

A Bit of Nostalgia

My earliest memories are of a time when one room school houses with wood and coal burning stoves were common; No computers, play stations, cell phones, or TVs, very few cars, and airplanes only had propellers (no jet engines). But you could listen to radio programs and imagine the scenes of the story line being described.

The school day began with morning devotion that included one or two hymns; and recitation of a scripture verse was encouraged for those youngsters that had taken the time to memorize one. One of my favorites was John 11:35, "Jesus wept", because it only took me a few days to learn it (smile). But you know, I can't recall one single mass shooting or bombing.

It's a dirty rotten deadly shame that nobody can go back to a time of such boredom, wouldn't you say??? The society has grown up; this is the twenty first century!! The politicians and lawmakers in Washington have declared it so by the laws and bills they have hammered out and passed over the years.

We can't go back, and even if lawmakers were able to rescind all the blunders made over the last fifty years it would be a minimum of twenty years before society would experience any benefits from it. It seems that laws enacted which impact the path of a nation's society requires about thirty to forty years (a generation) for the full results to be realized. I believe a clique often used to describe such a situation is, "before chickens comes home to roost".

Since we are more and more becoming a nation with leaders that have come to the place which consider God no longer relevant, I guess we are on our own, are we not????

Yes, there is no doubt in my mind that the society has grown up, alright. And she (the society) has, more and more, become deadly cruel. The question in my mind is whether this is the "youthful version of the old hag" Apostle John the revelator describes in the Book of Revelation, or are the two just wicked step sisters??? I suspect all may very well know for sure within thirty to forty years (a generation):

If the reader has any previous study knowledge of scripture pertaining to the Book of Revelation it should be obvious that Christ Jesus shall not return to save the world, or world system(s). But he shall save the people of God out of the world.

We must consider that John 3:16 is especially applicable to the first coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, but the world has since rejected the salvation that Jesus offers. Nonetheless the price has been paid, and the invitation of scripture remains "whosoever will let him come to the salvation that is in the Cross (or Sacrifice) of the Lord Jesus Christ, alone."

Now let us not mislead anyone; the scriptures clearly commands the believer to, "Come out of her"; the world (Revelation 18:4 & 5). Thus, by the rapture those saved in Christ Jesus shall be taken to safety until God has dealt appropriately with the world Satan and his angels, unrepentant citizens of earth, and evil(s) of every other sort.

It should be equally obvious to the earnest student of scripture that all of the Book of Revelation is about "final dispensations" for this present state of all creations, and what shall take place hereafter. Therefore, Revelation 22:18 and 22:19 warns us of the penalty

for taking away, or add to this prophecy. There shall be no new or additional prophetic truth. Thus, our task is to understand, and gain revelation of what has already been written. The complete story has been told in scripture (beginning to end), and the end shall be as this Book of Revelation has declared it.

And again, if you have previous study knowledge of scripture, it is important to understand that references to the earth and the world in scripture are not always interchangeable. We know that all things are subject to the authority of God, but the world (or world systems, institutions) do not behave according to the will of God. Therefore, the scripture says that Satan is god of this world because the world rebels against God just as Satan and his angels did in the ancient past, and they continue to rebel.

On the other hand, everything that exists is permitted to continue at the mercy of God; “the earth is the Lords and the fullness thereof.”

Psa 24:1 The earth *is* the LORD'S, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

Psa 24:2 For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods.

2Co 4:3 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:

2Co 4:4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

We should also realize that idolatrous, false, and world oriented religious practices are revealed in the world's system of behavior (i.e. rebellion against God). Therefore, a reference to the world in scripture is a reference to religious rebellions against God also. But the true Church of the Lord Jesus Christ is set apart from the world, and not according to denomination.

Bible scholars seem to agree that John was speaking of the Roman Empire when he recorded this Book of Revelation; and I'm in agreement with that. But the attributes John describes in the Book of Revelation are applicable to every other world power, and weak or small nation ruled by man because every other nation ruled by men does so according to the corruptions of the world, regardless of their good intentions. And since a ruling authority that is a world power has a greater reach than the smaller ruling authority or nation, the scope for transporting evil or good influence is greater on the part of the world power.

Thus, when the Great Babylon is spoken of the meaning is the world's system of governing which is the way the Roman Empire governed. So then the end time nation(s) that will be ruled by the man of sin will be according to the world's corruption. Every government ruled by men without God eventually manifests the same kind of evils. Study the scriptures, or just look at history!!!