

Understanding the Times

Kingdom Principles – Part 3

Life Church St. Louis – September 25, 2022

Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

Message Videos – [messages.lifechurchstlouis.org](https://www.messages.lifechurchstlouis.org)

1 Chronicles 12:32a (ESV) Of Issachar, men who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do, ...

Acts 2:17 (ESV) “And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams;

Matthew 13:24-26 (ESV) He put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also.

Matthew 13:30 (ESV) Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.”

1. Be _____ for Jesus’ return

Luke 12:42-43 (ESV) And the Lord said, “Who then is the faithful and wise manager, whom his master will set over his household, to give them their portion of food at the proper time? Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes.

Luke 12:45-46 (ESV) But if that servant says to himself, ‘My master is delayed in coming,’ and begins to beat the male and female servants, and to eat and drink and get drunk, the master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he does not know, and will cut him in pieces and put him with the unfaithful.

Luke 12:47 (ESV) And that servant who knew his master’s will but did not get ready or act according to his will, will receive a severe beating. But the one

who did not know, and did what deserved a beating, will receive a light beating.

2. Realize Jesus brings _____

Luke 12:49-50 (ESV) “I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished!

Luke 12:51-52 (ESV) Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three.

Luke 12:53 (ESV) They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

3. Understand the time is _____

Luke 12:54-55 (ESV) He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you say at once, ‘A shower is coming.’ And so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens.

Luke 12:56 (ESV) You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?

Luke 12:57-58 (ESV) “And why do you not judge for yourselves what is right? As you go with your accuser before the magistrate, make an effort to settle with him on the way, lest he drag you to the judge, and the judge hand you over to the officer, and the officer put you in prison.

Weekly Healing Scripture

Isaiah 53:5 (ESV) But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

Understanding the Times Study Guide
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Intro. Why is it important to understand the times in which we are living (1 Chronicles 12:32)?

What has God promised to do in the last days (Acts 2:17)?

How does Matthew 13:24-26 help you understand the times in which we live?

What does Matthew 13:30 tell you about what is going to happen with good and evil in the last days?

1A. What is our responsibility as managers in the last days (Luke 12:42-43)?

1B. How did the servant's lack of understanding in Luke 12:45-46 lead to his tragic end?

1C. In what ways does Luke 12:47 teach us about the degrees of punishment in hell?

1D. How can you grow in living each day as though the Lord may return?

2A. Why would Jesus look forward to bringing judgement on the earth (Luke 12:49-50)?

2B. In what ways does Jesus bring division on the earth (Luke 12:51-52)?

2C. How does Jesus bring division into families (Luke 12:53)?

2D. How does the knowledge that Jesus brings division help you in understanding the times?

3A. What is the point of Jesus' illustrations in Luke 12:54-55?

3B. Why did Jesus call the crowds hypocrites in Luke 12:56?

3C. How does Jesus' short parable in Luke 12:57-58 show us the importance of understanding the time is short?

3D. How should understanding the time is short change your priorities in life?