# **STRAIGHTWAY**

And straightway they forsook their nets, and followed him [Mark 1:18].

#### CHRISTIAN PURITIES FELLOWSHIP

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## End-time Prophecy and Its Spirit Part Four

Dr. H. T. Spence

The promise of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ governs the will of God. We do not undermine the first coming of Christ: the first coming of Christ is to prepare a people either through death or through a rapture for the Second Coming. To this end all of history has been pressing in its steady flow. Everything we see and study in the Bible that is to come to pass in the will of God is all governed by the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is the Revelation, the Apocalypse of Jesus, the final sacred book of the Bible.

In this issue of Straightway we

want to candidly observe the End Time from the perspective of biblical prophecy. In the next issue we want to present the burden of the Remnant in the light of end-time prophecy.

#### The Questions of Matthew 24

In Matthew 24 on Tuesday of Passion Week, the disciples asked three classic questions. The first question was, "Tell us, when shall these things be [that's the destruction of the Herodian Temple (A.D. 70)]?" The second question, "What shall be the sign of thy coming?" Finally they asked, "What shall be the end

This edition includes two more articles

The End Time: Preparing for Antichrist—Part Five The End Time: America's Final Chapter—Part Six

of the world" [Gr., the end of the present "age"]?"

Jesus answers the third question first. Note Matthew 24:4–14:

And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many. And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet [that's the end of the age]. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows [or the beginning of the birth pangs concerning the End]. Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. But he that shall endure unto the end [the end

## **STRAIGHTWAY**

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Provided free of charge but contributions are welcome to assist with postage and printing. of the age or the end of their life], the same shall be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world [Gr., oikumene, the ends of the "inhabited world"] for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

These verses provide insight into the transitional time leading to the "end time" into the Tribulation. Here Christ presented two aspects of the End: (1) the "beginning" of the End (of the Age) and (2) the End itself (of the Age). These early verses give us the prelude to the end of the age. Matthew 24:8 reads, "All these are the beginning of sorrows," or the Greek rendering, this is just the beginning of the travail to birth the End. Matthew 24:14 states, "and then shall the end come." Christ exhorts, "But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved" (24:13).

Where are we in this series of prophecies? Are we at the beginning, the travailing period of the End, or have we come to the End itself? It seems that from the description we are found beyond the beginning of the travail; we have entered into the End of the Age, for truly the gospel of the kingdom has been preached in all the earth.

### **Prophecy and Its Spirit**

We have alluded to the fact that there are an estimated 8,145 prophecies throughout the Old and New Testaments. Various prophecies address geographies, nations, empires, individuals, and even the rise and fall of world rulers. Many of these

prophecies have already been fulfilled. Nearly 300 prophecies predicted the various characteristics of Christ's birth, life, death, burial, resurrection, and ascension; some even addressed His person, disposition, manner, and thought life. Nevertheless, there are still a number of prophecies from the Old Testament waiting to be fulfilled. With the exception of just a few that Jesus gave in regard to His own death and resurrection, the vast majority of Jesus' prophecies are yet to be fulfilled. One of the earliest prophecies after His ascension was the destruction of the city of Jerusalem fulfilled in A.D. 70. However, most of the prophecies given by Jesus and definitely those found in the epistles of the New Testament are in reference to the Second Coming of Jesus.

Revelation 19:10 gives us a most important truth concerning prophecy:

And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

Amidst all of the prophecies given in Scripture, it is important to observe that there is a "Spirit" that pervades all of them, none excluded. That Spirit is Jesus Himself. Not simply Christ, the Messiah, as a title, but this Person Jesus that is focused in power, in the very breath of prophecy. In John 16:12, 13 Jesus implied this on the eve of His betrayal:

I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

These words were in reference to prophecy!

He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you (John 16:14, 15).

Truly, the throbbing heartbeat of all prophecy is the manifestation and the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ. If we say that the central theme of the Bible is Jesus Christ, then we must equally acknowledge that Jesus' Second Coming and the glory that He will bring is that scarlet thread that is woven through all prophecies.

## Three Prophecies Concerning the End Time

In Daniel 12:4 there are three prophecies that assist the Christian to understand the end-time global perspective. "But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end [1], many shall run to and fro [2], and knowledge shall be increased [3]." The first of the three gives evidence that the writing of Daniel will be opened only in the time of the end. Although much of this book was a mystery for literally centuries, we have witnessed the unsealing of this book. It was not until about the 1840s and 1850s (around the same time when the Book of Revelation was opened), that the Book of Daniel was seen in its fullness of prophecy. It was also during these two decades that the details of the Second Coming as two advents became clear.

There are those who believe the Rapture is a "theory" that was founded during the time of Dispensationalism. However, careful study of early Church history and even the hymnody of the 18th-century Revivalist period gives evidence to a continued belief in a coming Rapture. Nevertheless, with the unveiling of the books of Daniel and Revelation, greater detailed insight has been seen concerning the doctrine of the Second Coming. This increasing clarity truly is a sign of the End Time.

Secondly, Daniel 12:4 recognizes that "many shall run to and fro." Since the Fall, man has always been a traveler, a wanderer. However, it was not until the twentieth century that God permitted the discovery of much faster modes of transportation such as cars and planes. By the end of that century, supersonic flight and travel to outer space became common. This prophecy could not have been fulfilled until the increase of travel and modes of travel as has been realized at this time in history.

Lastly, Daniel 12:4 prophesies that "knowledge shall be increased." This is not so much a prophecy of the internet; nonetheless, the internet has become a vast medium for accessing an overwhelming amount

of knowledge. We do not necessarily see in this prophecy the medium through which the knowledge comes; it just states that knowledge will explode in the End Time. We are in an unprecedented time in history that a vast amount of knowledge has come to man through books and all kinds of technological assistances, including the internet. Whatever one seeks, whatever kind of epistemology one desires to pursue, in just a matter of seconds knowledge can be at his fingertips. This could never have happened prior to even the latter years of the twentieth century. Yes, the vastness of knowledge shall continue to increase.

# The Knowledge of Certain Prophecies

In spite of the proliferation of knowledge in the earth, there is also a quelling of knowledge through the media. While any given number of situations transpire on this planet each day, my knowledge of these events depends greatly upon whether the media report it. I only know what is happening with my own life, my immediate home and circumstances. Apart from the tools such as radio, television, and the internet, my access and knowledge of world events are severely limited.

In the End Time two things are very possible concerning the information coming through the media: (1) historical events can be rewritten to shape the consensus of popular opinion; or (2) the media can

suppress the knowledge of an event so that it passes basically unnoticed by the world. Such an event could have been of prophetic proportion. Because of technology, information today could be quite accurate and ubiquitous. However, are we receiving accurate, complete knowledge about events broadcast? Global information quelled by the media can affect my understanding of where we are in prophecy. Prophetic events could be happening at this hour without my knowledge.

Reading the early part of Matthew 24, we may not realize that such events and conditions may be closer than what we naturally see. For example, note Matthew 24:6, 7:

And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet [it's in the transition]. For nation ["ethnic groups"] shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.

The prophecies of these two or three verses would never be suspected today if we did not hear of them through mass communication. We hear of certain wars, we hear of certain rumors of wars, but we do not know the proportion of wars happening on the planet at this hour. It has been estimated that easily eighty percent of local wars and conflicts taking place at any given time go unreported. We only know what we are told, and we are only told what the media want us to know. The skirmishes and wars happening in war-torn South America, Latin America, that have been virtually ongoing since 1945, are unreported in the public media. The constant coups and counter-coups in countries such as Sudan, Uganda, Ghana, Libya, Zimbabwe, Rhodesia, Mozambique, Angola never make the headlines. We are not told of all the wars that are presently being engaged in on the continent of Africa: wars of blacks against the whites or blacks tribes against each other. The constant tension and unrest even in South Africa is quelled from public knowledge.

The conflicts and skirmishes between ethnic and religious groups the media choose to report could lead us to believe that the rest of the world is relatively peaceful. But this is not true. Even the skirmishes reported within the Middle East could be underestimated. When do we really hear of the conflicts within communist China and Russia? When do we hear of China's oppression of Nepal and Tibet? How much is reported of the civil wars of Bangladesh or the factions and conflicts within Islamic countries?

Have we come to this point of "wars and rumors of wars," or do we believe because of what we are told or not told that they have not reached a prophetic proportion in the earth? It is evident that we have come to a proportion of global control by the leaders in the dissemination of

knowledge concerning international events.

Changes in global weather patterns have escalated to prophetic proportion as typhoons, cyclones, tornadoes, hurricanes, floods, and earthquakes significantly increase. But again, we are only told about certain ones that are taking place. The foretold destructive forces of Revelation 6 seem to suggest we may be in the prelude of these events today. This should prompt questions of heart: do these weather circumstances begin in the Tribulation Period, or do they begin in the beginning of the End Time while transitioning into the Tribulation Period? It is far worse, I believe, than what we hear.

Just as the media has quelled much of global violence, the same is true of its coverage in America. Not only is there intense crime escalating in America, but also we are going to see in the next four years potentially greater unrest and discontent among Americans. Citizen petitions from all fifty states to secede from the Union have already been to the White House. A minimum of 25,000 signatures is needed from a state in order for the Constitution to permit secession. Though this present movement of signatures does not mean that a state is seceding, it does mean that at least 25,000 people within that state personally desire secession from the Union. (Although several states did secede from the Union in 1861, the Federal government took up

arms against them.) What will we witness from this growing discontent concerning contemporary attempts to overthrow the Constitution of these United States? Will providence allow us to witness the destruction of America through its own implosion by its own people? There are many ways God could choose to bring about the destruction of our country. How can we fully know the pressures on governments to do any and everything to form a new world order?

#### Where Are the Righteous Leaders?

The concerned heart could ask the question: "Could not someone do better than what is being done?" Yes, no doubt there are men today on the planet Earth that have the genius and ability logistically to run a country. Men have profitably overseen companies of tens of thousands of employees. Even some governors have been quite successful in reforming and improving their state government. Could not such men direct our government better than what we are witnessing today? In this End Time the innate burnings of man in greed and pride seem to be intensified when in leadership. Once capable men get into leadership, whether for a company or a country, they truly must have a heart for the people. Our early founding fathers had such character and integrity. They had the intellectual capability to run this country, but at the same time they had the capability morally and ethically to govern a nation and bring forth a republic that would benefit the people—without seeking personal gain.

The sage of Jerusalem declared, "Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people." This is a promise of providence: if a nation truly exalts righteousness, God will prosper that nation. This has been exampled in history, including in the early years of our own country. At least in principle, if this could multiply from a single country to many countries where all the leadership, though fallen in sin, came to that same honoring of righteousness in heart, could not the whole world abound in prosperity and be honored by the providence of God? In principle, the answer would be yes.

Nevertheless, man is born in sin, fallen in sin, and once he acquires farreaching leadership, he often forgets the people. Leaders around the world have prospered while their own people often lived in abject poverty. This is common throughout the countries of Africa; although in a dire strait financially today, their leaders are billionaires. Another example of this can be seen in Mexico, in a former President López Portillo. It is reported that just within his administration and by manipulating the government, he personally gained almost \$3 billion. A few decades ago President Marcos in the Philippines amassed over \$2 billion before he died. When trucks, food, technological and scientific means were given to such countries,

instead of the populace benefiting, the leaders took it all and sold it, or used it for themselves. Saddam Hussein in Iraq (whom America put into power) made over \$10 billion for himself and his family, yet Iraq was in wretched poverty when America went in to "liberate" the country.

This is the problem of world leaders today; greed has become their obsession. There is not a U.S. Representative or Senator that has not made a fortune through his/her political position. Though their salaries are \$114,000 a year, through situations of greed and graft, they leave their political office with increased financial wealth caring little for the people whom they represented.

These are the master sins of global government today: the pride of leadership power, the insatiable thirst for money and gain, and the loss of any form of conscience as to the people and God. Yes, these are the times in which we live.

#### Conclusion

When the Antichrist comes on the scene of global government, this world will be under God's judgments given with great severity as the Tribulation Period is well underway. Though the common man today is in deep sin, his governmental leadership is worse. The world order has become so powerful that there is no one in leadership today who is standing for humanity. When the common man sees this, is there any wonder that he will not applaud a new world order? The whole governmental world has entered into bankruptcy because of poor leadership. It is estimated that the real listed percentage of unemployment in America is 20-25 percent, but again, such information is suppressed. Once more, unless we seek it out, we only know what we are told. But we must realize that this is what world government leaders want in order to bring about a moral, mental, spiritual, economic implosion to destroy this great nation. It is

not that leadership is imbecilic. No, leadership is intelligently bringing this world order to force the people to cry for a new world order: "It is time for a change!"

In our next article we want to present some changes we believe are coming soon to bring us into a position of an Antichrist persuasion. We must remember that when he comes on the political scene of the world, all things will be ready for him to control the world in every aspect of humanity.

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### The End Time: Preparing for Antichrist Part Five

Dr. H. T. Spence

Christians must soberly realize that the End Time will be a culmination of all previous ages finally under the rulership of Antichrist. Equally, we must realize that there must be a generation to precede this manifestation of Antichrist. Do we need to candidly ask have we come to that generation, that prelude generation of Antichrist? Are we in the generation where God is giving the world over to radical and aggressive changes in order to accelerate the coming of the Antichrist? Has the apostasy now reached global proportion in every human compartment including Christianity? If this is true, it is evident that the powers of restraint are diminishing in the earth; biblical salt is losing its savor, and the light of truth is becoming dim.

One must honestly acknowledge that "The Faith" is being laid aside, even by Fundamentalism, for a more accommodating message for the world. The moral collapse of America is merely evidence that present day Christianity has lost its power and victory over evil; its gospel message is impotent to restrain the flood of sin. Yes, God is capable of turning the tide of history literally overnight. He has the power to produce delays in circumstances and situations that seem inevitable in history. But, will He do this? Is it now His will and plan to give this present world over to the coming of the foolish shepherd and to begin to resolve the "times of the Gentiles"?

#### **Changes That Are Coming**

From a simple view of Scripture's prophecies, the true child of God must be ready for the coming oppressive powers necessary for the prelude generation that will usher in the personal Antichrist. Though we believe the Rapture will bring an end to the Church in its history on earth, much is to take place before that "shout" is given by our Commander in Chief to lead us through that door of escape. The world and its governmental order will need to be in place, orchestrated by the minds of leaders and powers before the Antichrist comes. All he will need to do is to step into the seat of authority and use what is already present to control his world kingdom. The Rapture may take place at the culmination of this "prelude" generation.

What is needed to bring about a one-world government and one-world religion? We believe situations are now taking place to set forth this satanic hope. How long will the preliminaries take for such plans to be realized? Only God knows; His hand is on the throttle of all these preparations. The burden of this article is to suggest a number of

changes we believe must transpire to prepare our country for this prelude generation.

(1) It is evident in Scripture that the economy of the world must come under one governing power in one centralized capital. Revelation 18, Zechariah 5:5-11, as well as passages in Daniel and Ezekiel reveal this with clarity. This will not happen overnight; it will take a number of sequential circumstances over a period of time to prepare such a massive control over global wealth. What reasoning will be used to convince the world of a centrally-controlled economy? Will it be the cry for the redistribution of wealth in order to assure global equality and shared resources? The "have's" to help the "have not's"? Is America, behind closed doors, appointed to become a template for other countries to imitate? We are now witnessing the greatest dismantling of a country that the world has ever seen in history. The radical changes are so overwhelming; these changes must destroy us leaving us ripe for a new world order. We have embraced the insane economic philosophy that says "the deeper in debt we become, the more we must spend." Our financial distress is beyond human comprehension; our motto is "spend and borrow in order to prosper." Ultimately, this goal is really to economically destroy us so that we will never be able to rise again.

Our debt in the next four years will be beyond \$20 trillion. Because many wealthy Americans are moving

their money out of the country, the common man will be taxed until he has no option but to permit his life to exist under governmental control. A poverty and unemployment rate over fifty percent will ensure mass dependence upon government assistance. Small businesses will have to be manipulatively closed down; farms will be forced into government control and ownership; every aspect of the economy, both public and private, will need to be absolutely controlled to control the populace. The concept of the dollar must come to an end; all "paper" money must be taken out of circulation; and a system must be enacted to track everyone's financial business of buying and selling. As to the timing, procedures, and implementation, only God knows. These changes will be needed for a man to control the entire world.

(2) Financial crises must be orchestrated to force the people into believing there is imperative need of economic change. We are now being told that capitalism no longer works, that big government is our only hope of survival. All monies (in the initial view of taxes) must return to the government, which in turn becomes a humanistic "providence" to meet our needs. Though we may not see every nation simultaneously adopt this, eventually all nations will yield. Has God appointed America to forward a global bankruptcy? From these ashes will a new one-world government arise in the cry of "global stabilization"? Much of this may happen before the

Rapture. It may be God's plan for us to experience the prelude preparation for the coming of Antichrist. This is one reason we must get out of debt, carefully avoiding the credit card system and those areas that pull us into the controlling powers of "the system."

(3) We have witnessed in recent years in America the shocking reality of one man controlling the laws and lifestyle of this country. The "balance of powers" is no longer a part of our "republic" or our "democracy" whatever term one wants to use. A republic will defend the rights of the individuals; a democracy only defends the rights of the majority. The Supreme Court in 1983 declared that "public policy" was to control the laws of the land and their interpretation; however, who is the authority to declare what the "public policy" is? It is the courts of the land, not the people. Thus, public policy is dictated by just a few. Shockingly, we have witnessed no uprisings to stop these unconstitutional decisions.

The God of heaven has permitted our country's paralysis. We witness our Constitution trampled underfoot; we witness our Declaration of Independence transformed into a Declaration of *Inter*-dependence upon the rest of the world; we witness the balance of powers being absolved; and we witness our country becoming a dictatorial government. How will all of this finally be brought upon us? Through a crisis demanding martial law? Or will the people desperately

long for such a government? We saw similar radical changes happen in Egypt months ago. When their dictator was questioned by the media about his personal control of the country, he declared, "It is being done in America, and yet no one will say anything against it there." Only God knows how providence will permit the changes and stripping away of our liberties. These changes must come to pass for the final days of prophecy. We as the Lord's people must get ready for the inevitable.

(4) Another transition that must come is global control through the arm of healthcare. A world population of seven billion is too large to easily control; therefore, world population must diminish. How will it be done? By control of the food supply? By birth control? By "mercykillings" for individuals no longer productive to the State? The world is being beguiled into acceptance of government-financed abortion and euthanasia whereby a "system" declares who lives and who dies, or who is to be conceived and who is to be aborted. To control population and ethnic balance, governments will eventually wield absolute control over hospitals, doctors, medical staff, and medical governing bodies. A socialistic view of medicine may look good in the light of spiraling expenses; however, when a nation permits itself to be given to the "system" of control, it is no longer autonomous in its living. The health and permissibility of life itself is

brought under the absolute control and whim of the national system which can easily be transferred to a global system. This is inevitable; we must prepare ourselves for this.

For the true Christian, soon there will be no country to which he may flee. We will simply have to be wise. The day will come, as history nears the coming of the global system of Antichrist, that individuals will lose personal control concerning their healthcare. The Christian, knowing this is coming, must commit his life to the God of heaven while providence permits such days to come.

We fear for the children that are vet to be born into Christian homes; nevertheless, we seek for principles and patterns to guide us through such days. In the Book of Exodus, Moses was born in similar times when Egypt endeavored to control the lives, the population, and gender of the Israelites. With such an example, will true Christians be forced to abort their babies simply because they are Christians? Though Moses was hidden, there were thousands of other Israelite males killed. Governmental control over birth rates is already evident in a number of countries in the Orient. For the Antichrist system to come to universal control of humanity, these changes will have to come.

Global sympathy has already escalated concerning euthanasia and suicide. The next step will simply be the extermination of the elderly and those who are non-productive due to lack of monies, medical attendance, and to ease the stress and pressure upon the family. Already many in the medical field believe this is permissible and proper. It is one thing to let providence control the home-going of a person and another thing to induce death. The controversy concerning bio-ethics is now raging; with it is always some pragmatic reason for the permissibility of such deaths.

With government controlling most of the money going to the medical profession, pressures are forcing absolute conformity to the demands of the government. Yes, the government must authoritatively take control over the sick and infirm. We will see more and more crises orchestrated in order to convince the populace of the need of such governmental control. This will also include the laws controlling vaccinations to a greater proportion for our newborns and our children. We continually acknowledge that this must all come to pass. It seems that we are in the generation when the implementation of such demands is now being accepted.

(5) The timely escalation of violence throughout our country has inspired the present administration to take swift action to disarm Americans. Within hours after the President was re-elected, he was in confirmation of a new arms limitation agreement through the United Nations; this would call for not only a unilateral

disarmament but also a mandatory confiscation of private guns. We must realize that America is one of the remaining countries where laws have not been passed to ban guns from its citizens. For the coming world order, such laws must be passed. Though reasons will be given for minimizing violence, yet the underlying reason is to extricate from the population any hope of retaliation to the government and its sweeping control in the coming future. The Second Amendment must go in order for America to fall in line with the other countries as we see a police state arising globally.

- (6) Another area of radical change that must come is the forfeiture of the American Constitution and the Bill of Rights. What we viewed in former days as civil liberties will have to be dismantled. God's people must get ready for this, as many true Christians around the world are already in the yoke of governmental powers without personal rights. Even State's rights within a country will become a thing of the past.
- (7) Since the attack on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon by Muslim terrorists in 2001, many conspiratorial theories have emerged suggesting governmental collusion with the terrorists on that day. Whatever the truth is about this great tragedy, it definitely hit the heart of our nation, and we have never been the same since. This event certainly brought to the forefront the Muslim religion, even falling out to their

global advantage. It is interesting to note that the Koran became the number-one best seller in New York City for the next six months after this tragedy. Much was said through the media to protect the Muslim religion in the matter. Yet more tragedies are happening around the world to bring America to its knees. It seems the White House not only had prior knowledge to the attack on the embassy in Benghazi but also observed the atrocities by satellite. It causes one to wonder to what degree the increase of governmental orchestration will be involved in order to force upon our country the breakdown of America's acceptance around the world.

The concern of "security" is escalating in America through all of these horrific events; what will be the final outcome in the loss of our freedoms? The child of God must realize that all of this is preparation for the coming of Antichrist. Greater control must come upon Americans to pave the way for all countries to come under such controls. It was the World Trade Center crisis that brought into existence the Transportation Security Administration, the TSA, which has mushroomed across our country. It first made its appearances in our airports, but under the present administration it is rising in number on the roadways, at sports events, at malls, and at places we never thought their presence would appear. The TSA may become the subtle police force in our country to bring the populace

into compliance with the whims of the government. We will also see the use of the drones, unmanned spy planes, in our nation's skies patrolling and monitoring the populace. Such planes are capable of spying through the very roofs of homes. The "Big Brother" feared to have come in 1984 is now a far deeper threat with greater capabilities today. This must be so.

(8) In the most recent years we have seen the rise of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), a federal law yearly outlining the budget and expenses of the Department of Defense. The present administration has had greater input and control with its voice. Secret arrests and possible imprisonment of American citizens without a right to trial may now be permissible. Such authority could also lead to secret kill lists in attempts to quell objections to the encroachment of the government upon the people. Suppression of any threat to government control will become the norm. The terms threat and treason will be re-defined as any word or action against the present government. More mysterious deaths will occur feeding greater fear among the populace. All of this must come to pass to bring the nation to its knees in fear, and to compel surrender to the coming new world order.

(9) With the increase of famine in the world as part of God's judgment upon the sins of mankind, we will view more and more the governments of the world taking control of the food supply. We will see the rise of the genetically modified organisms (GMO's) in the foods distributed through government oversight. How often when tragedies hit a nation (i.e., Hurricane Sandy, 2012), the powers that be take well advantage of the tragedy.

While some tragedies may be orchestrated for hidden agendas, at other times God sends a tragic judgment upon a nation. Nevertheless, political powers use such tragedies to manipulate the populace to its own end. The Book of Revelation proves that the Antichrist will take full advantage of the natural catastrophes of judgment from God. As a result, mankind will flee to government for help. This is what happened in the days of Joseph in Egypt: such days then were in the time of a good pharaoh and a good prime minister. But when God sent a famine, the people of Egypt and surrounding lands came to pharaoh for help; Joseph opened the governmental grain bins for purchase. When the people spent all of their money, then their land was taken as payment. Finally, Joseph recommended that the people become the servants to pharaoh in order to pay for life-sustaining services. By the time of Moses, everything of Egypt, including its people, was owned by pharaoh.

It was a natural judgment that brought about the crisis in Joseph's Egypt. With a good man as Joseph, such an honorable system could work out in times of catastrophes upon a country. However, when an evil man is in power, one who does not know God and who could not care less about the needs of the people, such a man will take advantage of such events for himself. We may wonder why Joseph did what he did: his wisdom was his refusal to turn Egypt into a welfare state whereby the people would believe that government is to provide freely for them without any individual accountability.

When we consider the judgments upon food sources during the Tribulation Period, genetically modified organisms will be a vital resource for governments. Eventually, Antichrist will be the one to whom the world will turn for an answer to the crisis of God's judgment. The government will be the supplier of seeds for planting. The future may also witness the withdrawal of USDA certifications. and nutrition labels, in order to keep the populace ignorant of the contents. The government already oversees the amount of crops raised, as well as production of milk. In time, it is simply a matter of the government controlling all of the land, all of the farms, and all of the food supply. The only thing that the true child of God can do is to get in harmony with this providential appointment by God for the End Time. We must trust God for our needs to be met even in the times when the kings of the earth take counsel against the Lord and His anointed, His people.

(10) More and more, we are

witnessing an increase of leadership in the armed forces against its Commander in Chief. Though oaths are taken to uphold the Constitution against enemies both foreign and domestic, there are a growing number who see the leaders of our country as a threat against the Constitution. Policies are being passed today by presidential mandates that are carefully and intentionally dismantling the protection and security of our nation. Are such intentions to create anger among the soldiers and military leaders to force them to resign? The administration's logic now is "We're paying you; we didn't draft you; you don't have to fight; you don't have to give your life for this country. You are doing this on your own."

Shame has now become part of the legacy that veterans must endure. Will this be part of the ploy to rid the country of its own armed forces and force us to take a United Nations security force? The open permission of sodomy as well as bestiality within the armed forces will naturally destroy the morale and allegiance within. Though a so-called traditional family man leads our country, he intensely desires to pervade our armed forces with powers that history has proved will destroy an army and ultimately a nation.

(11) The Scriptures make it clear that sodomy will vastly increase in the world and its prime leadership. There seems to be the possibility, according to Daniel 11:37, that the Antichrist

will be a sodomite. They and their lifestyle have been pressed upon us from the public education system to the White House. The phrase "as in the days of Lot" indicates sodomy will get as close as to the pounding on the doors forcing their "strange flesh" (Jude 7) within our very homes. But again, God declared it would happen, and we must prepare ourselves for it with wisdom from above. It is part of God's judgment upon the earth.

- (12) Recent laws have arisen in several countries declaring that the government will have the right to take a child, any child, from his home. There is already a mindset in America that our children are dependents of the state, and parents are simply custodians of these dependents. The family will not be recognized much longer as an independent unit of society; it will simply be an accommodating agent for the benefit of the State. We will need to take advantage of every day we have with our children and grandchildren to prepare them for what is inevitably ahead.
- (13) The former days of precious, natural living will change; the enjoyments, just the natural privileges of life, must be done away with.
- (14) A final observation concerning the child of God in this prelude generation to the Antichrist concerns the matter of privacy. With the explosion of information through internet sources, no one really has a private life anymore. Google is ever

absorbing information from around the world on every individual; all of this information becomes more freely accessible to anyone (including the government) each day. We are going to have to be more discreet, as far as we can, in our living. This includes in the areas of the vast increase of solicitations coming to us via phone, mail, email, and house to house. How often, to gain free coupons, or to receive discount cards from grocery stores or restaurants, or even for "free" gift certificates, we are asked to fill out a "survey." With all of these incentives, we are requested to fill out questionnaires that ask intrusive questions about our private lives and our families. Certainly some are more extensive than others, but we are getting accustomed to these surveys. Here at the Foundations Ministries such surveys are requested of us weekly and at our homes asking everything from what brand of soap we use to how much money we make; from when we get up in the morning to when we go to bed; from what appliances we have in the home to how much furniture we own; from how large our home is to whether we rent or own it; from our marital status to our age; etc.

One day all of these surveys and questionnaires may be used against us. All the information stored in various files around the country will be brought together; enough questions were asked in every compartment of our human existence that they will know everything about us, including

the most private knowledge of our living. Beware of giving any information about yourself, your family, your home, and your business. Let the coupons go if they require information about you. Dear Christian, we will see greater intrusion in the days ahead with surveys and censuses by the government wanting to know everything about us. Always ask if by law you have to answer. Always ask what the penalty is if you do not respond to the questionnaire, or how much of it you are required to answer, if any part at all. More laws may soon be passed to find out everything about us; until we are absolutely forced, let us refrain from giving any information about our lives no matter what the incentives are

#### Conclusion

Dear Reader, we have only touched the tip of the iceberg of what is ahead for the world. This is why it is imperative that God must come for his saints and then pour out a Tribulation such as the world has never known. Although there was calculated evil during the times of Noah, our contemporary is the product of many more evil ages collectively bringing forth the embodiment of sin, the personification of sin and perdition, the Antichrist. The world is longing for a utopia, a world without God where man rules himself. But to bring it about, there will be a forced control empowered by the Dragon, Satan himself.

Matthew 24 declares that I must

be ready for what is ahead. We truly believe the Rapture will take the prelude generation saints out of this world before the coming of Antichrist. But we must be prepared to face the beginning of the end, "the beginning of sorrows" (Matt. 24:8). We are trusting in God's Word and the promise of the "Blessed Hope" that when this Church age ends, such a rapturous event will take place that will be a transition from one epoch to the great epoch of the Tribulation Period. Do we find ourselves in history at the beginning of the end? Or are we in Matthew 24:14, "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all of the [inhabited] world for a witness unto all the nations; and then shall the end come"? We truly believe this is where we are in history. S

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## The End Time: America's Final Chapter Part Six

Dr. H. T. Spence

In recent decades secular historians have presented the American Revolution of 1776 and the French Revolution of 1789 as products of the same dynamic forces. This is, however, far from the truth. Though there was a thriving exchange of commodities and ideas between the United States and France during the eighteenth century, the aims of the founding fathers in America and the ideologies of the revolutionaries in France were of two very different forces. The American Revolution produced a constitution and a government based on biblical principles of Christianity. The French Revolution was, at its core, anti-Christian

We must realize that the motivation of the French Revolution was rebellion against the church under the influenced of deists and freethinkers such as Rousseau and Descartes. The revolutionaries in France sought to remove God from His throne and to crown Reason in His place. The French Revolution was a product of the Enlightenment. It was based on the glorification of man and the exaltation of human reason and learning. While the founding fathers in America humbled themselves before a wise and loving God, Rousseau complained, "Man was born free, but everywhere he is in chains!"

## Contradistinction Between America and France

A touching story of the American Revolution concerns a British officer who was separated from his unit. When trying to silently make his way through the trees back to camp, he approached a clearing where he came upon an American general on his knees, hands clasped before his face in deep and fervent prayer. As the Englishman looked on, his heart sank and tears came to his eyes, for he saw that the praying officer was General George Washington, commander of the American forces. "When I saw that sight," he said later, "I knew we were defeated. For any army whose commander was so humble before Almighty God could never lose the war." Yes, we believed in God at our beginning; and He was the reason we became a great nation.

The framers of the Constitution fully understood that without appropriate checks and balances any government of men would inevitably grow corrupt. They had seen it in England, and they had lived under it in colonial America. Therefore, they framed a document that limited the power and authority of government. The Declaration of Independence declared: "We hold these truths to be self-evident (what a statement!), that all men are created equal, that they are

endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, . . ." But those rights did not, by any means, suggest absolute license. James Madison, generally recognized as the Father of the Constitution, wrote, "If men were angels, no government would be necessary." So the American documents of government protected the rights of the individual (a Republic), while they also imposed certain responsibilities and limitations. There was true wisdom in these original designs.

The revolutionary government of France took a very different turn. It became the goal of the revolutionaries to dismantle the European heritage of civilization and the Christian legacy of faith. We must remember that Rousseau did not believe in original sin. He hated European civilization precisely because he saw it as a product of Christianity. He did not believe in the right to private property. Voltaire had once said that the only way to have good laws was to burn the existing ones and start all over again. In essence, that was what the revolutionaries sought to accomplish.

At one point the revolutionaries wanted to throw out the Christian calendar and start fresh, from year one of the revolution. Ultimately it was not moral outrage that stopped them; it was European nationalism. The nations on either side felt no such esteem for the French Revolution; if anything they feared and resented it, so they wouldn't support that arrogant

ideology. They simply refused to go along with it.

Another curious mark of the French Revolution's antagonism toward God was manifested in the way they labeled themselves as "left-wingers." When the National Assembly split into factions, the conservatives sat on the right side of the hall and the revolutionaries chose the left. James Billington, historian and Librarian of Congress, wrote, "The subsequent equation of the left with virtue dramatized revolutionary defiance of Christian tradition, which had always represented those on the right of God as saved and those on the left as damned."

It is interesting to note in Matthew 25:31-34 the division that would come between the sheep and the goats. So great was the revolutionaries' hatred of Christ, His Word, and the Church (institutional), the radical reformers chose to be identified with those on the left as evidence of their rage. These revolutionaries sought to acknowledge man as God. They believed each individual had the power of the divine within himself and that he could do whatever he believed to be right, short of harming another. Today that precept is enshrined in the French Declaration of Rights, Article Four, which states, "Liberty consists in whatever does not harm another."

The aftermath of the Revolution of 1789 remains one of the bloodiest and most outrageous blots in history. The idealism of the early leaders

quickly degenerated into terror and chaos. They executed their king, even after he had sworn allegiance to the new constitution. Then, under Robespierre, tens of thousands of merchants, tradesmen, landowners, and nobles were executed; the rioting and bloodshed provided a pretext for slaughtering one's enemies, for whatever reason, throughout France. Eventually Robespierre himself was guillotined, and after a prolonged period of anarchy, Napoleon Bonaparte came forth from the rabble and crowned himself as Emperor. It was a classic pattern: after the collapse of an empire, a bloodthirsty dictator rises to power.

#### America the Fallen

America has entered into another revolution; however, it is not one established upon the principles for God, for truth, for liberty, or for the rights of men. This revolution is for the overthrow of America's former days of glory, purpose, and existence. "Even now are there many antichrists." Such men have arisen in our contemporary for the overthrow of historic America. They exist to bring about the fall of the former order and the building of the new. Yes, we are in the prelude hour of the consummation of the ages of the "times of the Gentiles." To resolve such an hour in history, every nation individually must come to dissolution of national integrity, of morals, and of individualism. The stages of government in American history have

brought us to a socialistic government. But a communistic government is not the final frontier; it must be that of a dictatorial absoluteness. This is where America must finally come in its history. All nations that do not take this form of government will be assimilated by other nations. Even a Muslim government brings its country to this absoluteness of dictatorship.

The Scriptures reveal through a number of prophecies that oppression will be the norm of rule for this prelude season leading up to the coming of Antichrist. America, and eventually all countries, must come to this in order for the changes to come. Has America reached the end of a basically two-party system? Have we entered into the prelude of dictatorial absoluteness? The present administration will go down in history as setting the stage for the collapse of America and its introduction into the new world order. The Constitution must go, the national anthem, the governmental concept of the past, the symbol of the flag and its pledge, and even the name will need to be changed to disconnect the people from the memory of their past.

#### **America and Israel**

Christianity has become fair game for the media, for authors and columnists, for filmmakers, for artists, for feminists, for abortionists, for Marxists, for pornographers, for liberal politicians, for atheists, and even for many who call themselves Christians. As for the American Jewish community, it is not monolithic. Some are most sympathetic to the social concerns of the more conservative Christians. Some are indifferent. However, liberal Jews have actually forsaken biblical faith in God and made a religion of political liberalism. Liberal Jews are passionately in favor of the prochoice, pro-abortion position, which, ironically, uses the same thinking as Nazi exterminators in World War II. They are set against prayer in the schools and public expressions of religion. Yet, anyone who has ever been to Israel knows that prayer is open and public in that nation. The Jews in Israel are trying to build and populate a nation. There is no debate over prayer in the schools. Israelis welcome religious expression. For centuries, Christians have supported the dream of Zion, and they have supported Jews in their dream of a national homeland. Nevertheless, many American Jews invest great energy in attacking these very allies of Israel. We must remember that liberal Jews in America are doing all they can to undermine the public strength of Christianity (even if it is Neo-Christianity). It should be equally clear that the liberal, wealthy Jews voted for Democratic candidates Carter, Mondale, Dukakis, Clinton, and ves, even Obama.

There is a shift now coming in America against Israel; we strongly believe there will be dire consequences for our nation's withdrawal and refusal to help Israel. America already has so much against it internally that we believe, according to Romans 1, God is giving us over to a reprobate mind. Our decisions against Israel could be the final move in incurring the wrath of God. This has happened in modern times to nations like Spain, England, and Germany when they have persecuted the Jews. And we as a nation will reap the same judgment if, in our public posture, we turn against Israel.

In the coming years the isolation of the Jew in the world will intensify. A world alliance is being formed to bring about the new world order. The United Nations, without such an order, branded Zionism as "racism." The vast majority of the nations which make up the United Nations General Assembly have an almost pathological hatred of Israel. One day a vote against Israel will come in the United Nations when the United States neither abstains nor uses its veto in the Security Council to protect Israel. When that happens that tiny little nation will find itself all alone in the world. The future Antichrist will feign to be Israel's friend amidst the global hatred against them. Once the Temple is built, he will enter the Holy of Holies and present himself as the singular god of the world. He will do this through the religion of the Jews.

#### The Present Ideology of America

America has long been in the world but not of the world. Since at least the mid-eighteenth century, the United States has maintained a position of isolationism, standing aloof from the global marketplace. After World War II, America had more military might than any nation in history. It had more wealth and more global reach than any nation of this or any other time. America had never been prepared by its culture to assume the role of an empire. Americans did not want overseas colonial possessions or empire (as England did); they merely wanted to help others to be free. Since the time of George Washington, the United States had been developing its tradition of isolation so that it would not get involved in "entangling alliances" in Europe or other countries. The role of "global defender" was alien to America. However, after World War II, with all the nations of Asia and Europe in chaos, the world was attracted to the American dollar and the American system of mass production. American goods went everywhere, and America's share of the world's wealth grew quickly. Though our geography and democratic individualism tended to keep us emotionally detached from greater world concerns, we were drawn more and more into the needs of the world.

As more and more countries looked to America for financial and military aid, America more and more set out to help the world. With a \$9 billion annual budget, post-war America set out to rebuild the world. We funded the Marshall Plan, sent industrial economists and engineers

into Japan, built military bases around the globe, and began paying billions of dollars in aid to dozens of foreign nations on five continents. (This aid has massively increased in recent years.)

Along the way a great problem arose. Post-war America lost the very things that had made it great: namely, our faith in God and our individual self-reliance. A neo-Christianity has now taken over America leaving it spiritually impotent to deal with the spiritual crisis that is destroying our land.

#### Conclusion

Our military and economic excursions abroad are no longer construed as "value-free" operations. Because of modern technology, transportation, communication, and the flow of global knowledge via the internet, the world has grown small. The interchange of ideas and ideologies has become common discourse; expressions of American foreign policy have become interpreted by the world as expressions of America's will and ideology.

Today we are citizens of a new and different world. As we carefully look from East to West we see new allies and new adversaries on every horizon. Furthermore, America is no longer an island; for the world has come to our shores to buy and sell our land, to proselyte our people to every religion, and to reside and mongrelize our beliefs and government. America

has already lost its historic identity. Note the words of President George Washington:

Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of patriotism, who should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness, these firmest props of the duties of men and citizens.

We have seen for many decades the ACLU everywhere dismantling the traditions of a moral culture, and now the Washington administration is intentionally destroying the very fabric of morality in our nation. We have witnessed and are witnessing the behaviorists who control the education establishment continuing to pollute the minds of our youth with deconstructionist rhetoric and anarchist ideologies. We are witnessing the rising of Oriental false religions, the New Age movement, and Islam from the ruins of human thought and hatred of God. America can never be known again as "one nation under God."

So much more could be written on this massive collapse of the greatest nation in history. Further issues of *Straightway* may call us to unfold this burden further. Needless to say, God's people must get ready for the new view of life on the planet. These needed changes should once again call us to the last prayer of the Bible, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."



## Thirty-ninth Annual Bible Conference March 24-31, 2013

"The Passion Week of Christ"

#### **Speakers**

Dr. H. T. Spence Dr. Dennis Lowry Dr. Douglas Wilson Rev. David Wilson

#### **Special Guest Speakers**

Pastor Garry Huff
Emmanuel Bible Church, SC

Pastor Daniel Peede Christ Fellowship Church, NC

#### Palm Sunday

9:30 am, 10:30 am, 6:00 pm

Monday through Friday 8:30 am, 10:00 am, 7:00 pm

### **Resurrection Sunday**

6:30 am, 9:15 am, 10:30 am, 6:00 pm

Sacred Oratorio, Friday Evening
The Prince of Passion Week

No services Saturday