

DARKEST BEFORE THE DAWN

Luke 21:5-24

When the world seems chaotic and threatening, Christians don't need to fear the darkness because our God is sovereign, Jesus is present, and eternal hope is secure.

When we are tempted to lose hope because of the chaos around us:

Don't be **tricked**. Focus on God's **Truth**. (v. 7-8)

Don't be **terrified**. Focus on God's **Control**. (v. 9-12)

Don't be **troubled**. Focus on Jesus' **Provision**. (v. 13-19)

These **times** must be fulfilled. Focus on your **Hope in Jesus**.

(v. 20-24, *27-28)

FURTHER UP, FURTHER IN

1. When have you experienced a situation where uncertainty or lack of control caused your fears to spiral?
See Psalm 46:1-3; Proverbs 3:5-6; Isaiah 41:10; Philippians 4:6-7; 2 Timothy 1:7
2. *Read Luke 21:7.* Jesus begins with a warning about deception. Why do you think that was the first thing He addressed? What do you think Jesus wanted His disciples to focus on instead of simply trying to figure out when events would happen?
3. *Read Luke 21:9.* Jesus tells His followers not to be terrified. How does trusting in God's sovereignty change the way we respond to troubling events in the world?
4. *In verses 14-15,* Jesus promises to give His followers the words and wisdom they need when they face opposition. What does this teach us about relying on Jesus rather than relying on ourselves, especially in Witnessing?
See Matt 28:18-20.
5. Sunday's message emphasized three responses to dark times: Focus on God's Truth, on God's Control, and on Jesus' Provision. Which of these do you most need to focus on right now, and why?

