

I. Diligent to Discern

- A. Held Accountable - For the most part, the church in the west lives under the lackadaisical cloud of a “who knows” attitude when it comes to eschatological prophecy. The problem with this stance is that it is an absolute affront to the command, expectation, and necessity for God's people to discern and respond to the signs of the times. (Lk. 12:47-48, 19:43-44; Mat. 25:14-29)
- B. Gracious Help - God assures us that He has given and will give an abundance of help to those who are humbly and sincerely seeking clarity in discerning the signs of the times and the corresponding response. The promise of eschatological discernment and response is clear and should give the church unshakable confidence in their desire to pursue it. (Is. 42:9; Jhn 16:13)

II. Evaluating Current Events in Light of Prophecy

- A. Eyes on Israel - Almost all prophetic signposts in scripture concerning the times and seasons of the Lord's return revolve around Israel and the Jewish people. The ignorance of the church in their discernment of this is somewhat understandable up until 1948, when after hundreds of years God established Israel as a recognized nation again. This event should have marked a very distinct season within Christianity as literal interpretation of end time events became remarkably foreseeable.
 - NOTE - By no means is this an endorsement of Israeli activities or policies, but rather a recognition and upholding of the clear biblical role and prophetic significance of the Jewish people and the Land of Israel.
- B. Worldwide 21 Day Fast - In my opinion, the significance of the global season of fasting and prayer that we all participated in and witnessed in May was missed by the vast majority of the church. However, it was a clear sign and wonder and should be held as an extremely significant signpost in the eschatological timeline.
- C. Colorado Stands with Israel - For us, the events of the spring should give us confidence and diligence in our pursuit of discerning the signs of the times and setting ourselves to be faithful and wise stewards in our day.

Responding to the Signs of the Times

Sunday Oct. 22nd 2023

A Call for Wise and Faithful Servants

(Lk 12:35-59; Mat. 23-25)

D. Current Events in Israel - It has only been four months since the worldwide call of the Spirit to put our eyes on Israel and recognize what God is doing in the earth. What seemed unimaginable to us only a few years ago seems inevitable now in both the narrow and global signs that we have been given that are to cause us to respond differently than in the previous season.

1. Israel as a nation.
2. Israel surrounded by nations whose intent is to destroy them.
3. Persecution of Jewish people that will cause them to flee and seek refuge.
4. A global unity of nations that could lead to a worldwide government system and military enforcement of it.
5. A worldwide standing with Israel by the Gentile church

III. Assessment of Response

A. Unique Conviction - I bring this to you today with an urgency in my heart to call you to give yourself to a season of seeking an answer to the question, "What do I believe concerning these things and how am I called to respond?" I believe that we all will have unique levels of conviction and response to these things and I am appealing to you to get serious and clear about your personal calling and assignment in these days.

"And the Lord said, "Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom *his* master will make ruler over his household, to give *them their* portion of food in due season? "Blessed" is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes." (Lk. 12:42-43)

- B. Wise - The context in this passage and many like it for describing the wise servant is the individual who understands the season and is responding to it rightly.
- C. Faithful - The context of the faithful is the servant who continues to persevere, responding rightly and consistently in the face of contradiction and pressure.