



# UNDERSTANDING THE TIMES

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1 Chr. 12:32 And of the children of Issachar, which were men that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do; the heads of them were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their commandment.

# Understanding the times

- ❖ What we are facing in this time is a departure from the faith. Many that once believed are now falling away. *1 Tim. 4:1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;*
- ❖ Men have been provoked to wrath. Because they lack paternal guidance and masculine role models, they are angry and enraged. *Col. 3:21 Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged.*
- ❖ Bad decisions are creating bad situations for many. Instead of allowing God to work on them, their pride causes them to search for answers in their own heads and use their own understanding instead of being taught. *Prov. 18:2 Fools have no interest in understanding; they only want to air their own opinions.*



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# Knowing what to do

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- ❖ Wisdom is available for anyone who desires it. However, those who refuse to submit to authority and leadership, usually block their own access to wisdom and guidance. *Prov. 21:24 Proud and haughty scorner is his name, who dealeth in proud wrath.*
- ❖ God will speak through His leaders and when men chose to be defiant, they become their own guides. *Prov. 12:15 The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise.*
- ❖ Men do not know what to do, so they get angry. Their anger causes them to make decisions that they regret which pushes them further into fear and doubt. This makes it even harder to get back on track and submit to God's authority. *Eccl. 7:9 Be not hasty in thy spirit to be angry: for anger resteth in the bosom of fools.*

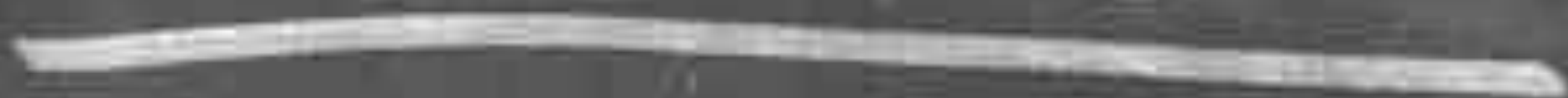


# All their brethren at their commandment

- ❖ The children of Issachar that wanted guidance, followed the leadership of the brethren that God appointed over them. *Heb. 13:17 Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.*
- ❖ Many people want to end biblical religion because they don't want to follow leadership because of their experiences with previous leaders. *Heb. 10:25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.*
- ❖ People desire to create their own spirituality and totally disregard leadership and fellowship. They believe that, in spite of their constant error in judgment, inconsistent behavior, bad decisions, lustful desires, emotional instability, lack of understanding, knowledge depravity, family drama, fatherless issues, etc. they should be followed, supported, and leaders of others. *1Tim. 3:2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;*



Summary



The problem with our world today is that people have given up on God's way. Many have decided that the internet is a better source for church than physical fellowship with the saints. These newfound beliefs (BHI, 5%, NOI, etc.) seek out men that have been hurt by Christianity or let down by the Christian church and give them false beliefs of being greater than others. They make them feel that they are special and have been lied to about their true worth. Men with low self-worth fall for this and accept the teachings because they can excel in these belief systems without ever being moral or renouncing carnal habits and desires. Because most of them lacked authority and true leadership in their upbringing, they are comfortable believing that these things aren't required to have God. Even some Christians have left the church because they do not want to submit to authority. They stay home and get fed by internet preaching and totally forsake the fellowship of God's people. They lack strength and true understanding because they will not submit to God's system of fellowship and leadership.

These people are easily led astray by their emotions and manipulated by the media and the powers that be. They run to protests and organized gatherings against social issues but ignore the issues that they are causing. They pay more attention to issues outside of their homes than their own issues. They want to deal with problems that they are not responsible for, instead of dealing with the problems that they are causing. They neglect what their families really need and replace it with what they want. They have knowledge but never truly understand that the problem is THEM! Until we deal with ourselves, we cannot march for others. Until we adhere to God's plan, we will continue to cause issues to march against. Until we point the finger at ourselves and line up with God's will for all believers, we will continue to be at fault for the ills of our society.



Mark 13:4 Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign when all these things shall be fulfilled?

Mark 13:5 And Jesus answering them began to say, Take heed lest any man deceive you:

Mark 13:6 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.

Mark 13:7 And when ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars, be ye not troubled: for such things must needs be; but the end shall not be yet.

Mark 13:8 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be earthquakes in divers places, and there shall be famines and troubles: these are the beginnings of sorrows.