

**Luke 21:25-36**  
**Good Shepherd**  
**November, 2021**

Judgment Day is coming. It will not be like any day we have ever seen before. We don't know when this day will come, but we know that it is closer than it has ever been before. The end of the world is coming, the day of reckoning, the day of our salvation, for some a day of doom. Jesus warns us to be ready for that day. He wants us to know **the signs of the times**.

According to the words of the Lord, the signs of this coming cataclysm are pretty dramatic. There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars. Of course what those signs are aren't spelled out. However, a day is coming when everything, out there, will stop working. Chaos will take over in the skies. Not only that, but the earth itself will be shaken.

Scripture also says that nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring of the seas and the waves. These events are not natural, it is not just a storm. The commotion of the oceans will cause some people to be in torment. People are worried about the ice caps melting. People are worried about the pollution found in the oceans. People are disturbed that life forms are disappearing from the earth. People worry because hurricane activity is increasing.

Scripture says, Men will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. Today people are afraid of many things. Some are even afraid of what they imagine might happen! People are afraid of the changes in our society. Some are afraid of the lawlessness that is prevalent today. Some are afraid of the fast advance of technology. There are those who think we will run out of drinking water. Some are afraid of global warming

and the oceans rising; some are afraid of terrorists, or about a new, far worse pandemic. Some are afraid of war with China. Some are afraid of the Stock Market crashing and the loss of wealth. Some are afraid of fires or a great earthquake. Some are afraid of a volcano erupting in Yellowstone Park. People feel helpless and hopeless.

People are afraid of these things because they have lost the knowledge of God and of His great love for us. Many people do not know God as we know Him. Many don't know that God cares for us and promises to be with us through the good and bad days of this life. So, people are afraid. And that fear, that dismay, that anxiety, that perplexity is a sign that Jesus pointed to as a sure sign that He is coming soon.

The end of the world is a certainty. When the end will come is uncertain. When I mentioned some of the evils which cause terror you might have felt a twinge of fear, but not the way the doom and gloomers feel.

What Jesus tells us is different, When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near. Rather than being fearful, Jesus wants us to be confident. Don't cower in fear! You know what is happening. You know what it means. The end is coming according to the plan of Jesus who loves us more than anyone else ever could! The end of this world will take place, but it won't happen by nuclear war, or global warming, or by a monster rock from outer space. When the time is right the King of Kings will return ending sin's reign on earth and bringing with Him the gift of new life.

When you see the colors in the forests, when you see leaves on the ground instead of on the trees, when the temperatures get colder, you know that everything is normal – Winter is coming. In the same way, when you notice the signs of the

end, you know the return of our King is near!

When Jesus does come, all people will see Him with power and great glory. All people will realize that Jesus has returned as He promised. Some people will be filled with fear. They will know that the one they refused to trust for their salvation, hates sin, their sin, and Jesus knows all their sin. And because of their lack of faith, those unbelievers will be punished – forever. They will want to escape from Jesus, but they won't get away!

Have you ever been terrified? It will be horrible for unbelievers on Judgment Day. Just imagine that you are an unbeliever and Jesus comes and He knows who you are and what you have done, and there is nothing you can do to escape!

But for us, we who trust in Jesus for our salvation, the Jesus we see on Judgment Day is the same Lord who lived for us and died to pay for our sins. The coming Jesus is the One who loves us. We know what will happen. The Word of God tells us. The Lord's love for us is greater than our fear of the unknown. As we watch this world unravel around us, the Lord's love remains certain and His Word remain true!

While we wait for the Lord's coming, there is still danger. Jesus says, Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with dissipation, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you unexpectedly like a trap. For it will come upon all those who live on the face of the whole earth. Be always on the watch, and pray... We can become too concerned about the things of this life. We can worry too much about food, clothing, the latest gadgets, paying our bills, keeping up our homes, repairing the dock, making car payments or worrying about an endless stream of health scares. Jesus doesn't want us to be so distracted by so many

things that we are not prepared for His coming.

If we worry too much about this life, Judgment Day could become a disaster! Picture a mouse scurrying around in the basement, just looking for something to eat, when suddenly snap! A trap snaps shut and a life is ended.

Judgment Day is coming. The more we believe that Jesus is coming soon, the more watchful we will be, the more we will hear and read God's Word, the more we will pray for strength, and the more serious we will become about our Christian life.

On the day our Lord returns we can stand tall because we know who it is that is coming in the clouds with great power. It is the One who love us and has washed away all of our sins. We don't have to be afraid! We can wait confidently and expectantly because our salvation is drawing near!

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