

John Newlin Ministries, Inc. *- realizing the power of a life in Christ-*

What in the world is going on and where are we in God's plan?

Sometimes it is beneficial just to step back, take a deep breath, and look at where we are. That said, here is where we are in November 2011 as believers anticipate the soon return of Jesus Christ and do their best to live in a highly disturbed and confused world.

- Of all the events to happen in the time leading up to the return of Jesus, the reestablishment of Israel in 1948 as prophesied many places in the Bible is probably the most dramatic. When that happened, serious believers knew something was up. After more than 1800 years without a geographic nation, suddenly Israel was back. Then in 1967 Israel took over Jerusalem, bringing that city under the control of the Jews and fulfilling another end time prophecy. Since then numerous prophesied events have been occurring, events Jesus referred to as birth pains. We see almost regularly now bizarre happenings throughout the world. Just the last few days have brought surprising earthquakes to Oklahoma and a shutdown of Connecticut due to an amazing October snowstorm. You can learn about many of them by watching our *Prophecies Fulfilled Update* videos on the web site or YOUTUBE and by listening to our CD *Prophecies Fulfilled*.
- Jesus made the point that the generation that sees the events noted above will see his return as well. In other words, some people living now will be alive when he actually takes up residence in Jerusalem and begins his rule from there. No one knows the specific day but we most assuredly are in the season that will happen. It has been 63 years since the reestablishment of Israel and 44 years since Jerusalem was taken over by the Jews in 1967. In the Bible the most likely numbers relating to a generation's length are 40 and 70 years (80 is mentioned once and 120 is also once cited by God as the limit of human life span.). Obviously, 40 no longer applies. 70 appears the most likely. 70 years from the reestablishment of Israel is 2018.
- One oft quoted line of Jesus referring to how things will be in the last days goes like this: "As it was in the days of Noah" he began, and he went on to say it will be the same in the time of his return. He cited normal human activities going on in the days of Noah leading right up to the flood. So people on earth will be carrying out their usual activities right up to Jesus' return. Just as the people in Noah's day were evidently ignorant of or ignored the coming flood even though Noah warned them and they saw him building the ark, so too so many people in our day either do not know about Jesus' return or do not believe it or do not believe it will be soon. And they just go about life as normal.

- Jesus also said in reference to the time just before his return: “As it was in the days of Lot,” and he went on to describe normal life activities in which the people were participating right up to the destruction of Sodom where Lot had lived. But let’s look a bit deeper. Aside from ignorance and unbelief that also characterized the people of Noah’s day, what else characterized the people of Lot’s day? Great sexual immorality. Homosexuality in particular. There is even a shocking sentence in the account of Sodom describing when two angels came to see Lot, and he took them into his house. Men of Sodom came to Lot’s house and asked the angels (likely they did not recognize them as angels) to be put out so they could have sex with them. Just as it was in the days of Lot, our modern society is falling rapidly into this great sin. The end of the “don’t ask don’t tell” policy in the military, the pressure on military chaplains to perform same sex marriages, the legalization of such marriages in states like New York, and the acceptance of homosexual priests and ministers in some churches are all blatant rebellion against God’s word. Over and over again this minority demonstrates and asks for more, and modern society gives it to them. The atrocities at Penn State recently revealed show just how lost people can get in their priorities in life. “As it was in the days of Lot” applies very well to the United States of today.
- There is little need to stress how our public society has become increasingly Godless. Almost daily we hear of efforts to get the word God out of public places and declarations, and praying in Jesus’ name is attacked. It is a lost world system in which we live. No need to pretend any more. Recently one of the older great ministers of the country was asked about the upcoming presidential elections. His response was that politics cannot save America. I’ll say.
- On the international front, the United Nations has confirmed that Iran indeed is working toward developing nuclear weapons. Israel is rumored to be readying an attack on Iran that might come in the next few days or weeks, for the President of Iran has long declared his goal of destroying Israel. Not counting Armageddon, there are two military events prophesied in the Bible that have not occurred. One is the destruction of Damascus, perhaps the oldest city in the world (Isaiah 17). The other is the attack on Israel by nations from the North (Ezekiel 38 and 39), this attack being repelled by God. Neither really has to happen before the beginning of the seven year Tribulation, that terribly difficult period leading up to the battle of Armageddon and the establishment of Jesus Christ’s residence in and rule from Jerusalem. But consider: Damascus is in Syria, which is in the midst of a violent internal rebellion. Iran and Syria are allies. If Iran is attacked by Israel, what might Syria do? Is this the prelude to the two prophesied events? Likely we are at the doorstep.

Keep Your Eyes on Jesus!

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- I should not end this important list without referencing the general breakdown of economies in western nations, the likely move toward a unified Muslim front in Middle East nations, and the very troubling current protests throughout the US and elsewhere that seem inherently destructive, socialist in nature, and opposed to the basic historical fabric and design of the country. Surely, dear friends and partners, you can see the times we are living in are the last days before Jesus' return. Jesus said we should be able to.

I expect the Lord to come very soon to collect his believers, his CHURCH. As you know from my other writings and teachings, that appears likely to happen before the seven year Tribulation period begins. After all, there are several scriptures that point out we will be saved from God's wrath, which is certainly what much of the Tribulation is. From a Biblical prophesy standpoint nothing has to occur before he comes in a cloud to collect his believers and take them with him (Known as the rapture, that is not the same as actually taking up residence in Jerusalem at the end of the seven year Tribulation period.). So my advice as always is to be ready.

We are now entering several weeks of a holiday season. Lots of people celebrate Christmas. Lots of people have Thanksgiving dinners. Few are they who find the way to life eternal with Jesus and his father. Make sure you are one of those who do.

If you don't know Jesus, ask him to come into your life, to be your Lord. Change your ways and ask for his forgiveness for your past errant ways. And work to learn more and more about him by reading and studying the Bible and, if you can find it, by getting involved in a Bible based, Spirit filled church or group.

Jesus really is coming soon. The current age is drawing to a rapid close. You want to be ready to hear him call your name.

THANKS TO ALL WHO SUPPORT THIS MINISTRY WITH YOUR PRAYERS, PARTICIPATION, VOLUNTEER EFFORTS, AND MUCH NEEDED CONTRIBUTIONS

May God richly bless you. For all of you so involved, this is your ministry too. Think of all those reached, all those healed, delivered, led to Christ, growing in Christ. And not only people we actually encounter in person or on our mail list. No! We in fact receive dramatic emails from around the world from previously unknown people who are impacted by the ministry. Ministry teachings are available everywhere in the world in video or newsletter or article form on our web site and in video form on YOUTUBE. For example, such emails have come from India and Western Canada and Ghana. One far away writer recently noted the *Breaking Curses* video, making the point that it had changed her life (You might be interested in knowing that of all the videos on our web site and YOUTUBE, that video is viewed the most by far. Says something about our times, doesn't it?). People use this very newsletter as a teaching base for Sunday School and other Bible classes. Our CDs are throughout the US and in other countries. Many are given away to those without funds, as are Bibles sent to many in Africa.

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As we approach the end of the calendar year, please consider if this is a good time for an extra contribution which would be a great help in our preaching the good news to the poor, healing the brokenhearted, giving sight to the blind, and telling people Jesus is coming soon. There are great blessings that come to those who give to Jesus and the gospel, and that is what you are doing by giving to the ministry. Again, in all things, as Paul advised, give what you purpose in your heart to give. Never let other people pressure you into giving otherwise.

These are difficult times in which we live. Always keep your eyes on Jesus. And give thanks this Thanksgiving season! We wish a Happy Thanksgiving to all on our distribution list, from Maine to Florida, and as far west as Texas and Oklahoma, in Canada and Germany and Sierra Leone, in Ghana and Uganda and in fact wherever this is read in the world.

May you live in the blessings of God always.

John

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