



- The end times should not generate **fear** but **joy**.

### What is the End Times?

- A series of events that unites God's creation with their **passion**.  
2 Peter 3:9 (MSG)

3 ... Jesus sat on the Mount of Olives. His disciples came to him privately and said, "Tell us, when will all this happen? What sign will signal your return and the end of the world?" Matthew 24:3 (NLT)

- All generations have experienced **signs**, but none like ours have seen **all** the signs of Jesus' list at the same time.

9 For God has not chosen to pour out his anger upon us but to save us through our Lord Jesus Christ; 1 Thessalonians 5:9 (TLB)

Matthew 24:4-14 (NLT)

### About the tribulation:

- The tribulation is a period of **7 years**.
- This will be when the **anti-christ** comes on the scene.

22 Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son. 1 John 2:22 (ESV)

- The antichrist **elevates** himself above God.  
4 He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God.  
2 Thessalonians 2:4 (NIV)

- The last half will be the **worst**.
- Everyone will be required to have the **mark** of the **beast** to buy or sell.

Revelation 13:16-18 (NLT)  
Revelation 14:9-10 (MSG)

- The purpose of the tribulation is it's God's **judgment** on an unbelieving world.

1 I heard a shout of command from the Temple to the Seven Angels: "Begin! Pour out the seven bowls of God's wrath on earth!" Revelation 16:1 (MSG)

9 For God has not chosen to pour out his anger upon us but to save us through our Lord Jesus Christ; 1 Thessalonians 5:9 (TLB)

1 ... in the last days there will be very difficult times. 2 For people will love only themselves and their money. They will be boastful and proud, scoffing at God, disobedient to their parents, and ungrateful. They will consider nothing sacred. 3

They will be unloving and unforgiving; they will slander others and have no self-control. They will be cruel and hate what is good. 4 They will betray their friends, be reckless, be puffed up with pride, and love pleasure rather than God. 5 They will act religious, but they will reject the power that could make them godly. Stay away from people like that! 2 Timothy 3:1-5 (NLT)

### Living in a Pre-Tribulation culture:

- Follow **God**, not **culture**.

...Stay away from people like that! 2 Timothy 3:5 (NLT)

3 And everyone who refuses to confess faith in Jesus has nothing in common with God. This is the spirit of antichrist that you heard was coming. Well, here it is, sooner than we thought! 1 John 4:3 (MSG)

Question:

- As the culture shifts, **will you?**

- As the culture shifts, it will try to **claim** you.

2 Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you. Romans 12:2 (MSG)

Question:

- What culture do you **fit** into?

- As the culture shifts, it will try to **tame** you.

9 This man will come to do the work of Satan with counterfeit power and signs and miracles. 10 He will use every kind of evil deception to fool those on their way to destruction, because they refuse to love and accept the truth that would save them. 2 Thessalonians 2:9-10 (NLT)

Question:

- What **truth** will you live by?

## Have Questions? Text them to: (559)-464-5754

### Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

*These questions also work well for personal time with God.*

- What's one point from the Talk that really stood out to you?
- Is there a scripture from Sunday that stands out to you? Why?
- Do you have any questions about the Tribulation? Share what they are. (You can also text them to 464-5754)
- OK let's be honest, does this series create fear or joy? Explain as best you can.
- Under the sub-heading "About the tribulation" - While this is just a small incomplete list of some of the activities of the tribulation, what are your general thoughts about the tribulation?
- Do you have a problem with God punishing those that reject him? Explain why or why not.
- What does it mean to you to "Follow God, not culture"?
- How do you see the spirit of the antichrist at work in the world today? How can we shift away from the world's culture?
- The world's culture will try to draw us in, to be a part of it. Can a christian fit into the world's culture and not be affected? What does it mean to fit into God's culture?
- The world's culture tells us what is acceptable and what is truth; what are some examples of how the culture pushes its truth while rejecting God's truth?
- How doe we live by God's truth?

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