



Endtimes Signs

Distress Among Nations

In this Endtimes Signs discussion we will be addressing distress among the nations with perplexity and nations and kingdoms rising up against each other, as well as the seas and waves roaring. Then in the next Endtimes Signs discussion following this one we will be looking into the topic of: AI technology.

Here are the scripture verses for our discussion,

Matthew 24:7 KJV For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom.

Luke 21:20-24 KJV And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh. Then let them which are in Judaea flee to the mountains; and let them which are in the midst of it depart out; and let not them that are in the countries enter thereinto. For these be the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled. But woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck, in those days! for there shall be great distress in the land, and wrath upon this people. And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.

Luke 21:25-28 KJV And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them for fear looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.

Before I comment on the scriptures above, I would like to share an article that I found online at www.biblehub.com written by Arthur W. Pink.

The Present Distress of Nations

The Redeemer's Return - Arthur W. Pink

"And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them with fear, and for looking after those things which are coming to pass on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken" (Luke 21:25, 26). As we have already remarked more than once, prophecy invariably has a double fulfillment at least, and so we believe it is with the one just quoted. Directly, it has reference to conditions that will prevail during the Great Tribulation which immediately precedes the return of the Lord to the earth itself, but there is much to be said in favor of giving this prediction a present-day application. It agrees exactly with the conditions which now exist.

First, "Distress of nations." How well these words describe the universal groaning and anguish of mankind! "Distress" is now no longer confined to any one people but is international and earth-wide in its reach. The "distress" and suffering caused by the exorbitant cost of living when it is becoming more and more difficult to secure even the bare necessities of life. The "distress" occasioned by increasing taxation and the accumulation of national debts which must prove intolerable burdens for future generations to bear. The "distress" caused by shortage of fuel and food-stuffs so that one half of the world is living upon short rations. The "distress" of bereavement which is now in millions of homes which mourn the loss of loved ones slain in battle.

Second, "with perplexity." Statesmen unable to discover any way out of present difficulties. Men of Solomonic astuteness at their wits' end, fearful of what they see approaching and powerless to hinder and prevent it. Problems between capital and labor becoming more acute and insoluble. Situations arising which the wisest of our statesmen, despite all our boasted enlightenment and progress, are unable to cope with successfully. "Perplexity" by reason of political corruption, economic agitations, and revolutionary troubles.

Third, "the sea and the waves roaring." In Scripture, the sea is used to figure the peoples of the earth which, away from God, know no rest. Like the sea, the masses today are in a

seething turmoil. Everywhere there is fermentation and dissatisfaction. When were human politics so confused, so contradictory, so threatening as they are now? When was law so utterly impotent to restrain the violent passions of men? Every day brings new indications of disquietude and convulsion. Every government on earth is being shaken to its very foundations. Mark the political changes which almost weekly take place in the great world powers. The time for listless indifference is gone. No longer may we quietly fold our hands and take our ease. There is among the nations a spirit of restlessness, insubordination, anarchy; a consuming desire to overthrow every established system which has made for law and order; a spirit and desire which is too deeply rooted, too furious, too general, to be long withstood.

It is something more than a passing tumult or the frenzy of an hour. Every day it is gathering strength and before long it will burst every bound that legislation can devise. The waves of human passion are rising higher and higher and threaten to swamp the landmarks of the ancients and take possession of the whole earth.

Fourth, "Men's hearts failing them with fear, and for looking for those things which are coming on the earth." We live in a day of unprecedented agitation and unparalleled tribulation. Conditions on earth have now reached such a pass that no human skill can steer clear of the mighty maelstrom which is rapidly drawing all nations within its awful whirl. Human society is becoming panic-stricken. Heart failure both physically and morally is seizing thousands of victims. Little wonder that suicides are increasing at such an alarming rate. Men's hearts are "failing them."

Confidence between man and man has disappeared. Friendships have become barren formalities, little more than selfish conveniences. Human compassion is no more. Conscience is dead and men are giving up in hopeless despair as they discern still worse evils presaged by present-day conditions. Feverish eyes are moving to and fro in dread expectation of the approaching total collapse of civilization and a New World Order being put in its place.

Fifth, "the powers of heaven shall be shaken." In Scripture the powers of nature are frequently used symbolically. "Mountains" figure "Kingdoms" (Dan.2:35; Jer.51:25); "waters" represent "peoples" (Rev 17:11); and the sun, moon, and stars, typify human governments (Rev.12:1). In the Great Tribulation the physical "powers of heaven will be literally"shaken," but we take it that the present-day application of our text is to be regarded symbolically, having reference to human governments. And when were the political heavens so "shaken" as they are today? * End of article.

Throughout the scriptures the sea is a type of the inner storms and turbulent nature of the Adamic man. Here are a few scriptures to consider as I close out this discussion.

“The wicked are like the troubled sea, which cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt. There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked” (Isa. 57:20-21).

“These are raging waves of the sea, foaming out their shame” (Jude 13).

The apostle John on the isle of Patmos, had a vision of a great whore sitting on many waters. The angel revealed the meaning of the many waters, saying, “the waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues” (Rev. 17:15).

I think there could be no better symbol by which to represent the nations and the people that make them up, as comparing them to the waters of the sea. At times the human race is calm and peaceful, then rough and boisterous, and then dangerous and treacherous. To attempt to pacify the multitudes is as difficult as it would be to pacify the waters of the sea. Nothing seems more futile, so restless as the sea of humanity!

So while there are those who see the seas and waves roaring as a literal endtime sign and point to the increase of Hurricanes and Tsunamis as proof, I think it would be wise that we don't ignore the symbolism just mentioned in Isaiah, Jude and Revelation.