



## WEEK 20 | NICK CARNES

*All Scripture is in the Christian Standard Bible (CSB), unless noted differently.*

**2 Timothy 2:25b-26** Perhaps God will grant them repentance leading them to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>26</sup> Then they may come to their senses and escape the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.

**2 Timothy 3:1** But know this: Hard times will come in the last days.

\_\_\_\_\_ **thrives where godly \_\_\_\_\_ is absent**

**Acts 2:17** And it will be in the last days, says God, that I will pour out my Spirit on all people; then your sons and your daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, and your old men will dream dreams.

**1 John 2:18** Children, it is the last hour. And as you have heard that antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come. By this we know that it is the last hour.

**1 Peter 1:18-21** For you know that you were redeemed from your empty way of life inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of an unblemished and spotless lamb. <sup>20</sup> He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was revealed in these last times for you.

**2 Timothy 3:2-5** people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, proud, de-meaning, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, <sup>3</sup> unloving, irreconcilable, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, without love for what is good, <sup>4</sup> traitors, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, <sup>5</sup> holding to the form of godliness but denying its power. Avoid these people.

*Outline Continues on Page 2*

**2 Timothy 3:6-9** For among them are those who worm their way into households and deceive gullible women overwhelmed by sins and led astray by a variety of passions, <sup>7</sup> always learning and never able to come to a knowledge of the truth. <sup>8</sup> Just as Jannes and Jambres resisted Moses, so these also resist the truth. They are men who are corrupt in mind and worthless in regard to the faith. <sup>9</sup> But they will not make further progress, for their foolishness will be clear to all, as was the foolishness of Jannes and Jambres.

## GO DEEPER

*This week, read the Scriptures from Sunday and answer these questions:*

1. What did you learn from Sunday's sermon? Did you gain any new insights?
2. Paul says that "hard times" characterize the last days because of sinful human hearts, not merely difficult circumstances. How does this perspective change the way we view the challenges facing our culture today? Why is it important to remember that we have been living in the "last days" since Christ's first coming?
3. Looking through Paul's list of sins in 2 Timothy 3:2-5, which one do you believe poses the greatest temptation in our own lives or in the church today? Why do you think that particular sin is so prevalent? What practical steps can help us pursue holiness in that area?
4. The sermon emphasized that darkness thrives where godly influence is absent. Where has God placed you to be a light (home, workplace, neighborhood, church, community)? What is one intentional way you can increase your gospel influence there this week?
5. Paul commands believers to contend for the truth with gentleness, patience, and the hope that God grants repentance (2 Timothy 2:24-26). Why is it difficult to balance conviction with compassion? Can you share a time when someone modeled that balance well—or a time when you struggled to do so yourself?
6. The sermon warned against having "a form of godliness but denying its power." What are some ways a person can appear religious while lacking genuine spiritual transformation? What evidences of God's transforming work should increasingly characterize a mature follower of Christ?
7. Paul warns that false teachers prey on vulnerable people and that believers must know the truth to avoid deception. What habits or spiritual disciplines help you discern truth from error?