



PROPHECY PAGE

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A New Year's Resolution for These End-times

Every New Year we make resolutions, and it is always a good time to renew our commitment. Today it would be appropriate to seek God's help because we are living in perilous times. The world is more and more chaotic and bent on self-destruction as people have forgotten the mercies of a loving God.

"Soon grievous troubles will arise among the nations, trouble that will not cease until Jesus comes" (*Maranatha*, 174).

There is widespread spiritual darkness and apostasy that is engulfing the globe. The nations are in trouble because they have forsaken God and are rejecting His Word. Judgment is at the door. Already we see earthquakes, fires, hurricanes, floods, war, terror and social agitation, but more is to come. This is a time to plead for mercy, forgiveness and repentance because this godless planet is ripe for destruction.

And what is going on in the churches these days? Most are asleep, drifting in the ocean of carelessness, coldness and worldly conformity. The church is in desperate need of revival because most are in grave danger. The lukewarm attitude described in Revelation 3 has settled into a cozy, complacent Christianity that has embraced and assimilated sinfulness to such a degree that sin does not seem to exist. Sin has become the norm. Many "solemn assemblies" in churches have become a spectacle, a circus show, an effort of blending worldly entertainment with the worship of God and the only description of it is a "bedlam of noise."

The church was designed to be the instrument for bringing salvation and blessing to the world. It is meant to be the agency of God's grace, the center of evangelism. We need a New Year's resolution that will restore the high and holy calling of God's people. Truly, the Lord is coming soon. If God's people are truly connected to Him a natural result will be that of evangelism. Let us seek Him this New Year and make Him our New Year's resolution. Let us trust Him to bring conviction and restoration to our lives so we can be used to bring the same to others.



The Battle for a United Europe

The once powerful Protestant empires of Europe have crumbled under the fervent assault of Rome. Europe's Protestant past is no more. Europe today resembles the distant, pre-Reformation past when it was ruled by Catholic popes.



We are seeing the final chapter on the Reformation as strange events both in the religious and secular world unfold before our eyes. The religious stage is being set. Almost all churches have united. The Roman Catholic Church apparently has had the most to gain by the atmosphere of ecumenism. The entire world is being wooed to join the great apostate fellowship found in Revelation 13, 17 and 18.

On October 27-29, 2017 over 350 high-level leaders from the Roman Catholic Church and the European Union came together at the Vatican to participate in a special mass with Pope Francis.¹ The message from Pope Francis to the political leaders of Europe was aimed at challenging them to maintain the "Church" (Rome) at the heart of "public policy making." Francis told the participants that the

church has the responsibility of "highlighting" important roles for law makers that could benefit ALL humanity.²

The 500 years of rich Protestant history has now been completely rejected, cast down and "trodden under foot" (Daniel 8:13) as political leaders from the different nations of Europe descend to the Vatican to receive the Pope. The Protestants of Europe used to reject the Pope's claims of infallibility and supremacy as "blasphemy" during the Reformation era. They broke away from Rome because of her false doctrines. And what doctrines have changed in Catholicism since then? Not one! Even with the scandalous revelations of child abuse, the Pope was still given more than a hero's welcome—he was welcomed as though he was the divinely appointed ruler representing God.

The Papacy still claims primacy and universal supremacy as Vicar of Christ on earth! Rome has never repudiated any of her doctrines. This event is a shameful betrayal to the Protestant Reformers and was predicted in Bible prophecy.

"And all the world wondered after the beast" Revelation 13:3.

One must grasp the magnitude of what is happening: the complete surrender of the Protestant Empires of Europe!

In the picture, above left, Pope Francis stands next to the Vatican's vision of a United Europe. Notice the redesign of the European flag: a blue flag with gold stars (European Nations) and the cross in the center (Rome). Obviously Rome sees themselves as the central figure for the future of Europe.

At the Right, Are We Seeing an Image of the Beast?

An image is a visual likeness or reproduction of an object. The image of the beast will be a counterpart to the beast that looks and acts similar. In the picture on the right you see the highest leadership from both the Roman Catholic and Lutheran Churches dressed identical on the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. They look like triplets sharing the same taste in clothing and enjoying the symbolism of their unique new-found family status. **Left to right:** President of the Lutheran World Federation, Bishop Munib Younan, Pope Francis is center, and General Secretary of the Lutheran World Federation, Rev Martin Junge, stands on the right. They are celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation on October 31, 2017 in Sweden.



This is not a coincidence. This is a physical representation to show the theological shift of Protestants towards Rome. Protestants are repudiating the breach that exists between her faith and the faith of Rome. The Reformation is on a new transitional phase in which the leaders of both faiths now think the same and act the same. Their outlook and objectives match.

This is undoubtedly a very serious situation when we consider what will follow the union of Rome with Protestants: **“Popery is to regain its lost supremacy, and the first fires of persecution will be rekindled through the time-serving concessions of the so-called Protestant world”** (*Selected Messages*, 2:368).

As modern-day Protestants make concessions and compromises that are empowering the great "Lawless System" we are reminded that we must hold high the banner of the Reformation and proclaim the message for this hour.

"While the Protestant world is by her attitude making concessions to Rome, let us arouse to comprehend the situation and view the contest before us in its true bearings. Let the watchmen now lift up their voice and give the message which is present truth for this time. Let us show the people where we are in prophetic history and seek to arouse the spirit of true Protestantism" (*Testimonies*, 5:716).

"The Reformation did not, as many suppose, end with Luther. It is to be continued to the close of this world's history" (*The Great Controversy*, 148).

The Worst Fire Season In California's History

"Fires will break out unexpectedly and no human effort will be able to quench them. The palaces of earth will be swept away in the fury of the flames....The end is near, probation is closing. Oh, let us seek God while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near!" (*Messages to Young People*, 89, 90). The Lord allows firestorms to bring swift, furious and utter destruction upon the wicked. It is sad but often the innocent must suffer with the guilty.

"Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup. For the righteous LORD loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright" Psalm 11:6, 7.

We are witnessing the worst fires ever seen in California.³ "The Spirit of God is being withdrawn. Disasters by sea and by land follow one another in quick succession. How frequently we hear of earthquakes and tornadoes, of destruction by fire and flood, with great loss of life and property! Apparently these calamities are capricious outbreaks of disorganized, unregulated forces of nature, wholly beyond the control of man; but in them all, God's purposes may be read. They are among the agencies by which He seeks to arouse men and women to a sense of their danger" (*Prophets and Kings*, 277).

Prophetic judgments fell upon the ancient, cities of Sodom, Gomorrah and Rome. California and the movie industry is riddled with corruption, vice, pedophilia and human trafficking. This state is leading the nation in terms of secular and godless crimes and policies. "And the light of Israel shall be for a fire, and his Holy One for a flame: and it shall burn and devour his thorns and his briers in one day" Isaiah 10:17.

America's cities have all become playgrounds for unspeakable iniquity and sin. They are long-overdue for a similar judgment. As the leaders of this nation continue to ignore the warning calls for repentance, God's judgments will only get worse and become more frequent.

"In the last scenes of this earth's history war will rage. There will be pestilence, plague and famine. The waters of the deep will overflow their boundaries. Property and life will be destroyed by fire and flood. We should be preparing for the mansions that Christ has gone to prepare for them that love Him" (*Maranatha*, 174).



Catastrophes and Crises

The recent catastrophes that we have seen do not discriminate between third world countries in Africa and Southeast Asia or first world nations like those in North America and Europe. We are all being affected by catastrophic natural disasters.

"The conditions prevailing in society, and especially in the great cities of the nations, proclaim in thunder tones that the hour of God's judgment is come – that the end of all things is at hand. We are standing on the threshold of the crisis of the ages. In quick succession the judgments of God will follow one another—fire, flood and earthquake, with war and bloodshed" (*Maranatha*, 67).



These things happen for one reason—to remind us of our mortality and that we are a judgment-bound people. Thousands are being blotted out of existence and many without notice. Recently, the people of Iran and Iraq had only seconds to meet their end after a 7.3 magnitude earthquake;⁴ 530 perished and another 7,460 were injured. When a person has only seconds left to live they don't worry about their bank account, their social status or their mortgage payment. Even with all the modern technology and science, man is incapable of protecting himself when God has drawn the limits. It's hard to imagine that this is just the beginning of sorrows.

As Christian believers, we have an urgent message to proclaim. The hour of God's judgment has come. Souls need to be warned before it is too late. Let's not wait another second before another major catastrophe comes. Sooner than we think God's people will be blamed for these occurrences:

"In accidents and calamities by sea and by land, in great conflagrations, in fierce tornadoes and terrific hailstorms, in tempests, floods, cyclones, tidal waves and earthquakes, in every place and in a thousand forms, Satan is exercising his power" (*The Great Controversy*, 589).

We cannot remain quiet. If we do it is at the expense of our own souls (Ezekiel 3:17-20). We are warned that we must proclaim God's message, even while prophecy is being fulfilled and disasters are happening.

"Are we to wait until the fulfillment of the prophecies of the end before we say anything concerning them? Of what value will our words be then? Shall we wait until God's judgments fall upon the transgressor before we tell him how to avoid them? Where is our faith in the Word of God? Must we see things foretold come to pass before we will believe what He has said? In clear, distinct rays light has come to us, showing us that the great day of the Lord is near at hand, 'even at the doors.' Let us read and understand before it is too late" (*Testimonies*, 9:20).

Our only safety is to be hid in Christ. When this becomes a reality we will truly be a light to the world. We will not leave souls in darkness regarding the truth of the Sabbath, obedience, the signs of our Lord's coming and the urgency of preparing to meet Him. May we all work in such a way that souls may be reached with the everlasting gospel before they meet their end.

Sources

^[1] <http://www.comece.eu/rethinking-europe-the-follow-up-is-in-your-hands>

^[2] http://en.radiovaticana.va/news/2017/10/10/comece_to_hold_vatican_conference_on_rethinking_europe/1342051

^[3] <http://www.cnn.com/2017/12/23/us/thomas-fire-california/index.html>

^[4] <https://en.mehnews.com/news/129387/Earthquake-death-toll-rises-to-530-7460-injured>