

## SERMON OUTLINE

**SERMON TITLE:** Living in the Last Days

**SERMON REFERENCE:** 1 John 2:18-29

**LWF SERMON NUMBER:** #2455

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) We are living in the last days.
  - i) If you're twice saved, Heaven-born and Heaven-bound, you cannot be ignorant of these dynamic days in which we're living.
  - ii) If you are not saved, you need to hear the truth; come to Jesus Christ.
  - iii) We don't know how much time we have until we hear the shout, "Behold, the Bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet Him."
- b) The arrival of the antichrist.
  - i) 1 John 2:18

2) WE NEED TO BE AWARE

- a) The intercession factor.
  - i) Know how to pray.
  - ii) Intercede for the world and our loved ones.
- b) The soul winning factor.
  - i) Do we have a hot heart for lost souls?
- c) The family preparation factor.
  - i) We need to get all of our loved ones saved.
- d) The comfort factor.
  - i) None of what we see today has taken God by surprise.
  - ii) God knows all.

3) WE NEED TO BE AWAKE

- a) We are living in the last days.
  - i) We are always on the brink of eternity; the last hour.
  - ii) The coming of the Lord Jesus Christ is always imminent.
  - iii) The Old Testament prepared us for the first coming of Jesus Christ.
  - iv) The New Testament prepares us for The Second Coming of Jesus Christ.
  - v) There is no sign or event that needs to transpire before Jesus can come.
- b) There are two stages in the second coming of Jesus Christ:
  - i) The rapture
    - (1) The rapture is when Jesus comes and takes the church out and The Great Tribulation begins here on Earth.
    - (2) He is coming secretly, like a thief in the night.
  - ii) The revelation
    - (1) After the rapture, Jesus comes not for His saints, but with His saints and unveils His glory; coming like the lightning shining from the east.
      - (a) This is called the apocalypse.
    - (2) The signs concerning the revelation will be here after the rapture, but if we can see the signs now, we know the rapture is very close.
- c) There are really no signs for the rapture.
  - i) The rapture can take place at any moment.
  - ii) 1 Thessalonians 1:10
    - (1) The wrath to come is the Great Tribulation.

- (2) You will be waiting for Jesus.
    - (a) That is a present infinitive—constantly waiting.
  - iii) Philippians 3:20
    - (1) We are looking for Jesus.
  - iv) 1 Corinthians 1:7
    - (1) The early Christians were looking, longing, yearning and waiting for Jesus Christ to come.
  - v) Hebrews 9:28
    - (1) Those saints 2,000 years ago were to be looking for Jesus.
  - vi) Titus 2:13
    - (1) Looking for the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior, Jesus Christ.
  - vii) Matthew 24:48-51
    - (1) It is wicked not to expect and prepare for the second coming of Jesus, and it will result in judgment.
  - d) In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, we're going to hear the shout, "Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him."
- 4) THE ANTICHRIST IS ALSO COMING AND WE NEED TO BE AWARE
- a) There is a wicked, malevolent, ungodly person, who will be Satan in the flesh, who is waiting to be revealed after the rapture of the church.
  - b) John is the only one in the Bible who calls him the antichrist.
  - c) He has many aliases, but he has one heart and one mind.
    - i) He is called the man of sin. The tribulation will not come until that man of sin is revealed.
      - (1) 2 Thessalonians 2:3
    - ii) The whole problem began with the sin of man, but it is going to end with the man of sin.
    - iii) Other translations of the Bible call him:
      - (1) The man of lawlessness,
      - (2) The incarnation of wickedness,
      - (3) The champion of wickedness,
      - (4) Wickedness in human form.
    - iv) 2 Thessalonians 2-3
      - (1) He's called the son of perdition which means of the judgment that is awaiting him.
        - (a) The only other person called the son of perdition in the entire Bible is Judas.
    - v) Revelation chapter 13 calls him the beast: ferocious, cruel, fierce, blood-thirsty.
  - d) The antichrist will not prevail. He's headed to Hell.
  - e) He is a false Christ who substitutes himself for Christ, therefore, to be against Christ.
    - i) Satan mimics God and wants to receive worship through his antichrist.

- f) The antichrist is:
  - i) Devilish
    - (1) Full of the devil.
    - (2) Satan incarnate.
  - ii) Divisive
    - (1) 1 John 2:20-23
    - (2) He divided the true church.
    - (3) He is the power behind all of the false cults.
    - (4) 1 Timothy 4:1
  - iii) Deceptive
    - (1) 1 John 2:20-23
    - (2) The focal point of his deception is over the person of Jesus Christ.
    - (3) As long as we're wrong about Jesus, he doesn't care what else we may be right about.
    - (4) 1 John 4:1
    - (5) He is the master of New Ageism, demonism, witchcraft and cultism.
    - (6) The devil's messiah.
  - iv) Destructive
    - (1) 1 John 2:25-25
    - (2) The devil wants to destroy souls and steal from you eternal life.
    - (3) The devil wants to keep you out of Heaven.
  
- 5) OUR LORD IS ON HIS WAY AND YOU NEED TO BE ABIDING (1 John 2:27-28)
  - a) Abiding literally means to be at home.
  - b) Make yourself at home in the Word of God.
    - i) Appreciate the Word of God.
    - ii) Appropriate the Word of God.
    - iii) Assimilate the Word of God.
    - iv) Have a hunger for the Word of God.
    - v) Get the Word of God into the hearts and minds of your children.
  - c) Make yourself at home with the Spirit of God.
    - i) 1 John 2:27
      - (1) The anointing that abides in a Christian is the Spirit of God.
      - ii) The Holy Spirit teaches us to understand the Bible.
      - iii) The Christian has a built in guidance system and he has a built in alarm system; the Holy Spirit.
    - iv) John 14:26
      - (1) The Holy Spirit is called the Comforter.
        - (a) Comforter here means with strength, a fortress.
    - v) Ephesians 4 tells that God gave to the church pastor teachers, but the Holy Spirit is the real teacher.
      - (1) God uses human teachers, but the one who teaches you, the one who really helps you to understand is the Spirit of God.
  - d) Make yourself at home with the Son of God.

- i) 1 John 2:28-29
- ii) Trust Him and obey Him.
- iii) When the Word of God and the Spirit of God make the Son of God real in our hearts, then we have confidence and we're not going to be ashamed when Jesus comes again.
- iv) We need to make ourselves at home in the Word of God, with the Spirit of God, and with the Son of God so that when He appears, we will be meeting someone we know.

## 6) CONCLUSION

- a) The antichrist is coming; be aware.
- b) Jesus is coming; be abiding.
  - i) Abide in the Word of God, with the Spirit of God, and in the Son of God that when He comes, we will have confidence and not be ashamed.
- c) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- d) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
  - i) Romans 3:23
  - ii) Romans 10:9-10
  - iii) Romans 10:13
  - iv) Acts 16:31
  - v) John 3:16