OPEN

We’re living in days and times like no other in all of history. And I will tell you why, because as Daniel said in Daniel, chapter 12, knowledge is going to increase. And so now we know what people believe all over the world. We know about all these different religions and all these different faiths. The problem is, is do we know truth? Do we know what’s right and wrong? Are we on guard? We’ll talk about it today.

PART ONE

You know, my husband was gone on a fishing trip and one of our staff member’s wives called me and she said hey, you want to get together for dinner. And I said, do you want to go out? What do you want to do? And she said, well, Jessie, my daughter is fixing dinner. Now this is David and B.J. Lawson and their daughters are Kristy and Jessie. And they’re both young women in their 20’s and they love the Lord and Jessie and my grandson
John hang around together. So I went down there for dinner. It’s down here on the property at Precept Ministries. And we went to dinner and we were sitting there and we were talking about religion classes and what different people believe, because they’re in these religion classes and they’re hearing about all these different faiths. We’re living in a day of such incredible information that we know, not only what’s going on around the world, but we know the different faiths and things that people adopt. And they were telling about one religion where people will sweep the road before them when they walk so that they don’t step on a bug. They wear a mask on their face so they don’t inhale the bug. Now it’s not that the bug is contaminated, but it’s in their faith they believe they have to protect nature. And so they don’t want to step on a bug and hurt it and they don’t want to inhale a bug and hurt it. And as we were talking about this and how the professor embraced all of this, I thought how do we know about these people? Well we know about these people; we know about putting space ships and all sorts of instruments on Mars and other places because knowledge has increased. Well, you see God told Daniel that this would happen in the end times. Let’s go to Daniel, chapter 12. Now I know I’ve jumped, not going to teach you Daniel, chapter 12, but I want you to see something because it relates to what I want to share with you. In Daniel, chapter 12 in verse 3, and this is the end of the prophecy. And he’s saying those who have insight will shine brightly like the brightness of the expanse of heaven and those who lead the many to righteousness like the stars forever and ever. But as for you Daniel, conceal these words. Seal them up in the book until the end of time. Remember in our last program we talked about the end. Well he says seal these up in a book until the end of time. Many will go back and forth and knowledge will increase. What’s going to happen at the end of time? Well, there’s going to be all this travel, going back and forth and knowledge is going to increase. Well, we’re going back and forth on planet earth and we’re going back and forth to other planets and we’re exploring space and
knowledge has increased so that we even have knowledge of these weird, weird religions. What kind of a time are we living in? Well, we’re living in the gap time, between the 69th week of Daniel and the 70th week of Daniel. And you see you cannot understand Daniel properly and let it play out unless you let God show you that there is a break in time between the 69th week and the 70th week. I want us to look at that break in time. I want us to go and see what Jesus had to tell us about it. So I want you to look first at Daniel, chapter 9 and I want us to look at that gap in time. In Daniel, chapter 9, verse 26. It says then after the sixty-two weeks Messiah will be cut off. Now remember it’s seven weeks and then it’s sixty-two weeks. So after the sixty-two weeks, sixty-nine weeks of the prophecy have already been fulfilled. So it says after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come; there is a prince who is to come. He’s going to come out this people that will destroy Jerusalem and destroy the temple. Now we saw in our last program that Rome destroyed Jerusalem. Rome destroyed the temple. It happened in 70 A.D. and Titus was the Roman general that executed that destruction of Jerusalem. All right, so it says the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the sanctuary. Its end will come from a flood, even to the end and there will be war. In other words, what it’s saying is, look, from this time for Israel all the way through there is going to be war. There’s going to be desolation. And if you ever study the history of Israel; I know it’s called Palestine. The Bible doesn’t call it Palestine. I don’t like to call it Palestine because it’s a name that was given by a king that wanted to obliterate any recognition of Israel at all. But if you study what God says about Israel and what happened to Israel, or the land of Palestine, as people say, you will see that it has been a country in strife ever since. So there are wars and desolations are determined. Verse 27: And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week. The he, who is the he? Well I’ll tell you now and we’ll look at it later. But the he is the prince who is to come out of the
Roman Empire. We believe from studying the Word that, that he is the anti-Christ. He’s the little horn of Daniel, chapter 7. We’re going to learn more about him as we go on. But what I want you to see is we’re living a gap of time. It’s a gap of time that Messiah comes, after those 69 weeks and then in that gap of time Messiah’s cut off so you have the crucifixion. Then you have the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. as is prophesied and nothing starts again until there comes someone from the Roman Empire, the prince of the people that conquered Jerusalem. When that one comes to power and he makes a covenant with the many in Israel for seven years, then you can know the clock has started ticking again. Now how are you and I to live in the light of being in this gap? And what is God telling us about this gap? Why this gap of time? Well, remember Daniel, chapter 9 is a prophecy about Daniel’s people, the Jews and about Daniel’s holy city, Jerusalem. So what you have is you have the Roman Empire, when Messiah is cut off, when the prince comes. Rome is ruling over Israel. It started in 63 B.C. So now Jesus was crucified between 29 and 33 A.D. so what you have is you have Rome ruling then. In 500 A.D. Rome was off the scene. The Roman Empire was conquered. The great Rome, they thought it was indestructible, was brought to nothing. So now you have all these different nations. But there’s no one world super-power ruling over the earth. But there will be. Remember we saw that the little horn of Daniel 7 is going to devour the whole earth. That fourth beast is going to trample it down. That fourth beast is going to crush it. And all, the whole world, then, for the last three and a half years will be under his dominion. So we see that coming. Now, Jesus talked to us about the gap of time. And Jesus explained it to His disciples. So I want us to go to Luke, chapter 21. In Luke, chapter 21, which is like a parallel; you have to be careful here. But it’s like a parallel with Matthew, chapter 24. And yet in Luke, chapter 21 He answers different questions than He answers in Matthew, chapter 24. They see these people putting their money into the treasury and along comes the widow. You know the story if you know the
Bible. The widow comes along and she has just a mite, it’s nothing. It’s worthless almost. But it’s her only money. And she takes all that she has and she gives it to God. She gives it to God. And you see, what a beautiful, beautiful picture. You and I, so many times say O, I don’t have enough to give to God. O, it wouldn’t matter. I want to tell you something: every dollar that you send to us for this program means a lot to us, whether it’s one dollar, five dollars, a hundred dollars, a thousand, a million, whatever it is; we’ve never gotten a million dollar gift, but it would be wonderful. But, whatever it’s valuable to God because you’ve given it. So you don’t sit and wait and say I can’t give. So watch what Jesus says. Truly I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all of them, for they out of their surplus put in the offering, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had to live on. She gave everything that she had to live on because her heart was so tuned to God, because she loved God. Isn’t that awesome? And while they were talking about the temple, because they’re standing outside, they’re watching this woman, and while they were talking about the temple, Jesus said as for these things which you are looking upon, the days will come in which there will not be one stone left upon another, which will not be torn down. In other words, He’s saying the same thing that He said in Luke 19 and He’s saying it’s again. It’s all going to be destroyed. What will you have then? And they asked Him a very critical question and we’ll look at it right after this important announcement.

PART TWO
Welcome back my friend. Let’s get to Luke, chapter 21. In Luke, chapter 21 Jesus is sitting outside the temple. He’s sitting there with His disciples. They’re watching the people come and go. They have just seen this poor widow who has given everything that she has out of a love for God. And He looks at this magnificent temple that Herod has built and I mean it is an awesome, awesome, awesome structure. And He says do you know that the
days are coming when not one stone that was used to construct that temple will be left on top of another? Do you know that it is all going to be torn down? Now listen, He’s saying not one stone will be left upon another. Everything that you see is going to be torn down. Now when He was saying this, what was He doing? He was affirming what Daniel said. He’s sitting in that gap of time and what He’s saying in essence is what Daniel said to you is true, listen, pay attention. Well they are paying attention. They question Him saying, Teacher, when therefore will these things be? And what will be the sign when these things are about to take place? Now remember He’s told them that this temple that you see is going to be torn down. And He said to them, see to it that you be not misled. For many will come in My name saying I am the Christ, I am He and the time is at hand. He says do not go after them. In other words, they’re going to be false Christ’s. Now listen that knowledge, the Christ has come, the Christ has come, the Christ has come is going to spread like wildfire. Why? Because knowledge has increased. Why has knowledge increased? Because our ability to communicate, because science has just blown the lid off and because we have all this technology. I mean you get something across that Internet to people all across the world. And they know what’s going on. So, He’s saying in those days many are going to come and say I am He. And He says don’t you be deceived. Don’t you follow them, although they claim to be Christ. They’re going to be telling you one thing; I’m telling you just asked me when are these things going to happen. And He says they will come and they will say I am Christ; the time is at hand. He says do not go after them. And when you hear of wars and disturbances do not be terrified. Now remember we saw in Daniel, chapter 9 that in that gap of time, there are wars and desolations are determined. And He says I don’t want your heart to be terrified. I don’t want you living in fear. And He says I want you to know, that there’s going to be wars. There are going to be disturbances. Peace is not going to come. No matter what you think, no matter what anybody tries to do, no matter what
the United States tries to do or no matter what any other country, peace is not going to come until the Prince of peace, the Lord Jesus Christ appears on the scene and sets up His kingdom. And then peace will reign on the earth, when Jesus brings all the enemies of God and makes them a footstool for God’s feet, then we will have everlasting peace, but not until then. He says for these things must take place first. But the end does not follow immediately. Now remember I told you in our last program that when I read Matthew 24 and they asked when will the end come, that you marked it; well, I mark it here the same way. I color it blood red because when the end comes it will be blood all over the place. The blood will come as high as the bridle on a horse. And that is about 190 some miles between Armageddon, all the way down to Edom, to Petra. All right he goes on to say verse 10, then He continued by saying to them nation will rise against nation, kingdom against kingdom. And there will be great earthquakes and in various places plagues and famines. And there will terrors and great signs from heaven. In other words, this is what’s going to happen as the end comes. This is what you can expect to see. And you can expect to see these nations. You can expect to see these famines and you can expect to see these earthquakes. And we’re seeing them more and more, aren’t we? And then in verse 12, and this is why it is so important to observe the truth very, very carefully. It says but before these things, before all these things. In other words, before the end comes, before these nations, rising against each other, before these famines and these earthquakes and terrors and great signs from heaven, before all these things, they will lay their hands on you; He’s talking to these disciples and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons and bringing you before kings and governors for My name sake. In other words, before the end, before these nations against nations, before these famines and earthquakes, as I just said, you are going to be persecuted. He says it will lead as an opportunity to your testimony. So make up your minds not to prepare it beforehand to defend yourself. Don’t try to defend yourself.
He says I will give you utterance and wisdom, which none of your opponents will be able to resist or refute. In other words I’m going to use you as My mouthpiece and you don’t have to get your message prepared because at that moment I’m going to give you such wisdom and I’m going to give you such insight that you are going to speak what I want you to speak and you’re going to hush their mouths. And He says, but you will be delivered up, even by parents and brothers and relatives and friends and they will put some of you to death. Some of you are going to be martyred and He says you will be hated by all on account of My name, yet not a hair of your head will perish. You say, but they’re going to die. They’re going to die. Well I want to tell you something, they may die, but not a hair of their head will perish, because the minute they die, they’re absent from the body and they’re present with the Lord. And the fires of hell will never ever touch them. They’re going to live forever. And then He says in verse 20, but when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then recognize that her desolation is at hand. It says then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. What is He saying? He’s saying in this gap of time when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies. When was that? That was when Titus surrounded Jerusalem in 70 A.D. He says then you flee. You say that sounds just like Matthew 24. I want to tell you something; it’s two different time periods. And we’ll talk about in our next program and you don’t want to miss it. Beloved, stand for the Lord.