



The Trumpeter

Ezek 33:3 If when he seeth the sword come upon the land, he blow the trumpet, and warn the people;

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Is There Any Hope?

The great majority of news of late is so negative. The average newscast is filled with stories of crime, mass killings, scandal, and we are all tired of negative campaigning by politicians! To avoid the despair that comes from so much negative, many have simply stopped listening to the news. This can only be a temporary remedy however, as it does nothing to provide a basic emotional need we all have, the need for hope.

It has been said, "Man can live about forty days without food, about three days without water, about eight minutes without air, but only for one second without hope". A great feature about Bible prophecy is it has a built-in element of hope. It is the **only** reliable source for good news about the future. With this in mind, it seems a good time to review the great, positive future we have in the Lord.

In addressing the need for hope, one of the greatest hope-building promises the Lord ever gave during His ministry is the one in which He said that He would come and take us to the Father's House where He is preparing a place for us (John 14:6). The disciples were confused by this teaching. They were familiar with Jewish theology that stated that the Messiah would come and establish a government on earth (Zechariah 14, Isaiah 65, Micah 4, etc.). Jesus' words recorded in John 14:6 however, was declaring something new. In this teaching, His followers were to go with Him to the Father's house in Heaven. The government they expected would come later. This departure from traditional teaching is one of the first teachings in the New Testament on the Rapture of the Church.

One of the greatest illuminations for this doctrine is revealed in the ancient Jewish wedding custom. It goes like this: The boy wanting to marry the girl, goes to sit down with her father. The young man negotiates with the father about her value and his ability to provide. Once agreement is reached, the young man travels back to his father's house to prepare a place to receive the new bride until they get a place of their own.

When the addition to the father's house is ready, the bridegroom, along with a male escort (his best man), goes to retrieve the bride. The bride and groom return to his father's house and go to a wedding chamber for seven days of privacy and solitude. When the seven days of solitude are over, the groom brings his bride out and

introduces her to all the invited guests. A great wedding feast is held at that point.

In keeping with this tradition, the Lord has been to the house of the Bride (the world). He has negotiated a price and paid with His own blood. He has resurrected and returned to His Father's House (Heaven) to prepare a place for us, the Church. According to I Thessalonians 4:16-17, He will be accompanied by a male escort to retrieve the bride and they go to the Father's House.

Corresponding to the seven days in the wedding chamber, we will be at the Father's House seven years while the seven-year time of trouble (Revelation 6-19) transpires on earth. This is probably the time in Heaven that the Judgment Seat of Christ takes place (II Corinthians 5:10) followed by the wedding feast of Matthew 25:10. Then we will return with Jesus to earth to crown Him King of Kings and He will begin His rule and reign on earth (Revelation 20).

Those who believe these teachings usually hold to Biblical, conservative ideas such as opposition to abortion, same-sex marriage, normalization of homosexuality, and less support for Israel, to name a few. Those holding these views are finding themselves more and more out-of-step with the world and being considered a hindrance to the direction in which it is headed.

There is good news. We may not be a hindrance much longer. Why? Because at any moment, the "*Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord*".

Believers will be transported from this troubled world into the glory of the presence of the Lord! No man knows the day or hour this event could occur but, with the world presently in such a mess, it is refreshing and promising to know that it could be today. Today would be a good day to go to the Father's House!



"The Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals."

Revelation 5:5

The Bible and Current Events

Tim LaHaye, evangelical author of 'Left Behind' book series, dies at 90

-Washington Post - July 25, 2016 - Pastor, author and radio personality Tim LaHaye, whose "Left Behind" novels spread his evangelical Christian faith to millions of readers through fiction, died Monday in California. He was 90 years old.

Comment: We all loved him. I loved him. He was a good friend and advisor to me. We would talk on the phone on occasion and at the meetings of the Pre-trib Research Association, a think tank ministry that Tim founded. He was a strong proponent of the Rapture before the Tribulation. He was always full of wisdom. I will miss him greatly! He was a small frame man, but a spiritual giant! He is doing real well about now. Assuredly, we will see him again and probably soon. Today would be good!!! Beam us up, Lord!

Tips to manage anxiety over the never-ending stream of bad news

- Foxnews.com/health - July 26, 2016 - You turn on the news. You hear about more gun violence, or another act of terrorism, or a missing child, or a scary epidemic—and it seems as if the world is growing ever more frightening. I've heard this from family, friends, and patients: Many people are finding it harder to feel calm and present in their day-to-day lives. Women in particular (who are twice as likely to be affected by anxiety disorders as men) tend to feel beleaguered by the never-ending cycle of bad news, and end up with a constant sense of uneasiness.

Comment: It seems odd that a major news source after publishing almost a constant flow of negative news, is now telling us how to manage it. It is also interesting that this main media source is now affirming what the Bible prophets said about the end-times.

Almost 2,000 years ago, Jesus said,... "*just as it happened in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man*" (Luke 17:26). According to Genesis 6:11 describing the days of Noah, "*the earth was corrupt in the sight of God, and the earth was filled with violence*". Paul wrote that in the last days perilous times will come (II Timothy 3:1). The end-times are upon us.

The United Kingdom voted to leave the European Union in historic "Brexit" vote

- CNN - June 24, 2016 - The United Kingdom has voted to leave the European Union in a historic referendum, with 51.89% of the population voting to leave and 48.11% voting for remain...The far-right Dutch politician Geert Wilders congratulated the UK on its decision, and called for a Dutch referendum on EU membership. "We want to be in charge of our own country, our own money, our own borders, and our own immigration policy," he was quoted as saying in a statement on his website.

Comment: A good number of people have asked if the United Kingdom leaving the European Union threatens the future of the European Union fulfilling the revived Roman Empire as discussed in Daniel 2 & 7. My opinion is no. The European Union is made up of 28 countries and 512 million people. Britain has 60 million. Britain pulling out still leaves 540 million. I do look for a shift in the power base of the European Union shifting from Brussels to Rome. Why? Because according to Daniel 2 & 7, Rome is the power to be in place when the Messiah comes to set up His Kingdom.

NJ town rocked by charges of bigotry after rejection of mosque

- www.foxnews.com - August 08, 2016 - ...Bernards, a township of about 27,000 an hour west of New York City, has been cleaved by controversy since 2011, when its Planning Board took up a proposal for a 4,250-square-foot mosque in a residential neighborhood known as Liberty Corner. The applicant, Islamic Society of Basking Ridge, is led by a former Bernards mayor and has filed a federal civil rights suit accusing members of the board of religious discrimination in ultimately rejecting the project...Mohammad Ali Chaudry (former mayor) told The Bernardsville News after the Becket Fund filed a brief in support of his group. "**The mosque is part of my American Dream.**"

Baptists join diverse faith groups to support mosque-building effort

- BaptistNewsGlobal - May 26, 2016 ...Baptist and other Christian organizations accustomed to cultural and legal sparring have joined the fight for the construction of a new mosque. "It's good when we can join hands with ... folks we are sometimes on the other side of," said Brent Walker, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty. Full article here: <http://baptistnews.com/article/baptists-join-diverse-faith-groups-to-support-mosque-building-effort/>

Southern Baptist Convention Supports Mosque, Draws Criticism

- CBN News - June 21, 2016 - The Southern Baptist Convention is coming under fire for filing a legal document arguing for the construction of a mosque by an Islamic society in New Jersey...At the SBC's annual meeting last week in St. Louis, Missouri, the Ethics and Religious Liberty (ERLC) arm of the SBC came under fire for supporting the construction of the mosque...The ERLC was joined in signing the amicus brief in support of the mosque by the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, **International Society for Krishna Consciousness**, National Association of Evangelicals, **Sikh Coalition**, South Asian Bar Association of New York, and **Unitarian Universalist** Legislative Ministry of New Jersey.

Comment: It is surprising and sobering to see an agency in the largest protestant denomination in the U.S. working to soften the nation's attitude toward Islam.

People with concerns about Islam are being treated as if they have no right to be suspicious in spite of the facts. More died in one day with the attack on the Trade Towers and the Pentagon (2,996) than any other single attack both at the hands of Islamics. Also, America and allies have been engaged in the longest war in U.S. history because of "Islamic extremism". The recent attacks in Paris, Orlando, San Bernadino, the murder of Christians in the Middle East and North Africa, etc, all raise legitimate concerns. To add to the suspicions, those within Islam that claim that Islam is being misrepresented by these murderers have not been loud enough or convincing enough, and many times, silent.

Reality is, most people do not understand Islam and its intentions. No matter how nice it seems, the intention is to establish Sharia Law, to take precedence over all laws. Muslims believe replacing all laws with Sharia Law would be a good thing, but who can look at the countries where Sharia Law is operating and think it is an improvement?

Politically, Islam and the U.S. Constitution are incompatible. Islam and Western thought are incompatible. Theologically, Islam and the Bible are incompatible. Islam declares that Allah has no son, but the Bible declares that Jehovah has a son, Jesus. Also, Allah wants to destroy Israel, Jehovah wants to restore it. To believe we can embrace both is ridiculously naive!

Israel:

Latest Population Statistics for Israel -

www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org - May 2016 - On the eve of Israel Independence Day 2016, Israel's population stood at a record 8,522,000. The Jewish population makes up 6,377,000 (74.8%); 1,771,000 (20.8%) are Arabs; and, those identified as "others" (non-Arab Christians, Baha'i, etc) make up 4.4% of the population (374,000 people). **When the state was established, there were only 806,000 residents** and the total population reached its first and second millions in 1949 and 1958 respectively. Judging by current population trend data, experts predict that the population of Israel will reach 10 million by 2025 or sooner...The Jewish population of Israel grew by 1.7% over the past year...Out of the 14.3 million Jewish people in the world, 43% reside in Israel.

Comment: The increasing Jewish population in Israel continues to be a work of God in progress. God says in Ezek 34:13, *"I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them to their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the streams, and in all the inhabited places of the land"*. NASU.

The regathering of the Jewish people to the Land of Israel is also a major sign that Jesus is coming soon. Jesus referred to it in Matthew 24:32 as the "budding of the fig tree". Jesus was using the fig tree as a national symbol for Israel. Hosea identified the "fig tree". In Hosea 9:10. God speaking says, *"I saw your forefathers as the first fruits on the fig tree"*. The fig tree then is God's symbol for Israel.

More Than Three Million Tourists Visited Israel In 2015 -

www.breakingisraelnews.com - A total of 3.1 million tourists visited Israel in the year 2015, according to figures released...by the Israel Central Bureau of Statistics. The largest number of incoming tourists in 2015 came from the United States with 637,000 arrivals, representing a 2% increase compared to the 2014 statistic. A total of 415,000 tourists visited from Russia. Other countries serving as the origin for the largest numbers of tourists visiting Israel in 2015 were France, Germany, the UK, Ukraine and Italy.

Comment: This is another work of God in progress. Ezek 36:34-35 states, *"The desolate land shall be tilled instead of lying desolate in the sight of all who pass by. So they will say, 'This land that was desolate has become like the garden of Eden; and the wasted, desolate, and ruined cities are now fortified and inhabited."* NKJV

Whale spotted off the coast of Israel -

www.israelnationalnews.com - 6/13/2016 - In a rare event, what is believed to be a fin whale was spotted Sunday afternoon just 20 meters (65 feet) off the coast of Caesarea...This is not the first time a whale has been seen off the coasts of Israel. The IMMRAC has documented several cases of the aquatic mammals swimming off the shores of Tel Aviv, Ashdod and Ashkelon...An adult whale of this kind may grow up to 25 meters (82 feet) – the second largest whale in the world, after the blue whale – and weigh approximately 70 tons.

Comment: This story is reminiscent of the story of Jonah who was swallowed by a big fish as he ran from the Lord. Was it a whale that swallowed him? If so, then it is no surprise to learn that whales are spotted from time to time off Israel's coast.

Russians building army base at Syria's Palmyra site -

Associated Press - May 17, 2016 - An American heritage organization says the Russian military is constructing a new army base in the central Syrian town of Palmyra, within the protected zone that holds the archaeological site listed by UNESCO as world heritage.

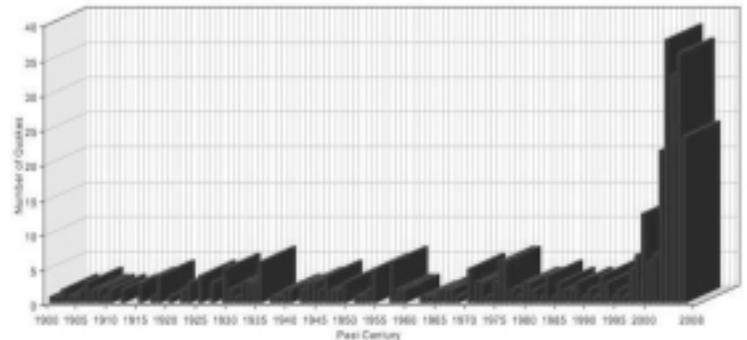
Comment: Palmyra is in the central part of Syria and is about 150 miles from Israel's Golan Heights. With a naval base in Tartus and an air base in Latakia, Russia continues to build up its military in the area. As has been stated in this newsletter before, Russia is preparing to come against Israel in the last days as is described in Ezekiel 38-39. The combined armies of Russia, Iran, Turkey, Libya, Ethiopia, and others will meet their doom during this invasion. Since 2500 years have transpired from the writing of Ezekiel, it is sobering that we are the generation seeing the preparations.

Earthquakes Increasing!

The first graph below shows earthquake activity worldwide by decade since 1900 to 2008. Shrinking to fit into this newsletter makes the letters small, but the original can be viewed on the Internet at <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/regional/world/historical.php>

This graph, showing earthquake activity for the last 100 years, shows a phenomenal increase in the last twenty!

Earthquakes by decade for the last 100 years



List of Earthquakes below for the last five years quoted from the U.S. Geological Survey's website.

Magnitude	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
8.0–9.9	1	1	2	2	1	1
7.0–7.9	21	19	15	17	11	18
6.0–6.9	151	204	129	125	144	124
5.0–5.9	1963	2271	1412	1402	1577	1413
4.0–4.9	10164	13303	10990	9795	14941	13239
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Totals	12300	15798	12548	11341	16674	14795

Comment: Jesus said earthquakes would increase like birth pangs in the last days before His return. As these charts point out, earthquakes are on the increase. They will increase more and more as time progresses. As birth pangs go, they can ease a bit, then come back stronger. That is what is indicated here. What does this mean? It means that along with all the other indicators, we are close to the Lord's return.

Upcoming U.S. Presidential Election

Now that the primaries and conventions are over, the voters are left with two choices, Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump. The voters are also left with some very important decisions! For the Christian, there are three very important issues:

- 1). **Taxpayer assisted abortion.**
- 2). **Taxpayer assisted same-sex marriage, transgenderism, and transexualism.**
- 3). **Less support for Israel.**

Be sure to vote and when you enter that voting booth this November, take your God in there with you, and vote on these issues the way you think He would. Don't sit the election out because there isn't a perfect candidate to vote for. **There never has been.**

Anne Graham Lotz Lists 3 Sins America Is Committing Against God - www.christianpost.com -

June 29, 2016 - Anne Graham Lotz speaks at the Family Research Council's 2016 "Watchmen on the Wall" conference in Washington, D.C. on May 26, 2016..."I feel our nation is in a mess at every level, and it's a Romans 1 type of judgment, because God has abandoned us because we have abandoned Him...She then listed the three sins the United States has committed against God: "Abortion — the killing of 60 million unborn children; the abandonment of Israel; and then the LGBT agenda and gay marriage that flies in the face of what God has ordained."

Deception Sweeping the World

A great prophetic statement is made about the world in the end-times that has become very relevant today. It was made by Paul in II Thessalonians 2:10-11. "...because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved. For this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false..."

This definitely describes our world today! Truth has become subjective and relative. This is why many things are just not making sense. It is also why many of us are upset at the way things are developing. Our souls are hungry for truth because the seed of the Word of God has been planted in us. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth..." One day soon, He will return and we will live in constant truth. He is the personification of **that Truth. May it be soon!**

Famous Quotes

"Men must be governed by God or they will be ruled by tyrants" - William Penn"

A time will come when instead of shepherds feeding the sheep, the church will have clowns entertaining the goats."

- C.H. Spurgeon

"The newspaper tells us what is going on but the Bible tells us how to understand what's going on." - Billy Graham



* Support: We Need Your Help!

Donations to most ministries have dwindled in 2015-2016. Lion of Judah is no exception. A special donation to help us recover would be a great help and most appreciated! Your support ensures that the message that Jesus is coming soon continues to go out in three ways. **One**, this newsletter goes out by mail and via email all over. **Two**, our speaking engagements and seminars that always end with an invitation for the lost to commit to Jesus. **Three**, the Lion of Judah Ministry website presents our newsletters, articles, and updates 24 hours per day, all over the world. We have started posting messages on sermonaudio.com, Facebook, and on YouTube. We are reaching out in many directions.

International Outreach: Skype, Facebook, our website, YouTube, and sermonaudio.com have allowed us to literally reach around the world. I can teach congregations around the world the message Jesus is coming soon from my office. Help us pray for more of these opportunities.

Internet Messages: We have started posting audio messages on a web site called sermonaudio.com. My latest post there is called "America in Prophecy". It has been listened to and downloaded hundreds of times at no charge. More of this to come. The link as follows - www.sermonaudio.com/playpopup.asp?SID=715141827375

Expand: We need to expand circulation of our newsletter. If there are those you know who would be interested in our newsletter, The Trumpeter, either have them contact us, or supply us with their names and mailing addresses.

Be a Part of This Outreach. We Need Your Help!

Speaking Engagements: Please see our Website for upcoming speaking engagement announcements, upcoming Israel tours, and teaching materials that are available. If interested in scheduling an update on current events or general teaching on end-time Bible prophecy, call us at 615-591-8036.

Teaching Materials: All teaching CD's, DVD's, and books are available on our website.

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