

## Troubles to Come Because of Wicked Men

Fred R. Coulter—October 12, 2013

Greetings, everyone! Welcome to Sabbath services! As of this Sabbath we are still with a government shutdown. We are entering another week with a government shutdown. In many ways it's good. Other ways it's not so good. We are looking at the result of a longtime deception by Satan the devil, who has been deceiving the whole world. It's locked into a grip: economically, religiously, and politically.

I just recently got a paper from Dwight Blevins and he explains the scale, the harp, the steps of the scale and the numbers of things as they occur by number in the Scriptures. It's very, very interesting. Before we get into where we are today let's look at how we got here first. Here's part from his introduction that I think is very well written and eloquent:

In the last decades of the first century A.D. it was here amidst the churches of Asia Minor that the foundations of church doctrine and truth were edited, published, and historically preserved from the eventual corruption of the greater influence of the Latin world, which was politically and philosophically controlled by the vast power and seat of Rome.

But history records that after the decline and decay of this early foundation in Asia Minor the dominant church that emerged by the time of Constantine and beyond bore little resemblance to the church that Jesus of Galilee had founded at Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost, 30<sub>A.D.</sub>

The melody from the harp-shaped sea... [that is the Sea of Galilee] ...was fading, traded and transformed by the evolving discord of another gospel.

Isn't it interesting how that all the modern music foments rebellion. Why is that? *Because it is discordant!*

This discord is against the laws of music that God has created. The laws of music and the appointed times that were established on day four at creation all work in harmony together.

Whenever you go into a store and they are playing this discordant music and you find yourself getting on edge, maybe even wanting to go up and shout at the manager, it's the music that reflects and also adds to the rebellion. Look at the young people today.

The great Constantine did not allow and embrace the original Greek text from Asia Minor, touting the concept of Christianity. But in his rage of political ambition and hatred of the Jews, he struck a severe discord to the appointed times...

How did he do that? What was one of the first things that they got rid of? *The Passover—2 times 7—and the 4<sup>th</sup> commandment!*

...thereby destroying the pattern harmony, which correctly determines the count to the Day of Pentecost.

What was one of the errors of the Church of God for a good period of time? *They didn't count Pentecost correctly!* To this day those who still follow what that was taught do not understand that Pentecost pictures the first resurrection.

Note that all three of these appointed times have direct links to the seven patterns of prophecy, covenants and music, appointed times that especially play a key role in picturing salvation and the first resurrection. Very clever! Take away any one of these appointed times and the melody of the whole becomes muddy and discordant, the timing and eventual road markers of the Gospel message toppling like a string of dominoes.

Unbelievable as it may be, these edicts enforced by Constantine and his successors in direct violation of New Testament teachings remain foundational to the cornerstones of mainstream Christianity to this very day. And were it not for the small fortress of elders and the Ephesus Scriptorium, the true histories, Biblical text and doctrines of the original church may have become so altered as to be virtually lost in the political and rubble of religious corruption.

Then he goes on to explain about the cult of the priesthood of the Babylonian Mysteries and how it's always discordant. He explains how the #7 is brought out by Peter, by Paul and by Jude, warning of the system.

Today here we are at the end-time of Satan's deception. He has always used the same tactics over and over again. A little bit of incremental change will never be noticed and will be thought of as an improvement, until we add up the incremental changes and then we have a conflict and we must

solve it, and here is the new paradigm. You've heard that word before? *Yes, indeed!*

What are we heading for in the world? Let's come to Isaiah 25 and let's see a tremendous verse here. The first thing that **God**<sub>[transcriber's correction]</sub> is going to have to do is break this deception.

Just to give you a little insight, I went into the bank yesterday and here they had it all decorated for Halloween. They had a whole pattern of sticky paper just below where you go to the clerk to make deposits and here it had patterns of skulls and everything like this. Hanging from the corners up there they took angel's hair, which they normally use for Christmas trees and they made spider webs and put spiders up there. They had pumpkins over here and pumpkins over there.

I mentioned to the clerk, 'Why did you have it decorated this way?' She said, 'Oh well, so-and-so clerk did it and she a wonderful job.' I said, 'I'm a little offended at this.' She said, 'Well, it's for fun!' So, I dropped the conversation. Very interesting! Entertainment, fun: *Satan's avenues into the mind and into the heart.*

- music
- entertainment
- religion
- economics

and it's all tied up into it. Little do they realize that they are all tied up into Satan's system.

Here is what Christ is going to have to do, Isaiah 25:7: "And He will destroy in this mountain the face of the covering which covers all people, and the veil that is woven over all nations." That's the first thing He has to do in order to bring in the Millennium.

Let's look and see what happens when this veil comes over everyone, when they have been incrementally changed by their own ideas, by different philosophies, by different ways of doing things, and yet, clinging to the name of God. Jeremiah is a very interesting book to read and to study. God gave King Zedekiah—one man—the chance to forestall the destruction of Jerusalem and the burning of the temple. One man!

Jeremiah told Zedekiah, "Thus says the Lord, *If you do not obey the voice of the Lord, you shall cause the city to be burned.*" One man! What happens when all the masses get so deceived, yet, they think they are doing the will of God? And they don't understand what's going on because they have grown up and this is what they have been taught and over and over again down through generations.

Jeremiah 7:1: "The Word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying, 'Stand in the gate

of the LORD'S house, and proclaim there this Word, and say, "Hear the word of the LORD, all Judah, who enter in at these gates to worship the LORD."'" (vs 1-2).

We're coming in also to Christmas. Lo and behold, over at Costco Dolores says they already have all the Christmas stuff out there in full flight. All commercial, all fun, all designated *for the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh, and pride of life!* Likewise here, *if* you tell them the Word of God and *if* you say that these things are an abomination to God, you are insane. It's like someone coming into an insane asylum and telling everyone they are all insane. They would look at you and say, 'What's wrong with you?'

Verse 3: "Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, 'Amend your ways and your doings, and I will cause you to dwell in this place.'" How many times does God offer repentance? *Over and over again!*

Now granted, in Washington, D.C., there are some men and women trying to do what is right but they are railed upon, they are ridiculed, they are demonized, they are satanized and all of that so that the President can get *his own will.*

Here's Jeremiah talking to all the people, v 4: "Do not trust in lying words, saying, 'The temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD *are* these.'" Let's not say 'we're Americans, we're Americans, we're Americans, we believe in God.'

Verse 5: "For if you thoroughly amend your ways and your doings; if you thoroughly execute judgment between a man and his neighbor; *if* you do not oppress the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, and do not shed innocent blood in this place, nor walk after other gods to your hurt; then I will cause you to dwell in this place, in the land that I gave to your fathers, forever and ever'" (vs 5-7).

What is God doing here? *The same basic thing that He does with everyone!* He sets before them choices—*My way or your way.*

Verse 8: "Behold, you trust in lying words that cannot profit. Will you steal, murder, and commit adultery, and swear falsely, and burn incense to Baal, and walk after other gods whom you do not know" (vs 8-9). That's exactly what we are doing.

Verse 10: "And then come and stand before Me in this house which is called by My name, and say, 'We are delivered to do all these abominations?'" All of this falls on the head of the leaders of the so-called Christian world, who have the Bible but reject the Word of God. They are the ones who are almost single handedly responsible for

the start of this kind of thing. Then it follows along that the people and the political leaders will go along with what they say.

Verse 11: “‘Has this house, which is called by My name, become a den of robbers in your eyes? Behold, even I have seen it,’ says the LORD.”

I want you to remember the cities in America and the cities in the world where they have high murder rates. Look at what just happened in Mexico, and what is continuing in Mexico. As I read this I want you to recall Deut. 28 where it talks about the aliens coming in.

Ezekiel 7:21: “And I will give it... [this land] ...into the hands of the strangers for a prize, and to the wicked of the earth for a spoil; and they shall defile it. I will also turn My face from them, and they shall pollute My secret *place*; and robbers shall enter into it and defile it” (vs 21-22). Did that happen? *The temple was torn down, all the gold was gone, everything left!*

Verse 23: “Make a chain; for the land is full of bloody crimes, and the city is full of violence.” It’s going to come that way to all the cities. There was a reported that the city of San Jose is getting close to facing bankruptcy if they do not stop all the excess retirement benefits of the police and the civil servants. Stockton just did. Look at Detroit. Look at the crime; look at the murders.

God says because of that, v 24: “And I will bring the worst of the heathen, and they shall possess their houses, I will also make the pomp of the strong to cease; and their Holy places shall be defiled. Terror comes... [What are we fighting? *Terror, yes indeed!*] ...and they shall seek peace, but there shall be none. Disaster shall come upon disaster...” (vs 24-26).

What happened last night weather-wise? *Four feet of snow in South Dakota killing 100,000 cattle!* That’s just one little thing. We take a blow here, we take a blow there, we take a blow someplace else. If you mark it out as a body, you get a wound here; you can survive a while. You get another wound, you get another wound, pretty soon you are weak and you get more wounds. Then something is going to happen. That’s what happened to Detroit. They are still filled with crime and murder and violence and drugs.

“...and rumor shall be upon rumor... [That’s easy with all the television today—isn’t it?] ...And they shall seek a vision from the prophet; but the law shall perish from the priest, and wisdom from the elders. The king shall mourn, and the prince shall be clothed with despair, and the hands of the people of the land shall tremble. I will do to them according to their way, and according to their uncleanness I will

judge them; and they shall know that I *am* the LORD” (vs 26-27). That’s the theme through the whole book of Ezekiel—they shall know that I am the Lord, because they don’t now.

Let’s see how this comes about. Ezekiel 22 is very instructive because remember, there are more fulfillments of these prophecies than just at the time they occur because history repeats itself. Remember that Deut. 28 says that these blessings and cursings shall be a sign upon you and your children forever. That’s why we have these ups and these downs and these difficulties that come along.

Ezekiel 22:1: “Moreover the Word of the LORD came to me, saying, ‘Now you, son of man, will you judge, will you judge the bloody city? And yes, you shall make her know all her abominations. Then you shall say, “Thus says the Lord GOD, ‘The city sheds blood in her midst that her time may come, and makes idols unto herself to defile herself’”” (vs 1-3).

We have many idols. Where do idols begin? *In the mind*—of the things that you make, of the things that other people build. What are some of the idols that we have that destroys the knowledge of the Sabbath? *Nearly all sports events!* That becomes their idol, their team.

How many people make millions of dollars on all the sports paraphernalia that belong to the team, that that city or those people choose to follow? Just part of it, to your shame. Instead of going to church, and even if they went to church, if the ministers would preach the Word of God instead of their little sermons, God would honor that. The people would benefit.

Verse 4: “You are guilty by the blood that you have shed; and you have defiled yourself with your idols that you have made. And you have caused your days to draw near, and have come unto your years. Therefore I have made you a reproach to the nations, and a mocking to all countries.”

Ever heard of Vladimir Putin? The Chinese leaders? Wonder what they thought at that meeting that the President had to cancel in Southeast Asia because of the debt crisis? Wonder what they thought of him and the United States? There it is right there.

Verse 5: “*Those who are near and those far from you shall mock against you, O infamous one and full of tumult. Behold, the princes of Israel, every one has used his power to shed blood in you. In you they have despised both father and mother... [Heard of the breakdown of the family? Children out of wedlock?] ...In your midst they have dealt with the stranger by oppression. In you they oppressed the orphan and the widow. You have despised My*

Holy things, and have profaned My Sabbaths” (vs 5-8).

The Sabbath is the key to know God. That’s why those who don’t know of the Sabbath do not know of God. They may have other different doctrines and that’s another story that they have to work out. But that’s the first step.

Verse 9: “In you are men of slander *who* shed blood; and in you they *that* eat on the mountains... [that’s all the religious activity] ...in your midst they commit lewdness.” What about all the rock concerts? What about all the nightclubbing? They even have a program on television now that’s fully acceptable. It’s called *Wife Swap*. And have many programs where they are seeking after ghosts and demons.

Verse 17: “And the Word of the LORD came to me, saying, ‘Son of man, the house of Israel has become dross to Me. All of them are bronze, and tin, and iron, and lead, in the middle of the furnace; they are even the dross of silver. Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, “Because you have all become dross, behold, therefore I will gather you into the middle Jerusalem”’” (vs 17-19). He did this to Jerusalem and He’s going to do it to us.

Verse 20: “*As they* gather silver, and bronze, and iron, and lead, and tin, into the middle of the furnace, to blow the fire on it to melt it, so I will gather *you* in My anger and in My fury, and I will cast *you in* and melt you.” I wonder how that stacks up with what happened in WWII?

Verse 21: “And I will gather you and blow on you with the fire of My wrath, and you shall be melted in the midst of it.” Then He says it’s so bad that even after He makes it dry, the scum will not come out, the sin will not leave.

Verse 24: “Son of man, say to her, ‘You *are* a land that is not cleansed, nor rained upon in the day of indignation.’” In case you haven’t noticed, here in California we’re in the midst of quite a severe drought, but no one says anything.

Verse 25: “There is a conspiracy...” There are people who say, ‘Oh, there’s no conspiracy. If you believe in a conspiracy, you’re a nut.’ If you understand what has happened and how Satan has conspired, you will know that there is a conspiracy.

“...of her prophets in her midst, like a roaring lion tearing the prey. They have devoured souls; they have taken the treasure and precious things; they made many widows in her midst. Her priests have done violence to My Law and have profaned My Holy things. They have put no difference between the Holy and the profane...” (vs 25-26). Interesting! Now they are going to have a sort of, kind of church service where they don’t mention

God. I wonder how that’s going to be. Even the chaplains in the military are now forbidden to use the name of Christ under the penalty of court marshal. How far have we gone! Have you heard that on the news? *No, there are a lot of things you aren’t going to get on the news!*

“...and have not taught the difference between the unclean and the clean... [This is what every single Sunday-keeping pastor, minister, priest, cardinal does]: ...and they have hidden their eyes from My Sabbaths...” (v 26). You ask any one of them which day does the Bible teach? ‘*Oh, we know it’s Saturday, but that’s the old law.*’ Let me tell something to them. The old law is going to execute judgment against you because you reject it.

“...and I am profaned among them. Her rulers in her midst *are* like wolves tearing the prey, to shed blood and to destroy souls, to get unjust gain” (vs 26-27). Look what’s happening with Obamacare. Millions are losing a third of their salary because their hours are cut to 28 hours from 40 hours. The price of healthcare has gone anywhere from 30% to 120% increase. Take away a third of what they make and what do you do? *You absolutely destroy the nation economically!* No doubt about it.

Yet, we have a President who many feel is not truly a Christian, but of some other religion with a hateful agenda that will not listen to reason from those who are trying to do right. A lot of people may be upset in hearing things like that. It’s just like Jeremiah and Ezekiel have said, ‘If you want to be offended, *be offended*, but **know that God is going to judge you.**’ God is judging everyone in the world all the time by His laws, which automatically function.

Verse 28: “And her prophets have covered themselves with whitewash, seeing false visions and divining lies unto them, saying, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD’; when the LORD has not spoken.” God has never said anything about keeping Sunday, Easter, Christmas, New Years, all of the holidays. He has spoken against them, and this system that came in with Constantine has spread to the whole Christian world and remains the same today with very few differences.

Verse 29: “The people of the land have used oppression and committed robbery, and they have troubled the poor and needy. Yea, *they* have oppressed the stranger wrongfully.”

Notice what God always does, just like He told Zedekiah. ‘If you surrender to the Babylonians, you will live and the city will remain.’ Which means the temple would have stayed there. It would not have been destroyed. *One man!* He wouldn’t listen.

Verse 30: “And I sought for a man among them...” There are some people trying to do some things that are right, but will it be enough. Because if the financial thing comes to the crisis that it looks like it’s going, it is going to be catastrophic beyond description. If they piece together in a band aid’s fashion, it will hold together for a while, but things are going to get worse and worse. That is the way that the world is headed. That’s the way the United States is headed.

Verse 30: ““And I sought for a man among them who should build up a wall for the land, and stand in the breach before Me, so that I should not destroy it. But I did not find one. Therefore, I have poured out My fury on them. I have burned them up with the fire of My wrath. I have recompensed their own way upon their heads,” says the Lord GOD” (v 30-31). That’s the way that it comes.

*One man!* If one man stands up, I think one man—Ted Cruz—has stood up has stood up pretty well. They ridicule him; they do everything to plow him down. God is going to notice that. God is going to understand that.

Let’s see how it’s expressed here in the Psalms. We are headed at some very difficult crossroads and it’s already affecting things. Just to pass on a little something to you locally here. They are building a brand new Walgreen’s, I think a small-size Walgreen’s. Just across the corner intersection is a huge Rite Aid. Across the street on the other side is Safeway that has a pharmacy. Up the street a little further you have another pharmacy in Nob Hill.

Bonnie, who works for us, went to Rite Aid yesterday. She had to go back into the area where they have everything stored in the back. Guess what? *It was empty, not a thing!* So what’s going to happen? *All these lies, all these things, the devaluation of the dollar!* If I could tell you about what is happening, I will tell you. I can’t give you all the details because I don’t have time, because it’s in a thick report. If you’ve ever heard of gold-gambling that is this, it is called an ETF. An ETF is that you buy a position in gold and at some date they promise to deliver you gold when it comes to the fulfillment of the contract.

Guess what they’ve done in the United States and in London? *People are wanting to get their gold now* and they are being forced to settle in cash because they have committed the gold 50 times over. So, for every ounce of gold there are 50 people holding a contract on that ounce of gold. That’s in the Comex and that’s in the London bullion market.

Guess who is getting the gold? Those who hold gold can’t trust them any longer so they are trying to get it out. Germany tried to repatriate their

gold and they said, ‘*No!* What is happening? Gold is coming out of the Comex and gold is coming out of the London bullion market board. It’s going through Switzerland, melted down into bars that suit China. China is building huge—and they will have them completed in two years—vaults in which to store gold.

When all that gold is gone, and a lot of people suspect it’s already gone from Fort Knox, there’s going to be a depression and a fall so staggeringly great that people are not going to understand what on earth happened. That’s an amazing thing! That’s why the price of gold is down now to try and scare people from redeeming it.

What that is done, it has caused all the gold-mining companies to reduce their production because of cost and some of them to even close, which tells you that *there’s no new gold coming into the market!* Once you get yourself entangled in all of these deceptive things, that’s why it’s expressed there in Isaiah as a great web that is weaved over all the people in an iron clench. That’s part of what’s going to happen.

Back to the religionists, Psalm 50:16: “But to the wicked **God says** ‘What right have you to declare My statutes, and to take up My covenant in your mouth?’”

Oh, we’re Christians. We can keep Sunday. One man asked me why I keep ragging on the Protestants. I told him because if you knew what they are doing you would understand. They are responsible for all the major downfalls in America.

Verse 17: “Yea, you hate to be taught, and you cast My words behind you. When you saw a thief, then you were pleased to be with him... [‘Yes, he donates to my political campaign—isn’t that wonderful?’] ...and you have taken part with adulterers. You give your mouth to evil, and your tongue frames deceit. You sit; you speak against your brother; you slander your own mother’s son. These things you have done, and I have kept silence; you thought that I was like yourself, but I will rebuke you, and set them in order before your eyes” (vs 17-21).

So, all of the lying bankers and all of the lying gold dealers and all of those things, BANG! *all the gold is going to be gone!* It’s going to be sitting over in Shanghai and Hong Kong, because in order to raise up an army of 200-million you have to have a lot of cash. That’s where it’s going. That’s the hand of God. We’re going to be going along dithering in all the stupidity of the holidays, singing all the little jingles to keep people brainwashed into the system of merchandizing, and say ‘what a wonderful thing it is and the reason that we have Christmas is to honor Jesus Christ.’

Verse 22: “Now consider this, you who forget God, lest I tear you in pieces, and there be none to deliver. Whoever offers praise glorifies Me; and he who sets his conduct aright, I will show him the salvation of God” (vs 22-23). Even God is giving them a little bit of repentance at that point.

(go to the next track)

What will be the immediate solution to the collapse of the dollar? *It won't collapse totally!* How many remember Cypress? What did they do?

- They took everything over 150,000 Euros
- They closed the banks for ten days

A lot of that money was Russian money, so guess what the Russian warships have been sent to do? They are all around the area of Syria and Cypress; no little coincidence. That was a test. What they have done in Poland is force all of those who have retirement money to buy Polish government bonds. So, they confiscated that money and put it into bonds and they can't get rid of it unless they sell it at a discounted price. There are plans in the United States government to do the same thing.

What's going to happen to your money in the bank account? If you recall, years ago it used to be every account is insured by the FDIC and it used to be \$200,000 for *every* account. If you read it carefully when you go into the bank, they have a little pad sitting right up front where you go to the teller to either deposit or to take out. It says '*every depositor*.' If you two accounts, three accounts, four accounts, five accounts, guess what? ***One depositor!*** Anything over \$250,000—POOF! What they also have in mind is this, that to split the dollar, everything outside the U.S. in international dollars, everything then in the U.S. then these dollars cannot be used outside the United States.

All U.S. dollars internally will be devalued 20% or more. All of those things happen over a weekend. Remember they shut down the Cypress banks on Saturday/Sunday, then they extended it clear around to the next Monday.

How soon will this happen? *We don't know*, but we are sitting very precariously—you know it can't be too far away. Let me tell you a little secret about our U.S. treasury bonds. The Chinese have been squawking that they don't want to buy our bonds, but they settled with the U.S. Treasury Department that 'if you buy our bonds, we will let you come to the Fed window to buy them and you don't have to pay the broker fee.' So, they are still buying them.

But the holder of the debt is the controller of your future. They are planning on a devaluation, maybe as much as 30%. If they take everything over \$250,000 from everybody, that's going to virtually

throw the nation into bankruptcy. If you're lucky enough to have some gold or some silver, that's when it will become valuable, after that collapse has happened. *It is bound to happen*, because we have a government that is voraciously spending money as if it's running as fast—as the burning embers of the hell fire—as they can get there. That very well may be also planned. All of this has happened *because of the so-called Christian leaders and the people!* God combines all the sins of the people together.

Let me tell you something very interesting. I watch off and on the National Geographic Channel. They have a program called *Drug, Inc.* I suggest you watch it. The other night I was watching it and I was startled at the self-righteousness of the Brits. They ran escort with a man who sells cocaine to the affluent, to the lords, the ladies, the parliament members. The self-righteousness was this: 'I'm not a crook, I'm providing a service. This is for entertainment for these people. I keep everything confidential, I'm always on time with what they order. They can rest assured that I will never disclose who they are.'

He's saying, 'I'm a 'good' cocaine dealer and these are 'good' people who have it because they only do it for entertainment.' Then it showed a couple of ladies who were pot smokers and cocaine-snorters and they just do it for entertainment and relaxation and 'we do just enough so we don't get addicted to it. We're good pot smokers and we're good cocaine users, because we just use it for entertainment and of course we're keeping ourselves so that we won't suffer any of the problems that come with it.' I thought *how typically delusional* of the Brits. Because they are British and they've got this long history of the throne and long history of their existence, 'we are above everybody else.'

That reminds me of Joseph. When he went out to his brothers—he's the youngest one—and says, 'Oh, brothers, gather around. I want to tell you something. I was out in the field and the sheaves were there—my sheaf and all of your sheaves—and all of your sheaves bowed down to me. I stand before you with my tunic from my head to my feet to verify that I am the great one.' He didn't say it that way, but that is what is meant.

If that weren't enough, then he came back and said, 'I had another dream.' Even told his dad. 'The sun, moon and stars—mother and father, and all the sons—all bowed down and worshiped me.' When he went out and told his older brothers, that's when they threw him in the pit and then God took over from there and sent him into Egypt to learn a few lessons of humility.

So likewise, it's going to happen to the Brits again. Everything is just going to disappear economically on them and on us.

One little sidebar: There was a recent article in the *San Jose Mercury News* about the great booming in the housing market with homes over \$1-million. Guess who were buying them? *The Chinese!* Guess what they are going to do when all of this happens? They are going to remember with Britain and the Opium Wars, that 'you tried to conquer us with opium, so we're going to get in a position where we are going to own you, and get in a position where we are going to own the Americans.' When that happens, there will nothing that they can do against them! Are you going to fight 2-billion people? Why does all this come?

A lot of people look at the Bible and say, 'All of this has been fulfilled, none of this is going to happen,' *but it is!* 'We're good people, God loves us.' *But let's see what God says.*

Jeremiah 1:13: "And the Word of the LORD came to me the second time, saying, 'What do you see?' And I said, 'I see a boiling pot; and its face is from the north.' And the LORD said to me, 'Out of the north the disaster will be set loose on all the inhabitants of the land'" (vs 13-14). That's the only way to come into the Holy Land—from the north. Very difficult from the east; it's impossible from the south.

Verse 15: "For, behold, I will call all the families of the kingdoms of the north," says the LORD. 'And they shall come, and they shall each one set his throne at the entrance of the gates of Jerusalem, and against all its wall all around, and against all the cities of Judah.'" Did that happen? *Yes it did!*

If you want a historical verification of it, get the book of *Josephus* and read about the fall of Jerusalem in 586-585<sub>B.C.</sub> and also the fall of Jerusalem in 66-70<sub>A.D.</sub> It is gruesome! It is bloody! It is absolutely mind-boggling of the things that happened then. We can multiply hundreds of thousands of times over because there are that many more people.

Verse 16: "And I will pronounce My judgments against them regarding all their wickedness in that they have forsaken Me... ['Oh, we want the Bible, we want You Lord, but we only want this part of the Bible.' Remember the sermon I gave some time ago, the *Evangelical Bible*, two verses? *Yes!*] ...and burning incense to other gods, and worshiping the works of their own hands.'" Take a look at every commercial that is selling something that is manufactured, especially cars. *I love my car.* Do you love God? *But I love my car.* Works of your own hands, whatever it may be.

Here's what we need to do. A lot of people are going to say, 'What should I do?'

1. Be wise as a serpent, harmless as a dove.

If you've got over \$250,000 in the bank, think about taking out another account in another bank. If you're fortunate enough to have been prudent enough that down through the years you've bought a little gold and a little silver and you have a little stash of that, hold onto it because when the collapse of the dollar comes, then it will be of great value. But *do not keep it in any bank*, because they have the right to confiscate anything in their safety deposit boxes.

2. on gold and silver, don't tell anyone you have anything
3. my wife says, 'Fred, don't paint your red car.'

I have a 1991 Nissan Maxima and the paint job is really ratty. She says when they Google our house, they'll look down there and see that old car and the paint job all terrible. They won't think that we have anything.

Here's what we need to do mentally, because there are going to be things that if you are led by your feelings and your emotions it is going to be so catastrophically difficult for you to hold together. *You must rely*

- *on God*
- *His Spirit*
- *His Word*
- *commit yourself to Him*

He'll watch over you and guide you. He will keep you out of trouble. But remember, even Jeremiah, though God said that He would be with him, he was thrown into the muck of the sewer and had to be rescued! So, that doesn't mean you aren't going to have troubles. How was Jeremiah rescued? *With torn old clothes!*

You read in the book of Jeremiah that he says, 'Lord, I've done all of these things. Why are you doing this to me? *God said, 'I'll be with you!'* He was with him in the sewer—wasn't He? *Yes, indeed!*

Verse 17: "You therefore, must gird up your loins, and arise... [strengthen yourself] ...and speak to them all that I command you... [This is what all the ministers of God need to be doing today.] ...Do not be dismayed at their faces, lest I confound you before them." Don't shrink back and hold the words back because 'I have given you the responsibility to speak them.' Forget about PC (political correctness).

Here's what God had to do to Jeremiah and He needs to do with us, v 18: "For, behold, I have made you a fortified city this day, and an iron pillar,

and bronze walls against the whole land, against the kings of Judah, against its rulers, against its priests, and against the people of the land.” You talk about a lonely job. The only one Jeremiah had was Baruch, his secretary.

Verse 19: “‘And they shall fight against you; but they shall not overcome you. For I *am* with you,’ says the LORD, ‘to deliver you.’” They have forsaken God. Same thing it says there, Jer. 1:4, ***they have forsaken God! They forsake the law of God!***

What did Jesus say about the end-time? *Because lawlessness will be multiplied*—not just add on—*the love of many will grow cold!* That has to happen while the Gospel is being preached in all the world.

Let’s look at some things that need to be done. First of all let’s look at Israel. How much repentance can there be in the modern nations of Israel today? *I do not know!* How many people are out there trying to do the right thing even with the knowledge that they have? *We do not know!* Let’s hope that there are some. I think we can identify some in Congress, but whether they have enough power to overcome the current dictator in the Oval Office is another question.

Where his allegiance lies also is another question. We can be sure of one thing. His allegiance does not lie with the God Who is the Creator of heaven and earth and author of the Word of God in the Bible. That we can be sure of, though he may hypocritically attend a so-called Christian church while carrying a Bible.

Psalms 78:31, this was Israel in the wilderness: “The wrath of God came upon them and killed the strongest of them, and struck down the chosen men of Israel. For all this they still sinned and did not believe in His wonderful works” (vs 31-32). You talk about having God close to you. He was there in the cloud every day, the pillar of fire every night. He sent manna six days of the week. They could have had the quail much easier and much nicer than they did.

They could have gone to Moses and say, ‘Moses, why don’t you call a day of fast and we’ll all pray and ask God to send us some more quail. Would you do that? We know that He can do it; He did it for us. That was really delicious.’ *No*, they had their lusts so God sent them 30 days of quail and they choked on their own devouring of it. They still sinned.

Verse 33: “Therefore, He ended their days in vanity and their years in terror. When He slew them, then they sought Him... [Remember 9/11?] ...and they turned back and sought after God earnestly. And they remembered that God was their Rock, and

the Most High God was their Redeemer. Nevertheless, they flattered Him with their mouths...” (vs 33-36).

That’s why I say how many are really truly sincere? *I think that the closest one of all of them would be Michelle Bachmann*, but is she treated with open arms? ‘Oh, you’re such a wonderful, righteous woman.’ ***NO!*** Well, she is compared to most of the sleazy politicians on the other side of the aisle.

“...and they lied to Him with their tongues” (v 36). Remember the old comedy routine by Bill Cosby on Noah? He was there working in his shop and he heard, ‘Noah,’ *Who’s that?* ‘It’s the Lord, Noah.’ *I’ve been good.* That’s the way people are.

Verse 37: “For their heart was not steadfast with Him; neither were they faithful in His covenant.... [Notice what God did because they were His people]: ...But He, *being* full of compassion, forgave their iniquity and did not destroy them; yea, many times He turned His anger away and did not stir up all His wrath. For He remembered that they were but flesh, a wind that passes away and does not come again. How often did they provoke Him in the wilderness and grieve Him in the desert! And still again they tempted God, and limited the Holy One of Israel” (vs 37-41). Isn’t that something?

- What will happen?
- What will the people do?
- What will the Churches of God do in preaching to the world?
- What will the worldly Christian churches do in preaching to their people?
- Is it going to be business as usual
- Is it going to be social club as usual?

I talked to Phil Neal, our editor, and he’s finishing the book that we’re going to have on the United States and Britain in prophecy. He’s on chapter 19 right now. He said he wanted to find out what the Tea Party was all about. They had a Tea Party meeting down where he was and he went to it. He said they are oblivious concerning anything about God, not one word of *repent, everybody go home and pray. No!* ‘You pick up the phone, everybody, you call your congressman.’ They flattered God. They don’t remember that we have provoked Him.

Verse 41: “And still again they tempted God, and limited the Holy One of Israel. They did not remember His hand, nor the day when He delivered them from the enemy” (vs 41-42). Quite a thing— isn’t it? *Yes, indeed!*

We won’t turn there, but Paul writes in 2-Timothy 2, ‘Let the one who names the name of Christ depart from lawlessness and iniquity.’ It’s

like this clip of the black preacher that Randy Wild put in one of the Churches at Home concerning the Sabbath. The black preacher got up there and said, 'Sunday is not the Lord's Day; the Sabbath is the Lord's Day. Sunday is a white man's invention.' The Sabbath is God's invention, but Sunday, I don't know if we could vouch for the race of the people that invented it. Nevertheless, he had the Sabbath right.

Unless there is something that comes along where is little better than the notice that Alice got from her former church: a new beginning, some to Sunday worship again. Sent a little mailer, a little advertising. Yes, let's get more people in. *No, you have to have more people turning to God!*

Let's look at what God tells who are with Him. From this we can understand what we need to do.

- God will be with us
- God will be for us.
- He will help us

This is why we need to understand the faith of God.

It's also very interesting, just a little sidebar: 1-Cor. 10 talks about how all Israel passed under the cloud and were baptized unto Moses going through the sea. Then he talks about that Christ was that Rock. Then he says in another verse a little later, 'Let us not tempt Christ as *they* tempted Him.' That's one of the first things that these religionists will have to acknowledge. ***We need to be strong in the Lord! Nothing physical is going to deliver us!***

Psalm 50:1: "The mighty God, God, the LORD, has spoken and called the earth from the rising of the sun to its going down."

I was thinking as I was driving over here for services, isn't it amazing that God has so much love for all the people that in spite of all the wickedness, in spite of everything that is going on the sun rises and sets. Some of us with our tempers, we'd look down here and we'd tell the earth to stop—and kill everyone.

Verse 2: "Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty... [We are in heavenly Zion with our membership there, written in the Book of Life.] ...God has shined forth. Our God shall come... [He has called us to straighten out this world.] ...and He shall not keep silent; a fire shall devour before Him, and it shall be very tempestuous all around Him. He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, so that He may judge His people... [here's the resurrection]: ...'Gather My saints unto Me, those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice'" (vs 2-5). That is through baptism.

Verse 6: "And the heavens shall declare His righteousness, for God Himself is judge. Selah." That means stop and think and meditate on this. That's something.

Psalm 37 is a great Psalm, especially for today, Psalm 37:1: "Do not fret yourself because of evildoers, and do not be envious against the workers of iniquity, for they shall soon be cut down like the grass... [Every time you start to get upset about it, think of a giant lawnmower cutting them all down.] ...and wither as the green herb. Trust in the LORD, and do good..." (vs 1-3). Just because other people sin and get away with it, don't you do it.

"...dwell in the land, and cherish faithfulness" (v 3). This has to be how we strengthen our minds inside. Just like God told Jeremiah, 'I'm going to make your mind like an iron wall.'

Verse 4: "Delight yourself in the LORD, and He shall give you the desires of your heart." Let's look at that of the things for eternal life. Here's what to do every single day:

Verse 5: "Commit your way unto the LORD... [that's why we have the daily prayer, the outline of it] ...trust also in Him, and He will bring it to pass. And He shall bring forth your righteousness like the light, and your judgment like the noonday" (vs 5-6). That has to be in our daily life, but the fulfillment of that will be *at the resurrection!*

Verse 7: "Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for Him..." Don't do like Sarah did. God told them they were going to have a son, but 'we're having trouble here, Abraham. I've got this young chick over here and she's my maid. It's legal if you go into her so there can be an heir.' Lo and behold, 3,000 years later we are burdened with that advice. Commit your way to Him. He'll bring it to pass.

"...do not fret yourself because of him who prospers in his way..." (v 7). Remember 1-John 2:15: 'Love not the world, nor the things in the world, for everything that is in the world the lust of the eyes, the pride of life, all of that is of the world and it's going to perish.' When all the physical things evaporate, if you do not have God you have nothing.

"...because of him who carries out wicked schemes. Cease from anger, and forsake wrath; do not fret yourself, it leads only to evil.... [Isn't that true?] ...For evildoers shall be cut off, but those who wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth" (vs 7-9). Think of that. Think how great that reward is—the earth made right by God the Father and Jesus Christ.

Verse 10: "It is but a little while, and the wicked shall be no more; yea, you shall diligently

consider his place, *but* he shall not be *there*. But the meek shall inherit the earth and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace” (vs 10-11). Think about the wicked who plot against us. How does God look at that? *God sees all of it!*

Verse 12: “The wicked plots against the righteous and gnashes against him with his teeth. The LORD laughs at him, for He sees that his day is coming” (vs 12-13).

I want you to understand one of the things he’s talking about here is when the wicked prosper and have all of these things. Many times through here he says *inherit the earth*. He wants us to remember that. We have a greater blessing. We have a greater goal that ‘far outweighs all the troubles that we are going to be against.

Verse 22: “For those blessed of Him shall inherit the earth; and those cursed of Him shall be cut off. The steps of a good man are made firm by the LORD, and He delights in his way” (vs 22-23). If you’re loving God and keeping His way, He delights in you. You don’t have to go around with a guilty conscience. If you’ve sinned, go repent, get it over, get rid of it. God will remove it as far as the east is from the west.

Verse 24: “Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down, for the LORD upholds him with His hand.” God is there with you.

For all of those of us here, I don’t see anyone here under 40 years, v 25: “I have been young, and now I am old; yet, I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging bread. All the day long he deals graciously and lends, and his children are blessed. Depart from evil and do good; and live forevermore... [that’s what God wants] ...For the LORD loves justice and does not forsake His saints; they are preserved forever, but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off” (vs 25-28).

I brought this out at the Feast of Tabernacles, but this talks about the Lake of Fire. This verse could only apply at the Lake of Fire, v 38: “But the sinners shall be destroyed together... [Remember, God is going to take care of all of it.] ...the prosperity of the wicked shall be cut off. But the salvation of the righteous is from the LORD; He is their strength in the time of trouble” (vs 38-39).

Remember He says, ‘I will help you *in* trouble. Just like He had to be there with Jeremiah when Jeremiah was thrown into the muck. I imagine he vomited, get down there and smell all that stuff. But God was with him.

Verse 40: “And the LORD shall help them and deliver them; He shall deliver them from the wicked, and save them because they take refuge in Him.”

Let’s come to the New Testament and see what we need to do. Sometimes some of the things that we do, we wonder if it is making any difference in this evil world. Don’t worry about it. We’re going to straighten out the world. Think of that!

Wonder what it’s going to be when God says to someone like President Obama, ‘Barack, come here.’ So, we need to keep our focus! That’s the whole thing. These things are going to come and *woe* to the people who do not pay attention that it’s coming. *Woe* to those shepherds, as God says, who do not give the warning.

Here’s what we need to do. Paul wrote this when he was in prison with chains on his feet. Philippians 2:1: “Now then, if *there be* any encouragement in Christ, if any comfort of love... [that has to come from God] ...if any fellowship of *the Spirit*... [we’re to grow in grace and knowledge in the Spirit of God] ...if any *deep* inner affections and compassions, fulfill my joy, that you may be of the same mind, having the same love, being joined together in soul, minding the one thing” (vs 1-2)—which is the Kingdom of God.

Verse 3: “*Let* nothing *be* done through contention or vainglory, but in humility, each esteeming the others above himself. Let each one look *not only* after his own things, but *let* each one also *consider* the things of others. Let this mind be in you...” (vs 3-5).

Remember how God told Jeremiah he had to have a mind of bronze and iron. Another place He says, ‘I will make your forehead harder than a flint.’ Think of what Christ had to think of and do when He knew that His hour had come and He was to be led off and go through everything that He had prophesied in the Old Testament that would take place: the beating, the scourging, the tearing of the flesh, the trials, the crucifixion. Then the first thing He said when He was on the cross was, ‘Father, forgive them for they know not what they are doing.’ *This is the kind of mind that we need to have, strengthened by God!*

You think you have to give up something? He owns the universe. When He came to the earth, He gave up everything and was reduced down to a small pinpoint of life and had enough of God still with Him that He could be called ‘God manifested in the flesh.’ Being filled with the Holy Spirit He was like every single one of us.

That’s like asking us, ‘Come over here. What’s this? What do you see?’ *I see an anthill.* ‘You become an ant. You’ve got to save this anthill, but you can only do it if you’re an ant.’ Now think about how great God is.

Verse 6: “Who, although He existed in *the* form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, But emptied Himself, *and* was made in *the* likeness of men, *and* took the **form of a servant**” (vs 6-7). The Greek is ‘doulous’ which means slave.

Verse 8: “And being found in *the* manner of man... [That means every bodily process: sleeping, waking, and so forth.] ...He humbled Himself, *and* became obedient unto death... [knowing every detail of what was going to happen] ...even *the* death of *the* cross. Therefore, God has also highly exalted Him and bestowed upon Him a name which *is* above every name” (vs 8-9). We are going to be given a new name, named by God. Isn’t that something? Think on that!

Verse 10: “That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *beings* in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord to *the* glory of God *the* Father” (vs 10-11). That is also a prophecy going out into the future.

Then he tells us what we need to be doing, v 12: “So then, my beloved, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.” Keep at what you need to be doing. Keep at study, keep at prayer, keep at changing and growing and developing the mind of Christ.

Here’s the reason, v 13: “For it is God Who works in you both to will... [Being led of the Holy Spirit, guided by God to do what He desires you to do.] ...and to do according to *His* good pleasure. Do all things without complaints and disputes; So that you may be blameless and without offense, innocent children of God in *the* midst of a crooked and perverted generation, among whom you shine as lights in *the* world” (vs 13-15). That’s what it has to be. That’s a strong challenge for us, too.

Verse 16: “Holding forth the Word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, nor labored in vain.”

That’s what we need to do. We’ve got a lot of things that are going to come that most people would not even understand or consider that it’s coming because they are never, never told. That’s how we have to:

- ***lead our lives***
- ***live our lives***
- ***trust in God***
- ***go forward every day***

Scriptural References:

- 1) Isaiah 25:7
- 2) Jeremiah 7:1-11
- 3) Ezekiel 7:21-27
- 4) Ezekiel 22: 1-9, 17-21, 24-31
- 5) Psalm 50:16-23
- 6) Jeremiah 1:13-19
- 7) Psalm 78:31-42
- 8) Psalm 50:1-6
- 9) Psalm 37:1-13, 22-28, 38-40
- 10) Philippians 2:1-16

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Deuteronomy 28
- 2-Timothy 2
- 1-Corinthians 10
- 1-John 2:15

Also referenced: Book: *Josephus*

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