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Publisher: Church of God, Bismarck, Darwin & Laura Lee, **Editor:** Laura Lee, **Assistant Editor:** Darwin Lee We do not necessarily agree with all contributors, or their works submitted and printed in this newsletter. It is up to you to get out your Bible and see whether these things are true. Iron Sharpens Iron

Contributors: Curtis Dahlgren, William P. Goff, Pat Higgins, Laura Lee, Gary C. Miller, Rod Reynolds, David Rives, James Steinle

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1Co 14:26 How is it then, brethren? when ye come together, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying.

Donor Letter March 1, 2025

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Greetings Brethren,

The March 1, 2025, Donor Letter is now posted at:

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Thank You. Bill Goff

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Covenant Promise and Prophecy

(Copyright 03-02-2025) by Rod Reynolds (Wentzville, Missouri)

God made promises to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob concerning their descendants. These promises included physical blessings to specific peoples, or nations, and to the entire world. And the fulfillment of many of the prophecies concerning these nations was to occur at the "end time," that is, near the time in which we are living now. Understanding how these promises have been, are being, and will continue to be fulfilled is an important key to understanding Bible prophecy. The fulfillment of these prophecies not only is a powerful testimony to the existence of God, and his power, and the authenticity of the Bible as the inspired word of God, but ought to prompt in our hearts and minds a spirit of thanksgiving for the blessings we have received from God's hand.

We in the United States often hear the expression "God bless America." God has blessed America, Britain, and nations all over the world, in accordance with his promises to Abraham, Isaac and Israel (Jacob). But if we expect to continue to be blessed, we must heed God's admonitions and warnings, to the effect that continued blessings are contingent on obedience to his commandments. Scripture warns that if we fail to walk faithfully in accordance to God's commandments, our blessings will be replaced by curses (Leviticus 26; Deuteronomy 28).

This message explains and illustrates how major prophecies have been fulfilled, particularly with regard to Great Britain and the United States. But there are lessons here that anyone, regardless of nationality or ethnicity, may profit from.

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Compass for Birds

(Copyright 03-03-2025) by David Rives (Lewisburg, Tennessee)

Did you ever play with magnets as a child, watching them snap together as the negative and positive charges found one another?

Magnetism. – It's not just childhood curiosity, as positive attracts negative and boom, two pieces come together. It is an essential part of our world. This fundamental force plays a crucial role in various aspects of nature, from the operations of technology to the survival strategies of living organisms.

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At the core of this significance is the Earth's magnetic field, generated by the motion of molten iron in its outer core. This geomagnetic field extends far into space and acts as a protective shield, safeguarding the planet from harmful solar radiation and cosmic rays. Without this barrier, life on Earth would face increased levels of radiation... in turn, leading to death. Yet, magnetism stretches beyond a simple protective function.

The Earth's magnetic field is vital for the migratory patterns of animals. Many species, including birds, sea turtles, and even some insects, rely on the Earth's magnetic field for navigation. Much like humans use compasses for direction, studies suggest that migratory birds can detect this magnetic field to guide their long journeys across continents, integrating geomagnetic information with other environmental cues.

A recent publication in the prestigious "Nature" highlighted this: "the ability of animals to sense the geomagnetic field provides them with a significant advantage in navigation, particularly during long-distance migrations" (Nature, 2022). While we don't possess an internal orienting arrow like animals, humans are not exempt from the influence of magnetism. Our bodies do generate a weak magnetic field due to electrical activity within our nervous systems, that comes mostly from the movement of ions across your cell membranes. Though significantly weaker than the Earth's magnetic field, this bioelectrical process reflects the underlying mechanisms that sustain our bodily functions and is essential for our overall well-being.

In essence, human magnetism points to an intrinsic principle of connection and attraction. A common saying in relationships is that "opposites attract," resonating with the notion that we are drawn to one another, much like magnetic poles.

Jesus Christ stated: "I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." (John 12:32). This truth serves as a guiding principle, akin to the way sea turtles use the Earth's magnetic field to help find home.

As we deepen our understanding of magnetism as a fundamental force, we should also recognize our responsibility to use knowledge wisely! It's no coincidence that the word "science" comes from the word "knowledge". A perfect example of science, knowledge, and magnetism coming together is a technology known as magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), a crucial tool in modern medicine that uses magnetic fields to produce detailed images of the human body.

This non-invasive technique relies on the alignment of hydrogen atoms within the body when exposed to a strong magnetic field generated by the MRI machine. By detecting the signals emitted from these aligned atoms, many of my friends and colleagues who are trained medical doctors can obtain high-resolution images that reveal problem areas using MRI technology. Still, the significance of magnetism extends way beyond MRI, and they all enhance our understanding of the universe and improve our quality of life.

From data storage in computers to electric motors and innovative medical devices, magnetism is integral to many aspects of modern technology. It can even help us uncover new possibilities for advancements in renewable energy. Magnetism is not just some scientific phenomenon; it is a powerful tool that shapes our world, enhances our health, and drives innovation. It guides us toward a future where science not only improves our understanding of the Earth but also reveals careful Design.

The scientist who invented the MRI is not just a Christian, but also a strong believer in exposing the bankrupt nature of evolutionary doctrine. The father of Electromagnetism was not only a Christian, but helped overturn atheistic and evolutionary principles that had infiltrated the academia of his day. Fight with me against pseudo-science and let's keep revealing the truth of God's creation.

I'm David Rives,

Truly, the heavens declare the glory of God.

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There isn't much difference between slaughter and laughter

(Copyright 03-04-2025) by Curtis Dahlgren (Stephenson, Michigan)

WAR IS RAW SPELLED BACKWARDS. - CD

Borrowed: My advice to Volodymyr Zelenskyy comes from my dad: "Don't read your own press and never drink your own tubwater." Jim Croce said it best: "You don't tug on Superman's cape, you don't spit in the wind, you don't pull the mask off the OI' Lone Ranger . . . " and you don't mess around with Trump!

YOU WOULD THINK that everyone would prefer peace, but that's not the case. The following is from "Eisenhower in War and Peace," by Jean Edward Smith:

After the death of Stalin, President Eisenhower told speech writer Emmet Hughes he didn't want to make a speech with the standard criticism of the USSR. The slate is clean. Let's begin talking to each other. Hughes said he had just talked to Secretary of State Dulles and he says he would hate to see peace in Korea until we had given the Chinese "one hell of a licking."

Ike was angry. He said, "It's WAR we're talking about. I know people who can give me advice on that, and they aren't the sophisticated advisors in the State Department. Now we can quit all this fooling around and make a bid for peace – or we can forget the whole thing." This is approximately where President Trump is on Ukraine.

As a realist, he knows Ukraine can never give Russia "one hell of a licking," and as a deal maker, he has some in mind and he's going to play his hand. And it's not always the hand you've been dealt that counts, but how well you play your hand. THE ART OF THE DEAL.

P.S. I missed the Oscars again, the usual red carpet, complete with men who look like they're just accessories. And the "gowns"? As they say down South, "I've seen more fabric in a roll of gauze than in what you've got on." Calipornia! And the film that won Best Picture is one I never heard of.

PPS: Wouldn't ya know it – now that I'm in my 80s, the gals start calling me Honey? But I guess these days one can identify as anything your heart desires, so I'm going to identify as a 30 year old James Bond. Maybe I can identify as a former MLB player. Why not make it a Hall of Famer? A Pete Rose? There's no use identifying as Superman because there are no phone booths. As an arborist, I climbed trees for a living, and played some baseball, so maybe I should identify as Batman. Hope to be back next week, "folks."

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Something is Wrong?

(Copyright 03-04-2025) by James Steinle (Swanville, Minnesota)

Something is Going Wrong: Putin Gives "Chilling" Speech: "The World May End Earlier, but Russia Will Never Fall"

https://halturnerradioshow.com/index.php/news-selections/world-news/something-is-going-wrong-putin-gives-chilling-speech-the-world-may-end-earlier-but-russia-will-never-fall

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A very serious and telling speech by Russia's Putin (written - see above link), and an analysis by Hal Turner.

Editor's Note:

Please make sure items you send for print are at least 50 words and that you title it. Thank you, Laura Lee

Conquering Temptation: Learn from Jesus Christ

(Copyright 03-07-2025) by Pat Higgins (Charlotte, North Carolina)



"I have written to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the wicked one." (I John 2:14)

As Christians, we are to follow Christ's example (I Peter 2:21). Like Him, we seek God's will (John 6:38), which requires replacing our thoughts with His thoughts. We understand this vital transformation into Christ's image (II Corinthians 3:18) as the process of overcoming.

In Revelation, Jesus urges each church to prevail in this struggle to overcome so it can receive its promised reward (Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 26; 3:5, 12, 21). Only those who overcome will inherit all things and become part of God's Family (Revelation 21:7), assured that their names will not be blotted out from the Book of Life (Revelation 3:5).

Overcoming is a spiritual life-and-death war but won only after many daily battles. Proverbs 24:16 reminds us, "Good people might fall again and again, but they always get up. It is the wicked who are defeated by their troubles" (*Easy-to-Read Version*). Even the righteous fall, get beaten up, and lose battles. What separates them from the wicked is that

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they get up again and again and move forward. They might have to limp or crawl forward, but they move forward, unrelenting, because they are committed to winning the war.

As Revelation 21:7 makes clear, only those who win the war—overcome—will receive the promised rewards.

The Obstacle

If overcoming is so crucial, what stands in our way? For the answer, look in any mirror: "Crooked is the heart above all things, and it is incurable—who doth know it?" (Jeremiah 17:9, Young's Literal Translation).

When the Bible speaks about our heart, it means the center, the core, of who we are. It includes the mind, feelings, choices, morals, and spiritual life. All these aspects work together to produce our thoughts, reflect our hearts, and tell God who we are. It is our hearts and thoughts that God examines to make His judgment about our future (Jeremiah 17:10). But our hearts, by themselves, are incurably inclined toward sin, making it impossible for us to overcome on our own. However, Christ's victory over temptation shows us the path to success.

Do we truly believe Jeremiah when he says our hearts are crooked and incurable? Our hearts prefer to resist this truth, persuading us that we are not *that* bad. But God knows our every thought (I Chronicles 28:9), and each one contributes to the polluted cesspool that is the human heart. Some sins are buried so deeply in the muck that they are a secret even from us (Psalm 19:12)! Because God examines our thoughts every moment (Job 7:18), we should consider the nature of our thoughts and motives and question whether they align with God's will.

Focusing on our thoughts is critical. Sin is not just about what we do—more importantly, it is about what we think. Examining our thoughts is central to understanding and overcoming sin. As Jesus teaches in Matthew 5:28, "But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart."

In his commentary on Matthew 5:27-28 (enduringword.com), David Guzik offers this explanation:

Since Jesus considers adultery in the heart a sin, we know what we *think about* and allow our heart to *rest on* is based on *choice*. Many believe they have no choice—and therefore no responsibility—for what they think about, but this contradicts the clear teaching of Jesus here. We may not be able to control *passing* thoughts or feelings, but we certainly do decide where our heart and mind will *rest*. . . . All sin, not the least sexual sin, begins with the imagination. (Author's original emphasis.)

Yes, *all* sin begins with our thoughts. As Mr. Guzik notes, the thoughts that should concern us most are those "where our heart and mind will rest," lingering to gratify the darker side of our human nature. John Ritenbaugh, in his article "The Tenth Commandment (1998)" (*Forerunner*, January 1998), adds about Matthew 5:28:

Nowhere is the inward aim of Christ's teaching so evident as in this comment. A change must first take place in the thoughts if conduct is going to be changed. The real problem with sin resides inside the mind.

By identifying the real problem with sin, he highlights where we must focus our efforts to overcome sin and become like Christ. Our thoughts drive our lives, determining what we believe, feel, decide, and do. This fact agrees with Proverbs 4:23:

Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life. (NKJV)

Above all, be careful what you think because your thoughts control your life. (Easy-to-Read Version)

Isaiah 14:24 informs us that God's thoughts shape His plans: "Surely, as I have thought, so it shall come to pass." Given that God made us in His image (Genesis 1:26), like Him but on a much smaller scale, our thoughts shape our future, too. To become like Christ (I John 3:2), we must learn to align our thoughts with God just as Christ did. This effort to transform our minds to think and act according to God's will is key to overcoming.

Our current heart and thoughts are the battleground where overcoming must occur. Richard Ritenbaugh made this point in his sermon "Is God in All Our Thoughts?" given on March 8, 2003:

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We live in physical bodies. We have physical lives. We have our physical problems. That's true. But the battle we wage is not physical at all! The battle is fought in the realm of belief, ideas, philosophies, teachings, words, principles, and laws. To sum it up, you could say, "We fight the battle in our minds."

That is where it is—in our minds. Or as the Bible often says—within our hearts, our emotions, our personalities, our developing character.

Why is that where the battle lies?

Proverbs 23:7 For as he thinks in his heart, so is he.

As a man thinks (what goes through his mind, what he allows himself to do, all those decisions that he makes), so is he.

Measuring Success

Proverbs 23:7 underscores the importance of mastering our thoughts as a measure of our spiritual success. Our control over our thoughts tells us whether we are overcoming sin or being conguered by it and remaining its slave (John 8:34).

One way to measure our success at controlling our thoughts and adopting the mind of Christ is by how we handle temptations. Some Bible versions render the word "temptation" as "test," which may be a more accurate way to view it. Like a test in school, a temptation measures how well we have mastered the subject of overcoming.

We often hear about temptations coming from Satan and the world. But they only appeal to the evil already lurking in our hearts. Temptation starts in our thoughts (James 1:14), and that is where we must conquer it.

As an example, in Christ's temptation (test) by Satan (Matthew 4:1-11, Mark 1:12-13, and Luke 4:1-13), the Devil appealed to common weaknesses found in the human heart and nature:

- 1. **Physical Needs and Desires**: Satan tempted Jesus to turn stones into bread after a forty-day fast (Matthew 4:3). This temptation appealed to His physical hunger and the legitimate need for sustenance.
- 2. **Pride and Self-Preservation**: The second temptation challenged Jesus to throw Himself from the pinnacle of the Temple to prove His divine sonship (Matthew 4:6). This aimed to provoke pride and self-assertion, using His identity for a spectacular display.
- 3. **Power and Ambition:** The third temptation offered Jesus all the world's kingdoms in exchange for worshipping Satan (Matthew 4:9). This directly appealed to worldly power and ambition, bypassing the suffering and sacrifice required in His mission.

Satan's temptation of Jesus in the wilderness offers us valuable insight into overcoming temptation. *Our Savior showed us how to do* it! By examining how Jesus responded, we can develop a practical strategy and spiritual discipline for our battles against temptation.

Christ's Response

In every temptation from Satan, Jesus responded automatically and immediately with Scripture. The lesson He teaches us is that to combat temptation effectively, we must know and internalize the Word of God, allowing it to guide our thoughts, actions, and responses. His example highlights the value of being so well-acquainted with Scripture that it naturally guides our reactions, whatever the situation. It is top of mind.

To imitate Jesus, we must have these verses implanted, committed to memory (James 1:21)—so familiar with them that we can use them at a moment's notice in every aspect of life. Just as Psalm 119:11 (English Standard Version) reads: "I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you."

In his July 13, 2024, sermon, "Our Battle Against Evil Programming!" Martin Collins emphasized, "Now, we must make God's way of life our first nature. It must be internalized, and it must be our automatic reaction to any situation."

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This is what Christ did in response to Satan. He automatically had the right verses on the tip of His tongue. But *how* did He do this? He was human, just as we are. How do we, as humans, do it and imitate Christ?

To begin to answer that, we must realize what Satan did not: Christ had already won before Satan showed up. Because Christ knows that sin begins with our thoughts (Matthew 5:28), throughout His life, He brought "every thought into captivity to the obedience of [God]" (Il Corinthians 10:5)." Yes, every thought. Like Him, we must learn how to overcome our thoughts.

Overcoming Every Thought

But how can we begin to do this? In his June 16, 2024, sermon, "Firstfruits to God," Richard Ritenbaugh lists six traits God uses to describe firstfruits. In his comments on II Peter 1:2-4, he explains how we can overcome temptation:

What it is telling us here is that if we endure to the end, we are going to be enduring in a way that will make us a lot more like Christ than anybody else in time. It is because we are doing this now and He did it now. You understand, we are overcoming the things of this world in a time when it is hardest to do so in all of time. So these people overcome, that is us, the firstfruits, overcome more intense temptation and sin in the same manner that Jesus Christ did. That is why they know Him better than anybody else. They have shared experiences with Him more than anybody else. (Emphasis ours.)

God expects His firstfruits to imitate Christ, especially in overcoming intense temptation, in the same manner as He did.

Consider that, for Christ's thirty-three-and-a-half years of life, He did not sin (I Peter 2:22). His *every* thought, His *every* moment, was in line with God's will (John 5:30). I John 2:6 urges us to follow His steps:

He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked. (NKJV)

If we say that we are living in God's true way, then we must live in the way that Jesus lived. (EasyEnglish Bible)

Jesus mastered His mind, aligning every thought with His Father's will (Hebrews 10:7). To follow Him, we must work to do the same. Will we strive to take every thought captive to conquer temptation? Christ's battle with Satan showed that conquering temptation is the fruit of a life spent mastering one's thoughts.

The Method

So, how did Christ master every thought, and how can we follow His example? He gave us the way to bring "every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ" (II Corinthians 10:5): He used verses from the Bible to counter Satan's every attack. He replaced the thoughts Satan projected with God's Words. It is that simple: Replace the wrong thoughts with God's right thoughts. It is simple to state but hard to do.

For example, consider thoughts like fear, worry, and anxiety and what they could be replaced with *if we truly believe God can be trusted* (Mark 9:23):

Fear: "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand." (Isaiah 41:10)

Worry: "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble." (Mathew 6:33-34)

Anxiety: "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:6-7)

Replacing these thoughts with Scripture is not a one-time action but a disciplined practice. The apostle Paul often uses athletic metaphors (I Corinthians 9:24-27; Il Timothy 2:5; 4:7-8; Hebrews 12:1-2) to describe our journey of overcoming. Just as top athletes practice regularly, so must we as spiritual athletes if we are to win our prize (Philippians 3:14).

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The process is straightforward:

- 1. Pick a thought that needs conquering.
- 2. Find a scripture that counters it, just as Christ did.
- 3. Memorize the verse.
- 4. Then comes the actual practice: Whenever that thought arises, make it a habit to repeat the memorized verse immediately.
- 5. Then, ask God for strength and belief, and briefly talk to Him, focusing on the wisdom of His ways to help burn it into your being and make it a habit until it becomes instinctive—your first nature.

By consistently applying this method, we can gradually train our minds to reflect God's will in our thoughts automatically. We are imitating Christ by filling our minds with God's thoughts. By repetition, our response becomes internalized and instinctive whenever that thought appears. And like Christ, if ever tested, we would pass because we have already won the battle in our mind.

For strategies and tactics to consider when embarking on a memorization project, see my article, "Unsheathe Your Sword! (Part Two)."

None of Our Thoughts

Controlling our thoughts is not just about overcoming sin; it is also about ensuring God is present in *every* aspect of our lives. David writes in Psalm 10:4, "The wicked in his proud countenance does not seek God; God is in none of his thoughts." In Richard Ritenbaugh's aforementioned sermon, "Is God in All Our Thoughts?" he observes:

What we have here in Psalm 10:4 is a similar way of looking at this subject. In a sense, for those who sin—anybody who sins—God is not in their thoughts. If God were in their thoughts, they wouldn't sin!

He ends the sermon with a question we should ask ourselves, "Is God in all my thoughts?"

What would Christ's answer be to that question? After all, He is our Example, the One we are to follow and whose mind we are working to mirror. Consider that for every part of our day, when God is not in our thoughts, we imitate the wicked, not Jesus Christ. That is a sobering thought. It should drive us to fill our minds with more of God's truth and words so that His thoughts, not ours, become the foundation for our every thought, decision, word, and action.

The undefiled walk in the law of the Lord (Psalm 119:1), striving to have every step of their walk governed by God's law. How can we do this if His words are not implanted in our memory (James 1:21), living in us, guiding our every step? In I John 2:14, the apostle John commends the young men among those to whom he wrote, "The word of God lives in you, and you have defeated the Evil One" (*Easy-to-Read Version*).

There is a daily tool we can use to identify areas where God is absent from our thoughts, target specific thoughts, and monitor our progress in bringing them into captivity. For more on this tool to aid daily overcoming, please see Bill Onisick's "Daily Overcoming" sermonette (January 11, 2020).

To conquer temptation and enter God's Family, we must win the battle in our minds. To do so requires mastering our thoughts and aligning them with God's will, just as Christ did. To live "by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4), to face any situation as Christ did, we need those words readily available. It is possible when we have implanted His Word in our minds, hearts, and memories.

God expects His firstfruits to follow His Son's example, walking as He walked and handling life's challenges as He did. The question remains: Will we?

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The Ultimate Climate Hazard!

(Copyright 03-08-2025) by Gary C. Miller (Pocahontas, Arkansas)

"And except those days be shortened, there should no flesh be saved." (Matt. 24:22)



WILL AN AGE-ENDING CLIMATE CHANGE COME BY:

Global warming, sea-ice melts, hurricanes, earthquakes, flooding, drought, burning fossil fuels, Nuclear World War III? **None** of these! So, what does the Bible say will be the Cause?

A RECKONING:

THE GREAT TRIBULATION:

- "...then shall be Great Tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no nor ever shall be..." (Matt. 24: 21) *This Includes the Noatian Flood (Gen.6:17)*.
- "...except those days be shortened, there Should No Flesh Be Saved." (Matt. 24:22)
- "...there shall be a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation... (Dan. 12:1)

WHY?

"I will punish the world for their evils, and the wicked for their iniquity." (Isa. 13:11)

HOW?: "THE ULTIMATE ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARD"

(For more details, read "Wormwood: On a Collision Course With Earth"; www.icyahweh.org; "store" for free pdf download; or free copy by mail)

TRUMPETS SOUND:

- "Second Angel Sounds" [7th Seal of Rev. 8:8]:
- "...the second angel blew his trumpet, and something like a Great Mountain, burning with fire was thrown into the Sea." (Rev. 8:8; RSV)

"Third Angel Sounds": Wormwood

"...third angel blew his trumpet, and a Great Star fell from heaven blazing like a Torch,...The name...is Wormwood." (Rev. 8:10; RSV)

Here are direct hits with giant meteorites; one the size of Mt. Everest[??].

THE RESULT OF THESE [AND OTHER PLAGUES-Rev.8:12-13; 9:1-19]? Earth's Orbit Changes:

"Therefore, I [Yahweh] will shake the heavens, and the Earth Shall Remove Out of Her Place...in the wrath of

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Yahweh...(Isa. 13:13; KJV)

Earth's Rotation Speeds Up:

"And...in that day,...I shall make the Sun Go Down at Noon..." (Amos 8:9)

Earth Wobbles, Towns Ruined:

"...The earth shall Reel To and Fro Like a Drunkard..." (Isa. 24:20)

...the Earth was a formless waste;...ALL its towns in ruins before...His burning anger...I have decided, I shall **not** change my mind or go back on it..." (Jer. 4:23,26,28)

Unrepentant Sinners:

"And the rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues... did not repent,...so as not to worship demons, and idols...and they did not repent of their sorceries...murders nor...immorality nor...thefts." (Rev. 9:20-21)

PERISH BY DECEPTION?

Billions of Earth's population will perish in this Day of Reckoning. Why? Because they believed a "false gospel" that ignores these prophecies, and the Law, being lulled to sleep with "...smooth things..." (Isa. 30:10)?

NEVER FORGET:

"To the Law and...Testimony: if they speak not according to this word,... there is no light in them." (Isa. 8:20).

"And it is easier for Heaven and Earth to pass, than one tittle of the Law to fail." (Lk. 16:17).

THERE IS HOPE!

"...For the Elect's Sake, those days shall be shortened." (Matt. 24:22) "...at the time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book." (Dan. 12:1)

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Satellite?

(Copyright 03-08-2025) by James Steinle (Swanville, Minnesota)

Satellite Reveals God's Name on Israeli Mountain | Perry Stone

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GhjJLfJISig 9:59 min.

Amazing! Not man made! Shadows form Hebrew letters in the mountains.

Editor's Note:

Please make sure that the items you send for print are at least 50 words long and have a title. Starting on July 1, 2025, we will no longer print items that are less than 50 words long and/or have no title. Thank you, Laura Lee

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Purim

(Copyright 2024) by William P. Goff (Tuckerton, New Jersey)

(I know Purim is not a commanded Feast to keep, but I was asked to speak on that day, so this is the message I gave.)

Purim, also called the Feast of Lots, is a Biblical Jewish festival with many customs. It commemorates how ancient Jews were spared from massacre during the Persian Empire, when **Esther** (a Jew) became the queen of Persia, or ancient Iran (fifth century BCE)

Esther convinced her husband the King of Persia to stop his anti-Semitic advisor **Haman** from annihilating the Jewish people. It all ended with **Haman** being hanged on the gallows that had originally been arranged for Esther's caregiver, **Mordecai**.

Haman was not the first or the last to try and exterminate the Jewish people.

King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon tried in vain.

Haman's own ancestors, the Amalekites also tried in vain.

Then there was the Roman Empire in the second century.

Byzantine Empire in the seventh century.

(Someone after that - I forget his name.)

And Adolph Hitler in the 20th century.

But **none** were successful. Why? Because the Jews (the Israelites in general) are our Creator's people. Sometimes called His "**peculiar**" people. and He has a very special plan for them. His plan is to restore the coming Kingdom to Israel. They will be the ones ruling with our Lord in the coming millennium.

In (Acts 1:6) the Disciples asked our Lord: "Will you at this time restore again the Kingdom to Israel?"

In my message today, I want to focus on how close we are to the fulfillment of that restoration, the "setting up" (or the establishing) of the soon coming Kingdom of Heaven.

Many don't realize it, but the Kingdom of Heaven hasn't been established yet.

We pray: "Thy Kingdom Come". But that Kingdom has not even been set up yet. How could it, when many of its officials (who will be given positions in His Kingdom) are still asleep in the grave, like the Apostles, the Saints or Firstfruits? The Scriptures clearly show that the establishment of His coming Kingdom, is a **future** event, (but an event that is **soon** to be fulfilled.)

But before we move on and look at the Scriptures that elaborate on how close we are to the establishment of His coming Kingdom (which by the way will take place up on the "Sea of Glass"), I first want to mention one of the many customs celebrated during Purim.

This particular custom pertains to our Father's "peculiar" people, the True church, the "Ekklesia" and has much to do with the "setting up" of His (soon) coming Kingdom. The custom of Purim that I'm referring to is: The giving to people in need. (That was one of the many customs performed on Purim.)

In (Galatians 6:10) we are told to: "do good unto all men, especially to those of the household of faith.) It is those

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with "love" and outgoing concern for others who are those "peculiar" people of God that will be part of the establishing of the coming Kingdom.

That word "peculiar" is Strong's #G4041. It is used only twice in the New Testament, and it means: "being beyond usual, special, one's own, peculiar."

(Titus 2:14) further describes the "peculiar" people of God.

Breaking in here (Titus 2:14) we read concerning our Lord:

"Who gave Himself for us, that **he** might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself **a peculiar people, zealous of good works.** Yes, God's "peculiar" people are "**zealous of good works.**"

In (James 1:27) we are told that "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is to visit (relieve – look out for) the fatherless (orphans) and the widows in their afflictions (anguish – burdens – troubles) **AND** to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

"Keeping oneself unspotted from the world" is another "trait" that identifies His "peculiar" people.

In (1 Peter 2:9) we read: "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:."

It is those who come out of darkness and into His marvelous light, those who keep themselves unspotted from the world, who are His "Peculiar" people. And it is His "peculiar" people who will soon be participating in the establishment of the coming Kingdom of Heaven.

Now let's go back and focus on the Scriptures that elaborate on that, and on just how close we are to the "setting up" of His coming Kingdom. The book of Daniel tells us of a dream that King Nebuchadnezzar (The King of Babylon) had. He dreamt of a "Great Statue".

Our Creator gave the King that dream to reveal all the world ruling empires that were to come and rule this earth. (If you're not familiar with that story, you can read Daniel chapter 2 later.)

The Head of Gold was "Babylon" (First world ruling empire.)

Then there were the Medo-Persians, the Greeks, the Romans... All came and went.

ALL, except the "last" world ruling empire, Represented by the ten "toes" of the Great Image in Nebuchadnezzar's dream, the ten Kings.

Those ten Kings have not come into power yet, but as we shall see, they soon will.

It is "during" the reign of those ten Kings, that the Kingdom of Heaven will "finally" be established.

(Daniel 2:44) "And in the days of these kings (The ten toes of that "Great Image" in Nebuchadnezzar's dream.) "In the days of these kings shall the God of heaven **set up** (Strong's #6966 appoint or establish) a kingdom (The Kingdom we have been praying for) which shall never be destroyed and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever."

Yes, The Kingdom of Heaven will soon be established, during the reign of the soon coming (and soon to be empowered) 10 Kings. Oh, did I mention that all the above events will happen soon? Yes, and sooner than most realize.

What most don't realize, is that those ten Kings are already present. Our Lord says: "He comes Quickly. And He says for us to be watching.

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Prophecy today is being fulfilled right in front of our eyes, and accelerating at an alarming rate. The signs of the times in which we are living consist not only of an increase in "lawlessness", "unprecedented" trouble, and "Apocalyptic" catastrophes. (Which we see increasing all around this world every day.) But we also see the rising of the Beast power. As the U. S. continues to decline, and the new world powers continue to rise up.

The Scripture is very clear, there will be ten Kings rising up to take charge of this entire world, and they will give their power to the Beast. The Beast that will fight against our Lord (and those who are with Him, His saints) at His coming. One of those Kings can clearly be seen today, ruling over the entire continent of Africa.

In 2007 Kenya had riots which affected all of East Africa. Rwanda, Uganda, Burundi, Tanzania, Somalia, the Congo were all affected by the riots in Kenya. The port in Mombasa, Kenya was closed.

The Kenya riots needed to be stopped, and the port needed to be reopened.

At that time Kenya had joined what is called the African Union (AU), a continental body trying to unite all of Africa. (The AU is one of the ten Kings.) They are headquartered in South Africa, and came to Nairobi, back in 2007 hoping to stop the riots, but they could not. Why? Because they had no power **yet**.

(Revelation 17:12-13) "And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast.

These have one mind and shall give their power and strength unto the beast."

Now, all 54 Countries in Africa have not only joined the African Union but have also given their powers to it. As in Kenya, all summits (meetings between heads of various foreign countries) have ended. The AU now speaks for Kenya. The AU now speaks for Africa.

The ten kings (as well as the two feet) are part of "Iron", and part of Clay" (not a good bond.) (Daniel 2:42)

Not all the countries of Africa joined happily but had no choice.

Now we know from the parable of the fig tree (Matthew 24:32-33) that "when its branch is tender, and putteth forth leaves, that summer is nigh", "and likewise when ye see all these things" we know that His return is near "even at the doors".

Brethren, we are not living at the time our Lord "Yahshua" began to build His church... We are living at the time when He will complete it. The midnight cry" of (Matthew 25:6) is approaching. The "Cry" that will awaken all 10 virgins (unmarried daughters) will announce that "the bridegroom cometh, go ye out to meet him".

That "Midnight Cry" of (Matthew 25:6) is the same cry of (Revelation 10:3) And that cry is approaching.

(Revelation 10:1-3) "And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire:

Rev 10:2 And he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and his left foot on the earth,

(Whatever this mighty angel is going to say or do will affect the whole world.)

Rev 10:3 And cried (same cry as (Matthew 25:6) with a loud voice, as when a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices"

Now we may not know exactly what the seven thunders are, but we do know exactly when they will sound. Soon as the "Cry" is made, they utter their voices.

Now the USA is in bad shape, and we know it is going down, as the Beast power rises up. (The US will soon receive a

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knockout blow. It's coming.) That knockout blow may come from the "seven thunders".

In (Isaiah 17:1) we are told that Damascus (the capital of Syria) will become a "ruinous heap". (The significance of Damascus is that it's the oldest inhabited city in the world) (It represents the world.) (And it's soon to be a ruinous heap.)

(It's now ending its seventh year, and into its eighth year of civil war.)

And in verse 3 of Isaiah 17 it says: "A fortress (or fortified city) of Ephraim shall "cease" (bring or come to an end.)

If the USA is Ephraim (which some very strongly believe) our "fortified city" will be destroyed.

The fortified city of the USA, is Norfolk Virginia which headquarters all five branches of our military – Army, Navy Air force, Marines, and Coast Guard are all headquartered there. (I recently heard that one branch, the Coast Guard, moved their entire operation to higher ground, due to a Tsunami threat.

The Canary Islands threaten the entire East Coast of the USA, (which includes Norfolk Virginia.) Located on the West Coast of Africa, the Canary Island has a large chunk of real-estate hanging over the Atlantic Ocean, which scientists say will eventually plunge into the sea, causing a 100 foot tsunami. (That tsunami would wipe out Norfolk Virginia.)

In (Matthew 24:7) our Lord tells us that earthquakes in these end times will be in "divers" places. Now if you read the commentaries, no one seems to understand what our Lord meant by earthquakes being in "divers" places, (but we can.)

That word "divers" is Strong's # G2596 meaning: "downward motion" It's the same Greek word used in (Matthew 8:32) where our Lord cast those daemons into a herd of swine that ran **violently** "**down**" a "**steep place**" **into the sea**.

Today earthquakes are classified into three groups: A, B, and C. One is "horizontal" movement of the earth (causing no damage.) Another is "upward" movement, causing Tsunamis. And the 3rd classification is "downward" movement of the earth, **which is the most common type today**, Yes, the most common type of earthquake today in these end times, is where the earth moves downward, just like our Lord predicted "divers" downward movement. These "divers" earthquakes are causing Lava in the volcanoes to rise up. Few are aware, but every super volcano on planet earth today has its lava rising (a sure sign of eruption according to all scientists)

The Canary Island (where this chunk of land is hanging over the sea) also has one of these volcanoes (and it is reported to show signs of erupting.)

There's a funny thing about some of the other Greek words used back in (Matthew 8:32) concerning those swine running "downward" (divers) into the sea.

That verse uses the words "violently" "down" a "steep place" into the sea.)

Violently G3729 "to plunge," (the same thing the scientists say that land mass will do.)

Steep Place G2911 meaning = overhanging (same as that chunk of real-estate "overhanging" the Atlantic Ocean.)

Yes, this is speculation, but the scientists all agree that the chunk of land on the Canary Island that is "overhanging" the Atlantic Ocean that will cause catastrophic damage to the east Coast of the USA is not an "IF" it happens, but "When" it happens. They say all it will take is a powerful earthquake, and according to Scripture, powerful earthquakes are coming.

Another potential catastrophe for the USA is the super volcano in Yellowstone. Last time Yellowstone erupted its ash reached the jet stream and was carried westward. (We know this because its ash is found all along the Pacific Coast.) But if Yellowstone erupts again, its ash will bypass the jet stream, and enter the "ionosphere" or "stratosphere" (I forget which)

(We know this because (Matthew 24:21) tells us that what is coming will be "worse" than ever before.)

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Brethren I'm not here today to scare anyone.... I'm here today to remind us that (the peculiar people of God) (The called, chosen and faithful people of God) need to have our High Calling on the front burner of our lives. Remember, we are "sojourners" here. This is NOT our permanent residence. We are looking to reside in the city whose builder and maker is God. And that City is coming. Again, we are NOT living at the time that our Lord began to build His church; we are living at the time when He is going to complete it. And you might want to check on that word "complete" found in (Leviticus 23:15) it's Strong's #H8549. This word normally refers to our Lord, but in (Leviticus 23:15) it's referring to us, the church; the condition we need to be in before the day of Pentecost.

Now Much caution needs to be taken here because we are **also** living at the time when there is much (way too much) "complacency" in the church.

A time when many are "lukewarm" (a condition that our Lord hates.)

A time when the **anointing** with the **Laodicean eyesalve** is in High demand.

There is a Huge work ahead for the church. The church is also called His "witnesses". And they are "the salt of the earth" and "the light of the world".

During the time of the Great Tribulation, this world is going to be very confused.... Not only will God's two anointed ones be witnessing to this world (preaching repentance) but the man of sin and the false prophet will also be performing their "lying wonders" (2 Thessalonians 2:9)

This will be a very confusing time for the inhabitants of this world, But the church will be there witnessing also, helping their neighbors understand who are God's witnesses, and who is the false prophet, and man of sin. That's why He has His church scattered all around this world today, preparing us for the Huge work that is coming.

In (Revelation 11:4) the two witnesses are described or defined. (And they are not only two men.) "These are the two **olive trees**, and the two **candlesticks** standing before the God of the earth." Trees represent men, but candlesticks always represent the church.)

In (Daniel 11:32) Speaking of the time of the Great Tribulation is says: "Those who do wickedly against the covenant he shall corrupt with flattery; but the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits."

Those great exploits will be carried out for all the world to see, and many will *repent* during the great Tribulation. Let me ask a question here, what comes directly after repentance? Peter says "Repent, be baptized, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Our Lord changes not. In (John 3:5) we are told: "Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, **Except** a man be born of water (that's baptism) and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."

In (Mark 16:16) our Lord says: "He that believeth **and is baptized** shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." If you think two men are going to baptize all those that come out of the Great Tribulation, think again. (That will be the work of the church.)

Now, as mentioned earlier, the restoration of the coming Kingdom to Israel will take place up on the "Sea of Glass", so let's go up there and notice a few things.

In (Revelation 15:1-2) we can see exactly when this restoration (the establishment of the coming Kingdom) will take place, and exactly who will be there receiving the positions they will hold in the coming Kingdom.

(Revelation 15:1) "And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God." (Verse 2) And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God."

This is talking about the saints being up on the Sea of Glass after being resurrected. The timing here is when the "seven angels" have the "seven last plagues" which is the "Day of the Lord" when the "wrath of God" will be poured out on this

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earth.

That day comes directly after the Great Tribulation. (God does not pour out His wrath on His children.) They will be up on the Sea of Glass, it will be the "first resurrection".

We can see the timing of the "first resurrection" in (Revelation 11:7-12)

After the two witnesses finish their witnessing, they will be killed by the beast, and their dead bodies will lie in the street of Jerusalem for 3 ½ days. But then the Spirit of Life from God will enter into them, and they will ascend up into the clouds, (up to the Sea of Glass.) And not only them, but all those who will be in the first resurrection will at that time be resurrected from their graves. and those who are alive will be changed at the twinkling of an eye. (That includes some that are with us today.)

Remember when our Lord ascended from the Mount of Olives, as He was taken up into the clouds? Remember what those two angels said as the disciples stood there staring up into the clouds? Back in (Acts 1:11) They said: "Ye men of Galilee this same Jesus which is taken up into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go up into heaven."

Interesting thing, all the disciples (bar one) were Galileans. Only Judas Iscariot was not Galilean, he was Judean. Galilean means "circuit" or "inner circle". This time it will be the witnesses, the disciples and the rest of the saints ascending up into the clouds. (This is the First Resurrection.)

"And their enemies beheld" (see) them. (Revelation 11:12)

Brethren, all this will occur during the reign of the now forming Beast Power. We elaborated on Africa — How about the other nine Kings – nine regions?)

Why do they want an open border between U.S. and Mexico? Because USA, Mexico & Canada will be one entity – another one of the 10 Kings.

(Google it. The "Asian Union, the North American Union, the African Union and whoever the rest are, are also alive and well.)

Let's notice one more thing, (a very important thing) Let's notice the one thing that all those who will be standing there up on that Sea of Glass have in common.

(Revelation 15:2) says it will be "them that have gotten the victory" who will be there. Those six words come from only one Greek word: Strong's # 3528 is "conquer" – "overcomes" – "victor."

IF we want to be there, we have to overcome. (Nothing new here, all seven churches are told: "To him that overcometh, will I give this and grant that.)

IF we want to be there, we have to be a giver, and have outgoing concern for our fellow man, (The sheep will enter into the Kingdom, the goats will not.)

IF we want to be there, we have to make (and keep) our garments white. (Sinners will not be there.) (1 Corinthians 6:9) and (Galatians 5:21) Make that perfectly clear.

So, let's keep our High Calling on the front burner of our lives, and be those "peculiar" people of our God.

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Iron Sharpening Iron In regard to: Purim

Article by William P. Goff
Comments by Laura Lee (Bismarck, North Dakota)

William makes the following statement in his article: <mark>If the USA is Ephraim (which some very strongly believ</mark>e).

Scripture actually backs up that Manasseh is the United States and Ephraim is Great Britain:

Deu 33:17 His glory is like the firstling of his bullock, and his horns are like the horns of unicorns: with them he shall push the people together to the ends of the earth: and they are the ten thousands of Ephraim, and they are the thousands of Manasseh.

In Deu. 33:17 it clearly shows that Ephraim was bigger in population than was Manasseh. The British Empire at its highest population point was far larger in population and land mass than the United States ever was and even now is.

Also, the "Coat of Arms" for Great Britain includes a unicorn and a lion. See Deu. 33:17 and the lion I am sure is representative of the "Lion of Judah" because the throne of David is in Great Britain.

Jdg 12:6 Then said they unto him, Say now Shibboleth: and he said Sibboleth: for he could not frame to pronounce *it* right. Then they took him and slew him at the passages of Jordan: and there fell at that time of the Ephraimites forty and two thousand.

To this day, the British people still have a problem pronouncing the "sh" sound and as you can see it was the Ephraimites or the British peoples that have that problem.

Other than that, this was a very good and interesting article.

New American Standard Bible (Proverbs 27:17)
As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

Holy Days 2025

Passover – April 13, 2025 (Observed at Sunset the Evening Before)
Passover/Unleavened Bread – April 13-19, 2025
Pentecost – June 2, 2025
Trumpets – September 23, 2025
Atonement – October 2, 2025
Tabernacles –October 7, 2025, to October 13, 2025
Last Great Day – October 14, 2025

Notes

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