

# The End Times Hope



Daniel 12:1-3 *“At that time Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time your people—everyone whose name is found written in the book—will be delivered.”*

**S**igns of the end surround us: Japan tsunami, Joplin tornado, Missouri River floods, Mississippi River floods, Afghanistan, Osama Bin Laden, Libya, Protests, Iceland volcano, Protests.

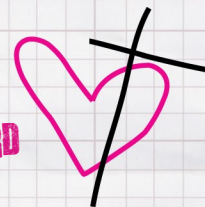
Preachers of the “End” usually preach doom and gloom and rightfully so. The Bible does paint a pretty bleak picture of this world’s demise. Daniel prophesies that it will be a time of distress that has not happened since the beginning of nations. It is a bleak picture that has little hope.

*Except for those who have been baptized.*

To those whose name was written in the book. To those who have Christ’s cross on their forehead and heart, the End signals the beginning. When other hearts faint theirs begin to hope and look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. They begin to anticipate seeing their Lord face to face. They see the signs of the end but know that despite the disaster and doom, in the end, they will be delivered by the death of the One who lives and reigns to all eternity. The tornados, tsunamis, wars, rumors, floods, earthquakes might be signs of the end but these are not times for pessimism, but for prayer and hope.

Sub Cruce, Pastor Peter Utecht

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