

# ***John Newlin Ministries, Inc.***

## **Signs of the Times: Looking for Answers in All the Wrong Places**

Recently one of the commentators on CNN made a surprisingly wise observation: after all this time, more than two years, of campaigning and debates and discussion, the American people are looking at the two candidates and saying, “I’m not sure. I’m just not sure. I don’t really know either of these.”

Well, there’s a reason for that concern. These are human beings, two people who have different life histories, one much longer than the other. But they are people. They aren’t God. The American people want someone to solve the financial situation, end the involvement of Americans in wars abroad, keep us safe at home, provide all the material goodies that Madison avenue has convinced all Americans they must have to live contented lives. Neither of these candidates can do all that.

Americans today are an empty people. They are tired of working all the time to get the money to pay the mortgage, buy the cars and electronics and whatever else. Somehow deep inside some of them are beginning to feel there is more to life than this. There is more. Or there should be. They are beginning to feel that, frankly, what’s the point?

That’s a life without God. That emptiness inside can only be filled by God. Only Jesus can take care of the problem. But Americans spend their lives running away from God – in their schools, in their entertainment, in their politics.

Amazing. The evil one, satan, the devil, has done an amazing job of frightening Americans away from God. Oh, yes, he is real. So is God. But the evil one has been so successful that few realize he is real and many just stay away from God.

The brick building churches on the street corners in general teach a little of Jesus. Just a little. Most don’t want to offend. And a huge number of the denominations just don’t get into the full gospel at all. Just a few words about Jesus and believing in him. Nothing about all that following Jesus entails. Nothing about the Holy Spirit, God on earth now, really on earth, in person, with a real presence and power. Jesus asked the Father and He sent us the Holy Spirit. But most mainstream churches have just ignored that part of the Bible, and, oh yes, the Holy Spirit, your guide and friend and companion if you want Him. He is God too.

So when Jesus comes back soon – in the very near future – it will be as He said in the Bible. He gave two examples in the 17<sup>th</sup> chapter of Luke. It will be as in the days of Noah and of Lot. People will just be doing their thing, and suddenly Jesus will be here and everything will be changed. Just like the flood that took out everyone except Noah and his family. Or the destruction that took out the city of Sodom and everyone there except Lot and his family. All the people but Noah and his family and Lot and his family were totally surprised.

Unless things change dramatically, most Americans will just be doing their thing, looking in all the wrong places.