

Can it Really Be?

Stunning! What a powerful, understandable, and revealing lesson! Just like a birth, these signs are increasing in both _____ and _____. This is an essential point that must not be missed. Jesus, Paul, Peter and John in Revelation all told us to _____. Now these were all intelligent men, would they tell us to _____ for something that could not be seen? That makes no sense at all. Can you imagine someone telling their friend to watch for an upcoming street sign that the person knew either didn't exist or couldn't be seen? How ridiculous. The reason that these men told us to watch is simple: *there is something to watch for!* Just as we watch for signs on a road, so to we must watch for signs on the road of time. Jesus has given us many of these so there would be no mistaking when His return is near, very near!

These signs coupled with the prophecy of Daniel 2 (in addition to several other Biblical prophecies still to come in our seminar) must lead us to the inescapable conclusion that Jesus Christ's Second Coming cannot be far off.

How near is the end? The best answer, and the Biblical answer, is *soon*. The signs of the _____ point unmistakably to the coming of Jesus Christ and the end of the world, as we presently know it. But just there is a pivotal point: the end is really a *beginning*. Because the end of the world "as we know it" is just the beginning of the world as God intended it—a world without pain, death, fear, sickness, and all of the heartache that so typifies this present-world. That wonderful day is coming. And soon! Don't you want to be there?

Our Next Topic is: Discover: Bible Prophecy's Answer for Human Suffering

—Discover Prophecy—

with David Asscherick, DP Speaker

No. 03

Discover: How Near is the End?

Here at the Discovery Prophecy Seminar we believe that Jesus is coming soon! But how do we know this is true? And how *soon* is soon? Haven't people been saying that for many, many years? How can we be sure that the Second Coming really is immanent? Fortunately, the Bible powerfully, compellingly, and clearly answers these questions. Let's turn our attention to the Bible and see what it has to say about this important topic.

A Quick Review of Daniel 2

The great metal _____ of Daniel chapter 2 tells the story of the history of this planet. The five elements of that image—gold, silver, brass, iron, and clay—represented five major _____ from the time of Daniel to the setting up of God's Kingdom. Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome each passed *on*, and then *off*, the world's political scene. Today we live in the feet of iron and clay, that is, divided Rome. The last part of that dream showed a _____ that struck the image on the _____, thus symbolizing that _____ eternal kingdom will be set-up "in the days of _____ kings" Daniel 2:44. We are living in those very days that Daniel foretells. Do you remember what Daniel said to King Nebuchadnezzar about the time to which the dream especially applied? See verse 28. The dream applied to the _____ days! The Kingdom of God is at hand!

What Do the Experts Say?

It is not only the Bible and Bible-believers that insist that we are living in strange and unusual times. Many recognized experts and authorities, in various fields, suggest that we are living in extraordinary and unique period of Earth's history. Many of these individuals are not writing from a Biblical or theological perspective. They are simply writing from an observational and evidentiary perspective. They see that the evidence points in a fearful and unusual direction.

The Second Coming in Revelation

The second coming is a major theme in the book of Revelation. Consider the following texts:

- Revelation 1:7
- Revelation 3:11
- Revelation 22:7
- Revelation 22:12
- Revelation 22:20

What do these verses have in common? _____

Clearly the second coming is a prominent component of Revelation. It is the capstone of the book, the whole Bible, and God's eternal plan of salvation.

How Quick is Quick? How Soon is Soon? How Close is Close?

These are excellent questions. These are the very kinds of questions that people ask today. They might say something like, "people have been saying for years that Jesus would return, how do you know that He actually will?" Revelation 16:15 gives us part of the answer to this important question. What is the operative word in this passage? _____. Consider, also, the following verses:

- Matthew 24:42
- 1Thessalonians 5:4, 6
- 1Peter 4:7

What do all of these verses have in common? _____

All of these verses tell us to _____, but the question is: *for what?* The answer is _____, that is, _____.

Consider Matthew 24: The Olivet Discourse

In Matthew 24 Jesus deals with the issue of the _____ of the _____. In this chapter Jesus masterfully _____ the destruction of Jerusalem in _____ with the destruction of the world at "the end of the age". In this parallel, Jesus employs two revealing and helpful analogies for understanding the last days and the end of the world:

- 1.
- 2.

These two analogies have three points in common: They are both:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Jesus Gives the "Signs of the Times"

We will now briefly consider 10 Signs of the times. There are others, but we will consider just these 10 in this lesson. Be sure to make notes about each of the signs:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.