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THE FOOLISH VIRGINS!

By Gordon F. Nelson

"That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish!" Ephesians 5:27.

"And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them (the pre-tribulation believers)." The church needs the Antichrist just as much as the Jews need Armageddon. Until Armageddon, Israel sees no need to call upon God. The church, likewise, "through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God." Acts 14:22.

Just read the chronological order of events that Jesus gave in answering the question presented by the disciples. *"Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the age (of grace)?"* Matthew 24:3. (After Christ comes, it is not the end of the world, for the Millennial Reign of Christ from Jerusalem will continue for 1,000 years.)

Signs that precede His coming!

Matthew 24:4-31

Sign #1 - False Prophets - *"Take heed that no man deceive you....saying, I am Christ."* These are the "lords over God's heritage" that have no government. You trust them "as god."

Sign #2 - Wars and rumors of wars.

Sign #3 - Nation against nation, kingdom against kingdom. (The rise of the skinheads to revive the Hitler beliefs in "Mein Kampf", reviving the hatred of Jews and Negros. Much of this indoctrination is through "rock 'n roll" lyrics.) Can the refusal to believe the Holocaust (ever existed) be attributed to the Aryan Germans residing in America?

Sign #4 - *"Famines (another Oklahoma dust bowl is surfacing), and pestilences (killer bees, AIDS, E-bola virus, etc.), and earthquakes, in divers places (places where earthquakes never occurred before)." "All these are the beginning of sorrows,"* Jesus asserts!

This is ALL around us NOW, and the church is still here to see this! I am directing that statement to those who believe they will "escape it ALL." Honey, you're still here--If Christ came today, you didn't "escape it ALL!" But wait, there is more!

Sign #5 - *“Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name’s sake.”*

Surely, if Baptist theology was worth a dime, the church would be gone before Sign #5. No, my friend, we are still here! Jesus said so! He is a greater authority than your Baptist preacher. Sign #5 is related to blood and the running of the second horse of the Apocalypse. *“Come and see. And there went out another horse that was RED: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword (division).”* Revelation 6:4.

Those of the C.I. Scofield-Dallas theology, always taught the White Horse Rider was the Antichrist. This interpretation discourages the reading of the book of Revelation due to it being irrelevant. *“The White Horse Rider makes his entrance after the church is raptured.”* False! The White Horse Rider is who is riding right now! *“Come and see. And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer.”* Revelation 6:2.

“And a crown was given unto him.” The Treaty of Rome commenced the “giving of a crown” over a people that the Papacy had not ruled since the Reformation. *“As in the natural, so in the spiritual.”* The “Treaty of Rome,” the rise of Billy Graham and Oral Roberts, were all in the same time frame. These events initiated the “giving of a crown” to the Pope of Rome, thus commencing the White Horse Rider of the Apocalypse, and the fulfilling of Matthew 24:4-5.

America’s surrender of her sovereign rights to the New World Order was birthed in San Francisco at the same time period as the creation of the United Nations in San Francisco. More recently, on March 29, 1994, several Evangelicals and Roman Catholics signed a document they called Evangelicals and Catholics Together: The Christian Mission in the Third Millennium. Father Richard John Neuhaus and Chuck Colson (of Watergate) wrote the document. Just as this ecumenical spirit to promote one world religion succeeds, so the noose tightens on the political world with Congress passing NAFTA and GATT. *“As in the natural, so in the spiritual.”*

The Protestants no longer “protest!” The word “Protestant” is derived from “Protest - tant”, or a protester to a man claiming equality with Jesus Christ; the “Vicar of Christ.” Jan and Paul Crouch, founders of TBN (Trinity Broadcasting Network), publicly declared they are no longer “Protesters,” but are “giving their crown of allegiance to the Pope of Rome!” Are you still a Protestant, or have you given your crown of authority to a man (infallibility of the Pope)?

Pastor Leroy Lebeck of Trinity Church in Sacramento has already been to Rome and had hands laid on his head by the Pope, commissioned to convert other Pentecostal preachers to follow in his footsteps. Benny Hinn has a great fascination for Rome also. *“And he that sat on him (the White Horse) had a bow.”* There were no arrows to force anyone to renounce his allegiance to the Word of God, but the Pope, through the doctrine (bow) of “ecumenicalism,” *“went forth conquering, and to conquer.”* Revelation 6:2. By surrendering to the “bow of ecumenicalism,” preachers are suddenly considered successful! Like Laodicea, they parade the “prosperity message,” *“I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing.”* Revelation 3:11.

The “bow” is one scripture found in John 17:21: *“That they all may be one.”* In context, this is the Lord’s prayer for the twelve disciples, *“That they all may be one!” “I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me.”* John 17:9.

Bill McCartney of the Promise Keepers, and “Bo” Gritz of Ruby Ridge fame, are evidence of how this path of “oneness” doctrine is amalgamating the church. Today, since the birthing of the Billy Graham-Oral Roberts Crusades, they are all “Christians”; Jews, Mormons, Unitarians, Masons, and Jehovah’s Witnesses. We no longer have a definition defining Christianity. We are now living in the day of the False Prophet (*“Take heed that no MAN deceive you.”*), or the riding of the White Horse Rider of Revelation 6:2.

In May we were privileged spectators to a magnificent replay of Ruby Ridge and Randy Weaver on television. Our own Jennifer Whitney, anchor newswoman for Channel 13, played the part of Mrs. Weaver. She is a very talented lady. To you (who are pre-tribulation rapturists) the production was meaningless! You’re to fly away! You escape it all!

Ecumenicalism is nothing more than the “Mother Church” calling her harlot daughters home.

There are twelve scriptures in the New Testament that admonish true believers to *“be sober.” “But let us, who are of the day, be sober.”* 1 Thessalonians 5:8. I was “drunk” the entire five years I spent following Dr. Bebe H. Patten of Oakland, California. Do you think you are perfectly sober following miracle workers? *“An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign.”* Matthew 12:39. It is during this period of supposed ecumenicalism’s “White Horse Revival” one is being seduced into joining the masses and getting drunk.

“And a woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet color, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand...and upon her head was a name written Mystery Babylon the Great, the Mother of Harlots.” Revelation 17:4-5. Ecumenicalism is nothing more than the “Mother Church” calling her harlot daughters home. You don’t go after your own children with “arrows” to kill,

but merely a “bow” (type of paddle). Your mother no longer refers to you Protestants as devils, but now we are termed “separated brethren,” with an open invitation to “come home!”

Isn't it strange how man wants to join the “One World Religion” headed up by the False Prophet, the Pope of Rome? God says, *“Come out of her my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.”* Revelation 18:4. The church needs persecution, just as a harvest needs a full rain to bring the wheat into fruition. There is no way Ephesians 5:27 can come to pass without persecution. *“That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.”*

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All of Bill Clinton's appointments to the Supreme Court voted to overturn the Colorado and lower court's decision on sodomy by a 6-3 decision. This event, coupled with the kickoff gathering of people in Washington, D.C., clamoring for “Children's Rights,” initiates the inauguration of the Red Horse Rider of the Apocalypse. *“And the brother (in the church) shall deliver up the brother (in the church) to death!...and the children shall rise up against their parents, and cause them to be put to death.”* Matthew 10:21. When you obtain a marriage license from the state, in essence you are agreeing that any children born in that marriage belongs to the state. The state, under the guise of “Children's Rights,” is moving in to claim their property; the children from that marriage. Teachers in our public school system are trained agents to indoctrinate children to spy on their own parents. You could go to jail now as a parent for disciplining your own child. (Which legally is not your own.) What a contradiction to Roe vs. Wade!

These recent events will backfire on all Christians who cannot endorse Roe vs. Wade, sodomy, euthanasia, same sex marriages, the ordaining of gay ministers, and “Children's Rights.” We are now witnessing Edward Gibbon's book entitled, The Rise and Fall of the Roman Empire. Rome degenerated from within. This is a USA duplication. Persecution of Christians will commence with the riding of the Red Horse of the Apocalypse just as Jesus said it would in Matthew 24:9. *“Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.”*

If you will read the book Foxe's Book of Martyrs, you will discover they had to cease the persecution of Christians in order to prevent the entire world from becoming Christian. For every martyr dying by the sword of Rome, ten would be converted to the faith. Rome was losing! Rome was accustomed to death, but never by witnessing the high praises of God as they died.

Sure, the early church believed in the eminent return of Christ, because they believed Antichrist was already here in the person of Nero. *“Let no man deceive you by ANY MEANS: for that DAY shall not*

come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition.”

2 Thessalonians 2:3. The “son of perdition” was revealed to the early church in the Emperor of Rome, Nero. What could possibly be more Antichrist than Nero who fed Christians to the lions?

“But ye brethren, are not in darkness (you know the Antichrist has not made his appearance), that that DAY (the rapture) should overtake you as a thief.” 1 Thessalonians 5:4. If you “fly away” tonight, you are overtaken as a thief!

Do you know who these “pre-trib rapturists” really are? They are the foolish virgins of Matthew 25:3. *“They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them!”* Everyone carries a “lamp” or a Bible. *“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.”* Psalm 119:105. The “unconditional eternal securitist,” these good Baptists, all have a lamp. Have you as a believer ever felt intimidated by some smug Baptist? Someway, you are supposed to be apologetic because you “spoke in tongues.” The shoe should be on the other foot. He is the “foolish virgin,” not you.

Those of you who continue to read the *RIVERBANK NEWS*, soon find out their doctrine. *“For the bed is shorter than a man can stretch himself on it: and the covering narrower than that he can wrap himself in it.”* Isaiah 28:20.

By a “single scripture” approach to interpreting the Bible, you can cause it to say most anything.

Did you ever watch a grandma quilt a blanket? She saves all these patches of square cloth to build a quilt. She doesn’t call a single patch a blanket. In the same manner as grandma making a quilt, is how we go about establishing sound doctrine. *“Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.”* 2 Peter 1:20. Paul is saying, this is a “No, no!” You cannot take ONE scripture and call it a “grandma’s blanket.” *“Knowing this first,”* you just can’t do that!

Good Christians, and followers of Alexander Dowie, founded the city of Zion, Illinois. Alexander Dowie introduced divine healing to the Midwest, and was arrested more times than any human for praying for the sick on the streets of Chicago. However, he taught the world was flat, because of the scripture, *“And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth.”* Revelation 7:1. To this day, there are Christians in Zion, Illinois that believe the earth is flat! By a “single scripture” approach to interpreting the Bible, you can cause it to say most anything. The Bible says, *“Judas went out and hanged himself.”* Drop down a bit and we read, *“Go thou and do likewise!”*

The Seventh Day Adventist Church is a house of cards. Once you prove the Pope is not the Antichrist the roof caves in. Every Adventist should read Revelation 17:16 and believe it. *“And the ten horns (the Beast)...these shall hate the whore (the mother of harlots – Revelation 17:5), and shall make*

her desolate...and burn her with fire.” “For in one hour so great riches is come to nought...and cried when they saw the smoke of her burning.” Revelation 17:16 & 18:17-18.

The whore is destroyed by the Antichrist. The Mark of the Beast, according to Seventh Day Adventism, is on all “Sunday worshippers” because the Pope created the day in honor of the sun god. But, if the Pope is not the Antichrist (and he is not), then Sabbath worship is meaningless and only brings you under the bondage of the law for which Jesus died to free man from the demands of the law. We now live by “Holy Ghost commandments” (Acts 1:2) written on hearts of flesh, not stone.

“In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established.” 2 Corinthians 13:1. “He that despised Moses’ law died without mercy under two or three witnesses.” Hebrews 10:28. When you have built a blanket to fully cover you, and you can rest in that bed (the doctrine), your scripture will collaborate with other writers (44 in all) in Holy Writ.

“Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts. For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little. For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people...YET THEY WOULD NOT HEAR.” Isaiah 28:9-12.

The Apostle Paul quotes this same scripture, only he says “in the law.” *“In the law it is written, With men of other tongues and other lips will I speak unto this people; and yet for all that will they not hear me, saith the Lord.” 1 Corinthians 14:21.*

What is rejected “under the law” and in Paul’s day, was never religion, but “stammering lips” and “unknown tongues.” Baptists have established a religion as well, and made the same mistake by

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rejecting “stammering lips.” This is the reason they are referred to in Matthew 25 as “foolish virgins.” Baptists all have Bibles, but forget about the oil (type of the Baptism of the Holy Ghost). The oil is representative of the Holy Ghost. A Baptist looks like a stalwart Christian, but “*when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended* (Gk.- scandalized).” Matthew 13:21.

Jesus said to Nicodemus, “*Verily* (this is truth), *verily* (this is truth, listen attentively), *I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water* (the Word) *and of the Spirit* (Baptism of the Holy Ghost), *he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.*” John 3:5. Jesus explains further about this being “*born of the Spirit*” (Holy Ghost baptized). John 3:8. The foolish virgin, with a beautiful lamp, will reject this clear teaching from the lips of our Lord. The only Spirit to agree with the Word, is the Holy Spirit. The spirit of man agrees with the “One World Religion.”

“They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them.” Matthew 25:3. If you are a “pre-triber,” you need no preparation, or even the Holy Ghost, because of your “out of here in the morning” attitude. On the other hand, if you are a *“line upon line, precept upon precept”* believer, you know you are going to spend some time on earth with the Antichrist. Spending time on earth with the Antichrist is what drove Randy Weaver into Idaho.

The Mormon Church has stolen a lot of the church’s thunder. That church will continue to grow as long as the church of Jesus Christ believes it is “flying out of here in the morning.” Your common sense tells you it is a lie, and catches you totally unprepared.

“And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out.” Do you know how the lamps went out? Antichrist made his appearance on television, and the church was still here. Their lamps (or Baptist interpretation) were worthless! By the time a Baptist wakes up, it is then too late!

“And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.” 1 John 5:8. Your American Standard Version of the Bible would like this scripture removed from canon. Their little “s” in “spirit” should be a capital “S.” Oh, how man desecrates the Word of God to fit their tradition. I don’t blame Gail Riplinger at all for her defense of the King James Version of the Bible. We are all caught up in this war, except you pre-tribers who will be leaving in the morning. (So they think!) No one is going anywhere until we first see Antichrist on the boob-tube! But, then it is too late. Your lamp has gone out. You believed lies! You were told you would never see the Antichrist, and then you will be seeing him on prime-time TV. Many of you will be looking up your Baptist preacher then.

These “foolish virgins,” let me remind you, were *“unspotted from the world.”* They carried beautiful Bibles, but their lamps went out when they saw Antichrist. We made no provision for you!

A runner prepares differently for a hundred-yard dash than he does for a five-mile race. *“But he that shall endure unto the end (of the age), the same shall be saved.”* Matthew 24:13. Baptists are in the hundred-yard dash because they are “pre-tribers.” They will “fly away in the morning!” What happens to these “foolish virgins” who are the respected Christians in this lifetime? *“And while they (the foolish virgins) went to buy, the bridegroom came...and the door was shut.”* Matthew 25:10.

This does not mean the foolish virgins went to hell. They missed the rapture and millennial reign with Christ on this earth. However, if you will read Revelation 20:12, perhaps we can relocate our dear Baptist friends who reject the “stammering lips” and the prayer language of the Bible. *“And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; AND THE BOOKS WERE OPENED: and another book was*

opened, which is the book of life.” If Christians who rejected the Gentile “Rock of Offense” were not at the Great White Throne Judgment, why would the book of life be opened? *“And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.”* Revelation 20:15. Some real good Baptist, Presbyterian, etc. names will be found written, I’m persuaded. However, they will have no part in the rapture, or ruling with Christ from His throne in Jerusalem. *“And I saw thrones...and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded...which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; AND THEY LIVED AND REIGNED with Christ a thousand years. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished.”* Revelation 20:4-5. Only martyrs’ rule and reign with Christ? *“They loved not their lives unto the death.”* Revelation 12:11.

At the Great White Throne Judgment men will be saved, “as by fire.” *“For the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire.”* 1 Corinthians 3:13-15. Your denial of the “Holy Ghost and fire” will not be considered an amenity at this judgment, as they search for your name in the Book of Life. *“The dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.”* Revelation 20:12.

Are you ashamed of the stigma of being termed a Holy Roller, a tongue-talker Christian? *“For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed.”* Luke 9:26. It was Jesus’ own words that declared the sign of a believer: *“They shall speak with new tongues.”* Mark 16:17. No wonder the liberals want to destroy Mark 16:9-20, questioning its authenticity, stating in the footnotes, “Omitted in the more ancient manuscripts.”

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In Hebrews 4:8 we read, *“For if Jesus had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day.”* You never received that “rest,” so you cease from your own works, as God did from His on your day of conversion. *“There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God.”* Hebrews 4:9.

We are commanded therefore, *“Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.”* Hebrews 4:11. You are to labor; you are still under the obedience of the law until you have entered into rest (type of the Promised Land). Isaiah the prophet gives the Biblical definition of “rest.” *“For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people. To whom he said, THIS IS THE REST wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and THIS IS THE REFRESHING: yet THEY WOULD NOT HEAR.”* Isaiah 28:11-12.

In response to Peter's altar call on the Day of Pentecost, the multitudes were "*pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do (to be saved)?*" Acts 2:37. Peter's answer was not the "only believism" of our hour, but he gave three things they must do to be saved (Acts 2:38):

#1 - Repent - be converted.

#2 - Be baptized in water for the remission of sins.

#3 - Receive the gift of the Holy Ghost!

It was inconceivable to the early church they would not stop until all three were accomplished in their lives. "*For the promise is unto you,*" said Peter, "*and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.*" Acts. 2:39.

"*He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved.*" Mark 16:16. "*You must labour to enter into rest.*" Hebrews 4:11. Rest is Grace. You are still "under a schoolmaster" (Galatians 3:24) until you have entered into Grace. When you refuse to "enter into rest," you are taking your chances on God finding your name in the book of life at the Great White Throne Judgment.

"*But with whom was he grieved forty years? was it not with them that had sinned, whose carcases fell in the wilderness?*" Did they have the Baptist's "unconditional eternal security" that came out of Egypt with Moses? I think not. They all died in the wilderness and "*could not enter in because of unbelief.*" Hebrews 3:19. You are still in a type of the wilderness, working in your own strength "under the law!" As such, you will stand before a Holy God at the Great White Throne and give your account to Him why you never "*laboured to enter into rest.*"

Dear Baptist friend, the Holy Ghost is God! You are rejecting one-third of the Godhead: the Jews rejected two-thirds of the Godhead in Jesus' day.

The Old Testament gives us a picture of God the Father's dealing with Israel, "the apple of His eye." "*And I saw, when for all the causes whereby backsliding Israel committed adultery I had put her away, and given her a bill of divorce.*" Jeremiah 3:8. Israel is God's wife.

The Four Gospels introduce us to God the Son. "*For God so loved...he gave his Son.*" John 3:16. He did not come Himself; He sent His Son.

And, finally, the Acts of the Holy Ghost. We have the final expression to complete the Godhead in this dispensation of Grace that commenced on the Day of Pentecost.

This is it! You are either “sealed” for heaven or hell by the Holy Ghost. Did Ananias and Sapphira have unconditional eternal security? (Acts 5:1-11) The “*stone of stumbling and rock of offense*” was Jesus to these Jews. The “*rock of offense*” to Gentiles is the Holy Ghost.

I have been in the church for 55 years, and have heard Dr. H.A. Ironsides, Dr. J. Vernon Magee, and Dr. Donald Barnhouse say, “All manner of speaking in tongues is of the devil.” This is the rhetoric we get from this crowd once they are in the forefront. They despise the Holy Ghost! “*Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men.*” Matthew 12:31. Many a believer will be in hell through attributing the work of the Holy Ghost to the devil. Good advice to a Baptist, “Keep your mouth shut regarding the Holy Ghost!” If you have never spoken in tongues, the chances are you don’t know what you are talking about anyway!

Lastly, “*you are sealed unto the day of redemption by the Holy Ghost.*” Ephesians 4:30. You have “laboured” (whatever it took) to become “sealed” for delivery into heaven. The folk that do not have “unconditional eternal security” believe they do. Through their disobedience and refusal to “enter in,” God sent them a “*strong delusion*” (2 Thessalonians 2:11) to “*believe a lie and be damned.*” They were never sealed. The ones that have been “sealed,” and have unconditional eternal security, do not believe it! That, my friend, is how mixed up the church is from “*teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.*” Matthew 15:9.

One final point, and I am finished. In Acts 5:1-11, two members of the early church, Ananias and Sapphira, his wife, lied to the Holy Ghost about money. Peter said to this couple, “*thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.*” You see, my Baptist friend, the Holy Ghost is God. He is both a “sealer” (marker) (Ephesians 4:30), and “executioner” (Matthew 12:31). Did Ananias and Sapphira have unconditional eternal security?

I’m really beginning to sound like a preacher. Lastly, one final point, now hear this! In Ezekiel 9:2-11, “*And one man among them was clothed with linen, with a writer’s inkhorn by his side: and they went in, and stood beside the brasen altar (altar of judgment).*” And God called to the one saying, “*Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations...Slay utterly!...but come not near any man upon whom is the mark; and begin at my sanctuary!*” Could the man “clothed in linen” be a type of the Holy Ghost? If so, this should put the fear of God back into the end time church.