

# sermon notes

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Pastor Mike Morris, Verse By Verse Fellowship | September 15, 2024  
What Should We Expect in the Last Days? | **2 Timothy 3:1-9**

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A Faithful Follower of Christ:

1. Expect the times to be \_\_\_\_\_
2. Expect people to be \_\_\_\_\_
3. Expect to encounter \_\_\_\_\_

## Questions for Further Application of God's Word:

### GO DEEPER

Paul says that in the last days, people will be lovers of self, of money, and of pleasure rather than lovers of God. When asked which commandment in the Law was the greatest, Jesus said, "And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment." (Matthew 22.37-38) Why are people so prone to love someone or something else first, before God? Is it possible for even Christians to make that mistake – to place someone or something else before the Lord? When we recognize that we've made that mistake, what must we do?

### GET PERSONAL

When have you encountered times or seasons of difficulty in your Christian walk, even intense difficulty? Think back to the experience. What happened? Who was involved? Why do you think you experienced hardship or persecution? Under pressure, each of us might respond or react in a number of ways. How did you respond in that moment? How was faith part of your response?

### PUT INTO PRACTICE

Spiritual maturity is critical to rejecting the false teachings that can come our way. What do the Scriptures teach about growing in maturity in our faith? How can we draw closer to Jesus as His disciples? Read and consider Matthew 5-7, Matthew 16.24-26, and Luke 14.25-33. Part of that spiritual maturity is putting into practice Paul's admonition to "avoid such people." Since we cannot go out of the world to avoid sin, and are to take the gospel to the world, what does it mean to "avoid such people"? How can we do that while respecting our call to evangelism? What will need to change in your relationships with those who do not know Jesus?

### ADVANCED QUESTIONS

1 John 4.1-3 says Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. 2 By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, 3 and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. How can we apply this instruction today? What should Christians watch for when judging and interacting with religious teachers? How can we recognize false teachers?

