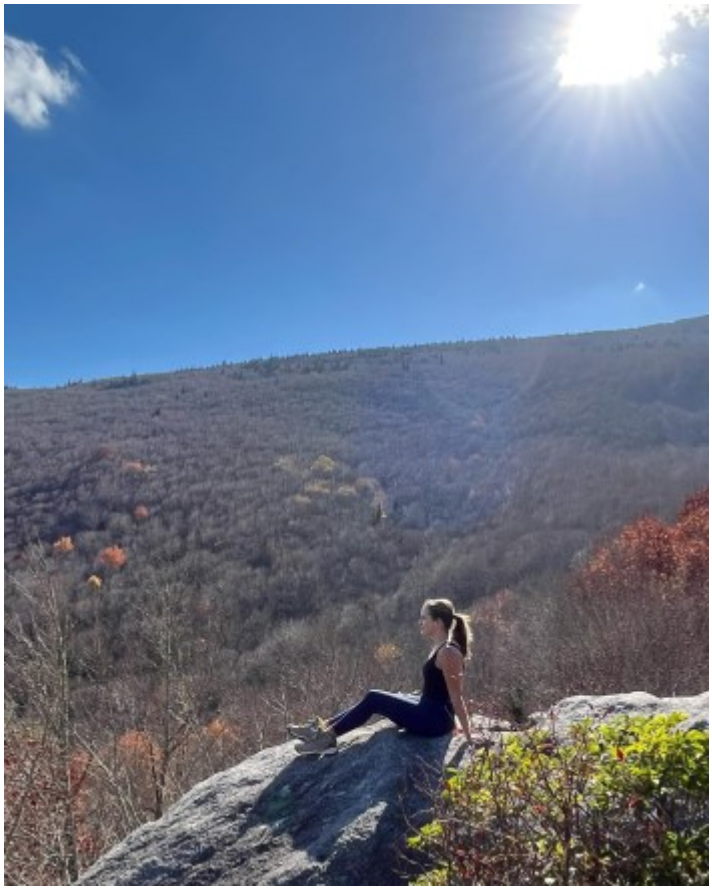
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God's Plans for 2024 and Beyond



By Steven J. Hogan

~ A Saturday Morning Post #294 ~

What's going to happen in 2024? It's similar to what happened in 2023 and 2022 and 2021 and 2020 and 2019 and 2018 and 2017 and so on. You see, in His word, God predicted the general condition of the world during this time, what is called the end-times (Dan. 12:4), a period related to the reoccupying of the land of Israel by the Jews. God wants us to know that the same kind of events will be taking place in these last years before Christ's coming. What occurred in 2023 is similar to what will happen in 2024 which is similar to what will happen in 2025 and so on. And all these God-predicted events that have been

and will be taking place are progressive, purposeful, and part of His plan leading to His Son's return to rapture the church and rule over this world – *"with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, the summing up of all things in Christ."* Eph. 1:10

What does God tell us about the end-time events, about 2024 and the years beyond?

Birth pains – *"Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be great earthquakes, and in various places plagues and famines"* (Luke 21:10-11). "… *These things are merely the beginning of birth pangs"* (Matt. 24:6-8). There have been and will continue to be birth pains occurring in various places around the world. They are designed by God to wake people up to the fact that Jesus Christ is coming back, and soon. These birth pains are wars (Ukraine, Israel, etc.), earthquakes (Japan, Turkey, etc.), plagues (Covid 19, etc.), and food shortages (Africa, Asia, etc.). As time goes on, these birth pains will be getting stronger and becoming more frequent. Rev. 6:1-8

Lawlessness – *"Because lawlessness is increased, most people's love will grow cold."* (Matt. 24:12) – *"In the last days, difficult times will come. For men will be lovers of self… lovers of pleasure, rather than lovers of God… evil men and imposters will proceed from bad to worse"* (2 Tim. 3:1-4, 13). Have you noticed the increasing lawlessness in our country? Anyone can see that there's more wickedness, greed, evil, envy, murder, strife, deceit, slander (Rom. 1:29-30), that there's rampant crime and theft, that there's the horrendous trafficking of children, that there are millions of border-breakers, that sexual sin is more perverted than ever, that unborn babies are still being killed, that evil is *"good"* and good is *"evil",* etc., etc., etc. This rebellion against God resulting in sin and lawbreaking will get much worse before Christ comes back and pours out His wrath upon this world. Rev. 8-9, 16

False Teachers – *"It is the last hour; just as you have heard that antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have appeared"* (1 John 2:18). *"Many false prophets will arise and mislead many"* (Matt. 24:11,

2 Peter 2). We live in a post Judeo-Christian age and are consequently witnessing a rapid decline in church attendance. It's not just that people aren't interested in God and don't go to church, it's that many hate Jesus Christ and His gospel message. But we haven't seen anything yet – wait until the Antichrist comes, for then he and his evil minions will oppose the truth of God and spew out the lies of the devil like never before. *"He opened his mouth in blasphemies against God."* Rev. 13:6

Persecution of Christians – *"They will lay their hands on you and will persecute you, delivering you to the synagogues and prisons... for my name's sake. It will lead to an opportunity for your testimony"* (Luke 21:12-13). Persecution against Christians has clearly been getting worse in the past few years. The enemy, calling us Christian Nationalists, extremists, etc., is arresting us for little to no reason at all. They want to shut us down to stop the spread of the gospel and our opposition to their sin. But that won't happen, for the preaching of the good news of Christ's mercy for sinners will continue to the coming of Christ. *"Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you."* 1 Peter 4:12-19, Matt. 24:9

Antisemitism – *"They will fall by the edge of the sword and will be led captive into all the nations; and Jerusalem will be trampled underfoot by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled"* (Luke 21:24). Antisemitism has been occurring since the birth of the Jewish nation close to 4,000 years ago. This devilish persecution has been directed against the Israeli nation and against Jewish people all over the world. Most recently, you've seen the horrific, Hamas-led attacks against Israel. Sadly, but sovereignly, some of the worst Antisemitism is still to come, when the Antichrist rules the world. This punishing persecution continues until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled and a remnant of Jews are saved. Psalm 83; Matt. 24:15-22; Rev. 12:3-4, 7-9, 13-17; Rom. 11:25-27

Nation / Kingdom Reconfiguration – "*Behold, I am against you, O Gog, prince of Rosh, Meschech and Tubal... I will bring you out, and all*

your army… Persia, Ethiopia and Put with them, all of them with shield and helmet; Gomer with all its troops; Beth-togarmah from the remote part of the north with all its troops." (Ezek. 38:1-6). This is one of many passages that lists out countries and / or kingdoms that are key parts of the global end-times' landscape. Dan. 2:40-45, Dan. 7:15-27, Dan. 8:21-26, Dan. 9:26-27, Dan. 11:36-45, Zech. 12:1-9, Rev. 12:1-6, and other passages also give us clues as to what the world looks like in the end, when the Antichrist and the Christ are present. But I believe its too early to be able predict the exact configuration of nations at that time.

I believe it is evident that the United States is in steep decline and will not be a world power broker in the last years of this age. I also believe that the locus of major kingdom activity will be in European, African, and Mideastern nations, especially the latter (Dan. 8:23-25, 9:26-27). In the years ahead, God will continue to reshape and realign countries and kingdoms all over the world. In 2024, there will be a big election in this country, but there will also be over 40 foreign national elections involving nearly half the world's population. God Himself will elect the rulers in these countries who will then continue to carry out His end-time plans leading to the establishment of Christ's kingdom on earth. "*It is He who changes the times and the epochs; He removes kings and establishes kings."* Daniel 2:21

Seventy Weeks – *"Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity… he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate"* (Dan. 9:24, 27). We've been talking about the general conditions of a general time period, the end-times, ones which show us that it won't be long before Christ returns. These verses describe Daniel's 70th week, a 7-year period during which several specific and critical events occur, ones which will make it very clear that Christ's coming, for both Christians and Jews, is

only a few years away.

At the beginning of Daniel's 70th week, there's the signing of a covenant between Israel and the coming Antichrist; at the midpoint of this week, the Antichrist is revealed; and at the end of this week, a remnant of Jewish people is saved. Other major events will take place during this 70th week: offering sacrifices in the temple in Jerusalem, the great tribulation, the mark of the beast, and most importantly for us, Christ's return to rapture the church. Matt. 24:9, 15, 21-22, 30-31; 2 Thess. 2:4; Rev. 13:16-17

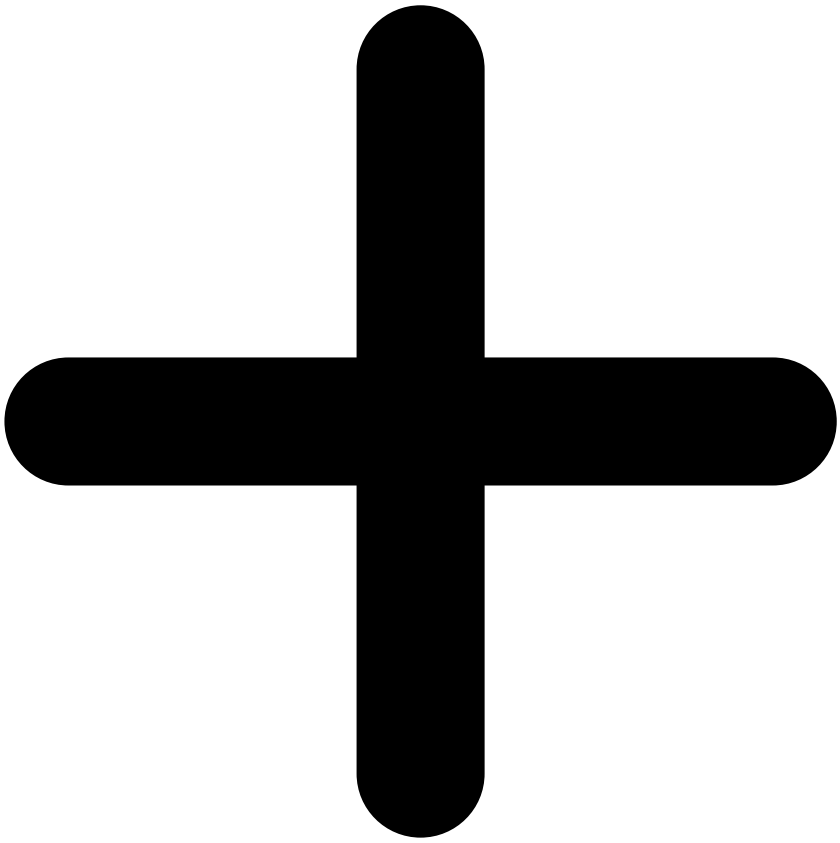
The Gospel – *"This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come"* (Matt. 24:14). The gospel will be preached to all nations in the last years of this church age. This is the work of Christ, and our work too. With all the trouble that's going on in this world, might the gospel message be on our heart, mind, and lips. What a joy to labor for and with Jesus our Lord, knowing that He's spiritually with us to the end of the age, and will physically return to earth to glorify us and take us home to heaven to forever be with Him. Matt. 6:33, 16:18, 28:19-20; 1 Thess. 4:15-18

No one knows exactly what will be taking place in 2024 but we know, in general, that there will be more birth pains, lawlessness, false teachers, persecution, and Antisemitism. We also know that God, *"who works all things after the counsel of His will"* (Eph. 1:11), has all the end-time details figured out, and that He is specifically working with every nation, ruler, and person, for each is part of His plan to send Jesus Christ back to this planet.

"So be on your guard; I have told you everything ahead of time" (Mark 13:23). Don't be sleeping – be awake and alert, and aware of what God is doing during these final years, knowing that He is getting everything ready to return His Son to earth to rapture the church, save the Jews,

and gloriously reign over this world. *"'Behold, I am coming soon.' Amen. Come Lord Jesus."* Rev. 22:20-21

P.S. Here in this country, people are so consumed with the Presidential election in November. But might we see the big picture, and that it won't be long before God sends His own Son back to earth. Here are three other posts that talk about how the Bible predicts the future: *"Prophecy Is Predicting the Future"*, *"Bible Prophecy Enables Us to See the Future"*, *"Forecasting the Future of the World."*



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