

16 September 2018: Preached by Rev Clement Chew

**Topic: A Study of 2 Timothy: Perilous Times are Here! (I)**

Scripture text: 2 Tim 3:1-5

1. We are living in the last days, in perilous times and in a world of danger. The "last days" began around 2,000 years ago during the First Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ (cf. Heb 1:1-3). During perilous times, godly Christians must expect to face strong violence and persecution. The dangers that we face are spiritual, not physical. The Devil will use ungodly men to afflict harm and we must deliberately avoid any association with these men who will bring danger to our spiritual life and the Church.

2. Firstly, these wicked men are selfish. They love themselves above God and others, love money and the opulent life.

3. Secondly, these wicked men are proud. They are men who praise themselves, desire to be above others, insist on their own ways instead of submitting to God's Word and are puffed up. Their pride will lead them to blaspheme God by speaking against His Word.

4. Thirdly, these wicked men are ungrateful people. They are unthankful and are traitors. Their disobedience to their parents reveal their lack of natural affection, compassion and love for their parents.

5. Lastly, these wicked men are liars. They do not keep to their word and are like the Devil in terms of accusing the believers falsely. They are fierce against those who are godly and lack self-control in dealing with their lusts.

6. These wicked men appear to be holy, yet they are not truly saved. They have not experienced the powerful transformation unto holiness that comes from believing in Jesus Christ. In perilous times, the Church must be on her guard and continue to remain faithful in her witness for the Lord.