

End Times

Eschatology is the study of end-times. It is a fascinating subject that crosses religious and non-religious boundaries. Cultures around the world have been infatuated with sensational stories of “the world coming to an end” for thousands of years. People continue to be intrigued by this subject.

During the first century, the Christians in Thessalonica were seriously caught up in it. They had oversensationalized it and lost focus of simply living as Christians should. Their complacency and overdramatic view of end times had to be addressed by the apostle, Paul. He minced no words as he tried to get them back on track.

Christians or not, the world still seems quite intrigued with all the “what ifs” associated with “end of the world scenarios.” Movies are constantly coming out about how the world will end - global warming, tsunami’s, earthquakes, diseases, villains, and of course government, alien, or big business takeovers, etc. Currently, it is trendy to produce well-crafted, agenda-driven docudrama’s, mixing fact and fiction. Vulnerable minds blindly absorb and accept the misinformation, which leads to a life of fear, an awful sense of hopelessness, and a serious devaluation of happiness.

Living with a doom and gloom mentality is not healthy. A mind programmed to dwell on the negative is one that is tormented with unnecessary drama. If you are one who feels afraid of things to come. If you struggle with hopelessness and a lack of joy, let me suggest something to you: Lighten up!

Jesus painted a clear picture in Matthew 24 of what should be in our minds when we think about things having to do with end-times. His disciples were marveling at the temple in Jerusalem. Jesus began to predict the destruction of Judaism as they knew it, including the obliteration of the temple, which would later come in 70 A.D. He even told them of the signs to come that would lead up to that fulfillment (e.g., wars and rumors of wars, famines and earthquakes, etc.). Many people turn to this passage and use it to instill fear in others about the impending end of the world, yet Jesus clearly instructed His disciples not to be afraid.

He told them that these kinds of things (wars, rumors of wars, etc.) were bound to happen. Yet He said not to be afraid. Why?

Genuine Christians live for Jesus. They try to the best of their ability to please Him in all they do. Living like that is markedly therapeutic. It gives one a sense of fulfillment that cannot be matched. When a person is that genuine in their commitment to Christ, they have no fear of life after the end of this world. These kinds of people live with immeasurable hope, confidence, and happiness.

If you are one who has been lacking in the kind of happiness that constantly produces gut-wrenching laughter... If you live your life, day to day, without hope... If you live afraid of conspiracies that will ultimately lead to the end of the world... Consider checking out genuine Christianity - the kind described in the Bible. You will be amazed at how much more functional an intellectually optimistic mind functions over a manipulated pessimistic one.