

This weekends' readings focus on the end of times. A bleak topic to be sure, and one that has fascinated Christians in every age. There are popular books and movies that seem to be hyper focused on the end of the world. But it seems that they forget that Christ said that it is God the Father's to know the timing and no one else. Still every age seems to think that the signs point to their time to be the end of world. Some have even been convinced that there will only be a certain number of Popes before the end. We are expected to live in anticipation of the end of the world, not knowing when that will be.

Think about it, the fall of the Roman empire that ushered in the dark ages, the trauma experienced by World War I, only to be followed by World War II. There is a myriad of events that I am sure people thought could only point to the end of the world being now. We could fool ourselves into thinking that the rejection of Christ by our modern society could be another such signpost, but to be honest the world has always rejected Christ and probably always will. There have been martyrs in every age including our own. Jesus is an authority that demands our obedience, the world will always balk at such authority, even if it is claimed by the one person in the history of the world that holds it in the palm of His hand.

I am convinced that all people that claim to be prophets or heralds of the end of times miss the point. If we are never to know when the end of times is at hand, we are then tasked with something much more difficult than proclaiming the end is near. We are tasked with living as if each day is our last, to live in anticipation of being called home and giving an account of our life to its very author. That means we must focus constantly on how we can work on our own holiness, never putting off what God asks of us till tomorrow.