

# SINKHOLES

## GOD'S USE OF SINKHOLES IN HIS ECONOMY Combating Spiritual Darkness

*"If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you..."* John 15:18

*Pastor Del Wray*

Here recently we've had a number of reports of sinkholes opening, swallowing homes and at times taking human life. In Numbers 16, we find an account where God used Moses and a sinkhole to judge Israel for its toleration of false teachers and those who changed the Word of God, exactly where we are today. Yet future in the climax of God's economy where a greater sinkhole is to be opened as the home of the Christ-rejecting world a place the Bible calls Hell Fire. The World Hates Jesus, wait till then. Jesus is the greatest name in the world above every name:

*"Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."* Philippians 2:9-11

Jesus is the most wonderful and Precious name in the Universe. The world didn't just hate Jesus when He came to this world to pay for our sins; the world hates Jesus just as much today. The world hates Jesus because He stands against and exposes their wickedness.

*"The world cannot hate you; but me it hateth, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil"* John 7:7.

It's not us they hate, it's Jesus. *"For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved."* John 3:20

This is why the wicked world hates Jesus and His Word. The Bible is a "detector of sin." People get convicted about their sins when they read or hear the Bible, so they spurn it away as foolishness..."

*"For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness, but unto us which are saved it is the power of God"* 1st Corinthians 1:11.

The world mocks and laughs at the things of God, but Jesus is precious to the born again Christian 1 Peter 2:7. Jesus said that the servant is not greater than the master. If Jesus was persecuted, then so will we if we live for Jesus. The early church in Acts was persecuted. Peter was crucified on a cross upside down. Paul was beheaded in Rome. James was killed by the

sword in Acts 12. Stephen was stoned to death in Acts 7. Andrew was martyred on an X-shaped cross. Today's churches are so dead that they don't even know what persecution means. How could they ever understand God's purpose in the SINKHOLES?

Recently in Florida a man asleep in his bedroom at home was swallowed up alive as the ground below his home opened up and caved in trapping him in his own death tomb. We hear of these occurrences all over the country and in other parts of the world. It's an act of nature! An act of God! It's happening everywhere. What does it all mean? Does the Bible tell us anything about sinkholes and why they are occurring? I don't want to be emphatic because I'm not sure, but it may have to do with the great Apostasy occurring in the last days of the church period. In the book of Numbers we see an account where Moses was commanded by God to pronounce judgment upon the false prophets in the congregation of Israel at that time and the earth swallowed them all up; family, wives, children and livestock, each and everyone, where they were not to be remembered. God's judgment upon false teachers then and well could be his approaching wrath on the false teachers of our day. Hell is certain! Payday is sure! And the publishers of all these false bibles are going to get their due consequences. The Bible has much to say about the increase of earthquakes. As a **WARNING** God has laid it upon my heart to write this essay:

*"Blessed are ye when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake. Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets." Luke 6:22-23*

Christians, every one of us, are broadcasting mediums one way or another, either positive or negative whether we like it or not. We are showing forth His testimony. Our Saviour has entrusted us with His message of the Saving Grace of God as well as His sobering message of Warning of Judgment to come on this sinful world. And the only way of escaping the wrath to come is by Jesus Christ alone and this is not the message our world wants to hear. God's Son Jesus Christ the Saviour of men is not what the world considers intelligent news broadcasting. Broadcasting though is exactly what we do as believers favorably or unfavorably. And this dissemination is hated by most! If you don't think so go out on the street and pass out some tracts! The world through envious jealousy is at enmity with God *"If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you."* John 15:18 and the world is at enmity with His plan for man's well-being and redemption. Men love darkness rather than light. People today are no different than they were two thousand years ago; nature hasn't changed! We get so offended at the least thing that does not line up with our reasoning, especially when it comes to "the love of God" God's love "the God is love syndrome" mentality. God only loves He doesn't hate anyone. Is that so? We've become so self-sensitive when it comes to God's hatred for sin and of the wicked that our message has become lopsided, incomplete, half addressed and a one-sided presentation. "The watered down effect:" The Cross was God's greatest demonstration of love as well as a picture of His hatred for sin, the flesh, the world and the Devil. For which Hell had to be created, the eternal abode of the damned, mitigating His righteous judgment.

*"The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul **hateth**. Upon the wicked, he shall rain **snares, fire and brimstone**, and a **horrible tempest**: this shall be*

*the portion of their cup. For the righteous LORD loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright.” Psalms 11:5-7*

We've swallowed the Devil's lie and chosen to misrepresent God's message, making those who do so as guilty as those who change His word in all the new false bibles. Man tampering with the Book the very Words of God, verbally and orally is no different than changing them as he does in all the new published false translations. The man is having a one-sided affair with the gospel message to his own downfall. One cannot preach the grace of God without including the wrath of God, to do so would restrict the work of the Holy Spirit in “conviction” thus equating the message ineffective. As a battery must have two terminals to function properly, a positive and negative. So to God not only loves but He hates as well! As I do and as we all should! God's hatred is a righteous hatred showing His perfect righteousness and true love. Men trying to justify themselves makes God a liar. Who would accuse God of lying? Not me! Do you?

*“Am I, therefore, become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?” Galatians 4:16*

*“The fear of man bringeth a snare:” Prov. 29:25* Man attempting to make God out to be a liar who we know cannot lie. God not only showed His love to this old sinful world, but He also has shown and demonstrated His wrath to come on this wicked world and all unbelievers.

*“What if God, willing to shew his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction: And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory,” Romans 9:22-23*

For judgment not to fall would be a supreme injustice and make God's character and nature what they are not, for we know the Scriptures declare His perfect righteousness.

*“Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you;” 2Thess.1:6*

Man having rejected God's Word places the emphases upon the positive, “positive thinkers” they've become while their senses bristle for such foolishness. Offending the masses with the negative is not even a consideration; our ears have been deafened to the truth, deafened to reality so much so that God's very Words have been rejected even by professing Christendom. This cannot stand, this must not be so. We must boldly stand and deliver clearly the whole message of the gospel of God's saving grace and the alarming punishment for its rejection!

Our message is resoundingly and unashamedly **negative** as it should be but for the believer it is our lively hope, the blessed hope. As the world turns its back on the grace of God and walks away from His free gift which is by grace through faith, deceived, believing they somehow may escape the wrath to come! Which they won't! Our message must be both positive and negative loving and judgmental as well as forgiving and wrathful! The whole picture the whole gospel!

We as believers have no alternative but to deliver the whole unadulterated truth, complete, including the horrors of Hell so as not to sound like we are trying to diminish the awfulness of Hell. Jesus warned more about the terror of Hell than He did of the glory of Heaven. He died on

Calvary to keep us out of Hell because He knew how terrible Hell is. We must be on guard to combat the darkness in this end time days.

*"This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come."* 2 Tim. 3:1

For me to describe these days the day we now live in as "perilous times", this treatise has been prompted and I've been impelled to say that "a nation only takes the form of its preachers."

*"His watchmen are blind: they are all ignorant, they are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark; sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber. Yea, they are greedy dogs which can never have enough, and they are shepherds that cannot understand: they all look to their own way, every one for his gain, from his quarter."* Isaiah 56:10-11

*"Woe be unto the pastors that destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! saith the LORD. Therefore thus saith the LORD God of Israel against the pastors that feed my people; Ye have scattered my flock, and driven them away, and have not visited them: behold, I will visit upon you the evil of your doings, saith the LORD."* Jer. 3:1-2

Why is there such a dearth of preaching on Hell in this country? Hell has mysteriously disappeared from our Baptists pulpits across America. It has become an unpleasant doctrine and our pastors have put it away in some back closet for fear of their congregations. Church ought to be fun, right? About thirty years ago I preached in a church up north, I will not say where it was a Baptist church and only about five minutes had gone by when two individuals got up and walked to the rear of the sanctuary and walked out the rear doors. A short time later they came back into the sanctuary with coffee in one hand and donuts in the other, right as I was preaching. They sat there enjoying their treat as the tenor of the meeting completely changed but only for a few minutes. Because by the time I got through the fire department was about to be called, it got so hot in there most of the folks faces looked as if they had been sunburnt, anger. Angry they were! One fella got up and ran out mumbling "I can feel the flames" another lady got up ringing wet screaming "I need to be saved" Hell became so real in that church for the first time in a long time that I had to lead that dear lady to Christ out of my Bible in front of the whole congregation, and yes she got saved! Glory to God! When I concluded two of the deacons escorted me out of the church, for fear that I might be harmed and later I was told that I wouldn't be invited back. Yes, it really happened and I can prove it. You see the pastor of that church was my own brother, Downie and he was the one who told me so. It has been over thirty years now and I've never been invited back. Some may conclude that I ought to be ashamed of myself and go apologize to my brother and his people. If hearing about Hell upsets you, just don't warn anyone I'll do it for you! I do want you to know though that you and your kind make me sick! I'll never apologize for what God says in His Word. Men are dying and going to Hell and our pulpits are deafly silent full of scumbag preachers who don't care. That's why America is in the mess it's in and soon some large sinkhole is going to open up and swallow all the ungodly, false preachers and teachers in our land, down to Hell they will go. You didn't know that did you? Read your Bible! Listen to Moses' warning to Israel concerning the false prophets among the Israelites; Korah, Dathan, and Abiram.

*"And Moses rose up and went unto Dathan and Abiram, and the elders of Israel followed him."*

*And he spake unto the congregation, saying, Depart, I pray you, from the tents of these wicked men, and touch nothing of theirs, lest ye be consumed in all their sins. So they gat up from the tabernacle of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram, on every side: and Dathan and Abiram came out, and stood in the door of their tents, and their wives, and their sons, and their little children. And Moses said Hereby ye shall know that the LORD hath sent me to do all these works; for I have not done them of mine own mind. If these men die the common death of all men, or if they be visited after the visitation of all men; then the LORD hath not sent me. But if the LORD make a new thing, and the earth opens her mouth, and swallow them up, with all that appertain unto them, and they go down quick into the pit; then ye shall understand that these men have provoked the LORD. And it came to pass, as he had made an end of speaking all these words, that the ground clave asunder that was under them: And the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up, and their houses, and all the men that appertained unto Korah, and all their goods. They and all that appertained to them went down alive into the pit, and the earth closed upon them: and they perished from among the congregation. And all Israel that were round about them fled at the cry of them: for they said, lest the earth swallows us up also.” Numbers 16:30-34*

*“Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?” Matt. 23:33*

The recent news about the sinkholes isn't strange, they're happening all over the United States, it's nothing new for Hell is continually enlarging itself making room for the billions that will follow. This being so, why are so many born again Christians loathing bringing up the subject of Hell? Is it that today as the sinner we think our righteousness is as good as that of the untarnished Lamb of God? What bases piety, the root of all wickedness “self” exposed for what it truly is, damnable. Man refusing to accept the Creators indictment against the hatred in his heart, deceitful and desperately wicked.

*“But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.” Rev. 21:8*

What about the Rapture?

Many people mistakenly think that there are certain signs that must occur before the Rapture or “Calling Out” of the church takes place. This is not true and unfortunately, its teaching exists in many Christian circles, denominations and is taught in most of our bible colleges and seminaries, but nothing could be further from the truth. There is no sign or a sign that must occur before, preventing the Rapture, our “Blessed Hope” is imminent! The Apostle Paul and First Century, New Testament, Christians believed the Rapture was imminent and would happen in their lifetime and this is our position as Baptist today, it is imminent! How fanciful are those who seek after a sign falsely when Jesus warned us,

*“But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas:”*

Therefore the "Calling Out" could happen right now or at any moment. So it makes complete sense because Jesus told us to watch; to bear His testimony and to warn the lost while it is day for the night cometh when no man can work.

Jesus said to the Pharisees,

*"Ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky and of the earth; but how is it that ye do not discern this time?"* Luke 12:56

The Pharisees back then were not discerning the times. And notice Jesus called them "hypocrites" knowing their hearts, that their hearts were consumed with the material world. Are we any different? Today, 2014, the Twenty-First Century still the majority of Christians who should be watching for their Lord's return are asleep on the job. Wake up! Scripture is being fulfilled daily and we must be ready should He return!

We've seen the re-gathering of Israel back to her homeland in 1948, Matt. 24:32-33. Since then, there have been many more events in prophecy that have been fulfilled, that are being fulfilled now, and that still need to be fulfilled. Matthew Chapter 24, Mark 13, Luke 21, Daniel 12, 2 Tim. 3, 2 Pet. 3, 1 Cor. 15, 1 Thess. 5, Joel 3, Obadiah 15-18, Zeph. 2, Zech. 12, etc., all point to the times we are living in right now or will be shortly. These are milestones that are bringing us closer and closer to that appointed day when the Rapture takes place. And by all means, we really are close to it at this time!

God's Time Clock "Israel" brings us to the end of the Church Period. Paul said they were living in the last days back in AD 58. What time is it two-thousand years hence? The time we are now living in climaxes the Church Period or the Laodicea Church phase, the interlude before the Rapture and it is a period of darkness and evil times filled with false teachers and counterfeits and if I may I would like to break them down, these days into the following categories:

A. *SPIRITUAL AND MORAL BANKRUPTCY* (2 Tim. 3:1-5)

Jesus told us, *"For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away."* 2 Tim. 3:2-5

These verses certainly describe the characteristics of our present day accurately.

This is all part of the general cultural decline that has infiltrated our society on every level. What used to be clear-cut taboos and forbidden not too long ago is now out of the closet and accepted with open arms. Homosexuality, Sodomites, queers, fagots, lesbians, dykes, blood sucking vampires, cross dressers, same-sex marriages, interracial marriages and the murder, abortion of babies all "coming out" celebrations, adultery, fornication, bestiality, pornography, violence, broken families, decadence, polygamy, foul language, "heavy metal" music, oozing from the cesspools of the world. Being vilified, reported in

the news supported by the filmmakers, the schools, the workplace, and even in our churches. They are even being celebrated as "normal", okay behavior. It is so much so that our society is rapidly becoming immune, amoral and hardened to these bad sinful behaviors. People are no longer concerned as they once were that these behaviors are because of SIN and as such, they carry serious consequences. Pop psychology writes them off as the result of chemical or social imbalances with no personal responsibility for bad choices and actions. Post-modern liberal society is godless and mocking Christian values. In short, our godly values that we once held so dear have all but dried up in today's culture. The Church, which is supposed to be the "salt and light" is sadly diminishing in these times of "tolerance", and strangely silent on these issues and is becoming cozier with the world system due to widespread deception, indifference and lack of discernment.

B. *ANTI-SEMITISM* (Gen. 12:3)

Anti-Semitism is on the rise on many fronts: many "mainline" churches have decided to eliminate and replace Israel with the Church, which is called Anti-Semitic Theology.

This false teaching is fast becoming a popular belief among a number of denominations. Churches like the Presbyterian Church are promoting divestment from companies that have had business relationships with Israel, and have come to think in terms of "Israeli occupation" of their own lands! What this does is support Arab terror against Israel. What does the Bible say about this issue? Genesis 12:3 states, *"And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curses thee: and in thee shall all the families of the earth be blessed."* Which is to say, that because of God's promises to Abraham in giving him and his descendants the land of Canaan, those who would honor these promises and support Israel would be blessed; and those who come against Israel in dividing her land, or otherwise dishonoring these promises, would be cursed.

Anti-Semitism has reared its ugly head in a number of places: Germany by far is growing by leaps and bounds as its Muslim communities foster a return to Nazism, in United State's schools, where the curriculum is fast incorporating Middle Eastern studies in favor of the Arab cause vs. Israel; moral and spiritual values in schools are becoming more and more ungodly as people who live their Christian values are forced underground; recently in the United Kingdom, someone was "disciplined" for opposing Anti-Semitism; there is a rise of the hatred of Jews throughout Europe which is out of control; the President of Iran recently made statements that "Israel should be wiped off the map"; "Israel should move to Europe", "The holocaust never happened", etc., while developing their nuclear weapons (which they intend to use); Muslim children are taught in their schoolbooks and culture that the Jews and Christians especially, are the Enemy and they need to be killed. These children are trained in their Muslim upbringing to hate all Jews (and other infidels), who all deserve death based on their twisted thinking. The Islamists will not stop until the entire world adopts their allegiance to Allah or dies. Many people have already been kidnapped, beheaded, tortured, or persecuted. There is a lot of violence going on, and it's getting worse. So Christians, beware of trying times! This is a major problem in these days.

### C. CHRISTIAN PERSECUTION (1 Thess. 2:15)

Christians are increasingly being jailed, murdered, tortured, and persecuted by many Countries and peoples across the globe by the rise of Islam and a liberal society. In addition, as the Bible and Christian values are being treated with contempt, Christians are being attacked and Christianity is being "squeezed out" of society as unacceptable by the "politically correct" crowd. Christians can no longer pray in Jesus' Name or voice their Christian beliefs without serious consequences or being accused of "intolerance"; however, people who follow other religions can pray in the name of Allah, the Dali Lama, or whatever. Pastors are being jailed or persecuted for preaching that homosexuality is a sin according to the Bible. Recently it was reported there was a new NBC film called "The Book of Daniel" depicting a dysfunctional Christian family. The movie script was written by a homosexual who held a contemptuous slant on Christianity. The American Family Association set up an online petition against this film; and last news I heard on the story, it was canceled because of the protest from the Christian community. Praise God!

According to an article published in January 2006 on Eritrea that, "Eritrea dramatically accelerated its imprisonment and torture of Christians even as the U.S. State Department designated it as a Country of Particular Concern (CPC) for the second consecutive year. By October, the number of Eritrean Christians confirmed to be jailed for their religious beliefs had shot up to a total of 1,778, nearly double the documented count in April. At least 26 full-time Protestant pastors and Orthodox clergy were jailed and their personal bank accounts frozen by government order, causing severe suffering for their families. The regime of President Isaias Afwerki stripped Eritrean Orthodox Patriarch Abune Antonios of his ecclesiastical authority on August 7, and the country's only Anglican priest, the Rev. Nelson Fernandez, was abruptly ordered out of the country in early October. Since May 2002, the Eritrean government has outlawed all Christian meetings for worship except those of the officially registered Orthodox, Catholic and Evangelical Lutheran churches – but the regime began jailing and harassing key leaders of even the legally recognized churches this year. On September 23, Eritrea became the first nation ever sanctioned by the U.S. State Department under the 1998 Religious Freedom Act for failure to address severe violations of religious freedom."

*"Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you." Matthew 5:11*

### D. NATURAL DISASTERS (Luke 21:25)

There is so much happening in this area that it's hard to know where to even begin and I can only barely scratch the surface. We have had a RECORD year in 2010 for tropical weather and hurricanes, not only in numbers but intensity. A few of these hurricanes peaked at 175 mph winds! Chances are we will have these severe hurricanes for some time. Also, a tsunami hit in the Indian Ocean in Dec. 2009. Since that time, scientific discovery missions have concluded that not only can another tsunami hit in the same



region, but other regions are ripe for a tsunami as well; and they are not all the result of an earthquake...some can happen because of landslides or other phenomena. Scientists say we are overdue for these disasters. Another notable happening is volcanoes. There are more and more reports coming out on news shows of many volcanoes waking up and spewing ash. Some of these volcanoes are triggered by earthquakes or vice versa. There is a reported land bulge in Oregon by "Nature" in September 2005. Another is Oklahoma and Texas. Sinkholes are occurring in Florida and everywhere across this country and in other nations, Russia by far multiplying daily. The pictures I've been able to see are as if you are looking right down into Hell itself. Do I need to mention all the fires? The fires may not all be because of high winds and dry temperatures. Reports from "The Enid News and Eagle, Dec. 13, 2012" are saying there are gas pockets inside the fires that keep the fires going and are contributing to land deformation. Where are these gas pockets coming from? The gas pockets possible leak from underground magma that's rising to the surface from Yellowstone or another source? Who knows, but I find it interesting. Also, the number and intensity of earthquakes are very common these days, and there is a concern for activity in the New Madrid Fault line that runs in the middle of the United States.

Sunspot and solar flare activity in 2013 were noteworthy as it caused numerous disruptions in communications on planet Earth. What can we expect in 2014?

Tornadoes were also unusual and severe in 2013, causing billions in damage and many deaths. Tornadoes that typically form in the spring and summer are now forming in the fall and even winter. NOAA reported 23 tornadoes for January 2013 alone.

This past summer, we saw record heat in many places such as Alaska impacting the glaciers, and likewise, in the winter we've seen a lot of cold. Europe and Asia have had severe cold and snow this past winter.

We have numerous news reports of many glaciers melting, according to the National Weather Service. This is due to warming of global temperatures as well as all the volcanic activity under the earth, which is very hot and can cause massive flooding. Also on the same note, the West Coast of the US has seen a lot of rain in recent days and they have had numerous floods and landslides.

In December 2012 issue of "Nature" reported on the Earth's Magnetic Pole Drifting. It said in part, "Earth's north magnetic pole is drifting away from North America and toward Siberia at such a pace that Alaska might lose its spectacular Northern Lights in the next 50 years, scientists said Thursday. Despite accelerated movement over the past century, the possibility that Earth's modestly fading magnetic field will collapse is remote. But the shift could mean Alaska may no longer see the skylights known as auroras, which might then be more visible in more Southerly areas of Siberia and Europe."

MSNBC reported in 2014 that scientists found 150 dead zones in the world's oceans, resulting from an imbalance of chemicals causing oxygen deprivation or suffocation of

the fish. It is also because of acid rain from fossil fuels, fertilizer run-off, and industrial waste. Because of this culture's consumer-driven lifestyle, we are producing too much waste.

Some would argue that "natural disasters" have always been around since Biblical times, so these things can be chalked up to simply being cyclical in nature. These people do not see any supernatural connection between many of the events that are occurring, they simply say it's "global warming", a "man-made conspiracy theory" or something like that, rather than to look at the reality and magnitude of these events as a "global warning" from God which is increasing with time. Because of SIN, God's patience is wearing thin with a man and He is trying to get our attention with these phenomena when we are disobedient in some way. For further information, here is a [link](#) to an article from the KR Washington Bureau describing America's wild weather.

I could go on and on because there is so much going on that constitutes a potential threat. Let's just say that Luke 21:25-26 sums it up nicely: "And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the **sea and the waves roaring**; 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."

#### E. *DISEASE AND PESTILENCE* (Rev. 6:8; Matt. 24:7)

How about the new Ebola crisis out of South Western Africa as well as the new virus affecting our children in this country, 2014, Bird Flu H5N1: The biggest threat of disease we have now is Ebola and the Avian (Bird) Flu. The WHO (World Health Organization) says this virus could become pandemic if it mutates into human to human contact, and they warn this is an imminent threat that is a 100% certainty. The WHO is also stating that around 30% of the world's population will become infected (7 billion people x 30% = 2,100,000,000). The medical experts are saying it is taking after the 1918 Spanish Flu (which killed hundreds of millions), and they have developed a vaccine against it which they are using on birds. The trouble is, there is currently not enough vaccine to protect everyone, and these birds that are infected have the capacity to migrate to other countries as well as reproduce, etc. Therefore, Bird Flu has been spreading among birds in Asia, Europe, Canada and many other places. People have contracted it from contact with infected birds, and some have died from the disease already. The experts say it's only a matter of time until this disease explodes into a worldwide epidemic or plague, once it mutates. The UN Food and Agriculture Agency in Rome (FAO) currently warns that Turkey could have a widespread endemic problem with bird flu and surrounding countries should be on high alert. They also say this threat could spread to the west and that the virus could be spreading despite efforts to contain it. All any of us can say to this is WOW!

AIDS: In 2010, 5 million people were reportedly infected with AIDS in India alone. Despite efforts to contain the virus, new cases keep coming to the surface and the epidemic is continuing to outstrip any containment efforts. Ignorance and

poverty are still the root cause in many third world countries along with limited medical resources. Also, we are living in times where homosexuality and casual sex is being accepted as the "norm" in society. Our thinking and sense of responsibility have gone down the tubes. Instead of good morals, monogamous marriages, and abstinence, we have free sex in our society and we have been paying the price since 1981. Fornication and adultery have become normal. Broken homes are rampant. And the so-called disease of "silence" from our pulpits has destroyed the preacher's vocal cords. Cowardice reigns in the church. And part of that price we've been paying is the disease of AIDS and other STD's. It's part of the last day's problems and it keeps getting worse because we are not learning anything from our actions. The man never learns from his past. There is still no cure despite heroic efforts by the medical community to find one; yet those irresponsible, lustful people who enjoy their sinful activities complain because the disease is spreading. Well, duh!

Locusts: ABC News Online reports on January 9, 2006, "Farmers in north-central Victoria are being urged to prepare for a new generation of plague locusts.

Hatchlings have started at big egg beds of locusts in Bridgewater and Inglewood as well as other places.

The Department of Primary Industries' principal scientist, Malcolm Campbell, says the new generation could be far bigger than the first which decimated many pastures.

He says farmers will have to wait a few weeks before they spray insecticide.

"We need to wait for a couple of weeks, at the moment they are a millimeter long and far too small to find very easily and they haven't all hatched, so what they need to do is wait until a good proportion of them hatch and they have become a little bit bigger so they can be easily found," he said." Also, National Geographic Channel on TV had a documentary of the continent of Africa having a plague of locusts, so much so that it is contributing to starvation of those who live there. These people do not have the means to eradicate the locust problem from their crops and living areas. It reminds me of the plague of locusts in Egypt (Ex. 10:12-14). How many more outbreaks of these insects are going to be in our future? We'll see, but again, with the weather patterns and other conditions, may have contributed to the prolific hatching of these pests.

SARS (Bird Flu renamed, PR News Now, May 2005): [link](#)

SARS originated in China, same area as Bird Flu, in 2004. The SARS symptoms originate in the respiratory area of the body, like Bird Flu. Could it be the current rage over Bird Flu is really SARS that evolved?

West Nile Virus: Science Daily reports, "A genetic mutation that protects against HIV increases the risk of developing clinical West Nile Virus infection, according to a new study appearing online on January 9th in The Journal of Experimental Medicine." [Link](#)

This disease has spread rapidly since 1999 across the North American continent. The CDC in Atlanta is reporting that since then, 15,000 people have become infected with this mosquito-borne virus, and over 500 have died. In order to eradicate this disease, mosquito breeding would have to be brought under control by minimizing or eliminating standing water. Unfortunately, due to recent weather patterns being very wet and humid in many places (due to climatic changes), it creates an environment for mosquitoes to breed profusely to infect both animals and humans.

Many other diseases that have made news in recent times: Mad Cow Disease, Ebola Virus, and more. We might soon be seeing bio-terrorism play a role here, and a new term, "Agra-terror"; that is, the deliberate infection of livestock with deadly plagues both to animals and humans. Apocalypse soon! I can hear the hoofbeats of the four horsemen, can you?

Famine:

Although there is enough food to feed the world's population despite a 70% increase over the last 30 years, the problem is 1) lack of income to purchase food, 2) lack of land to produce it, 3) uncertain weather problems causing periods of drought, flooding, or other conditions plus many other factors such as uneven distribution, etc.

Right now, there are 11 million people in the Horn of Africa on the brink of starvation, according to the Associated Press. The reasons are conflict and drought as well as insect control. The World Food Program is now feeding 1.2 million drought victims but fears this figure could more than double to 2.5 million. Africa needs to do more for its own infrastructure in order to solve this problem. However, it would probably take education, money, medicine and many other things to bring this situation under control. So, lacking that, it's liable to get worse as poverty contributes to hunger and hunger contributes to poverty as well as many diseases. Worldwide, over the last ten years, the rate of hunger has significantly increased due to trends in weather, malnourishment of expectant mothers passing it on to their children, lack of education and employment opportunities, etc. Each year, 11 million children die before their fifth birthday due to poverty and hunger, which brings on the disease. That is so sad!

F. *THE EUROPEAN UNION AND "Russia, United States, United Nations"* (Dan. 9:27)

The EU is godless at the core, which agreed on a godless constitution in 2005. It is primarily responsible for dividing or carving Israel's lands by forcing the Road Map to nowhere. (Joel 3:2) The result is Islamist infiltration of terrorism into Israel and chaos in Gaza and elsewhere that is currently going on. Recently the European Union became involved in border operations with Gaza and its neighbors, in order to achieve "peace".

The biggest issue from the European Union and the group of four of Nations (EU, Russia, US, and UN) is that they are currently working together on a Peace Agreement between Israel and the Palestinians. The end result is this is opening the door for the Antichrist to walk through, and he is the key player who will confirm the peace with many (Dan.

9:27). The Antichrist is one of Roman descent who will arise out of the European Union. The spirit of the European Union is "many tongues and one voice". America better watch out because "Israel is this countries invitation to commit suicide."

The other thing they are concerned with is creating the New world Order (see below).

#### G. ISRAEL AND THE PALESTINIANS (Joel 3:2)

Palestine: the only goal of the Palestinians is the complete annihilation of Israel. In their reality and according to their culture, there is no such thing as "peace and living side by side with Israel". The Road Map will never work! Israel is the avowed enemy and the Palestinians (as well as the rest of the Muslim world) are determined to wipe them off the map at any cost. The first step in the "disengagement" process was Gaza. The end result of that was anarchy. Since the Palestinians have taken over Gaza, there have been terrorist activities and bombings in Israel, causing a lot of death. The Palestinians vow they will not stop their attacks until they take over the whole land of Israel, as their belief is that Israel is in "occupied" territories that belong to the Palestinians. Jerusalem is the biggest cause of contention, and there's a lot of talk about dividing the city. Therefore, the prophecy is true that says, *"And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it."* (Zech. 12:3) Why is this going on? The bottom line is: the terrorists are being coddled by the European Union, United States, Russia, and the UN as they simply believe terrorism works so they continue it.

The whole, so-called "Palestinian" group is a fantasy in a fantasy land. They consist of Jordanian, Syrian and other Arabs who have no right to take over Israel's covenant lands!

This whole "disengagement" thing that has been pushed on Israel by the EU and the other three parties is a tragedy. If they have their way, Israel will be forced to give up all her land and her country over the next few years. That can't happen! The Lord will need to move to stop the evil plans of a man at some time in the near future. At the present time, Benjamin Netanyahu is the only real statesman governing Israel. Once he's out of the way, watch out. In the meantime, there are other threats in the offing such as nuclear war from Iran. They intend to be fully nuclear and able to use a bomb by March 2015! And it looks as though their target countries are Israel and the U.S. The effect of EMP (electromagnetic pulse) with nuclear blasts will render the affected country powerless, because it will shut down electrical power due to melted transistors. What will ensue is chaos, which will invoke the Patriot Act or a Police State as the government will want to take over population control in order to restore order. All these events could cause America to cave in as a nation. Could nukes directed at us be why America is not mentioned in end-times Bible prophecy? We'll have to see. But God makes it very clear that those who curse Israel will be cursed, and those who carve up Israel's covenant lands will be judged. (Joel 3:2, 3) That includes the US, along with the EU, who has

spearheaded the so-called "Roadmap" plan to nowhere and caused the separation of Gaza (Zeph. 2:4).

On a different note, in October 2005, the Jewish Sanhedrin was reestablished for the rebuilding of the Temple after 1600 years. The Rededication was held in Tiberias, which was the location of the last meeting 1600 years ago! After the Tribulation gets under way under the Antichrist, the Temple will be rebuilt on or near the dome of the Rock, the site of the previous Temple. I'm not currently sure how that will happen (again, nukes?), but it will happen. The components of the Temple are currently in existence, so it will not take long to complete the actual building.

#### H. *THE NEW WORLD ORDER* (Dan. 7:23)

The UN and the Group of Eight Summit meetings have been working together to bring about a future single world government. We are heading in that direction as meetings are ongoing and decisions are made. The one world government (as well as the next World War, which promises to be brief) is what will produce the Antichrist who will confirm seven years of "peace" with Israel and the Palestinians. By that time, true Born-Again Christians will be in heaven with their Lord and the seven years of Tribulation will begin. In recent years, world leaders such as George Bush, Sr., and Jr., and Popes Francis, John Paul II, and Benedict have all made mention in their speeches about a coming New World Order, which is significant in light of the times we are living in. Technologies are being developed to control the population and create a cashless society. These technologies involve scanning and internal chip devices to make the daily activities of people convenient and easy, as well as for tracking purposes. However, it also means a major invasion of privacy because things like medical records, bank information, private conversations on telephones, or even what you do in your own home will be known to the authorities and can probably be accessed easily by others clever enough to beat the system. The recent Patriot Act will give the government the authority to arrest anyone they feel is suspicious...even if you're perfectly innocent! All in the interest of tracking terrorists, now everyone will be lumped into the same category. This is the scary stuff of totalitarianism, for anyone but especially for born again Evangelical Christians because Christians are a target group as they are considered "fundamentalists".

#### I. *TECHNOLOGY & OTHE ADVANCES* Dan. 12:1-4

In addition to the technologies already mentioned, we live in an age of Computers, the Internet, scientific discoveries, advances in medicine, and knowledge explosion in every area. Because of this advance in various technologies, we have the ability to communicate instantly, travel around the globe in record time, launch rockets into space, rely on many modern electronics devices for convenience or entertainment, and we have the capacity to produce many products and services quickly which makes modern life

easy. Compare the way we live today with the way it was even twenty, fifty or a hundred years ago, and you know what I mean.

J. *ISLAM AND THE MIDDLE EAST* (Rom. 9:13)

The Arab world of the Middle East is ruled by Islam. Islam is an inherently violent religion; it is certainly not a "religion of peace". Are all Muslims violent? Of course not: there are many who would be considered part of the "Sunni" Muslims who want nothing to do with the ongoing violent activities of several of the radical, Shiite Islamist groups. Those groups consist mainly of Fatah, Hamas, Al-Jaida, and Hezbollah, and more recently ISIS and they are dangerous. They are extremist in their practice and fundamental in their application of the Koran. There are literally hundreds of verses in the Koran directing Islamists to practice violence and death against those they deem "infidels". The spirit of these Islamists is one of utter hatred towards everybody outside their little group. They intend to wage war with the world using nuclear weapons, which will bring about World War Three or the Gog-Magog War, Armageddon of Ezekiel 38-39.

The Islamic world is predominantly one of poverty, although some of the leaders are very wealthy. Everywhere you go, these extremists live in filthy conditions and in poverty. The once beautiful Gaza strip is now a hellhole of poverty and anarchy since the Islamists moved in only a few months ago. Sad indeed! They have squandered and spent the resources that the U.S. and other countries have given them on more bombs, guns and terror instead of building a decent infrastructure for their people. Yet, we don't learn from this and keep on feeding this idea of creating a Nation of Palestine!

K. *THE THREAT OF WAR* (Matt. 24:6; Mark 13:7)

Since World War II, there have been 250 wars in 100 nations. This will only continue to increase as we near the time of the Tribulation. Modern society, through the advances in technologies, has been developing a new type of weapon called Directed Energy Warfare. This is a weapon super-powered by laser, microwaves and particle beams, and it is fast approaching the time when it will be used by the military for ground, air, sea, and space. After more than two decades of research, the United States is on the verge of deploying a new generation of weapons that discharge beams of energy, such as the Airborne Laser, the Active Denial System, as well as the Tactical High Energy Laser (THEL).

War is looming on the horizon because of Iran's nuclear program. The last President of Iran, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, hates Israel so much that he has said Israel "should be wiped off the map", "the holocaust never happened, it is a myth", and that "Israel should be relocated to Germany or Austria", among other things. The new president is in agreement. They intend to direct their nuclear weapons at Israel, and these weapons will be ready to use in just a few months. It remains to be seen, however, if this will really

happen and when it will happen, prior to, whether it will be now or further into the future. Time will tell and we will have to see how things unfold. Russia has played a big role in supplying Iran with the capabilities to develop nuclear weapons and supports its use of these weapons. China is also building up its nuclear forces in order to target the U.S. and many other countries, according to the Washington Times (July 29, 2005). Could this lead to Armageddon the War of Ezek. 38-39 when all nations come against Israel? Again, we'll have to watch and see how these events unfold. But in light of these recent news items, I find this very interesting in light of Bible Prophecy.

World Net Daily from January 13, 2006, states the following: "The new government of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu also wants the mullah government in the Islamic republic to understand that Israel is in no less state of military readiness", G2 Bulletin sources say. So, Israel knows what Iran is up to and is prepared to confront them should a nuclear strike happen. How is tiny Israel in a position to strike and win against Iran? It is planning preemptive strikes against key cities in Iran by March 2013. What the outcome of this will be is something to watch; but in any case, tiny Israel has the God of Hosts on her side and she will win, regardless of whether she is in a state of unbelief in the Messiah at the moment. "Defense sources in Israel believe the end of March to be the "point of no return," after which Iran will have the technical expertise to enrich uranium in sufficient quantities to build a nuclear warhead in two to four years." (*Probably much sooner*, emphasis mine)

"Israel and not only Israel cannot accept a nuclear Iran," Netanyahu warned recently. "We have the ability to deal with this and we're making all the necessary preparations to be ready for such a situation." (World Net Daily, Dec. 11, 2005)

#### L. *APOSTASY AND DECLINE OF THE CHURCH* 2 Thess. 2:3

The underlying problem in the current apostasy is that it's spreading like wildfire and the unwillingness to **confront sin and to truly repent**. The popular "purpose driven" and "seeker sensitive" mentality that pervades our churches today is preaching a "feel good" gospel that is a counterfeit and a watered-down version of true Salvation through Christ's atoning blood. In addition, we are now encountering a fleshly-driven "ME" agenda that is being pushed in many churches; namely, MY prosperity, MY health, MY rights, MY wants, MY needs, MY happiness, etc. It is pure selfishness and is totally void of the message of Christ. It's all about "me, my, and I". The Word of Faith movement, which is a "name it and claim it" belief, is a common example. Just believe that Ferrari into your driveway. You want it and you deserve it, and you demand it. Let God enable all your selfish little wants and needs with no thought of His Gospel or what His Son came to the earth for. Yeah, right. Is that in the Bible? Also, we see that many different cults are springing up and growing, making the Word of God of none effect. There are about 2,500 to 3,000 cults of varying types in the world today!

Another big item we are confused about is in eschatology. There are so many false doctrines that are prevalent today: Kingdom Now, Anti-Semitic Theology (the Church has replaced Israel), Amillennialism, Postmillennialism, Pre-wrath, Post-Tribulation,



Preterism, etc. We are confused because proper eschatology is not taught or studied. People view it as "gloom and doom" instead of our Blessed Hope and, therefore, dismiss it, leading to lukewarmness in the church and in the Christian life. Thus the gross ignorance, superstition and fear of the Lord's return; rather than looking forward to it with great anticipation as our Blessed Hope and the Lord Jesus as our True Bridegroom.

There is also a big problem with many of our pastors who are not being taught properly in Seminary. Some churches are accepting homosexuality and ordaining those who practice it; some preachers don't accept the Virgin Birth of Christ or other basic doctrines of the Bible, others are living and accepting immoral lifestyles, "extra-biblical revelations", etc. These should be huge red flags to us for those of us who know and love our Bible and its divine message.

We buy into this stuff because we lack discernment and wisdom. How many of us read and study our Bibles every day and seek to find out what God has to say to us? How many of us go to God for advice via prayer and meditation? How many of us search in earnest for a good Bible-believing Baptist church and leadership we can trust? How many of us associate and fellowship with other Bible-believing Baptist Christians of like faith? Folks, there is SO MUCH spiritual deception out there, it is scary. And we can get fed that deception right from our television screens, the computer or the wrong books. Many of these television "ministries" use influential means to bilk enormous amounts of money from deceived Christians for their phony causes. These so-called "ministers" end up extremely wealthy with mansions, private jets, expensive clothes, you name it. And those they deceive end up in severe financial trouble. My advice is: **stay away from it and focus on the true Christ Jesus.** You can find Him in the pages of the Bible.

The true purpose of the Church is to win the lost, warn the sinner and exhort the believer as well as tell the world about Jesus Christ as found in the Bible and to be the "salt and light" to those around us who don't know the Lord. If your church or ministry is spouting any of the above nonsense, then GET OUT quickly! This sort of apostasy is in reality, opening the door for the Antichrist to enter. At this point, he is not far away as all the players are already in place to play out the last scene of the end times.

All of the above are indicative of a soon return of our Lord and Savior, and there are probably many more prophecies that I have not even touched on. When you look around, you see these things are really everywhere and you don't have to look very far to see them. Many prophecies from thousands of years ago are being fulfilled before our eyes. Knowing this, it should motivate each one of us to be watchful for the Lord's trumpet call, to endeavor to be "salt and light" to those around us and to continue our witness to those who do not know our Lord. If you have been spiritually asleep, groggy, or not paying attention to the Lord's soon return or the times we are living in, NOW IS THE TIME TO BE ON THE ALERT because His call for us can come at any time. We do not know when that day will be because it is an unknown day. It, therefore, makes no sense to try to tie the date of the Rapture to a Jewish Feast day or another holiday, a month, or even a season of the year; because in doing so you will be wrong in your

guess and also it is misleading as well as discouraging to others. It is simply unknown, as Jesus told us that we do not know the day or the hour of His return, not even Him, but His Father **only**. (Matt. 25:13; Matt. 24:36; Mark 13:32). But, on the other hand, all the current events and conditions of our present world as outlined above that continue to unfold every day while **increasing in volume and intensity**, are definite indications of a soon return. It is like the labor pains of a woman about to give birth: when her pains become very frequent and intense as the baby moves into position, everyone knows she is very close to delivery (even though it is not known exactly at what moment the baby will be born until it is born). In the meantime, this world continues to deteriorate at an alarming rate on every level and is headed for sure self-destruction, which will lead into the period of the seven years Tribulation for those who are left behind. The Bible has foretold about these things for thousands of years, so it is in your best interest to take each one of them seriously in order to be prepared for the future.

If you are reading this article and have not yet made Jesus Christ your personal Savior, I strongly urge you to do so TODAY. There is no guarantee in this life: a misfortune can happen to us at any time, causing our untimely death. (1Pet. 1:24; Psalms. 39:4) Without Christ as your Savior who cleanses you from all sin, you will definitely be in Hell if that were to happen. (Heb. 9:27; Matt. 25:46; Luke 16:19-31) That would be a harsh tragedy because it is an everlasting punishment, but it would be your own choosing to go there as you failed to respond to the call of the Gospel when you had the chance. (Psalms. 9:17; Psalms. 55:15; Psalms. 101:4; Matt. 7:23) Likewise, even by the Grace of God, if we don't die and continue to live, Jesus can call us out of this world at any time via the Rapture. If you don't belong to Him, you will be left behind to endure very horrifically, wrathful judgments from God that will go on for seven years in order to cleanse the earth of mankind's grievous sins. On the day the Rapture happens, it will appear to be another ordinary day and most people will be coming and going, pursuing their daily activities. (Matt. 24:37-38; Luke 17:26-27) They will be caught completely unawares and once it happens "in a twinkling of an eye" and people find themselves left behind, it will be too late. (1Thess. 5:3; Matt. 25:1-13) If you are still foolish enough to be in a lost state at that time, you can still trust in the Lord and be saved; however, you will be forced to endure the wrath of the Tribulation anyhow because the Age of Grace as we know it today will be over. So consider this a fair warning ahead of time!

*"...Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels."*  
Matt. 25:41

You think the Lord stayed up at night feeling remorse at having offended someone? Don't kid yourself! Only a fool would imagine such lunacy. When it came to the religious crowd and the so-called godly folks, Jesus wanted them to know that the lake of fire called Hell is real. He died because it is a real place. He knew if He didn't all of us would wind up there. Somehow, good people have the hardest time believing and or communicating to another the concept of an eternal place of torment and unimaginable place of suffering. No one need go there! But for the grace of God there go you and I. It was grace that enabled us to believe the Word of God and much of the Bible has to do with Hell. And the Bible is God's good news that we do not have to go there.

The good news is that the Lord doesn't want anyone to die and go to hell much less experience the Tribulation period to come. (2 Pet. 3:9) He created each one of us to love and to have a relationship with, but the one thing that barricades us from that relationship is the issue of SIN. This is due to the holy, pure and righteous nature of God, who cannot look upon sin and cannot allow anything sinful into His presence. (Ex. 20:5; Acts 17:30) To solve that magnanimous problem, God sent His "only begotten Son" from heaven to planet earth, the Son He loves so dearly, to make reconciliation for sin and as the only perfect Sacrifice, dying in our stead in agreement from the foundation of the world for sinful man. (Rom. 6:10) What a Gift of Grace! (Eph. 2:5, 8) When we trust in the Lord for salvation, He forgives us of all sin and comes to live within us and begins a new creation, a new relationship with man (1Cor. 6:11) known as the New Birth, "Christ in us" right now possessing eternal life in and with Him. (Rom 8:15-17) It is only when we have this true relationship with God by trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ that we can say we are really prepared for the future. No other method, tradition or system devised by feeble man will count a bit for salvation or will following after some earthly spiritual leader who cannot possibly save your soul. Jesus Christ is the ONLY WAY to heaven! (John 14:6)

Here are the simple steps you need to take to ensure your future with God:

- 1) Recognize that you are a sinner in dire need of God's help, and that only He can help you with your sin problem. The man is completely helpless to solve this problem himself he needs a real miracle from heaven: Jesus Christ.
- 2) Humbly come before God and recognize Him as the great God of the Universe and the Godhead, who came down from heaven in the form of a Man to be your Savior.
- 3) Humbly and contritely ask His forgiveness by acknowledging His great sacrifice on the Cross as your Substitute, knowing that His pure blood which He shed for you has the power to forgive all sin.
- 4) By surrendering your life to Him and renouncing the world and the lifestyle of sin, you become a new creation in Christ and the Holy Spirit now indwells you.
- 5) Walk in newness of life with Christ, sharing your witness with others and obeying God's commands with the direction and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

NOW IS THE TIME to get your life in order, because these are clearly the "Days of Noah" (Matt. 24: 37) and the future is looking very ominous indeed! The future is either wonderfully glorious and the Rapture and heaven is our Blessed Hope with Christ our Bridegroom, or it will be horribly bleak as God opens up a gigantic sinkhole engulfing lost humanity in the lake of fire magnifying His holy name through righteous judgment. Don't be one who leaves this life by way of the sinkhole. Which is it for you?

“And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit.” Rev. 9:2

## **SINKHOLES PLAY A ROLE IN GOD’S ECONOMY**