Believers can live in this *present age* with the *blessed hope* of Christ's return. *Titus 2:11-13*Without a blessed hope we would have to find all our hope in this present age.

How does humanity attempt to do this? How does it fail us?

The focus of the end times...

- ...is not knowing every detail! Acts 1:6-7, 11
- ...it's being filled with the Holy Spirit and looking to Jesus! Acts 1:4-5, 8, 11

Matthew 24:29-31

WHEN? (Timing)

- Jesus will return *after* signs and tribulation. (v29)
- Jesus will come **before** the millennium. Revelation 19 & 20
- Prophecy places us in the time of the end. Daniel 2
- Signs are being fulfilled. Matthew 24
- Jesus will come like a thief in the night.

 Matthew 24:43; Revelation 16:15; 1 Thessalonians 5:2-6; 2 Peter 3:10

HOW? (Manner)

- Emotional- "Mourn" (v30)
 - o Death- Revelation 6:14-16; 19:21; Thess. 2:8
 - o Destruction- 2 Peter 3:7, 10; Revelation 16:18-20
 - o People will rejoice- Revelation 19:7; Isaiah 25:9
- Literal & Physical
 - "We will <u>see</u> the Son of Man coming in the <u>clouds</u> (v30) Revelation 1:7; Matthew 24:23-27; 1 Thess. 4:16; Acts 1:11
- "He will come with great power and glory" (v30)
- "He will come with a trumpet blast" (v 31) 1 Thessalonians 4:16
- "He will send out His angels" (v31)

WHY? (Reason)

For God to be with His people! "He will gather the elect" (v31)

- We will be with the Lord forever. 1 Thessalonians 4:17
- The second coming fulfills a love promise in a spiritual wedding context. John 14:1-3