

The World is Coming Apart But The Kingdom is Coming

Fred R. Coulter—July 19, 2014

Greetings, everyone! Welcome to Sabbath services. I want to cover Rom. 2, because this becomes very interesting when we look in the world and see what people are doing, seeing some of the attempts that they are doing to hold back the tsunami of sin that is enveloping us.

There are some people out there doing these things to try and help. When you look at the world we need to be thankful that there are those people who are doing it. Just think of where we would be if they weren't. Especially when we start covering some of the things today.

I came home right after the airline in the Ukraine was shot down, and Dolores said, 'The world is coming to an end.' It feels like it when you watch the news. When I was down in Arcadia/Pasadena, they are right next to each other, so I stay in Arcadia and we meet in Pasadena. I gave a sermon on *Peace of Mind in a World of Turmoil*. We'll expand a little on that to get a framework as to what is happening.

Here is an organization called *Renew America* (<http://www.renewamerica.com>), which is heavily Scripture, but they don't print out the Scriptures, they give the Scripture references. Here are some articles:

- [Homosexuality and the Unpardonable Sin](http://www.renewamerica.com/columns/weaver/140303)
(<http://www.renewamerica.com/columns/weaver/140303>)
- [An Open Letter to Ancient Alien Theorists](http://www.renewamerica.com/columns/weaver/131023)
(<http://www.renewamerica.com/columns/weaver/131023>)

I haven't read that, I'm just reading the title of it. But it's true, the world doesn't realize it, there are aliens coming to take over the world:

- Christ
- the angels
- the resurrected saints

We're all aliens!

- [Atheistic Religion and Modern "Science." Part I](http://www.renewamerica.com/columns/weaver/140318)
(<http://www.renewamerica.com/columns/weaver/140318>)
- [The Rise of the Global Church of Lucifer](http://www.renewamerica.com/columns/kimball/140710)
(<http://www.renewamerica.com/columns/kimball/140710>)

That sounds like one I did in 1999^[transcriber's correction] for the Feast of Tabernacles, *Satan's Global Church*—and it's coming!

Go online, look up www.frontline.org and what they have on there is *Secrets of the Vatican*, put out by PBS (Public Broadcasting System).

(pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/secrets-of-the-vatican)

I am so thankful that they put it out because if someone like us put it out, they would say, 'Oh, prejudice.' But what struck me in watching that and listening to it is this: Right at the time when these things about what goes on in the Vatican and all the sexual things that go on—Dolores is the one who told me about it and said, 'You ought to watch this.' So, I had Randy Vild look it up for me and I was able to watch it.

Isn't it interesting that when all of the base sins of the Vatican, not all of them, but a good number of their most horrendous sins are coming to the surface, the Protestants are coming home, 'Mama.' *Interesting!*

- [What Kind of God Do You Believe In?](http://www.renewamerica.com/columns/kimball/140315)
(<http://www.renewamerica.com/columns/kimball/140315>)
- [Occult, Evolution: Anti-Diluvian, Babylonian, and Modern Expressions](http://www.renewamerica.com/columns/kimball/140430)
(<http://www.renewamerica.com/columns/kimball/140430>)

I'll have to read those and see what they have to say.

We know God is not calling the world, so they don't meet the standard that is given to us. However, God requires everyone in the world to obey in the letter of the Law.

Romans 2:13: "Because the **hearers of the Law** are not just before God, but the **doers of the Law** shall be justified."

Sidebar: This tells us that those who mouth the words of the Law, but don't do them—because hearing means *you listen and obey*—have no standing before God. They are not justified.

Apply that to 1-John 2:4: "The one who says, 'I know Him,' and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the Truth is not in him." That's the most of Protestantism and all of Catholicism. This also shows, "...the doers of the Law shall be justified," which means that *there must first be repentance and then obeying* the Law of God *before* you can be justified through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. That shows change of heart and repentance and conversion.

Romans 2:14: "For when *the* Gentiles, which do not have *the* Law, practice by nature the things contained in the Law, these who do not have *the* Law are a law unto themselves." Showing whenever anyone obeys the Ten Commandments in the letter, God recognizes that. There are varying degrees of obedience to the laws of God and varying societies and cultures, and so forth.

Verse 15: “Who show the work of the Law written in their own hearts, their consciences bearing witness, and their reasonings also, as they accuse or defend one another.” That’s exactly what is happening in the world.

These people in their own way are standing for certain precepts of God, which are right and true. God will bless them in that. He wants that witness to go out to people, because the people that they reach are people that would not be reached by us at this point. But hopefully, if they respond to God, God has His seven Spirits out there and that’s how He knows who they are. Those who really want the Truth, He will draw.

This is why we need all the Churches of God to really be doing what they need to be doing and giving a witness and preaching and teaching and feeding the flock, and all of this sort of thing.

Let’s see something else that is true. All of this we are talking about people in the world that have not answered the call of God, but agree with certain precepts of God.

Sidebar: I am reading William Tyndale’s *The Obedience of a Christian Man*. Very interesting indeed, outside of a few archaic words. It really is quite revealing. This was the book that Anne Boleyn, who was one of Henry VIII’s wives who did not bear him a son but a daughter—Elizabeth—who eventually became queen.

She gave a copy to Henry VIII, and after reading that—plus some other background leading up to it that he did not care for the church at Rome—he decided to sever all relations with Rome. So, this came from William Tyndale. There are many, many other things tied in with William Tyndale and the Scriptures and getting the Word of God out, the rise of England, the rise of Manasseh, and all of those things all tied together.

What this does, when we put this together, let’s read it here, Luke 9:49: “Then John answered *and* said, ‘Master, we saw someone casting out demons in Your name, and we forbid him because he does not follow with us.’” Think about how many Churches of God have that same attitude.

Verse 50: “But Jesus said to him, ‘Do not forbid *him*, because everyone who is not against us is for us.’” Because it’s out of those kinds of people that God will be able to call those who will respond to Him. But what it does, it also shows how incredibly great is the calling of God, because God the Father Himself draws us. So this is really a tremendous thing to understand.

Now let’s look at the other side of it. This pertains to the Church and those who are called. Matthew 12:30: “The one who is not with Me is

against Me, and the one who does not gather with Me scatters.” So, you have those definitions which help us to understand what’s going on in the world.

With that in mind, and all that’s coming on in the world today, think of what’s going on:

- with the Jews and the Palestinians in Gaza
- in Syria
- with ISIS
- in the Ukraine

I think if you would go right straight up that longitude, that those would be pretty close to the same longitude all the way up. It is astounding; look what’s happening:

- in Africa
- in Asia
- with the weather
- with Iran

We don’t know what’s going to happen there. Then you come home and you look at the United States. You look at all of the scandals that are there, which the news won’t report:

- Benghazi
- IRS
- the border situation
- economy
- debt
 - ✓ national
 - ✓ personal
 - ✓ corporate
 - ✓ state

Then you come to all the personal problems. Look at the situation in the world. Look at everything that there is:

- all the activities
- all the things that are going on that are against God
- education of the youth
- the morals absolutely coming apart
- the health of the nation

You look at all of that and if you watch all of that news and you don’t know the solution is coming from God... It’s like I was the other day watching the news. I felt oppressed.

What we need to understand is this. How did the world get this way and then we will see what God is going to do about it. So, we’re going to take an overview of several things.

We know at the end, in the book of Revelation it talks about Babylon the Great. Let’s come back to the beginning of Babylon—Genesis.

I’m trying to get a book that supposedly has some more information about things before the

Flood. We have here about Nimrod (Gen. 10). I won't go into Nimrod, except he was in place of God. They were going to build the tower to heaven (Gen. 11).

I saw a very interesting thing on the History Channel about building the tower. They did a test with just sun-dried clay bricks and then the kiln-dried or roasted bricks. They found that the bricks that were kiln-dried, that were roasted actually with making ceramic out of them, that they could literally build a tower well over two miles high because of the strength of them.

We don't know how high it was that they were building. But here is the signature point that spread Babylon—because it was Babel—around the world. God confounded their languages and scattered them to their inheritance, wherever they went. With them, as we know, the book, *The Two Babylons*, by Alexander Hislop, the pagan names of their gods were all different, but when they had one language they were the same: Nimrod, Semiramis and Tammuz.

All the nations were scattered. God began to deal with one man—Abram, who left the idolatrous ways of Babylon. From Abraham came Isaac, Jacob, the twelve sons; also Ishmael and Esau, all of that history. Then we know the blessings that were given (Gen. 49 and Deut. 33). We also know that Israel was carried off into captivity because of their sins. Judah was carried off into captivity to Babylon because of their sins for 70-years. Some of them came back after the 70-years.

We'll spend a little time with an overview of the book of Daniel; quite a book. It connects what is called the last axial period in history. Axial is when there is a complete change of things. That's what we are facing with the coming one-world government and Babylon the Great.

From the Babylonian Empire that began with Nebuchadnezzar's father and then Nebuchadnezzar, on down from there came the major religions of the world: Hinduism, Buddhism, etc. As well, Judaism came out of Babylon, but it still had a form of the way of God with the Scriptures, and so forth.

But what this does, this tells us how God works in the world and how God has set the time from that axial period with Nebuchadnezzar. Also remember that Nebuchadnezzar was called by God 'His servant.' He brought the armies of Babylon against Judah and Jerusalem because of their sins, and they refused to repent.

As we covered in a sermon, *Troubles to Come Because of Wicked Men* about the difference that one man makes, that Zedekiah could have forestalled the destruction of Jerusalem if he would

have surrendered to Nebuchadnezzar. He refused to do it, so everything was wiped away.

Of the captives going back to Babylon, which becomes very interesting when you understand this, the Jews—Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego—ruled, under Nebuchadnezzar, the Babylonian Empire.

Let's see how important this was because God dealt directly with Daniel and with Nebuchadnezzar. You know the story. He had the dream. He called all of his astrologers, astronomers, and wise men, and said, 'I want you to tell me the dream and to tell me what it means.' They couldn't do it. He said, 'I'm going to kill you all if you don't do it.'

God gave the understanding of it to Daniel and he was brought before the king and spared all the wise men, and so forth. Here we go. This begins the transfer of power, designated from Nebuchadnezzar to Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego.

The book of Daniel lays the foundation for everything from that time until the return of Jesus Christ. There's a framework with it. There are other frameworks that coincide with that—appointed times and the Holy Days—all connect together with this.

Daniel 2:19: "Then the secret was revealed to Daniel in a night vision. And Daniel blessed the God of heaven. Daniel answered and said, 'Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, for wisdom and might are His. And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and sets up kings. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding. **He reveals the deep and secret things**; He knows what *is* in the darkness, and the light dwells with Him'" (vs 19-22). So this is telling us quite a thing.

This is why Jesus said, 'No man knows the day or the hour that the Father has put into His authority.' Everyone who sets times and dates—because you look at the situation now and what has to happen to bring in a world government today, to bring in the world economic system, even tighter than it is, there is a whole lot to happen that's going to take years and years to accomplish. Here's the first place that warns us, 'Do not set dates.'

Verse 23: "I thank You, and praise You, O God of my fathers, Who has given me wisdom and might, and have now made known to me what we desired of You, for You have made known to us the king's matter."

Then he was brought before the king, v 24: "Therefore, Daniel went in to Arioch, whom the king had chosen to destroy the wise men of Babylon.

He went and said to this to him: ‘Do not destroy the wise men of Babylon. Bring me in before the king, and I will declare the interpretation to the king.’ Then Arioch quickly brought Daniel in before the king, and said this to him, ‘I have found a man of the captives of Judah who will make the interpretation known to the king.’ The king answered and said to Daniel, whose name *was* Belteshazzar, ‘Are you able to make known to me the dream which I have seen and its interpretation?’” (vs 24-26).

Notice, Daniel said, ‘Yes, I’m smart and important.’ *NO!*

Verse 27: “Daniel answered before the king and said, ‘The secret which the king has demanded cannot be shown to the king by the wise men, the enchanters, the astrologers or the magicians. But there is a God in heaven Who reveals secrets and makes known to King Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days....’” (vs 27-28) From that time forward to the end. Almost all the key chapters in the book of Daniel do that.

Let’s look at it this way: What Daniel has been given is the lock. What John, in the book of Revelation, was given is the key. So, you can’t understand Revelation without Daniel, and you cannot understand Daniel without Revelation.

In between, with many of the other prophets, there are different aspects of these things that fit into the whole picture. Not only do we have a lock and a key, but we also have a puzzle with parts. Some parts are easy to put together. Other parts are not easy to put together.

How many here have put together 1,000-piece puzzle? When you take it out of the box, every piece looks alike. So what do you start with? You start with the borders. That’s like the Bible saying to begin with the easy things. Then God gives understanding as you go along.

What we’re going to cover, is a foundational framework that takes us right to the end and the Kingdom of God, right here in Dan. 2.

So, Daniel says, “...Your dream and the visions of your head upon your bed *are* these” (v 28). Only God can understand the mind of a person. No other person can. You can come close, but only God knows the heart. This had to come from God. Daniel was not over there and all of a sudden he understood what it was on his own. No, God had to give this to him.

Verse 29: “As for you, O king, while upon your bed your thoughts came to you of what should come to pass hereafter. And He Who reveals secrets makes known to you what shall come to pass. But as for me... [notice the humility] ...this secret is not revealed to me for *any* wisdom that I have more than

any living man, but so that the interpretation may be made known to the king, and that you may know the thoughts of your heart. You, O king, looked—and behold a great image! That great image, whose brightness was surpassing, stood before you. And its form *was* awesome. This image’s head *was* of fine gold; his breast and his arms *were* of silver; his belly and his thighs *were* of bronze; His legs *were* of iron; his feet *were* part of iron and part of clay. You watched until a stone was cut out without hands...” (vs 29-33). This sounds like a dream—doesn’t it? Things happened that aren’t natural.

“...that struck the image upon its feet...” (v 34). If you have ever had foot problems, you know how bad that is. I’ve gone through that so I know how delicate that can be.

“...*which were* of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces. Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were broken in pieces together... [all made into fine dust] ...And they became like the chaff of the summer threshing-floors. And the wind carried them away... [the power and Spirit of God] ...so that not a trace of them was found... [note: Rev. 18, the judgment of Babylon—never again, *never again, never again*] ...And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth” (vs 34-39).

- Who was that Rock?
- Who was that Stone?
- *Jesus Christ!*

Verse 36: “This *is* the dream. And we will tell the interpretation before the king. You, O king, *are* a king of kings, for the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory” (vs 36-37). Everything comes from God. We’re going to see something very interesting here as we go along.

Verse 38: “And wherever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field, and the birds of the heaven, He has given *them* into your hand, and has made you ruler over them all. You are this head of gold.” That’s pretty plain, right there.

Verse 39: “And after you shall arise another kingdom... [or empire] ...inferior to you, and another third kingdom of brass, which shall rule over all the earth. And the fourth kingdom shall be *as* strong as iron, forasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and beats down all things, and as the iron that crushes all these, shall it break in pieces and crush. And whereas you saw the feet and toes, part of potters’ clay and part of iron, *the* kingdom shall be divided. But there shall be in it the strength of the iron, because you saw the iron mixed with miry clay. And *as* the toes of the feet *were* part of iron and part of clay, *so* the kingdom shall be partly strong and

partly broken” (vs 39-42). This is the last kingdom that we have, Rev. 13 right here.

Verse 43: “And whereas you saw iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mix themselves with seed of men. But they shall not cling to one another, even as iron does not combine with clay.” That’s exactly what we see in the world.

- we see strong nations
- we see weak nations
- we see weak nations saying they are strong
- we see strong nations made weak

This tells you the end of it, v 44: “And in the days of these kings...”—the ten toes. Now, with the way things have been understood, the way that the globalists are working, these will be ten regions of the world, all Babylon the Great together. Not ten nations out of Europe.

“...the God of heaven shall set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed...” (v 44). That includes everything in the book of Revelation, plus all of the other Scriptures, in different prophecies and different books of the Bible, which tell about what’s going to happen. With that we can, on this framework, hang a great deal of information. Especially with the Feast of Tabernacles we can fill out what’s going to happen when the Kingdom of God is on the earth, because of the prophecies and the Word of God.

“...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 forever. Because you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold, the great God has made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter. And the dream *is* certain, and its interpretation is sure” (vs 44-45). But he didn’t tell us how long.

We have a chart in the back of the *Holy Bible in its Original Order, a Faithful Version* (See Chronologies) showing how these have been fulfilled in history.

Verse 46: “Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell upon his face and worshiped Daniel, and he commanded to offer an offering and sweet incense to him. The king answered Daniel and said, ‘It is true that your God *is* the God of gods, and the Lord of kings... [The first one of the Babylonian system acknowledged God. Amazing!] ...and a revealer of secrets, since you could reveal this secret.’ Then the king made Daniel great, and gave him many great gifts, and made him ruler over all the province of Babylon, and chief of the prefects over all the wise men of Babylon” (vs 46-48).

This answers the prophecy that God told the Jews when Nebuchadnezzar was taking captives out of Jerusalem. ‘If you go to surrender to King Nebuchadnezzar, you will go to Babylon and there you will be low vine,’ as compared to a cedar tree before. And they were and they prospered there and they were treated well there.

Sidebar: this is how the Calculated Hebrew Calendar was introduced in Babylon. Who was the head of the wise men? *Daniel!* How was he able to get it across so that the Babylonians wouldn’t be angry with the Jews? *He allowed some Babylonian names to be given to some of the monks!* That doesn’t mean that the calendar came from Babylon. It means it passed *through* Babylon.

Verse 49 is what you call the push/pull. God pushed Daniel up to the highest position in Babylon, through what He did here, and it was God’s intent to do so, as a blessing to all of the Jews. Now here comes the pull:

Verse 49: “And Daniel asked the king, and he appointed Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego over the affairs of the province of Babylon. But Daniel *sat* within the gate of the king.”

Then we have Dan. 3 where we have the great idol that was made. Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego were cast into the fire. It could very well be there in Babylon. What do you suppose comes out of the ground naturally? *Oil, asphalt, and natural gas!*

Sidebar: I mentioned before about Kazakhstan. They have great oil and natural gas reserves. I forget the year that they were doing it, but they were drilling down for natural gas, and all of a sudden the earth opened up with a great huge hole, about a 300 meters around. It caught fire and to this day that natural gas is burning.

A little tip for our President: If you want to get rid of the CO₂ and the methane, why don’t you figure out how to stop that from burning before you shut down everything in America. That would be most helpful. Since some people think you walk on water, perhaps you could do this.

They got out of it. He praised God again. Dan. 4 is quite an interesting chapter, indeed. I would like to read the whole thing, but I’ll leave that up to you. Daniel did not write chapter four; v 1 tells us that this is an epistle from the first king of the great Babylon of this world—Nebuchadnezzar—to whom God had direct dealings. This is one of them.

Daniel 4:1: “Nebuchadnezzar the king, to all people, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth...” This is meant to be through all time, to all people, to all rulers.

“...‘Peace be multiplied to you. It seemed good to me to declare the signs and wonders that the Most High God has done for me. How great *are* His signs! And how mighty *are* His wonders! His kingdom *is* an everlasting kingdom, and His dominion *is* from generation to generation” (vs 1-3).

That’s an introduction after the fact. So there he was, sitting in his house, and began to think how great he was, how good he was, how marvelous he was, and how he had built all these things in Babylon. Then he had a vision, which showed a tree cut down and a band put around the tree. Then seven times, or seven years, passed over. He revealed that that was himself, because Daniel came in and told him the dream and said, ‘This is you and unless you repent of your sins, you’re going to be driven from men and you’re going to eat grass like cattle.’ So, that’s what happened. He didn’t repent.

Verse 29: “At the end of twelve months he was walking on the roof of the royal palace of the kingdom of Babylon. The king spoke and said, ‘*Is this not great Babylon that I have built for a royal residence by the might of my power and the glory of my majesty?*’” (vs 29-30). Be careful what you say.

Verse 31: “While the word was yet in the king’s mouth, a voice fell from heaven, saying, ‘O King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is spoken. The kingdom has departed from you. And you shall be driven from men, and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field....’” (vs 31-32).

Wonder how he looked after seven years. No clipping of the fingernails, no clipping of the hair, no clipping of the beard. He must have really been a sight, on his hands and knees, eating grass, picking the grass, eating it, not able to talk, not able to think. It was fulfilled that same hour.

Verse 34: “And at the end of the days, I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted up my eyes to heaven, and my understanding returned to me, and I blessed the Most High, and I praised and honored Him Who lives forever, for His dominion *is* an everlasting dominion, and His kingdom *is* from generation to generation. And all the inhabitants of the earth are counted as nothing... [What a humility.] ...and He does according to His will in the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth. And none can stay His hand, or say to Him, ‘What are You doing?’” (vs 34-35).

We need to keep this in mind when we are looking at the things going on today, because we have news that comes at us so much, so fast, so heavy. It’s even hard to keep up with it and you get one bad news on top of another bad news, on top of another bad news. Other things happen; then personal things in your life. Personal things in your

family. And all of those things mount up. The best headache remedy is *the Sabbath and God’s Word*. Keep that in mind.

Verse 36: “At that time my reason returned to me. And the glory of my kingdom, my majesty and splendor returned to me. And my advisors and my lords sought me out...”—‘Yes, Lord, what would you like?’ I bet them came all trembling and humbling, because I imagine they were doing a lot of scheming, ‘What are we going to do if he never recovers from this?’ You can imagine all the political infighting going on.

“...and I was established in my kingdom, and surpassing greatness was added to me. Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and honor the King of heaven, for all His works are Truth and His ways justice. And those who walk in pride He is able to abase” (vs 36-37).

Quite a message right there. This is what needs to go to all the rulers of the world, but they wouldn’t listen. But it is there if they would read it.

(go to the next track)

Now let’s look at several things in the book of Daniel and realize that it begins with the time of Nebuchadnezzar and then the successive kings after that. Then it brings us clear down to the coming Kingdom of God. So really, when you look at it, *the whole Bible is preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom of God!*

What I want to cover in Dan. 7 is how it fits into the end-time. Again we have that listing in one of the appendices, the chart showing all of that. It’s in the back of the Bible. It’s kind of like this:

I talked to a man the other day and he said he never had a clear explanation on the Trinity. He said, ‘I never heard any Church of God give a clear explanation on the Trinity.’ So I said, ‘I just did a sermon on it, so if you haven’t seen it, go ahead and watch it—*The Truth About the Trinity*. However, it is in two of the appendices in the Bible (Appendices K and L). Read the appendices!’ This is designed for disaffected Protestants and Catholics. So read the appendices.

I think today we are so used to short messages, summaries and ‘tweets’ that we fail to understand that some of the things we need are really in depth and we need to apply ourselves to them.

The book of Daniel has a bit of both—easy to understand and difficult to understand, especially if you do not have the New Testament. But here it is. Here’s the conclusion of the whole matter. Here’s where we find in the Old Testament ‘a precept here, a precept there; a line here, a line there,’ and you put

it together, as Paul admonished Timothy to ‘rightly divide or that is rightly put together the Word of God.’

Daniel 7:17: “These great beasts, which are four, *are* four kings that shall arise out of the earth.” Remember it starts with the first notable one in each case.

Verse 18: “But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever.” That’s the whole Gospel of the New Testament. This is the whole plan of God, right there encapsulated in v 18. But this tells you all summaries rarely give you details. He desired to know the truth about the fourth one, and so forth. That turns out to be the last one.

Verse 25: “And he shall speak words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and think to change the set times and the laws. And they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and one-half time. But the judgment shall sit, and his dominion shall be taken away to be consumed and to be destroyed unto the end” (vs 25-26). That ties in with what we read in Dan. 2 and Rev. 18.

Verse 27: “And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven...” *Now the kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ* (Rev. 11).

“...shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High...” *We shall be kings and priests and reign with Him a thousand years* (Rev. 20:5)

“...Whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom.... [Rev. 20-22] ...And all kingdoms shall serve and obey Him” (v 27).

This is the summary. The details are contained someplace else. So, you have the lock, but you need the key. In the key there are little ridges. These are like additional points, which help unlock the meaning.

Daniel 11—Here’s something that ties directly in with 2-Thes.2, Rev. 13 and 17, right here. This talks about the one who is the coming anti-Christ.

Daniel 11:36: “And the king shall do according to his will. And he shall exalt and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak astonishing things against the God of gods...” That’s where he blasphemes God and those who dwell in heaven (Rev. 13); where he goes into the temple of God and exalts himself above all that is worshiped as God (2-Thess. 2).

“...and shall prosper until the indignation to be accomplished, for that which is decreed shall be done” (v 36). Spoken how long before it’s going to take place. Getting close to 3,000 years right now. Any other book written by men contain anything like this? What about the great ones of the world? Aristotle? Socrates? *NO!*

Verse 37: “He will not regard the gods of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard any god, for he shall magnify himself above all.” Then it shows at the time of the end what’s going to happen.

All the events that are happening in Europe right now are precursors to the rise of the office of the one who is going to assume the anti-Christ. There has to be many things laid in place for this to be accomplished. When he comes, then he will be known. But everything else, and the other prophecies, also have to be coordinated by God, so that it will take place at the right time. It’s going to be done, “...for that which is decreed shall be done.” This includes every sub-prophecy below that, which adds information to it. Shall be done!

Verse 40: “And at the time of the end, the king of the south shall push at him... [who will be the King of the North] ...And the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind with chariots and with horsemen and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries and shall overflow and sweep through”—that’s the anti-Christ.

Remember, that is not revealed until its set time. Notice how many times, as you read through Daniel, this struck me as I was reading it and surveying it: at the appointed time, the appointed time, at the set time, over and over again.

Daniel 12:3: “And they who are wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament...” That’s the resurrection, that’s us. That includes all of the chapters in the Bible which refer to the first resurrection.

“...and they who turn many to righteousness shall shine as the stars forever and ever” (v 3). We can add in there all the apostles, all those who have served God.

What did Jesus say of those who will be in the resurrection? *The children of the resurrection shall shine as the sun!* All right there. So, you see how the Bible just covers everything, but in such a way that you need to put it together properly.

Verse 4: “But you, O Daniel, shut up the words and seal the book, even to the time of the end... [‘Lord, I’m so sorry, I want to know all of this.’ *No!*] ...Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.”

- How much knowledge is how much knowledge?
- How's it being increased?

It's coming so fast it's almost ready to loop over the top and come back down the other way. Many shall be going to and fro. Think about it the next time you are stuck on the freeway in a traffic jam. But we can also add to this, knowledge shall be increased:

- knowledge in the world
- knowledge in science
- knowledge of all of those things

but also

- **knowledge of the Word of God**

God is going to do like He always does. He does not do a thing unless there is a warning. And many warnings. Here now it has to go to the whole world.

Verse 5: "Then I, Daniel, looked; and behold, there stood two others, the one on this side of the bank of the bank of the river, and the one on that side of the bank of the river. And one said to the man clothed in linen who was above the waters of the river... [there were actually 3; that's not the Trinity] ... 'How long shall it be to the end of these wonders?'" (vs 5-6). And that is the question throughout the whole Bible. What did the apostles ask Christ just before He ascended to heaven? '*Lord, when shall it be?*' He said, 'This is not for you to know.'

Verse 7: "And I heard the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand to heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever, *saying*, 'It shall be for a time, times, and a half *a time*... [a mystery which needs to be understood; only explained by the New Testament] ... And when the power of the Holy people has been finally broken, all these things shall be finished.'"

- When does that happen?
- Could this be when the two witnesses are killed?
- Who are the Holy people? *The saints!*
- How many will be alive at that time in the flesh? *Only the few in a place of safety!*
- Will it look like that the power of God and the Holy people have been broken when they kill the two witnesses? *Yes, indeed!*

The world's going to rejoice, but those are things you don't find here; that's in the New Testament.

Verse 8: "But I heard, but I did not understand. Then I said, 'O my lord, what shall be the end of these things?' And he said, 'Go your way, Daniel, for the words *are* closed up and sealed until the time of the end.' Many shall be purified, and

made white, and refined. But the wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand" (vs 8-10) Promise!

Think about this for a minute: It says the wise shall understand. Can you think of a parable in the book of Matthew that talks about the wise and the foolish? *Yes, indeed, Matt. 25.*

You can still be a Christian up to a certain point, but be foolish and not understand. That's why we always have to realize, as was the lesson with Nebuchadnezzar, none of these things come because of what we are or who we are, but because of what God is and Who He is.

Let's come to Matt. 24 and let's read the daily news. Isn't it interesting, we're living in a time when every one of these things are taking place simultaneously, quite different from any time in history before. We've always looked at these as sequential, which they have happened sequentially down through history. But this is the only time in all history that they are all simultaneous.

This tells us how fantastic the Word of God is and that *the prophecies of God are fulfilled in many different ways* to the maximum.

Sidebar, because we're going to start talking about the temple here. Someone told me to go look on the Temple Institute online (templeinstitute.org) and they have some plans for the coming temple. We'll see if we can get a copy of those plans and see what it's like.

The Jews need a perfect red heifer as a Holy burnt offering so that those ashes can be used for cleansing. Then they say when they get that, they will be able to build the temple. They think they have found one in Mississippi. They have found some in the past before, but on close examination there was a little white hair here and a little white hair over here, so that had to be rejected. Every time they find a red heifer, and this is about the third or fourth one they say they have found, out comes an article, 'The Jews have found the red heifer.'

How much has to be done for the prophecy to be fulfilled for the temple to be built? You think they can build it today? In the next five years? A few of the Jews acknowledge the Mosque of Omar is not where the temple will be built.

Matthew 24:1: "And after going out, Jesus departed from the temple; and His disciples came to *Him* to point out the buildings of the temple."

If you go online and see a picture of the temple, that is the one that this is talking about, the one that Herod completed. It was really beautiful, white with gold and set way up. It was something. Then they had two great huge candelabras that were

like steel poles going up about 70 feet. Up at the top, what they did, for the light up there, they took the stained clothes of the priests and they would bundle them together. Someone would climb up there and put it up there and would burn them. At night it gave a bright light everywhere. So it was spectacular!

Between the top of the wall and the colonnades of the temple, coming down to the Valley of Kidron, it came down almost straight, at a slight angle where they offset the stone to build it up. That was all white stone. From the top to the bottom was 650 feet.

When Jesus was there with Satan and he said, 'Cast Yourself down.' that was a mighty thing to look at. Here are all these white stones. Imagine, that had been there for a long time. It was 46 years in building. It was part of the society around there. Part of everything that there was. It would be like before the Twin Towers went down in New York, someone saying, 'One day you're going to see these Twin Towers in ashes and everything burned and falling to the ground.' This is much like it.

Verse 2: "But Jesus said to them, 'Do you not see all these things? Truly I say to you, there shall not be left here even a stone upon a stone that shall not be thrown down.'" That absolutely happened. That's why where the Mosque of Omar is could not be where the temple ought to be, because you have stones upon stones.

Verse 3: "And as He was sitting on the Mount of Olives..." What happened, they came down the Brook of Kidron to the valley and came back up over to the Mount of Olives, which was actually higher, looking down into the place where the temple was. So this was a spectacular view.

"...His disciples came to Him alone, saying, 'Tell us when shall these things be? And what *shall be* the sign of Your coming, and the completion of the age?'" (v 3). The same question we ask today.

Verse 4: "Then Jesus answered *and* said to them..." We're going to see every one of these things taking place today, though they took place down through history beginning with the time of Jesus.

"... 'Be on guard, so that no one deceives you. For many shall come in My name, saying, "I am the Christ"; and they shall deceive many'" (vs 4-5). How many Christian denominations do we have today? Like 2,000? Is that many or not? *Yes, indeed!*

Verse 6: "And you shall hear of wars and rumors of wars..." We've had plenty of those—and on and on and on. That's on the news today.

"...See *that* you do not let *these things* disturb you..." (v 6). That's pretty hard to take.

Because, they have the means now to get you anywhere, even at 32,000 feet.

Thinking about that, I was wondering, regarding the plane shot down over Ukraine: As some of these people were ejected, and still alive, as the plane blew up in the air, I wonder what their thoughts were as they were coming down 30,000 feet to their death on the ground, if they weren't already dead. I imagine there were some pretty quick prayers. I imagine if a Catholic still had the rosary on his neck, he was holding on to it. But Mary didn't answer that one. But that was a tragic thing. I wonder how that is going to affect airline travel, and it's quite interesting that that's the second airline that Malaysia lost.

"...For it is necessary *that* all *these* things take place, but the end is not yet.... [that's just what I have been saying] ...For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom..." (vs 6-7). Actually you could translate it this way from the Greek, because nation is 'ethnos,' which could be race. But though that would be true, with today's sensitivity of people and it's properly translated nations, that's the way I left it.

"...and there shall be famines and pestilences and earthquakes in *different* places. Now all these *things are* the beginning of sorrows" (vs 7-8). *Difficult times!* I was thinking about the poor people in Ukraine. Think of what happened to them.

When Stalin came in, he went down and starved them out, and took over all of their farms and their ranches and everything, and made them move into villages. He took away all the food and starved them to death deliberately.

David Froloff—who helps out with Church at Home—his folks escaped from the Ukraine and went to Siberia and came to the United States. His folks and his uncle were telling him about that.

After that, here came the Germans. The Germans, because of what happened with Stalin, when the Germans first came they welcomed them open arms as saviors until the Germans started killing the Jews and killing the Ukrainians. So, they had some of the bloodiest battles in World War II in the Ukraine. Probably 100,000 soldiers altogether, Russians and Germans, died. I know 38,000 Germans died as they backed out to retreat toward Germany.

Think of all the bloodshed there. Then think what it was like during the days of the Cold War. Then think what it was like when the Soviet Union finally collapsed and they had some freedom and could breathe for a while, and felt more like human beings for the first time in many generations. And now look at what it is and no one to help them. The

one who could is fundraising. *Terrible!* "...beginning of sorrows." Now they are already doing this to some who believe in Christ in different ways.

Verse 9: "Then shall they deliver you up to affliction, and shall kill you; and you shall be hated by all nations for My name's sake." Is that not becoming more and more true today? *Yes, indeed!*

Verse 10: "And then shall many be led into sin... [Isn't that happening today? *Yes!*] ...and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another." Don't we have that today? Everything! It's amazing, all these things together.

Verse 11: "And many false prophets shall arise, and shall deceive many; And because lawlessness shall be multiplied..." Isn't it tough living in lawlessness? Our illustrious dream-headed Governor Jerry Brown just signed a bill that in official documents of the state you cannot use the words husband and wife. You have spouse and spouse. A judge in Australia just ruled that you can no longer have any laws against incest—lawlessness everywhere! It's hard to live in that society—isn't it? Hard to take! It's frustrating!

What does it do? "...the love of many shall grow cold" (v 12). Because you don't know who believes what, you don't know who to trust. And you don't know who is going to be against you. Look at all of the crimes that are coming along in addition to that.

Verse 13: "But the one who endures to *the* end... [There it is right there. It's talking about us. And it is endurance. You cannot slack up and give up.] ...that one shall be saved."

We are an older church. Every day you look in the mirror you are reminded of it. Many will be taken to their place of safety, the grave. But many of us are going to have to endure through to the end. It's going to be a whole lot harder than we figured. We need to take heed to that! This is not to scare you. There's going to be enough to scare you, but ***this is to help you have the faith and trust in God and in Christ that They will help you, They will protect you and we can be encouraged with God knowing*** this one thing: That *when we're resurrected we will be part of the vengeance of God to bring sanity to this world!*

Verse 14: "And this Gospel of the kingdom shall be proclaimed in all the world for a witness to all nations; and then shall the end come." How far, how deep, how much, how repeated—we do not know. But we do know that every Church of God and even those who are the ones that we started out in the beginning, those who are for us are on our part. How much they will do, we don't know. But

we have the means to do it in a much more thorough way than ever before.

See website: afaithfulversion.org. We have the whole New Testament up online, the text and the audio. You can go to a chapter and you can click on the audio and you can read along with the text. We will have that for every hand-held device. We have that also for Church at Home (churchathome.org). That's our part in what we do and that is there 24-hours a day/7-days a week.

Think of this: If all the Churches of God would do likewise, whatever they could do, think of the available witness to the world. It could be awesome indeed. Then the frosting on the cake will be the two witnesses. God is not going to leave any stone unturned. ***The greatest event in the history of mankind is going to happen with the return of Christ and the resurrection of the saints!*** They are going to be warned: Don't be deceived. Will they listen? We don't know.

We'll look at some of the things that we are facing today, and how we need to have that close relationship with God so that we do not get carried away with the things in the world. Do not be discouraged. We're going to have

- plenty of problems
- plenty of challenges
- plenty of difficulties ourselves

in our own lives and own families and the brethren we know.

One person said, 'When I see miracles, I'll pay attention.' You better wake out of your sleep, because I don't think God is giving miracles at this time for the very reason that a wicked and adulterous generation seeks after a sign. How many thousands did Jesus heal? Where were they? The Church being the few, we would have a hard time taking care of the many who would flock.

Just think about what some of the Catholics do when a supposed image of the virgin Mary appears. On whose every property it is, they set up a little business. 75-cents to pass through and do your little thing with Mary.

Think what it would be if there were mammoth, unbelievable healings. We would be overwhelmed. There will be a time when God will do that, but now is not the time. We have many healings, I will have to qualify, many, many healings. We send out anointed cloths and also direct anointings. But we have many, many healings. I would say of the cloths that we send out, we are probably up in the 90% on healing.

Here's one of the things that we are going to face, because there are *wicked spirits in high places* (Eph. 6:12). We have to fight against these things.

1-Timothy 4:1: "Now the Spirit tells us explicitly that in *the* latter times some shall apostatize from the faith... [We have seen that.] ...and shall follow deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons; Speaking lies in hypocrisy, their consciences having been cauterized *with a hot iron*; Forbidding to marry..." (vs 1-3).

That gets into the thing of the Catholic Church. That's something! I can't get over that. Be sure and watch that PBS thing: *Secrets of the Vatican*. It's not for little kiddies to watch it. It is very, very graphic and astonishing. Dolores is the one who told me about it.

Let's see what it's like on a daily basis. We see this everywhere. This is the world that we are living in. These are some of the things that press in on us that oppress us.

2-Timothy 3:1: "Know this also, that in the last days perilous times shall come; for men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, braggarts, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy" (vs 1-2). You could write books about each one of these descriptive words as a title.

Verse 3: "Without natural affection..." They are sure pushing that. That is having to do with homosexual relationships and marriage and having to do without natural affection, abortion and killing children, killing husbands, killing wives, and all of this sort of thing.

"...implacable..." Meaning you can't reach them. You can't reason with them.

"...slanderers, without self-control, savage, despisers of those who are good, betrayers, reckless, egotistical, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God" (vs 3-4). How about if you would do this: Go to a college and say, 'All you students today, there are no football games today. You are all coming to church.' They would stampede you to get rid of you.

Also there are those who are religious, v 5: "Having an outward appearance of Godliness, but denying the power of *true* Godliness. But *as for you*, turn away from *all* these."

Verse 13: "But wicked men and imposters shall become worse and worse, deceiving *others* and being deceived *themselves*." Isn't that interesting. Deceiving the deceivers, who are deceiving deceivers; over and over again. That sounds like Washington, D.C.

Verse 14: "But *as for you*... [this is what we are to do] ...continue in the things that you did learn

and were assured of, knowing from whom you have learned *them*." Then it talks about the Bible, and so forth.

There is coming a day when it will look like men under Satan have finally come to agreement, and they have solved the problems under the coming beast-power.

1-Thessalonians 5:1: "Now then, concerning the times and seasons, brethren, there is no need that I write to you; For you yourselves understand perfectly that the day of *the* Lord will come exactly as a thief *comes* by night. For when they say, 'Peace and security'..." (vs 1-3). There will come a time when it will look like finally men have done it. When that time happens, that's the beginning of the last seven years—the 70th week of Dan. 9. In the middle of that week, 3-1/2 years, is when the Tribulation will begin.

Very similar to the situation that happened with the man, as I explained, who was the sole prophet in Jerusalem before it was destroyed. His message was this, and everyone thought he was crazy. All he did was go around Jerusalem and say, 'Woe, woe, unto Jerusalem.' And it happened. Then just before the end, the priests, at night on Pentecost, were in lighting the candles in the temple. Josephus records this.

They heard a voice saying, 'Let Us leave here.' And the presence of God left the temple. Then it was reported after that time, seeing in the air at night over the Mount of Olives, chariots circling around and around. We don't know what God is going to do at things like this, but there are going to be many signs and wonders knowing what's coming. Then you project forward to the 144,000 and the great innumerable multitude.

After they see the sign of the Son of man in heaven, they are going to repent and it's going to be the great day of the salvation of God for these people. So, you heard about that on Pentecost. You'll hear about it again on Trumpets.

Verse 3: "For when they say, 'Peace and security,' then sudden destruction will come upon them, as travail *comes* upon a woman who is with child; and they shall be no means escape." Once the baby starts, it's coming and it's not going to stop.

Once these events start to happen, it's going to come and it will end in the birth of a nation, all at once. Let's read that prophecy, the prophecy of the first resurrection, clear back there.

Isaiah 66:4: "I also will choose their delusions, and I will bring their fears upon them..." That's what's going to happen to the world. It happens individually. Can happen to a group, nation, the whole world.

“...because when I called, no one answered; when I spoke, they did not hear... [He speaks through His prophets] ...But they did evil before My eyes and chose *that* in which I did not delight.’ Hear the Word of the LORD, you who tremble at His Word, ‘Your brethren who hated you, who cast you out for My name’s sake... [that’s happened in the Church of God] ...said, “Let the LORD be glorified,” But He will appear to your joy and they will be ashamed”’ (vs 4-5). That’s the resurrection.

Verse 6: “A sound of noise from the city, a sound from the temple, the sound of the LORD repaying His enemies. ‘Before she travailed, she gave birth; before her pain came, she delivered a man child”’ (vs 6-7). That is Christ and the Church is the Body of Christ.

Notice, it goes right into the resurrection of the saints, v 8: “Who has heard such a thing? Who has seen such *things* like these? Shall the earth be made to bring forth *in* one day? Or will a nation be born at once?... [Yes!] ...For as soon as Zion travailed, she also gave birth to her children. Will I bring to the birth, and not cause to be born?’ says the LORD. ‘Shall I cause them to be born, and shut the womb?’ says your God. ‘Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad with her, all who love her. Rejoice for joy with her, all who mourn for her”’ (vs 8-10). Quite a prophecy about the resurrection.

Don’t let the things get you down. I hope this gives you enough fortification to endure another week of news!

Scriptural References:

- 1) Romans 2:13
- 2) 1-John 2:4
- 3) Romans 2:14-15
- 4) Luke 9:49-50
- 5) Matthew 12:30
- 6) Daniel 2:19-49
- 7) Daniel 4:1-3, 29-32, 34-37
- 8) Daniel 7:17-18, 25-27
- 9) Daniel 11:36-37, 40
- 10) Daniel 12:3-10
- 11) Matthew 24:1-14
- 12) 1-Timothy 4:1-3
- 13) 2-Timothy 3:1-5, 13-14
- 14) 1-Thessalonians 5:1-3
- 15) Isaiah 66:4-10

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Genesis 10, 11, 49
- Deuteronomy 33
- Revelation 18; 13; 11; 20:5; 21-22
- 2-Thessalonians 2

- Revelation 17
- Matthew 25
- Ephesians 6:12
- Daniel 9

Also referenced:

Sermons:

- *Peace of Mind in a World of Turmoil*
- *Satan’s Global Church* (#31 Daniel/Revelation Series; FOT 1999)
- *Troubles to Come Because of Wicked Men*
- *The Truth About the Trinity*

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- *The Obedience of a Christian Man* by William Tyndale
- *The Two Babylons* by Alexander Hislop
- *Josephus*

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