

From The Mind Of A Common Man

Letter To America

Hello America,

We have all been traumatized lately by the explosion in Oklahoma City. Many of us also were already becoming upset over the way our government has been over stepping its bounds. It seems however that some have become more up set with our government in Washington than most.

Militias are being formed in more than thirty states. Arms are being purchased. explosives studied, and training is underway. Recruiting is also being pursued, even among the U.S. Armed Forces.

Much of this seems to be coming about because of a teaching in Christian circles about a time still in the future. A time when a one world government will come to power. This is a doctrine that I do believe. There is a one world government coming. If one were to pay close attention to the news and where our federal government is leading, this will be seen.

In the Bible a picture of this time in the future can be found in the book of The Revelation. We of course cannot go into a complete study of this doctrine in this paper. It would take the writing of an entire book to cover this subject completely. I will try to distill and compact this teaching down into a reasonable size for this paper.

The time we are looking at is known to students of prophecy as "The Tribulation," or "The Great Tribulation," or "The Time of Jacob's Trouble." It is also a part of Daniel's prophecy of seventy weeks.

I am afraid that for the average laymen. I have already confused him. I will try to keep things simple, and you please try and hang in and understand.

Daniel prophesied that seventy weeks would be determined on his people of Israel. In Daniel's day the word week was used much as our word dozen is used by us today. We use the word dozen to indicate the number twelve. They used the word week to indicate the number seven. So what we are talking about here are seventy weeks of years. (The prophecy is found in Daniel chapter nine.)

This prophecy works out very well right up to the time that Jesus was put to death. That was a part of the prophecy. In verse 26 of Daniel chapter 9, it was foretold that Messiah would be cut off. After which the city and the sanctuary

would be destroyed.

In 70 A.D. the part of the prophecy foretelling the destruction of the sanctuary was fulfilled when Vespasian and his son Titus came with the Roman army. In fact, Jesus Himself had mentioned this destruction In chapter 24, of Matthew. He forecast that the temple (sanctuary) would be destroyed in such a way that not one stone would be left on top of another that would not first have been thrown down. We can see the truth today very well. That which today's Jews call "The Wailing Wall" is what is left of that temple. No part of that wall sits on the original temple sight.

Remember when Jesus was executed, that Pilate did not want to kill Him but only to scourge Him and let Him go. But, when opposed by the Jewish leaders and the crowd, Pilate washed his hands and said, " I am innocent of the blood of this just person." The reply of the Jewish leaders was, "His blood be on us, and on our children." "We have no king but Caesar." From that time, until 1948 the Jewish people had one Caesar after another. God did give them a little time between the crucifixion and the destruction of Jerusalem, during which many were saved. Then He scattered them through all the nations. From the time that the Jews said, "His blood be on us, and on our children," it seems as if God's prophetic clock stopped. It of course has not, but only from our point of view. We have entered into what is called, "The Age of Grace," or "The Time of The Gentiles." God has turned away from the Jew and turned to saving out of the gentile nations all the souls that He can. But Daniel's seventieth week is left un-fulfilled. That seventieth week is the largest part of the book of The Revelation. It is a time when God turns from the gentile nations who have turned from Him, (as the Jews did). He now turns back to the nation of Israel.

Now, it is prophesied that this time of the gentiles will begin to come to an end with a great falling away. The Apostle Paul in his second letter to the church of the Thessalonians wrote, that the second coming of Christ would not take place until, there was a great falling away first, and a particular man of sin was revealed. "Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God showing himself that he is God....And now ye know what 'withholdeth' that he might be revealed in his time....he who now 'withholdeth' will 'withhold' until he be taken out of the way. And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of His mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of His coming."

If I were to have to put a time to that beginning of the falling away, I would have to say it started around 1900 with the introduction of the theory of evaluation, and communism, and socialism. This is when mankind began to think that he knew to much to any longer believe in God.

We now are living in a day when knowledge has increased and the intellectual elite of our day see no need for any God. I find it interesting that Daniel was told about this as well, and was told that this would be the end time. In the end of his book Daniel is told by an angel to shut up the words of his prophecy and seal the book until "the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased." That running to and fro would indicate an increase in travel, and there is no need to explain the increase in knowledge, for we see it all around us.

During this twentieth century the intellectual elites of especially the U.S. have been leading the nations away from God. In the U.S. they have ignored the original intent of the founding fathers and taken prayer, Bible reading, the ten commandments, and all religious instruction out of the public schools. They used a portion of the Constitution of the United States that guaranteed a separation of church and state to separate God from state. Which thing the founding fathers would not have done! Many folks do not know that the same founding fathers who provided for the separation of church and state also provided for the teaching of religion in school. I am now going to quote from a book, "The Making of America, The Substance and Meaning of The Constitution":

*Congress shall make NO law
respecting an establishment of religion,
or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.*

This provision guaranteed to all Americans the RIGHT to enjoy the free exercise of the religion of their choice without the government giving any preference to one "establishment" or denomination over another.

There was some concern among the Founders lest this prohibition give the impression that the government was hostile to religion. They wanted it clearly understood that the universal, self-evident truths of religion were fundamental to the whole structure of the American system. This is such an important aspect of the nation's original culture that a comprehensive discussion of religion from the Founders' perspective might prove helpful.

Americans of the twentieth century often fail to realize the supreme importance which the Founding Fathers originally attached to the role of religion in the unique experiment which they hoped would emerge as the first civilization of a free people in modern times. Many Americans also fail to realize that the Founders felt the role of religion would be as important in our own day as it was in theirs.

In 1787, the very year the Constitution was written by the Convention and approved by Congress, that same body of Congress passed the famous Northwest Ordinance. In it they outlawed slavery in the Northwest Territory. They also enunciated the basic rights of citizens in language similar to that which was later incorporated in the Bill of Rights. And they emphasized the essential need to teach

religion and morality in the schools. Here is the way they said it:

"Article 3: Religion, Morality, and knowledge, being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged."

Notice that formal education was to include among its teaching responsibilities these three important subjects:

1. Religion, which might be defined as "a fundamental system of beliefs concerning man's origin and relationship to the Creator, the cosmic universe, and his relationship with his fellowmen."

2. Morality, which may be described as "a standard of behavior distinguishing right from wrong."

3. Knowledge, which is "an intellectual awareness and understanding of established facts relating to any field of human experience or inquiry, i.e., history, geography, science, etc."

We also notice that "religion and morality" were not required by the Founders as merely an intellectual exercise, but they positively declared their conviction that these were essential ingredients needed for "good government and the happiness of mankind."

The position set forth in the Northwest Ordinance was reemphasized by President George Washington in his Farewell Address. He wrote:

*Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity,
religion and morality are indispensable supports...
And let us with caution indulge the supposition that morality can be maintained
without religion....
Reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail
to the exclusion of religious principle.
It is substantially true that virtue or morality is a necessary spring
of popular government.*

(This now ends my quoting of this book.)

The intellectual elites of our father's day here in the twentieth century, and our day, in the Supreme Court and Congress have ignored these desires of our founding fathers, and set up a wall between God and state in our nation. They have also worked to spread their doctrines among our children, and all the other nations of the world.

Here in America we are proud of our independence, which our founding fathers gained for us. But the intellectuals would have us to forget what that independence was based on. That is, "that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable Rights," (taken from the Declaration of Independents). Now certain among us would cut out the Creator, and is it surprising that in doing so they pervert the Constitution, state, and individual rights. Cut out the Creator and you cut out the foundation for all these rights!

This has all been said to outline the fact that we have been falling away from faith in God. Much of the population has been led away and churches have been weakened. If I were to put a title on this day in which we live, I would not call it the atomic age or anything of the sort. I would call this the Laodicean age.

Many will not recognize this name. It comes from the Bible, and the book of The Revelation. In the Revelation John writes to seven churches. These are churches that existed during his day. They were real churches. They also however, picture for us the church down through the ages until now. Each of these churches is a picture of the church during a particular time in church history. Each is also a picture of a type of church that exist in our day. The last of the churches in the list is a picture of the general condition of the church in our day. That is the church of the Laodiceans. It is a picture of a weak, worldly church that only thinks it is strong, and rich, and in need of nothing. It is the lukewarm church of the last days.

Our churches of today build great buildings with fine comfortable auditoriums, and powerful sound systems. They seek political power, and now some would even seek that power that comes out of the end of a gun. They need to read again about that which Paul said was the true power of God.

*For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness;
but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.*
(I Corinthians 1:18)

If we would delay that which is coming it is necessary to repent and pray, and seek power to once more preach the cross as it should be preached. It is not wrong to exercise our rights as citizens, but to many forget what is the churches first order of business, that is to preach Christ and Him crucified.

The seeking of the power that comes out of the end of a gun is wrong. I am disappointed that in the Michigan Militia a Baptist pastor is (or was) the leader, because he should know better. Nowhere in the Bible is the Christian told to take up arms against the Anti Christ. In fact the church is not even mentioned in the Revelation after chapter four. That is because it is not there!

The next event on God's calendar is what we call the rapture of the church. This event is outlined in chapter 15, verses 51-58, of First Corinthians, and the fourth chapter of First Thessalonians, verses 13-18. It is also mentioned by Jesus in Matthew chapter 24, "Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come." This is in truth the next thing to watch for. Because, our loving Heavenly Father is not going to leave His children in the way when He is planing to pour out wrath upon the earth. In fact, First Thess. 5:9, says we are not appointed to wrath, "but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ."

The tribulation as we see it pictured in the Revelation is a time of wrath during which billions will die. It is a definite time in God's plan and no gun will stop it from coming. Prayer and preaching may delay it, but in the end it will come. The only hope of escape is the rapture, and the only way to insure you're leaving in that event is to make sure that you are right with Jesus. Are you born again? Have you made Him Lord of your life? The Apostle Paul called the rapture "that blessed hope" in Titus 2:13, and that it is!

The man Lot in the book of Genesis being taken out of Sodom before the fire fell is a picture of that happening. Also John in the fourth chapter of Revelation is a type of the church. John is the beloved disciple of our Lord. Jesus loved all the disciples, but John in a very special way, (not physical) above the others. Jesus loves the whole world and gave His life for it, but the Church is loved in a very special way. John in the fourth chapter of Revelation is a picture of the church being taken out of the way right after the age of the Laodicean church.

The time of the tribulation is a time when God turns away from the gentile nations which have turned away from Him, (as Israel did). He now turns back to Israel, whom He never did cast off all together. Nowhere in the Bible is Israel completely cut off, but rather God promises to always maintain a remnant, and to one day restore them to their land. This has begun. This is also where another faction of today's militia movement goes wrong. The Nazi, or white faction of the militia movement ignores great portions of the Bible. In the pride of their own hearts they follow after their father the devil in a vain attempt to stamp out the Jew. Anti Christ will follow this line during the tribulation. The tribulation ends with all the armies of the world attacking Jerusalem and Christ coming back to fight for His people.

Satan hates the Jew. It is the race that gave birth to Jesus. Satan knows that Jesus will someday sit on His grandfather, David's thrown in Jerusalem and rule the whole earth. Satan wants to rule earth himself. He will do all that he can to stamp out the Jew, and defeat the Lord Jesus, even if it is a futile effort.

We must understand that Satan's wisdom has been corrupted by sin. (Note Ezekiel 28:17.) In this passage the prophet starts out prophesying against the King of Tyrus, but then goes beyond him to the evil inspiring him. In his doing so we see this about Satan, "Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness:" I would translate the "corrupted thy wisdom" into modern American English by saying, "This boy has a screw loose." Because of this he believes that he can defeat the King of kings, and Lord of lords, by using the armies of earth. In other words, he will try to whip God Almighty with men of flesh. He will attempt to defeat the creator with the created. This is the creature whom the Nazis follow!

If you are not happy with the condition of America, or the world today. The need is not for guns, but Bibles. The need is not for militias, but preachers who preach the old Gospel.

Don't clean your gun, but clean up your life. Don't load your gun, but learn the scriptures. Don't go to war against the government, but rather, go to church, and take someone with you.

Keep watching and looking for that "Blessed Hope" and be ready when He comes to take His bride out of the way!

**From The Mind of a Common Man
With An Uncommon God**