



Put on the
Full Armor
of God
Ephesians 6:14-18

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Scripture of the Quarter

*This know also, that in the last days
perilous times shall come.*

2 Timothy 3:1 KJV

“Perilous Times”

In this newsletter we are going to use the Greek language to enhance the meaning of this scripture. “*This know*” the word know is the Greek word “**ginosko**” for knowledge. But in this verse, it is used in the present imperative tense which means it is a strong command to recognize that there is something that must be known, must be acknowledged. Having this knowledge is not optional but mandatory.

The verse continues “*This know also, that in the last days*” The word last in this verse is from the word “**eschatos**” which points to the ultimate end of a thing — such as the last month of the year; the last week of a month; the last day of the week; or the very extreme end of the age. In other

words, the word **eschatos** doesn’t merely describe the last days in general, but the **very last of the last days**. It was used in classical Greek literature to depict a place farthest away, such as the very ends of the earth. In this sense, it also signified something that is final. With this word **eschatos** the Holy Spirit through Paul takes us right into the end of the age to enlighten our eyes and help us see what the world environment will be like in the concluding moments of the age. Paul goes on to say “*perilous times*” will mark that final age. Perilous is the Greek word “**Chalepos**” a word used to describe ugly words that, when spoken, are hurtful and emotionally hard to bear. It is also used in various pieces of

literature to depict wild, vicious, uncontrollable animals that are unpredictable and dangerous. It always carries the idea of an action, person, or thing that is harsh, harmful, and filled with high-risk.

This is the very word used in: **Matthew 8:28^{KJV}** *And when he was come to the other side into the country of the Gergesenes, there met him two possessed with devils, coming out of the tombs, exceeding fierce, so that no man might pass by that way.* The words “**exceeding fierce**” is the same word **Chalepos**. This means the two demon possessed men were like wild, vicious, and uncontrollable animals, completely unpredictable and dangerous.

Simply being in the region near these men placed one’s life in jeopardy because these demonized men were **Chalepos** — harsh and harmful, presenting a high-risk to anyone in the region.

Taking all these words into consideration, **2 Timothy 3:1** could be taken to mean: “You **emphatically must** know what I’m about to tell you! In the very last part of the last days, in the very end of the age, hurtful, harmful, dangerous, unpredictable, uncontrollable, high-risk periods of time will come.”

Considering the events that have shaken the world in recent years we shouldn’t be shocked to hear that this is the meaning of **2 Timothy 3:1**. Dangerous high-risk periods of time have already arrived. We are living in a generation that faces world threats that no other generation has ever known. As always, the Holy Spirit was correct in what he was trying to tell us.

But why did the Holy Spirit forewarn us about these events? Were his prophetic warnings intended to scare us or fill us with fear? **NO!** The Holy Spirit, as He has always done wanted to prepare God’s people so they could be spiritually alert and ready to minister to people who suffer harm as a result of the events that will grip the world at the end of the age.

According to **2 Timothy 3:1**, we are living in an age that will be marked by “**perilous**” world events.

Let us therefore be wise, protecting our minds, our family members, and every other area of our lives by renewing our minds with the Word of God daily. **Romans 12:2^{KJV}** *And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind,*

that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

We should not hide in fear let’s get God’s perspective about what we should be doing to help people who have been victimized by this age. Let’s move out with the power of God and be ready to minister to those who have suffered harm due to the times we live in.

We must stand on God’s promises such as these: **2 Timothy 1:7** *For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. And Jesus said: Hebrews 13:5* *Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.*

