

How Close Are We to the Last Days?

Prophecy Update 2009 / 10

December 30, 2009

Note from Pastor Kevin Lea: On December 30, 2009, I gave a topical Bible study on how close we are to the "Last Days". This handout is a summary of the key points from that message.

You can listen to the study and download the pdf of the companion Power Point file by going to our website (calvarypo.org) then going to sermon archives, topical MP3 and then "How Close are We to the Last Days?" - 12/30/09. Or you can click [here \(audio message\)](#) and [here \(pdf of power point program used during the study\)](#)

Throughout history, we've been warned many times that "the end is near." But proposed dates come and go. Why were they wrong? Is it even possible to know when we are in the "Last Days?"

To help answer these questions, let's use the Submarine Ballast Control Panel (BCP) as an illustration.

The Ballast Control Panel (BCP) on a submarine includes a row of lights indicating the status of the submarine's major hatches and valves. If these are in the right position for diving, their lights on the Control Panel are green. If not, they are red.



Unless all indicator lights are green (all valves and hatches in the proper position for diving), the submarine will sink if it dives. No one declares that the sub is ready to dive unless *all* the lights are green and the watch-standers report that other preparations to submerge are complete.

Likewise, no one should declare that we are close to the last days unless major prophetic events (that have never been fulfilled) are *all* able to be fulfilled.

So has the world now been "Rigged for Tribulation?" What are the major prophetic events to consider?

This handout will look at four of the many requirements for a literal fulfillment of the biblical prophecies about the Last Days.

1. Israel will be a nation.
2. There will be a ten-nation global government ruled by a world leader.

3. A global economic system will exist, capable of excluding anyone from buying or selling if they have not taken a mark on their hand or forehead and submitted to the authority of the world leader.
4. Global police will be able to monitor all the people of the world to ensure compliance.

Requirement 1 – Israel will be a nation

Dozens of unfulfilled prophetic Scriptures can only be fulfilled if Israel is a nation of Jews who are living in the land of Israel and with a presence in Jerusalem. Consider a few of these Scriptures...

Ezekiel 36-37 describes the land of Israel being prepared for return of the Jewish people after a very long time of being dead as a nation:

Again He said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them, 'O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD! 'Thus says the LORD GOD to these bones: "Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live. I will put sinews on you and bring flesh upon you, cover you with skin and put breath in you; and you shall live. Then you shall know that I am the LORD.'"

So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and suddenly a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to bone. Indeed, as I looked, the sinews and the flesh came upon them, and the skin covered them over; but there was no breath in them.

Then He said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, "Thus says the LORD GOD: "Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.'"

So I prophesied as He commanded me, and breath came into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great army.

Then He said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They indeed say, 'Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!' Therefore prophesy and say to them, "Thus says the LORD GOD: "Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. Then you shall know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O My people, and brought you up from your graves. I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken it and performed it," says the LORD.'"
(Ezekiel 37:4-14, NKJV)

The Bible declares that in the last days all the nations will be gathered against the Nation of Israel and Jerusalem. This requires that the Jews be in the land as a nation (Zechariah 12:1-3).

*The burden of the word of the LORD **against Israel**. Thus says the LORD, who stretches out the heavens, lays the foundation of the earth, and forms the spirit of man within him:*

*“Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of drunkenness to all the surrounding peoples, when they lay siege against Judah and Jerusalem. and it shall happen in that day that I will make Jerusalem a very **heavy stone for all peoples; all who would heave it away will surely be cut in pieces, though all nations of the earth are gathered against it.**” (Zechariah 12:1-3 NKJV)*

The Bible declares that the Antichrist will go into the “Holy Place” (the Holy of Holies in the Jewish Temple) to commit an abomination during a time that Jews are observing Sabbath and temple sacrifices. (Scriptures include: Matthew 24:15-21 and Daniel 12:11)

*Therefore when you see the ‘abomination of desolation,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, **standing in the holy place**” (whoever reads, let him understand), then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! And pray that your flight may not be in winter **or on the Sabbath**. For then there will be **great tribulation**, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. (Matthew 24:15-21 NKJV)*

*And from the time that the **daily sacrifice is taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up**, there shall be one thousand two hundred and ninety days. (Daniel 12:11 NKJV)*

Dozens of other prophetic Scriptures reveal that Israel will be a nation at the time of the “Last Days, Seven-Year Tribulation.”

From the time that King Nebuchadnezzar conquered the Southern Kingdom of Israel in 586 BC until May 1948, Israel was *not* a sovereign nation. From 70 AD, when the Romans destroyed Jerusalem, until 1948, there was no nation of Israel (sovereign or otherwise). Therefore, no one, prior to May 1948, should have believed the “The Tribulation Period” was near.

But what about today? Is the indicator light “Green” for these prophecies which require Israel to be a nation?

Answer: Israel is now a nation (since 1948). However the Jewish Temple has not been rebuilt, so no temple sacrifices are being made. Nor are the Jews, except for a small Orthodox minority, observing the Sabbath. These events must occur before the future one-world ruler (the Antichrist) can fulfill Scriptures.

Summary

- The last of the “Last Days” requires Israel to be a nation.
- Prior to 1948 – Little hope that Israel would ever become a Jewish nation again. No talk of the Jews re-building a temple in Jerusalem. Today – Israel is a nation, but without a temple.

Is the indicator light on the spiritual BCP now “Green” for these prophecies about the Nation of Israel?

- Answer: Not yet – No longer “Red,” but not yet “Green.” But it appears we are getting very close to going “Green.”
(A Google search on “Jews preparing to build a temple” results in 6.2 million hits.)
- Further consideration: The Arab nations and their allies are trying to “Wipe the nation of Israel off of the map.” If they were to succeed, the light would go “Red” again until Israel would again become a Jewish nation.

Requirement 2 – A Ten Nation Global Government Ruled by a World Leader

What is the Scriptural basis for believing there must be a World Government of ten nations?

*“And as the toes [ten toes representing ten kings] of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile. As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay. And in the days of these kings [the ten kings] the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever. Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold-- the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this. **The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure.**” Daniel 2:42-45 (NKJV)*

*“Thus he said: ‘The **fourth beast shall be a fourth kingdom on earth**, which shall be different from all other kingdoms, and shall devour **the whole earth**, trample it and*

*break it in pieces. The ten horns **are ten kings** who shall arise from this kingdom. And another shall rise after them; (v25) he shall be different from the first ones, and shall subdue three kings. He [the Antichrist] shall speak pompous words against the Most High, shall persecute the saints of the Most High, and shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand for a time and times and half a time [3-1/2 years]. But the court shall be seated, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and destroy it forever. Then the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey Him.” (Daniel 7:23-27 NKJV)*

The Scripture above will be fulfilled when the Lord Jesus returns to set up his kingdom immediately following the tribulation.

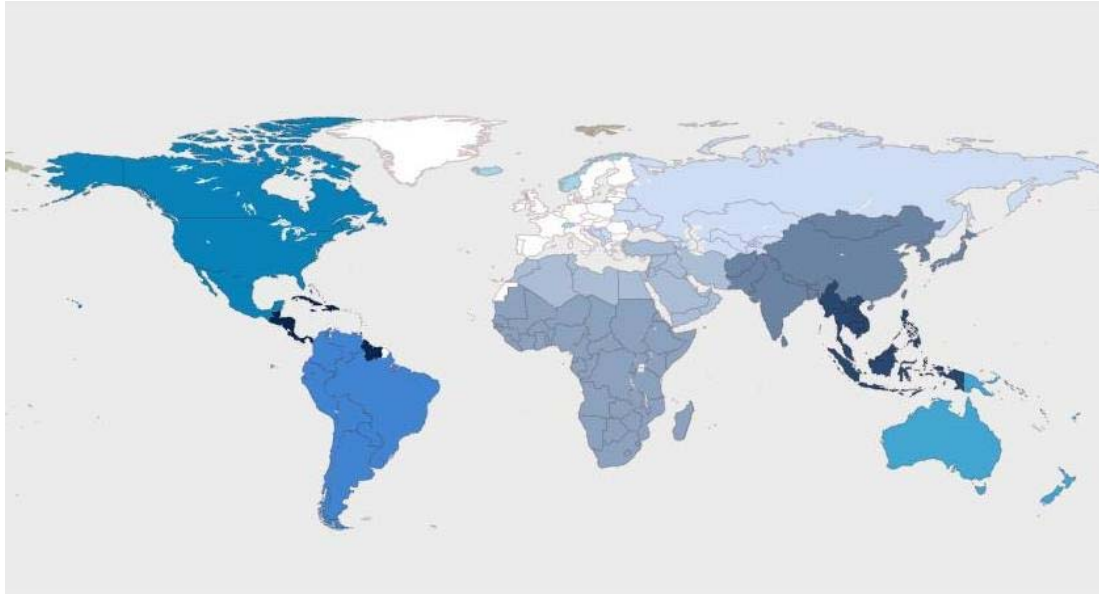
“The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet [because they are only governors of the world government], but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast [another name for the Antichrist]. “These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast. These will make war with the Lamb [Jesus], and the Lamb will overcome them [when he returns to destroy the world government and to set up his kingdom], for He is LORD of lords and King of kings; and those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful.” (Revelation 17:12-14 NKJV)

Is the indicator light on the BCP “Green” for a ten-nation global empire?

The first attempt to go “Green” was when the League of Nations was formed early in the 20th Century. WWII dashed hopes for formation of a global government at that time. Second attempts began with the establishment of the United Nations following WWII – and continues to this day.

But isn’t the United Nations trying to get all the nations to work together rather than forming the world into a ten-nation world government?

Consider the map, posted at the European Commissions official website and reproduced on the following page, which shows their plan for a ten nation world government.



172 Sovereign Nations Becoming 10

1. North America
2. South America
3. Eastern Europe and Central Asia
4. Africa
5. South-East Asia
6. Central America and Caribbean
7. Western Europe
8. Mediterranean and Middle-East
9. North-East and South Asia
10. Australia and Pacific

Source: http://ec.europa.eu/world/where/index_en.htm

What are other indications that we are close to seeing this indicator light go “Green?”

1. Consider the recently appointed EU President

http://ec.europa.eu/news/eu_explained/091120_en.htm

November 20, 2009

“EU fills new top jobs”

European leaders select Belgian premier [**Herman Van Rompuy**] to be the EU’s **first permanent president**. EU trade commissioner Catherine Ashton from the UK lands the foreign policy spot.



2. Consider the video of Van Rompuy’s acceptance speech where he calls 2009 the year of Global Governance beginnings.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dc0PP6i05xk>

3. Consider that the European Commissions (EUs) website is:

http://ec.europa.eu/world/index_en.htm

4. Then consider that “Europa” is from Greek mythology, represented by a woman riding a beast.

*And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement. But the angel said to me, “Why did you marvel? I will tell you the mystery of **the woman** and of **the beast that carries her**, which has the seven heads and the ten horns.”*
(Revelation 17:5 NKJV)



Terracotta figurine
from Athens, ca. 480-460 BC

5. Then consider that Babylon was where God divided the nations at the tower of Babel (Genesis 11). Then further consider the design of the European Union Parliament Building in Strasbourg Germany.

Summary

- The last of the “Last Days” requires a ten-nation global government ruled by a world leader.



Is the indicator light on the spiritual BCP now “Green” for these prophecies about a Ten Nation Global Empire?

- Answer: Not yet – But it appears we are getting very close.
(A Google search on “Global Government” produces 120 million hits.)

Requirement 3 – Global Economic System

A global economic system will be in place, with the ability to exclude anyone from buying or selling if they have not taken a mark in their hand or forehead and bowed to the authority of the World Leader.

What is the scriptural basis for believing there must be a global economic system?

He [the False Prophet that is a right hand man to the Antichrist] causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on

*their foreheads, and that **no one may buy or sell** except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666. (Revelation 13:16-18 NKJV)*

Prior to the advent of the technological and computer age, the thought of a global control of people's ability to buy or sell was unthinkable. The indicator light on the spiritual BCP has been bright red for the 1900 years since this prophecy was written. But now, it is easy to imagine that it will soon be "Green." Consider...

"CNBC Analyst: Global Bank, Global Currency within 15 Years"

"Head of market analysis for Schneider Foreign Exchange Stephen Gallo told CNBC yesterday that the financial crisis will lead to the creation of a global central bank and a global single currency **within 15 years**...

Gallo said that the single currency was 'where we are headed globally on a monetary basis over the course of the next 10 to 15 years...Over the course of the next couple of decades central banks are going to need to pay more attention to what's going on with the global money supply rather than the money supply just in their own borders,' a necessity that, 'might call into question the need for some kind of global central bank **or a global central bank that's united by central banks for bigger monetary areas underneath that global central bank.**"

- Prison Planet.com, Friday, February 27, 2009,

<http://www.infowars.com/cnbc-analyst-global-bank-global-currency-within-15-years/>

"UN Wants New Global Currency to Replace Dollar"

The dollar should be replaced with a global currency, the United Nations has said, proposing the biggest overhaul of the world's monetary system since the Second World War.

By Edmund Conway, Economics Editor,

Published: 6:45PM BST 07 Sep 2009

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/currency/6152204/UN-wants-new-global-currency-to-replace-dollar.html>



A number of countries, including China and Russia, have suggested replacing the dollar as the world's reserve currency.

"In a radical report, the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has said the system of currencies and capital rules which binds the world economy is not working properly, and was largely responsible for the financial and economic crises."

How could a person's ability to buy or sell be prevented if they don't take the "Mark of the Beast" and worship his image? Consider the following observations about our current financial environment:

- Cash is increasingly viewed as the means drug dealers, terrorists, and other criminals use to hide their crimes. Perhaps cash will soon be outlawed to prevent such crime.
- Electronic funds transactions have nearly replaced cash already and may become the global "currency" of the future.
- If so, access to money could be controlled by those who maintain the electronic database of electronic funds.
- Then anyone who becomes an "enemy of the state" could be bankrupted by an edict of the global government and the simple stroke of a computer key.
- Even bartering with commodities would become increasingly difficult as computer databases are able to determine the buying patterns of consumers. You didn't think that the Safeway cards were *just* so that you could get a discount, did you (see video clip at <http://www.aclu.org/pizza>)?

Summary

- The last of the "Last Days" requires a global economic system with the ability to exclude someone from buying and selling if they have not taken a mark in their hand or forehead and bowed to the authority of the World Leader.

Is the indicator light on the spiritual BCP now "Green" for these prophecies about a global economic system?

- Answer: Not yet – But it appears we are getting very close.
(A Google search on "Glo0bal Currency" produces 31 million hits.)

Requirement 4 – Global Police, Global Surveillance

DNA databases – Many countries are pushing to obtain DNA samples from all their citizens to use in criminal case identification.

"Databases and Evidence"

"...new scanning technology can automatically match DNA samples against a large database in minutes. Police forces in several countries including Canada,



Germany, and the United States have created national DNA databases...

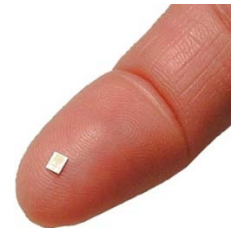
“In April 2003, the Bush Administration proposed that DNA profiles from juvenile offenders and from adults who have been arrested but not convicted would be added to the FBI’s national DNA database. The White House also indicated it would spend about USD 1 billion over five years to promote the use of DNA for law enforcement purposes...”

Source: <http://www.privacyinternational.org/article.shtml?cmd%5B347%5D=x-347-65423>

Tracking technology - Now universally applied to all cell phones. Coupled with electronic funds banking, makes the ability for police to track and or find you a near certainty if the government decides you are an enemy of the state.

RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) - Increasingly being used to track everything you buy, sell (also with the ability to determine what is in your home. Source:

http://www.webopedia.com/DidYouKnow/Computer_Science/2005/rfid.asp



Summary

- The last of the “Last Days” requires a surveillance system capable of monitoring and recording all the activities of people all over the world to ensure compliance with the edicts of the World Leader (Antichrist).

Is the indicator light now “Green” for these prophecies about a global surveillance system?

- Answer: Not yet – But it appears we are getting very close.
(A Google search on “global surveillance” results in 2.6 million hits.)