

To God's scattered Brethren.

Let me begin this year end letter, by passing along an enthusiastic thank you for your prayers and support for God's Truth to be taught on God's weekly Sabbath phone hook-up, Internet and the Prove All Things magazine!

As this world's year ends and a new one is about to start, it becomes evident God's Kingdom and His righteousness is earnestly needed. "Why?" Ask yourself? Are we better off today than we were a year ago? Is America today truly number one in the World? Or are we about to follow the history of nations like ancient Babylon, Persia, Greece, Rome or Germany in the 1930's. All these nations were number one in their region of the world until their structure collapsed. Before their dismantling, they became proud and arrogant.

Today, our nation has mimicked most of the abominations that cause those nations to fall. We lead the world in promiscuity; homosexuality; incest; sexual abuse of children (pedophilia) rape; murder and other violent crimes; drug use and alcoholism is in active demand; production and consumption of pornography is on the rise, making millionaires; while divorce and single parent families are on the increase like a runaway truck!! We read and hear on the daily news of suicide, abortion and children murdering other children. Americans' minds have become calloused to all this misbehavior and evil activities. Unadulterated greed and the present speculative binge on Wall Street, with merger mania, gambling and betting are blinding the Nation to its evil. Our wealth, affluence, and prosperity have shortsighted and corrupted this nation. Alexis De Toqueville once said, "America is great because America is good. If America ever ceases to be good, she will cease to be great!"

Re-reading the list of our unrighteousness above, one can say with certainty that America in the 1990's and year 2020 has ceased to be good. We are a sick nation, yet in our pride and arrogance we still see ourselves as number ONE. God's word shows pride comes before a fall. "The fear of the LORD is to hate evil pride, arrogance, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate" (Prov. 8: 13). "Pride goes before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall" (Prov. 16: 18).

Alexander Solzhenitsyn, a Russian dissident, was once asked on B.B.C. Television why the Russian people had lost their freedom to the Communists--his instant reply was, "**We forgot God.**" Is it possible that a post-mortem on a fallen America will show that we too "Forgot God?" Is it because of pain, suffering, poverty, depression or war? I don't think so!! Pain and suffering builds character and sends individuals and nations back to the basics and often sends them back to their knees before God. Conversely, great wealth, affluence and prosperity combined with sensuality, materialism, great leisure, non-stop pleasure and entertainment and boredom are destructive of character and leads individuals and nations away from God.

America has enjoyed, what is about to come to an end, the greatest prosperity and affluence of any country in the world. We as a people are proud of our accomplishments, and our power, wealth and affluence, our technology that has caused our ego to think we are number One--the only superpower in the world! The cost for such thinking has shrunk our national character, our morality, our virtue, and our sense of right from wrong.

In the last book in the Bible, the Apostle John is given a vision about the future fall of an entity called Babylon. Some have speculated that this Babylon is referring to the United States of America! The parallels between the Babylon of Revelation 18 and America today are thought provoking! "And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with His glory. And He cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies:" (Rev. 18:1~3). "delicacies" meaning: wantonness, lust and greed for more! But God's people are given a warning in verses 4 and 5. "Saying,

Come out of her, My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities" (Rev. 18: 4~5). God's people formerly came out of literal Babylon in order that they might return to Jerusalem. "Flee out of the midst of Babylon, and deliver every man his soul: be not cut off in her iniquity; for this is the time of the LORD's vengeance; He will render unto her a recompense" (Jer. 51:6).

God's people today are being called out of mystical Babylon in order that they may be accounted worthy to enter the New Jerusalem. All who are truly God's people will hear His voice and heed His call. "Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double. How much she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously, so much torment and sorrow give her, [ her reward will be paid in kind and the payment will fit the crime]: for she saith in her heart, I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow. Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her. And the kings of the earth, who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning" (Rev. 18:6~9). The streets of her cities burning!!

In the book of Isaiah is pictured a near and far view of the destruction of Babylon. "And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the Chaldees excellency, shall be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah" (Isa. 13: 19). Notice now Isaiah 47, "Sit thou silent, and get thee into darkness, O daughter of the Chaldeans: for thou shalt no more be called, The lady of kingdoms. I was wroth with my people, I have polluted mine inheritance, and given them into thine hand: thou didst shew them no mercy; upon the ancient hast thou very heavily laid thy yoke. And thou said, I shall be a lady for ever: so that thou didst not lay these things to thy heart, neither didst remember the latter end of it. Therefore hear now this, thou that art given to pleasures, that dwellest carelessly, that sayest in thine heart, I am, and none else beside me; I shall not sit as a widow, neither shall I know the loss of children: But these two things shall come to thee in a moment in one day, the loss of children, and widowhood: they shall come upon thee in their perfection for the multitude of thy sorceries, and for the great abundance of thine enchantments. For thou hast trusted in thy wickedness: thou hast said None sees me, Thy wisdom and thy knowledge, it hath perverted thee; and thou hast said in thine heart, I am, and none else beside me. Therefore shall evil come upon thee; thou shalt not know from whence it riseth: and mischief shall fall upon thee; thou shalt not be able to put it off: and desolation shall come upon thee suddenly, which thou shalt not know" (Isa. 47:5--11).

The Apostle John continues with his vision of Babylon. "Standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! For in one hour is thy judgment come. And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buys their merchandise any more: And the fruits that thy soul lusted after are departed from thee, and all things which were dainty and goodly are departed from thee, and thou shalt find them no more at all. The merchants of these things, which were made rich by her, shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing, And saying, Alas, alas, that great city, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls! For in one hour so great riches is come to nought" (Rev. 18:10-11, 14-17). This desolation of mystical Babylon brings victory and rejoicing to all God's righteous beings throughout all of God's created universes!

MAY GOD HASTEN THAT DAY FOR ALL WHO LOVE GOD AND PUT INTO PRACTICE HIS WORD!

