

THE EXAMINATION SCROLL

A Call to Examine the Heart in the Last Days

Based on 2 Timothy 3:1–9 | Written in the Spirit of Jude

“These are the times foretold—when darkness parades as light, and many fall prey to shadows in disguise. The sickness of the age is not just out there; it seeks refuge in the hearts of those who were once pure.”

The apostle Paul, in his letter to Timothy, provides a sobering description of such times:

2 Timothy 3:1–9 (ESV)

1 But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty.

2 For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, 3 heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, 4 treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, 5 having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people.

6 For among them are those who creep into households and capture weak women, burdened with sins and led astray by various passions, 7 **always learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth.** 8 Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, **so these men also oppose the truth, men corrupted in mind and disqualified regarding the faith.** 9 But they will not get very far, for their folly will be plain to all, as was that of those two men.

The Last Days Heart Checklist

Based on 2 Timothy 3:1-9 |

Examine Yourself. Watch for These. Turn When Found.

1. Lover of Self

Your own will sits on the throne. You speak of “calling” but bow to comfort.

→ **Heart Check:** Has your love of God been replaced by the love of your own image?

→ **Solution:** Practice daily surrender: *“Not my will, but Yours.”* Actively choose obedience over preference each day.

2. Lover of Money

Gold whispers louder than grace. The hand stretches out not to serve, but to gather.

→ **Heart Check:** Is your pursuit of wealth choking out your pursuit of the Kingdom?

→ **Solution:** Give in secret this week. Break greed with generosity. *“Seek first the Kingdom...”*

3. Boastful, Arrogant

Your words climb ladders built of smoke.

→ **Heart Check:** Do you elevate yourself while others fade in your presence?

→ **Solution:** Choose hidden acts of service. Let others be praised instead of you. *“Let another praise you...”*

4. Abusive

Power is misused. Words cut. Silence manipulates.

→ **Heart Check:** Have you traded gentleness for dominance, or kindness for control?

→ **Solution:** Seek accountability. Return to the posture of a servant. Practice soft answers. *"Let your gentleness be evident..."*

5. Disobedient to Parents

Roots are rejected. Honor is foreign.

→ **Heart Check:** Is rebellion hiding under your independence?

→ **Solution:** Reestablish honor with your spiritual and natural parents. *"Honor your father and mother..."*

6. Ungrateful, Unholy

Blessings go unnoticed. Sacred things are treated as common.

→ **Heart Check:** Have you become numb to the awe of God?

→ **Solution:** Write down three things God has done daily. Return to reverence. *"Be holy, for I am holy."*

7. Without Natural Affection

The heart grows cold. Compassion is replaced with self-preservation.

→ **Heart Check:** Do you turn away from the suffering of others with no burden to intercede?

→ **Solution:** Pray daily for someone else's breakthrough. Weep with the broken. *"Bear one another's burdens."*

8. Unforgiving, Slanderous

Bitterness is dressed as discernment. The tongue speaks half-truths with full venom.

→ **Heart Check:** Are you holding offenses while preaching grace?

→ **Solution:** Bless the one who hurt you out loud. Release the offense in prayer.

"Forgive as the Lord forgave you."

9. Without Self-Control

Impulse overrules wisdom. Appetite governs decisions.

→ **Heart Check:** Are you driven more by craving than by conviction?

→ **Solution:** Fast something this week. Rebuild resistance. *"The fruit of the Spirit is self-control."*

10. Brutal, Traitorous, Reckless

Loyalty is discarded when tested. Fury disguises itself as justice.

→ **Heart Check:** Do you tear down what you once vowed to protect?

→ **Solution:** Revisit your covenant relationships and repent for breaches. *"Let your yes be yes..."*

11. Conceited

Correction feels like attack. Authority is rejected unless it flatters.

→ **Heart Check:** Have you grown allergic to rebuke and immune to humility?

→ **Solution:** Ask a trusted person to point out blind spots. Sit in correction without defense. *"The wise love rebuke."*

12. Lover of Pleasure Over Lover of God

The altar has been traded for a screen. The prayer closet, for noise.

→ **Heart Check:** Has pleasure dulled your hunger for the presence of the Lord?

→ **Solution:** Replace one hour of entertainment with prayer or stillness this week.

"In Your presence is fullness of joy."

13. A Form of Godliness Without Power

You look holy, sound spiritual, but lack fire and freedom.

→ **Heart Check:** Are you performing righteousness while avoiding the cost of surrender?

→ **Solution:** Ask the Holy Spirit what you've kept hidden. Confess and surrender it.

"Denying its power... have nothing to do with them."

The Hidden Threats: Deception That Creeps In

Worms in the House

"They worm their way into households..."

False voices gain access through unguarded doors—screens, emotions, wounds.

→ **Heart Check:** Are unguarded voices shaping your beliefs?

→ **Solution:** Audit your influences—music, media, conversations. Guard your gates. *"Take every thought captive..."*

Captivated by Shame and Desire

Those weighed down by guilt become easy prey.

→ **Heart Check:** Have you made peace with your chains rather than seeking to be delivered?

→ **Solution:** Expose the shame. Bring it to light. Let godly sorrow lead to repentance. *"There is now no condemnation..."*

Always Learning, Never Changing

Endless input. No transformation.

→ **Heart Check:** Are you addicted to spiritual knowledge but resistant to Truth's demands?

→ **Solution:** Apply one truth you've heard this week instead of searching for a new one. *"Be doers of the Word..."*

Opposing the Truth

Like Jannes and Jambres, deception resists what God is doing in the now.

→ **Heart Check:** Have you started to call good "evil," and evil "good," without realizing it?

→ **Solution:** Ask God to remove pride. Let the Word cut through your preferences. *"Your Word is a sword..."*

Final Admonition

"These men are depraved in mind and disqualified regarding the faith... But their folly will become plain."

Let the Spirit search you. These are not simply traits to observe in others—they are **weeds that grow in silence** if left unchecked in the soul.

Cry Out

"Lord, purge my heart. Expose every hidden thing. Break deception. Restore the fear of the Lord in me. Let me not be one who wears the mask of godliness but denies the power that can heal and sanctify. I return to You. Now."