

The DEFENDER - October 2015

“... defending the faith once delivered unto the saints” (Jude 3)

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IN DEFENSE OF TRUTH radio broadcast.



From the Director's Desk: Presidents, Popes, and Muslims

Can a Muslim be president of the United States of America? The short answer would appear to be yes, but as Dr. Ben Carson indicated, it would have to come with certain conditions. As long as he would subjugate his religion, including the tenets of Sharia Law to our Judeo-Christian Constitution, then yes, a Muslim could hold the nation's highest office. But that begs the question of whether or not a true Muslim would do that. And if he did, would we be able to trust him? After all, under Sharia, Muslims are allowed to practice taqiyya, or lying to deceive an infidel. And remember, to a true Muslim, all who do not bow the knee to Allah are considered to be infidels. To some of us, this may all be a moot point, as we strongly suspect our nation has already elected a Muslim as president. I've spoken to several missionary friends who serve in Kenya, and according to the people whom they serve, it's common knowledge that Kenya is Obama's birthplace. You can decide whether or not to believe that, but at the very least, Barack Hussein Obama is a Muslim sympathizer who enables terrorists.

Would someone please clue in the pope as to what is the primary calling of a Christian? He seems to think it's more important to save the earth than it is to save souls. It's a typical liberal Christian point of view. Being good stewards of God's creation isn't wrong, but it's not a priority either. In his recent address before Congress, Pope Francis unfortunately said nothing about the heart of the Christian gospel. Nothing about Christ crucified, which was item one for the apostle Paul. Nothing about the Kingdom of God and the renewal of all things in and through Jesus. The pope also said nothing about the loss of millions of lives through abortion. And then to put an ecumenical stamp on his visit, he held a service with all faiths represented at ground zero in New York City. Maybe the most telling indictment of the pope is that only 63% of 1000 pastors recently polled by TheBlaze.com believe that he's even Christian.

Why is it that communist nations and Muslim countries are refusing to welcome the exodus of refugees within their borders? Well, we know what the human rights records are in Russia, China, North Korea, and Cuba. So scratch them off your list of host countries. They could care less about their own people, much less those who are foreign. Well then, what about the Muslim nations of the Middle East and North Africa? Don't hold your breath waiting for Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Iran, Yemen, Oman, Egypt, Tunisia, Sudan, or Algeria to open their doors. These Islamic countries see the exodus of immigrants as being a passive form of the caliphate into Europe and beyond. This mass migration of Muslims will peacefully accomplish in a relatively short period of time what would otherwise take much longer through warring aggression. It seems clear that the enemy has a plan. It seems just as clear that we, their target, do not.

Rev. David Lewis

The End of the World – Part III Israel: God’s Time Clock

By Robert Luthardt, Sr.

In all history only one sovereign nation, crushed with consummate cruelty, lost its national homeland and suffered its surviving population being forcibly scattered across the world for two millennia; yet endured and returned to reestablish a fully functioning sovereign national identity. This miracle entity can only be tiny Israel. Israel’s rebirth not only had promising portentions for Jewish expatriates but also for Bible-believing scholars.

In the midst of answering His disciples’ question, “What shall be the sign of thy coming, and the end of the world? (Matt. 24:3) Jesus, having already prophesied the desecration and destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem, further taught them, “Now learn a parable of the fig tree [a national symbol in Israel] when his branch is yet tender ... ye know that summer is nigh ... it is near, even at the doors.... This generation shall not pass ... till all be fulfilled (Matt. 24:32-34).

Jesus warned that from then until the end of the age, the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob would suffer greatly and Jerusalem would be “trodden down of the gentiles” until the “times of the gentiles be fulfilled” (Luke 21:24) and the “time of Jacob’s trouble” begins (Jer. 30:7).

The “times of the gentiles” actually began (political sovereignty lost to gentile overlords) when Nebuchadnezzar captured Jerusalem and took Judah captive (the southern tribes of Judah and Benjamin) ending Israel’s sovereignty and self-governance. Full independence only resumed for Israel as a self-governing nation in 1948, although not in all the land promised by God to Abraham.

Many Old Testament prophecies point to the great world-spanning dispersion of Israel but also to their miraculous regathering and return to the land promised to Abraham in perpetuity (Gen. 15:18, 17:8). Israel had endured three dispersions and two regatherings with a third regathering still underway in our time. The first was from Canaan into Egypt where Israel was afflicted 400 years (Gen. 15:13-16). The second was into Babylon where their captivity lasted 70 years (Jer. 25:8-12) but only a remnant returned home. The third banishment resulted when Israel’s leadership reviled, rejected and by devilish inducements impelled the Romans to fulfill the prophecies regarding the crucifixion of the Lord’s Christ (Ps. 22; Is. 53; Dan. 9:24-27; Zech. 12:9-10; Acts 2:22-24, 36). The Lord Jesus Christ foretold the destruction of the Temple and of Jerusalem that preceded the world-wide banishment of the Jews from the Promised Land by rapacious Roman invaders.

The Jews survived as a distinct people simply because God promised that they would. Moses recorded, “...the Lord thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people” (Deut. 7:6). Some ask, however, “Has God not finished with Israel because of her rejection of the Messiah and replaced her with Christ’s Church”?

Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the Apostle Paul answered this very question, “Hast God cast away his people”? God forbid.... God hath NOT cast away his people which he foreknew ... even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace (Rom. 11:1-5) and the rest were blinded (vs. 7-8) ... because of unbelief they were broken off ... (vs. 20) ... blindness is happened in part to Israel UNTIL the fullness of the gentiles be come in, and so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, there shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob ... they are beloved for the father’s sakes ... (vs. 25-28).

In a day yet future, Israel will be seen in mourning for that one “whom they have pierced” (Zech. 12:10, 13:6-9). While individual Jews have been and are still being saved, a future time will witness God’s grace poured out on Jerusalem (Zech. 12:9-10) resulting in a glorious revival amongst God’s chosen people.

The day is coming when national Israel will return to Jehovah (the Old Testament name of the one salvific Messiah) and become finally a “holy nation” and a kingdom of priests.” The National Prodigal” returns to the Father (Jer. 31:7-11; Luke 15:11-32). God will fulfill His promise to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (and to us all – Rom. 4:16) of everlasting safety (Ez. 34:11-13, 23-26) for Israel is the “apple of His eye.”

The Apostle Paul wrote, “We have before proved both Jews and gentiles ... are ALL under sin ...” (Rom 3:9). The unsaved Jews, like gentiles are “...without God in the world” (Rom. 3:9-12; Ep. 2:2-3) yet Israel remains God’s chosen and privileged nation.

Though Israel was overrun by armies and its people deported to foreign lands (Assyria, Babylon) Moses had prophesied a far wider scattering among, “ALL PEOPLE FROM ONE END OF THE EARTH UNTO THE OTHER ...” (Deut. 28:63-66). This only occurred when the leaders of Israel rejected their Messiah. This scattered them for nearly 2,000 years. Other Prophets so warned (Jer. 9:11-16; Hos. 9:17).

The “Times of the Gentiles” (Luke 21:24) was first prophesied in Daniel (chapter 2). God enlightened Daniel to interpret Nebuchadnezzar’s dream of a massive image with a head of gold, breast and arms of silver, belly and thighs of brass, legs of iron, and feet part iron and part clay (vs. 31-33).

Nebuchadnezzar’s vision then portrayed, “... that a Stone was cut out without hands [thus supernatural] which smote the image upon his feet ... and brake them ... like chaff ... the wind carried them (vs. 34-35). Daniel’s God ... “revealeth secrets” of “what shall be in the LATTER DAYS” (vs. 27-28). History revealed the head of Gold (Babylon) fell to the Medes and Persians (Silver) who in turn fell to Alexander the Great (Brass) whose Empire then crumbled before the Roman Legions (legs of Iron). The feet of iron and clay has been interpreted as a future reviving of the old Roman Empire. Some believe this is the now forming, “New World Order;” the “scarlet colored beast with seven heads and ten horns” of Revelation, chapter 17, verse 3. The seven heads are “seven mountains.” Rome is the city of “seven hills” (vs. 9).

A gentile kingdom will again exercise power over Jerusalem in the “latter days” and will again rule without a righteous acknowledgement of the only true and living God. At the closing of the “times of the gentiles” comes the “Stone cut out, without hands” that at last destroys the evil power represented by the multi-metaled image. The Stone is the “King of Kings” who destroys the armies of the Anti-Christ at the battle of Armageddon (Rev. 16:16-19).

Our Lord cautioned, “Behold I come as a thief” (unannounced) and “Blessed is he that watcheth” so let no teacher tell us that Christ told His disciples His return is “none of your business.” The Babylonish spirit of those gentile kingdoms will receive the fullness of God’s wrath at Armageddon. Christ the Creator (John 1:1-3; Heb. 1:2) will end forever the satanic governance of the evil “prince of the power of the air,” that “ruler of this present world” (John 12:31, 14:30, 16:11; 2 Cor. 4:4; Ep. 2:2).

Daniel received the vision of “the ancient of days” who assumes mastery over the kingdoms of this present world (Dan. 7:9, 14) and His dominion will be everlasting (Dan. 2:44, 7:14; Luke 1:33; 2 Pet. 1:11; Rev. 11:15).

History records that the Roman Empire decayed rather than being destroyed in one fell swoop, but it is to revive, regaining World dominating power. The scriptures record that Christ will vanquish all His enemies including the Arch-fiend Satan once Daniel’s prophecies become “today’s news.”

God chose not to give any of His prophets the full details of the exact period of years from Christ’s first advent on earth until He walks again on the Mount of Olives (Acts 1:9-11; Zech. 14:1-4, 9). The Lord Jesus Christ expanded and enlarged the prophecies of the Old Testament that referenced His return to earth but likewise elected not to reveal the exact length of years between His first and second advents. He did point to signs of which to be aware (Luke 21).

As of our day, we have seen partial fulfillment of prophecies regarding God’s chosen nation and their appointed return to the Promised Land (1948 and on). We see the very extensive preparations, including the stockpiling of building materials for the erection of the Third Temple, yet national blindness remains upon the hearts of God’s people. This will be miraculously removed when Christ returns (Jer. 24:6-7) and reestablishes David’s throne (Is. 9:7; Jer. 23:5; John 1:49; 1 Tim. 6:15; Rev. 17:14, 19:16).

Keep looking up (Luke 21:28).

Main Source: Those Irrepressible Jews

Author: David C. Enger

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How Can it Be

By Nancy Long

"How could it be, this baby in my arms sleeping now so peacefully,
The Son of God, the angel said How could it be?

Lord, I know he's not my own Not of my flesh, not of my bone,
Still Father let this baby be The son of my love.

Father, show me where I fit into this plan of yours
How can a man be father to the Son of God?
Lord, for all my life I've been a simple carpenter
How can I raise a king, how can I raise a king?

He looks so small, his face and hands so fair,
And when he cries the sun just seems to disappear,
But when he laughs, it shines again How could it be?

Father, show me where I fit into this plan of yours
How can a man be father to the Son of God?
Lord, for all my life I've been a simple carpenter
How can I raise a king, how can I raise a king?

How could it be, this baby in my arms Sleeping now so peacefully,
The Son of God, the angel said How could it be? How could it be?

Joseph's Song -- Words and Music by Michael Card

The words to this song are so profoundly beautiful, aptly describing the puzzling questions that Joseph, Jesus' human father, may have had so many centuries ago. One can only imagine just how awestruck Joseph was, and bewildered even, when the angel of the Lord visited him in a dream, saying "*Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call His name JESUS: for He shall save His people from their sins*" (Matt. 1:20-21). One can only envision the mixed emotions this young man must have had as well as the utmost wonder, first hearing of this awesome and poignant task being laid out before him and the thoughts, yes, the thoughts that more than likely were running rampant throughout his mind. How could it be, Lord, that a mere mortal, could be father to the Son of God? How could it be, that me, Joseph, a simple carpenter, could have been granted this immense trust and enormous responsibility to raise a King the King of the universe?

There is a plan and a purpose for each and every one of our lives, a plan that God put in place before the beginning of time, before the foundation of the world. *"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end"* (Jeremiah 29:11). Babies are amazing!! Babies are gifts from God!! *"Children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is His reward Happy is the man that has his quiver full of them"* (Psalm 127:3a and 5a).

Of course, babies, when conceived in the normal sense, don't compare to conception by the Holy Spirit but nevertheless they surely are miracles in their very own right. We all are a part of God's eternal plan, each one an extremely vital piece of a magnificent pattern in an overall design, all being *"fearfully and wonderfully made"* (Psalm 139:14a). Our God is awesome!!

"How could it be?" questioned Joseph, so very long ago We may ask ourselves the exact same thing when seeing, for the first time, a cherished and precious newborn, who's been brought into our lives. We, too often though, get used to it, becoming familiar with the process of birth the conception, the growing time within a mother's womb and then "Voila" (lo and behold) a fully developed human being, in the form of an infant. Commonplace, though? usual? Do we ever really get used to it? **Should** we ever really grow accustomed to it? I pray not! I pray our response is always, *"Lord, how can it be?"*

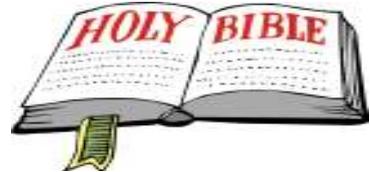
I have, in articles past, mentioned how God has blessed both my husband and I with a large family, of whom we are now patriarch and matriarch. Our most recent blessing came to us in the early morning of August 29th, weighing in at 7lbs. 4oz.. His name Oliver Jay Long.



Ollie is our 16th great grandchild, but he is also the grandson of our pastor, and editor of "In Defense of Truth," Rev. David Lewis and his wife, Gale. Our grandson, Steven, is married to Sarah, our pastor's daughter.

Our sovereign God Omniscient One whose children have been in the palm of His hand before the beginning of time whose thoughts are continually precious toward us, and are more in number than the minute grains of sand (Psalm 139:17). Is not this knowledge too wonderful and too high for us, mere humans, to even think on, and contemplate?!?! The Omnipotent, Omniscient, Omnipresent, Creator and Sustainer of all things, loves us with an everlasting love, and we can be assured and *"confident of this very thing, that He which has begun a good work in us, will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ"* (Phil. 1:6).

We are blessed beyond measure around here as I'm sure many of you Defenders would be able to share your own story as well. We love babies! We love life! Most importantly though, we recognize God, through faith, for who He is and we say with the songwriter's thoughts of Joseph of old, "**Lord, how could it be?**"



This year's 9/11 God & Country Service

**featuring: William Federer
Michael Peroutka and
Rabbi Neal Surasky**

**is now available to download from Evangelism
Radio.**

<https://www.buzzsprout.com/46897/310664-the-2015-Sept-11-god-and-freedom-memorial-service-mp3>

This should also be available soon on CD.

Please write to us for a copy.

Our mission through the broadcast of In Defense of Truth and the publication of The Defender newsletter is to earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints (Jude 3). Our vision today is just as strong as it was back in 1963 when Dr. John Dekker began this outreach. We pray that you will continue to stand with us as we hold true to God's holy Word.

The Defender is available, free of charge, on audio CD.
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airing Monday through Friday during morning drive time
on WCBM AM 680 in Baltimore.

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WRITE TO US!

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Upcoming Events!

If you are in or around the Baltimore area, we'd love to have you join us for these upcoming events!

Adult Sunday School	10:15 AM
Sunday Morning Worship	11:00 AM
Tuesday Bible Study	1:30 PM
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00 PM