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 #97

A very common question that is heard about Bible Prophecy is "Where is America in the End Times?" or "Why Does the United States Defend Israel in the Gog-Magog War of Ezekiel 38/39?" I suspect that one of the major reasons for the absence of the U.S. in the events of the End Times is "Project Sandman". What is "Project Sandman" you might be thinking.

100+ nations have global agreement now being deployed called 'Project Sandman' to drop and end dominance of U.S. dollar and petrodollar | When this decision is triggered, the dollar and all dollar-denominated assets will plunge to near-ZERO literally overnight.

By Miami Standard News Staff,

"Project Sandman" describes a 100+ nation agreement that, when triggered, will see those nations simultaneously dump the dollar and abandon the "petrodollar" status that has allowed the USA to enjoy 50 years of fiat currency counterfeiting and material abundance at the expense of everyone else. When this decision is triggered, the dollar and all dollar-denominated assets will plunge to near-ZERO literally overnight.

This means all dollar-denominated bank accounts, bonds, pension funds, treasuries and other investment vehicles will essentially be worth zero for the simple reason that all banks and markets will freeze operations. (This is the James Rickards "Ice-9" scenario.) Any funds you have in the stock market will be stuck in those markets, and the entire infrastructure of banking and finance will suffer a catastrophic liquidity crisis that will "freeze" nearly all financial transactions.

Credit cards will stop functioning. Food stamp systems will go down and stay down. ATMs will not function. Wire transfers will be halted, checks won't be honored and banks will appear to be offline when accessed through the internet, displaying "maintenance" messages to panicked users.

The dollar collapse is a deliberate plan to force the starving masses into a digital dollar control grid. Many of us have been talking about this as far back as 1971. I have been

writing about this for decades now. It was back in August of 1971 when the Nixon administration took the country off of the gold standard.



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This scenario has been engineered for a deliberate collapse of the dollar fiat currency and an attempted forcing of everyone into a digital dollar system run by the banksters. In the midst of the panic, people will be promised a Universal Basic Income (UBI) and food credits (food rationing will be strictly enforced), but only if they use the approved digital wallet system run by the very same criminals who spent the last 50 years looting the value of the dollar.

Desperate people will comply, and they will sell their souls (and their freedom) in exchange for a few more meals... even while their futures are obliterated by the Mark of the Beast financial system that will forever keep them enslaved and impoverished.

Here's a very informative video from Ben Armstrong of The New American, who lays out the coming collapse of the petrodollar:

When the petrodollar ends, the riots won't be far behind

The illegitimate occupying "government" of America is currently pumping out trillions of dollars in fiat currency as its final, desperate act to loot the system before its final collapse. (You didn't think that billions in "aid" to Ukraine was actually going to Ukraine, did you?)

War with Russia is just the cover story for this engineered collapse and the longplanned takedown of America while the traitors at the top (Biden, etc.) fill their bank accounts with stolen loot.

When the petrodollar collapses and the banks freeze, riots will begin almost immediately in every major U.S. city. Total chaos will rein as the desperate, oblivious, unprepared masses murder each other while attempting to find food, water and ammunition. The collapse of the rule of law will be shockingly rapid, and no police or National Guard units will make a dent in the nationwide chaos.

Only the rural areas will be safe, as local citizens and law enforcement work together to protect local communities from wave after wave of refugees and violent gangs that will spread out from the cities. Justice will be swift for looters, rapists and child traffickers, while local churches will be overrun with refugees who previously lived in the (collapsing) cities.

The death wave will accelerate, and within just a few days after the collapse, millions will be at risk of death from lack of basic sanitation as the streets of Democrat-run cities flow with the feces of the crapping masses. With no functioning power grid, the municipal water supply will collapse as well. Entire cities like Los Angeles will be plunged into a deadly water scarcity scenario that's combined with such violence and lawlessness on the streets that even humanitarian aid organizations will dare not venture into the fray.

The bottom line? Mass starvation, chaos, lawlessness, violence, disease and depopulation.

In other words, everything the globalists have wanted for America all along.

None of this is an accident. It's all planned. The Biden's, the Clinton's and even the neocons like Bush have been part of this plan from day one. This is the controlled demolition of the United States of America just like Building 7.

Source: https://miamistandard.news

Original Article: <a href="https://prepareforchange.net/2022/03/25/100-nations-have-global-agreement-now-being-deployed-called-project-sandman-to-drop-and-end-dominance-of-u-s-dollar-and-petrodollar/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=100-nations-have-global-agreement-now-being-deployed-called-project-sandman-to-drop-and-end-dominance-of-u-s-dollar-and-petrodollar

Most American citizens have been oblivious to this issue since the beginning back when the Bretton Woods decision to make the U.S. Dollar the Reserve Currency of the World.

The Bretton Woods Agreement

As it did in World War I, the U.S. entered World War II well after combat began. Before it entered the war, the United States served as the Allies' main supplier of weapons and

other goods. Most countries paid in gold making the U.S. the owner of the majority of the world's gold by the end of the war. This made a return to the gold standard impossible by the countries that depleted their reserves.

Delegates from 44 Allied countries met in Bretton Wood, New Hampshire, in 1944 to come up with a system to manage <u>foreign exchange</u> that would not disadvantage any country. The delegation decided that the world's currencies would no longer be linked to gold but could be <u>pegged</u> to the U.S. That's because the greenback was, itself, linked to gold.

The arrangement came to be known as the <u>Bretton Woods Agreement</u>. It established the authority of <u>central banks</u>, which would maintain fixed exchange rates between their currencies and the dollar. In turn, the United States would redeem U.S. dollars for gold on demand. Countries had some degree of control over currencies in situations wherein the values of their own currencies became too weak or too strong relative to the dollar. They could buy or sell their currency to regulate the money supply.

The U.S. Dollar Becomes the World's Reserve Currency

The U.S dollar was officially crowned the world's <u>reserve currency</u> and was backed by the world's largest gold reserves thanks to the Bretton Woods Agreement. Instead of gold reserves, other countries accumulated reserves of U.S. dollars. Needing a place to store their dollars, countries began buying U.S. <u>Treasury securities</u>, which they considered to be a safe store of money.

The demand for Treasury securities, coupled with the <u>deficit spending</u> needed to finance the Vietnam War and the Great Society domestic programs, caused the United States to flood the market with <u>paper money</u>. With growing concerns over the stability of the dollar, the countries began to convert dollar reserves into gold.

The demand for gold was such that <u>President Richard Nixon was forced to intervene</u> and de-link the dollar from gold, which led to the floating exchange rates that exist today. Although there have been periods of <u>stagflation</u>, which is defined as high inflation and high unemployment, the U.S. dollar has remained the world's reserve currency.

The U.S. Dollar Today

The dollar remains the world's <u>reserve currency</u> today. Central banks held 59% of their reserves in U.S. dollars during the fourth quarter of 2020, according to the <u>International Monetary Fund</u> (IMF). Many of the reserves are in cash or U.S <u>bonds</u>, such as U.S. Treasuries. Dollar-denominated debt outside the U.S. continues to rise, with levels reaching \$12.6 trillion as of mid-2020.

Most people would believe that this makes the dollar the strongest currency in the world. Despite its position in the global markets and how dependent they are on it, the dollar ranked as the 10th strongest currency, according to CMC Markets. The site

ranked the Kuwaiti dinar as the strongest currency while the British pound and the euro earned the fifth and eighth spots respectively.

The Bottom Line

The reserve status is based largely on the size and strength of the U.S. economy and the dominance of the U.S. <u>financial markets</u>. Despite large deficit spending, trillions of dollars in debt, and the unbridled printing of U.S. dollars, U.S. Treasury securities remain the safest way to store money. The trust and confidence that the world has in the ability of the United States to pay its debts keep the dollar as the most redeemable currency for facilitating world commerce.

When Was the American Dollar Created?

The history of paper currency in the United States dates back to colonial times when banknotes were used to fund military operations. The first U.S. dollars as we know them today, though, were printed in 1914. This was a year after the Federal Reserve Act was established.

When Did the U.S. Dollar Become the Global Reserve Currency?

The U.S. dollar became the official reserve currency of the world in 1944. The decision was made by a delegation from 44 Allied countries called the Bretton Woods Agreement.

Which Country's Currency Could Be the Next World Reserve Currency?

There are a series of alternatives that could replace the dollar as the next global reserve currency. The euro is the most used reserve after the dollar and could replace the dollar if economic conditions move in its favor. But the <u>European Union</u> (EU) does lack a central Treasury unit, which can make this difficult. China's <u>renminbi</u> could surpass the dollar, a goal that the country's leaders are keen on realizing. Global reserves account for about 2% and the use of the renminbi around the world is rising.

Vladimir Putin a few days ago said that Russia would require payment for its oil in Russian Rubles from countries that are unfriendly. The Russian Ruble was exchanging at the rate of \$1 to .90 Rubles. The comments by the Russian president are an effort to prop up the value of the ruble, which has plunged because of sanctions by the U.S.

Economic sanctions imposed by the United States, Europe and their allies have shaken the Russian economy and caused the value of the ruble to plunge.

On Wednesday, President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia came up with a way to get his opponents to help prop up his currency, by demanding that "unfriendly countries" use rubles to buy the Russian oil and gas still flowing.

"I have made a decision to implement in the shortest possible time a set of measures to switch payments for ... our natural gas supplied to the so-called unfriendly countries to Russian rubles," Mr. Putin said.

Sanctions aimed at the Russian central bank effectively froze hundreds of billions of dollars of assets. The actions immediately drove down the value of the ruble as people frantically rushed to turn their rubles into a more stable currency, like the dollar or the euro.

The central bank took several steps to support the currency, including doubling interest rates to 20 percent as a way to entice people to keep their rubles in the bank.

That freeze, Mr. Putin said, was evidence that the dollar and euro "compromised themselves" and were unreliable.

Claus Vistesen, chief Eurozone economist at Pantheon Macroeconomics, said the action meant that every time a Western country bought a barrel of oil it would be "propping up his domestic currency."

"If you're invoiced in rubles, you've got to go out and buy rubles," he said. "I don't know if there is a workaround."

At the present, China and Russia are working to replace the U.S. Dollar as the world's reserve currency.

The global international banking cartel is using the global financial crisis as a means to steal the wealth of the world through cheap "inflated" dollars to acquire the assets of the world. Their goal is to enslave the world to a "cashless" economy where the citizens of the world will conduct commerce and services on computer digits for buying/selling, wages, etc.

Everything that has transpired in the past three years has been part of a transition to the globalist New World Order. Humanity has been caught up in a struggle for global control of the forthcoming Antichrist system. The Covid-19 crisis was orchestrated to cause societal collapse, economic failure, bankrupting of segments of the economy such as small business while benefiting larger "Big Box" stores. The shut downs of the world led to what the Climate Change element wanted to achieve, the reduction of oil consumption, reduction of so-called "greenhouse gases", reduced driving

CLIMATE LOCKDOWN: Globalists are exploiting oil price spikes to push for greater population control with "10-point plan" that includes bans on travel NaturalNews.com / JD Heyes



(<u>Natural News</u>) The globalists, like the Democrat Party in the U.S., never lets a good crisis go to waste, using each one to push their agenda of suppression and population control just a little further down the field.

In a "10-Point Plan to Cut Oil Use" – a long-held objective of the globalists is to get rid of cheap, plentiful fossil fuels altogether – the International Energy Agency (IEA) wants to return Americans to the bad old days of reduced highway speeds and increasing filthy mass transit in order to deal with the current (and temporary) spikes in oil prices.

As oil has risen (as part of "Bidenlflation") so, too, have gas prices, leading the IEA to put forth a plan that is essentially a climate lockdown, which includes banning the use of private vehicles in cities on Sundays.

Additional measures include bringing down highway speeds, more working from home, cutting out business travel by air and imposing a new tax on SUVs, <u>according to Climate Depot</u>.

"Governments have all the necessary tools at their disposal to put oil demand into decline in the coming years, which would support efforts to both strengthen energy security and achieve vital climate goals," the report states.

Another policy proposal is "restricting private cars' use of roads in large cities to those with even-numbered plates some weekdays and those with odd-numbered plates on other weekdays" – never mind that most Americans who use their vehicles to go to work need them *every weekday*.

"As a result of Russia's appalling aggression against Ukraine, the world may well be facing its biggest oil supply shock in decades, with huge implications for our economies and societies," said IEA Executive Director Fatih Birol, who launched the 'plan' earlier this week with Barbara Pompili, the Minister for the Ecological Transition of France, which currently holds the Presidency of the European Union.

"IEA member countries have already stepped in to support the global economy with an initial release of millions of barrels of emergency oil stocks, but we can also take action on demand to avoid the risk of a crippling oil crunch," Birol said. "Our 10-point plan shows this can be done through measures that have already been tested and proven in multiple countries."

"France and all European countries must get out of their dependence on fossil fuels, in particular on Russian fossil fuels as soon as possible," France's Minister of the Ecological Transition Barbara Pompili said. "It is an absolute necessity, for the climate but also for our energy sovereignty. The plan proposed today by the IEA offers some interesting ideas, some of which are in line with our own ideas to reduce our dependence on oil."

Marc Morano, a former Capitol Hill staffer who launched Climate Depot and managed GOP communications for the U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Work, referred to the IEA plan as "COVID 2.0," saying the report "sounds an awful lot like an energy version of COVID lockdowns."

"Instead of opening America back up for domestic energy production, we are told to suffer and do with less and are prescribed the same failed lockdown-style policies we endured for COVID," Morano said. "It is odd how COVID 'solutions' also allegedly helped the climate and now the same solutions are being touted to deal with Russia's invasion of Ukraine."

He also noted "that the proposed 'solutions' to climate change, COVID and now the Russian war are all exactly the same – hammer the poor and middle class with more restrictions on travel, less freedom and even more surrendering of power to unelected government regulators."

The globalists want their 'subjects' poor, immobile and dependent on them.

BlackRock CEO Larry Fink, whose firm oversees investments equivalent to about half of U.S. GDP, has predicted that efforts to punish Russia over its invasion of Ukraine would lead to the unraveling of globalism as decision-makers reconsider their foreign vulnerabilities.

"The Russian invasion of Ukraine has put an end to the globalization we have experienced over the last three decades," Fink said on Thursday in a <u>letter</u> to investors. "We had already seen connectivity between nations, companies and even people strained by two years of the pandemic. It has left many communities and people feeling isolated and looking inward. I believe this has exacerbated the polarization and extremist behavior we are seeing across society today."

Western nations responded to the Ukraine crisis by launching an "economic war" against Moscow, including the unprecedented step of barring the Russian central bank from deploying its foreign currency reserves, Fink noted. Capital markets, financial

institutions and other businesses have gone beyond the sanctions imposed by their governments, cutting off their Russian ties and operations.

"Russia's aggression in Ukraine and its subsequent decoupling from the global economy is going to prompt companies and governments worldwide to re-evaluate their dependencies and re-analyze their manufacturing and assembly footprints — something that Covid had already spurred many to start doing," Fink said. As a result, he added, companies will move more operations to their home countries or to neighboring nations, leading to higher costs and prices.

The Russia-Ukraine conflict has "upended the world order" that has been in place since the Cold War ended and will require BlackRock to adjust to "long-term structural changes," such as de-globalization and higher inflation, Fink said. He added that central banks will have to either accept increased inflation – even beyond the 40-year high that was set last month in the US – or reduced economic activity and employment.

New York-based BlackRock handles \$10 trillion in assets, making it the world's largest money manager, so Fink's views are closely watched by investors. In fact, the billionaire wields so much financial clout that his thoughts can be self-fulfilling, to some degree. Among other implications, he said he sees the Ukraine crisis accelerating the development of digital currencies and speeding the shift away from fossil fuels.

"The ramifications of this war are not limited to Eastern Europe," Fink said. "They are layered on top of a pandemic that has already had profound effects on political, economic and social trends. The impact will reverberate for decades to come in ways we can't yet predict."

Although Fink and Russian leaders don't see eye-to-eye on the Ukraine conflict – the money manager blames Moscow for causing the crisis – they agree that the world order is changing. Russian President Vladimir Putin said last week that sanctions against Moscow mark the end of an era, portending an end to the West's "global dominance" both politically and economically. Ex-President Dmitry Medvedev echoed those comments this week, saying, "The unipolar world has come to an end."

What we have now is a leaderless world in which there are vying globalists seeking to gain control over the political, economic, and religious realm of planet Earth. The west tries to play a game of chess with the chess master himself, Putin. Note how Putin plays this game of high-stakes poker for all the marbles.

Russian President Vladimir Putin announced on Wednesday that Russia would only accept payment from "hostile countries" for its natural gas in rubles, the traditional currency of the Russian Federation, a move that will have major ramifications in the international financial and currency markets.

Western nations, led by the U.S., have imposed severe economic sanctions against Russia in response to its invasion of Ukraine, which Russia has repeatedly called a special military operation with specific goals.

Russian Finance Minister Anton Siluanov has stated that roughly \$300 billion worth of foreign reserves held by Russia in Western institutions have been frozen with Russia being unable to access them as a result of the Western-imposed sanctions. Many commentators have seen this move as a confiscation of Russian foreign reserves which in essence amounts to a theft of Russian assets or a default on Western obligations to Russia.

"The United States and the EU have practically defaulted on their obligations before Russia," Putin explained. "Some have suspected this, but now everyone in the world knows that obligations in the [US] dollars and euros can be left unfulfilled."

Given the economic warfare being waged against Russia by the West, Putin insisted it "makes no sense anymore" to sell Russian goods and commodities for dollars or euros to the U.S., EU nations or any other hostile nation. Putin promised that Russia is embarking upon a path to "stop using all compromised currencies for transactions."

Speaking to Russian officials yesterday, Putin described the sanctions as "unlawful decisions to freeze Russian assets," and went on to argue that the "West has de facto destroyed the credibility of its currencies."

In a speech last week, Putin stated that Western nations "are using economic, financial, trade and other sanctions against Russia as weapons," and noted that "these sanctions have backfired in Europe and in the United States where prices of gasoline, energy and food have shot up, and jobs in the industries associated with the Russian market have been cut."

President Biden and other Western leaders have incessantly blamed Russia for rising inflation, rising energy costs and other economic maladies, failing to recognize that their own misguided policies are causing significant damage and harm to their own economies.

"Do not shift the blame on us and do not accuse our country of everything that goes wrong in your countries," Putin stated last week in a direct dig at President Biden and other Western leaders.

"The illegitimate freezing of some of the currency reserves of the Bank of Russia marks the end of the reliability of so-called first-class assets," Putin explained, referring to Western-backed financial arrangements and institutions. "In fact, the U.S. and the EU have defaulted on their obligations to Russia. Now everybody knows that financial reserves can simply be stolen. And many countries in the immediate future may begin – I am sure this is what will happen – to convert their paper and digital assets into real

reserves of raw materials, land, food, gold and other real assets which will only result in more shortages in these markets."

Earlier today, the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office released a memo announcing that 59 more individuals and entities from Russia and its ally Belarus would have their assets frozen in the UK, prohibiting them from entering the country. British officials declared that the new sanctions were imposed to "encourage Russia to cease actions destabilizing Ukraine or undermining or threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty or independence of Ukraine," although it is unclear how effective the sanctions will actually be.

President Biden, who is beginning a European tour that will include attending an emergency NATO meeting and meeting with a variety of EU officials and European heads of state, hinted that more Russian political figures would be sanctioned soon by the U.S. as well.

Western leaders continue to double down on their program of economic warfare against Russia, which is leading to a total discrediting of the entire Western-led economic system.

Before he left the earth, Jesus Christ gave eight basic signs about the end of what the Bible calls the "Times of the Gentiles." Those days are just about completed and the Lord gave details about what would happen at the end and promised to return to the earth.

The Lord did make it clear, however, that no man knows the day or the hour of his return. He admitted that only the Father knows when that will be. -(See Mark 13:36) Neither does it require a military degree from the Army War College to know that this war will not spread beyond the borders of the Ukraine.

It's very important that you examine these eight basic signs, because as you'll see, there is strong confirmation that they have already been fulfilled. They become more than profound as we look toward to Passover which begins on Sundown April 15, 2022. I will explain my point about this a bit later.

The Signs for Christ's Return

Right before Jesus was crucified, as he and the disciples were leaving the temple grounds, his disciples remarked: "Look, Teacher! What massive stones! What magnificent buildings!"

"Do you see all these great buildings?' Jesus replied. 'Not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down.'" -(Matthew 24:1-2; Mark 13:1-2; Luke 21:5-6).



Jesus was referring to the destruction of the temple. He had talked about this in more detail earlier (see Luke 19:41-44) and those predictions were fulfilled quite literally in A.D. 70 when the Romans sacked Jerusalem and destroyed the Jewish temple. They even commemorated the event on the Arch of Titus where the golden candlestick was clearly pictured.

The Lord's answer prompted the disciples to ask him when this would happen and also what would be the sign of his coming at the end of the age. Because the destruction was only 35 years or so away, the events which he foretold obviously referred to a later period of time at the end of the age of the Gentiles. Here is just part of that extensive answer he gave to them in Matthew 24.

"Watch out that no one deceives you. For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am the Messiah,' and will deceive many. You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth pains."

"Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me. At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come." (Matthew 24:4-14).

Now in this passage, Jesus gives us what Is a "short list" of the beginning signs. There are actually many more given in the New Testament, but let's focus on the signs before he returns:

1) There will be Wars and Rumors of Wars; Nation will Rise Against Nation. It cannot be disputed that the world has seen an unusual number of wars in the last 150 years.

The first and second world wars killed millions. But since 1945 there have been well over 200 armed conflicts in which uncounted millions have died. There is still the constant threat of conflict and even of thermonuclear warfare hanging over the world with North Korea, China, Iran, Russia, the United States and many others all saber rattling with threats. But Jesus tells us not to be alarmed by this.



- **2) Earthquakes in various places.** There are two main fault lines running around the globe where the majority of all earthquakes have traditionally taken place. But there have been an increasing number of earthquakes in all sorts of unusual places. Horrific tsunamis caused by these earthquakes have risen alarmingly in the last few years.
- **3) Famines and plagues** (see also Luke 21:11). Famines are caused by droughts and they are dramatically increasing in the world. Water shortages are becoming one of the biggest issues facing the world's increasing population. There have been many plagues over the years including the Black Death, cholera, and the Spanish influenza outbreak

which killed 20 million in the last century. And now we have the nuclear "plague" **coming from Fukushima**. I believe that the pollution that is currently pouring out from the stricken reactor in Japan is the beginning of a fulfillment of prophecy that the sea will die. We have many studies showing the damage Fukushima has done to sea life in the Pacific Ocean since the 2011 nuclear reactor explosion.

While many, many famines and plagues have already attacked the world, they are just the beginning of the birth pangs. Ebola is now spreading worldwide ad there is no known cure or treatment whatsoever. According to the Book of Revelation, they will get much, much worse.

- **4) Persecution and murder of believers.** Right now, the rate at which Christians are being killed each year is about one hundred thousand! No other religious or racial group have more followers slaughtered than Christianity. Recently, the number of believers being slaughtered in Moslem countries has started to rise dramatically. But Jesus stated it will get much worse. With ISIS now growing rapidly in Iraq and elsewhere, and they slaughter any Christian believers that they find, it seems highly likely that the number of believers will go up dramatically. Wait until the **U.S. Declares Martial Law** and that number will explode.
- 5) A great falling away of Christians. Because the world has gotten so erotic along with the Internet, believers everywhere are falling away from their faith. Also, as persecution begins to get worse, an even greater number of Christians will leave the faith. In places like the US there is already a great falling away. Christians used to be the majority in the US, now they are definitely in the minority. There has been a movement away from biblical Christianity.

Many churches have grown corrupt with greed centered messages. Europe is full of huge monolithic church structures that house people who no longer believe in the true gospel. As the end times progresses, true Christians will become the enemy of the state and many other groups. Jesus states that many who fall away and will hate and betray each other. It's not a pretty picture for believers to look forward to.

6) Many false messiahs and false prophets. Within the U.S. a lot of denominational and independent churches have moved towards presenting heretical messages. So many churches no longer teach repentance; instead, they tend to focus on making sinners feel comfortable. There are many modern-day false prophets whose teachings have corrupted the message of the true Church. Keep in mind that false prophets don't just teach error. They mix heresy with the truth and that's how they deceive true believers.

In the last few years many who have claimed to be the Messiah. Sun Myung Moon, Jose Luis de Jesus Miranda, Baha'u'llah, Jim Jones, Father Divine (George Baker), Wayne Bent, and L. Ron Hubbard to name a few. These men have claimed to be Jesus Christ or the devil (or both) and have founded their own religions.

7) Because of the increase in lawlessness the love of most people will grow cold. Within the United States, the age of civility is over. Professional racial bigots are constantly fomenting conflict between the races by accusing others of racism. Police have turned lawless, breaking into houses without warrants, pulling out weapons if anyone videotapes their actions and even killing unarmed civilians with immunity.

As our world continues to polarize, good men are now becoming more fearful of doing good works because they feel the backlash of so many groups. In all the years that I've lived, I've never seen people's hearts growing so cold.

8) The gospel will be preached in the world to all nations. There are Christian organizations that have kept track of all the nations and ethnic groups within the world and almost every area has had some kind of gospel presentation. Certainly this sign can be considered fulfilled even though many still have not heard. As the population has dramatically exploded in the last few years, it becomes obviously that billions of people have never personally heard the gospel message.

Are You Ready for the Saviour's Return?

Jesus said the last days before his coming will be "as it was in the days of Noah." Back then people were oblivious to the signs. They ate and drank and got married right up to the day Noah entered the ark. They knew nothing about what was coming until the flood swept them all away. Today we have so many diversions with television, cable, the Internet, movies, sports, music, art, celebrity worship, alcohol, pornography, a multitude of drugs and so much more. All of this stuff keeps us distracted and not paying attention to what's really happening in the world. And we're all in danger of being swept away.

The world situation is bad, but is going to get MUCH worse. It is amazing that most people would rather not know. The world's problems just seem too depressing to them and they just don't want to think about it. But we can be sure things will get worse because it has all been predicted. As governments become more desperate for cash (because they can't borrow any more money from the people who make the money), things will keep turning from bad to worse. Natural and man-made disasters are beginning to envelop us in ways only the ancient Scriptures could have predicted. You really want to ask yourself if you're ready for what's coming.

"Keep watch," Jesus said, "because you do not know on what day your Lord will come." He then gives the illustration of a house owner preparing for a thief who is coming in the middle of the night. I now live in a country a lot like Israel during Jesus' day. Thieves are not very sophisticated here, but they will definitely break in to any undefended home, especially in the middle of the night. High concrete fences topped with broken glass, large metal gates, bars on the windows, dogs, hidden weapons—these are all standard defensive equipment in a country like this, if you want to protect your stuff and your live. And when things get really bad, they will be all that more necessary.

If you knew exactly when a thief was going to break into your house you would certainly be ready for him. But because you never really know when or even if he's coming at all, it's just too easy to get complacent and assume no one will ever break into your house. This is why so many homeowners make no preparations. It just seems too remote of a possibility that it someday happen to you. If you have any common sense at all, you'll make the proper preparations so that when a thief does arrive you'll be prepared.

The flood came and no one believed it until it starting to rain. Judgment is also coming, and few people will believe that until the events start to happen. The best way for you to prepare yourself for the Lord's coming is to be ready to meet the God of the universe on a moment's notice. This is something that you can't put off for a more convenient day. Not only could you die tonight from any number of causes, bad events are approaching us like a freight train whose brakes have failed. If you do not have Jesus living right inside your heart, you simply don't have a survival plan for the future.

I don't care how much prepping you have done or food you have stored in your basement. If you are not ready to fly into the sky with Christ when he comes, you're not ready for the worst case scenario here on our earth. The only way that you can be sure that you're ready to meet God is if you are found by him to be a true Christian.

The Lord could come back at any moment. No sign has to take place before he appears in the sky, with a trumpet and a shout, all Christians will rise up to him and then we will disappear, leaving the turmoil behind. Trust me when I say that you really do want to be ready for that event when your Saviour returns! The alternatives are just too horrific to contemplate.

From "Typology" alone, Song of Solomon is not just an Old Testament book but resonates with the hearts of all who desire to know the Lord. In modern Judaism the Song of Solomon is read on the Sabbath during the Passover, which marks the beginning of the grain harvest as well as commemorating the Exodus from Egypt. Jewish tradition reads it as an allegory of the relationship between God and Israel, and Christianity as an allegory of Christ and his bride, the Church. As we draw near to Nisan 10, or Passover on April 15th anticipation swells in our hearts and minds!

It is quite likely few of you have ever heard many sermons given from the small Book of Song of Solomon. The text speaks in terms of such intimacy that one might associate it with one of those romance novels. I have a fellow pastor friend who did a series from this beautiful book of Song of Solomon back in 1998. At the conclusion of the series of messages, he invited those married members of his church the opportunity to participate in the reciting of their wedding vows to each other!

The Roman poet Horace commends Homer's technique in the Iliad by which he immediately captured the interest of the reader (or hearer) by plunging into the heart of the story, rather than starting the account from its earliest beginnings.

The epic begins in medias, the challenge between Achilles and Agememnon after the ten-year siege of Troy has been conducted for a period of years. In a certain sense, this is true of the initial chapter of Song of Songs, which opens the account of the beautiful love affair between the prince and the charming young lady he met on a farm in Shunem. Rather than relating how they first got to know each other, Solomon commences with her first visit to Jerusalem and the splendors of David's palace grounds.

Quite clearly, she had already become completely enamored of the handsome young favorite of the royal family. They had already gotten to the kissing stage in their personal relationship, and she felt almost intoxicated by his heady perfume. She was completely aware of the deep admiration the young ladies of Jerusalem felt toward this brilliant young scion of the royal house, who was not only the most eligible of all of the bachelors in Israel in view of his high standing in the kingdom, but had shown unparalleled scholarship in his mastery of foreign languages and every brand of science (cf. 1st Kings 4:30-34).

No one could compare with him in his breadth of understanding as exhibited in the Book of Proverbs. His readiness to search out the highest possible attainments that money could buy, aided by the finest of experts in the building of the holy Temple and the royal palaces of breath-taking grandeur—these he was free to pursue without distraction of governmental duties such as would devolve upon him at the later stage of his career.

King David himself would necessarily be deeply involved in planning for the erection of his great audience hall on Mt. Moriah. He would be directing the living quarters for his harem and for accommodation of his staff employees and various agents and functionaries involved in diplomatic service. He would have been deeply involved in the procurement of cedars of Lebanon and other materials required for the holy Temple which his son would erect after his father's decease.

As for the Shulammite maiden herself, now deeply in love with her peerless lover, she could think of nothing else but the joy of his loving embrace and the thrill of his costly perfume: "Take me away with you," she urged, after she had seen the luxury of his palace. He happily obliged her and showed her the full display of his living quarters.

"My love calls to me:

Arise, my darling.
Come away, my beautiful one.
For now the winter is past;
the rain has ended and gone away.
The blossoms appear in the countryside.
The time of singing has come,
and the turtledove's cooing is heard in our land.
The fig tree ripens its figs;
the blossoming vines give off their fragrance.

Arise, my darling.

Come away, my beautiful one." -(Song of Solomon 2:10-13)

Song of Solomon chapter 2, verses 8-14, is an amazing picture of Jesus Christ coming to snatch His Bride up and away from off the Earth in the Rapture:

"Listen! My love is approaching.
Look! Here he comes,
leaping over the mountains,
bounding over the hills.
My love is like a gazelle
or a young stag.
Look, he is standing behind our wall,
gazing through the windows,
peering through the lattice.
My love calls to me:

Arise, my darling.
Come away, my beautiful one.
For now the winter is past;
the rain has ended and gone away.
The blossoms appear in the countryside.
The time of singing has come,
and the turtledove's cooing is heard in our land.
The fig tree ripens its figs;
the blossoming vines give off their fragrance.
Arise, my darling.
Come away, my beautiful one.

My dove, in the clefts of the rock, in the crevices of the cliff, let me see your face, let me hear your voice; for your voice is sweet, and your face is lovely." -(Song of Solomon 2:8-14)

Note that the bride's beloved is pictured as being above her, as if He was coming down to get her:

"Listen! My love is approaching.
Look! Here he comes,
leaping over the mountains,
bounding over the hills." -(Song of Solomon 2:8)

He is looking at her "through the lattice" located "behind our wall", which is exactly where Jesus is when He comes to get us. He is veiled to the rest of the world, but He is clearly visible to us.

He does not come down to get the Bride, rather He causes her to "rise up" and "come away" with Him:

"For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the archangel's voice, and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are still alive will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore encourage one another with these words." -(1st Thessalonians 4:16-18)

"After this I looked, and there in heaven was an open door. The first voice that I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this." –(Revelation 4:1)

"He who testifies about these things says, "Yes, I am coming quickly." - (Revelation 22:20)

The unique character of the Song of Songs has aroused much diverse understanding of its purpose and meaning for the life of Bible students. It is only natural to speculate at length about the inclusion of a book in the Holy Bible which never even mentions the name of God. How could this be a truly inspired Book in the Hebrew canon when it teaches nothing which is truly theological? The internal data of the text furnishes clear evidence that the production is about Solomon, if not directly composed by him for publication. It is a document allowed for profit or encouragement for the people of God as they seek to serve Him and proclaim his unique power as Lord of all creation—why the complete absence of doctrinal teaching? The answer has to be found in a careful appreciation of what it does teach for the guidance of God's people.

The answer to this problem is best discovered by the rich beauty of the kingdom of God, Who made the Promised Land in the days of David and Solomon a virtual paradise of beauty and joy. In his steadfast care, the loving Father of mankind has provided all that we need as his covenant people. In a period of abundant rainfall, verdant slopes of lush growth (as is obvious from the way their pleasure spots are described) must have furnished a special abundance such as Israel had never known before, or since. The royal prince and the village lass were chosen as ideal exemplars of romantic and thrilling love.

Even though some disappointments and frustrations occurred in their courtship, the privilege of full-blown ecstasy was granted to them both. We serve a God Who loves us and watches over us according to his infinite love and care. Human love is meant to be received with deepest gratitude. However, the Scriptural record also assures that the real purpose is not to enjoy a problem-free career down here on earth. God's real

purpose is for us to run well the race that He has set before us, looking unto Him, the Author of our salvation and our highest possible joy.

Blessings from our Lord Jesus Christ,

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