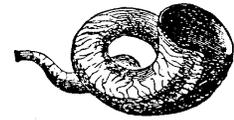


Sound the Trumpet!

April 2011



*"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

New Age Teaching

Warren B. Smith, a community social worker who was formerly involved in the New Age movements says in his book, *False Christ Coming Does Anybody Care*, "An amazing thing is happening across the land. Jesus Christ is being 'reinvented' and redefined right in front of our eyes and hardly anyone seems to notice or care. And it is happening with great speed. The 'transformational' architects and promoters of a New Age/New Gospel are unabashedly trying to overturn God's holy Word and replace the true Christ-Jesus with a false 'Christ' of Antichrist proportions. And it is happening just as Scripture said it would."

In addition, Mr. Smith says: "There is a new world order and a new world religion coming with a false 'Christ' at its head. Characterised by mass 'enlightenment' and under the spell of this false 'Christ', humanity will be under the great 'delusion' that it is divine. While the Bible describes this New Age as a period of ultimate deception, the world will see it as a time of peace and safety, and a spiritual renaissance of the highest order. But they will be deceived."

He goes on to exhort. "May we all pray for the truth in our hearts of hearts and ask the Spirit of the Lord to lead us through these difficult and turbulent times. May we not be deceived by a spirit and a "force" that is not from God. And may we be given the strength to endure whatever may befall us in the coming days" (1 Thessalonians 5:4-6).

The New Age Movement has several basic teachings:

Humanity is God

A leading New Age teacher Neale Donald Walsch says, "All your life you have been told that God created you. I come now to tell you this: You are creating God." "You are your own rule maker." "Think, speak, act as the God You Are." "Your future is creatable. Create it as you want it." "Create the grandest version of the greatest vision

you ever had about yourself as a human race."

This is the central theme of the New Age movement. This is the very lie that Satan used to deceive Eve in the garden. "For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil" (Genesis 3:5).

New Age Doctrine of Separation

Walsch also says, "Separation is not believing that you are a part of God, the recognition of God is the recognition of yourself. There is no separation of God and His creation." "The fundamental regression is self-centeredness, or the illusion that you are separate from God." "At the co-creative stage of evolution, one self-centered soul is like a lethal cancer cell in a body: deadly to itself and the whole." "The surgeon dare leave no cancer in the body when he closes up the wound after a delicate operation. We dare leave no self-centeredness on earth after the selection process." "The species known as self-centered humanity will become extinct. The species known as whole-centered humanity will evolve." (See Revelation 13:7-8)

The Selection Process

Barbara Marx Hubbard, in one of her many visions, received a message from her false Christ. In that vision he warns her that there will be no place in the "New Jerusalem" for those who refuse to see themselves and others as a part of God. This false Christ went on to describe the necessity of a 'selection process' which will select out resistant individuals who choose not to evolve. "This 'selection process' is a purification that will be accomplished through the shock of fire" (Again see Revelation 13:7).

The message went on to quote this false Christ further, "Those who see themselves as 'separate' and not 'divine' hinder humanity's ability to evolve" (Again see Revelation 13:8).

"The crime of separation must be driven from this world. I affirm that as my purpose." (Maitreya, p. 189)

Dross Removal

If God sets out to make you an unusual Christian He is not likely to be as gentle as He is usually pictured by the popular teachers. A sculptor does not use a manicure set to reduce the rude, unshapely marble to a thing of beauty. The saw, the hammer and the chisel are cruel tools, but without them the rough stone must remain forever formless and unbeautiful. To do His supreme work of grace within you He will take from your heart everything you love most. Everything you trust in will go from you. Piles of ashes will lie where your most precious treasures used to be. This is not to teach the sanctifying power of poverty. If to be poor made men holy every tramp on park bench would be a saint. But God knows the secret of removing things from our hearts while they still remain to us. What He does is to restrain us from enjoying them. He lets us have them but makes us psychologically unable to let our hearts go out to them. Thus they are useful without being harmful.

A.W. Tozer (1897-1963)

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Foundational Beliefs of the New Age Peace Plan

(From Warren B. Smith's book, "False Christ Coming.")

1. Each person is a part of God. Each person is a cell in the body of God that is humanity.
2. Fear-based belief system (Like biblical "old Gospel" Christianity) deny that we are a part of God.
3. Love based systems (Like New Age /New Gospel teachings) affirm that we are a part of God.
4. Whatever we think is what we draw to ourselves.
5. For the peace plan to work, each person must responsibly play their part in the peace process.

How the New Age plan will be enacted

1. Each person must realize that the world is in great peril; if something isn't done soon, humanity as a species could become extinct.
2. Each person as a cell in the one body of humanity that is God has a responsibility to function..... Relating to the body in a unified, holistic manner.
3. Each person understands that the future of the world is up to the collective body.
4. Each person must correct any "misinterpretation" that reinforces the idea that God, self, humanity and the world are separate from one another.
5. Through prayer and meditation each person begins to envision and create the peaceful world they would like to see. (Re: contemplative prayer or transcendental meditation)
6. People gather together in small groups to increase the power of their individual envisioning.
7. People mediate, pray, and hold the vision of peace at the same time around the world to increase the power of their effort.
8. Special events are arranged where people around the world can link more openly with one another.
9. As humanity becomes more aligned within its one body and unified in its expressed desire for peace, the power of God is more flowing and present, and there is

an increase in miracles and healings.

10. As everyone links through their "God-self," "Christ-self," or "Higher-self," the power of God (the Force) begins to manifest its presence.
11. Only fear, with its illusion of separateness, can threaten the flow of the "Force" within the one body. These thoughts of separateness are like cancer cells in the body and must be completely healed or "removed" from the body.
12. Because thoughts of separation threaten the health and the peace of the body, a system is devised to visibly mark (mark of the beast?) those who recognize their oneness with God. Those who do not submit to the process ultimately reveal themselves as separatists.
13. An appointed day arrives when all of those who want the God and Christ potentials within them to be fully activated align themselves in a designated moment in time with all humanity.
14. With the "Force" of God fully manifesting in one moment through all mankind, humanity experiences itself as the "one body" of God. (A counterfeit Body of Christ)
15. This universal link-up with the "Force" results in all humanity being resurrected-lifted up and born again into a whole new way of being. In a twinkling of an eye, they are taken to a new spiritual level as they now actually experience themselves as a part of God. (The lie)
16. Once humanity has been linked as "one" and corporately transformed, Christ, and ultimately God, will be enabled to "return" to earth.
17. Self-centered and separatist members of the "one body" who choose not to participate in this transformational Peace Plan will be judged and removed from the corporate body by the "selection process." Separatists are not allowed to hinder the spiritual development of the rest of the 'one body.' They are not allowed to keep peace from happening. They are removed for the good of all.

New Age teaching has been creeping into the church for some time. At this moment I believe we are about to see the New Age movement make a

quantum leap. Rick Warren claims that he is associated with 500,000 churches totalling 200 million members. Mr. Warren appears to be moving into a New Age agenda. He has been associated with a number of New Age leaders or with men involved in the New Age.

Recently he has initiated what he calls the Daniel plan. It is a plan to promote health and wellness and weight loss. He has enlisted three world-renowned doctors to design and conduct this plan. These three men are all deeply involved in the New Age movement. Who are the "world-renowned doctors" that will be helping to kick off Saddleback's Decade of Destiny? They are Dr. Mehmet Oz, Dr. Daniel Amen, and Dr. Mark Hyman. They have put together a 52-week health program for Saddleback congregants and they are absolute advocates and proponents of not just eastern-style meditation but actual eastern meditation and much, more, including Reiki and Tantra.

The New Age movement is committed to bringing health and wellness by New Age methods such as contemplative meditation. It seems that Rick Warren is moving in the direction of the New Age beliefs. Rick Warren's World Peace Plan is compatible with the New Age Peace plan.

As we have stated, Mr. Warren claims to be associated with 500,000 churches with 200 million members in his purpose driven program. He appears to be positioned to lead these churches right into the New Age/New Gospel Peace Plan.

Let me repeat that I believe the evangelical church is now on the tipping point of apostasy. I believe that it is about to be swallowed up in the great deception of the harlot church of Revelation 17.

This process into apostasy has been a long one. It started with the rejection of Fundamentalism (Philadelphia) and the introduction of New Evangelicalism in the late 1940's. A conscious and deliberate decision was made to cease contending for the faith and to move toward reconciliation with the world. That move was followed in rapid succession with ecumenical evangelicalism, the church growth movement, the user-friendly movement and then the purpose driven church.

The fundamental/Philadelphian church became the evangelical/Laodicean church. The world was brought into the

church in order to reach the lost. Along with that came other changes, the music of the world was brought into the church along with world's methods of promotion. The church became man centered instead of Christ centered both in its worship and its goals.

We are undoubtedly living in the Laodicean age. A careful comparison of the Laodicean church as found in Revelation 3:14-18 with the Evangelical Church of the present time will show an amazing similarity. The Lord has not one good thing to say about the Laodicean Church, it is very clear that

the Laodicean Church is an unsaved church. In verse 16 we read, "So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth." The great problem with the Laodiceans is the fact that they are blind, (Verse 17) they are deceived and cannot see it.

I tremble to think of today's evangelicals as I read Matthew 7:21-23 "Not everyone 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"

Revelation 18:4 says, "And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues."

Art Sadlier

The Word of Faith Movement

The Word of Faith Movement is also known as Positive Confession or as the Prosperity Gospel. They present a Jesus who is not the Jesus of the Bible, consequently they preach another gospel. They are false prophets.

All Word of Faith preachers believe that Christians are little gods. In connection with that they teach that faith is not to be placed in God, but rather it is a force that is to be directed at God to force Him to do what you want Him to do. Benny Hinn says, "God has the power to interfere in our affairs but you have to give Him the permission to do so." That raises man up to a level of Godhead. This is another aspect of the penetration of the New Age movement into the evangelical church. The new age teaches that man is God.

These men teach that man was made in the image of God and that means man is a god. They project, that when man fell he lost his deity. They further say that when man yielded to Satan, Satan took man's deity and that consequently Satan became the legal guardian of the earth and that God was excluded from the earth. Their reasoning goes on to say that when a man is born again his deity is restored to him, though he must work to develop it.

They teach that Jesus did not come as God but rather grew into His godhead. In the same manner we grow into our godhead. Ken Copeland said, "Jesus is not the only begotten Son of God."

In a further perversion of the gospel they say that the physical death of Christ was not sufficient to atone for sin. They say that Christ had to die spiritually and go to hell and suffer the agonies of hell to pay for our sins.

If Christ died spiritually he would be giving up His deity and if he could give up His deity He never was God in the first place. God cannot die, and the scriptures do not teach that Christ died spiritually.

The scriptures teach from cover to cover that sin is atoned for by the shedding of blood. Not by the blood of bulls and goats and lambs which were but a type of Christ. Hebrews 13:12, "Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate." Romans 5:9, "Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him." Ephesians 1:7, "In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace."

Every cult depreciates the sufficiency of the cross

When Christ died on the cross He said, "It is finished." He did not go to hell when He died to suffer any further, the work of redemption was finished and complete. He said to the thief on the cross, "Today shalt thou be with me in paradise," not in hell. Jesus did not die spiritually, He said when He died physically, "Father into thy hands I commend my spirit." His spirit did not die.

Another false teaching that has been popularized by Word of Faith preachers is the idea that Jesus was made sin, is that true? Does the bible teach that?

Jesus was not made to be sin, it could not be so. If Christ was made to be sin, He could not be God. The "Word of Faith" preachers teach that because

Christ was made to be sin and because sin is a spiritual issue, Christ had to go to hell and be judged and tormented in His spirit and die in His spirit to atone for sin.

We repeat what we have previously demonstrated that Christ suffered in His body to pay the price of sin. "Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me" (Hebrews 10:5). "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree; that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed" (1 Peter 2:24).

2 Corinthians 5:21 seems to teach that Jesus was made to be sin. No other scriptures can be found to support this interpretation. "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."

This word "sin" is translated in other places as "sin offering." (See Hebrews 10:6, 8, 18, Hebrews 13:11, Leviticus 5:8 - See Bullinger). Isaiah 53:10, "Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin...." His soul was not made to be sin; it was an offering for sin. If his soul was made to be sin He could not atone for sin. The lamb, in the type, had to be spotless and perfect, the lamb had sin placed on it but it was perfect and pure or it was disqualified as an offering for sin.

The lamb was holy before the sacrifice, it was holy during the sacrifice and it was holy after the sacrifice.

The implications of Christ going to hell and dying spiritually for sin are significant. If Christ could die spiritually for sin He could not be God. The Word

of Faith preachers claim that Christ was born again after His spiritual death in hell and took up his deity once again. They claim that when a man is born again he also takes on deity and is a god, and will grow in His deity.

I repeat, evidence that Christ did not die spiritually is found in the fact that Christ on the cross said to the father, "Father into thy hands I commend my spirit." Obviously His spirit was not dead.

The teaching that the Father turned His back on Christ when Christ took on Himself our sin is not correct. The Father held back His hand of deliverance; He allowed the sentence of death for our sin to be fully paid. Nevertheless the Father did not forsake him. Jesus had cried out in the garden, "If it be possible"? On the cross the father was saying in effect, "Son it is not possible for me to deliver you, the price has to be paid." God stayed the hand of Abraham from slaying his son Isaac, but He could not stay His own hand from slaying His Son. In that sense only did Christ cry out in His humanness, "Why hast thou forsaken me?"

The fact that Christ communicated with the Father as He hung on the cross is evidence that the father had not forsaken Him.

In Psalm 22:1, we see Christ in his humanness (as we saw it in the garden) feeling deserted by the Father, as the father allows the penalty to be executed. However in verse 24 we see Him expressing the presence of the Father as He hung on the cross. Verse 24, "For he hath not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; neither hath he hid his face from him; but when he cried unto him, he heard."

Isaiah 53:11 we see the Father gazing upon the Son as He hangs on the cross. "He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied...."

We have a beautiful picture in Genesis 22 of a type of the Father and the Son going to the cross together. We see this in the phrase, "And they went both of them together," Abraham and Isaac were a type of the Father and the Son going to Calvary together. Both had a part to play in this type of the death of Christ.

The Word of Faith teachers are bringing the basic New Age teachings into the evangelical church.

In their "Doctrine of the Covenants" they teach that the promises to Abraham concerning material prosperity are to be applied to the Christian today. God wants you to be rich, just believe it and it will be yours.

The promises to Abraham are also to the seed of Abraham, and they are conditioned on obedience to God. They still apply today to Israel. The promises to the church are spiritual and heavenly blessings. Ephesians 1:3, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ." Jesus said to His disciples, "In the world ye shall have tribulation." He talked to them about suffering deprivation in this world as His disciples.

Another new age concept promoted by these false teachers is what they call visualization. If you visualize something in your mind you will get it. This is a further promotion of the idea of man as a god.

For your warning I will give you the names of some of these false teachers. Joyce Meyers, John Hagee, Creflo Dollar, Ken and Gloria Copeland, J.D Jakes, Benny Hinn, Paul and Jan Crouch and Joel Osteen. These people have a very widespread hearing through their television ministries. They are reaching millions. They represent the face of Christianity to much of the world. Through these false teachers the New Age concept of "man as God" is flooding into the Evangelical Church. Art Sadlier

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER / NEW AGE MEDITATION / SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Ray Yungen gives us the following insight into New Age meditation, or Contemplative Prayer.

"The meditation many of us are familiar with involves a deep, continuous thinking about something. But New Age meditation does just the opposite. It involves ridding oneself of all thoughts in order to "still" the mind by putting it in pause or neutral. An analogy would be turning a fast-moving stream into a still pond by damming the free flow of water. This is the purpose of New Age meditation. It holds back active thought and causes a shift in consciousness."

The following explanation makes this process very clear: "One starts by silencing the mind—for many, this is not easy, but when the mind has become silent and still, it is then possible for the Divine Force to descend and enter into the receptive individual. First it trickles in, and later, in it comes in waves. It is both transforming and cleansing; and it

is through this force that divine transformation will be achieved." (From *Holistic Health magazine*, Winter 1986)

Ray Yungen further states, "The two most common methods used to induce this "thoughtless" state are breathing exercises, where attention is focused on the breath, and a mantra, which is a repeated word or phrase. The basic process is to focus and maintain concentration without thinking about what you are focusing on. Repetition on the focused object is what triggers the blank mind."

This is the age long method of opening the mind up to the entrance of demon spirits. These demon spirits come masquerading themselves as angels of light. They often deceive by pretending to be angels or Jesus or even God. They lead into deception and error.

The amazing and shocking thing is that this supposedly new method of meditation is sweeping into the evangelical church. Paul warned about

this danger that would come in the last days. "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils" (1 Timothy 4:1).

Lighthouse Trails list 27 major ministries that are now involved in promoting Spiritual Formation. They also list 80 Christian Colleges that promote Spiritual Formation. Some of these collages have been bastions of fundamentalism in the not too distant past.

New Age doctrines are rapidly flooding into the evangelical church.

We are standing at the tipping point of apostasy for the evangelical church. Remember spiritual blindness is the handmaid of apostasy. It is very difficult to persuade many evangelicals of the apostasy they are being caught up in.

RIDICULING THE TRUMPET BLOWERS

Over the years we have studied Bible prophecy concerning end time events. We have often wondered about those who reject the teaching of God's Word about end time events. The question that has frequently arisen in our minds is "How will they react when the signs of the end time begin to multiply?"

We need no longer wonder; we have arrived at that place. In a recent article we have the reaction of one who is exposed to the multiplication of end time signs. That reaction is to ridicule the ones who are warning of the coming Day of the Lord.

The following article recently appeared in the news. It was entitled, "Armageddon Entrepreneurs: Who are Profiting from Fear?" The article went on to say, "A successful entrepreneur is someone who sees a problem as an opportunity. So who would dare capitalize on the impending end of the world? Call them Armageddon entrepreneurs: preachers who view

We do have the multiplication of the signs of the end times. We see storms increasing in intensity and frequency. We have the same situation with earthquakes also increasing in frequency and intensity. We have seen recent floods that have inundated whole countries. We are seeing raging wildfires and tsunamis that are unprecedented. Add to that the proliferation of nuclear weapon which is a threat to the entire world. The disaster in Japan is certainly an end time scenario, though it does not signal that those people are more sinful than any others.

We have world-wide terrorism that has taken peace from the earth. The nations are in a state of unrest, with revolutions in the Mideast. We are seeing the rise of the Revived Roman Empire in Europe and the drive for a world government as forecast for the last days. We have the threat of a world-wide economic collapse; add to

scattered among the nations, and parted my land" (Joel 3:2).

We are also seeing the prophesied alliance against Israel now being formed. The nations of that alliance that are now coming together are named in Ezekiel 38. These same nations are openly threatening to destroy Israel just as God said they would.

All around us we see the very signs foretold in scripture being fulfilled in great detail. Those who ridicule the ones who are sounding a warning to a rebellious and sinful world are referred to by Jesus in Matthew 16:2-3, "*He answered and said unto them, When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather: for the sky is red. And in the morning, it will be foul weather today: for the sky is red and lowering. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?"*

The same sun that melts the wax hardens the clay. So it is with the hearts of men, some will be hardened in spite of the signs of the times and turn away. Some will have hearts that will be melted and hear the Word of the Lord and turn to Christ. Is your heart clay or wax?

It is not surprising that the enemy would attempt to discredit the warnings the Lord sends out to deliver the world from judgment. We think of Noah and how those around him ridiculed him, we can almost hear them saying, "Noah, you're a silly old fool, you have been preaching for 119 years about a coming flood and we have never seen even one drop of rain."

My friend, compare the prophetic scriptures with present day events and be persuaded that the judgment of God is soon to fall on this world. Jesus Christ is the ark of safety, come to Him today in repentance and faith and escape the wrath to come. Art Sadlier

"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

today's headlines as crib notes signaling the world is approaching its final days."

The writer proceeded to ridicule those who warn of the coming Day of the Lord by comparing present events with the Biblical signs of the end times.

Should we, who declare God's Word, be intimidated by those who ridicule us? Listen to what God has to say. In Ezekiel he says, "*Blow the trumpet, and warn the people.*" Also Joel 2:1, "*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.*" That day is now near at hand according signs of the times all around us.

that the looming world church that is foretold for the end times. We are more and more being made aware of a coming world-wide famine referred to by Jesus as a last days sign.

One of the most Prominent signs of the times is the return of Israel to the land. We have witnessed the miraculous way that God re-gathered Israel and has provided for and protected her. The nations of the world are threatening to remove Israel from the Promised Land. This is another sign of the lateness of the hour. The scriptures clearly foretell this, "*I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead (judge) with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have*

Radical Islam Rising to the Forefront

After the initial delusion over the possibility of true democratic reform in the Mideast, the reality is now settling

in. Egypt is certain and soon to become a radical Islamic State, similar to Iran.

From a recent news report we read, "According to Reuters, most of Egypt's

Christians voted on Saturday against proposed constitutional amendments out of concern that they would lay the

groundwork for general elections as early as September.”

“If elections are held so soon in Egypt, there will be almost no time for newly formed political parties to gain enough recognition and popularity to actually win any significant number of votes. That means only the established parties will have a real shot at winning a controlling stake in the next parliament.”

“Of the established parties, Mubarak’s National Democratic Party has been discredited, leaving only the Muslim Brotherhood and its political front groups.”

When you take into account the fact that 95% of Egyptians are Muslim, it is not hard to see where the elections are heading.

In another revealing report we read, “In an interview with CNN, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the region simply cannot survive Egypt becoming a second Islamic Republic (after Iran).”

“Netanyahu noted that five years ago the Lebanese rose up just as the Egyptians did last month. They took to the streets of Beirut in their millions and demanded freedom and reform. Today, Lebanon is more under the thumb of Hezbollah than ever before, and is little more than a vassal state of Iran.” The Egyptian military leaders have opened up the borders between Gaza and Egypt allowing the unrestricted flow of weapons and missiles into Gaza. This is the fulfillment of Israel’s worst nightmare. With the increase in missiles being fired into Israel some Israeli leaders have stated that another war with Hamas in Gaza is inevitable.

In another threatening situation we have reports that seem to indicate that change is coming in Yemen. “Uprisings in the Arab world escalated at a fever pitch Sunday and threatened two key US allies, Bahrain and Yemen, where a top Yemini general and two other commanders joined the anti-

government rebellion against President Ali Abdullah Saleh.”

It now appears that Iran and Al Qaida are likely to establish another beachhead in Yemen and seriously tighten its grip in the Mideast. Yemen is situated at the entrance to the Red Sea; it would allow Iran to cut off oil supplies to the West.

In reaction to the uprisings, Saudi Arabia has virtually annexed Bahrain in order to preserve its eastern flank from Iran. In eastern Saudi Arabia where 80% of the oil is found, the majority of the population is made up of Shias. Iran is attempting to exploit this situation through uprisings to eventually gain control of the Saudi Oil. This could possibly translate into a Sunni verses Shia Islamic war.

Iran is also seeking to gain control of Iraq’s southern oil fields and have been reportedly infiltrating the area.

The recent developments in the Mideast reveal that the whole area is in a volatile state, anything can happen.

Just when things seem to be settling there are fresh outbreaks of unrest and rioting.

We have seen tremendous changes in the Mideast in recent days, months and years. Iran started it all some thirty-five

It now appears that Iran and Al Qaida are likely to establish another beachhead in Yemen and seriously tighten its grip in the Mideast.

years ago. Iran went from a stable situation to a radical dangerous Islamic State.

More recently Turkey seems to be going through a dramatic transformation, going from a secular democracy to an Islamic State.

Iraq has gone through a violent transformation that has left it vulnerable to Iranian intrusion.

In recent months we have seen Lebanon make the transition to a proxy state of Iran, through the takeover of Hezbollah.

In Syria the winds of revolution are blowing, the outcome is far from

The answer is that God **has** confirmed His Word to us. He has done something more certain than writing it in the sky. We can prove absolutely that the Bible is the Word of God and we can prove beyond any possibility of a doubt that God is the sovereign Lord of the

certain. It has been suggested that Syria may go to war with Israel in order to distract from the political unrest. We do know that Iran is gaining influence in Syria and they have begun to build permanent naval base on the Mediterranean in Syria.

In another fairly recent development the Obama administration has betrayed its Mideast allies in an effort to position itself as the friend of the Islamic countries which have been America’s enemies. America has betrayed, or at the least seems to have betrayed Lebanon, Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and Yemen. It all began with the betrayal of Israel.

The fact is now being revealed that these Islamic countries that Obama is courting have made it plain that they do not want anything to do with America.

America has lost all credibility in the Mideast. This development is in line with what we would expect if we are as close to the unfolding of the last day’s scenario as we believe we are. America has no part to play in the end time scenario and must be disengaged from the Mideast scenario. That is exactly what is now happening.

The EU is seeking to replace American involvement in the Israel/Palestinian peace process with the UN and EU involvement. This is also in line with the biblical scenario for the Mideast peace process.

All of these changes in the Mideast seem to be laying the ground work for Islamic takeovers. Secondly they seem to be pushing America out of the Mideast.

On the American home front a disturbing news article this week detailed 15 reasons why the American economy will collapse in 2011.

We are told that the situation in Japan could yet translate into a world-wide economic collapse.

Everywhere we look the signs of our Lord’s return are multiplying. The stage is being set. Art Sadlier

universe. Fulfilled prophecy is the greatest proof, beyond any shadow of doubt, that the Bible is God’s Word and that God is the sovereign Lord of the universe.

The Bible is approximately 30% prophecy, containing several thousand

Messianic Signs

Is the Bible the Word of God? How can we know it is? Why doesn’t God confirm His Word to us? Why doesn’t God write it in the sky?

prophecies. More than half of those prophecies have been fulfilled in exact detail. These fulfilled prophecies prove that God knows the end from the beginning.

In Isaiah 46:9-10 we read, *“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.”*

The proof of God’s existence, the proof that the Bible is God’s Word is found in the amazing, incredible fulfilment of hundreds of Bible prophecies. Among those 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 advent of the promised Messiah, there would come into the world, specific signs that would signal the end of the age. But not until 1948 when the nation of Israel was re-established, have these signs been taken seriously. These signs prove that the coming of Messiah is near at hand.

The world is changing every day, things are happening so fast we can hardly keep up. World news clearly reads like events predicted in Bible prophecy.

John Walvoord, one of the world’s foremost conservative Bible teachers has 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.”

Ellwood McQuaid of Friends of Israel has said, “We are undoubtedly living in the last days of the last days.”

Today there are many signs, occurring in Israel, of events the Bible says will immediately precede the Tribulation Period and the Rapture of the Church. Remember the three major end time events foretold are:

I. The Rapture of the Church

II. The Tribulation Period

III. The Second Coming of Christ.

2,500 to 3,500 years ago the Old Testament prophets predicted the events which would take place immediately prior to the return of Christ to this earth. These events have been

unfolding before our eyes in the last several decades. The exact date of Rapture and the Tribulation Period that follows it has not been revealed. Jesus said, *“But of that day and hour knoweth no man.”* But two verses earlier Jesus said, *“So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors”* (Matthew 24:33). We cannot know the day or the hour, but we can know that it is near, even at the doors. We can know the times and the seasons.

The Word of God anticipates that there will be one specific generation who will recognize the times and the seasons; they will recognize that it is near, even at the doors. I Thessalonians 5:4 *“But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.”* That has to be one specific generation. We are that generation.

Luke 21:28, *“And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.”* Luke is not talking about the complete fulfilment of the signs at this point. All of these signs will be totally fulfilled before the second coming of Christ in Glory to the earth. But they will just begin to be fulfilled before the rapture. *“Lift up your heads for your redemption (rapture) draweth nigh”*

We want to look at more of the Old Testament prophecies that prove we are living in the last days of the last days. We have already looked at the first four signs (see Messianic prophecies Part 1 in the March Expanded Edition).

SIGN # 5 - THE ORDER OF RETURN

Amazingly the prophet Isaiah foretold the exact order of Israel’s return. Isaiah 43:5-6, *“Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth.”*

◆ First - We read, *“I will bring them from the east.”* In the first half of the 20th century, Jews began returning to Israel from the east. They came from Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Yemen and other Mideast countries.

◆ Second - In the mid 20th century, Jews returned from Europe in the west. They were driven to their land by the persecution in Europe.

◆ Third - In the 80’s and 90’s nearly a million Jews returned from Russia in the north. *“I will say to the north give up.”* For years Russia refused to allow Jews to return to Israel. For years the western nations urged Russia to let the Jews go. At long last the Russians relented. The prophet said, *“Give up”* and they did, over a million Jews left.

◆ Fourth - *“And to the south keep not back.”* In the Mid 90’s 20,000 Jews came home from Ethiopia in the south, 2,800 years later it happened just as God said it would.

Sign #6 - A Pure Language

Jeremiah 31:23, *“Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; As yet they shall use this speech in the land of Judah and in the cities thereof, when I shall bring again their captivity; The LORD bless thee, O habitation of justice, and mountain of holiness.”* The Lord said 2,600 years ago, when I get ready to bring my people Israel back to the land and send the Messiah, Israel will speak Hebrew.

For 2,000 years Hebrew was a dead language. Today in the streets, in the schools, in the army, in the Knesset, in the newspapers and everywhere the language of Israel is Hebrew. No such thing has ever happened before, that a dead language should not only be recovered, but returned to the common use of the people. 2,600 years before it happened, God said it would! It couldn’t happen but it did! Again we have proof that the Bible is God’s Word and proof that the Israeli’s are the people of God. The Lord have mercy on those who claim to be Christians and say that Israel is not God’s chosen people.

Sign # 7 - The Shekel

When Israel was born the currency of the nation of Israel was the pound and the US dollar. 4,000 years ago Abraham purchased the land to bury Sarah with shekels. Genesis 23:15-16, *“My lord, hearken unto me: the land is worth four hundred shekels of silver; what is that betwixt me and thee? Bury therefore thy dead. And Abraham hearkened unto Ephron; and Abraham weighed to Ephron the silver, which he had named in the audience of the sons of Heth, four hundred shekels of silver, current money with the merchant.”*

3,500 years ago when Moses instituted the Tabernacle the currency was the shekel (see Lev. 5:15).

Ezekiel tells us that when Messiah returns the currency of Israel will be the shekel. The Temple sacrifices will be valued by the shekel. Ezekiel 45:12, "And the shekel shall be twenty gerahs: twenty shekels, five and twenty shekels, fifteen shekels, shall be your maneh."

For 2,000 years there has been no shekel. In 1980 the shekel became the official currency of Israel. Another fulfilled prophecy that indicates the coming of Messiah is near.

Sign # 8 - The Cities of Israel

Ezekiel 36:10, "And I will multiply men upon you, all the house of Israel, even all of it: and the cities shall be inhabited, and the wastes shall be builded." For 2,000 years the cities of Israel were not inhabited. The decayed crumbling wastes of the old cities shall be rebuilt. Verse 11, "And I will multiply upon you man and beast; and they shall increase and bring fruit: and I will settle you after your old estates, and will do better unto you than at your beginnings: and ye shall know that I am the LORD."

"I will settle you after your old estate." The very old cities you inhabited in the past will be inhabited again. The old estates (names) will be used again. Isaiah 44:26, "That confirmeth the word of his servant, and performeth the counsel of his messengers; that saith to Jerusalem, Thou shalt be inhabited; and to the cities of Judah, Ye shall be built, and I will raise up the decayed places thereof." That's the restoration of the old cities with their old names on their old sites.

After the year 70 AD., the Romans were in control and they renamed the cities with new Roman names. Then Islam came along and renamed the cities and towns with Islamic names. Then the Turks came along and renamed them again. Finally the cities were left unpopulated and crumbled into ruins. Wonder of wonders, today the old cities have been rebuilt on their original sites and have been given their old Bible names.

Another amazing Bible prophecy has been fulfilled. Today, Nazareth is Nazareth, Cana is Cana, Bearsheva is Bearsheva, Elath is Elath, Nain is Nain. All of the old biblical cities have been rebuilt and renamed with their old names.

There are three exceptions, three cities have not been rebuilt and repopulated. They are Chorazin, Bethsaida, and Capernaum. The question is why? The answer is found in Matthew 11:20-23, "Then began he to upbraid the cities wherein most of his mighty works were done, because they repented not: Woe unto thee, Chorazin! Woe unto thee, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works, which were done in you, had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. But I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the day of judgment, than for you. And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to hell: for if the mighty works, which have been done in thee, had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day."

Jesus cursed these cities for their unbelief in the face of His miracles and teaching in their midst. These are the only cities today that lie in ruins and are unpopulated.

God is the sovereign God. If God has kept His Word in the past, He will keep it in the future, and He will keep it today. You need to come to terms with God's Word, with its demands and its warnings, if you do you will partake of its blessings. Art Sadlier

"...Blow the trumpet and warn the people" Ezekiel 33:3

Let the Headlines Speak

This article and other articles can be found in detail at www.soundthetrumpet.ca

Iranians Say Mahdi is 'Near'

Erick Stakelbeck

New evidence has emerged that the Iranian government sees the current unrest in the Middle East as a signal that the Mahdi--or Islamic messiah--is about to appear.

Look Who's in Line to Replace Gadhafi

WND - Michael Carl

British cleric Anjem Choudary says al-Qaida and the Muslim Brotherhood have assets on the ground in Libya and are ready to take control if Muammar Gadhafi is removed from power.

"European Countries Want UN, not US, to Advance Mideast Peace Talks"

AP March 26th, 2011

Britain, France and Germany would like the United Nations and European

Union to co-author an Israeli-Palestinian peace agreement, say diplomats.

15 Indications That Bad Times are About to Hit the U.S.

Economy Michael Snyder - BLN

2011 is shaping up to be a really bad year for the U.S. economy. There are all kinds of indications that big trouble is ahead. So far financial markets are weathering all of the chaos around the world fairly well, but just as there were huge flashing warning signs before the 2008 financial crisis there are also huge flashing warning signs now.

'New' Egypt But Same Old Sharia

sinvestors.com

The media sold the Cairo riots as the birth pangs of "democracy" in the

Mideast. Egyptians want "freedom," we were told. But their version of freedom means voting in Islamic law. Over the weekend, 77% of Egyptians approved constitutional amendments drafted in part by the radical Muslim Brotherhood. As we predicted based on recent Pew polling of Egyptian attitudes, the post-Mubarak constitution enshrines Sharia law and gives the banned Brotherhood a spot on the ballot.

Missile Upgrade Stokes Intifada Fears

The Australian - John lions

AMID the turmoil in the Middle East, one aspect has largely been ignored: the rising tensions on Israel's border with Gaza. Another war between Israel and Gaza is looming.