

# ADVICE FOR TODAY'S CHRISTIAN

Luke 12:49-59 NIV



#1 - We live in DIVISIVE times and this is PERSONAL.

*"Do you think I came to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but division." Luke 12:51 NIV*

*"But you must remember, beloved, the predictions of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. They said to you, "In the last time there will be scoffers, following their own ungodly passions." It is these who cause divisions, worldly people, devoid of the Spirit." Jude 1:17-19 ESV*

*"They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law." Luke 12:53 NIV*

#2 - We have the ability to INTERPRET THE SIGNS of the times in which we live.

*"How is it that you don't know how to interpret this present time? Why don't you judge for yourselves what is right?" Luke 12:56b-57 NIV*

**Sign Blockers:**

A - Blocked by CONGENITAL BLINDNESS.

*Jesus spoke to the people once more and said, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." John 8:12 NLT*

B - Blocked by HERETICAL DOCTRINE.

*"I appeal to you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and create obstacles contrary to the doctrine that you have been taught; avoid them. For such persons do not serve our Lord Christ, but their own appetites, and by smooth talk and flattery they deceive the hearts of the naive." Romans 16:17-18 ESV*

C - Blocked by DIVERTED SELFISHNESS.

*"Remember this! In the last days there will be many troubles, because people will love themselves, love money, brag, and be proud. They will say evil things against others and will not obey their parents or be thankful or be the kind of people God wants. They will not love others, will refuse to forgive, will gossip, and will not control themselves. They will be cruel, will hate what is good, will turn against their friends, and will do foolish things without thinking. They will be conceited, will love pleasure instead of God, and will act as if they serve God but will not have his power. Stay away from those people." 2 Timothy 3:1-5 NCV*

#3 - We must be PRAGMATIC and not STUBBORN in how we live with others.

*"If your enemy is taking you to court, try hard to settle it on the way." Luke 12:58a NCV*