

Time's Growing Short: The Catastrophe is Near!

by David Ben-Ariel

What does South Africa's fall, Israel's capitulation, and Hong Kong's surrender have in common? THEY WERE ALL PROPHESED! The American and British peoples were *destined* to come into prize possessions of rich and strategic territories. Judah was *sent* to reclaim the Land of Israel - all because of Abraham's obedience. God promised to bless the Biblical patriarch and his descendants, as clearly brought out in Herbert W. Armstrong's wonderful work, *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*.

"And we should face the facts today and know that we were given all this vast unprecedented material wealth because God promised it, unconditionally, to Abraham. And He promised it to Abraham BECAUSE ABRAHAM OBEYED GOD, KEPT GOD'S LAWS AND COMMANDMENTS.

The birthright blessing was denied our forefathers after Moses' day because they REFUSED to live by God's laws.

And today God warns us, through many prophecies in Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Isaiah, Micah, and many others, that unless we of this generation REPENT of our sins, and turn to Him with fastings, and with weeping, and earnest PRAYER, He will destroy our cities, all our fortresses, with the foreign sword; that He will punish us at the hand of a CRUEL ONE; that we shall be invaded, defeated, reduced to SLAVES! GOD HELP US TO HEED THAT WARNING!" (USBIP., pg. 57).

God *has* warned this nation! But our people have shown the typical indifference. The SHOCKING TRUTH hasn't really sunk in! We're carrying on in our own ways, business as usual, just like in the days of Noah and the time of Lot. We're not convinced, we're not convicted, we're complacent! We don't feel in any mortal danger or sense an urgent need for national reforms.

Traditional Christianity *knows* Herbert Armstrong boldly taught that a UNITED EUROPE - not Russia - will attack us and trigger World War III; the Great Tribulation. Yes, *many* religious people have heard and *rejected* God's warning, not recognizing the voice of the Shepherd whom they profess to know (1 John 2:4). Then there's the non-religious, the secular. Some have heard, but most aren't interested in anything spiritual - *to their fault and condemnation* (Zephaniah 1:6). But everyone will want some answers as soon as things begin to fall apart! However, too many will tune out when God doesn't tell them what they want to hear, so they'll follow the siren-songs of others who can't save them (2 Tim. 4:4).

Why aren't we taking God's warning seriously? For one thing, we've turned the blessing into a CURSE by becoming too spoiled and pampered! We feel all these material blessings belong to us, that we somehow deserve them and can expect them to last forever. We haven't been grateful. We've taken it all for granted. We've squandered it on pagan holidays and hedonism and spread it out before foreign allies! Thomas Jefferson was moved to remark: "My God! how little do my countrymen know what precious blessings they are in possession of, and which no other people on earth enjoy!" Not until drought, famine, and supernatural disasters strip our cupboards bare and EMPTY our grocery shelves will we *know* how good we've had it!

President Lincoln proclaimed a NATIONAL DAY OF FASTING, HUMILATION AND PRAYER. But where's a leader today with the moral courage and spiritual vision to strongly recommend that "We the People" humble ourselves and pray, let along fast? We've got to have our three meals a day, with plenty of snacks in between! But DROUGHT is going to force us to fast! God's going to SUDDENLY withhold the rain, in various parts of our countries, destroying our crops. Floods will rot the rest (Amos 4:7-9)! We're supposed to enjoy a reciprocal relationship with God but we haven't. Since we've failed to offer up prayers, God's not going to send down rain! Both our parched land and lives NEED God's Holy Spirit! We must fast and pray, now, to be spared from further misery: "If my people who are called by My Name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from Heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land (2 Chron. 7:14).

Instead of becoming a model-nation, we've become a STRIPPER! We've taken the fine things that God's given us and laid them out before foreigners (Hosea 2:1-13)! We've wasted our time and energy in pagan ways and heathen practices! Therefore, God's going to STRIP AWAY OUR PEACE AND PROSPERITY! We're going to be laid waste and left exposed to the elements; stripped bare before NAKED AGGRESSION! Since we've refused to return to God, we'll be sent back into SLAVERY! (Ezek. 16; Hos. 2:3,8,9,12)

We won't realize until it's TOO LATE that God's the One who gave us everything! *He'll prove it by taking it all back!* We've become so hardhearted, so cold and cruel that nothing seems to faze us anymore, but God's taking away His protective shield (Isa. 5:5). We're going to be ravaged by the weather and our enemies! The Bible warns that both the heavens *and* the earth will become badly shaken! We're about to experience galactic terrors, see stellar disturbances, and witness near cosmocide (Joel 2:10)! But we don't attribute the dramatic increase in "natural disasters" and crazy weather to a spiritual upheaval. We fail to see any connection between our land and our lives, even though Solomon was wise enough to know there's a link (I Kgs. 8:35-40). We should realize that nature doesn't have a mind of its own but can be used by our Creator to get *us* thinking (Jer. 5:20-25).

"On Aug. 10, 1938, on the Jewish fast day of Tisha B'Av, just over a year before Hitler invaded Poland, Jabotinsky spoke to a gathering of Jews in Warsaw, few of whom were to survive the war: For 3 years, I have been imploring you, Jews of Poland, the crown of world Jewry, appealing to you, warning you unceasingly that the catastrophe is near. My hair has turned white and I have grown old over these years, for my heart is bleeding that you... do not see the volcano which will soon begin to spew forth its fires of destruction.... Time is growing short for you to be spared.... Listen to my words at this, the 12th hour. For God's sake: let everyone save himself, so long as there is time to do so, for time is running short." - cited in Benjamin Netanyahu's, *A Place Among the Nations: Israel and the World* pg.364.

What *greater* catastrophe is near today! A NUCLEAR HOLOCAUST is on its way! SUDDEN DESTRUCTION will catch many off guard and by surprise! But WHY?! Mr. Armstrong warned many - but that was then and this is *now*. NOW is the time to SOUND THE ALARM! Mr. Flurry has warned God's Church that the Gentiles will soon take over. But *Mr. Flurry hasn't warned the world!*

GOD'S CHURCH MUST COME OUT OF THE CLOSET AND INTO THE PUBLIC ARENA! What have we got to hide? We're under orders to share what we know! (Mark 4:21). We must follow the *example* of the prophets and apostles who went PUBLIC with their message! They didn't only preach to a converted audience! They didn't save their timely messages only for Sabbath services! They got out from behind the pulpit and stormed the "gates of hell" and ROARED against the political and religious establishment! Read your Bible! See it for yourself. Read the prophets and the Book of Acts. We musn't hide behind our publications. What we offer in print, we must offer IN PERSON! But that's not "respectable" enough for some. They would rather lay low, keep quiet and basically let Israel DIE! But Isaiah had to go naked; Ezekiel had to go through antics; Jeremiah had to take a public stand; the apostles went to court; etc. And the Two Witnesses will be in *sackcloth!* Not very "fashionable" but it's Biblical!

How can God's Church effectively warn the world? How can we reach both high and low? By following Mr. Armstrong's example: **TAKE OUT FULL PAGE ADS!** Can you imagine the stir that could be created by *exposing* the German military base in New Mexico? How both American and German officials would want to silence us? How they would hate the glaring light we would shine on their *Trojan Horse!*? Or how Israel would get upset if we told them God will soon permit the Gentiles to trample Jerusalem and occupy their homes since they're so willing to give away *His* holy land and allow Muslims to control *His* Temple Mount!? Or how traditional Christianity would hate us for blasting their bastard beliefs and pagan practices? There are many topics and issues that could and should be addressed, ending with Peter's encouragement and Jabotinsky's warning: "SAVE YOURSELVES!" (Acts 2:40).

Will we deliver God's message to the world? Or will we be unfaithful? Have you assumed that it's just a given that God's people would fulfill Ezekiel's commission? Then WHY would God warn those that *know* what's coming yet refuse to warn others that He'll hold *us* accountable for their deaths? Why UNLESS that was possible? (Ezekiel 33:6,8). Did God foresee that some would be afraid to go public? Afraid to confront society? Afraid to believe Jesus' *promise* that we'll be given supernatural help in our hour of need (Lk. 21:15)? And why would we need such boldness and inspiration? Because we can expect PERSECUTION for taking God's Word to the world! It's cause and effect (I Pet. 4:12). That's why they'll drag us into court or throw us into jail! Again,

read the Book of Acts. But you don't have to worry about the world if you're only whispering among yourselves, because they'll NEVER know about you or your "controversial" beliefs.

Yes, some peoples' religion is so private even God doesn't know about it! Some light. Some contrast. But we should fear to face God if we don't get over our fears (Heb. 10:31). The *fearful and unbelieving* will be thrown into the Lake of Fire! (Rev. 21:8). Especially if that fear interferes with obeying God. God knows our human weaknesses and therefore offers to become our divine strength (Ps. 103:14; 2 Cor. 4:7). This realization keep us humble and glorifies God - to whom we direct everyone (Acts 3:12).

God's Church - you and me, not just our leaders - must ASK for and RECEIVE *His* boldness to speak *His* Word (Acts 4:24-31). God *will* get His Word out to warn Europe, Israel and Judah, even if He must raise up "stones" to cry out for Him. But wouldn't it be a crying shame if we don't do our part? If Mr. Flurry (or the other "men of stature") don't want to take the bull by the horns, or don't feel it's their responsibility to warn the world, then they should at least recognize and respect those who do (Galatians 2:9). As the saying goes: "Lead, follow or get out of the way!"

May God's love motivate us to support those who are ready to take a PUBLIC STAND (Isaiah 60:1). *Beyond Babylon* and *The National Messenger* are dedicated to try and save our people from brutal death and destruction. We must face the nations and cry: "WHY WILL YOU DIE, O HOUSE OF ISRAEL"? And *we don't have a moment to spare!*

David Ben-Ariel
c/o The National Messenger
PO Box 642
Saline, MI. 48176