

The International Prophetic Voice for the Endtimes

# Midnight Call

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— Part 2  
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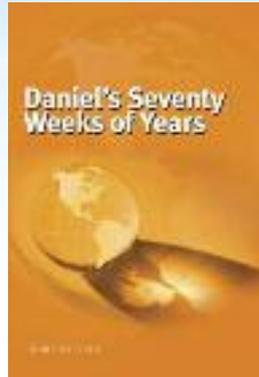
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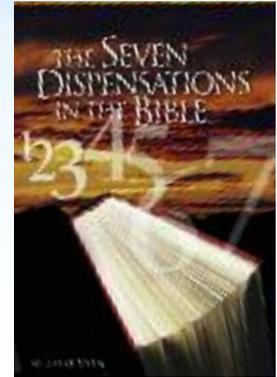
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# “It’s Become So Very Quiet.”

**By Jonathan Malgo**

*Director of Operations, Midnight Call International*



Dear Friends,

It’s become so very quiet. Not that long ago, you could set your watch against the sound of the big, long-haul aircraft flying over our Midnight Call building on approach to the airport every morning.

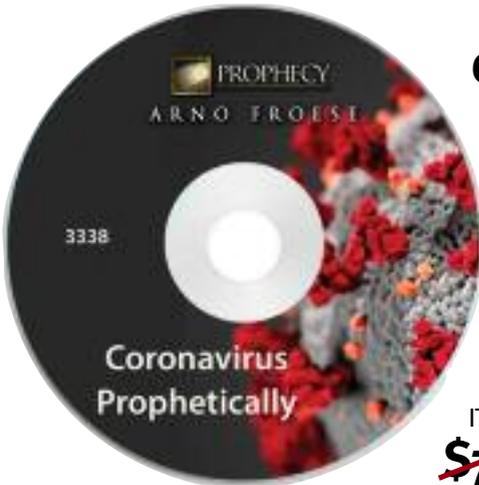
It’s become so very quiet. Traffic reports used to be full of news of congestion; now the roads are mostly empty.

“Thou didst cause judgment to be heard from heaven; the earth feared, and was still” (Ps 76:8). By sharing this verse, I’m not trying to express that what we are experiencing now is God’s judgment. But either way, it is God speaking. He’s allowing the entire world, every country, to suffer from the same problem. It makes no difference whether the country is one of the richest in the world, like Switzerland, or the poorest, Liberia. We’re finding that this corona crisis has some interesting aspects.

For one thing, at the time of the Lord Jesus’ birth—His first arrival—all people had to go home. “And all went [...] every one into his own city” (Luke 2:3). And today, everyone has to go home. By the end of March 2020, Switzerland had made an immense effort to bring 1,700 people home. The *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* writes that the corona crisis has led to a historic recall initiative. The Swiss government has chartered additional planes to bring its citizens home. Germany had to bring home some 200,000 citizens.

When is our Lord bringing us home? We don’t know when He’s coming. But we know that He is. You can almost hear His footsteps. These parallels from around the world should shake us up and once again heighten our perception of His coming.

God is speaking. Is it a gentle call from the Lord, a gracious rattling of our supposed security? Are we hearing, understanding, recognizing? Our security lies in Him, in His Word, and in the promise that He will return. Therefore, “when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh” (Luke 21:28). <sup>MC</sup>



## Coronavirus Prophetically

For the first time in recorded history, we literally see “the whole world” being affected by the coronavirus. This fact fits perfectly in Lucifer’s plan. He wants to be equal to God. Thus, the coronavirus is an excellent opportunity to unite the world more closely.

### CORONAVIRUS PROPHETICALLY

ITEM #3338 • CD • 60 min.

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### OUR TASK

Midnight Call Ministries is a nonprofit missionary organization, dedicated to proclaiming the entire Bible as the unfailing and eternal written Word of God, inspired by the Holy Spirit, and the unerring guide for the Christian faith.

The object of Midnight Call is to call people everywhere to Christ, to proclaim the return of Christ, to prepare Christians for His coming, and to uphold the faith and warn of false doctrines. *Midnight Call* magazine is available in twelve languages. All work done through radio, literature and missionaries is supported entirely by the gifts and free will offerings of God’s people.

### STATEMENT OF FAITH

**WE BELIEVE** in the divine inspiration of the whole Bible and therefore in the infallibility of the Holy Scripture, which is God’s Word, and in the eternal Triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**WE BELIEVE** Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, lived a sinless life, and shed His blood to save mankind. He died and arose bodily the third day and later ascended into heaven.

**WE BELIEVE** that the Lord Jesus Christ died in the place of each individual sinner and that all who believe in Him as their personal Savior are justified through His shed blood and have become children of God.

**WE BELIEVE** that Israel is God’s chosen people, and that the restoration of the Jews to their own land is the fulfillment of the Word of God.

**WE BELIEVE** in the pre-tribulational appearance of Jesus Christ for the Rapture of His Church (all born again believers).

**WE BELIEVE** in the immortality of our souls and the resurrection of our bodies, and in the resurrection of the just and the unjust, the everlasting blessedness of the saved and the everlasting punishment of the lost.

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# Coronavirus Prophetically

**Revealing Lucifer's Master Plan for Planet Earth**

**Arno Froese**

Bible readers are familiar with Luke chapter 21 and Matthew 24. Important to emphasize is the distinction in Scripture between the past, the present, and the future.

For example, in Matthew 24, we read the word “shall” no less than 59 times. One of the most quoted verses when dealing with eschatology is 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. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.” Actually, this is not something new: wars and rumors of wars started way back with the first murder, when Cain killed his brother Abel. Since then, hundreds of millions of people have been killed by war. Jesus, however, said, “...but the end is not yet.”

Look at “famines, and pestilences.” Again, this is nothing new; history records innumerable occasions, and so does the Bible. That also goes for earthquakes. Some people assume that today there are more earthquakes than in past centuries. That, however, is not correct. The British Geological Survey actually lists a decrease in earthquakes over the last few decades. The National Earthquake Information Center locates about 20,000 earthquakes each year. Why so many? High technology is able to measure even the smallest earthquakes in the most remote regions. The public now learns about earthquakes more and faster than ever before. So, the answer is: there always have been earthquakes in the past, we still register many today, and there will be more in the future. From Revelation 16:18, we know that there is a very unique earthquake to come: “And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great.”

The public now learns about earthquakes more and faster than ever before. So, the answer is: there always have been earthquakes in the past, we still register many today, and there will be more in the future.

It does not pay to be an alarmist and say, “God is sending punishment to the earth”; or, “This is a warning from God.” Not so; the entire world today is placed in the dispensation of grace. During this period, God causes His servants to call people to Christ globally. When the fullness of the Gentiles has come in, then the Church is completed and will be raptured into the presence of the Lord.

### DECEPTION OF SENSATIONALISM

It is extremely important not to be moved by each new sensation published. When the disciples asked Jesus, “Tell us, when shall these things be?” He answered: “Take heed that no man deceive you.” That is the most important thing in our walk with the Lord. Being saturated with the Gospel, filled with the Spirit, and therefore able to detect false teaching, particularly sensationalism.

### THE Y2K HOAX

Many of us still remember 1999, when a great number of well-respected ministers of the Gospel and Christian ministries went off the deep end warning people about the coming Y2K catastrophe. What actually happened? Nothing.

It was during the October 1998 Atlantic Coast Prophecy Conference, when we asked the question, “Are you concerned about the year 2000?” From the many answers we received and partially published in our [now out-of-print] book *When Y2K Dies*, here is one from Summerfield, Florida on page 45:

Yes, I am concerned about the year 2000 problem with the computer systems, and I think it's been not nearly played up as it should have been.

It should have been started years and years ago. We knew 2000 was coming quite a while ago.

## Coronavirus Prophetically

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Here is the lesson: the first seven years brought tremendous prosperity to Egypt, apparently as never before. When it came to food production, they built gigantic silos and barns to store the overabundance of grain. What happened at the end of the seven-year prosperity? Catastrophe.



I think that there will be a lot of small problems that people aren't thinking about.

The vast majority of people really don't have the foggiest notion about what's going on.

My neighbor, for instance, says, "Well, I don't have a computer." If you don't have a computer that doesn't mean that you aren't going to be [affected by] the problem of the year 2000.

If you have a Social Security number, you should be concerned. I think that we need to prepare ourselves, and trust the Lord.

We don't need to be dumb and blind and stupid; we need to be prepared.

There are lots of unusual confusions that are going to happen and we need to [have our] heads up and... get this thing fixed.

Again, what happened? Nothing. Of course, the Y2K bug was a serious issue and computer pro-

grammers worked feverishly in the late 1990s to fix it and ameliorate any consequences; thus, the breathless predictions of catastrophe turned out to be largely or even entirely false.

### THE BLOOD MOONS HOAX

Back in 2013-2014, there was a great uproar about the so-called "Blood Moon." Some reputable Bible scholars capitalized on Luke 21:25a: "And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars..." Another Scripture, Joel 2:31: "The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord come." Revelation 6:12b concludes: "...and the moon became as blood." The special alignment

of the sun, earth, and moon caused the moon to appear extra red. For that reason, the interpretation was made: this is the sign of the end. It was not.

### THE END OF THE WORLD ACCORDING TO BIBLE PROPHECY

Let us look at examples in Holy Scripture to better understand the times before catastrophe breaks out.

Joseph is an excellent example. The story is well known and need not be repeated here, except for a few brief sentences. Joseph was sold as a servant by his own brothers and ended up in Egypt. After initial success, he was arrested and imprisoned innocently. One day, Pharaoh had a dream which no one could interpret for him. Genesis 41:15 testifies: "And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, I have dreamed a dream, and there is none that can interpret it: and I

Regardless of what happens on planet earth, fulfillment of Bible prophecy relating to the Great Tribulation will only take place at the epitome of peace, security, and prosperity. That is in the works today.

have heard say of thee, that thou canst understand a dream to interpret it.” He told Joseph his dream: that he saw seven fat cows, followed by seven lean and ill-favored ones who ate up the seven fat ones. Similarly, he told Joseph about corn stalks: seven good ones, and seven “thin, and blasted with the east wind” ones. The thin, blasted stalks consumed the good ones.

Here is the lesson: the first seven years brought tremendous prosperity to Egypt, apparently as never before. When it came to food production, they built gigantic silos and barns to store the overabundance of grain. What happened at the end of the seven-year prosperity? Catastrophe, poverty, hunger, and for most Egyptians, the loss of their property.

### SODOM AND GOMORRAH EXAMPLE

Most of us know the biblical story of Lot. Abraham and his nephew grew quite rich and powerful. Genesis 13:7a reports: “And there was a strife between the herdmen of Abram’s cattle and the herdmen of Lot’s cattle.” Abraham, the older, gives Lot first choice: “Is not the whole land before thee? separate thyself, I pray thee, from me: if thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if thou depart to the right hand, then I will go to the left” (Genesis 13:9). Verse 10 testifies: “And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered every where, before the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, even as the garden of the Lord, like the land of Egypt, as thou comest unto Zoar.” Lot chose what he saw to be best for him: a country rich in vegetation, perfect for his ever-growing herd of animals. That’s prosperity. How did it end? In catastrophe.

Much later in history, the prophet Ezekiel gives us a back view. Ezekiel 16:49 reads: “Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her and

in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy.” Indeed, fullness of bread and abundance of idleness clearly testify to prosperity galore.

### LAODICEA EXAMPLE

In the New Testament, we read of the church of Laodicea: “Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked” (Revelation 3:17).

When you have increased in goods and have need of nothing, that is prosperity galore. The church of Laodicea had it made, but quite obviously they did not realize that destruction and judgment were standing at the doorstep.

### THE EPITOME OF EVIL

Revelation 17:5b reads: “Mystery, Babylon The Great, The Mother Of Harlots And Abominations Of The Earth.” This speaks of the last global society. Prosperity is self-evident: “How much she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously, so much torment and sorrow give her: for she saith in her heart, I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow” (Revelation 18:7). That will be fulfilled just before judgment is executed.

Regardless of what happens on planet earth, fulfillment of Bible prophecy relating to the Great Tribulation will only take place at the epitome of peace, security, and prosperity. That is in the works today. While there are many places on the earth experiencing war, civil conflict accompanied by suffering, starvation, diseases, etc., we must realize that it was much worse in the past.

Take Europe, America (North and South), Australia, and New Zealand; they are experiencing peace and prosperity like never before.

Asia is arising; a recent report showed that communist China is producing more millionaires than

# Coronavirus Prophetically

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Every government on planet earth always promises the people more freedom, more prosperity, more security, and less taxes. Has any nation actually achieved that goal? The answer is a resounding no! Politicians need not keep their promises.

the United States. Africa at this time is a continent often in turmoil, but with immense natural resources; they too will be integrated into the successful, peaceful, and prosperous new world that is to come.

## WORLD HUNGER DECREASING

Someone may now question these statements, because of the horrendous news being published on a daily basis, which leads to the conclusion that things are getting worse. Well, they are not. A number of respected organizations clearly document that wars have decreased globally. Even crime figures are going down worldwide. Regarding hunger, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation insists that by 2035, world hunger will be eliminated. In the US, for example, life expectancy at 1900 was only 43 years; today, it has reached the 80-year mark.

The website iflscience.com writes: “While 216 million fewer hungry people over 25 years may sound like a modest reduction, and 800 million is still a depressing figure, there is cause to be hopeful for the future as this drop was achieved in spite of the globe gaining [millions of] humans.”

According to the document named “The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2015” (SOFI), in developing regions the proportion of undernourished people, or those not eating enough food to lead an active and healthy life, has almost halved since 1990, decreasing from 23.3% of the population to 12.9%.

## Definition of coronavirus

Any of a family (Coronaviridae) of single-stranded RNA viruses that have a lipid envelope studded with club-shaped projections, infect birds and many mammals including humans, and include the causative agents of MERS, SARS, and COVID-19

-[www.merriam-webster.com](http://www.merriam-webster.com)

## Difference between coronavirus and COVID-19

Experts refer to this coronavirus as the ‘novel coronavirus,’ meaning it’s a new type of coronavirus that was not previously known or understood by health experts. COVID-19 is the illness caused by the novel coronavirus.

-[www.huffpost.com](http://www.huffpost.com)

## COVID-19 danger

So just how dangerous is COVID-19 and how worried should you be? The simple answer is we do not know enough yet and will not know until more data becomes available.

-[www.aljazeera.com](http://www.aljazeera.com)

## OUR TAKE

It is not within our field to discuss, advise, or recommend behavior of individuals or communities. We are being inundated with that information from various officials and news sources around the world. Suffice it to say: keep clean, keep your distance, and live as normally as you can.

## THE ULTIMATE DECEPTION

Deception cannot be accomplished at the barrel of a gun, but with good things which people desire. Every government on planet earth always promises the people more freedom, more prosperity, more security, and less taxes. Has any nation actually achieved that goal? The answer is a resounding no! Politicians need not keep their promises.

Yet, according to prophetic Scripture, there will be peace, prosperity, and security. How, where, and when? We have to look to Scripture to get an answer. The assumption that the world is made up of over 200 sovereign nations, free to act independently, is in reality a great deception. Why?

Medical science is feverishly working to find a cure, or at least stop the spread of this virus. And, they will find one. But, from that moment on, the world—at least on the epidemic control level—will be more united than ever before.



Let us begin with Matthew 4:8-9: “Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and showeth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.” That’s a strong statement; it is the devil, Satan, Lucifer, the great dragon, who is in charge of planet earth. Actually, he is called the god of this world in 2 Corinthians 4:4: “In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.” That throws cold water on the often-repeated mantra, “In God we trust.”

What is his plan? The answer is very simple: to replace the real Prince of Peace, the real Savior Jesus Christ, with his Antichrist. Ultimately, the Jews and the rest of the world will accept the fake christ. Remember what Jesus said to the Jews, “I am come in my Father’s name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive” (John 5:43). Antichrist means instead of Christ, the one who attempts to replace the real

one. This Antichrist, with his helper the false prophet, is Satan’s masterpiece.

Someone may protest, “We are a Christian nation.” That sounds good, but there is no such thing. The Bible does not indicate nor give room for such an establishment. So, why does Satan own planet earth? Here we must again consult Scripture. “He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil” (1 John 3:8). Since “all have sinned,” and “There is none right-

eous, no, not one,” then the prince of darkness, the god of this world, has us safely in his clutches. However, there is one escape, and only one: faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who accomplished the remission of sins, or as we read in John 3:15: “That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.”

#### WHY CORONAVIRUS?

This epidemic is just one of the many tools to bring about world unity. Global finance and global merchandise are already an irrevocable reality. Those who have been excluded from the global family, such as Cuba or North Korea, often have difficulty just feeding their population, much less competing in the global economy. While many of the previously mentioned epidemics have been limited to certain groups of people, or have relatively kept within certain borders, today’s coronavirus is truly global—no exceptions.

Medical science is feverishly working to find a cure, or at least stop the spread of this virus. And, as already mentioned, they will find one. But, from

# Coronavirus Prophetically

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Since all have sinned and continue in sin, all are servants of the prince of darkness. But, there is an escape: grace from Him.



that moment on, the world—at least on the epidemic control level—will be more united than ever before. We can be sure that another virus will come up after coronavirus, and for all we know, it may be much worse.

## WHO RULES THE WORLD?

Debates are unending, opinions are multitude, and politicians the world over argue until they are blue in the face, because each and every one thinks they are right. It matters not whether it's democracy or communism, socialism or capitalism, dictatorship or monarchy; all are subject to the god of this world. Why? As already mentioned, he who sins is of the devil. Since all have sinned and continue in sin, all are servants of the prince of darkness. But, again I add: there is an escape. I must realize my sinful and lost condition, and as such, ask for forgiveness, for mercy, and for grace from Him, of whom is written, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

## DEMONIC FORCES AT WORK

Chapter 10 of Daniel reports Daniel's fourth night vision; we read the following in verses 11-13: "And he said unto me, O Daniel, a man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak unto thee, and stand upright: for unto thee am I now sent. And when he had spoken this word unto me, I stood trembling. Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard,

and I am come for thy words. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia."

Who is the "prince...kings of Persia"? They cannot be government officials, because he was part of the government. These are invisible, diabolical forces; princes and kings who ruled the nation of Persia. Against those Michael, the chief prince of God's kingdom, fights. It is helpful to read Ephesians 6:12: "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."

Similar forces are in charge of all the countries in the world today; there's no exception. When we realize this fact, we appreciate our salvation much more, because there is no future for your country or for mine. There is no hope, there is no peace, there is no eternal salvation for any nation. They are all, without exception, ruled by these dark powers headed by the god of this

Regarding the coronavirus, there is an abundance of reliable information suggesting how to best protect oneself from being infected. That's one thing. However, our interest lies on a much higher plane—infininitely higher.

world, Satan himself. What will be the end? “Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?” (2 Peter 3:12). But that is not the end for believers in Jesus Christ the Lord, for the next verse reads: “Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness” (2 Peter 3:13).

### INVISIBLE DEMONIC FORCES

We read the following in Revelation 16:13-14: “And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.” Note carefully, it talks about the earth and “the whole world.” That is what has happened throughout human history, and is now racing toward the goal: world dominion by demonic forces, who will inspire the population of planet earth to worship their own handmade image—the image of the beast.

### LUCIFER AT WORK

For the first time in recorded history, we literally see “the whole world” being affected by the coronavirus. This fact fits perfectly in Lucifer's plan, of whom we read in Isaiah 14:12-14: “How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the

heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.” The *Tanakh* reads, “Oh shining one, son of dawn,” and Luther translates it, “thou beautiful morning star.” These three verses expose Satan's master plan. He wants to be equal to God; he wants to be the morning star. Thus, the coronavirus is an excellent opportunity to unite the world more closely.

### WHAT TO DO

Regarding the coronavirus, there is an abundance of reliable information suggesting how to best protect oneself from being infected. That's one thing. However, our interest lies on a much higher plane—infininitely higher. We know from the Bible that diseases, pestilences, earthquakes, tsunamis, etc. will continue as long as planet earth exists. But at the same time, we must emphasize that this is not the end. These are just normal, day-to-day occurrences. We have the absolute assurance: “While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease” (Genesis 8:22). Nothing will happen without the final and absolute authority of God the Father. His will is being done on earth as it is in heaven. We believers need to realize that this is just another warning sign that the whole world—regardless of what system is being practiced—is built upon very shaky ground. The tiny little, virtually invisible virus has shaken the entire planet; no nation is excepted. That simply means preparations are in the making for world dominion. First of all, Antichrist, and immediately after that, the return of Jesus Christ our Lord. His name be praised forevermore.

(1066)

Note: the above is not medical advice. Please follow the recommendations of public health officials, and take all necessary precautions to prevent the spread of this disease.



# ANTI-CREATIONISM: THE DEVIL'S SUDDEN KILLER TACTIC — PART 2



We continue with the final part of our examination of yet one more “prophetically significant” trend of the last days—the adoption of Anti-Creationism. It is a perspective now held by the majority of people. Despite there being no scientific proofs for any of the Anti-Creationist views— i.e. the Theory of Evolution—it has become the accepted view. This view is so replete that those who believe in Creationism are popularly considered stupid and dangerous.

By **Wilfred Hahn**

### Despite the Facts, We Will Not Believe

It has already been known for many decades that impossible processes and probabilities are required to validate the theory of evolution. Even many secular scientists (some who would consider themselves atheists) have admitted to the impossible probabilities of one amino acid being formed by random chance (this the basic building block of all enzymes, RNA and DNA ... all polypeptides). Yes, despite the facts, mankind chooses to belief what he wishes.

Consider another example of impossibility. According to the late Fred Hoyle (a famous astronomer and controversial scientist): “[T]here are about two thousand enzymes, and the chance of obtaining them all in a random trial is only one part in  $10^{40,000}$ , an outrageously small probability that could not be faced even if the whole universe consisted of organic soup.”<sup>1</sup>

Yet, such theories as Evolution persist. Why? The same Fred Hoyle made this comment: “Once

we see, however, that the probability of life originating at random is so utterly miniscule as to make it absurd [...] one wonders why it is not widely accepted as being self-evident. The reasons are psychological rather than scientific.”<sup>2</sup>

Hoyle saw this persistence to believe in something that is impossible to be a “psychological” problem. He is on the right track, but not quite. He himself was vulnerable to the same feats of human illogic with his own theory of panspermia. He proposed that earth’s life forms found their genesis from viruses that were spread by comets.

The problem is not entirely psychological for scientists that study cosmology. It is a result of adamantly rejecting God. It is a choice and an attitude ... at best delusion or ignorance.

### Using the Garb of Science to Deny God

“Despite the facts, we will not believe in God.” This attitude is not new. According to the Bible, it was there from the beginning. The Hebrews, the nation

The problem is not entirely psychological for scientists that study cosmology. It is a result of adamantly rejecting God. It is a choice and an attitude ... at best delusion or ignorance.



created by God Himself and who were to be a light to the world (Isaiah 42:6), were prime examples of such rebellion.

“Because they believed not in God, and trusted not in his salvation: Though he had commanded the clouds from above, and opened the doors of heaven, And had rained down manna upon them to eat, and had given them of the corn of heaven” (Psalm 78:22-24, KJV).

Despite the evidence and the demonstration of wonders, they still chose not to believe. They rejected truth. “In spite of all this, they kept on sinning; in spite of his wonders, they did not believe” (Psalm 78:32).

This is how Jesus Christ Himself described this attitude: “Yet because I tell the truth, you do not believe me!” (John 8:45). Why did they not believe in the Truth? “Whoever belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God” (John 8:47).

There is a primordial aversion to Truth. Not wanting to believe in God, they are given over to their perversions. God has allowed them to mislead each other in their folly. Refusing to acknowledge that there is a Creator, they are forced to indulge in

foolishness, dreaming up such convenient and fanciful theories as the “Big Bang” and a myriad of other impossibilities.

Large gaps and holes remain in their theories, forcing them to become ever more inventive and hilarious. For example, faced with archaeological evidence that bears out a world history of perhaps millions of dying species, they spin a false story of evolution ... of a process of new life. It demonstrates the exact opposite, as any child (that has not yet been indoctrinated to the

false view) would agree. It has been a history of death (the dying off of species) and not new life.

### The Follies and Perversions of Anti-Creationists

As mentioned, secular theorists must contort their thinking regarding the “beginnings.” It is the intellectual equivalent to the Baalists on Mount Carmel. They resorted to cutting themselves in a frantic frenzy to prove that their gods and cosmological views were real and true. The account is found in 1 Kings 18:

“Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, ‘Choose one of the bulls and prepare it first, since there are so many of you. Call on the name of your god, but do not light the fire.’ So, they took the bull given them and prepared it. Then they called on the name of Baal from morning till noon. ‘Baal answer us!’ they shouted. But there was no response; no one answered. And they danced around the altar they had made.

“At noon, Elijah began to taunt them. ‘Shout louder!’ he said. ‘Surely he is a god! Perhaps he is deep in thought, or busy, or traveling. Maybe he is sleeping and must be awakened.’ So, they shouted



Evolutionism is a godless religious belief system that fails to satisfactorily answer the questions that hauntingly harbor in the souls of all mankind. Why do I exist? What is my purpose? What happens to “me” after I die?



louder and slashed themselves with swords and spears, as was their custom, until their blood flowed” (verses 25-28).

Similarly, today’s evolutionists and anti-Creation theorists are far past noontime. For more than 150 years they have continued to dig for fossils, in the hopes of further developing their fanciful theories, which are becoming ever more complex and contradictory.

The results? They have yet to find any conclusive proofs for their theories ... or pattern of missing links. They have not shown nor proven that life can come from inanimate matter (denying the Law of Biogenesis: that life can only come from life); they continue to refuse to accept the statistical impossibility of even the most primitive cells forming from random forces, let alone even one protein or enzyme.

True science would acknowledge all of the above facts. Therefore, the study of beginnings and life is not science but religion. It chooses a belief system that is directly in conflict with facts, the Bible and God ... and real science.

### Weakened Christians

Many Christians don’t have the courage to hold to Creationism. They are intimidated by the supposedly “ex-

pert” claims of modern science. They do not want to feel ostracized from the popular views of our culture.

By rejecting the Creation account and various other parts of the Bible, such people really set themselves up as pretentious authorities. They arbitrarily decide what Scriptures they will believe ... and which not. They undo the work of the long history of councils of godly theologians—the early church councils (i.e. Council of Nicea)—where the content of the Bible was debated and settled.

They choose to deny the Creation account in the Bible. By doing so, they have invalidated the entire Bible. Jesus Christ is cast as a liar. A number of times the New Testament records Christ referring to the “creation” as the beginning (Matthew 25:34; Mark 10:6; John 17:24). Mark records Him saying specifically, “[...] from the beginning, when God created the world, until now [...]” (Mark 13:19).

Significantly, on none of these occasions does Jesus refute the Genesis Creation account or provide any clarifications or corrections. None were needed.

### Anti-Creationism: The Answers of Evolutionism Found Wanting

Evolutionism is a godless religious belief system that fails to satisfactorily answer the questions that hauntingly harbor in the souls of all mankind. Why do I exist? What is my purpose? What happens to “me” after I die? Is my existence meaningless? What thinking and intellectually honest person will not admit to such thoughts?

The fact that these questions even exist, is itself a refutation of the naturalistic theories of the origin of man. Concepts as are revealed by these questions do not and cannot “evolve” from primordial slime, nor are these organically transmitted from one living organism to another.

The greatest atheistic thinkers (whether scientists or philosophers) have no answers to these “why” questions. “Why does the universe even go to the bother to

To this day, the secular scientific theories of the beginnings and evolution are unproven. If observations in real time—what we can see and test today—are denied, then how can theories about the beginnings of life and the universe have any credibility at all?

exist?” questioned the famous cosmological physicist, Stephen Hawking. The fact that all mankind has ingrained in them such concepts as “love” and “justice” alone proves naturalism cannot explain the inner thoughts and destinies of man. These are ideas that evolution has no need nor the means to develop.

Yet, our society taunts literal Bible-believers as being “primitive,” should they hold the view that the Theory of Evolution is not conclusively supported by evidence.

The Bible says that mankind will choose to believe a lie. “They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator [...]” (Romans 1:25). All of the “prophetically significant” trends that we are examining are the outworking of this prophecy. Will the world go further astray? According to the Bible, yes.

When the lawless one comes, “[...] He will use all sorts of displays of power through signs and wonders that serve the lie, and all the ways that wickedness deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie” (2 Thessalonians 2:9-11).

### Thoughts to Ponder – Part II

Truly, we live in urgent times of great prophetic significance. The evidence is clear to see ... even for non-Christians (those who do not accepted the Word of God as literally true).

Using our diagnostic list to examine the phenomenon of a world-capturing Anti-Creationism, at least 7 of our tell-tale characteristics of a “last-day season phenomena” can be observed: 1. Evidence of acceleration since the mid 1800s; 2. Recency ... a trend observed continuing its momentum after 1948; 3. Seeming improbability and inexplicability of its occurrence; 4. Global impact; 5. Suddenness and rapidity; 6. Fitting the humanist and Satanic agenda; and, above all, Bible prophecy.

Anti-Creationism represents one of the most remarkable of the “ripening trends” that we are describing in this series. The dethronement of God as Creator ... in fact, the entire invalidation of God ... is a massive change in beliefs involving the choices of individuals and mankind. In these latter days, taking place in the space of a little more than 150 years in the timeline of mankind, a sudden denial of God the Creator has erupted.

The Bible has always recognized that this would be the case. “The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God” (Psalm 14:1; 53:1). By definition, then, a world that does not believe in God is foolish. “Where is the wise man? Where is the scholar? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?” (1 Corinthians 1:20).

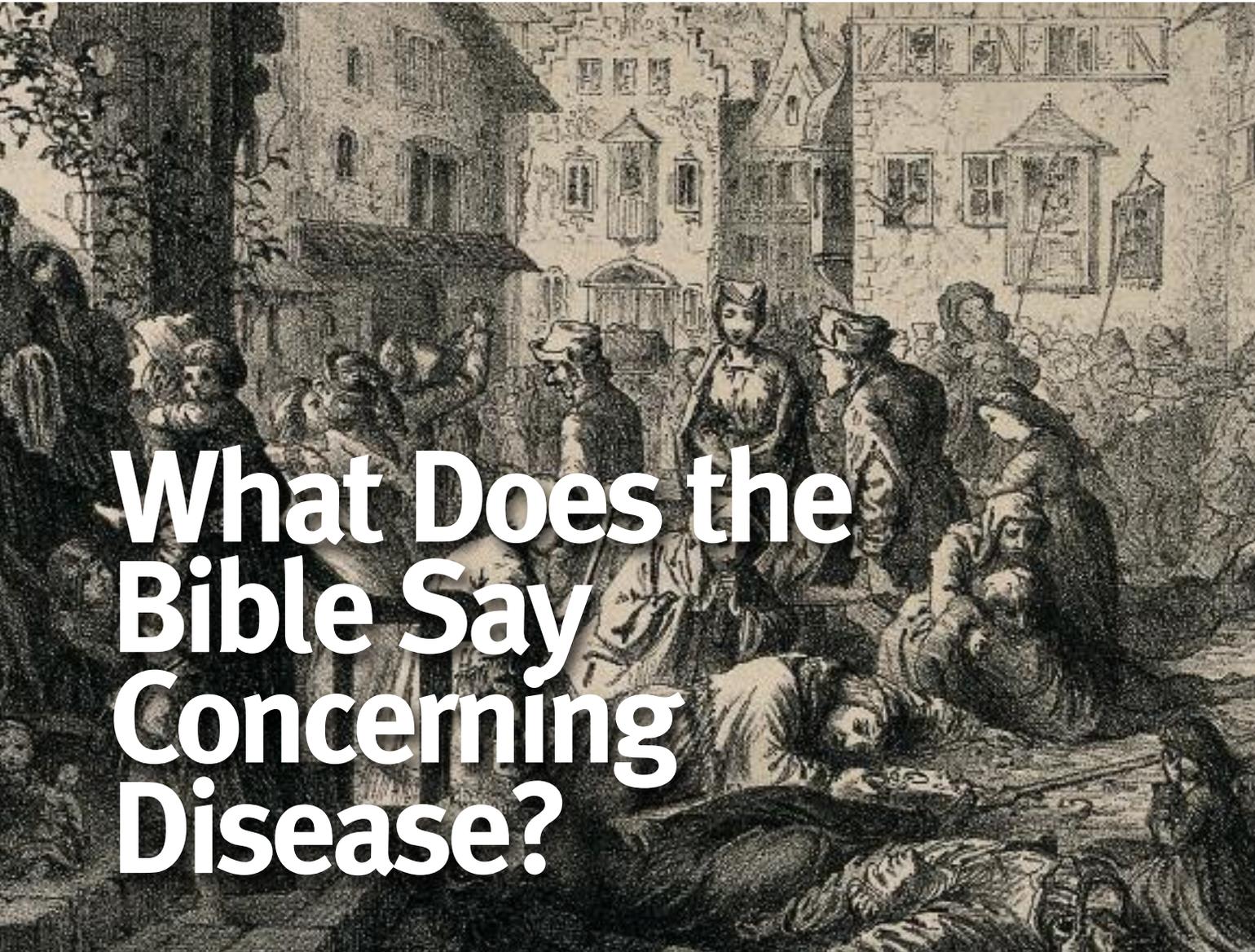
To this day, the secular scientific theories of the beginnings and evolution are unproven. If observations in real time—what we can see and test today—are denied, then how can theories about the beginnings of life and the universe have any credibility at all?

Truth be told, facts aren't the deciding factor for most people. Not wanting to believe in a personal God, they must therefore deny the facts. They will hold onto the unproven and the foolish.

Will you believe that there is a God? Will you believe the facts and the Truth? Do you believe that God created you? It is wonderful to ponder on the truth that God created us and knows you and me as special individuals. You are known to Him. He wants to have a relationship with us, and wishes that none of His human creations would go lost (2 Peter 3:9). He therefore sent His Son Jesus Christ, and promised that whoever would believe in Him would have eternal life (John 3:16). 

### ENDNOTES

- 1 F. Hoyle & C. Wickramasinghe (1981), *Evolution from Space*, J. M. Dent & Sons: London, p. 24
- 2 *Ibid.*, pp. 141, 144, 130



# What Does the Bible Say Concerning Disease?

**Dr. Ron J. Bigalke**

**The plague in Winterthur in 1328**

Source: Wellcome Library, London

The Black Death arrived in Europe in October 1347 and terrified Western society in an unprecedented manner. During the Middle Age, the Black Death resulted in the deaths of an estimated 20 million people over the next five years (approximately one-half of Europe's population). The most famous literary treatment of the plague is the introduction to *The Decameron*. Giovanni Boccaccio (1313-75) said the "deadly pestilence" began "either because of the influence of heavenly bodies or because of God's just wrath as a punishment to mortals for our wicked deeds."<sup>1</sup>

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The plague arrived in Europe when 12 Genoese merchants docked their trading ships at the Sicilian port of Messina, subsequent to a long journey through the Black Sea. As people gathered on the docks, they were shocked to discover that most sailors aboard the ship were dead, and those still alive were seriously ill and covered in black boils that oozed blood and puss. Sicilian authorities hastily ordered the “death ships” to exit the harbor, but it was too late.

Even prior to the arrival of the “death ships” at Messina, many Europeans heard rumors that a “deadly pestilence” was spreading across the commercial trade routes of the Near and Far East. Nevertheless, Europeans were not prepared for the deadly pandemic. Boccaccio wrote how “it began in both men and women with certain swellings either in the groin or under the armpits, some of which grew to the size of a normal apple and others to the size of an egg (more or less).” The people referred to the boils as *gavoccioli* (*bubboni* in modern Italian and “buboes” in modern English, hence the source of the modern term, “bubonic plague”).<sup>2</sup>

Many believed the Black Death was an eschatological sign heralding the second coming of Christ and the end of the world. Some believed that the Black Death indicated God’s displeasure with humanity and was divine retribution for their sins. Consequently, some resorted to extreme asceticism to cleanse themselves of sin and thereby merit God’s forgiveness. Flagellants, for instance, sought to avert God’s punishment by stripping to the waist and flogging themselves with whips as they wandered from town to town. Jews were said to have poisoned wells, and thus falsely accused of causing the plague; they were persecuted virulently as a result. Many Jewish communities in Europe were decimated in hopes of ending the plague.

Black rats infested with fleas spread the disease, because they were host to the deadly bacterium *Yersinia pestis*. Since rodents were regular passengers on ships (and very common in cities and towns), the disease spread through the Mediterranean and Europe. Black cats were hunted, since they were thought to be witches in animal form, who were casting their spells upon the people. Ironically, the cats would have lessened the spread of the plague, since they were the natural enemy of the disease-infested rats. At the time, no one knew exactly how the Black Death was transmitted from one person to another, and no one knew how to prevent or cure it.

How did the plague end? There are several factors thought to have ended the Black Death, such as better hygiene, yet the most important response was for people to quarantine themselves. The novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) has made the word “quarantine” common speech. Quarantine intends to restrict the movement of people to prevent the spread of disease. The term “quarantine” is derived from the Italian *quaranta giorni*, meaning “40 days,” and is traced to the 14th century when the city of Dubrovnik (now in Croatia) was under Venetian rule. As the Black Plague was devastating Europe, the Venetians recognized the need to assert some form of protection, and thus declared all people and ships to be isolated for 40 days prior to entering Dubrovnik.<sup>3</sup>

The novel coronavirus began in China, and whether the virus escaped from a bioresearch lab or arose in a filthy street market that sold wild animals for cuisine is unknown. What is important to know is what the Bible reveals concerning disease. Since ancient times, societies have used strategies to isolate persons with disease from those unaffected. Some of the earliest references to these strategies are found in the books of the Old Testament. In regards to anyone contracting a skin disease, Leviticus 13:46 com-

## What Does the Bible Say Concerning Disease?

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Leprosy was one of the most contagious and debilitating diseases. Among the many defilements of the Mosaic Law, only a dead body was considered more serious.

mands, “He shall remain unclean all the days during which he has the infection; he is unclean. He shall live alone; his dwelling shall be outside the camp.” Concerning defilement, Numbers 5:2 prescribes the following: “Command the sons of Israel that they send away from the camp every leper and everyone having a discharge and everyone who is unclean because of a *dead* person.”



The Mosaic Law revealed how to identify and treat skin diseases (Lev 13). When an abnormally noticeable blemish appeared on a person’s skin, he or she must “be brought to Aaron” or the officiating priest for examination (v. 2). The priest would then examine the person to determine if he or she was ceremonially unclean. An infectious disease was characterized by the hair in the infection turning white, and the infection being “deeper than the skin” of the body (v. 3). If the priest could not determine whether the infection required cleansing, the person was quarantined for a period of time until proper diagnosis could be made. If the infection “spread on the skin,” it was regarded as disease and the person declared “unclean” (vv. 4-8). An infected person would then wear torn clothes, refrain from normal grooming, cover his or her face, “and cry, ‘Unclean! Unclean!’” so unsuspecting persons would avoid the contagious individual (v. 45).

### God’s Remedy for Disease

Leprosy was the most horrendous disease in the Bible. In addition to the disfiguration and pain, those who contracted it were shunned and forbidden to live in community with their own people. Leprosy was one of the most contagious and debilitating diseases. Among the many defilements of the Mosaic Law, only a dead body was considered more serious.

All diseases are a continual reminder of how the world has changed since God pronounced a curse upon the earth. Initially, the Lord created everything “very good,” but Adam’s sin resulted in death and decay. To protect His people from disease, God revealed preventative measures against its spread. The Jewish priests were hardly physicians, yet in some aspects they did function as public health officials. The Levitical sacrificial system prescribed laws and commands that priests would institute with discretion, including testing for leprosy and quarantining those who contracted the intensely communicable disease.

Quarantine was the first response to an infected person (v. 4). All skin diseases could not be determined initially, so that additional seven-day periods were necessary to make a final decision (v. 5). Individuals who definitely contracted a skin disease were separated from the community; he or she was “unclean,” and would remain in that condition for the duration of the infection. “He shall live alone; his dwelling shall be outside the camp” (v. 46). Similar to the Genesis narrative, wherein Adam and Eve were banished “from the garden of Eden” (Gen 3:23) and God “drove the man out” (v. 24), so also

Quarantine was the first response to an infected person (v. 4). All skin diseases could not be determined initially, so that additional seven-day periods were necessary to make a final decision (v. 5). Individuals who definitely contracted a skin disease were separated from the community; he or she was “unclean,” and would remain in that condition for the duration of the infection. “He shall live alone; his dwelling shall be outside the camp” (v. 46). Similar to the Genesis narrative, wherein Adam and Eve were banished “from the garden of Eden” (Gen 3:23) and God “drove the man out” (v. 24), so also

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Jesus will return one day and transform creation, freeing it from all the effects and miseries of sin, thereby making it more glorious than ever (Rom 8:18-25).

the unclean person had to live “outside the camp” (Lev 13:46). The horrendous nature of skin diseases is a depiction of human uncleanness before a holy God.

Material items, such as cloth or leather garments, were treated in the same manner as people (vv. 47-59). The priest quarantined clothes with a greenish or reddish spot for seven days (vv. 47-50), and was required to burn them “if the mark has spread in the garment” (vv. 51-52). If the spot did not spread, “then the priest shall order them to wash the thing in which the mark occurs and he shall quarantine it for seven more days” (vv. 53-54). If the color of the mark remained unchanged, even if it had not spread, the garment was declared unclean and burned (v. 55).

### Responding to COVID-19

All people are urged to wash hands frequently with soap and water as one of the most effective measures to avert the spread of COVID-19. Moreover, people are asked to self-quarantine. Social distancing is also a wise response, since no one knows who has contracted the virus, and even asymptomatic persons can spread COVID-19. The Bible reveals the sensible nature of physical cleanliness and quarantining in Leviticus 11–15. The need for washing and quarantine is emphasized in several contexts (11:32-40; 13:29-59; 15:1-15). Keeping oneself clean and not coming into contact with an infected person is precisely what the Bible commands.

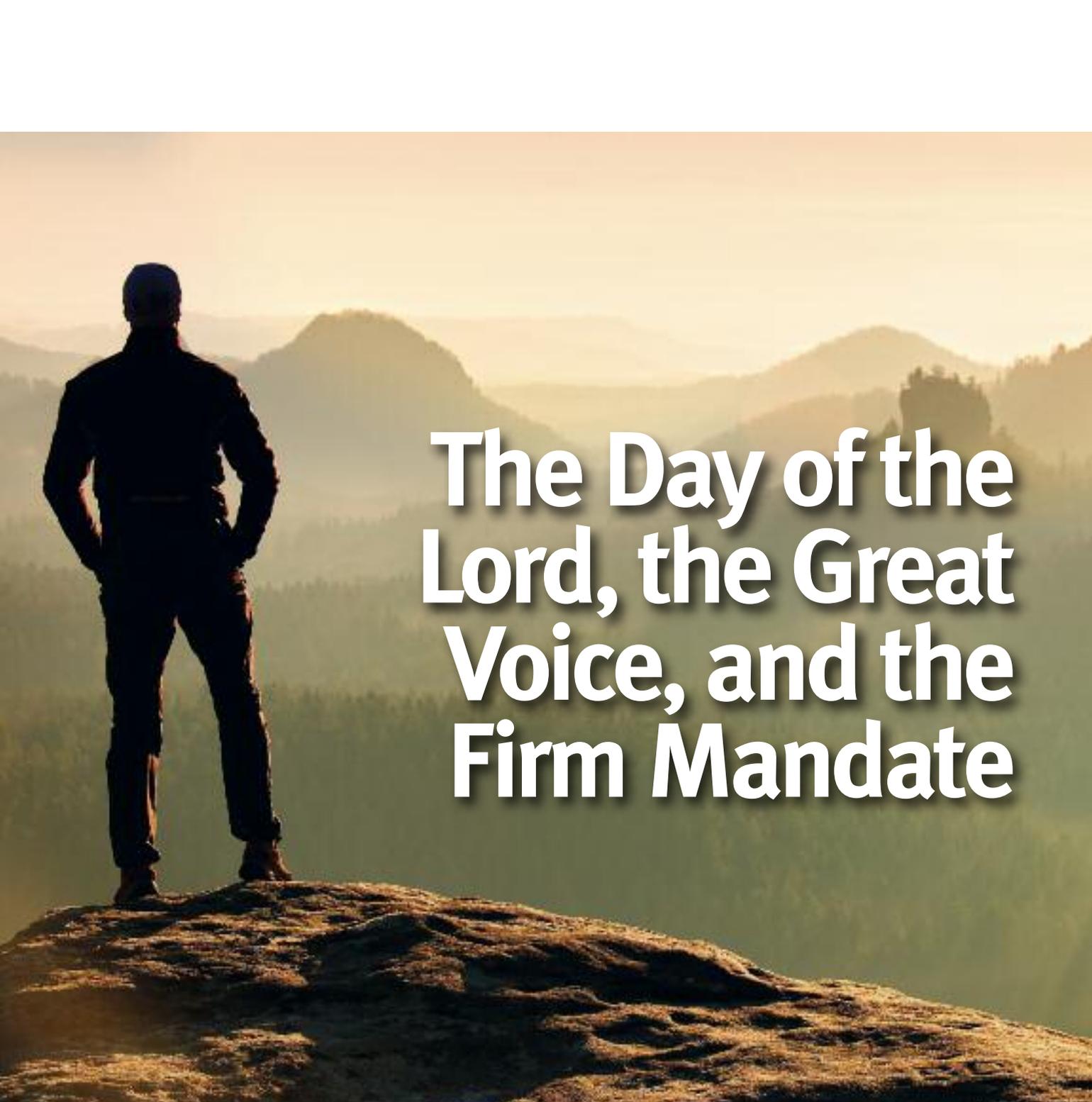
Romans 5:12 reveals that sin entered the world through the disobedience of one person, “and so death spread to all men, because all sinned.” Scripture revealed laws of purity not only in response to the human condition (and a world controlled by death, with all its defilements and diseases), but

also to emphasize the need for cleansing from one’s environment. Proper response to COVID-19 through cleanliness and quarantine is biblical and wise. Yet, whereas nearly all people are concerned regarding the novel coronavirus, there is a more lethal disease called sin, which begins at conception and thus affects everyone. Jesus criticized the scribes and Pharisees for being clean on the outside, yet being inwardly corrupt (Matt 23:25-28). Ultimately, all the sacrificial rituals anticipate the death of Jesus Christ, who fulfilled Isaiah 53 when He bore human griefs, sorrows, and iniquities “in His body on the cross,” so that all who trust in Him—by grace through faith—“die to sin and live to righteousness,” for by His wounds is the believer healed from the sickness of sin (1 Pet 2:24).

Jesus will return one day and transform creation, freeing it from all the effects and miseries of sin, thereby making it more glorious than ever (Rom 8:18-25). The promise of a new creation is one in which there is no death or decay, and certainly no diseases like COVID-19. The contamination of the present age is a perpetual reminder of sin’s effects in the world, and the encouragement that the world to come will not be like the present. Until that time of restoration, God’s people should anticipate the “hope” of the Lord’s promise and patiently endure present sufferings with perseverance. (1067)

#### ENDNOTES

- 1 Giovanni Boccaccio, *The Decameron*, trans. Mark Musa and Peter Bondanella (New York: Norton, 1977) 3.
- 2 Ibid. 4. See also, James Cornell, *The Great International Disaster Book* (New York: Pocket Books, 1976, 1979) 184.
- 3 Susan Mosher Stuard, *A State of Deference: Ragusa/Dubrovnik in the Medieval Centuries* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1992).



# The Day of the Lord, the Great Voice, and the Firm Mandate

**Wim Malgo (1922–1992)**

An interpretation of the last book of the Bible. Part 10. Revelation 1:10.

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◀ The more we, as children of God, are in the Spirit of the Lord, the more the future becomes the present, and the more we are able to recognize the prophetic Word and listen to God's voice.

**W**hat day is John speaking of when he says, "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day"? It isn't Sunday, as some say, but the great, terrible, yet wonderfully beautiful day that the Old Testament prophets talked so much about. They too had seen this terrible time of judgment, which is now still to come, at the end of which the Lord will appear in great power and glory with His church. Jeremiah confessed what he felt at such a show: "My bowels, my bowels! I am pained at my very heart; my heart maketh a noise in me" (Jer 4:19a).

The great and dreadful Day of the Lord is the Great Tribulation. Why does John look at it as if he were present, although he's seeing it at least two thousand years before its fulfillment? Because he was in the Spirit of the Lord. The more we, as children of God, are in the Spirit of the Lord, the more the future becomes the present, and the more we are able to recognize the prophetic Word and listen to God's voice. "Ask me of things to come," He says through the prophet Isaiah (45:11).

John testifies, "and [I] heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet" (Rev 1:10). With this, the vision of God's glory really begins. John is obviously surprised to hear this great voice behind him, rather than in front or to the side. Why is it sounding behind him? Probably because any other voice that could mislead him, even his own, has been silenced.

So many children of God are running in circles, because they don't hear the Lord's voice behind them. But we have the promise, "And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the

way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left" (Is 30:21). Therefore: Be quiet! Listen and go!

Noah, too, had full assurance that he and his family were rescued when the Lord shut the door of the ark behind him (Gen 7:16). Ezekiel had the same experience. In Ezekiel 3:12, the prophet writes of a wind that picked him up and a roar like a great earthquake that he heard behind him.

John says here in verse 10, "a great voice, as of a trumpet." The words "as of" mean that John is seeking to describe the indescribable. That's why the phrase occurs about seventy times in Revelation. He also uses the terms "like" and "like unto." So, here is a supernatural and frightening sound that contains everything. It is the trumpet of God!

In the Bible, there are two trumpets of God. The first sounded on Mount Sinai, when God gathered His earthly people, Israel (Ex 19:16). The last trumpet of God will sound as He gathers His heavenly people—when He carries away His church. It is this trumpet that John hears.

That the Lord has to repeat Himself (vv. 8, 11) proves how shocked John was. The voice said, "I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last." What a great consolation for you! What you are experiencing now (anything in everyday life that you may be fearing for whatever reason; whether it be your family circumstances, your precarious state of health, your working conditions, etc.) is not the first and the last. Jesus is the beginning and the end!

## The Day of the Lord, the Great Voice, and the Firm Mandate

So many children of God are running in circles, because they don't hear the Lord's voice behind them.

John is shaken because he no longer sees the Lord Jesus as Savior, but as Christ. He no longer sees Him as One who walked the earth for thirty-three years, healing and helping. No, he sees Him as the eternal One. What strikes us here is the unequivocal clarity of John's mandate: "What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea" (v. 11).

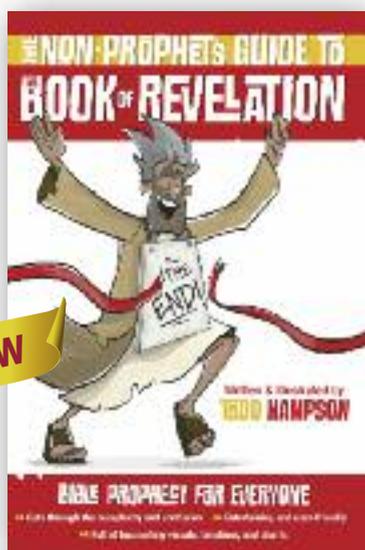
The Lord calls things what they are, so that John knows exactly what he has to do: write down what the Lord has told him. Every possibility of misunderstanding was precluded. His assignment was a great responsibility for him, and he carried it out. Suppose that John had

kept everything that was so abundantly revealed to him for his own edification. He could have said, "I'm so completely alone here right now. How wonderful it is that the Lord is strengthening me so much." Or, he could have said that he was tired and wanted to finally relax a bit. But no, John wrote it down!

The Lord gives us very specific orders. We know these assignments: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15). "Ye shall be witnesses" (Acts 1:8). "Follow me" (Matt 4:19). These are different orders with the same goal; it should be obvious! Have you already carried out your orders? If not, then you've withheld the revelation of Jesus Christ from others! Hurry, because the Age of Grace is soon over.

(MR1119/1047)

## Everything You Wanted to Understand About the Book of Revelation Explained



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# Introducing Reading Moses, Seeing Jesus

Messianic-Jewish Bible teachers Seth D. Postell, Eitan Bar, and Erez Soref wrote their book *Reading Moses, Seeing Jesus* with a specific goal in mind and in light of their particular Israeli backgrounds. They explain themselves here.

**W**e decided to write this short book because questions about the believer's relationship to the Torah (the five Books of Moses, or the Pentateuch) and its commandments (the Law) are among the top five most frequently asked questions on the ONE FOR ISRAEL (<https://www.oneforisrael.org/>) FAQ list. Since Jesus kept the Law, are believers (Jewish and Gentile) also obliged to keep the Law, or at

least some portions of it (Sabbath, the food laws, etc.)? What about the Oral Law (rabbinic traditions)? How does the Torah point to the Messiah? How do we apply the Law of Moses today? Though this book is based on at least a decade of academic research, it is written with the non-academic reader in mind. Our goal is to provide easy-to-understand answers to the questions related to the Torah, and to do so in a manner thor-

# Introducing Reading Moses, Seeing Jesus

We truly hope this little book will stimulate your thinking and challenge you to deepen your appreciation for the person and work of Yeshua by meditating on the Torah day and night (Josh 1:8; Ps 1:2-3).

oroughly rooted in a careful reading of the biblical text.

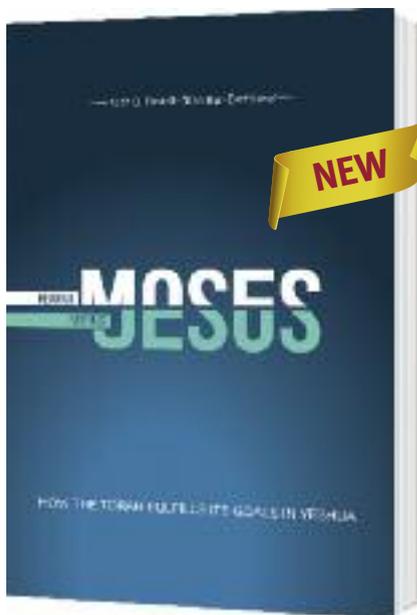
Dr. Seth Postell (PhD in Hebrew Bible) is an academic dean at ONE FOR ISRAEL's Bible College (Israel College of the Bible). Eitan Bar (DMin) is ONE FOR ISRAEL's Director of Media and Evangelism. Dr. Erez Soref (PhD in psychology) is the President of ONE FOR ISRAEL/Israel College of the Bible. Seth, Eitan, and Erez are all Jewish Israeli believers in Yeshua (Jesus).

We truly hope this little book will stimulate your thinking and challenge you to deepen your appreciation for the person and work of Yeshua by meditating on the Torah day and night (Josh 1:8; Ps 1:2-3).

We as authors of this work are influenced by our Jewish surroundings, heritage, and culture, leading us to use terms that may be unfamiliar to some of our readers. Our intent is not to exclude or alienate, but simply to use the linguistic touchstones that make sense in the context of who we are and how we think. In this work you will find a focus on the Hebrew nuances of words from Scripture, references to historical Jewish scholars and their writings (not necessarily biblical), and a general appeal to read

through Jewish eyes, as we reveal textual connections in the hopes that this will deepen insight into the meaning of the story being told in the Torah.

We have tried to be very consistent in our use of the terms "Torah" and "Law." When we use the term "Torah," we are referring to the five Books of Moses as a whole (the Pentateuch). When we use the word "Law," we are referring specifically to the commandments given to Israel. The only exception is when we use quotations from the English Standard Version (ESV). In some cases the ESV uses "Law" (capital L) to refer to the five Books of Moses as a whole (Matt 5:17; 22:40; Luke 16:16; 2:24; Acts 13:15). In other cases, "Law" (capital L) is restricted to the commandments of the Sinai covenant (Matt 12:5; Luke 2:22, 24; Gal 3:10), and sometimes "law" (lowercase l) refers to the commandments of Sinai (Matt 23:23; Acts 13:39; 15:5; 21:24; Rom 2:12). In Romans 3:21, "Law" (capital L) refers to the five Books of Moses and "law" (lowercase l) refers to the commandments of Sinai. The ESV is clearly not consistent. Though we quote from the ESV, our understanding of these terms will be quite clear by the context in which we quote the verse. (MR1119/1044)



## Reading Moses, Seeing Jesus: How the Torah Fulfills Its Goals in Yeshua

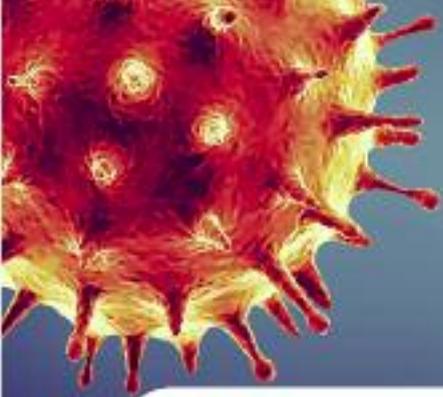
In *Reading Moses, Seeing Jesus*, we give our Messianic Jewish perspective to the following questions:

- What is the purpose of the law?
- Why did God give the Torah in the first place?
- Did Messiah come to point us back to the law?
- Are we under the law?
- Should we follow Rabbinic traditions?
- What about our Hebraic Roots?
- Should we keep the Torah? How?

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128 pgs. • Paperback

**\$12.99 New** Authors: Seth D. Postell, Eitan Bar, Erez Soref



# WORLD FOCUS

## GERMANY

### Coronavirus Diagnostic Tests to the US

German molecular testing company Qiagen NV said it has begun shipping its diagnostic test for COVID-19 to the United States.



 The test kit, QIAstat-Dx Respiratory SARS-CoV-2 Panel, requires less than one minute for sample preparation and can deliver results in about one hour, the company said.

Shipments come under a new policy laid out by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to help accelerate the availability of coronavirus diagnostic tests, developed by laboratories and commercial manufacturers during the public health emergency.

The company intends to submit an application for the related Emergency Use Authorization to the FDA, Qiagen said.

The test kit can differentiate the coronavirus from 20 other respiratory infections in patients who may have similar symptoms, in a single test run of about one hour.

Qiagen, which is being bought by Thermo Fisher Scientific in an \$11.5 billion deal, has already received 'CE' marking, a kind of fit-for-use certificate, for the diagnostic test in Europe.

-*www.reuters.com*, 24 March 2020

**Commentary:** This obviously is good news for the US. The product will be able to de-

liver results in about an hour. If hundreds of millions—if not billions—of such diagnostic tests were made available, it would free the bulk of the work force to continue their employment. In the United States, as of 26 March 2020, over 75,000 cases of coronavirus are confirmed, with approximately 1,100 deaths. In simple terms, an almost insignificant number of people would have to be quarantined. From around the globe, we receive news that new test kits are being created and manufactured in mass.

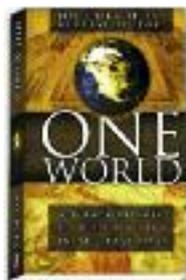
Coronavirus has not been conquered, and it seems there is more to come. But, as previously mentioned, coronavirus will be conquered.

During the G-20 videoconference, Chinese president Xi stated, “The international community must strengthen their confidence and act with unity on COVID-19 and practice collective action for global economic recovery.” A report from xinhuanet.com is headlined, “As China Recovers from COVID-19 Blow, Chinese Rush to Europe’s Rescue”:

“Dozens of boxes containing 50,000 medical masks dispatched from Changsha in south-central China were handed over to Bedburg city officials in eastern Germany. Written on the boxes was a German proverb, which translates as ‘mountains and valleys don’t come together, but humans do.’”

Unity at all costs; globalism is now more than ever a must. 7214

(See *One World*, Item #2203, \$15.99.)



## UN

### Tuberculosis World’s Deadliest Disease

Tuberculosis kills more people than any other infectious disease, according to information shared by the United Nations (UN).



 Around 1.5 million people died from the bacterial infection in 2018, the World Health Organization (WHO) reported, bringing attention to World Tuberculosis Day on March 24.

Approximately 10 million people are infected with tuberculosis every year, the WHO said on its website. Only a small portion of global cases receive the necessary life-saving medicine.

Over 4,000 people die of tuberculosis every day.

WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said that the current coronavirus pandemic demonstrates how vulnerable patients with lung conditions or weakened immune systems are to the new outbreak. Tuberculosis is a disease affecting primarily the lungs.

“For millions of people with tuberculosis, the coronavirus represents a significant danger because their lungs are already weakened by tuberculosis, their general health is low due to poverty, and they don’t have access to adequate healthcare,” Burkard Kömm, direc-

*(continued next page)*

 SWEDEN

## Avoids Lockdown for COVID-19

While most of Europe is firmly locked down in a bid to curb the spread of COVID-19, Sweden is taking a softer line, keeping primary schools, restaurants and bars open and even encouraging people to go outside for a nip of air.



Swedish government resists calls for lockdown with schools, bars and restaurants remaining open

 This stands in stark contrast to the urgent tone elsewhere and has sparked heated debate on whether Sweden is really doing the right thing.

“We cannot allow the human desperation in Wuhan and Bergamo to be repeated in Sweden. That would be a gamble that violates society’s most fundamental principle: that every

person has an inherent value,” the editor-in-chief of Sweden’s biggest newspaper, *Dagens Nyheter*, wrote, calling for either tougher measures or more widespread coronavirus testing.

Prime Minister Stefan Lofven, in a televised speech, urged people to “take responsibility” and follow the government’s recommendations.

Those include working from home if you can, staying home if you feel sick, practice social distancing, and stay home if you belong to a risk group or are over the age of 70.

Sweden’s former state epidemiologist and current advisor to the World Health Organization (WHO), Johan Giesecke, encouraged Swedes to go out and enjoy the spring sun.

“Bring a friend and walk a meter apart. Don’t hug your neighbor. Bring a thermos and sit on a park bench. It’s bad for your health to sit at home too,” Giesecke told broadcaster SVT’s morning show.

Right or wrong, Sweden does not seem to have a worse virus problem than its neighbors, according to the numbers of declared cases.

On [March 24], Sweden reported 2,272 confirmed cases of the new coronavirus, while Norway and Denmark—which each

have around half the population of Sweden—reported 2,566 and 1,577 cases, respectively.

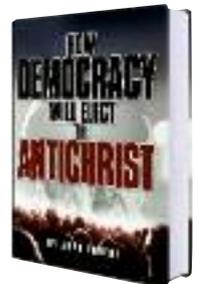
-*news.yahoo.com*, 24 March 2020

**Commentary:** Sweden, a country with barely 11 million people, is another super-successful nation. GDP per capita stood at \$51,200 in 2017. Like all successful countries, exports are \$165.6 billion, with imports \$153.2 billion. Healthcare is supported by 5.2 physicians per 1,000 people.

Sweden’s industrial power will continue to operate, although somewhat reduced. It is of interest that the Scandinavian counties usually come out as the best in the world, yet coronavirus knows no borders. It’s global, it’s unprecedented, and we believe it is due to an unearthly higher power, which will contribute toward the unification of the nations of the world.

We must keep in mind that Antichrist and his spirit attempt to mimic the real Christ and the real Church. Thus, coronavirus is an excellent opportunity for the nations to dialog even more openly. 7211

(See *How Democracy Will Elect the Antichrist*, Item #1064, \$17.95.)



## Tuberculosis (continued from page 27)

tor of the agency German Leprosy and Tuberculosis Relief (DAH) told German news agency EPD.

In Asia and Africa, it is tuberculosis patients who are most likely to be killed by the coronavirus.

-*www.du.com/en*, 24 March 2020

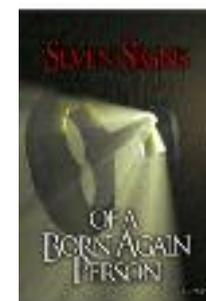
**Commentary:** When reading or hearing news about coronavirus, we are reminded of the many different types of infectious diseases experienced throughout human history.

During Biblical times, we know that the Ark of the Covenant was misused by the children of Israel and captured by the Philistines. First Samuel 5:1 reads: “And the Philistines

took the ark of God, and brought it from Ebenezer unto Ashdod.” During those days, judgment was directly executed by God, as we can read in verse 6: “But the hand of the Lord was heavy upon them of Ashdod, and he destroyed them, and smote them with emerods, even Ashdod and the coasts thereof.” While the Hebrew word *ophel* is translated “emerods,” “tumor” can also be used.

The question often asked is, does God punish when tornadoes, tsunamis, earthquakes or, in this case, disease comes upon humanity? Our answer is a definite no, for if God were to punish us for our sins, none would be alive today. But in these develop-

ments, tragedies, catastrophes, and diseases, we recognize that they are nevertheless warning signs for humanity. Because even if coronavirus is conquered, that will not be the end of pestilences by whatever name. Thus, it is high time to recognize that there is only



one escape, and that is faith in Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world, the Messiah of Israel, and our soon-returning Lord. 7213

(See *Seven Signs of a Born Again Person*, Item #1030, SALE \$1.)

 **USA**

## Pastor Defies Government Order

On [a] Sunday, Pastor Tony Spell said his Life Tabernacle Church in Baton Rouge drew about 1,000 people to its services, in part by busing people in from across five parishes.

 The pastor plans to hold services again, despite the governor's stay-at-home orders, a petition seeking his arrest and a flood of criticism from fellow Christians.

"If they close every door in this city, then I will close my doors," Spell told CNN. "But you can't say the retailers are essential but the church is not. That is a persecution of the faith."

Spell has told CNN he believes the pandemic is "politically motivated."

As the novel coronavirus spreads across the world, nearly every faith group has closed its holy sites and houses of worship. But there remain a defiant few pastors and religious leaders who refuse to close their doors, accusing the government of overreach and imposing on their religious freedom.

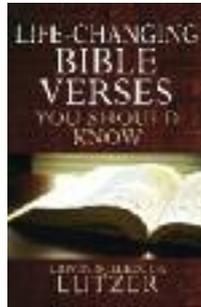
Earlier in March, Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards issued an emergency order barring gatherings of larger than 50 people to stop the spread of Covid-19.

"The White House has strongly recommended that all Americans, including pastors, follow CDC guidelines by limiting groups to 10 people and practicing social distancing. President Trump encourages Americans of all religious backgrounds to do their part to stay healthy and stop the spread."

-[www.cnn.com](http://www.cnn.com), 24 March 2020

**Commentary:** "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and

they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation" (Romans 13:1-2). "Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme" (1 Peter 2:13). Incidentally, worship is not limited to gathering at any facility, but true worship of a true believer means 24 hours, seven days a week.



7215

(See *Life-changing Bible Verses You Should Know*, Item #2299, \$12.99.)

 **BRAZIL**

## China Offers Help to Fight Coronavirus

As Brazil's largest city went into lockdown, President Jair Bolsonaro took aim at the "hysteria" over the coronavirus and urged that life must continue and jobs be preserved.



**A woman wearing a protective face mask walks in front of Banco do Brasil (Bank of Brazil) cultural building during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak in Sao Paulo, Brazil** REUTERS/Amanda Perobelli

 Economic prospects for Brazil, Latin America's largest economy, are worsening amid the pandemic. Data showed consumer confidence fell to a

three-year low in March, and retail sales in January declined at the fastest rate in over a year, indicating consumer spending was off to a weak start in 2020, even before the coronavirus outbreak.

Earlier, Bolsonaro patched up a diplomatic spat with China, agreeing in a call with President Xi Jinping to fight the spread of the coronavirus together.

The dispute began when Bolsonaro's son blamed Chinese authoritarianism for preventing faster action against the coronavirus.

Xi and Bolsonaro's conversation included discussion of cooperation in medical supplies, Chinese Ambassador Yang Wanming said on Twitter, without providing details.

A Chinese diplomatic source said the country, which has seen some success in taming the virus through severe lockdown measures, would provide Brazil "with material and technical assistance to the best of its ability."

-[www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com), 24 March 2020

**Commentary:** This seems quite strange: communist China is becoming the benevolent nation of the world—helping where help is needed. Brazil's president Bolsonaro had to swallow his pride. After being elected in October of 2018, he ordered Cuban healthcare workers out of the country. Now, he is virtually begging for them to come back. Here Proverbs 16:18-19 is applicable: "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.



Better it is to be of an humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud."

7216

(See *Misquoted*, Item #2360, \$14.99.)

 DENMARK

## Government Pays 75% of Salaries During Pandemic

The Danish government told private companies hit by the effects of the pandemic that it would pay 75 percent of their employees' salaries to avoid mass layoffs.



H. ARMSTRONG ROBERTS / GETTY / THE ATLANTIC

 To find out more, I corresponded with Flemming Larsen, a professor at the Center for Labor Market Research at Denmark's Aalborg University, over two days of emails and an hour-long Skype call. The following interview blends those conversations, which have been edited for length and clarity.

**Derek Thompson:** Could you first give me a sense of what's happening on the ground in Denmark? What do the streets look like?

**Flemming Larsen:** Denmark has nearly entirely closed down universities, schools, public institutions, restaurants, museums, cinemas. No assembly of more than 10 persons is allowed. The borders have been closed too.

**Thompson:** Denmark's government has announced a very aggressive plan to help workers in the next few months. Tell me what it's doing.

**Larsen:** Denmark's government agreed to cover the cost of employees' salaries at private companies as long as those companies do not fire people. If a company makes a notice saying that it has to either lay off 30 percent of their workers or fire at least 50 people, the state has agreed to take on 75 percent of workers' salaries, up to \$3,288 per month. (This would preserve the income for all employees earning up to \$52,400 per year.)

The philosophy here is that the government wants companies to preserve their relationship with their workers. It's going to be harder to have a strong recovery if companies have

to spend time hiring back workers that have been fired. The plan will last for three months, after which point they hope things come back to normal.

-*www.theatlantic.com*, 21 March 2020

**Commentary:** Denmark is in the category of the super-rich nations. This is based on the criteria of imports and exports, which clearly shows the health of the nation. Life expectancy stands at 81.2 years, with 4.46 doctors per 1,000 in population. Quite obviously, these are drastic measures for the government. But, as is self-evident, the well-being of the workforce goes hand-in-hand with the well-being of their economy, both now and especially in the future. As an EU member, Denmark is at the forefront with practical socialism; all for one, one for all. This reminds us of Genesis 11:6: "And the Lord said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do."

7210

(See *New Babylon Rising*, Item #2359, SALE \$14.)

 ISRAEL

## Religious Leaders: Coronavirus Sign of Messiah's Coming

Hardline rabbis, Christian pastors and Muslim preachers have all weighed in on the religious significance of the outbreak.

 Chief Rabbi of Safed Shmuel Eliyahu posted a video to YouTube in which he noted that people have been asking him why the coronavirus pandemic has been sent to the world by God.

In answering, Eliyahu said that the world was coming closer to "the days of the Messiah," and went on to imply that the coronavirus outbreak

was bringing about greater adherence to God's word.

Eliyahu, a hardline right-wing religious leader, noted the recent comments of Pope Francis, who has called for stricter observance of the Sabbath by Christians and has spoken approvingly of Jewish observance of Shabbat.

"Maybe the Muslims will tell us to build the Temple," continued the rabbi, something which is often understood will herald the coming of the messiah.

Another hardline leader of the religious right, Rabbi Shlomo Aviner, wrote that the coronavirus is a rectification for humankind's arrogance and haughtiness, and a rebuke to moral relativism.

"In our days, man thinks he is God, that he is the master and can decide what is good and bad, something which is called moral relativism

or postmodernism," wrote Aviner on the Kipa news website.

-*www.jpost.com*, 17 March 2020

**Commentary:** They are called hardline, right-wing religious leaders, and they are expressing their expectation for the coming of the Messiah. Is the coronavirus epidemic a punishment of God, or a sign of the coming of the Messiah? We think the opposite is true. Why? Because Antichrist is coming first, before Jesus' return to the Mount of Olives. He is the false messiah, the one Jesus spoke of: "I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive" (John 5:43).

7206

(See *Who Is the Antichrist?* Item #2254, SALE \$10.)

**TURKEY**

## US Offers Patriot Systems If S-400s Unboxed

The United States has offered to sell Turkey its Patriot missile defense system if Ankara promises not to operate a rival Russian system, Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan said, in what he called a significant softening in Washington's position.



**Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan attends a joint news conference with Russian President Vladimir Putin (not pictured) following their talks in Moscow, Russia**  
Pavel Golovkin/Pool via REUTERS

NATO allies Turkey and the United States have been at odds over Ankara's purchase last year of the S-400s, which Washington says are incompatible with the alliance's defense systems.

Previous talks between Turkey and the United States on the purchase of the Patriots have collapsed over a host of issues, from the S-400s to Ankara's dissatisfaction with Washington's terms. Turkey has said it will only agree to an offer if it includes technology transfer and joint production terms.

While ties between Ankara and Washington have been strained, the United States has offered support for its ally as it battles to stop Russia-backed Syrian government advances in Idlib.

A separate Turkish official told Reuters the latest offer by Washington also included Turkey's return to the F-35 stealth fighter jet

program, which Turkey was involved in both as manufacturer of plane parts and customer for the jets.

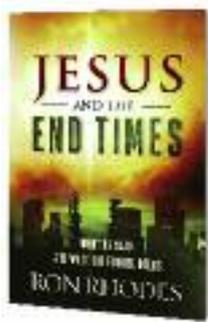
After Ankara bought the S-400s, Washington suspended its involvement in the program and threatened sanctions.

"There is a U.S. offer for Patriots, but this offer includes the F-35s," the Turkish official said, speaking on condition of anonymity. "Air defense systems can be purchased, but Turkey's conditions are clear: there has to be issues like the know-how transfer and joint production."

-www.reuters.com, 10 March 2020

**Commentary:** Turkey is also at odds with the European Union. It was way back in 1995 when Turkey signed a Customs Union agreement with the EU, and thereby was recognized as a candidate for eventual full membership. Negotiations for full membership began in October 2005, although in recent years, progress has slowed to a crawl.

What does this mean prophetically? First, we are reminded of Jesus' words: "...ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars" (Matthew 24:6a). Wars need weapons, and they are being produced the world over, with the US as the leader. We are still in the time of which the prophet Joel prophesied: "Proclaim ye this among the Gentiles; Prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near; let them come up: Beat your plowshares into swords and your pruning-hooks into spears: let the weak say, I am strong" (Joel 3:9-10).



7209  
(See *Jesus and the End Times*, Item #2356, \$15.99.)

**FINLAND**

## No 'Gay Gene' Found in International Study

"We scanned the entire human genome and found a handful—five to be precise—of locations that are clearly associated with whether a person reports in engaging in same-sex sexual behavior," said Andrea Ganna, a biologist at the Institute of Molecular Medicine in Finland who co-led the research.



**People dance during the Youth Pride event as part of World Pride and Stonewall anniversary in New York, U.S., June 29, 2019.**  
REUTERS/Eduardo Munoz

He said these have "a very small effect" and, combined, explain "considerably less than 1% of the variance in the self-reported same-sex sexual behavior."

This means that non-genetic factors—such as environment, upbringing, personality, nurture—are far more significant in influencing a person's choice of sexual partner, just as with most other personality, behavioral and physical human traits, the researchers said.

The study—the largest of its kind—analyzed survey responses and performed analyses known as genome-wide association studies (GWAS) on data from more than 470,000 people who had given DNA samples and lifestyle information to the UK Biobank and to the U.S. genetics testing company 23andMeInc.

The results, published in the journal *Science*, found no clear patterns among genetic variants that could be used to meaningfully

(continued next page)

**CHINA**

# CIA Hacking Campaign Uncovered

Chinese anti virus firm Qihoo 360 said CIA hackers have spent more than a decade breaking into the Chinese airline industry and other targets, a blunt allegation of American espionage from a Beijing-based firm.

Qihoo published a catalog of intercepted malicious software samples as well as an analysis of their creation times that suggested that whoever devised the tools did so during working hours on the U.S. East Coast.

The United States—like China and other world powers—rarely comments when accused of cyberespionage. There has, however, long been evidence in the public domain—released by former NSA contractor Edward Snowden, in the U.S. case, or by U.S. prosecutors and private cybersecurity firms, in China’s case—that both countries hack their opponents.



A sign of Qihoo 360 Technology Co Ltd is pictured at Internet Security Conference 2018 in Beijing, China  
REUTERS/Jason Lee/File Photo

The allegations leveled against Beijing by U.S. companies have for years been laid out in lengthy, data-heavy reports. More recently, Chinese companies have begun doing the same with respect to other foreign hacking groups.

The timing of Qihoo’s most recent publication could be related to [the] indictment of four Chinese military hackers over a massive breach at U.S. credit reporting agency Equifax, said Adam Segal, who studies China and cybersecurity issues at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York.

-www.reuters.com, 3 March 2020

**Commentary:** This is the other side of the story. Countries, by whatever name, spy on each other as much as possible, and now—by hacking—spies can obtain an extraordinary volume of information not available to the public. Australian investigative journalist Julian Assange, a computer programmer and founder of WikiLeaks, has extensively published US government secrets and is presently fighting extradition to the US. But he is not the only one; there are literally millions of hackers around the globe. This will, in the not-too-distant future, force a global counter-intelligence organization, with an infrastructure to enforce laws protecting sensitive materials. However, that’s not the end either; when the god of this world finally produces his superman Antichrist, and associate the false prophet, the world will in unison admire this world leader.

For us as Christians, it is good news, because our redemption draws nigh. It is much later than many of us think.

7196

(See *The Great Mystery of the Rapture*, Item #1038, **CLEAR-ANCE \$7.**)

## ‘Gay Gene’ (continued from page 31)

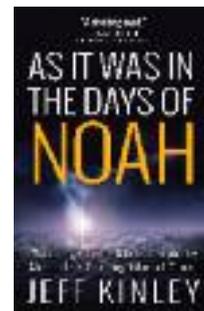
predict or identify a person’s sexual behavior, the researchers said.

-www.reuters.com, 29 August 2019

**Commentary:** Genesis 1:27 states, “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.” Chapter 2, verse 24 documents: “Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.” When it comes to the great human controversy in the end times, it is best to let Scripture speak. “Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the

natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient” (Romans 1:25-28).

As the study shows, there are many contributing factors to such behavior, but the bottom line is still the free will of man. It is a free will choice, or as the group in question proudly proclaims, “preference.” The Bible, however, leaves no room



for any preference outside marriage between husband and wife.

7187

(See *As It Was in the Days of Noah*, Item #2286, \$11.99.)

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**Note:** All letters will be answered by the Executive Editor, Arno Froese.

# EZEKIEL TEMPLE... MASONIC FOUNDING FATHERS... IS JERUSALEM BABYLON?

### **Ezekiel Temple**

I always enjoy your magazine and the insight you give. Could you please share your thoughts on this subject: what is the role or significance of Ezekiel's temple? With all the sacrifices listed, I can't see where it has a purpose in the future. My understanding is that it's not a design used in past temples. So, where does it fit in the big picture? Any help is greatly appreciated.

*-M. Evans, FL*

**Answer:** The Ezekiel temple is indeed a mysterious prophecy, and opinions differ. If I'm not mistaken, Arnold Fruchtenbaum insists that a temple of gigantic proportions will be in the land of Israel one day. Others say this is a spiritual exhibition. Quite frankly, I am at a loss to give you a big picture of it. What I do know is that the heavenly Jerusalem will come down, I assume to earth. And, Revelation 21:22 states, "And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it."

### **Masonic Founding Fathers**

I enjoy reading your magazine. It offers many worldly articles in which you respond in a Biblical way. Your faith-inspired articles are very informative.

One thing to keep in mind when people ask about America and Christianity: please be kind to these people, as they are patriotic to America because this country has provided Christian ministries/missionaries to countries throughout the world.

Our Founding Fathers were 99 percent Christian, and implemented Christian denominations in all 13 Colonies. The Bible was their main tool for education, even when they were in the old country. They used the Bible to write the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution and Bill of Rights.

America is not mentioned by name in the Bible like Israel, but nations of the future are symbolized as an animal's name. America is the eagle and is mentioned as such in the Old and New Testament. In Revelation, Israel is protected by the eagle when the Antichrist comes to power, until Christ returns at the end of the Tribulation.

I value my Christian heritage and my American heritage because of the Christian background America has. This is a fact. All one has to do is read their letters and the historical documents. Wallbuilders has a lot of info on our Christian heritage as Americans.



Yes, they were sinful men, and so are we. They knew they were sinful and said so, and implemented our documents to set up this form of government because of that. Unfortunately, they also knew that if un-Christian people and unpatriotic people were to get elected, this form of government would not work, as it was set up for a primarily Christian nation.

-J. Kiel, WI

**Answer:** The USA has done a tremendous job when it comes to Christian ministries and missionaries. But there is no evidence that any of the Founding Fathers were Christians. For example, Thomas Jefferson was at best an agnostic, at worst a blasphemer. He carefully cut out the miracles of Jesus in his Bible; to him they were fairy tales.

There is much good to be said about the USA, but that's no reason to hide the evil. Incidentally, your "American heritage" will not make you free; only the Truth will (see John 8:32).

Actually, the British Crown implemented the Christian religion. Also, they built harbors, roads, churches, schools, hospitals, government facilities, etc. The Bible was **the** book in the European world, and everyone used it to their own intersection. Besides, virtually all nations are founded upon Biblical principles. You will not find a government that encourages children to be disobedient to their parents, to kill, commit adultery, steal, lie, or covet what's not yours.

By the way, the eagle as a national symbol, is used by approximately two dozen countries.

### Is Jerusalem Babylon?

Dear Editor Arno,

I appreciate your effort through the years to publish a doctrinally sound magazine in tune with the prophetic Word.

As one of the most recent "Letters to the Editor" suggested, Jerusalem is spiritually but not literally Babylon. I must question to find out what this all means.

While the glory of ancient Babylon is long gone, Jerusalem today has a glorious future ahead where "the King of glory shall come in" (Psalm 24:9).

It seems to me, the quote from Ezekiel 16:47 you used was (in context) about Israel's pending captivity into ancient Babylon, and not about the hated but thriving Israel we see today.

Is Israel destined to become the final Babylon? I certainly don't see it in Scripture.

True, two mosques occupy where Israel's holy temple once stood, and Gentile paganized shrines appear on holy sites throughout Jerusalem. If that's the rising Jerusalem Babylon referred to in *Midnight Call*, we know all that will change when our Savior's feet touch down on the Mount of Olives. "I will establish unto thee [Jerusalem] an everlasting covenant" (Ezekiel 16:60b).

-W. Shuttleworth, FL

**Answer:** Antichrist is Satan's masterpiece and the epitome of evil. In real life here on earth, he will be the greatest miracle worker of all time. Daniel describes his super success in chapter 8, verses 24-25. He gives additional details in chapter 11, verses 21-23, and in verse 36 we find the words "and shall prosper." Verse 37 concludes: "he shall magnify himself above all." That is Antichrist, which means instead of Christ, the fake one. He is actually the one Israel is looking for: someone who can make peace, guarantee security, and create prosperity. That's really happening right now, and has been in preparation for the last 2,000 years.

We know Israelis are definitely the smartest, bravest, and most successful people on earth. But they are equally the most liberal ones. Their Declaration of Independence repeatedly states that they want to be just like all other nations. Which is why Jesus states in John 5:43: "I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive." Yet that does not change Israel's eternal position, as you aptly conclude with Ezekiel 16:60.

### Inherited Sin?

Dear Arno Froese,

I am totally amazed at how much you know about the Bible.

I wanted to ask about sin; someplace in the Bible, it says that the sins of the fathers are

passed down through generations. I do not know how many generations it is passed down, or if it is considered a sin on the part of the descendants.

One other question: could you give me a good way to read the Bible so I can comprehend it? What is the correct Bible? The Bible that I presently own is the King James Version. I had the Living Bible over 45 years ago. I had been given the Book of Mormon from someone I dated 35 years ago, but I couldn't really get into either one of those Bibles. I have been told that a person can read a Bible in a year, with only 15 minutes a day of reading. I have never taken an Evelyn Wood Speed Reading Course in my life. I do have one big advantage: I am close to retirement. Then I will have more than 15 minutes a day to read the Bible.

-R. Rager, MD

**Answer:** Deuteronomy 24:16 reads, "The fathers shall not be put to death for the children, neither shall the children

be put to death for the fathers: every man shall be put to death for his own sin." See also Ezekiel 18:20. The other Scripture relating to passing on sins to another generation is Exodus 34:7b, "visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth generation." It simply means that the children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, etc. will follow in the footsteps of the parent who committed the original sin. Today, we follow in the footsteps of Adam and Eve. But each person is totally responsible for his or her actions while here on earth.

Reading the whole Bible actually takes only 48 hours. How do you achieve it? Just read. Although I use the KJV in English, and have read it many times during my 53 years as a believer, I find that the NIV is the easiest to read and to understand.

You ask which is the correct Bible. There is only one, but there are hundreds of different translations. Virtually all say the same thing: man is sinful, and God provided a remedy for sin—a substitute, which is Jesus Christ the Lord (see John 3:16). (MC)

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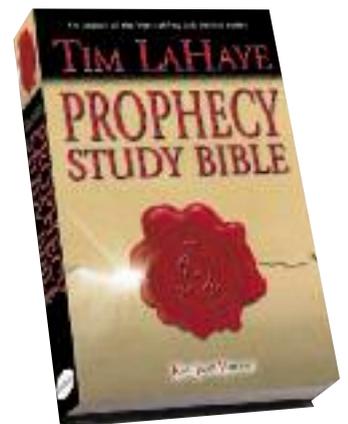
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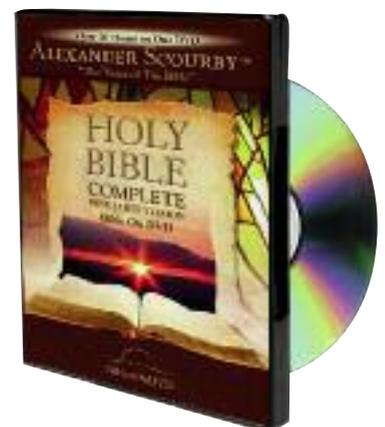
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# Action for Israel



MIDNIGHT CALL

“And the Lord said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the Lord” (Job 1:12).

BY ARNO FROESE

Since the coronavirus has reached virtually all countries globally, the question is being asked repeatedly: Is this punishment from God against a sinful world? We answer with a resounding no. Why? Because, if He would punish sin immediately, then none of us would be alive today. The world would literally be empty of humans.

In Job’s case, we know that God’s testimony of him was perfect, “There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil” (Job 1:1). In the above introductory Scripture, the Lord gives Satan authority over all Job’s household except, “...only upon himself put not forth thine hand.” Satan did so; he took away Job’s servants, his herd of sheep, his camels, and finally his seven sons and three daughters. What was Job’s answer? “The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord” (Job 1:21b).

Satan wanted more, and again the Lord gives him authority, “And the Lord said unto Satan, Behold, he is in thine hand; but save his life” (Job 2:6).

## Message to Israel

Contrary to Job, Israel is not a perfect and upright nation that fears God and opposes evil. However—and this is most

important for the Gentile world to realize—Israel is different. God has chosen them for a very specific purpose, and that is to make His will known to the entire world. Not without reason does Jesus Himself state, “Salvation is of the Jews.”

To no other nation, tribe, or family did God give the promise He gave through Moses to His people: “For thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God: the Lord thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth. The Lord did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people” (Deuteronomy 7:6-7).

That, incidentally, is what all nations of the world, without exception, desire to be: “above all people that are upon the face of the earth.” Yet, they do not realize that to be chosen also means to suffer. And the Jews have suffered like no other people on earth. Historians reveal that over 14 million Jews were killed during the last 2,000 years by Gentile nations, the worst being the Holocaust perpetrated by Nazi Germany.

## Coronavirus

As of 17 March 2020, the *Jerusalem Post* reports: “Some 324 Israelis are infected

That is what all nations of the world, without exception, desire to be: “above all people that are upon the face of the earth.” Yet, they do not realize that to be chosen also means to suffer.

with the novel coronavirus, 5 of them in serious condition.”

On 27 February 2020, the paper revealed, “Israeli scientists are on the cusp of developing the first vaccine against the novel coronavirus according to the science and technology minister, Ofir Akunis. If all goes as planned, the vaccine could be ready [...] and available in 90 days.”

Scientists by the thousands the world over are feverishly seeking ways and means to contain the spread, even to eradicate the virus. While no one knows the result at this time, we are quite confident that Israeli scientists will be a contributing factor.

### Global Response

In general, we think and often wrongly believe that mankind is able to overcome everything that comes its way. This theory is based on past experience, whether it was the Black Death, the Spanish flu,

cholera, Ebola, and innumerable other diseases. All have been overcome, or at least curtailed. But this coronavirus is different.

It becomes most evident that the world’s leaders—with all their intellectual power—are at a loss to explain the *why*. Bible readers, however, know the *why*. It is Satan’s master plan to unite the world more closely than ever before. Now it’s in the medical sphere, which severely affects finance and merchandising. There is no doubt that the world will work more closely together than ever before. Globalism is becoming an absolute must, and we add: globalism is super successful in uniting the nations of the world, with the goal of peace, prosperity, and security for all. That, we know, is what all nations of the world want, and that’s exactly the condition for the great dragon to produce his two supermen: Antichrist and the false prophet. (MC)



MIDNIGHT CALL

“I will bless them that bless thee...”  
(Genesis 12:3).

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 ARGENTINA

# God's Word Helps in Hardship

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus consistently raises people up at just the right moment. A field report.

BY ERICH AND JUTTA SCHÄFER

**I**t's a particular joy to not be alone in the service of our Lord. Lately, many brothers and sisters in the faith of all ages have set their own interests aside and gone to work for Him with love and sincere enthusiasm—distributing tracts on plazas, trains, and bus stops, or participating in evangelistic activities along the river.

Full of anticipation, but also with a certain anxiety—in light of difficult cases and the great needs of the poor we encounter in the hospital—we consistently visit hospital rooms in pairs. The nursing staff will frequently point out the patients and their companions who need special help and encouragement from God's Word. Most

have never heard the good news of the Lord Jesus Christ, and listen intently. God's love and His great grace are so powerful and unique that many of these people seize salvation in faith and give their lives to the Lord Jesus. He grants them comfort and hope in the midst of deepest suffering. A young couple told us, "We know that our child will die, but the Lord Jesus will give us strength to persevere. We're glad that we have eternal life now, and will belong to Him forever."

We were also able to witness a great miracle of God's grace in the life of Christian, the truck driver who delivers the paper our tracts are



**“We know that our child will die, but the Lord Jesus will give us strength to persevere. We’re glad that we have eternal life now, and will belong to Him forever.” – A young married couple**



**A team of younger and older brothers and sisters in the faith, out and about for the Lord**



**There are many needs in the children’s hospital**



**Christian, the truck driver, came to a living faith in Jesus**

printed on. One time after he had unloaded the pallets, we suddenly noticed that he was very depressed. His sins were troubling him very much. I (Erich) explained the good news of the Cross, on which the Lord Jesus suffered for his sins, and paid the price of his redemption for him. At that, Christian spontaneously knelt down in the print shop and asked the Lord for forgiveness. After an *abrazo* (a firm hug), I gave him a copy of *En el Camino Nuevo*

(“On the New Way”), a support resource for new life as a Christian.

When Christian made his most recent delivery, he was beaming and said that he’s reading God’s Word, as well as the literature we’d given him and the Good Seed calendar. Amazed, he said, “I don’t know how it’s possible! The devotions always apply right to my life. They’re written just for me!”

(MR0320)



“To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever” (Jude 25).

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# “Bear one another’s burdens and thereby fulfill the law of [Messiah]”

(Galatians 6:2).

**By David Phillips**

*Project Manager*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Yeshua,

I greet you with a warm Shalom from the Ebenezer Home in Haifa.

It is not easy to manage and work in a senior citizens’ home in these times, not even in Israel.

We are in meaningful days; it’s a “war” without gunfire and missiles, and with one enemy: a “microscopic virus” that we don’t even see. We don’t fight it with modern warfare, but through prayer and keeping “super hygiene” rules.

In these difficult days, we are asked to follow the instructions given by the authorities: 2 meters between people, only two people in a car, no public means of transportation, only important purchases (food and medicine). Schools and universities are closed; we can no longer go out to the park or into nature—just nothing.

Separation, isolation, seclusion, and quarantine; terms that have been used to express how we are supposed to respond to the coronavirus pandemic. Along with those terms comes a new one: social distancing. As if we haven’t already done this during the last one or two decades. We are social beings by nature and by design. Some of us live in the concrete jungle. Others in community settings of many different kinds. We are used to relating to one another face-to-face, physically. Sing, praise, eat, drink coffee together—is no more. We truly need to have discernment to know what is beneficial and what is destructive socially, mentally, ethically, morally, and even physically.

At the Ebenezer Home:

“Every hand that we don’t shake, must become a smile. Every embrace that we avoid, must become a verbal expression of warmth and concern. Every inch and every foot that we physically place between ourselves and another, must become a thought as to how we might be of help to others, should the need arise, and be turned into a prayer as well.”

For the senior citizens’ home this means: no more visitors are allowed. The employees have to take their temperature every day before starting work, and report if they don’t feel well; e.g., if you have a sore throat, then stay at home. It is about protecting our residents from the risk of disease. The residents are allowed to walk in the garden two to three times a week, take a breath of fresh air and enjoy the sunshine, or they can sit out on their balcony. Juan always gives an organ concert, the needlework in our activity room continues... there is at least something for everyone to do. But all keep a 6.5-foot distance from each other.

Yes, it’s not that easy, but thank the Lord that everyone understands the situation so far and helps with whatever one can do. In our community as the “Ebenezer Family,” we notice that it brings us closer to each other and strengthens us in our faith. We now have our own driving service set up for employees who do not have a car, to bring them back and forth between work and home.



The whole coronavirus state of emergency gave us an unexpected cost for the Home; disinfectant materials, more laundry, disposals like masks, gloves, and suits. And with some volunteers having to leave, it means more employees have to work and be paid instead. Sometimes I think: “This is unreal; no one thought this would happen,” but the Father knows and HE takes care of us.

Being separated from one another doesn't have to mean being cut off from one another. A burden shared is a burden half lifted. Be in touch...from a distance for the time being! If you feel led in your heart to encourage the residents, please go on our website ([www.ebenezer.co.il](http://www.ebenezer.co.il)) and use the contact form to write a greeting/encouragement to the residents and/or team.

We are grateful for the willingness and dedication of our employees to help wherever possible and necessary. This is not easy, because most of them have to take care of their own family and relatives. All our volunteers work with dedication and love, and give their maximum. Three volunteers are still at the Home, while four others needed to leave for their homeland.

As for the technical work in the home, everything continues. I recently had an unusual task: to change an old valve. Since the stores are closed—making spare parts unavailable—even though we are well stocked with different supplies, I had to (and could) improvise, upon realizing I did not have the specific part I needed. It really reminded me of my grandfather's stories of WWII. We in Israel are used to emergency situations, like being in war, and therefore always have things in stock. But even in times of war, stores are open. But not now—NOTHING.

Personally, I am thankful to God for the health of my whole family. Other than the “house arrest,” all is well.

But that doesn't change our situation drastically here at the Home and in general. The biggest change comes for the people here in Israel who

normally visit bars, restaurants, cinemas, etc. Often, their lives are based on various form of entertainment. They have no grounding in faith. One of the things that we as believers in Yeshua feel right now, is how strange it is not to go to worship together; we now use the media as much we can to have our congregations online.

Our prayer is, “May the true word of God spread faster than the virus and reach every place.”

I would like to quote from the book of Job, verses that have personally encouraged me.

From Job 5:19-27:

“He shall deliver thee in six troubles: yea, in seven there shall no evil touch thee. In famine he shall redeem thee from death: and in war from the power of the sword. Thou shalt be hid from the scourge of the tongue: neither shalt thou be afraid of destruction when it cometh. At destruction and famine thou shalt laugh: neither shalt thou be afraid of the beasts of the earth. For thou shalt be in league with the stones of the field: and the beasts of the field shall be at peace with thee. And thou shalt know that thy tabernacle shall be in peace; and thou shalt visit thy habitation, and shalt not sin. Thou shalt know also that thy seed shall be great, and thine offspring as the grass of the earth. Thou shalt come to thy grave in a full age, like as a shock of corn cometh in in his season. Lo this, we have searched it, so it is; hear it, and know thou it for thy good.”

Here a report by one of our volunteers from Germany:

I am currently translating some of the life stories of the residents, which often seem incredible, and which cannot be compared to my prosperous life. But, in our current state of emergency, I can now better understand what it means to have one's freedom limited, to put your own needs aside, and to do without things.

Within two days, our apartment for the volunteers, which had consisted of seven, went down to just three. From my home group, I am the last of six who are still here in Israel—which is a strange



feeling. Especially because the current situation affects the entire world. Where is my place? For a few days, I sat on “packed suitcases,” and didn’t know if I would be back in Germany the next day. I’ve never found myself in such an exceptional situation, and can hardly keep up; constantly, there are new instructions. What’s next? What will happen in a month or a year? None knows where it will lead. I am so glad to know Jesus, my Rock and my God. In Him I have a safe haven; I can trust Him completely. In these uncertain times, I try to live in the moment and do my job with all of my heart. I am sure that God’s grace is powerful and sufficient, and He hasn’t forgotten my family at home, or any one of you!

Esther, a resident of the Home, reports that it is actually not a big changeover for her. She was provided with everything necessary, and can handle regulations and restrictions well. You just have to be generally prudent and create small distances between people. Again and again, they learn that prayers are answered, and that their God “does not sleep.” That gives them strength.

The biggest challenge, says Esther, is actually the distance to family: It does hurt a little bit, but thank goodness there is the phone (and she has a large family)! Esther is also experienced in using the internet and social networks such as Face-

book and WhatsApp. These can be a blessing in this situation.

But distance can be a special burden, another resident tells me. When her son visited her: “Suddenly, there he was at the door, and he had to keep a distance. It felt like a whole different world.” Esther adds to her observations that the fear that she noticed in many people—for example, in stockpiling—was much worse than the actual need.

But normal life also continues; the first preparations for the Passover are underway—a volunteer practices Hebrew songs on her cello for this, and our housemother prepares the table settings and decorations.

So, as a community, we are currently getting along well in this special situation right now.

-Amrei

Greeting you from the Home, and asking you to stand firm in prayer!

“Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast” (Isaiah 26:20).

In His service, and at the expectation of the soon return of our King, Messiah Yeshua,

-David



**Note:** Donations for the project by check/money order should be made out to Midnight Call, and specify Ebenezer Home in the memo line.

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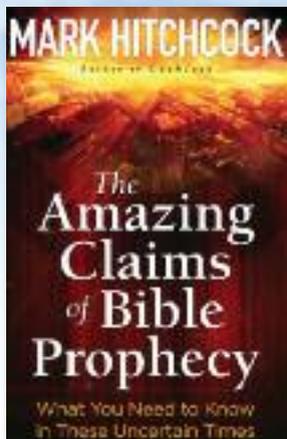
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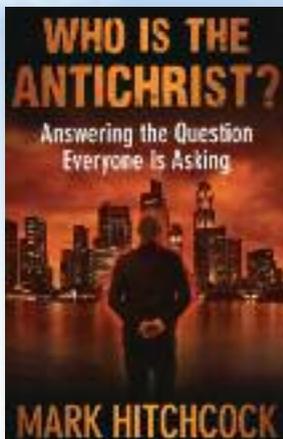
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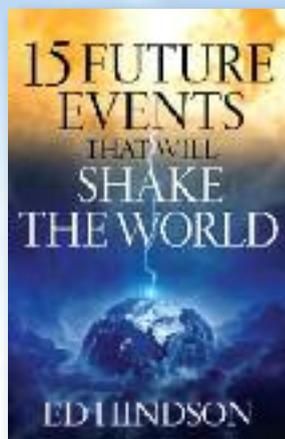
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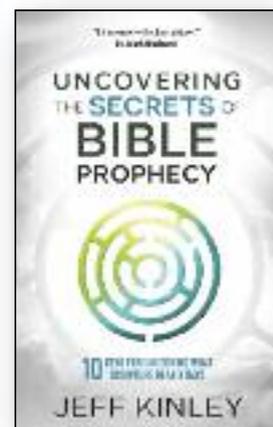
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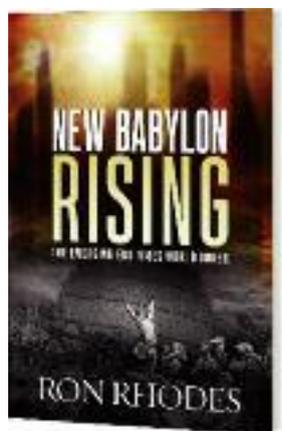
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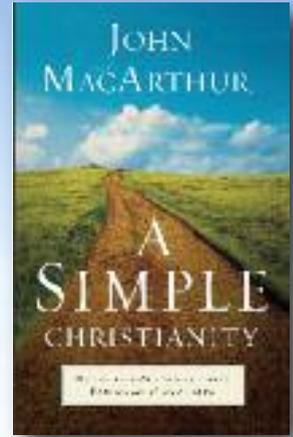
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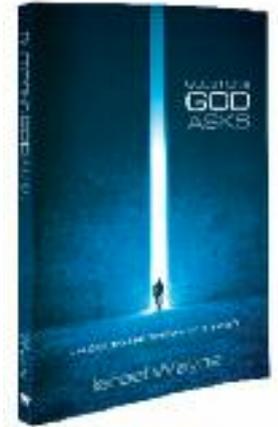
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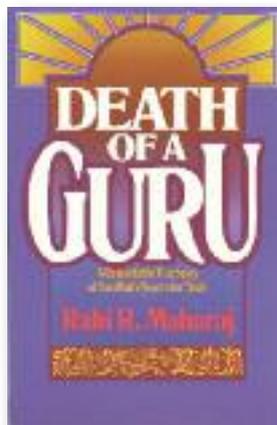
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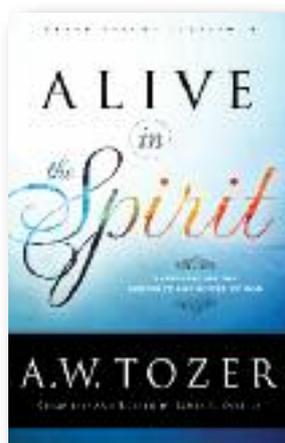
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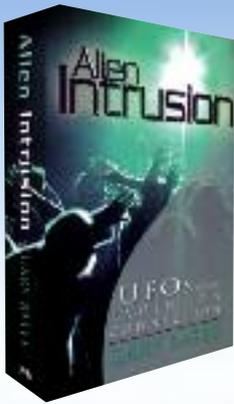
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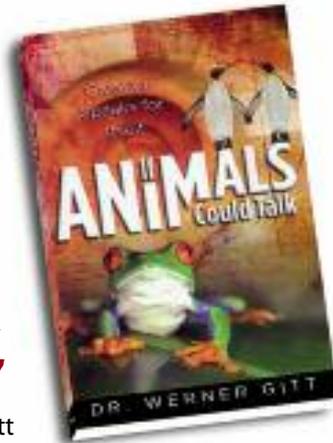


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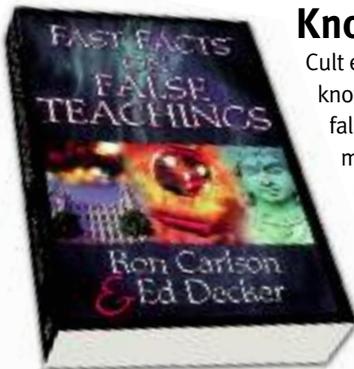
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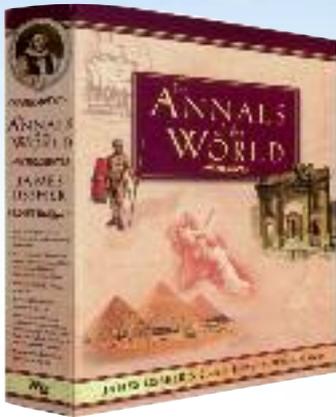
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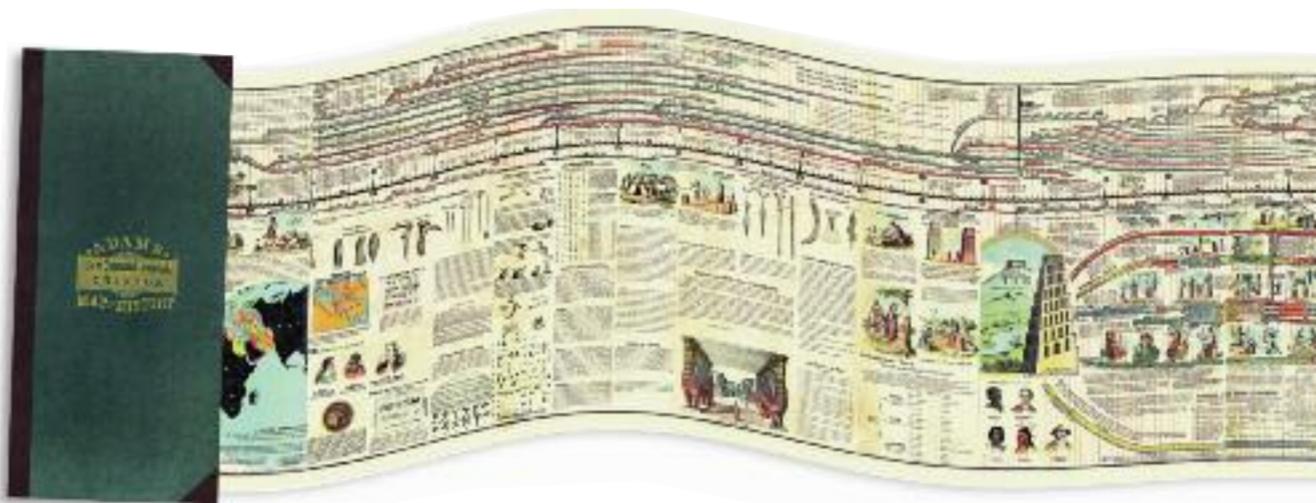
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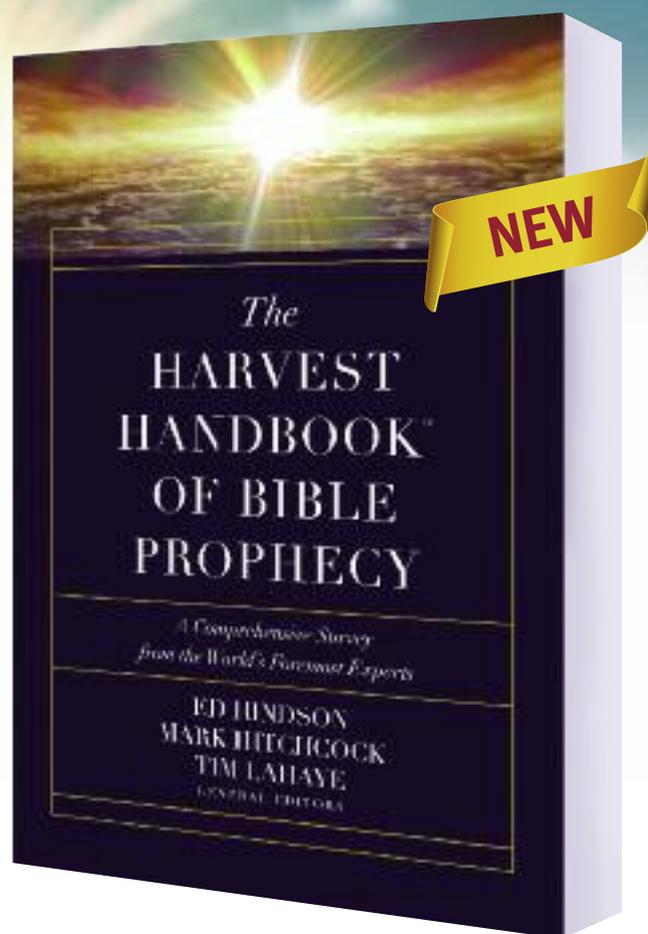
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