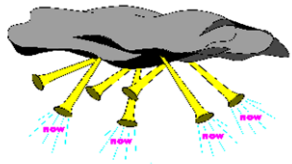
TRUMPET SOUNDS



Issue No 156 **4th Quarter 2025**

"The heavens and the earth will shake; but the Lord will be a shelter for His people and the strength of the children of Israel." Joel 3: 16

One current problem with putting together a quarterly newsletter is that events are moving so fast that some things have to be rewritten almost as soon as they are down on paper. Here are my comments as of the end of October.

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Triumph and Failure

We congratulate President Trump for achieving the release the remaining living Israeli hostages. It was with joy and relief that at last they returned home. We trust that Trump will keep the pressure on to see the return of the bodies of all the deceased.

Trump was overflowing with optimism regarding the achievement. He heralded it as a new dawn for the Middle East. Regrettably his peace plan, as at present understood, is fatally flawed. President Trump and his Middle East envoy Steve Witkoff regard Qatar as an ally. This is despite decades of Qatar funding Islamic terror groups. Both Witkoff and Trump's son in law Jared Kushner have receive extensive business investments from Qatar which appears to have clouded their judgement.

As part of the plan Qatar will invest billions in the reconstruction of Gaza There will be a government of technocrats to supervise reconstruction supervised by Qatar, Turkey and the Gulf states.

Khaled Abu Toameh writing for the Gatestone Institute comments that, "If Qatar and Turkey are permitted to play a major role in the governance and reconstruction of the Gaza Strip after the Israel-Hamas war, it would mean a

return to the pre-October 7, 2023 era, which saw the Iran-backed terror group fully controlling the coastal territory. Qatar and Turkey as well as Iran have long been sponsoring and funding Hamas and providing the terror group's leaders with shelter".

"In the time-honored tradition of Arab politeness, these countries may well be telling Trump what he would like to hear -- secure in the knowledge that in three years, he will be off their backs, unable to pressure them anymore. Meanwhile, they will have positioned themselves comfortably in Gaza, learned more about Israeli technology, and be free to do as they like".

Khaled Abu Toameh also reports that Hamas has already selected half of the technocratic government's members, including figures sympathetic to the terror group, while the Palestinian Authority, headed by Mahmoud Abbas, chose the other half. Mediators, including Egypt, presented the full list to Hamas to ensure its approval, a move that will allow the terror group to maintain influence in the Gaza Strip after the war.

Prophecy News Watch added, "The next confrontation will not look like the last. It will be faster, darker, and more unpredictable. Iran and Hezbollah will not attack with the same playbook — they'll come with stealth, coordination, and perhaps even nuclear leverage in the background. The question is not if the next round will come, but how much more dangerous it will be".

Meanwhile the US and Israel have established a joint military base at Kiryat Gat. This will be the command centre from which the multinational troops which will oversee the cease fire will operate. How all this pans out we wait to see.

The Second World summit for Social Development

While considering Qatar we note that the UN Second World Summit for Social Development will be held there from the 4th to 6th November 2025. The First World Summit for Social Development was held in 1995 in Copenhagen.

The draft Political Declaration for the November summit declares that the summit is about "A vision for the future and an assessment of the progress and gaps in the implementation of the 'Copenhagen Declaration'.

The Declaration goes on to make clear that the summit is all about the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Citizen Go comment that Agenda 2030 in not just ideas on paper, we are already seeing its impact on our lives. Digital IDs will soon be required to gain employment. Climate measure that restrict how we move and live will be introduced. In Europe farmers are driven off their land in the name of 'Net Zero'. Bank accounts are frozen for 'non-compliance. A recent example of this occurred in Vietnam. The

government mandated a digital ID with biometric scanning for all bank accounts. When people refused the Government shutdown 86 million bank accounts overnight. In Canada, during Covid, Truckers protesting about Government Covid policy had their bank accounts frozen.

Citizen Go reports that the UN's own documents sketch out what will come next. Cyber or financial crises "solved" by digital wallets and Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCS). Climate "emergencies" will be used to roll out 15-minute cities and carbon quotas. Debt crises followed by "relief" tied to digital IDs and behaviour rules.

Agenda 2030 is a global programme to control how we live, think and raise our children. It is about social engineering on a global scale all under the guise of eradicating poverty and saving the planet. In Doha in November the intention is to strengthen the push to implement Agenda 2030.

Sebastian Lukomski of Citizen Go writes. *"*I lay awake last night, turning it over in my mind. I kept picturing it: waking up one morning and finding my bank account frozen… my passport cancelled, my electricity cut off... all with a single click in some far-off capital. Every purchase I make, every trip I take, every word I say is logged, tracked, and controlled by faceless bureaucrats. It sounds like a nightmare. But it's no longer a distant *"what if."* It's already creeping into our lives".

Recently I was unable to log in to my on line bank account. After a few phone calls to the bank the glitch was sorted out. The experience brought home to me how vulnerable we have become. We are over reliant on technology.

How do we prepare for the time when the 'what if' becomes reality? Here are a few suggestions. Keep a reasonable amount of cash in hand how much depends on your situation. Have accounts with more than one bank so that if one cancels your account the other may still be operating. Consider buying silver coins. Their value is based on the current price of silver not an arbitrary face value. Keep a store of some non-perishable food. These things may tide you over the shock of when the monetary system collapses. There is however a better way. It is called generosity.

Deuteronomy 15: 7 – 9 referring to a poor brother in need tells us to *"open your hand wide to him and willingly lend him sufficient for his need,"* We are to do this even if the possibility of repayment is remote. It is said in Deuteronomy that refusal to act is the **'eye being evil'**.

Jesus picks this up in the Sermon on the Mount. After challenging us to lay up our treasure in heaven he warns about the **eye being evil**. (Matthew 6: 19 –

23). Connecting Deuteronomy and Matthew the message is clear that we can lay up treasure in heaven by being generous toward those who are in need.

Treasure in heaven is secure. Jesus said of our treasure on earth that *"moth and rust destroys and thieves break in and steal."* We could, in the present era, add, bankers, politicians, globalists and billionaires all intent on removing any control which we may have over our own money and isolating us if we dare to disagree.

The Bride of Christ

Tradition, Identity, Fulfilment, **Perfection**.

The bride will be perfect. Truly this a happy ever after story. The first time a person reads through the Bible from cover to cover, coming to the closing chapters of Revelation feels like quite an achievement. The Bible contains an epic story stretching from before time began to beyond the distant future.

At the end of Revelation we come to the end of one story and the beginning of another. The story which is ending is the one which started long ago in Genesis. In the beginning God created a perfect world and gave it to mankind to look after. Soon Satan entered that world. In jealousy he deceived both Eve and then Adam causing both to disobey God. The fall of man soon corrupted the whole of creation. The Bible recounts that story as it leads through the history of a chosen nation up to the pivotal event of history. The most important event in all history is the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In Jesus, we who deserve punishment for our sin can, through faith, be forgiven.

But now, at the end of Revelation, it is revealed that this is not the end. It is only the prologue to the real story. The final two chapters provide us with a trailer for the eternal story.

How it all began

In the beginning, *"God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created Him; male and female He created them."* Genesis 1: 27. Two distinct people were created, they were alike and also unlike each other, complimentary but not the same. They would rule over the creation working together in prefect harmony.

As such they were the image of God who as Father and Son were one. Jesus could say of that relationship, *"He who has seen me has seen the Father".* John 14:9. In many other places Jesus emphasizes His unity with the Father. Unity which was expressed in loving obedience (John 5:19).

Adam and Eve were designed to live in perfect harmony. Their working together as two complimentary people reflected one aspect of the image of God that is found in mankind. How long the harmony lasted we do not know.

Adam and Eve were deceived by the tempter. Following disobedience came blame. The man blamed the woman. The woman blamed the serpent. The perfect relationship between Adam and Eve was broken. Every relationship which followed became flawed. Even the best marriage has its problems.

The New Beginning

The wedding which we looked at in the previous article is both a fulfilment of the bride and bridegroom's love and longing. It is also a beginning. The beginning of an eternity of life together. It will be a perfect marriage because the Bridegroom who is perfect has perfected his bride. He has won her heart by laying down His life for her. The temptation to disobey has been dealt with.

The Son of God left the glory of His Father's house, emptied Himself and became Man (Philippians 2: 5 – 11) so that He would win a bride and bring her to a new home, the new creation. In Revelation 21 the new home is described. The faithful have been prepared by the Holy Spirit to be that bride. They will live with the Bridegroom in the place prepared for them, the New Jerusalem. God and man will live forever in harmony. The lessons of sin have been learnt. Death, sorrow and pain are now things of the past. Even in glory Jesus has not changed. The One who washed the disciple's feet will wipe away our tears. He will wipe away all the sorrowful memories of the past. In His presence, due to His love and wisdom, we will have eternal joy and peace.

"as a bride adorned for her husband."

After the betrothal period the Jewish Bridegroom would go to collect His Bride and bring her to the home he has prepared for her. I can imagine that home decorated by the Bridegroom ready to receive his bride. He would want the new home to look resplendent to welcome his beloved.

In this heavenly wedding; it is the bridegroom who provides the wedding garments for His bride. (Revelation 19: 7, 8). It is the bridegroom who comes for and places the bride in her new home. (1 Thessalonians 4: 16, 17). It is the bridegroom who prepares this wonderful home for His bride. (John 14: 2, 3).

The bridegroom will be overjoyed to see His bride delighting in her wonderful new home. The New Jerusalem represents the whole of the new heaven and new earth that Jesus has created. 'Adorned', expresses the idea that like the first creation, it is very good. Only this time there is nothing to spoil it. It is not just the people but the whole new creation in which they dwell, which will be like a bride to Jesus. He cares for and sustains it all.

Only the purified

The work of redemption was completed on the cross when Jesus cried, *"It is finished*" John 19: 30. The work of the New Creation will be finished when God proclaims, *"It is done"* Revelation 21: 6. Out of the old has come the new. Paul deals with this principle of death and resurrection (1 Corinthians 15: 36 – 49). The seed is planted and dies, so that a new plant may come from it. This is the principle running through the whole of creation. Without Christ nothing can be made new. *"Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have come new*" 2 Corinthians 5: 17. God is the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. Everything, which has happened, is happening or will happen, is under His rule.

The new creation

Once the wicked have been dealt with, the full glory of the new creation can be revealed. The creation is so good that God will come to dwell with man. In this new world there will be no more tears, no more death, no more sorrow, no more crying, no more pain. All that spoilt the former world has been destroyed.

Satan and his fallen angels have been consigned to the lake of fire. They will be joined by the wicked defined as those who *"love and practice a lie."*. Revelation 22: 15 confirms that they have no part in the New Jerusalem. At the end there will be only two categories of people. Those who believe the truth, who will people the new creation and those who believe the lie destined for judgment.

Jesus said that *"I am the way the truth and the life."* John 14:6

Satan said that *"you will be like God."* Genesis 3: 5

In the end it comes down to who do you believe, Jesus or Satan? On that you will be judged.

The pure Bride

Satan took Jesus to a high mountain to show Him all the kingdoms of the world (Matthew 4: 8 – 10). Jesus saw that He was being offered Babylon the great prostitute. He refused this tainted bride and was firm in the resolve to purchase a bride who would be glorious and pure.

In a vision an angel carries John to a high mountain. From this high mountain John sees that bride radiant in her beauty. The glory of God adorns this city. The city and its people are living in harmony with God reconciled through the Son. All the honour, praise and worship is directed towards the Father and the Son.

"I will show you the bride the wife of the lamb …….. and showed me the great city the holy Jerusalem descending out of heaven from God." Revelation 21: 9 – 10.

What did you expect to see? Perhaps as in Revelation 7: 9 – 10 a great multitude praising God? Up to now we have thought of the Bride as the people. Instead we are now given a glimpse of the place where the people will live. John would have remembered Jesus' words: *"I go to prepare a place for you."* John14: 2, this is the place which Jesus has prepared.

We are not transported to live in the spiritual realm. The reverse takes place. The Father and the Son come to dwell in their material creation. Creation becomes the new heaven. Two thousand years ago the eternal Son of God entered our world and became a man. Jesus used the title 'Son of Man'. He remains a man and will live with us and rule His new creation as a man. When in this vision Jesus revealed himself to John it is as the glorified 'Son of Man'. (Revelation 1: 13)

The close of Revelation is a description of the fulfilment of all that God intended when He created man. It is a description in words using things we know. That is the only means of revealing to us what *""Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him", but God has revealed them to us through His Spirit."* 1 Corinthians 2: 9 – 10. We should let the Holy Spirit use these words to thrill our imagination with the glory of all that God is doing and of which we can be a part.

Assisted suicide

In the next few months it is projected that the number of Canadians who have opted for physician assisted suicide in the last 10 years will exceed 100,000. It has been observed that once assisted suicide becomes legal it soon becomes a culture of death.

A horrifying glimpse into a globalist future

The BBC and other mainstream news media reported a conversation between the Chinese President Xi Jingping and Vladimir Putin of Russia. The conversation took place at the military parade held in Beijing at the beginning of September. Xi and Putin were discussing how organ transplants could prolong life.

According to the BBC a translator, speaking in Mandarin on behalf of Putin, told Xi how human organs can be repeatedly transplanted "so that one can get younger and younger" in spite of age, and might even be able to stave off old age "indefinitely".

He added "It's predicted that in this century it might become possible to live to 150". Xi's translator could be heard saying in Russian "In the past, it used to

be rare for someone to be older than 70 and these days they say that at 70 one's still a child". Putin's translator then added: "With the development of biotechnology, human organs can be continuously transplanted, and people can live younger and younger, and even achieve immortality." Xi's translator then said: "Predictions are, this century, there's a chance of also living to 150 [years old]."

To become younger by organ transplant implies that the organ comes from a much younger person. Where do these organs come from? The horrifying aspect of Xi's remarks is that he must be fully aware of where these organs are coming from. They are not coming voluntarily.

Few volunteers

According to the Epoch Times, in traditional Chinese culture the state of the body at death affects the spiritual life after death. Under this belief there are very few voluntary organ donations in China. Few are prepared to risk their future life after death by giving up healthy organs in this life.

Under communism life has little value. The CCP has contempt for life. For instance if a person has signed an organ donation card, if injured in an accident, although alive, a doctor may send a person to a clinic where organs are harvested making for himself a significant sum of money. Under that regime no one is going to sign an organ donation card.

In communism the state defines morality. The state determines what is good and evil. Therefore if the state says that those who follow other values are evil then they are evil. If the state says that it is morally acceptable to force the harvest of organs then it is morally acceptable to harvest organs.

Organ harvesting in China

Transplant tourism is a billion-dollar industry in China. In most countries patients go on a waiting list in the hope that a suitable donor may in time be found. It is said that in China organs await patients.

The following quote comes from a House of Commons debate on 11th October 2016. "This story, which is almost too dreadful to believe, was first revealed in March 2006, when a woman stated that as many as 4,000 Falun Gong had been killed for their organs at the hospital in which she had worked. I had the privilege of meeting some of the families of those people in this House, and a charitable organisation was also involved, so we know some of the stories at first hand. That lady said that her husband, a surgeon at the same hospital outside the north-eastern city of Shenyang, had disclosed to her that he had removed corneas from the living bodies of 2,000 Falun Gong adherents. A week later, a Chinese military doctor not only corroborated the woman's account but

claimed that such atrocities were taking place in 36 different concentration camps throughout the country. He said that he had also witnessed Falun Gong being transported in massive numbers across the country in cattle trains, at night and under the cover of tight security. People may think that that is something from the history of the Second World War, but the transportation of people in cattle trains is all too real. As I said, it happens at night and under the cover of tight security." Lilian Greenwood MP.

In 2018 Sir Geoffrey Nice QC chairman of an independent people's tribunal issued the following interim judgement. "The Tribunal's members are all certain – unanimously, and sure beyond reasonable doubt – that in China, forced organ harvesting from prisoners of conscience has been practised for a substantial period of time, involving a very substantial number of victims".

China claims that all organ donations are voluntary. However a report by UN human rights experts (14th June 2021) expressed alarm that the practice of forced organ removal was continuing. Members of minority groups held in detention are being targeted including Falun Gong, Uyghurs, Tibetans, Muslims and Christians.

A further resource, soon to be published, is **'Killed to Order'** by Jan Jekielek, China's organ harvesting industry and the true nature of Ameriica's biggest adversary.

A model for the future

This is the China of which Klaus Schwab, when heading up the World Economic Forum, said in an interview, "the Chinese model is certainly very attractive for quite a number of countries". It was, I believe, Henry Kissinger who coined the phrase 'useless eaters' when referring to the elderly. It would seem that, to the Chinese Communist party, minorities who do not fully support the government also fall into that category. Their only purpose is to form an organ bank to continue the lucrative trade. In a future, in which many of the global elite believe in the need for population reduction, how many of us will also be classified as useless eaters?

Immortality which both Xi and Putin crave is available to both if they repent and put their trust in Jesus Christ. We imagine that they are too hard hearted to respond to the gospel, but we can pray.

In May 2024 China introduced new regulations on donation and transplantation of human organs. In a post by Anne Zimmerman, Editor-in-Chief of Voices in Bioethics, she writes, "However, experts suggest the regulatory change will not lead to transparency, bring an end to China's transplant tourism

business, or protect prisoners of conscience and ethnic groups from crimes in organ transplantation, including forced organ harvesting.

New persecution of Chinese Christians

While considering China we note that new 'Regulations on the Online behaviour of Religious Clergy' have been introduced. The regulations send the message that spontaneous religious speech on line is now criminalised. Church leaders are only allowed to preach in ways that affirm party ideology. All content must be approved by state censors. Pastors are already being detained on the grounds of Illegal dissemination of religious content over the internet.

The fall of Babylon

Within three years Babylon the Great will have fallen. It is dangerous to specify dates but this conviction keeps coming back to me. Babylon the Great represents the kingdom of this world ruled over by Satan. The book of Revelation foresees Babylon's destruction. It is destroyed to make way for the final Beast Empire also ruled over by Satan. He sacrifices one to bring in the other.

In the present day world order Babylon is epitomised by the West. It is the European civilisation which includes Britain, Europe, America and other nations. These are the nations which have built the modern world. The rest of the world strives to be part of the riches she has created.

There is one part of the world which although becoming immensely wealthy by trading with the West at the same time hates all that it stands for. The hatred has been implanted by God to bring long overdue judgement on the western world which has turned its back on Him. *"And the ten horns which you saw on the beast, these will hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire. For God has put it into their hearts to fulfil His purpose, to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled."* Revelation 17: 16 -17.

The future is Islam

In 1986 the Lord spoke to me that London would become an Islamic city. Twenty years later the Lord spoke again that Islam would be the major player in end time prophecy. Back in 1986 and the few years following there were many confidently predicting that a great revival was coming. It would start in London, then sweep out through the country and to the world. To suggest that Islam would soon dominate our capital city did not go down well.

Today not only has Islam consolidated its hold on London, its control in the nation is accelerating. The following quote is from Voice for Justice UK. "In recent years, in the UK, we have witnessed a covert, but relentless, attempt to

subvert our national identity and entrench Islam – to such an extent that Britain today has an estimated 1,884 mosques, holding between them £1.5 billion in assets, while London, as a city, has the highest number of mosques outside Turkey. On top of this, there are a further 2,158 masjid or prayer rooms. In fact, Islam is now so embedded in our society that we have Islamic prayers in Parliament; around 85 Sharia courts applying Islamic law based on the Koran; an Iftar meal to celebrate Ramadan, hosted by King Charles at Windsor Castle this June."

Islam is the both the seventh and eighth empire of Revelation 17: 11. The nations of Islam will destroy the West and give their allegiance to the Beast when he is revealed.

A war of attrition

The war on the West has two phases. The first is a war of attrition which will wear down the West (Revelation 17: 16). This has been going on for many decades. First came the transfer of wealth. A number of Islamic countries have become immensely rich on the back of Western inventiveness and expertise. In return the wealth generated has been used to buy up the nations which created that wealth. For instance the Qatar Royal family is now the largest property owner in London. Many other Muslim states own considerable investments in the UK. The other side of this war of attrition is the mass migration of Muslim refugees into the UK and European nations. Although uninvited the West feels obliged to provide for them. In so doing assets are drawn away from the native population.

The second phase of the fall of Babylon will be sudden and devastating. *"Therefore her plagues will come in one day, death and mourning and famine. And she will be utterly burned with fire, for strong is the Lord who judges her."* Revelation 18: 8. The suddenness of the judgement, and burned with fire may well indicated a nuclear attack. Could this happen to the West? Because we have turned our back on God and recently stabbed Israel in the back I believe that His hand of protection has been lifted from the UK and Europe.

Iran in particular seeks the destruction of the West. The hard line theology of her rulers demands a period of chaos before the end time events take place. Iran was badly humiliated by the Israeli/US attack on her nuclear facilities. She will retaliate. With the help of Russia and China, it is rapidly rebuilding its nuclear programme. Both Russia and China would like to strike the West. They may intend to use Iran as their proxy to bring this about.

Before the establishment of the Beast Empire, there will be both a plague and a huge war. It may be that the fall of Babylon is part of this war.

In Adversity

How are we to prepare for times of adversity particularly the persecution which will close this present age?

"Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you and you will be hated by all nations for my name's sake". Matthew 24: 9

As we approach the end of this present age we must expect increasing opposition to the gospel. Jesus did not hide the reality of the world's response to those who would follow Him. They *"will be hated by all nations".*

Although in these last days many will put their faith in Christ, and be saved, most will reject the gospel. There will come a time which is fast approaching that the followers of Christ will be hated by all nations. Hated because the God, who the faithful worship, is hated.

There is today a global rise in antisemitism. Tomorrow the true church will be added to those who are despised and hated. It starts with the Jews but will soon spread to true Christians.

The compromised church which adopts the ways of the world will not suffer. They will be like the false prophets who preached peace, peace when there was no peace. Their wisdom will be esteemed by the world. Especially esteemed if they side with the world in condemning Israel. How are we to respond to the coming times of adversity?

A time to abide

Psalm 91 is a wonderful encouragement to look to Him who watches over each of us. The Psalm opens with the words, *"He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High".* When facing adversity there is only one place to be. It is to dwell in the secret place of the Most High and abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

Having experienced time in a Nazi concentration camp Corrie Ten Boom gave the following advice on how to prepare for times of persecution. "… we need to develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Not just the Jesus of yesterday, the Jesus of History, but the life-changing Jesus of today who is still alive and sitting at the right hand of God. We must be filled with the Holy Spirit. This is no optional command of the Bible, it is absolutely necessary. Those earthly disciples could never have stood up under the persecution of the Jews and Romans had they not waited for Pentecost. Each of us needs our own personal Pentecost, the baptism of the Holy Spirit. We will never be able to stand in the tribulation without it.

Psalm 91 goes on to declare, *"His truth shall be your shield and buckler"*,(verse. 4). Corrie Ten Boom also said that we need to feed on the word

of God and make it part of our being. She advocated the memorising of long passages of Scripture.

A time to be steadfast

The book of Habakkuk closes with a declaration that whatever the circumstances the prophet remains confident in the Lord. Despite the hardship outlined in the earlier verses he is able to proclaim, *"Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation."* Habakkuk 3: 18. In the last days the world may hate us but we can rejoice because we have a Saviour.

Our steadfastness will be a powerful witness to the world. It is perhaps the primary reason why there is, *"a great multitude which no one could number of all nations, tribes, peoples and tongues standing before the throne".* Revelation 7: 9. In the final time of persecution the steadfastness of the church will be the means by which the great commission is completed. In every nation, tribe, people and tongue there will be, and I think already are, witnesses to the truth.

This will be a time when traditional forms of mission and evangelism are no longer available to us. Darkness will fill the earth as people follow after the coming prince of darkness. In both Daniel and Revelation we are told that the little horn/beast is given permission to make war on the saints and overcome them for three and a half years (Daniel 7:25, Revelation 13:7). Jesus also warned that a period of night is coming when no one can work (John 9: 4).

Satan wants Christians to be humiliated and cower before the world. He wants to fill our hearts with fear. In the confidence exuded by Psalm 91 we know that nothing can harm us except when God permits it. If God permits it, it will be for His glory. If we have died to self and taken up our cross there is nothing more Satan can do to us. These are bold words. We acknowledge that we are weak and frequently fail. At such a time if we are to remain steadfast it will only be possible if we draw our strength from the Holy Spirit. The Lord will stand with us so that we do not fail.

A time to stand

With the confident assurance that we are safe in the Lord's hands, we recognise that the Lord calls on us to stand. For some this will mean martyrdom in either death or prison. In Revelation when the fifth seal is broken we see the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and the testimony which they held (Revelation 6:9). They cry out for justice, but are told to wait a little longer until the number of those who would be killed is complete.

A time to hide

A time is coming when the Lord will punish the inhabitants of the earth. At that time the faithful are told to hide (Isaiah 26: 20 – 21). The imagery is of

Passover night when the Israelites were to stay in their houses where they would be covered by the blood of the Lamb. Under that covering they were protected from the judgement falling on Egypt.

God's people are called on to hide from the wrath of God. His wrath will bring the final time of persecution to an end. The fierceness of that wrath is described in Revelation 16 and elsewhere. Speaking about those who receive the mark of the beast we read, *"he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.* Revelation 14: 10.

Where can we hide in the time of God's anger? We hide under the covering of the shed blood of the Lord Jesus. I believe that at this time all those who have trusted in Jesus will be with Him. Gathered up they will be joining the armies of heaven ready to return to establish the kingdom of Christ on earth

A time to flee

Spiritual preparation is central to our being ready for the times of adversity which lie ahead. But there may be material preparations which the Lord calls on us to make in advance of the time.

In Matthew 24:16 Jesus gives instruction that there will come a time when *"those living in Judea are to flee to the mountains".* The sign to flee is the abomination of desolation standing in the holy place.

In Luke 21 there is also a command to flee. In that gospel the sign is when *"Jerusalem in surrounded by armies."* (v.20). This was fulfilled in 66 AD. For a brief period the Roman armies under the command of Cestius Gallus did surround Jerusalem. They then withdrew affording Christians the opportunity to escape. Incredibly and unexpectedly this prophecy was fulfilled exactly as described. Nothing similar to the events foretold in Matthew occurred at that time.

Those living in Israel who take Jesus' word seriously are told to flee. If they are to flee, somewhere there will be a place of safety. In 66 AD the place of safety was found in Pella across the river Jordan. The Christians were guided there by a word of prophecy.

When the future time to flee comes there will be a word from the Lord guiding His followers where to go.

The prophecy applies specifically to those living in Israel. However there may be other situations from which, in the coming times of adversity, believers will need to flee. The Lord will guide when the time comes.

The deceiver

Satan, the god of this world, deceives and leads all who do not follow Christ. He is using them to build a world from which there is no escape. The technology of the 21st century offers him the prospect of exerting total control. We can convince ourselves that the situation is hopeless. But in these times many will turn to Christ. Also many, although not believers, will not receive the mark of the beast. Those who receive the mark come under God's wrath. Those who do not receive the mark will populate the Lord's millennial kingdom when He comes to reign. The situation is not hopeless. In fact if we are ready it will become a time when the faithful church is truly triumphant.

A time to look up

"Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near." Luke 21: 28. We are living in the time to look up.

The gospel according to AI.

Jesus warned that many would come in His name. Deception would be a key element of the end times. I have up to now thought only in terms of human deceivers; the false prophets, the cult leaders, church leaders who reject the word of God and many others. They are disguised as sheep but as both Jesus and Paul warned, inside they are ravenous wolves.

But now there is a new contender, the Artificial Intelligence Jesus. The internet has a number of Artificial Intelligence programmes which claim to be Jesus. Log on to the 'Ask Jesus' site and you are greeted with "Hi, I'm Jesus, Ask me anything". Another site 'thejesusai.com' greets you with the words, "My child, ask me about life, faith and love". Another site, 'textwith.me/en/jesus' offers "A divine connection in your pocket". The Virtual-Jesus.com offers a "personalised conversation with a virtual Jesus, and to receive the comfort, inspiration and wisdom that you need in your life, Get ready for a truly unique experience, one that will transform your life and deepen your faith".

These are not ministries. They are machines. They are not accountable to pastors or theologians. These sites are owned by commercial companies such as one called 'Supreme Chaos'. Their aim is to make money not disciples. The business plan requires subscribers. Therefore the message is tailored to what people want to hear. If something is mentioned which upsets people and causes them to leave, then whatever is upsetting will be toned down in future. Surely to make out to a person that they are actually speaking to the real Jesus is blasphemy.

Refilling the Sea Of Galilea

Israel's new "Reverse Carrier" project, is designed to refill the Sea of Galilee.

The National Water Carrier, built in the 1960s, once delivered water from the Galilee all the way South to the Negev, supplying towns and farms during times of scarcity. Now, a similar network is running in reverse, pushing surplus desalinated water north toward the lake, mainly in winter months when domestic and agricultural demand is low.

Only a generation ago, the Sea of Galilee was a source of national anxiety. The lake's depth was measured obsessively against red-line markers. The upper red line meant danger; the lower one forbade pumping altogether; beneath it lay the "black line," a threshold beyond which permanent damage loomed.

Israel's transformation from scarcity to surplus began in 2005 with large-scale desalination along the Mediterranean coast. The new plants freed the country from dependence on rainfall and made it effectively water-secure.

The desalinated water begins its journey in Ashdod, Hadera and other coastal plants, traveling roughly 60 to 90 miles across Israel. Along the way, upgraded pumping stations lift the water hundreds of meters toward the Galilee, while new reservoirs stabilize pressure and flow.

The Sea of Galilee remains a key part of this system. While Israel no longer relies on the lake for domestic consumption, it continues to use it as a conduit for regional supply, sending water from the Galilee basin into Jordan's network. The next stage of infrastructure will expand this cooperation: a new pipeline is planned to transport desalinated water directly from southern Israel to Jordan.

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