

self-control is very evident in our hedonistic society.

One example is that schools freely distribute birth control devices under the premise that “kids are going to do it anyhow, so make it safer”. This mentality is tantamount to calling the children animals. It is an admission that they don't have and will not exercise any self-control.

Examples of a lack of discipline are endless; drinking, road rage, over eating, swearing, etc.

Is there an application to our modern Christianity? Is there a lack of self-control that the church should be aware of?

“Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you.” (2 Corinthians 6:17)

“Abstain from all appearance of evil.”
(1 Thessalonians 5:22)

In the light of these passages, we can see that some parts of the Christian church are looking **more and more like the world**, and **less and less separate**.

Does a desire for the world and worldly style pleasures reflect incontinence?

Is this a sign of a lack of self-control?

Conclusion:

Upon reviewing the signs of the “last days”, it is abundantly clear that we are in them!

Every characteristic that God WARNS us against has at some level been embraced and endorsed by parts of the church today.

Indeed true Christians must...

“Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.” (2 Timothy 3:5)

* Strong's - this is a reference to the Strong's Exhaustive Concordance which provides definitions for every word in the Bible.



By: Robert Dallmann

*“This know also, that **in the last days perilous times shall come.** (2) For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, (3) Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, (4) Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; (5) Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: **from such turn away.**”*
(2 Timothy 3:1-5)

This is the third part in this series, and is a continuation of our review of these signs of the perilous times in which we live. We are looking at the marks of the “last days”.

Sadly, the church today often teaches and endorses what the Bible warns **AGAINST**.

True believers must not embrace the ways of the world!

The key for real Christians is to remember that we must recognize these signs and **KEEP AWAY** from people who embrace and promote them. The last two words of the passage quoted above are “turn away”. This phrase means...

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PERILOUS TIMES! LAST DAYS WARNINGS! PART 3

“Turn away” - Strong's G665 - apotrepo - “to turn one's self away from - to shun, avoid”

God fearing believers should shun and avoid attachments to those who fall into these categories and to the philosophies and ideas that endorse these types of pursuits.

In this message (Part 3 of the series) we are studying the following characteristics of the “last days”. “Without natural affection”, “Trucebreakers”, “False accusers”, and “Incontinent”.

“Without natural affection” - Strong's G794 - astorgos - “without natural affection, unsociable, inhuman, unloving”

This Greek word is only used in two verses in the Bible, Romans 1:31 and 2 Timothy 3:3. In both cases it is amid a list of behaviors that are ungodly and need to be recognized and avoided.

This inhuman and unloving behavior is readily seen in the world, but when we look at the other items in these two lists, we can also see that it has crept into the church.

Increasingly our society becomes less sociable. With the advancement of social media, our face-to-face interactions continue to dwindle.

The internet can of course be used for great good; however, it should not replace our ability to lovingly interact with other believers.

Take a good look at the list in Romans chapter 1 along with this list in 2 Timothy... and avoid those who dwell in the characteristics of the “last days”.

“Trucebreakers” - Strong's G786 - aspondos - “without a treaty or covenant - that cannot be persuaded to enter into a covenant, implacable”

God has offered an everlasting covenant to people, which has been available since the foundation of the world. Clearly today we see throughout the earth multitudes who reject the offered covenant.

“Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant,” (Hebrews 13:20)

It is easy to see how the lost have rejected the Covenant in the Blood of Jesus, but is there an application for believers?

If one watches evangelists on TV often the preaching is a bloodless message. The Cross of Jesus in some cases is rarely mentioned and the need for repentance is often avoided.

Could this be a sign of the “last days”?

“False accusers” - Strong's G1228 - diabolos - “prone to slander, slanderous, accusing falsely - false accuser, slanderer, - metaph. applied to a man who, by opposing the cause of God, may be said to act the part of the devil or to side with him”

The next mark of the “last days” is making false accusations. This Greek word is often translated as “devil”. Obviously this is a very serious sign.

It is abundantly evident that many stand in opposition to the cause of God. Multitudes question God, the Bible, and even basic godly morals that used to be widely accepted. It seems that many things which used to be called “good” are now labeled as “evil”, and that which was “evil” is now identified as “good”.

False accusations are leveled against Christians throughout the world. Claims of intolerance and hate can be found in the media regularly.

But what about inside the church? Can false charges be found within the bounds of Christendom?

Sadly, it is true. One of the prime examples is the making of false accusations against God Himself!

Often a Bible passage can be quoted without any commentary, and another Christian will say something like, “Well, God didn't really mean that!”

Does this represent an accusation against God?

“For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires,” (2 Timothy 4:3)

“Incontinent” - Strong's G193 - akrates - “without self-control, intemperate”

This passage in 2 Timothy is the only time this word is used in the Bible. An abundant lack of