



COUNTDOWN TO THE APOCALYPSE

THE BEGINNING OF THE END?

Selected Scripture

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Introduction: Today we will examine how current events may be signaling that we are indeed living in a period of time the Scripture calls “the last days.”

I. What Difference Does Bible Prophecy Make?

A. The Importance of “Warnings”

B. The Significance of Prophecy in Scripture (Luke 21:7-12; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6; 2 Peter 3:1-4, 8)

Luke 21:7-12, 27-28: ⁷ They questioned Him, saying, “Teacher, when therefore will these things happen? And what will be the sign when these things are about to take place?” ⁸ And He said, “See to it that you are not misled; for many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am He,’ and, ‘The time is near.’ Do not go after them. ⁹ When you hear of wars and disturbances, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end does not follow immediately.”

¹⁰ Then He continued by saying to them, “Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom, ¹¹ and there will be great earthquakes, and in various places plagues and famines; and there will be terrors and great signs from heaven.

¹² “But before all these things, they will lay their hands on you and will persecute you, delivering you to the synagogues and prisons, bringing you before kings and governors for My name’s sake.’

²⁷ Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸ But when these things begin to take place, straighten up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”



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II. Caution! No One Knows the Date (Matthew 24:36)

Matthew 24:36 ³⁶ But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone."

2 Peter 3:3-4 ³ Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with their mocking, following after their own lusts, ⁴ and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation."

III. Countdown To The Apocalypse

A. Jesus on the End Times (Matthew 24-25)

Matthew 24:3 ³ As He was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things happen, and what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?"

B. The Rise of Radical Islam

C. Christians in the Crosshairs



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D. The New Moral (Dis)Order

2 Timothy 3:1 (NIV) "But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days."

E. How Should We Now Live?

Luke 21:28 "But when these things begin to take place, straighten up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Conclusion