

Why God *Must* Intervene in World Affairs

The second coming of Jesus Christ is an absolute NECESSITY. If this world understood the real PURPOSE for it—and would learn the lesson contained therein—untold suffering could be avoided.

WHY DOES every attempt of man to bring about world peace fail miserably? Why is our so-called "enlightened age" now on the verge of human annihilation?

Do you believe God is concerned with humanity's threat of self-extinction?

Stop and think! Will the Creator of heaven and earth allow man to completely destroy this world as we know it—or is there a great PURPOSE being worked out here below of which most men are in ignorance?

Modern Attitude

Most of the educated people of this world have come to regard the prophecy of the second coming of Jesus Christ, the Son of the Living God, as a myth or superstitious idea held by a few ignorant folk. They smile knowingly at one another whenever the subject is mentioned.

Very few of our modern ministers ever speak about Jesus' return. Most of those who do preach on this subject often bring discredit on themselves and their message by making startling statements to frighten people, or by setting exact dates for certain events for which they have no Biblical basis whatever. Their particular exposition of this subject is so obviously in error that the educated listener usually winds up disbelieving the entire doctrine.

It has come to the place that most so-called "Christian" churches in our time no longer teach their members about the hundreds of passages in the Bible which speak of the second coming of Jesus Christ to rule this world. Most of the larger denominations do not directly deny this doctrine, they just carefully avoid mentioning it, or else they try to "allegorize it away."

Is the "sure word of prophecy" which Peter speaks of to be relied upon as a fact—or can we relegate these prophecies to the rubbish heap as of no consequence?

Are these prophecies actually taking place right now? Does the continuance of human life on this planet demand the intervention of God which the

prophecies in His Word foretell? Is God's intervention a logical solution to mounting world chaos?

Present Conditions Prophesied

When Jesus Christ was here on earth, His disciples asked Him to describe the signs that should precede His second coming and the end of this world—or age. Study His answer in Matthew 24. In verse 21, He foretold a terrible time of trouble "such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be."

Most people will read this prophecy and say, "Yes, but there have always been wars and troubles in the world—so how do we know what to go by?"

The answer is contained in the very next verse of this momentous prophecy. It reveals that a time is coming when God will INTERVENE in world affairs and shorten the course of events in this age! He will do this as a loving Creator to prevent HUMAN ANNIHILATION. "And except those days should be shortened, there should NO FLESH be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened" (verse 22).

Here are definite statements in your Bible in which Christ already predicts a time of trouble at the end of this age to which no other can be compared—a time when God must intervene in world affairs to prevent man from blasting himself into oblivion with hydrogen bombs.

Could this prophecy refer to any other time than the present and immediate future? Has man ever before had the means to completely obliterate human life?

The apostle Paul was also inspired to describe the condition of humanity in this end time. In II Timothy 3:1-4, he says that "perilous times shall come," and predicts that at this time men would be traitors, truce-breakers, greedy, coveting the wealth and territories of each other. This condition would not get better, but worse, for Paul said, "Evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived" (verse 13).

Yes, in spite of all our "peace" con-

ferences and high ideals, the lust and greed of carnal men is expressing itself in worse and worse depredations against what peaceful society remains.

Yet, even though most carnal men can see the "handwriting on the wall" and know that this world is plotting its own doom, they scoff at the idea that the Creator God should intervene in human affairs. Peter wrote, "Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, and saying, where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation" (II Peter 3:3-4).

Peter says these men are willingly ignorant of the fact that God has already intervened once in this world's affairs to send a flood to destroy corrupt and violent civilization of another day (verses 5-6). And how true this is! In our day above all others, countless scientific findings in the fields of geology and archeology point conclusively to the absolute reality of the flood of Noah. But carnal men use every clever device and artifice possible to hide their eyes from this FACT.

Contrary to what these "scientific" scoffers think, all things have not continued as they once were. Man's basic lust and selfishness is the same—only a little worse. But the physical means of expressing that lust in war and conquest have radically CHANGED.

Here Are Startling Facts

Events in this world are moving more swiftly toward global destruction than we realize. We live in a different world than our parents did a half century ago.

Only One Hope

Our leaders now realize that the only hope of saving our civilization from self-destruction is the formation of a strong WORLD GOVERNMENT. But all attempts at this encounter suspicion, distrust, and hate. The hard fact is that man has consistently failed—and will continue to fail to attain this objective.

Men will never achieve a successful world government because the greed, covetousness, and lust for power of world leaders will *always* keep them from being willing to make the *sacrifices* such a universal government would involve. The apostle James says that these same lusts are the basic cause of *war*: "From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your *lusts* that war in your members? Ye *lust*, and have not, ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye *FIGHT* and *WAR*, yet ye have not, *because ye ask not*" (James 4:12).

Human nature has not changed.

Men are still quite willing to spill the blood of their fellows to satisfy their *lust* and *greed*. Do the men of this world really know the *WAY to peace*? God Almighty says of sinful men in general: "The *WAY of peace* have they not known" (Romans 3:17). We hear a lot of sentimental platitudes about the hopes of achieving peace through the United Nations—but the pitiful *results* confirm Paul's inspired statement that *carnal men simply don't know the way to peace*.

This may be an *unpleasant fact*, but it is still a *FACT*.

Let's not hide our eyes from these realities and be overtaken by our *DOOM*. The events in this world *prove* that the Bible stands fast. Evil men are continuing to "wax worse and worse." More than at any other time in history, men are *traitors* and *trucebreakers* as Paul prophesied. Man has proved himself incapable of bringing *peace* to this earth. He does not even know the *WAY to peace*. His character is basically *lustful* and *evil*—and waxing *worse* in these end times. Only *God* can change it.

Most significant of all, man *now* has terrifying weapons of destruction which were formerly unheard of. Guided missiles, horrifying nerve gases,

The ONLY real hope is the intervention in world affairs of the Creator God Himself.

Is such intervention *clearly* and *definitely* promised in His Word?

A Definite Promise

Jesus' own prophecy of His second coming to prevent human annihilation has already been briefly discussed. But in this very prophecy, Jesus warned that most men would either disbelieve or be in ignorance of this momentous event until it actually took place. He compared them to the men in Noah's time who unheedingly continued in their worldly endeavors "until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be" (Mat. 24:38-39).

Why are men so in ignorance of this vital subject today?

It is that they are in ignorance of the countless prophecies which clearly reveal that as part of His plan to save mankind, God has ordained that Christ shall *rule* this earth, teach men the *way to peace*, and show all men the right way to live. Your Bible shows that this is to occur after a definite series of events—and after man has had time to write a lesson in human suffering to show once and for all that his *own* ways lead to *death* (Rom. 14:12).

The prophet Daniel foresaw the rise and fall of four great world-ruling empires which would culminate in the establishment of God's government on this earth (Daniel 2:36-45). These kingdoms are known by all Bible scholars to be the Babylonian, Medo-Persian, Greco-Macedonian, and Roman Empires.

Verses 41-43 indicate that the continuation of the Roman Empire would be less powerful than at first, but would continue in some form until God intervened. And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand *forever* (verse 44).

Isaiah prophesied that in the "last days" God's kingdom would be established here on earth, and that "all nations shall flow unto it" (Isaiah 2:1-4). At this time Christ will teach men the *WAY to peace*. "And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: *nation shall not lift up sword against nation, NEITHER SHALL THEY LEARN WAR ANYMORE*" (verse 4).

Yes, Christ is coming to *save* this world from itself—to teach men the *WAY to peace*.

God inspired the prophet Micah to proclaim this same good news of God's rule on this earth (Micah 4:1-5). At that time, "many nations shall say, Come, let us go up to the mountain (kingdom) of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and *he will teach us HIS WAYS*, and we will walk in *his paths*: for the *law* shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem" (verse 2). Here is pictured a time when *all nations* will learn of *God's ways*, and when His *law* of love and peace will be understood by all.

One of the principal thoughts in these prophecies is that Christ is coming to *save* the world from *SELF-DESTRUCTION* and will begin to teach all nations—with force as necessary—the *WAY of peace*.

The book of Revelation, together with Matthew 24, shows the exact order of world shaking events preceding Christ's return to this earth.

Jesus Christ is to come during the time of trumpets—symbolizing a time of war—and as the last trumpet sounds, there are voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever" (Rev. 11:15).

Christ is coming to take over the kingdoms of this world *before they erase human life from this planet*.

As King of kings and Lord of lords, He will teach all men the *WAY to peace*, and through His Spirit will implant within men the love of God to replace the warring human lusts. Then, they shall not "*learn war*" anymore.