

The Messenger

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Malachi 3:1 "Behold, I send My messenger, and he will prepare the way before Me."

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Prepare America!

A Prophetic Word to a Nation in Crisis

Part 5 of 7

Prepare Your Belongings

by Rob Winters

Approximately a week after a 9.0 magnitude earthquake devastated Japan on March 11, 2011, I abruptly awoke at 1:23 AM. I did not give it much thought, until the very next night I again suddenly awoke at precisely 1:23 AM. Knowing that the Lord was speaking through this prophetic sign, I carefully examined all of the 1:23, 1:2-3, 12:3 and 123 scriptures in the Bible. I discovered within the 123 scriptures the following clear and timely prophetic message to America. I am elaborating on this message in seven consecutive editions of *The Messenger*, this one being the fifth.

While preparation of our spirit and soul are crucial to standing in the days of adversity ahead, natural or practical preparation will also be essential. Most Americans today did not live through the Dust Bowl and Great Depression of the 1930s. Therefore, many of us are in denial regarding the possibility of a food shortage or economic collapse. We err in believing that if something has not happened in our lifetime, it cannot happen.

Ezekiel 12:3 "Therefore, son of man, prepare your belongings for captivity, and go into captivity by day in their sight. You shall go from your place into captivity to another place in their sight. It may be that they will consider, though they are a rebellious house."

Divine judgment upon America will continue to manifest in a variety of ways. These types of judgment may include environmental and epidemical disaster, economic collapse, and even enemy invasion. Although the rain of divine judgment falls on the just and on the unjust, to be forewarned regarding such judgments affords us the opportunity to be forearmed (Matthew 5:45).

Environmental Disaster

Environmental judgments can manifest in the form of earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions, floods, mudslides, lightning, forest fires, blizzards and drought. Certain regions in our country are more susceptible to certain types of environmental disaster than others. For example, southern California is more susceptible to earthquakes than tornadoes, whereas Florida has a greater chance of being hit by a hurricane than a blizzard.

Some types of environmental disaster can be more easily prepared for than others. For instance, through modern technology, we can be prepared for a hurricane several days in advance, whereas an earthquake often comes without any warning. Wisdom dictates that those in high risk areas should plan not only an exit route, but also asset and life preservation strategies in advance of such potentially catastrophic events.

Epidemical Disaster

The voice of the Lord through His prophets has been largely silent or unheard in America. Consequently, the Lord, in His infinite mercy, has utilized other means, including secular television, movies and books, to warn us regarding impending judgments that we, as a nation, have brought upon ourselves.

In a recent, internationally released movie, a pandemic breaks out where millions worldwide are infected by a deadly virus. In just a few weeks, multitudes perish within days of contracting the disease. The economy shuts down due to the widespread quarantine. Before a vaccine can be developed and distributed, fear spreads faster than the virus, and chaos becomes the social order of the day. Law-abiding citizens resort to looting, as they scramble and fight over remaining food items on grocery store shelves and government relief trucks. Some even join roving, armed gangs that travel from house to house, taking by force the food they need to survive the pandemic (Luke 21:25-26).

Pandemics through the centuries include cholera, influenza, measles, smallpox, tuberculosis, leprosy, malaria and yellow fever. Although modern medicine has greatly improved our chances of survival, overuse of antibiotics has fostered the emergence of new drug-resistant forms of previously conquered diseases such as tuberculosis. The emergence of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and Avian Flu has also raised concerns among health officials regarding the threat of pandemic.

One of the most destructive diseases in recorded history, the AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) pandemic has claimed the lives of more than twenty-five million people worldwide. Caused by the HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) and having infection rates as high as twenty-five percent in eastern and southern Africa, AIDS is currently incurable by any natural means.

Economic Collapse

The threat of national and even worldwide economic collapse is not beyond the realm of possibility. Most Americans are familiar with the Great Depression of the 1930s, but are oblivious to other economic collapses that have occurred in the last fifteen years. For example, low oil prices and government expenditure cuts after the Cold War resulted in a severe financial collapse in the Russian Federation in August 1998. A few years later, the intensity of the economic crisis in Argentina was so severe that several demonstrators died in clashes with police, which ultimately led to the resignation and exile of President Fernando de la Rúa on December 21, 2001.

Many economists are predicting the imminent collapse of the U.S. dollar within the next few years, which will catalyze a worldwide economic meltdown. Hyperinflation, sky-rocketing unemployment, and plummeting housing and stock markets are but a few of the effects of a collapsed economy. Although the effects of such a severe economic collapse are not necessarily irrecoverable, the resultant social chaos and civil unrest worldwide will be formidable. Nevertheless, if we will proactively prepare now for such a crisis, the effects will be far less devastating (Proverbs 6:6-11).

Emergency Preparedness

The greatest common devastating effect of all of these disastrous scenarios is a lack of the provision necessary to sustain human life - food and water. Many are unaware that our local grocery stores are stocked with enough food to sustain a community for only two or three days. At the risk of sounding like an alarmist, I along with many reputable economists, sociologists, and prophetic ministers recommend gradually building up a reserve food and water supply in preparation for such a season of adversity.

It is beyond the scope of this book to go into great detail regarding emergency preparedness. Nevertheless, in the event of an economic collapse or epidemic, an abundant supply of the following non-perishable food items would be welcome in any food pantry: water, pasta, rice, canned soups, meats, fruits and vegetables, salt, powdered milk, cereal, beef jerky, grain, cooking oil, sport's drinks, nuts, pickles, dried fruits, honey, crackers, baking essentials, coffee, peanut butter, Ramen noodles, and pet food.

Other non-food essentials to consider having on hand before a crisis hits are: an alternate source of light and means of cooking, first aid kit, medicines, garden seeds, personal hygiene items, weapons and ammunition, baby and elder care items, bleach, a water filtration system, and an alternate energy source.

One of the greatest means of soul-winning that the Church can utilize, especially in a time of crisis, is servant evangelism. Christian global organizations such as Operation Blessing, Samaritan's Purse, and regional organizations, such as Victim Relief Ministries and the Christian Emergency Network are not only supplying life preserving sustenance to those in crisis, but also the life saving gospel of Jesus Christ. Moreover, their mission encompasses providing emergency preparedness training to believers, that

they may be equipped to not only survive a disaster, but also be a light for Christ to a nation in crisis (Isaiah 60:1-3).

Enemy Invasion

Although it is not likely that America will either be attacked on our own soil by a foreign army, or exiled, we have been subject to other, rather covert forms of enemy invasion. The terrorist attacks on September 11th, 2001 by nineteen Islamist extremists not only forever changed the course of America, but also strengthened the resolve of Muslims to literally rule the world. Although only a very small percentage of Muslims are considered jihadists, an overwhelming majority are committed to Islam's ideal of world domination.

Ezekiel **12:3** "Therefore, son of man, prepare your belongings for captivity, and go into captivity by day in their sight. You shall go from your place into captivity to another place in their sight. It may be that they will consider, though they are a rebellious house.

Captivity, the condition of being imprisoned or confined, in the truest sense of the word, is not synonymous with exile - the expulsion of a person or people from their homeland. Indeed, Americans in the next few decades may find themselves captives in a nation infiltrated by Muslims and dominated by Islamic laws and culture. Impossible you say? Unfortunately, the statistics don't lie, and paint a very real and unsettling picture regarding Muslims' progressive march toward Islamic world domination.

A fertility rate of 2.11 children per family is required to sustain any culture for more than twenty-five years. When a nation's population decreases, so does its cultural influence. In 2007, the combined fertility rate of the thirty-one countries comprising the European Union was a mere 1.38, falling far short of the rate necessary to sustain the European culture as we know it. How then does the population of Europe continue to grow? Since 1990, ninety percent of Europe's population growth is due to Islamic immigration.

For example, in France, the fertility rate among natives is 1.8, while the fertility rate among Islamic immigrants is an astounding 8.1. As a result, there are now more mosques in southern France than churches. From 1978 to 2008, the Muslim population in Great Britain has increased from 82,000 to over 2.5 million – a thirty fold increase. There are now over one thousand mosques in Great Britain, many of which are former churches. Over fifty percent of all newborns in the Netherlands are Muslim. At this rate, by 2023 the Netherlands will be fifty percent Muslim. In Belgium, fifty percent of newborns, and twenty-five percent of the population are Muslims.

By 2025, it is projected that one-third of all European children will be born to Muslim families. There are currently over fifty-two million Muslims in Europe, and that number is projected to double by the year 2028. The late Libyan dictator, Moammar Gadhafi, stated, "There are signs that Allah will grant victory to Islam in Europe without

conquest. We don't need terrorists. We don't need homicide bombers. The fifty plus million Muslims in Europe will turn it into a Muslim continent within a few decades."

A little closer to home, Canada's fertility rate is 1.6. However, from 2001 to 2006, Canada's population increased by 1.6 million people, 1.2 million of which were Islamic immigrants. Consequently, Canada's fastest growing religion is Islam. The fertility rate in the United States, including Latino immigrants, is 2.11. From 1970 to 2008, America's Muslim population has increased ninety fold, from one hundred thousand to nine million. In 2005, twenty-four Islamic organizations met in Chicago to discuss the evangelization of America through journalism, politics and education. One conference participant was quoted as saying. "We must prepare ourselves for the reality that in thirty years there will be fifty million Muslims living in America."

In 2008, the Catholic Church reported that Islam had surpassed their worldwide membership. Recent studies show that at their current rate of growth, Islam will be the dominant world religion by 2015. While American and European Christians have largely abandoned the Father's mandate to "be fruitful and multiply, fill the earth, subdue it, and have dominion", Muslims have adopted it. Instead of seeking first the kingdom of God, many Christians have selfishly sought their own, and in the process have neglected not only so great a salvation, but also the Great Commission (Genesis 1:28, Matthew 6:33; 28:19-20).

Although Muslims are not our enemies, the spirit of anti-Christ behind Islam is. Therefore, it is high-time Americans awake and embrace our commission as soldiers of the cross. Our commission encompasses not only dismantling the anti-Christ spirit empowering Islam, but also winning Muslims to Jesus Christ. If we, as a nation, fail to accept this mission, Americans could eventually be living in "one nation under Allah".

In summary, our preparation for the judgment that lies ahead for America must not only be defensive in nature, but also proactive. In other words, preparing our spirits, souls, and belongings should serve as not only a means of self-preservation, but also a way in which we can become Christ's light to the shaken and distraught lives of those unprepared for the crisis that lie ahead.

Prayer: *Father, give us Your wisdom, that we might prepare our belongings for the environmental, epidemical and economic crisis that lie ahead for our nation. Despite the deepening darkness that is shrouding America, allow us to be a light for Christ, that many might find salvation and refuge under the shadow of Your wings, in Jesus' name, Amen.*

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