

Pastor Ron Case
7/26/15

“Discerning the Times”

*“Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep.
For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed.” (Romans 13:11)*

Shaking the Present Order

Luke 21:25-26 – (25) “And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress (*restraint, be compressed*) of nations in perplexity (*to be at a loss*) because of the roaring (*noisiness, figuratively of rumors*) of the sea and the waves, (26) people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. **For the powers of the heavens will be shaken.**”

Breaking the Present Order

Luke 21:27 – “And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.”

Reading the Leaves

Luke 21:29-33 – (29) “And he told them a parable: ‘Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. (30) As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. (31) So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. (32) Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. (33) Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.’”

Respond with:

Confidence

“Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up (*unbend, rise, be elated*) and raise your heads (*exalt oneself, have poise*), because your redemption is drawing near.” (Luke 21:28)

Caution

“But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation (*pain from excess*) and drunkenness and cares (*distractions, to be divided*) of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth.”
(Luke 21:34-35)

Commitment to Calling out to God

“But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.” (Luke 21:36)