The Blessed Hope!

"Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;" –(Titus 2:13)

# Diamond & Nugget #247

# What is the UAE Cop28 Plan of Climate Action?

Sultan Al Jaber has laid out his long-awaited strategy at a meeting in Brussels. Here's what it covers. Sultan Al Jaber, president of the Cop28 UN climate summit to be held in a week in the United Arab Emirates, has laid out his long-awaited plan of action at a meeting of governments in Brussels.

The plan covers all the main aspects of climate action, based on the <u>2015 Paris</u> agreement, now divided into what AI Jaber termed the four pillars, or four Fs: <u>fast</u>-tracking the transition to a low-CO<sub>2</sub> world; fixing climate finance; focusing on people, lives and livelihoods; and full inclusivity.

The Cop president's plan was broadly welcomed by experts and civil society on Thursday. Harjeet Singh of the Climate Action Network said: *"[It] sends the right signals about the key elements required for a successful climate summit. [But] while the broad contours are positive, the devil will be in the details."* 

Here is a breakdown of the details.

# The 1.5C goal

The Paris agreement required countries to hold global temperature rises "well below 2C" above pre-industrial levels, while "pursuing efforts" to stay within 1.5C. Since 2015, science has shown that 2C would entail calamitous impacts, so at Cop26 in 2021 governments agreed to focus on the more stringent goal of 1.5C.

Last year, some governments tried to unpick that commitment to 1.5C, so Al Jaber made clear from the outset that his plan was based on the tougher, and safer, goal. *"This plan is guided by a single north star, and that is keeping 1.5C within reach,"* he told ministers.

Kate Hampton, chief executive of the Children's Investment Fund Foundation, who worked unpaid on the plan, said: *"The commitment to 1.5C is particularly important – the presidency has recognized it is time to accelerate the essential and inevitable end* 

for fossil fuels. The challenge now for the presidency is to ensure delivery across a comprehensive agenda, which can only be achieved with a transformational plan for mobilizing finance."

# **National plans**

At Cop28, governments will conduct for the first time a *"global stocktake"* that will set out the progress countries have made on the emissions reduction commitments – known as *"nationally determined contributions"* or NDCs – they made in Paris.

The stocktake is certain to find that the world is way off track to meet its Paris goals, but the Cop presidency has decided against naming and shaming individual countries. Instead, all countries will be required to submit updated NDCs back in September, that are sufficiently tough to meet the 1.5 goal.

The UAE has submitted a revision to its NDC, with emissions reductions of 40% compared with business as usual.

#### Phase out or phase down?

Al Jaber emphasized that this effort would entail *"the phase down of fossil fuels",* which he said was *"inevitable and essential".* 

The wording is significant. Al Jaber was heavily criticized two months ago for repeatedly referring to the "phase out of fossil fuel emissions", which observers took to mean that oil and gas companies could carry on extracting fossil fuels as long as the resulting carbon dioxide was somehow captured. But scientists have warned against using carbon capture and storage technology (CCS) as a "free lunch" to excuse continued extraction.

The phrasing *"phase down"* will also disappoint campaigners and the 80-plus countries who want Cop28 to pass a commitment to phasing out fossil fuels entirely.

#### Clean energy

Commitments to double energy efficiency, triple renewable energy capacity to 11,000GW globally, and double hydrogen production to 180 million tons a year by 2030 will be put to governments at Cop28, and are expected to be agreed.

Romain loualalen, global policy lead at Oil Change International, said: "Recent history has shown that more renewable energy does not automatically translate into less fossil fuels. Cop28 will only be a success if its presidency sets aside the interests of the oil and gas industry and facilitates a clear outcome on the need for a decline of all fossil fuel production and use, as well as a rapid phase-in of wind and solar. The only way we'll build a new energy system that is both clean and fair is by actively phasing out the old."

# Fossil fuel companies

As well as leading Cop28, Al Jaber is chief of the UAE's national oil and gas company, Adnoc. He has spearheaded an attempt to bring fossil fuel executives to Cop28, arguing that they must have a place at the table, despite the misgivings of many campaigners.

He wants to formulate a plan with the world's biggest oil and gas producers – both nationally owned and private sector – to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions in line with 1.5C. If this can be agreed, it would be an astonishing step forward for climate action.

Bob Ward, policy director at the Grantham Institute for Climate Change at the London School of Economics, said: "There has been criticism of Al Jaber's links with the national oil company, claiming they prevent him from being a credible Cop president. But this speech shows detailed ambitions for progress on the major issues, including a recognition of the need for oil companies to be part of the solution. If Cop28 does deliver all the ambitions outlined, it would be one of the most important summits in history."

However, critics are concerned that oil and gas companies will seize on the chance to be allowed into the Cop28 discussions, while agreeing only minimal changes to their operations and soaring profits.

Singh said: "If keeping global warming below 1.5C is to be the north star of this summit, it effectively means no new fossil fuel projects. This implies a just and equitable fossil fuel phaseout, ambitious targets for sustainably scaling up renewables, and adequate finance to implement this plan."

# 'All emissions, everywhere'

Initially, when AI Jaber spoke to oil and gas companies earlier this year, he focused on what they could do to make their operations less carbon-intensive, such as improving their extraction efficiency and plugging leaks of the powerful greenhouse gas methane. These are known as scope 1 emissions in climate jargon – or emissions fully under a company's control.

Critics pointed out, however, that this ignored by far the greatest impact of fossil fuels, which comes when they are consumed and produce  $CO_2$  – known as "scope 3" emissions. (Scope 2 emissions are those coming from the purchase of energy from outside sources.)

On Thursday, Al Jaber promised these would be included:

"Let us end the reductive discussion of scope 1 v scope 2 v scope 3. We need to attack all emissions, everywhere: one, two and three."

# **Climate finance**

Developing countries are already facing devastation from the impacts of the climate crisis, and they lack the finance to shift their economies to a low-CO<sub>2</sub> footing. But the

climate finance currently available to them is too little, too hard to access, and skewed towards the richer among them.

Al Jaber called for *"a comprehensive transformation"* of the World Bank and other international finance institutions, and for private sector funding to be brought in.

He wants to ensure that a longstanding commitment by rich countries to provide \$100 billion (£76.5bn) a year to poor nations, which was supposed to be met in 2020 but has not yet been achieved, is finally delivered. He also repeated the demand by the UN secretary general, António Guterres, for a doubling of finance for developing countries to adapt to climate impacts.

Last year at Cop27, nations agreed to set up a fund for loss and damage, meaning the rescue and rehabilitation of countries stricken by the worst impacts of the climate crisis. Al Jaber said it was *"absolutely imperative"* that the means to fill this fund should be agreed at Cop28, with a view to disbursing the first cash soon after.

# Inclusivity

UAE is not a democracy, and civil expression is tightly controlled. Al Jaber reassured civil society groups that they would be welcomed at Cop28, highlighting the role of Indigenous people, youth and faith-based organizations, along with mayors and local leaders.

Inclusivity for UAE also involves private sector companies, however, including oil companies, which climate campaigners and some governments are less keen on.

Singh said: "We must ensure that Cop28 is free from the influence of the fossil fuel industry and holds these polluters accountable."

Alok Sharma, the former UK minister and president of Cop26, took a more positive view, saying: *"It would be a remarkable achievement of Cop28 if it became the Cop which sets the pace and timeline on consigning fossil fuels to history."* 

In many ways it is apparent that there is not likely going to be any agreement per se, and as such while China is keen to emphasize its record-setting installation of solar and wind power, there's growing angst among U.S. officials about China's decision to permit 106 gigawatts of coal power capacity. That's roughly equivalent to bringing two plants online each week. As China's emissions continue to rise, America's are declining. Washington enacted a sweeping climate law last year that devotes hundreds of billions of dollars to clean energy projects, and it's clamping down on methane releases from the oil industry. Beijing, meanwhile, chafes at trade controls that it says target green energy gear needed to accelerate the transition, including U.S. tariffs on solar panels first imposed in 2011 and restrictions on imported goods tied to alleged forced labor. News of record installations of so-called renewable energy electric generation in China may have kindled the hopes of those supporting the "green" agenda and hostile to fossil fuels. However, China is in no position to give up hydrocarbons, particularly coal.

During the first half of 2023, China approved 52 gigawatts (GW) of new coal power, which was more than all the approvals issued in 2021. These new approvals are in addition to the 136 GW of coal capacity that is already under construction. Together, these new plants represent more than 67% of all new approvals in the world.

Why is China doing this despite climate pledges? And what does the future hold?

The two superpowers are on opposite sides of weighty issues that will be front and center at COP28—including what nations should contribute to a fund to compensate global warming victims and whether to expand the pool of wealthy donor nations for climate finance. In UN climate deliberations, China's official classification as a developing country has limited its formal financial contributions, but the U.S. and European Union want it to provide more.

Climate-vulnerable nations are pressing diplomats at COP28 to commit to phasing out all fossil fuels, though the proposal faces long odds with the war in Ukraine stoking energy concerns globally and oil-rich United Arab Emirates hosting the summit. The U.S. had a similar campaign at COP27 in Egypt, though the push was ultimately unsuccessful. Xie said at a September conference in Beijing that fossil fuels are essential to maintaining grid stability and that completely abandoning the energy source is *"unrealistic."* 

Nearly all countries signed the historic Paris Agreement in 2015, which set aggressive goals to keep global warming below 2 degrees Celsius over pre-industrial levels. The assumption was that reducing carbon dioxide emissions from burning fossil fuels would halt future warming deemed as catastrophic.

As part of this accord, China, the largest greenhouse gas emitter in the world, agreed to reach carbon neutrality by 2060 and peak its emissions of carbon dioxide by 2030. Many praised these promises, celebrating China's apparent acceptance of its supposed responsibility to address the climate issue.

But these promises are at odds with reality. China's economy is mostly based on fossil fuels, which are the most affordable, abundant and dependable energy source. At 159 exajoules, China's primary energy consumption in 2022 was the highest in the world and 40% more than that consumed the U.S. -- the second largest user.

Last year, 82% of the total energy consumed by China came from coal, oil and natural gas. Wind and solar, despite significant investments by Beijing, represented just 7% of all energy consumed in 2022.

Coal remains the linchpin of China's energy infrastructure and economic vitality. According to the National Bureau of Statistics of China, coal consumption increased by more than 4% in 2022. Coal imports in August 2023 were the highest since 2015. China is ramping up its import from Russia and Australia and continues to increase imports from Indonesia, which is its main supplier.

Tsvetana Paraskova of OilPrice.com writes, "China is mining record amounts of coal and also importing record volumes of coal as it looks to boost its energy security." This growing appetite for coal is inevitable given the huge demand from the power sector and industry in general.

Over 1 billion tons of crude steel are produced in China each year, accounting for over half of global steel output. The Chinese steel industries—over 90% of them—use coal-based processes.

Despite introducing in 2021 a policy to curb emissions of carbon dioxide, Beijing has yet to announce any cap for steel production. S&P Global believes that there will *"be no mandatory steel output cuts this year."* The crude steel output in 2023 is to exceed 2022 levels.

It's important that the entire slave class buys into the idea of climate change. That's because the rulers are banking on being able to control humanity by reducing their standard of living by 85% using climate change as the reason.

"A Sustainable Future for Travel", warns of "travel extinction", where some areas suffer such radical climate change that all tourism there ceases, and "personal carbon allowances" that will restrict how often one is permitted travel. Of course, these restrictions will only apply to the slaves. The rulers will continue to do whatever they want.

In fact, the wealthiest 10% of Americans account for 40% of all carbon emissions. However, since the slaves still believe they need a master to rule them and refuse to reject their enslavement, they will be controlled as much as possible, and climate change is the way to do it. An expert from the report reads:

# "Carbon Passports

A personal carbon emissions limit will become the new normal as policy and people's values drive an era of great change. As demonstrated by a worldwide tourism boom, the frequency at which we can fly is once again seemingly unlimited.

Conscience and budgets permitting, we feel free to hop on planes from one place to the next. But this will change. 'On our current trajectory, we can expect a pushback against the frequency with which individuals can travel, with carbon passports set to change the tourism landscape,' says Raymond [Martin Raymond, Future Laboratories co-founder]

Personal carbon allowances could help curb carbon emissions and lower travel's overall footprint. These allowances will manifest as passports that force people to ration their carbon in line with the global carbon budget, which is 750 billion tons until 2050.

By 2040, we can expect to see limitations imposed on the amount of travel that is permitted each year.

"Experts suggest that individuals should currently limit their carbon emissions to 2.3 tons each year – the equivalent of taking a round-trip from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. However, the average carbon footprint in the U.S. is 16 tons per person per year, 15 tons in Australia and 11.7 tons in the UK. This is in stark contrast to where we may find ourselves in the future, with 2040's travelers forced to forgo the horizon-expanding experiences so readily embraced by today's tourists." -Bomb Thrower

When you put it more simply, to reduce energy usage, you are reducing the standard of living. Reduction by an overall average of 82%

The table below lays out exactly how much the standard of living for the residents of each country will have to be reduced in order to meet the recommended carbon quota set by the ruling class. This is the level of "degrowth" it will take to satisfy the objectives of climate alarmists relying on unfalsifiable premises, arbitrary computer models, and who are deliberately ignoring and suppressing countervailing data, according to a report by Bomb Thrower.

USA 86% UK 80% Australia 85% Canada 85%

Canadian Environment Minister Steven Guilbeault rather blithely answering a reporter who asked "will the government limit natural gas usage in the winter?"

(Short answer: "Of Course! That's What fighting climate change looks like!")

In the short term observation assessment, it seems that there is a greater chance of Prince Charles reaffirming, or confirming the original Oslo Accords with Israel than confirming the treaty with the "many" of COP28 delegates over the issue of "Sustainable Development". Prince Charles has his work cut out for him if he thinks that he will rein in China's need for coal. Having read hundreds of COP28 reports to date, its importance to us awaiting the Rapture is significantly less likely than is to be the fulfillment of the Daniel 9:27 prophecy confirmation with the many of Israel and the Arab/Muslim factions. The presence of Pope Francis at COP28 merely heightened the importance and urgency of Prince Charles statements of climate change. It may be that this is one of those situations to distract the world. Look here but not there! There still will be a Covenant confirming event mainly with Israel and the Arab/Muslim world. Both will have large contingents in attendance at COP28. Israel will invest NIS 8 million to bring a delegation of 1,000 people and more than 100 Israeli climate and related

technology companies to Dubai at the end of November for the United Nations Climate Change Conference, COP 28, according to the Foreign Ministry.

On Monday, representatives from the public and business sectors, academia, and civil society gathered at the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem to discuss ideas and potential collaborations before COP 28, which runs from November 30 to December 12 in Dubai.

Craig Bong did a presentation on November 27<sup>th</sup>, with Janie DuVall, and the link is found here which is very revealing and answering questions we have had: <u>https://youtu.be/7NS0RWgZOZg</u>

Some 80,000 people from 198 countries are expected to attend the event. According to the 'Jerusalem Post', "We only have a short time to deal with the climate crisis," said Ambassador Gideon Behar, special envoy for climate change and sustainability at the Foreign Ministry. "The world is looking to Israel to come up with solutions. We are on an international and historic mission."

This event is so large that any resolutions on treaty agreements may not be fully known until actual implementation of measures and strategies begin to take place. I would not rule out occurrences of side-deal treaties, or bi-lateral, or multi-lateral signings. Regardless, it would not lessen or weaken the term "And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week:.."

The antecedent of the "He" who would confirm a covenant is the future prince who was yet to come. Some commentators suppose that the "prince who was to come" and who makes the covenant *"for one seven"* is the same as *"the Messiah the Prince"* in verse 25. But Jesus was put to death before the seventieth week. The new covenant that was put into effect by his death and the shedding of his blood was God-given and not limited to one "seven" of years. It will never be broken.

That prince who is to come destroyed Jerusalem and the Temple in 70 A.D. -(cf. Luke 21:20). His people were the Romans, not the people of the Messiah. The Romans made no covenant with the Jews after the death and resurrection of Jesus. The signs Jesus prophesied were not all fulfilled in the destruction carried out by the armies of Titus. All this shows us that Daniel's seventieth week of years is still to come. This gives us grounds for taking the coming Tribulation to be seven years long. Most premillennialists agree.

Some people claim the seventieth seven of years followed immediately after the crucifixion of Christ. But the fact that the Roman destruction of the city and Temple came forty years after the death of Jesus and the fact that the Roman destruction came before the seventieth week of years show that there is a gap between the sixty-ninth and seventieth week. Since God does not look at time the way we do -(2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 3:8), it is not contrary to the way the Bible reveals things for the gap to extend to the time of the Great Tribulation at the end of this age. The ruler or prince to come fits the little horn already prophesied in Daniel 7:8, 24f. He would be an "antichrist," a counterfeit Christ. Note that anti in the Greek primarily means *"instead of"* or *"in place of."* He will not call

himself the antichrist. He may say he is Christ or that he is the final manifestation of a long line of prophets, gods and goddesses.

In the middle of the seventieth "seven," or week of years, the ruler to come will break the covenant with the Jews (possibly made with respect to a land dispute; cf. 11:39) by stopping their sacrifices and offerings in what will be a restored temple. This will be a time of trouble and distress -(Jeremiah 30:7; Daniel 12:1). On a "wing" of that temple He will set up **"an abomination that causes desolation."** This does not refer to the pagan altar and the statue of Zeus that Antiochus IV Epiphanes set up in the Temple in December, 167 B.C. Jesus prophesied that this abomination that causes desolation that Daniel saw was still to come -(Matthew 24:15; Mark 13:14). Thus the Antichrist will set up that abomination in a Temple yet to be built in Jerusalem -(see 2<sup>nd</sup> Thess. 2:3f; Revelation 13:14f). But the Antichrist would not last forever. A decreed end would be poured out upon him. Revelation 19 gives us the details of how that will be accomplished.

With all that said, Prince Charles and Pope Francis will still be able to walk away from Dubai and claim the COP28 event was a success. His deal with the Jews is very likely to be overshadowed by all the COP28 many meetings.

Prince Charles left the leadership issue for COP28 to Al Jaber as the man to orchestrate the goals of lowering emissions and CO2. After all, why would the Prince who has a servant tie his shoelaces get his hands dirty in the lesser details of negotiations? That and so much more are revealed in Christopher Anderson's book 'The King: The Life of Charles III', published in November, 2022.

The larger meaning of COP28 may be in its overshadowing the Daniel 9:27 prophecy signing and the beginning of the Tribulation of Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> week. Weeks ago I added the dates of Hanukkah In the countdown to COP28, I began including the dates for Hanukkah that was given on the Internet. The Jewish web page Chabad.org states that Hanukkah for 2023 begins on December 7<sup>th</sup>, and ends on December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

The other date centered within this time period is that of Hanukkah, which is 9 months and 10 days after Passover. Below is a link to an old video by J.R. Church why Hanukkah portends symbolically of an excellent Rapture event date. See: <u>https://youtu.be/5eRYOhmWBq0</u>

While watching the segment of J.R. Church's 'Prophecy in the News' reminded me of another program that the late Zola Levitt did back in the 1990s. "A Child Is Born" links the Miracle of Childbirth with Seven Feasts of Israel! Zola discovered, quite by accident, an amazing series of Biblical "coincidences." It seems that every one of us, as we develop in the womb, follows the schedule of the Seven Feasts of Israel that God gave to Moses on Mount Sinai. This half-hour program illustrates the surprising similarities of these two chains of events, each established by God according to His purpose. See: ZLM Video: Zola Levitt Presents: A Child is Born

The video "A Child is Born" is only 28-minutes and you can download a copy for sharing with others. Zola went to be with His Messiah and Lord on April 19, 2006. I began watching Zola Levitt on Pittsburgh's Channel 40 in the early 1980s. When I was a seminary student at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary in 1970, Zola Levitt taught a course or two when he was himself a graduate student at Duquesne University. Most of his works are still accessible in Kindle format on Amazon for those interested. His ministry has continued under Messianic leadership since his death.

# Hanukkah 2023 Calendar

How many candles for each night of Hanukkah

#### Date

Thursday, December 7, 2023 Friday, December 8 Saturday, December 9 Sunday, December 10 Monday, December 11 Tuesday, December 12 Wednesday, December 13 Thursday, December 14 Friday, December 15 Hanukkah Candles Light 1 candle at dusk Light 2 candles before sundown Light 3 candles at nightfall Light 4 candles at dusk Light 5 candles at dusk Light 6 candles at dusk Light 7 candles at dusk Light 8 candles at dusk Hanukkah: 8th day

With Hanukkah as a potential Rapture time it should also be noted that there is a New Moon on December 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. Virtually everything associated with Hanukkah alludes to the imagery of marriage and the Bride motif. The 24<sup>th</sup> day of Kislev is the day of the dedication of the Temple. Kislev is the ninth month on the Jewish calendar, counting from Nisan. It is best known for the holiday of Hanukkah, which begins on 25 Kislev. The message of Hanukkah is the eternal power of light over darkness—good over evil. Aside from commemorating the miraculous victory of the small Jewish army over the mighty Syrian-Greek empire, Hanukkah celebrates the miracle of the oil. When the Jews sought to light the Temple menorah after the war, they found only one small jug of pure oil. Miraculously, the one-day supply burned for eight days, and the sages instituted the eight-day festival of Chanukah during which we kindle the menorah nightly.

The Messiah has promised to come for His church **"at a time you think not."** We are told to prepare and watch for His return. Who bothers to note Kislev 24 and any texts from Haggai? Haggai mentions Kislev 24 twice. Kislev 24 will begin the evening of December 7<sup>th</sup> this year. It will be within the fall equinox prior to the winter solstice when those in Israel will need to bundle up.

The Messiah of Israel is the Center light of the Hanukkah Menorah. He is the focal point of Hanukkah. Yeshuah is far greater than Judas Maccabeus, a type of Saviour. He is the Living Temple of Elohim. He is the greatest spiritual light: *"THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD!"* –(John 8:12; 9:5) Hanukkah is very much about the Messiah. Read the

gospel of John Chapter 10. In total Jesus is quoted most, **64X** making that statement: *"I Am!";* more than Matthew, Mark, and Luke combined!

The Messiah is our Blessed Hope and is the essence and fullness of Hanukkah. As we approach Hanukkah, 2023, we ought to reflect upon the Prince of Peace with reverence, gratitude and humility! The redeemed anxiously anticipate "*The Joy of His Appearing*."

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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# The following Biblical events occurred on the 25<sup>th</sup> of Kislev:

Moon is in Bethulah.

Death of Abel - Bereshit Rabbah (chapt. 22) (might have been Sivan 6)
70 days of mourning for Jacob is complete. *Genesis 50:3*The construction of the Mishkan (Tabernacle) is complete. <u>Seder Olam 7</u>, <u>Numbers Rabbah 13</u>
Antiochus Epiphanes offers a pig to Zeus on the altar of <u>Temple</u> in 168 BCE.
<u>Chanukah</u> (Feast of Dedication / Light) <u>First</u> day. (25th - Tevet 3).
Day 38 of God's rain in <u>Noah</u>'s day. *Genesis 7:4*Issachar is conceived. *Bne Issachar* (His <u>birth</u> is on <u>Shavuot</u>) this <u>connects</u> these two feasts.
<u>Joseph</u> flees from Potiphar's wife. *Emunas Eatechah* – R. Moses Wolfson <u>Seventy</u> days of <u>mourning</u> for <u>Jacob</u> are complete.
Mary gets pregnant with Yeshua. *Luke 1:26* Mary visits Elizabeth. <u>Luke</u> 1:36-40 <u>Yeshua</u> gives sight to the blind. John chapters 8-10 <u>Yeshua</u> is the light of the world. John 8:12 <u>Yeshua</u> celebrates while Pharisees try to kill Him. John 10:22-33 Maccabees light the Ner Tamid. Torah section is Numbers 7:1-17. There is no Haftorah.

The simple fact that Bible prophecy scholars have not considered Hanukkah as a potential Rapture time in the past does not reduce its possibility. However, when you consider the many other factors facing the world today, never before has there been so many events converging upon the world at this time. I leave that summary to the "doom and gloom" voices of Steve Quayle, Michael Snyder, and Mike Adams they never cease to say how bad things are. The problem with these three is they are selling products that enrich their wallets by selling fear-porn.



Spiritually, Hanukkah is significant in another way, for it is a reminder that the Bible prophesies that another terrible period of suffering lies ahead for the Jewish people. It will be a time of persecution like the one that produced the feast of Hanukkah.

Antiochus is a prophetic type of the Antichrist who is to come. Like Antiochus, the Antichrist will profane the Jewish Temple yet to be built -(Daniel 9:27). He will seat himself in the Temple and declare himself to be god -(2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians 2:4). He will then launch an unparalleled persecution of the Jewish people -(Revelation 12:13-17) that will ultimately result in two thirds of them being destroyed -(Zechariah 13:8).

To provide background to Hanukkah we have to read the historical but non-canonical books of the Maccabees of which few Christians are aware of. This is extremely important as I learned when a seminary student at Asbury Theological Seminary.

The books of 2 and 4 Maccabees record that God judged the Jews through Antiochus Epiphanes IV because of the nation's religious apostasy (cf. 1 Maccabees 1; 2 Maccabees 7:32).

God poured out his wrath against Israel through the invasion of Antiochus because of its disobedience to the Torah prior to 4 Maccabees 17:21–22 (1 Maccabees 1:1–63; 2 Maccabees 5:1–7:38; 4 Maccabees 4:15–6:29).

4 Maccabees 6:28–29 states that Eleazar offers his *"blood"* to be a *"ransom"* so that God would *"be satisfied."* A passage in 4 Maccabees 17:21–22 states that the Jewish martyrs die a propitiatory death for the nation.

The martyrs die as penal sacrifices of atonement for the nation's sins because the fundamental reason behind their deaths was Israel's disobedience to Torah, and they died to end God's judgment against the nation's sin and to save the nation from his wrath (2 Maccabees 7:32–38; 4 Maccabees 6:28–29; 17:21–22).

2 Maccabees 7:37-38: "I [the youngest of the seven sons martyred one by one in front of their mother], like my brothers, give up body and life for the laws of our ancestors, appealing to God to show mercy soon to our nation and by trials and plagues to make you confess that he alone is God, and through me and my brothers to bring to an end the wrath of the Almighty that has justly fallen on our whole nation."

4 Maccabees 6:27-29: [Eleazar prays] "You know, O God, that though I might be saved myself, I am dying in burning torments for the sake of the law. Be merciful to your people, and let our punishment suffice for them. Make my blood their purification, and take my life in exchange for theirs."

4 Maccabees 6:27–29: Eleazar (one of the Jewish martyrs who died for the nation) asked God to use his blood to be a ransom so that he would be the means by which he purified, provided mercy for, and to be the means by which he would satisfy his wrath against the nation. The author interprets the significance of the martyrs' deaths in 4 Maccabees 17:21–22 by stating that they purified the homeland, that they served as a ransom for the nation, and that their propitiatory deaths saved the nation.

4 Maccabees 17:22: "And through the blood of those devout ones and their deaths an atoning sacrifice divine Providence preserved Israel that previously had been mistreated."

4 Maccabees 18:4: "Because of them [those who gave their bodies in suffering for the sake of religion; 18:3] the nation gained peace."

To summarize:

1. The martyrs suffered and died because of sin (2 Maccabees 7:18, 32; 12:39–42; 4 Maccabees 4:21; 17:21–22; cf. Leviticus 1:1–7:6; 8:18–21; 16:3–24).

2. The martyrs' blood was the required price for the nation's salvation (2 Maccabees 7:32–38; 4 Maccabees 6:28–29; 7:8; 17:21–22).

3. The martyrs' deaths ended God's wrath against the nation (1 Maccabees 1:1–64; 2 Maccabee 7:32–38; 8:5; 4 Maccabees 17:21–22).

4. The martyrs' deaths provided purification and cleansing for the nation (4 Maccabees 6:28–29; 17:22; cf. Leviticus 16:16, 30; Isaiah 53:10).

5. The martyrs' deaths spared the nation from suffering the penalty for their own sin in the eschaton (2 Maccabees 5:1–8:5; cf. 2 Maccabees 7:1–14).

6. The martyrs died vicariously for the nation (2 Maccabees 7:18, 32; 4 Maccabees 4:21; 17:21–22).

After reading these historical extra-biblical texts, it is fairly evident there is significant typology or thematic parallels between the Maccabean martyrs and the life of Jesus Christ.

The Christian world has long misunderstood Hanukkah because it sees it as being similar to our holiday of Christmas, giving of gifts, largely secularized; it sees this to be the same for Hanukkah and has never been a day that Christians observed and yet for this reason it over shadows its greater significance. These two holy days throughout the world have morphed into what is largely self-worship and the loss of their religious meaning or identity.

Whether you realize it or not, the dates of November 31 through December 12<sup>th</sup> coinciding with Hanukkah are setting off alarms along with the facts that:

- HRH Prince Charles is about to fulfill Daniel 9:27, his stressing of the urgency of just "seven" years left,
- the commitment and implementation of COP28 Climate Change Agenda,
- the historical events associated with Hanukkah,

- the meaning of the number 8 in the Bible, (eight is the number of new beginnings, Hanukkah is 8 days in length,
- Biblical events that occurred on the 25<sup>th</sup> of Kislev,
- the background of 2 Maccabees and 4 Maccabees,
- December 12<sup>th</sup> is a "New Moon",
- The signing of all earlier treaties with the many go into effect on December 12<sup>th</sup>.

This list does not include other world crises issues; too many to list here. These eight by themselves is sufficient in going out on a limb and suggest a New Moon Rapture!

I don't want to be repetitive but do watch Craig Bong with Janie DuVall posted today, November 27<sup>th</sup>. Link below. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7NS0RWgZOZg

Craig Bong posted a second video – 'audio content' later noting 27 prophecies that Prince Charles has fulfilled to date. Link here: <u>https://youtu.be/LoN89H1z\_74</u>

Most of the world and that includes much of the Christian community are in denial, do not believe the Bible tells us what will happen, choosing to live as if that day is distant into the future. The so-called Internet prophecy teachers have turned a blind eye to Prince Charles and Pope Francis as the Beasts of the Bible. It most certainly appears that a very large number of people have been deceived into believing the Lie! "And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:" –(2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians 2:10-11).

Because they have no love for the truth God will send them a strong, deluding influence; a power is set in operation within them which makes them prone to embrace error. This will lead them to "believe a lie" (literally the Big Lie), not any lie that happens to come along, but the big lie, the false claims and pretensions of the Antichrist.

This strong delusion God will send is something that will serve as part of God's overall judgment of the earth during the seven-year tribulation period following the rapture of believers to heaven -(1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15:51-58; 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 4:13-18). Those who remain on the earth will live under the tyranny of the Antichrist, experience many judgments; and many will believe in the Antichrist and worship him. Yet even today many reject Christ and believe the lies of Satan. God calls us to confess Jesus as Lord and believe in Him as the resurrected Son of God -(Romans 10:9). Only then do we experience the changed life Jesus gives and escape the lies of Satan.

On Sunday, November 26, 2023, Pastor Sandy Armstrong gave a message at his congregation, Soldiers for Christ Church, that every Christian should hear. His theme is *"Knowing what time it is!"* Here is the link:

https://youtu.be/EP02L6btNrc?list=PLhroMXq8DZJtCKGMvPVu\_HmNitomxvNUn

I think that the we are living in the time when God will fulfill on His Revelation 3:10 promise. Most of us are stretched to the limit right now in so many ways; and given that HRH Prince Charles is taking to the stage of history to bring about his so-called "Plan to Save the World", which really is to "Destroy God's Creation!"

(We have not learned a specific date for signing the "Covenant with the many"; however, Hanukkah appears to be more significant than the COP28 dates by themselves. Craig Bong's video answers some of these questions regarding dates and times.)

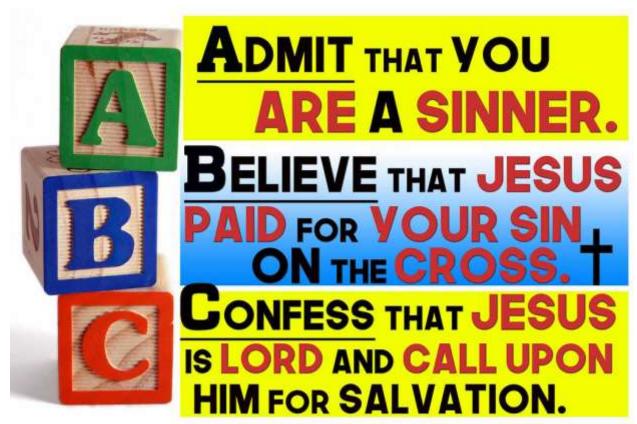
# The dates December 1<sup>st</sup> to the 3<sup>rd</sup> still seem to be an important key to the Rapture timing!

# This is based upon HRM Prince Charles and Pope Francis joint-presence at COP28.

Count down to 'Confirming the Covenant with the Many'

Hanukkah 12/7/23 – 12/15/23 COP28 Begins November 30<sup>th</sup> as of 11/30/23 – 1 Day Days to end COP28 December 12<sup>th</sup> as of 11/30/23 – 12 days

Praise God!



Blessings in the Precious Name of Jesus Christ, Lord of lords, and King of kings!

Pastor Bob, <u>EvanTeachr@aol.com</u> www.pastorbobreid.com

EST - Eastern Stand EDT - Eastern Daylig OST - Daylight Save	Pt Time (UT-4)	Dece	NM = New Moon FO = First Quarter FM = Full Moon LO = Last Quarter			
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						2
	4	5	<sup>6</sup>	7	* ()	٩ ( )
°	11	12 NM: 6:32 PM (6:57)	13	14	15	16
	18	19 FQ: 1:39 PM (517)	20	21	22	23
	25	26 File 7:33 PM (651)	27	28	29	30