

REVELATION 21:1-8 CURRENT EVENTS THROUGH A BIBLICAL LENS

STORIES: Everyone lives by a story or a narrative that guides their lives...

Hard work = success; living for true love; American Dream, money=happiness

There is a bigger story that God is writing, and you are a part of it whether you realize it or not.

- FROM CURSE 2 NEW CREATION - GOD IS REDEEMING HUMANITY REV21:1-8
ALL HISTORY CONNECTED **TO THAT STORY** – Daniel: Bab/medoperisan/Greek/rom

Daniel learned to see all world events through the lens of God's mission. **REVELATION**

- **2024 – WILL BE THE SPIN CYCLE....CHAOS – MORE AND MORE CHAOS**
People who don't tether themselves to God's story will be "on spin cycle"

o REMIND URSELF: **Where is this whole thing going. What in the world**
That is the lens through which you see world events. **SEE WITH THE END IN MIND**

BE READY: ADVENT: 1st Coming / Second Coming / RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

- Pre-Tribulational Rapture – PreWrath – POST TRIB – **OUR FRAMEWORK**

o Imminent: at any moment vs near

Not last days – last seconds, 4th quarter, final round, final jeopardy,

The early church lived with an expectation of Christ's return in their lifetime. **MATTER**

1 John 3:1 Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³ And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure. **NEEDED.....**

UNPARALLELED TIME OF DECEPTION

SOCIETY IMP. proliferation of fake news – people manipulated algorithms/agendas

- Dependent upon technology truth / corporate entities that subsidize them

The rise of social media as a news source has proven that the masses can be easily manipulated. **JUST BECAUSE SOMEONE SHARES IT DOESN'T MEAN ITS TRUE – 35%**

- **WE LIVE IN A POST TRUTH SOCIETY..**

The adjective 'post-truth' was *Oxford Dictionaries'* Word of the Year for 2016. It relates to 'circumstances in which objective facts are less influential in shaping public opinion than emotional appeals'. **CULTURAL CONDITION/SICKNESS – if there is no objective truth what..**

Matthew 24:24 For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect.

2 Thessalonians 2:8 And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming. ⁹ The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders, ¹⁰ and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved.

Revelation 12:4 And they worshiped the dragon, for he had given his authority to the beast, and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast, and who can fight against it?"

- **BE WISE/AWARE/DISCERNING - ROOT YOURSELF IN GOD'S TRUTH....**

GLOBAL ANTI-SEMITISM – ISRAEL'S EXISTENCE IS A MIRACLE (history)

Satan Always Against – Cain/abel, pharaoh, babyl, romans, Herod, program, holocaust

The devil hates those whom God loves. Deuteronomy 8 I chose you because I love you

- Anti-Semitism should shock you –80 years post WWII (holocaust) **deniers**

Israel is the Canary in Coal Mine – watch how the world treats Israel – **spiritual thermometer**

- o **Not an advocate for everything Israeli Government does ...**

Presidents of UPENN, MIT, HARVARD can't unequivocally condemn genocide of the Jewish ppl rather depends on the circumstances. **LEADERS OF HIGHEST INSTITUTES**

- Need for a world leader to unite kingdoms – **TURN AGAINST JEWISH PEOPLE**

2 Thess 2:3 Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, ⁴who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God. **JEWISH PEOPLE HOMELAND – REBUILT TEMPLE – SACRIFICES - PER**

MORAL DECADENCE AS IN THE DAYS OF NOAH

Rejection of God – Secular Society - Persecution of God's People – Global Moral Decay

Genesis 6:3 **GOD'S SPIRIT WILL NOT ALWAYS STRIVE MANKIND**

2 Timothy 3:1-5 But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. ²For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, ⁴treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, ⁵having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people.

- Post Christian Society – Era Christendom West 4th century – present has ended
 - o Moral framework that was a benefit to western culture abandoned

Tim Keller: Western culture wants the moral benefits of Christianity without Christ.

- o **Moral condition of our society will grow worse – AWAKENING**

When people say “what is going on” – you have the answer.

Isa 59:14–15 ‘So justice is driven back, and righteousness stands at a distance; truth has stumbled in the streets, honesty cannot enter. Truth is nowhere to be found, and whoever shuns evil becomes a prey’

LIKE NOAH

GOD SECURES ARK/JESUS ARK SALVATION...safety, sec SHALOM OF GOD – FEAR NOT

- The opportunity is **BEFORE US** – culture ripe for gospel engagement

- o **INFLUENCE IN EVERY SPHERE – SOCIETY IMPACTED 1 SOUL AT A TIME**

BRIDE READY FOR HER BRIDEGROOM

- **IF HE CAME BACK TODAY – WOULD YOU BE READY**