

THE END TIMES: *the* DECEPTION

March 21st, 2010

RISE of False Prophets & Apostate Religion

1 Timothy 4:1 Now the Holy Spirit tells us clearly that in the last times some will turn away from the true faith; they will follow deceptive spirits and teachings that come from demons.

2 Peter 2:1-3 But there were also false prophets in Israel, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will cleverly teach destructive heresies and even deny the Master who bought them. In this way, they will bring sudden destruction on themselves. ² Many will follow their evil teaching and shameful immorality. And because of these teachers, the way of truth will be slandered. ³ In their greed they will make up clever lies to get hold of your money.

2 Corinthians 11:13-14 These people are false apostles. They are deceitful workers who disguise themselves as apostles of Christ. ¹⁴ But I am not surprised! Even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.

INCREASE of Wickedness & Spread of Evil

Matthew 24:12 Sin will be rampant everywhere, and the love of many will grow cold.

2 Peter 3:3-4 Most importantly, I want to remind you that in the last days scoffers will come, mocking the truth and following their own desires. ⁴ They will say, "What happened to the promise that Jesus is coming again? From before the times of our ancestors, everything has remained the same since the world was first created."

Jude 17-18 But you, my dear friends, must remember what the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ said. ¹⁸ They told you that in the last times there would be scoffers whose purpose in life is to satisfy their ungodly desires.

How should we LIVE?

1. Keep WATCHING

Matthew 24:42 "So you, too, must keep watch! For you don't know what day your Lord is coming.

2. Keep WAITING...*Be ready!*

Matthew 24:44 You also must be ready all the time, for the Son of Man will come when least expected.

3. Keep SERVING

Matthew 24:46 If the master returns and finds that the servant has done a good job, there will be a reward.

4. Keep LOOKING towards Eternity!

- *God Still Reigns*

Romans 13:1 Everyone must submit to governing authorities. For all authority comes from God, and those in positions of authority have been placed there by God.

1 Timothy 2:1-2 I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them. ² Pray this way for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity.

- *Our Mission is Still Clear*

1 Peter 2:9 But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

Our VICTORY is still certain!