

Radical Last Days

“And this Gospel shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations, and then shall the end come”

The signs of the times point to tumultuous last days, yet many live on with no sense of urgency. Faithful church attendance and good behavior no longer cuts it. The end-time warnings and messages impel us forward to a radical gospel imperative to a revolutionary exchange of personal comfort to an entrepreneurial, end-time witnessing of the gospel. No time to waste.

“In the last days, perilous times shall come” (2 Timothy 3:1); ...there shall be wars and rumors of wars...nation shall rise against nation” (Matt 24:4-7); there shall be false christs and false prophets, famines, pestilences, earthquakes, hurricanes, climate changes, persecution, civil disorder, and increasing violence, as evil spirits appear in humans. “The heart of man, above all things, is deceitful and desperately wicked” (Jer 24: 7). It is at this time that Jesus will put in a sudden appearance, “therefore, be ye also ready, for in such an hour as you think not, Jesus will return” (Matthew 24:44). Elijah prepared Israel for a return to godliness; John prepared Israel for the first advent in the spirit of Elijah, and our task now is to prepare ourselves and the world for the second, last best advent.

Our intellectual head knowledge and cerebral analysis will not carry the day, for “to him that knows to do good and doeth it not, it is folly and shame unto him”. Our responses as churches, schools, organizations and individuals have got to be more dramatic, direct, entrepreneurial and interventionist, for we are waging a war, not merely against principalities and powers, but against spiritual wickedness in the highest places. I call for a radical uprising, an outpouring of evangelistic and witnessing fervor in our schools, churches and organizations with emphases on the end-time buoyed by an allocation of both time and resources to gospel witnessing. The prophet Malachi (3:1; 4:5-6), reaffirms the Elijah message in the call for the church to a godly restoration, and for leadership everywhere to be at the top of its game. That direction is aptly described in Revelation 14 in the messages of the three angels and our duty to share those messages. “Fear God and give glory to Him by preaching the Gospel (Rev 14:7); separate out of the world (Rev 14:8); worship only the true God and keep all His commandments (Rev 14:9). Are we ready then for His coming? Can we give up the gods of excess in television, sports, and work, in exchange for active evangelism, so that Jesus can come for He comes for us today if we die, and we know not when we might. Must the big cities and the hamlets be left to their own destiny? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IjdO-V0mYrU>

THE ELIJAH MESSAGES (adapted from SSN, 2008)

Elijah—Call to reformation and Restoration in 1 Kings 17-18—Reformation through vigilant pray.	John the Baptist—Malachi 3:1; 4:5-7—call to repentance in the spirit of Elijah	God's End-Time People—the Three Angels' Messages of Revelation 14:6-9
Elijah calls Israel to reform through obedience to God's Word in his message to King Ahab. "The effectual prayer of a righteous man avails much" (James 5:17).	Preached repentance to all who would hear with specific reference to leaders in preparation for the First Advent	A call to preach leave Babylon and worship only the true God in preparation for the Second Advent