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The Drums of War

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For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be. And. if those days had not been cut short, no human being would be saved [alive]. But for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short. Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'There he is!' do not believe it. For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect. (Matt 24:21–24 emphasis added)

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I left the first section of this End Note with an unanswered question and with an illogical concept, that human agents can dictate to God what He will do, thereby giving to human beings god-like power. But consider what Matthew's Jesus declares in the context of an endtime tribulation that will have the abomination that desolates set up in the temple of God:

So when you see the abomination of desolation spoken of by the prophet Daniel, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. Let the one who is on the housetop not go down to take what is in his house, and let the one who is in the field not turn back to take his cloak. And alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! Pray that your flight may not be in winter or on a Sabbath. For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be. And. if those days had not been cut short, no human being would be saved [alive]. But for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short. (Matt 24:15–22 emphasis added)

Why does this period of great tribulation have to be cut short if human beings are to be saved alive? What makes this period different than, say, a month before or a year before? And if God cuts short this period, will the Adversary have received his allotted time to prove his advocacy of self-governance; of self-governance being superior to top-down governance; or will God have to give to the Adversary the time that has been cut short elsewhere, thereby having the cause of this cutting short affecting both God and the Adversary?

Consider the Samson Option, the nation-state of Israel's Never Again determination: the State of

Israel's ability to take all life from the earth rather than meekly go again to the equivalent of Nazi gas chambers.

Would blowing the earth into asteroid sized pieces of rock not require God to intervene suddenly and mightily, even if He wasn't quite ready to intervene?

For Christians practicing and believing received eschatology—Christians that believe God's Kingdom is already here on earth in the form the Christian Church—there need be no Thousand Year millennial reign of Christ Jesus: Christ has already reigned for two millennia, which is not true. Christ's reign hasn't yet begun. Dominion over the single kingdom of this world has not yet been given to Christ Jesus.

What Matthew's Jesus tells His disciples about all authority in heaven and on earth having been given to Him has not yet happened, but will happen on doubled-day 1260 halfway through the seven endtime years of tribulation that John the Revelator identifies as the Affliction and Kingdom and Endurance in Jesus (Rev 1:9), one definite article, one definite period of time, this one period divided into three chronologically consecutive periods that total 2520 days unless days are taken from the Adversary in the Affliction when time is cut short and not given back to the Adversary either in the Endurance or at the end of the Thousand Years. Therefore, Matthew's Jesus' command to go and make disciples of all nations pertains to the Endurance in Jesus, the 1260 days when the present prince of this world [the present prince of the power of the air] has been stripped of authorized authority to rule and cast into space-time from which he will never escape, but will perish at the end of the Thousand Years through fire consuming him; fire coming from his belly in self-combustion.

From the perspective of God, the Adversary is already ashes under the feet of glorified saints.

Consider what the prophet Zechariah declared:

Behold, a day is coming for [YHWH], when the spoil taken from you will be divided in your midst. For I will gather all the nations against Jerusalem to battle, and the city shall be taken and the houses plundered and the women raped. Half of the city shall go out into exile, but the rest of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Then the Lord will go out and fight against those nations as when He fights on a day of battle. On that day His feet shall stand on the Mount of Olives that lies before Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives shall be split in two from east to west by a very wide valley, so that one half of the Mount shall move northward, and the other half southward. And you shall flee to the valley of my mountains, for the valley of the mountains shall reach to Azal. And you shall flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. (Zech 14:1–5 emphasis added)

If the Lord brings all nations against earthly Jerusalem—as opposed to heavenly Jerusalem—what chance would the people of Jerusalem have? Houses plundered. Women raped ... on which side of the city? For earthly Jerusalem remains a divided city. Which half of the city shall go into exile? Which half shall flee through the granite monolith that is the Mount of Olives, this bubble of granite being cleaved in two and separating as the waters of the Sea of Reeds parted for Moses and the people of Israel three and a half millennia ago? And as the

waters of the Sea of Reeds came together to swallow Pharaoh and his army, the split granite monolith will swallow the armies of the Adversary, these armies commanded by the man of perdition until dominion is taken from the present prince of this world.

If the nation state of Israel still had the ability to employ its Samson Option, would it not do so when half of the city of Jerusalem has already fallen and half the city has already gone into exile? Never Again means Never Again! Yes, Israel would execute its Samson Option, with the thermonuclear weapons needed to turn the earth into another asteroid belt already in place, these weapons having been delivered to these locations years earlier so that Never Again would not be an idle threat.

A novelist could write about Israeli agents going to great lengths to deliver nuclear devices to predetermined locations for simultaneous denotation, but the novelist would have to have some policing power intercept and interrupt the planned delivery of the devices to their destinations. Otherwise, there would be no story. Perhaps the novelist could get away with intercepting only one of many devices, leaving readers to speculate about other devices in other locations. But then, the world would begin a search for other devices as a chimp will pick ticks off fellow chimps. And all of this implies that there is difficulty in delivering a device to a predetermined location ... what if there is and never was any difficulty? What then? And as the anniversary of Malaysia Airlines flight MH370 approaches, where is the plane? If the world cannot find a jumbo jet, what chance would the world have of detecting a high-yield nuclear device that need not be concealed by water? How about forty such devices? Eighty? And this would still leave Israel with plenty of fissionable material to maintain on-site weaponry to be deployed atop Jericho III missiles or from submarine launched cruise missiles.

With Prime Minister Netanyahu delivering his impassioned appeal to American legislators not to permit the Islamic Republic to obtain nuclear weapons, the Prime Minister warned the United States against kicking a sleeping dog, for that is how the Obama Administration has publicly treated Israel—as if the nation state of Israel were America's pet dog, the President its master: Don't build there, no, not there either, no, no, don't build there, don't build anywhere. None of that land is yours. Whose is it if not Israel's?

The President introduced the Christian Crusades into the international discussion of the Islamic State's terrorism; so does the President believe that Jerusalem belongs to Christians, the reason he is against Israel building apartment housing on contested lands? Or does he believe that Jerusalem belongs to the Caliphate? He certainly has America's pre-1948 attitude toward Israel; for in 1948, Israel had few friends and many enemies ... what has changed other than Israel possessing a viable Samson Option? In 1973, President Nixon was apparently convinced that Israel would use this option, thereby dragging the United States into a nuclear war with the Soviet Union. That was more than forty years ago. What have Israeli physicists miniaturized in the past four decades?

In Matthew's Jesus telling His disciples that for the sake of the Elect the allotted days of the Affliction would be cut short, this indwelling Christ Jesus tells those in whom He dwells that He will intervene to prevent irreversible destruction of the earth, suggesting that the Elect have a work they must do, not a work of teaching but a work of witnessing to the third part of humanity

(from Zech 13:9) after the pattern of the two witnesses in the Affliction.

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To persons alive after the abomination of desolation is established—that is, after the lawless one declares himself God inside the temple represented by greater Christendom—there will be many possible reasons for time being cut short. Life will be difficult, especially during the wrath of the Lamb:

When [the Lamb] opened the sixth seal, I looked, and behold, there was a great earthquake, and the sun became black as sackcloth, the full moon became like blood, and the stars of the sky fell to the earth as the fig tree sheds its winter fruit when shaken by a gale. The sky vanished like a scroll that is being rolled up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place. Then the kings of the earth and the great ones and the generals and the rich and the powerful, and everyone, slave and free, hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains, calling to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who is seated on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb, for the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?" (Rev 6:12–17)

The chronology for the seven endtime years of tribulation is sequential: first, the 1260 days of the Affliction, the period represented by Revelation chapters 5 through chapter 11, verse 14. Following the Affliction is the Kingdom, the doubled-day 1260 representing the last day when the Adversary retains dominion over the kingdom of this world and first day when the Son of Man has (is given) dominion over this same kingdom of this world: Revelation chapters 11:1 through 14:5 ... the dating of Revelation chapter 5 through chapter 6:8 is from the 15th day to the 18th day of the second month in the year of the Second Passover, the dating on a secular calendar having "one day" probably being three and a half days long and certainly not confined to 24 hours; therefore, the dating of day 1260 of Christ Jesus' reign over living creatures is probably not confined to 24 hours, but probably picks up however much time has been taken from the Adversary when time was cut short for the sake of the Elect. Thus, as much as a month can be represented by day 1260. So for the prophecy pundit who wonders how the Adversary, when cast from heaven, can get the world to worship the beast so quickly, the preliminary work was done during the Affliction when it was known to even the Adversary that his dominion over living creatures would be shortened by his mortal enemy, Israel.

The two witnesses will not threaten humanity with extinction via thermonuclear war, but will weaponize weather in their attempt to bring rebels to repentance. Christ Jesus has no reason to use thermonuclear weaponry. Even the Adversary has no reason to erase humanity while he retains dominion over living creatures. But the nation state of Israel does have a reason, the epigenetic modification of its DNA caused by Nazi gas chambers, modification that is observable and measurable and that makes the children of Holocaust survivors intuitively less able to survive another prolonged period of siege and starvation.

In the Affliction, human survival may be so difficult that people simply won't want to live; certainly, won't live—

Except for the children of physically starved parents, the human "will" to survive determines whether a person will live or die. Yes, in the Affliction, life will be difficult, especially in industrialized Western nations where populations are not used to doing without water and sewer, cell phones and satellites. In these nations, two and now three generations have reached physical maturity since rural electrification brought the 20th-Century to heartland farms. And with rural electrification came electric water pumps and electric lights and electric stoves and electric furnace blowers so no longer did heating stoves have to be banked for the night and cooking fires kindled in the morning and oil lamps lit and hand pumps primed before a pan of water could be put to boil to cook rolled oats, the same steamed, milled-rolled grain as feed to the horses that would pull the manure spreader after it was filled with scoop shovels and pitchforks when stalls were mucked out before breakfast. Life was simpler before rural electrification, but much more difficult ... human persons are capable of doing more and withstanding more than they presently realize in Western nations. They are also capable of doing with much less; they are capable of eating and thriving on weeds found most everywhere; they used to eat new-growth grass each spring—cleaned out the digestive system, my Grandma said. Actually, new grass has nutrients that human digestive tracks can absorb.

Time will not be cut short because the Elect are hungry or cold or can't wash clothes. Time will be cut short because of what occurs after the abomination of desolation declares himself God—

What Matthew's Jesus tells His disciples on the Mount of Olives contains within it the same prophetic chronology as is found in John's vision and as is found in Isaiah's, Jeremiah's, Ezekiel's, Daniel's, and Zechariah's visions. However, to understand this chronology the auditor needs to have proved to him or herself the reality of the Second Passover liberation of Israel, the nation to be circumcised of heart. Explication of the Second Passover exists in many other writings so it will here only be cursorily presented—

Matthew's Jesus isn't the historical figure, but the indwelling "Jesus" that dwells in every disciple truly born of spirit. This indwelling Jesus has a "history" prior to the spiritual birth of the disciple; hence, in Matthew's Gospel Jesus begins His Olivet Discourse the day before Passover.

In the year of the Second Passover liberation of Israel from indwelling Sin and Death (this liberation initiating circumcised-of-heart Israel's journey of faith that will cause natural Israel's Exodus from Egypt to no longer be remembered — Jer 16:14–15; 23:7–8), the Passover acquires additional importance: the thirty days between the Passover and the Second Passover liberation of Israel on the second Passover will form a shadow and copy of the first thirty days of the Son of Man's reign over the single kingdom of this world three and a half years later. If—and this could be a large caveat—the amount of time taken from the Adversary when the Affliction is cut short for the Elect's sake is given to him after dominion is taken from him and he is cast to earth, then Matthew's wars and rumors of war, famines and earthquakes will make this thirty day period into a time analogous to the last days of the Affliction ... in the year of the Second Passover liberation of Israel—liberation from indwelling Sin and Death through every theoretically circumcised of heart Christian being filled-with and empowered by the spirit of God [pneuma Theou]—the world will be threatened by the Samson Option, which would logically have Western nations [the U.N.] moving troops into the Middle East as Peace Keepers,

declaring, Peace, peace, when there is no peace.

An endtime scenario has concerned me since being called to reread prophecy in 2002, this scenario being the Second Passover liberation of Israel being identified as the Second Woe by the vast majority of Christian prophecy pundits: in both the Second Passover liberation of Israel and in the Second Woe, a third part of humanity perishes. The difference is that at the Second Passover liberation of Israel, this third part will be uncovered [by Christ's blood] firstborns, legal and biological [will be firstborns who did not take the Passover sacraments of bread and drink on the dark portion of the 14th day]. In the Second Woe, the third part that perishes will be taken randomly; for with the giving of the kingdom to the Son of Man, all of humanity will become the firstborn of God.

The Christian prophecy pundits—especially those of the Sabbatarian Churches of God—that identify the Second Passover as the Second Woe will have set themselves up to believe that the Adversary when cast from heaven will be the returning Christ Jesus, with the Adversary making this claim about himself. These Christians will then take upon themselves the mark of death. They will mark themselves for the Second Death. And there will not be anything that can be done to help them ... they can help themselves today, but once they have taken the tattoo of the cross, they are doomed.

The thirty days between the Passover and the second Passover in the year of the Second Passover will seem far longer than thirty twenty-four hour periods. The tension that will then have come upon the world will seem to cause time to stop. The thirteen days of the Cuban Missile Crisis will seem to be a pizza party. And Sabbatarian Christians will be absolutely convinced that they are living in the tribulation when the seven endtime years have not yet begun.

The Second Passover liberation of Israel will be followed by the 1260 day long Affliction, then by the doubled-day 1260 identified as the Kingdom, and that followed by the 1260 day long Endurance in Jesus. Then will come the Second Advent. And it is this chronological timeline that the Elect must present to the third part of humanity as their witness, the reason why time had to be cut short.

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