

These Perilous Times
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“When You See These Things”

“Now learn a parable of the fig tree; when his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, you know that summer is nigh: So likewise ye, when ye shall see all of these things, know that it is near, even at the door.”

Matthew 24:32&33

Matthew, 24 should be a very familiar chapter to God’s remnant people, preparing to meet the Lord of the universe.

As we are assailed by the all the alarming news reports we should take heed of the warnings that were given hundreds of years ago by our Lord and Savior. We should be more prone to attend Sabbath School, Church, Prayer Meetings, Cottage Meetings, and Evangelistic Meetings et cetera.

As we see last day events unfurl before our very eyes we are admonished in Hebrews to assemble together as we see the day approaching.¹

What does this mean for us?

¹ Hebrews 10:24&25

Obvious Signs Do Tell The Season

With all the unrest in the world today, over politics, trade union's/collective bargaining, immorality, insurance coverage and fraud, natural resources, and natural disasters, wars and rumors of them, just to name a few, the stress level of people everywhere is highly agitated, {even among Christians}.

Jesus forewarned us that just before he comes to take us to our heavenly home, the prophecies that He spoke would be made manifest.

"And now I have told you before it come to pass, that when it is come to pass, ye might believe." John 14:29

Not to be an alarmist, but to put God's people on alert, and warn them of these last-day fulfillments of prophecy for their safety, I've been impressed by God's Spirit to quote admonitions to the church by God's chosen messenger.

Obesity

"Gluttony and intemperance lie at the condition of the great moral depravity in our world. Satan is aware of this and he is constantly

tempting men and woman to indulge the taste at the expense of health and even life itself..."²

Intemperance and outward adornment

Eating, drinking, and dressing are made the aim of life with the world. Just such a state of things existed before the Flood. And this state of dissipation is one of the marked evidences of the soon close of this earth's history."³

In the last days perilous times will come."⁴

Violence

"In the days of Noah the overwhelming majority was opposed to truth, and enamored with a tissue of falsehoods. The land was filled with violence. War, crime, murder, was the order of the day. Just so will it be before Christ's second coming."⁵

Earthquakes, fires, and floods

"How frequently we hear of earthquakes and tornadoes, of destruction by fire and flood, with great loss of life and property. Apparently these calamities are capricious outbreaks of disorganized, unregulated forces of nature.

² E. G. White, Letter 34, 1875.

³ Ibid, 1875.

⁴ II Timothy 3:1-5

⁵ White, 1BC 1090, 1903.

Wholly beyond the control of man, but in them all God's purpose may be read. They are among the agencies by which He seeks to arouse men and women to a sense of their danger." ⁶

As we see these calamities appear more frequently, and having more intensity, we should spend more time praying and assembling together for encouragement and strength. If we don't we will become oblivious of their prophetic significance-to awaken us out of spiritual coma.

Not only are we to be awakened, but those with whom we come in contact with as well.

"Servants of God, with their faces lighted up and shining with holy consecration, will hasten from place to place to proclaim the message from heaven. By thousands of voices, all over the earth, the warning will be given. Miracles will be wrought, the sick will be healed, and signs and wonders will follow the believers." ⁷

Do you see what I see?

⁶ White, Prophets and Kings, p.277, {1914}.

⁷ White, The Great Controversy, pp. 611&612, {1911}.