**Perilous Times Shall Come**

**Introduction:**

The Apostle Paul often warned his brethren about “perilous times”, dangerous, fierce; a time when a falling away from truth would occur. (Acts 20:29-30) He warned the young preacher, Timothy, about this in I Timothy 4:1, as well as our text, II Timothy 3:1-9. He informed him about when it would occur, what it would look like, and the type of people involved.

**Text:** II Timothy 3:1-9

**Body:**

1. **When Would It Occur?** (Verse 1)

* In the “last days” is normally used in the Bible to refer to the gospel age or the Christian age.
* On the Day of Pentecost after Christ’s resurrection, Peter declared that his hearers were living in the “last days.” (Acts 2:14-17)
* The writer of Hebrews tells that God’s Son has spoken to us in these “last days.” (Hebrews 1:1-2)
* Christ was manifest in these “last times.” (I Peter 1:18-21)
* Therefore, since the death of Christ on Calvary, we have been living in the “last days.”

1. **What Would Times Perilous Times Look Like?** (Verses 2-5)

* Lovers of self (Philippians 2:21) [misplaced love]
* Lovers of money (I Timothy 6:10) [misplaced love]
* Proud – boastful, arrogant – haughty (Proverbs 21:4)
* Abusive – blasphemers, no regard for God or man
* Disobedient to parents – unconcerned for those who raised them and cared for them
* Ungrateful – no appreciation for all the good things they have received (I Thessalonians 5:18)
* Unholy – no regard for the sacred
* Unloving – heartless, uncaring
* Unforgiving – unappeasable; can’t be pleased
* Slanderers – the habit of making false, malicious statements about others (Proverb 16:27-30)
* Without self-control [like animals]
* Brutal – brutish [like animals]
* Not loving good
* Treacherous – traitors [turn one’s back]
* Headstrong – reckless
* Haughty – arrogant; swollen with conceit – defiles
* Love pleasure more than love God (Philippians 3:19)
* Appear godly but are not genuine – hypocrite
* Must avoid such people [obstinate; unwilling to change]

1. **Who Would Be Involved?** (Verses 6-9)

* Men who would use any means [trickery, deceit] to lead others astray (Titus 1:10-11)
* Would appeal to others lusts (II Peter 2:14)
* Men who resist the truth – possibly the Egyptian magicians in Exodus 7 Minds are corrupted. (I Timothy 6:3-5) Deficient thinking – unreasonable
* They will ultimately be exposed for what they are. They will be eternally lost!

**Conclusion:**

We are certainly living in perilous times. We need to understand this.

Bobby Stafford August 17, 2014