

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

SIGNS OF THE END TIMES

RLJ-1193

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PART 3: MANY SHALL BE OFFENDED

In January of 2004, I started a series entitled, "Signs of the End Times." I preached two sermons until God gave me another assignment and I never finished the series. Five years later the Holy Spirit has lead me back to finish what I started because much has happened in that time.

In 2004 no American could foresee that in just a few years the housing market would collapse and bring down the entire economy. Who would have believed that the mighty General Motors would end up in bankruptcy, be forced to sell off much of its assets and be taken over the U.S. government or that Chrysler would go belly up and sold off to Fiat of Italy?

Unemployment is currently at an all time high of 9.5% and rising. In city after city, county after county, police and firefighters are being laid off, juvenile detention centers closing with the offenders being sent back out on the streets, even adult prison inmates are being let go.

In today's job market no one is talking about getting a raise, instead, most people are willing to take a pay cut just to save their jobs.

America has been humbled and this is just the beginning. A portion of Jesus' prophecy has come true in America and in other nations around the world. (**Luke 21:25-26**) We are in a world wide recession that is rapidly developing into a deep depression. Here is what I wrote in 2004:

Christians in the United States are currently living in a state of a "honeymoon." We are reaping the benefits of the great revivals, which swept America from 1800 through 1950. That sweet time will be over one day unless the current generation turns back en masse to the Lord. The Word of God cannot be broken.

Deuteronomy 28:1-15

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SIGNS OF THE END TIMES

Here are the signs that I have covered:

1. Deception – **Matthew 24:4-5**
2. Wars and Rumors of Wars – **verse 6**
3. Famines, Earthquakes & Pestilences – **verse 7**



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THE SIGN OF OFFENCE

The spirit of offence is a powerful demonic class in Satan's kingdom. They have been working on human beings for some 7,000 years and have honed their skills to perfection. **Matthew 24:9-10**

Jesus said that offense would come in conjunction with persecution. Up to a few years ago, there was not that much persecution in the United States. The enemy worked behind the scenes and through the courts in our nation. The Bible was removed from our public schools and prayer followed afterward. The assault continued once these fundamental Christian pillars were removed from public schools and all Federal and State governments. Christmas displays can have everything in it except a reference to Jesus. If there is prayer in a public gathering, the name of Jesus cannot be in it.

The end result was that Christians were frowned upon and ridiculed, which caused many to be offended and unwilling to publicly state that they were born again Christians. They had forgotten the words of Jesus. **Matthew 10:32-33**

When abortion was legalized in 1973, a fierce battle began as more and more laws came on the books protecting abortionists and their centers of operation. In the 1980's, five prominent pro-life leaders were arrested in Sacramento for violating zoning laws, and during the trial, they were found guilty of violating laws protecting the people performing murders and were fined heavily. Additionally, to satisfy the court, their homes and other possessions were taken from them and sold in order to give the money to the abortion providers. These five outstanding American citizens were stripped of all their financial assets and reduced to beggars. **Many Christians were offended and started to hate the pro-life people!** They had forgotten the words of Jesus. **Matthew 10:16-26**

Once Barack Obama had been installed as president, it didn't take long for the Department of Homeland Security to officially label all Bible believing Christians as "possible terrorists." This was the first step on the road to a total ban of Christianity during the time of the reign of the Antichrist. **Revelation 13:4-9**

The warning of betrayal and offense should not be taken lightly. Jesus walked and lived with His disciples for some 3.5 years. They had seen all the miracles and even performed miracles themselves, yet when it came down to the moment of truth, they all abandoned Him and ran away. **Matthew 26:56**

It was not until they had repented and been baptized with the Holy Spirit that they no longer caved in to pressure. **Acts 4:7-31**

Have you been baptized in the Holy Spirit?

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

DO YOU HAVE AN EAR TO HEAR WITH?