

**BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH OF ERIE**  
**James M. Duncan, Pastor**

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**LISTEN & HEED JESUS WARNINGS**

**Luke 21:5-19; 34-36**

The attack on Pearl Harbor took place 81 years ago on **December 7, 1941** on a sunny Sunday morning when no one was expecting it, yet there had been many warnings about the possibility of an attack by Japan. The incoming Japanese attack planes were detected by the radar and reported, but were mistaken for an incoming group of American planes due from the mainland that morning.

Despite these and many other warnings, Pearl Harbor faced great loss that day. **President Franklin D. Roosevelt proclaimed Dec. 7, 1941 as “A date which will live in Infamy”.** The losses and ill preparedness came from one major cause...no one believed it could really happen. **Beloved listen to me today we are in spiritual warfare.** Sometimes we call it a bad day or blame it on mean people, but many times we are under heavy assault from the devil whom Peter called a roaring lion when he said in **1 Peter 5:8**, **“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.”**

Now here in our scripture passage Jesus sounds three important warnings. We should pay attention to warning lights and warning signs, and we need to pay attention to these three warnings that Jesus gives us here. Now let me give you a little background.

The disciples like many of us today, were concerned about the wrong things. They wanted to know information that would be of no real value to them, other than to satisfy their own curiosity. Jesus was more interested in affecting their conduct rather than satisfying their curiosity. Jesus, however, knew that if the disciples looked for signs, they would be susceptible to deception.

**In the midst of all these tumultuous end times events Jesus specifically warns the believer about three very real dangers that we too need to be aware of and they are....**

**I. HE WARNS US - DON'T BE DECEIVED V-8**

This deception thing is not new, it is as old as the story of mankind. In **Genesis 3** we are told about how Satan initially deceived mankind. It is interesting to note how very little has changed.

- 1. Dispute God's Word.**
- 2. Deny God's Word.**
- 3. Displace God's Word.**

Not only are we not to be deceived ...

**II. JESUS WARNS US - DO NOT BE DISTRESSED VS. 9 -11**

These are distressing days for all of us. There is the war in Ukraine, Gas prices, Inflation, Rising Crime rate, our Borders that are wide open to any terrorist, drug lords and many undesirables. How do we deal with a constant barrage of negative and frightening predictions concerning the future? We can head for the hills, set up a survivalist commune, stock up on guns and groceries and prepare for Armageddon. We can allow dire predictions of the future to cause us to cave into fear. But we are told in **2 Timothy 1:7**, **“For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.”**

**There are no SIGNS for the Rapture**, but all of the signs here in Luke 21 and Matthew 24-25 are about the **second coming of Christ at the end of the Tribulation** to set up His millennium Kingdom. However, **the signs of the Second Coming at the end of the Tribulation will start casting a long shadow that we will see before the Rapture.**

**III. JESUS WARNS US - DO NOT BE DISTRACTED Vs. 34-38**

His message is that people across the world in that day were caught up in doing the ordinary things. They were taking life as it came, just living day to day. And they were completely ignoring the warnings all around them they were **DISTRACTED**. Rather than turning to God in repentance they were drifting alone with the prevailing culture, living lives characterized by the attitudes of the day. And Jesus says that is the way it will be before he returns.

**Jesus warns us of three great dangers**

- 1. We are not to be DECEIVED** into departing from the truth.
- 2. We are not to be DISTRESSED** into failing to be a witness for Christ
- 3. We are not to be DISTRACTED** into living as if this life is all there is.