

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH

www.crbiblebaptist.com
Independent, Dispensational, Evangelistic, Missionary
5037 Center Pt. Rd. NE Cedar Rapids, IA 52402
319-393-4638

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In Luke 21, Jesus told his disciples about events that were coming in the future. He told them about the destruction of the temple (v.6) which occurred in 70 A.D. He told them about signs that would precede his second coming (v.7-11 and v.25-27), and he told them about “the times of the Gentiles” (v.12-24). He gave them instructions (v.28, 36), encouragement (v.29-33), and warnings (v.34-35). This was a full-course spiritual meal with plenty to chew on. Many have been chewing and choking on this and similar passages for centuries. I would like to expound (and not choke) on the phrase “times of the Gentiles.”

Luke 21:24 - And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.

In this verse, Jesus tells us that until the end of the “times of the Gentiles,” Jerusalem will be “trodden down” of them. Today, Jerusalem is a divided city, and the Gentiles are still occupying it. Therefore, we are currently in the times of the Gentiles and will be until the Lord comes back and establishes his throne there.

The times of the Gentiles started when Nebuchadnezzar destroyed Jerusalem in approximately 606 B.C. and will end at the 2nd Advent of Jesus Christ. The 2nd Advent is described in Revelation 19:11-20:4. Jesus Christ will come back to this earth, destroy the antichrist and his armies, and set up his throne in Jerusalem. It is the most anticipated day in all of biblical prophecy and spoken of throughout the scriptures.

Prior to the 2nd Advent, Christians are anticipating another great day known as the rapture. The rapture is described in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 and 1 Corinthians 15:51-58. Since Jesus gave his disciples signs that would precede the 2nd Advent, and we know that the rapture also precedes the 2nd Advent, when we see the signs that he described, we know that the time of the rapture is also approaching. The illustration is something like this: If I’m driving from Cedar Rapids to Albert Lea, MN, and I see a sign that says “Minneapolis 200 miles,” then I see another sign that says “Minneapolis 100 miles,” I know that I’m getting closer to Alber Lea because it is between Cedar Rapids and Minneapolis. Therefore, if we see signs for Christ’s second coming, we know the rapture must be getting close!

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL CHURCH

Luke 21:28 - And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.

“WHO IS AS THE WISE MAN”

Ecclesiastes 8:1-5

I. The wise man obeys God (v.1, 5)

II. The wise man is not in a hurry (v.3)

III. The wise man looks to the word for direction (v.4)

IV. The wise man discerns the time (v.5; Ecclesiastes 3:1-11)

V. The wise man judges rightly (v.5)

This evening at 5:00 **Overcoming the Foe**

Monday at 4:45 Hiawatha Care Center

Wed. at 5:30 Visitation

Wed. at 7:00 Bible Study and Prayer

Missionary of the week:

There are John & Romans booklets available.

Please pray God will bless our efforts to reach more people.

Isa 55:10 For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater:

Isa 55:11 **So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.**