

October 2008

In the News

UN Chief Calls for 'Global Leadership'

AFP United Nations 23Sep08 - UN chief Ban Ki-moon on Tuesday stressed the need for "global leadership" as he pressed world leaders not to pursue narrow national interests in the face of hard economic times.

Editor's note: the stage is being set for a world currency and a world leader.

Russia's Coming Financial Crash

Gulfnews.com Anders Aslund – Today, the whole world is being hit by a tremendous financial crisis, but Russia is facing a perfect storm. The Russian stock market is in a free fall, plummeting by 60% since May 19, a loss of \$900 billion, and the plunge is accelerating. As a result, Russia's economic growth is likely to fall sharply and suddenly.

No Place for Israel in the Middle East?

Ynetnews.com 26Sep08 - Jerusalem and Palestine, from the sea to the river, belong to the Palestinian people, the Arabs and the Muslims, and no one has the authority to concede a grain of earth, wall or stone from the holy land" Hezbollah Scty-General Hassan Nasrallah said Friday evening.

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Joel 2:1

The Dry Bones

Art Sadlier

God is not finished with Israel. He has a program to bring Israel to His intended purpose, we read about the consummation of that purpose in Zechariah 13:9, "And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, the Lord is my God".

The dry bones in Ezekiel 37 reveal how God's program to restore Israel will unfold. This is an exciting portion of prophetic scripture. In the context of the chapter, Israel is in captivity in Babylon because of sin, unbelief and disobedience. The captives have lost all hope of restoration, Jerusalem is in ruins, the Temple is destroyed by fire and the land has been depopulated.

However in Ezekiel 36:8, God gives them hope, "But ye, O mountains of Israel, ye shall shoot forth your branches, and yield your fruit to my people of Israel; for they are at hand to come." God was chastening Israel but He had not cut her off permanently. But the question was, how could this promise of God ever come to pass? That is what Ezekiel 37 is about, how God would bring it to pass. The Lord gives Ezekiel a prophetic vision of how He will restore Israel to her land and her place of blessing.

Two prophetic scenarios are in view here.

- 1. The captivity of Israel in 506 BC, and her return to the land, starting in 536 BC.
- **2.** The final great dispersion of Israel (which began in 70 AD) and her final return.

Many Old Testament prophecies have more than one fulfillment, a near and a far, a classic example of that is found in Isaiah 9:6. There are two fulfillments in that prophecy. For unto us a child is born", this was fulfilled 800 years later at Bethlehem. A second is given without any comment or explanation, "and the government shall be upon his shoulders", that is yet to be fulfilled at Christ's glorious second coming.

The first captivity in 606 BC, was only a foreshadowing of a much greater chastening, which has lasted 2000 years.

The first return in 536 BC, was only a foreshadowing of the great return which is happening in our lifetime.

The vision of Ezekiel 37 brings before us the spiritual condition of Israel nationally during the long centuries of her present dispersion and the process of her restoration.

In Isaiah 6:9-10 the prophet tells of Israel's setting aside by God. In verse 11. the question is asked. "Lord, how long?" The answer comes in verse 11-12, "Until the cities are wasted without inhabitant, and the houses without man, and the land be utterly desolate, and the Lord have removed men far away, and there be a great forsaking in the midst of the land.". There is enough evidence in this fulfilled prophecy to prove to any honest seeking person. that God is the Lord of history who knows the end from the beginning. The problem of unbelief is not in the head but in the heart.

Paul also answered the question of "how long" in Rom. 11:25, "until the fullness of the gentiles be come in." Until the church is complete and is raptured out of the world, then the blindness of Israel as a nation will be lifted and her restoration will begin.(note the fullness of the gentiles and the times of the gentiles are two different things)

In Ezekiel 37:1 the Lord, in a vision brings Ezekiel down into a valley which represents the whole world. The valley is filled with dry bones, verse 11 says, "These bones represent the whole house of Israel". In verse 2, the Lord lets Ezekiel see Israel as He sees her.

Three things stand out in Ezekiel's mind.

- 1 "There were very many", they represent all of the Jewish people present in the world at the time of the re-gathering, today about 13 million.
- 2 "They were very dry", what could be deader than dry bones. These bones represent living people but people who are spiritually dead. What a picture of Israel for 1900 years, cut off from spiritual life! Cut off from their land! Cut off from God! Cut off from each other!
- 3 "The open valley", scattered all across this vast valley which represents the whole world to which Israel has been scattered for so long.

Which re-gathering is this focusing on? This chapter is focusing on the last days re-gathering of Israel. Isaiah tells us of this second regathering, "And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people" (Isaiah 11:11). Then he lists the countries of the world to which they are scattered. Hosea also refers to this second re-gathering, "For the children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice ..." (Hosea 3:4). Such a clear fulfillment of this prophecy leaves no doubt as to the authority of God's word.

Some 1500 years before this final great dispersion of Israel we read in Deuteronomy 28: 63-66 about the affliction they were to suffer. The prophecies of Deuteronomy have been fulfilled in exacting detail.

- ❖ 135AD hundreds of thousands were slaughtered and the remainder were put out of the land, sold as slaves and scattered to the four corners of the earth.
- **❖** 700AD the land was usurped by Islam.

- **★** 1394AD expelled from France.
- **♦** 1492AD August, the same day Columbus sailed from Spain, the Jews were expelled.
- **★** 1495AD expelled from Lithuania.
- **★** 1700AD No Jews were allowed in Spain, Portugal, England, France, Scandinavia, Sicily, Norway, Germany nor Italy.

This is only part of the story, all down over the centuries the Jews were persecuted, oppressed and slaughtered. Hitler killed 5,820,000 Jews from 14 countries in Europe. Today Islam is trying to exterminate Israel.

This fulfilled prophecy alone is enough to prove beyond any shadow of a doubt that the bible is the word of the living God. We also learn that God will not tolerate sin and disobedience by His people.

Ezekiel's vision describes Israel's hopelessness. "Our bones are dried up", nationally dead! "Our hope is lost", no human hope of the nation being restored. "We are cut off from our parts", cut from one another.

We see three stages of Israel's Return.

STAGE-1 We see a dramatic scene in verse 7! Ezekiel preaching to dry bones, probably shouting across the valley all of the promises of God to Israel. Suddenly the bones began to shake, shooting all across the valley. Bones coming together, clicking and clacking everywhere. They came together, "Bone to its bone", suddenly the bones were fashioned into a skeleton. The lost hope is being restored. That is the first stage and that first stage of Israel's re-gathering has happened in our lifetime. A few thousand at first, 1931- 1935 150,000 Jews returned to Israel. By 1948 650,000 had returned. That was the first stage, the skeleton had been formed, bones coming together into their own land.

- ☑ STAGE-2 In verse 6, the skeletons are turned into bodies, a corporate body has been formed, a nation has been formed. May 14, 1948 Israel became a nation again with a government, a constitution, an army and schools etc. Isaiah prophesied this event in Isaiah 66:8. That's where Israel is today, a body with no breath in it.
- ☑ STAGE-3 We see the spiritual restoration of the nation. In verse 9, we read, "Come from the four winds and breathe upon these slain that they may live". That reminds us of the rushing mighty wind on the day of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came upon the church on its birthday, the day the church came to life. That has not yet happened to Israel. You can read about that event in Zechariah 12:10-12. Today Israel stands between the second and third stages.

The word of God tells us about four things that will happen to Israel between the second and third stages.

- **1.** A Peace Treaty a false Christ will sign a false peace treaty between Israel and her enemies. It will be a time of great deception that will sweep the whole world, but it will not happen until the Church is raptured.
- **2.** A Brief Time of Peace this false peace will last only a few weeks or months.
- **3.** A Divine Deliverance Russia, Iran and the nations surrounding Israel will launch a massive surprise attack on Israel God will intervene with supernatural intervention. See Ezekiel 38:18, 19, 22,23.

This will be followed by a time of great tribulation for Israel, tribulation such as the world has never seen before. All of these things will be used of the Lord to bring Israel to the point of repentance and redemption.

As we have seen the first two stages happening in our lifetime and we see the furious attempts to bring about the peace treaty we know of a certainty that the trumpet is soon to sound. Are you ready?

The New World Order

The new world order is simply a world government. John prophesied, nearly 2000 years ago about a coming world government and a coming world dictator, the antichrist. John said in Rev. 13:7, "....and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations". In verse 16, "And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads".

In the last 50 years the call for a world government has been growing. In 1950 a Senate Foreign relations committee introduced the following resolution. "Whereas, in order to achieve universal peace and justice, the present Charter of the U.N. should be changed to provide a true world government constitution".

Another statement reads, "World government is coming, in fact, it is inevitable. No arguments for or against it can change that fact."

Harry Trueman said, "It will be just as easy for nations to get along in a republic of the world as it is for us to get along in a republic of the United States

, "Regionalization is in keeping with the tri-lateral plan which calls for a gradual convergence of East and West, ultimately leading toward the goal of one world government, national sovereignty is no longer a viable concept" said Zbigniew Brezezinski.

DR. Henry Kissinger said "Today America would be outraged if UN troops entered Los Angeles to restore order (referring to the riot caused by the Rodney King incident). Tomorrow they will be grateful! This is especially true if they were told that there were an outside threat from beyond, whether real or promulgated, that threatened our very existence. It is then that all peoples of the world will plead to deliver them from this evil. The one thing every man fears is the unknown. When presented with this scenario, individual rights will be relinguished willingly for guarantee of their well-being granted to them by the world government".

One of the pillars of a world government will be a world currency.

Former West German Chancellor Willy Brandt said, "The new world order is a world that has super-national authority to regulate the world commerce and industry; an international organization that would control the production and the consumption of oil; an international

currency that would replace the dollar;and an international police force to enforce the edicts of the New World Order".

I do not believe that this One World Government will appear until the antichrist comes to power, but I believe the stage is now being set for his appearance. One of the stage setting events will be the collapse of the US dollar and the establishment of a world currency. The present monetary crisis suggests the dollar is in grave danger of collapse.

Financial problems are today universal. Russia and China are in serious financial crisis. China has recently called for a new world currency to replace the dollar. A group of oil-rich mid-east nations are calling for a new currency.

A Financial Times news report, Sept. 25 stated, "The US will lose its status as the superpower of the financial system... in the wake of the financial crisis this world will become multipolar. The world will never be the same again."

I am again reminded of the words of David Rockefeller, "We are on the verge of a global transformation. All we need is the right major crisis and the nations will accept the new world order".

We see the preparations for the new world accelerating in the present monetary crisis.

The collapse of the American dollar would bring unprecedented recession to the American economy. The budget of the Military would be slashed to the point that the military would be a hollow shell. That would create a power vacuum in the world, which in turn would create chaos in the whole world. It would be similar to removing the police force out of New York City.

Three major situations would develop.

- Israel would be cast on Europe for protection. That is the exact prophetic end time scenario.
- II. Perhaps, such chaos would develop that the nations would be ready and willing for the Peace Treaty of antichrist.
- III. Russia, Iran and their alliance would be emboldened to attack Israel, as per Ezekiel 38-39, as the West stood helplessly by (Europe is not ready yet to fill the void of the loss of US military power).

Perhaps you might consider this article over the top, I would agree that it seems dramatic, however, it fits the prophetic scenario so closely, we need to consider the events now

unfolding very carefully. Perhaps the present crisis will pass, that does not negate the way the whole scenario seems to be unfolding, it could be now or later.

A. Sadlier



ESCAPING PERSECUTION

Trials and tribulations are the constant experience of God's people. We cannot expect to escape persecution. Jesus warned that if they hated Him they will hate His disciples. We, in our culture, have been an exception for many years now. We have escaped real persecution, there are signs that a change is coming. The Purpose Driven Church and New Evangelicalism have desperately sought to be as much like the world as possible. Their philosophy is, "we must cause the world to like us, we do not want the world to condemn us or reject us". Those who take this approach will never be persecuted by the world. However, this approach is foreign to the history of the Church.

The Voice of the Martyrs has estimated that since the death of Christ Jesus 2000 years ago 43,000,000 Christians have been martyred. Over 50% of these were in the last century alone. More than 200,000,000 Christians face persecution each day, 60% are children. Every day over 300 believers are killed for their faith in Jesus Christ.

Art Sadlier

EASY- BELIEVISM

There is a growing promotion of error in the form of easy-believism in Evangelical circles today. What has been practiced for nearly fifty years is now being defined in theological terms.

Those who say, "Repentance is simply a changing of the mind", are preaching a false gospel.

Those who confuse the sanctification that takes place at the moment of salvation with the practical experience of sanctification are promoting pseudo-salvation. They say, "Be saved by a change of mind and you will over a period of time be changed". Paul said, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new". 2 Cor. 5:17. False teaching is always immersed in confusion.

Repentance is more than a change of mind.

Repentance, if it is genuine, arises from a deep and profound conviction, by the Spirit of Christ that we are indeed wrongdoers who in sinister sin against Him have become alienated from him. In His wondrous grace, generosity, and love He extends to us His mercy, forgiveness, and acceptance on the basis of His own magnanimous selfsacrifice. He demands that we for our part turn from our wicked ways, repent of our wrongs, seek His companionship, and claim His amazing justification and total forgiveness by faith in the shed blood of Christ, who gave himself to redeem us.

The Fruits of Apostasy

The following news item appeared September 26 on WorldNetDaily. "Christian men get honest about porn addiction. An award-winning musician ... has turned his talents toward creating a documentary on a closeted problem running rampant within the Christian church: men and marriages struggling with sex addiction. The film targets men Christianity, pornography is considered immoral but where statistics show ... more than half of the men attending ... Promise Keeper rallies admitted to viewing pornography, and 37% of Christian pastors admitted to being addicted to porn."

We wonder why the church has no impact upon the world. Instead of the church winning the world, the world has won the church. With immoral men in the church, worship is a sham, with immoral men in the pulpits, the church becomes a curse. The only encouraging thing we see is that God always has a remnant, thank God for the remnant!

I believe that this is the unintended fruit of New Evangelicalism. Instead of being separate from the world, they have become like the world in order to reach the world, it doesn't work, they just become corrupted by the ways of the world. The fruit they produce is more counterfeit Christianity.

I think the problem goes beyond the issue of carnal Christians, I believe

we are seeing the last days apostasy of the Laodicean Church (New Evangelicalism). When we see statistics that tell us that 57% of professing, born again Christians, state that they believe that Christ is not the only way to heaven, you know apostasy is sweeping the church. God's answer to apostasy is to isolate it, to separate from it. The reason New Evangelicalism has grown so exponentially is because many of God's people have refused to separate from it. Art Sadlier

"... in the latter times some shall depart from the faith" 1 Tim. 4:1

WHERE WILL YOU WAKE UP?

As a young man, I traveled around the country as a salesman. Sometimes I would be away from home for five or six weeks at a time. As I came to the end of my trip, I would wake in the morning out of a sound sleep and for a few moments puzzle as to what city or town I was in.

Someday, every man or woman will go to sleep for the last time on this earthly scene, and wake as they have never awakened before. They will wake up in eternity.

Jesus tells of such a situation in Luke 16:19, he says "There was a 'certain rich man', notice this is not a parable, this is an historical account. We read that this rich man died. He closed his eyes on earth and opened them in eternity. It says "and in hell he lifted up (opened) his eyes, being in torments."

My friend, I tremble for you if you are not saved, the thought of such an awakening is terrifying!

How can you avoid such a fate? There is only one way. Jesus said "I am the way, ... no man cometh to the Father but by Me." Jesus said, "except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of God". John 3:36 says, "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him". John 1:12 says, "But as many as received Him, to them gave he power to become the sons

of God, even to them that believe on his name". My friend, settle this issue right now. Do not put it off for one more second. Where will you wake up after you have closed your eyes for the last time on earth? To know more about how to wake up in heaven go to www.soundthetrumpet.ca and click on "Have you considered".

Art Sadlier

THE IRANIAN THREAT

It has been revealed that President Bush will not be involved in an attack on Iran's nuclear facilities. It has also been revealed that Iran's nuclear program is so well fortified in cement bunkers that an attack would probably accomplish very little in the way of destruction and disruption of Iran's ability to produce nuclear bombs in the near future.

We now realize that sanctions will not be effective due to Russian and Chinese refusal to participate.

Iran, Syria, Hamas and Hezbollah are arming to destroy Israel, and with nuclear and chemical weapons now entering the equation, the situation looks very bleak for Israel. We know from scripture that Israel will not be annihilated by nuclear attack; therefore some unexpected events will likely occur before Iran has the chance to destroy Israel.

Perhaps there will be a disastrous war in which Israel will exercise the Sampson option against Syria destroying Damascus (see Isaiah 17:14).

Whatever develops, it seems certain that cataclysmic events lie on the near horizon. Perhaps these events will be so catastrophic that the ground will be prepared for the false peace treaty of antichrist. Art Sadlier

"Half a dozen men on their knees for 60 minutes waiting on the Lord with the absolute conviction that they have no answer, that their human ideas and programs are ineffective and bankrupt - they will accomplish more than 50 men around a table discussing problems for a whole year." - Alan Redpath