“God’s Word, Alive!”

*Holding Forth the Word of Life*

***“SIGNS OF THE TIMES”***

Then the Pharisees and Sadducees came, and testing Him asked that He would show them a sign from heaven. 2He answered and said to them, “When it is evening you say, ‘*It will be* fair weather, for the sky is red’; 3and in the morning, ‘*It will be* foul weather today, for the sky is red and threatening.’ Hypocrites! You know how to discern the face of the sky, but you cannot *discern* ***the signs of the times****.* 4A wicked and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign shall be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah.” And He left them and departed. (Matthew 16:1 – 4, NKJV)

The Pharisees, Sadducees and Scribes prided themselves upon being students of “the law.” With the knowledge of “the law” that they had, they should have recognized, from the Old Testament scriptures, that Jesus was the Christ (the Messiah): the Son of God. What signs do the following OT scriptures give:

* Concerning His conception - Isaiah 7:14 (Matthew 1:28 – 2:1)
* Concerning His birthplace – Micah 5:1 (Matthew 2:1)
* The magi (wise men) would worship Him – Psalm 72:10, 11; (Matthew 2:1 – 11)
* He would be born of David’s family and be heir to David’s throne – Jeremiah 23:5 (Matthew 1:1)
* Concerning His forerunner (John the Baptist) –
* The Spirit of the Lord (the Holy Spirit) would rest upon Him – Isaiah 61:1, 2 (Luke 4:18 – 21)
* Concerning His miracles of healings – Isaiah 35:5, 6; Isaiah 53:4 (Matthew 11:4)
* Jesus would come into Jerusalem riding upon a donkey – Zechariah 9:9; Matthew 21:1 – 9
* Jesus would be betrayed for 30 pieces of silver – Zechariah 11:12, 13 (Matthew 26:15; 27:3 – 10)
* Jesus would be mocked, spat upon and beaten – Micah 5:1; Isaiah 50:6; Psalm 22:7, 8
* Jesus Christ would be crucified – Psalm 22:16 (Matthew 27:35)
* Jesus would be buried by a rich man – Isaiah 53:9 (Matthew 27:57 – 60)
* Jesus would rise from the dead on the third day – Psalm 16:8 – 11; Jonah 1:7 (Matthew 12:40)

***ALL OF THESE WERE “SIGNS OF THE TIMES” FOR THE PEOPLE OF THAT DAY***

***And***

***THERE ARE SIGNS OF HIS “SECOND COMING,” FOR US, TODAY!***

***“CAN YOU DISCERN THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES?’****”*

Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, “Tell us, when will these things be? And **what *will be* the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?”**

(Matthew 24:3, NKJV)

Read the following scriptures? Do they indicate, to you, that the Second Coming of the Lord is near?

Matthew 24:1 – 8 1 Timothy 4:1 – 3 Luke 21 Romans 1

Matthew 24:30 - 33 2 Timothy 3 Mark 13 Romans 8:18 - 22

Matthew 24:32, 33, 37 2 Peter 2, 3 Daniel 12:4

***“Signs of the Times”***

Meanness, rudeness, disrespect, coldness distress, duress, emotional fears

Perversions, lack of shame, blasphemy immorality on every level; but especially sexual

Violence, wars, weapons idolatry, arrogance, cynicism; mockery

Weather patterns; natural disasters great increase of knowledge

One-world communications; economic system unsound doctrines; “merging” of religions