

# **The Last Days: Evil Will Increase Before the End**

## **End Times Series #1**

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Introduction:

Review the story of Genesis 1-5 using pictures.

Review the account of Noah and the Flood from Genesis 6-9 using pictures.

### **Read Genesis 6:1-4**

In this passage we see that world was becoming exceedingly wicked. The evil was so great that some of the fallen angels that were living on the earth committed consensual sexual sin with women. Apparently these angels either possessed men for this purpose or took the form of man and committed wickedness which resulted in a race of man that was much larger than that God had created. This race began to oppress others becoming mighty men or renown.

### **Read Jude 6-7**

This passage shows us that some of the fallen angels had left their place of habitation and committed the sins of Sodom and Gomorrah. These angels were cast into hell and await judgment. This passage refers to Genesis 6:1-4.

### **Read Genesis 6:5-7**

One of the works of the Holy Spirit is the work of restraining evil in the world. The Holy Spirit resists evil according to God's will and keeps it from completely controlling the world. This is God's grace and mercy at work within the world.

Though God is indeed full of grace and mercy, this does not mean that He does not judge sin. The sin of mankind was so great that God deemed it worthy of only one thing—total destruction.

### **Read Genesis 6:9-10**

Noah was the last remaining man of righteousness, standing alone amidst all of the great evil. God chose Noah to be the one through whom He guarded His promise of a coming Savior for mankind.

### **Read Genesis 6:11-13**

Mankind had corrupted God's creation. Violence, the opposite of love, was everywhere: murder, hate, fighting, rape, slavery, persecution, oppression, etc. The word used to describe the specific sin is cruel violence. Natural love and affection were gone.

Today's world may not yet be as bad as it was in Noah's day, but it is rapidly increasing in all of these kinds of sins—right now. The institution of slavery may not be recognized in the world, but slavery is worse now than it has ever been, especially in the form of sexual slavery.

Emphasize the rampant sins of sexual sin and slavery in Cambodia itself and around the world.

### **Read Psalm 11:5**

We must remember that, although God does indeed love the world and every single person in it, He also hates sinners. The specific sin mentioned in this verse is the cruel violence that we are talking about. Only God can love and hate at the same time, for He is just and holy.

Summarize again the Great Flood and God's promise of mercy until the great Day of the Lord.

### **Read Matthew 24:36-44**

Jesus compares His second coming to judge the earth with God's judgment during the time of Noah. The evil of the earth in that day will demand judgment, and judgment will come quickly upon it. People will be going about their business and pleasure as usual when the Day of the Lord will come suddenly upon them. The Lord wills that His coming will be like that of a thief to those that have not believed His words. God wants us to have faith and watch and wait for His coming.

### **Read 2 Timothy 3:1-5, 12-13**

We live right now in the time that the New Testament refers to as the "last days", the time before the great Day of the Lord. Evil and every form of sin will grow more and more intense all over the earth before Jesus comes to judge. Man's attempts to correct evil through NGOs, economic sanctions, the UN, alliances, will mean less and less in thwarting evil as the time draws near.

### **Read 2 Thessalonians 2:7**

The Holy Spirit continues the work of restraining evil in the world according to God's plan. He will continue this work until the Day of the Lord comes. Immediately before the Day of the Lord, Jesus will come to take His people to be with Him. The Holy Spirit will cease His striving with man and Satan will have full sway over the unbelieving world for the first time in

history. All of the salt and light of God's people will be gone in an instant and only evil will remain. And yet, God will still save many in the tribulation that will follow.

**Conclusion:**

**Read 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17**

Should we despair over these realities? No! We must find our peace and joy in the love of God and in hope of our inheritance with Christ, not in this world or in hopes of the world becoming a better place. We must find our comfort in God and in His eternal truth.