**Sermon Outline** First Baptist Church

 February 18, 2018 (Morning)

“The Olivet Discourse Part 3: As Birth Pains Upon A Woman”

**Matthew 24:8-14**

 **I. Jesus illustrated the end times by using labor pains (v. 8).**

 A. Contractions become closer together.

 B. Contractions grow more intense.

 **II. Jesus gives several signs that show that the end is getting closer (vs. 9-14).**

 A. Believers will be hated by all nations because of the name of Jesus.

 B. There is going to be a great apostasy (falling away from the faith).

 C. There is going to be a rise of false teaching.

 D. There is going to be an increase in lawlessness.

 E. People will become more and more unloving.

 D. The gospel will be preached to all nations.

(Luke 21:12; 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12; 2 Timothy 3:1-5, 7-8, 12-13; 4:1-5)

 **III. Jesus wanted His followers to be ready for what is going to take place.**

 A. Jesus’ followers must pay attention to what is taking place.

 B. Jesus’ followers should not forget that God is in control.

(Matthew 16:1-3)

**Scripture References and Notes**

1 John 2:18

Children, it is the last hour; and just as you heard that antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have appeared; from this we know that it is the last hour.

**last**

* ἔσχατος (eschatos)
1. pertaining to being at the farthest boundary of an area, *farthest, last*
2. pertaining to being the final item in a series, *least, last* in time
3. pertaining to furthest extremity in rank, value, or situation, *last: last, least, most insignificant*
* (from *esxaton*, "end, last") – properly, last, final (the furthest, extreme-end). *esxatos* ("future things"), the root of "*eschatology*" is "the study of *last things*." This *includes future Bible* prophecy, the *end-times*, and life after death ("the after-life").

**birth pangs**

* ὠδίν (ódin)
* experience of pains associated with childbirth
* a birth pang
* the pain of childbirth, acute pain, severe agony, a snare.
* [(*ōdín*) suggests *intense suffering* (similar to birth pain) – hence, "to suffer greatly, great pain" (*L & N*, 1, 24.87) like "a birth-pang, travail-pain; figuratively, extreme suffering" (*A-S*).]

Luke 21:12

…before all these, they shall lay their hands on you, and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues, and into prisons, being brought before kings and rulers for my name’s sake.

2 Timothy 3:12

Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

**fall away**

* σκανδαλίζω (skandalizó)
* I cause to stumble, cause to sin, cause to become indignant, shock, offend.
* to put a snare (in the way), hence to cause to stumble, to give offense

2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

**1** Now we request you, brethren, with regard to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, **2**that you not be quickly shaken from your composure or be disturbed either by a spirit or a message or a letter as if from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come. **3**Let no one in any way deceive you, for *it will not come* unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, **4**who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God. **5**Do you not remember that while I was still with you, I was telling you these things? **6**And you know what restrains him now, so that in his time he will be revealed. **7**For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains *will do so* until he is taken out of the way. **8**Then that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming; **9***that is*, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders, **10**and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved. **11**For this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false,**12**in order that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness.

2 Timothy 4:1-5

**1** I solemnly charge *you* in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: **2**preach the word; be ready in season *and* out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction. **3**For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but *wanting* to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, **4**and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths. **5**But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

Colossians 2:8

See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ.

2 Timothy 3:1-5, 7-8, 12-13

**1** But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. **2**For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, **3**unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, **4**treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, **5**holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these.

**7**always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. **8**Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these *men* also oppose the truth, men of depraved mind, rejected in regard to the faith.

**12**Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. **13**But evil men and impostors will proceed *from bad* to worse, deceiving and being deceived.