

The End Times – Week Six

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Overview

In our sixth message of *Brave*, we will take a shift from the personal and biological portion of the book of Daniel to the prophetic portion as we learn about the End Times.

Discussion Questions

It is helpful for us to remember why we study the book of Daniel: Daniel's situation is becoming increasingly similar to our own, and Daniel's God is our God, too. He still reigns and is in charge.

In Daniel 7 & 8, Daniel has a dream and visions from God about the End Times. In these two chapters we see how Daniel receives clear pictures of various things unfolding, although he does not know what it all means.

"In the first year of Belshazzar King of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head while on his bed. Then he wrote down the dream, telling the main facts." (Daniel 7:1)

"In the third year of the reign of King Belshazzar a vision appeared to me—to me, Daniel—after the one that appeared to me the first time." (Daniel 8:1)

• Have you ever felt like God was speaking to you, but you were unsure of what He was saying?

What Do We Need To Know About The End Times?

The Antichrist

It is written in 2 Thessalonians 2:9, "The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders."

We do not know if the Antichrist is someone already alive and in the world today or someone not born yet. However, we do know from the Bible that the Antichrist will deceive the world into thinking he is building peace when his main objective is to wreak havoc and turn everyone, believers or not, against Christ.

• The world suggests subtle things that appear to be good but are against the Lord. How can we choose to make a stand for Christ and truth?

The Tribulation and Deliverance

The Bible is clear about the deliverance Christ followers will receive in the midst of the chaos caused by the Antichrist.

"At that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time. And at that time, your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book." (Daniel 12:1)

Rewards

Doing good works does not save us; as believers, we do good works because we are saved. The work we do for Christ will earn us rewards in heaven. I Corinthians 3:14-15 says, "If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire."

• How does knowing our eternal reward is in heaven bring peace to difficult situations we experience?

What Don't We Know About the End Times?

There is much we do not know about the End Times. Daniel himself received a dream and visions from God about the End Times, and even he could not interpret or understand all that he saw so vividly. As Christians, our main focus should not be the End Times. We can be aware through God's word about what the End Times entail, but our main focus should be on living in God's will and leading others to Christ.

• What practical ways can we build our own faith and the faith of those around us during these uncertain times?

What Do We Need to Do About the End Times?

- 1. Remember that Jesus is coming back. The Bible tells us the ultimate end; Jesus will win. We can claim victory in Christ.
- Times are going to get tougher. Christians will experience an increasing amount of persecution. The God Who was with Daniel will be with us.
- 3. With Him, we will overcome. We read in Romans 8:3 ,"Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us."

Life Challenge

John 3:16 says, **"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."** God loves us so much. Think of three people who you can share the Good News of the Gospel with so they may experience the love and victory of Christ.

Prayer

Thank you Lord for giving us your Word to stand firm in these uncertain times and allowing us to cast all our cares on You to trust you fully. Remind us every hour of the day that we can fully trust in You to guide us every step of the way. Pray for the specific needs of the group.