



The Bible Speaks

TIME RUNNING OUT

A few years ago it was not uncommon for a man to say, as he looked at the colour of the sky before dusk, "It looks as if we might be in for a storm." Men have now developed scientific ways of foretelling weather by observing certain signs in the atmosphere. Christ spoke of this very thing when He said, "When it is evening, ye say, it will be fair weather today: for the sky is red and lowering. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky, but can ye not discern the signs of the times?" Matthew 16:2, 3.

With the help of science, weather predicting has become quite exact. But with the increase of scientific gadgets and labour-saving devices, most people take less and less time to study the signs of the times that Christ said would foretell the end of this world.

Occasionally a misguided soul will arise to predict the exact date of the end of all things. A few people will be concerned, and some will anxiously watch the outcome of this prophecy. When the time comes and nothing happens, those concerned will breathe a sigh of relief and settle back into their same routine and habits.

Each crisis and unfulfilled prediction of destruction has the effect of hardening the sinner in his unbelief. Like the men who heard the boy cry "wolf, wolf," the world has learned to take even the super colossal as though it were a daily event.

Is it any wonder that man has failed to notice the many signs that God has hung along the highway of life to remind us that we are nearing the end of man's rebellion against his Maker? Christ has given a number of signs to warn us of impending disaster that we might not be swept away by the climatic events that will attend the end of this world. Let us profit by the examples of the careless religionists of Christ's day who failed to understand the prophecies that had been given to guide them, and thus they failed to be ready for the first coming of the Messiah.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

1. Who only knows the exact day and hour of the end of this world and the coming of Christ? Matthew 24:36

The Bible Answer: _____

2. Is there any way by which we can know when the end is near? Matthew 24:32, 33

The Bible Answer: _____

3. What will the nations be doing just before the coming of Christ? Matthew 24:6, 7

The Bible Answer: _____

4. For what will the nations be preparing near the end of time? Joel 3:9-12

The Bible Answer: _____

5. What terms are used to show the anxiety and trouble that will exist among the nations just before the end? Luke 21:25, 26

The Bible Answer: "Upon the earth _____
_____, with _____"

6. What are the signs that will be seen in the financial or economic world? James 5:1-8

The Bible Answer:

Verses 1-3 Rich men have _____

Verse 4 Hire of labourer _____

Verse 8 These things show _____

7. What will the nations be proclaiming and what will happen? 1 Thessalonians 5:3, 4

The Bible Answer: "They shall say _____ then
_____ cometh upon them."

8. What signs would be seen in the moral deterioration of humanity?
2 Timothy 3:1-5

The Bible Answer:

Verse 1 "In the last days _____."

Verse 2 "Men shall be _____."

Verse 4 "Lovers of pleasure _____."

Verse 5 "Having a form of _____."

9. What did Daniel say would happen in the last days to show the nearness of the end? Daniel 12:4

The Bible Answer: "Many shall _____, and knowledge shall
_____."

10. What will the scoffers in the religious world be saying at this time?
2 Peter 3:3, 4

The Bible Answer: _____

11. What must be done in the entire world before the Lord can return?
Matthew 24:14

The Bible Answer: _____

12. When we see all of these signs being fulfilled, what are we to do? Luke 21:28

The Bible Answer: _____

13. How can we prepare for that day? Luke 21:36

The Bible Answer: _____

For 120 years God warned the world that existed before the flood of the coming destruction of that generation by a global flood. Many refused to believe that such a catastrophe could ever happen. Worldly-wise men said that it was an impossibility. Noah said that it would happen, and to show his earnestness, he invested his time and fortune in building a gigantic boat as proof of his belief.

Many must have accepted that message from God, for the Spirit of God spoke through Noah to the hearts of the antediluvians. Only a few believed it enough to do anything about preparing themselves. When the animals, led by the angels of God, made their way into the ark, the people knew that this was more than a human trick. They recognized this was a sign of the coming of the end of that world.

Only eight people cared enough to take advantage of the means of salvation that God had provided for them. Noah, his three sons and their wives were the only humans who responded to the message of God in that age.

Christ said that the last generation would be like those who lived in Noah's day. "But as the days of Noah 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 Noah 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.

They were so busy with the cares and pleasures of life that they did not take time to prepare for the destruction that God said would take place. This very same thing can happen to each of us.

(If you wish to respond to this question, place a cross in the box provided.)

It is my desire to be ready to meet Jesus Christ when He returns.

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____