





2

Hebrews 1

"1 God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, 2 in **these last days** has spoken to us in **His Son**, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world."

2 Thess. 2:1-12 2 Pet. 1:20, 2:1-2, 3:3-4

The "last days" began with the birth of Christ. The "last days" will end with the 2nd coming of Christ.

Peter and Paul are of the same Spirit.

2 Peter 2

"1 But false prophets also appeared among the people, just as there will also be **false teachers among you**, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves. 2 **Many will follow their indecent behavior**, and because of them the way of the truth will be maligned;"

- Don't be surprised when the Christian faith is contested, confused, and criticized.
- · Don't be discouraged by "birth pains".

2 Peter 3

"3 Know this first of all, that in the last days **mockers** will come with their mocking, 4 following after their own lusts, and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue just as they were from the beginning of creation.""

Fundamentalists "it's the end" Critics
"it's smoke & mirrors"

"We are the terminal generation!"

"This message of "hope" is a joke."

4 5

2 Timothy 3

"1 But realize this, that in the last days difficult (hard to bear) times will come."

Expectation

- 1. Don't expect the Kingdom before its time and without its King.
- 2. Embrace your alien status in this life.
- 3. Remember that these are "birth pains" and that we are anointed to cope with life's events, not to control them. 1 Cor.12:13
- 4. Respond to trials as opportunities to develop and / or demonstrate kingdom character.

2 Timothy 3

"2 For men will be **lovers of self**, **lovers of money**, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, 3 **unloving** (family decline), irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, 4 treacherous, reckless, conceited, **lovers of pleasure** rather than lovers of God; 5 holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; and avoid such men as these."

Interpretive paraphrase

"In bearing the Image of God, Jesus modeled the meaning of true humanity. People often try to find fulfillment in this life by looking for it in the elements of this world rather than in Christ. People's love attachment to this world results in ungodly behavior. The Christian community is influenced by this. Steer clear of these people and this belief and behavior."

2 Timothy 3

"2 For men will be **lovers of self**, **lovers of money**, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, 3 **unloving** (family decline), irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, 4 treacherous, reckless, conceited, **lovers of pleasure** rather than lovers of God; 5 holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; and avoid such men as these."

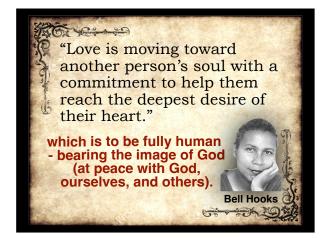
Explanation

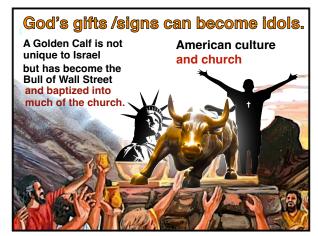
Misplaced love - the door to human suffering.

Keep that door shut.

Address the core issues of the soul by finding peace in the Word & Way of the Cross.

7 8 9







2 Timothy 3

"6 For among them are those who enter into households and captivate weak women weighed down with sins, led on by various impulses, 7 always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth."

The reference to women here may be related to the restrictions mentioned in 1 Tim.2:9-15.

Interpretive paraphrase

"Like certain women, anyone weakened by shame, isolation, and desperation is particularly vulnerable to being misled. They are easy prey for false teachers who seduce them away from the truth with tempting ideas or theories, which are uncritically embraced, leading them away from sound doctrine."

2 Timothy 3

"6 For among them are those who enter into households and captivate weak women weighed down with sins, led on by various impulses, 7 always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth."

Exploitation

1. Vulnerability makes easy prey for false teachers.

Protect the vulnerable.

2. New ideas may sound good at first, but must be critically evaluated.

Be a Berean.

Who needs protection?

- Those who are isolated (not in social fellowship with other disciples)
- Those who have been hurt
- Those who are young in the faith

How can we help?

- · Be a listening friend.
- Pray for a renewed mind.
- Be a good example.



13 14 15

2 Timothy 3

"8 And just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these men also **oppose the truth**, men of **depraved (corrupt) mind**, rejected as regards the faith. 9 But they will not make further progress; for their folly will be obvious to all, just as Jannes' and Jambres' folly was also."

Interpretive paraphrase

"Pharaoh's magicians tried to compete with Moses' power, but they could not stand against him and in time were exposed (Ex.7:11-12, 8:18-19, 9:11). Power, truth, and patience will eventually win."

Exhibition

Darkness is exposed by salt and light. Be a lighthouse and a salt shaker. So how are we to manage life as aliens in a broken world?

- 1. Proceed with a realistic Expectation.

 Don't be surprised.
- 2. Present a wise Explanation.

 Don't be confused.
- 3. Protect the weak from Exploitation.

Don't be passive.

4. Project a salt & light Exhibition.

Don't be weak.

