John Newlin Ministries, Inc.

- realizing the power of a life in Christ-

2013 OUTLOOK:

TIME TO BE HONEST WITH OURSELVES AND LOOK AT WHERE WE ALL ARE

We are at the end of the age. I do not know if it is a day or a year or several years before the Lord comes to collect his believers and the seven year Tribulation begins, but it is soon, really soon. Not soon as in another thousand years or hundred years. No, soon as in the lifetimes of most of us alive now. Real soon. Those of you who regularly read this newsletter or have seen our live programs or television programs know a great deal about that. I write on this often because it is one of the key assignments the Lord gave me several years ago, and he has not and does not let up on it.

We do a lot of wonderful healings in our ministry, or rather the Lord does a lot through us, but his imminent return and making sure you and those you might have influence on are ready for that return has to take precedence. What does it matter if a person is healed but then is lost for eternity? It doesn't matter at all!

Shockingly, I understand from friends and partners in various places that most traditional churches and maybe other churches as well are not talking about the return of Jesus. You need no greater example of how sadly removed they are from the gospel than just that statement. We are living in the end of the last days, the time just before the return of Jesus, just before the day of the Lord. Numerous prophecies of events to happen just before that return have been fulfilled.

At this time in history we are awaiting the prophesied Psalm 83 war, the destruction of Damascus, and eventually the Ezekiel 37-38 war, followed at the end of the Tribulation by Armageddon and Jesus taking up his rule in Jerusalem. I have said before that it is doubtful any believers will still be on earth for any of these wars other than perhaps the Psalm 83 war when nations that surround Israel war against Israel. Our **Watchman Warning** sent out by email in July summarized these wars and appropriate scripture. You can still read that on our web site (articles link in the menu column on the home page) or on my blog.

I have below picked out a few crucial points and scripture for you at this time. See if you do not see our world and our time described here. Ponder them. Share with your family and friends. What does it matter if some criticize or make fun of you? So what. In the same way they criticized and ridiculed the Lord.

Lastly above all remember Jesus' warning to watch that we might be considered worthy to escape all that is coming on the earth. All that is coming is the terrible outpouring of God's wrath in the Tribulation period, especially the last half. There are many verses in the Bible that make the point believers will have been taken away before this happens, but believers do have to be alert for that catching away. In a nutshell, they have to be in a right relationship with God. Remember Jesus' parable

about the ten virgins. Five had knowledge. They evidently knew the bridegroom. But they were not ready when he came. They were not alert. And they did not get in to the wedding banquet.

ITEMS OF IMMEDIATE NOTE AND RELEVANCE

(all scripture is from the King James Version unless otherwise indicated; read in whatever good translation you like)

• <u>2 Timothy 3:1-5</u>: This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

This needs no commentary, does it. It is our day, right now.

• <u>1 Thessalonians 4:16-17</u>: For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

That's it – the gathering away – the rapture of the believers, Jesus taking away his believers.

• <u>2 Thessalonians 2:3-4</u>: 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, shewing himself that he is God.

This is the grand warning that the Day of the Lord (refers to the entire aspect of the return, the wrath, Jesus taking up rule in Jerusalem) shall not come until there is a falling away from God. The original Greek uses the word apostasia, from which we get apostasy. I submit to you that has happened and is happening in major fashion in the USA and Europe and elsewhere. This warning also says the Day of the Lord does not come until the man of sin, or lawlessness, or better known as the anti-christ, is revealed. Not long to wait for that, I think. That has all been held back up to now as the church age has played out and the Father has drawn people to Jesus. But in a few moments, no longer. God will release the man of sin, and a terrible time will begin officially.

• <u>Matthew 13:30:</u> Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

The wheat and the tares – the good crop and the bad crop, representing the growth in believers and in unbelievers at the same time. Surely in the USA and in Europe we see the falling away described earlier. At the same time, as several have reported, there is growth in real serious

believers in underground churches in China, in parts of Africa like Nigeria, and in South America. This has been described by some as a growth in Christians in the "south" of the world – e.g., Asia, Africa, and South America. What is encouraging is that these believers are described as conservative believers. In other words, they believe the Bible. And if they believe the Bible and obey the commands, they will see miracles and healings and be strong against all sorts of oppression. This is as it was in the first century. On a more general basis, the overall growth rate of persons identified as Christians is less than that of Moslems and Hindus in the world, but of course we should be more interested in the growth of serious believers, those who will go with Jesus when he calls.

• <u>Matthew 24:4</u>: And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you.

Mark 13:5: And Jesus answering them began to say, Take heed lest any man deceive you:

Luke 21:8: And he said, Take heed that ye be not deceived:...

<u>DECEPTION</u>!!!!!! In three gospels the disciples asked Jesus what would be the signs of his return. And the very first words out of his mouth were identical in all three. We have massive examples of deception every day in our lives now, on the national level and in media and entertainment and in our personal lives as we deal with others. By now you should have encountered this and be aware of it. It is rampant.

• <u>Luke 21:36</u>: Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

Stay alert. Stay in a right relationship with God. Don't get separated, distracted, drawn away into sin or confusion or what have you and not be ready when the trumpet sounds and the shout is given, as was the case for five virgins discussed above. This is one of the many scriptures that make it clear it is God's plan that believers escape the Tribulation. There are so many more. Revelation 3:10, 1 Thessalonians 5:9, 1 Thessalonians 1:10, Romans 5:9, Romans 5:1, Isaiah 57:1, Revelation 4:1, and more.

• <u>Isaiah 6:9</u>: And he said, Go, and tell this people, Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not. This is part of God's commission to Isaiah in Isaiah 6. Except for a tiny number of Jews who have come to recognize the Lord (generally referred to as Messianic Jews), the Jewish people in Israel and in the United States and elsewhere do not know the truth of the Lord Jesus and cannot see it. Eventually in the Tribulation period they will come to realize who the Lord is, but not now. This spiritual blindness explains the inconsistent positions we see American Jews taking in supporting politicians and views that in fact go against Israel.

• <u>Daniel 9:27</u>: And he shall enter into a strong and firm covenant with the many for one week [seven years]. And in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and offering to cease [for the remaining three and one-half years]; and upon the wing or pinnacle of abominations [shall come] one who makes desolate, until the full determined end is poured out on the desolator. – (Amplified version).

The "he" referred to here is the anti-christ. The many are the Jews, in particular Israel. When the anti-christ confirms a covenant with the Jews for one week – representing seven years – the Tribulation period begins. Remember, almost all Jews will not recognize who he is, and they will consider this confirmation a good deal apparently. And during that seven years he will bring abominations to the Jews and to the temple, but in the end he is destroyed.

The return of the Lord is real. The events around us are real. One of the saddest characteristics of so many in our world today is a lack of fear of the Lord. Yes, God is love and he is to be respected. He is also God, and he has a lot more attributes than just love. He is slow to anger, but eventually his patience runs out. And he does not leave the guilty unpunished.

We are now at that moment that has been written about so long - the return of the Lord, the end of the present age. It is going to play out in minutes and days and weeks and maybe even years. But it will come to its conclusion. There is an appointed time that people are not going to change.

So many know so little of God. And yet he is the creator. So many are deluded that he would not bring such terrible things on people or that all will be saved. Sorry. Not in the Bible. (Here are some verses you might ponder: Is 54:16, Amos 3:6, and Nahum 1:3.)

Where is the respect of the Lord? Where is it?

As John said at the end of Revelation, "Come, Lord Jesus." Yes, that is the appropriate statement. "Come, Lord Jesus." He will soon, whether you are ready or not. Which of the ten virgins are you?

May you live in the blessings of God always.

John

PS Don't forget to check out our blog regularly! Just click on John's Blog in the menu column of our web site or go directly to <u>http://johnnewlin.blogspot.com</u>.

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