

## "those things which are coming on the earth"?

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## Editor's Preface

With this special issue of WWN for 2015 we bring to you an investigation of a series of proposed events that are being discussed in the various religious communities and expected to come onto the world scene throughout the month of September. Whether these events will transpire waits to be seen. Even at the time of this writing some scheduled events are even at the door, and by the time this thought paper is received some events may or may not have already taken place.

Therefore let's consider what Jesus said. In the three synoptic gospels Christ told a parable of a fig tree, which reads - "Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When her branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is near: So ye in like manner, when ye shall see these things come to pass, know that it is nigh, even at the doors." (Mark 13:28-29) Matthew and Mark record Jesus further relating a parable to the nature of the end times, speaking of Himself as a "goodman of the house" (Matt. 23:43) and a "man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch. Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning: Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch." (Mark 13:34 emphasis throughout)

"Review, and then Review again, and Review all that you've Reviewed"

## "those things which are coming on the earth"?

As we begin this special Issue concerning "those things which are coming on the earth" (Luke 21:26) we would do well to reacquaint ourselves with certain warnings, counsels, and prophecies given by Christ in the three eschatological chapters found in the gospels of Matthew (24), Mark (13), and Luke (21). The reason this is necessary is because Jesus said Laodicea is asleep. (See Matt. 25. cf. Rev. 3:14-17)

Beginning with Matthew chapter 24 we are told that after Jesus pronounced that hard to be understood statement in the second to the last verse of the previous chapter "Behold, your house is left unto you desolate" (23:38) He "went out, and departed from the temple" (24:1) The Disciples perhaps thinking He had gone mad, tried to; as they saw it, bring Him back to sanity & reality by directing his attention to the "buildings of the temple." [ibid] Jesus further complicated their confidence, and the hope they placed in the Temple and its figurative services by stating – "See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down." (V. 2)

The fact that nothing else is recorded as being said in any of the three gospels between verse two and three, paints for us the vivid picture that this comment Christ made startled the disciples. And the ensuing walk to the Mount of Olives appears to have been a silent but thoughtful one.

Not being able to remain silent any longer the record reads that Peter, James, John, and Andrew approached Christ privately and asked Him - "as he sat upon the mount of Olives...Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?" (V. 3) To the Disciples if the temple was going to be destroyed this had to be the end of the world, they could not see it otherwise. To the disciples the

question was simple; when is the Temple going to be destroyed, what sign will there be? What sign that you are coming are we to look for? But Jesus seeing no need to explain that the two events were going to occur at different times began a discourse that was to answer both their questions in one, and the very first thing He said was "Take heed that no man deceive you." (V. 4)

For as Jesus continued His prophetic discourse He warned the Disciples of false Christ's that were going to "deceive many." (V. 5) How then can we, in this our day prevent our own selves from being deceived? By simply following what Jesus said - "watch", and be "ready". (See vs. 42, 44). For us it means it's time to trim our lamps and go forth to meet the Bridegroom!

The wars we see happening right now, the rumors of wars, and the tensions that are building up, coupled with the natural disasters in various places are but "the beginning of birth pangs." (Matt 24:8 RSV) We note that this is more frequently evidenced in our daily news. With regard to the current flooding of refugees into Europe, the growing tensions, and the thousands that have died traversing the Mediterranean Sea necessitates a cause to be awake.

Now our regular readers will be familiar with the prophetic sign of the end that Jesus himself gave with vital prophetic importance. Neither Matthew nor Mark record it, only Luke, and it concerns the probationary time allotted to the nations.

It reads – "and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, (nations) until the times of the Gentiles (nations) be fulfilled." (Luke 21:24) Only in the context of understanding this can the things which are coming be rightly understood. It dare not be overlooked any longer by concerned students of the Bible.

Now briefly on this aspect, yet in simple terms, Jesus said concerning Jerusalem "And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh...And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations" (21:20, 24a) This was literally fulfilled, and began with the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in 70 AD.

Jerusalem; likewise in literal fulfillment, was to be further trodden down by numerous nations thereafter. Christ continued - "and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled." [ibid]

History proves that these nations were the Arabs, the different Christian nations during the crusades, the Turks, the British, and then by the Jordanians up until the time of the six day war of June 5th-10th 1967 when the Jews took possession of the old city of Jerusalem in what was called a "lightening victory" [20th Century Bible Course, Lesson 5. Time Running Out. p. 5-1]. The fact remains documented in this Bible study course; being a church publication, that "This portion of Christ's prophecy was fulfilled in our day!" [ibid] Why then the current ignorance within Laodicea?

Therefore, according to Christ when Jerusalem was no longer being trodden down by the nations, or Gentiles this then was to be understood that the probation for the nations had closed. This then necessitates the conclusion to mean that the gospel had been given to the nations, and by its rejection of that gospel fulfilled its allotted time. [For indepth analysis request the manuscript The Hour and the End available from the Foundations office.] The important thing to remember is that Jesus did not refer to the Temple or the site where it stood, but the actual physical city of "Jerusalem"! (Luke 21:24)

Directly after Jesus commenting on the city of Jerusalem He spoke about "signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations with perplexity". (Luke 21:25) Now that we have reviewed the context of the signs of the end of time, we now wish to draw your attention to other dates to consider, as well as the signs in the "moon" [ibid].

The dates and events that are under discussion in the religious world are set out as follows:

Beginning with <u>September 14<sup>th</sup></u> on this date falls Rosh Hashanah; the Feast of Trumpets.

Then, on <u>September 15<sup>th</sup></u> the United Nations General Assembly begins its 70<sup>th</sup> session. What has been reported is that France plans to introduce a resolution. This resolution will give UN Security

Council formal recognition to a Palestinian state shortly after the new session begins. What is noteworthy is that up until now, the U.S. has always been the one blocking such a resolution. But will it be the same this time around? What is also noteworthy is that the Pope gave recognition for the Palestinian State as well as the flag to be flown at the United Nations. Is this to be considered something worthy of significance and concern?

Then on <u>September 20th</u> to <u>September 26th</u> the "World Week for Peace in Palestine Israel" sponsored by the Palestine Israel Ecumenical Forum (PIEF) of the World Council of Churches is to be held. The theme "God has broken down the dividing walls." Is this a prelude to Isaiah 2?

Then on <u>September 21st</u> the United Nations will host the International Day of Peace. This day is intended to be a day on which armed conflict is meant to be stilled, a day for combatants to observe cease-fires, a day also known as the vernal equinox. Could this be the day when the United Nations Security Council adopts the plans proposed by France for the establishment of a Palestinian state?

Then on <u>September 23<sup>rd</sup></u> in the Messianic circles is Yom Kippur or Day of Atonement.

What is of particular interest is the proposed date of <u>September 23<sup>rd</sup></u> when the first Jesuit Pope, Pope Francis; in his first visit to the United States, will arrive at the White House to meet privately with the U.S. President, becoming the third pontiff to be received at the White House.

Some commentators in the religious world suggest the highly unusual timing of this event. Some have suggested as well that something is being birthed on this day. Reason being, Francis is the 266th pope, and on the 266th day of the year he will meet with the president of the United States, correlating with the fact that 266 days is the average length of the human gestation period. Is there a parallel with this and Matt. 24:8? "all this is but the beginning of the birth-pangs." (RSV)

Then on the very day following, on <u>September 24th</u>, The Pope will address both the House and the Senate in a joint session of the U.S. Congress. And according to the U.S. Historians Office no pope or

religious leader who serves as a head of state prior to now has ever addressed Congress.

Then on the day following this address to Congress by Pope Francis, on September 25th to September 27th the United Nations plans to launch and finalize a brand new sustainable development agenda called "The 2030 Agenda". According to other sources this new agenda is the modified "Agenda 21" introduced in Rio De Janeiro in 1992. Couched with hidden meanings, it is being pushed through the United Nations. It appears this new agenda is the foundation for not merely being concerned with the environment alone but now seems to have broadened its focus for governing the entire planet, and is being hailed by the UN as a new universal Agenda for all of humanity, and the planet.

Then the day following this launching on September 28th we have the beginning date for the Feast of Tabernacles within the messianic circles. On this same day, and within five days after the proposed Papal address to Congress is when the last of the four blood moons occurs, with all four occurring on dates for messianic feast days during the year 2014 and 2015.

With regard to the references in the Bible about blood moons, Joel prophesied that "The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come." (2:31 cf. 3:15)

In the book of Acts Peter on the day of Pentecost made reference to the blood moon, quoting Joel. (See 2:20)

The blood moon that is to materialize on the 28th will; from the city of Jerusalem, be clearly visible, being defined as a supermoon. Similar patterns are a Historical fact. Of particular interest one such pattern of blood moons occurred directly before and after the destruction of the Jewish temple in 70 AD by the Romans. Is our Heavenly Father trying to tell us something?

What we cannot deny is the fact that blood moons are described in Bible prophecy. It would appear that the events for September with regard to the blood moon and the Pope addressing the U.S. Congress are surely worthy of deep consideration.

The interesting fact that arises from this discussion is that there has never been a Pope that has addressed Congress, let alone during a blood moon event. Here we have congress; representing the land of the free, being addresses by the man of sin!

Will this address to Congress bring about a subtle influence upon the lawmakers and the demise of religious liberty in its pure sense as the founding fathers of the U.S. sought to protect? This fact should alarm the sleeping Laodiceans everywhere. We do have some potential conclusions here concerning our unalienable rights. Which are "Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness". Is there the potential for any constitution to be corrupted? And how will the 2030 agenda impact these rights over time?

When one reviews Daniel chapter seven where does God ever say anything charitable about the Little Horn?

Notice what God states - "Yea, he magnified [himself] even to the prince of the host, and by him the daily [sacrifice] was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down. And an host was given [him] against the daily [sacrifice] by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practiced, and prospered. (Daniel 8:11-12 KJV)

Observe now how the Messianic mindset attributes the blood moon phenomena. In the article titled "RABBI: BLOOD MOONS MEAN 'MESSIANIC ADVANCEMENT'" published by World News Daily, Rabbi Kessin makes the following comments: [This editors comments are in brackets]

"Every time they [blood moons] happen on biblical feast, redemption draws near, he says The "blood moon phenomenon" has been the talk of the Christian world in 2014 and 2015, as four lunar eclipse tetrads all occurring on biblical holy days occur within 18 months, the last of which happens Sept. 28 on the Feast of Tabernacles. But now a scholarly Orthodox rabbi from Brooklyn affirms this series of blood moons is serious spiritual business, because each one brings the world closer to the *advent of the messiah*.

'Each one of these is a messianic advancement,' ... 'There are incredible events that predate the

messiah.' Kessin says that normal lunar eclipses, that give the appearance of the moon turning blood red, signal bad news for Israel and the Jewish people. However, he says, those that occur on biblical holy days – such as Passover and Sukkot or Tabernacles – represent good news for them.

The Sabbath-observing Biltz [Author of the book "Blood Moons"] highlighted Kessin's teachings [and] has linked historical blood moons tetrads with historical events such as the expulsion of the Jews from Spain beginning in 1492, the founding of the modern state of Israel in 1948 and Israel's capture of Jerusalem in the Six-Day War in 1967."

[http://www.wnd.com/2015/08/rabbi-blood-moons-mean-messianic-advancement/#Ee54CZVJk9QgO9Yr.99] (Emphasis throughout)

The article then continues with impacts on the financial markets. However the dates 1948 and 1967 of prior blood moon events are of profound importance.

In summary – The Papacy addressing Congress is an epochal event. Not only has this not transpired before now, but the very timing in relationship to the aforementioned events, as well as the blood moon should provoke serious thought. We note also that there was a solar eclipse just recently which was visible from South Africa.

Now is the time we must watch as Watchmen on the walls of Zion as prophetic events unfurl.

Now as we have covered the things which are coming on the earth there is one thing that we must remember, and that is this: we are not to let it trouble us! But this does not mean we are to not be aware of what is going on around, for a lack of knowledge can destroy us. (See Hosea 4:6) For we were told to take heed that we be not deceived.

Immediately following the predictions that Christ gave He said moreover – "look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." (Luke 21:24) Yes friends there is an eternal redemption that Christ our great High Priest is performing for us in this day of final atonement, who is able to save "to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them." (Heb. 7:25)

We can be assured that we can "know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God." (Eph. 3:19) This experience can be ours by faith "if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end" (Heb. 3:6) This confidence must not be cast away but be an ever abiding faith in Christ, "the author and finisher of our faith" (Heb. 12:2).

Jesus in His parable asked a question that each one of us should search his own heart for the answer, "Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season?" (Matt. 24:45) Either we are going to be found so doing, or be found sleeping! Christ said moreover "take heed...lest at any time your hearts be weighed down with...cares of this life" (Luke 21:34) "watch and pray" (Mark 13:33).

<u>Disclaimer</u> - Under no circumstances should the reader interpret what has been written so far as to be "time setting". This has neither been promoted nor implied. However the facts are simple and we merely wish to direct you attention, and encourage you to "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness." (2 Tim. 2:15)

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