

right where He wants us

The People of God in Times Like These

Actively Obedient

3 But understand this, that **in the last days** there will come times of difficulty. ²For **people will be** lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, ⁴treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, ⁵having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people. ⁶For among them are those who creep into households and capture weak women, burdened with sins and led astray by various passions, ⁷always learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth. ⁸Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these men also oppose the truth, men corrupted in mind and disqualified regarding the faith. ⁹But they will not get very far, for their folly will be plain to all, as was that of those two men.

¹⁰**You, however**, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, ¹¹my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra—which persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. ¹²Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, ¹³while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. ¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3

“We live in the twilight of a great civilization, amid the deepening decline of modern culture.

... We are steeped in the antichrist philosophy – namely, that success consists in embracing not the values of the Sermon on the Mount but an infinity of material things, of sex and status – that we little sense how much of what passes for practical Christianity is really an apostate compromise with the spirit of the age.

Our generation is lost to the truth of God, to the reality of divine revelation, to the content of God’s will, to the power of His redemption, and to the authority of His Word. For this loss it is paying dearly in a swift relapse to paganism. The savages are stirring again; you can hear them rumbling and rustling in the tempo of our times.”

- Carl F.H. Henry, *Twilight of a Great Civilization: The Drift Towards Neo-Paganism*, p. 15 (1988)

Last Days People:

Have no greater aim than _____ and _____ ...

1) lovers of _____

2) lovers of _____

3) lovers of _____

4) lovers of _____

Have no regard for _____ or _____ ...

Have a disdain for _____ ...

Have no _____ ...

The representative list:

- *slanderers*
- *ungovernable*
- *untamed*
- *haters of good*

- *treacherous*
- *reckless*
- *arrogant*

Have a bogus “_____”.

You, however ...

... have a _____ to follow

... need a willingness to be _____

... need an understanding of the _____ of our times

... must _____ in the _____ as found in _____.

3 challenges: (Adapted from Henry)

1. Don't go _____ or _____ with our faith ... we must _____ what we believe and publicly _____ what we believe ...
2. Wed _____, _____, and _____ ...
If we abandon education ...
And if we abandon the sociopolitical realm ...
All the while we know that what's wrong with modern man is ...
3. Remember our _____ – God's Word ...

“Unless evangelical Christians break out of their cultural isolation, unless we find new momentum in the modern world, we may just find ourselves so much on the margin of the mainstream movements of modern history that soon ours will be virtually a Dead Sea Caves community. Our supposed spiritual vitalities will be known only to ourselves, and publicly we will be laughed at as a quaint but obsolescent remnant from the past.

... Future historians may well look back upon our own lifetime as that very point in church history when Christian churches forfeited their greatest spiritual opportunity since the apostolic age by making a fetish of church union, devoting millions upon millions of dollars to ecclesiastical administration and buildings, sounding an unclear gospel from a blurred bible, debating the task of Christianity in the world on the mass media, and all the while losing evangelistic momentum.”

- Carl F.H. Henry, *Twilight of a Great Civilization: The Drift Towards Neo-Paganism*, p. 19 (1988)