

“THE SCENE OF THIS WORLD IS CHANGING”

Note to the speaker:

Help the audience to understand the meaning behind rapidly changing world conditions, explain clearly what the near future will bring, and motivate all to take action for survival

THIS PAST CENTURY HAS BROUGHT NUMEROUS CHANGES (3 min.)

Advances in technology, health care, education, transportation, and human rights have benefited many

On the other hand, soaring crime rates, plummeting moral values, mounting drug abuse, skyrocketing divorce rates, spiraling inflation, and escalating terrorism have affected millions

Truly, “the scene of this world is changing” **[Read 1 Corinthians 7:31]**

The apostle Paul’s expression drew on the image of a scene on the stage of a theater; like actors on a stage, political, religious, and cultural personalities make their appearance, play their roles, and then leave the stage to others (*w04* 2/1 18-19 ¶2-4)

THE WORLD ENTERED ITS TIME OF THE END IN 1914 (9 min.)

In previous centuries, changes usually took place over long periods of time

Educators and historians acknowledge that since 1914, the pace of world change has accelerated dramatically (*w04* 2/1 20 ¶9; *w01* 6/1 5 ¶4)

The villain behind the scenes who is responsible for rapidly deteriorating world conditions is none other than Satan the Devil (Re 12:7-9, 12)

World conditions signal the invisible presence of Jesus Christ and the fast-approaching end of this system (Mt 24:3)

Jesus foretold the calamities that would form a sign of the last days (Lu 21:10, 11; Re 6:2-8; *w14* 2/1 5-7)

EVENTS LEADING UP TO JEHOVAH’S AWE-INSPIRING DAY (15 min.)

Bible prophecy indicates that further significant changes will shortly take place

The day of reckoning will come unexpectedly because most people center their lives on personal pursuits and do not really believe that God will intervene in human affairs (Mt 24:37-39; 2Pe 3:3, 4)

Leading up to Jehovah’s day, the nations will make a significant declaration of “Peace and security!”

[Read 1 Thessalonians 5:1-3] (*w13* 11/15 12-13 ¶9-12; *w12* 2/1 9)

Shortly thereafter, Jehovah’s day will begin when the political elements of this world move against false religion to destroy it (Re 17:1, 3, 5, 15-17; *w12* 9/15 3-5 ¶3-7)

The attack on false religion also marks the beginning of the “great tribulation” (Mt 24:21)

Thereafter, the foretold “sudden destruction” of the political elements along with all who oppose God’s Kingdom will take place (Da 2:44; Re 19:11-15)

What might be called the final act is now being played out on the world stage

Jehovah will ring down the curtain on disobedient ones

The day of Jehovah will culminate in the war of Armageddon (Re 16:14, 16)

This wicked system along with its spirit and its ungodly characteristics will be completely obliterated (2Pe 3:10)

Thereafter, Satan himself will be thrown into the abyss (Re 20:1-3)

The earth will be cleansed, and wonderful changes will take place for all who love Jehovah God

FEAR NOT, AND HAVE FAITH IN JEHOVAH’S PROMISES (3 min.)

We encourage all who long for a righteous new world to examine God’s promises and put faith in his inspired Word

Soon the scene of this earth will change permanently for the better

War, crime, violence, and terrorism will be done away with (Ps 37:10, 11; 46:9)

All disease and sickness will belong to the past (Isa 33:24)

All who serve Jehovah God faithfully will live forever (1Jo 2:17)

Be among those who exercise faith in Jehovah’s promises by engaging now in “holy acts of conduct” and performing “deeds of godly devotion” (2Pe 3:11-13)

[Adhere closely to the outlined material, and observe the indicated timing of each section. Not all cited texts need to be read or commented on. See *Ministry School* book, pages 52-55, 166-169]