***How Understanding the End Times Can Change Your Life – Part 3***

Scripture has much to say about the future of redemptive history and describes in detail the things that will take place in the generation of Jesus’ return.

The book of Revelation talks about the things that must take place.

Yet these things are not mere happenings but are unfolding dynamics and events which are actively being played out by the Lord for His purposes.

If God is not merely interested in informing us about the future, what then does the Scripture tell us about God’s prophetic declaration, especially through the prophets?

If end-time events are not mere happenings but divine activities by a relational God, then end-time passages give us insight into how we can respond, obey, and cooperate with Him.

There are several places in Scripture that show us what the Lord is after.

The study of the end times is to produce worship (Revelation 19:10); confidence in God’s character and leadership (Isaiah 41:4); knowledge of His righteousness (Isaiah 41:26), His pleasure, and the certainty of His plans (Isaiah 46:10); understanding of His ways (Isaiah 48:3); and the knowledge that, ultimately, the devil didn’t do it (Isaiah 48:5).

These passages call for a response that will result in a bright, victorious witness through the Church during the greatest shaking the world will ever witness (Daniel 12:1). The prophets do not merely give insight into the future like a crystal ball—there is a message that calls for a response and wise cooperation and partnership with God (Daniel 11:32-33).

One of the most well-known end-time passages is about Jesus teaching on the end of the age in the Olivet Discourse in Matthew 24 (also includes Mark 13 and Luke 21). It is often the go-to chapter for insight about the signs of the times, especially when society is in a time of unfolding global socio- and geo-political pressures (such as wars and pandemics) and not without reason.

This great chapter highlights important escalating trends and signs, giving a clear panoramic outlook necessary to discern the times.

I identify three components that make up Matthew 24.

(To be continued.)