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by RAY BRUBAKET

Introduction

ARE WE FACING A NUCLEAR HOLOCAUST? is respectfully dedicated to all of the friends, prophecy partners, sponsors and prayer supporters who are concerned as we are about the destruction that could be our fate in a nuclear war.

Sen. Alan Cranston of California warns that a full-scale nuclear war between the Soviet Union and the United States could kill more than three billion people, or about 80 percent of the world's population. Such a war, declared Cranston, would kill everyone living above the equator, and millions more in the Southern Hemisphere probably would be killed by radioactive fallout.

While many are calling for nuclear disarmament, we show from the Scriptures that awful destruction is coming upon our world, and that the only way of escape as we see it is the coming of Christ for His own before this awful holocaust.

We would hope that everyone who reads this book will prayerfully consider what part you can play in helping us warn our world before it's too late. You can make one of the greatest investments by contributing to our efforts on radio and television. What good will money in the bank, or in accumulated real estate do, in the day when our world lies in ruins. Writes Jeremiah, "The slain of the Lord shall be at that day from one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth: they shall not be lamented, neither gathered, nor buried; they shall be dung upon the ground." (Jer. 25:33)

Beloved, if we fail to send forth a warning the blood of multitudes will be upon us.

Read this book carefully and prayerfully.



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The Call To Peace And Disarmament

Dr. Edward Teller, nuclear scientist and "father of the H-Bomb," once warned that the news media was not telling the American people the truth about the imminent dangers of a nuclear war.

The situation has changed recently with the major networks reminding us that the international arsenal of nuclear weapons is big enough to reduce our planet to ashes in an instant.

Will this happen? Or, will the peace and disarmament movement that we are seeing halt such destruction?

In Europe, thousands of demonstrators have taken to the streets to protest the "Bomb." And there have been sporadic protests in the United States.

Are these protests communist inspired? Or are fears of atomic annihilation justified?

The "Ban the Bomb" movement had its beginning back in 1958. In October of 1981 we saw a revival of the anti-nuclear movement, as 150,000 people poured into London. Their banners reflected their concern that Europe could again become the main battleground of any nuclear war.

The question remains—if nuclear missiles were to fall upon our cities, bringing death and destruction without warning, would you be ready to meet God?

What if tonight when you were sleeping someone were to push the button in Moscow that would send ICBM's our way? Could you say—"Sudden death, sudden glory"? Or, as the Apostle Paul put it, "Absent from the body, present with the Lord!"

Or, as we like to believe, this may be the reason for the Rapture...to rescue the saints before this endtime holocaust that we see forecast ahead!

Beloved, it pays to be ready because then there's nothing to fear.

Our Lord said, "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul; but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." (Mt. 10:28)

Don't delay another moment. Receive Jesus Christ now as your Savior and Lord and have the joy of knowing—come what may—you are ready to meet your Maker.

What appears to be a new revolutionary trend in the mainline denominations is a united call for disarmament!

Is this prophetically significant?

We hear almost daily news of demonstrators throughout Europe marching for peace and disarmament.

Take Bonn, the West German capital. Tens of thousands of demonstrators are marching, opposing plans for the deployment of Pershing missiles there.

You will see them marching elsewhere...in Copenhagan, Denmark...even in Spain!

Some might ask—what's wrong? Even in the United States there are those who would do away with our stockpile of nuclear weapons.

Have we softened our position on defense? What really would happen were we to destroy our nuclear arsenal?

The Bible indicates we are in for a shocking catastrophe—a loss of all of our freedoms—were we to succumb to pressures to accept nuclear disarmament.

And yet, we see where the World Council of Churches, at a meeting in Amsterdam, declared that nuclear weapons are not "acceptable in a world redeemed by Christ!"

No one wants to see a nuclear war. One reason we have not witnessed World War III is because we have sought to maintain a strong military posture.

This is the belief of men like George Keagan, a retired Air Force major general, who cautions we must remain militarily strong if we are to preserve the peace. It is the unarmed nations that invite aggression and endanger world peace, says Keagan.

On the other hand, there is concern over the stockpile of nuclear weapons as more nations join the Atomic Club. Andrew Goodpastor, retired Army general & former superintendent of West Point, has observed: "What once served us well for the deterrence of war could now too easily become our folly."

There is the danger of stockpiling weapons that carry the temptation to use them.

Thus we have the Council of Bishops of the Methodist Church warning of the "threat of a nuclear holocaust." This, say the Bishops, is "the most crucial issue facing the people of the earth today!"

Likewise, the House of Bishops of the Episcopal Church issued a pastoral letter denouncing what it called "massive nuclear overkill." And it called upon the U.S. and world leaders "to repudiate reliance on military threats!"

Leaders of the American Baptist Churches have issued a statement calling "on the nations of the world to stop the production of nuclear weapons."

And, on and on it goes...

The Rev. Robert M. Davidson, serving as moderator of the United Presbyterian Church, says, "People stand up and cheer" whenever he brings up the idea of "peace-making" and the suggestion of a "freeze on nuclear weapons production."

Among those appealing for an immediate reduction of nuclear arms, leading to the simultaneous and complete elimination of stockpiles by all nations, is Pope John Paul II.

The Pope has warned that mankind cannot survive a nuclear war. "Given the destructive capacity of present-day military stockpiles, the survival of the whole human race...is at stake," said the Pope.

What will happen is clearly pictured for us in the book of Revelation. In Chapter 6 we have what we call the "four horsemen of the Apocalypse."

First, the rider on a white horse is seen—symbolizing peace. We read, "He that sat on him had a bow." But we don't read of any arrows! The inference is that a world ruler will appear promoting peace. He will have the admiration and respect of the whole world. The Bible says, "A crown was given unto him; and he went conquering, and to conquer."

Soon thereafter, the rider on a red horse appears. We read concerning him, "Power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth..." Did you hear it?

Look for an era of peace! Watch for disarmament! Such conferences have failed in the past because the Soviet Union was not sincere, or they would not have invaded Afghanistan. They would not be occupying parts of Africa. And they would not now be infiltrating South and Central America.

Could Russia be the rider on the red horse?

We read again, "Power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword."

Could that great sword be representative of an atomic bomb or nucleartipped missile?

In our book THREATS FACING AMERICA we have many quotes to show the threat of destruction that we face!

Mao Tse Tung once predicted an atomic war in which both Russia and the United States would be wiped out.

Huang Hua, serving as the Foreign Minister of Red China, declared before the United Nations that the Soviet Union is preparing for a "surprise attack"!

What other warning do we need?

Today we are seeing calls for peace and disarmament. The riders of the white and red horse represent an era of peace that will be shortlived, followed by destruction.

For then the riders of horses representing famine and death go forth. We read, "And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death." (Rev. 6:8b)

Beloved, we believe the stage is set. The way is being prepared for these four horsemen to appear.

Disarmament is an issue under discussion in the United Nations.

And, the churches are taking the initiative by siding with the Soviet Union. At least the WALL STREET JOURNAL commented on this by saying,

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"...we have seen church men and women in Europe participating in Soviet-organized 'peace' demonstrations."

The JOURNAL speaks of "Christian Marxists" saying they "often identify themselves more closely with the party line from Moscow than with the doctrine and dogma of Rome or the Reformation."

Notes the WALL STREET JOURNAL, "...we can only side with those who see the best hope for peace in the ability of the West to summon up the moral courage to resist."

We admit that the temptation is strong to give in to a Soviet-led drive for peace.

We recall a statement made by a high-ranking Soviet official, Dimitry Z. Manuilski, who once declared: "War to the hilt between Communism and Capitalism is inevitable. To win we shall need the element of surprise. The bourgeois will have to be put to sleep. So we shall begin by launching the most spectacular peace movement on record." Continues Manuilski: "The Capitalist countries, stupid and decadent, will rejoice to cooperate in their own destruction. They will leap at another chance to be friends. As soon as their guard is down, we shall smash them with our clenched fist!"

Is this what we may expect?

We're reminded yet of what we read in 1 Thess. 5:2 where the one great sign to let us know we are approaching the Day of the Lord is that of peace and safety.

Notice what we read: "For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, peace and safety, then sudden destruction cometh upon them as travail upon a woman with child, and they shall not escape."

Today this is the cry of the nations. The call is to peace and disarmament. The Bible says this is the sign of imminent destruction!

There's a mounting "movement for peace" in this country and abroad that is unprecedented.

And there's nothing wrong in being for "peace." We all want peace. What we don't want is a false peace and talk of disarmament that only

lulls us to sleep.

Is destruction ahead?

Remember, "For when they shall say, peace and safety, then sudden destruction cometh..."

As we see it...the hour is growing late. Jesus is coming soon.

In fact, the only hope for the world is the return of our Lord Jesus Christ for all who are ready to meet Him.

Why not confess Him now as your Lord?

Something will happen within you if you'll pray this prayer: "Lord, I receive You as my Savior and Lord, to live for You and do Your will. I believe you died on the cross for my sins and shed Your blood that I might be forgiven. Thank you for saving me. Amen."

Pray that prayer and mean it and experience the "new birth."

Then live for the Lord in a life of dedication to His will.

And, be ye therefore ready also, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh.

Are The Soviets Changing Their Nuclear Strategy?



The question some are asking is has the Soviet Union changed its tactics? Is the Kremlin talking peace while planning for an all-out nuclear war?

It was the administration of President Jimmy Carter that finally reached agreement on the SALT 2 proposals with Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev.

The purpose of SALT 2 was to limit strategic offensive nuclear weapons.

The position of the United States was made clear by President Carter, who declared: "We will not use nuclear weapons except in self defense; that is, in circumstances of an actual nuclear or conventional attack on the United States, our territories, or armed forces, or such an attack on our allies."

As concerns defense, Reagan took major decisions to go ahead with the MX missile. He favored building the Neutron Bomb which is capable of destroying without great damage. And, he ordered the B-1 Bomber, which President Carter did not think was necessary.

For our protection and preservation, Reagan believed America's defenses needed beefing up! And, he allocated billions of dollars to do just that.

In Europe, too, they were thinking about defense. Especially after President Reagan said there could be a nuclear war in Europe without involving the superpowers.

That led to quite an argument. Europeans asked themselves: did they need nuclear weapons?

This led to fierce demonstrations. For a growing number of people the answer was "No."

The rise of the anti-nuclear movement was one of the most significant developments of our time. Often with the backing of the church there were demonstrators all over the continent who were on the march.

One peace group marched all the way from Denmark to Paris.

Was their march justified? Or, were these marches playing into the hands of communists who wanted to see a moratorium on all nuclear weapons?

Soviet leader Brezhnev time and again asserted that any nuclear strike by Russia would be purely retaliatory.

And he warned, "In Europe or somewhere else—a nuclear war wo ald unavoidably and irrevocably take on a worldwide character."

Now we learn that the Soviets believe not only could they survive a nuclear war, but that they think they could win it, and enjoy the fruits of its victory.

Israeli intelligence, we are told, has evidence of a "dramatic reversal" and "revolution" taking place in Soviet strategic planning.

As the Israelis see it—the Soviet military no longer feels—as they did for the past 30 years—that nuclear war has no real value for the realization of Soviet aims and that communism could best prevail by means of terrorist and guerrilla campaigns supported by political action!

We're told there are documents which show "the new Soviet strategy envisions total confrontation, culminating in nuclear conflict with the West."

Nuclear war, limited or not, could result in mass destruction that would be unparalleled.

And members of the Atomic Scientists have voiced the opinion that a nuclear war could break out in the Middle East before 1990.

Drew Middleton, in a copyrighted report in the NEW YORK TIMES. confirms the belief that if a tactical nuclear war erupted in Europe, it could not be controlled.

In a study, Dr. Desmond Ball of the International Institute for Strategic Studies estimates that fatalities in a tactical nuclear war in Europe would range from two million to 20 million, depending on the use of some restraint.

Without restraint the number of fatalities could approach 200 million. Ball says he believes a nuclear war would become uncontrollable shortly after the first 10 or more weapons had been launched.

Today we would ask—what does the Bible say will happen? Is it possible there might be a nuclear war?

In Joel we read: "Proclaim ye this among the Gentiles; prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near; let them come up; beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruninghooks into spears: let the weak say, I am strong." (Joel 3:9-10)

Is this not the cry of the nations today?

It has been estimated that the cost of war worldwide averages \$92 per person per year.

Thus, the cry is heard to "prepare war!"

It's interesting to note that Soviet President Brezhnev lashed out against Israel, saying: "The so-called strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel means blood, destruction and sorrow for the Arabs."

He went on to say that interference in the internal affairs of the Middle East countries threatens a "world nuclear war with hundreds of millions of deaths."

Now it is in connection with Israel that Joel calls for nations to "prepare for war."

Notice what we read: "For, behold, in those days, and in that time, when I shall bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem, I will also gather

all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land." (Joel 3:1-2)

Notice, upon Israel's return to her land God sees all nations drawn into a conflict in the Middle East.

The call goes forth, "Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruninghooks into spears."

Have you noticed the vast amount of weapons being poured into the Middle East?

This is of concern to Prime Minister Begin who has called upon the United States not to send any more weapons to Israel's enemies.

Notes Begin: "Iraq now has 4,000 tanks, 500 warplanes and 2,700 artillery pieces. Jordan will "soon" have 1,000 tanks, 170 warplanes, and 700 artillery pieces. The Saudis have nearly 500 tanks, more than 700 heavy guns, and nearly 200 warplanes including 60 F-15's."

Then there is Syria.

All told, the four countries will have at their disposal more than 9.000 tanks, 1,400 warplanes, and 6,000 heavy guns.

Also, Israel accuses the United Nations of siding with the enemies of freedom.

The Israeli Foreign minister, Yitzhak Shamir, in a news conference, said the U.N. has become a "tool in the fight against the democratic world, especially against the state of Israel."

It is further asserted that the truly democratic countries of the world number about 30 among the 157 U.N. member countries.

He adds, "Therefore we believe the time has come for the democratic countries to organize themselves to protect democracy and liberty throughout the world."

The Miami News carried this copyrighted cartoon which pictures the United Nations building out of which can be heard these words: "The Russians are occupying Afghanistan, the Polish people are suffering under martial law, civilians have been slaughtered by government troops in El Salvador, members of the Bahai faith are being systematically executed by the Iranians and Fidel Castro is involved in running drugs and exporting revolution." The question is asked, "Anybody have a suggestion?" Heard are the words, "I move to condemn Israel."

Ultimately Israel will be targeted for destruction. Joel describes "all nations" coming against Israel.

The Prophet Zechariah also refers to what could be a United Nation's action for we read: "I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle."

It is then that the Lord goes to the defense of Israel. We read: "Then shall the Lord go forth and fight against those nations..."

In reality, this is the Battle of Armageddon.

While speaking about the United Nations it is interesting to note that a statue stands in the U.N. Garden in New York City.

At a first glance, the statue would remind you of the hammer and sickle. The statue is the work of a Soviet sculptor, and was given as a gift to the U.N. by Russia. Here depicted is the figure of a man with a large hammer in one hand and holding a curved piece of metal in the other.

An inscription reads: "Let us Beat Swords into Plowshares,"—a reference from the Old Testament.

In fact, in Isaiah 2:4 we have a reference to the time when our Lord will return to reign upon the earth. It is then that we read: "And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks, nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more!"

Someone has noted that it is rather strange for the Soviet Union to quote Scripture. "The communists do not even believe in the existence of God. They naturally, therefore, do not accept the Bible as the Word of God. Yet, they quote Scripture, as in this case, to promote false communist propaganda and to present themselves as great advocates of peace. What duplicity! What hypocrisy! The Communists are not promoters of peace—they are disturbers of peace and promoters of war."

Before the day comes when nations will beat their swords into plowshares...we have Joel reminding us it will be the other way around..."Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruninghooks into spears..."

Joel sees the nations preparing for battle. He sees the nations assembling and hears the voice of the Almighty, saying: "Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe."

Russia has its sickle, but God has one, too. It is a sickle representing iudament.

Then we read: "Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision." (Joel 3:14)

Indeed, we believe Christ's coming is near. And multitudes are not ready to meet Him.

What about you? Have you made your decision for Jesus Christ? Have you surrendered your life to Him?

This may be your time of decision.

We read of awful judgments. "The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining. The Lord also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake; but the Lord will be the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel."

Is Christ your hope today? With the world facing a nuclear holocaust that will plunge it into darkness, Christ's coming is seen as the Believer's "blessed hope."

As we read in Titus 2:13, "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and Savior Jesus Christ!"

We would ask—are you ready for our Lord's return?

When bombs begin to fall, it will be too late then to get right with God. You had better repent of sin now, and be prepared for whatever the

future holds!

Pray this prayer. "Lord, I do want to be ready when You come. Forgive me of all my sins. I believe You died on the cross to save me, and that You are at the right hand of God waiting to come for those who know You and love You.

Help me to live every day for You, and be ready when You come.

Indeed, be ye therefore ready also, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh.

Mysterious Clouds



Today's subject is a most-exciting one...it's on "Mysterious Clouds!" We are grateful to some of our viewers who sent us some of the lovely photo slides that picture cloud formations, which we will use occasionally on our program.

Remember the reports on mysterious clouds seen orbiting our earth? The cloud seen about ten miles high was first believed to be the result of a nuclear blast. Or, it could have been a volcano that spawned the mysterious cloud of sulfuric acid seen circling the earth.

We all recall the volcano that ripped off part of Mount St. Helens in the state of Washington.

Today there are some 600 active volcanoes on the earth's surface.

The hunt for the mysterious cloud focused on Mount Pagan, 2000 miles west of Hawaii, in the Pacific.

Peter Wells, of NASA's Ames Research Center in California, says captured cloud samples confirm it was composed of sulphuric acid and that rock particles proved the cloud came from a volcanic explosion.

Norman Banks, a volcanoes observatory geologist, testified, "Eye witness accounts don't describe an eruption on Mount Pagan that would have been strong enough to drive gases into the upper atmosphere."

Said Len McMaster, a NASA scientist, "We have come to no good conclusions as to what the true origin is!"

Mystery clouds can surely be mysterious!

In January, 1982, Japanese scientists, using a laser-radar device, discovered a mysterious cloud "20 times normal" in the stratosphere.

Normally, NASA should have discovered any such cloud as they use a special satellite to measure the aerosol content in the stratosphere. The ozone layer acts something like a filter protecting earth's inhabitants from extremes in ultra violet radiation.

Volcanoes are known to emit the sulphuric acid and rock content found in this mysterious cloud, which covered the Northern hemisphere and baffled scientists.

Was a volcano responsible for the mystery cloud?

While scientists were searching for answers, another mystery cloud was sighted.

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James Rosen, a University of Wyoming professor of Physics and Astronomy, said he and his colleagues do not know the origin of the second cloud which was detected about 20 miles up!

The cloud he had seen was of global proportions.

We're told the Mt. St. Helens volcanic explosion may have equalled the largest man-made nuclear explosion that occurred in October, 1961, when the Soviet Union detonated an H-bomb in the 50-megaton range.

The atomic bomb that devastated Hiroshima was in the 20-kilaton range. This means the explosive force of the Mt. St. Helens volcano was much more powerful than the Hiroshima bomb.

Pope John Paul II, in a visit to Hiroshima, took a look back to that fateful day in August, 1945, to remark: "To remember Hiroshima is to commit oneself to peace."

Viewing the damage of that first explosion makes one realize the potential for the destruction of our world!

Said the Pope: "Since that fearful day, nuclear stockpiles have grown in quantity and in destructive power.

"Let us take a solemn decision, now," said the Pope, "that war will never be tolerated or sought as a means of resolving differences."

Let us hope that we will never see the mushroom cloud that has become so famous in depicting destruction resulting from an atomic explosion! What does the Bible have to say about clouds?

Mysterious clouds have been reported in our skies. UFO's have been seen appearing as clouds.

M.R. DeHaan II, looking at that first liftoff of the space shuttle "Columbia" compared it to the time when our Lord will burst through the clouds when He comes to earth.

He writes in the publication, OUR DAILY BREAD: "As the countdown reached the last 10 seconds, the nation continued down in unison. Then...the great flying machine rose—straight up! Orange flame and vapor engulfed the launch site as sound and shock waves thundered through the air and ground.

Says DeHaan: "As promising as that event was, though, it's nothing compared with another event, the countdown of which may already be taking place in Heaven. It is the return of the Lord Jesus to the earth. He will usher in the dawn of a new age like man has never seen. When He comes in the clouds with power and great glory, all other hopes will look empty and foolish by comparison!"

Indeed, that is the hope for this world—when Christ comes again! And the Bible describes His coming in a "cloud!"

First, let's look at Luke 21:25 where we read: "And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars."

Prophetic writers see signs in the heavens of various kinds...comets, meteors, and other strange phenomena, as indicative that our Lord's coming is near!

Some even see significance in Halley's Comet.

TIME magazine relates: "When Halley's Comet last streaked across the skies in 1919, it was for many an unwelcome visitor. Fearful that the earth would be enveloped by deadly gases in its blowing tail, people bought Comet pills to ward off its effect, and held end-of-the-world gatherings."

Well, we won't say Halley's Comet is a sign of Christ's return but it is a

reminder to keep looking Heavenward for the coming of our Lord draweth nigh!

Just before the birth of Christ we have a record of Halley's Comet making an appearance. So why could it not happen again? We're not saying it is significant, but that it could be significant.

Jesus said there would be mysterious signs which would occur. Look at verse 11... "Fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven."

Who knows whether the mysterious clouds the scientists are sighting may be what our Lord was talking about! Eventually stars are seen falling and darkness is seen covering the earth.

Continuing to read in Luke 21, "Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory!"

So, our Lord is seen coming in a cloud.

Finally, we read, "And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads: for your redemption draweth nigh!"

We don't have to see all of the happenings that are predicted in the book of Revelation...the waters turning to blood, great hail falling upon the earth, men scorched with great heat...etc. It is "when these things begin to come to pass," that our redemption is near!

An event those who love the Lord are waiting for is recorded in 1 Thess. 4:16-17. "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: 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!"

Clouds are again mentioned in connection with Christ's coming.

Look at Christ's ascension, when He was taken up into Heaven following His resurrection. We read, "While they beheld, he was taken up: and a cloud received him out of their sight."

Two men who appeared in white apparel said, "Why stand ye gazing into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven."

So, as the Lord ascended into Heaven in a cloud, so He will return in a cloud.

Notice some other scriptures...

Rev. 1:7, "Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him!"

Today many ridicule the idea that Christ must return, or that the world faces judgment!

But our Lord said he would return, and those who aren't ready will "wail" because of Him.

In fact, the Bible tells us that ahead for this world is tribulation such as never has been seen, or ever will be seen again!

There shall be weeping, wailing, and gnashing of teeth, said Jesus.

But for those who are ready to meet Him, our Lord's coming is an escape from this sin-cursed world.

Thus, we're told, in view of Christ's coming for His own, "Wherefore comfort one another with these words!"

Christ's coming for those who are not ready is a message of doom, but for those who are ready to meet Him it is a message of hope!

Another scripture we might give referring to Christ coming again is found in Rev. 14:14..."And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud sat one like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle.

"And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap: for the harvest of the earth is ripe. And he that sat on the cloud, thrust in his sickle on the earth: and the earth was reaped!" (Rev. 14:14-16)

What an event that will be when the Lord allows judgments to come upon the earth!

So we would ask—are you ready to meet the Lord? Were He to come yet today...would you be caught up in a cloud?

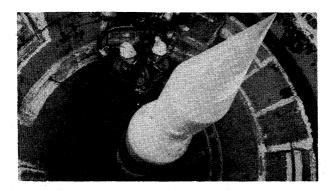
If you are not prepared to meet our Lord, why not get ready!

Pray this prayer: "Lord Jesus, I am not ready were You to come today! But I believe Your Word! I believe You are coming again "in a cloud" and I want to be ready to meet You when You come! I do here and now receive You as my Savior, to live for You, and do Your will, until You come! Amen."

Make that decision. Ask the Holy Spirit to comfort and guide you. Read your Bible and pray daily. Become active in a Bible believing church!

And, "Be ye therefore ready also, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh!"

Nuclear Disarmament



While the possibility of a nuclear holocaust is of paramount concern to world leaders, the question is asked: "What would happen were the smaller nations of the world to possess the bomb? And, what if it's deadly power were to be unleashed upon an unsuspecting world?

Col. Muammar Qadhafi, Libyan leader, has boasted: "Soon the atom will have no secrets from anybody. Tomorrow we will be able to buy an atom bomb and all its parts."

Some twenty nations now possess nuclear technology. A former member of the U.S. Arms Control Agency has commented: "If any of these countries were to make a technical or military mistake there would be a good chance that the whole civilized world would go up in nuclear smoke."

This then is the concern expressed in our war-torn world. Will a madman arise who has no regard for humanity who could become "hell-bent" on destruction?

One U.S. Senator has pointed out—some thirty wars are presently being fought in some part of the world. Some of these countries are in a constant state of war as in the case of the Arabs and Israel.

Observes Dr. William Ward Ayer, former pastor of New York's Calvary Baptist Church, "You are hopeless if you are not deeply alarmed by the hellishly destructive armaments that are being created and sold or given to all the world's nations, large and small. More than \$20 billion worth of arms are at this hour being traded worldwide. The so-called 'backward' nations are being supplied." Dr. Ayer points out, "Many so-called 'Third-World countries'—some of them just entering today's civilization, may become our most dangerous enemies. They seem insanely anxious to 'try out' these deadly weapons."

Convinced that we are threatened with nuclear catastrophe, Sen. William Proxmire, D-Wisc., says the United States should take the lead in developing an international force to deal with the aftermath of a nuclear explosion.

"It is gruesome to contemplate," said Proxmire, "but the truth is—the international community is not prepared to respond to a nuclear catastrophe."

He went on to say, "Given the possibility that a nuclear explosion will occur somewhere, sometime, the industrialized nations should be preparing today for the complicated process of clean-up, medical care and humanitarian assistance."

Proxmire admitted the "greatest threat to mankind is ready access to nuclear weapons technology." And he lamented, "The United States simply is not doing enough to stop it!"

Apparently that is the feeling being generated worldwide that finds congressional leaders, religious leaders and others calling for nuclear disarmament.

NEWSWEEK magazine (Jan. 11, '82) has observed, "Ever since Hiroshima, churchmen of all faiths have spoken out against the bomb."

As we have noted, there is a massive popular uprising against the arms race.

In Europe, thousands took to the streets to demonstrate against the bomb and use of nuclear weapons.

Likewise, in the United States protests grew rapidly in size and intensity.

"Nuclear disarmament," says the Rev. Miles O'Brien Riley, "is the moral issue of the day!"

Clayton Fritchey of NEWSDAY, says: "Fear of nuclear war is prompting more Americans to turn to their churches for help in halting the arms race."

We might ask—is the church giving the kind of help that men need? The greatest concern should be for the millions that would die in a nuclear holocaust. Where would they spend eternity?

While we are aware of all the gruesome aspects of what would happen were there an atomic explosion, we are also reminded of what our Lord said... "Fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

Yes, there is a real hell that is far worse than the hell we call "Hiroshima."

Officials tell us we have no way to halt a nuclear attack—no antiballistic missiles to prevent our destruction!

No wonder our Lord pictured His coming at a time when we would find "Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken."

When have you seen a fear of the future as today? With nations possessing vast arsenals of atomic weapons our situation is precarious.

While some would take to the streets in a march for peace and disarmament, perhaps it would be better to drop to our knees and get right with God!

Joel describes the day of the Lord, saying, "The sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining...for the day of the Lord is great and very terrible:and who can abide it?" (Joel 2:10b & IIb)

Doesn't that sound like a nuclear holocaust?

Whatever the destruction, whether bombs and missiles. or fire and brimstone from Heaven, there is a call to action.

We read, "Therefore also now, saith the Lord turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: and rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God:

and he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil."

In view of coming destruction we have a call to repentance.

C.M. Ward of Revivaltime writes: "The midnight hour is upon us. The hour of fate and doom." Asks Ward, "Neighbor, are you going to wait until the bombs fall? You had better drop down upon your knees right now, repent of your sins, and get right with God. The midnight hour is a blessed hope and joy for the Christian because he will be taken out of this midnight hour to be with the Lord." Hallelujah!

Notes Dr. Ward, "The darkest night in the world's history will soon be upon us. What are you going to do? It will be too late to pray then. Now is the time. You can say you do not believe what I am telling you, but that will not change the truth of God's Word."

Indeed, now is the time to believe God for a mighty world-wide revival. To prepare believers for the return of our blessed Lord we need the outpouring of God's spirit upon us.

As we reported earlier, the churches are on the march for peace in various parts of our world. In Europe, both the Lutheran church, Evangelical Synod, and the Roman Catholic church are throwing their weight behind plans for disarmament.

As one western diplomat in Bonn has observed, "The majority of West German Pacifists do not respond to political pressure. They are acting out of conviction. With them, it's a religion."

But if Europe were to disarm it would leave the population helpless against an enemy determined to conquer the world!

Is this not what the Soviets would like?

Can't you picture the armies from Russia on the move without the restraint of nuclear weapons in Europe?

Helmutt Schmidt, in a television speech directed to churchmen, said, "You cannot say, when someone else builds up missiles and armaments directed against your town and other towns, 'I will hold back and God will look after me.'

History has proven that when we disarm we only make ourselves more vulnerable to the enemy.

On the other hand, when nations are armed to the teeth, there is always the danger of becoming involved in a war. Europe has been a bloody battleground through the centuries.

As evidenced in this message, we can expect the churches to continue their peace initiatives.

This will be seen bringing on the worldwide Antichrist system.

The rider on the white horse, having a bow but no arrows, will soon appear on the horizon.

Some ask—is that not a picture of our Lord Jesus Christ?

The answer is "No." For before our Lord appears on this earth as "King of kings, and Lord of lords," one arises who is an imposter. He is called "The false prophet."

His rise is described by the Prophet Daniel who says, "By peace shall (he) destroy many!" (Dan. 8:25)

In other words, by aligning themselves with him, world statesmen will think they are doing God's will. In reality, they will be deceived into accepting a false peace.

While the intention of all believers is to "live peaceably among all men," the policy of men such as President Reagan is to remain strong militarily so we can maintain the peace!

However, in a democracy it is possible to overrule those who have the welfare of the nation at heart. So, in order to appease the majority there can come the acceptance of disarmament and peace.

Jeremiah describes this saying, "They have healed also the daughter of my people slightly, saying, peace, peace; when there is no peace!"

Did you hear it?

'n

The only way to have peace is to have it on God's terms, through faith in Jesus Christ.

"Being justified by faith we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." (Rom. 5:1)

Hyman Appleman, the Jewish evangelist, says: "Like Israel, America is facing the Phillistines who today are infintely more dangerous and infinitely more able to destroy us than they of old. We cannot compromise with them. That road leads to death. We cannot properly enter into treaties with them."

Inquires Appleman, who was born in the Soviet Union, "Shall we wait 'til intercontinental missiles are raining down death and smashing destruction upon our cities?"

He replies, "There is but one answer to this, that is, if God be for us, who can be against us? It is ours to make sure we have God on our side. But to have God on our side we must make sure we are on God's side. The key to today's situation is to get right with God!"

Did you hear it?

Are you right with God? If the Lord were to come now would you be ready?

You may be sure of your salvation. For we are saved by grace through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ!

But the Bible teaches that if we are looking for our Lord's return we will be found living a pure and holy life.

1 John 3 says, "We know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him: for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure!"

Today we find Christians on the march. They are marching for peace! I see another army—true to Jesus Christ, true to the principles of God's Word...marching on, marching forward, with the cross of Jesus, on fire for God and truth.

How Satan hates this message. He would have us to be lukewarm about our love and loyalty for Jesus Christ.

But we would urge you to come and march wtih us.

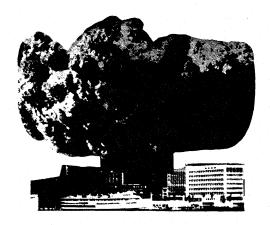
"Onward, Christian soldiers, marching as to war, with the cross of Jesus, going on before! Christ, the royal Master, leads against the foe: Forward into battle, see His banner go!

"At the sign of triumph Satan's host doth flee; on, then Christian soldiers, on to victory!"

Will you take a stand for Christ and righteousness? Will you turn from sin to trust the Savior? Then live for Him daily, for He is coming soon! Indeed, "Be ye therefore ready also, for in such n hour as ye think not,

the Son of man cometh!"

How To Escape A Nuclear Holocaust!



How vulnerable are we to a surprise attack by intercontinental ballistic missiles?

A columnist for the NEW YORK DAILY NEWS reports that the Soviet Union could wipe out the U.S. military communications system with "two or three" well-directed nuclear missiles. This would prevent any further retaliation on our part against a Soviet attack.

It is further implied that the Russians could set off nuclear air bursts that would incapacitate the underground command centers at Fort Richie, Maryland and Mount Weather, Virginia.

The Pentagon does not consider it secret information that the United States is vulnerable to a surprise attack! In fact, the President's request for a defense buildup is meant to offset any attempt of the enemy to launch a "first strike" and then dictate the terms of peace.

TIME magazine reports how the churches are taking the initiative in a call for peace and disarmament by delivering sermons on the virtues of peace.

Even the Soviet Union extended an invitation to Evangelist Billy Graham to come and speak in a conference on "preservation of life from nuclear destruction."

In the interest of peace and disarmament, tens of thousands of demonstrators have taken to the streets. Their purpose is mainly to reverse a decision by NATO to deploy U.S. built nuclear missiles in Western Europe.

Chancellor Helmut Schmidt had endorsed the deployment of Pershing missiles in W. Germany provided arms reduction talks are pursued as well.

The new mobile Pershing 2 missiles, launched from sites in Western Europe, could reach their target deep within the Soviet Union in six to eight minutes. Naturally, Russia does not want such missiles in her back yard.

Demonstraters, too, oppose these missiles. In West Germany alone there are some 300 peace groups. In Denmark, Norway, Spain and throughout Europe the disarmament movement is a hot political issue. Without question, this movement will play into the hands of the coming Antichrist world-ruler who is seen coming out of Europe, appearing as the world's peacemaker.

TIME magazine comments: "European rejection of the missiles would also break a crucial link in the complex chain of defenses that constitutes the West's deterrent against Armageddon." (Nov. 30, 1981)

Mention of Armageddon is a reminder of what we read in the book of Joel. Joel speaks of the coming Day of the Lord as "very great and terrible" and calls for a turning to God with fasting, weeping and with great mourning.

Should we not heed this call? Instead of parading, the churches should be praying!

We read "Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare they people, O Lord, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, WHERE IS THEIR GOD!"

Dr. L.E. Maxwell, president of Prairie Bible Institute, pictures us as sitting "on the brink of an earth-shocking and nuclear world crisis. The danger is so acute, and awful, and imminent that it is a wonder we are not prostrate on our faces before God!"

Asks Maxwell, "How long is it since we have had a protracted and drawn-out season of prayer...a day of humiliation, and fasting, and prayer? How long since we have seen old-fashioned conviction, and weeping, and confession of sin?"

Indeed, this is an hour for all to fall upon their faces before God to pray, "Spare thy people, O Lord," lest those who hate God and freedom would rule us, and nations which look on would say, "Where is your God!"

What is the alternative to prayer?

Some think it is "bigger bombs" and more accurate weapons! But those who remember Hiroshima would disagree. Disarmament is the answer, they say!

There are some who see the Russians softening in their bid for peace. Richard Pipes, a Harvard professor, and now on the staff of the National Security Council says. "Many American liberals are wrong in thinking that the Soviet government is in the hands of relatively moderate men and that if we are not accomodating to them, we will strengthen the dreadful hawks waiting in the wings." Says Pipes: "I believe the contrary. The current leadership is dominated by parochial old Stalinists. What can be worse than that?" he asks.

So, the Kremlin cannot be trusted. Their goal of world conquest has not changed. And the possibility of our involvement in a nuclear war ever remains a possibility.

A Canadian news reporter gives his impression of what would happen were our cities to be subjected to an all-out atomic attack.

He writes: "Neither you nor anyone else would hear the plane or missile approaching. The first thing you would be aware of would be a monstrous flash of light; a light as intense and blinding as the core of the sun."

One government official estimates "several hundred million deaths probably would be caused by large-scale use of hydrogen weapons in war." (Lt. Gen. James M. Gavin)

It was in view of our atomic weapons that a German scientist said, "It is

now possible to depopulate the earth in 23 hours."

Not even a super-deep shelter would provide protection from modern weapons if located near the explosion.

As we see it, the only hope for mankind is in knowing Jesus Christ. He is our hiding place—our Rock of Safety.

From the Bible we believe we can expect our Lord to return for His own before a nuclear holocaust. In Luke 17:21 our Lord reminds us—"The same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all, even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed."

As this world was once destroyed by a flood, it will again be destroyed by fire.

Peter speaks of a day when "the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up!"

The description of the Apostle Peter is very realistic. Peter speaks of "elements," of a great noise, and fervent heat!

Would man destroy himself? Or, does God Himself unleash this judgment described here?

We do not know. We do know man is capable of bringing on this destruction. And there is a verse that says, "The Lord at thy right hand shall strike through kinds in the day of his wrath." (Psa. 110:5) We see the possibility of men and nations bringing on the awful great tribulation. If anything, God steps in to stop it. We read, "except those days be shortened there would no flesh be saved.." (Matt. 24:22a)

In Revelation we see God "holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow upon the earth..." (Rev. 7:1) Could this be for the purpose of keeping deadly radioactive dust from threatening humanity in a nuclear explosion?

Another verse in Revelation reminds us that when the Lord comes, He will "destroy them which destroy the earth!" Who is seen destroying the earth?

The answer, "Man!"

We repeat, as we see it—the coming of our Blessed Lord is our only hope in the day in which we live.

Beloved, it is in view of death-dealing destruction, with the possibility of bombs and missiles falling upon our cities that Dr. Herbert Lockyer has written, "Do you not think that the alarm must be sounded? Is it not time to warn this mad, blind, doomed world that the hours of grace are passing with alarming swiftness? Suddenly," he warns, "destruction will overtake this unbelieving and deluded world unless it is aroused and made to repent for it's sins. May urgency prevail and compel us to sound the solemn warning of judgment to come."

The Bible would indicate that this age will end in lukewarmness. There is a shallow "easy-believism" prevailing. Instead of being "on fire" for God, there is lethargy and complacency.

Gen. Ben Lear testified: "The biggest job in the Army is to knock the complacency out of young officers and men, to make them realize that only by doing their greatest effort, their utmost unselfishness, their infinite pains, and their capacity for self-sacrifice...will victory be attained. We must arouse in them the spirit of the offensive."

Likewise, in the Christian life we need to be "abounding in the work of the Lord, seeing our labour is not in vain in the Lord."

As we heard earlier, we need men of God to take the initiative to call their people to prayer—to pray for world revival that will prepare the church for the soon return of our Blessed Lord.

Ministers, may your hearts be stirred anew and challenged afresh in calling your congregations to prayer.

In our day it is so easy to feast instead of to fast, and to parade in peace marches rather than to pray for revival.

Robert Murray McCheyne said: "If Satan can only make a covetous minister, a lover of praise, of pleasure, of good eating—he has ruined that one's ministry. Give yourself to prayer," urged McCheyne.

In all seriousness we would ask—are we watching? Are we praying? Are we ready were our Lord to return today?

With nations possessing atomic weapons it is as though the world is sitting on a powder keg that is ready to explode. We don't know when. Thus it does behoove us to be ready! If missiles were launched tonight upon our cities, or Christ were to come, would you be ready?

Our Lord has commanded that we be ready! By coming to know Him as our Lord and Savior and then living a holy life...we can be ready for His coming.

In view of His coming our Lord says, "Be sober!" It may be necessary to turn off the clowning commedians and get down on our knees and start praying—getting right with God, if we are not ready to meet the Lord!

What is it that comes to your mind—a sin you are committing, a wrong habit?

We are admonished to "lay aside every sin, and the weight that doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith!" (Heb. 12:1-2a)

We cannot save ourselves, but Jesus will save us and keep us 'til He comes.

Pray this prayer.

"Lord, I believe You died to save me, and You live to keep me. I receive You as my Savior and Lord, to live for You, and do Your will, 'til You come. Amen."

Pray that prayer and let the Lord take over in your life.

And "Be ye therefore ready also, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh!"

Are We Facing A Nuclear Holocaust?



Henry Kissinger was asked whether he thought any man in Washington or Moscow was capable of pushing the button that would send off a first salvo of nuclear missiles.

Kissinger replied: "I really do not know...I am not sure whether there is any leader in either country who, when confronted with the choice, could actually push the button."

One advisor to our Chief Executives, who served four presidents. declared: "It never seriously enters (their) minds that they really will have to use today's missile forces." (Mr. Clark Clifford)

However, times may be changing!

TIME magazine devoted it's main cover story in MARCH, 1982. to "THINKING THE UNTHINKABLE...Rising Fears About Nuclear War."

Much discussion is taking place on whether there should be a freeze on nuclear weapons by the United States and the Soviet Union.

Concerned over the nuclear buildup, Pope John Paul II sent a delegation of scientists to try to persuade leaders in Washington and in the Kremlin that nuclear war would be too calamitous even to consider unleashing.

Former Defense Secretary Harold Brown stated: "Strategic war is so obviously catastrophic to all engaged in it that it is only under enormous political stress, provocation and escalation—probably from lower levels of conflict—that it has any chance of happening."

And James Schlesinger adds: "A nuclear war would probably get started only by miscalculation."

The danger of miscalculation is seen in the number of false alerts that have occured in the past. The fear that a faulty computer chip, or flock of geese, might trigger a nuclear attack remains a frightening possibility.

An incident is recalled in the 1960's when a newly installed radar warning system mistook the rising of the moon for a massive Soviet missile attack.

Fortunately, our government has not taken these "false alerts" seriously. But it means we may not know the difference from a "real" alert.

In a book entitled NUCLEAR WAR: WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?, the author, Roger Molander, sees the total destructive power of the nuclear weapons of all nations "as equalling 10 tons of TNT for every man, woman and child on the face of the earth."

Today we would ask—is there any possibility that a nuclear war will be unleashed upon our world? WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?

The proposal for a freeze on nuclear weapons is gaining momentum sparked mainly by religious leaders.

At least 70 of 368 Roman Catholic Bishops in the United States have spoken out against the arms race or in favor of a nuclear freeze.

Likewise the National Council of Churches, which claims to represent 40 million Protestants, has given support for a bilateral nuclear freeze.

Without question, the nuclear debate has become a major religious issue.

Even the Rev. Kim Crutchfield, a Pentecostal minister in Atlanta, says: "It is right that Christians be concerned with nuclear war, because nuclear war threatens God's kingdom on earth."

Today we want to ask—is there evidence from the Bible that man might use these diabolical weapons? Is it possible that man will destroy himself?

A scripture often quoted is 2 Peter 3:10 which says: "The day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up."

This is a picture of a nuclear-type explosion.

Some would point out that it is the "day of the Lord" that makes the Lord responsible for raining fiery destruction down upon the earth as in the days of Sodom and Gomorrah.

This, however, is not the total picture. While it is the Day of the Lord, it is also a time when man is seen bringing destruction upon this earth. As we read in Revelation 11:18, we are reminded that when our Lord returns, He will "destroy them which destroy the earth."

In view of vast destruction resulting from a nuclear blast there has been talk of the need of shelters.

Thomas K. Jones, Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for strategic theater nuclear forces, when asked how Americans might survive a nuclear attack, replied: "Dig a hole, cover it with a couple of doors, and then throw three feet of dirt on top. Everyone's going to make it if there are enough shovels to go around."

The Prophet Isaiah speaks of the day of the Lord when men will go into holes.

Isaiah speaks of the "last days" saying, "For the day of the Lord of hosts shall be upon everyone that is proud and lofty, and upon every one that is lifted up; and he shall be brought low."

Then we read, "And they shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth, for fear of the Lord, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth." (Isa. 2:2, 12, 19)

Then Jeremiah, addressing his words to the "kings of the north," and "all the kingdoms of the world" writes, "Thus saith the Lord of

hosts...Drink ye and be drunken, and spue, and fall, and rise no more, because of the sword which I will send among you."

Notice, the Lord says He will send a "sword." He will allow military weapons to bring nations to their knees.

Again we read, "I will call for a sword upon all the inhabitants of the earth, saith the Lord of hosts." (Jer. 25:29b)

Did you hear it?

We read, "Therefore prophesy thou against them all these words, and say unto them, the Lord shall roar from on high, and utter his voice from his holy habitation; he shall mightily roar upon his habitation; he shall give a shout, as they that tread the grapes, against all the inhabitants of the earth."

Notice, the "shout."

We're all aware of the event we call the Rapture if we are acquainted with Paul's words in 1 Thess. 4 when he says, "The Lord 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."

Jeremiah, too, mentions the "shout" when the Lord shall "roar from on high."

We read, "A noise shall come even to the ends of the earth, for the Lord hath a controversy with the nations, he will plead with all flesh; he will give them that are wicked to the sword, saith the Lord." (Jer. 25:30-31)

Notice, the wicked, not the saints, will be slain. We believe before the holocaust hits the Lord will come for His own. The saints will be in Heaven when the wicked are slain on earth.

In Heaven it is the marriage supper of the Lamb, while on earth it is called the "supper of the Great God," when the flesh of men becomes the food of vultures.

In Rev. 19:17 we read when an angel cries to the fowls that fly in the midst of Heaven, saying: "Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; that ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great."

What destruction?

Writes Isaiah, "For by fire and by his sword will the Lord plead with all flesh; and the slain of the Lord shall be many." (Isa. 66:16)

Jeremiah speaks of a great whirlwind raised up from the coasts of the earth. America has a vast coastline so that it may be a prophecy relating to the United States.

We read: "Thus saith the Lord of hosts, behold, evil shall go forth from nation to nation, and a great whirlwind shall be raised up from the coasts of the earth. And the slain of the Lord shall be at that day from one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth; they shall not be lamented, neither gathered, nor buried; they shall be dung upon the ground."

May we ask, doesn't that sound like worldwide destruction? Is it possible that this is nuclear in scope?

Incidentally, Zechariah speaks of the day when armies will descend upon Jerusalem at Armageddon, saying, "This shall be the plague wherewith the Lord will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth."

Some see this as a sign of nuclear destruction.

Men are quick to blame God for wars and destruction, but in reality man often brings on these calamities, although God allows it.

Evidence that men and nations will bring on the day of wrath we call the Great Tribulation is seen in Psalm 110:5, where we read, "The Lord at thy right hand shall strike through kings in the day of his wrath. He shall judge among the heathen, he shall fill the places with the dead bodies; he shall wound the heads over man countries."

Yes, an abundance of Scripture shows that man will bring on destruction that is atomic in nature. But before this happens we expect the Lord to come for His own.

In Luke 17:29 & 30 we read: "But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom, it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed."

Before the holocaust of destruction of fire and brimstone we can expect the Lord to come and remove from off the earth all who know and love Him. Is this not the Believer's hope?

For angels came and dragged Lot and his family out of the city before the fire fell, which brought destruction to Sodom.

Thus we are admonished, "Watch ye therefore and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man."

For we read, "As a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth."

We would ask, are you ready if the bombs were to fall, or the ICBM's were to explode over our cities?

As we see it, Christ's coming is the only hope from the vast destruction we described for you in today's program.

We believe the sign that would indicate our Lord's Return is near is that of a call for peace and disarmament.

As Paul writes concerning the day of the Lord, "For when they shall say, peace and safety, then sudden destruction cometh upon them as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape."

But concerning the redeemed we read, "For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him." Hallelujah!

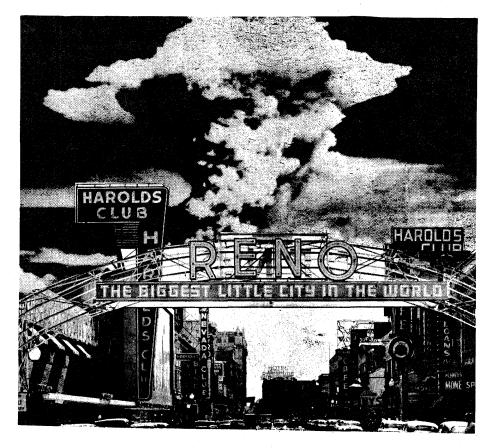
Are you ready for our Lord's return?

Pray this prayer.

"Lord Jesus, I believe You are coming soon. I want to be ready. I do receive You as my Savior and Lord to live for You and do Your will 'til You come! Amen."

Pray that prayer and mean it. And, be ye therefore ready also, for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh!

The U.S. In Prophecy



Is Destruction Our Destiny?

Witnessing disarmament rallies and peace talks across the country, NEWSWEEK magazine asks: "Why are Americans suddenly goaded to action on the issue of nuclear war?"

Paul C. Warnke, former Carter Administration official and Salt II negotiator, says: "People are scared. All of a sudden they've begun to realize what would happen if there were a nuclear war."

At the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City, Warnke called upon the United States not to be the first to use nuclear weapons.

In an address to Georgetown University's Center for Strategic and International Studies, Seceretary of State, Alexander Haig warned that the best way to deter a nuclear attack is to "maintain the military balance now being threatened by the Soviet buildup!"

A freeze on the buildup of Soviet and American nuclear weapons as a step toward halting the arms race and reducing the risk of atomic war is being urged in this country and in Western Europe.

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How do the American people feel about such a freeze?

A poll taken by the LOS ANGELES TIMES and Cable News Network found that a majority of Americans want an immediate freeze on nuclear weapons by the United States and the Soviet Union. By a five-to-three ratio, Americans would like to see the testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons halted.

Here is a sample of the reaction to a freeze.

A grandmother wrote to one of our news magazines, stating: "A U.S.-Soviet nuclear freeze is needed to halt the insane, out-of-control arms race..."

Another wrote his conviction that "The 'peace movement' may only hasten what it seeks to prevent: Nuclear War!"

Another quotes the Roman adage, "If you desire peace, prepare for war."

Some may ask—are there not Biblical principles that should govern our attitude toward peace and the subject of disarmament?

In the days of Roman rule, the Apostle Paul wrote: "For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil." He adds, "For he beareth not the sword in vain," thus God has ordained governments to use the sword to maintain the peace and suppress evil!

However, there is evidence to indicate the time will come when to bear arms will be catastrophic!

In Revelation, we read of a time coming when "he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword."

Does this mean if the Soviet Union were to drop nuclear bombs on us, that she would likewise experience destruction?

Time will tell!

With nuclear weapons capable of destroying our world many times over, the cry is heard, "Let's ban the bomb! Let's stop the nuclear arm's race!"

The Bible also reminds us of a time coming, "When they shall say peace and safety: then sudden destruction cometh!"

We have watched with great interest the anti-nuclear rallies and demonstrations in Europe that have spread to churches, universities, town meetings and even to the Congress.

James Reston of the NEW YORK TIMES points out in a copyrighted article, "It is not the Soviet Union but the United States that has led the fight for the control of nuclear weapons since the last World War!" He goes on to suggest, "It was President Eisenhower who proposed a wide reduction of nuclear arms and the transfer of the money saved to the hungry people of the world. And it was the Soviet Union that rejected all these proposals." It is noted, "The young people who are now demonstrating for the control of nuclear weapons understandably have no memory of all this."

While supporting nuclear arms control, Eisenhower was quoted, when laying the keel of the nuclear aircraft carrier that bears his name, as saying: "Until war is eliminated from international relations, unpreparedness for it is well nigh as criminal as war itself!"

Glenn T. Seaborg, in a copyrighted article in the U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT, states: "There is about a 1 percent per year probability for nuclear war between the United States and the Soviet Union." In other

words, the threat of an all-out nuclear attack is growing. And, it is noted: "Such an event would be a catastrophe!"

"It's difficult to conceive that such a war could be limited, so we are talking in terms of the deaths of tens of millions of people on each side," says Seaborg, one time chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission.

Today we would ask—is it possible the United States of America faces nuclear destruction? Is the United States in Bible prophecy?

Billy Graham, in his book 'TILL ARMAGEDDON, writes: "There is no doubt that global events are preparing the way for the final war of history—the great Armageddon!"

Says Graham, "As the top of Mount St. Helens blew off early in 1980 and became one of the great disasters of that period, so the Bible teaches in Hebrews 12 that God is going to shake the whole earth. The Bible says, "Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens."

Referring to what we believe to be the great imminent sign of our Lord's return is the peace movements which we are now seeing.

Writes Graham, "The ancient prophets warned about a time toward the end of history when people would be saying "peace, peace" when there is no peace! He reiterates, "Now the signs are everywhere that the world is preparing feverishly for World War III, which could be the last war—ARMAGEDDON!"

What does the Bible say about the United States in prophecy?

When asked, "Is the U.S.A. mentioned by name in prophecy?" Dr. Franklin Logston, in his book IS THE US IN PROPHECY, replies, "The answer, of course, is no. But if you ask, Is the U.S.A. in the framework of prophecy? the answer is an unqualified yes!

In chapter 1 of Jeremiah we read where God says of him, "I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations."

Jeremiah was given a picture of the future of nations that we believe includes the United States.

For instance, in chapter 10 we read, "For the customs of the people are vain: for one cutteth a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman with the axe. They deck it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers, that it move not."

Doesn't that sound like the Christmas tree?

Then we read: "Who would not fear thee, O King of nations? for to thee doth it appertain."

I believe we are the "King of nations," and that this is a reference to the United States.

Although the Christmas tree had its beginning in Germany a hundred years ago, the custom was later introduced to America where 40 million trees are cut annually.

A research study to find which is the number one country in the world declared, "The U.S. is quite overwhelmingly number one in its overall quality of living!"

Indeed, we are the King of nations.

Then, in Jeremiah 25 and verse 32 we read, "Thus saith the Lord of hosts, behold, evil shall go forth from nation to nation, and a great whirlwind shall be raised up from the coasts of the earth."

America is noted for its coastline—Atlantic and Pacific—so that we could be referred to here. In fact, the first mushrooming cloud from an

atomic bomb resulted from bombs dropped by the United States at Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Now notice, as a result of this whirlwind raised up from the coasts of the earth, we read, "And the slain of the Lord shall be at that day from one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth..."

Did you hear it?

Here is evidence of a nuclear-kind of destruction that will be worldwide! Our minister should be warning our people of what's ahead for this is catastrophe that is global.

We read as a result of this destruction, the dead "shall not be lamented, neither gathered, nor buried; they shall be dung upon the ground!"

Doctor Howard Hiatt of Harvard's School of Public Health has said, "Medical Science could do absolutely nothing in the event of a nuclear catastrophe!"

Then we read this next verse, which could be a reference to the United States: "Howl, ye shepherds, and cry; and wallow yourselves in the ashes, ye principal of the flock..."

Shepherds are often a reference to ministers, and the flock is the church. So could this be a reference to the United States where there are more Believers than anywhere else in the world? Are we the "principal of the flock?"

We read on, "...for the days of your slaughter and of your dispersions are accomplished; and ye shall fall like a pleasant vessel."

We're told George Washington had a vision at Valley Forge in which he saw three perils confronting our people—the most fearful being the third. Washington was quoted as saying, "I saw hordes of armed men, ...I dimly saw these vast armies devastate the whole country and burn the villages, towns and cities."

Is this passage which we have just read in Jeremiah 25 a reference to the United States? Is destruction our destiny?

Notes in the Scofield Bible say of this passage, "The prophecy leaps to the very end of this age."

Beloved, we believe we are living in the end of time. Jesus is soon to come. And we need to be ready!

Our only escape from the coming holocaust is to flee to the loving arms of the Savior and find forgiveness, and then live in readiness for His coming.

What a tragedy for those left behind to face the awful reality we have described today.

Jesus said, "Watch ye therefore and pray always that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man." (Lu. 21:36)

Indeed, this is our only hope from escape from coming awful great tribulation—the return of Christ for His own.

Once the Rapture occurs, there will be no further escape. Jeremiah speaks of unfaithful ministers, saying: "The shepherds shall have no way to flee, nor the principal of the flock to escape."

Or as we read in 1 Thess. 5, "For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape."

We repeat, we are living in the endtime when this prophecy awaits fulfilment. People are shouting peace. But it is a sign of coming destruction. And when this destruction comes there will be no escape except for those "caught up" to be with Christ when He returns for His own.

The preceding verses remind us, "The Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: 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. Wherefore, comfort one another with these words."

Did you hear it?

It will be comfort to those who are ready to meet the Lord when He comes.

We would ask—are you ready? If Jesus were to come today would you go back to Heaven with Him?

How important to be ready for we know the day nor the hour when He will come.

We believe our Lord holds out the promise of escape, but it is conditioned on our watching and praying!

Concerning the ten virgins, there came a time when they all slumbered and slept. And then there was a cry made—and all arose and trimmed their lamps.

Beloved, this is lamp-trimming time!

Prepare for our Lord's coming by repenting of sin, turning from lethargy and worldliness and careless living, to trust Christ as your Savior and Lord.

Our Lord warned lest the cares of this life come upon you and that day come unawares!

Are you occupied with the cares of this life, rather than excited about eternal life through Jesus Christ?

Then do something for God. Help us get out this message to reach our world before it's too late!

Do you believe the United States is mentioned in prophecy?

Quickly let me give one more reference from Jeremiah, which we believe speaks of our nation.

In chapter 31, verse 7, we read, "For thus saith the Lord; Sing with gladness for Jacob, and shout among the chief of the nations; publish ye, praise ye, and say, O Lord, save they people, the remnant of Israel."

In reality the coming great tribulation is a time of trouble for Israel. But God gives to the "chief" of the nations a solemn responsibility—to publish his greatness, to praise Him, and to pray for Israel.

Most Jews live in the United States, so if nuclear missiles hit New York or Miami and elsewhere there could be many destroyed in the dust of an atomic explosion.

In closing may we ask—are we fulfilling the obligation God has given us? As the chief of the nations we have the responsibility to tell forth this urgent message—"Jesus is coming soon! Be ready!"

And, we need to pray for our nation and for our people. If our nation was destroyed tonight by intercontinental ballistic missiles exploding overhead, would you be able to say you were faithful in warning your friends and neighbors?

It's one thing to march for peace. It's still another to remember— "When they shall say peace and safety, sudden destruction cometh!" And then warn of coming destruction, for it is just ahead!

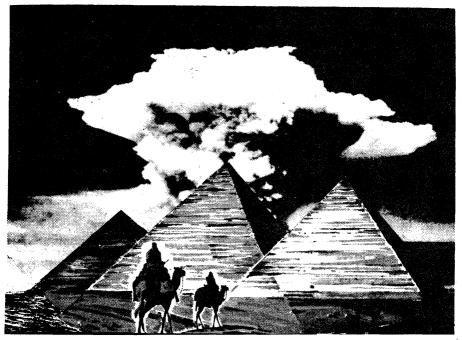
If you've never done so, come to Christ while there is still opportunity. The Bible says, "Knowing of the terror of the Lord, we persuade men."

We impress upon you the urgency of turning to the Lord now. Today is still a day of salvation.

Pray this prayer: "Lord Jesus, come into my heart and life. Save me as You promised You would do. You said, "He that cometh to You, You would in no wise cast out!" You said You were not willing that any should perish but all come to repentance. I do repent of my sins. I come trusting You as my Savior and Lord to live for You and serve You'til You come!"

Indeed, be ye therefore ready also, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh!

The Mideast And Nuclear War



Bertrand Russel, in the final volume of his autobiography, expressed the fear that mankind will ultimately destroy itself by nuclear warfare.

Dr. David Weber, of the Southwest Radio Church program, lists a nuclear holocaust as the number one concern of mankind today!

The big question remains—if there were a nuclear war, how would it begin, and where?

The Association of Atomic Scientists has moved the minute hand on the "doomsday clock" to just minutes 'til midnight, and members have voiced the opinion that a nuclear war could break out in the Middle East before 1990.

Since the Middle East has been identified as a possible place for a nuclear attack, we would ask—what does the Bible say about such a possibility?

At the United Nations, in a closed meeting of 35 leaders, U. Thant, as Secretary-General, said, "I do not wish to seem over dramatic, but I can only conclude from the information that is available to me as Secretary-General that the members of the United Nations have perhaps ten years left!"

TIME IS RUNNING OUT!

It is believed that before long as many as thirty-five nations will possess nuclear weapons, according the the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission.

That some of these weapons will be used in the Middle East ever remains a possibility.

Recall Israel's raid on a nuclear facility in Baghdad? Is that not something of an indication of how strongly Israel feels about neighbor nations possessing atomic weapons? For she knows if they have these weapons she will be the target of destruction.

It might appear that Israel's greatest danger is from the Soviet Union. The Russian invasion of Afghanistan is seen as the first step toward the

invasion of Israel, as predicted in the Word of God.

Many U.S. officials see Afghanistan as a stepping stone into the Middle East. The Soviets have an air base in operation that would give them easy access to the Persian Gulf and its oil.

Iran is also seen as the next target of a Soviet invasion. As Dr. C.S. Lovett points out: "Established in Iran, the Soviets would control the Mideast!"

And, as Dr. Lovett observes, "This could happen at any moment."

"The U.S. is treaty bound to defend Israel. When the Soviets mount their threat against our Mideast partner, the U.S. will challenge, warning the Russians to back off. Simultaneously our armed forces about the globe will be placed on full alert.

"That will be the signal to the Soviets. They'll know it's time to launch a

first strike against the U.S."

He adds: "There'll be no hesitation...!'m convinced of that. If we accept General George Keegan's estimate, they'll knock out our fleet in less than one week, destroy our 52's on the ground and neutralize most of our missiles."

"President Reagan will PRESS THE BUTTON in the black case that never leaves his side. We'll retaliate with the firepower we have left...and it will be considerable."

The question we would ask, how vulnerable is the Middle East to such an attack? What evidence do we have from both news reports and the Bible that the Middle East is faced with a nuclear attack...now or ever?

It is reported that before his death, Joseph Stalin boasted that he would gather the largest army ever assembled and send it against Palestine. As a matter of fact, the Soviet Union had a postage stamp depicting a map of Russia and the Middle East with four horsemen bearing a red standard galloping south toward Israel.

With our Bibles open we would like to look at a passage in Ezekiel 38-39, which depicts such an event...Russian armies and nations allied with

her moving down toward the land of Israel.

We read: "And thou shalt come from thy place out of the north parts, thou, and many people with thee, all of them riding upon horses, a great company, and a mighty army!"

Naturally, Ezekiel penned these words before tanks and airplanes. So his description of wht he saw was characteristic of his day.

Some believe actual horses will be used, but this doesn't have to be the case.

Then we read of the target of this invasion..."And thou shalt come up against my people of ISRAEL, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the latter days."

Finally, as a result of this invasion we read where the Lord says: "And I will send a fire on Magog (the land of Russia), and among them that dwell carelessly in the isles: and they shall know that I am the Lord."

The word "isles" used here is a Hebrew word which means "coastlands," possibly a reference to us.

So it is believed that when this invasion takes place the result will be a nuclear exchange between Russia and the United States. The "fire" that falls on MAGOG and on them which dwell carelessly in the isles could be "nuclear" in scope.

It is reported that if the Soviet Union were to be hit by nuclear bombs and missiles she would survive because she has underground shelters.

Under Secretary of Defense Thomas K. Jones says, with its current defensive measures, the Soviet Union could rebuild its prewar gross national product within two to four years after a nuclear conflict."

Ezekiel writes: "Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal."

Gog is the leader of this northern army. Meshech and Tubal are believed to be Moscow and Tubalsk—two famous Russian cities.

God says: "I will turn thee back, and leave but the sixth part of thee, and will cause thee to come up from the north parts and will bring thee upon the mountains of Israel; and I will smite thy bow out of thy left hand, and will cause thine arrows to fall out of thy right hand. Thou shalt fall upon the mountains of Israel, thou, and all thy bands, and the people that is with thee; I will give thee unto the ravenous birds of every sort, and to the beasts of the field to be devoured. Thou shalt fall upon the open field; for I have spoken it, saith the Lord." (Ezek. 39:1-5)

There you have the doom of the Soviet Union and her allies as forecast in the Word of God.

We might mention...among the nations allied with Russia in this invasion of the land of Israel and Persia (present day Iran), Ethiopia, Libya, Gomer (West Germany), and the House of Togarmah (Turkey).

These are all countries that are seen moving into the Russian orbit.

Egypt will also suffer as a result of this invasion. We read, "And the sword shall come upon Egypt, and great pain shall be in Ethiopia." (Ezek. 30: 3,4a)

Then we read, "And they shall know that I am the Lord, when I have set a fire in Egypt."

Is this "fire" the result of a nuclear blast? Is it the same fire that falls on Magog and they that dwell carelessly in the isles?

Of this we can be sure—the prophecy relates to the Day of the Lord! And that day is a day of "fire."

For example, Peter writes: "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?"

Is that a description of the destruction of heaven and earth that is "nuclear"?

Peter's description of the Day of the Lord finds him asking, "What manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the

heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?" (2 Peter 11b-12)

Although it is the Day of the Lord we see where men and nations bring on this endtime destruction forecast for the last days.

For example, in Psa. 110:5 we read, "The Lord at thy right hand shall strike through kings in the day of his wrath. He shall judge among the heathen, he shall fill the places with the dead bodies: he shall wound the heads over many countries."

Doesn't that indicate that man brings on much of the judgment of the tribulation?

It would appear that Kings and nations bring on this day of wrath by drenching the earth with nuclear fallout. And, it would almost appear that God steps in to try to stop radio-active fallout from killing every one.

In Revelation 7, John sees four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree. We might ask, is this to prevent radioactivity from spreading and killing everyone and everything?

We do know Jesus said, "Except those days be shortened there should no flesh be saved..." so we know awful days are ahead for this world.

Today we're asking the question—will nuclear war come to the Middle East?

In Scripture we see Russia and nations allied with her invading Israel. This, we believe begins the tribulation which prophetic scholars believe to be seven years in length.

Then at the end of those seven years we see "all" nations coming against Jerusalem.

Writes Zechariah of this holy city that is sacred to Jew, Christian and Moslem alike, "Behold, the day of the Lord cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle..."

Did you hear it?

We read, "Then shall the Lord go forth, and fight against those nations..."

Apparently, not until the Battle of Armageddon does the Lord intervene to bring to an end this day of tribulation.

The carnage will be great. John the Revelator pictures the blood flowing to the horses bridles for the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs, or a distance of 176 miles.

In Rev. 18:17 an angel is heard in the midst of heaven saying, "Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; that ye may eat the flesh of kings and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great."

This is the battle of Armageddon when the armies of earth, led by the world ruler we call the Antichrist, wage war with the armies of saints led by our Lord Jesus Christ seen coming from Heaven.

Zechariah writes, "And the Lord my God shall come, and all the saints with thee."

Now, for all the saints to return from Heaven to be a part of the army of our Lord when he fights at Armageddon, it would seem they must be caught up at the Rapture which precedes that event.

We would point out, however, where Zechariah writes: "And this shall be the plague wherewith the Lord shall smite all the people that fought against Jerusalem; their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth." (Zech. 14:12)

This nuclear kind of destruction the Lord unleashes upon the wicked. For before He sets His foot down upon the Mount of Olives He must destroy the enemies of God seen marching on Jerusalem. There will be no more fists raised toward God in Heaven when our Lord returns to rule this earth. As Zechariah says: "And the Lord shall be king over all the earth; in that day shall there be one Lord, and his name one."

We would ask, is He your Lord? Have you received Him as your Savior? You can be on the winning side if you'll join His army.

Then, in view of cataclysmic judgments seen coming on the earth, Peter reminds us, "What manner of persons ought ye to be!"

Says Peter, "Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot and blameless. And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation."

Aren't you glad the Lord didn't return in 1900? (I wouldn't have been here then!)

But we are living in a day when we expect Him to appear!

Writes John, "We know, that when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is!"

Are you looking for His return?

Again, John says, "And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure."

Are you looking for Jesus to come? If so, you will want to be ready! Pray this prayer: "Lord Jesus, I receive You as my Savior and Lord to live for You until You come. Amen."

Pray that prayer and mean it. And, "Be ye therefore ready also, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh."