

THE BIBLE TIME MACHINE

CAUTION: YOU ARE ABOUT TO VISIT THE FUTURE!

The Bible Time Machine

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We live in an age when technology has so empowered man that a small group of terrorists – even an individual – could bring a nation to its knees. For centuries only nation-states commanded such power...

-- Curt Weldon
Vice Chairman, House Armed Services Committee¹

I think human life is threatened as never before in the history of this planet. Not just by one peril, but by many perils that are all working together and coming to a head at about the same time. And that time lies close to the year 2000. I am one of those scientists who finds it hard to see how the human race is to bring itself much past the year 2000.

-- The late Dr. George Wald
Nobel Prize-winning scientist, Harvard University²

I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning...

Isaiah 46:9-10

The Bible says that in the end times natural and man-made disasters will increase in size and frequency. The prophet Isaiah says *...the earth will move out of her place...* (Isaiah 13:13), and the prophet Joel says: *The sun shall be turned into darkness and the moon into blood...* (Joel 2:31). The Apostle John prophesied *...and a great star fell from heaven, burning like a torch...* (Revelation 8:10).

The powerful earthquake which caused the Tsunami of December 2004 in Indonesia was a taste of things to come – it was reported by scientists to have shifted the earth slightly on its axis. Large volcanic eruptions spew so much dust and ash into the atmosphere that the sun is darkened and the moon appears to be red – like blood. (Nuclear blasts cause this effect also). Jupiter was hit by a large comet in 1994 (Shoemaker-Levy 9). Scientists say our turn is not a matter of “if” but “when!”

ALL ABOARD!

Quiet please! You are entering the Bible “Time Machine.” Please take your seats. It is essential that you give me your undivided attention. I will be your tour guide as we travel back in time to visit some prophets of the Bible and examine some of their prophecies: some that have been fulfilled, some that are being fulfilled in our time, and some that have yet to be fulfilled. That’s right, we will also travel into the future. But first, we will be transported back in time 2700 years! Remember what Jesus said, *So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks, it will be opened* (Luke 11:9). Notice that He says everyone who seeks finds. That includes you. Here we go -- we are picking up speed. We are racing back in time. We are going to visit some of God’s special messengers, the prophets of the Old Testament.

I want to call your attention to the blinking sign overhead for safety instructions. It is now flashing “Fasten Seatbelts,” so please do so. Also, during our time travel it will occasionally be flashing warning messages that you should heed.

We still have some time, so I want to explain how these prophets saw into the future. Sometimes they heard God’s voice and took dictation. They would start by saying, “The Word of the Lord came to me..,” and then they would write it all down. Sometimes they would also have visions and actually see future events. Other times they would be moved to say things as they were inspired by God’s Spirit. For example, David would be writing or singing a psalm (song of praise and worship) and get a message from the Lord which he would incorporate into the psalm, often not fully understanding the meaning.

We have a few minutes before we reach our destination of 700 B.C. to visit the prophet Isaiah. Are there any questions? Ok, go ahead sir. **Does the Bible give any indication as to how God knows the future?** Good question. Well, it does give us a hint. The Bible states that God lives in a different dimension from time called “eternity.” I’ll come back to that in a moment, but first, did you know that you can see into the future in a limited sense? **How is that?** Say you’re in an airplane at approximately 10,000 feet. You look out the window and see a car traveling down a long straight road. Then you look way up ahead of the car, and you see a

big curve to the left, and around that curve the traffic is backed up due to an accident. Now, you can see into the future of the driver's life, because you know what will happen to him in about one minute. He will round the curve and come to a stop. **So because I'm higher up, I can actually see into the future to a limited degree.** But unfortunately, no matter how high you go, you cannot get out of the space-time continuum – and incidentally, this term came originally from Einstein not the “Back to The Future” movie. However, God can go higher since He lives outside of time in eternity. Time, which God created, is simply the movement of matter. Therefore, God can look into the time dimension at any point and see what will happen. Of course, I don't know that this is how He sees the future, but it could have something to do with it.

All right ma'am, go ahead. **Since we will be visiting the future, can you give us a few Bible prophecies as an example of what we will be seeing?** Well, let's see...how about this? Little North Korea is now boasting a million man army. But China announced in the early 1980's that it had a 200 million man army! This sounds too incredible even for modern-day armies. So consider how amazing it must have seemed to the Apostle John in the 1st century when he sees a vision of the “Kings of the East” advancing across the Euphrates River en route to the Battle of Armageddon – the final world war. The troops are mounted on “horses” fitting the description of armored vehicles firing nuclear artillery shells and spewing out chemical weapons of mass destruction which kill a third of mankind! And then he hears the size of the army – *Now the number of the army of the horsemen was two hundred million; I heard the number of them.* **That's in the Bible?** Yes, its Revelation 9:16 & 16:12. We will be seeing some awesome, frightening things very soon I assure you.

WARNING: THE TREND IN MODERN MILITARY WARFARE IS TOWARD SMALL, TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS WHICH CAN BE FIRED FROM A TANK'S MAIN GUN AGAINST AN ENEMY AT CLOSE RANGE.³

OK, over here – go ahead. **Are there any prophecies that give any indication concerning the technological advances of our day?** Yes, there are. For example, the Bible says that the whole world will be able to see a certain event at the same time (Rev.11:9). Down through the centuries, skeptics used this to criticize the validity of the Bible, for such a thing seemed impossible. Indeed, it would have been impossible even through most of the 20th century! But today, satellite TV enables people all over the world to see the same thing at the same time. The Bible also says that the generation living “at the time of the end” will see an explosion of knowledge and great advances in travel (Daniel 12:4). We'll see other examples when we travel to the future.

Can you give us a prophecy that Jesus made which we can verify? Why yes, I'm glad you asked. Right before He was crucified, Jesus told His disciples that Jerusalem would soon be destroyed. He warned them: *But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies...then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those who are in the midst of her depart, and let not those who are in the country enter her. For these are the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled...and they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled* (Luke 21:20-24 – this was their punishment for rejecting Him). Imagine how unbelievable this must have sounded to the disciples. The Jews had lived in Israel and Jerusalem for over 1000 years! Compare that with the U.S., which is just over 200 years old. But to continue, that is exactly what happened. In 70 A.D., only 37 years after Jesus' death and

resurrection, the Roman general Titus surrounded Jerusalem with his army. Most of the Jews had sought the protection of Jerusalem with its high walls – but only those who fled the city survived. Titus destroyed Jerusalem completely, and killed most of the people. He then shipped the survivors off to all parts of the empire to serve as slaves. All this was exactly as Jesus predicted. You can verify this on the internet or in any encyclopedia.

I read in the Bible that Jesus said every stone of the temple would be torn down so there would not be left one stone upon another, and that the entire city of Jerusalem would be completely leveled. Did this happen? Ah, I see you've been doing your homework in preparation for this trip – Matthew 24: 1-2 and Luke 19: 43-44. Yes, that is exactly what happened. You see, the Romans burned the city, and there was so much gold and silver in the temple that it became molten and ran down the bricks and settled in the crevices – even into the foundation stones. There was also much treasure in homes and municipal buildings with the same results. Therefore, the Romans enslaved the Jews and forced them to tear down the temple and every building in Jerusalem to the foundations in order to salvage the gold and silver. Leveling the city would also serve as a warning to the other Roman colonies that rebellion against Rome was useless. This is recorded in secular history by the Jewish historian Josephus and also by General Titus.⁴ The city wall and gates standing today were built by the Turkish sultan, Suleiman the Magnificent, in 1541. Incidentally, the Roman emperor, Vespasian, used the plunder of Jerusalem to help finance the construction of the Coliseum in Rome.

Let me encourage you to pay close attention to every word Jesus spoke. For example, in describing His Second Coming which occurs suddenly in a moment of time, Jesus states that some people will be asleep at night while others will be working in the daytime (Luke 17: 34-36). In saying this, Jesus anticipates the scientific discoveries of the 16th and 17th centuries: that the earth is spherical, and that it rotates on its axis – producing the effect of different hours of the same day. **Are you saying that 1600 years before Galileo saw the truth about the rotation of the earth and the movement of the planets through his telescope, Jesus already knew it?** Yes, that is precisely what I am saying. After all, He made the universe, and He is sending a subtle message to modern man – 'believe!'

What about the history of Israel? Was it trampled down by the Gentiles – and who are the Gentiles? The Gentiles are all non-Jewish people. Yes, it was trampled down by many countries over the last 2000 years. It was held by the Romans, Byzantines, Arabs, crusaders, Arabs again, Ottoman Turks, and Great Britain to name a few. Even as recently as the nineteenth century, Palestine (the region of ancient Israel) was nearly deserted and very desolate, as the prophets predicted. When Mark Twain traveled there in 1867, he wrote in his book "The Innocents Abroad" that Jerusalem was "mournful and dreary and lifeless," and covered with weeds. He did not see one human being on his route to the city. It was not held by the Jews, or even largely occupied by them again, until the nation of Israel was re-established in 1948 by the newly formed United Nations following World War II. This was due in large part to the tremendous outpouring of sympathy for the Jews because of their suffering during the holocaust. Immediately, Jews from all over the world began pouring into Israel. When this happened, Bible scholars and Christians the world over went running for their Bibles, and stared in amazement at the prophecies of prophets such as Moses, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Zechariah, Joel, Amos, Hosea, and, of course, Jesus Himself. They prophesied repeatedly (as we shall see shortly) that the Jews would be dispersed all over the world, and then would return to Israel after a long period of time. In fact, the Bible is full of these dispersion and restoration prophecies concerning

the Jewish people. **If the “times of the Gentiles” are nearly fulfilled, what new time are we entering?** The Bible says we are entering the ‘end times.’

What about nuclear weapons? The atomic bomb has caused such a dramatic change in the way the human race views the world today. Is there any mention of this in prophecy? Most definitely. The prophet Zechariah (500 B.C.) prophesied that during the Battle of Armageddon, the soldiers who attack Jerusalem will suffer as follows: *...their flesh shall dissolve while they stand on their feet, their eyes shall dissolve in their sockets, and their tongues shall dissolve in their mouths* (Zechariah 14:12). In a thermonuclear blast, this is what happens. There are other prophecies regarding a nuclear holocaust we will see also.

WARNING: ISRAEL POSSESSES THE LATEST NUCLEAR WONDER – THE NEUTRON BOMB. THIS IS A FUSION BOMB THAT DESTROYS LIVING FLESH WITH A POWERFUL BURST OF RADIATION, BUT DOES NOT HARM TREES, BUILDINGS, ETC. THE RADIATION DISSIPATES RAPIDLY AND THE COUNTRY’S INFRASTRUCTURE IS LEFT INTACT. THIS IS A TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPON THAT LITERALLY VAPORIZES ALL LIVING THINGS WITHIN ITS KILL ZONE.⁵

Wait a minute! We’re not going to see such things on this trip are we? Yes, I’m afraid the future is pretty horrific. OK, calm down everyone. Although the future is terrifying, there is hope for you and that is what this time trip is all about. But before we can have hope for the future, we must explore the foundations for that hope in the past.

We are slowing down now and the year-clock is showing the year 700 B.C. See that old man with the beard over there? That’s Isaiah the prophet. Let’s listen carefully to what he is saying: *...in the future He (God) will honor Galilee of the Gentiles, by the way of the sea, along the Jordan -- The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned* (Isaiah 9:1-2 NIV)...*For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace* (Isaiah 9:6).

Did you hear that?!! Something amazing is going to happen in Galilee -- the part of Israel held in contempt by the Jews because it was captured by the Assyrians. It is now filled with Gentiles with whom Jews won’t even associate. Also the sea of Galilee and the Jordan River -- something great is going to take place there. The spiritual darkness will be dispersed by the light of truth. And even more incredible, a Jewish baby will be born, and he is actually going to be God in human flesh!! He will be doing amazing things around Galilee. In other prophecies by other prophets, He is called the Messiah. Now let’s go back a few years and hear Isaiah prophesying something else about this child’s birth and while we’re traveling I want to explain something.

The Bible is a giant jigsaw puzzle filled with many scrambled pieces. You see, the Lord wants you to seek Him and so He does not show Himself plainly. He hides Himself and His plans. That’s why His prophecies are obscure enough to be hidden from those who are uninterested, but are illuminated to those who are seeking Him.

We’re stopping. Look, there is Isaiah again -- he is beginning to prophecy about this child’s birth: *Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel* (Isaiah 7:14). So now we see that the child will

be miraculously born of a virgin. Immanuel means “God with us”, so this prophecy also speaks of the mystery of God becoming man. He also sees that this man will do miracles: *Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the dumb sing* (Isaiah 35:5-6).

Now let’s visit the prophet Micah, a contemporary of Isaiah’s. Remember, this is 700 B.C. There he is over there. He is getting another glimpse, another piece of the puzzle. God is showing him where this child will be born. Let’s listen while he prophesies: *But you, Bethlehem Ephratha* [the region where Bethlehem is located], *though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting* (Micah 5:2). So the child is to be born in Bethlehem, and notice again that the wording alludes to His divinity -- He existed “from everlasting.” This can also be translated from the Hebrew to mean “from eternity.” Now let’s go forward in time and visit the prophet Daniel. And while we are traveling, I want to tell you something about God. Hang on, here we go.

God is a “three person being” as the noted Christian author C.S. Lewis said. This sounds very strange, I know, and it is a great mystery. God hints at it in Genesis, when he says *Let Us make man in Our image* (Gen.1:26) -- speaking to Himself in the plural. Moreover, the word for God in Hebrew is Elohim -- a plural noun -- but it is used with a singular verb implying the Trinity. He also tells Abraham and Moses that He is “one.” But interestingly, the Hebrew word for “one” (echad) can mean unity that is composed of parts, as when the Bible states: *And there was morning and there was evening, one (echad) day* (Genesis 1:5 RSV); or when describing marriage the Bible states that a man and his wife *shall become one (echad) flesh* (Genesis 2:24). Jesus said that He came out from the Father, and that He always existed with the Father. How can this be?

Think of a fire. Light and heat come forth from the fire, and yet they always existed with the fire. The Trinity was a term coined in the 4th century as people began to focus on God’s nature in more detail. But it is important to realize that God can lower part of Himself down to our level, and actually be in a lower state temporarily (as a man), while the other parts of Him (the Father and the Holy Spirit) are still all-powerful and all-knowing...we are slowing down, and I see that we are in the year 570 B.C.

We are arriving in Babylon (ancient Iraq), where Nebuchadnezzar is king. He has recently conquered and destroyed Jerusalem, and carried most of the Jews captive to Babylon. God actually allowed this as punishment because Israel kept disobeying Him. Isaiah had prophesied 100 years earlier that this would happen, but that a king named Cyrus would release the Jews so they could return to Jerusalem. Then Jeremiah, another prophet, added that the captivity would last 70 years (which it did). I wish I had time to share these great prophecies with you, but we must move on. Daniel, one of the young Jewish captives, has visions from God. In one of them, God tells him when the Messiah’s first coming will be. We know from several prophets that He is coming the first time as a suffering servant, and later as a victorious king.

Look, there is Daniel now. He is having a vision in which the angel Gabriel is speaking: *Seventy weeks are determined for your people and for your holy city...Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince, there shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks...*(Daniel 9:25). Gabriel says

that Messiah will appear 69 weeks (or 69 “sevens” in some Bible translations) following a king’s decree to rebuild Jerusalem after it was destroyed by Babylon. A “week” or “shabua” was a 7 year period. (Daniel says that a final 70th week -- a 7 year period of judgment on the Jews -- will be delayed until the “Great Tribulation” at the end of the age when the Antichrist brings the greatest persecution in history on them, known as the “time of Jacob’s trouble”). They measured by sevens like we measure by tens, so the “week” was a Hebrew expression similar to our “decade” or ten year period (which we got from the Greeks). First, King Cyrus of Persia allows the Jews to return and rebuild the temple, just as Isaiah predicted a century earlier, even naming the King (Persia conquered Babylon during the 70 years in which the Jews were held captive). But in 444 B.C., King Artaxerxes issued the decree (Nehemiah 2:1-8), to allow the Jews to rebuild the city. This decree is also documented in secular history about the time of Confucius in China & Buddha in India. In *Evidence that Demands A Verdict*, Josh McDowell calculated that 483 years (69 weeks and using the Jewish year of 360 days) from the decree brings us to 33 A.D., the year of Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday), when He declared publicly that He was the Messiah. Now, if Daniel had prophesied 63 weeks or 75 weeks or 125 weeks etc., you could point to this prophecy and say that Jesus is not the Messiah, or that the Bible can’t be trusted, but you can’t do that – Bible prophecies are too accurate.

I have a question? Ok, go ahead sir. **Does Daniel say anything about the Messiah’s death, and does he predict the second destruction of Jerusalem shortly afterwards in 70 A.D.?** Why yes, he does. He says that when the Messiah arrives, He *shall be cut off...and the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary* (Dan.9:26).

I wish we had time to stay with Daniel awhile longer, and listen to his many other prophecies. In one vision he sees the rise and fall of four major kingdoms which rule the world beginning with the Babylonian empire. Then the angel Gabriel appears to him and actually names the kingdoms of Medo-Persia and Greece and gives details. For example, Greece (the third empire) crushes Medo-Persia, but its ruler suddenly dies at the height of his power with no heirs. His empire was divided up between his four generals. This can be none other than Alexander the Great! Look him up on the internet or in the encyclopedia, and you will be amazed at the accuracy of this prophecy! Finally, Daniel is shown a fourth kingdom that is far more powerful than the others (Rome). It eventually falls, but in the ‘end times’ it is partially restored from 10 nations which formerly composed the empire, as we shall see when we travel to the future.

We are now going forward in time to visit the prophet Zechariah. Unfortunately, we do not have time to visit King David (1000 B.C.), but he and other prophets saw that the Messiah would die a violent death. In Psalm 22 for example, David vicariously experiences the Messiah’s crucifixion – a form of capital punishment unknown in David’s day. It was invented by the Persians in 300 B.C. and perfected by the Romans in 100 B.C.: *I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint...the congregation of the wicked has enclosed me. They pierced my hands and my feet...they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.* Fifteen of David’s psalms are considered messianic because they depict such graphic details of Jesus’ life, death and resurrection. Isaiah also gives many details such as: *...he was led like a lamb to the slaughter...and was numbered with the transgressors* (Jesus was crucified between two criminals). But Isaiah also foresaw Jesus’ resurrection: *...he was cut off from the land of the living...and though the Lord makes his life a guilt offering...after the suffering of his soul...he will see the light of life...* (Isaiah 53:8-12 NIV). But why did God do this? Let’s take a brief rest stop while I try to explain.

When man (meaning mankind) first rebelled against God, he lost fellowship with God. Moreover, the scales of justice in heaven's court dipped and became unbalanced. There is a divine legal system of laws in heaven which God established and which even He adheres to. The wrong had to be righted so the scales would be balanced again. Now God is perfectly just, and He had told man that if he rebelled he would die. Therefore, God had to carry out the sentence. Man would not only die physically, but worse, he would die spiritually as well (eternal separation from God). However, God is also perfectly merciful. Therefore, the only way God could satisfy His perfect justice and perfect mercy at the same time is this -- He would become a man and take man's punishment for him. This was accomplished by Jesus the Son of God. Those who believe on the Son of God and accept Him as Savior receive God's Holy Spirit and are adopted into His family. They have eternal life, while everyone else has eternal existence which the Bible does not consider "life." Incidentally, the word "believe" in Greek means much more than our English word. It also conveys "adhere to, trust in, rely on." It is not just a mental belief that He exists. God wants much more than that from you, but more about this later.

OK, time for one or two questions. Go ahead sir. **Are there any places in the Bible where Jesus is definitely referred to as God?** Yes, many places. For one thing, the Bible says to worship only God, and Jesus repeatedly allowed people to worship Him. He also forgave sins. When the Apostle Philip asked Jesus to show them the Father, Jesus replied: *Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father?'* (John 14:9). You see, God the Father is spirit, and Jesus is God in a body (now a glorified body since His resurrection). As the Apostle Paul said: *He is the image of the invisible God...* (Col. 1:15)...*For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily...* (Col. 2:9). That is why you should stay clear of cults like the Jehovah's Witnesses and the Mormons. The Jehovah's Witnesses believe that Jesus is not God but that He is Michael, the archangel. The Mormons think Jesus is God (Jehovah), but that there are other gods of other worlds and galaxies. Their religion is polytheistic. But God says in the Bible: *...For I am God, and there is no other...* (Isaiah 46:9), and calls Himself *El Shaddai (Almighty God, Gen. 17:1)*. Jesus also calls Himself *the Almighty (Rev. 1:8)*. These religions pose as Christianity, but they are imposters. Listen to these words of the Apostle John: *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us...* (John 1:1-14).

Is there anywhere in the Old Testament where it specifically says that God has a son? Yes, in Proverbs 30:4 the scriptures ask what you know of God: *What is His name, and what is His Son's name, if you know?* And Psalm 2 says of the Messiah during His reign on earth as king: *Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way...* (Ps. 2:12).

The prophecies we have examined are but a few of the approximately 300 Messianic prophecies found in the Bible. The probability of any man fulfilling just 8 of the prophecies is 1 in 10 to the 17th power (1 followed by 17 zeroes). This is the same chance as trying to find a secretly marked silver dollar out of a pile 2 feet deep covering the state of Texas. The chance of fulfilling 48 of the prophecies is so great that electrons must be used to illustrate the chances (from *Science Speaks*, Peter Stoner). However, Jesus fulfilled some 300 prophecies! Incredibly, 29 were fulfilled in the last 48 hours before His death.

WARNING: IF YOU DENY JESUS BEFORE MEN, HE WILL DENY YOU BEFORE HIS FATHER IN HEAVEN (MATT. 10:33).

Is Allah just another name for God? Absolutely not. First, it's important to know that Mohammed did not found Islam until 600 years after Christ (622 A.D.). There were no Muslims until then. But the Arabs go all the way back to Abraham (1900 B.C.). They are descended from his son Ishmael by his wife's maid, Hagar, since Sarah was "barren" – an accepted custom in that day. Later, Sarah miraculously gave birth (being 90 years old), to Isaac. God said Isaac was the child of promise whose descendants would inherit the "promised land" – and not Hagar. Mohammed said that the Bible had been corrupted, and that Hagar was the child of promise. He changed many other things about God, heaven, etc., as well. But an angel told Hagar concerning Ishmael: *He shall be a wild man; His hand shall be against every man, and every man's hand against him, and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren* (Gen. 16:12). This could describe many of Ishmael's descendants living today as well. Incidentally, written in Arabic on the roof of the Dome of the Rock are these words: God has no son.

Now, let's resume our journey. As mentioned previously, the Jews were scattered all over the world after the Romans destroyed Jerusalem in 70 A.D., but are now returning to their land. This was prophesied by most of the Old Testament prophets. For example, the prophet Ezekiel (a contemporary of Daniel) prophesied this word from the Lord: *And the nations will know that the people of Israel went into exile for their sin...*, but then God said, *When I have brought them back from the nations...they will know that I am the Lord their God, for though I sent them into exile among the nations, I will gather them to their own land...* (Ezekiel 39:25-28). The Bible says in other prophecies that this will happen in the end times – which the prophets also refer to as "the latter days" or "that day."

Now, let's hear what God says through the prophet Zechariah (500 B.C.) concerning Jerusalem at the time when the Jews have been gathered back to Israel (the time in which we are now living) – we are slowing down -- there is Zechariah! Let's listen: *Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the peoples round about...And in that day I will make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all peoples...* (Zech.12:3 KJV). That is exactly what is happening today! The re-born Jewish homeland led to holy wars with the Moslem Palestinians, and now the war on radical Islam which is spreading throughout the world. Moreover, the fulfillment of this great Bible prophecy is setting the stage for other end-time prophecies to be fulfilled. In the books of Daniel and Revelation, we see that a man, the Antichrist, will amaze the world by solving a seemingly impossible problem. He will get the Jews to sign a peace treaty with the Arabs and thus bring peace to Israel and the world -- for a season. The Jews will actually rebuild their temple and resume their sacrifices! It will be a 7 year treaty, but half way through the 7 year period the Antichrist will stand in the temple and proclaim that he is God, and the Jews, who thought he was the Messiah, will see his true colors (Dan.9:27). Beginning with the signing of the treaty, and greatly escalating when the Antichrist declares he is God, is a 7 year period which the Bible calls the "Tribulation" – (the last 3 ½ years is the "Great Tribulation"). It is the greatest period of suffering and sorrows the world has ever known, brought on by persecution from the Antichrist (far worse than Hitler's holocaust), and judgments from God on sinful man. The Tribulation ends with the Battle of Armageddon. While it is raging, Christ returns as King of Kings and Lord of Lords (the Second Coming). Jesus said: *And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved...* (Matt.24:22).

WARNING: RUSSIA IS BUILDING A VAST UNDERGROUND FACILITY AT YAMANTAU MOUNTAIN IN ORDER TO SURVIVE THE COMING NUCLEAR WAR. IT'S AS LARGE AS WASHINGTON D.C. INSIDE THE BELTWAY.⁶

It is amazing that this tiny nation of Israel, so insignificant in Roman times and completely destroyed in 70 A.D., is playing such a pivotal role today (a role that was repeatedly prophesied). So pivotal that the man who solves a seemingly impossible situation involving peace with Israel, is hailed as a world hero. How unlikely that a small country would be destroyed for nearly 2000 years and then be re-established (in 1948). And that its inhabitants would return – rediscovering and speaking their ancient Hebrew language. And that a peace treaty involving them would be an earth-shaking event. But today we can see how Israel has become center stage – just as prophesied. Now, can anyone name another country with such a history? Has such a dispersion and re-gathering happened to the French, the Germans, the Chinese, the Egyptians or any other people or nation? The answer is no. Therefore, we are all seeing the fulfillment of one of the greatest prophecies of the Bible right before our eyes!

Note to reader: God is not returning the Jews to Israel (the “Promised Land”) because of their righteousness, but only because of His promise to Abraham (Deut.9:1-6). God never breaks His word. The prophecies about the Jews are worldly and are concerned with a future earthly kingdom ruled over by Christ during the Millennium. They run parallel to the prophecies about the Christians which are spiritual and are concerned with a heavenly kingdom.

We are approaching the present, but instead of stopping here, we will continue going a few years into the future. OK, you’ll notice the years are not showing on the year-clock because God is now hiding the exact time for future events, as He always does. Get ready! You are now going to see the future. We are slowing down... look over there! Do you see that man? He is the Antichrist. Most people in the future only laugh when they hear that term. They think the Christians who claim that are crazy fundamental extremists. After all, this “great” man has solved so many of the world’s problems, beginning with his ingenious proposal that resulted in peace between the Arabs and the Jews. He is the first horseman of the Apocalypse (Deception) - - a conqueror riding a white horse and given a bow but no arrows -- who conquers the world through peace. And that was just the beginning. After that he solved the world-wide financial crisis that had plunged the world into the biggest depression ever. He is so admired that even the Jews are beginning to mention the word “Messiah” when speaking of him.

WARNING: EUROPE IS VERY COLD TO THE GOSPEL FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 2000 YEARS, AND HAS EMBRACED SECULAR HUMANISM EN MASSE. THE APOSTLE PAUL WARNS THAT THE ANTICHRIST WILL NOT APPEAR ON THE WORLD SCENE UNTIL A GREAT APOSTACY (“FALLING AWAY” FROM THE FAITH) OCCURS (2 THESS.2:3).

Oh no! Could it be? The news reports are dealing with millions of missing persons. The rapture is real...it’s real... I thought it was fiction...Yes, it has happened. It’s the invisible first phase of Jesus’ Second Coming (...I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also (John 14: 3). It takes place secretly while life is going on as usual as in the days of Noah before the flood (Matt.24:37), but the exact time is unknown – it could happen at any moment as there are no signs that have to be fulfilled prior to the event.

When Jesus returns visibly it will be anything but life as usual – billions of people will have died due to war, famine, and man-made and supernatural disasters. Jesus said that if those days of the Tribulation were not shortened, no life would remain on earth (Matt.24:22), and He

warned us to watch and pray that we may be counted worthy to escape the Tribulation (Luke 21:36). He said that the Christians who walk close to Him will be kept from *the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world to test those who dwell on the earth* (Rev.3:10). The Christians are the *salt of the earth* (Matt.5:13) – the preservative that holds back corruption -- but the new believers who are saved after the Rapture are too few and too fragmented to be very effective. Evil is now running rampant. Remember, Jesus said that two will be in the field – one will be taken and the other left, etc. -- so be ready.

The Antichrist arose out of the European Union, or the EU. It evolved from the Common Market formed in 1957, and is becoming a united states of Europe. Do you remember Daniel's vision of the fourth world empire, that of Rome? He saw that it would partially revive in the end times, and that 10 nations which formerly composed the empire would form an alliance. The "Euro," the currency established by the EU, has begun to cement the alliance economically in our times. There are now 15 major nations in the EU and 12 minor ones (comprising the territory of the ancient Roman Empire). Ten major ones will later form an inner circle of power. God's prophets are never wrong. The Antichrist overthrows three of these leaders, and the other seven submit to him peacefully. The Antichrist is more imposing than the others in appearance (Dan.7:20 NIV), and he *was given a mouth to utter proud words and blasphemies...* (Rev.13:5). He initially conquers the world through peace, but he is the ultimate deceiver. He is extremely confident, self-assured, and proud. He combines the best qualities of the greatest leaders and military generals of all time – such as King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, and Alexander the Great of Greece (Rev.13:2; Daniel 8). He will set up a world government, a world monetary system, and a world religion. Since the Greek language of the New Testament uses its alphabet letters as numbers, the letters of his name will add up to 666 (Rev.13:18). The Bible refers to him as the "man of sin," the "son of perdition," and the "beast."

Now, see those people? They are shopping, buying food etc., without any money or checks, because it is now a truly cashless society via electronic banking, created by the Antichrist. They have a "mark" on the back of their hands or on their foreheads which is scanned by a scanner. It's like an advanced smart chip/debit card (possibly even an invisible laser tattoo) for tracking people and monitoring all their purchases and financial transactions. Without it, people can't buy anything. Before 9/11, most Americans would have scoffed at such "big-brother" intrusions on our privacy. But in this post 9/11 period, we are rapidly realizing that we must forfeit rights for the sake of security. Congress is already discussing embedding smart chips on our driver's licenses. It will not be a big leap to begin putting them under our skin (on the back of our hands, for example). The Bible calls it the "mark of the beast," and strongly warns people not to take it, because in addition to being an economic system it is a worship system. The technology is not wrong by itself – it's Satan's usage of it to control people and the required allegiance to him that makes it forbidden. Life is very hard for the Christians as they have to use an underground Christian network just to get food and stay alive.

WARNING: THE "VERICHIP" IS A SUB-DERMAL BIOCHIP THE SIZE OF A PEA THAT IS INSERTED UNDER THE SKIN. IT IS USED FOR MEDICAL READOUTS, SECURITY, AND EVEN AS A DEBIT CARD. THE TECHNOLOGY FOR THE "MARK" IS ALREADY HERE.

Now, look closely at the one the Bible calls the "beast". See the wound on his head? It was a deadly wound, but somehow he was healed (Rev.13:3 & 12)! That's when Satan counterfeits the resurrection of Jesus and fully possesses the Antichrist. Just imagine how such a thing would

affect people. It would be as if John F. Kennedy came back to life after his assassination. The Antichrist has now been elected President of the world. The Bible says *And all the world marveled and followed the beast. People worshipped the beast and asked, Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?* (Rev.13:3,4). Look what the Bible says about the beast in Revelation 13:16. *He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark...* It is very popular with the masses of unsuspecting people -- but the Bible warns the inhabitants of the earth not to worship the beast or receive his mark or they will *...drink of the wine of the wrath of God...* (Rev.14:10) – however, most of the people only laugh at the Christians who seem so extremist and intolerant.

Notice something else. Large earthquakes have increased dramatically, and there are terrifying changes in the weather. The earth is warming! Parts of Iceland and Greenland that were under ice for thousands of years are now green!! The polar icecaps are melting. This is actually caused by solar activity, (solar flares), which greatly increased during the 1980's and 1990's, but which decreased after 2000 causing a cooling trend. But they will intensify again soon.

Let's read what Jesus said about environmental changes in the end times: *And there will be great earthquakes in various places, and famines and pestilences...on the earth, distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring...men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth...(Luke:21).* We're seeing the beginning of these things now. There are frequent news reports on large earthquakes, the poverty and famines of the third world countries, and weather changes. The seas are beginning to roar! Tidal waves or Tsunamis like the one that hit Indonesia and south Asia will become more prevalent.

Regarding pestilences (Webster's: devastating epidemic diseases) prophesied by Jesus, we have the medical community warning that bacteria are mutating into forms that are resistant to antibiotics, as well as the threat of biological terrorist attacks – not to mention the AIDS epidemic. There will also be much greater proliferation of incurable epidemics like the West Nile Virus and the SARS virus that struck China, but on a scale like the “black death” – the plague pandemic that killed nearly half of the known world's population in the middle ages (1347-1351). Medical authorities are also warning that deadly super-flu pandemics (as distinguished from the more common seasonal flu epidemics) are coming, and could cause a global catastrophe killing hundreds of millions of people. These killer-flu viruses would spread around the world rapidly due to air travel.

WARNING: MANY OF THESE SIGNS ARE GENERAL SIGNS WHICH HAVE OCCURRED IN PAST CENTURIES, BUT WHEN THEY COINCIDE WITH SPECIFIC SIGNS SUCH AS THE REBIRTH OF ISRAEL, THEY BECOME END-TIME SIGNS.

What are some other specific signs? Well, nuclear war is one. Another is the revived Roman Empire seen in the European Union as mentioned earlier and the call by numerous world leaders for a “New World Order,” unwittingly setting the stage for the Antichrist. Notice also Jesus said that even the general signs will be occurring simultaneously – which they are today! Another sign is that the Gospel will be preached all over the world. This is the first time in the history of the church that the Gospel is being preached to every nation on the planet via satellite TV. It is even being preached in Muslim countries (in Arabic and Farsi) where no missionaries

are allowed. Many Muslims are writing into Christian TV stations saying they have been saved watching Christian TV secretly.

WARNING: JESUS SAID, *And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.*

I have heard that Muslims all over the world are accepting Jesus as Lord and Savior through dreams and visions of Him coming to them in shining white robes. Was this prophesied by any of the prophets and is it an end-time sign? Yes, thank you for reminding me. It certainly was prophesied as an end-time sign by the prophet Joel:

And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions, your old men shall dream dreams (Acts 2: 16-17; Joel 2:28-31)).

This has been going on for several years now and is quite extraordinary. It is definitely an end-time sign as God is reaching these people supernaturally.

Note to reader: Here are some links that deal more fully with this amazing phenomenon:

<http://net-burst.net/hot/muslim.htm>

<http://iranaliveministries.org/>

<http://isaalmasih.net/isa/dreamsofisa.html>

Now we see that the United States has become neutralized. Terrorists began killing thousands and then millions of Americans with biological and chemical WMDs and eventually nuclear bombs. Moreover, the U.S. economy was crushed under the massive weight of its national debt. The debt burden, dramatically increased by the war on terror, eventually became so great that the U.S. could not even pay the interest on the debt. Therefore, as in the case of Argentina in 2001 the debt was “monetized,” i.e., the treasury began printing money to keep current on its obligations. The currency became devalued and hyper inflation ensued. Almost overnight, groceries that cost \$75.00 went for hundreds of dollars. Oh, I almost forgot. The Arabs cut off the oil and the economy collapsed! As in the case of many other countries, the U.S. went bankrupt and was later forced to give up its sovereignty to the Antichrist. (*Note to reader: the predictions regarding the United States are not specifically prophesied, but are a likely occurrence since the Antichrist rules the world in the end times.*)

WARNING: WE ARE VULNERABLE TO AN EMP (ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE) ATTACK. A NUCLEAR BOMB EXPLODED IN THE UPPER ATMOSPHERE OVER THE U.S. WOULD FRY MOST MILITARY AND CIVILIAN ELECTRICAL CIRCUIT BOARDS. OVERNIGHT, WE WOULD CEASE TO BE AN INDUSTRIAL, MILITARY POWER.⁷

WARNING: TEN NUCLEAR SUITCASE BOMBS DETONATED IN TEN OF OUR MAJOR CITIES WOULD RESULT IN TEN “KATRINAS,” BUT THIS TIME THE CITIES WOULD BE NEW YORK, WASHINGTON D.C., CHICAGO, LOS ANGELES, ETC.

Now, look over there. The Antichrist is standing in the Jewish temple (rebuilt by the Jews as part of the peace treaty negotiated by the Antichrist) and declaring that he is God (2 Thess.2:4; Matt.24:15). See the man next to him – that’s his religious leader (whom the Bible calls the “false prophet”) who deceives the people. He can do amazing miracles – like calling fire down

from heaven. He is demanding that everyone worship the beast. Anyone refusing to do so is executed!

WARNING: SATAN KNOWS HE WILL BE IMPRISONED AFTER THE LAST PERSON HAS BEEN SAVED, AND LATER HE WILL BE TORTURED ETERNALLY. BY DECEIVING PEOPLE, HE IS DELAYING HIS OWN PUNISHMENT.

How could the temple be rebuilt where the Dome of the Rock stands? It's not. See, there's the Muslim shrine and the rebuilt Jewish temple is just to the north of it which used to be a vacant area. The rabbis determined from the Jewish Mishneh that the Beautiful Gate leading into the temple stood directly opposite the Eastern Gate⁸, which archaeologists discovered directly beneath the current one built by Suleiman in 1541, and they had room to build the temple as long as they left out the Court of the Gentiles which they felt wasn't necessary. Some of you may recall that in Revelation chapter 11, the Apostle John is shown the rebuilt temple in a vision, and the angel tells him to measure it but *leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles* (Rev.11:2).

Things have gotten worse! The Great Tribulation is at its peak. Two huge meteors have hit the earth – one landed in the ocean and one on the land. *...And something like a great mountain burning with fire was thrown into the sea...and a great star fell from heaven, burning like a torch...*The earth has been moved on its axis and a massive dust cloud has been kicked up into the atmosphere. One-third of the sun, moon and stars have been darkened, and one-third of the earth's underground water has been contaminated (Rev.8). Supernatural and man-made disasters have become so horrific that ¼ of the people on the earth have died as God's wrath is poured out on them (Rev.6:8). This is their punishment for accepting the Antichrist and rejecting God's Son. That's 1.5 billion people dead in just a few years!

I thought God was a God of love. How could He be so cruel? The Bible says that He is a God of love, but He is also a God of righteous anger against rebels when His mercy finally runs out. Jesus said to fear God who has the power to throw body and soul into hell (Luke 12:5). He is, therefore, a God of love and wrath. But even His wrath is a form of mercy, since many people turn to God during the Tribulation who otherwise would not have done so.

WARNING: ...WHOEVER REJECTS THE SON WILL NOT SEE LIFE, BUT GOD'S WRATH REMAINS ON HIM (JOHN 3:36 NIV).

Let's listen to the Global News report for a minute. Did you hear that? Many Jews are now recognizing Jesus as their Messiah. In fact, there are thousands of Jewish converts to Christianity evangelizing the Jews (Rev.7:4)! And there's more shocking news -- Russia, allied with the Arabs, has attacked Israel! The U.S. has suffered devastating nuclear attacks -- *And I (God) will send fire* (nuclear strikes) *on Magog* (Russia) *and on those who live in security in the coastlands...* (various continents, Ezekiel 39:6). And Russia's army has been totally destroyed on the mountains of Israel!! God has supernaturally delivered the Jews from them with flooding rain, pestilence, hail stones, fire and brimstone and friendly fire in all the confusion (Ezekiel 38:21). Look, the Kings of the East (China & its allies) are now marching to engage the Antichrist with a 200 million man army. The Euphrates River has been dried up (the earth has heated up and people are suffering from scorching heat -- Rev.16:8), and the Red army can march overland all the way to the Middle East.

WARNING: THE EUPHRATES RIVER IS ALREADY DRYING UP.

<http://flashtrafficblog.wordpress.com/2009/07/16/euphrates-river-drying-up-new-york-times-notes-prophetic-implications/>

Is all this mentioned in the Bible? Yes, in Daniel chapters 7 & 11, Ezekiel 38-39, and Revelation 16. Russia is not called “Russia”, but is referred to as the country lying to the “uttermost north” of Israel (simply look at the map). It is also called Magog, the land settled by the ancient people called Rosh (from which we get “Russia”). Their leader is “Gog,” the chief prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal. (Ezekiel 38:2) These are ancestral tribes of modern-day Russia. The U.S. and other countries are called the isles or coastlands – the prophets were referring to continents beyond the known world of their day.

Russia becomes allied with Persia (changed name to Iran in 1935) and other Arab states to wipe out Israel. Why? The Bible says ...*to take a spoil and to take a prey...* (Ezekiel 38:12). Iran will provide Russia with warm water ports on the Persian Gulf which Russia desperately needs (her ports are iced in most of the year). Russia wants to attack Israel to gain her year-round ports right on the Mediterranean Sea (for economic and military success), as well as her vast mineral deposits in the Dead Sea. The Arabs have most of the oil reserves in the world, but they lack the military might to destroy Israel, so they need to team up with Russia.

WARNING: THE END-TIME NATIONS ARE LINING UP INTO THEIR PROPHETIC POSITIONS.

Israel and the other nations are at peace and think they are safe under the Antichrist’s one-world government. Listen to what God says about Russia through the prophet Ezekiel: *In the latter years you will come into the land of those ... gathered from many people on the mountains of Israel, which had long been desolate; they were brought out of the nations, and now all of them dwell safely* (Ezekiel 38:8). This breach of peace will not be tolerated by the Antichrist and his global confederacy, but as he prepares for war, China, allied with other eastern nations, begins to march against the Antichrist in a challenge for world control. Then Russia’s army, along with its coalition, will be destroyed having incurred God’s wrath for attacking Israel. The forces are destroyed supernaturally by God via earthquake and pestilence along with *flooding rain, great hailstones, fire, and brimstone*. He also causes them to slaughter each other with friendly fire in the confusion (Ezekiel 38:18-23). The stage is set for the Battle of Armageddon (Ezekiel 38 & 39; Dan.11:36-45; Zech.14:12)! It could also be called the War of Armageddon, consisting of several military campaigns, ending in the battle for Jerusalem at which time Jesus appears and stops the war. He destroys the Antichrist and the False Prophet and imprisons Satan. He then judges the survivors and sets up His reign on earth. The saints, in glorified bodies, are sub-rulers under him (Zech.14 and Rev.20).

Note to reader: In 1909, Cyrus Scofield published his famous Scofield Study Bible (still popular today). In his notes on Ezekiel 38 & 39, he interpreted the prophecy in a straight forward, literal way to mean that in the end times Russia, allied with Persia (modern-day Iran), and a confederacy of nations (such as Put, Cush, Gomer, Togarmah, -- ancient names of modern-day Muslim nations!) would attack Israel and start a final world war – ending in the Battle of Armageddon. He was criticized and mocked for this – for Israel did not even exist and Russia was a Christian Orthodox nation under the Tsar. But today Israel exists and Russia, no longer a godly nation regularly targets her with its missiles and provides arms and training to her Arab enemies. When asked how he could possibly believe such a ridiculous thing, Scofield

said, “I don’t understand it, I can’t explain it, but the Bible says it and I believe it.” It is not a ridiculous idea today.⁹

WARNING: IF THREATENED WITH DESTRUCTION, ISRAEL HAS VOWED TO USE THE “SAMSON OPTION” AS A LAST RESORT – MEANING SHE WILL USE HER NUCLEAR WEAPONS. THE JEWS WARN THAT NEVER AGAIN WILL THEY LOSE ISRAEL OR GO THROUGH ANOTHER HOLOCAUST.¹⁰

Now the world is reeling from war, famine, and death – the last three of the four horsemen of the Apocalypse. The Apostle John saw the second horseman wielding “a great sword,” and soon hundreds of millions of people died (Rev. 6:4-8). For centuries people have wondered what kind of weapon this could be. Today we have such a weapon -- the atomic bomb!

Oh no...Look up ahead!! Do you see that? It is utter devastation. The Battle of Armageddon is taking place at Mount Megiddo in the valley of Jezreel. The valley is so big that Napoleon, upon seeing it, said “All the armies of the earth could maneuver for battle here.” Nuclear war has broken out almost to the point of annihilation of all human life. God said that He will make men more rare than the fine gold of Ophir (Is.13:12). The Apostle John saw stars falling to earth as figs falling from a fig tree in a strong wind. **Look! A meteor shower – so that’s what he saw! And those missiles releasing multiple nuclear warheads – cluster nukes -- resemble stars falling through the atmosphere!** Yes, they surely do! He also saw the sky receding as a scroll when it is rolled up (Rev.6:13-14) – an excellent description of the atmosphere being pushed back on itself in those nuclear blasts.¹¹ John was a 1st century man trying to describe 21st century weapons without a modern, technical vocabulary. I think he did an amazing job. **Are there any other verses describing nuclear warfare?** Yes, I will read from Revelations 8:7: *The first angel sounded (his trumpet): And hail and fire followed, mingled with blood, and they were thrown to the earth. And a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up.* Much of this atomic destruction is actually direct from angels as was the case with Sodom and Gomorrah. In chapter 9 we read that a third of remaining mankind is killed – that’s another 1.5 billion! **Oh, look! There are people walking around eaten up by radiation. This is too horrible to look at. Please don’t go any further -- take us back. Please, don’t continue!** OK, don’t panic, we’re turning around...stay calm, we’re heading back. **Thank the Lord! There are people who have passed out!** I can see that...OK, everything will be all right...I am setting the year-clock back to the present, but you should know by now that man cannot bring peace to the earth. World peace will only be achieved when Jesus returns and rules the earth Himself.

WARNING: IN AN ATOMIC BLAST, THE HUMIDITY IN THE AIR IS COMPRESSED INTO WATER AND SHOT INTO THE STRATOSPHERE WHERE IT BECOMES FROZEN. THE SHOCK WAVE THEN “THROWS” THE ICE BACK TO EARTH AS LARGE CHUNKS OF HAIL – AND THUS “HAIL AND FIRE” MINGLE TOGETHER -- WITH BLOOD.¹²

Now, just relax, we are returning to the present. I know that you are all astonished and greatly shaken by what you’ve seen, and by the admiration given to the evil Antichrist. Just recall how Hitler was so revered by his people until right near the end. The people of the future are no different, they will be deceived by the same being who deceived 1/3 of the angels and caused war in heaven. Only God’s children who study His Word diligently will see through him.

Listen to me everyone – being a good person and doing good deeds will not qualify you for heaven. You simply cannot be good enough. The Bible is like a mirror, but instead of reflecting

how you see yourself, it reflects how God sees you. And how does God see you? He says this of you: *The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked...* (Jeremiah 17:9). For one thing, God sees your selfish motives. And that's not all, God says that if you break even one commandment, you've broken all of them (James 2:10). That's because your very nature is evil. Therefore, you cannot be good enough to make heaven. If we could be good enough to make heaven, we would not need a Savior and Jesus would not have had to die for our sins. Now this may shock you, but to make heaven you have to be more than just good, you must be perfect. **That's impossible – nobody is perfect.** That's right, so it works like this.

If you are poor, but a multi-millionaire adds your name to all his accounts, you then become a millionaire also, and you also have your benefactor's excellent credit. In the same way, a Christian becomes perfect not because he is perfect, but because Jesus credits His righteousness to the Christian. It's like an accounting transaction. Paul says that when you accept Christ, God credits righteousness to you as a gift, and you are "accounted" righteous or perfect (Romans 4:1-10). Now you are "perfect" because of your benefactor's perfection. But a true Christian, even though "accounted" perfect in God's eyes, still strives to be more like Christ daily. However, there are many so-called Christians who have not been born again. Church to them is a social club, and they will be surprised on Judgment Day. Remember, Jesus said you must be born again -- He didn't say it was just a good idea.

WARNING: JESUS SAID, MOST ASSUREDLY, I SAY TO YOU, UNLESS ONE IS BORN AGAIN, HE CANNOT SEE THE KINGDOM OF GOD (JN.3:3).

Someday you will stand before God and give account to Him for your life (Matt.12:36). Your husband or wife will not be there with you, your friends will not be there with you, and your lawyer will not be there with you. It will be you alone standing before God. When you are sentenced there is no appeal to a higher court. Jesus said that when people are sentenced to hell there will be "weeping and gnashing of teeth." But this is not the case with Christians. They have no worries about the trial on Judgment Day because they don't even go to the trial! (Christians go to a separate judgment – the believer's judgment – for rewards only). That's right – since Jesus already took their punishment for them, and since their crime (of sin) cannot be punished twice, they get a free pass – right into heaven. Listen carefully to what Jesus said: *Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life* (John 5:24).

WARNING: IT MAY NOT BE SAFE FOR YOU TO DIE.

What must we do? You need to get right with God now before it's too late. God has made it so simple. Simply receive Christ as your Savior, and God's Spirit comes into you making you a child of God. Say this prayer (and reader, please pray with us): "Lord Jesus, I believe that You are the Son of God and I confess that I am a sinner. I accept You as my Savior and the Lord of my life. Please forgive all my sins and come into my heart. I give my life to You right now. Please help me solve my problems, and give me Your peace that passes all human understanding. I want to avoid hell and be with you in heaven when I die. Thank you, Jesus, for doing this for me. Amen."

If you prayed that prayer, it is important that you tell someone that you have accepted Christ. The Bible says that no one can say that Jesus is Lord (and mean it) except by the Holy Spirit (1Cor.12:3). It also says: *...if you confess with your mouth "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart you believe*

and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved (Romans 10:9-10 NIV). Now you need not fear the future because you have become a child of God. You have been born again by His Spirit. You have God's promise on that, and the Bible says, God is not a man that He should lie... (Num.23:19), and Jesus said, ...the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out (John 6:37).

WARNING: *...AS MANY AS RECEIVED HIM, TO THEM HE GAVE THE RIGHT TO BECOME THE CHILDREN OF GOD (JOHN 1:12).*

Well, here we are back in the present! I only wish we had more time to visit other prophets, and explore other prophecies. There are hundreds of them. In fact, nearly one third of the Bible is prophecy! God has put these prophecies in the Bible to convince you of its truth: Israel has been re-created as prophesied in the "latter days" (May 1948)... the Jews have come back to their land after 2000 years... Jerusalem is now a "burdensome stone for all peoples"... Jesus' first coming was foretold by Daniel to the year... the four world empires and Alexander the Great were predicted... atomic world war has been predicted... the nations formerly comprising the Roman Empire have formed an alliance (the EU) as prophesied... a great apostasy has occurred... the weather is changing (the earth is warming)... great earthquakes are increasing and the seas are "roaring"... antibiotics are losing effectiveness (medical authorities are worried about pandemic plagues)... if someone brings peace to the Middle East he will be a world hero (as prophesied) -- that man is coming soon! The Jews are back in their land after a long dispersion, and this is the prophetic marker which starts the end-time countdown. Christianity is not blind faith as Satan has been telling you. As you exit the Bible Time Machine, make your peace with God before it's too late, if you have not already done so. Drop your pride and come to God as a child.

WARNING: *JESUS SAID, ASSUREDLY, I SAY TO YOU, WHOEVER DOES NOT RECEIVE THE KINGDOM OF GOD AS A LITTLE CHILD WILL BY NO MEANS ENTER IT (MARK 10:15).*

There is a lot of bad news for planet earth, but for Christians the "good news" trumps the bad news. Remember, anyone sincerely seeking the Lord will find Him. *And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart (Jeremiah 29:13).* However, the way is narrow and *there are few who find it (Matt.7:14).* Jesus said: *I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me (Jn.14:6).* He is not one of the ways, but the only way. God has been patiently trying to reach man for thousands of years – the Bible says that eventually His patience will run out.

Then I saw a great white throne, and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away...and I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books... (Rev.20:11-15).

EPILOGUE

Jesus said to learn the parable of the fig tree (Matt.24:32). In the Old Testament, the fig tree was used to symbolize the nation of Israel (see Hosea 9:10; Jeremiah 24:1-6; 29:17). Jesus compared the restoration of Israel in the latter days with the blossoming of the fig tree. He said

that when the fig tree begins to blossom, it is a sign that summer is near, and likewise, when Israel is reborn as a nation accompanied by all the end-time signs, it is a sign that His return is near. Then He made a promise that the generation that sees the “fig tree blossom” will not pass away until He returns. Some Bible scholars see May 15, 1948, when Israel was reborn as a nation, as the flowering of the fig tree. Others feel the blossoming began in 1967, during the Six Day War, when the Jews captured the old section of Jerusalem. Depending on the various lengths believed to be a generation – 40 to 100 years – this prophecy points to our generation as the final one that will see the Lord’s return.

When Jesus said that no one knows the day or the hour of His return (Matt.24:36), He was providing another clue that the Rapture will occur prior to His visible return. The reason is that we know the day of His visible return. It will occur 7 years (2520 days using the Old Testament Jewish year of 360 days) following the Antichrist’s signing of the 7 year peace treaty (Dan.9:27). This will be the world’s final 7 year period leading to the end of the age. The Rapture could occur before the Antichrist appears, and could actually set the stage for him to come on the scene. In other words, it could happen any time now, so be ready.

When Jesus returns visibly, He will come suddenly in the sky (*as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west...coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory*) (Matt.24: 27, 30). When He appears, He is not coming as ‘gentle Jesus meek and mild’ – but rather as the “Lion of the tribe of Judah.” When you see Him, it will be too late to be saved, for He is not coming as Savior this time. He is coming as Judge.

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Source Notes

1. Curt Weldon, *Countdown To Terror*, p. 157.
2. Hal Lindsey, *Apocalypse Code*, p. 10.
3. Hal Lindsey, *Planet Earth – The Final Chapter*, p. 248.
4. Ernest L. Martin, *The Temples That Jerusalem Forgot*, pp. 27, 28.
5. Lindsey, *Planet Earth*, p. 278.
6. Weldon, p. 167.
7. *Ibid.*, pp. 166,197.
8. Grant Jeffrey, *The New Temple and the Second Coming*, p.99.
9. Michael D. Evans, *The American Prophecies*, p. 60.
Mike Evans has been a confidant to Israeli leaders for over 20 years.
10. *Ibid.* p. 176.
11. Lindsey, *Apocalypse Code*, pp. 111-112.
12. Lindsey, *Planet Earth*, p. 207.

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