**These Perilous Times**

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**“When You See These Things”**

**Part II**

 Another massive wild fire over the past few weeks, burning in California, has consumed hundreds of precious forested acres! The city of Houston, Texas is experiencing flooding once again! A terrorist attack on Saudi Arabia’s oil supply is directly affecting the U.S. and global economy! Murder rates in many U.S. cities are not descending, but escalating! Headline News of dishonesty, greed, and fraud in our educational system is becoming a common occurrence (especially among institutions of “higher learning”)!

 Tobacco (E-cigarettes/vaping) and alcohol sales, causing addiction among our youth is skyrocketing! Health destroying drugs of choice are okay-they are legal, and their sales are such an enormous boost to the U.S. economy (sarcasm intended)! They (legal drugs) create enormous revenues for *smoke shops*, *liquor stores*, *bars,* *night clubs*, *pharmaceutical companies* and many *super* *markets*! The use of certain “legal” drugs are guaranteed to keep our hospitals, mental institutions, funeral parlors, and health-care providers quite busy with a “high” influx of new patients!

**What does this mean for us?**

**Obvious Signs Do Tell The Season**

 Although the previously mentioned catastrophes and sinful epidemics may no longer shock our systems, they are still wicked in the sight of the Lord. *These signs* should be a temperature gage that God’s “remnant people” use to measure the moral decline of our society, and closeness of our Lord’s return!

 If these current trends toward evil aren’t enough to get our attention, it’s time to plead with our Lord for spiritual discernment every waking hour of the day! Because many drugs are legal (I’m not speaking of necessary prescribed medications) according to the worldly governments, doesn’t make sin alright with God’s Heavenly Government!

“For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God.” [[1]](#footnote-1)

“And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth *distress* of nations, with *perplexity*, the sea and the waves roaring; men’s hearts *failing them for fear*, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth… And when these things begin to come to pass, then *look up*, and *lift up your heads*; *for your redemption draweth nigh*.” Luke 21:25-28 KJV

(Emphasis supplied)

**Counsel from God’s inspired messenger**

 “I was shown that a terrible condition of things exists in our world. The angel of mercy is folding her wings, ready to depart… We hear of confusion and perplexity, want and famine, earthquakes and floods… Already fire and floods are destroying thousands of lives… The end is near probation is closing. Oh, let us seek God while He may be found, and call on Him while He is near.” [[2]](#footnote-2)

 Many years ago my dad once said to me, “Boy, don’t put off until tomorrow what you can accomplish today.” I’m certain he didn’t coin that phrase but it sure makes a lot of sense concerning the time in which we are now living.

“…and when you begin to see all these things know that it is near, even at the doors.” [[3]](#footnote-3)



1. I Cor. 3:19. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. E. G. White. Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 8, Mountain View CA,

 Pacific Press Publishing Assn., 1848, pp. 49-53. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Matthew 24:33. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)