



*"Blow ye the trumpet in Zion,
and sound an alarm in my holy
mountain: let all the inhabitants
of the land tremble: for the day
of the LORD cometh, for it is
nigh at hand;" Joel 2:1*

March 2013

In the World but not of It

*We are sent to bless the
world, but never are we
told to compromise with it.
Our glory lies in a spiritual
withdrawal from all that
builds on dust.*

*The bee finds no honey while
crawling around the hive.
Honey is in the flower far
away where there is quiet
and peace and the sun and
the flowing stream; there
the bee must go to find it.
The Christian will find slim
pickings where professed
believers play and pray all
in one breath.*

*He may be compelled
sometimes to travel alone
or at least to go with the
ostracized few. To belong
to the despised minority
may be the price he must
pay for power. But power
is cheap at any price.*

A.W. Tozer (1897–1963)

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Sound the Trumpet!

- Section 1 -

JEWISH UNBELIEF

Fulfilled prophecy proves beyond any shadow of a doubt that the Bible is the Word of God and that God is the sovereign Lord of the universe. The Lord states that He is the one who declares what will happen in the future.

"Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure" (Isaiah 46:9-10).

We have in our lifetime witnessed the amazing, incredible fulfilment of hundreds upon hundreds of Bible prophecies. Among those many prophecies are what we call the Messianic signs of the end of the age.

In the ages past the Hebrew prophets predicted that before the return of the promised Messiah there would be specific signs that would signal the end of the age. Today those signs are

appearing before our very eyes. These signs prove that the end of the age is near at hand.

Dr. John Walvoord said, "Never before in history have all the factors been present for the fulfilment of prophecy relating to the end time events.

Only in our generation have the combined revival of Israel, the formation of a world church, the increasing power of Islam, the rise of the occult, and the world-wide spread of atheistic philosophy all been present as a dramatic setting for the fulfilment of prophecy."

We are undoubtedly living in the last days of the last days.

William Blackstone writes of Israel, "Their wonderful preservation as a distinct people, through all the persecutions, troubles and wanderings of the past 1800 years, down to the present moment, is a standing miracle, attesting to the truth of God's Word."

Frederick the Great said to his

".. and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn." Zechariah 12:10

Chaplain: "Doctor, if your religion is a true one, it ought to be capable of a very brief and simple proof. Will you give me evidence of its truth in one word?"

The Chaplain answered with one word, "Israel." Israel is proof beyond any possibility of a doubt, to the honest, thinking person, that the Bible is God's Word.

Let me list in capsule form, twenty Messianic signs relating to Israel that have been fulfilled in our day.

1. Israel's restoration to her land.
2. The land has gone from desolation to productivity.
3. As prophesied, the nation of Israel was reborn in one day, May 14, 1948.
4. At its rebirth the nation survived its planned destruction, as prophesied.
5. The very order of Israel's return has been fulfilled as foretold.
6. The nation returned to the use of Hebrew, which had become a dead language.
7. The currency of Israel became the Shekel, which had not been used for over 1900 years.
8. The cities of Israel were rebuilt on their ancient sites and returned to the usage of their old names. With the exception of Bethesda and Chorazin, which were cursed by Christ.
9. The buying back of the land. Jeremiah foretold that when Israel returned to the land they would purchase it piece by piece. That is exactly what has happened.
10. As foretold the trees of Israel have been restored since the return of Israel to the land.
11. Increased rainfall was promised upon Israel's return and that has also happened.
12. The return of the wild animals was also prophesied, it has happened as foretold.

13. The Vultures have also returned to the land as prophesied.
14. It was foretold that in the same fields the sowing of seed, the ploughing of the soil and the harvesting of the crops would occur at the same time. That is occurring today, made possible through the use of irrigation.
15. Israel was foretold to be a democratic republic in the last days, with governors instead of a king. It has happened as foretold.
16. The wars of Israel. Israel was foretold to have some end time wars where she would be given miraculous victories. Israel has had three such wars since 1948.
17. The restoration of the Temple and the Temple worship was prophesied. Preparations have been made for this prophecy to be fulfilled.
18. Jerusalem would be a cup of trembling to the nations, and thus it has become.
19. Edom (Palestinians) would seek to rob Israel of her land. That is the number one issue in our world today.
20. Jewish unbelief; Israeli eyes are closed to the moving of God on their behalf.

Each of these fulfilled prophecies clearly reveal the amazing, miraculous, unmistakable hand of God bringing to pass the promises He made to Israel thousands of years ago. These prophecies and their fulfillment were given by God to prove to Israel that He is the sovereign Lord and that they are His people.

It is to Jewish unbelief that we wish to turn our attention.

Along the main highways in the America there are signs that tell motorists what motels, restaurants and gas stations are available at the next exit. Sometimes two, three or four signs are placed there in case the first sign is missed. What if there were twenty or more signs informing motorists that at the next exit there is a McDonald's restaurant? How could anyone miss that there is a McDonald's at the next exit?

God has given to Israel twenty or more major signs that Messiah's coming is near at hand. Wouldn't you expect that every Jew in the land of Israel would be alert and joyfully looking for Messiah to

appear at any moment? Wouldn't you also expect that those same Israelis would be earnestly seeking to know and do the will of God, including occupying all of the Promised Land? This is not the case.

In 1 Corinthians 1:22 we read, "For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom." God has given the Jewish people signs, signs of the coming Messiah.

The great question is why does Israel not recognize these signs? The answer is that Israeli hearts are hardened by unbelief. We read in Acts 28:27, "For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed; lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them."

In Acts 15:14-16 Peter foretold of the setting aside of Israel for a time while

QUESTION:

Why do people reject God and His Word? People can see these prophecies and study them for themselves. The problem is in the heart, not in the head. Psalm 53:1, "The fool hath said in his heart, there is no God. Corrupt are they, and have done abominable iniquity: there is none that doeth good."

the Church was being called out. Paul gives us the same message in Romans 11:25, "For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in."

That blindness has happened just as God said it would. Paul goes on to say that someday that blindness will be lifted. Romans 11:26, "And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob." That day has not yet dawned.

Notice what will happen to terminate this blindness. Verse 25, "Until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in." Not the **times of the Gentiles**, but the **fullness of the Gentiles**. The fullness of the gentiles implies the completion of the church. When the church is complete the rapture will occur. After the rapture the tribulation period begins and God returns to working with Israel to bring an end to unbelief and to remove the blindness.

The final great chastening of Israel takes place in the last half of the tribulation period. In Matthew 24:21 Jesus is speaking to Israel, "For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be."

Look what happens to Israel at the close of the tribulation period. Zechariah 12:9, "And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem." God rescues Israel from her enemies.

Verse 10, "And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn." That awful tribulation period will bring Israel to the end of herself and force

her to look up to her God and see His mercy and grace upon them.

"...they shall look upon me whom they have pierced..." At that moment the blindness will be lifted from the nation, their eyes will be opened to see their Saviour.

Verse 11, "In that day shall there be a great mourning in Jerusalem..." We see their sorrow over the realization that they have been rejecting their Saviour.

Look at Israel's repentance in that coming day.

Zechariah 12:12-14, "And the land shall mourn, every family apart; the family of the house of David apart, and their wives apart; the family of the house of Nathan apart, and their wives apart; The family of the house of Levi apart, and their wives apart; the family of Shimei apart, and their wives apart; All the families that remain, every family apart, and their wives apart."

This represents individual conversion which will come to the whole nation.

This will be the first time that the blood of Christ will be open to the nation of Israel. "In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness" (Zechariah 13:1).

To this point when a Jew is saved he becomes a part of the body of Christ. In

that day Jews will be saved by the blood of Christ and not become a part of the body of Christ. They will remain a part of the redeemed nation of Israel, a wife for Jehovah.

Look at God's working with Israel during that awesome time. Zechariah 13:8-9, *"And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein. 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."*

God has a plan and a purpose for Israel and He will carry it out. Belief and unbelief will be separated in Israel. Remember that disobedience and unbelief leads to increased unbelief and disobedience.

Jewish unbelief was prophesied 2800 years ago. Isaiah 6:9-10, *"And he said, Go, and tell this people, Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not. Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed."* For the last 2000 years that prophesy has been fulfilled, and it is still being fulfilled today.

That explains why Israel has the Messianic signs, yet they remain blind to them. That is why Israel and her leaders are today bent on giving away the Land God has sworn to give them. It is the fruit of unbelief. The leaders of Israel are not interested in a theocratic kingdom, they want to be like the nations around them; they want a democratic republic. Their eyes are closed by disobedience and unbelief.

Prime Minister Netanyahu is a good statesman, a fine politician, a lover of Israel and an historian, but his eyes are blind to the promises and purposes of God toward Israel. His government has arrested Jews for praying to God on the Temple Mount, his government has allowed Muslims to control the Temple Mount and to remove artifacts that identify Israel with the Temple Mount. He is even now trying to form a coalition government that would abandon the West Bank and possibly East Jerusalem, which is Biblical Jerusalem. This is the same unbelief

that has plagued Israel for over 2000 years.

We are to love Israel and support Israel, but we are not to be ignorant of Israel's real problem which is unbelief and disobedience.

Isaiah asks the question as to how long this unbelief will continue. The Lord gives him the answer in Isaiah 6:11-12, *"Then said I, Lord, how long? And he answered, until the cities be 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."*

That dispersion has happened, now through Israel's re-gathering God is preparing to remove Israel's blindness and unbelief and restore her to Himself.

What if there were twenty or more signs informing motorists that at the next exit there is a McDonald's restaurant? How could anyone miss that there is a McDonald's at the next exit?

QUESTION: Why do people reject God and His Word? People can see these prophecies and study them for themselves. The problem is in the heart, not in the head. Psalm 53:1, *"The fool hath said in his heart, there is no God. Corrupt are they, and have done abominable iniquity: there is none that doeth good."*

"In his heart," not in his head. *"Corrupt are they,"* sin is the problem. John 3:19, *"And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil."* People turn away from Christ and the gospel because they have sinful, rebellious hearts.

God has provided the option of repentance, *"For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation"* (2 Corinthians 6:2).

Today Israel and her leaders in disobedience and unbelief are refusing to possess the land that God has promised them.

There is a parallel situation in Deuteronomy 9:23-24, *"Likewise when the LORD sent you from Kadesh*

barnea, saying, Go up and possess the land which I have given you; then ye rebelled against the commandment of the LORD your God, and ye believed him not, nor hearkened to his voice. Ye have been rebellious against the LORD from the day that I knew you."

The Lord sent Israel in to possess the Promised Land. Israel refused to obey and believe God; they said in effect, we can't trust God to keep His promises; God is not able to keep His Word.

As a consequence the Lord chastened Israel severely and with the exception of Caleb and Joshua, every Israeli twenty years and older, died in the wilderness. They never entered the land.

Today Israel is still disobedient and unbelieving. They are repeating the sin of that long ago generation. The Lord has proven Himself to Israel in hundreds of ways since 1948. God gave His people miraculous victories in three amazing wars. He has given prosperity, preservation and blessing at every turn in spite of unbelief. In recent days we have learned that God has blessed Israel with some

of the world's largest oil reserves as well as large natural gas reserves.

At this very moment Israel's leaders are prepared to surrender much of the Promised Land to those who are the very enemies of Jehovah. We know from scripture that the Lord will severely judge these unbelieving and disobedient Israelis. Concerning this coming judgement, we repeat Zechariah 13:8, *"And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein."* Two thirds of the nation will die in the tribulation period as a result of unbelief and disobedience.

God loves Israel and He will bless the faithful remnant, we repeat 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."*

Faith and obedience will always bring the blessing of God on men and women. Unbelief and disobedience will always bring the wrath of God.

My friend the hour is late, if you are not saved come to Christ now. Art Sadler

An Instant World Church

During the first half of the tribulation period there will be two great powers controlling the world and its people.

THE POLITICAL POWER WILL BE THE REVIVED ROMAN EMPIRE.

This entity will come on the scene suddenly and will take the world by surprise. Revelation 17:8, "*The beast that thou sawest was, and is not....and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder (be amazed).... when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.*" The Roman Empire that virtually ceased to exist will suddenly and miraculously appear, seemingly out of nowhere and become a power that dominates the world. This we refer to as the Revived Roman Empire, John calls it the beast. At the mid-tribulation point this kingdom transitions into the World-Wide Kingdom of Antichrist.

THE SECOND ENTITY WILL BE A WORLD-WIDE CHURCH.

This is the topic of this article. During the first 3 ½ years this great monolithic structure will work in cooperation with the Revived Roman Empire (the beast). In Revelation 17:3 John says, "*....I saw a woman sit on a scarlet coloured beast...*" We see the church is controlling the beast or being carried along by the beast, it demonstrates a union between the two. Notice the extent of the influence or control of the harlot. Verse 1 gives us an insight into her influence, "*....the great whore that sitteth upon many waters.*" The "many waters" refers to the people of the world, indicating the vast influence of this false church.

Verse 15 expands on this idea, "*And he saith unto me, the waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.*" This harlot church will have a very great number of people under its influence; much of the world.

We are not left to wonder about the identity of this false church, it is given to us in verses 9, "*And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads*

are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth." Rome is the only city that is the center of a great religion that is situated on seven hills. Verse 18 confirms this, "*And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.*"

This church is obviously the Roman Catholic Church which will suddenly expand and include much of the world's people in its number. What is it that will bring a sudden expansion of the harlot church sweeping all of Christendom and much of that which is now secular into its fold? In the next section we will endeavour to answer that question.

For centuries the Pope was entitled, "The Sovereign Pontiff, ruler of papal states, regent of all princes and powers and governments on earth." In 1870 the European powers dissolved the temporal powers of the Vicar of Christ. The church has ever since sought to regain power over governments, we see that power regained in Revelation 17.

That still left the Pope with absolute power over all ecclesiastical and religious matters. That absolute power is now being challenged by the liberals within the church.

"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity."
Matthew 7: 21 - 23

In the last fifty years post modernism has overtaken the world, changing the mind set of men. Absolute truth and centralized control has been rejected, greatly affecting the Church of Rome.

In recent years this struggle has been growing within the church, between the old guard conservatives and a new liberal element.

Malachi Martin, an insider in the Vatican, wrote in 1980 about the Catholic Church, "All over the world, on an increasing scale, men and women

are accepting new developments as normal and natural: abortion, contraception, divorce, freedom of conscience in religious matters, a secular education, homosexuality, are among the more obvious. But the near future (written in 1980) promises things like euthanasia, and genetic engineering. It is safe to predict that within Jean Paul's lifetime there will be Roman Catholic women priests acting in total disregard of Jean Paul and his Vatican." This has not yet happened; it awaits the coming liberal takeover of the church.

A new study shows that Roman Catholics are more supportive of homosexual special rights than are the general public. When the liberal hierarchy takes control, the Church will move to make changes to bring these liberal minded, straying Catholics, back into the fold. The laity will have new input which will give them a sense of ownership and enthusiasm.

In 1958 Pope John XXIII was elected and he proceeded to introduce liberalism into the church for the first time. That has had the unexpected result of destroying the authority of the church and the morality of the people. It has also moved the church in the direction of socialism and the goal of bringing social transformation to the world.

Catholic theologian, Malachi Martin, who served under John XXIII, has summed up this new direction as, "The decline and fall of the Roman Church."

During the reign of Pope Paul VI who followed John XXIII, generations of young priests were turned out by Catholic seminaries all over the world. They have been trained to minimize or reject the dogmas and formulas of Catholic beliefs and morality. Everywhere within the church you see reflections of a new theology which is distrustful of the Roman hierarchy.

Pope Paul VI and John Paul II sought in vain to reverse this direction. It seems

that Pope Benedict was overwhelmed by this growing schism.

This new theology which emphasises feelings and experience in place of doctrine and dogma has been growing and is now reaching a tipping point. Contemplative spirituality and mysticism have taken over much of the church. This change has been installed in Seminaries, Universities, and Diocese and in a new generation of young Bishops, Priests and Nuns.

Among the Catholic laity there has been a growing dissatisfaction with the church. This is a dissatisfaction that is calling for change. Millions of Catholics

hands to make a better world." Warren called for a "Coalition of people of good will to accomplish some goals that would be beneficial to society." Warren also stated, "We need to mobilize a billion Catholics and Orthodox. I'm not really that interested in interfaith dialogue. I am interested in interfaith projects. Let's do something together. You are probably not going to change your doctrinal distinctives, and I'm probably not going to change my doctrinal distinctives. We have different beliefs. But the fact is, we do serve the same Lord. Let's work on the things we can agree on."

harlot church. I am haunted by the message of Matthew 7:21-23, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity."

Many have insisted that the Catholic Church will never change, they are wrong. We are on the threshold of vast

One day, perhaps soon, the world will wake up and find the true body of Christ missing.

have voted with their feet in the last number of years as they have forsaken the Mass.

I suspect that the Roman Catholic Church has reached the point of no return and with the new Pope a tremendous change will take place. The liberals will take over the church, doctrine, dogma, liturgy and the traditions of the Fathers will be set aside. Celibacy, ordination of women, accommodation with abortion, contraception and homosexuality will be a part of the new church. The doors of the church will swing wide open. All of Christendom will be invited in without restrictions and limitations, accepted as Brothers in Christ. The "Christ consciousness" and the "Christ within" of the new age will be welcomed into the club also. The world will rush to be a part of this seemingly magnificent new utopia.

Mainline Churches, Evangelical Churches and the Catholic Church have been on parallel tracts for some time now. Experience, feelings and the new spirituality have replaced doctrine and the Word of God.

From within evangelicalism, Rick Warren has said, "What we believe is irrelevant, ignore your beliefs and join

No better description of the philosophy of the harlot church could be given.

It is obvious that Warren's doctrinal distinctives are totally unimportant, and the Word of God is irrelevant. His protest about not changing doctrinal distinctives is hollow in the light of his proposal. We can set doctrine aside and forget it. With doctrine set aside no hindrances remain to an instant world church.

Contemplative spirituality will be a shared experience and that will also help to bring "all together." Social transformation and social justice will be the common mission, instead of the gospel of Christ.

When our Lord gave the church its commission He said, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." He did not say, "Go ye into all the world and bring about social transformation and social justice," that is another gospel that replaces the saving gospel of Christ and consequently damns men and women to an eternal hell. That obviously must be the program of Satan.

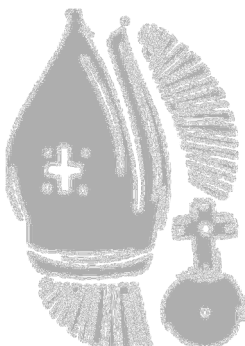
It is mind boggling to see how the Evangelical church, in such a short time, has abandoned the gospel of Jesus Christ for the social gospel of the

change in the church. This drastic change will be the very instrument that will bring about the formation of the World Church. The seeds of change have been sown within the church and will soon yield a harvest. This change will not alter the essence or the nature of Catholicism; it will be a cosmetic change.

I repeat, liturgy, doctrine, dogma and the traditions of the fathers will all be set aside for experience and the new spirituality that is flooding over the world. The doors of the church will be flung wide open, disenchanted Catholics will return to the fold. All of Christendom, including evangelicals will press into this seemingly new entity.

When Rome makes this transition, overnight the walls will come down and the world will wake up some morning, perhaps soon, with a one world church, the harlot church of Revelation 17.

One day, perhaps soon, the world will wake up and find the true body of Christ missing. My dear friend if you are a part of this Trojan horse religion; now is the time to get out and come to Christ in repentance and faith for salvation. Art Sadlier



THE FINAL POPE

St. Malachy was an Irish saint and the archbishop of Armagh, who lived from 1094 to 1148. He made some remarkable predictions. These predictions are extra-biblical and have no biblical authority. He claimed to

have had a vision in which he saw the next 112 Popes. Malachy presented a description of each pope, and gave a name to each of the Popes. His message culminated with the final Pope. Malachy described the last Pope as "Petrus Romanus," or "Peter the Roman," writing: "In the final persecution of the Holy Roman Church there will reign Peter

the Roman, who will feed his flock among many tribulations; after which the seven-hilled city will be destroyed and the dreadful Judge will judge the people.”

Malachy predicted information about each of the succeeding Popes. The information is quite accurate in many cases, however the prophecies may have been self-fulfilling as each Pope could read the information about himself and his reign.

What is interesting is that Pope Benedict was the 111th Pope. The next Pope, who is about to be elected would be the 112th Pope, the last Pope.

What we do know from scripture is that at the mid-tribulation point the harlot church (Rome) will be destroyed by the ten kings of the Revived Roman Empire. (Revelation 17:16; Revelation 18:8). If we are living as close to the tribulation period as we believe we are, then the harlot Church of Rome is soon to be destroyed.

Malachy gave his manuscript to Innocent II, who was pontiff from 1130 to 1143. The document was placed in the Vatican archives, where it remained unknown until its discovery in 1590.

Cardinale wrote, “It is fair to say the vast majority of Malachy’s predictions about successive Popes are amazingly accurate; always remembering that he gives only a minimum of information.”

As we have noted the scripture teaches that the harlot church will be destroyed at the mid-point of the tribulation. That would make it probable that this next Pope will be the last.

If the prophecies of St. Malachy are true then this Pope will definitely be the last Pope. That would mean that he will be the one to introduce the great transition in the Roman church, the changes that will bring all of Christendom into the harlot church.

The hour is late and we are reminded of the words of Paul, “*But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief*” (1 Thessalonians 5:4).

Everywhere we look we see the signs of the times flashing brilliantly as we seek desperately to sound the trumpet to a sleeping world. Art Sadlier

Contemplative Spirituality

Many Christians are unaware of the new spirituality that is gaining momentum across the entire spectrum of Christianity.

William Shannon [a mystic proponent and the biographer of Thomas Merton] stated that contemplative spirituality has now widely replaced old-style Catholicism.

Contemplative spirituality reaches far beyond the Catholic Church. Mainline Protestant traditions (Episcopalians, United Methodists, Presbyterians, Lutherans, United Church of Christ, etc.) have dived into the contemplative waters also. Evangelicalism has also now deeply imbibed of this new spirituality.

One Catholic leader stated about contemplative spirituality, “The cloud of unknowing is now the basis for nearly all Catholic spirituality, and contemplative prayer is now becoming widespread all over the world.”

Silence, appropriate body posture and, above all, emptying the mind through repetition of prayer, or the repetition of a mantra such as a single word, has been the practice of mystics in all the great world religions. And they form the basis on which most modern spiritual leaders guide those who want to draw closer to God.

In Biblical meditation the thoughts of the world around us are shut out and the mind is given over to the Word of God. The focus is the Word of God, allowing God to speak to the soul through His Word.

* “*This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success*” (Joshua 1:8).

* “*Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee*” (Psalm 119:11).

* “*I will meditate in thy precepts, and have respect unto thy ways*” (Psalm 119:15).

* “*O how I love thy law! it is my meditation all the day*” (Psalm 119:97).

* “*I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation*” (Psalm 119:99).

In contemplative meditation the mind is completely shut down which allows the spirit world to enter and deceive individuals with the feeling that they are in touch with God.

Yoga introduces the secular world to the same concept which will open them up, along with the new agers, to the coming one world church, and the supposed new utopia.

Roger Oakland states the following about contemplative spirituality, “This trend away from the authority of God’s Word to the reinvented form of Christianity has overcome all evangelical denominations like an avalanche. Few Bible teachers saw this avalanche coming. Now that it is underway, few realize it has even happened.”

He continues, “This is best described by the Word of God giving way to experiences that God’s Word forbids.”

Roger sums up this new spirituality very well, “These teachings, while actually rooted in ancient wisdom (the occult), were presented to Christendom post-New Testament and not found in the Word of God. The spiritual formation movement is based upon experiences promoted by desert monks and Roman Catholic mystics – these mystics encouraged the use of rituals and practices, that if performed would bring the practitioner closer to God (or come into God’s presence). The premise was that if one went into the silence or sacred space, then the mind was emptied of distractions and the voice of

God could be heard. In truth, these hypnotic, mantric style practices were leading these monks into altered states of consciousness. The methods they used are the same that Buddhists and the Hindus use as a means of encountering the spiritual realm. Such methods are dangerous, and are not sanctioned in the Bible—God gives no instruction for this. On the contrary, he

warns severely against divination, which is practicing a ritual or method in order to obtain information from a spiritual source. While proponents of spiritual formation (like Richard Foster) say these methods show that the Holy Spirit is doing something new to refresh Christianity, I would suggest that what is happening is not new and is not the Holy Spirit.”

This new spirituality, contemplative meditation or spiritual formation has become a common denominator in all of Christendom. This is further setting the stage for all of Christendom to merge as the harlot church.

Art Sadlier

Summary of the News

Israel – The negotiations for a coalition government have indicated that Netanyahu is seeking left leaning coalition. The first deal Netanyahu made was to promise Tzipi Livni, the office of Justice Minister with the responsibility of negotiating with the Palestinians. In the past Livni has sought to hand Judea and Samaria over to the Palestinians as well as East Jerusalem.

The real tension is between those who want to tear down the West Bank communities and those who want to promote the expansion of these same West Bank communities. It is too soon to know what will happen, but it is surprising that Netanyahu is leaning toward abandoning Judea and Samaria.

It is possible that there may be another election. Israel is hopelessly divided. That seems to be a reflection of the future of the nation with God ultimately intervening to rescue and carry out His purposes.

In another development, there is no man’s land in Syria on the borders between Israel and Jordan. Syria has withdrawn from this territory in order to strengthen defences around Damascus. The question is who will fill that void? Will it be Israel or the radical Islamic rebels, the consequences will be of tremendous significance.

It now seems obvious that Israel can no longer count on America to support her. The Obama administration is overloaded with anti-Israel people that seem bent on withdrawing from any real commitment to foreign intervention.

It seems increasingly unlikely that Israel will attack Iran to prevent her attaining the bomb. Meanwhile Iran is closing in on her nuclear ambition. This seems to be a disaster for Israel; however Israel’s God will preserve her and protect her from nuclear annihilation by Iran.

Egypt – The revolution in Egypt was supposed to bring democracy, instead it has brought tyranny. Egypt is now facing total collapse with a bankrupt economy. It is interesting that in spite of the fact that Egypt has the largest army in the Mid-East, they are not mentioned as being involved in the end time wars. We conclude that Egypt is not a factor in the war of Psalm 83.

Iran – Their nuclear program is nearing completion. It is now seems to be beyond the likelihood that either America or Israel will intervene. America seems to be withdrawing from real Mid-East involvement.

Iran’s power and influence just keeps growing. Her alliance with Syria and Hezbollah is backed up by Russia and to some extent China. Scripture indicates that Iran will not be involved in the war of Psalm 83. It seems she will stand as a cheerleader on the sidelines until the war of Ezekiel 38-39. We must always read the news in the light of scripture. The Lord can restrain Iran in unexpected ways, there could yet be political turmoil in Iran.

America – The warnings to America continue to reverberate. They are numerous and drastic yet they go unheeded. There are the credible warnings of catastrophic

cyber-attacks. There are warnings of an impending EMP attack which would for all intents and purposes terminate the America we know. There is the ongoing threat of economic collapse. China is threatening a currency war which could devastate America and be a precursor to economic collapse.

We expect judgment to fall on America, but how and when only the Lord knows; we just see it looming on the horizon.

Syría – The question is still open as to whether Assad will survive or fall to Islamic rebels. I suspect that he will survive or be replaced by a clone. I say that because of the end time role Syria is yet to play which seems to best unfold with Iran’s support.

Italy – Italy is facing a financial collapse and some are suggesting this will be the final blow that will break Europe financially. Italy is the third largest debtor nation next to the US and Japan.

Italy currently has a debt to GDP ratio of more than 120 percent, and Italy has a bigger national debt than any other country in Europe. That is why it is a major concern that Italian voters have just overwhelmingly rejected austerity.

Italian voters in clearly rejecting austerity have caused investors to fear that austerity programs all over Europe may start to disintegrate.

At this point, Europe is a complete and total economic mess and things are rapidly getting worse.

And that is really bad news because Europe is already in the midst of a recession. In fact, according to the BBC, the recession in the Euro zone

got even deeper during the fourth quarter of 2012.

The truth is that government debt is not even the greatest danger that Europe is facing. In reality, a collapse of the European banking system is of much greater concern.

In Revelation 17:8 we read an interesting statement about the Revived Roman Empire, "*....they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, (be amazed).... when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.*" This seems to imply, that when the revived Roman Empire comes on the scene it will almost vanish and then come back stronger than ever. This will be so amazing that it says,

"They that dwell on the earth shall wonder (be amazed)."

Are we seeing the set up for this event?

Canada –Christians in Canada have been shocked to learn about the pending passage of Bill C- 279. This bill is facing its final reading in the House of Commons. Basically the bill says that if a man thinks he is a woman, he may use the woman's public washroom. How would your wife or daughter know if a man in the Ladies room was a sexual predator or not? At least before it was too late.

The law is based on what a man thinks about his gender, his thought is the final say which could not be

questioned. That leaves the woman's washroom open to any man who wishes to use it, including sexual predators.

Conclusion.... Our world is in a state of flux, with rapid changes coming from all directions. Change is the only certain thing in our world today. We set our minds on what the Word of God says about the last days scenario and then we watch as it eventually unfolds. The only certain thing in this world is the Word of God, which liveth and abideth forever.

Art Sadlier

Renewed Pressure on Israel

For some time now it has generally been assumed that the peace process was over; the Palestinians have been demanding Israel's total surrender on every issue. The new mood in Israel seemed to be optimism about expanding into Judea and Samaria.

1. The first surprise came after the Israeli elections. Netanyahu's first move in the negotiations for a coalition government was to make an agreement with the insignificant "The Movement Party" in which he offered he offered Tzipi Livni the Ministry of Justice. As Justice Minister she would be responsible for negotiating with the Palestinians for a peace agreement. The problem is that Livini in the past has been committed to surrendering the West Bank and East Jerusalem to the Palestinians. This has to be somewhat of a reflection of Netanyahu's intentions.
2. The second point of pressure comes from Europe where there have been strident demands that Israel immediately abandon the West Bank and East Jerusalem.

Along with these demands is a threat of a European embargo on goods from Judea and Samaria.

3. The third and most ominous movement has come from Barack Obama. It is reported that when Obama comes to Israel in March he will make a demand that Netanyahu set a timetable for withdrawing from the West Bank. Along with that demand apparently he has warned that he will set his own timetable if Israel refuses to comply, reportedly in 2014.

We are possibly facing a situation in which the US, the EU, Russia, China and the UN will demand Israel withdraw from the West Bank with both military and economic threats if Israel refuses.

Recently US Secretary of State John Kerry visited the West Bank and listened while the Palestinians listed all their demands without his even going to Israel. It has not escaped the Israelis that the new Obama administration with the new appointments; is deeply anti-Israel.

No doubt when this is announced Europe and the world will jump on

Obama's bandwagon and the pressure will be incredibly intense.

Netanyahu is about to be tested as never before, in fact it has been made clear that Netanyahu's response will determine Israel's relationship with Obama for the next four years.

For sixty years the pressure has been on Israel to abandon the promises of God and surrender her heritage. For sixty years the Lord has moved in many ways to prevent this from happening and He will move again to keep Israel from her own folly.

I know I sound like a broken record, but I believe the war of Psalm 83 will completely frustrate the purposes of the nations, at least until the mid-tribulation point. At that time antichrist will forcefully divide the land and take control of the Temple Mount and the rebuilt Temple.

The movement of prophetic end time events is like the waves of the sea and the incoming tide. The tide floods in, and each time the waves wash higher than before. Art Sadlier