

2nd Timothy Chapter 3 Part 1 -- The Last Days

Are we living in the last days? What are they going to be like?

2TI.3:1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

When asked about the "last days," Jesus was very specific. He said: "...You will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is



NOT yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of sorrows..." (Mat.24:6-8)

The "last days" will be difficult as the Lord's Words and the next verses of this chapter reveal. We have all seen that wars are terrible and so are earthquakes, but awful as they are, something just as horrible, though more subtle, will emerge in humanity like an all-pervading disease. Humanity will be poisoned by an in-your-face arrogance, pride-fullness, and just plain meanness.

2PE.3:3 Knowing this first: *that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lust...*

1Ti.4:1-2 Now the **Spirit expressly** says that in **latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits** and doctrines of demons, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron...

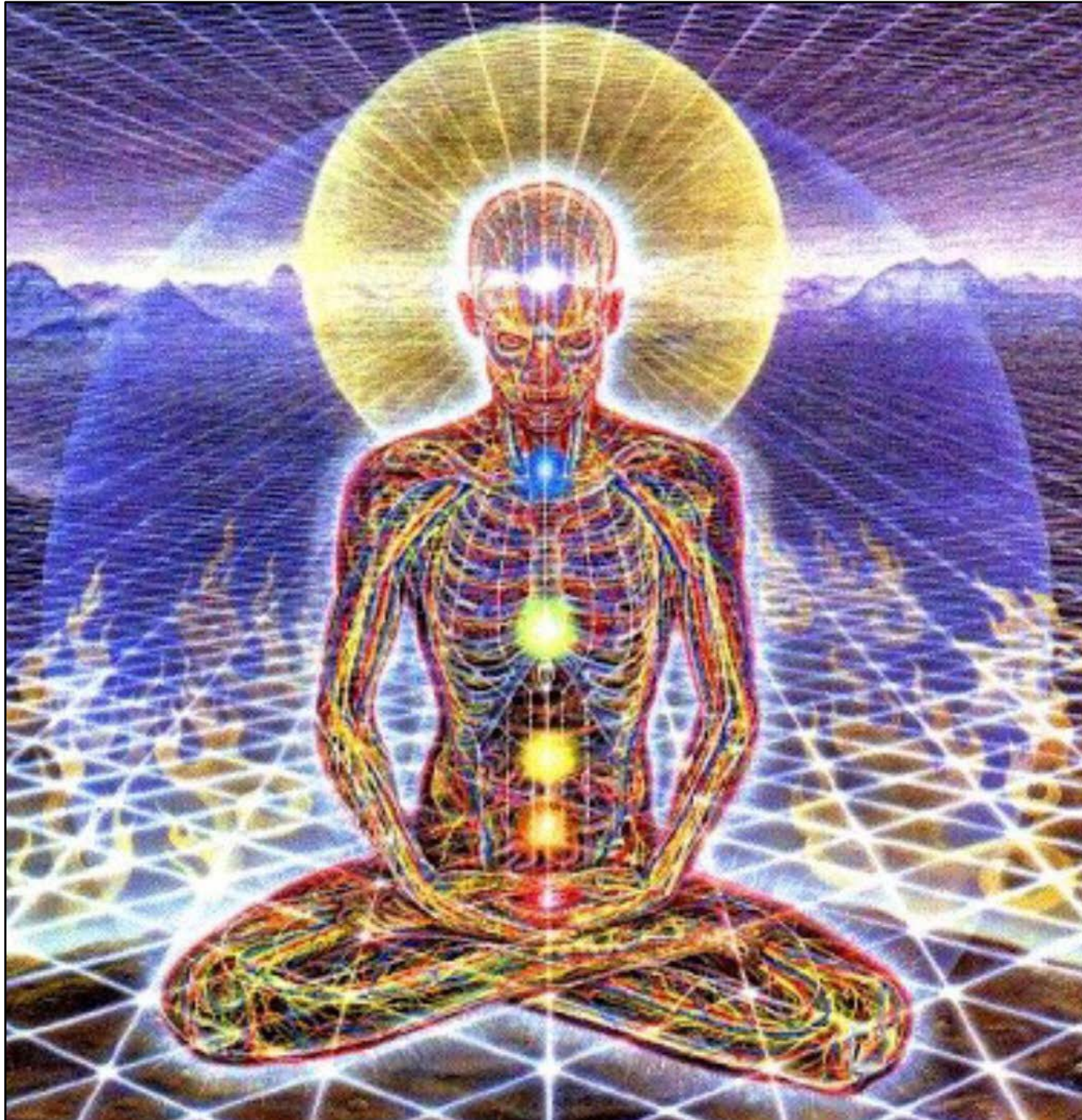
2Ti.3:2 For men shall be **lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,**

JUDE 1:16 These are **murmurers, complainers, walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, having men's persons in admiration because of advantage.**

PSA.10:3 For the wicked boasts of his heart's desire, and blesses **the covetous**, whom the LORD abhorreth.

We are now looking, in this and in the next few verses, at the way people will act and think during "the last days" of this age. And the amazing thing, as you read about the way humanity is going to be, is that we are a long way down that path already. When it says, "men" in this verse, think both men and women because the author is expressing the nature of mankind, male or female.





Many religions today worship themselves-
self-realization, meditation, get into
yourself, and discover yourself! Find self!
Make SELF your god! Worship yourself!
You are your own god!

This is what many of the ancient mystical
religions teach as well as the modern
versions of them, resulting sometimes in
demon-possession! Because as people
begin to worship themselves and love
themselves above God, *"lovers of self
rather than lovers of God"* as the Apostle
says, then that leaves the door of their
hearts wide open to Satan himself, because
he is the head of the religion of those who
love themselves and their possessions
most of all! --Anything but worship God!
Anything but worship Jesus Christ the
Messiah! *"Worship yourself! Worship your
possessions! Worship your things!"*

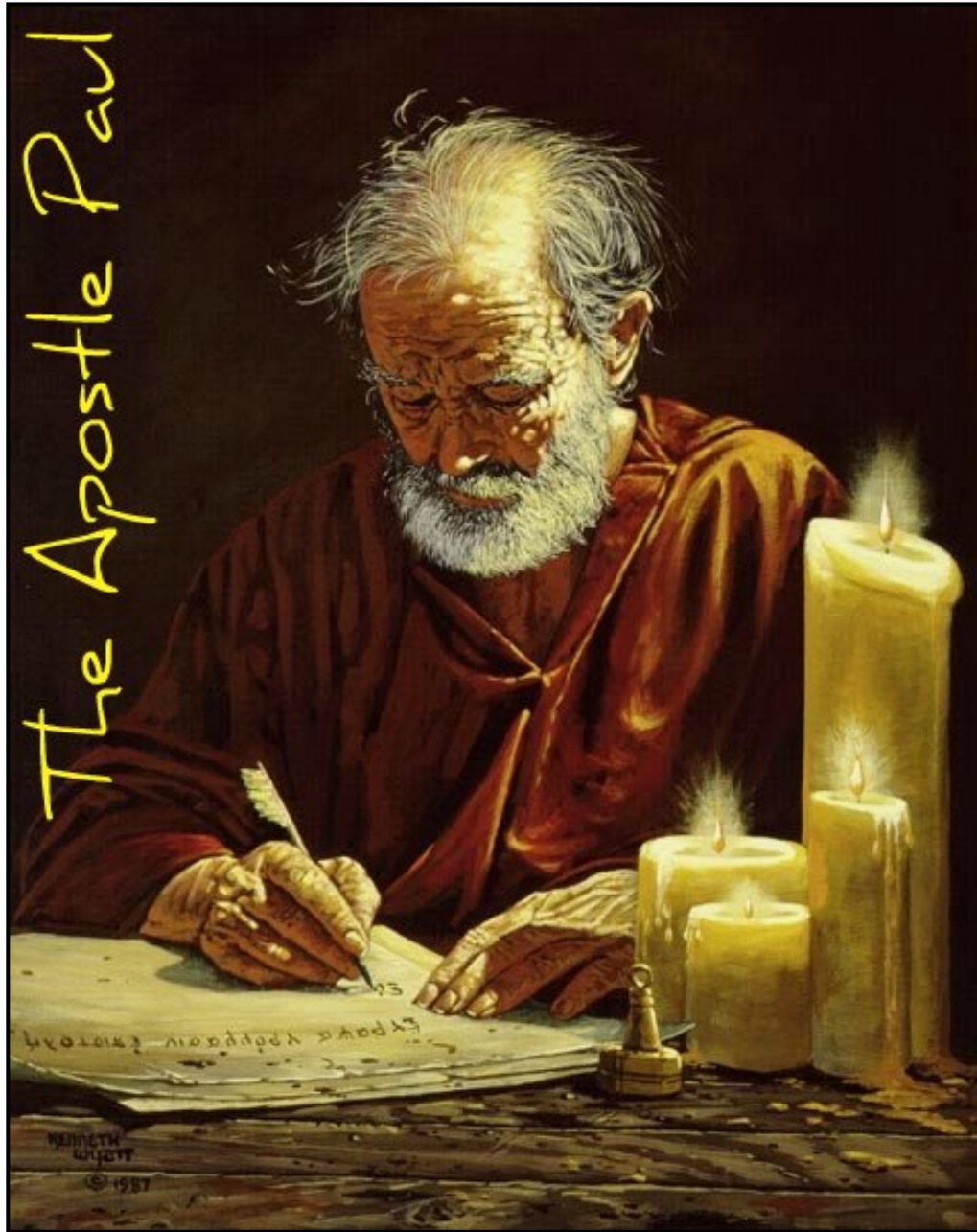
2TI.3:3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, **fierce, despisers** of those that are good,

They were also "*Without natural affection*" in the days of Noah, before the flood. --So much so that it was a common practice for mothers to "*cause their children to pass through the fire.*" (Lev.18:21; Ps.106:36-40) This is referring to their practice of offering up their babies to the devil-god, Moloch, a huge idol which had moveable arms, hinged at the elbows, and a big yawning mouth with a huge fire built inside. They'd offer the babies to this idol, placing them on its open hands, and the priest of Moloch behind the idol would turn a lever or pull a rope and the baby would be thrown into the idol's mouth, alive, into the fire! --No wonder the Lord wiped them out in the flood of His judgments!

Well, they're doing it again today! Only now in our "*enlightened*" modern generation they're doing it with knives! --Abortion is one of the major sins of this generation!



God says, "In thy skirts is found the blood of the souls of the poor innocents: I have not found it by secret search, but upon all these!" (Jer.2:34) They are killing them now by the tens of



thousands, murdering their own children because they just don't want to have to take care of them! --People today are not only "*without natural affection*", but they have absolutely no respect for the sanctity of life, the holiness of life, God-given life, and are murdering little babies while they're still in the stomachs of their mothers! --How horrible!

2Ti.3:4 Traitors, heady, high-minded, **lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;**

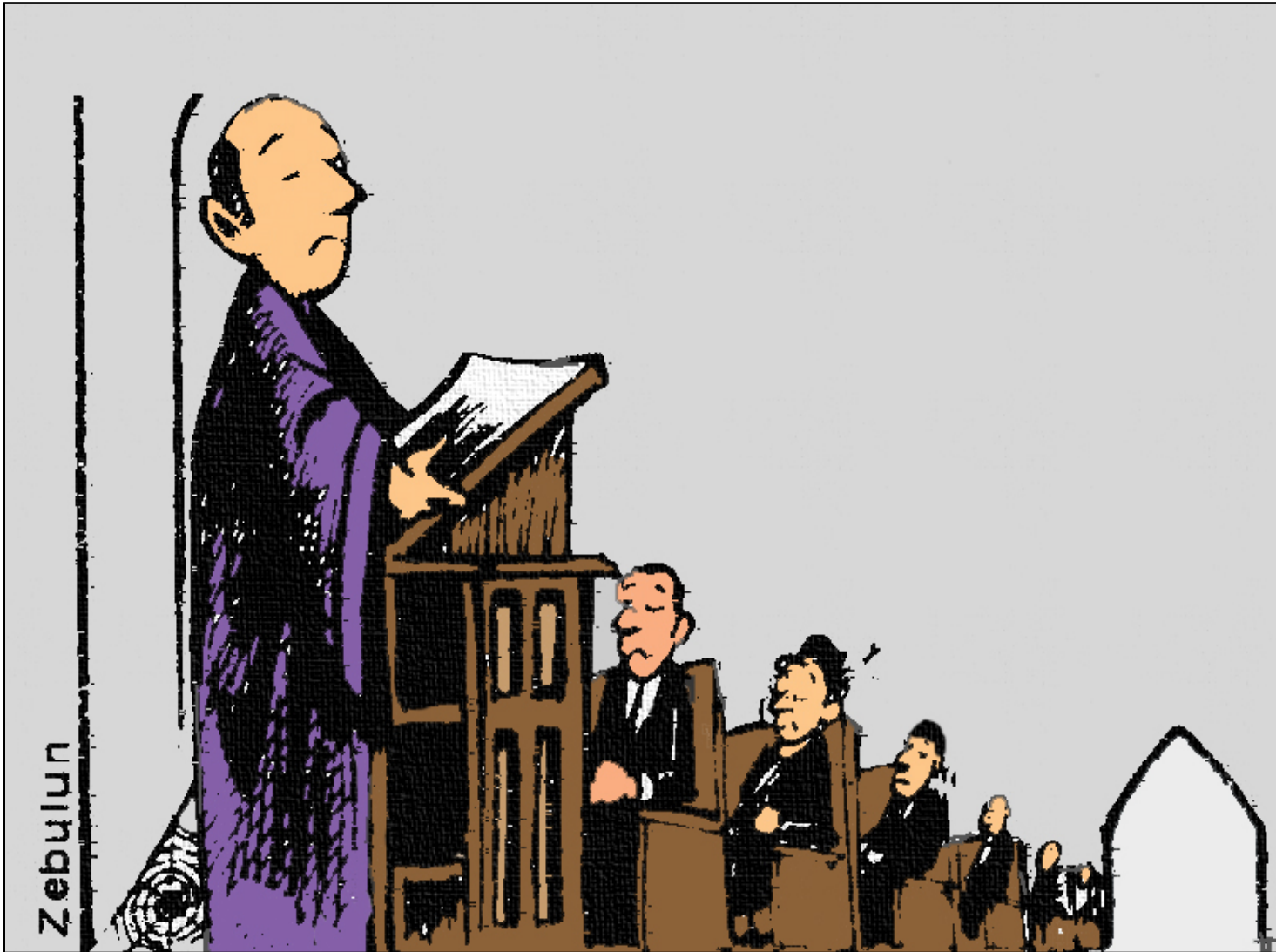
Paul the Apostle is giving us something like a "*preview of coming attractions*" seen before the main feature is shown at a movie theater. If you want to catch a glimpse of the future, it's right here in these verses. However, this look at what is to come is not attractive, it's grim, as we look right inside of the hearts of mankind at a specific point in future human history. And the concern is that it is a lot like the state of humanity - right now. What will humanity be like at the point when the antichrist is about to come onto the scene? When the tribulation is about to take place?

2TI.3:5 having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

If we don't personally stay dedicated and committed in our heart to the Lord and His cause, it's easy to sort of forget from whence we've come, how we were born again and what started this faith and fire for God! --And we can drift off and wind up following our own little form, our own little ceremony and our own little traditions, just going through the motions, *"as one that beateth the air, having a form of Godliness, but without the power thereof!"*

(1Cor.9:26).

Our life with Christ got rolling with a lot of real steam and fire, but we can wind up just coasting on former momentum if we don't remain fresh and new with the Lord! Christians who don't keep progressing eventually slow down to a stop because they've lost their fire and their fuel. They may keep rolling for a while, but pretty soon they come to a standstill! And if you've gone to sleep and left your engine running, you'll soon run out of gas, and your engine will soon go dead and you'll soon coast to a stop!



And you'll sadly discover that the road you're on is not level, but sloped, and you'll begin to roll backwards downhill! (*Mark 2:22*). So typical of some religions and churches, all forms and ceremonies, a form of Godliness without any power, "*without the power thereof*", which means without the Spirit, without the Lord! They're just going through all the motions and God isn't even there! They won't even listen or pay any attention to God, not even if He Himself appeared in the midst of them just like Jesus did. Did they care? Did they pay any attention? --No! They crucified Him!

2Ti.3:6 For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts,

2Ti.3:7 Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

2Ti.4:3-4 *For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will gather up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.*

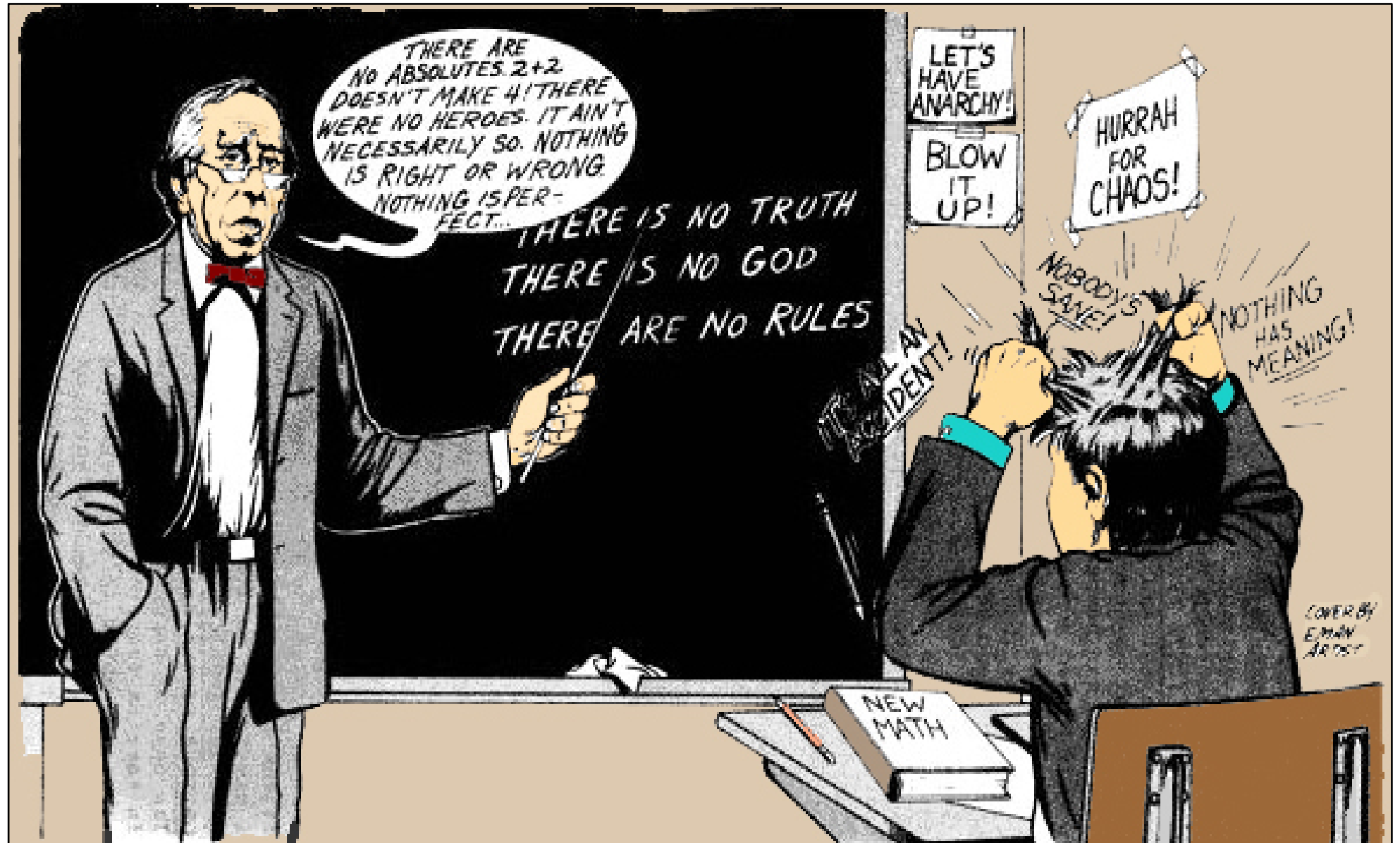


"The wise men are ashamed, they are dismayed and taken: lo, they have rejected the Word of the Lord; and what wisdom is in them?" (Jer.8:9) If these modern teachers, professors and educators have rejected God and His Word, what wisdom is in them? What have they got left? --Nothing! -- "Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools!" (Rom.1:22) They, as Jesus said, are "blind leaders of the blind," and both they and their pitiful followers are going to fall into the ditch! (Mt.15:14)

It seems like the more knowledge the World gets, the bigger mess it's in, because it's all irrelevant to man's greatest needs! That's why God's Word says that "the wisdom of this World is foolishness with God!" (1Cor.3:19) --The wisdom of man, the wisdom of this World, is absolutely ridiculous, laughable foolishness to God!



It's pitiful how ignorant this generation is! They have abandoned God and forsaken the Lord, who is the Source of all wisdom and all knowledge that is good, helpful and useful. They think they are becoming smarter and more scientific, but they are actually becoming dumber and more ignorant in the things that really count! --"*In the Last Days, they shall be ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the Truth!*"



Because if you haven't got God and you don't have His Word, there's no purpose in living, no reason for existence, no goal, no solution and life isn't even worth living!

The whole modern anti-Christ System of education has taken on the attitude that there are no absolutes! That's their whole principle: Nothing is certain, nothing is sure!

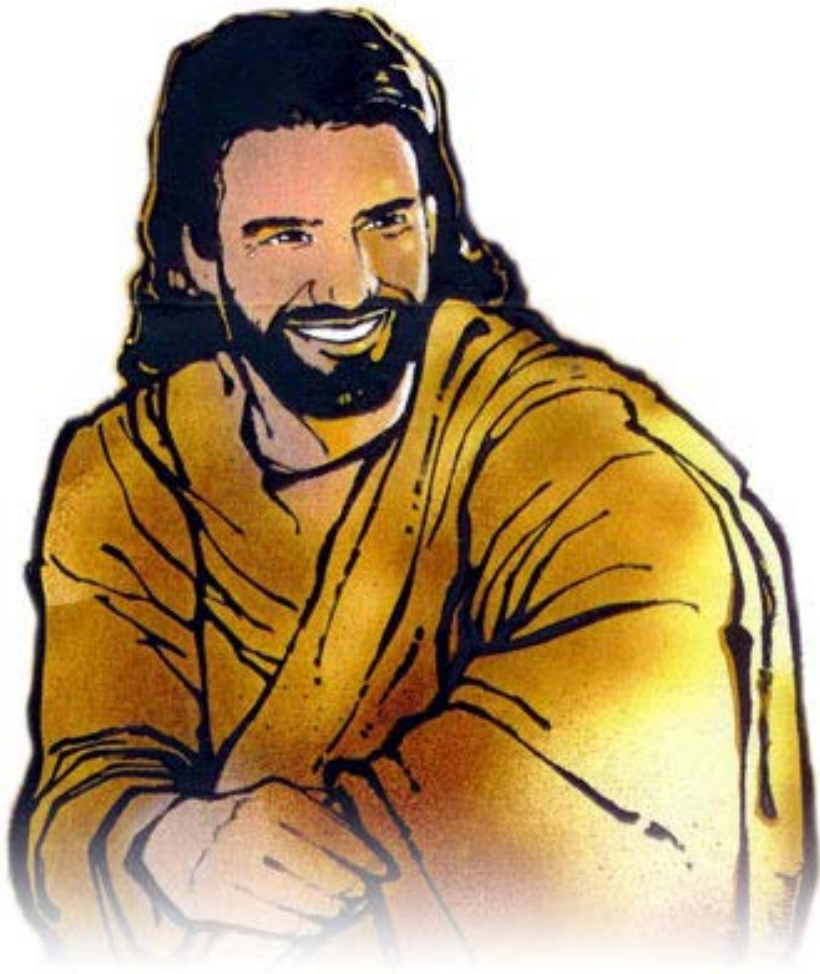
Their whole theme song is, *"It ain't necessarily so!"* --Beginning with the Bible, that *"ain't"* necessarily so; and history, religion, and philosophy *"ain't"* necessarily so. They've gone right on down the line through everything. --Creation *"ain't"* necessarily so, math *"ain't"* necessarily so, music, art, none of them are necessarily so, because there *"ain't"* no so!

If there's nothing that's absolute and true, then there is no Truth; they say to abandon the Ruler they had to throw away all the rules, and the result is total anarchy! To abandon the One Who gives the orders they had to abandon order, and the result is total chaos! To get rid of God they had to get rid of the absolutes--the right and the wrong, the meaning and reason for things--and the result is total insanity, madness, confusion!



God is the only one who can give a real meaning to living. We must see Him in everything to give it meaning, reason, purpose, plan, design and a goal. Thank God for the absolutes and the rules of the Ruler, that we may know the difference between right and wrong and therefore find happiness through His love and His loving laws and reasonable rules. Thank you, Jesus! May God help you to ***"know Him, whom to know is Life Eternal!"*** (Jn.17:3) --And Absolute!

We will continue this study in part 2 where the apostle Paul is continuing to reveal what the state of mankind will be during the time in future history he referred to as ***"the last days"***.



If you haven't done it yet, you can receive Jesus at this very moment. It is a free gift of God.

Please pray this simple prayer:

"Dear Jesus, I want to know You personally. Please forgive all my faults. I accept that You are the Son of God and that You died for me. I invite You into my heart and life. Thank you for your gift of eternal life and please fill me with Your Holy Spirit. Help me to read and understand Your Word. Amen"