

Sunday Morning Sermon Series  
*DISCERNMENT IN A DAY OF DECEPTION*

**UNDERSTANDING THE TIMES**

1 Chronicles 12:32      Jeff Schreve

*Now these are the numbers of the divisions equipped for war, who came to David at Hebron, to turn the kingdom of Saul to him, according to the word of the LORD. 1 Chronicles 12:23*

*All these, being men of war, who could draw up in battle formation, came to Hebron with a perfect heart, to make David king over all Israel; and all the rest also of Israel were of one mind to make David king. 1 Chronicles 12:38*

*And of the sons of Issachar, men who understood [discerned, perceived, were able to distinguish] the times, with knowledge of what Israel should do, their chiefs were two hundred; and all their kinsmen were at their command. 1 Chronicles 12:32*

*And the Pharisees and Sadducees came up, and testing Him asked Him to show them a sign from heaven. But He answered and said to them, "When it is evening, you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red.' "And in the morning, 'There will be a storm today, for the sky is red and threatening.' Do you know how to discern the appearance of the sky, but cannot discern the signs of the times? Matthew 16:1-3*

**Do you understand our times and what we need to do?**

**1. We are living in difficult times.**

*But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come.  
2 Timothy 3:1*

*For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God; holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; and avoid such men as these.  
2 Timothy 3:2-5*

**2. We are living in God-rejecting times.**

*For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse. For even though they knew*

*God, they did not honor Him as God, or give thanks; but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures. Therefore God gave them over .... Romans 1:18-24*

**A. God has given us over to sexual immorality.**

*Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, that their bodies might be dishonored among them. For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. Romans 1:24-25*

**B. God has given us over to homosexuality.**

*For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error. Romans 1:26-27*

**C. God has given us over to utter depravity.**

*And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper .... Romans 1:28*

**3. We are living in truth-rejecting times.**

*For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires; and will turn away their ears from the truth, and will turn aside to myths. 2 Timothy 4:3-4*

**4. We are living in God-ordained times.**

**A. Recognize that you are a citizen of heaven.**

*For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. Philippians 3:20*

**B. Recognize that you are a soldier of the King.**

*You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. Suffer hardship with me, as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. 2 Timothy 2:1,3*

**C. Recognize that you have one primary job.**

**D. Recognize that you will be judged by your faithfulness.**

## Will you stand up and be counted for Jesus?

---

THE TIMES THEY ARE A CHANGIN'

Come gather 'round, people

Wherever you roam

And admit that the waters

Around you have grown

And accept it that soon

You'll be drenched to the bone

If your time to you is worth savin'

And you better start swimmin'

Or you'll sink like a stone

For the times they are a-changin'