

# "Warning — Danger Ahead" Part 2

Last Monday evening, Tampa, FL Mayor Jane Cestor told CNN in an interview that "listening to mandatory orders [to evacuate ahead of Hurricane Milton] is crucial for survival." She said, "I can say without any dramatization whatsoever: If you choose to stay in one of those evacuation areas, you're going to die." USA Today, October 8< 2024. And many did die as a result of the latest two hurricanes, Helene and Milton — eleven individuals from just one family during Helene!



"We are living in the season of Christ's return."

Pastor Darrell Chilson

Jesus said, "<u>Watch</u> and <u>be ready</u>, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour

you do not expect."

The mission of
West Valley Ministries is to help
Christ's followers
recognize the signs
of His approaching
return and be prepared for that
Great Day.

There's another more destructive storm approaching which will soon impact our entire nation, not just the southeastern states of the U.S., and the signs of its imminent "landfall" are numerous. As Americans, we are facing a period of violence and bloodshed in our country unknown to America since the Civil War. Newscasters, podcasters, and numerous news outlets are predicting widespread political violence in the months ahead as socialism and anti-Christian agendas seek to dominate the direction of our country.

If ever there was a time for Christians to reclaim their faith and examine their loyalties to truth and right, it is now before the "storm" breaks. If ever there was an urgency to become familiar with the Bible's forecast of our future, it is certainly now. A knowledge of the prophecies of the Bible enable us to see WHAT to expect. A knowledge of the Gospel of Scriptures reveals to us the HOW of survival. These two areas of study are just what West Valley End-Time Ministries is attempting to cover every Sabbath Afternoon, and in these newsletters and the videos posted on our website — WVETM.com.

This week we continue our discussion on the points found on the next page — giving each participant opportunity to choose which topics are of most interest to them for study and examination. Join us for study and fellowship every Sabbath afternoon as we explore these important subjects together.

In Him,



### SOME MONUMENTAL THINGS THAT WILL OCCUR ON EARTH BEFORE JESUS RETURNS

- 1) The First Set of Warning Judgments (The Seals All literal events!) Revelation 6:8
  - "Sword (bloodshed)
  - " Famine

### **AFFECTING 1/4 OF THE EARTH!**

- " Pestilence
- 2) The Second Set of Warning Judgments (The Trumpets Literal events) Revelation 8:7-12
- 3) The Final Set of Punitive Judgments (The Plagues Literal events) Revelation 16:1-11
- 4) The Papacy (Church of Rome) rises to unprecedented religious and political power over earth Revelation 13:3, 4; 17:8
- 5) America leads the world to receive the Mark of the Beast Revelation 13:11-18
- 6) The followers of Christ receive the "Mark of the Lamb" ("seal of God") Ezekiel 9:4; Revelation 7:2, 3; 14:1; 9:4
- 7) The special messengers of God proclaim the saving Gospel in the context of the Judgment hour Revelation 14:6, 7; 11:3-6
- 8) The devil and his agents perform spectacular, supernatural signs and wonders to deceive the world Matthew 24:24; Revelation 13:13, 14; 16:14; 19:20
- 9) The followers of Christ will be betrayed and persecuted some will flee to remote areas for refuge and some will be martyred Matthew 24:9, 10, 15-22; Revelation 6:9-11; 11:7
- 10) The kings of the earth will "reign with the Beast" for a short time, then will turn on her and hate her Revelation 17:16, 17
- 11) Satan himself will appear on the earth for his final efforts of deception and appeal Revelation 9:1-3, 11; 17:8-11; 20:1-3
  - NOTE: In Revelation 12, the Dragon (Satan) is described as having 7 heads and 10 horns. In Revelation 13, the Dragon gives his power and authority to the Beast (the Papacy) who is described as having 7 heads and 10 horns. The Beast becomes a human surrogate of the Dragon to execute his purposes against Christ and His Church. In Revelation 17, the Beast takes on the personification of the Dragon again as Satan appears to take over the final act of rebellion against God and His Son, now becoming the "eighth" head of the Beast and appearing in place of the Beast to PERSONALLY finish his work of deception and destruction before he is cast back into the "bottomless pit"!
- 12) The voice of God will be heard in the earth Revelation 10:1-3; Job 37:2-5; 40:9; 2 Samuel 22:14; Ps 18:13; Matthew 3:16, 17; 17:3-6; John 12:27-30
- 13) The sun will be darkened, the moon will become as blood, the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken Joel 2:30, 31; Matthew 24:29; Revelation 6:12, 13

## "THE WORSHIP OF THE BEAST" Part 3

There is no Pastor, no Bible student, no Christian more "compelled by the love of Christ" (2 Corinthians 5:14) than I am! There is no greater proponent of a divine grace, embraced by faith **alone** in our Savior **alone**, that **alone** grants salvation to the receiver than I! There is no follower of Christ more adamant than I that our eternal life is a gift of grace **alone**, apart from ANYTHING WE CAN DO to add to the perfect and finished work of Jesus Christ to save sinners – to "justify the ungodly"! (Romans 4:4, 5). Those who gather around the throne of God on that great day will not boast of **anything** they have done that has given them the right to be there. "The Lamb" and all that He did while here among us will be the only claim they boast for standing unashamed before a perfect God! Their spiritual achievements, their life of obedience, their faithfulness, their good deeds – ALL that has even been inspired by the influence and presence of the Holy Spirit in this life, will yield NO merit on that day. Nothing but the "doing and dying" of Jesus Christ will be presented that day as their right to heaven, and all their praise will be directed toward the One who alone has enabled them to inherit everlasting life in a place more wonderful than our imaginations can possibly conceive! (Revelation 7:9, 10).

Thus, in the following paragraphs when obedience to the Ten Commandments is noted as of particular importance at the end of time, that obedience is NOT EVER to be understood as contributory to gaining any MERIT before God. Rather, it will be seen that the observance of the Ten Commandments, and specifically the 7th day Sabbath, will be an INDICATOR, A "SIGN" of allegiance, a critical component of our "worship" of the Creator, in distinction to the "worship" of the Beast and the image to the Beast.

In the newsletter of last week, the case was made -

- 1) That the "worship" of the Beast and his image in Revelation 13 is juxtaposed to the "worship" of the Creator in Revelation 14, where the very language of the 4th commandment is used ....
  - "...Worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water." Revelation 14:7.
  - "In six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that [is] in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. Exodus 20:11.
- 2) That the "sign" of the authority of the Beast (the Church of Rome) is her claim to have changed of the very Law of God, resulting in the "transfer of the solemnity of the 7th day Sabbath to Sunday" by her own blasphemous admission –

"We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church, in the Council of Laodicea (A.D. 336), <u>transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday</u>." The Convert's Catechism of Catholic Doctrine

"The Catholic Church ... changed the day from Saturday to Sunday. Catholic Mirror.

"...the Catholic Church ... transferred this rest [from Saturday] to Sunday.... Thus the observance of Sunday by Protestants is an homage they pay, in spite of themselves, to the authority of the [Catholic] Church. Plain Talk About the Protestantism of Today.

#### THE SIGN OF ALLEGIANCE TO GOD:

"Surely My Sabbaths you shall keep, for it is a **sign** between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am the LORD who sanctifies you [sets you apart]. ... The Sabbath is a **sign** between Me and the children of Israel forever; for **in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed." Exodus 31:13, 17.** 

"Moreover, I also gave them My Sabbaths, to be a **sign** between them and Me, that they might know that I am the LORD who sanctifies them [sets them apart]. ... Hallow My Sabbaths, and they will be a **sign** between Me and you, that you may know that I am the LORD your God.' Ezekiel 20:12, 20.

From the beginning of time, the 7th day of the week has been holy time — long before Mt. Sinai!

"Thus, the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. Then God blessed the seventh day and **made it holy**." Genesis 2:1-3.

Since birth of the Church of the Old Testament when the Law of God, written in stone by the very finger of God, was given to mankind at Mount Sinai, the Sabbath has been a "sign" between God and His people that He is their God and the object of their allegiance. And since the birth of the Church of the New Testament following the resurrection of Jesus, faithful followers Christ have honored the day God made holy in Eden. From references to the practices of the Church of the first century in the Book of Acts to all the historical records of the centuries since, it is clear that, despite the apostasy of the Church as it blended its doctrines and practices with those of paganism, there were Christians who believed in the authority of Scripture alone and honored the Sabbath of Scripture, worshiping on the day God had made holy. The Sabbath has always been, and in the end will particularly be, a "sign" of the Christian's allegiance to the God of creation, just as Sunday observance has been an admission of the authority of the Church of Rome in centuries past and will again be a "sign" of allegiance to Antichrist at the end of time. Notice how this is substantiated in the prophecy of Revelation 12:17 – referencing the final era of time.

### THREE ERAS OF THE PURSUIT OF THE CHURCH BY THE DRAGON:

- 1) In Revelation 12:4-6, the Dragon pursued the Church of the <u>First Century</u>, and the Church "fled into the wilderness where she was protected for **one thousand two hundred and sixty days**." (3 ½ years the Fall of AD 66 to the Spring of AD 70)
- 2) In Revelation 12:13, 14, the Dragon pursued the Church of the Middle Ages, and the Church again "fled into the wilderness where she was protected for a time and times and half a time." (3 ½ "typical" years AD 538-1798)
- In the <u>Last Century</u>, specifically our immediate future, the practice and allegiance of the Church to Jesus Christ is articulated –

"The Dragon was enraged with the woman (the faithful Church), and he went to make war with the remnant [the last] of her offspring who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony [the Gospel] of Jesus Christ. Revelation 12:17.

And interestingly enough, the same time period of 3 ½ years is the period of time the Church is persecuted at the end of time – **for forty-two months** (Revelation 13:5). Note how the Church of the last days is identified in the following text:

"Here is the patience of the saints; here [are] those who keep the commandments of God [all of them!] and their faith in Jesus." Revelation 14:12.

In the days just ahead, the hatred of the Dragon toward Jesus Christ will be directed at a people of God who keep the commandments — **all of them** — and cherish the Gospel of Jesus Christ, <u>as taught in Scripture!</u> And as the Sabbath was a **sign** between God and his people of old, so it will be a **sign** between God and His people at the end of time of their allegiance to Him. The **worship** described in Revelation 14:7 will be the **sign** of allegiance to Jesus Christ —

- "... Worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water" (the very language of the 4th commandment). Revelation 14:7.
- just as the **worship** of the Beast of Revelation 13:4, 5 will be the outward manifestation of allegiance to the beast!
  - "... they **worshiped** the dragon who gave authority to the beast, and they **worshiped** the beast" "speaking great things and blasphemies" (claims of authority equal to that of God authority to forgive sin and to change the very Law of God)! Revelation 13:4

"He shall speak words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and shall think to change the times and the law; and they shall be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time." Daniel 7:25.

The issue of worship at the end of time will be inseparably connected to the day on which one worships –

- ♦ The day made holy by God, versus
- ◆ The day to which "the solemnity of the Sabbath was transferred" by the blasphemous decree of the papacy the Beast, the Harlot, the Babylon of Revelation 13 and 17-19.

Next week we will introduce the topic, "The Judgments of God" — the judgments spoken of in Revelation which will fall upon the earth during the same time period the Dragon, the Beast and the False Prophet are seeking to deceive the whole world, mandate the allegiance of the people of the world, and sweep them into destruction.

Stay tuned!