

REVELATION

Are we living in the End Times?

PART II

Matthew 24:3 And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the **end of the world**?

Matthew 24:12 **And because iniquity shall abound**, the love of many shall wax cold.

- Iniquity = violation of law, wickedness: unrighteousness
- Abound = to increase: --abound, multiply

Are we living the last days?

1. We live in the days of multiplied sin

2. We live in the days of a great falling away

Matthew 24:12 **And because** iniquity shall abound, **the love of many shall wax cold.**

- LOVE = agape (God's Love – the love and passion of believers)

Romans 12:2 **And be not conformed to this world:** but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

2 Thessalonians 2:3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

1) Are we seeing a great falling away?

Harvard University - "Let every Student be plainly instructedto know God and Jesus Christ which is eternal life. John 17:3."



Revelation 3:16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. 17 Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

The New York Times.

LATE CITY EDITION

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NEW YORK, TUESDAY, JUNE 18, 1963.

TEN CENTS

**VINS IN VOTE
NO SCANDAL;
KENS HIS GRIP**



**HOUSE COMMITTEE
VOTES A TAX RISE
FOR OIL INDUSTRY**

50-Million-a-Year Increase
Decried to Offset Benefit
of Depreciation Allowance

By JOHN D. SCOTLAND

**SUPREME COURT, 8 TO 1, PROHIBITS
LORD'S PRAYER AND BIBLE READING
AS PUBLIC SCHOOL REQUIREMENT**

**Saturday Work Ban
By a Church Upheld**

WIDE EFFECT DUE

**Churches Divided,
With Most in Favor**

3 CASES DECIDE

After 1963 pregnancies increased 187% in the next 15 years.

- For younger girls, ages 10 to 14 years, pregnancies since 1963 are up 553%.
- Before 1963 sexually transmitted diseases among students were 400 per 100,000.

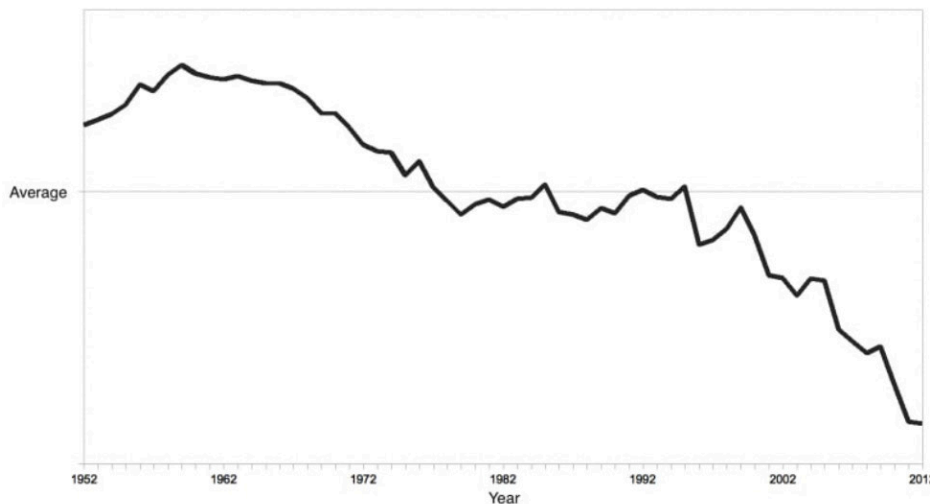
Since 1963, they were up 226% in the next 12 years.

1. Before 1963 divorce rates had been declining for 15 years.
2. After 1963 divorces increased 300% each year for the next 15 years.
3. Since 1963 unmarried people living together is up 353%

Since 1963 violent crime has increased 544%.

From 1990 to 2000, the combined membership of all Protestant denominations in the USA declined by almost 5 million members, while the US population increased by 24 million

The Great Decline: 60 years of religion in America



Graph by Corner of Church & State, a Religion News Service blog
Source: Aggregate Religiosity Index, J. Tobin Grant, *Sociological Forum*.

- 6,000 to 10,000 **churches** in the **U.S.** are dying **each year**. ...
- study from LifeWay Research found 3,700 **churches closed** in 2014



Revelation 3:19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: **be zealous** therefore, and repent.

2) What are the effects of the Falling Away?

2 Timothy 4:3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; 4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.



1 Timothy 4:1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

2 Timothy 3:1 **This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.** 2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, **disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,** 3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, **despisers of those that are good,**

2 Timothy 3:4 Traitors, heady, highminded, **lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;**

2 Timothy 4:2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

Genesis 18:23 And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked? 24 Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city: wilt thou also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein?

Genesis 18:32 And he said, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak yet but this once: Peradventure ten shall be found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for ten's sake.

Are we living the last days?

3. We can know from the principles of time that God has established

2 Peter 3:1 This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance:

- Stir up your minds
- Make you think about some things

2 Peter 3:2 That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Savior:

- He tells them to look back to the Old Testament – “the holy prophets”

2 Peter 3:3 Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, 4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.

- Scoffers

2 Peter 3:5 For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: 6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:

- Days of Noah – judgement came upon them
- They “willingly” ignored God’s warning

2 Peter 3:7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

2 Peter 3:8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

- God is speaking in terms of time
 - Days and years

Isaiah 46:9 Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, 10 **Declaring the end from the beginning**, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:

“Declaring the end from the beginning....”

- **He declares the end by looking at the beginning**

Isaiah 46:10 Declaring the end from the beginning, **and from ancient times the things that are not yet done**, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:

From ancient times the things that are NOT YET DONE

Amos 3:7 Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.

1 Thessalonians 5:1 But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.

1 Thessalonians 5:2 **For yourselves know** perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.

- You know how the Lord will return

When the Lord talks about Him coming as a thief in the night, He is speaking of the Lost

- NOT THE SAVED

1 Thessalonians 5:4 But ye, brethren, **are not in darkness**, that that day should overtake you as a thief. 5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

- Light! We can see

1 Thessalonians 5:6 Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.

This is why Jesus said...

Matthew 24:33 So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, **know that it is near**, even at the doors.

FACT: We don't know the day nor the hour

- We do see the signs
- We do know the season

Let's start at the beginning of TIME

Isaiah 46:10 **Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done**, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:

Genesis 1

- 7 days of creation
 - God could have created everything all at once

Everything has a purpose

Genesis 1:4 And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. 5 And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

Made it clear – DAY = evening and the morning first day = TIME

6 Days of creation – 6 days of doing something different building up to the end

- 7th Day – He rested
- 7th day He was finished

7 is the number of completion in the Bible

What does God teach us about time?

1) God counts times in 7's

This is a foundational principle that goes beyond just creation

In Israel, even till this day – Israel allows their land to rest

When it came to Israel – time was always measured in 7's

Daniel 9:24 **Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people** and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.

Leviticus 23:6 And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the feast of unleavened bread unto the LORD: **seven days ye must eat unleavened bread.**

This has been used a lot to prove this point

Not just random times:

- Genesis 7:4 For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights; and every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the earth.
- Genesis 41 – Seven years of plenty and seven years of famine with Joseph
- Animals had to be 7 days old before sacrificed
- 7 days they Marched around Jericho
 - 7 days, they did it 7 times
 - 7 Priest blew 7 trumpets
- Jacob worked for Rachel for 7 years (7 for Leah)
- 7 Clean animals on the ark
- Elisha told Naman to dip 7 times in the river to be healed
- **Jesus spoke 7 times on the cross – last words, “IT IS FINISHED”**

How much is this used?

- Used 735 times in the Bible
- If we include with this count how many times 'sevenfold' (6) and 'seventh' (119) is used
 - Our total jumps to 860 references.

The Bible started with 7 days

The Bible ends with 7 years of tribulation

Revelation: 54 times

- 7 stars
- 7 churches
- 7 Letters written
- 7 candles
- 7 Years of tribulation
- 7 seals
- 7 Trumpets
- 7 Bowl judgements

Start at the Beginning

- 7 days of creation

Could it be that God was explaining History through these 7 days?

DAY 1 – God divided the light from the darkness

Genesis 1:4 And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

DAY 2 – God separated the water from the Land

Genesis 1:7 And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so.

Biggest event in the second 1,000 years

- The flood happened

DAY 3 – God created plant life

- Seeds bearing plants

Genesis 1:11 And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so.

In the 3rd Millennium of time...

- God established a covenant with Abraham that He would bless and multiply his seed

DAY 4 – God created the sun, moon, and stars

Genesis 1:16 And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also. 17 And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth,

John 1:3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. 4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

John 12:46 I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.

DAY 5 – God created living creatures

Genesis 1:20 And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven.

DAY 6 – God created man

- 6 is the number of man
- Man was told to fill the earth
- Man has fulfilled this more in the last 1000 years than all the years before

In 1950 there were 2.5 billion people on the planet.

Now in 2019, there are 7.7 billion.

What did God do on the 7th day?

Revelation 20:2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, 3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

We end the last 1000 years of human history with a 1000 of the Millennium reign of Christ

- NOTICE: Jesus teaching us that he is measuring time in 7's

- He teaches us that He ends history of 1000 years
 - A specific measured amount of time

What happens at the end? A wedding celebration!

Revelation 19:7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.

Revelation 19:9 And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.

God measures time in 7's

- From the beginning to the end

2) God has given us a measure of time

- Time is so we know where we are at on a timeline

Luke 3:23-38 lays out the entire timeline of the Old Testament

Luke 3:38 Which was the son of Enos, which was the son of Seth, which was the son of Adam, which was the son of God.

We can go to the Old Testament and read their exact ages:

Genesis 5:5 And all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years: and he died. 6 And Seth lived an hundred and five years, and begat Enos:

God has always been detailed with time:

Genesis 7:11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened.

Luke 3, God gives us an exact timeline

Old Testament till Jesus = 4,000 years

- Creation at 4004 BC
- Jesus: 4 BC

Today is 2023 AD

- $4000 + 2023 = 6023$ years

Genesis till now is around 6,000 years

- Going back to Genesis and how things started
- 6 days of creation....6,000 years
 - 6 is the number of man
 - 6,000 is the length of time that man ruled on the earth

6 is the number of man

Noah lived 950 years – When God chose to punish the world for sin.....

- Genesis 7:11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened.

We are at 6,000 years...

Millennial reign = 1,000 year reign

7,000 years = completion

7 = completion

We don't know the day nor the hour

- But we will know the season

Go back to where we started:

2 Peter 3:8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

- Why is this said?

He was establishing time...

- For us to be aware

2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.