

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 #289

COME AND TAKE IT! Texas DEFIES cease-and-desist order from Biden administration amid Border Patrol access dispute

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[Texas refuses to comply with a cease-and-desist letter from the Biden administration](#) after the state blocked the U.S. Border Patrol agents from reaching the epicenter of southwest border illegal immigration in Eagle Pass.

On Jan. 21, the Biden administration urged Texas to cease impeding U.S. Border Patrol access in Shelby Park, which the Texas National Guard took control of that week. *Department of Homeland Security* (DHS) General Counsel Jonathan Meyer wrote to Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton that the combination of Texas National Guard

soldiers, equipment and physical barriers is unconstitutionally restricting Border Patrol access to approximately 2.5 miles of the border.

"The [recent actions by the State of Texas](#) have impeded operations of the Border Patrol. Those actions conflict with the authority and duties of the Border Patrol under federal law and are preempted under the Supremacy Clause of the Constitution. Texas's actions also improperly seek to regulate the federal government," wrote Meyer. (Related: [Biden regime threatens WAR with Texas over border security: "Give us access, or else."](#))

Meyer emphasized the conflict between the recent actions of Texas and the federal authority and the duties of the Border Patrol, citing [violations of the Supremacy Clause of the Constitution](#). He insisted that Texas must immediately cease any actions that hinder the full access of Border Patrol to the U.S.-Mexico border, particularly in the Shelby Park area.

But Paxton strongly rejected the cease-and-desist order in his response to the DHS.

"Because the facts and law side with Texas, the state will continue utilizing its constitutional authority to defend her territory, and I will continue defending those lawful efforts in court," Paxton wrote.

DHS blames Texas for Rio Grande drowning incident

The letter pointedly noted a recent incident wherein [a woman and two children tragically drowned in the Rio Grande in Eagle Pass, Texas](#). Meyer argued that even in cases of imminent danger to life and safety, the actions of Texas persist in obstructing the access of Border Patrol agents to the border for law enforcement and emergency response activities.

"Texas has demonstrated that even in the most exigent circumstances, it will not allow Border Patrol access to the border to conduct law enforcement and emergency response activities," wrote Meyer.

Federal officials confirmed the drownings on Jan. 20 and revealed that Texas National Guard troops acting under the direction of Governor Greg Abbott prevented Border Patrol agents from entering the area. However, the Texas Military Department contested the DHS statement, claiming that their personnel were aware of a distress report but couldn't locate the migrants. Paxton also noted that federal officials did not request access to the park on the night of the incident.

"Your attempt to blame Texas for three migrant deaths on January 12, 2024, is vile and, as you now should be aware, completely inaccurate. Three individuals drowned that night on the Mexican side of the Rio Grande, but that tragedy is your fault. Contrary to your letter, [the Texas Military Department] did not prevent U.S. Border Patrol from entering Shelby Park to attempt a water rescue of migrants in distress," Paxton said.

The Biden administration contends it is complying with asylum law by detaining and processing unauthorized border crossers, but Paxton offers a different interpretation.

"Quite apart from the Shelby Park specifics, your demand letter rests on a more fundamental misunderstanding of federal law and the role of sovereign states within our constitutional order. This much is clear from your invocation of a federal statute that gives U.S. Border Patrol warrantless access to land within 25 miles of the border, but only for the purpose of patrolling the border to prevent the illegal entry of aliens into the United States. President Biden has ordered your agency to do the exact opposite, in keeping with his [open-borders campaign promise](#). There is not even a pretense that you are trying to prevent the illegal entry of aliens," wrote Paxton.

The Gap Between the Rapture and the 7-year Tribulation Extremely Important Insights in Our Wait!

Bill Salus, a renowned Prophetic end time researcher and writer, writes of this time 'Gap' calling it "The Post-Rapture Pretribulation Gap." 'Post' because it is after the Rapture and 'Pre' because it is immediately before the 7-year Tribulation period.

Another unnamed writer expands upon this Gap which I have adapted and placed below:

There are reasons for a Gap period between the Rapture and the Great Tribulation Scripture. These then teach us that we look for no sign of the Rapture as the **Rapture is imminent** as it could happen at any time.

Many Bible teachers, however, assume that the Rapture will immediately precede the Great Tribulation (the final seven years of this age). But there are several reasons **why a gap of time between the Rapture and the final seven-year period is quite likely as listed below**. Time is required after the Rapture of "the church, the body of Christ" for several things to occur in preparation for the Antichrist's emergence to begin the Tribulation period by **confirming a covenant between the Antichrist, Israel and the nations around Israel**.

1) After the Rapture there will be global chaos. If only 1,000 people disappeared from a city there would be accidents and great turmoil. It would be the story of the century. But at the Rapture, millions of believers will be instantly translated to meet the Lord in the air. If only 1% of the population is removed, that would equate to 3 million in the U.S. alone and 70 million globally. All will vanish in an instant! **The resulting global turmoil will require time for things to settle down.**

2) After the Rapture, the Antichrist will be revealed as a great leader (2nd Thessalonians 2:5-9; Revelation 6:2). However, no Scripture states that he will confirm the seven-year covenant immediately (Daniel 9:27). In fact, he will not dominate until the 3 ½ year midpoint of the Tribulation (Revelation 13:5). **His rise to power will take time – perhaps a few years** (Daniel 8:23-25).

3) Daniel chapter 7 lays out the sequence of the world's final kingdom *before* Christ returns. This fourth Gentile kingdom seen in the image of Daniel 2 will initially *emerge as a global government that "shall devour the whole earth"* (v. 23). Then we are told that there will be *"ten kings who shall arise from this kingdom"* (v. 24). They will be followed by the Antichrist as: *"... another shall rise after them; he shall be different from the first ones, and shall subdue three kings."* (compare this passage with Revelation 13 and 17). *As we see today the world is rapidly heading toward a global government and economic system.* However, the presence of believers yet on earth, with the Holy Spirit present in them, ***are hindering the emergence of a global government.*** But once *"the salt"* and *"light"* of the earth is removed, and chaos ensues, ***a global Marshall plan will be implemented.*** Of course, the rise of a ten-region global government, followed by the rise of the Antichrist ***will require time.*** Clearly the Antichrist will ***not*** *dominate or enforce a peace covenant with Israel until after the ten-region world-wide system is firmly established. All this will take time.*

4) *The Harlot Woman, the religious and political system described in Revelation 17, rides the Beast into power. She is one holding the reins at the start of this period. Therefore, it is highly improbable that the Antichrist will dominate and confirm a covenant with Israel and the world immediately after the Rapture. The stage must be set first, by chaos and his miraculous leadership to be recognized.*

5) The Harlot's Babylonian-like religious system ***will come in Christ's name,*** not the Antichrist's name. *She will present herself as Queen of the true church, but in reality, she will be a seductive counterfeit. Clearly, pulling together and organizing of her evil global religious system will require time to set up.*

6) The two witnesses of Revelation 11 *will preach for the first 3 ½ years of the final seven-year period.* These men *"have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire"* (v. 6). This appears to coincide with the 3rd and 4th Seal Judgments of Revelation 6 and the warnings of Jesus in Matthew 24:4-7. If correct, then the 1st and 2nd Seal Judgments *would occur before the two witnesses arise*—which means they would have to appear ***before*** the final seven-year period. Again, *a few years gap would be needed for these early prophecies to be fulfilled.*

7) *The Magog Invasion of Ezekiel 38 will occur during the gap and provide the impetus for the Antichrist to confirm the covenant which will start Daniel's 70th Week (The 7-year Tribulation).* But before this invasion, Ezekiel 38:8-13 indicates Israel will become strong and very prosperous. ***The Psalm 83 and Isaiah 17 Middle East war and Israel's prophesied great victory followed by a period of peace and prosperity could well set the stage for the Magog invasion.***

8) Three times during the Magog Invasion scenario God is calling the Jews ***"My people Israel"*** (Ezekiel 38:14, 16; 39:7).

This beckons the question “**Where is the Gentile church, the body of Christ?**” In Ezekiel 39:7 God states that during this time “(I will) make My holy name known in the midst of My people Israel, and I will not let them profane My holy name anymore. **Then the nations [Gentiles] shall know that I am the LORD, the Holy One in Israel.**”

Therefore, by this time “*the church, the body of Christ,*” who already knows He is the Lord, must be gone to heaven because believers are God’s witnesses to the world, but *during this gap period God is once again going to use His people Israel as His primary witness to the nations [Gentiles].*

Because it appears that the ***Magog Invasion precedes the final seven years***, this provides even ***more evidence for a gap of time between the Rapture and final seven years.***

9) The 5th Seal saints of Revelation 6:9-11 ask “*how long?*”, suggesting they were ***martyred during Pre-Tribulation events***. They are also listed before the Tribulation saints of Revelation 7 & 15. After the Rapture, as persecution ramps up, *it appears the Revelation 6 martyrs may come to faith and be tested during this period preceding the seven-year Tribulation.* The fact that they are crying out “*How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?*” (v. 10), ***offers evidence that they are not in the Great Tribulation – otherwise they would probably know they are in the final seven-year period and they would know how much time was left before the Lord judges the earth.***

10) ***This Gap would also give Israel time to build her prophesied third temple in Jerusalem and prepare to reinstitute temple sacrifices – which are in place before the first half of the Tribulation (Revelation 11:1-3).*** It also provides time for the Harlot Woman’s religious site to be erected in Babylon, Iraq (Zechariah 5:11), and *the ten-region global government to organize (Daniel 7; Revelation 13); etc.*

In summary, there is ***no Scripture that states the Rapture will immediately precede the Tribulation.***

Further, a short ***stage-setting gap*** of perhaps a few years ***followed by the final seven-year period seems to agree with the whole prophetic picture.*** This ***gap will likely be more than a few months because so much takes place during this time period.*** However, ***this gap will likely be relatively short*** because Jesus likened these signs to birth pangs – which always increase in frequency and intensity and tighten as delivery nears (Matthew 24:8). Because the ***stage-setting events*** are already positioning in rapid succession, it appears this ***gap will not be long (Rev. 22:20).*** While *the final seven year period – known as the Great Tribulation – is well documented in the Bible (Daniel 7:25; 9:27 ; 12:7-11; Matthew 24:15; Revelation 11:3; 12:6, 13:5; etc.).* While it is clear that a gap exists between the Rapture and the start of the 7-year Tribulation period, there is ***no specific Scripture that tells us the length of this possible gap between the Rapture and the beginning of the Tribulation.***

This makes sense because God's Word teaches that ***the Rapture is imminent –it could happen at any moment*** and we should always be watching and waiting (Mark 13:37; Revelation 3:3). However, as we have reviewed, the Lord has provided many clues.

This analysis and exploded “gap” explanation correlates with so many Biblical events and stories where we are never provided a complete or detailed time line of events. Since the events of the COP28 meetings this past December many have become if not discouraged, disappointed, and left scratching their heads and asking, when can we expect the Rapture? Rightly so! Fortunately for us Bill Salus and a few others have been analyzing these issues with a systematic approach to understanding God's prophetic promises through the Proverbs 25:2 mandate: ***“It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of kings is to search out a matter.”*** Remember, Jesus Christ hinted by his suggestive question, in Luke 18:8: ***“I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?”*** I have recently been doing a word study of the word “patience” in the Bible relative to events in my own life over the past two months. The word “patience” occurs **34X** times in 33 verses. It all culminates in Revelation where the word appears “seven” times!

Biden's EPA Demands 67% of New Cars Must Be EVs by 2032

By M Dowling

January 26, 2024

Clown World hits carmakers!

According to Reuters, Ford [lost an estimated](#) \$36,000 on each of the 36,000 EVs it delivered to dealers in the third quarter, the company said in October.

Ford has wisely decided to slow the investment in EVs while Biden's EPA stupidly stiffens demands on carmakers.

Detroit automakers are protesting that the Biden Administration is going too far with proposals to use emissions rules that would result in 67% of all new vehicles in 2032 being EVs. On Friday, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) submitted its proposal to finalize vehicle requirements to the White House for review.

This is while EVs are losing money and carmakers are looking to cut back. Instead, they're making hybrids and gas cars.

It's another Biden success story.

In December, the Republican-led U.S. House voted to prevent the EPA from proceeding with the planned vehicle emissions regulations.

The White House plans to veto that.



F-150 EV

Ford's increasing production of gas-powered Bronco SUVs and Ranger pickups. In a [recent video](#), YouTuber The Electric Viking reports that Ford Motor Company has [initiated](#) a significant workforce reduction at its F-150 Lightning electric vehicle (EV) plant, cutting nearly 70% of jobs.

The Oval Office resident only answers to the far-left progressives running the country through him. Biden couldn't care less about reality.
Blessings,

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"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

ROMANS 6:23

MAN

GOD

JESUS

WAGES:
earned, deserved
DEATH:
separation from God

SIN

GIFT:
free, undeserved
ETERNAL LIFE:
with God always