Antichrist, Crisis and the Mark part 7B – More on the Endtime Timetable

Due to the last couple years of distress, global upheavals and confusion, it is natural to wonder, "Is this the beginning of the End as prophesied in the Bible?" On the other hand, we as Christians do not have to wonder or be surprised; we know from the Word that world conditions are not going to get better but worse until our Lord's return.

MAT.24:12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.



MAT.24:24 For there shall arise... false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

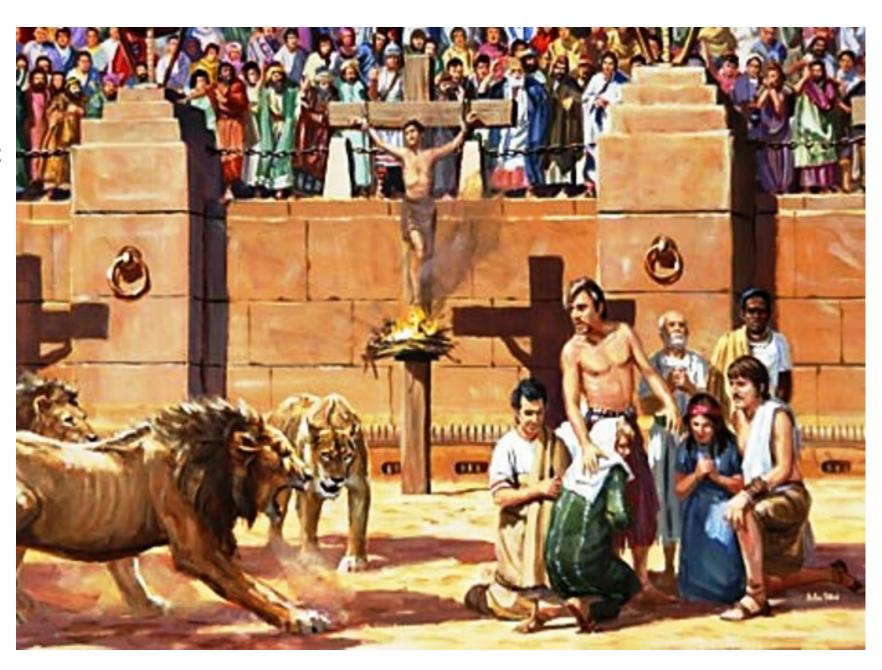
2TI.3:1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

2TI.3:13 But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

It is important to recognize that every generation has experienced its own unique set of challenges, struggles, and growing pains. Let's look at history and some of the major events of the past when it could have appeared to believers that the end was near: In the first few centuries following the first coming of Christ, (from roughly 60 to 300 AD) there were ten major Roman persecutions against Christianity.

The Roman emperors even gave themselves the title of "divine" and were demanding worship. It wasn't easy to be a Christian then, and surely many must have thought that any of those emperors could have been the AC (short for "the Antichrist") and that the Lord's return was near. After all, they fulfilled two of the characteristics of the AC: worship of the Beast and persecution of believers.

But the followers of Christ stood firm, and finally Rome was converted.



Then in the 7th century, Muhammed arose, and the Muslim faith spread and conquered a large part of the world. The Muslims seemed unstoppable and even occupied part of Europe, getting as far as France, and it **looked like Christianity** was about to be extinguished. It is not hard to imagine that many believers must have thought that the End had come.



But in 732 the Muslim invaders were stopped and defeated by Charles Martel in the Battle of Tours.

Later on, some of the popes of the Middle Ages turned into worldly emperors with great political influence over the kings of Europe. Several persecutions were raised against groups of believers (heretics as they were called) who wanted to return to a purer form of Christianity and who dared to question or disapprove of Church corruption.



The French Massacre of the Huguenots on St. Bartholomew's Day in 1572 was a horrific example, as were the excesses of the Inquisition.

As H.H. Halley put it in his Bible
Handbook, "The Papacy of the Middle
Age was an institution headed up in a
person usurping to itself authority that
belongs only to Christ and being itself
responsible for great corruption. The
Protestant Reformers being directly in
touch with that awful corruption, believed
the Papacy [of that time] to have been a
manifestation of the man of sin."

It must have appeared that some of the popes acted like the beast, but they were obviously not the final Beast, the Antichrist... only prototypes. And eventually, their influence in Europe diminished...and the Lord still didn't return.



More recently came Napoleon, Stalin, Hitler, Mao Tse-tung and others. World Wars 1 and 2 were desperate, trying times when millions died and suffered. Nazism and communism gave rise to totalitarian systems whose goal was to conquer the world. And Christians were persecuted, especially in communist societies. Again, many believers may have thought that the tribulation period had started, that the strong man of their day was the AC, that maybe they were living what the prophets had foretold.

But the world continued with no "End" in sight.

The question we have today is, should we just brush off the current pandemic crisis [as well as now the war in Europe] and its profound societal changes as just another "birth pang" that will pass? Let's explore how the present state of the world is different from past world crises. We have today:

- The near perfect excuse and perfect storm to bring about a great international reorganization and change: a health crisis affecting the entire world, every country on the planet.
- The tremendous power of the official media in the hands of a few, working closely with their governments, <u>daily</u> molding and influencing minds.

• The gradual loss of free speech and the blatant censorship of anyone who differs or questions

the official version of what needs to be done.

- The growing trend toward globalization under the United Nations and its official partners, promoting their goals such as the Great Reset, the 4th Industrial Revolution, Agenda 2030, Transhumanism etc., etc.
- The imminent cashless society and digital money a powerful tool for global control and implementation of the mark of the beast.
- Tremendous new technologies and infrastructure to make it all possible (such as the recent development of 5G connectivity).



Many of those ingredients are unique to our age; they were not present in the past: the old

Roman empire covered a limited geographic area, as did the Muslim empire or the mediaeval popes or Napoleon, Hitler, Stalin etc. Without the technological tools available today, they could only rule part of the world. The capacity for global control is a unique feature of modern times.

Now when we relate this to Bible prophecies and the coming AC and his worldwide rule, it should ring a bell for all believers. Never before have world conditions been so fertile for a totalitarian global leader to rise.

In the past, totalitarian systems decided what was truth – their government's version of it. Usually, there was an enemy to rally against and only one solution (the regime's). And, ruling by fear, totalitarian regimes suppress and persecute whoever differs with or doesn't follow the official agenda.



In today's pandemic situation, the World Health Organization and individual countries all have the same interpretation and solution: the vaccines. Never mind if there are proven alternative treatments, tried and proven remedies, or if the long-term effects are still unknown.

Any experts, scientists or doctors wanting to debate or share their findings and offer suggestions for a different approach are either fired or maligned by the media and called

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conspiracists. The big techs are quick to censure them, and that, all over the planet. Only their "truth" is allowed.

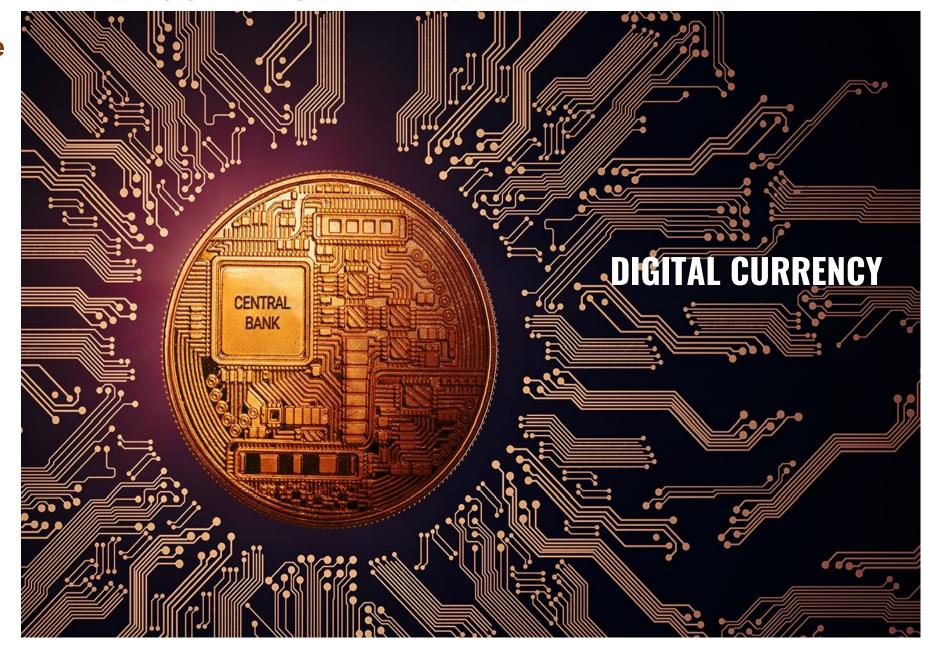
This is contrary to real science that welcomes the free exchange of ideas among experts in the pursuit of solutions. This sad situation is no different from past totalitarian regimes, but it is new for the so-called democracies of today.



In this global crisis, we have only one truth and solution, while any other voices are suppressed and persecuted. Add to this the coming global digital currency and we have the potential for

complete surveillance of every human being on the planet, monitoring their movements, actions, activities, transactions, interactions with others, etc.

This complete and utter control of our lives is getting a major boost through this pandemic scare. All of this, along with immunity passports and a slew of new technologies, provide all the necessary tools for the AC to appear, set up his mark and take control of the world, fulfilling Bible prophecies.



So where are we in the End of the Age Timetable?

I believe that we are witnessing, at this stage of history, the process of deception, conditioning, and preparation needed for the rise of a one world government and revealing of a supreme lord, the End Time Beast, the Antichrist. In my opinion, the next step will be the elimination of cash and

introduction of digital money, the social credit system, which would make the mark of the beast possible - when "no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark". Never before in human history have all the necessary tools for real global control been present as they are today.

Jesus scolded the religious leaders of His day for not knowing the signs of the prophetic 'times' in which they were living.

"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?" (Lu.12:56)



Because of their failing in this matter, they missed the foretold coming of their own Messiah. Therefore, we believe it is important that God's people keep a vigilant eye on current world events, so that they may correctly match them with the appropriate prophetic interpretations. Then they can see where things are going and be prepared for the future, both spiritually and practically.

1TH.5:4-6 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore, let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.

We, as followers of Jesus, should stay focused on reaching the lost, feeding His sheep, and strengthening ourselves and others. Freely we have received much truth, freely we must also share it with others. The Lord is undoubtedly using this uneasy time to bring others to Him, reminding people of the shortness and fragility of life, and causing them to seek answers. Now more than ever is the time to keep on loving God and others, to share the Gospel and teach others how to live the teachings of Jesus. If we are faithful to do these things, we will be prepared for whatever comes.

If you haven't done so yet, please pray this simple prayer:



"Dear Jesus, I want to know You personally. Please forgive all my faults. I accept that You are the Son of God and that You died for me. I invite You into my heart and life. Thank you for your gift of eternal life and please fill me with Your Holy Spirit. Help me to read and understand Your Word. Amen"

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