

Lesson 1: Understanding the Last Days

The Biblical term “Last Days” is a reference to the final time period of human history in which prophesied world events will transpire. The coming of Christ and His death on the cross, followed by His resurrection, was the commencement of the Last Days time period.

The Last Days is the final age before God intervenes in human history and establishes a new heaven and a new earth. The Last Days are not just a time period where biblical prophecy will be fulfilled, it is also a day of salvation when people can hear the Gospel and put their trust in Jesus Christ.

I. God’s Word Describes a Last Days Generation

A. Last Generation

Luke 21:32 NKJV: *Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place.*

1. The people living just prior to the second coming of Jesus Christ
2. A specific generation that will possess certain characteristics and will participate in events of the Last Days
3. The generation that will see the literal triumphant return of Jesus Christ

II. World Conditions of the Last Days

Luke 21:25 NKJV: *And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring;*

A. The Geopolitical Condition

1. Geopolitics is the study or the application of the influence of political and economic geography on the politics, national power, foreign policy, etc. of a state.

2. There will be signs in the heavenlies and in the oceans and seas.
3. The “distress of nations” means there will be political uprisings, power struggles, and a lack of essentials to meet the needs of the people.

B. Religious Conditions

1. The spirit of the Antichrist is the satanic rebellion that is at work to seduce the hearts of people away from Christ.

Matthew 24:4-5 NKJV: *4 And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you. 5 For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many."*

2. There will be a satanically-inspired religious system that accepts all beliefs except the Christian belief.

Revelation 17:6 NKJV: *I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement.*

3. False prophets and false teachers shall be in abundance, who will present teachings that are rooted in deception.

2 Timothy 3:13 NKJV: *But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived.*

III. How to Thrive in the Last Days

A. Action Points

1. Be spiritually alert, maintaining a prayerful lifestyle.

Luke 21: 34-36 NKJV: *³⁴ "But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. ³⁵ For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man."*

2. Stay anchored in the local church.

Hebrews 10:25 NKJV: *Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.*

3. Keep an Eternal Perspective – never lose sight of eternity

James 4:14 NKJV: *...whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.*