

www.heraldofhope.org.au

THE HERALD OF HOPE MAGAZINE

APRIL 2023 – Vol. 76

The Resurrection

The Dark Green Agenda

A Secret Rapture?

BEHOLD... I COME QUICKLY!

FREE BOOK

The wages of sin is death.

Death came by one when Adam sinned and ever since it has been a mystery to many.

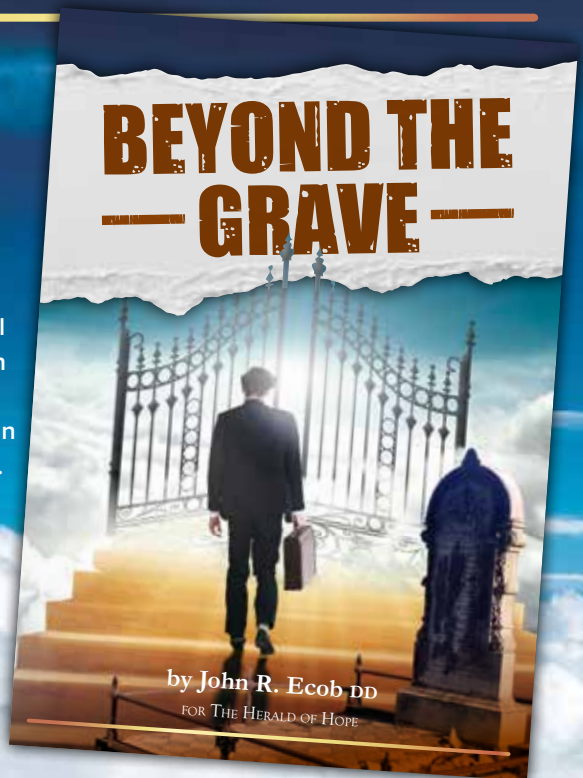
Even unGodly people will speak at funerals of their loved ones as though they are in heaven.

There is an after life but where will it be? We are not like animals. Men are intelligent beings made in the image of God and only the Bible can reveal what lies beyond the grave.

Jesus conquered death when He rose from the grave and when the last soul is resurrected

"then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory!"

(1 Cor.15:54).



Resurrection was not possible before Christ rose.

He is *"the firstfruits of them that slept"* (1 Cor.15:23).

When do the dead rise? Are they all raised in a General Resurrection?

Who are the saints that rose when Jesus rose from the grave?

Who are raised at the second coming of Christ?

And who are raised 1,000 years later?

These questions are all answered from Scripture in this free book entitled, **Beyond the Grave**. This book could be a real eye opener for many.

To receive free copies contact: The Manager: Peter Jackson
on **0414 677 455**, email manager@heraldofhope.org.au or

The Editor: John Ecob on **0432 181 998**, email editor@heraldofhope.org.au
or visit www.heraldofhope.org.au

AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS OFFICES

Business Manager: Mr Peter Jackson

Subscriptions & Finance:
P.O. Box 4216, Marayong,
NSW 2148 Australia
PH. +61 (0) 2 96592192 Mob: 0414 677 455
Email: manager@heraldofhope.org.au

Payments accepted by:

Cheque, Credit Card, Online at:
www.heraldofhope.org.au

OR

Direct Debit Deposit:
ANZ Bank Seven Hills NSW
Account Name: Herald of Hope Inc.
BSB: 012410 Account No: 231211403

Editorial: Mr John R Ecob

Ph. +61 0432 181 998
Email: johnrecob@icloud.com

Representatives

Herald of Hope Conference DVDs:
Pastor Vince Wall
Ph: +62 0439 694 356
Email: vwallhoh@gmail.com

Literature in Indian Languages

Mr Pappy Daniel
Light of Hope Mercy Home
Cheppard P.O.
Alleppey District 690507
Kerala State, India
Ph. +91 9447 976 381
Email: [hopemsn@hopemsn.org](mailto:hopenmsn@hopemsn.org)

Tasmania

Mr Jeff Percival
Ph. +61 0408 595 997
Email: jeffnann7@gmail.com

West Australian Representative

Pastor Rick Watkins
Ph: +61 0434 022 188
Email: rwaus77@bigpond.com

South Africa

Dr Marc Blackwell
P.O. Box 3298, Tygervalley,
7536 Cape Town
Ph: +21 975 9192 Mob: 0824 050 311
Email: drmsbsr@me.com

**Free Literature is available from the
Editor or Business Manager
www.heraldofhope.org.au**

The Herald of Hope

A bi-monthly magazine dedicated to proclaiming Bible prophecy as related to the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, the message of revival as it concerns the Church and the individual, and the Gospel of Jesus Christ to those who are lost.

Editorial Committee &

Office Bearers

Mr. Peter Jackson - President/Business Manager
Pastor Lyndon Young - Bldg. Super. Cert.;
Adv. Dip. Th. - Vice President and Secretary
Mr. John R. Ecob M.I.E.T., D.D. - Editor
Pastor Vince Wall Assoc. Dip. Biblical Stud.,
Dip. Th. Adv. Dip. Min - Associate Editor
Mr Allan Hindmarsh - Dip CE, Dip PMngt, M Surv Cert.

Statement of Faith

The following is a brief outline of the doctrinal basis of the magazine. We believe in:

1. The Trinity of the Godhead - Matt. 28:19.
2. The Deity of Christ - John 1:1; 10:30; Phil. 2:6.
3. The Personality of the Holy Spirit - Acts 13:1-4.
4. The Creation and Fall of Man - Gen. 2:7; Rom. 5:12.
5. The Supernatural, Plenary Authority and Inerrancy of the Holy Scriptures - 2 Tim. 3:16.
6. The Church as the Body and Bride of Christ and its Members are those Saved alone by Grace through Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ - Eph. 2:8-9; Eph. 5:32-33.
7. The Substitutionary Atonement - 1 Pet. 2:24.
8. The Necessity of the New Birth for Salvation - John 3:3-7.
9. The Maintenance of Good Works as evidence of salvation - James 2:17-20; Matt. 13:8.
10. The Second Coming of Christ - His Coming to the Air at the End of this Age to Rapture His Church, and to the Earth at the End of the Tribulation. His Coming is therefore Imminent, Personal, Pretribulation and Premillennial - 1 Thess. 4:13-18; 5:1-9; Zech. 14:1-4; Rev. 20:1-7.
11. The Everlasting Existence of the spirit of Man - 2 Cor. 5:1-9; Rev. 14:9-10.
12. The Resurrection of the Body - 1 Cor. 15:13-20.
13. Life Everlasting of Believers - John 5:24.
14. The Eternal Punishment of the Impenitent - Rev. 20:11-15; Mark 9:43-48.
15. The Reality and Personality of Satan - Matt. 4:1-11; 1 Peter 5:8.

IN THIS ISSUE

Editor's Chat	2
Poem - The Eye of the Storm	3
The Incredible Resurrection	4
Roose's Ruse	9
We See the Day Approaching	11
Will Victoria Find the Book?	14
I've Got Worms	17
The Dark Green Agenda Pt 3.....	18
Did J.N.Darby Start the Secret Rapture Teaching?.....	22
The 2nd Coming in Isaiah.....	25
Israel's National Bird	29
Straws in the Wind	30
• Preparing for the Asian War	
• Israel Cuts tax Revenue to PLO	
• When God Laughs	
• Good News	
• Satellites Galore!	
• Population Trends in Israel	
• Palestinian Terrorism in Israel	
• Climate Change a Religion from Hell	
Questions and Answers	
<i>Is there a Secret Rapture?.....</i>	<i>36</i>

All material in this magazine is protected by the Copyright Act 1968 of Australia and its amendments. Articles may be used as teaching material with acknowledgment but publication in any way requires prior permission of the copyright owner.
Copyright © Herald of Hope 1998



EDITOR'S CHAT


with **John Ecob**

IN the past few months we have taken steps to further develop our web page on the internet. We have introduced the digital edition of the magazine which can be obtained by a \$10 p.a subscription on the web page. Also we have proceeded to get the **Eternity to Eternity book and the seven prophecy series books** translated into the languages of India, Pakistan and China.

Some of these have been completed, hard copies have been printed and freely distributed. When all of these books are translated they will be offered for free download on the web page. This means that anybody in India, Pakistan, China and English speaking countries will be able to have free downloads of all of these books.

The message of the Lord's return will thus be available to half the population of the world!

In addition we will, DV, be placing **new articles** on the web page for free download **each week**. All you have to do is click on the **free article subscription** to our news letter, insert your email address and each week a new article will be automatically emailed to you. Our web page is **www.heraldofhope.org.au**

We would value the prayers of the Lord's people as we seek to globally make known the truth of the near return of our Lord Jesus Christ. 



The Eye of the Storm

Fear not that the whirlwind shall carry you hence,
Nor wait for its onslaught in breathless suspense,
Nor shrink from the whips of the terrible hail,
But pass through the edge to the heart of the gale,
For there is a shelter, sunlighted and warm-
Faith sees the Lord God through the eye of the storm.

The passionate tempest with rush and wild roar
The threatenings of evil may beat on the shore,
The waves may be mountains, the fields battle plains,
The earth be immersed in a deluge of rains,
Yet the soul, stayed on God, may sing bravely a psalm,
In the heart of the storm is the centre of calm.

Let hope be not quenched in the blackness of night,
Though the cyclone awhile may have blotted the light,
Far beyond the great darkness the stars ever shine,
In the light of God's love, all for you shall be fine.
Let no gloom dim your eyes, but uplift them on high
To the face of your GOD and the blue of His sky

The storm is your shelter from danger and sin,
For God Himself takes you for safety within,
The tempest with Him passes into deep calm,
And the roar of the winds is the sound of a psalm,
Be glad and serene when the tempest clouds form;
God smiles on His child in the eye of the storm

by **CBR HK**



The Incredible Resurrection

BY

John
Ecob



THE creation of the universe was amazing; so great that human minds fail to comprehend it. At the spoken word of the Creator, universes were flung into space and then in seven days one mud ball was transformed into an habitable place of unspeakable beauty filled with trees, birds, animals and fish administered by one man who was made in the image of the Creator; God!

The story of man on the face of the earth was then recorded for 4,000 years until another event occurred that equalled or surpassed creation; the Son of God became man, died on a cross and then raised Himself from the dead. But more than that, when He arose, He spoke the word and all the believing dead for the previous 4,000 years rose from the dead, came out of their graves, and followed Him to heaven (Matt. 27:53; Eph. 4:8-10).

Jesus even told the Jews beforehand He was going to do this when He said:

*“Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, **AND NOW IS**, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live”*
(John 5:25).

This statement shows that the

resurrection of all the Old Testament saints was imminent which destroys the entire concept of one General Resurrection of all the dead at the end of the age.

Furthermore God has promised that many more who believe, both living and dead, will one day hear the voice of the Son of God, will come out of their graves and be caught up to heaven. Then the remainder who have not believed, will hear His shout and will be raised but for judgment at the Great White Throne (Rev. 20:12-15).

This second great event in human history began when the Creator God took on Himself human form and was born in a manger. Then after about 30 years He was taken and nailed to a Roman cross as a spectacle before a hateful crowd of those whom He created. The circumstances of that time are incredible and there are many witnesses to prove it.

THE ROMAN CENTURION

Under Roman law the Jews could not carry out the death sentence and so they tried Jesus before Pontus Pilate the Roman Governor who found no fault in Him but for fear of a disturbance, Pilate ordered that Jesus be crucified

and a centurion was given the task. Immediately after the soldiers had done the grisly work of nailing Christ to a cross as a matter of duty, the Lord prayed, *"Father forgive them, they know not what they do."*

Then three hours later at noon, suddenly the sun was darkened, and a thick darkness settled over the land until 3 pm when Jesus cried with a loud shout, *"It is finished!"* and He dismissed His spirit and died.

Instantly there was a great earthquake that shook the city of Jerusalem. In the Temple the great veil that hung between the Holy of Holies and the Holy place was torn apart from top to bottom. Across the land certain graves were opened as stones placed over the entrances to those sepulchres were rolled away.

The Roman soldiers were terror stricken and the centurion cried, *"Truly this was the Son of God...this was a righteous man"*. The prayer of Jesus was answered as Roman soldiers believed on the Son of God - their sin was not wilful but done ignorantly and they received pardon.

One wonders if these were the same soldiers who were appointed to guard the tomb where Jesus' body lay.

In the ancient world robbers frequently broke into tombs in the hope of finding treasures. On this occasion the tombs **of all the believers** from the beginning of time had been flung open by the earthquake. Only Jesus' tomb was sealed because He had been buried after the earthquake.

The Jews could not repair the sepulchres until at least three days later because the next day was an *"high day"* (John 19:31) i.e. a special sabbath. It was the first day of the feast of unleavened bread for the

Pharisees and it was the feast day for the Sadducees.

Then the following day was the weekly sabbath - Saturday. Two sabbaths meant that no servile work could be done to repair the graves. Jesus' tomb however remained sealed because the Jews were afraid his disciples might steal the body.

With all the graves of the deceased saints opened anybody could look in and see the dead bodies buried in the tombs. Then on the third day before the sun rose, there was another great earthquake and the stone on Jesus' tomb was rolled away, not to allow Jesus to come out, but to show people that the tomb was empty and that He had risen.

RESURRECTION NOT RESUSCITATION

It was Jewish practice to bind the bodies of the deceased in cloth. When Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead after being buried in a tomb four days we read,

"And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go" (John 11:44).

Lazarus was raised in a natural body and he died again. His soul returned from Paradise and he did not have a resurrection body. But when Jesus rose from the dead His grave clothes were undisturbed as John records:

"Then cometh Simon Peter following him, and went into the sepulchre, and seeth the linen clothes lie, and the napkin, that was about his head, not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself" (John 20:6-7).

Jesus' resurrection body was different to a natural body and He passed through

the graveclothes leaving them exactly as they were. He did not need to be loosed from grave clothes. Our risen Lord could appear at the tomb; then in the upper room to the disciples; then on the Emmaus road to two disciples. The three-day journey to Galilee was not necessary for Jesus in a resurrection body.

Before He died, when Jesus took the three-day walk from Jerusalem to Galilee He sat weary by the well at Sychar to talk to the Samaritan woman. He had a natural body then. But a resurrection body knows no weariness and when Christians receive their resurrection body at the Rapture of the Church we will receive a body like the Lord Jesus after His resurrection. Paul wrote

*“...we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be **fashioned like unto his glorious body**”* (Phil. 3:20-21).

And John affirms:

*“now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, **we shall be like him**; for we shall see him as he is”* (1 John 3:2).

JESUS WAS THE PASSOVER LAMB OF GOD

When John the Baptist first saw Jesus he cried,

“Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world!” (John 1:29).

The Jewish Passover was kept on the 14th day of the month Nisan, the first month on the religious calendar. On this feast, Jews roasted a lamb and ate it to remember the night in Egypt when they slew a lamb to sprinkle the blood on the doorpost of their house so that the angel of death would pass over their house.

The passover lambs were slain each year

in the Temple beginning 3pm on the 14th of Nisan which was exactly when the three hours of darkness ended. It was also when Jesus gave the triumphant cry, *“It is finished!”* and He, as the Lamb of God, died.



THE FEAST OF FIRSTFRUITS

The Jews kept feasts in obedience to the law of God and Passover was at the time of the year that the grain crops began to ripen. The nation celebrated this event with a feast like a public holiday and a sheaf of firstripe grain would be brought to Jerusalem so that a priest could go into the Temple and waive it before the Lord in the Holy Place, before the Vail that hid the Holy of Holies where the presence of God resided.

That Feast of firstfruits was always on the 1st day of the week following the Passover or *“the morrow after the sabbath”* (Lev. 23:10-11) following the Passover. **This was the very day that Jesus rose from the dead** and when Paul wrote of the resurrection of Christ he said that

*“But now is Christ risen from the dead, and **become the firstfruits** of them that slept...For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: **Christ the firstfruits**; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming”* (1 Cor. 15:20-23).

Resurrection is likened to the harvest of grain; Christ is the firstfruits and all

who believe make up the harvest. Our resurrection follows His. **Christ must be the first to rise.**

So when the Jewish priest stood before the vail in the Temple waiving the sheaf of firstfruits he was declaring that Christ was risen that very day; that the way into the Holiest, into heaven itself, was now opened.

The epistle to the Hebrews points out that all of the Jewish sacrifices and Temple practices were given by God to be pictures of Christ and His work on our behalf. The vail that separated the Holy place from the Holy of Holies where the presence of God dwelt, spoke of Jesus' flesh. On the cross His body was broken so that the way was made open into heaven itself as we read:

"Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh" (Heb. 10:19-20).

THE RAPTURE FORETOLD BY JESUS

When Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead his sister Martha complained that Jesus had not come more quickly to prevent Lazarus' death and Jesus said:

"I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth (present continuous tense) and believeth in me shall never die." (John 11:25-26).

Here Jesus clearly indicated that some who believe will die and be raised again while others who are alive **at that time** will never die! This is exactly what Paul wrote:

"The Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout,...and the dead in

Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord"
(1 Thess. 4:16-18).

Again Paul states:

"Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep (die), but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed"
(1 Cor. 15:51-52).

WHEN A CHRISTIAN DIES

Death for Christians is when the body rests in the grave. The soul goes immediately to heaven to be with Christ. Paul spoke of death for the Christian as being *"absent from the body and present with the Lord"*. When Lazarus died, Jesus told his disciples,

"Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep"
(John 11:11).

This was not soul sleep but **body sleep**. We read of the martyred saints in heaven **crying out** for vengeance on their murderers and others giving praise to the Lord. They are **very conscious** but their bodies are asleep in the grave. (Rev. 6:10-11; 7:9-17).

The rich man in hell was very conscious and we can assume that Abraham and the Old Testament saints in Paradise were alive also for Lazarus was *"comforted"* (Luke 16:25). The rich man in hell asked for Lazarus to place water on his tongue. He had a spiritual body.

Paul indicates that after death, Christians receive **a spiritual body** until they are raised from the grave. He wrote:

*“For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is **from heaven**: If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked”* (2 Cor. 5:1-3).

God made man in His likeness and God is a triune God. Man was made body, soul, and spirit and after death we will still be a triune being. We won't be a naked soul and spirit! Our body clothes our soul and spirit now and until the resurrection of our material body at the Rapture we are to be clothed in a spiritual body.

Our earthly body is from the dust of the earth and is material but the spiritual body is “from heaven”.

RESURRECTIONS TO LIFE AND DAMNATION

In John 5:28-29 we read:

*“Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto **the resurrection of life**; and they that have done evil, unto **the resurrection of damnation**”* (John 5:28-29).

The resurrection of life is for those who believe and the resurrection of damnation is for those who are unbelievers. The resurrection of life is in four stages:

- 1) The Old Testament saints were raised with Christ. Christ rose and then they rose “*after His resurrection*” (Matt. 27:53).
- 2) The Christians from this Church age will be Raptured before the Tribulation (1 Thess. 4:13-18).

3) During the Tribulation there will be many martyred for their faith and these will be raised at the return of Christ to the earth (Rev. 24:4).

4) The return of Christ is to reign for 1,000 years and at the end of the 1,000 years all who believe during that time will receive resurrection bodies. The dead will be raised and the living changed (Rev. 20:5). This will complete the “*resurrection of life*” called “*the first resurrection*” (Rev. 20:5).


The resurrection to damnation will take place in two stages:

Stage 1: At the return of Christ the Beast (Antichrist) and all who follow him during the Tribulation will be judged, slain, and given a resurrection body to be cast into the lake of fire (Dan. 12:2; Matt. 25:41; Rev. 19:20; 20:10)

Stage 2: At the end of the 1,000 year reign of Christ all the “*rest of the dead*” **who have not believed** will be raised and appear before Christ at the Great White throne judgment.

The purpose of this judgment is to indicate the degree of punishment for they are judged “*according to their works*” (Rev. 20:13).

God placed all names in the Book of Life but only those who reject His mercy have their names blotted out. At the Great White Throne the Book of Life will be opened and their names will not be found written there. God desired their salvation and placed their name there but through their unbelief their names were blotted out.

Salvation is by the grace of God bestowed on all who believe in Christ. Christ did all the work to purchase our redemption and those who reject His work will be judged according to their works. 

Roose's Ruse BY John Ecob

THE shooting of police officers in Queensland has become a pretext for an attack on premillennial teaching and the branding of it as incitive of terrorism.

TV Channel 9 Reported as follows:

“the (Qld) Deputy Police Commissioner Tracy Linford, states killers Gareth, Nathaniel and Stacy Train were believers before they ambushed Constable Rachel McCrow, Constable Matthew Arnold, and neighbour Alan Dare on December 12, 2022.

“What we’ve been able to glean from that information is that the Train family members subscribe to what we would call a broad Christian fundamentalist belief system, known as premillennialism.”

According to this report, advice was received from Josh Roose, an associate professor of politics and expert on far-right and religious extremism at Deakin University, who said the trio would have believed the world was “corrupt” and fast imploding. He is reported to have said:

“It (premillennialism) is a Christian belief that in effect, the world is so corrupt, so evil, so beyond repair that at some point, in the near future, we’re facing the implosion of the world effectively ... an apocalyptic event and that Jesus will return to Earth.”

Mr Roose took a swipe at Ex-President Donald Trump who he said “really pushed this Christian agenda.” This was probably because the premillennial Evangelical Christians in America supported the Trump campaign and because he opposed gay marriage and abortion.

Roose’s attempt to link Premillennial

Christians with terrorism shows a gross ignorance of history and of the Bible. He describes premillennialists as

“poorly understood and really, there’s not a lot known about to what extent they’re present,”

This statement alone disqualifies the professor from giving any ‘expert’ advice on premillennial teaching. Apparently he is totally unaware that the **general view** of the early Christian Church for the first 300 years was premillennial? Any Church history book will state that until Augustine came along about 400AD the general view of the early Church Fathers was premillennial.

Were the Christians for the first 300 years terrorists because they believed in the premillennial return of Jesus Christ? For much of that time the premillennial Christians were thrown to the lions, burned at the stake and put to the sword simply because they believed the Scriptures and refused to worship the pagan gods of Rome. Terrorism was carried out by the Roman authorities in what we now call the “Ten Pagan Persecutions”. Premillennial Christians were the victims of terrorism and not the perpetrators.

The opposing view to premillennialism is amillennialism which denies that Christ will return to reign on this earth for 1,000 years. Amillennialism was adopted by the Roman Catholic Church which for 1,000 years held inquisitions, tortured and killed Christians who dared to believe the Bible. If Mr Roose wants to find a theological view that historically was associated with terrorism then he should be pointing the finger at the Roman Catholic Church.

And not only the Catholic Church for Reformers such as John Calvin were also amillennialists. Calvin wrote the laws of Geneva that prescribed burning at the stake for heretics. He had a theologian tortured and beheaded for calling him a hypocrite and Servetus was burned alive at the stake for denying infant baptism and the Trinity! Luther wrote a book in which he suggested Jewish synagogues should be destroyed.

Amillennialist Reformers arrested tortured and burned Anabaptists for refusing to believe in infant baptism and the wife of one such victim had a stone tied to her neck and was thrown into the river!

Amillennialism is the view held by mainstream denominations today but neither premillennial or amillennial Christians today would tolerate any form of terrorism.

If Mr Roose is an expert seeking to identify right-wing religious terrorists then I suggest he is looking in the wrong direction. The historical record shows that it is not the premillennialists who have committed terrorist acts. The premillennialists have been the victims of terrorism. About half of the 100 million Christians in China are premillennialists and they are the victims of terror from Communist Authorities.

If Mr Roose wants to identify religiously motivated terrorism then he should be calling out the Islamist extremists. ASIO are fully aware of this threat and there is abundant evidence that world-wide Islam is producing terrorist acts today. The Lindt Cafe Siege in the heart of Sydney, the World Trade centre in New York, Bin Laden, and ISIS should be enough to convince him about the source of religiously motivated terror.

Mr Roose claims that premillennialism is, "poorly understood and really there's not a lot known about them?" Doesn't this 'expert' know that the *Scofield Reference Bible* produced in 1909 and published by Oxford Press was the most widely used reference Bible. Its notes established premillennial truth and today there are **millions of copies** in circulation. Where has Mr Roose been?

Martyn Lles of the Australian Christian Lobby recently wrote that premillennialism is the predominant view of Scripture held by evangelical and charismatic Christians today! If the professor thinks little is known about premillennialism then he is very poorly informed and unqualified to brand Premillennialists as terrorists.

The premillennial *Herald of Hope* magazine has been published in Australia since 1948 and similar magazines in the US such as *Israel My Glory* are just two examples. Neither of these publications would tolerate or support terrorism. To the contrary, they would oppose any form of violence.

Mr Roose cannot use the sad event in Queensland when police officers were shot, as a ruse to attack Bible-believing Christians. We live in days when there is a concerted attack on anything Biblical or Christian. The chorus being sung by a left-wing media wants to reject all Christian values and establish a Godless society.

The fact is that the Bible does teach that Jesus Christ is coming again and the signs given in Scripture indicate it could be soon. We don't have to be a rocket scientist to see that history is reaching a climax. Bible-believing premillennial Christians just want to warn people and tell them how to be ready. 🔔

We See the Day Approaching

BY
**John
Ecob**



"Let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching" (Heb. 10:24-25).

HISTORY is the story of mankind. It began in the Garden of Eden and will finish in the New Heavens and New Earth.

Bible prophecy reveals the history of man in the future - before it happens. But the Bible says we may see **future events as they approach**.

It has taken 6,000 years for the history of man to reach the present stage and changes were sometimes sudden but often changes occurred over decades or even centuries. The student of history will be able to discern how these changes led to fulfilment of the prophetic scriptures.

We don't have to be a prophet to be able to predict certain future events. Jesus said to the Jews,

"O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?" (Matt. 16:3).

With the knowledge of Daniel's prophecies the Jews should have known that Messiah was due to appear 483 years after the decree to restore and build Jerusalem. When John the Baptist appeared and the Romans were in control, only a few could see the day approaching and most were blinded.

Likewise today, we who know the prophecies of the last days can see the day approaching when the Lord will come into the heavens to catch away His Bride and the world will be plunged into Great Tribulation. Unbelieving Israel is restored as a nation in the land, Russia is in Syria and Iran threatens Israel. We don't have to be a prophet to see the day of our departure approaching!

The 20th Century saw enormous changes. Knowledge increased, men landed on the moon, travel increased exponentially, wars became global and men are seriously promoting one world government.

CHANGES WE CAN OBSERVE

If we look back over history we see how after the time of Noah men began to worship the heavens. Idolatry gripped the nations. The Assyrians, Egyptians, Babylonians, Greeks and Romans all worshipped their idols. Only Israel worshipped the living God. After Christ came, Christians refused to worship idols until the time of Constantine in the 4th century when the Church and the State became one.

As centuries rolled by the Church became more and more corrupt and

in the 1,000 years of the dark ages Christendom adopted the idolatry of the heathen religions praying to Mary and to innumerable “saints”.

The Reformation (1517) was a protest for a season and in the 1700’s the Bible became available and revivals broke out; missionaries took the Gospel to the ends of the earth and large sections of the Church returned to the New Testament.

The political impact of the Gospel was great in the 1700’s and 1800’s. Democracy flourished. Freedom of speech was treasured. Slavery was abolished. People were free to believe and obey the Word of God. Heathen nations heard the Word of God and many turned to Christ making a lasting impact on the political life of those nations.

But then came the 20th century and WWI. At the same time a new political movement began - atheistic Communism. The Russian Revolution led to the takeover of China, Vietnam and North Korea. Millions were wiped out.

The Catholic Church which had taken a heavy blow at the time of the Reformation and French Revolution still held sway in Europe and South America and even today boasts of 1.3 billion members. Politically the Catholic Church still has great influence but sadly the Protestant Churches have undergone a great decline departing from the Word of God and joining the ecumenical movement.

The 21st Century has seen world population reach 8 billion. It is controlled largely by major political forces; Roman Catholicism, Communism, and Eastern

Religions such as Islam/ Hindu/ Bhuddism.

The Roman Catholic Church that dominated the political scene for a thousand years is being challenged by Atheistic Communism in South America and in Europe and the democracies that were the product of the Protestant Reformation, are succumbing to authoritarian left-wing politics that cannot tolerate Biblical standards.

The Protestant Democracies are legislating in blatant contradiction of Biblical standards and making it illegal to obey the Word of God.

The relics of religion remain throughout the world but the left-wing Communist philosophy is taking over schools, the media, the legal profession and even churches.

The answer of Christendom is to unite and so we have all religions joining hands to survive the onslaught of the left-wing anti-God political forces.

The Abrahamic Family; Jews, Muslims and Christendom are building an ecumenical centre in the Middle east and leaders of world religions have gathered in Kazakhstan making recommendations to the United Nations.

The trend is becoming evident. **There are two camps;** the left-wing Communists versus the religions of the world.

ONE WORLD RELIGION

Communism is making great gains and becoming very militant. China is threatening all of Asia and Russia is threatening all of Europe. Europe is uniting to oppose Russia but Europe has strong left-wing political forces operating within her governments.

France and Germany have left-wing Governments and so does Canada, USA, Australia and New Zealand; all are controlled by left-wing Governments.

The war in Ukraine has aroused the US and Europe and they have supported Ukraine against Russia but at home they are left-wing and a showdown is coming between the nations that have a religion and those that are totally atheistic.

THE FINAL SCENE

It is obvious to any thinking person that there is going to be an almighty clash **between these two forces** and it is only a matter of time i.e. the religions against the atheists.

So how does the Bible say the politics of the world will pan out?

Firstly, Israel will align with the other religions and will sign a covenant with Europe at the time of the Rapture. Then when Russia invades Israel in the Tribulation, the Jews will turn to Christ and no longer identify with other religions or atheists.

Islam will collapse in the first half of the Tribulation - probably through the preaching of the 144,000 Jewish preachers, many Muslims will be saved. Isaiah stated that there shall be an altar to the Lord in the land of Egypt and God will call the Egyptians "*my people*" and the Assyrians (Iraq) "*the work of my hands*" (Isa. 19:19-25).

We know that Antichrist's kingdom in Europe is presently directed by the "*harlot woman*" (Rev. ch.17) (the Vatican), so it appears that the Catholic Church will continue to exercise great influence into the Tribulation period but at the end of the 7 years we read that the 10 kings

who will be the rulers of the revived Roman Empire will "*hate the whore*" and burn the harlot woman.


So the left-wing forces; the anti-God forces, will finally appear to triumph and turn against all religion both true and false. Antichrist will not want any competitors.

As we look at the political scene in Europe today **we can see the day approaching when the rising left-wing political forces will triumph** over the religious forces and will ultimately no longer tolerate political interference from the Vatican.

Antichrist will co-operate while it suits his immediate objectives. It is noticeable that Germany and France have been reluctant to support Ukraine against Communist Russia. Germany has had a close alliance with Communist Russia especially in relation to oil and gas supplies.

Communism versus religion defines the two camps in the world today but when Antichrist becomes demon-possessed at the mid-point of the Tribulation men will **worship devils and the Dragon (Satan)** (Rev. 13:4).

The final days of the Tribulation will see Antichrist enthroned in the Temple at Jerusalem with the False Prophet. The left-wing Communists will have removed all competing religions including the Catholic Church so that Satan alone will be reigning for a short while until destroyed by Christ at His second Advent.

We can see left-wing Governments gaining more and more control and we can see the day approaching. The time of our departure must be at hand so let us be more diligent and more devoted to Christ. Amen! 



BY

Vince Wall



Will Victoria find the Book?

THE state of Victoria is in a terrible mess. Politically, financially, morally and spiritually this once dynamic Southern State of Australia is crumbling. At the helm of Victoria is its recently re-elected Roman Catholic Premier Dan Andrews. Under the reign of Dan Andrews, the city of Melbourne endured the world's longest COVID-19 lockdowns; more than any other city on the planet. Along with many other political leaders around the world the Premier of Victoria touted COVID-19 injections as the means to safety and freedom from the harsh lockdowns.

Towards the end of the lockdowns Premier Andrews stated;

“We’re not locking people down anymore across the board... We are instead locking people out who have not got vaccinated to protect themselves and protect everybody else” (<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/10/17>).

The Victorian Government's Covid-19 policies have proven to be an absolute failure. The NSW Premier has recently

stated on radio 2GB that Covid-19 vaccines do not prevent transmission of the disease. He stated on February 27th 2023: “I’ve made it abundantly clear what my position is on this, and it’s based on evidence. There’s no evidence that vaccines in the current environment have any impact at all on transmission of COVID.” (theepochtimes.com/vaccines-dont-stop-transmission).

We must not forget that some Victorians who protested their government’s harsh COVID-19 policies were fined, brutalised by Police, and even jailed with a few even landing in solitary confinement.

Perhaps even more worrying for Victorians is their government’s continual war on their Christian heritage. Back in November 2015, the Andrews Government of Victoria issued a fact sheet to government school principals which imposed a ban on children singing traditional Christmas songs that glorified God. After 12 months the ban was apparently removed. (www.billtilley.com.au/2016)

In the same year in June of 2015 on the Dan Andrews Facebook page people could read a message from Dan Andrews to Muslims in regard to Ramadan.

“...Ramadan reaffirms the commitment to the Muslim message of self-sacrifice for the benefit of others, a message that resonates for Muslims and non-Muslims alike.. the teachings of Ramadan carry significance for all Victorians. On behalf of the Victorian Government, I wish everyone a happy and joyous Ramadan”. (facebook. com>DanielAndrewsMP)

On Friday the 28th of October 2022 the Premier of Victoria issued a media release stating;

“A re-elected Andrews Labor Government will invest \$3 million to fund an Islamophobia campaign to stamp out racism against Muslims in Victoria. There’s no place for discrimination based on faith or ethnicity in Victoria. It doesn’t matter where you’re from, what you look like, what you believe or what language you speak no one should have to endure racism.... Diversity is what makes Victoria great and we need to counter the rise of racism and intolerance by ensuring the community understands the damage it can cause” (danandrews.com.au).

On November 22nd 2022 Premier Dan Andrews made an announcement whilst visiting the Preston Islamic Mosque in Victoria.

“...We think it is important as part of an education process that everyone across our state knows about the works of the prophet Mohammed...It is very important that his teachings, his life, his journey is understood by

so many people that’s why we will provide a \$500,000 grant to the Islamic Museum in partnership with the Board of Imams and also the Islamic Council of Victoria to develop a program to educate, to share those teachings, that wisdom, this is part of a comprehensive plan to do what matters...”

The Premier wants ‘everyone’ in the state of Victoria to be educated about the life and teachings of Mohammad.

Does Dan Andrews really believe that Islam promotes tolerance and self-sacrifice for the benefit of others?

Try telling the people of Iran that Islam promotes compassion and tolerance when the Iranian Government is waging war on Iran’s women who want to bring to an end to the vicious Islamic Republic that is in power. Women who are protesting against the Islamic Government of Iran, by removing their headscarves, are right now being tortured, imprisoned and murdered by Islamic Forces and some of the girls being brutalised are as young as 16.

People from all over the Islamic world have been migrating to the West for years because the Western nations with Christian foundations have given them the freedom that they desired from the evil clutches of tyrannical rulers back in their home countries.

The Victorian Premier needs to be reminded that the Victorian Parliament has been opening their daily proceedings with prayer to the Lord and not to Allah or any other god for over a hundred years. Also every time any Victorian Parliamentary walks through the foyer of Parliament they are confronted with

words from Scripture and not the Koran. Displayed on the parliamentary floor is Proverbs 11:14.

*“Where no counsel is, the people fall:
but in the multitude of counsellors
there is safety”.*

The same Dan Andrews Government that wants to stamp out intolerance has banned the use of prayer, conversation and counselling around sexuality and gender issues with new laws enacted in Victoria. Pastors and even parents can now be jailed if found guilty of praying for or counselling a person against homosexual activities or for not endorsing transgender identities in a person. We must keep in mind that according to Victorian Law, people in that State are now able to change their sexual identities ‘multiple times’ which will create social, moral and legal minefields for years to come.

The Change or Suppression (Conversion) Practice Prohibition Act 2021 commenced on Feb 17th 2022. If found guilty of causing injury under these laws you can be locked up for 10 years. Australian Lawyer John Steenhof stated;

“Victoria now has a new legal basis to compel parents to endorse their children if they pursue a transgender identity....With changes to the family violence laws in Victoria under the Conversion Act, parents now risk jail if they don’t fully affirm a child’s confusion about gender or sexuality” (March 27 2021, hrla.com.au).

The State of Victoria reminds me of the condition of Judah in Josiah’s day (2 Kings 22-23). Judah and the Temple were in a mess. Josiah came to the throne


at the age of eight when Judah had been dominated by the Assyrians. The Assyrians had introduced false God’s and idols into the Nation. Josiah saw the need for restoration and revival and he was motivated to renovate the Temple.

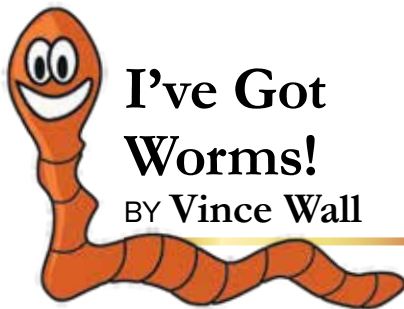
Whilst Temple restoration was underway the book of the Law was discovered and read out to Josiah. The words of the law profoundly affected Josiah and he was blessed by God’s Word and instituted reforms. The lost book had been found read, heard understood and implemented!

In the Victorian Parliamentary library there is a large book on a stand at the centre of the building. The book stands alone separate from all the other books on the library shelves but sadly it is overlooked by many. The central book of the Parliamentary Library is actually God’s Word, the Bible.

Apparently on numerous occasions the Victorian Parliamentary Bible is found opened at the Book of Jeremiah. Jeremiah was written when God’s people had turned their back on God.

*“Truly in vain is salvation hoped for
from the hills, and from the multitude
of mountains: truly in the Lord our
God is the salvation of Israel...We lie
down in our shame, and our confusion
covereth us: for we have sinned
against the Lord our God, we and our
fathers, from our youth even unto this
day, and have not obeyed the voice of
the Lord our God” (Jer. 23: 23,25).*

Let’s pray that the Premier, his politicians and the people of Victoria find the book again; the book that when read, understood, and applied can change the nation. 



I've Got Worms!

BY Vince Wall

A CHRISTIAN friend of mine had an unusual business card. The card simply said; "I've got worms." My friend had embarked on a new business venture as a worm farmer and was selling worm products to the general public.

If King Herod Agrippa had a business card in the last hours of his life it would have read the same, "I've got worms." Sadly, Herod died a tragic and painful death.

King Herod Agrippa was the grandson of Herod the Great who was the King when Jesus was born (Matt. 2). It was Herod the Great who ordered the killing of baby boys two years and under in Bethlehem and the surrounding region. In Acts 12 Herod Agrippa is revealed as a murderer just like his grandfather before him.

Every Grandparent can have a huge influence on their grandchildren, either for good or evil and what a wonderful ministry Christian grandparents can have!

*"O God, thou hast taught me from my youth: and hitherto have I declared thy wondrous works. Now also **when I am old and grayheaded**, O God, forsake me not; until I have shewed thy strength unto this generation, and thy power to every one that is to come."* (Psalm 71:17-18).

Grandparents: Are we prepared to declare God's wondrous works and strength to this generation and the generation to come?

Herod Agrippa, was an ungodly politician

who did evil to please the people!

*"Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church. And he killed James the brother of John with the sword. And **because he saw it pleased the Jews**, he proceeded further to take Peter also.") (Acts 12:1-3).*

It was God who placed King Herod in his position of power (Daniel 2:21), but instead of pleasing God, Herod sought to please the people for his own ends.

Sadly, Herod's actions are very similar to what we see in political circles today. Many Politicians seek to please the people, defying and defiling their own consciences, rather than please the Lord.

Politicians even here in Australia, do what they can to please the ungodly. *Sky News* recently reported:

"Anthony Albanese has become the first Prime Minister to march in the Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras parade which was the headline event of the 17-day-long World Pride event" (skynews.com.au.australia-news/Feb 26th 2023).

Prime minister Albanese thinks that he has scored a few votes by marching in the World Pride event, but he hasn't scored God's vote, or the vote of many Godly Australians.

"When pride cometh, then cometh shame: but with the lowly is wisdom. The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them" (Prov. 11:2-3).

In Acts 12 the Apostle Peter was freed miraculously, the Church grew victoriously, and Herod died tragically. The Judgment of God fell upon the politician who tried to please the people and **Herod got worms.** 🪱

The Dark Green Agenda (Part 3)

BY
Vince Wall



AUSTRALIA is closing down its coal fired power stations in order to line up with “Green” policies whilst China, Russia and India show little evidence of being concerned with the so-called climate emergency.

In NSW, Lake Munmorah Power Station was de-commissioned in 2014 and Wallerawang Power Station near Lithgow was closed that year also. Wallerawang once provided up to 15% of the NSW power needs.

Liddell coal-fired power station in the Hunter Valley is set to shut down on April 28th this year. Liddell has been supplying 10% of the electricity for NSW. Eraring Power station, approximately 120 Kms north of Sydney will shut down its furnaces in 2025, seven years

earlier than expected. Eraring has been producing 25% of NSW electricity requirements.

An ABC report states that

“Coal fired power emissions are linked to 45 deaths in NSW each year...Experts say the early closure of power stations will immediately lead to cleaner air” (abc.net.au/news/2022-02-28).

Whilst the ABC reinforces the climate panic, with reportedly 45 deaths due to coal power emissions, where is the panic over 20,000 plus deaths per year in Australia linked to smoking or the 157,000 annual hospital admissions attributed to alcohol consumption in Australia?

“There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death” (Proverbs 14:12).

We must never forget that in the Covid-19 lockdowns that tobacconists and bottle shops were allowed to stay open while houses of worship were closed by government orders. Churches

Liddell Power Station





bring life to their communities whilst bottle shops bring enormous suffering to communities as seen before our eyes recently, with the devastation that alcohol is inflicting on whole towns in the Northern Territory.

*“Who hath woe? who hath sorrow?
who hath contentions? who hath
babbling? who hath wounds without
cause? who hath redness of eyes?
They that tarry long at the wine; they
that go to seek mixed wine” (Proverbs
23:29-30).*

Whilst the Media and Government push the “Dark Green Agenda” Australia may soon find itself in literal darkness with continual blackouts across the country in future years. Renewable energy is an unreliable source of stable power. When the sun doesn’t shine solar panels are useless and when the wind does not blow there is no electricity flowing from the enormous unsightly windfarms.

It is estimated that the Australian Government will allow more than 300,000 migrants to immigrate to our shores in 2023. Each one of those migrants will require housing,

health care, social services, transport, electricity and the basic needs of food and water. How can we add nearly 1 million people to our population in Australia in the next 3 years whilst continually closing coal and gas fired power stations and purposefully driving the nation to buy electric bikes and cars and to use electric buses, trams and trains?

CNN Business states that

“China approved equivalent of two new coal plants a week in 2022.. Last year the country approved the highest number of new coal-fired plants since 2015..China continues to be the glaring exception to the ongoing global decline in coal plant development ” (edition.cnn.com, Feb 27, 2023).

Whilst we close reliable power sources China, India, and Russia power on. If there is not a stop to the “Green Madness” Australia’s already damaged manufacturing sector will not be viable and could slowly cease to operate with the looming blackouts and power rationing that is inevitable.

If the madness does not stop then this once magnificent land will see our beautiful mountains, hills and oceans dotted with tens of thousands of wind turbines and our pristine plains and countrysides forever scarred with glaring solar farms and extra “Green” transmission lines and towers to accommodate the transference of “clean” energy.

Unconsidered by many as they champion the “Green Agenda” is the huge waste problem that is unfolding as all green technologies have a very limited shelf life. Rich countries are expecting to have 145 million electric vehicles on the road by 2030 but 12 million tons of toxic lithium-ion batteries are expected to create mountains of electronic waste by 2030.

In America it has been found that wind turbines experience a noticeable decline in performance after just 10 years and to decommission a single wind turbine in the United States can cost up to \$500,000 dollars, not to mention the

landfill problems that the huge disused blades create.

Unfortunately, there is even a darker secret to “Green” technologies and that is the **deforestation and slavery** behind the production of numbers of renewables. Cristen Jaynes writes in Eco Watch;

“There has been a growing demand for balsa wood to be used in wind turbine blades, which has caused an increase in Amazon deforestation, reported Renew Economy. The balsa supply chain has led to workers in Ecuador being compensated for their labour with drugs and alcohol, and to the plundering of land rights of Indigenous communities in Peru” (ecowatch.com/slavery, Nov 29, 2022).

Cobalt is used to make batteries for electric cars as well as components for wind turbines. The Democratic Republic of Congo provides 15-30% of the global supply of cobalt with their cobalt mines using children as young as seven to



*Cobalt Mines
in Congo*

work in hazardous conditions for less than \$2 per day.

Solar panel production relies on a primary material called polysilicon and the Uyghur region in China accounts for approximately 45% of the world's solar grade polysilicon supply. An anti-slavery organisation states:

"All four of the Uyghur Region's polysilicon manufacturers are implicated in Uyghur forced labour either through direct participation in forced labour schemes, and/or through their raw material sourcing... Overall 90 Chinese and international solar energy companies – including from the UK, Germany, the US, Australia, Japan and Kenya – have supply chains that are linked to this forced labour." (antislavery.org/solar-panel-industry-uyghur-forced-labour).

For centuries coal, gas and oil have been integral in the advancement of societies throughout the world. God has graciously given us precious resources above the ground and below the ground for us to use wisely. Man is to have dominion over the environment and not the reverse.

"Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet" (Psalm 8:6).

If the government deliberately continues to close down reliable power sources in Australia, then untold, unnecessary environmental damage will occur here and overseas and slavery will increase amongst the poor and needy of other nations.

Soon there may be a famine of power generation in our country and the root

cause will be the rejection of God, which leads to darkened foolish hearts making ungodly and implausible decisions to advance their "Green" agendas in preparation for the coming world holocaust.

"Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools" (Romans 1.21-22).

Hosea exclaimed as Israel turned its back on God

*"O Israel, thou hast **destroyed thyself**; but in me is thine help"* (Hos. 13:9).

And well might we do the same as we watch our nation succumb to the Godless Dark Green Agenda. Isaiah wrote of Egypt before its foretold destruction in the last days:

*"Surely **the princes of Zoan are fools**, the counsel of the wise counsellors of Pharaoh is become brutish (cruel); how say ye unto Pharaoh, I am the son of the wise...?"* (Isa. 19:11).

Our nation faces a bleak future as its wealth is squandered on worthless social projects and a trillion dollar debt hangs over our heads. God has been good to our country but our leaders are divesting themselves of any semblance of Godliness. The Lord said to sinning Israel:

*"When I **would have healed Israel**, then the iniquity of Ephraim was discovered, and the wickedness of Samaria: for they commit falsehood"* (Hos. 7:1).

The longsuffering of God is running out and we too can expect judgment. 🔔

Did J N Darby start the Secret Rapture Teaching?

BY

John
Ecob



OUTRAGOUS claims are made by some “scholars” that the doctrine of the Rapture of the Church was something that “popped into the head” of **J N Darby in 1830** and that nobody before that time ever wrote or taught a pretribulation Rapture of Christians, yet there is abundant evidence that many who lived and preached before Darby, left on record that they believed the Biblical teaching of the Rapture of the Church before the Tribulation.

The standard view of the mainstream denominations today is that all things will continue as they are and there will be a time of trouble just before Jesus comes again. Then there will be a **General Resurrection** and both saved and unsaved will be raised to stand before the Great White Throne where they will be judged. Some will be sent to the Lake of Fire and some sent to Heaven.

This view has major problems and not the least is that it denies the Gospel message that we are saved by grace through faith alone in Christ. It supports the view that heaven is promised to those whose works are good enough to get into heaven because at the Great

White Throne judgment those present are judged **according to their works** which are recorded in the books that are opened. Also the Bible states that **only those from hades** will appear before God at the Great White Throne judgment (Rev. 20:13).

So when was the pretribulation Rapture first taught by Christians? We can say with confidence **it was the belief of the early Christians and is clearly taught in the New Testament.**

The last of the Apostles to write was John and he had personal disciples such as Papias and Polycarp who both believed that Christ would come again and reign on the earth for 1,000 years.

Then Polycarp had a disciple named Irenaeus who lived in the second century and wrote extensively against heresies. His writings are available today and anybody can obtain copies on the internet. He was Premillennial.

Schaff's Church History Vol.2 ch.12 lists Barnabas (before AD132), Justin Martyr (AD155), Irenaeus (AD175), Tertullian (AD200), Commodian (AD240), Lactantius (AD300), Victorinus (AD300), Methodius (martyred AD311), and Apollinarius in Syria (died AD382), all of whom held to the premillennial return of Christ known as Chiliasm.

During the period of history before 311AD when Constantine issued the Edict of Toleration, there were 10 pagan persecutions in which copies of Christian literature were burned but much survived.

Then after Constantine made Christianity the official religion of the Roman Empire, apostasy set in and within 100 years. Augustine of Hippo was spreading his symbolic interpretation of Scripture with its denial of the premillennial return of Christ.

At this time all copies of Christian writings were hand copied. Printing was not invented until 1450. So when the Church rejected the premillennial return of Christ about 400AD scribes found it convenient to alter writings and delete any teaching on the premillennial return of Christ.

VICTORINUS AD 300

We know this is true because about 300AD Victorinus the Bishop of Pettau wrote a commentary of the Book of the Revelation and he clearly taught the premillennial return of Christ. But by about 400AD Augustine had influenced Christendom to deny the premillennial return of Christ and Jerome indicated that he had removed part of Victorinus' commentary in the Latin translation that taught that Christ would reign on earth 1,000 years.

At that time the predominant view of Christendom followed the teaching of Augustine and did so for 1,000 years of the dark ages. During this time scribes had the opportunity to change the text. However an ancient copy of Victorinus' commentary of Revelation in the Greek language has been found and it has the **original text** which was premillennial.

So why were there not many early writings that taught the premillennial return of Christ? Because such teaching was expunged by scribes who followed the amillennial teaching of Augustine that had been adopted by Christendom.

After 1450 when printing was invented the Catholic scribes lost the opportunity to tamper with the text of early Christian writings.

EPHRAIM THE SYRIAN AD 373

Victorinus was not the only early writer whose books have been preserved. Ephraem the Syrian wrote prolifically and in his article entitled "On the Last Times" written about 373AD he stated:

"For all the saints and Elect of God are gathered, **prior to the tribulation that is to come, and are taken to the Lord** lest they see the confusion that is to overwhelm the world because of our sins".

Therefore not only did the immediate disciples of John hold to a premillennial return of Christ but 300 years later the Church in Syria was standing fast on the doctrine of the Lord's return.

There was a reason for the Syrian Church holding the premillennial return of Christ. The school at Antioch in Syria was well known for **interpreting the scriptures literally**.

The school in Alexandria led the way **interpreting scripture symbolically** and Augustine followed the same principles as the Alexandrian School. Once you adopt the symbolic system of interpretation you can make the Bible teach what ever you want.

It is a simple fact of life that if you interpret Scripture symbolically you will be an amillenialist but if you interpret the Bible literally you will be a pretribulationist/premillennialist.

But that is not all. The "scholars" who say that nobody taught the Rapture of the Church before Darby are either lying

or they are ignorant as the following quotes will shew.

MORGAN EDWARDS (1722-1795)

Morgan Edwards taught the Pre-Tribulation Rapture and wrote a paper on the subject. He wrote:

“The distance between the first and second resurrection will be somewhat more than a thousand years. I say, somewhat more; because **the dead saints will be raised, and the living changed** at Christ’s ‘appearing in the air’ (I Thes. iv. 17);...they will ascend to paradise, or to some one of those many ‘mansions in the father’s house’ (John xiv. 2), and disappear during the foresaid period of time. “

THOMAS VINCENT (1634-1678)

Thomas Vincent wrote:

“the righteous... suddenly caught up together in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air; which sight will be fearful and amazing to them, when they perceive themselves to be left behind... O the fear and trouble which will be upon the spirits of those unbelieving Christ-less, grace-less sinners”

JOSEPH MEDE (1586-1639)

Joseph Mede wrote:

“After this, our gathering together unto Christ at His coming...The saints being translated into the air ... and they may be preserved during the conflagration of the earth, and the works thereof: (2 Pet. 3.10.) that as Noah and his family were preserved from the deluge by being lifted up above the waters in the ark, so should the saints at the conflagration be lifted up in the clouds, unto their ark, Christ, to be preserved there from the deluge of fire, wherein the wicked shall be consumed.”

OLIVER HEYWOOD (1630-1702)


Oliver Heywood wrote:

“the Souls of the glorified Saints shall descend and be united to their own Bodies, and then ascend to meet the Lord in the Air, and the wicked are left behind on their dunghill the earth... the dead shall rise, before the living are rapt up... These congregated Saints shall be admitted into one place, and state of Glory: They are before the throne of God...there is room enough in heaven for all the saints, In my Father’s house, saith Christ, are many mansions.”

INCREASE MATHER (1639-1723)

Increase Mather wrote:

“The Living Saints at Christ’s coming shall be caught up into the Air, that they may escape that Deluge of Fire which will be the Perdition of ungodly Men. ... But before this Rapture of the living, the dead Saints shall be raised... They, as to their Bodies, shall not be with Christ before the Bodies of Saints asleep in the Grave shall be with him... As when the Flood came, there was a Difference make between Noah’s family and the rest of Mankind.”

It is obvious from these quotations from preachers who lived **200 years before J N Darby** that the truth of the pretribulation Rapture was well known long before Darby was born. It was the only way the Bible could be interpreted if taken literally. 

Acknowledgement: This article has drawn extensively from *Way of Life* article 29 November 2022 entitled: “*When Was the Pre-Tribulation Rapture First Taught?*” www.wayoflife.org

The Second Coming of Christ in the Book of Isaiah

WE will not find any prophecies of the Rapture of the Church in the Old Testament because the Church was not revealed until the time of Paul. It was a “mystery” which “*from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God*” (Eph. 4:9). However the second coming of Christ to reign over the world for is foretold many times by Old Testament prophets.

The second coming of Christ to reign relates to Israel. The Kingdom age cannot come until the King comes to reign. Those who think the kingdom of God is being established today are misguided. Kingdom theology is false doctrine. In this Church age God is calling out a people for his name (Acts 15:14) to be the Bride of Christ. At the end of this age the Bride must be taken to heaven for the “*marriage of the Lamb*” (Rev. 19:7) before the 2nd Advent (Luke 12:36) and Israel must be restored to the Lord in the Tribulation.

THE NATIONS TO BE JUDGED

Isaiah gives a great deal of detail about the 2nd Advent. He states:

“And it shall come to pass in that day, that the LORD shall punish the host of the high ones that are on high, and the kings of the earth upon the earth. And they shall be gathered together, as prisoners are gathered in the pit (dungeon), and shall be shut up in the prison, and after many days shall they be visited.”

BY
John Ecob



Then the moon shall be confounded, and the sun ashamed, when the LORD of hosts shall reign in mount Zion, and in Jerusalem, and before his ancients gloriously” (Isa, 24:21-23).

The above reference follows 20 verses that describe in detail the terrors of the Great Tribulation and therefore places the return of Christ at the **end of the Tribulation**. Jesus said He would come “*immediately after the Tribulation*” (Matt. 24:29).

ISRAEL TO WELCOME CHRIST

After the Tribulation Christ will “*return from the wedding*” (Luke 12:36) and Israel will then be a redeemed nation, ready to welcome Messiah as their King “*And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this is the LORD; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation*” (Isa. 25:9).

The first thing Jesus will do when He returns is send forth His angels to gather His elect nation, Israel, “*from one end of heaven to another*” (Matt. 24:31).

THERE WILL BE A RESURRECTION OF THE TRIBULATION MARTYRS

During the Tribulation 144,000 Jewish men will turn to Christ and will proclaim

the approaching Kingdom of God to all the world. From the first, these will be rejected and by the mid-point of the Tribulation (Rev. 14:1-5) these are seen around the throne of heaven.

Many Gentiles will believe in Christ through their testimony and suffer martyrdom (Rev. 6:9-11; 7:9,14).

Persecution will be intense especially during the second half of the Tribulation when Antichrist rules (Dan. 11:44). But God gives them an assurance that Tribulation martyrs will be resurrected when Christ returns. We read about this in Rev.20:4. Isaiah also states:

*"Thy dead men shall live, together with my (Christ's) dead body shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and **the earth shall cast out the dead.***

*Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were **for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast.***

For, behold, the LORD cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain.

In that day the LORD with his sore and great and strong sword shall punish leviathan the piercing serpent, even leviathan that crooked serpent; and he shall slay the dragon that is in the sea" (Isa. 26:19 to 27:1)

Leviathan (Satan) will be bound in the bottomless pit for 1,000 years and Antichrist, who John saw as a "beast rise up out of the sea" (Rev. 13:1) will be slain.

ISRAEL ENCOURAGED TO LOOK TOWARD THE KINGDOM

In view of the great persecution and suffering Israel will endure after they turn to the Lord, God encourages them with the promise of a glorious millennial kingdom in which they will be blessed. They are not to fear because the Lord has not forgotten them and will avenge them of their enemies. Amazing conditions will prevail when Jesus comes and just as the sick were healed at Jesus' first coming so miracles will occur when He returns. Isaiah states:

*"Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, **fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompence; he will come and save you.***

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert" (Isa. 35:4-6).

ISRAEL URGED TO PREACH THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM

God raised up the nation of Israel to be His witness to the nations and He told them:

"Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen" (Isa. 43:10).

The nation is told to be bold in testifying in the midst of opposition. A similar exhortation was given by the Lord in Matt.10:16-23 where we read that they would be scourged, excommunicated from the synagogues, and betrayed but that they would not "*have gone over the cities of Israel till the Son of man be come*". Thus Isaiah writes:

“O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God!

Behold, the Lord GOD will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him.

He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm...,” (Isa. 40:9-11).

Israel will certainly need encouragement in the midst of fierce persecution. Not only Antichrist but at the conclusion of the Tribulation “all nations” will be gathered together to totally wipe Israel off the map (Rev. 16:14; 19:19; Zech. 14:2).

A FRUITFUL MINISTRY PROMISED TO ISRAEL IN THE TRIBULATION

In the early Church it was said that “the blood of the martyrs was the seed of the Church”. The more the pagan Roman Empire persecuted the Church, the more the Church grew and the same will be true in the Tribulation. The 144,000 Jewish men will cover the globe with the Gospel of the Kingdom. When John was caught up to heaven he saw “*a great multitude which no man could number, of all nations*” who came out of the great Tribulation (Rev. 7:9,14).

Not only so but Jeremiah tells us that the **entire surviving remnant of Israel** will know the Lord “*from the least of them to the greatest of them*” (Jer. 31:34).

Thus we conclude that while the Tribulation will see the fiercest persecution, it will also see the greatest harvest of souls both from Israel and the

Gentiles! Isaiah states:

“So shall they fear the name of the LORD from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him.

And the Redeemer shall come to Zion, and unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob, saith the LORD.

As for me, this is my covenant with them, saith the LORD; My spirit that is upon thee, and my words which I have put in thy mouth, shall not depart out of thy mouth, nor out of the mouth of thy seed, nor out of the mouth of thy seed’s seed, saith the LORD, from henceforth and for ever.” (Isa. 59:19-21).

THE DIRECTION OF CHRIST’S RETURN IS INDICATED

Even the direction that Christ will **approach the earth** at His return is intimated. Isaiah says He will descend from over Bozrah (Isa. 63:1), south east of Jerusalem. Joel states that the Lord will gather all nations to the “*valley of Jehoshaphat*” (Joel 3:2) and will plead with them there.

There is a valley in the wilderness of Tekoa south east of Jerusalem where Moab, Ammon and Seir assembled their armies to attack Jerusalem. Jehoshaphat sought the Lord and the prophet told him “*Ye shall not need to fight in this battle*” (2 Chron. 20:17).

Jehoshaphat believed God and sent the priests out to praise the Lord. Then when they reached the enemy he found they had turned on each other and were all dead bodies.

Christ will be accompanied by the armies of heaven (Rev. 19:14) but they will not be needed in the final conflict. All the saints in heaven will be there but they will not participate in the final conflict.

Jesus said the

“The Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son”
(John 5:22).

Jesus bore our judgment and the judgment of the entire world for all time, and He did it **alone**. He alone will administer judgment on those who refuse His mercy. Thus Isaiah writes:

“Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this that is glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save.

Wherefore art thou red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat?

I have trodden the winepress alone...” (Isa. 63-1-3).

Israel will look toward Bozrah from Jerusalem across the Valley of Jehoshaphat and see the Lord descending. The Bible says “every eye shall see Him” (Rev. 1:7) when He returns. The Rapture is in a moment but the Lord will be **seen for a day** before descending for the battle of Armageddon. He will sweep through the armies assembled in the length and breadth of the land.

ISRAEL’S CRY

Israel will appear to be in a desperate situation when Christ returns. All the armies of the world will be mobilised against them. Satanic powers will be exercised to deceive the nations and

their one intention will be to totally wipe Israel off the face of the earth. If Satan could do this then all the promises of God to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and to the nation for thousands of years would all fail of fulfilment. God would have failed to keep His promises and Satan would triumph. Israel will know where look. They will look to the Lord and so they will cry,

“Oh that thou wouldest rend the heavens, that thou wouldest come down, that the mountains might flow down at thy presence.” (Isa. 64:1).


God will answer Israel’s cry and so we read:

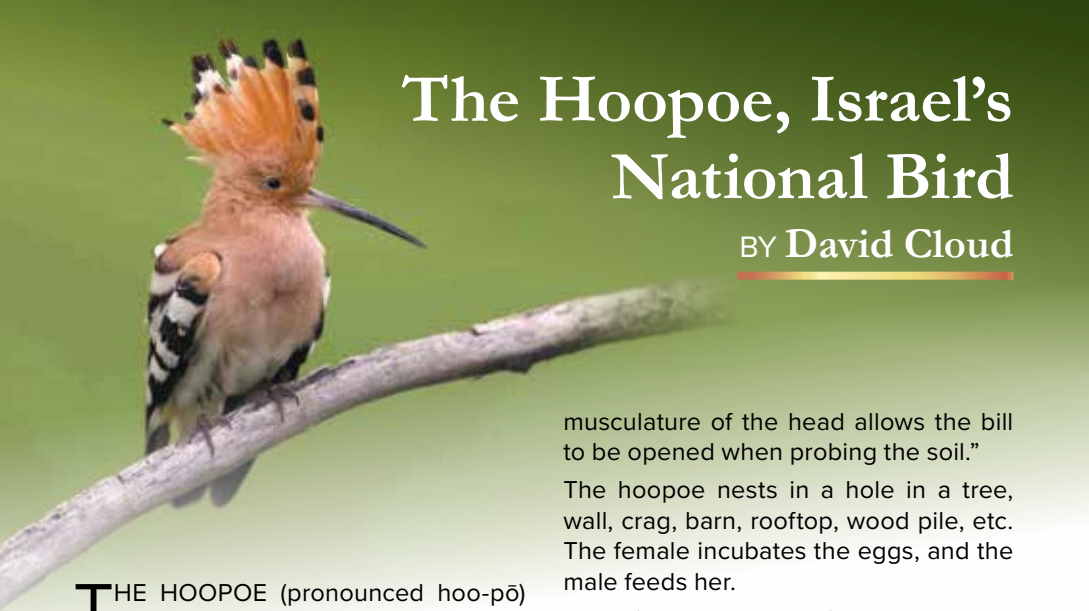
“For, behold, the LORD will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire.

For by fire and by his sword will the LORD plead with all flesh: and the slain of the LORD shall be many”
(Isa. 66:15-16).

John describes the coming of the Lord and says

“And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God” (Rev. 19:15).

Our Lord needs no shining sword for He is the Creator. At His word, worlds came into existence and at His word His enemies will be slain. He has the power to give life and He has the power to take life. John tells us the winepress of the wrath of God will be trodden **outside the city of Jerusalem where He will rescue His people Israel. Amen.** 



The Hoopoe, Israel's National Bird

BY David Cloud

THE HOOPOE (pronounced hoo-pō) is Israel's national bird. It was chosen in 2008 by a survey of 155,000 citizens.

The bird gets its name from its mating call (oop-oop-oop or hoo-hoo-hoo or pu-pu-put).

The Hebrew name for the hoopoe is the duchifat. The French name is huppee, meaning crested.

It is a beautiful bird with a tiger stripe pattern on its wings and long tail, a pinkish-brown or beige neck and belly, and a distinct crown of pinkish-brown feathers tipped with black and white. The crown normally lies flat, but is raised from time to time. In flight, the hoopoe is a dazzling blur of color. Its wings only close part way and "wave in a pattern similar to a butterfly." When feeding its chicks, it can hover something like a hummingbird.

Its short legs and long, curved, pointed bill are perfect equipment for its habit of feeding on insects on the ground or under the surface. It probes the earth in search of larvae. "A strengthened

musculature of the head allows the bill to be opened when probing the soil."

The hoopoe nests in a hole in a tree, wall, crag, barn, rooftop, wood pile, etc. The female incubates the eggs, and the male feeds her.

It is found across Africa, Asia, and Europe. Scientists divide the hoopoe into two major groups (Upupa epops - Europe, and Upupa Africana), and subgroups, but the differences are slight and until recently they were grouped into one species. I have seen this bird in Kathmandu, Nepal, and it was sighted flying at 21,000 feet over the Himalayas (Compact Handbook of the Birds of India and Pakistan, Oxford University Press).

It is known as a stinky bird because the nesting female produces a foul-smelling liquid with its uropygial gland (preen or oil gland) that deters predators and possibly acts as an antibacterial agent for the chicks. The foul liquid that she spreads on the eggs and nest seems to work well in deterring predators like birds, cats, and snakes.

The hoopoe gets most of its water from its food.

Not very shy, the hoopoe can be photographed fairly easily. 📷

Source: *Way of Life* March 1, 2023

Straw in the wind...



WITH
John Ecob

Preparing for the Great Asian War

"And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates. And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men. And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand" (Rev. 9:13-16).

THE first half of the 7-year Tribulation will see war in the Middle East as Russia and Islam invade Israel and there will be **another** massive war involving 250 million men that will slay one third of world population. We can see preparations for both of these wars taking place right NOW.

Russia and Islam are positioning themselves for the invasion of Israel and China seems determined to go to war in Asia where half the world's 8 billion people are located.

China's neighbours, India, Philippines, Taiwan, South Korea and Japan are forming an alliance to meet the challenge of China and North Korea.

Asia is the only place on the globe where a war could be fought by 250 million men and where one third of men (2.66 billion) could perish.

This conflict will be Satanically instigated by fallen angels that have for some unknown reason been confined in the River Euphrates which is the boundary of Asia and the Middle East.

The last 42 months of the Tribulation belong to Antichrist. 🔊



"The Kings of the East" with almost 4 billion or half of the world's population.



Israel Cuts Tax Revenue to PA

THE new Israeli government has cut payment of tax revenues payable to the Palestinian Authority and has redirected NIS 139 million (\$39.6 million) in tax revenue to families of terror victims.

During 2021 the Palestinian Authority paid \$157 million in stipends to families of Palestinians who carried out terrorist attacks on Israelis according to Israel Today.

The January slaughter of 7 Jews at a synagogue and other terror attacks calls for sterner action. The synagogue killings were carried out by an East Jerusalem Palestinian who indiscriminately shot the 7 Jews and wounded 2 more before making his get-away in a car. He was later shot in a shootout with Israeli police.

It is reported that Mr Netanyahu has indicated that he will consider making it legal for Jews to carry arms for self defense.

Another terror attack by a 13-year-old Palestinian was carried out shortly afterwards which demonstrates how Palestinian children are brainwashed with hatred for Jews. After these attacks Palestinians were rejoicing in the streets and handing out free candy to celebrate the murder of innocent Jews.

What amazes me is the support these terrorists are receiving from some churches. The victims are accused of being the aggressor. 🗡️

When God Laughs

"Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing?... He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the LORD shall have them in derision" (Ps. 2:4).

ANTARCTICA is the coldest continent on Earth. In addition to having the world's lowest recorded temperatures, it is the windiest and driest continent. Antarctica's temperatures range from 14 degrees Fahrenheit (-10°C) near the coast to -76 degrees Fahrenheit (-60°C) at elevated parts of the continent's interior.

Antarctica is a large land mass roughly 5,000 kilometers diameter covered by ice that is very very deep in fact about 90% of earth's ice is locked up in sub-freezing temperatures on Antarctica's mainland.

If Global Warming is going to raise the level of oceans then the ice cap in Antarctica must melt. But can it?

The warm sea currents can't melt Antarctica's ice because it is almost entirely high and dry on land. And the warmest air temperature is -10°C - ten degrees below freezing point.

Global temperatures would have to rise 12°C for the temperature on the coast of Antarctica to reach +2°C and that would only be for the 6 months of summer.

The northern hemisphere is also seeing extremely low temperatures so since God controls the weather perhaps He is laughing at the Climate Change fools. 🗡️



Straw in the Wind...

Good News

FOX News reports that a prominent atheist group has issued multiple complaints accusing an Indiana sheriff's office of "[pushing] Christianity onto inmates" after **hundreds of detainees have been baptised** in recent years.


The Sheriff, David Durant, stated that "everyone knows that the longest distance to travel is the 18 inches between the head and the heart."

"If you can change the heart during that journey, everything will follow suit. Whether it be alcohol or drugs or poverty that are creating the cycle, we only have to change their hearts to stop the process," Durant said.

Durant, recounted how an inmate whom he "personally arrested" twice, sent him a note thanking him for the program.

"I want to thank you and your wife for bringing [Residents Encounter Christ] to our Jail," the inmate wrote. "My life has been forever changed by your golden heart. In Jesus' name."

The Prison Chaplain Dave Burnett stated: "What a great way to celebrate Christmas and a New Year! by baptising nearly 40 men and women after a personal, public profession of faith in Jesus Christ in their lives."

"Over the past four years, nearly 300 men and women have given their life to Jesus Christ while incarcerated at the Decatur County Detention Center. All glory to GOD!" 


Satellites Galore!

ELRON Musk is the richest man on earth and has thousands of satellites in his **Starlink** program. It is believed he has 3,000 satellites with plans to increase that number and Russia can't disable them.

When Russia shut down internet services in Ukraine, Musk shipped about 15,000 of Starlink's sets of dishes and routers to the country enabling public services in Ukraine to function.

Starlink is used on the battlefield by Ukrainian forces to communicate between headquarters and troops in the field. It takes only 15 minutes to set up the kit.

Military intelligence is vital in warfare and **one man**, Elon Musk, is providing the Ukrainian forces with information of Russian movements, the location of ammunition depots and where Russian troops are housed. With these coordinates the Ukrainians can use their precision weapons to great advantage.

We remember how the King of Syria had a similar problem when he tried to capture the King of Israel. Many times God showed Elisha where the Syrians were so the King of Israel was able to avoid capture and the King of Syria thought there was a spy in his camp. When he enquired, he was told Elisha was tipping off the King of Israel. So he sent his soldiers to Dothan to capture Elisha. When they encircled the city God blinded the soldiers and Elisha led them to the King of Israel. After a meal they were released and returned to Syria. God has perfect intelligence without thousands of satellites! 

Straw in the Wind...



Population Trends in Israel

BY 1948, Israel's population had risen to 1,900,000, of whom 68% were Arabs, and 32% were Jews.

In 2022 there were 2.1 million Palestinians in the Gaza Strip run by Hamas and 3.1 million Palestinians in the West Bank run by the PA and in Israel.

According to the statistics, 9.449 million people lived in Israel at the end of 2021. Of those, 6.982 million (74 percent) are Jewish, 1.99 million (21%) are Arab and 472,000 (5%) are neither. The war in Ukraine boosted immigration for the year 2022 to 75,000.

The total population of Israel, the Gaza Strip and the West Bank; is roughly half Jews and half Palestinians. A big change from the 68% Arabs and 32% Jews in 1948 but Isaiah prophesied of a day when *"thy waste and thy desolate places, and the land of thy destruction, shall even now be too narrow by reason of the inhabitants, and they that swallowed thee up shall be far away. The children which thou shalt have, after thou hast lost the other, shall say again in thine ears, The place is too strait for me: give place to me that I may dwell"* (Isa. 49:19-20).


The return of Jews to the land that God gave to Abraham is one of the great signs that we are living in the last days before Jesus Christ comes to this world again. However this final return will not occur until **after the Lord returns**. The first thing that happens after the Lord returns is:

"He shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall **gather together his elect** (Israel) from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other" (Matt. 24:31).

Before that day Israel must suffer another holocaust when two thirds will perish (Zech. 13:8-9) as Russian and Islamic armies flood the land in the first half of the Tribulation. Then Antichrist will bring **all the armies of the world** to Israel intent on destroying every Jew in the battle of Armageddon at the end of the Tribulation. Such attacks on Jews worldwide help us to understand the surprise of the returning Jews, expressed by Isaiah:

"Then shalt thou say in thine heart, Who hath begotten me these, seeing I have lost my children, and am desolate, a captive, and removing to and fro? and who hath brought up these? Behold, I was left alone; these, where had they been?" (Isa. 49:19-21).

During the Tribulation God will have places of hiding for the remnants of the nation of Israel after they turn to Christ. Saved Gentiles will hide them (Matt. 25:34-40) so that when they all return, they will fill the land.

Some Jews find it hard to understand how we can love them and yet say they will have to endure another holocaust but it will take a holocaust to bring that proud nation to repentance and faith in Jesus Christ. God said, *"Zion shall be redeemed with judgment, and her converts with righteousness"* (Isa. 1:27). 



Straw in the Wind...

Palestinian Terrorism in Israel

THE new government of Israel is determined to assist Jewish settlers in the West Bank in spite of opposition from President Biden.

There are 670,000 Jews living in the West Bank and 220,000 of those are in East Jerusalem.

Over the years a two-state solution has been proposed but it has been impossible to negotiate with Palestinians who are vowing to kill every Jew. Palestinians who attack or kill a Jew are considered martyrs and if they are killed by the Israeli military their families receive large pensions for life. They consider it an honour to kill a Jew.

The Palestinian Authority has also signalled that it will not change course in the face of international pressure, and will continue encouraging terrorist violence against Israel and the Jewish people.

Hussein Al-Sheikh, the secretary-general of the PLO Executive Committee, recently said:

“Even if we have one penny left, it will be spent on the families of the martyrs and prisoners...**They are our purest, most permanent, loftiest, and most precious jewel.**”

Israel has tried to negotiate land for peace and given the Palestinians the Gaza Strip with disastrous consequences. It is a total waste of time to negotiate with someone who seeks your destruction.

The left-wing media refuses to report attacks by Palestinian Terrorists but these violent attacks involving stabbings and shootings continue at a high level. In the first 11 months of 2022 the monthly totals were as follows:

- January 2022 - 141 attacks
- February 2022 - 187 attacks
- March 2022 - 190 attacks including 11 people killed
- April 2022 - 268 attacks including 4 killed
- May 2022 - 208 attacks incl. 4 people killed
- June 2022 - 189 attacks
- July 2022 - 135 attacks
- August 2022 - 209 attacks
- September 2022 - 254 attacks including 2 people killed
- October 2022 - 401 attacks including 3 killed
- November 2022 - 196 attacks including 5 people killed.

We don't have the final figures for December 2022 but if we did it would bring the total to almost 2,500 terrorist attacks and at least 29 Jews killed.

The media focusses attention on Israeli police and military responses to terrorism. If we had this many terror attacks in Australia we would expect our security people to react.

However Israel will find the position will not improve until she turns to the Lord and **when her King returns to sit on David's throne there'll be no West Bank to argue over.** 🗡️

Straw in the Wind...



France to Boost Military

ACCORDING to defence news, The President of France Emmanuel Macron, has announced a plan to boost military preparedness and will ask parliament for 400 billion euros to spend between 2024 and 2030.


France is a major member of the EU and in the future will be a part of the Revived Roman Empire headed up by Antichrist.

This expansion of military power in Europe is significant in light of Bible prophecy. Europe must be strengthened to meet the challenges of the last days.

Macron's plan includes a new aircraft carrier, air defense and anti-submarine capability, modernisation of its airforce, and a large increase in intelligence services.

An interesting item is an investment in undersea technologies that can reach depths of 6,000 meters.

France is only one of 28 nations that make up the EU and since the war with Ukraine began that number could be increased as smaller nations seek protection from Russia.

The war in Ukraine has been most significant as it is causing Europe to prepare her military for the final stage of time when Antichrist will come to power. It must have a powerful military halfway through the Tribulation for the Beast to dominate the world in the last 42 months before the Lord returns. 


Climate Change a Religion from Hell

LAST November an Israeli climate activist Yossi Abramowitz, smashed tablets representing the 10 climate change principles, mirroring Moses's smashing of the Biblical commandments when he came down from Mount Sinai. He considers climate change a **spiritual pursuit** as well as a unique mission.

The 10 Climate Change principles, which were **developed by interfaith leaders** at the Elijah Board of World Religious Leaders in the proceeding days, were read aloud before the tablets were smashed on Sinai. His act was a protest against climate crisis inaction.

Not surprisingly, Mr Abramowitz just happens to be President and CEO of a firm that builds solar plants. Which makes us wonder if there might not be a financial reason behind his religious zeal.

He is also the co-founder of the Arava Power Company, which inaugurated Israel's first medium-sized solar field and the founding father of Israel's \$10 billion solar market.

Abramowitz's says smashing the tablets is his way of calling all nations to repent of climate change inaction. He is reported to have said, "Climate promises have not been kept worldwide, including in Israel." But when we find Al Gore, collects a salary of \$2mill. per month from his Green machine, we may be forgiven if we suspect Abramowitz's religious interest might also be dollars. 

Is there a Secret Rapture?

QUESTION: Some people talk about a “secret Rapture”. What do they mean?

ANSWER: Yes the Rapture is sometimes referred to as a “secret Rapture” while others simply refer to the “Rapture”. I have heard preachers oppose the thought of a secret Rapture but that is what the Scripture teaches. The Rapture will be silent and secret **so far as the world is concerned.**

The reason why some oppose the thought of a “secret Rapture” is because Paul states:

“the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with **a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God**; and the dead in Christ shall rise first” (1 Thess 4:16).

It is argued that it can't be a secret Rapture if the Lord shouts, the trumpet sounds and the voice of the archangel can be heard but we need to ask, **Who will hear?** Will everybody in the world hear or will it only be those who are called up higher?

When John foresaw his own Rapture in Revelation chapter 4 we read:

*“behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of **a trumpet talking with me**; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter”* (Rev. 4:1).

John indicates that the voice like the sound of a trumpet was **“talking with me.”** John heard the voice and the trumpet sound but the world did not hear. It was secret so far as the world was concerned. The Rapture will take only a split second. Paul says it will be *“in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye”* (1 Cor. 15:52).

When Jesus spoke of the resurrection of life and the resurrection of damnation He stated that

*“Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and **they that hear shall live**”* (John 5:25).


He did not say the world will hear but only **those that hear** will be raised. The Rapture will be a roll call of all the redeemed since Pentecost. Our names will be called and in a split second we will rise to meet the Lord in the air.

When the Old Testament saints rose and came out of their graves (Matt. 27:53) there was **no trumpet sound heard by the people in Jerusalem.** Only the *“saints which slept”* arose. Those that heard, lived.

The same will apply to the unsaved at the Great White Throne judgment. The Lord knows every one in hell and we read that *“death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them”* (Rev. 20:13).

Jesus gave a sign to Israel that the Tribulation will have come and said that people would suddenly disappear:

“Two women shall be grinding together; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Two men shall be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left” (Luke 17:35-36).

There is no mention of sounds to be heard by the unsaved at the Rapture but every believer will hear the call. Paul pressed toward the mark for the prize of the high calling or **“upward call”**. The world will suddenly discover that believers have disappeared. It is a secret Rapture. 

Herald of Hope Subscription Form

Subscriptions may be paid on our website at **www.heraldofhope.org.au**
OR by completing the form below.

☐ Renewal

☐ New Subscription

☐ Gift Subscriptions(s)

☐ Bulk Order for copies

Digital subscription available on the web-page: **www.heraldofhope.org.au**

AUSTRALIA

Single copies..... \$20 p.a.

Gift Subscriptions \$15 p.a.

AUSTRALIA BULK

2 copies..... \$34 p.a.

3 copies..... \$42 p.a.

4 copies..... \$50 p.a.

5 copies..... \$60 p.a.

6 or more copies..... \$12 per copy p.a.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Direct Bank Deposit

ANZ Bank Seven Hills NSW

Account: Herald of Hope Inc.

BSB:012410

Account No: 2312 11403

Cheque or Money Order

(within Australia only) make out
to "The Herald of Hope"

Credit Card (Pay online or
complete the form below

Post this completed form to:

The Herald of Hope

P.O. Box 4216, Marayong

2178 NSW AUSTRALIA

NZ & ASIA PACIFIC REGION

Single copies..... \$25 p.a.

Gift Subscriptions \$20 p.a.

2 or more copies..... \$20 per copy p.a.

USA & THE REST OF THE WORLD

Single copies..... \$35 p.a.

Gift Subscriptions \$30 p.a.

2 or more copies..... \$30 per copy p.a.

DELIVERY DETAILS

Subscription Number (located above
your name on the address sheet):

Name:

Address:

.....

..... Postcard:

Email:

Phone:

Please debit my ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard (please tick)

For the amount of \$..... Expiry Date: /

Name on Card:..... Signature:.....

*Rates are in Australian Dollars

CHOICE WORDS

He is Everything

You wonder what makes my pathway bright,
What eases my burdens and makes them light,
What keeps me smiling and makes me sing,
My friend, it is Jesus – He is everything.

He once sacrificed His life for me
Has given me liberty... set me free!
He daily walks with me along Life's way
And, He listens intently whenever I pray.

But more... even more... He has granted a place
For me to live in eternal grace.
Eternal life... peace and joy without end!
Is it any wonder that He's my best friend?

Author unknown

