, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. **Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable,****

and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; **and white raiment**, that thou mayest be clothed, and *that* the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and **anoint thine eyes with eyesalve**, that thou mayest see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, **and repent** (Revelation 3:14-19).

The Seven Churches* described by the Apostle John in the Book of Revelation, reveal a fourfold message that God has for different groups and people in his day and in our present day.



The first revelation of the Seven Churches referred to literal Churches that existed during the time of the early Apostles. These

seven messages were sent to the Churches of John's day to guide and instruct them in the Way, the Truth, and the Life of Christ.

Second, in God's Messages to each of the Seven Churches, there was also a *personal* message, directed to the individual Christian. *He* who has a spiritual ear will hear, personally, and will learn not only from the LORD's praises but also from His rebukes to the Churches.

The Seven Churches were used by God to depict seven classes of spiritual growth and experience that individual believers can attain in Jesus Christ. They portray a beautiful picture of growing up in spiritual stature unto our Head, which is Christ.

Third, these early Seven Churches were a prophetic picture of the seven Dispensations or Ages through which the visible Church of Jesus Christ was to pass, from the time of the Church of Ephesus (which was the Apostolic Church Age), to the Church of Laodicea (the time of self-righteous lukewarmness). All of this is now Church history. We are living in the last Church Age, the time of the Laodicean Church.

The first period of the Church Age was portrayed by the Church of Ephesus, the Apostolic Church. Christians in the Church that was established by the Apostolic Fathers had a strong first love until they yielded to the temptation to put their *works for Christ above their love relationship with Christ*.

The Church then entered into the second Church Age, depicted by the Church of Smyrna. This was a time of extreme suffering for Christ and the Truth of His Gospel.

Next, came the period of the Church of Pergamos when Constantine ruled in Rome and forced everybody in his kingdom to join the Christian Church. This was when Satan, with his spirit of worldliness, came into power inside the visible Church and held dominion over it, down through the periods of the Churches of Pergamos, Thyatira, and Sardis. Satan used his powers of darkness and his spirit of worldliness to lead the visible Church into a great valley of darkness, destruction, and death, known as the "Dark Ages." During this period of darkness, the Word of Truth and the Gospel were shut up to all but a select few.

The Church came out of that long, dismal valley of the Dark Ages and entered into the Philadelphia Church Age, and once again, the Gospel Message began to burst forth like a newborn sun upon the world. During this great missionary era, the Gospel was taken to the four corners of the Earth. It was the age of brotherly love, and the visible Church was brought into a new birth of Truth that caused her to become a witness in the Earth, again.

The visible Philadelphia-Church World burned with such love and affection for Christ that it was willing to suffer all manner of afflictions for the Truth in order to translate the Word of God and to share it with the whole world. Through the zealous labors of love of the Philadelphia Church Age, the Scriptures were opened to all the world to read because they faithfully carried the Truth and the Scriptures unto all the world. However, the glorious Philadelphia Church Age soon was swallowed up and was changed into a *lukewarm state* by the Laodicean Period, which is the last dispensation for the Church before the Coming of our LORD Jesus Christ.

The fourth revelation of the Seven Churches in the Book of Revelation deals with the seven literal Churches or denominations that are found within this present, lukewarm Laodicean Church Period. There is presently a Church doctrine, for example, that teaches Salvation through the shed Blood of Jesus Christ. People who embrace this doctrine are saved; however, their spiritual stature or their experiences in spiritual growth relate only to the Blood experiences that are portrayed by the Brazen Altar in the Courtyard of the Old Testament Tabernacle* and signified by the Church of Ephesus in the New Testament.

There is another Church doctrine that teaches Salvation through the Blood of Jesus Christ, plus the Pentecostal experience of the Baptism of the Holy Ghost and Fire. Although the members

,

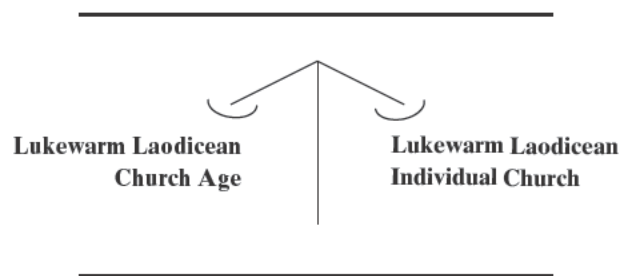
who believe in this additional experience have the Holy Ghost, their spiritual stature is limited to Truth that is portrayed by the Holy Fire that fell upon the Brazen Altar in the Courtyard of the Old Testament Tabernacle. The members of the Church of Smyrna, in the Book of Revelation, experienced the Baptism of the Holy Ghost and Fire, which enabled them to endure the fire of suffering. They were one step ahead of the Church of Ephesus in their spiritual growth in the Stature of the LORD Jesus Christ.*

Another Church doctrine that is taught today by some Pentecostal believers is Water Baptism in the Name of the LORD Jesus Christ. This is a true doctrine that was taught by the Early Church; nevertheless, it still relates to experiences pictured by the Brazen Laver in the Courtyard of the Old Testament Tabernacle.

Various other Churches in this Laodicean Church Age teach and preach Truths related to the three pieces of furniture found in the Holy Place of the Mosaic Tabernacle: the Golden Altar, the Golden Candlestick, and the Golden Table of Shewbread. The Churches of Pergamos, Thyatira, and Sardis pictured the Churches that stand, in the last days, for the Truth of Intercessory and Travailing Prayer in the Holy Ghost, the hidden Light of Truth, and the Bread of Truth that God reserves for those who are willing to hide away in the secret place of prayer and study with Him.

There also is a literal *Philadelphia Church* in the world today, which bears witness to the Truth of the Bridegroom and Bride Relationship that was pictured by the Ark of the Covenant in the Holy of Holies of the Mosaic Tabernacle. In this Laodicean Church Age, there is a literal *Laodicean Church* that is comprised of those who once knew a fiery love-relationship with Jesus Christ, but who have become self-righteous and lukewarm in their experience. Members of this seventh, literal Church, which is pictured by

the Mercy Seat in the Holy of Holies, will have a mature spiritual stature; however, unless they repent quickly, they will not be a part of the Bride of the LORD Jesus Christ. Thus, believers who belong to lukewarm Churches in today's lukewarm Church Age have a double battle to wage. They must fight against being lukewarm, and they must fight to retain their first love for Christ.



In this lukewarm Laodicean Church Age, individual *Laodicean Churches* are neither cold nor hot. Their love for Christ is filled with neither the Exalted Glorified Fire of the Resurrected Christ nor with the Cold Humility Sacrifice of the Crucified Christ.

The disease of spiritual pride was the sin that provoked lukewarmness in the members of the early Laodicean Church. Spiritual pride had deceived them and had blinded their eyes so that they could not see the sick condition of their love for the Resurrected Christ and the Crucified Christ. They were blind to their own wretchedness, pride, and poverty.

The lukewarmness of the Laodicean Church Age and the individual Church is another Sign of the midnight hour on God's Spiritual Time Clock. Great spiritual pride and self-righteousness are the major characteristics of the Laodicean Church Period. The self-righteous Laodicean Church thinks herself to be *rich, increased with goods, and having need of nothing*. She is ignorant of her true condition — her blindness. She does not know her need to repent in the Sight of God. Spiritually, she is lukewarm — neither hot nor cold.


There is more hope for a sinner who is *aware* that he is in a sinful condition than for the lukewarm Christian who is *unaware* of his sinful condition of pride and self-righteousness. The sinner is aware of his sinful condition because his sin is manifested in a visible form. On the other hand, the lukewarm Laodicean Church member is unaware of his sinful condition because his sin is working in the subconscious levels of his heart. Therefore, he is contented in his deceived, blind state.

Lukewarm Laodicean Church members use religious salve to cover their consciences, but they do not desire repentance in their proud, self-righteous wills. True repentance in the heart would bring to birth a spiritual life within them that would be acceptable to God. In their blind thinking, they feel no conscious need or awareness for true spiritual experiences in Christ. They are totally unaware of their wretchedness, miserableness, poverty, blindness, and nakedness. However, Jesus pleaded with them in their lukewarm state by advising them: “I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire!”

What and how does a person buy from God? Even in Old Testament days, Isaiah had a revelation of God’s “Buying Principle.” God invited the rich and the poor to His spiritual feast of Water, Wine, and Milk.

Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters,
and he that hath no money; **come ye, buy, and eat; yea,
come, and buy wine and milk without money and with-
out price** (Isaiah 55:1).

The Truth of God’s Word, His *Torah*, is compared to Water, Wine, and Milk. Lukewarm Christians are involved in worldly pursuits that involve spending money without satisfying the celestial soul that craves the Spiritual Life of the Water, Wine, and Milk of God’s Word. God’s Truth is wholesome, nourishing Food that gives spiritual satisfaction to the soul. One can learn to *buy*, without price, God’s Water, Wine, and Milk of Truth.



Buying is a system of exchange — giving one substance for another substance. The only way we can buy spiritually is to give our diseased *self* to the Blood of Jesus Christ in exchange for the Purity and Holiness of Jesus Christ. When we give our *self* to Jesus Christ, He gives us His Holy Life in the form of the Water, Wine, and Milk of His Truth. Jesus bids us to come to Him just as we are — in our miserable, poor, wretched, naked, and blind condition — and give our *self* to Him. In exchange for what we give to Jesus, He gives us His Holy Blood to cleanse us; His Holy Life to cover our nakedness; and His Holy Eyesight to heal our blindness. He bids us to come and *buy* of Him Gold — the Gold of His Divine, Holy Nature that has been tested and tried in the Fire.

God's Blueprint for spiritual growth that will put Jesus Christ's Holy, Divine Nature within us was first given to Moses. God told Moses to set the seven pieces of furniture in the Old Testament Tabernacle in the form of a Cross so that man could have a vision of the Full Stature of His Only Begotten Son Jesus Christ.

Beginning at the Foot of the Cross, with the foundation of Blood, Fire, and Water, Israel's spiritual experience of growth began in the Outer Courtyard.* The foundation of Blood, Fire, and Water pictured Christ's Redemptive Blood, the Baptism of the Holy Ghost and Fire, and the Waters of Christ's Name, Death, and Life. The principal metal in the Courtyard was brass, which speaks of Judgment and knowledge of sin and the penalty of sin.

Next, in her progressive growth in spiritual stature, the provision and invitation for Israel was to come to the Holy Place, personified by the Heart portion, the Right Arm, and the Left Arm of the Spiritual Stature of Christ. These spiritual experiences of the Heart, the Right Arm, and the Left Arm of Christ were symbolized by the Golden



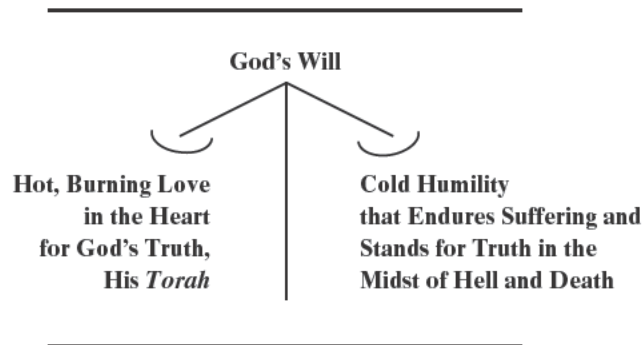
Altar, the Golden Candlestick, and the Golden Table of Shewbread. The Golden Altar pictured the Divine Nature of Christ found in prayer. The Golden Candlestick pictured the Divine Nature of Christ found in the Light of the Word of God. The Golden Table of Shewbread pictured the Divine Nature of Christ found in the Faith and Strength of God's Word.

To complete her spiritual growth, the provision and invitation was made for Israel to come, on the Day of Atonement, into the Holy of Holies, which personified the *Head* of the Stature of Jesus Christ. Gold also was found in the Holy of Holies at the Ark of the Covenant which symbolized the Pure, Divine Mind and Headship of Christ.

The members of the Laodicean Church Age are blind to their need to repent in the Courtyard and take on the Blood of Christ, the Holy Ghost and Fire, and the Waters of Christ's Name, Death, and Life. Therefore, they are unable to grow in the Golden, Divine Nature of Christ in the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies.

God wants us to lay our spiritual foundation of Blood, Fire, and Water in the Courtyard and daily trade our self-life or selfish life for the Golden, Selfless Nature of Christ, in order to build Spiritual Stature in the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies.

Spiritual pride, self-righteousness, and lukewarmness are the characteristics of this Laodicean Day. This condition of proud poverty in the religious world, today, is a sure Sign of the midnight hour on God's Spiritual Time Clock and prophesies that Jesus is coming soon. Therefore, let us humble ourselves and bow low before the LORD. Let us give our unprofitable selves to Jesus so that *we* may *decrease* and *His Golden Nature* may *increase* in us. It is His Will to make us rich with His Gold and to clothe our nakedness with His White Raiment. Let us give up the dirty garments of our self-righteousness, pride, and lukewarmness, and let Him clothe us with His Holy Righteousness, fill us with the Cold of His Humility, and set our heart aflame with His Hot, Burning Love and Zeal for Truth.



As we humble ourselves before Him, He will anoint our eyes with His healing eyesalve of Light and Truth so that we may see clearly. It is the ministry of Lucifer to use the corrupt flesh of man to blind the eyes of God's people. When the anointing Oil of the Holy Ghost flows freely through the Truth of God's Word, it will open our blind eyes, causing us to see clearly God's Master Plan for our heart and life.

Summary:

In this study, we have seen the twelve major Signs, given prophetically in God's Word, that reveal God's Spiritual Time Clock. These Signs are as follows:

- Hour One: Worldwide Dispersion and Preservation of Israel**
- Hour Two: Increased Knowledge, with Men Running to and fro in Search of More Knowledge**
- Hour Three: Modern Modes of Transportation**
- Hour Four: Troublesome Times**
- Hour Five: The Same Immoral Conditions that Existed in the Days of Noah**

- Hour Six: Distress in the Upper and Lower Worlds
– Heaven and Earth**
- Hour Seven: The Groanings of All Creation for
Redemption**
- Hour Eight: Departure from the True Faith of Christ**
- Hour Nine: Perilous Times**
- Hour Ten: Scoffers**
- Hour Eleven: Mockers**
- Hour Twelve: Spiritually Proud Blindness and Self-righteousness**

According to these Signs, it is evident that we are living in the last minutes of the last hour on God's Spiritual Time Clock. However, there is no reason that Christians should feel discouraged or fearful. The moment of our redemption is soon to come.

And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh (Luke 21:28).

When John, the writer of the Book of Revelation, wrote of the soon Coming of Christ, he said: "Even so, come, Lord Jesus" (Revelation 22:20). And to this, we say "Amen"!

