

End Times

The Foundations of God's Mission

- **The Goal of the End Times:** The "End Times" represent the culmination of God's mission, which is displayed throughout the entire storyline of Scripture.
- **Humanity as Image-Bearers (*Tseh'-lem*):** In Genesis, God created humans as His "image" to rule over the earth and reflect His glory to its uttermost limits.
- **The Impact of Rebellion:** Though humanity scattered due to rebellion at the Tower of Babel, God continued His mission by choosing Abraham to be a blessing to all nations.
- **Israel as a Light:** God intended for Israel to display His wisdom and glory so that all people of the earth would come to know and fear Him.

The Connection to the End Times

- **Prophetic Fulfillment:** Isaiah 11 links the "End Times" to a future where the heir to David's throne (Jesus) becomes a banner of salvation to all the world.
- **Jesus' Universal Authority:** In the New Testament, Jesus claims all authority and commands His followers to make disciples of all nations before "the end of the age".
- **The Final Vision:** Revelation describes a "great multitude" from every nation, tribe, and language worshipping before the throne of God.
- **The Pre-Condition for the Return:** According to Matthew 24, the "end" will only come once the Good News of the Kingdom has been preached to all nations.

The Current Global Need

- **Defining the Task:** The church's responsibility is not to define the exact timing of the end, but to complete the mission of reaching all people groups.
- **Frontier People Groups:** There are currently 4,767 frontier groups—totaling 2 billion people—who have almost no access to local believers or Scripture.
- **Linguistic Barriers:** Approximately 3,313 languages still have no translated Scripture at all.
- **Hardest Places:** Many groups, such as the Pashtun and the nomadic Tuareg, live in "gospel deserts" where access is nearly impossible due to political or geographic barriers.

The Call to Action for the Church

- **Urgency of the Mission:** The mission is urgent because the King is worthy, souls face eternal destruction, and Christ's return will finally end all suffering and injustice.
- **Individual Roles:** Every Christian is called to be "off the bench" and in the game by either **going** to the nations, **sending** resources to support those who go, and **praying** for more laborers.
- **A Shift in Perspective:** Instead of asking "Is God calling me?", believers should ask "What role am I going to play?" in impacting the nations for God's glory.