



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

March 2014

- Just Wait on God -

"But the Lord is in His holy temple. Let all the earth keep silence before Him." --
Habakkuk 2:20

I think we are the busiest bunch of eager beavers ever seen in the religious world. The idea seems to be that if we are not running in a circle, breathing down the back of our own neck, we are not pleasing God!

When Jesus said, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15 KJV), Peter probably leaped to his feet and, no doubt, scooped up his hat on the way out. He was going to go right then!

But the Lord said, "Peter, come back, and stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high" (Luke 24:49)."

I heard a Christian leader warn recently that we are suffering from a rash of amateurism in Christian circles. Christianity has leveled down and down and down. We are as light as butterflies-- though we flit, flit, flit around in the sunshine and imagine that we are eagles flapping our broad wings.

Sometimes I think the Church would be better off if we would call a moratorium on activity for about six weeks and just wait on God to see what He is waiting to do for us. That's what they did before Pentecost.

"Lord, this morning I'll stop for a while at least to just wait on God. I know you're wanting to work, and I for one am willing to wait this morning to hear Your voice and discover what You want to do for me today. Amen." A.W. Tozer (1897-1963)

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Sound the Trumpet!

- Section 1 -

How Soon?

How soon will the rapture take place?

I believe we are living in the most exciting days in all of the history of the world! Man's day is drawing to a close! Christ is about to come for His Bride. The trumpet is about to sound!

We will be caught up to the Father's house, remember the Father's house is our eternal home. All of our believing family and friends will be there, what a time that will be. We will be loved and love with a new capacity to love. There will be hundreds of millions of saints who will be known to us and who will love us as brothers and sisters, what a family that will be.

Better than all of that Jesus will be there; we will look on the face of the one who gave His life and shed His blood for us. Our heavenly Father will be there and just as our earthly fathers desired to be with us and to have us with them, so also our heavenly Father desires us to be with Him.

We will stand at the Bema, the judgment seat of Christ and receive rewards. *"And, behold, I come quickly (suddenly); and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be"* (Revelation 22:12). We are about to go to the Father's house and receive rewards. We stand on the threshold of a marvellous prospect. Can you imagine the trumpet sounding and in the twinkling of an eye we are in glory.

But for the unsaved all around us the awful Day of the Lord judgment is about to break upon their heads. Then in a few short years Christ will return to set up the long promised utopia on earth.

One of the saddest things of this present hour is that a large portion the bride of Christ is asleep and unaware of the nearness of the catching away of the believers.

Even more tragic is the fact that many who profess to be Christians are self-deceived and are unknowingly outside of the kingdom. *"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven"* (Matthew 7:21). Not everyone who

claims to be a Christian is really a Christian. Profession of faith does not make one a Christian.

Notice that these people profess to be followers of Christ, verse 22, *"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?"*

What could possibly be more tragic than to think you are a Christian and to discover at the last that you are not? *"And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity"* (verse 23). What a shock in that day!

Paul warned those at Corinth of this possibility. *"Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates (counterfeit)?"* (2 Corinthians 13:5). My friend this is the hour of great deception, search the scriptures and search your heart and let God give you assurance of salvation or strip you of a false hope.

In Matthew 25:1, Jesus foretold of the present hour, *"Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom."* This is a metaphor of Christ coming for the church.

"And five of them were wise, and five were foolish. They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them" (Verses 2-3).

The lamps represent profession and the oil represents possession. The oil represents the Holy Spirit within those who are born again. But those who had the lamps without oil represent the unsaved; those who had profession without possession. Not everyone who claims to be a Christian is really a Christian. Profession of faith does not make one a Christian.

"But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps" (verse 4). Oil in their vessels could represent nothing else than the believer who has the Holy Spirit indwelling his body or vessel."

Now in verse 5 we come to this very day in which we now live. "While the bridegroom tarried, **they all slumbered and slept.**" Notice at the very time the bridegroom was to come, "They all slumbered and slept."

I believe that this is speaking of the very hour in which we now live. Never in my lifetime has there been such a dearth of preaching on the second coming. But there are also false teachers declaring false things to discredit the true message of the nearness of the Day of the Lord and the rapture.

Imminency is the doctrine of scripture that says that Christ could come at any moment. Down through the centuries millions of Christians have lived out their lives, their hours and days and years with an expectation of the soon and sudden call into the presence of Christ. It hovered over the horizon of their daily responsibilities and cares like the first pale light of the rising sun. It walked with them down the lonely, sorrowful, sometimes torturous pathways, a silent companion, and a comforting presence. Through dry years, bleak landscapes, and withered hopes, it bubbled up from deep within them, a

serving and working, but all the while they were watching. That's imminency.

Our Saviour has always wanted His church to be in an attitude of readiness and waiting for the rapture. John 14:2-3, "*In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.*"

That is a wonderful promise; that has always been the blessed hope of the church.

A shout! A trumpet note! A glorious presence in the azure sky!

A gasp! A thrill of joy, and we are with Him in twinkling of an eye. (Unknown)

Understand that the purpose of Bible prophecy is not to tickle our ears or entertain us. It is intended to change our lives!!

If we knew for certain that Christ was coming tomorrow night, how would we live tomorrow? That's the way God wants us to live every day. The expectation of an imminent rapture is a faith producing and a purifying influence

event, The Lord planned it that way for our benefit.

Understand that the glorious second coming of Christ to the earth in power to set up the kingdom is not an imminent event. The rapture must occur first. The seven years of tribulation must take place first. It can't happen until those events occur.

The second coming then is not a sign less event. There are many signs that must be fulfilled before Christ's second to the earth. Today we are seeing the foreshadowing of the fulfillment of those signs. These signs are now all around us, in fact we are being overwhelmed by them; they are everywhere.

Understand also the second coming will not be a surprise as the rapture will be. The exact day of the second coming can be known by those living in the tribulation period.

Understand that it is clearly spelled out in scripture that the tribulation period is a seven year period. We see that in Daniel 9:27, "*And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause*

"WATCH THEREFORE, FOR YE KNOW NEITHER THE DAY NOR THE HOUR WHEREIN THE SON OF MAN COMETH." MATTHEW 25:13

hidden fountain, a secret well of joy and refreshment, a hope beyond all hopes.

It was an expectation that in the next breath, in the next blink of the eye, the next tick of the clock, the next beat of the heart or the next rustle of the leaves. They lived with anticipation that Christ could descend from heaven at any moment with a shout and call them home, maybe today, maybe tonight, maybe before I draw my next breath.

Imminency was the hope of the apostolic church, "Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love that love His appearing" (Timothy 4:8). That is an exhortation to watch for its coming, His appearing.

"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." (1 Thessalonians 1:9-10). They were

in our daily lives. "*Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure*" (1 John 3:3).

That is why the day of the rapture has been hidden by God, in order to produce fruit bearing in the lives of believers and in order to produce purity in the lives of His children. Oh the wisdom of God! "*But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only*" (Matthew 24:36). "*Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come*" (Matthew 24:42). "*Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh*" (Matthew 25:13).

I have absolutely no doubt that today as the signs of His coming are everywhere; the reason for His long delay is His purpose to produce faith and purity in our lives.

Understand that the rapture is an imminent event and it is a sign less

the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate."

The above verse tells exactly when the tribulation period starts. It starts with the signing of the peace treaty with Israel by Antichrist. Anyone will be able to take their Bible and see this and be able to count seven years and know exactly when the second coming will take place.

Our Lord's second coming will not be secret kept from the world; it will be expected by the world as it draws near. "*Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory*" (Matthew 24:29-30).

I believe that the books of Daniel and Revelation will be the handbooks of the tribulation saints; they will live in those books. They will be able to read Daniel 9:27 and calculate from the signing of the peace treaty seven years or 84 months or 2520 days, they will be able to know the exact day of the second coming.

Also the abomination of desolation takes place at the mid-tribulation point. They will be able to mark their calendars and know that it is 3 1/2 years until Christ comes.

Jesus spoke of that event in Matthew 24:15, "When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand)." "**Whoso readeth, let him understand**" or let him figure it out. What is that about?

The significance of this is found in the fact that Jesus described two very different scenarios for two separate and distinct comings of Christ. We find these two different scenarios in Matthew 24 & 25. He teaches that you cannot know the time of His coming and He also teaches you can know the time. We seem to have a contradiction, but there is no contradiction; the obvious conclusion is that there are two separate comings, one coming before the tribulation period and one coming after the tribulation period. Hence we have the doctrine of the Pre-tribulation rapture of the Church.

We see another seeming contrast; Jesus said that when they are saying peace and safety I will come. In contrast He also says I will come in the midst of the most devastating war of all of history. Which is it? It is simply two separate comings.

Jesus says I will come when men are marrying and giving in marriage and life is perfectly normal. He also says I will come when the world is devastated by war, famine and catastrophe, when men are crying for the rocks to fall on them to hide them from the wrath of God.

Which is it? We have a seeming contradiction. There is no contradiction! Our Lord is telling us of two separate events with two separate time frames and two separate comings.

QUESTION?

If we cannot know the day nor the hour of the rapture and if it is a sign-less event, how can we know that the rapture is drawing near? God has provided a way.

In the books of Matthew, Daniel, Ezekiel, Thessalonians and Revelation and others we have a picture painted for us of the scenario surrounding the tribulation. If we can look out on the world scene and determine that those scenarios are coming into place. Then we can know that the rapture is near because it must precede the unfolding of these events.

Today the dark clouds of the Day of the Lord are forming on the world stage.

How close are we? That is not the real question. The real question is how close do you want it to be? That involves a choice.

The battle that is fought in man's heart began as a choice between two worlds. Between the world as God made it and the world which man in partnership with Satan has proceeded to make.

Adam bartered the world God made for another world which man as the presiding deity would fashion to his own liking.

One day God will destroy this present evil world system and restore the world as He intended it to be.

Ultimately He will make a perfect, eternal universe into which sin will never enter.

Make no mistake; the actual choice we all face moment by moment is between man's world system and God's world or God's kingdom.

The real test is whether we truly long to make that exchange now, now when life is exciting and vibrant and enjoyable. Everyone wants to exchange sickness, death and hell for heaven, but that is not the true issue. Do we right now want to exchange the best that this world offers for God's presence? That's the unique challenge of the imminent rapture.

How close are we to the rapture? The answer is very close! But the real question is how close do you want the rapture to be? Better stated, what are you living for? Such is the heart searching impact of the many warnings of Christ to, "**Watch and be ready**".

Let me take your spiritual temperature. Is the rapture something you really want right now or do wish for a delay?

Yes, we wish for the salvation of unsaved loved ones and friends. Our hearts are torn to see them saved before it's too late! But nothing must stand in the way of our love for Him and our desire to be with Him.

We see the signs all around us, Jesus is coming. If ever there is an hour when we ought to get our eyes off of the things around us and onto the Lord, it is now.

Art Sadlier

THE COMING WORLD GOVERNMENT

The coming world government is something that surfaced in the heart of Satan at the time of his fall from grace.

Satan's goal is stated in Isaiah 14:13-14 "I will exalt my throne above the stars (angels) of God I will be like the most high."

By the permissive will of God, Satan became the ruler of the world of unregenerate men. "*In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them*" (2 Corinthians 4:4).

In Luke 4:6 we read the devil's words to Jesus, "*And the devil said unto him, all this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it.*" This power was temporarily granted to Satan by God.

Satan had bragged that he could govern the kingdom better than God. God said in effect, let's put that to the test. For the last six thousand years the test has been playing out, the record of the scripture and the story of history has revealed Satan's utter failure. During the coming tribulation period

Satan will make a final climactic attempt to take control of the world of men.

In John 14:30 Jesus acknowledged Satan as the god of this world, "*Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.*"

But Satan's opportunity was a limited one, he immediately set out to make his ruler-ship permanent and to replace God altogether.

Satan's first attempt took place on the plains of Shinar in Babylon (Genesis

11:1-4). His goal was to gather the whole world together to establish a world government to consolidate his rule over men. Remember that Satan is not omnipresent; so he had to bring the world of men together to control them. In conjunction with that he sought to establish a world religion to cause men to worship him.

SATAN HAS A THREE-FOLD AGENDA FOR THE FUTURE

1. A world government and a world religion.
2. A Temple on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem.
3. To annihilate Israel.

Today we want to think about the world government that Satan is going to attempt to bring about.

The Word of God describes how Satan's attempt to establish world government will unfold. Daniel says there will be a revival of the old Roman Empire. The European Union, today claims that they are the revived Roman Empire. Daniel tells us that this will consist of a federation of ten states.

Today the EU, as the result of the threat

revived Roman Empire with the coming world-wide church. The ecumenical movement of the last hundred years is now coming to fruition; we are obviously standing on the threshold of a worldwide church in union with a world government.

The European Parliament building in Strasbourg is designed after an artist's conception of the tower of Babel. The message is clear and it has been clearly stated by EU officials. They have made it known in their plans that they intend to bring the world together in new unprecedented union.

One official stated that they intend to finish that which began at Babylon so many years ago. The stage is now set for this program of Satan to begin to unfold.

This program of Satan is often called, "The New World Order" and it is simply a world government. John prophesied, nearly 2000 years ago about a coming world government and a coming world dictator, the Antichrist. John said in Rev. 13:7, "...and power was given him over all kindred, and tongues, and nations".

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

No better description of the kingdom of Antichrist could possibly be given. It is described in Revelation 13:16-17, "And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name."

I do not believe that this One World Government will appear until the antichrist comes to power, but I believe the stage is now being set for his appearance.

One of the stage setting events will be the collapse of the US dollar and the establishment of a world currency. The present monetary crisis suggests the dollar is in grave danger of collapse.

The International Monetary Fund and the UN are calling for a single world currency. These men know that there is coming a monetary collapse and they

"LET NO MAN DECEIVE YOU BY ANY MEANS: FOR THAT DAY SHALL NOT COME, EXCEPT THERE COME A FALLING AWAY FIRST, AND THAT MAN OF SIN BE REVEALED, THE SON OF PERDITION."

2 THESALONIANS 2:3

of economic collapse, is actually in the process in of re-making itself into a union of federated states. Recently ten foreign ministers of ten European nations met to plan how to bring this about.

A careful reading will reveal that the actual revived Roman Empire will not come together until the appearance of Antichrist and the beginning of the tribulation period. What we see in Europe today is only the preparation for the revived Roman Empire.

Both Daniel and John tell us about the coming Antichrist who will rule over the revived Roman Empire and transform it into a world-wide kingdom at the mid-tribulation point.

The official seal of the EU today pictures a woman riding a beast. More recently the EU currency has the image of a woman riding a beast.

This very scenario is foretold Rev 17:3, "So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns." This symbol predicts the coming union of the

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

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

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

One of the pillars of a world government will be a world currency. The control of men and nations is facilitated by the control of the resources that sustain them.

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

are laying the ground work to establish a new economic order.

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

There are many secular experts who are sending wave after wave of warnings of financial collapse.

One analyst states, "The entire global financial system has been floating on the fumes of the US Federal Reserve's Ponzi scheme. So now with the Fed announcing the first tapering, and then the second, you can already see chaos engulfing the world as the Fed's global financial scheme is collapsing. This collapse is engulfing the entire world, from Russia, to South Africa, into China and emerging markets across the globe."

"We are in a gigantic financial asset bubble," warns Swiss adviser and fund manager Marc Faber. "It could burst any day."

Billion-dollar investor Warren Buffett is rumored to be preparing for a crash as well. The "Warren Buffett Indicator", also known as the "Total-Market-Cap

to GDP Ratio", is reaching sell-alert status and a collapse may happen at any moment.

The World Bank's former chief economist wants to replace the US dollar with a single global super-currency, saying it will create a more stable global financial system.

The bubble of private debt, which we have seen inflate in China since the Lehman crisis, is unlike anything the world has ever seen. Never before has so much private debt been accumulated in such a short period of time. All of this debt has helped fuel tremendous economic growth in China, but now a whole bunch of Chinese companies are realizing that they have gotten in way, way over their heads. In fact, it is being projected that Chinese companies will pay out the equivalent of approximately a trillion dollars in interest payments this year alone. That is more than twice the amount that the U.S. government will pay in interest in 2014.

Over the past several years, the U.S. Federal Reserve, the European Central Bank, the Bank of Japan and the Bank

right crisis comes along the people will accept world government."

Former President George H. W. Bush said, "*I see a world of open borders, open trade and, most importantly, open minds; a world that celebrates the common heritage that belongs to all the world's people ... I see a world building on the emerging new model of European unity ... The United Nations is the place to build international support and consensus for meeting the other challenges we face, the threats to the environment, terrorism, drug trafficking, refugees We must join together in a new compact - all of us - to bring the United Nations into the 21st century.*"

There is a European Super State coming and it will set a course for the nations of the world to follow. The order is first a Super State in Europe and following that a World Government. Our world has entered a new era, we are now seeing a flood of transformations which are gathering momentum and are unstoppable. The ground work for this situation has been years in the making.

The preparations for this New World Order have been long in the process and seem about ready to break upon a blind and unsuspecting world. The question arises,

WHAT IS HOLDING BACK THE UNFOLDING OF THESE THINGS?

The answer is found in 2 Thessalonians 2:2-3, "*That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition.*"

The topic of this chapter is obviously the tribulation period, "*That day shall not come*" refers to the tribulation period. The tribulation period will not begin until something happens and that something is the rapture of the church.

I believe, after much consideration, that the term, "*falling away*" refers both to:

- **the great last day's apostasy**
- **and the rapture of the church.**

The term "*falling away*" means

"AND WHOSOEVER WAS NOT FOUND WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF LIFE WAS CAST INTO THE LAKE OF FIRE." REVELATION 20:15

of England have all been criticized for creating too much money. But the truth is that what has been happening in China surpasses all of their efforts combined.

All of the preparations for world government are continuing. The pace has noticeably quickened in recent days.

On March 30, 2011, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said, "*The world is facing an important shift in global history.*" He went on to say, "*Revolutionary change is sweeping the Arab world, with repercussions that will be felt everywhere and by all.*" He also says, "*We face no less epochal change in other spheres – from climate change to fighting global poverty to advancing human rights.*"

We are reminded of the words of David Rockefeller, "*We are on the verge of a global transformation. All we need is the right major crisis...*" There are those who have worked for years to bring about world government. David Rockefeller further stated, "*When the*

This situation in Europe is unfolding just as the prophet Daniel and John in the book of Revelation, prophesied that it would.

The world has for some time now been watching the Euro currency as it stands on the edge of collapse, such a collapse would bring chaos to Europe and an opportunity for a gigantic transformation.

It has been suggested that when the Euro zone was created, those who brought it about knew that the system would not work. They knew that a common currency held by many independent countries could not survive as long each country managed its own economy. It has been further suggested that the intention, in the first place, was to bring monetary and economic chaos and collapse in order to ultimately create a union which would come under central control. Such a union would be a European Super State. This new state, though unknown to those men, would be the setting for the kingdom of Antichrist. The strategy is to tear down the old in order to bring in the new.

departure. In one case it would be departure from the Word of God and in the other it would be departure from the earth.

When the church is raptured Antichrist will appear on the world scene and begin his career. We see a glimpse of his career in verse 4, "*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.*"

He opposes God and he sits in the Temple demanding the world's worship.

In verse 6-7 we have the answer to our question, what is holding back the unfolding of the tribulation period?

"And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way."

Paul says the thing that is holding back the appearance of Antichrist is the withdrawing of the Holy Spirit's restraining ministry. The Holy Spirit's restraining ministry is carried on in the world in the lives of believers.

Through the righteousness in the believer's life, the Holy Spirit convicts men and women of sin and righteousness and judgment to come. Paul says that although sin is already at work in the world there is coming a day when sin will be for the first time revealed as it really is. Sin will no longer be sugar coated. Men and angels will see sin as it really is in all of its repulsiveness and vileness. The veil will be lifted for the first time as the catastrophic "Day of the Lord" judgement breaks upon the world.

We read about the climax in Revelation 20:12-15, "And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life:

and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."

My dear friend we are standing on the very threshold of Day of the Lord judgement. At any moment you could be engulfed in the destruction which is certain to come! Do not wait one more moment, cry out to God to save you.

"He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God" (John 3:18).

No deeds of ours are needed to make Christ's merits more:
No frames of mind or feelings can add to His store:
Tis simply to receive Him, the Holy One and just:
Tis only to believe Him – It is not try but trust.

Art Sadlier

REVIVAL

We are living in an environment which draws our hearts away from the Lord and the things of God. We are tainted by a Sodom like culture and yet we have a false sense of spirituality that deceives us and blinds us to our low spiritual condition. I think it is no coincidence that in these last days we see our lives reflected in the record of the Laodicean church of the last days.

The message to Laodicea shouts out to us. "*I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked"*" (Revelation 3:15-17).

What more accurate description could we have of the church of the present hour? We cannot honestly deny our condition. We as believers have lost our separation from the world and we seem to be unaware of it. Our indifference to the demands of God's Word has grieved the Spirit and left our hearts lukewarm no matter how much we profess our allegiance to Christ. We seem to have lost our understanding of what the church is; what it is to be and what it is to be doing. We have shaped the church after the world until the church is no longer recognizable to the Biblical pattern.

One of the misconceptions that has stumbled us is the notion that we were born to be happy, the truth is that we were born to be holy. God does want us

to happy; He is the author of joy and pleasure. However true joy and real pleasure can only be found where holiness reigns supreme. Jesus said, "*Blessed are the pure in heart*" or happy are the holy.

God is more concerned with the state of people's hearts than with the state of their feelings. The pursuit of holiness will ultimately end with the joy of the Lord.

We stand today with Isaiah who cried out to the God so long ago, "*Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts*" (Isaiah 6:5).

Let us be honest, we need revival. We need the winds of God to sweep over our souls not our emotions. Emotional experience lasts but an hour and then our hearts are harder than before.

We need a revival that changes our lives as it did the lives of the disciples. True revival is inscribed on the pages of the New Testament.

"And they immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him" (Matthew 4:22). They forsook all to follow Him, they followed Him, no turning back until they willingly laid down their lives for Him.

Jesus described what a true disciple looks like. "*So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple*" (Luke 14:33). That brings conviction to my own heart and it is a rebuke to us all. I think over the years how weary I have

grown listening to men explain away what Jesus so clearly taught here.

Jesus spoke to the rich young ruler and challenged him to give up all that he had. "*Now when Jesus heard these things, he said unto him, Yet lackest thou one thing: sell all that thou hast, and distribute unto the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, follow me. And when he heard this, he was very sorrowful: for he was very rich*" (Luke 18:22-23). Do you get the impression that there is no middle ground with the Lord regarding discipleship?

The church has a thousand new methods, new programs, new music, new ideas, seminars, promotions and devices and yet none of it works, we need revival not the building of a house of cards. The most beautiful golden calf is still a golden calf.

We can have revival but we will not pay the price so we do not see souls being saved, we do not see the power of God in our lives and in our churches. Instead of being smitten with conviction the world laughs at us.

Tozer has laid out the way to revival for you and I dare we pay the price? He has given us the sure formula.

1. GET THOROUGHLY DISSATISFIED WITH YOURSELF.

Complacency is the deadly enemy of spiritual progress. The contented soul is the stagnant soul. When speaking of earthly goods Paul could say, "*I have learned to be content*" (Philippians 4:11).

However when referring to his spiritual life he testified, "I press on toward the goal" (Philippians 3:14). "So stir up the gift of God that is in thee" (2 Timothy 1:6).

2. SET YOUR FACE LIKE A FLINT TOWARD A SWEEPING TRANSFORMATION OF YOUR LIFE.

Timid experimenters are tagged for failure before they start. We must throw our whole soul into our desire for God.

3. PUT YOURSELF IN THE WAY OF THE BLESSING.

It is a mistake to look for grace to visit us as a kind of benign magic, or to expect God's help to come as a windfall apart from conditions known and met. There are plainly marked paths which lead straight to the green pastures; let us walk in them. To desire revival, for instance, and at the same time to neglect prayer and devotion is to wish one way and walk another.

4. DO A THOROUGH JOB OF REPENTING.

Do not hurry to get it over with. Hasty repentance means shallow spiritual experience and lack of certainty in the whole life. Let godly sorrow do her healing work. Until we allow the consciousness of sin to wound us, we will never develop a fear of evil. It is our wretched

habit of tolerating sin that keeps us in our half-dead condition.

5. MAKE RESTITUTION WHENEVER POSSIBLE.

If you owe a debt, pay it. If you have quarreled with anyone, go as far as you can in an effort to achieve reconciliation. As fully as possible, make the crooked things straight.

6. BRING YOUR LIFE INTO ACCORD WITH THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

and such other New Testament Scriptures as are designed to instruct us in the way of righteousness. An honest man with an open Bible and a pad and pencil is sure to find out what is wrong with him very quickly. I recommend that the self-examination be made on our knees rising to obey God's commandments as they are revealed to us from the Word.

7. BE SERIOUS-MINDED.

You can well afford to see fewer comedy shows on TV. Unless you break away from the funny boys, every spiritual impression will continue to be lost to your heart, and that right in your own living room. The devil's ideals, moral standards and mental attitudes are being accepted by you without your knowing it. And you wonder why you can make no progress in your Christian life.

8. DELIBERATELY NARROW YOUR INTERESTS.

The jack-of-all-trades is the master of none. The Christian life requires that we be specialists. Too many projects use up time and energy without bringing us nearer to God.

9. BEGIN TO WITNESS.

Find something to do for God and your fellow men. Refuse to rust out. Make yourself available to your pastor and do anything you are asked to do. Do not insist upon a place of leadership. Learn to obey.

10. HAVE FAITH IN GOD.

Begin to expect. Look up toward the throne where your Advocate sits at the right hand of God. All heaven is on your side. God will not disappoint you.

Is there someone who will break out of the pack and lead the way to a movement of God as the end of the age draws near? Oh that we might see once again a mighty movement of God's Spirit! That we might see a movement in our own hearts, a movement in our churches and a movement that will spill out on the world around us.

The cost is high, it will cost you the world, it will cost you your all, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit" (John 12:24).

Art Sadlier

IN THE NEWS

THE HARLOT CHURCH

The pope moves in the direction of opening up the church to the world. The following news item suggests just such a move.

"Pope Francis has hinted that the Catholic Church could recognise gay civil unions and called for women to have a greater role in the church."

We have been suggesting for some time that the Catholic Church will one day throw open her doors and the whole world will walk in as the harlot church is born. The pope has previously stated, "Who am I to condemn homosexuals."

The following news item reveals how quickly the world church is forming.

[The purpose of the New Evangelization is to promote the Roman Catholic gospel by reaching out to all religions as well as the

separated brethren and introducing them to the Eucharistic Christ. Evangelicals who believe there will be a great revival (rather than a great apostasy) in the last days centered around the outpouring of the Holy Spirit are candidates for this delusion. Eventually all religions and a false Christianity will form the counterfeit bride also called the harlot. This will happen as the result of the "lying signs and wonders".

So-called evangelical Bible believing Christians who fall for the Pope's call for unity will become members of the One World Religion that prepares the way for the antichrist. Roman Catholics promote that the outpouring of the "Holy Spirit" in the last days will bring about unity of religions for the cause of peace. They say that "Mary" is the one responsible for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. They

say that the "Eucharistic Reign of Jesus" will soon be established and the "Kingdom of God will be established here on earth with Rome as the headquarters. "Kingdom Now" evangelicals like Copeland and his followers are more than ready to follow the Pope and his plan.]

THE RUSSIAN BEAR

The Russian bear is flexing her muscles in preparation for her role in the war of Ezekiel 38-39. Putin seems about annex the Crimea. She is also gaining a foothold in the Mid-East and is forging an alliance with Iran which is a prelude to the coming war.

Her economic strength is growing and her military expansion is unfolding with lightning speed.

All this is happening as American military might and economic power is dissolving. It is astonishing how rapidly the stage is being set for

Ezekiel's war. How much closer must the war of Psalm 83 be? We are on the threshold of the end time events.

ISRAEL IN THE CRUCIBLE

The Obama administration is putting incredible pressure on Israel to make fatal concessions to the Palestinians. Israel can expect to face international isolation and possible sanctions from countries and companies across the world if Benjamin Netanyahu fails to endorse a framework agreement with the Palestinians, US President Barack Obama cautioned on Sunday ahead of a meeting with the Israeli prime minister.

Netanyahu is seemingly standing strong, however there are signs that he could yield to Obama. His government could topple leaving Israel in a very serious situation.

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We know that the Lord has His hand on Israel but we do not know what desperate situations He may allow to bring Israel to her knees?

The situation with Hezbollah is also very dangerous as Hezbollah are amassing stockpiles of more sophisticated weapons. There is concern that war could breakout on the northern border.

A debkafile report stated, "Syria and Hezbollah Square off to Fight Israel - Backed by Iran and Russia."

Another debkafile report stated, "Putin may use Syria's war expansion to vent his Ukraine anger."

Yet another report stated, "A number of US cargo planes landed in Israel Thursday, Feb. 27, with unidentified military supplies. Western military sources report that the secret cargos airlifted in were related to the spiraling tensions along Israel's borders with Syria and Lebanon."

Someday the Lord's time will arise and the war of Psalm 83 will explode.

THE KINGS OF THE EAST

Tension is mounting between China and Japan with reports that China is preparing for a short sharp war. China has declared two anti-Japanese holidays stirring up resentment toward Japan, possibly in preparation for war.

China is becoming belligerent with her far-east neighbours. China is spending huge sums on military equipment. She seems to be getting ready to come west to join in the battle of Armageddon.

THE TEMPLE MOUNT

For the first time there has been a debate in the Knesset about the possibility of asserting sovereignty over the Temple Mount. The debate achieved no real traction; however it is of great significance as another sign of the setting of the stage for the coming climax.

TRANS-HUMANISM

A major step has been announced in moving toward trans-humanism. The following report is tremendously significant.

Tufts University scientists are developing revolutionary technology that will directly link the human brain

with computers and enhance individuals' abilities to do anything from recommending movies to managing air traffic control.

A test of the system in a simulation by developers found that one grad student was capable of controlling four to seven aircraft at a time while the headband monitored constantly for the first sign of fatigue.

This seems to be another step toward the mysterious image of the beast.

GLOBAL GOVERNANCE

The drumbeat of global control continues unabated. The following news item shouts global control.

"Global Internet Governance Proposals Threaten Sovereignty, Freedom of Information."

GLOBAL UNREST SPARKED BY FOOD SHORTAGES

The earth is literally shaking as earthquakes are dramatically increasing across the globe.

But it's not just the earth that is rumbling; nations are increasingly experiencing the writhing discomfort of political upheaval and the common denominator is—food.

The complex system of the global food supply is the key that opens the exits as well as the entrance doors for political regimes around the world.

Food shortages spark the fires of protest.

The list of nations deemed destined to riots and unrest due to food shortages are South Africa; Haiti; Argentina; Egypt; Tunisia; Brazil; Turkey; Colombia; Libya; Sweden; India; China; Bulgaria; Chile; Syria; Thailand; Bangladesh; Bahrain; Ukraine; Venezuela; Bosnia. Art Sadlier

MARANATHA

I have been studying prophecy for some 60 years. Great Bible teachers of the 30s, 40s and 50s laid out, in great detail, expositions from Scripture on the events leading to the rapture and the way they would be fulfilled.

We are surely approaching the midnight hour of the church age. Signs of Christ's coming are multiplying as never before. The stage is being set for the last act in the drama of man's rebellion against God.

Jesus said, we "cannot know the day nor the hour", but He also said we can

know that it is "near, even at the doors." Jesus also said "Watch" and "be ready".

To the religious leaders of His day, during His earthly ministry, Jesus said concerning His first coming, "Ye can discern the face of the sky but can ye not discern the signs of the times?"

Paul said, "But ye brethren are not in darkness that that day should overtake you as a thief". In other words, you will be able to see the day approaching.

The writer to the Hebrews said the same thing, "and so much the more as

ye see the day approaching." Again, in other words, there will be a specific generation who will see the approaching day of the Lord and the Rapture to precede it.

WE ARE THAT GENERATION

Others have longed for and anticipated the Rapture. Some have seen distant waves signalling the coming Day of the Lord, but we can see that

THE TRUMPET IS ABOUT TO SOUND.

Art Sadlier