

THE WORLD TODAY, THAT COMING DAY
PART II
THE PROPHETS HAVE SPOKEN
AND THEIR WORDS WILL COME TO PASS

By Arlen L. Chirwood

And thou shalt eat the fruit of thine own body, the flesh of thy sons and of thy daughters, which the Lord thy God hath given thee, in the siege, and in the straitness [distress], wherewith thine enemies shall distress thee.

So that the man that is tender among you, and very delicate, his eye shall be evil toward his brother, and toward the wife of his bosom, and toward the remnant of his children which he shall leave.

So that he will not give to any of them the flesh of his children whom he shall eat: because he hath nothing left him in the siege, and in the straightness [distress], wherewith thine enemies shall distress thee in all thy gates.

The tender and delicate woman among you, which would not adventure to set the sole of her foot upon the ground for delicateness and tenderness, her eye shall be evil toward the husband of her bosom, and toward her son, and toward her daughter,

And toward her young one [after-birth] that cometh out from between her feet, and toward her children whom she shall bear: for she shall eat them for want of all things secretly in the siege and straightness, wherewith thine enemy shall distress thee in thy gates.

If thou wilt not observe to do all the words of this law that are written in this book, that thou mayest fear this glorious and fearful name, THE LORD THY GOD.

Then the Lord will make thy plagues wonderful [remarkable], and the plagues of thy seed, even great plagues, and of long continuance, and sore sickness, and of long continuance...

And ye shall be left few in number, whereas ye were as the stars of heaven for multitude; because thou wouldest not obey the voice of the Lord thy God (Deut. 28:53-59, 62).

How Bad Will It Get?

During that future time, with famine (among other connected or related things) escalating and running rampant, exactly how bad will conditions get? The answer to that question, from a Biblical standpoint, is very simple:

God is going to allow conditions in that coming day — “the time of Jacob’s trouble” (Jer. 30:7ff) — to get AS BAD AS IT TAKES to bring the Jewish people to the place of repentance.

That which happened in Europe during the reign of the Third Reich — the extreme persecution of the Jews throughout Europe and the extermination of 6,000,000 in the death camps — wasn’t enough to effect the nation’s repentance. *What will it take to bring about their repentance? What will it take to bring this nation to the place where they will call upon the God of their fathers?*

It will take EXACTLY the things which the Word reveals are about to occur in the world — NOTHING LESS!

And THAT’S HOW BAD CONDITIONS ARE GOING TO GET, with the nations of the earth caught up in this right along with Israel.

During the Tribulation, particularly during the last half, two-thirds of the Jewish population of the earth will die (die because of hunger or accompanying plagues or diseases, or be slain at the hands of the Beast and those who do his bidding).

There are statements pertaining to all of this in a number of prophecies, but in two books, *the two-thirds number* is given; and in one book a division of the two-thirds is given, *showing part dying because of famine and pestilences and the other*

part dying, either directly or indirectly, at the hands of the Beast.

Note the passage usually quoted pertaining to the two-thirds being slain, from Zechariah:

“And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the Lord, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein.

And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: And they shall say, The Lord is my God” (13:8, 9).

Then note what Ezekiel has to say about the same matter, providing additional information:

“Thus saith the Lord God; This is Jerusalem: I have set it in the midst of the nations and countries that are round about her.

And she has changed my judgments into wickedness more than the nations, and my statutes more than the countries that are round about her: for they have refused my judgments and my statutes, they have not walked in them.

Therefore thus saith the Lord God; Because ye multiplied more than the nations that are round about you, and have not walked in my statutes, neither have kept my judgments, neither have done according to the judgments of the nations that are round about you;

Therefore thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I, even I, am against thee, and will execute judgments in the midst of thee in the sight of the nations.

And I will do in thee that which I have not done, and whereunto I will not do any more the like, because of thine abominations [a statement which can place this during *only one time — during the future Tribulation*].

Therefore the fathers shall eat the sons in the midst of thee, and the sons shall eat their fathers; and I will execute judgments in thee, and the whole remnant of thee will I scatter into all the winds.

Wherefore, as I live, saith the Lord God; Surely, because thou hast defiled my sanctuary with all thy detestable things, and with all thine abominations, therefore will I diminish thee; neither shall thine eye spare, neither will I have any pity.

A third part of thee shall die with the pestilence, and with the famine shall they be consumed in the midst of thee: and a third part shall fall by the sword round about thee; and I will scatter a third part into all the winds, and I will draw out a sword after them.

Thus shall mine anger be accomplished, and I will cause my fury to rest upon them, and I will be comforted: and they shall know that I the Lord have spoken it in my zeal, when I have accomplished my fury in them" (5:5-13).

Note how bad things will become for the Jewish people, solely because of the famine and accompanying pestilence. And this could only exist among the nations as well, though not to the extent as it will be seen among the Jewish people.

The Gentiles will have access to at least some food, but this will not be the case with Israel. Conditions in the world for the Jewish people during the last half of the Tribulation will become far, far worse than conditions became for them in Nazi Germany and much of the remainder of Europe immediately preceding and during WWII.

The Jewish people during this time will not be able to purchase food; nor will they be able to barter or sell their goods (Rev. 13:16, 17), with perhaps food in view.

This is the "why" of that stated in Matt. 25:31-46 — which has to do with the Gentiles' treatment of the Jewish people during the Tribulation and that which will result when Christ returns and deals with these Gentiles on that basis.

Saved Gentiles at the end of the Tribulation will be judged *on one basis alone, with a position in the kingdom in view*. They will be judged *solely on the basis of their treatment of the Jewish people during the Tribulation*, which can only be in the realm of helping or not helping them in different fashions — providing or not providing food, shelter, necessities of life, etc.

This is also the "why" of that stated in verse ten of the previously quoted section of Scripture from Ezekiel chapter five. As seen in this verse, food will be so scarce in the camp of Israel in that coming day that cannibalism will exist. Matters in this respect, as clearly stated in Scripture, will

be brought to the place that even those in a family will slay and eat other members of that family.

Inconceivable, Impossible?

Inconceivable, Impossible? Hardly! Not only has this happened in history but Scripture clearly states that it will happen again — *on a much broader scale* — during a time in the immediate future when conditions will become so severe (famine, among other things) that, apart from the Lord's intervention, the human race could not survive those days (Matt. 24:22).

But Israel brought to the place of repentance through this persecution will effect the Lord's intervention once again in man's affairs.

During *Elijah and Elisha's day*, conditions surrounding famine became so severe that an ass' head and dove's dung were sold for pieces of silver; and, as well, there is an account of a mother killing and boiling her own son for food (II Kings 6:24-31).

And the Tribulation and time immediately following will, so to speak, *be Elijah's day again*, when he appears, with Moses, here on earth in the land of Israel during the first half of the Tribulation, and then accompany Christ to the earth at the time of His return following the Tribulation. *And famine, of a similar type seen during his day in history will be seen again during his day yet future* (cf. Lev. 26:29; Deut. 28:53-57).

Then the preceding is just part of a much larger picture. The death of two-thirds of the world's Jewish population would be little more than about 9,000,000 as the Jewish population of the earth presently stands. But what about the billions comprising the remainder of the earth's population? At least one-fourth of these individuals are going to die during or immediately following this time as well (cf. Rev. 6:8-10; 7:9, 13, 14; 9:18; 11:13; 13:7).

Why? How? Hunger, plagues, diseases would address part of the matter; judgments during the Tribulation would address other parts; mandatory Beast worship, taking his mark would address more...

And, as seen, many going through this time

will not make it all the way through. Only the ones enduring until the end will be delivered out of this time (Matt. 24:13).

Inconceivable conditions will exist in that day (famine, plagues, diseases, cannibalism); the government of the earth will be of *an inconceivable form* (things seen in ISIS and/or Al-Qaeda today could be no more than a forerunner or prelude to something far worse existing in that day); and the resulting carnage which will follow (consisting of over a billion people), as well, can only be looked upon in *an inconceivable fashion*.

As previously seen (Part I), in the Book of Genesis, during Joseph's day while in Egypt, there were seven years of plenty which were followed by seven years of famine. *And the years of famine became so severe that the preceding years of plenty were not even remembered* (Gen. 41:29-31, 53, 54).

And the preceding — a type of that about to occur, showing *two complete periods of time by the two sevens of years* — relates exactly how conditions presently exist in that which "Egypt" typifies, *in the world* (during the time of plenty), and how conditions will shortly become *in the world* (during the time of famine).

We're living during *the time of plenty*, but this time is about to end, with *the time of famine* to follow. *And the latter, in complete keeping with the type, will be so severe that the former will not even be remembered*.

You don't want to be here (a time which can't possibly be very far away)!

If *saved*, you won't be here. You will have been removed into the heavens, with ensuing events occurring there (the judgment seat of Christ and things beyond).

But, if *unsaved* at the time when the Church is removed, you will be here, with ensuing events as well (events as previously described).

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