

Part 8

From Bad to Worse

2 Timothy 3:1-14

As you go through the week...

Humans generally are very optimistic. We tend to believe, even when things are bad, that it's just a matter of time before they get better. I suspect that God made us that way so that we wouldn't self-destruct in despair. For Christians, we know that ultimately things are going to be "perfect," and our joy will be eternally full. But before that happens, the Bible tells us things are going to have to get worse; bad, very bad. Are you, as Paul instructs us, to endure hardships as a good soldier of Jesus Christ? (2 Tim. 2:3) Is it time for us to be asking ourselves the question Francis Schaeffer asked 40 years ago, How then should we live?

Questions for Reflection/Discussion:

- 1. How has the recent COVID-19 pandemic affected you? Have you struggled with panic as you watch store shelves being picked clean?**
- 2. Who do you think is most responsible for your well-being in times of crisis? God? You? The Government?**
- 3. In what ways do you see End Times prophecy being fulfilled in the current pandemic?**

Passages cited: **Genesis** 6:5-11; **Ecclesiastes** 1:18; **Daniel** 12:4; **Matthew** 24:12-14; **John** 1:14; **Romans** 7:15; **2 Thessalonians** 2:3; **2 Timothy** 3:1-14; **Revelation** 3:15, 16.