

## UNDERSTANDING THE TIMES—ACTS 15:12–18

Pastor George Stiekes

Paul described the hour of our existence as “perilous times” (2 Tim 3:1), meaning precarious, unsafe, uncertain or even dangerous times, because of a conflict that goes all the way back to the garden. Every person and every nation has a role in this conflict, in the past, present, and future. The one source of hope in the midst of this conflict is the Word of God whose author is the Creator, Controller and Finisher of time.

### I. The Commencement of the Conflict in History

### II. The Continuation of the Conflict through Ishmael

### III. The Consequences of the Conflict for Israel

### IV. The Charge for the Church Relating to the Conflict