## Alpha and Omega: He started it and will end it.

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end." Revelation 21:6b NAS

#### Evidence that we are in the end times:

#### 1. Wars and rumors of war.

And you will hear of wars and threats of wars, but don't panic. Yes, these things must take place, but the end won't follow immediately. Nation will go to war against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in many parts of the world. But all this is only the first of the birth pains, with more to come. **Matthew 24:6-8 NLT** 

#### 2. False teaching and deceptions.

For a time is coming when people will no longer listen to sound and wholesome teaching. They will follow their own desires and will look for teachers who will tell them whatever their itching ears want to hear. They will reject the truth and chase after myths. **2 Timothy 4:3-4 NLT** 

### 3. Lawlessness and wickedness.

Because lawlessness will multiply, the love of many will grow cold. Matthew 24:12 HCSB

### 4. Persecution of Christians.

"Then you will be arrested, persecuted, and killed. You will be hated all over the world because you are my followers. And many will turn away from me and betray and hate each other.

Matthew 24:9-10 NLT

# 5. The return of Christ.

[The angels] said, "..Why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven." **Acts 1:11 NAS** 

For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words. 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 NAS

How should we respond?

Stay faithful. Sacrifice to take the gospel to the world.

"Because you have obeyed my command to persevere, I will protect you from the great time of testing that will come upon the whole world to test those who belong to this world. I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take away your crown." **Revelation 3:10-11 NLT** 

"..go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father..the Son and of the Holy Spirit..teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the <u>very end of the age</u>." **Matthew 28:19-20 NIV** 

Message Notes: <u>The Holy Bible</u>, New American Standard, New Living Translation, Hohman Christian Standard Bible.