

Understanding the Times & Living Faithfully

1. Understand the Times

- **The last days have been inaugurated:** with Christ's coming & the gift of the Spirit (Ac 2:27; 2Ti 3:1; Heb 1:2; Jm 5:6; 2Pe 3:3)

- **This present age is characterized by tribulation:** & will end with great tribulation (Mt 24:3ff; Ac 14:22; Ro 1:18ff; 5:3; 2Co 1:3f; 1Th 1:6; 2Th 1:4; 2Ti 3:1ff; Heb 10:32ff; Rev 1:9; 2:9f; 7:14; 13:1ff; 17:1ff; 18:1ff)

- **Victory comes thru suffering (2Tim 1:8; 2:3, 3:12)**

Rev 5: **the Lion conquers** as the Lamb who was slain

Rev 7: **144k are sealed;** Great multitude comes out of the great tribulation

Rev 11: **the Temple is measured;** the Holy City is trampled

Rev 11: **the Fire-breathing prophets** are Martyred **(then resurrected)**

Rev 12: **the Woman is nourished;** her Offspring is attacked by the dragon

Rev 13: **the *Saints** are Conquered by the beast

(*whose names are written in the Lamb's book of Life)

2. Do not "Fellowship" with the Ungodly

- **Examples of the ungodly:**
idolaters, pride-ful, rebellious, cruel, religious hypocrites

- **Avoid such people:** love all people, but do not "fellowship" with those whose hearts & lifestyles are characterized by sin

3. Recognize the Sinfulness of False Teachers

- they **prey** on the **vulnerable**

- they are **opposed** to the **truth**

- they are **not** true **believers**

- their **folly** will be evident to all
(to those who follow Christ & love the truth)