

Chapter Fifteen

Each Players Role

To correctly interpret a scripture, requires an act of the Holy Spirit equal to the act which inspired it in the first place.

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The Tribulation Chart

I want to call your attention to the large chart which is Appendix B. It attempts to sum the Bible passages pertaining to this seven year period between the Rapture and the 2nd Coming of Jesus Christ. The chart outlines a scenario of the present and future.

The chart should be read horizontally from left to right. For maximum clarity, you should refer to it as you read the remainder of the book. It is organized chronologically so that, as you follow any major player from left to right, you trace his progress through time. For example, Russia (CIS) comes to world power in the 1940's, co-leads the world in the 70's, and probably comes under Antichrist's power around 20XX.

Let's go over the chart outline so it will be easier to understand. The chart has three major skeletal sections; the players involved, shown down the left side of the chart, the time frame of events, and the order of events. The next chapter will cover the time frame and order of events. In the remainder of this chapter, we will cover the players involved.

At the left margin of the Tribulation Chart, there appears the major people groups involved in Tribulation activities. God considers Israel to be the center of the world, and the most important player.¹ All Biblically defined events center around what happens to Israel.

Since 1967, when Israel fought the miraculous six day war, that tiny country has constantly been in the news. Strife, terror, hyperinflation and a generally tense lifestyle have characterized

their existence.

Shortly after the rapture, Russia and the Arabs will invade Israel. This invasion is a major turning point in the life of Israel and the world. Although it brings worries of death and destruction for the unbelieving; it also brings opportunity to see God work many miracles. Thereby, a man may conclude God is still in control and thus have hope of deliverance.

The paratroopers land and quickly cross into the mountains of Israel.² At this, God's anger is kindled against the CIS and its armies.³ A giant earthquake levels the mountains and shakes the whole earth.⁴ The invading army slaughters one another.⁵ The Israeli army uses tactical nuclear weapons.⁶

At first, the western nations stand impotent at the boldness of the attack;⁷ but after tactical nuclear weapons appear, the war escalates. The U.S. and C.I.S. exchange ICBM's.⁸ The former USSR convulses near death and the U.S. staggers uncontrollably. The U.S. expends most of her ICBM's. Each nation can do little more than pick up the pieces. In one day the U.S. and the CIS neutralize each other leaving a power vacuum. This must happen so the weaker European Economic Community can come to world power under the Antichrist's leadership as prophesied.

1. Ezekiel 38:12.

2. Ibid, vs. 9

3. Ibid, vs. 17-19

4. Ibid, vs. 19-20

5.

6. Ibid, vs. 22

7. Ibid, vs. 13

8. Ezekiel 39:6:

In the Middle East, Israel cleans up after the short battle. Egypt, Syria, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Lebanon suffer loss of armies and economic capacity. Jordan escapes untouched.⁹ Five-sixths of the invading armies lay waste.¹⁰ They bury the dead for seven months. God protected Israel. It is obvious! A total victory! Everyone sees the hand of God in action saving Israel from the Russian Bear and their hostile Muslim neighbors.¹¹

The Muslim nations, defeated along with the CIS, no longer threaten Israel. The prominent world leader guarantees Israel's security with the seven year treaty, and the Jews become free to rebuild their Temple. He will be wholeheartedly embraced as "Messiah".

Israel will celebrate as never before. The wine will flow like water; people dance in the streets; holy men offer prayers of thanksgiving. Jewish morale is at party pitch. The sons of Levi offer animal sacrifices in the new temple. The world watches the Jews while the world leader subtly expands his power.

It will take the world leader 3-1/2 years to consolidate his power, and become world dictator. After that, He and the False Prophet control all. No longer will they need Jewish influence and reputation. He abruptly invades Israel, stops the sacrifices and begins persecuting Jews worse than Hitler did in World War II. The Jews flee to Jordan in an attempt to escape. Many die. But God leaves them with a consolation.

He brings two witnesses to Israel. They preach Antichrist as deceiver and Jesus of Nazareth as Messiah. The whole world watches and hears the message of Jesus on international television.¹² When the Antichrist tries to stop them, they cause plagues, fire and other destruction. They cannot be killed until their appointed time.

The Antichrist's invasion and the witnesses' testimony cause the Jews to realize they have been deceived. The world dictator just used them. Jews are horrified that Jesus of Nazareth, whom their forefathers crucified, is Mes-

siah after all. They weep, lament, and beg God for forgiveness.¹³ God hears their prayers as in the days of old when they humbled themselves before Him. And, as a remnant nation, many will trust Jesus as Saviour and Lord.¹⁴

Around the globe, 144,000 Christian Jews appear here and there speaking about Jesus of Nazareth as Messiah. There are Twelve thousand from each of the twelve tribes of Israel.¹⁵ They have the seal of God on their forehead.

They speak of Jesus of Nazareth as God; whereas, Antichrist speaks of man as his own god. They speak of Jesus of Nazareth as the Christ who is coming again in power and great glory from the sky. Antichrist speaks of himself as the christ who is now here. They speak of Jesus of Nazareth as God come in the flesh. Antichrist declares Jesus of Nazareth was just an "ascended master".

Jesus of Nazareth is the Christ of the Bible; the prominent world leader is the "little horn"¹⁶, "son of destruction", "man of lawlessness"¹⁷, "man of sin", "son of perdition",¹⁸ the antichrist of the Bible. Which Christ should a man trust?

The two witnesses will continue to give comfort and blessing to Jews while bringing destruction upon the unbelieving world. After their 1,260 day ministry, God permits them to be killed. The world celebrates. T.V. cameras watch as their bodies lay in the street. After three days, they arise from the dead and ascend into heaven (raptured) along with the people that come to faith during this Great Tribulation.¹⁹

Antichrist and the EEC

This prominent world leader will start as head of the eleventh member of the European Economic Community (EEC).²⁰ He will be a Syrian Jew.²¹ His rise to fame comes through success-

9. Edom, Moab, and the foremost of the sons of Amon is the modern country of Jordan (Daniel 11:41).

10. Ezekiel 39:2 (KJV)

11. Ezekiel 38:23

12. Matthew 24:14

13. Romans 11:25,26

14. Ibid

15. Revelation 7,14

16. Daniel 7:8

17. II Thessalonians 2:3

18. Ibid

19. See the Trib. Chart references regarding the Trib. Rapture.

20. Daniel 7:8

fully negotiating a seven year Mideast peace treaty after the world holocaust caused by Russia (CIS) invading Israel. People are impressed. Through political maneuvering, three of the smaller nations are absorbed by his influence. His power increases.²² In 1987, the EEC consisted of just ten major countries banded together. If they haven't united politically and religiously, they will, close to the Rapture time.

The invasion of Israel sets the world stage for Antichrist's rise to power. It brings him political and religious power.

Once the CIS invades Israel, it appears Israel uses tactical nuclear weapons against the invading armies.²³ As a result, the superpowers become involved and the war escalates until the U.S. and the CIS trade ICBM's.²⁴ How do the superpowers dare risk use of atomic weapons? If the CIS believed they could neutralize the U.S. ICBM's with their "star wars" type energy beam weapons, then they could invade Israel, believing the U.S. would protest but not be willing to start a nuclear war over it.

According to Aviation Week and Space Technology Magazine, April 23, 1979, page 68, the Russians could have a particle beam weapon operational by 1984. Even if they are late, it could be operational now. It is easy to believe the Russians would attack in that case.

Even if the CIS does not have particle beam weapons, they very well may believe that the U.S. would not go to nuclear war over the invasion of Israel.

In either case, this particular sequence of events is crucial because the EEC with the Antichrist at it's head cannot take over the world, as the Bible predicts, with two, much stronger countries (U.S. and the CIS) in control. Therefore, as God did with the Midianites and Amalukites in Gideon's time, It appears He will allow them to cancel each other.²⁵ Thus, the Antichrist and the EEC will be in a position to take over the

western world.

With the spectre of atomic war gone after the exchange, the contrast of peace brought about by a benevolent dictator-statesman will be cool water to the parched mouth of the world. For three and one half years, the Antichrist will appear as a savior.

The CIS invasion of Israel will help put Antichrist in Religious power. God allows the invading Russian and Arab armies to kill off one another. Afterwards, the military pressure is off Israel allowing them to live in peace and rebuild their temple. Antichrist capitalizes on this situation by supporting Israel in the Temple construction thereby solidifying his Jewish religious support.

God's wrath against the CIS, and Antichrist's favorable treatment of Israel, makes God appear to support Antichrist and the False Prophet. People will see God and Antichrist pro Israel and thus on the side of "right". This gives Antichrist credibility. He will be perceived as a great world leader come to bring world peace and unification.

Since Europe is not touched, its leadership role will be obvious. And help to the war torn nations will come from there. The European Economic Community has a combined economic potential greater than the United States of America.

The prominent world leader, at the head of this new united states of Europe, will rule the world from treaty plus 3-1/2 years to the Second Coming of Jesus. He will be in power 42 months.²⁶ World conditions will steadily worsen.

The World Council of Churches

The World Council of Churches is an association of liberal Christian, Jewish, and New Age religious groups. This association has combined Biblical doctrine with Atheism and Humanism to the exclusion of Jesus Christ as God. The result is loss of the Holy Spirit's power in their lives which eventually allows evil in the name of religion.

They now preach a different Jesus. They fit right into the New Age thinking pattern that God is everywhere and in everything. They

21. Isaiah 10:24 with Genesis 22:18

22. Daniel 7:8

23. Reference Ezekiel 38:22; The rain, hail, fire and brimstone together suggest a nuclear explosion. As of 1980, Israel has had tactical nuclear weapons in their arsenal.

24. Reference Ezekiel 39:6; The only nation capable of sending fire upon Magog (Russia) is the U.S. God normally uses people to bring judgement upon other people.

25. Judges 7

26. Revelation 13:5

perceive the Bible not as the Word of God but just as a "good" book. Self is king. Self is the container of God and all you have to do is seek for him within. *Don't you believe it.* Seek Jesus, the Christ of the Bible. Only in Him is there salvation.²⁷

This World Council of Churches / New Age coalition is known as the harlot in Revelation 17. She is the church the world sees; the church and the bride that was unfaithful to Jesus, the bridegroom. She went off and worshipped the creation instead of the creator.²⁸ You will recognize her as the force behind the persecution of the Two Witnesses and the Christians that come to know Jesus during this last seven year Tribulation period.²⁹

Near the end of this period, when the Antichrist is in full power, he will no longer need the support of the False Prophet and world church.³⁰ He will destroy them. He will have all the world as his own. When Antichrist, empowered by Satan, manages to kill the Two Witnesses;³¹ he will be overwhelmed with his own importance. He will declare himself god and desecrate the Jewish temple.³² This is the Abomination of Desolation. But his triumph is short because the Two Witnesses are resurrected and raptured along with thousands of others, while the entire world watches.³³ Antichrist's declaration of himself to be god, initiates the wrath of God Almighty in the form of the last seven vials (plagues) of God's wrath.

The Fate of the CIS

God judges with righteousness and power. He will judge the CIS who said that God does not exist. Their undoing starts with the notion of invading Israel. Israel is strategic because it sets at the junction of Asia, Africa and Europe from where one can control commerce between continents. It has much mineral wealth. From

27. Acts 4:12

28. Romans 2:25

29. Revelation 17:6

30. Revelation 17:16

31. Revelation 11:7

32. II Thess.2:4

33. Revelation 11:7-13

Israel, one can control oil exports throughout the Middle East. So the Soviets have been scheming for years on how they might take it. When Israel invaded Lebanon in 1982, they captured a huge cache of Russian arms; enough to supply an army of 100,000 men.³⁴ These were intended for use in an invasion of Israel. However, God was not ready for it to happen. Since then, the CIS has made more and better preparations.

They have been developing particle beam weapons, so called "star wars" weapons, to gain a strategic arms advantage.³⁵ Their success, which the U.S. cannot match, will convince them they can take Israel and get away with it. With this weapon, one can destroy satellites which are the eyes and ears of the U.S. defense apparatus. They would be able to seek and neutralize U.S. ICBMs.

When the Israelis resort to the use of tactical nuclear weapons, the CIS response causes the war to escalate. The American leaders decide they cannot allow the CIS to take Israel. The USA and the CIS trade ICBM's. Both countries expend their missiles. Both countries are laid low.

The CIS takes a worse beating than the U.S. She is so weak that the antichrist is successfully able to invade and occupy. She eventually becomes a satellite of the EEC.³⁶

Arab-Africa Coalition Defeated

In modern history, the Arab countries have been committed to Israel's destruction; that is utter removal from the face of the earth. With the plan to invade Israel, they see their chance. But they will come to face God's judgement by participating in the invasion. God will bless those who bless Israel, and those who curse Israel, God will curse.³⁷ After being soundly defeated, the Arabs are so weak they cannot defend against Israel or the armies of Antichrist and the EEC. They are absorbed into his growing world empire. This leaves the way clear for

34. "Russia's Astonishing Setback in Lebanon", p.1

35. U.S. News and World Report, Feb.18,1985, p.3

36. Daniel 7:5,7 Russian Bear before the fact; Revelation 13:2 after the fact

37. Genesis 12:3

Israel to rebuild their temple.

The Destiny of the United States

What about the U.S. in world events? I previously suggested that the USA would get involved in a nuclear exchange with the CIS over the invasion of Israel. Under that assumption, our delicately balanced economy will become unstable. Chaos will reign.

Prior to the nuclear war, service type businesses may account for as much as 70% of the Gross National Product, compared to 20% for industrial businesses. Because of high U.S. labor costs, most consumer goods are now made overseas. When instability, insecurity and chaos reign, fewer people can afford the many services. Survival is utmost in peoples mind. You can't eat services.

Necessities demand top priority. Lack of industrial capacity to replace destroyed homes, businesses and farms hinder recovery. Sickness, famine, looting and crime will abound.

A large public debt contributes to the demise of the American economy. In 2008, credit is very easy to obtain. Much of that borrowed money flows into the stock market which drives up the price of stocks. We are seeing a 11,000 Dow which was unheard of five years ago.³⁸

With a high average of personal debt in the stock market and a economy largely based on services, any action which destabilizes the country will cause a 1929 type crash. Thousands will lose everything. These conditions will demand prompt governmental attention and drastic measures. Martial law will prevail for awhile. Hyperinflation will result from government trying to stimulate the economy back to recovery. This shouldn't be any surprise. Economic analysts have been predicting hyperinflation and depression since 1984. Predictions of depression are based on loss of confidence in banks, and resulting demands for funds not there. Therefore, the government will authorize money printed which will dilute the value of the existing cash. When this process occurs over and over, hyperinflation results.

38. The Dow is a measure of the performance of certain select companies of the New York Stock Exchange where the higher the number the higher is the stock price averages.

Credit abounds before the war; but after, it must be stopped. Defaults are high because of economic instability. Recovery formulas demand tight money policies, and the prominent world leader will suggest banning all cash.

He will propose a mark be placed on the back of the hand or forehead of everyone. The mark may be a computer chip under the skin and invisible to the naked eye. The mark is an account number which can be scanned electronically. It immediately identifies you and charges your bank account with the cost of purchases. When your money is gone, no other purchases are allowed. People will be starving and living on the streets. Credit will be difficult to get.

In the first 3-1/2 years after the treaty is signed, the mark will be voluntary; thereafter, it will be mandatory. There will be no commerce except as barter or authorized. The government will demand everyone to have the mark in order to buy or sell legally. Many will die rather than take the mark. In the beginning, although everyone realizes this measure is a threat to their freedom, most will comply because they see the overwhelming need for economic stability.

I caution you; *Do not take any kind of mark or implant whatsoever upon your person!*

The Antichrist will use the mark as a sign of loyalty to him and his satanic empire. To take the mark is to blaspheme God. To blaspheme God is to condemn yourself to Hell for all eternity.

God has predicted it. Read Revelation Chapter 13, verses 15 to 18 (13:15-18); 14:9-11; 16:2. You may not believe in Jesus as Savior and Lord right now but do not take any mark!³⁹ Truly, its going to be hard to get along with out it, but doing the impossible is God's specialty. Believe Him for a miracle. Call out to Him in your misery and ask Him to give you what you need. Trust Him for your food, shelter and clothes. He promised to supply those three things if you just give Him the responsibility.⁴⁰ Just go about your business looking to find these these things and thank Him when He supplies them. God supplying your need will appear as "lucky" circumstances. But they are not!

If recovering from a nuclear attack is not difficult enough, I suggest America will repel an invasion from Antichrist. In the second year

39. Leviticus 19:28

40. Ibid

after signing the treaty with Israel, he with troops from Europe, Russia and Africa, will invade the USA. He may take over major portions of the country but will not control it all. The campaign will last five years.

Near the end, as the union is about to succumb to the onslaught of foreign armies, heavenly help arrives. It is the result of realizing we have sinned against God, repenting and crying out to Him for mercy. Like Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon,⁴¹ we swallow our national pride and confess our desperate need for God. He will then respond by forgiving our sins and healing our land.⁴²

Thus, Jesus at His Second Coming with the saints, will forgive our national sins and overcome Antichrist's army. The union will be saved as a sheep nation (an empire friendly to God) at the judgement of nations.⁴³ Now I know you are asking; what makes me believe all this?

I believe Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, is a type of the United States. And what happened to him, happens to the U.S. You may remember in Daniel 4 how the king was standing on his roof bragging about the wonderfulness of Babylon built by him. And while the words were yet in his mouth, God struck him insane. The modern disease name is Boanthropy. He became like an oxen; eating grass and wandering in the fields. His hair grew like eagles feathers and his fingernails like claws. But after seven years he repented.

At that time, his reasoning power returned and soon his kingdom was restored. For which he praised God as the true and just God who is able to humble those who walk in pride.⁴⁴

This same sequence is found in Daniel 7:4 where the Lion/Eagle beast is changed into a man. This figurative language means the empire of unbelieving people come to trust God again. We can see this illustrated when someone commits a heinous or filthy act; they could be called "animal". In the same way, our Holy God sees us killing millions of babies and committing other national sins, and therefore He

calls us animals, or as the Bible says, "beasts".

In Chapter Ten, I asserted the Lion/Eagle beast of Daniel 7 is the United States. Based on that, the Lion/Eagle beast "standing on two feet like a man" relates to the United States repenting as Nebuchadnezzar did. There is yet another reason for suggesting this destiny. No less a personage than the founder of our country, George Washington, had a heavenly vision in which he saw the United States invaded by armies from the other continents. What gives this historical story some credibility is that he also predicted the Civil War which did come true. George's vision prophesied how we would be attacked, fight for a long time and just before the last defeat, that spiritual beings from out of the sky would turn the tide of battle. The enemy would be defeated and peace restored. You can read about the vision in Appendix C.

To sum up, I suggest Daniel chapters 4 and 7 are related and tell the destiny of the United States. And, the Bible is confirmed by a vision from our countries founder. If this is true, we can expect a great revival in this country near the end of the Tribulation.

41. Daniel 4:31-37

42. II Chronicles 7:14

43. Matthew 25:31-46

44. Daniel 4:16,19-37