

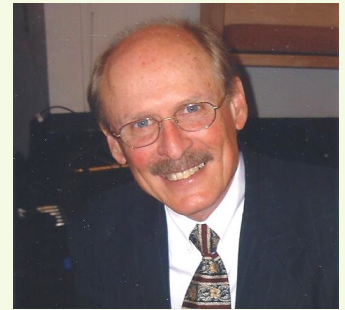
December 14, 2024

West Valley End-Time Ministries Newsletter

"The Return to Rome"

On 15 April 2019, a structural fire broke out in the roof space of Notre-Dame de Paris, a medieval Catholic cathedral in Paris, France. By the time the fire was extinguished, the cathedral's wooden spire had collapsed, most of the wooden roof had been destroyed, and the cathedral's upper walls were severely damaged. Extensive damage to the interior was prevented by the vaulted stone ceiling, which largely contained the burning roof as it collapsed. Many works of art and religious relics were moved to safety, but others suffered smoke damage, and some of the exterior art was damaged or destroyed.

One week ago today, the cathedral was reopened to the public and a celebration ceremony was held, drawing approximately 50 heads of state from around



Pastor Darrell Chilson

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

Jesus said, "Watch and be ready, 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.



the world. USA Today headlines read, **"Notre Dame reopening unites world leaders..."**

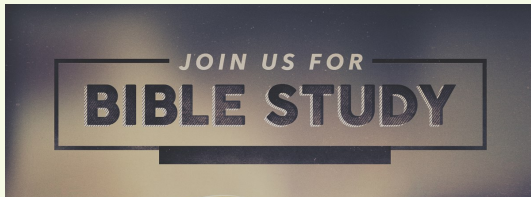
On the surface, this story is no more significant to most people than the recent stories of Daniel Penny or Luigi Mangione. In fact, those two stories have evoked far more attention on the news than the reopening of the Notre Dame Cathedral. But to the student of prophecy, the story of last Saturday in Paris is an important link to the final fulfillment of Revelation 13:3, 12 —

"And all the world marveled and followed the beast."

"And he [the second beast exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed."

As previously documented in our prophecy studies, the first beast is the Church of Rome and the second beast is America. The Bible teaches that these two powers, inspired by the Dragon (Satan), will play the role of mandating the worship of the beast and his image by the world at the end of time.

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John 12 – Part 1

Jesus Anointed at Bethany

1 Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. **2** Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. **3** Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.


4 But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, **5** "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages." **6** He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it. **7** "Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. **8** You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me."

The Plot to Kill Lazarus

9 Meanwhile a large crowd of Jews found out that Jesus was there and came, not only because of him but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. **10** So the chief priests made plans to kill Lazarus as well, **11** for on account of him many of the Jews were going over to Jesus and believing in him.



- ◆ When and where does this story take place?
- ◆ Who was Simon, and why was he hosting a feast for Jesus?
- ◆ Who all were at this feast?
- ◆ Where was Mary sitting at this supper? Why was she there? And why do you think she wasn't sitting at the table?
- ◆ What is the significance of Mary anointing Jesus' feet? How much did the perfume/oil cost her? Where do you think she got the money?
- ◆ Why does Jesus rebuke Judas?
- ◆ Describe what you think was going on in Judas' heart (v 4)
- ◆ Do you think Judas cared about the poor?
- ◆ How does v 6 describe him?
- ◆ Why did the chief priests want to kill Lazarus? Discuss their possible motives. (v 11).



Although the Church of Rome seems somewhat harmless today, verily a charitable institution in the world, one only has to remember its history of the murder of millions past who refused to bow to its authority during the Reformation years. The “nature of the beast” (so to speak) — the nature of this world power as an institution has not changed, and the Bible indicates that it will once again persecute the end-time Church “for forty-two months” (3 1/2 years) before Jesus returns.

And just as it is hard to imagine the Church of Rome ever being a persecuting power again, it’s also hard for any patriotic American to envision our nation becoming a force in the world promoting the “worship” of the beast, the refusal of which might cost his life!

“He [the second beast] was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.” Revelation 13:15.

Yet a world power of unprecedented strength America **IS** becoming with the changes in leadership. World leaders are courting peace and a workable relationship with President Trump, who is beoming the central figure on the world stage. America IS becoming “Great Again” and must do so to fulfill its prophetic destiny, just as the Church of Rome is becoming powerful among the nations once again and must do so to fulfill its prophetic destiny! Both religious and world leaders continue to increasingly court the friendship of Rome.

Another example of the “return to Rome” by American leaders is seen in the following:

- 1) On October 17, 2024, the annual Al Smith dinner for Catholic Charities was held in New York. Attendees included the Trumps, Elon Musk, Jill Biden, New York Mayor Adams, former New York Mayors Bloomberg and de Blasio, Governor of New York Kathy Hochul, Speaker of the U. S. House of Representatives Mike Johnson, RFK Jr, Attny General of NY Letitia James, Majority Leader of the US Senate Chuck Shummer, and numerous other important dignitaries. The importance of this annual event in American leadership, though significant, is not new. It has been a tradition for American presidents and presidential candidates to attend this event since Nixon and JFK.
- 2) It has also been the practice of U.S. Presidents to meet with the Pope during their presidency. Altogether, there have been 32 meetings between six popes and 14 U.S. Presidents over the past century. The papacy plays an important role in the world and will do so increasingly in our day, according to the prophetic Word.

There is a saying, “Things are not always what they seem.” What is reported in the news doesn’t even begin to reveal the almost imperceptible progression of prophecy occurring even now. And unless we know what the Bible says **WILL BE** as we approach the return of Christ, we may miss the signs of His soon return.

“We are living in the season of Christ’s return.” And the drama before us is going to come as an overwhelming surprise to the majority of even Christians! But it doesn’t need to be that way for you and me! (See 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6).

In Christ,

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“REVELATION IN REVIEW”

We have been discussing the prophecies of Revelation in our classes and newsletters, and over the course of time, the major prophecies of Revelation which pertain to our future as Christians have been studied. The details of these discourses are embodied in the videos and newsletters accessible in the following links:

<https://wvetm.com/class-videos-1>

<https://wvetm.com/newsletters>

Classes are held each Saturday afternoon at 2 p.m. Mountain Standard Time at:

<https://westvalleyend-timeministries-511.my.webex.com/meet/pastor>

and your emails are welcome and will be answered by sending your questions and comments to:


Pastor@wvetm.com

Revelation in Review – Part 4

Revelation 7 — Interlude:

The structure of the Book of Revelation is important to note, in order to avoid confusion as to its flow. Revelation 7, our next chapter of review, is an interlude. But it is not the first one. Chapters 4 and 5, chapters we’ve already looked at, are also an interlude. Let’s look at a simplified structure of Revelation:

- ♦ Revelation 1 — **An Introduction** to the Book of Revelation; an Introduction to the central Character of the Book (Jesus Christ); and an Introduction to the messages to the Seven Churches. Revelation 1 is a Prologue to the Book of Revelation, just as Revelation 22 is an Epilogue to the Book — “Bookends” if you please.
- ♦ Revelation 2 and 3 — **The Seven Churches**
- ♦ Revelation 4 and 5 — **An Interlude** — An introduction to the characters in heaven who participate and observe the end-time events on earth; and an introduction to the Seven Seals
- ♦ Revelation 6 — **The Seven Seals**
- ♦ Revelation 7 — **An Interlude** — An introduction to the messengers and the faithful of the Great Tribulation; and an introduction to the Seven Trumpets
- ♦ Revelation 8 and 9 — **The Seven Trumpets**

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- ♦ Revelation 10 and 11 — **An Interlude** — An Introduction to the final conflict between good and evil and to the ministry and experience of the Church during the Great Tribulation.
 - ♦ Revelation 12 and 13 — **The “Axis of Evil” — the Dragon, the Beast and the False Prophet; the Experience of the End-time Church**
 - ♦ Revelation 14 and 15 — **An Interlude** — The messengers and the message of Christ; a preview of the return of Jesus and the harvest of the wicked; and an introduction to the Seven Plagues
 - ♦ Revelation 16 — **The Seven Plagues**
 - ♦ Revelation 17-19 — **The Harlot, the Fall of Babylon, and the Coming of Jesus**
 - ♦ Revelation 20 — **The Millenium, the Judgment and the Destruction of Evil**
 - ♦ Revelation 21 — **The Home of the Saved**
 - ♦ Revelation 22 — **The Epilogue**

Revelation 7

Revelation 7 begins with the imagery of four angels holding back the events of the Seven Trumpets until the special messengers of God, the 144,000, are forever “sealed” with the approval and “mark” of God’s favor, in preparation for their work. They are the human voices God chooses to speak the final message of salvation to a lost world in a time of judgment, and God must secure them for their ministry before the final warning judgments (the Trumpets) come upon the earth. The one-hundred-and-forty-four-thousand, like all the numbers of Revelation, are literal, and they represent chosen messengers from all over the world to speak for God. They are not Jews just because the tribes of Israel are mentioned in the passage. Paul says, and it is applicable here and throughout the Christian era, “He is not a Jew who is one outwardly, whose circumcision is of the flesh, but he is a Jew who is one inwardly, whose circumcision is of the heart.”

In the last part of this chapter, we see “a great multitude which no one can number” who are the Church and the fruit of the ministry of the 144,000 during the Great Tribulation. They are those who now stand, in preview, around the throne of God with palm branches, symbols of victory, in their new home. No longer are they subject to the trials of the Tribulation — thirsty, hungry, or subject to the elements — they stand before their Savior who leads them as the Great Shepherd to “living fountains of water” and wipes away all their tears. John gives us in this chapter a preview of heaven and the saved, and a hope that we will all need in preparation for all that is soon to come!

Next week, we will review Chapters 8 and 9 — the Seven Trumpets.

Stay tuned!