

## **WHEN ARE 'THE LAST DAYS'?**

### **INTRODUCTION:**

"The last days" has always been a very popular topic! People are constantly being heard discussing whether or not we are NOW living in "the last days." With crime and immorality worsening all around us, it seems that things can't get much worse. Surely God will bring an "end" to things soon, it would seem. But, are THESE really "the last days" mentioned in the Bible? If so, "the last days" of WHAT? Let's look at the what the Bible has to say.

### **I. THE "LAST DAYS" (OR "LATTER DAYS") ARE PREDICTED IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.**

- A. What would be established in "the last days" to which "people of all nations" would go? Isaiah 2:2-4 (See Micah 4:1-5 for similar passage)
- B. To whom would Israel "return and seek" in "the last days"? Hosea 3:5 (Notice: "David", already dead, would be their king).
- C. Who would be "poured out on all people" at a time called "afterward"? Joel 2:28-32 (We will look at this again when considering Acts 2:17ff later)

### **II. WHEN WOULD THESE "LAST DAYS" BEGIN TO BE FULFILLED?**

- A. What did God say He would do "in these last days"? Hebrews 2:1-2. When, then, would "last days" have had their beginning?
  - (1) When is Jesus said to have appeared? Hebrews 9:26 . Would "end of the ages" be PAST or FUTURE from our standpoint?
  - (2) When is Jesus said to have been revealed? I Peter 1:20
- B. When was the Holy Spirit to be "poured out on all people"? Acts 2:14-21. (See Joel 2:28-31). When did this actually happen?
- C. What other conditions would become evident during "last days"?
  - (1) James 5:1-6. (Note: James describes conditions that had already happened)

- (2) I John 2:18. (Note: John called the time he was THEN writing as "the last hour") See I John 4:3
- (3) II Timothy 3:1-7. (Note: Conditions are described as future)
- (4) Jude 16-19. (Note: Conditions are described as future)
- (5) I Timothy 4:1. (Note: Conditions are described as future)

### **III. WHEN WOULD "THE LAST DAYS" CONCLUDE THEIR FULFILLMENT?**

- A. Is Jesus' coming and the judgment represented as occurring BEFORE "the last days"? II Peter 3:3-7
- B. Is the Christian's heavenly inheritance to be revealed BEFORE "the last time"? I Peter 1:3-7
- C. Will "the end" occur BEFORE Jesus comes? I Cor. 15:22-24
- D. When does Martha say the resurrection of the dead would occur? John 11:24 (Note: Jesus did not CORRECT her on this).
- E. When did Jesus say that believers would be raised up? John 6:39-40
- F. When did Jesus say that people would be judged? John 12:48
- G. When did Jesus say the spiritual "harvest" would come? Matthew 13:37-39

### **CONCLUSION:**

From the above Scriptures it would appear that "the last days" BEGAN at the FIRST COMING of Jesus and will conclude at his SECOND COMING! That would mean that people HAVE BEEN and ARE PRESENTLY living in "the last days."