

The Second Coming of Christ: The Signs and Fainting of the Heart

12 Sin will be everywhere, love of many grow cold.
Matthew
NLT

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24.12

Interactive Questions:

- *Why will the love of many grow cold?*
- *Why will the hearts of many faint?*
- *Why will there be confusion in the end times?*

Introduction: *Do you know why love in the hearts of many people will grow cold? The answer is in Matthew 24.12. There are marriages who no longer feel love, relationships, friends and people who use to be effective but suddenly their love grew cold because of abuse suffered in the past. A person who has been abused emotionally, physically, verbally or financially will tend to close their heart due to the past trauma. This is one of the signs that will continue to intensify before the coming of our Lord Jesus. Let's view the following signs that will cause the hearts of many to faint...*

1. The Signs and Fainting of the Heart Matthew 24:9-12

a. *Persecution-*

- In the 21st century believers will be persecuted in terrible ways because of the name of Jesus. For example in places like the Middle East when people convert to Christ, they become others enemies and are then stoned, beat or burned only to be killed.
- When the church gets comfortable, God doesn't send persecution, but he allows it to wake up the church. An example can be read in the book of Acts.
- There has always been persecution but now a days it has intensified. Now, we should not serve God to avoid persecution but instead because of gratitude.
- Persecution will only increase, and if you are persecuted remember that it's because your redemption is near.

b. *Offense (Mat. 24.10)-*

- *In the end times many will stumble, in other words become offended. Many will be offended with Word of God, with God because He didn't answer their petition or because someone made a bad facial expression towards them.*
- *The person who falls into the snare of offense will allow these terrible prophecies to come to pass in their lives.*
- *What solution will prevent the fulfillment of these prophecies? Growth and maturity. We cannot afford to get offended because of childish things and end up losing our salvation.*

c. *Rebellion (Mat. 24.12)-*

- *Wickedness has multiplied in the world in an intense way. There is a lack of respect toward authority figures. Many disrespect police officers, especially in Las Vegas where we have witnessed a wave of disrespect toward authorities.*

- *There exist chains of prostitution where young girls under age are enslaved to a pimp who controls, oversees, exploits their bodies and threatens to kill their families.*

d. Love Will Grow Cold (Mat. 24.12)-

- *One of the major signs of the end times is how love grows cold in the hearts of many, because of abuse suffered in the past.*
- *Only someone whose love has grown cold can become a pimp, drug dealer or assassin. It is because of the multiplication of wickedness that the hearts of many will grow cold.*
- *There are dysfunctional marriages and families who do not trust one another because of a bad experience or trauma suffered in the past.*

e. Hearts Will Faint Because Of Fear (Luke 21:25-28)-

- *The hearts of many will faint because they will fear what will happen next on earth. They will be perplexed, in other words confused because of the earth quakes and problems in the end times.*
- *When one's heart faints, grows weary and doesn't know what to do before crisis, then the enemy sows a seed of perplexity, shame and guilt in the heart.*

2. OUR RESPONSIBILITIES:

- *13 That's the whole story. Here now is my final conclusion: Fear God and obey his commands, for this is everyone's duty. **Ecclesiastes 12:13 NLT***
- *Our responsibility is to develop a fear of God so that we can obey Him, deal with what's most important to Him and fulfill our purpose.*

3. THE BENEFITS OF FEARING GOD AND LOVING GOD:

- We will have less problems.*
- Loving God will help us avoid conforming to this secular and materialistic culture.*
- We will live with purpose.*
- We will take care of what's most important to God.*
- We will live with a sense of urgency.*

Conclusion: *In this time the Holy Spirit is speaking to us and we must obey Him for our own good, because when Christ returns for His church, the Holy Spirit will together be snatched with the church; and those who stay will no longer hear His direction. Jesus is knocking at the door of your heart because He wants to return for you as His church. We invite you to pray the following prayer:*

Sinner's Prayer

*Lord Jesus I recognize
I have sinned and
that you died for me
Today I repent and
ask for forgiveness.
Give you my life and
heart so you can be
my Lord and Personal
Savior, amen.*