



NON-PROFIT



TAX-EXEMPT

“Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature” MARK 16:15

November 2018

## FROM US TO YOU

We're heading into Thanksgiving and the holiday season. We want to be happy! We don't want to hear about anything unpleasant! We want to think about good food, family, friends, gifts, and ways to have fun. Even so, this world and its conflicts always seem to intrude on our lives. So we need to be ready. Because evil seems to always be lurking in the darkness no matter what. *“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the **spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms**”* (Ephesians 6:12 NIV). That's why, as Christians, we all need to be prepared with the weapons of our spiritual warfare to fight back against those who plan to do us harm. *“For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds”* (2 Corinthians 10:3-4 NIV).

Why do we need spiritual weapons? Because God gave temporary control of this world to Adam, our ancient ancestor. But Adam loved Eve more than he loved God. So he knowingly allowed it to fall into the hands of the devil, Satan. That's why our enemy, the devil, rules this world right now (Matthew 4:8-10 and John 12:31). He uses an army of fallen angels, called demons, to help him. It all started with a mutiny against God long before mankind was ever created. *“...There was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him”* (Revelation 12:7-9 NIV). We know that one third of God's angels participated in the mutiny because the dragon is obviously Satan. *“And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth...”* (Revelation 12:4 KJV). In this case the “stars of Heaven” refers to angels (Job 38:7, Rev. 9:1).

It began when a very high ranking angel named Lucifer, allowed pride and jealousy to enter his heart. And he managed to influence one third of God's angels, and they became demons. The Bible implies that Lucifer was blessed more than any other angel. God said of him, *“...You were the model of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. **You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone adorned you... Your settings and mountings were made of gold; on the day you were created they were prepared**”* (Ezekiel 28:12-13 NIV). Up until sin was found in him, Lucifer was perfect in every way. And God was so delighted with him that He gave him great wealth and power. Unfortunately, there came a time when all the blessing began to puff up his ego. He didn't just want the good things and authority God gave him. He wanted it all, everything that God had!

Consequently there was a trial in Heaven and the Lord said of him, *“How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For*

*thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God”* (Isaiah 14:12-13 KJV). Lucifer's name was changed to Satan, which means *“...accuser of our brethren...”* (Revelation 12:10 KJV). The mutineers received part of their punishment right away. God took away their solid bodies. He cremated them while they stood before Him (Ezekiel 28:18). But most of them were not thrown into Hell yet. God uses them to test mankind to see if we would love and obey Him or not. Adam and Eve failed the test. They became sinful themselves (Genesis chapter 3). And, we humans, inherited their sin. We were born with their DNA, and their sin is in the blood of each human. That's why we need to be Born Again (John 3:3) spiritually through the blood of Christ. We do that by asking for His forgiveness and for God to change our heart. When we do that God wipes the slate clean and our past sins are forgiven.

However, salvation is conditional! We must cling to Christ as a drowning man clings to a life preserver (John 15:1-8). *“If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God”* (Hebrews 10:26-27 NIV). That means those who willingly resist Christ, as our only Mediator between God and man (1 Timothy 2:5-5) end up sharing in the punishment of Satan and his demons (Revelation 20:15). They will be *“cast into the lake of fire and brimstone... and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever...”* (Rev. 20:10 KJV). However, until Christ comes, the devil and his demons are still ruling this world in Adam's place. And their fondest wish is to take as many of us with them as possible. Jesus died to give us a way out (see John 3:16-17). *“How shall we escape if we ignore such a great salvation?...”* (Hebrews 2:3 NIV).

So *“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God”* (Philippians 4:6 NIV). He knows how to deal with His enemies, and those who oppress His loved ones (Psalm 7:10-13). *“Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God”* (Ephesians 6:13-17 NIV). And, as George Bennard put it, in his famous hymn, “The Old Rugged Cross.” **“On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross, The emblem of suff'ring and shame; And I love that old cross where the Dearest and Best For a world of lost sinners was slain. So I'll cherish the old rugged cross, Till my trophies at last I lay down; I will cling to the old rugged cross, And exchange it someday for a crown.”**

In the Lord's Service, *Eric and Anne Kaestner*



# HOLD ON THROUGH THE STORM

By Anne Kaestner

We all know that Satan, the devil, is the personification of all that is evil (John 8:44). However there is going to be a time that is so frightening before the return of Christ, that those of us who have already gone home to Heaven should rejoice that they are in a safe place. *"...But woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you! He is filled with fury, because he knows that his time is short"* (Revelation 12:12 NIV). We who love Him, must cling to Jesus as never before because we are heading quickly toward a very dangerous time, especially for Christians! Now that Donald Trump is President we feel a temporary sense of relief from the anti-Christian attitude that has been so evident in the past decade. The United States was founded by Christians who set up a government based on the laws of God. And the Lord has blessed America mightily since its inception. However, that is changing rapidly!

No longer are we a united country in America. It is sin that divides us, especially idolatry, jealousy, and deep hatred. At the moment, politics seems to be the thing that polarizes us the most. The mainstream media used to at least pretend to be unbiased. But now they make their hatred toward the President and his supporters obvious. It has become dangerous to wear a "Make America Great Again" hat in public. Cabinet members, Republican senators, and Conservative commentators have all been harassed and chased out of restaurants. Senator Rand Paul was attacked while on his own property in Kentucky. He received multiple fractured ribs and subsequently contracted pneumonia. Congressman Steve Scalise was shot because he is a Republican. Senator Lindsey Graham was spit upon at the Brett Kavanaugh confirmation hearings. [More recently, two Minnesota Republican politicians have been attacked physically.](#) And explosive devices were sent to many prominent Democrats and CNN offices in New York.

As Christians, we need to bind together in Jesus, as never before. Because I believe it will only get worse! Demon spirits are the ones that promote this kind of hatred. Those who do their will, *"...cannot sleep till they do evil; they are robbed of slumber till they make someone fall"* (Proverbs 4:16 NIV). Jesus said, *"By their fruit you will recognize them..."* (Matt. 7:16 NIV). The fruit is their lifestyle and actions. *"The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control..."* (Galatians 5:19-23 NIV).

Americans hear about persecution and misery in other countries and have become complacent over the decades (see Revelation 3:17). Compared to other nations, we feel safe. However, many prosperous and powerful countries have existed in the past. During their time, they were influential, too. Some of them formed great empires. The book of Daniel tells us about some of those empires, including the empire that will exist when Christ returns as "King of Kings and Lord of Lords" (Revelation 19:12-16). However, the United States will not be here at that time! I take no pleasure in saying that. I love this country! I love our heritage, our Christian foundation, our strength, and our freedom. I love what we once were. But I don't like what is happening to this land that I love. Our hope should be in Christ,

not any kingdom of this world (John 18:36)! As Christians, this world is not our home (1 John 2:15-17). We have a permanent home waiting for us in Heaven (John 14:1-2).

The book of Daniel tells us about some past great empires of the world and the end time. One of the most powerful empires was Babylon, during the reign of Nebuchadnezzar. Daniel was a righteous Hebrew who was taken prisoner of war during the besiege of Jerusalem, at the time of Jehoiakim king of Judah. He was one of four Hebrew men who were recognized for their wisdom and perceptive powers. Then one day king Nebuchadnezzar had a dream that troubled him so much that he *"...summoned the magicians, enchanters, sorcerers and astrologers to tell him what he had dreamed..."* (Daniel 2:2 NIV).

The problem was he didn't remember what the dream was about. Even so, Nebuchadnezzar became irate when his "wise men" were not able to know the dream and tell him what it meant. *"This made the king so angry and furious that he ordered the execution of all the wise men of Babylon. So the decree was issued to put the wise men to death, and men were sent to look for Daniel and his friends to put them to death"* (Daniel 2:12-13 NIV). Daniel had not been among the "wise men" who had been summoned to interpret the dream. But he was considered one of them. So he and his friends, Shadrach, Meshach; and Abednego, were on the execution list. However, Daniel asked Arioch, the commander of the king's guard, why the king had ordered their death. When Daniel found out about the dream, he urged his friends *"...to plead for mercy from the God of heaven concerning this mystery, so that he and his friends might not be executed with the rest of the wise men of Babylon. During the night the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a vision..."* (Daniel 2:18-19 NIV). Daniel told Arioch that God had revealed the dream to him and he would tell the king what it meant. He was taken to the king and began to interpret the dream. He said, *"You looked, O king, and there before you stood a large statue—an enormous, dazzling statue, awesome in appearance"* (Daniel 2:31 NIV).

*"The head of the statue was made of pure gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of baked clay. While you were watching, a rock was cut out, but not by human hands. It struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and smashed them. Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were broken to pieces at the same time and became like chaff on a threshing floor in the summer. The wind swept them away without leaving a trace. But the rock that struck the statue became a huge mountain and filled the whole earth. This was the dream, and now we will interpret it to the king"* (Daniel 2:32-36 NIV). Daniel went on to explain that Nebuchadnezzar was so great that he was a king of kings. He was represented as the head of gold on the statue. After him another empire would arise that would not be as great. That was represented as silver. Then a third kingdom would come that would be the belly of bronze.

The fourth and last kingdom would be represented as legs of iron, *"...for iron breaks and smashes everything—and as iron breaks things to pieces, so it will crush and break all the others"* (Daniel 2:40 NIV). But the feet that support the statue will not be as strong. They will be a mixture of iron and baked clay. *"As the toes were partly iron and partly clay, so this kingdom will be partly strong and partly brittle"* (Daniel 2:42 NIV). So what does it all mean? Bible



scholars have determined that the statue represents the four major Gentile empires beginning with Babylon, which is the head of gold. Then the Media-Persia Empire which is the chest and arms of silver. After that came the Greek Empire, represented as the belly and thighs of bronze (brass in the King James Version). And then came the Roman Empire, which is portrayed as the legs of iron. Iron is heavy and strong and can crush most other things beneath it. All of those kingdoms are in the past as I write this.

Now we get to the last great kingdom on earth before the return of Christ. It is portrayed as ten toes of the statue. Each of the metals describing the past kingdoms were of decreasing value. The toes of the statue are made of a mixture of iron and baked clay. It is that kingdom that is already known to us as the European Union. It has not yet reached its zenith of power. The iron seems to represent great military might and weaponry. The clay, which is a fragile substance, seems to indicate vulnerability. It is generally believed that the past history of wars and rivalries between the nations prevents it from becoming more united. However, something happens that shocks the world and frightens the European Union so much that it binds together as the last great kingdom on earth.

At the present time, the most powerful nation is the United States. Of the past great empires portrayed in the statue, none of them exist today. So what happened to them? At the might of their greatness and power no other nations were able to defeat them. They were destroyed from within. Internal conflicts and immorality weakened them so much that they became soft. They began to take their might and power for granted, and they became smug. The Bible implies that also will be the case with a nation called Mystery Babylon, which is called a city in the book of Revelation. The first Babylon existed at the time of Nimrod, who was the grandson of Noah (Genesis 10:8). So just two generations after Noah the people had, once again, become wicked. However, they were united in their worship and their goals. They all spoke the same language and worked together so well that they decided to build a tower that they expected to reach into Heaven. It was where they planned to have human sacrifices and worship their gods.

However, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit became concerned about it. *“The LORD said, ‘If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. Come, let Us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other.’ So the LORD scattered them from there over all the earth, and they stopped building the city. That is why it was called Babel—because there the LORD confused the language of the whole world. From there the LORD scattered them over the face of the whole earth”* (Genesis 11:6-9 NIV). The United States is a reversal of the original Babel. It is where people from all over the world have come together as one nation, primarily speaking one language. And yet, although this nation was founded by Christians and based on the Word of God, it has become like the original Babylon. No longer is Christianity the religion of the country. These days, all the people are of different religions, worshiping their own ethnic gods. Perhaps symbolic was the tragic destruction of our own Twin Towers by America’s enemies on September 11, 2001.

Five great empires were mentioned in Nebuchadnezzar’s dream. Yet the Bible implies that ten nations making up the European Union will be the last empire to exist when Christ returns. So one might reason that since the EU exists today, Satan’s time of reign on earth is rapidly coming to an end and Christ is soon to return. That’s why

evil is getting worse at an alarming rate. *“Therefore... woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you! He is filled with fury, because he knows that his time is short”* (Revelation 12:12 NIV). As a result, even this once Christian nation is rapidly drifting further away from God. It has been reported online that [United States Christian military chaplains are being discouraged from saying “in Jesus name” while praying](#). During “Operation Desert Shield” (August 1990 – February 1991), it was reported that they were told not to wear their crosses in Moslem countries because it would offend the Islamics. I was shocked when I heard that, especially since we were there to liberate those nations who were being threatened by Saddam Hussein.

The book of Revelation is like a jigsaw puzzle of events that take place in either the past, present, or future. It is not necessarily in consecutive order. Take a look at what it says about “Mystery Babylon.” We know that God uses many metaphors to describe things. It is so that those who don’t love Him will not understand the meaning (see Matthew 7:6, 13:13-14, John 16:25). Mystery Babylon is a land that is filled with many waters (Jeremiah 51:12-13), unlike ancient Babylon, which is today Iraq, a desert nation. She is symbolized by great fluttering wings (Isaiah 18:1), such as those on our national symbol, the bald eagle. She is *“...an aggressive nation of strange speech, whose land is divided by rivers”* (Isaiah 18:2 NIV). Mystery Babylon is a place that has *“...foreigners in her ranks!...”* (Jeremiah 50:37 NIV), due to all of *“...the mingled people that are in the midst of her...”* (Jeremiah 50:37 KJV). She is rich and powerful, and many nations become rich by trading with her. *“How much she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously...”* (Revelation 18:7 KJV).

She is the hammer of the earth (Jeremiah 50:23). A hammer is strong and forceful, and when it is used with an anvil, it shapes things, just as the United States shapes the foreign policy of the world. Mystery Babylon is also a nation that becomes deeply involved in the occult, and encourages other countries to do the same (Isaiah 47:1-15). What’s alarming about this is that many Christian churches in America today have fallen so far away from Christ that they have been seduced by *“...deceiving spirits and things taught by demons”* (1 Timothy 4:1 NIV). They

are bringing witchcraft, psychology, New Age doctrines, and other occult arts into the body of Christ (Matthew 7:21-22, 1 John 4:1) and thousands are being led astray by them! (See 2 Corinthians 11:14-15 & Matthew 24:24.) Other nations are certainly guilty of sins like this, but the United States influences them, through movies, television, and the World Wide Web!

So what happens to “Mystery Babylon”? The Apostle John saw the future and he wrote that he saw an *“...angel coming down from heaven. He had great authority, and the earth was illuminated by his splendor. With a mighty voice he shouted: “Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great! She has become a home for demons and a haunt for every evil spirit, a haunt for every unclean and detestable bird”* (Revelation 18:1-2 NIV). The United States was founded by Christians and has had a long history of being a nation that respected God. That is until liberal theology began to change that. Prayer was taken out of public schools. So was the Bible. If Americans from the 1950’s could see what is shown on television today they would be shocked! Movies have become so salacious and filthy, my husband and I stopped going to them decades ago! Most college professors believe in secular humanism, not the Word of God. And they influence the young and impressionable!

As Christians, we are to be the Bride of Christ (2 Corinthians 11:2). So when a Christian nation that *(Continued On Page 4)*



has been blessed by God, begins to deviate from Him, the Lord sees it as adultery. For those who don't love and obey God, are being influenced by demon spirits. *"You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God? Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God"* (James 4:4 NIV). There will be a time, and it is not far off, when America's rebellion toward God will be beyond measure. There are still many Christians in this country, I know. But the trend is that each subsequent generation of Americans has grown further away from Christ than their ancestors. Already Christians, who are mostly Conservatives, are being shunned or attacked. And it shows signs of only getting worse.

Ironically, "Mystery Babylon" is a place where true Christians will be greatly persecuted. However, God will take revenge on her *"...in one day her plagues will overtake her: death, mourning and famine. She will be consumed by fire, for mighty is the Lord God who judges her"* (Revelation 18:8 NIV). During the destruction of "Mystery Babylon," the angel says, *"Give her as much torture and grief as the glory and luxury she gave herself. In her heart she boasts, 'I sit as queen; I am not a widow, and I will never mourn'"* (Revelation 18:7 NIV). Do not confuse her with ancient Babylon, for Mystery Babylon is a latter-day nation, the **hindermost** of nations! The United States is just two centuries old. She started out as part of the British Commonwealth, with England being her mother country. Compare this to the destruction of "Mystery Babylon."

*"Your mother shall be sore confounded; she that bare you shall be ashamed: behold, the hindermost of the nations shall be a wilderness, a dry land, and a desert. Because of the wrath of the LORD it shall not be inhabited, but it shall be wholly desolate: every one that goeth by Babylon shall be astonished..."* (Jeremiah 50:12-13 KJV). She will be a nation that trades with the whole world! *"When the kings of the earth who committed adultery with her and shared her luxury see the smoke of her burning, they will weep and mourn over her. Terrified at her torment, they will stand far off and cry: 'Woe! Woe, O great city, O Babylon, city of power! In one hour your doom has come!' The merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her because no one buys their cargoes any more"* (Revelation 18:9-11 NIV).

Frankly, when I first began seeing the parallels between the United States and Mystery Babylon, I dismissed it from my mind quickly. After all, this once great Christian nation didn't sound like a place that is described as persecuting true Christians. For they would not pay homage to her false religions and occult practices. Yet it says, *"In her was found the blood of prophets and of the saints, and of all who have been killed on the earth"* (Revelation 18:24 NIV). Yet, since Donald Trump became President, those who oppose him have revealed their hatred toward anything Christian. In modern times, America has had two presidents who called themselves Born Again Christians (John 3:3). Both have been a disappointment.

Ironically, President Trump claims he has never repented of his sins and has never called himself "Born Again." Yet, at this writing, Trump has put so much pressure on Turkey to release a Christian missionary, named Andrew Brunson, that he has now been released. We are now free to say "Merry Christmas" and not limited to "Happy Holidays" anymore. And both his Vice President, Mike Pence, and cabinet member Benjamin S. Carson, are strong Born Again Christians. Moreover, we now have a President who has been fighting legislation

against Christian values. Hopefully that will eventually include abortion, which is the modern equivalent to human sacrifice. And we have a new Conservative on the Supreme Court, Justice Brett Kavanaugh, who is also a Christian. Liberal animosity to him was as great as toward the President.

In the early 1980's when Eric and I still felt like newlyweds, we visited a college here on Long Island called "Christ for the Nations." It was a spin-off from the main college in Dallas, Texas, and it eventually went bankrupt. However, we went there to hear the late Rev. David Wilkerson give a sermon. It was the first time that I heard about a prophecy he had received from the Lord regarding huge fires in New York City. Over the years that followed, he alluded to it and added more information, such as the fires would be in cities nationwide, including many suburbs. Rev. Wilkerson died in a car accident on April 27, 2011. But God had given him a tremendous gift for prophecy. In 1987 he prophesied the "Black Monday" stock market crash. I was on a temporary assignment just a few days earlier. I told some people at the office that the stock market would crash and showed one of them the article David Wilkerson wrote about it. One woman was alarmed and read the article. Another was skeptical and dismissed it right away. Just a few days later it happened. I wish I had been able to see the look on their faces.

I remember reading about Rev. Wilkerson's prophecy of two huge towers being knocked down and that it would shock the whole world. Then, after the first attack on the towers in 1993, I thought that he had gotten it wrong. Then it happened September 11, 2001, just as he prophesied. Just a few years before Rev. Wilkerson died, he gave his last, and most terrifying warning of the prophecy of fires. He said it would not be far off! And with the anger that has been generated toward President Trump and his supporters since his election, I am feeling that we all need to get ready. [Here is a portion of the last and most frightening of his prophecies:](#)

"I am compelled by the Holy Spirit to send out an urgent message to all on our mailing list, and to friends and to bishops we have met all over the world.

AN EARTH-SHATTERING CALAMITY IS ABOUT TO HAPPEN. IT IS GOING TO BE SO FRIGHTENING, WE ARE ALL GOING TO TREMBLE — EVEN THE GODLIEST AMONG US.

For ten years I have been warning about a thousand fires coming to New York City. It will engulf the whole megaplex, including areas of New Jersey and Connecticut. Major cities all across America will experience riots and blazing fires — such as we saw in Watts, Los Angeles, years ago. There will be riots and fires in cities worldwide. There will be looting — including Times Square, New York City. What we are experiencing now is not a recession, not even a depression. We are under God's wrath."

However, do not despair (Matthew 28:18-20). Keep trusting the Lord. For when He brings you through the storm, there is Sunshine ahead with Christ! *"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: 'For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.' No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord"* (Romans 8:35-39 NIV).



Reverend David Wilkerson