



Session 1

Introduction & Overview

I. The most important generation in history

A. Transitional Generations

1. God reveals Himself in a new way
 - a. Radical shift in how people relate to Him
 - b. Noah - Gen (God grieved over mankind)
 - c. Jesus' 1st coming - (God Himself paid the price for sin to restore relationship)
 - d. Jesus' 2nd coming - (Consummation of Justice and Righteousness)
2. Witness to the power and activity of God on a regular basis.
 - a. Escorting the people of God into a new season of redemptive history
 - b. Usually contain both God's judgment and redemption
 - c. Noah - Gen (God's power unleashed in bring judgment)
 - d. 1st coming - (Demonstrations of power, healing, Holy Spirit, redemption)
 - e. 2nd coming - (Cataclysmic upheaval, Holy Spirit empowered Church)
3. People of God are required to respond in a greater measure to the revelation that God is releasing in their midst
 - a. Noah - (Build the ark, enter the ark)
 - b. 1st coming - (Believe and respond to Jesus as God and Savior,)
 - c. 2nd coming - (Hearts that are ready for the extremes, extreme obedience, extreme martyrdom)
4. God sends forerunners to prepare the people of God for the transition.
 - a. The transition is proclaimed over decades but when it comes, it comes suddenly.
 - (1) Amos 3:7-8
 - b. Noah
 - (1) 2 Pet 2:4-5
 - c. 1st coming
 - (1) Malachi 4:6
 - (2) Luke 1:16-17
 - (3) Luke 1:26f
 - (4) Luke 1:76f
 - (5) Luke 2:11

- (6) Luke 2:25f
- (7) Luke 2:36f
- (8) Luke 3:4f

d. 2nd coming

- (1) Rev 11
- (2) Rising army of forerunners - preparing the way.

B. Three questions for this generation

- 1. Can this generation know?
- 2. Should this generation know?
- 3. How can this generation know?

II. Can we know if we are in this generation?

A. Common reasons why people shy away from studying this topic

- 1. A common lie: There's not much biblical information on the subject.
- 2. A common fear: The fear of facing the mountain of evidence and multitude of opinions.
 - a. "I cannot understand it anyway because no one understands it."
- 3. A common accusation: People who study the end-times get weird.
 - a. "I don't want to be seen as weird." The fear of man seeks to be politically correct. This topic is not politically correct.
- 4. A common misconception: Studying the end-times will divert the Church's attention from the primary call of the Church to fulfill the Great Commission.
 - a. "I don't have time to spend studying the end-times, I need to focus on the immediate needs of my family, the lost, and the poor." Wrong ideas about how it will minimize the work of the kingdom
- 5. A common response: People have been saying Jesus would return for 2000 years.
 - a. The mocking spirit is increasing in the world today even greatly infesting the Church. 2 Peter 2:3-5
- 6. A common deception: Jesus us told us not to be overly concerned and caught up with the end-times.
 - a. "Didn't Jesus discourage us from seeking to understand when He was returning. In fact, didn't He tell us that we cannot know the day or the hour and should not seek to know the times and seasons set by the Father."

B. What did Jesus actually say?

- 1. Matt 24:36
 - a. Importance of the context
 - (1) During His last week
 - (2) He had just castigated the religious leaders for their hypocrisy and failure to recognize Him.
 - (3) Lament over Jerusalem
 - (a) includes a condition for His return
 - (b) Luke 19:44 You did not know the time of your visitation.
 - (4) Question of His coming

- (5) His answer
- b. What else did He say?
 - (1) Do not be deceived
 - (2) Braxton Hicks Birth pangs - 24:2-8
 - (a) False Christs
 - (b) Wars, rumors of war
 - (c) Famines & Earthquakes
 - (3) Birth Pangs - 24:9-14 (Beginning of 7 years)
 - (a) Christians delivered up to tribulation
 - (b) Martyrdom
 - (c) Hated by all nations for the name of Christ
 - (d) Great falling away, betrayal, hatred
 - (e) False prophets leading many astray
 - (f) Lawlessness increased
 - (g) Love grows cold
 - (h) Gospel of the Kingdom proclaimed to the whole world
 - (4) Hard labor – 24:15-28
 - (a) 3.5 Years (The Great Tribulation)
 - (b) Abomination of Desolation
 - (c) Tribulation that has never been seen, and never will be again.
 - (d) Great false signs and wonders to lead many astray
 - (e) See, I have told you beforehand!
 - (f) Don't be deceived, for I will come in such a way the whole world will know it!
 - (5) The Transition – 30 days 24:29-31 -
 - (a) Immediately after the tribulation of that day...
 - (b) Cosmic events (of the bowls of wrath)
 - (c) The whole earth will see Him coming in the clouds
 - (d) He will gather His own in the air
 - (e) He marches on Jerusalem to defeat the Antichrist and his armies
 - (6) Consider the fig tree – 24:32-41
 - (a) When you see these things, you know He is near!
 - (b) This generation will not pass away until all of this takes place
 - (c) Luke 12:54
 - (d) Mt 24:36 "But concerning that day and hour, no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only."
 - (e) For as in the days of Noah...
- c. What He didn't say
 - (1) He didn't say no one would ever know
 - (2) He didn't say no one could know

- (3) He simply said at that time: No one knows. I don't even know at this moment.
 - d. What He did say
 - (1) Mt 24:25
 - (2) Mk 13:23
 - (3) Watch!
- 2. If we couldn't know then why all the prophetic passages?
 - a. 150 chapters – download from erhop.org
- 3. Matt 24
 - a. When you see these things...
 - b. Consider the fig tree
 - c. As in the days of Noah
 - (1) What did Noah know and when?
 - (a) 120 years
 - (b) 100 years
 - (c) 7 days
 - (2) What happened to those who didn't pay attention to Noah's preaching and activity?
 - (3) They could have and should have known.
 - d. LOOK, I have told you beforehand!
 - e. Luke 21:28 Now when you see these things begin to take place... straighten up and raise your heads because your redemption is drawing near.