

This Chapter One discusses the many issues that are bringing the endtimes and what will happen when they come. It shows the falling away of the Church is a main cause of the endtimes coming. It is important that all Church people understand the main issues presented in this chapter.

# THE ESSENCE OF THE ISSUES

(Chapter One of my book: *Watchman Warning*)

by  
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Christ-Centered



Biblical Training

The Tribulation is coming soon. We need to understand the issues, prepare ourselves, so that we can withstand the coming persecution without falling away by denying Christ.

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**Scriptures quoted are taken from the New American Standard Bible.**

***See the glossary for definitions and understanding of the terms used.***

**Note: This report or chapter is from my book: *Watchman Warning* (1994). The details are summarized in my other book: *Watchman, How Far Gone is the Night?* (1995). We encourage you to read these books for more detail and breadth for greater background and more complete understanding. They are available by contacting the above.**

**This paper is written for those who have some knowledge of the issues and doctrines in prophecy. Those wanting a more beginning view can read *Watchman, How Far Gone is the Night?***

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# CHAPTER ONE THE ESSENCE OF THE ISSUES

## THE ENDTIMES HAVE BEGUN, THE CHURCH AND WORLD NEED TO BE WARNED, THE CHURCH NEEDS TO BE TRAINED

The people of the United States and the rest of the world are becoming increasingly sinful. This increase in sinfulness is demonstrated by their disobedience to God and His laws. The American government seems no longer interested in the principles of freedom upon which the nation was founded: freedom under God and free enterprise. People are now sensing that something is terribly wrong in America and the world, and that God's endtime judgments may be coming soon. They are beginning to set their hopes in the peace movements and wonder what is meant by "The New World Order." However, the world has known difficult conditions before. So is the end of history really coming?

Existing signs and entities show that the end is indeed coming, and that the endtime events of Revelation that lead up to this end of history have begun to take place. A major world war is on the horizon that will initiate God's endtime judgment for sin. Having observed this present situation, I believe that God now wants to alert His prophets to proclaim a warning to His church and the world: His endtime judgments will soon come upon them on account of their apostasy, immorality, sin, and false worship (See Endnote #1<sup>1</sup> for the meaning of these terms).

This warning is being called a **Watchman Warning** because God used servants in the Old Testament whom He called Watchmen to proclaim His warning in similar situations. According to the Scriptures, it seems as if God has always proclaimed this warning before bringing His disciplinary judgment. **He has done this in order to offer His grace and provide an opportunity for people to believe the gospel and to live righteously before His judgment has come. As the endtimes approach, God is using His Watchmen once again to proclaim a similar warning.**

In the Old Testament, God warned Israel through His Watchmen and through His activity in nature before Assyria and Babylon invaded her to bring devastation and take her into disciplinary exile. In the New Testament, God gives an overwhelming example of His grace by providing salvation (Ephesians 2:8, 9) before He brings His final and eternal judgment at the Great White Throne (Revelation 20:11-15). Both testaments clearly illustrate the principle that God always offers His grace before He brings His judgment.

**The church now must be alerted, warned, and trained. The necessary training includes how to live by faith in God to work all things together for good in the terrible times that will come. God told Israel in such times that the just need to live by their faith (Habakkuk 2:4). God wants to offer His grace in the form of this warning for a certain time period in order to give people an opportunity to repent, obey, and be trained even if no one accepts His offer. These are the reasons for "WATCHMAN WARNING!"**

God has now revealed new insights into recorded prophecy that bring to light the urgency of the need to proclaim this warning at the present time. God does nothing unless He tells His prophets first (Amos 3:7).

These needed new insights include (1) the observation that God is now ending history using a Pattern Sequence, (2) a new interpretation and timing for the 1000 years of Revelation 20, and (3) a new look at the integration and harmonization of many prophetic doctrines in order to more clearly understand the endtime scene.

(Newcomers to prophecy should read the section entitled "Prophetic Elements" for definitions and descriptions of the prophetic terms that are used in this book. These prophetic elements give an

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overview and understanding of the doctrines, events, issues, and situations that define prophecy and show how the endtimes will come. The terms used throughout this book will not be otherwise defined.)

Understanding the Pattern Sequence and its details allows one to know how current events fit into prophecy, what will happen next, and the fact that believers will go through the endtime Tribulation. In the Tribulation, believers will either receive divine discipline for their sin or be used by God as His witnesses. The endtime Tribulation will involve the entire world, including believers (the church). Therefore, God's endtime Watchmen must warn believers and unbelievers alike, and believers must be trained for spiritual warfare.

Christ is now breaking the seals of Revelation's seven-sealed book to usher in the events that come according to the endtime Pattern Sequence. These events are bringing the happenings that end the world. [Figure 1-1](#) shows how the endtimes of Revelation will unfold.

**At this time, there are strong reasons to believe that the first three seals of Revelation have already been broken and that their events are even now progressing. Existing signs and entities match their biblical requirements as given in Revelation's Pattern Sequence. This match shows that the endtimes are unfolding and that the breaking of the fourth seal of Revelation's seven-sealed book (a scroll) may occur soon. The breaking of the fourth seal will bring tactical warfare over one-fourth of the earth. Many will die by the sword, famine, disease, pestilence, and by attacks from wild beasts. Thus, according to these observations, God's endtime sequence that will end human history has already begun.** (The signs and entities are described later in this chapter.)

This fourth-seal war will thrust the earth's people into the endtime Tribulation. The approaching war will come with little warning except from God's Watchmen, at a time when peace — not war — is expected. It will bring divine discipline and a spiritual darkness that will pervade the world until Christ returns after the Tribulation. After the Tribulation, He will rapture His church and bring the final judgments upon unbelievers.

The breaking of the first three seals has already brought false religion, war, and famine. These phenomena are not unique because similar events have happened throughout history. All three of those mentioned also occurred before Jerusalem was destroyed in A.D. 70. Consequently, the events of the first three seals have occurred with only a few people recognizing them for what they are.

**In summary, the realization that the endtimes have already begun has come about from an understanding of the Pattern Sequence and the matching of its required signs and entities with current events. Their match shows that the fourth-seal war is impending, and that the first three seals have already been broken.**

With this understanding of the endtimes and a strong awareness of the urgent need for the proclamation of the Watchman Warning, I believe that God wanted me to write this book to accomplish the following important purposes:

1. God wants to use this book as one means to bring His warning. This book will alert others that He presently plans to use many believers as Watchmen to warn His church and the world that His endtime judgments are coming because of their apostasy, immorality, sin, and false worship.

The message of this warning is clear: if His people live righteously and accomplish His work, they will survive, and God will use and help them. But if they live unrighteously and neglect His work, they will be seriously disciplined and many will die. The message also warns unbelievers to believe the gospel of Christ and afterward live righteously. If they do, they will live, and God will use them. If they do not, they will experience severe judgment.

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The warning period is a means for God to offer His grace, allowing people a time for repentance and obedience, before He brings His world-ending judgments. The church must now give this warning throughout the world for God's purposes — even though few will respond positively to Him.

2. God wants His church now to train His people to live righteously and by faith through these coming terrible times so that He might effectively work all things together for their ultimate good and bring them to greater spiritual maturity and knowledge of Him. Even faithful Christians will go through this endtime Tribulation of divine calamity and discipline to act in Christ's behalf, as His witnesses.

Learning that believers will experience the terrible endtimes makes one realize this need to train them — especially children — with expediency to live by faith in God's faithfulness and to be self-sustaining in Christ. Such training enables Christians to more adequately face the intense coming spiritual warfare of the endtime events. By prompting Christians to turn to greater obedience, it will also help them to avoid receiving God's judgment.

### **THE CHURCH NEEDS A THEOLOGY THAT WILL PERSUADE HER TO PROCLAIM THE WATCHMAN WARNING AND TO PREPARE AND TRAIN HER PEOPLE FOR SPIRITUAL WARFARE**

Today, Christians adhere tenaciously to at least five different major views of prophecy. These views have different and conflicting doctrines as to how and why the endtimes will come. God is not the author of confusion. He is not leading the church to have several different prophetic views, although He allows the situation.

Most who hold these views do not see the need to warn their people that they will experience the coming endtime events. Many Christians believe they will be raptured before the Tribulation, or that the Tribulation has already taken place or is occurring now. This book attempts to help resolve the conflicting prophetic doctrinal issues and viewpoints by establishing the proper biblical theology. Thus, it attempts to help persuade the church to bring the warning and to prepare herself for the onslaught of the coming intense spiritual warfare of the endtimes.

**Because I believe that the endtimes unfold in a Pattern Sequence, the theology in this book is called the Pattern View of Prophecy. The Pattern View, with its theology, is offered as a proposal to the entire church with the hope that it will receive universal acceptance as the biblical view. With this acceptance, it is hoped that the church will begin to proclaim the Watchman Warning and seriously train her people for the intense spiritual warfare of the coming Tribulation.**

### **THE TIMES ARE CRITICAL; THE CHURCH NEEDS TO BE ALERTED AND TRAINED EXPEDIENTLY**

Because the church will not be raptured until the end of these difficult endtimes, the situation is very serious. Many Christians, religious people, and patriots will be persecuted, imprisoned, and martyred for their dogmatic beliefs and stands. Children will be indoctrinated with Satanic falsehoods and not be allowed to hear the gospel and become Christians or to be trained to live the Christian life. We must train them now while we still can. Chaotic times will also bring world war, loss of freedoms, financial difficulties, famine, disease, pestilence, unjust prosecution and lawsuits, enforced false religion, great immorality, confiscation of property, and shortages of necessities.

**The church of the Lord Jesus Christ (made up of all who believe the gospel) will not be exempt from these endtime judgments because her disobedience is the primary cause for their coming.** Even though God has a faithful and obedient remnant, much of the church is not faithfully obedient to Him. The world's unrighteousness is the secondary cause for the judgment

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coming.

As Christians, we attend weekly church services because we desire to worship God and to have a time of fellowship with Him and our fellow believer friends. While this is good and desirable, we very often fail to remember that God wants us also to believe the gospel, live godly lives, and accomplish His work of witnessing, evangelizing, and discipling. God wants individuals in the church to be active participants in life and ministry, not just passive observers.

The church very often does not realize her sinful situation. While adultery and showing rejection (a noticeable lack of love) are of the more obvious sins (sins of commission), the church also sins when she inadequately obeys Christ — having sins of omission. These type sins include not faithfully carrying out the Great Commission, such as failing to evangelize local communities. The church also has committed the sin of false worship in the worldwide movement associated with speaking in false tongues.

God requires obedience. This involves faithful commitment and the responsibility to which God holds us accountable as believers. When as individuals, as an overall church, and as a nation, we have not obeyed God in these matters over a long time period, we invite His judgment. This is the situation we are in now, as the endtimes are coming upon the world.

One of God's major objectives in training the church is to help take her to spiritual maturity in Christ so that she is enabled to intimately know Him, living by His character qualities and righteousness. Leaders should learn how to train their people as believers to grow in maturity and to know God. The training needs to include two vital parts: a strong doctrinal base, and how to live, interacting with God, according to this doctrinal base. Both parts are required for accurate and responsive Christian living. Leaders should organize their efforts and ministries to reach this objective. This doctrinal base must include the primary way that God has given to produce spiritual maturity: to exalt Him, to live godly lives, and to accomplish His work. I am calling these the three activities. Insights to this training are presented in chapters 2, 7, and 8.

### THE CHURCH NEEDS TO REVIEW HER PROPHETIC DOCTRINES

Because of these overwhelming reasons to proclaim the warning and prepare the church, I strongly encourage you to take a new and serious look at prophecy and its theology. What doctrines and tenets are really correct?

Because of the imminency of the coming of the endtimes, church leaders and family heads who adhere tenaciously to the Pretribulation Rapture View and certain other views — and those who do not adhere to any one view or who are uncertain about their views — are making a terrible and irreversible mistake if they do not warn and train their people. **Being unprepared to live by strong faith in God and not knowing what is happening, their people and especially their children will experience much greater suffering in the coming Tribulation. They may wonder whether God has forsaken them.**

The church overall sees conditions worsening in America and the world, but she has not yet fully realized how serious they will become. The church continues as if times were normal and is oblivious to Satan building his forces to unleash them upon the church and the world as soon as God permits. The church is generally unprepared and is operating significantly below the level of Christian life and ministry that God wants of her and that is needed for these unfolding endtimes. As Christians, we are doing much less than we could and should do. As leaders, we are leaving our people untrained as the Satanic onslaught of the endtimes rapidly comes upon us.

The Bible does not give a calendar date for when the endtimes will come, but existing conditions show that the world is heading toward international government under the New World Order. This new government will be a coalition of nations operating as Revelation's Beast Empire (with the

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seventh head) and will operate during the fifth-seal period after the fourth-seal war. (Revelation's Beast with the eighth head comes later, during the mark-of-the-Beast period.) This world government will be God's instrument to help administer His discipline upon the church and the world. Because America will go under world government, the Constitution that guarantees our freedoms may no longer be in place, or it will be greatly modified, giving much power to the world government.

As Christians we now have the freedom to do ministry even though situations are often difficult. **During the period of the fifth seal, others will make war against Christians, and the privilege to minister and to train people will be restricted or removed by law. As leaders of churches and homes, we must train our people now while legally we still can, and have the freedoms to do so, without being warred upon. Later laws will take away the freedom and privilege to do so openly. Many of these difficulties may come gradually, but they are expected to occur.**

### THE JOB TO BE DONE NEEDS TEAMWORK; LETS WORK TOGETHER

Now is the time that as Christians we must stand together to fight our common enemy Satan near the height of his power in the most terrible, intense spiritual warfare periods of history. We need to work together, helping each other in order to ensure that our biblical interpretations are correct and to intensify our efforts to evangelize our own communities and disciple (train) our people. We need to do much more than we are presently doing. **And we must do it NOW. We no longer have the time to analyze the situation because our freedom to train our people may be taken suddenly away with little or no warning.**

As Christians we have differences in doctrines and practices of worship and Christian living and ministry. This is unfortunate, but it is real life. We need to work together using an overlay of a common set of objectives and general methods of implementing the objectives. This is necessary if we are to work together. We cannot effectively work together unless we can agree on both the doctrines and the methods to carry them out. If we can agree here, we have a basis to work out our differences. We can concentrate on our agreements initially and work out our differences over time. The details and suggestions of how this can be accomplished are presented in chapters 7 and 8. But in overview, the necessary ingredients that need to be agreed upon include:

1. The basic doctrines of Christianity, as described in chapter 7.
2. That God's primary objective for believers is that we progress toward Christian or spiritual maturity in Christ and knowing God. (This maturity must be defined or described.)
3. The primary objectives of the church are to exalt God, live godly lives, and to accomplish God's ministries with everyone participating. Living godly lives includes obeying God's commandments.
4. Because there are strong reasons to believe that the endtimes are unfolding, we must warn the church and world of God's judgment and seriously and expediently train our people, and especially our children and young people.

I invite comments to be sent to me (through Living-Faith Outreach) regarding endtime theology, what is happening as the endtimes unfold, how we can work together to accomplish God's plan, and the training of the church and children. Materials are needed to train people and children to learn doctrines, live by faith, and to pray. I am preparing materials about living by faith, how we can train people, and the doctrines of the Christian faith, the Christian life, and the carrying out of the Christian ministry. I am also working on material that may help us stand strong and trust God under the extreme adversity of the coming spiritual warfare.

Please advise me of helpful materials and needed talents that others might use. With your insights and help, future editions of this book can be expanded, and other books can be written. We can work together to develop needed materials, to warn the church and world, and to train our people.

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We need to resolve our differences and build each other up, not tear each other down. But we need to be sure we are operating according to correct biblical doctrines. (We must not have unity in the darkness.) And we need to do it now. We may never be given another opportunity!

Regardless of the exact prophetic view you adopt after reading Watchman Warning, this book will have been a success if you begin to warn people of God's coming judgment, and if you begin to train your people — especially children — earnestly to walk with God with an organized plan and curriculum. You can use the plan and curriculum presented in chapter 8 (or similar ones). It is my prayer that much of the church will bring honor to God by doing His will as a faithful witness as the terrible times unfold.

### THE NEEDED COMMITMENT OF THE CHURCH

Even as these endtime events are approaching, God is still reaching out to the world with His love and grace by sending His servants with the gospel and now with His warning that His endtime judgments and the end of humanity are coming soon. Because of His love, God wants to bring people His greatest blessings, but because of His holiness and the need to satisfy His justice and righteousness, He also must bring His judgment for apostasy, immorality, sin, and false worship. His judgment comes because people will not accept His love and grace through the gospel, and live righteously. Judgment begins with the household of God (1 Peter 4:17).

I believe that, unless there is **major commitment** to Christ by a large number of our churches resulting in **a major effort** to live godly lives and accomplish God's work, the endtime judgment will come without recourse. **Thus, if American patriots want to save America, the only way they can do it is for them to first become Christians and then to corral themselves and the country's churches in a major effort to obey God in the three activities.** They must do this according to correct doctrine because the righteous church life that God intends for His people flows from a well-founded and solid doctrinal background.

I believe that the church must do the following:

1. Fully realize that her disobedience to God in the areas of life and ministry contribute to apostasy, immorality, sin, and false worship. Thus, it contributes to the coming of judgment. Because this is so, she must realize that her obedience to her life and ministry must greatly improve.
2. Fully realize that she is going to go under judgment unless she ardently does God's will and work. This means that she must seriously review her doctrines for life and ministry in order to ensure that they are truly of God, are sufficient in scope or number, and are understood and implemented adequately. The life and ministry of the church can only be correct and implemented adequately if the number of her doctrines are sufficient and correct and the church organizes and operates biblically. (It does no good to maintain any spiritual pride here, and then experience God's judgment for ourselves and our people.)
3. Fully understand that God's main purpose for the church is that she is to advance to spiritual maturity in Christ to know God and live by love. She must understand that this can only be achieved by her exalting God, living a godly life, and being involved with accomplishing God's work.
4. Train her people with the whole counsel of God, such as is accomplished by going verse by verse using exegetical and expository teaching, with sufficient depth to allow people to have the doctrinal background to live godly lives and be seriously and ardently involved in God's work. She must teach the major doctrines and the life that flows from these doctrines. She must prepare her people, especially children, with on-the-job training to live by faith in God and His faithfulness. She must train them to face the onslaught of Satan's forces in the severe spiritual warfare that will occur as the endtimes unfold.

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Every local church must make a commitment before God to understand and carry out His will and not continue with the course of any sinful business as usual, or the endtime judgments will come without recourse.

The work of the church that needs to be and should be accomplished can best be accomplished by churches working together and sharing their assets, leaders, methods, and materials. Based on the past many years, this has not greatly happened.

Because Revelation teaches that the endtimes will bring judgment, the expectation is that most of the church will not change. **But you can change, your family can change, your church can change, and even your town and community can change.** YOU must make the commitment before God and carry it out. One purpose of this book is to help you accomplish this change.

The Pattern View of Prophecy, showing what will occur at each step as the endtimes unfold, is presented next in this chapter. **The theological background for understanding prophecy and a discussion of the Rapture and Millennial doctrines are discussed in chapters 2-4. A discussion of the various alternative prophetic views are also discussed in these chapters. The details of the sequence of Revelation and how the endtimes will come according to the Pattern Sequence are presented in chapters 5 and 6 and in Appendix A.** The presentation and discussion of prophetic theology is intended to persuade believers to adopt the Pattern View so that they will proclaim warning and prepare their people for what is coming.

The theology of prophecy includes the events and doctrines that Bible students normally associate with prophecy and the endtimes. These events and doctrines include the Covenants, the return of Israel, the 70th Week of Daniel, the Olivet Discourse, the Kingdom of God, the definition of the church, the endtime Tribulation, the Resurrection and Rapture of the church, the 1000 years of Revelation 20, and the Second Coming of Christ.

## THE PATTERN VIEW AND THE PATTERN SEQUENCE

According to the book of Revelation (See [Figure 1-1](#)), the endtime Pattern Sequence unfolds in the general sequence of (1) obedience and great prosperity ending in apostasy (events of the first three seals); (2) calamity (events of the fourth seal); (3) discipline and greater apostasy (events of the fifth seal); (4) warning that devastating calamity is coming (the sixth seal); (5) devastating calamity (events of the first six trumpets which are the first events of the seventh seal); (6) severe discipline and the greatest apostasy (mark-of-the-Beast period); (7) deliverance of God's people from discipline (the Rapture of the church at the seventh trumpet); and (8) retribution-judgment on the remaining unbelievers (Judgment of the nations during the events of the bowls).

Revelation uses entities, events, sequences, phrases, and vocabulary that are similar to those that God used in Israel's history and in her Pattern Sequence in the Old Testament. These entities, events, etc., that occur throughout the Pattern Sequence are being called **Identifiers** of a Pattern Sequence. An analysis of the sequence of events in Revelation and of the use of these Identifiers shows that the events in Revelation also follow a Pattern Sequence. See Chapter Five, "The Pattern Sequence of Revelation." The Identifiers are summarized in [Figure 5-6](#).

For example, in Revelation 6:8 the following expression is used: "to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by the wild beasts of the earth." This is an Identifier. Similar expressions are used in the Old Testament to refer to calamities that God brought against Israel for her sin in her Pattern Sequence when she was taken into discipline and when she received devastating judgments. Thus, in Revelation, when this expression is used, God is bringing calamities to His people and the world for their sin in a Pattern Sequence. The consistent use of many such Identifiers throughout the book of Revelation indicates the existence of a Pattern Sequence in the endtimes.

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God used a covenant relationship with Israel that involved her obedience and the bringing of the sequential events in her Pattern Sequence. When Israel (comprised of both believers and unbelievers) obeyed, God brought her blessing and prosperity. To the degree that Israel disobeyed, God brought warning, calamity, and discipline — the events of the Pattern Sequence.

**The fact that Revelation's events occur in a Pattern Sequence shows that another relationship to God, similar to Israel's based on obedience and disobedience, exists in the endtimes. The existence of an endtime Pattern Sequence confirms the fact that the endtime Tribulation places both the church and the world under divine discipline. Such a situation implies that another and covenant relationship exists in these endtimes.**

The breaking of the seals in Revelation initiates and orders those events that are brought about by the seal, trumpet, and bowl periods in the Pattern Sequence. The battle of Jericho illustrates the divine pattern that God uses for the sequence of the seals, trumpets, and bowls (Joshua 6:1-4, 12-21).

In this battle, the Bible teaches that after a series of six, a series of seven comes out of the seventh. The Israelites marched around the city of Jericho once a day for six days. On the seventh day, they marched around the city seven times.

For its Pattern Sequence, Revelation teaches (1) that after the events of the series of the first six seals occur, the events of the seven trumpets occur after the seventh seal is broken; and (2) that after the events of the series of the first six trumpets occur, the events of the seven bowls occur after the seventh trumpet sounds. Thus, Revelation follows the divine pattern that after a series of six, a series of seven comes out of the seventh. This understanding is illustrated in [Figures 1-1](#), [5-2](#), and [5-3](#).

### **The Covenant Nation in the Pattern Sequence Was Modeled by Israel in Her Pattern Sequence**

The lives of the Israelites and the events that happened to them in Israel as a covenant nation model the biblical events in the Pattern Sequence. Using the Pattern Sequence, God chooses a covenant nation comprised of both believers and unbelievers to represent Him and to accomplish specific tasks. The covenant nation's history goes from obedience and blessing to disobedience and curses as sequences in the Pattern Sequence (Leviticus 26; Deuteronomy 28).

When the covenant nation obeys God and accomplishes His work, He greatly blesses it above all the other nations. If the nation goes into apostasy and rampant sin, God brings curses upon the nation.

This sequence of great blessings followed by severe curses is the description of Israel's history. It is now a description of the United States' history, showing that she may be the endtime covenant nation. The rest of the nations are not in covenant relationship, like the nations were not in Israel's day, but they are also in a sinful condition, and they will also experience many of the curses.

Selected descriptions of blessings from Israel's Pattern Sequence, showing what can be expected to have happened to the United States, during her time of general obedience to God (many have already happened), are as follows:

Leviticus 26:3-12 - 'If you walk in My statutes and keep My commandments so as to carry them out, then I shall give you rains in their season, so that the land will yield its produce and the trees of the field will bear their fruit ... You will thus eat your food to the full and live securely in your land. I shall also grant peace in the land, so that you may lie down with no one making you tremble. I shall also eliminate harmful beasts from the land, and no sword will pass through your land. But you will chase your enemies, and they will fall before you by the sword ... So I will turn toward you and make you fruitful and multiply you ... I will also walk among you and be your God, and you shall be My people.'

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Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - "Now it shall be, if you will diligently obey the Lord your God, being careful to do all His commandments which I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you will obey the Lord your God. Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the country. Blessed shall be the offspring of your body and the produce of your ground and the offspring of your beasts, the increase of your herd and the young of your flock ... The Lord will cause your enemies who rise up against you to be defeated before you ... The Lord will command the blessing upon you in your barns and in all that you put your hand to, and He will bless you in the land which the Lord your God gives you. The Lord will establish you as a holy people to Himself ... So all the peoples of the earth shall see that you are called by the name of the Lord ... And the Lord will make you abound in prosperity, in the offspring of your body and in the offspring of your beast and in the produce of your ground ... The Lord will open for you His good storehouse, the heavens, to give rain to your land in its season and to bless all the work of your hand; and you shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow...

If, on the other hand, if that covenant nation becomes sinful and disobedient — not accomplishing His will and work — God brings warnings, curses, and finally, toward the end of the sequence, calamity and discipline. The sequence of the curses and judgment of God as the Pattern Sequence progresses, those that can come upon the United States and her surrounding nations, is as follows (some are already happening):

Leviticus 26:14-39 - 'But if you do not obey Me and do not carry out all these commandments, if, instead, you reject My statutes ... and if your soul abhors My ordinances so as not to carry out all My commandments, and so break My covenant, I in turn, will do this to you: I will appoint over you a sudden terror, consumption and fever that shall waste away the eyes and cause the soul to pine away; also, you shall sow your seed uselessly, for your enemies shall eat it up. And I will set My face against you so that you shall be struck down before your enemies; and those who hate you shall rule over you, and you shall flee when no one is pursuing you ... And I will also break down your pride of power; I will also make your sky like iron and your earth like bronze. And your strength shall be spent uselessly, for your land shall not yield its produce and the trees of the land shall not yield their fruit. If then, you act with hostility against Me and are unwilling to obey Me, I will increase the plague on you seven times according to your sins. And I will let loose among you the beasts of the field, which shall bereave you of your children and destroy your cattle and reduce your number so that your roads lie deserted ... I will also bring upon you a sword which will execute vengeance for the covenant; and when you gather together into your cities, I will send pestilence among you, so that you shall be delivered into enemy hands. When I break your staff of bread, ten women will bake your bread in one oven, and they will bring back your bread in rationed amounts, so that you will eat and not be satisfied ... Further, you shall eat the flesh of your sons and the flesh of your daughters you shall eat ... I will lay waste your cities as well ... And I will make the land desolate so that your enemies who settle in it shall be appalled over it. You, however, I will scatter among the nations and will draw out a sword after you, as your land becomes desolate and your cities become waste ... But you will perish among the nations, and your enemies' land will consume you.'

Deuteronomy 28:15-68 - "But it shall come about, if you will not obey the Lord your God, to observe to do all His commandments and His statutes with which I charge you today, that all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you. Cursed shall you be in the city, and cursed shall you be in the country ... Cursed shall be the offspring of your body and the produce of your ground, the increase of your herd and the young of your flock. Cursed shall you be when you come in, and cursed shall you be when you go out. The Lord will send upon you curses, confusion, and rebuke, in all you undertake to do, until you are destroyed and until you perish quickly, on account of the evil of your deeds, because you have forsaken Me. The Lord will make the pestilence cling to you until He has consumed you ... The Lord will smite you with consumption and with fever and with inflammation and with fiery heat and with the sword and with blight and with mildew, and they shall pursue you until you perish. And the heaven which is over your head shall be bronze, and the earth which is under you, iron. The Lord will make the rain of your land powder and dust; from heaven it shall come down on you until you are destroyed. The Lord will cause you to be defeated before

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your enemies ... The Lord will smite you with the boils of Egypt and with tumors and with the scab and with the itch, from which you cannot be healed ... you shall not prosper in your ways; but you shall only be oppressed and robbed continually, with none to save you. You shall betroth a wife, but another man shall violate her; you shall build a house, but you shall not live in it; you shall plant a vineyard, but you shall not use its fruit ... Your sons and your daughters shall be given to another people, while your eyes shall look on and yearn for them continually; but there shall be nothing you can do. A people whom you do not know shall eat up the produce of your ground and all your labors, and you shall never be anything but oppressed and crushed continually ... The Lord will bring you and your king, whom you shall set over you ... You shall plant and cultivate vineyards, but you shall neither drink of the wine nor gather the grapes, for the worm shall devour them. You shall have olive trees throughout your territory but you shall not anoint yourself with the oil, for your olives shall drop off. You shall have sons and daughters but they shall not be yours, for they shall go into captivity. The cricket shall possess all your trees and the produce of your ground ... therefore you shall serve your enemies whom the Lord shall send against you, in hunger, in thirst, in nakedness, and in the lack of all things; and He will put an iron yoke on your neck until He has destroyed you. The Lord will bring a nation against you from afar, from the end of the earth ... a nation whose language you shall not understand, a nation of fierce countenance ... Moreover, it shall eat the offspring of your herd and the produce of your ground until you are destroyed, who also leaves you no grain, new wine, or oil, nor the increase of your herd or the young of your flock until they have caused you to perish. And it shall besiege you in all your towns until your high and fortified walls in which you trusted come down throughout your land ... Then you shall eat the offspring of your own body, the flesh of your sons and of your daughters whom the Lord your God has given you, during the siege and the distress by which your enemy shall oppress you ... If you are not careful to observe all the words of this law which are written in this book, to fear this honored and awesome name, the Lord your God, then the Lord will bring extraordinary plagues on you and your descendants, even severe and lasting plagues, and miserable and chronic sicknesses ... Then you shall be left few in number, whereas you were as the stars of heaven for multitude, because you did not obey the Lord your God. And it shall come about that as the Lord delighted over you to prosper you, and multiply you, so the Lord will delight over you to make you perish and destroy you; and you shall be torn from the land where you are entering to possess it. Moreover, the Lord will scatter you among all peoples, from one end of the earth to the other end of the earth; and there you shall serve other gods, wood and stone, which you or your fathers have not known. And among those nations you shall find no rest, and there shall be no resting place for the sole of your foot; but there the Lord will give you a trembling heart, failing of eyes, and despair of soul. So your life shall hang in doubt before you; and you shall be in dread night and day, and shall have no assurance of your life.

God also brings many of these judgment on the surrounding sinful nations. Thus, He brings judgment on all the nations.

At the end of Israel's discipline period, God delivered Israel back into her land and brought retribution-judgment on the nation that took her into discipline. In the endtimes, the deliverance of God's people is by the Rapture of the church after the Great Tribulation. The Rapture is followed by retribution-judgment on the remaining unbelievers in all the nations, especially on those that administered calamity and discipline to God's people. Thus, God uses the endtime Pattern Sequence (and the covenant nation) to end history.

The Bible does not directly state that a covenant nation exists in the endtimes. But the biblical description of events in Revelation shows that one does exist, and that it is operating in a Pattern Sequence. Revelation's Pattern Sequence is an endtime phenomenon. Thus, God's covenant relationship that will help bring the endtime events as described in Revelation can only be with an endtime nation. No nation existing before the endtimes come can qualify as the covenant nation in Revelation.

Revelation's Beast with the seven heads (also Satan as the Dragon with Seven heads) rules over Israel as a covenant nation during the period of the world empires of Egypt, Assyria, Babylon,

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Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome that represent the first six heads of the Beast. In the endtimes, the Beast with the seventh head, that becomes an eighth head, is also a world empire. It appears, then, that when the Beast reigns as a world empire, it also reigns over a covenant nation during the time of God's discipline for the covenant nation. This situation being true, it gives support that a covenant nation exists in the endtimes.

Whether or not God uses a covenant nation in the endtimes, they will unfold in a Pattern Sequence. Whether or not the United States actually is a covenant nation, her characteristics and the events that have happened to her are similar to those of Israel as a covenant nation operating her Pattern Sequence (Ezekiel 16).

The United States, being an endtime nation, has been greatly blessed in her past when she has obeyed God, and her church has taken the gospel to the world. She started out in greatness, adhering to godly principles, but now is ending in rampant apostasy and sin. She has many believers, but most of her people are unbelievers. She is now being cursed as the church and unbelievers are becoming increasingly sinful. The nations that surround her are also very sinful. Her great blessings and curses are endtime phenomena and follow the Pattern Sequence. No other nation in history, other than Israel, has been so greatly blessed; none other has been given so great a task — taking God's light to the world. But now the signs, events, and sinful conditions that are happening in the United States are similar to those that happened to Israel just before she was invaded by Babylon.

While the Bible may refer to a nation yet in the future, the United States is the only current nation that meets the criteria for the covenant nation as modeled by Israel. She exists at a time when the Pattern Sequence is observed to be unfolding. The Bible records Pattern Sequences only for Israel and Revelation's endtime nation.

God has chosen, used, and uniquely blessed America as a covenant nation for more than 200 years. He has equipped her financially and spiritually, making her capable of taking the gospel to the world, to reach all people at the height of the world's greatest population. It is not surprising that the United States is perceived to be a nation especially chosen by God. The world has recognized this blessing for a long time, and large numbers have immigrated to America to share in her prosperity.

Psalm 33:12 - Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom He has chosen for His own inheritance.

The American church has accomplished this task of reaching the world with the gospel using America's great resources. Of course, churches in other nations have also greatly contributed to taking the gospel to the world.

Such a great nation with excellent financial resources and commitment to spread the gospel is needed because the world's population is now several times the total number of people who have lived in the past. Most likely, most of God's elect are living today, and those not saved need to be evangelized.

But now, because of the rampant sin of the American church and people, God is removing His blessings and is bringing curses. The Lord is no longer America's god. In bringing curses in judgment for sin, God is now allowing increased Satanic influence in America, causing a great increase in the erosion of freedoms, confiscation of property, loss of privacy, indoctrination of children with international and relativistic ideologies (few absolutes) instead of needed academic education, unrighteous government, false belief systems, sickness, disease, bad leadership, and financial chaos. These happenings are symptoms of the disobedience of the American church and people as their cause. They are signs that a Pattern Sequence is operating because they are similar to the signs that appeared to Israel during her Pattern Sequence. They are signs that God has started the sequence that brings the end of history.

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**Because the curses now occurring in America as discipline are symptoms of rampant sin (the cause of the symptoms), the curses cannot be removed by attacking them. Attacking conditions of the increased gay movement, the increase in abortions, drugs, immorality, and the loss of prayer in the schools may be the natural thing to do. But only correcting the disobedient church as the cause will change the results. However, attacking the symptoms may slow down or contain their impact and give more time for the true solution. But unless fighting the symptoms is preceded by obedience to God, attacking them may be indirectly opposing God because He allows their occurrence as instruments to bring His divine discipline. The ONLY way to remove the curses and to return America to her greatness of freedom and free enterprise under God is for the church and the rest of the people to once again obey God. The same solution is necessary for all the nations.**

2 Chronicles 7:14 - and [if] My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray, and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

Jeremiah 15:19 - Therefore, thus says the Lord, "If you return, then I will restore you — before Me you will stand; and if you extract the precious from the worthless, you will become My spokesman ..."

**The church is to speak against the symptoms as wrong doings, but she is not to organize campaigns to fight against them, any more than she is to fight against communism or the cults. Fighting the symptoms with great efforts can divert funds and ministry away from evangelism and discipleship that will help correct the cause.**

**Although the possibility of revival exists, because Revelation shows that the endtime judgments will come, the overall church probably will not change. But even if she did, the world's people as a whole, except for a few, will not be revived spiritually because of their advanced state of sin.**

Some may believe that the endtime covenant nation which is central to the Pattern Sequence is the worldwide church because she has a New Covenant relationship with God (1 Corinthians 11:25, 26; 2 Corinthians 3:6; Hebrews 8:13; 9:15; 12:24). She is also called a nation in 1 Peter 3:9. **However, even though the church has salvation under the New Covenant, she is never called a covenant nation in Scripture. In addition, she is not an endtime phenomenon, and she consists of only believers.**

The United States meets more of the biblical requirements for the covenant nation related to the Pattern Sequence in Revelation than does the church. For example, the United States wages physical warfare, is capable of losing her sovereignty, and is going from great blessing to curses and discipline. America contains both believers and unbelievers as did Israel. Furthermore, America is an endtime entity. The church has existed since the Day of Pentecost and has had many good and bad times throughout the centuries of her existence. A detailed discussion of the choice of the covenant nation used in the endtime Pattern Sequence is located in Chapter Five, "The Pattern Sequence of Revelation."

A study of history shows that God formed America in a miraculous way. Christianity was maintained in Europe free from Islam, America was discovered and founded and settled by believers from Europe, and God has guided and cared for George Washington and his armies in miraculous ways. The United States was given the greatest Constitution and Bill of Rights in all of history. Several authors have shown that God has chosen America as a special covenant nation, including Peter Marshall and David Manuel in their book, *The Light and the Glory*, and Marshall Foster and Mary-Elaine Swanson in their book, *The American Covenant, The Untold Story*. They show that the Pilgrims who came to America on the Mayflower made a compact, or covenant, with God. Their covenant begins, "In ye name of God, Amen." David Barton<sup>2</sup> of Wallbuilders has many books, and cassette tapes that show how God uniquely formed America with biblical principles and

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commitment.

### The Timing of the Endtimes; The Endtime Tribulation Does Not Come According to Daniel's 70th Week

The Bible does not appear to directly teach when the endtimes begin or what the basis is for their beginning. They begin when the seals of the seven-sealed book or scroll are broken. The Bible does not say when they will be broken. But they were probably broken near the time the covenant nation and Babylon the Great were formed.

Jeremiah 32:6-15 teaches that sealed scrolls represent title deeds of land. It could be then that Revelation's seven-sealed scroll is the title deed of the earth. And the conditions that are written on the scroll protected by the seals represent the happenings that allow the title of the earth to be returned to God. This is a proper idea because at the seventh trumpet, the rulership of the earth is returned to the Lord and His Christ (Revelation 11:15). It would appear then that the seven-sealed scroll cannot be opened until after Christ demonstrates His worthiness by His crucifixion (Revelation 5:9) and after the endtime covenant nation and Babylon the Great are formed which implement the entities of the Pattern Sequence. Secular data shows that the endtime Internationalists, called the Illuminati, began with Adam Weishaupt on May 1, 1776. The Illuminati founded their first chapter in the United States (Virginia) in 1786. Thus, the founding of both the United States and Babylon the Great in 1776 was probably about the time when the first seal of the book was broken. Although we cannot be absolutely certain, the founding of these endtime entities began the endtime scene.

Many Bible interpreters believe that the endtimes will last seven years. They base their view on their belief that Daniel's 70th Week (a seven year period) represents the endtime Tribulation. However, a detailed analysis that is presented in Appendix B, "Daniel's Seventy Weeks," shows that Daniel's 70th Week is history and has occurred already near the time of the Cross. (This view is described also in chapters 3 and 4.) Thus, the endtime Tribulation could last many more than the seven years as described by the 70th Week. The Bible teaches that the mark-of-the-Beast period lasts 42 months (Revelation 13:5). But it does not teach how long the fifth-seal period lasts. See [Figure 1-1](#). The fifth-seal period covers the time span from the first calamity of the fourth-seal war to the devastating calamity administered by the first six trumpets. In the case of Israel for both the Northern and Southern Kingdoms in the Old Testament, this period lasted about 20 years (See [Figures 5-4](#) and [5-5](#)). The fifth-seal period may last this long as well. Thus, the Rapture that ends history for believers could be as many as 23 1/2 years away at the time of the fourth-seal war.

There are three periods of biblical history that are called dispensations. I call them the Gentile, the Jewish,<sup>3</sup> and the Church Dispensations. The Gentile Dispensation runs from Adam to the call of Abraham. The Jewish Dispensation runs from the call of Abraham to Christ and the Day of Pentecost in about A.D. 30. The Church Dispensation goes from the Day of Pentecost to the Second Coming of Christ after the Great Tribulation Period. The Rapture occurs at the Second Coming. According to Dr. Anstey in his book "Chronology of the Old Testament,"<sup>4</sup> the duration of each of the Gentile and Jewish Dispensations lasted about 2000 years. If these durations are any criteria for the length of the Church Dispensation, then, beginning in A.D. 30, it may end somewhere about A.D. 2030 plus and minus a number of many years. This time range may be used to know about when the end may come, but, because the Bible does not give sufficient understanding to know more precisely, we should not set dates.

Regardless of when the Rapture occurs, its timing, at the writing of this book, appears to be in the near, but not in the immediate future. Only the war of the fourth seal is expected to occur in the immediate future. **Because the duration of the fifth-seal period will be a long time, the church should "dig-in" so to speak. She should begin to train her people for a long spiritual warfare when government will make war against the church.**

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### The End Comes With Difficulties and With Spiritual Warfare

God's endtime disciplinary judgment of mankind, according to the Pattern Sequence, will come in the form of severe difficulties brought about by (1) international government directed by Satan through evil leaders and Babylon the Great (political Internationalists; Revelation 17; 18); (2) apostasy, immorality, sin, and false worship of the people; and (3) acts of God through nature and by His bringing armies to make war against His people. A sober understanding of what may happen in America during the Pattern Sequence of the endtimes may be gained by reading what happened to Israel in her Pattern Sequence as recorded in Leviticus 26, Deuteronomy 28, Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel, while mentally replacing the name, "Israel," with "the United States." Likewise, a similar understanding of what may happen to the rest of today's sinful nations may be determined by reading what happened to the sinful nations in Israel's time such as are described in chapters 13-24 of Isaiah, in chapters 44-52 of Jeremiah, and in chapters 25-32 of Ezekiel.

The endtimes come as a result of spiritual warfare in which Christ with the holy angels battles against Satan with the evil angels. Christ battles to implement God's plan of bringing responsive people to spiritual maturity in Himself. Satan battles to thwart God's plan and to escape God's sentence for him and his angels to be cast into the Lake of Fire. Christ works to lead God's chosen elect to believe the gospel and to accomplish God's chosen work of evangelizing the world and discipling Christians to walk with God. Satan wars to prevent these occurrences and, when God allows, to bring great persecution against believers and to establish himself as the permanent ruler of the world. God grants him more power as the apostasy increases. **Thus, as the endtimes unfold and the apostasy increases, bringing the fourth-seal war (Revelation 6:7, 8), fierce spiritual warfare with great persecution is to be expected.**

It is comforting to know that Christ said in His Sermon on the Mount that those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness will be blessed and rewarded:

Matthew 5:10-12 - "Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when men revile you, and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely, on account of Me. Rejoice, and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

The Bible also says:

2 Timothy 3:12 - And indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

However, if we submit to God, draw near to Him, and obey Him, He will draw near to us, and the devil will flee from us.

James 4:7, 8 - Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil, and He will flee from you. Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you ...

In spite of the difficulties and chaotic times in the coming spiritual dark age, the Lord wants us to remain faithful, to pray, and not to lose heart. He wants us to continue in good deeds. We may have extreme difficulties, but the Lord is still with us, and He wants us to continue our witness. He will never desert nor forsake us (Hebrews 13:5). The Lord tells us in Luke not to lose heart:

Luke 18:1 - ... that at all times they ought to pray and not to lose heart.

A true story (origin unknown) is told about the Lord's support in a desperate situation in China during the communist takeover in the days of World War II. The communist Chinese were burning Christian books and Bibles, and bringing persecution. The next day after one burning, as a Christian with tears in his eyes looked down at the ashes of burned up Bibles, he spotted a small piece of charred paper in the remains. He stooped down and picked it up and began to read it. As

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he read, a powerful feeling went through his whole body. For it read, "Upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades shall not overpower it" (Matthew 16:18).

Writing to the Corinthian church, the apostle Paul said:

2 Corinthians 4:8-12 - we are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are constantly being delivered over to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So death works in us, but life in you.

As the hard times come upon us, we are to comfort each other because, if we are believers in the Cross, we will go to be with Christ in the Rapture at the time of His Coming. At that time He will wipe away all our tears. (John 14:1-3; 1 Thessalonians 4:18; Revelation 21:4.)

But for the present time, we must remember that the endtime discipline is coming because of the long-term sin of the church. Thus, if we as individual believers have long-term sin, God, to bring His discipline, may use Satan to act against us.

### **Summary of the Logic and Development to Determine the Endtime Scene**

The logic and development of the understanding of how the endtimes will unfold is as follows:

1. Study the history of Israel and discover that she operated within a Pattern Sequence. Organize the major events that occurred in each phase of her Pattern Sequence. These are identified by specific phrases, vocabulary, sequence of events, and the entities involved. I call them Identifiers. (Chapter Five, "The Pattern Sequence of Revelation.")
2. Observe that the Identifiers of a Pattern Sequence are present in Revelation. Study Revelation and sequence its events and discover its Identifiers. This will show that Revelation's sequence of events also follow an endtime Pattern Sequence. (Chapter Five, "The Pattern Sequence of Revelation.")

Work hard to sequence and harmonize the rest of prophecy as determined by the timing of Daniel's 70th Week, the Tribulation, the Rapture, and the 1000 years of Revelation 20. After doing so, note that their events and timing fit into the Pattern Sequence.

3. Discover the detailed signs and events that happen in each phase of Israel's Pattern Sequence. Note that those that are precursory to the first calamity (the fourth-seal calamity) are occurring today, and that the endtime entities or players appear to be in place. (Appendix A, "Detailed Description of the Unfolding Endtimes.")
4. Determine the characteristic events and circumstances in the United States and notice that they match those of Israel as a covenant nation. This match shows that the United States qualifies as a covenant nation. (Chapter Five, "The Pattern Sequence of Revelation.")
5. Study the characteristics of the northern-army nation in Israel's history and notice that the characteristics of Russia match them. (The northern-army nation was the one that brought calamity to Israel, approaching from the north and took her into divine discipline during her Pattern Sequence.) Thus, Russia may be an endtime nation that helps to take the covenant nation into divine discipline. (To many, Russia may appear to no longer qualify as the northern-army nation in her seemingly weakened condition. But it must be observed that even though for the present she is organized into a federation and may have difficulties, her military is still a mighty force in place with missiles programmed to target America and other nations. Russia is still building up her military, while the United States is decreasing hers.) (Chapter Five, "The

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Pattern Sequence of Revelation.")

6. Study secular reports and books and discover that Internationalists appear to be affecting the government of the United States. (I do not mention their people by name or by organization because the secular books name them, and it is not my purpose here to attack or expose them. You may write to the publisher for a list of secular books that give these details.) Determine the characteristics of Babylon the Great in Scripture, and note that the operation of the Internationalists matches that of Babylon the Great. Thus, the endtime Babylon the Great appears to be operating now.
7. Because (1) the signs show that the fourth-seal calamity is coming soon, and (2) the endtime entities are in place — the characteristics of the United States match those of Israel as a covenant nation; the characteristics of Russia match those of the northern-army nation; the characteristics of the Internationalists match those of Babylon the Great — then understand that the first three seals of Revelation probably have already been broken, and the endtime Pattern Sequence is running its course. (See this chapter.)
8. Note from history that the Internationalists and the United States were formed at nearly the same time. Thus, the first three seals of Revelation were probably broken after the forming of the United States and Babylon the Great. (Observation based on comparing Scripture with current events using secular books as an aid.)
9. Because God warned the people of Israel through His Watchmen to live righteously or face the judgments that come through the Pattern Sequence, we can know that God wants us now to warn His church and people. (Chapter Five, "The Pattern Sequence of Revelation;" Chapter Eight, "How Then Shall We Live?;" and a study of Ezekiel 3 and 33.)
10. Because the disobedience of Israel's people (comprised of believers and unbelievers) — as shown by their apostasy, immorality, sin, and false worship — was responsible for the coming judgments, we can know that the disobedience of the church and the nation's people, as shown by their apostasy and sin in the covenant nation, is responsible for the endtime judgments coming. We can know that the overall church is falling away (even if we do not have details about individual churches) because of the presence of the signs. Because the sinful nations that surrounded Israel were also judged, we can know that the sinful nations that surround the United States will also be judged. (This chapter, the levels of discipline in Chapter Five, "The Pattern Sequence of Revelation," and in Chapter Eight, "How Then Shall We Live?")
11. Because in Revelation's endtimes a Beast Empire is formed under the rule of Babylon the Great, we can know that international government will be formed after the fourth-seal calamity or war. We can know that it will be an empire because the beast was an empire in the Old Testament consisting of Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, etc. in time sequence. We can confirm our conclusions by observing whether or not (1) people are working toward international government, (2) the church is gradually becoming apostate, and (3) other events and circumstances that are associated with the Pattern Sequence are actually happening. (Chapter Five, "The Pattern Sequence of Revelation;" Appendix A, "Detailed Description of the Unfolding Endtimes.")
12. Because the church is responsible for, and because she will go through the endtime events, we can know that it is very wise that we teach our people about the endtimes and seriously train them to be ready to go through them. Because these endtimes are expected to last about 20 or more years, we must train young leaders and especially train our children. (Chapter Eight, "How Then Shall We Live?")

### Summary of the Events of the Pattern Sequence According to the Pattern View

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The Pattern Sequence is developed in Chapter Five, "The Pattern Sequence of Revelation," and the detailed events of each period in the Pattern Sequence with their scriptural references are given in Appendix A, "Detailed Description of the Unfolding Endtimes." A detailed narrative summary of how the endtimes will come is found in Chapter Six, "How the Endtimes Will Unfold." The happenings in each endtime period will be similar, but with more intensity and with more control by Satan's people. The following discussion and [Figure 1-1](#) summarize Revelation's endtime Pattern Sequence and its major events:

- 1. Prosperity Leading to Apostasy (The First Three Seals)** - The first three seals bring false religion, wars, and famine. The Bible does not state when these first three seals will be broken, but they were broken probably after the United States as a covenant nation was founded. This appears to be the case because the signs are now prevalent that show the fourth seal war is impending. During the period of the first three seals, America as a covenant nation greatly prospered while honoring and obeying God. But now, however, she is forming and serving new gods, resulting in sin that requires judgment. The events of these first three seals (Revelation 6:1-6) precede God's judgment and are similar to the events that occurred before Jerusalem was destroyed in A.D. 70 (Matthew 24:4-14). These events are the proliferation of false religion, war, and famine. These events have also occurred in American and world history. For instance, Americans have developed many false religions, or cults, and the country has been involved in many wars. At the same time, many famines have occurred throughout the world, such as those lasting many years in Africa and India. According to Israel's history in the Pattern Sequence, this period will end with people living in apostasy, immorality, sin, and false worship. The United States may experience severe events (e.g. rioting, great financial difficulty and depression, and severe oil shortages) that will lead to the first calamity of the Pattern Sequence. (The events that occur in this period are similar to the events that occurred in Israel before her first calamity in the Pattern Sequence.)
- 2. Calamity (Fourth Seal)** - The calamity described by the fourth seal will come in the form of war over one-fourth of the earth (Revelation 6:7, 8). Although the Bible in this Scripture does not give its location, this war may begin in the Middle East, Northern Africa, and Europe, because the Internationalists will need to destroy the Arab power and the dogmatism of Islam if they are to rule the world. They will also need to destroy Christianity because believers in Christ and the Bible have values that oppose their objectives. Revelation 11:7, 8 imply that the endtime Beast will rule from Jerusalem. This fourth-seal calamity will bring death by war, famine, disease, pestilence, and attacks by wild beasts. The war will bring destruction of cities through fire, government takeover with loss of national sovereignty, and general disruption and chaos. The United States government probably will lose its sovereignty. The country may be taken over from within during a time of national crisis. The war will involve many nations. Russia will probably make war as the northern-army nation, and the United States will make war as the covenant nation. (This event of calamity in the Pattern Sequence is similar to Israel's experience when Babylon first invaded and took away Israel's sovereignty.)

Many events are happening that could lead to war. The finances of the world's nations are in great chaos, the United States is disarming while Russia and the Middle Eastern nations are building up their militaries, and the United States has greatly reduced her oil production and is now heavily dependent upon Middle Eastern oil. Signs are appearing in America that are expected to exist before the fourth-seal war and that will exist during the fifth-seal period. These include the great immorality of children and adults, the confiscation of property, the increase in disease, and the occurrence of unusual weather and flooding. The 1993 flood of the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers is the greatest such flood that has ever happened in the United States. The flooding occupied an area larger than the state of New Jersey. More events are stated later.

- 3. Divine Discipline with Increasing Apostasy (Fifth Seal)** - Difficult times will come in this fifth-seal period (Revelation 6:9-11). Revelation's Beast with the seventh head (or seventh empire) will come into existence as an international coalition of nations, probably consisting of the United States, Europe, Russia, Israel, and many Middle Eastern and African nations. The Pacific Rim

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nations may also be involved in this coalition. These nations will be some type of vassal nations to the Beast Empire. The head of the Beast will be a world ruler, and the Beast itself will be the coalition international government. The Bible often simply calls this world ruler the Beast (Revelation 13:4; 17:8, 11-13, 15, 16). This new international government will not be a revival of the Roman Empire, but instead a new empire. (When its sixth head was active, the Beast of Revelation 17 represented the Roman Empire. The Beast with its seventh head represents a different and endtime empire. The 10 horns of the Beast, representing 10 nations [probably European nations], operate with the Beast as an endtime phenomenon. Having been derived from the Roman Empire, the 10 horns may have also represented European nations throughout history.)

The European nations (represented by the 10 horns of the Beast in Revelation 17) and many other nations will give their power and authority to the Beast. Many events expected in this period probably will include shortages and rationing of food, water, gasoline, and other goods. These shortages may be coupled with terrible financial conditions, unemployment, loss of religious and other freedoms, property usage control, confiscation of property, and unjust laws. There will be a financial boom for merchants, perhaps the greatest in all of history, as world trade greatly increases. Biblical teaching will be seriously curtailed.

Both the head of the Beast (the ruler) and the Beast itself (the coalition of nations) will be ruled by Satan's Babylon the Great. She will consist of Internationalists who desire to rule the world and control every aspect of life. The power of Babylon the Great to rule is greatly increasing now, commensurate with the increase in apostasy before the fourth-seal war, and will be very great in the fifth-seal period. Using sorcery, sensuousness, and secrecy, the people of Babylon the Great will influence and control government action by means of finances, infiltration of government, and the threat of war (Revelation 18:3, 9, 23).

Babylon the Great has three major objectives: a one-world government, a one-world financial system, and a one-world religion. Fulfilling these objectives will allow Babylon the Great to rule the world. Thus, Babylon the Great is not an endtime false church, but she does have a strong false religion. This coalition government under the rule of Babylon the Great will bring Satan greater control over America, Europe, and the Russian Federation. It will establish international control over nations and great world trade. This rule of Babylon the Great over the new coalition government (Revelation's Beast with the seventh head) may be what is being called today "The New World Order."

God will use the combination of Babylon the Great and the Beast, as His agents, to bring His disciplinary judgment on America and the sinful nations of the world. Satan will use them to bring greater persecution and deprivation of the necessities of life to many believers and dogmatic religious and patriotic people as he gains more control because he believes that those deprived of their needs and blessings will no longer serve God (Job 2:7-12). Such action comes under the sovereignty and will of God and the will of angels, both being in effect simultaneously as explained in chapter 2.

The fifth-seal period will bring divine discipline on the following groups for their apostasy, immorality, sin, and false worship: (1) disobedient Christians (believers in the gospel); (2) people of unbelieving "churches" (people who do not believe the gospel, yet claim to represent Christ or God); and (3) unchurched unbelievers. These disobediences are sins of commission. The disobedient Christians (believers in the gospel) will also be judged for their sins of omission — failure to carry out seriously the three major activities that God has mandated: (1) to exalt Him, (2) to live godly lives, and (3) to accomplish His work. The gospel has pardoned believers from going to the eternal Lake of Fire. But the conduct of believers will be judged. God does discipline his believers or church.

**The church will experience severe persecution and imprisonment for which, in general, she is ill prepared.** The church will practice increasing apostasy due to her persecution. God

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will warn America's and the world's people of their sin and of coming disaster through His Watchmen, but people generally will not listen. They will not change their ways.

In the corresponding situation in Israel's Pattern Sequence, God made the following declaration about Israel and her surrounding nations:

Jeremiah 6:17-19 - "And I set watchmen over you, saying, 'Listen to the sound of the trumpet!' But they said, 'We will not listen.' Therefore, hear O nations, and know, O congregation, what is among them. Hear, O earth: behold, I am bringing disaster on this people ... because they have not listened to My words, and as for My law, they have rejected it also."

In general, the following happens to people (and churches) when they do not listen to God after He has given them opportunity again and again to obey Him.

Proverbs 1:25-33 - And you neglected all my counsel, and did not want my reproof; I will even laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your dread comes, when your dread comes like a storm, and your calamity comes on like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come on you. "Then they will call on me, but I will not answer; they will seek me diligently, but they shall not find me, because they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the Lord. They would not accept my counsel, they spurned all my reproof. So they shall eat of the fruit of their own way, and be satiated with their own devices. For the waywardness of the naive shall kill them, and the complacency of fools shall destroy them. But he who listens to me shall live securely, and shall be at ease from the dread of evil."

During this period, because the United States will become part of the coalition government, the American Constitution and laws will be changed. The country will go under a form of vassal government. Children of all ages will be indoctrinated with false Satanic teachings without their parents' permission and without their parents being able to do anything about it (Deuteronomy 28:32, 41). This Satanic indoctrination is already in progress today. **Christians no longer will be allowed to train their children with biblical doctrines and godly principles, unless God provides certain families with special individual treatment based on the faith-obedience of the parents, or according to God's special purposes.** After about 20 years of this indoctrination, the nation (and the world) will be in almost complete apostasy, immorality, sin, and false worship. The fifth-seal period will end with a destruction of the financial system when no one will be able to buy or sell (Revelation 18). The city of Babylon the Great, the seat of the Internationalists' rule, will be destroyed by fire.

(This period in the Pattern Sequence is similar to Israel's experience when she was in an advanced state of apostasy and under discipline inflicted by the takeover nation of Assyria in the case of the Northern Kingdom and Babylon in the case of the Southern Kingdom.)

- 4. Announcement of the Coming Devastating Calamity in a "Day-of-the-Lord" Judgment (Sixth Seal)** -The heavenly luminaries — the sun, moon, and stars — will not shine their light on the earth after the sixth seal is broken (Revelation 6:12-17). People will sense that judgment is coming without recourse. Being terrified of what they think will occur, their hearts will melt, and their knees will be like water. This is the first of the two Days of the Lord in the endtime sequence.

(There are three "Days of the Lord" described in the New Testament period. One came upon Israel in A.D. 70 [Matthew 24:15-22; Acts 2:20], the second will come upon United States and the world during the devastating calamity of the trumpet events [Revelation 6:17], and the last one will come after the Rapture upon all the nations composed of only unbelievers at Armageddon during the events of the 6th and 7th bowls [1 Thessalonians 5:2; 2 Peter 3:9-13; Revelation 16:14]. The one on Israel in 70 A.D. and the last Day of the Lord in Revelation are both called Great Days of the Lord. A devastating one on Israel in the Old Testament was also called a Great Day of the Lord [Zephaniah 1:14]. The last Day of the Lord is also called the Day

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of God [2 Peter 3:12; Revelation 16:14]. The church is on the earth when the first two occur. The Rapture of the church occurs before the last Great Day of the Lord. The fifth-seal and the mark-of-the-Beast periods are separate from the Days of the Lord. Thus, the Tribulation, in its entirety, is not equal to the Day of the Lord.)

5. **Devastating Calamity (First Six Trumpets)** - This calamity will bring devastation at the sounding of the first six trumpets under the seventh seal, causing death, again by means of war, famine, poisoned water, disease, pestilence, and wild beasts (Revelation 8; 9; 17). A large percentage of the world's population will die during the period of the trumpets — probably much more than 50 percent. The Bible teaches that at least one-third will die in one series of battles after the sixth trumpet sounds (Revelation 9). Many will die during the events of the first five trumpets. This devastating calamity of the trumpets will be the beginning of the Great Tribulation period. This calamity will remove the joy of living from the earth because of its devastation and the fact that it will bring despotic government and extreme hardship in the period that follows. Great devastation will come, and the world will be in chaos. The homelands of many nations (most likely including the United States because of her covenant relationship) will be devastated. This will be the first Day-of-the-Lord judgment in the endtimes. It will be carried out on the church and the world for their sin. (This event in the Pattern Sequence is similar to the Day of the Lord that came upon Old Testament Israel as the Babylonians devastated and destroyed Jerusalem, the temple, and Israel's land.)
6. **Severe Discipline with the Greatest Apostasy (The Mark-of-the-Beast Period)** - The greatest discipline and apostasy in history will occur during the mark-of-the-Beast period, the last part of the Great Tribulation (Revelation 11; 13; 17). The Great Tribulation brings affliction to God's people and those of the nations. It includes both the periods of the first six trumpets and of the 42 months of the mark-of-the-Beast period. The European nations (the 10 kings) and perhaps others will rule one hour with Revelation's Beast, now with its eighth head (an eighth empire). The United States at this time may no longer be a participant for she may have already been devastated during the period of the trumpet events. Most believers will be martyred. A new worldwide financial system will be established. Satan will force people to accept his false beliefs and religion, making their acceptance a requirement for buying and selling in the marketplace. Unless people accept Satan's doctrines as their own, they will not be allowed to have life's basic necessities of food and water. The acceptance of Satan's doctrines is called taking the mark of the Beast (Revelation 13:16-18). When a person takes this spiritual mark, he worships Satan and the Beast instead of God. Confirmation that a person has taken the spiritual mark is made by placing a physical mark on the right hand or on the forehead of that person. The right hand and forehead are symbolic of what directs a person's life. God said to place His commandments on one's forehead and hand (Deuteronomy 6:4-9; 11:18). (The experiences of people in this part of the Pattern Sequence are similar to Israel's experiences in the land of Babylon during her severe discipline.)
7. **Deliverance (Seventh Trumpet)** - God will resurrect, rapture, and reward His people just after the sounding of the seventh trumpet (Revelation 11:15-18). He will give them immortal bodies, and they will be with Christ forever. This is the Day of Christ (1 Corinthians 1:7, 8; 2 Corinthians 1:14). The church will go to the new Jerusalem, involving a new earth and a new heavens, to be with Christ forever. (This event in the Pattern Sequence is similar to the time when Israel was delivered from bondage in Babylon and returned to her land after 70 years of exile.)
8. **Retribution-Judgment (The Period of the Bowls)** - Judgment on unbelievers will come after the Rapture of the church when God's wrath is poured out on the earth from the seven bowls in heaven (Revelation 16). The battle of Armageddon at the last two bowls will cause all unbelievers to be killed. **This destruction of unbelievers is the Final and Great Day of the Lord (called the Great Day of God) that comes upon all unbelievers who took the church into divine discipline.** (This last Day of the Lord is the third one in the Church Period. In the Pattern Sequence, it is similar to the one that brought judgment upon Babylon [Isaiah 13] for taking Israel into divine discipline.) The heavens will burn with fire and the elements of the earth

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will melt. After the events that occur when the contents of the bowls are poured out on the earth take place, unbelievers will be resurrected, judged, and cast into the Lake of Fire for eternal punishment, because they have sinned and have rejected Christ's Cross and Resurrection.

God ended His program for Israel at the Cross of Christ. Because God permanently set aside the Mosaic Law Covenant and the temple in Israel at the Cross, God will not build a temple during the endtimes. If a temple is built, it will not be of God, but instead, it will be of the Man of Lawlessness and of Satan.

Revelation uses the phrase "1000 years" as a symbol for "the Last Day" of the Church Age (c.f. 2 Peter 3:8). This concept is developed in chapter 3. The Church is resurrected as the Day begins at the sounding of the seventh trumpet. The beginning of the Last Day is called the Day of Christ. The first five bowls of the retribution-judgment occur during the Last Day when the church reigns with Christ from heaven. The unbelievers are then killed and resurrected at the end of the Last Day. These resurrected unbelievers the Bible calls "the rest of the dead." The final Great Day of the Lord occurs at the end of the Last Day.

(This short period of the Last Day, when the resurrections occur, harmonizes with John 5:28, 29 which teaches that the hour [a short time period; not 60 minutes] is coming when all the people in the graves will hear Christ's voice and be resurrected. It also harmonizes with John 11:24 when it speaks of Lazarus being resurrected on the Last Day, with John 6:44 when Christ will raise all believers on the Last Day, and with Matthew 13 when the single same-time separation of the wheat and tares occurs. Jude 1:14, 15 also tells that all unbelievers will be judged at Christ's Second Coming.)

**Christ can rapture His church and bring judgment on unbelievers after the Great Tribulation because by the end of the Great Tribulation, all people will have made a formal decision, either to believe or reject the gospel. There are no remaining people who have not made a formal decision. All of God's elect will have believed the gospel and have accomplished God's chosen works.** The Great Tribulation is the period when God tests individuals in the whole unbelieving world (Revelation 3:10) as to whether or not they will accept or reject the mark of the Beast. This situation when unbelievers accept the mark of the Beast is represented by the bundling of the tares in Matthew's parable. After the bundling, the wheat (believers) is taken into Christ's barn (the time of the Rapture) to be with Christ forever.

The world's people can logically be reached by Satan at this time because the population will have been greatly reduced by the calamities, by great disease, and by the atrocities of the Beast. Advanced technology, no doubt, will help also.

### Reflection on the Endtime Situation; The Strategies of Satan

Satan's long-term objectives are to rule the world (Revelation 13) and avoid going to the Lake of Fire. To accomplish these objectives, Satan must do the following: (1) prevent any of the elect from believing the gospel and accomplishing any of God's work before the end of the 42 months that are the last part of the Great Tribulation; and (2) gain absolute control over all governments, religion, finances, resources, communication media, education, and the necessities of life. As Satan works to fulfill his objectives, he also fulfills God's will.

According to the theology of the Pattern View and Sequence, Satan plans his world take-over in two steps. The first step is to establish a nominal world government, the Beast Empire with the seventh head, that is not despotic. The second step is to set up a despotic world government with absolute rule over all the nations and control over every aspect of life. This step is to establish the reign of the Beast Empire after its seventh head becomes an eighth, during the mark-of-the-Beast period (Revelation 13).

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The first step is necessary to influence and pressure the church and the world to be in sufficient apostasy so that God will allow the second step. In this first step of a nominal international government, nations will give up their sovereignty to the Beast in some manner. This submission will probably be in at least financial, judicial, and most likely in religious and military ways, even though each country will be allowed to maintain its own military. The future will reveal the details. The concept is to promote world trade that will make the multi-nation corporations wealthy (Revelation 18), get the people used to world government, and give the Internationalists greater control of all the earth's people (cf. Babylon the Great ruling over the Beast; Revelation 17). When the apostasy becomes rampant after many years of this government, it will bring the devastating calamity that will establish the mark-of-the-Beast despotic government.

The second step is necessary to allow Satan to rule over the world and to cause the world to become completely apostate so that no one will believe the gospel or do the works of God. Satan will try to force everyone to make a formal decision to reject the gospel and to believe his doctrines, causing everyone to worship him. If these two steps are successfully accomplished, then Satan will win the warfare. (But he will not.)

In order to achieve a sufficient apostate world in step one and for God to allow him step two, Satan must get children indoctrinated with falsehoods over many years and have them continue to practice these falsehoods as they grow to become adults. The Bible says, that under these conditions, though children have some exposure to the truth in prosperity, they will not follow it. Most have been sinning from their youth and continue to sin as adults (Jeremiah 22:21; 32:30).

For the situation of the older adults now living without this indoctrination, Satan will influence them with the threat of persecution to either conform to the indoctrination or be imprisoned or be killed. Thus, great persecution is expected to come against all people who do not go along with the Internationalists' plans — and especially against those who openly oppose them and have dogmatic doctrines. This persecution is expected to come against Christians, Orthodox Jews (sons of Israel), Moslems, and patriots.

The primary methods for leading people into apostasy are to get them to become immoral, to reject the gospel, and, as Christians, to neglect accomplishing God's work and growing in spiritual maturity. Therefore, strategies for getting people to reject the gospel include getting people to be immoral and into religious systems with false doctrines. A strategy to get the church away from godly living and accomplishing God's work that leads them to maturity is to involve them in activities that are outside the mainstream of the three activities that God has mandated. This strategy includes (1) getting leaders to preach sermonettes instead of verse by verse exegetical and expository teaching, (2) appeasing church people by not teaching them needed but offensive doctrines, (3) moving away from the foundational hymns of the faith into choruses, (4) practicing false tongues and healings, and (5) focusing on having fellowship without being involved in God's work. (Tongues are discussed later in this chapter.) Church leaders often point to the goal of attracting people into the church services as the reason for taking these approaches.

**In other words, Satan's strategy for the church is get her out of the active warfare. Do not oppose her accomplishing a few good things, as long as they have insignificant impact on the warfare. Get the church, because she is doing a few good things, to believe she is sufficiently doing God's will. That is, get the church doing a few good things accepted as the norm for being a good and obedient church under God. Have the churches fall way short of accomplishing God's desired goals. Many of today's churches, especially with younger preachers, are taking the above approaches.**

Such approaches do attract some people, but in the meantime, the spiritual war is lost. In order to win the spiritual warfare, we need the strength of a few dedicated people who will really fight the warfare according to God's best ways with great commitment more than we need churches who have a lot of people living a life of compromise or in an inadequate environment. The Lord Jesus in His earthly ministry worked without compromise with the few that would follow Him, instead of

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being concerned with numbers. He certainly did not use appeasement.

Because of the above expectations, we can anticipate the following steps to take place now to the degree the Internationalists using the government can get away with it, and later by law, after the international government is established under the Beast Empire, beginning with the period of the fifth seal:

1. Have a government take-over occur that will control children's education and the rearing of children. Have the state, no longer the parents, have the responsibility to rear and educate children. Have an indoctrination of children with falsehoods occur in the education process. These falsehoods will include training with (1) international instead of national values, (2) anti-family and anti-Christian beliefs, (3) New Age religious doctrines, and (4) sex education that teaches that sex is a recreation activity and not a moral, godly, and marriage value. International values are those that refer to world government with international laws, courts, and police governing all the people, instead of individual sovereign national governments. Children will be encouraged to become involved in sex at early ages. The Bible teaches that those who practice immorality shall not inherit the Kingdom of God — they can no longer be saved as long as they practice these sins (Galatians 5:19-21). Getting children and young people into immorality is high on Satan's agenda.
2. Have the situation develop that will force people to work long hours (e.g. more than 40) and have policies which will eventually take away many investments and retirement incomes. Have the Internationalists become very wealthy by running the multi-nation corporations, and have all the rest of the people work for them. When people have to work hard for a living, particularly for someone else so that they cannot arrange and plan their time, they have little time leftover to act against the government. They also can be controlled more easily if they have little extra cash for activities that move against the government.
3. Bring methods of education into the schools that neglect the development of good and adequate reading and logical thinking skills, including through programs of not using adequate phonics, science, and mathematics. In this way, as the children become adults, they will be more likely to accept falsehoods and less likely to figure out what is happening in the world. Consequently, they will be easier to control.

To rule the world under Satan's will, the Internationalists must gain control of the governments of nations. They must either pass laws that accomplish their will or create circumstances so terrible that their proposed solutions, although undesirable to the people they govern, are much more acceptable than the continuance of the current conditions. Thus, two methods the Internationalists are expected to use to gain more control are as follows:

1. Select the most intelligent from the renown colleges and indoctrinate them with international values. Then have them infiltrate governments and key organizations to gain control, establish their plans, and have the means to pass laws and indoctrinate the public through the media by means of propaganda.

Thus, we can expect to see governments passing laws that create conditions (see under item #2 below) that will lead to the fourth-seal war and international government. We can expect them to pass laws that will lead to the governmental control of education, of the rearing of children, and of religion. We can also expect them to create conditions that cause the deaths of thousands of people in order to reduce the population. In order to successfully rule and feed the world, the internationalists believe that the world's population must be greatly reduced. Thus, they will use several methods to reduce the world's population. Examples of situations that cause deaths would be abortions, euthanasia, bans of the use of alternative cures for cancer, the creation of many killer diseases such as the HIV virus, and, at the end of the fifth-seal period, a devastating calamity that will kill most of the world's population. Most of these situations can be expected to overwhelmingly increase during the fifth-seal period.

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### 2. Create chaotic conditions and then suggest solutions that advance their cause.

Create conditions that can cause the fourth-seal war to come as soon as God allows. At the same time, persuade the public to accept international government. In these chaotic circumstances, we can expect the most terrible of conditions to be created and the offer of international government to be given as the only solution. Conditions will be so terrible, that Americans will accept an international government that they do not want, in order to avoid having the continuance of circumstances that are much much worse. The terrible circumstances in the next paragraph are possible examples that the Internationalists might create. They may not necessarily set up all of them, and they might choose to accomplish their goals in another way. But whatever the situation, we can be sure that there will be a great war over one-fourth of the earth during times of great famine, disease, pestilence, and attack by wild beasts (Revelation 6:8). This is the first calamity that brings in God's divine discipline.

The chaotic conditions in the United States that the Internationalists might create could include the following: (1) financial chaos (the financial condition in America is now reaching a critical state); (2) gas lines or rationing (the United States is now heavily dependent upon Middle Eastern oil); (3) shortages and rationing of food; (4) rationing of money from the banks; (5) epidemics of disease, (6) military invasion of the American west coast; (7) thousands of people out of work; (8) rioting all over the country; (9) terrorists going house to house looking for food and valuables; (10) tactical nuclear, chemical, and biological warfare in the Middle East and Europe that will involve America; (11) a devastating crash in the stock market; (12) confiscation of property; and (13) the loss of retirement income from pensions. These conditions could cause the government to invoke martial law and later place the country under international government. After martial law comes, the government of the United States under the present Constitution will never be reinstated.

The existence of these or similar conditions will be presented by the media as likely to continue without relief unless international government is established. International government will be advertised as the only solution. The citizens of many nations will cry out for international government, and it will be established as Revelation's Beast with the seventh head. In the media, it may be called the New World Order.

At the end of the fifth-seal period, there will be a devastating calamity of a Day of the Lord which will take the world into the period of the despotic government of the Beast with the eighth head. This will be the mark-of-the-Beast period. At this time, the Beast with his False Prophet will control every aspect of life. During this period, the joy of living will be gone. Read Appendix A to learn about the conditions that will occur during the endtime periods under the Pattern Sequence and under the Beast with its seventh and eighth heads.

These and many more details of the expectations of how and why the end will come are presented in the narrative summary in chapter 6.

I do not promote establishing campaigns to fight the Internationalists because their power comes from God, commensurate with the apostasy of the church and the world's people. The apostasy of the church is responsible for them being in control. The Internationalists will continue to be successful as long as the church and the rest of the country's people continue to disobey God. God will use the power of the Internationalists to bring discipline to His church and the world's people for their apostasy, immorality, sin, and false worship. Fighting the Internationalists may be fighting against God's will, unless you are faith-obedient, and God is using you in a containing action. The Bible says that powerful Satanic forces will establish an international government. The seventh Babylon the Great will be successful until the end of the fifth-seal period. Then during the devastating calamity of the trumpets, the city of Babylon the Great will be destroyed by fire. The eighth and last Babylon the Great will be judged at the end of the Great Tribulation. No one escapes God's judgment for sin.

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As previously stated, the only solution to the apostate and sinful world condition is for the church to obey God before it is too late, and then God will change the circumstances. As God leads, it may be helpful for some to fight or oppose unrighteous laws and conditions as a containment movement, allowing the church more time to live righteously and accomplish God's work. But because the Internationalists will be successful based on the continued disobedience of the church and country, believers need to be trained to live by faith, to make a strong commitment to follow Christ, and to stand steadfast in Christ during the endtimes.

**People who want to save America and her Constitution, freedoms, and free enterprise system must go all out to organize and persuade the churches to obey God by living godly lives and carrying out His work. They must get the rest of the people (unbelievers) generally to obey God's commandments. This is the only solution to save America and delay God's judgments from coming. If both Christians and patriots will take up this battle to get the church and the rest of the people to obey God, instead of mainly fighting the issues, they will invoke God to help them, and because He will, they will be successful. Otherwise it is a losing war in the long run, even though a few battles may be won along the way. America will be lost and God's discipline will come via the international government of the Beast Empire. This is the warning message of the Watchman.**

It would be best if the entire church would come immediately to spiritual warfare status, expediently train her people with God's whole counsel, and encourage them to make and fulfill a strong commitment to live godly lives and to accomplish God's work. His work includes evangelism, discipleship, training faithful people, building godly families, planting churches, and reaching out to the needy. The church must do these things in order to be an effective part of the battle and, for all practical purposes, to avoid being a passive observer or a spiritual warfare casualty. We need to prepare for the greatest spiritual warfare in the history of mankind. We must be like Joshua, as he was obeying God, preparing for war when going into the promised land of Israel. We will be preparing to go into the endtime periods of great adversity and spiritual warfare.

The most serious problems in the churches are that their leaders do not fully realize (1) that they have been given the mandate to bring along their people to reach spiritual maturity and to evangelize the world, particularly in local communities and (2) that they are not doing an adequate job of training and preparing their people. Thus, she does not regularly train her people with a curriculum of God's whole counsel to walk with God and to accomplish His work.

Churches certainly do good things. They have been doing them for a long time. This is not the major issue. The issue is that, overall throughout all the churches, what is being done, even though many good things, falls far below what God wants done.

Regardless of what church people say they believe, they act like churches are in existence to have a worship service, to be a place for fellowship and praying for good health, and to send others overseas to do the missions job. They train themselves primarily with academic (head) knowledge of God's Word, instead of also training their people to carry out ministry as a lifestyle, even in conditions of persecution and shortages of life's necessities. They work toward having an easy lifestyle. They do not see themselves as responsible for the evangelism of their local communities. At least most appear to take little action to make it happen.

Thus, the churches operate way below God's norm for obedience in godly living and accomplishing His work. As such, churches are in apathetic apostasy, and this apostasy will bring God's judgment. The tragedy is that the churches do not recognize the condition that they are in. Thus, they continue to spiritually decline. Reasons for this decline are delineated in chapter 7.

It is no wonder that judgment will come. If the churches do not immediately assume spiritual warfare status and accomplish God's will, the discipline will come without recourse. You can avoid God's work all you want. You can speak in false tongues all you want. However, if you continue in this disobedience, you can expect judgment. On the other hand, if you and your church will do God's

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will as described previously, God will bring blessing, use you and your church greatly, and possibly protect many as the onslaught of Satan comes upon the world.

Most of the church is expected to continue in their sins of omission and the speaking in false tongues. Many will continue in immorality. It is hard for people — except for the most committed to Christ and His will and work — to change their lives and doctrines in response to God's urging and help, even when they know that their lives and doctrines are wrong. But they must do it.

## God's Faithful Remnant

God maintains a faithful remnant of believers both now and during these endtime events to the end of the Great Tribulation. Most have been obedient to live godly lives and accomplish His work for a long time. Many of His faithful remnant exist within the disobedient and unbelieving churches.

During the fourth-seal war and the fifth-seal period, the trials and testings of Christ's faithful and obedient church people will take them to greater spiritual maturity and bring them greater heavenly reward. God will use His faithful remnant as His witnesses during these endtimes.

No one, not even an angel of heaven, is able to stop the believer who stands faithfully in Christ from accomplishing God's chosen works such as evangelism and discipleship, and now the work of the Watchman. Thus, even though the opposition appears great — like giants — the accomplishment of God's work cannot be prevented, as long as believers act in faith-obedience, depending upon God for success and remain free from long-term and serious overt sin.

**As we, being believers in the Cross, experience the chaotic conditions during the unfolding of the endtimes, we must use great spiritual courage and live by great faith, as we live our godly lives and carry out God's work.** We must endure the endtimes without succumbing to the sin that surrounds us. We must avoid known and long-term sin, or we also may experience the judgment, though we will not lose our salvation.

## SIGNS AND ENTITIES SHOW THAT THE ENDTIMES ARE UNFOLDING ACCORDING TO THE PATTERN SEQUENCE

The endtime Pattern Sequence and its events are known to be coming because biblical signs alert us that the spiritual condition of the United States (and that of most of the nations) is similar to that of Old Testament Israel, just before and after Babylon invaded to take her into divine discipline and exile. **When a LARGE NUMBER of these scriptural precursory signs of the disciplinary calamities and the endtime entities coexist, according to the endtime Pattern Sequence, then the fourth-seal calamities — with war, famine, pestilence, disease, and animal attack — can be known to be forthcoming.**

## The Required Entities

**The required endtime entities of Revelation's Pattern Sequence exist today — and meet their biblical qualifications and descriptions.** These entities are as follows: (1) the covenant nation that is increasing in apostasy — the United States; (2) the Beast empire in her formative stages of becoming a coalition government — the United States in coalition with Europe, Russia, and other nations; (3) the northern army with its great military power — the Russian Federation; and (4) Babylon the Great (Revelation 17; 18) advancing with (secret) economic and political power — the Internationalists. One could add to the list the sinful conditions of the rest of the nations as described by Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel. These specific entities are identified in chapter 5, using their biblical qualifications.

Unique to the Pattern View is the Pattern Sequence. This sequence allows the required characteristics for the covenant and northern-army nations to be known from the descriptions of the

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corresponding entities in the Old Testament. By matching the biblically required characteristics to those nations existing today, these endtime nations can be identified. A similar identification can be made of Babylon the Great from her biblical description. They are so identified in chapter 5. Such identifications are not possible with other prophetic views.

## The Required Signs

**A large number of the required signs of the Pattern Sequence exist simultaneously today.** The existence of any one sign by itself may not indicate that the endtimes are coming, because some have occurred at different times throughout history. But the simultaneous appearance of many signs show that a Pattern Sequence and covenant relationship are in effect, and the fourth-seal war is impending. It will come soon — whether in a few or many years. **The imminency of the fourth-seal calamity depends upon the maturity of America's and the world's nations' sin as demonstrated by the maturity of the many signs.** I do not know of any way to determine their maturity. Thus, we need to continue to live by faith regarding the timing of the fourth-seal calamity. But the signs show that its time may be very near.

The required and existing signs include the following.

1. In recent years, God has been warning America and the world of His coming judgment by showing His displeasure in the form of insect infestations, severe storms and unusual weather (e.g. freezes, heavy snows and rains, floods, hurricanes, and droughts leading to water rationing), famines, acid rain, polluted water, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, degenerative diseases, and miscarriages. God warned Israel through similar means in her Old Testament Pattern Sequence. (Leviticus 26:16, 17, 19-22; Deuteronomy 28:16-24; 1 Kings 8:35-40; Isaiah 17:11; Jeremiah 8:14; 9:12-16; 14:1-12; 23:13-15; Hosea 8:7; 9:14-17; Amos 4:6-13; 5:7; 6:12; Micah 6:13-15.)
2. The nations of Europe (the 10 kings or horns of the Beast) are planning a financial coalition (Daniel 7:7, 8, 20, 24; Revelation 17:12, 13, 16, 17).
3. The recent Russian glasnost policy of peaceful coexistence seems to meet the Bible's description of apostate times. In these times, people will be saying, "Peace, peace," when there is no peace. In reality, God will bring an opposing army because the people are in a state of apostasy, immorality, sin, and false worship. A false and deceptive peace movement will exist in every period of the endtimes. The northern army (Russia) that God could bring against America exists today, just as the northern army of ancient Babylon existed when God brought it against Israel. The army may be used to begin a war that will be used to bring the demise of the United States as we now know it, including a possible invasion of the American west coast. God may bring other nations against America as well. The Russian military is capable of defeating or seriously damaging the United States, given the right circumstances.

Even though Russia may appear to be weakened today and the news media proclaims that Russia is not a military threat, it does not mean that Russia will not bring war at the time of the fourth-seal calamity. The military of the United States is being reduced. The Russian military, however, is still in place and remains strong. Her missiles are still active and many are presumably still aimed at the United States, and Russia continues to build advanced design submarines and airplanes.

Lenin said that peace can be a weapon. Dimitri Manuilski told students at the Lenin School of Political Warfare in Moscow in 1930 that peace is a scheme to defeat the capitalists several decades from then (as recorded in the Congressional Record, May 31, 1955):

"We shall need the element of surprise. The bourgeoisie will have been put to sleep. So we shall begin by launching the most spectacular peace movement on record. There will be electrifying overtures and unheard-of concessions. The capitalist countries, stupid and

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decadent, will rejoice to cooperate in their own destruction. They will leap at the chance to become friends. As soon as their guard is down, we will smash them with our clenched fist."

(2 Kings 24; 25; Jeremiah 5:11-17; 6:13, 14; 8:8-12; 14:13-16; 20:4-6; 23:16, 17; 25:9-11; 27:6-11; 32:28-36; Ezekiel 13:8-10, 16; 23:22-30; Micah 3:5-11.)

4. The recent Russian perestroika (openness) policy (including the opening of eastern Europe) toward financial reconstruction and free enterprise, and the sodruzhestvo (commonwealth) may eventually allow more world trade. This trade will increase the wealth of the world's merchants. (The fourth-seal war could come first.) This wealth, during the fifth-seal period, will result from the Internationalists' (Babylon the Great's) use of economic influence to control the nations. (Revelation 18.)
5. Like Israel in her covenant relationship, the United States began as a great nation under God, received tremendous blessings, and is now ending as an apostate nation, in great immorality, sin, and false worship. She is receiving curses and becoming worthy of severe judgment. (Ezekiel 16.)
6. The United States is in extreme debt and financial crisis. She is the greatest debtor nation. Her enormous financial crisis will soon bring change in America, perhaps leading to world war — the war of the fourth seal. (Habakkuk 2:6-8.)
7. Aliens have been buying large amounts of American property and establishing businesses, such as the manufacture of automobiles (Deuteronomy 28:43, 44).
8. Disobedient and immoral children, who have been sinning from their youth, have grown to adulthood and continue to sin — even though they have been taught the truth again and again in a time of prosperity. The situation will continue to degenerate in the long duration of the fifth-seal period when children will be indoctrinated with falsehoods, causing the world to become even more apostate and sinful. God forgets the children when their parents disobey His laws. He may not protect the children of such parents from sinning. (Jeremiah 22:21; 32:30, 33.)

Although God judges the sins of people on an individual basis, nonetheless, God protects the children of believers when the parents are obedient to God (Psalm 128), when they train their children in righteousness (Proverbs 22:6), and when the children obey God's commandments and their parents' teachings (Proverbs 4; Jeremiah 35). He keeps them from major sins, and they become successful before God. But at the same time, however, He does not always protect children from sinning greatly if the parents are disobedient. **Thus, when the children sin, it may reflect a sin problem with their parents. If parents want God to protect their children from major sins and have their children be used greatly of God, they must themselves obey God and be free from major sins.**

9. People are worshipping the work of their hands such as their great strides in the design and construction of computer, communication, missile, and satellite systems. (Isaiah 2:8; Jeremiah 1:16; 32:30).
10. Cancer, AIDS, and other degenerative diseases threaten the country's and the world's people (Leviticus 26:16; Isaiah 17:11).
11. The New Age Movement is an expanding false religious system that embraces many religions, allowing "many gods in the land." It is spreading worldwide and may turn out to be the religious system that Satan will use in a divine discipline period. It is similar to the religious systems called "the sins of Jeroboam and Manasseh" that caused the people to sin in Israel's Old Testament times. Satan designs religions with false doctrines to corral people away from Christ and His Cross. The New Age Movement is calling evil good and good evil. In reality, good is what the Bible calls good, and evil is what the Bible calls evil. **(The American legal and**

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**judicial systems are also calling evil good and good evil.)** Adherents of the New Age Movement do not believe that there is such a thing as sin nor its resulting judgment because they believe that people constitute God and that God does not sin. This view sees no need for the Cross because it sees no need to satisfy God's justice or righteous penalty for sin. (1 Kings 12:25-33; 13:33, 34; 14:7-18; 16:19; 2 Kings 17:7-17; 21; 24:3, 4; Isaiah 5:20, 21; Jeremiah 11:13.)

12. The people's immorality in America and the world is becoming increasingly greater. They no longer hide it, but flaunt their immorality in magazines, in music, in movies, on television, and on videotapes and laser discs. Divorce is commonplace. People are practicing more evil than their forefathers. In America, people are sinning much more blatantly than they did 15 to 30 years ago. Practicing sex outside of marriage is commonplace, even among high school students. As the sinful conditions escalate, more pornography and explicit sex can be expected on TV and in the movies. (Isaiah 3:9.)

Christ said that when He returns people will be living like they did in the days of Lot. At that time, people were living normal lives, but men were also practicing sodomy. The people of Israel were engaged in similar sinful and evil practices. The open practice of homosexuality is expanding in America today. God condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah and uses them as examples of what He does to the ungodly. Thus, such homosexuality and other such practices in the United States greatly invites God's judgment and demonstrates that much of America is in great apostasy, immorality, and sin. (Genesis 19:5; Isaiah 3:9; Jeremiah 23:14; Lamentations 4:6; Luke 17:29, 30; 2 Peter 2:6, 7; Jude 1:7.)

13. Water shortages and rationing are occurring in various places. Water is polluted. (Jeremiah 8:14; 9:12-16; 23:13-15.)
14. Many insect infestations are occurring such as the Mediterranean fruit flies in California, killer bees from Mexico, and locusts in Florida. More insect infestations can be expected as the calamity nears. (Isaiah 7:18, 19; Joel 1:4; 2:25.)
15. People are doing what is right in their own eyes by ignoring God and His Word. They are doing, having, and being what they want instead of what God wants for them. (Judges 21:25.)
16. There is a decrease in the knowledge of God and His plan. Fewer people today, as compared to 10 years ago, are familiar with biblical content or even show an interest in it. Major biblical doctrines are seldom being taught in the churches. Church people now are being given sermonettes in the worship services instead of being taught verse by verse in exegetical and expository teaching and preaching. Such sermonette-teaching is helpful, but it does not get the job of discipleship accomplished. (Isaiah 5:13; Jeremiah 4:22; 8:7; 9:4-6.)
17. Children are being abducted; apparently, some are being sacrificed to Satan today as many were sacrificed to Molech in the Old Testament times. Furthermore, children are being indoctrinated with false Satanic teachings in the schools. This indoctrination will greatly increase in the fifth-seal period. (Leviticus 18:21; 20:2-4; Deuteronomy 28:32, 41; 2 Kings 16:3; 17:17; 23:10; Psalm 106:37; Jeremiah 7:31; 32:35.)
18. Because of their sin, shepherds of God's people (pastors, elders, and teachers) are driving their flocks away from God and themselves, and they themselves are leaving their flocks (Jeremiah 23:1, 2).
19. There are fewer good leaders to train people to fulfill Christ's Great Commission than in the past. Fewer churches are evangelizing their local communities. God removes good leaders when the people have long-term sin. (Jeremiah 22:22.)
20. Many Americans are more interested in working as patriots to maintain the Constitution,

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freedoms, just laws, free enterprise system, and the American representative lifestyle than they are believing in Christ and accomplishing His work of evangelizing and discipling the world (Isaiah 5:1-7).

21. Religious people are having dreams that they believe are from God. They write books about them. Guided by their dreams, they can mislead God's people. The only authentic dreams that are from God are recorded in the Bible. Using dreams today as God's Word is adding to the Bible. God is greatly against such practice. God only reveals truth that is already recorded in the Bible. (Deuteronomy 4:2; 12:32; 28:14; Proverbs 30:6; Jeremiah 23:32; Revelation 22:18.)
22. The confiscation of property is occurring and increasing (Ezekiel 23:28, 29).
23. Americans and the world's people have forgotten and forsaken the true God; the dread (fear) of God is no longer in the people (Isaiah 17:10; Jeremiah 2:8, 13, 19; 3:21; 4:22; 9:13, 14; 18:15).

Although the signs and entities may need more development before they reach the required maturity for God to bring the fourth-seal calamities, their coexistence at the present time shows that Revelation's endtime happenings and judgments are impending. The United States and other nations may soon go under divine discipline. These current events or signs display the characteristics of a Pattern Sequence in its apostate phases before the first calamity. The proliferation and intensity of these signs will greatly increase in the fifth-seal period. Many of these signs have appeared throughout history. **What makes them significant now is that they are appearing simultaneously with each other and with the required endtime entities. They are coming at a time of increasing world apostasy and at a time when America is becoming increasingly apostate after a time of long-term general obedience, matching Israel's characteristics as a covenant nation.** Although many of these signs are taken from Israel's Pattern Sequence in the Old Testament, they are characteristic of any Pattern Sequence involving a covenant nation. Thus, they can be expected to occur in Revelation's endtimes. Observation reveals that they are indeed occurring today. (There are only two nations in the Bible that experience the covenant relationship in a Pattern Sequence: Israel, as directly taught; and the United States, implied by the endtime Pattern Sequence.)

Perhaps the most recognizable sign that alerts the endtimes are beginning is the active planning for the implementation of the European economic market. This planning is for the joining together of the 10 kings of the Beast prophesied in Daniel 7 and Revelation 17. The exact number of 10 may not exist until the actual Beast period, during the time of the fifth seal. Another important sign is the opening of the Russian Federation and the Eastern-Bloc nations to more trade. Because the development of this trade may take many years, the fourth-seal war may come first. Russia will most likely revert outwardly to her previous status and help bring the fourth-seal war. The maturation of the trade will occur after the war, under the Beast system, during the fifth-seal period. The European kings will join together in a two-step process: first, economically in the fifth-seal period; and second, both politically and economically in the mark-of-the-Beast period.

**In general most people today do not recognize the events that serve as signs that Revelation's endtime judgments are impending because the government is saying, "Peace, peace" — even though many people do detect that something is terribly wrong in America. Thus, God's judgment with war will come upon most Americans unexpectedly. Much of the church will be ill-prepared. They see little need for training their people because they believe in a pretribulation Rapture and do not believe that they will experience such terrible times as Revelation describes. They believe that God will somehow deliver them from what is to come, but this pretribulation Deliverance will not happen.**

## THE COMING OF THE END WHAT TO EXPECT

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**As the endtimes approach, alert believers will observe both America and the world turning toward greater and greater spiritual darkness. They will observe Satan building up his forces and establishing his plans to carry out the events in Revelation. Both God and Satan are active in developing the endtime situation. God uses the activities of Satan to implement His discipline. Thus, Satan carries out the plans of God.**

Consequently as the endtimes approach, people should expect to observe the following: (1) deceptive proclamations of peace before war; (2) the great military might of the northern army (the Russian Federation); (3) a military buildup among many of the nations; (4) a move toward secret international control of world finances and trade; (5) a move toward unjust American and world governments with evil leaders; (6) the confiscation of property; (7) the establishment of a false religion such as the New Age Movement, and the spread of false doctrines; (8) the formation of international government which becomes the Beast empire (the United States in coalition with other nations); (9) a vicious Satanic persuasion and indoctrination of children and youth to be immoral, to sin, to believe falsely, to act against families, and to accept international over national values; (10) a significant increase of apostasy, immorality, sin, crime, and false worship; (11) a falling away of the church from active faith; and (12) increasingly vicious attacks by animals.

As Revelation's events are developing, people should expect an escalation of sinful situations to the worst of circumstances, and a permanent departure from the Constitution and the accompanying freedom that made America great under God. There may be biblical training allowed in the fifth-seal period although most is expected to be restricted or prohibited. People should look to find God's obedient remnant as individuals (not necessarily churches) to find help in these terrible times. Much of the church operation in this period may be underground.

**Our young children will never know and experience the greatness of America under God. After the fifth-seal period gets well underway, children will be most fortunate indeed to know Christ as Savior, God, and His fundamental doctrines. In such circumstances, children will receive the loving hand of God and His great grace if they indeed come to know Christ as their Savior.**

### **THE CHURCH IS PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COMING OF DIVINE DISCIPLINE**

God has called His church to live out His will in the three major activities: exalting Him, living godly lives, and accomplishing His work. Christians who have transformed lives — those committed to and who love the person of Christ — will naturally have the desire to witness and proclaim the gospel and to disciple others, thus being involved in accomplishing God's work (John 21:15-19; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-8). Many believers, however, say that they believe these things, but they do little to accomplish them or have any involvement in such activities. They lack the commitment to the Lord and love for Him to carry them out. They have left their first love (Revelation 2:4, 5). Their faith may exist, but it is dead — not active (James 2:26).

The Bible teaches that God's people will be successful if they are living godly lives and doing what He asks (2 Chronicles 16:9; Joshua 1:8). God works through leaders who have exemplary spiritual lives to disciple people and to use them to bring in new converts into the churches. God wants the kind of preaching of His Word that will change people, not just produce weekly sermons. God wants His people to bring in new converts, not just pass out tracts or booklets. Believers are born to reproduce spiritually. When church people are not living godly lives or are not witnessing to bring in new converts, the problem may reflect the spiritual lives of their preachers, pastors, elders, and deacons not sufficiently meeting God's standards. Spiritual leadership that does not provide adequate training results in spiritual problems in the lives of many of the church people. Leaders should humble themselves before God and examine their own lives for godly living that meets the biblical qualifications for leadership. When the lives of errant leaders change, then God will work through them to bring results in their discipling and evangelizing ministries.

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**Although a faithful remnant remains obedient, the existing signs show that the overall church is departing from living a lifestyle of faithful obedience. Hence she is no longer adequately implementing the church's three activities that God desires of His people. She is carrying out her own plans and doing things by tradition and rote. This situation is worldwide.**

Many of today's churches have a pastor, a biblical sermon and worship service, a Sunday school, and a missions' program. They have fellowship, but they are neither seriously nor adequately training their people to walk with God and to accomplish His work. They are not training their people with adequate doctrine, so that they will remain steadfast in Christ when the persecution and terrible times come. For example, they do not have a discipleship training curriculum with which everyone is trained and have no measure of the degree they are successful in their ministries before God. Many new converts are not regularly coming into and attending the church worship services.

The existence of the endtime signs demonstrates that vibrant church life under the Holy Spirit is declining. Church leaders show that they are ignoring the fact that God holds them accountable by not accepting the responsibility to evangelize their local areas. **Clearly, many churches are without adequate spiritual leadership. Many have people in leadership positions who are not qualified spiritual leaders — though they may believe that they are. The church leadership must recognize that they are partly responsible for the coming of the endtime judgments.**

Many people today want the best of God, as well as the best of the world. Believers in the United States live their lives in the American system — in **neutral**, like unbelievers. They are **indifferent** to doing local evangelism and witnessing. Many are for it, and not against it, but they do little about it. They have sins of omission. Thus, the church especially in America has lost its militant offensive and is becoming lukewarm, indifferent, tolerant of sin, and double-minded.

By my perception, another form of apostasy in our churches today is contrived emotionalism and the speaking in false tongues. (A detailed discussion of modern false tongues speaking is presented in Chapter Seven, "Why the Endtimes Are Unfolding"). I believe that modern day tongues is an apostate movement of concern because it follows unbiblical doctrines regarding tongues and the work of the Holy Spirit, does not obey God's safeguards regarding tongues, is spreading worldwide, and is an endtime phenomenon. History has shown that there has been no biblical tongues spoken since the first century. There has been little false tongues speaking until the false ones began in the early nineteenth century. Because there has not been tongues speaking since the first century, tongues speaking, after the first century, is of no importance to God. (God encourages believers to do things that are important to Him. Therefore, if they were of importance, God would have tongues speaking through the centuries in the Christian church, and the Bible would show the importance of them.)

It is also an apostate movement because it widely practices speaking in ecstatic utterances whereas biblical tongues were always speaking in foreign languages unknown to the speakers but known by some of the hearers. This modern movement has grown greatly since the 1960's.

I realize that there is much controversy in the church about the source of this movement, and whether or not it is of God. However, because it is an endtime phenomenon, it is highly suspect that it may be a movement that is following a deceitful spirit that is not of God. Tongues speaking people should investigate this possibility. If it is, it is a strong sign that the endtimes are here, and it is false worship that God is against (Isaiah 30:1; 2 Timothy 4:1). God has been against false worship throughout history.

In stating the above, there is no attack meant upon tongues people as individuals, but only a discussion of their doctrines. We need to help each other. But just like not carrying out sufficiently evangelization of the gospel, not obeying the safeguards regarding tongues is also disobedience. And it will be judged.

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God gives guidelines as safeguards for the speaking in tongues so that the church will not misuse tongues in church meetings. These include: (1) no more than three men are allowed to speak in tongues in mixed gender worship services, and then only in sequence with each being speaking followed by an interpretation (a translation) by a man (1 Corinthians 14:27-29); (2) no women are allowed to speak in tongues in meetings with men present (1 Corinthians 14:34, 35; 1 Timothy 2:12); and (3) tongues speaking is not to be evangelized. There are no exhortations in Scripture to evangelize tongues, only to evangelize the gospel.

Whether or not there are tongues today, church people must obey these safeguards in order to do God's will. Doing this, people will know whether there are tongues today from God.

**However, when entire church congregations speak in tongues simultaneously, or when women speak in tongues in churches services or in home meetings with men present, a flagrant disregard for God's Word is enacted — false worship is occurring because the action disobeys God's Word. If such disobedience continues long term, these churches or people are in apostasy.**

It does no good to omit this admonition about false tongues speaking and later have the tongues-speaking people come under judgment. As Watchmen, God wants us to warn about speaking in false tongues, just as He wants us to warn about not carrying out the Great Commission.

People have become involved in tongues and emotionalism because these practices seem so biblically correct, and they appear to give people more spiritual power. However, biblical doctrines show that the modern setting of tongues speaking in ecstatic utterances, whether or not the safeguards are honored, is a false worship system.

Tongues have nothing to do with spiritual power or the quality of the Christian life. God used tongues as a sign to the Jews at the time of the beginning of the church that the Holy Spirit was then going to all people, including to the Gentiles, according to the Joel prophecy (Joel 3:28-32). They were used only in the first century as signs to inform the Jews that the Kingdom of God was leaving the Jews and going to the all-nations church. After the transition period, tongues had no function.

I believe that tongues speaking churches and non-tongues speaking churches can work together if both will follow God's overlay as presented in this book (see chapters 2, 7, and 8). This overlay includes having, as the top objective of the church, believers to become spiritually mature in Christ, and the method to achieve this goal is to implement the three activities. But in doing so, tongues speaking people must agree to obey the safeguards regarding tongues speaking in church services and in home meetings, and all believers must agree to live improved godly lives and be involved in carrying out the Great Commission, including in local areas. The problems to be worked out include what constitutes spiritual maturity and what constitutes godly living. We may have to work out what constitutes godly work. My recommendations are given in chapter 8.

God has blessed covenant America in the past because the church within the United States has faithfully obeyed His commandments and accomplished His work, and because American citizens have generally obeyed His laws. This faith-obedience has given God a channel through which to work all things in the nation together for good (Romans 8:28). As a result, God has greatly restrained sin in the nation, and the American church has evangelized the world using American resources. The churches of other countries have also helped.

Now, however, the existing signs of apostasy show that God is no longer restraining sin as He once did — He is no longer working all things together for good for the nation. **These signs show that the church, overall, is falling away from obedient faith. This falling away has clogged the channel of faith through which God works.**

Even though believers cannot lose their salvation because they have eternal security in Christ,

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believers, or entire churches, **can fall away** from an obedient life and from continuing in good deeds (Revelation 2:4, 5).

With less restraint from God, many in America are becoming exceedingly sinful, and the sinful situation is escalating. **The sinful people of both the American church and the nation as a whole are causing God to bring judgment. Therefore, by being disobedient, they are bringing God's judgment on themselves.** Similarly, the churches and people of the other nations are also causing God to bring judgment on them. Both the church and unbelievers continue in their sin even though God sends His servants to them telling them to repent and change to righteous living. Thus, God says that He will bring calamity upon them (Proverbs 1:24-33).

Many believers may not expect judgment because, in their view, they live godly lives; they do not do evil or immoral things. They believe that this behavior is sufficient. But they must also remember that not carrying out the Great Commission as God requires is a sin of omission (James 4:17). God will judge this sin also. The degree of His judgment corresponds to the degree of sin. A church may be doing **some** evangelization and discipleship training. But is what they are doing sufficient in God's view? It is an individual church and believer situation regarding the degree their lives meet God's requirements for godly living.

People should expect God to bring discipline. He has brought discipline on His own people throughout the Church Period (Hebrews 12:5-11). For example, God brought war, discipline, and His wrath against His people Israel in Old Testament times (Ezekiel 5). Many were killed, succumbed to disease, suffered severe famine, or exiled into bondage — all as a means of implementing divine discipline. During these difficult times, He protected His obedient remnant, even though many of them were taken into exile.

God also tests His people — even to the point of death (Revelation 2:10). He has removed His operation from local churches (the local church no longer exists; Revelation 2:5) when her people's disobedience has persisted over a long time without repentance followed by obedience. God may take similar action in today's churches if they are not obedient. His judgment will come in these endtimes according to the Pattern Sequence.

The teachings in Revelation show by the coming of its events that most of the overall true church around the world and the American people (both believers and unbelievers) as a whole will not respond to God's leading to depart from overt sin. They will not obey God's commandments to live righteously and accomplish God's work, just as the Old Testament shows that most of Israel did not. **But individuals, families, groups, and individual churches can respond, just as God's obedient remnant does, receiving God's best during these endtimes.** Therefore, individuals and families should respond to the Holy Spirit, concentrating on living godly lives and accomplishing God's work, while at the same time trusting God to work all things together for good. They should concentrate on growing in spiritual maturity and knowing God. **Believers should obey God in these matters even if their local churches do not.**

Churches often do not recognize that when they lose good leaders, or when God does not bring good leaders to them, their own sin may be the root of the problem — their sin of not carrying out the Great Commission and/or not living righteously. However, believers who remain obedient, or who turn to obedience, should pray that God will bring them good leaders who will teach them the depth and breadth of God's Word (His whole counsel or purpose) as the endtimes unfold.

Jeremiah 3:14, 15 - "Return O faithless sons,' declares the Lord ... Then I will give you shepherds after My own heart, who will feed you on knowledge and understanding."

As the endtimes come, many believers may feel that God has rejected them because of the persecution and unjust laws they are experiencing. But this will not be true, although God may be judging them if they have great long-term sin. They should continue to live godly lives and to witness. Believers may only be able to tell whether or not they are being tested or experiencing

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judgment by divine enlightenment from God's Holy Spirit. **Once these disciplinary judgments begin, the believers' only hope will be for God to help them through the endtimes and to be raptured when Christ returns.**

Successfully responding to God in these endtimes takes His faithful people to greater spiritual maturity, for His use in eternity. This is blessing.

### A GREAT DEPARTURE FROM OBEDIENT FAITH WILL OCCUR

The reason for the coming endtime great departure from active faith and obedience into sin and false worship can be understood by observing what happens to the two covenant nations chosen of God: Israel (Ezekiel 16) and the United States patterned after Israel. [Figure 1-2](#) shows why and how the United States as a covenant nation is declining based on Israel's history.

God establishes the covenant nation initially to be spiritually beautiful, described by her people obeying His commandments and worshipping Him in Spirit and in Truth. Most of the people, both believers and unbelievers, are generally obedient to God and His commandments. God greatly blesses the nation, and her fame spreads throughout the world. Then Satan and his angels, using Babylon the Great (Revelation 18:2) and the world's knowledge (the knowledge of good and evil; Genesis 3:1-7), begin to influence the church and the nation to act independently of God. The church now has sins of both commission and omission. Because of her fame, the country and some church leaders become enamored with themselves and their knowledge and begin to act independently of God and His principles (Isaiah 14:12-14 and Ezekiel 28:12-19). They begin to carry out their own plans instead of God's. The country begins to act like a harlot, thrusting her harlotries on the other nations. Instead of the country accepting gifts for harlotry as does the usual harlot, she herself gives gifts to others in order to persuade them to do what she wants. The nation goes into great debt, and the nation's people become immoral and practice various forms of false worship and idolatry. Bad company, that which steers God's people away from obedience to Him, affects the church, and she begins to act like the world, carrying out her own plans instead of God's. The church has a form of godliness, but denies God's power (2 Timothy 3:5). By His own choice and laws, God will not work all things together for good in this sequence, as He once did when the church was more obedient. Thus, He no longer greatly restrains sin, and it becomes rampant, causing everything to go wrong simultaneously. The nation becomes terminally and spiritually sick, worthy of God's judgment.

God brings discipline upon His people and the nation by allowing Satan more control. During the fifth-seal period, Satan will use his control to bring great persecution against believers and patriots. These people include both those who actively fight against and those who passively resist the governmental and religious tyranny brought about by Satan.

Persecution brings a variety of responses. It fires up some believers, but causes many to fall away from obedient faith, and discourages others from believing the gospel in the first place. Under this persecution, God's faithful believers will make a greater stand for Christ. They will try to spread God's Word everywhere and will die rather than deny Him (Acts 8:1-8; Revelation 2:10; 6:9; 14:12, 13). History has demonstrated this pattern.

However, maintaining a low profile, a large number of believers will depart from obedient faith to escape the persecution. This departure will be demonstrated by their sin of (1) living ungodly lives; (2) failure to evangelize, possibly living secretly as Christians; (3) carrying out their own plans apart from God's; and (4) denying Christ when confronted. The widespread departure from the faith will also be evident in the involvement of church attenders in more sin and in the speaking in false tongues. Then the country herself will practice much greater sin and false worship and accept false beliefs.

**Second Thessalonians 2:1-8 prophesies that this great apostasy or departure from the faith**

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**will occur before Christ comes for His church in the Rapture.** Thus, even now and as the fifth-seal period progresses, it will become more difficult to successfully evangelize, because (1) believers will not be living exemplary lives so that God can work through them; (2) great persecution will cause many to fall away and others not to receive the gospel; and (3) the sin in most unbelievers will have matured, not allowing them to believe the gospel. Therefore, few people are expected to come to Christ during the latter part of this period, when the apostasy will be the greatest.

The potential outcome of this situation in the United States may be learned by observing what happened to Israel. In Israel's time, her people saw God's works in the wilderness for 40 years, and yet they did not know God's ways (Hebrews 3:7-19). They did not enter into His rest. Their disobedience dulled their spiritual sensitivity. The same was true when they were in their land after King Solomon died. Israel had a faithful remnant, but most of her people were disobedient or unbelievers. In their disobedience, they had eyes that could not see and ears that could not hear (Isaiah 6:8-11). When the judgment came, God did not answer their prayers because they harbored iniquity in their hearts. He also did not answer the prayers of others on their behalf. When God's people are disobedient, they serve other gods and enter into false worship. (Psalm 66:18; Jeremiah 5:21; 7:16; 14:10-12; Ezekiel 12:2.)

Many in the church, although saved, have not learned to live by great faith, know little about God's attributes and few of His ways (beyond salvation), and are not seriously involved in carrying out Christ's Great Commission. They have little knowledge of biblical doctrines, particularly the younger people who have not been taught doctrine. Like Old Testament Israel, the church has lost much of her spiritual sensitivity and zeal. She has become sinful (by commission and omission). The church no longer has the spiritual momentum to effectively evangelize communities and seriously disciple her people. Her eyes and ears are closing to the understanding of biblical truth — she is losing sight of how the endtimes will unfold and of the certainty of Christ's Coming. She has forgotten her basic calling:

2 Corinthians 5:15 - and He died for all, that they who live should no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf.

**The church has forgotten about the price that Christ paid on the Cross in order that she might effectively live for Him. Instead, she is living for herself again, while enjoying the benefits she derives from the Cross. She no longer shows sufficient love for Christ and commitment to Him to actively keep His commandments and accomplish His work.**

**This forgetfulness results from inadequate spiritual leadership — leadership that does not train its people with God's whole counsel or purpose. Churches with such leadership emphasize a church service and a program, even a biblical sermon, but they very often have a form of godliness that does not demonstrate reliance on God's power to reach spiritual maturity and to accomplish God's work to the degree He wants.**

Because many believers in such churches will not have adequate training by the time the persecution comes, many will fall away from obedient faith, thinking that God has rejected them. Some of these believers and many unbelievers will be deceived by the false doctrines in the many religions of the New Age Movement. Because persecution and lawlessness will greatly affect their lives, they will feel that God is not supporting them (contrast with 2 Chronicles 16:9). The same was true for many in Israel just before the temple was destroyed in A.D. 70. When these things happen, leaders of disobedient churches will be greatly judged because they did not adequately enter in to God's plan, and they did not train their people to adequately enter in (Matthew 23:13).

Matthew 24:12 - "And because lawlessness is increased, most people's love will grow cold."

Denying Christ and the Cross to avoid persecution and martyrdom is unrighteous living, because such action originates from the power of sin in man. Christ said that He will deny us if we deny Him

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(Matthew 10:33; 2 Timothy 2:12). Denial without repentance brings God's judgment, whether people are believers or unbelievers. Denial comes in many forms of disobedience to God's commandments (both through commission and omission), including a refusal to be involved in God's work. God wants believers to do more than just attend church and enjoy their Christian fellowships.

**Thus, because of assumed or perceived rejection, the coming of persecution, and the coming of many false religions, a great falling away from obedient faith is expected.** This falling away will cause God to reduce His restraint on evil, and sin will escalate. This falling away will bring massive apostasy and rampant sin — much greater than that which exists today. The world will approach terminal spiritual sickness. This great falling away from obedient faith will bring the revelation of the Man of Lawlessness and his sinful period.

**The situation will be reversed, however, for individuals and groups who turn to righteous living and to accomplishing God's work. God will respond positively to support them and use them to carry out His will. But this support will be under very difficult conditions, and because it is so, believers will need to live by great faith, trusting God to arrange all circumstances in their lives. They will not be able to work all things together for themselves.**

Some may object, believing that the church cannot fall away from obedient faith. However, in Revelation, even the churches in the apostle John's day had problems. Each of the seven churches had an obedient remnant, but the other people within the churches had spiritual problems (Revelation 2 and 3). A similar situation is expected to develop in the endtime churches, with their people falling away.

The following is an overview of the situation in five of the seven churches named in Revelation:

1. Ephesus had lost her first love and was not doing the deeds that she had done at first (2:4, 5).
2. Pergamum had faithful people, but many committed acts of immorality and false worship. The false worship included eating things that had been sacrificed to idols. Such worship was a stumbling block to the people. (2:12-17.)
3. Thyatira also had faithful people who did good deeds. But many had tolerated a false prophetess who led God's bond servants astray so that they committed acts of immorality and false worship by eating things sacrificed to idols. Christ said that unless the people repented of the immorality that they committed with the prophetess, He would place them into great tribulation. Christ said that He would kill her children with pestilence. (2:18-23.)
4. Sardis had died spiritually as shown by her lack of good deeds (3:1-3).
5. Laodicea was working out her own plans instead of God's. She was not against and was for His plans, but, being lukewarm, she was not actively carrying them out. (3:15-20.)

**America's spiritual decline continues to be primarily the fault of the disobedient church, and secondarily, the fault of the nation's disobedient people. Thus, both the church and the people should expect calamities leading to divine discipline in both the fifth-seal and mark-of-the-Beast periods. The church should expect judgment before her Rapture because God's judgment begins with His household (1 Peter 4:17).**

The churches and people of other nations can also expect discipline if they have greatly sinned or have fallen away from active faith. These churches being part of the other sinful nations will receive discipline along with the American churches and people within the endtime Pattern Sequence. In Old Testament times, when God brought Babylon against Israel, He also brought Babylon against the rest of the sinful nations surrounding Israel. These other nations also came under the rule of Babylon. Similar military action will occur in the endtimes, and most nations will come under the rule

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of the Internationalists and the Beast in the international government.

### PEOPLE NEED TO BE WARNED

#### The Watchman Warning

In these Pattern Sequence situations, God uses faithful individuals as Watchmen to warn people to obey the gospel and live righteously, or face His judgment. Most will not respond to this warning, so His judgment will come without recourse. Believers need to be encouraged to live by greater faith, in order to cope with the coming events. Those who respond will have great reward. Rewards are commensurate with faithful obedience to God. God's people should be trained to live by faith **before** the terrible endtimes come.

The timing of the coming judgments is known only by God. The judgments will come when the people's sin exceeds His tolerance levels, according to the levels of discipline mentioned in Leviticus 26. **Whether the judgments are a few, several, or many years away, existing signs and entities show that they are coming soon.** God's endtime program continues to progress, and the fourth-seal war will come with little warning — except from God's Watchmen.

I believe that God is now leading His servants to bring His Watchman Warning (e.g. this book) before the judgment comes, as He did in Old Testament times. This warning needs to continue into the disciplinary periods to fulfill God's requirement of offering His grace before judgment. **The Watchman Warning states that God will protect, test, and use those who continue in or turn to righteous living; God will judge those who continue in or turn to unrighteous living (Ezekiel 3:16-21; 33:7-9).** Greater detail about the Watchman, his calling, and message is presented in the first part of Chapter Eight, "How Then Shall We Live?"

#### Watchmen Need to Be Appointed

During the Pattern Sequences of Old Testament times, God used Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel as Watchmen to warn Israel and the nations in times of apostasy about coming judgment. He also used other prophets. They ministered in different time segments of the Pattern Sequence. Isaiah and Jeremiah began their ministries before the discipline periods. Ezekiel's ministry began during a discipline period.

**Today, many Watchmen are needed to warn America and the world. God may call thousands of believers to be Watchmen. Those called must deliver the warning message, or God will hold them responsible for the blood of the people (Ezekiel 33:7-9).**

#### God's Visions to His Watchman

When Ezekiel was called to be a Watchman and to warn Israel's people in their apostate times, God showed him heavenly visions of His throne, Israel's apostasy, and the coming judgments (Ezekiel 1:1, 4, 5, 10, 22, 25-28; 2:9, 10; 3:1-7, 12-14; 8:3; 33:1, 2, 7). Isaiah saw similar visions, but much less is recorded about them (Isaiah 6:1-3). Likewise, Revelation records that the apostle John also saw similar visions (Revelation 1:15; 4:1-3, 5-8; 10:2, 9-11; 11:6, 7, 9). These visions in Revelation imply that God called John to be a Watchman and to point the way for Watchmen in the endtimes.

Both Ezekiel and John saw the heavens opened and were caught up by the Spirit at the sound of a trumpet (Ezekiel 1:1; 3:12, 14; 8:3; Revelation 4:1). Both saw a man (Christ) with the appearance of fire: from His loins and upward was the appearance of brightness, like that of glowing metal (Ezekiel 1:27, 28; Revelation 1:13-16). Both Ezekiel and John saw living creatures in heaven with wings and four faces — the first like that of a man, the second like that of an eagle, the third like that of a bull, and the fourth like that of a lion) (Ezekiel 1:5-21; Revelation 4:6-11). In both visions, fire flashed continually, like lightening from a storm coming from the north, with a bright light all

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around it (Ezekiel 1:4; Revelation 4:2, 3, 5). Both men saw a heavenly throne, encompassed by a rainbow, near an expanse or sea of glass or crystal (Ezekiel 1:22-26; Revelation 4:6). They were each handed a scroll with woes and lamentations written on its front and back. Both were to eat the scrolls, and the scrolls tasted sweet as honey in their mouths but later became bitter in their stomachs (Ezekiel 2:8-3:3; Revelation 10:1-11).

**The multiple similarities between the two accounts and the apostate history that followed in each case, show that the apostle John, as in Ezekiel's case, was caught up to heaven for the purpose of his viewing the apostasies and judgments that were to come, about which he should warn the people. It was not the time of the Rapture when the church would be caught up to heaven. The visions that God showed to Ezekiel and John demonstrate that God was using Pattern Sequences — one to discipline Israel, and the other to disciple the people of the endtimes and to terminate human history. Both sets of visions illustrated that God was using covenant nations.**

Receiving the visions confirmed God's calling to Ezekiel and John as Watchmen. Today, God is calling believers who understand and believe John's endtime visions of the Pattern Sequence to be Watchmen. **Such Scriptural understanding shows God's calling and gives credentials and a commission to be Watchmen who are to warn the church and world that unless they receive the gospel and turn to righteous living, they will experience the endtime calamities and Tribulation periods as divine discipline. Watchmen can operate at the level of the family, the school, the church, the community, the country, and the world.**

### **MINISTRIES NOW SHOULD BE FOCUSED AND SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASED**

Evangelistic and discipleship ministries are expected to be severely restricted in the fifth-seal period. Believers are encouraged to **greatly increase** these ministries **now**, while such activity in great freedom is still permitted. Believers, including children, need to be trained now to live by faith during the coming discipline periods.

**TRAINING BELIEVERS TO LIVE BY FAITH IS MANDATORY — IT IS NOT AN OPTION!** It was in difficult periods like that of the fifth seal that God first taught, "But the righteous will live by his faith" (Habakkuk 2:4), and "Great is Thy faithfulness" (Lamentations 3:23). Similarly, God has given instructions to the church today to train her people to live by faith.

**Training and practical implementation of the training takes time, and the time available is becoming increasingly shorter. Leaders should assume an attitude of spiritual-warfare status immediately. It must be remembered that the government and others will make war against Christians and bring them persecution in the fifth-seal period. The time left must be used most wisely.**

Children need to be trained with urgency to be self-sustaining in Christ **before** they are indoctrinated with Satanic falsehoods during the fifth-seal period. **Young leaders need to be trained because the fifth-seal period may last for many years. Older believers living today may not be alive toward the end of this period. The doctrinal beliefs of the Christian faith must be maintained.**

The entire church needs to be trained with a well-chosen curriculum, representing the whole counsel or purpose of God, in order to accomplish her ministry and be prepared for the coming endtime periods.

I recommend the necessary training and preparation include the following:

1. **Proclaim the Watchman Warning and inform people of the expected biblical endtime experiences amid spiritual warfare.** Make people aware that the endtimes are beginning, of

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how they need to respond, and of the expected strategies of God and Satan. Teach them what will happen and what they may experience in each endtime period. Make the church and the world clearly understand that they will experience intense spiritual warfare, and that no one will escape the coming disciplinary periods. There will be no Rapture beforehand. Teach believers that they most likely will be persecuted, imprisoned, or martyred in the endtime days to come. Encourage them to train to live godly lives by strong faith and not to lose heart. Teach them the Pattern View doctrines.

2. **Train the church to live out the three activities commanded by God: exalting God, living godly lives, and accomplishing God's work** by emphasizing the process of living by faith, illustrated in Romans 8:28. Train believers to stand alone and be self-sustaining in Christ, seeing God respond to their personal faith-obedience and prayers. Help believers understand that the spiritual opposition cannot stop them from accomplishing God's chosen works. Build strong faith into them to fight in the spiritual warfare.
3. **Train and mobilize the church to do on-the-way witnessing as a lifestyle.** People can be witnesses of the gospel everywhere they go, as individuals or in groups, as they live their normal lives. They can witness in freedom or in prison. The training should encourage believers to form teams and evangelize their communities.
4. **Teach basic doctrines to everyone in the church** in order to help them build a strong foundational faith. Include the fundamental doctrines of the Christian faith as well as the practical doctrines that teach people to live by love, faith, and hope in Christian head-subordinate relationships. (These relationships are discussed in chapter 2.) These doctrines help believers build their faith and have a close walk with God. Training people to live by faith is very important. Only after receiving such training can people more greatly trust God and see Him working all things together for their ultimate good, even in turbulent times.
5. **Prepare Children.** Evangelize children and train them to stand alone and live by faith, being self-sustaining in Christ, and having spiritual eyes that see God responding to their own faith-obedience and prayers. **Train children to witness the gospel to their friends. This will evangelize more children and help build the faith of those children doing the witnessing. Have children memorize Scripture so that it will remain with them in difficult times.**

**Train parents to train their children. Train parents to live righteously so that God might protect their children from sin, even if the children are taken from them and placed in situations where they will be indoctrinated with falsehoods.**

**Our children will not grow up in the same world that we did. The pressures against them will be severe. They must be trained to live righteously amid the pressures, protected by the righteous living of their parents and the faithfulness of God.**

6. **Implement Small Groups.** Place all church people into small home, school, or office groups. Train them to practice living exemplary lives and accomplishing God's work. This will keep the church strong and autonomous if the government closes the church buildings or seeks to control church operation. The government can be expected to pass laws against home meetings for churches and for Bible studies. Thus, such gatherings may have to be regularly moved, meeting in various homes. Participants will have to be very careful — even where they park their cars — so as not to give away the fact that such a church group is coming together.

Group members can train together to keep Christ's commandments and do on-the-way witnessing. They can (1) share their faith and witnessing experiences; (2) pray and study God's Word, including Christ's commandments together; and (3) support each other as the difficult times come. Keeping Christ's commandments under God's leading shows love for Him (John 14:15; 15:10) and is a requirement for the implementation of the Romans 8:28 Faith-Process needed to implement the three activities. This faith-process is described in chapter 2.

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7. **Make Wise Support Preparations.** Make wise preparations to support yourself and believers over the long term to ensure that you can have logistic support to continue the ministries that God has given you, including being a faithful witness. These preparations need to include making wise spiritual, financial, legal, health, gardening, and physical preparations for the difficult times ahead. Set aside extra Bibles to ensure a supply in the discipline periods when publication will most likely be controlled. Make preparations to accommodate emergency conditions when you may be without food and water for short periods such as one to two weeks, when emergencies may be caused by floods, storms, riots, terrorism, and earthquakes. The future will bring many chaotic times. (Churches and individuals can help each other in these matters when they have assets, gifted people, and information that people need or can use. Helping each other is greatly needed. We need not, and probably should not, go it alone.)
8. **Continue to Use Mass Media and to Distribute Bibles.** Increase ministry efforts now, using all mass media, to prepare Christians worldwide with the first seven items of training listed above. Use regular broadcast and shortwave radio. Distribute Bibles to the world's people while freedom allows — **before the spiritual darkness pervades the world. ONCE MASS MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS THROUGH PUBLICATIONS, RADIO, AND TV IS LOST, IT WILL BE EXCEEDINGLY DIFFICULT TO REACH THE MASSES WITH THE BIBLE AND SALVATION. HOWEVER, PEOPLE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO STOP THE WATCHMAN WARNING FROM BEING PROCLAIMED.**

These recommendations and preparations are detailed in Chapter Eight, "How Then Shall We Live?" I would appreciate your sending me any information, teaching methods, and ideas that can help others.

## DISCUSSION

**If this book is correct, and if the church increases her ministries and is prepared for the disciplinary times, we have helped the church. If this book is wrong, and we have prepared the church, we will have done a better job than we might otherwise have done. But, if this book is correct, and the church is not warned and prepared, a great disservice has been done, particularly to children. God holds leaders responsible for their failure to train their people, and they can receive harsh judgment during the endtimes.**

**We are dealing with lives, not just with doctrines. It does no good to cling to wrong prophetic doctrines because of pride or other reasons. People need to be told that they are going into irreversible spiritual darkness and great persecution. People who have biblical endtime expectations will not panic nor have false hopes when the terrible events occur. People want to know what will happen and what they will experience. They want to be trained to live God's best during these terrible endtimes. They might not like what is happening, but they will know why it is occurring and what is likely to happen next. They will know what they need to do and how they need to live. They will not be left in the dark, wondering what is happening. Prepared believers will fix their hope on Christ's Coming and live by faith in God to guide them through the terrible times. It is the job of LEADERSHIP to inform and train their people NOW with expediency.**

People need now to face the biblical realities of the future and become serious about obeying God and training others. The fact that the church will experience the coming judgments shows that even Christians cannot get away with sin — not even the sins of living ungodly lives and leaving their local areas unevangelized, and the sins of involvement in false worship using contrived emotionalism and tongues.

**What is coming may seem harsh and hard to take, but it is according to God's plan. God will use these endtime periods to greatly mature His people, as well as to bring judgment to both believers and unbelievers. Thus, believers should welcome the opportunity to live faithfully, even in the most difficult of circumstances. Reaching God's chosen level of maturity brings great**

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**blessing now and in eternity!** Those who appropriately respond to God's testings, particularly in the difficult times ahead, will become like Job, who said, "When He has tried me, I shall come forth as gold" (Job 23:10). Our maturity will increase as we obey God through trials and testings even though we most likely will never reach the maturity of Christ. Experience has shown this. Nevertheless, believers will not have the same maturity in heaven. After receiving salvation for their sins in the Cross (justification), they are to grow in spiritual maturity to become like Christ (sanctification) in this lifetime. And when they enter heaven, they will receive new imperishable, resurrection bodies and have the sin in the members of their old bodies removed from their experience (glorification). These three parts complete the salvation process. They will live throughout eternity with the maturity they have reached in this lifetime. The apostle Paul knew that he had not reached the needed maturity, and he continued to press on toward that goal (Philippians 3:12-14). We are to do the same. This subject of maturity is discussed in more detail in chapter 2.

God will change the world **ONLY** if a large portion of Christ's church returns to obedient faith sufficiently soon. But the church will not do this. Moreover, once sin becomes mature in unbelievers, the world will be beyond reviving (Romans 1:18-32) — regardless of any action the church takes. The world is rapidly approaching this condition. When sin reaches a certain level of maturity in the world's people, the end will come without recourse.

**BE WARNED! The endtimes have begun and God's disciplinary judgment may soon unfold! The fourth-seal war will come with little or no warning, during a period when continued peace — not war — is expected. The only warning you may receive might be from one of God's Watchmen, such as the warning in this book. Do not plan to be taken out of this world by the Rapture before the endtimes come. It will not happen. Also do not plan on conditions ever getting better after they get bad for a while. This will not happen either. If you are a Christian and stand for God, Christ, and the Bible, you must prepare for the worst and most intense spiritual warfare of history. The international government will make war against you if you live the Christian life and do not deny Christ, carrying out the three activities. You must prepare to go through the endtime calamities and Tribulation. This book provides insights for this purpose.**

**You are encouraged to pray about what God would have you believe and do. Your response is up to you.**

I recommend that you commit before God to study and implement His commandments from your love for Him and study about and carry out His work according to His purpose for you as you trust Him through His faithfulness to work all things together for good. If you do this with all your heart, God will strongly support you through all the difficult endtimes.

2 Chronicles 16:9 - For the eyes of the Lord move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His.

Romans 8:28 - And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

In general terms, we can pray about the amount of time we have left before the fourth-seal war comes, as we prepare ourselves and our people. What we do not know is how mature the existing signs must become before the end will come. Therefore, it is not possible to set dates. But, because of the existing signs and entities, we can know that the end will start in the near term.

Readers who first desire an understanding of what will happen, why the end is coming, and what they should now do without getting involved with the details and the understanding of prophecy may now read chapters 6 through 8. Those who desire to know the plan of God, the detailed prophetic doctrines, and the development of the Pattern Sequence may proceed to chapter 3.

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## ENDNOTES

## The Essence of the Issues

1. **Apostasy** is a departure from the level of faith a person, family, church, or nation once had. It is a falling away from active faith and the belief system that one once had. For example, the people in the United States overall once had obedience to the general laws of God, but they now pursue various types of sins, especially immorality. This is apostasy as well as sin. The church generally had good teaching and obedience to do God's will and to do the work of the ministry. Fewer churches are now pursuing this effort with commitment. This falling away is apostasy. Apostasy has different levels or magnitudes, dependent upon the degree of the falling away.

**Immorality** is involvement in intimate relationships with violates and breaks God's laws and takes people out of His chain of command. Examples would be persons having sex without being married, or being married, a person having sex with another person other than their marriage partner. Thus, immorality is having intimate relationships with an unlawful partner or with one who is outside the marriage relationship. God is against immorality because it places the guilty person outside His chain of command and under another chain of command. When a husband and wife have relationship difficulties in a marriage, they remain under the chain of command of God. But when either partner commits adultery outside the marriage, they place themselves under the chain of command of Satan (or false god that ultimately is Satan). The same is true for those committing immorality who are not married. God is greatly against those people who take themselves outside of His chain of command.

Spiritual immorality or adultery is similar, but it is generally applied to relationships with other than the true God. Relationships with God (or with a false god) are considered to be equal with marriage relationships. Spiritual adultery can be committed by covenant nations. For example, Israel who had a covenant relationship with the true God committed spiritual adultery every time her people pursued false gods, such as when she committed the sins of Manasseh and of Jeroboam or worshipped the calves of Egypt. These people broke their marriage vows to God. Those who have this practice in a covenant nation, such as in Israel and in the United States, commit spiritual adultery with Satan and his angels. This immoral action caused God to exile Israel from her land and place her under the power of the Empire of Babylon. This action finally led God to divorce Israel (i.e. Jeremiah 3:8).

Thus, in general, people in the covenant nation of the United States who have joined themselves to religious systems other than that of Christianity commit spiritual adultery because they do not worship the true God, the God of their founding fathers. Thus, any person (including a Christian) who follows or obeys a spirit that is not of the true God commits spiritual immorality and places themselves under a different chain of command than with God, during the period of the disobedience. Such a situation no doubt occurs when an entire congregation speaks in tongues in a church service. The same happens when women speak in tongues with men present. This happens because those involved have transgressed the laws or injunctions of God (1 Corinthians 14:27, 28, 34, 35).

**Sin** is committed when a person breaks or transgresses any law or injunction of God that is written in the Bible. Sin is the breaking of God's laws.

**False worship** occurs when any person worships in a manner that is not authorized by the Bible or obeys a value system and doctrines that did not come from the Bible. God is against false worship. True worship occurs when people who are Christians are faith-obedient to God, acting from love. People who are not Christians always commit false worship because they have not joined themselves to the true God through the gospel of Christ. They worship non-existent gods that in reality are Satan and his fallen angels. People who continually break the laws of God commit false worship. God is particularly against those people who have joined themselves to a false religious system (one which holds doctrines different than those of the Bible and Christianity, as presented in chapter 7). He is against them because they do not worship Him and, by chain of command, have joined themselves with another, but false god — they have joined themselves to and worship Satan and his fallen angels (Romans 1:24, 25). False worship occurs when entire congregations speak in tongues or when women speak in tongues with men present. Another form and degree of false worship occurs when worshippers sing songs such as I Love You, Lord when they do not regularly obey God's commandments that they know about such as doing evangelism in their local communities or when children do not obey their parents. By not keeping the commandments they know, they demonstrate that they do not love Christ as much as they claim when they sing about

## The Essence of the Issues

Him (John 14:15; 15:10). Christ said why do you call Me Lord, when you do not obey Me (Luke 6:46). Because of our sin, we might be better off if we sing hymns about God and not about our relationship with God.

2. Wallbuilders, Inc., P.O. Box 397, Aledo, TX 76008.
3. The Jewish Dispensation as described in this book includes the total history of Israel. This history includes the time when Israel was a single nation and the time when Israel was divided into the Northern Kingdom of Israel and into the Southern Kingdom of Judah. The Hebrew and the Greek of the biblical manuscripts that is translated Jew in our English Bibles generally should be translated Judean. The term Jew apparently did not come into usage in the world until a long time after the Canon of Scripture was completed. The term Jew when it was first used could even refer to another people other than the true people of Israel (either Kingdom). Modern translators have adopted its use to refer the people of Israel. The term Jew as translated from the Greek and the Hebrew before the Day of Pentecost never referred to the Northern Kingdom of Israel. It only referred to the people of the Southern Kingdom, or the Judeans. For example, when the English versions of the Bible have the phrase "King of the Jews" on the sign above Christ during His Crucifixion, it should read (be translated) "King of the Judeans." Likewise, when the English translations use the term Jew, it means the Judeans, the people of the Southern Kingdom, and not the Israelites of the Northern Kingdom.

However, after the Day of Pentecost, the term Jew (meaning Judean) in doctrinal discussions appears to refer to all of Israel, including the people from both the Northern and Southern Kingdoms. The Bible probably uses this Greek word for Judean throughout the New Testament because the majority of the Israelites of the Northern Kingdom inter-married with the Assyrians (and became known as the Samaritans) and, thus, are no longer pure Israelites. But this situation probably was not true of all the people of the Northern Kingdom.

When this book refers to the Jewish Dispensation, it refers to the total history of Israel from the time of Abraham to the Day of Pentecost. Throughout this book, unless otherwise discussed, the term Jew is used to refer to the Judeans and, as used today, in the general sense, referring to the people of both the Northern and Southern Kingdoms.

4. Table 12 on pp. 263-265.