



*“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*

January 2015

Let Us Take It Personally

What a difference it makes when we humans cease being general and become pointed and personal in our approach to God! We then come to see that all that God did was for each of us. It was for me that holy men spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. For me Christ died—and when He arose on the third day it was for me. When the promised Holy Spirit came it was to continue in me the work He had been doing for me, since the morning of the Creation! So, I have every right to claim all of the riches of the Godhead in mercy given. What a blessed thought—that an infinite God can give all of Himself to each of His children! He does not distribute Himself that each may have a part, but to each one He gives all of Himself as fully as if there were no others. All that He is and all that He has done is for us and for all who share the common salvation. **A. W. Tozer**

Sound the Trumpet

- Section 1 -

THE BEAST AND THE COMING UNION OF ALL THE WORLD'S RELIGIONS

We are standing on the threshold of the Day of the Lord also referred to as the tribulation period.

“And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy” (Revelation 13:1). In this verse we are introduced to a king and a kingdom which will dominate the world during the tribulation period. They are both called a beast, one is a man and the other is a kingdom.

The raging restless sea represents the peoples of the earth. During this time the people of the earth will be like a raging restless sea.

The ten horns on his head represent ten rulers of the revived Roman Empire that Daniel tells us about in Daniel chapter 2 and chapter 7.

In verse 2 of Revelation 13, we discover where his power comes from, *“...and the dragon (Satan) gave him power, and his seat, and great authority.”* This man is indwelt by and controlled by Satan.

In verse four we see Satan actually being worshipped as the one who controls the beast, whom John calls the antichrist in his epistles. *“And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, who is like unto the beast? Who is able to make war with him?”* This is Satan's attempt to fulfil his longstanding desire to replace the God as the ruler of this world. That desire also includes being worshipped by the people of the world. This is the point that Satan has been striving to reach for some 6,000 years. This is the climax of Satan's ambition.

David Hunt stated, “The media has so conditioned our minds that the very word instantly conjures up the image of a sinister man who exudes evil from every pore. But Hollywood caricatures play into the hands of the real Antichrist, since no suspicion will rest upon this one whose admirable

qualities so well conceal his dark designs. When the time has come for his surprising world takeover, precipitated by an unprecedented global crisis, he will be hailed as the world's savior—and so he will appear to be.”

Daniel tells us that he will come on the scene as an unknown. The office of this coming dictator has now been setup. It will be the newly created office of President of the EU. He will come on the scene at a time of crisis and lead the European federation to great heights of power and world-wide influence.

Today the EU is one of the leading economic powers in the world. However it is facing a crisis and is in danger of economic collapse, in danger of the collapse of the Euro and political disintegration. That would appear to be the exact scenario that will prepare the Europeans for the appearance Antichrist and for the yielding of national sovereignty for the common good and the solving of vexing problems.

The Second Beast

“And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed” (Revelation 13:12).

Antichrist's program will be a program of religion and he will have an associate who will be the leader of a new world religion. This leader is called in scripture the false prophet or the second beast. *“And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, (he pretends to be Christ the Lamb of God) and he spake as a dragon. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles*

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which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live” (Revelation 13:11-14).

The popes have always claimed to be Christ’s representative on earth and I suggest that the present pope is positioning himself to fill the role of the second beast.

Pope Francis is rapidly gaining great influence and stature in the world. He is posing himself as a mediator in the affairs of nations. For example he mediated in the reconciliation between the USA and Cuba, etc. He is stirring hope and excitement in both the secular and religious world. He is being hailed as the man to bring change to the church and to the world. He is taking firm control of the church and has put the Cardinals on notice that great changes are coming to the church. He has been laying the groundwork for the doors of the church to be opened to the whole world.

Someday the whole world will walk through those open doors. That will be the point at which the harlot church explodes upon the world. He has made great strides in bringing both evangelicals and mainline protestant churches into a looming union.

The great peace initiative of the coming antichrist has already begun and is gaining momentum in the world of politics, religion and among educators. There is a drive to solve the problems of terrorism and social turmoil. Antichrist must bring the world together in peace and harmony and unity to facilitate his efforts to seize control.

There is a drive to make the world a melting pot where all are melded together as one homogenous, mindless group of robots which can easily be controlled. That is the climate in which antichrist can control the world.

What global leaders and “peacemakers” do not understand is that the reason there is terrorism, murder, and cruelty to others is because of sin in the heart of man. As the world seeks out answers and solutions to global issues, they move further and further away from the only solution – Jesus Christ.

Why do we say further away from Him? Because the answer they come up with is to eliminate any and all “extremism.” This is another way of saying remove those who say their religion is the only true religion. So what happens; Islamic

extremists (fundamentalists) are lumped together with Christian fundamentalists. And now, it becomes wrong to stand for the Christian faith and say that Christ is the only way to God, this is extremism in their estimation and it brings disunity.

The problem with this is that the on the one hand, Islam promotes violence, Mohamad said, kill the infidels. On the other hand, biblical Christianity promotes love, peace, gentleness (the fruits of the Spirit as described in Galatians and love your enemies is required in Matthew) and finding salvation and eternal life through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. That is quite a contrast!

Rick Warren is promoting the elimination of all forms of fundamentalism. Warren predicts that, “Fundamentalism, of all varieties, will be one of the big enemies of the 21st century. Muslim fundamentalism, Christian fundamentalism, Jewish fundamentalism, secular fundamentalism, they’re all motivated by fear, fear of each other.” Rick Warren has made himself the enemy of Christian fundamentalism.

But Christian fundamentalism and Jewish fundamentalism do not promote violence. Christian fundamentalism promotes the Gospel of Jesus Christ. If something that calls itself Christianity (such as the Roman Catholic Church during the inquisitions) is promoting violence, then it is not true Christianity.

How sad to realize that one of the church’s most popular and influential pastors would suggest that we lump Islamic terrorists with Christian believers.

In 2011, Lighthouse Trails wrote a report entitled “Eye-Witness Account: Global Peace Forum at Saddleback with Rick Warren and Tony Blair Raises Serious Questions about Global Peace Plan.”

In that report, it was stated by both Warren and Blair that the only way a global peace could happen on planet earth in the future would be for all faiths to work together and do good together. The audience at the forum appeared to be mesmerized and awe-struck as they were wooed with discussion on faith, good works, democracy, and coming together. Beneath the vernacular, however, was another story.

At the 4th Ministerial meeting of the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) in New York on 27 September 2013, GCTF Co-Chairs announced that a core group of government and non-government partners from different regions are planning to establish the first-

ever public-private global fund to support local, grass-roots efforts to counter violent extremism in all of its forms. It is anticipated that the fund will raise more than \$200 million over the next ten years to support local community initiatives that counter radicalization and extremism. (Read Christian Fundamentalism)

“The work that my organization does, and the work of many others, is about not just the uprooting of terrorism, but the uprooting of the thinking and philosophy behind it. I believe there is no answer to this problem that doesn’t start and continue with the importance of educating our young people. So, that in a world in which people are pushed ever closer together, they learn to live with each other with mutual tolerance and respect.” The above statement sounds good until you consider the implications.

Tony Blair stated in the UK Guardian, “Religious difference, not ideology, will fuel this century’s epic battles” That battle will reach its climax in the tribulation period as multitudes of tribulation saints are martyred for being out of step with the program of antichrist.

So Blair and Warren believe the hope of society is to eliminate religious differences. That is the philosophy behind all of the persecution of Christians over the long centuries of the dark ages. It is also the philosophy that will be at the heart of the coming world church, called the harlot or the great whore by John in Revelation 17. We are already seeing this in the neutralism of the new evangelical church.

Blair stated, “Terrorism is a transnational and global problem frequently driven by local forces. While military, intelligence and law enforcement operations can help address the threat these groups pose, to succeed in the long-term, we must reduce their ability to recruit at the local level.” That is a call to eliminate all groups that do not conform to the societal norms, in particular fundamental Christians.

Tony Blair stated, “We have to be prepared to take the security measures necessary for our immediate protection. . . . The answer is to promote views that are open-minded and tolerant towards those who are different, and to fight the formal, informal and internet propagation of closed-minded intolerance.” (Read: persecution of religious groups who do not conform to societal norms)

The following article written by Tony Blair illustrates further the world’s efforts to

bring about peace (without Christ) and its move toward a one-world religion, which will reject biblical Christians as extremists who are prone to terrorism.

Of course, this is absurd as true born-again believers in Christ are *not* prone to violence. What Tony Blair *and other leaders* are really calling for is a world where those who say Jesus Christ is the only way of salvation are silenced. If you don't believe that, consider what Blair's comrade, Rick Warren said about Christian fundamentalists (meaning those who adhere to biblical doctrine). This is a repeat of the above statement by Warren.

Warren predicts that fundamentalism, of all varieties, will be "one of the big enemies of the 21st century. Muslim fundamentalism, Christian fundamentalism, Jewish fundamentalism, secular fundamentalism – they're all motivated by fear, fear of each other." (Rick Warren, from the Philadelphia Enquirer, 2006)

On the other hand Warren is promoting a neutral Christianity and leading it into unity with the Roman Catholic Church and all other religions.

In a recent video interview for the Catholic News Service Warren said: "We have far more in common than what divides us." (Referring to Catholicism)

He continued: "When you talk about Pentecostals, charismatics, evangelicals, fundamentalists, Catholics, Methodists, Baptists, Presbyterians ... Well, they would all say we believe in the trinity, we believe in the Bible, we believe in the resurrection, we believe salvation is through Jesus Christ. These are the big issues."

What clearer evidence could we have to demonstrate that Warren is on the leading edge of the drive to bring evangelicals into the coming harlot church of Revelation 17. Accompanying that drive is the intention to isolate and reject Christian Fundamentalists.

A false "Christ" and a false "Christianity" are coming; the Bible predicts it and this coming false Christ will be the antichrist who will hate Israel, the Jews, and Bible-believing Christians. Antagonism toward fundamentalism is already evident in the neutral Christianity that now dominates evangelicalism.

While the world is going to do what it is going to do, how is that many of Christianity's main leaders are falling into step with this world system that will eventually bring about the Antichrist?

Remember what Rick Warren said about the new reformation he is hoping to help bring about, that it can come not just through Christians but through Muslims as well. He calls it a reformation from God.

Warren stated, "Who's the man of peace in any village, or it might be a woman of peace who has the most respect, they're open and they're influential? They don't have to be a Christian. In fact, they could be a Muslim, but they're open and they're influential and you work with them to attack the five giants. And that's going to bring the second Reformation." (Rick Warren, May 2005, Pew Forum on Religion)

The implication is that the first reformation divided but this second reformation will unite. It will unite not only Protestants and Catholics but all of the religions of the world.

Art Sadlier

DARK CLOUDS

Looming across this world's sky are dark clouds. As the sun appears to be setting on this evil generation; blinded men and women believe the setting sun is a rising sun. Jesus warned that the major mark of the last days would be spiritual deception.

I recall reading the account of someone's dream. In the dream there was a beautiful park with trees, lush green grass and beautiful daisies growing everywhere. The park was situated on the brink of a high cliff. In the park was a large gathering of people, men, women, boys and girls and older folk.

The whole crowd was fascinated by the beautiful daisies and they were busy picking bouquets. The dreamer watched as the enthralled individuals gathered the beautiful flowers. As he watched, to his horror he saw individuals moving closer and closer to the cliff. He tried to shout the warning only to realize that the people were deaf to his warning. It mattered not how loud he cried out, he watched in horror as one by one they plunged over the cliff to their doom.

Today as the night of sin and unbelief and disobedience settles over our world,

we see the darkness descending and we watch in horror as the blind and deceived all around us clutch to the vain fantasies and illusions of this life while they are edging ever closer to destruction.

Signs of the Times

We are seeing unusual things all around us, things which certainly carry a warning about the lateness of the hour.

One of the signs Jesus gave as a warning of His coming is found in Matthew 24:7, "...*there shall be famines and pestilences....*" Pestilences are catastrophic diseases.

Ebola, Marburg, Enterovirus and Chikungunya - these diseases were not even on the radar of most people coming into 2014, but now each one of them is making headline news. So why is this happening? Why are so many deadly diseases breaking out all over the world right now? Are we seeing the beginning of this end time scenario Jesus described? Is there some kind of a connection here with the words of Jesus?

For example, there are now more than a million cases of Chikungunya in Central and South America, and it is being

projected that there will be millions more in 2015. Ebola cases continue to grow. An even deadlier virus (Marburg) has now broken out in Uganda.

The potential outbreaks of major worldwide pandemics are now an ever present possibility. We could now potentially see several absolutely devastating diseases racing across the planet at the same time.

The Marburg Virus is an absolutely horrible disease, and many consider it to be even more deadly than Ebola. Meanwhile, a disease that sounds very similar to Ebola and Marburg has popped up in Venezuela and doctors down there do not know what it is. "We do not know what it is," admitted Douglas León Natera, president of the Venezuelan Medical Federation.

In the United States, enterovirus D-68 has sickened hundreds of children all over the country. So far cases have been confirmed in 43 different states, several children have been paralyzed by it, and one New Jersey boy has died.

Why are so many absolutely horrible diseases emerging all at once? Is it possible this is only a taste of what is to

come when the Bible speaks of pestilences in the last days?

Another Last day's Scenario is increased Persecution. In the second century the church suffered terrific persecution. All through the church age the Disciples of Christ have suffered persecution. In recent days there has been a dramatic increase in the suffering and martyrdom of believers.

Open Doors, a watchdog organization has released a report on the global persecution of Christians and states that 2014 marked the highest level of hostility against Christians ever recorded, but believes matters will only get worse.

Amnesty International has reported a recent series of attacks by the Islamic group Boko Haram that killed hundreds, if not thousands of people in Nigeria. In just two months, from August to October, nearly 200 Christian churches were destroyed by Boko Haram and its Muslim allies after their capture of towns and villages in the north-eastern states of Borno and Adamawa.

In the last four years alone, approximately 1,000 Christian churches have been destroyed by Boko Haram and its Muslim sympathizers in a nation that is approximately half Christian and half Muslim.

John, in book of Revelation tells us that multitudes of believers will be martyred during the tribulation period. He tells that an innumerable number will be slain at that time; see Revelation 7:9-14.

John also reveals that beheading will be the method used in these martyrdoms. Is it a co-incident that Muslim extremists are using that method today? I believe we are now seeing a foretaste of the tribulation scenario. The hour is late.

Perilous Times

Paul warned us of the situation that would prevail in the last days. "*This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come*" (2 Timothy 3:1). Jesus also described those coming last days in Luke 21:26, "*Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.*"

Let me list just a few headlines and quotes of the last few days which describe our present perilous world.

Mikhail Gorbachev warns of the danger of war, possibly nuclear war between Russia and Europe over Ukraine.

Russian army prioritizes strengthening of strategic nuclear forces in 2015.

Russia's strategic (nuclear) missile forces are to conduct 100 drills in 2015.

Russia is listed as the greatest Danger to America in 2015.

China is rapidly building a war machine with nuclear weapons that can rival the US.

North Korea has reportedly developed a nuclear missile capacity that can reach mainland America.

Syria's Assad is reportedly building an underground facility for the production of nuclear weapons.

Then there is the growing problem of terrorism. In a typical daily news report we read, "A ten year old girl kills 19 in Nigeria by blowing herself up as a suicide bomber." ISIS has simply used her as an instrument of terror.

That is but an indication of the extremism the world is now facing. Each single day dozens and sometimes hundreds are killed by terrorists. Even in North America there are fears of potential catastrophic attacks.

Moral Decline

The tribulation period will see the world plunged into the ultimate time of evil as Satan is allowed to make his final attempt to rule man and the world. Today we are seeing a prelude to that coming time.

According to a new Pew Research study, less than half of children in the U.S. currently live in a traditional family; referring to two married heterosexual parents in their first marriage. Many factors have combined to produce this frightful change, including no fault divorce, the rock and roll philosophy of "do your own thing," the welfare state, the feminist movement, and above all, apostasy, spiritual compromise and worldliness in the churches.

The building bloc of the society God has intended has been destroyed. Marriage and the home are God's design to preserve fathers, mothers and children from the temptations and corrupting influences around them.

The incredible in-roads of the LGBT agenda which is now permeating all of society, is the last straw in the destruction of the family.

Recently an Irish priest announced to his congregation that he is homosexual; he received a standing ovation from them.

Gay marriage has become a major issue in the up-coming Israeli elections.

48% of Americans have been living on food stamps for 38 months. Government has become the daddy in the home.

Our society has plunged over the cliff of moral insanity and the stage is set for the wind-up of man's day.

The Coming World Church

The scripture has much to say about a world church that will come upon the scene in the last days. It indicates that it will appear suddenly and will dominate both the government and people of the world.

Today we watch with amazement as mainline protestant churches and evangelicals are rapidly moving toward a union with Rome. The barriers have been falling for some time, both in the pulpit and in the pew.

Rick Warren has been the leader of the charge among evangelicals. The following statement by Southern Baptist pastor Rick Warren is from an interview with Francis Rocca at Vatican City, Nov. 26, 2014, Vatican Television Center, Catholic News Service.

"We have far more in common than what divides us. When you talk about Pentecostals, charismatics, evangelicals, fundamentalists, Catholics, Methodists, Baptists, Presbyterians, and on and on and on and on. They would all say, 'We believe in the Trinity. We believe in the Bible. We believe in the resurrection. We believe salvation is through Jesus Christ.' These are the big issues."

Warren continues, "Now, there are still real differences. There is no doubt about that. But the most important thing is if you love Jesus we are on the same team. The unity that I believe we will see realistically is not a structural unity, but a unity of mission. And so when it comes to the family, we are co-workers in the field for the protection of what we call the sanctity of life, the sanctity of sex, and the sanctity of marriage. So there is a great commonality, and there is no division on those three."

Warren ignores the teaching of the Bible as he appeals to fellow evangelicals to join him in this proposed union with Rome.

Warren then goes on to swallow the most damning heresy of Rome, the destruction of the gospel by the worship of Mary.

He states, "Sometimes Protestants think that Catholics worship Mary, like she is another God. That's not exactly Catholic doctrine. People say, 'Well, what are the saints all about; why are you praying to the saints?' And when you understand what they mean by what they are saying, there is a lot more commonality."

It is an undeniable fact that Rome identifies Mary as co-redeemer; that can be verified a thousand times over, it is claimed by the Catholic Church.

Then Warren goes on to promote ecumenical union.

He states, "Many times people have been beaten down for taking a biblical stance, and they start to feel, 'Well, maybe I'm out here all by myself.' No, you're not. The church is growing in Latin America. The church is growing in Asia. The church is growing in Africa. It's not growing in North America or Europe, but it is growing everywhere else. So maybe we have this idea that we're not as influential, but we are far more influential than people realize."

Warren is boldly laying out a rational for union of all churches, no matter what they believe. Warren is the most influential man in evangelicalism. Hundreds of thousands of pastors have sat in his seminars on church growth and are following his leading.

David Cloud correctly stated, "Rick Warren represents every element that defines the building of the one-world 'church' - contemporary worship music, ecumenical social work, downplaying of doctrine, fuzzy doctrinal thinking, contemplative prayer, non-judgmentalism and treating 'critics' as unchristian and dangerous, to mention some of the major ones."

Another startling event is demonstrating the pending religious union of the peoples of the whole world. The United Nations declared June 21st as International Yoga Day, just three months after India's newly-elected Prime Minister Narendra Modi used some of his valuable minutes during his address to the U.N. General Assembly to introduce it. With an unprecedented 177 countries signed on, including the United States, China, France, the United Kingdom and Russia, it is an indication that the winds of change are blowing and that the world is ready for the coming harlot church. Yoga is an instrument by which men and women are connected to the spirit world through meditation. This would set the world up to hear a singular unifying message from the spirit world.

The resolution adopted by the General Assembly garnered a record number of co-sponsors.

I do not believe in horse racing but there is an interesting parallel in horse racing that fits the present situation regarding the coming world church. When the horse's line up for the race, the announcer calls out, "*The horses are in the gate.*"

In the religious world today, "*The horses are in the gate.*" All is in readiness for the starter's gun to go off. Today evangelicals are also ready to go, they have so lost the meaning and purpose and method of biblical Christianity that they are set-up for the events which will call them to move on into the seemingly wonderful union of all of Christianity.

Anyone who understands the scriptural definition of the faith of the apostles and their call for separation from the world would feel on alien ground if they walk into a service of a contemporary evangelical church. The world has conquered the New Evangelical Church and is on the inside, it has lost its' candlestick. The saddest thing in the world is that people who once knew better have allowed themselves to be deceived.

Threat of Economic Collapse

Warnings of a serious economic collapse have been reverberating around the world for some time now. Many potential scenarios have been suggested.

Some commentators are asserting that if oil goes to \$40 a barrel for a sustained period, the economy of the world will collapse.

One warning just posted indicates that 62% of Americans are living paycheck to paycheck which would bring about devastation in the event of economic problems.

We are told that the BRICS (Britain – Russia – India – China and South Africa) nations are working to bring down the US dollar. They intend to trade oil in other currencies than the dollar, which would eliminate the US dollar from being the world's reserve currency. Such a change would bring America to its knees.

Israel

Israel's return is the greatest sign of the last day's scenario. Though back in the land, today Israel is more isolated than ever.

For 25 years now, we have watched a weapon being developed whose purpose

is to destroy the Jewish state. This weapon has been developed, shaped and maneuvered and thrust ahead, until today it stands ready to be used to destroy the Jewish State.

Virtually the whole world, led by the UN, has been involved in developing this weapon, and they are now ready and willing to use it. The nations have lent a willing hand to assist in the manufacture of this weapon, even though its *raison d'être* to ensure Israel's eradication has been openly and clearly declared. Even the Jewish state has given acquiescence to this deadly weapon, at least until now.

The weapon is the State of Palestine; the world is determined to use the "Two State Solution," to establish a Palestinian State which would certainly bring about Israel's demise. The cry is, land for peace.

Everything about the creation of Palestine is immoral; everything about it is detrimental to Israel and spells death and destruction to the Jewish people in their homeland. Those who have following this "Land for Peace" process closely need no elaboration on the above statement.

The "Two State Solution" is just another attempt at the "Final Solution."

As we have stated, every nation on the face of the earth is calling for the division of the land God promised Israel. Some are calling for the UN to arbitrarily demand that the West Bank and East Jerusalem be deeded to the Palestinians, demanding Israel's removal.

The remaining nations are calling for a negotiated settlement that will also result in the same thing, Israel's withdrawal from her land. The cry is, "Land for Peace," but God has said that all the land belongs to Israel. God has said its land for Israel or the destruction for the gentile nations.

"I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land" (Joel 3:2).

Today, God has a controversy with all the nations of the world. "*A noise shall come even to the ends of the earth; for the LORD hath a controversy with the nations, he will plead (judge) with all flesh; he will give them that are wicked to the sword, saith the LORD" (Jeremiah 25:31).*

The timing of God's vengeance upon the

nations is at the end of the tribulation period. But the nations today are aligning against God and His people though this attempted division which will not take place until the end of the tribulation period.

In the meantime the war of Psalm 83 will bring great destruction to the Palestinians allowing antichrist to give Israel the land for a time. At the midpoint of the tribulation period antichrist will use the Temple to call the world to worship him.

The time of Jacob's trouble will then begin. Three and a half years of tribulation such as has not been seen since the world began.

Before Satan's last act takes place, those in Christ will be caught up to be in His presence forever. Paul describes the life and expectation of those who are in Christ in 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10, "*For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the*

living and true God; And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come" (The tribulation period).

Let us who wait for the trumpet to sound turn from the vain things of this world and walk with Him in white.

Art Sadlier

Israel and the Land

God promised the land of Canaan to Israel. Later the Romans would rename it Palestine.

Those who now claim to be Palestinians have no claim to the land of Israel. There never has been, in all of history, a Palestinian people, nation, government, language, culture or economy. This is an indisputable fact. As late as the 1950s the Arabs refused to be called Palestinians.

Those who now claim to be Palestinians claim to be descended from a Palestinian people who lived for thousands of years in a land called Palestine. That claim is a hoax! Yet the world accepts that lie as the basis of a false peace that they have attempted to force on Israel.

The Purpose or effect of it all is to force Israel off the land God promised her.

The Promise "*Unto thy seed will I give this land*" (Genesis 12:7). The land in which the Canaanites once dwelt was given to Israel by God.

The Promise Clarified notice in Genesis 13: 14 and 15 three words "**all**" the land, "**thy seed**" the Jews and "**for ever**" including our own day. "*And the LORD said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward: For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed forever.*"

God made a covenant with Abraham in Genesis 17: 7 & 8. God cannot lie and God cannot break His covenant. "*And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee. And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein*

thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God."

Abraham's seed identified Gen 26:3 spoken to Isaac, "*Sojourn in this land, and I will be with thee, and will bless thee; for unto thee, and unto thy seed, I will give all these countries, and I will perform the oath which I swore unto Abraham thy father.*"

Gen 35:12 spoken to Jacob, "*And the land which I gave Abraham and Isaac, to thee I will give it, and to thy seed after thee will I give the land.*"

The seed is not through Ishmael as Islam claims but through Isaac and Jacob.

Loss of Possession of the land and judgment

Deut. 4:25-27 - Warns that disobedience and sin would result in loss of possession of the Promised Land, but that would not negate the ultimate promise. "*When thou shalt beget children, and children's children, and ye shall have remained long in the land, and shall corrupt yourselves, and make a graven image, or the likeness of any thing, and shall do evil in the sight of the LORD thy God, to provoke him to anger: I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that ye shall soon utterly perish from off the land whereunto ye go over Jordan to possess it; ye shall not prolong your days upon it, but shall utterly be destroyed. And the LORD shall scatter you among the nations, and ye shall be left few in number among the heathen, whither the LORD shall lead you.*"

The Promise of Ultimate Restoration and Blessing

Jeremiah 30:11, "*For I am with thee, saith the LORD, to save thee: though I make a full end of all nations whither I*

have scattered thee, yet I will not make a full end of thee: but I will correct thee in measure, and will not leave thee altogether unpunished."

Jeremiah 31:35-37, "*Thus saith the LORD, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The LORD of hosts is his name: If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the LORD, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever. Thus saith the LORD; If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, saith the LORD.*"

Jeremiah 32:37, "*Behold, I will gather them out of all countries, whither I have driven them in mine anger, and in my fury, and in great wrath; and I will bring them again unto this place, and I will cause them to dwell safely.*"

There is a struggle going on today over God's promise to Israel. That struggle is between God and Satan involving the land, Israel and her enemies. That struggle was foretold 2,500 years ago in Ezekiel 36: 2, 5, "*Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because the enemy hath said against you, Aha, even the ancient high places are ours in possession.*" "*Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Surely in the fire of my jealousy have I spoken against the residue of the heathen, and against all Idumea, which have appointed my land into their possession with the joy of all their heart, with despiteful minds, to cast it out for a prey.*"

Two Re-gatherings of Israel Were Foretold

One re-gathering, a partial re-gathering,

takes place in a period of unbelief. This has taken place in our lifetime and is now nearing completion.

The other re-gathering is a total re-gathering. And it will take place at the time of Israel's redemption at Christ's second coming.

The promises to Israel concerning possession of the land are not directly mentioned in the New Testament. Does that nullify the promises made to Israel in the Old Testament? The answer is no! Though they are not directly mentioned in the New Testament they are confirmed there.

In Romans 3:1-3 discover that the promises of God to Israel are still in effect even in the face of Jewish unbelief.

"What advantage then hath the Jew? Or what profit is there of circumcision? Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of God. For what if some did not believe? Shall their unbelief make the faith (promises) of God without effect?" The answer is given in verse 4, "*God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar.*"

In Romans 9 Paul is making an impassioned plea for Israel. Verse 4, "*Who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises.*"

Notice the covenants and the promises are in the present tense, "to whom pertaineth." The promises and the covenants to Israel are still in effect. This does not include the new covenant which is yet to come into effect (Jeremiah 31:31; Zechariah 13:1) it does include the covenant and promises concerning the land.

Romans 11:2a, "*God has not cast away His people which He foreknew...*"

Romans 11:11, "*I say then, have they stumbled that they should fall? God forbid: but rather through their fall salvation is come unto the Gentiles, for to provoke them to jealousy.*"

God has purpose for Israel as found in His promises to Israel. God has a timetable to fulfill His purpose and His promises.

"*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 fulness of the Gentiles be come in. 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: For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins. As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the father's sakes. For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance" (Romans 11:25-29).

Simply put, God is not going to change His mind about His purpose and His promises to Israel. After the church is completed, (*the fulness of the Gentiles be come in*) and taken out of the world, God will fulfill His promises to Israel.

Though the promises to Israel concerning the land are not directly repeated in the New Testament they very clearly confirmed.

Today the world is adamant that Israel cannot possess the land God covenanted to give her. The General Assembly of the UN recently voted 157 to 7 that Israel must give up the Golan Heights, Judea, Samaria and East Jerusalem and return to the pre-1967 borders. The EU has stated the same proposition. The US administration is demanding that Israel must return to the 1967 borders and give up much of her land to allow for a Palestinian State with East Jerusalem as its capital. Note - East Jerusalem is actually biblical Jerusalem.

The greatest single issue for the nations today is dividing the land God has promised to Israel.

Every nation in the world today has adopted this position. Some are demanding that the UN should arbitrarily enforce this division. Some are demanding that this division should be arrived at through negotiation and that in the end it must happen.

The World is headed for a showdown with the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. We have the promises of God to Israel on the one side and a rebellious world on the other. This is the greatest single issue in our world today and it will ultimately end in the destruction of the nations.

"*For behold, in those days and in that time, when I shall bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem, I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat and will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations and parted my land"* (Joel 3: 1, 2).

Israel's Prime Minister Netanyahu has

finally come to conclusion that Israel cannot divide the land and survive as a nation.

The dividing of the land will be a major issue around which tribulation period will revolve. It will end in the destruction of the nations of the world.

The scripture indicates that during the first half of the tribulation period Israel will possess the land and the Temple Mount. The third Temple will be constructed and the worship will be re-established.

At the mid-point in the tribulation period antichrist will stand in the Temple and declare himself to be God and demand the world's worship. Antichrist needs the Temple to be re-built in order to have the world worship him in the very place that Jehovah has been worshipped in the past. "*Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God"* (2 Thessalonians 2:4). In fact the world will be worshipping Satan who indwells antichrist.

Herein we have the motive behind antichrist pretending to befriend Israel during the first half of the tribulation period. At that mid-point of the tribulation period antichrist will turn against Israel and set about to destroy her.

As I study the scriptures and compare them with what I observe happening in the world and with the situations and scenarios developing all around us, I draw some conclusions.

Though we see through a glass darkly, I believe we are headed for a situation in which the drive to divide the land of Israel will be temporarily set aside for the first three and a half years of the tribulation period. This would allow Israel opportunity to re-build the Temple as stated above.

As I see it from scripture, the Palestinians and their allies around Israel must be neutralized to allow the situation alluded to above to come about. I see, according to scripture, the war of Psalm 83 wreaking destruction on the Palestinians and their close allies in and around the land (Psalm 83; Isaiah 17).

Beyond that, the scriptures indicate a time and a situation will arise in which the world will be in absolute chaos prior to the appearance of antichrist. There are foreshadows now indicating that America is about to suffer the judgment of God. There are a multitude of situations that are now crying out a soon coming

cataclysmic end to America as we have known her. (We do not have space here to list them)

In Europe there is a looming economic and political collapse which will set the stage for the European dictator to ride upon the scene on a white horse to rescue the European Empire and be hailed as a great saviour.

It also seems likely that this coming economic collapse will trigger chaos, societal breakdown, unrest and multiple major wars around the globe. Russia and China are now feverishly preparing for war with such possible enemies as America, Ukraine, Taiwan or Japan. Pakistan and India are as always potential enemies. The whole Mideast could erupt in flames at any time.

At this moment Russia and China are expanding and improving their nuclear strike capabilities. Iran is racing to develop a nuclear capability and the North Koreans are rapidly developing their nuclear missile potential. Pakistan is also multiplying nuclear weapons which could be sold to the highest bidder. Saudi Arabia has already contracted to purchase Pakistani nukes. All the while America is allowing their nuclear capacity to deteriorate.

We can hardly imagine the potential for the destruction of the world that now exists. We can see the tribulation scenario set to explode. We are reminded that according to the book of Revelation two-thirds of the world's population will be dead sometime after the mid-tribulation point. A great innumerable host of tribulation saints will die, possibly at the hand of Muslim Jihadists who could well pledge allegiance to antichrist who they are deceived into believing is their Mahdi, the Muslim saviour which they have long awaited.

Paul describes the beginning of the tribulation period in these terms. "*For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape*" (1 Thessalonians 5:2-3).

In just such a situation John describes the rise of antichrist, arriving on the scene and rescuing the world from chaos and war. He will arrive with a great peace initiative through which he conquers the world and appears to solve all the world's problems. He will bring a temporary false

and deceptive peace and prosperity for the many. "*And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer*" (Revelation 6:2).

The context indicates that he conquers without war or force. The bow without an arrow speaks of victory without firing an arrow. The crown and the white horse, speak of a conqueror. He is crowned king of the world because of his amazing transformation of the world. He is crowned King because he brings peace and prosperity to all, at least a temporary prosperity.

Daniel describes the same situation in Daniel 8:25, "*And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but (ultimately) he shall be broken without hand.*"

We are seeing the dark clouds of war and chaos and disaster looming all around us. War, strife, terrorism, plagues, economic collapse, totalitarianism, the growing threat of nuclear attacks, earthquakes, storms and all manner of natural disasters.

These threats have been growing exponentially for some time and one suspects that possibly 2015 could be the year when our God says the time has come, Son gather our children home.

In Revelation 1:1 we read, "*The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John.*"

The word shortly does not mean soon but rather quickly. The implication is that when God's time comes the events of the last days will unfold very rapidly. The year 2015 seems to reveal a world that is ripe for judgment. All of the scenarios scripture describes as being required for the wind-up man's day seem to be in place.

No man knows the day or the hour when the Son of man cometh, we dare not violate that statement of our Lord. However the same Jesus said, "*And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh*" (Luke 21:28).

Matthew 24:33 repeats this warning, "So

likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors."

We do not and cannot know the day or the hour but we do know that the season is upon us.

I have watched for the coming of our Lord since 1948 when I read the headlines in the Toronto Star which said, "**Israel Declares Itself a Nation**" I said to myself "Jesus is coming." I have taught that and preached that ever since, 67 years later He has not yet come. Some say; that Art Sadlier is an old fool, but I am reminded of Noah who preached a coming flood for 119 years and they mocked him and said Noah you are an old fool. But the year came when it was time for the judgment of God to fall, the sky grew dark and the clouds scudded in. Today we see the sky growing dark and the clouds scudding in. The signs of the times are everywhere.

Jesus is coming and His coming is SOON!

It is time to set lesser things aside. It is time to live every moment of every day to please our coming King. It is time to shout the gospel from the house tops. It is time to warn sinful men to repent and flee from the wrath to come. It is time to walk with Him in white so that we are not among those who will be ashamed before Him at His coming.

We do not know how many days we have left, so it is time to make each day and hour count for Him.

BE LISTENING FOR THE SOUND OF THE TRUMPET

I know not in what watch He comes, Or at what hour He may appear, whether at midnight or at morn, Or in what season of the year: I only know that He is near.

The centuries have gone and come, Long centuries of darkness drear; I dare not chide the long delay, nor ask when I His voice shall hear; I only know, that He is near.

I do not think it can be long, till in His glory He appear; And yet I dare not name the day, Nor fix the advent year; I only know that He is near.

Will you meet me in the air, when the reaping day shall come? Will you greet me over there, in the joyful harvest home?