



Are We Living In The End Times? – Week Three

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Overview

Amidst the coronavirus, social unrest, and mounting tensions between nations, it's easy to imagine if this is "the end." The third message in our *Tough Questions* series answers the question, *Are We Living In The End Times?* When we understand what God's Word says about the end times, we believers can look to the future with peace and security.

Discussion Questions

As we explore this weighty topic, it's important not to lose sight of God's purpose in the End Times: **God is restoring His broken family.** Does knowing that the ultimate goal of the end times is to bring restoration to believers change your perspective?

Three Questions About The End Times

- **How does the Day of the Lord relate to the End Times and us today?**
 - In **2 Thessalonians 2:1-2**, we see that there is a day coming when our whole world system is going to change. *"Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come."*
 - Are you personally shaken or troubled when you think of the end times? Why do you suppose Paul speaks about the Day of the Lord and end times in such detail?
 - The Day of the Lord is two-fold and encapsulates both the age of grace and the age of judgment--a season of light and a season of darkness. At present, we live in the Church Age or *age of grace*. After believers in Jesus are raptured (taken to heaven with Christ), the Great Tribulation or *age of judgment* follows. How does the Day of the Lord show both God's grace and His justice?

- **What happens during the Tribulation?**

- Let's look at **2 Thessalonians 2:3-6** to see what it says: *"Let no one deceive you by any means for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time."*
- Pastor Steve asked the question, "Is the Antichrist (the man of sin) a person or a world system?" Both attempt to undermine the supremacy of God and combat the things of God such as scripture, Truth, etc. Can you think of examples in today's society that reflect a spirit of the Antichrist or a world system?

- **What does all this end-time teaching mean to me?**

In **2 Thessalonians 2:13-14**, Paul shares with us a very important truth, *...God chose you to be among the first to experience salvation—a salvation that came through the Spirit who makes you holy and through your belief in the truth. He called you to salvation when we told you the Good News; now you can share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

- **Live in the *truth*.**
How can we dig deeper into the truth that is available to us in the Word of God?
- **Live in the *Spirit*.**
How can having the Spirit of God within us help encourage us today?
- **Live in *community*.**
In **2 Thessalonians 2:15**, Paul says, *"With all these things in mind, dear brothers and sisters, stand firm and keep a strong grip on the teaching we passed on to you."*

How does this scripture help you to stand firm even in these uncertain times?

Life Challenge

How can this message help you to daily walk in truth and peace of the Holy Spirit and be an encouragement to those around you?

Prayer

Dear Lord, Thank You for Your peace that passes all of our understanding. Thank You that no matter what my circumstances are, I know that I can fully trust in Your peace, wisdom, truth and protection. You are faithful. Guide me each day to hear Your voice, the voice of truth that drowns out any lies from the enemy. Pray for the specific needs of the group.