*Horse**

Revelation 6:1-8 (1) And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see.
(2) And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer.
(3) And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see.
(4) And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword.
(5) And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand.
(6) And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine.
(7) And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see.
(8) And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.
*Remember **Doomsday!**, December 21, 2012. The Mayan calendar ended one of its great cycles in December 2012, which fueled predictions about an apocalypse on December 21, 2012 at 11:11(UTC). Not the end after all.*
There have been other predictive dates of a so-called rapture, all wrong! Now we know these are the last days, but we do not know the day Jesus Christ will return to judgment.
According to Harold Camping, on May 21, 2011, true rapture

believers should have been swept away to--somewhere. They most likely would have totaled no more than 2 or 3 percent of the world's population according to rapture believers predictions. Those who remain would have endured five months of torment before the Oct. 21, 2011 apocalypse. May 21 and Oct 21 2011 have come and gone, what happened to the predicted rapture? It simply did not happen, same as all other rapture predictions, it did not happen. How many failed rapture predictions must be endured before that false doctrine is finally doomed?? The reality is this, that only God knows the end date and that is according to His only begotten Son of whom God said, "hear ye Him." Listen to Him;
But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father (Mark 13:32). *The word its-self bereaves all so- called rapture predictions, don't take my word, turn to;*
John 6:39-40 (39) And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the **last day**.
(40) And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the **last day**.
Again He said in verses;
(53) Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.
(54) Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the **last day**.
A rapture is not to be found. The idea of a Rapture was first announced by theologian J.N. Darby around 1830 and is based on the prophetic vision of a 15-year old Scottish girl named Margaret Macdonald. Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world (1John 4:1). *That false prophets do exist was proven to be true when the rapture*

date, May 21, 2011 came and went without fulfillment.
It was nothing more than scripture taken out of context.
Now turn with me to;
1Thessalonians 4:13-18 (13) But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, **concerning them which are asleep**, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.
(14) For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.
(15) For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.
(16) For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:
(17) Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.
(18) Wherefore comfort one another with these words.
1Corinthians 15:50-53 (50) Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.
(51) Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,
(52) In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.
(53) For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.
These scripture readings are predictive of the coming last day and judgment, not a rapture. Did you notice the dead in Christ will be raised first. No sudden disappearances!
Listen, If a prediction is true, it will stand the test. Turn with me to;
Deuteronomy 18:20-22 (20) But the prophet, which shall presume to speak a word in my name, **which I have not**

commanded him to speak, or that shall speak in the name of other gods, even that prophet shall die.
(21) And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which the LORD hath not spoken?
(22) When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, **if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD hath not spoken,** but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him.
Friends, if it is prophesied in the name of God and does not come to pass, it is not of the Lord and true Christians will not be in awe of the false prophet nor be carried away by his false predictions. Of a certainty, no man can predict the mind of God, do not take my word, turn with me to;
Matthew 24:35-39 (35) Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.
(36) But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.
(37) But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.
(38) For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark,
(39) And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.
It would seem to me there are two choices in this matter. Acceptance of the rapture doctrine, or acceptance of the word of the Saviour. The Saviour explicitly says no man, nor the angels, nor He, know when the day of the Lord shall be, only the Father knows. So how could a rapture theorist know?? There is one simple answer, he does not!! The May 21, 2011 failed rapture prediction proves the prophet and the doctrine are false. OK, so where do the horses come into this discussion? Many proponents of the premillennial framework usually protray the rider on the white horse of Rev 6:2 as anti-christ. This is another false prediction! A later chapter

of Revelation reveals who the rider of the white horse is.
The color white signifies purity and victory, John wrote; And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war (Rev 19:11).
Would anti-christ appear in heaven on a white horse? ***NO!***
Would anti-christ be called faithful and true? ***No!***
Would anti-christ judge and make war in righteousness? ***NO!***
Anti-christ cannot fulfill the terms of prophecy as revealed in Revelation 6:2 or Revelation 19:11. An anti-christ can and does make war, but as an ally to satan, it will be a war of deceit and lies. John the Apostle wrote; Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son (1John 2:22).
Antichrist's were in the world at John's writing, and antichrist's are in the world today, the only thing that has changed is the identity of the antichrist's. The short list today are atheists and Mohammedans. The unholy koran states; Wonderful originator of the heavens and the earth! How could He have a son when He has no consort, and He (Himself) created everything, and He is the Knower of all things (Sura 6.101).
However, God said; This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him (Matt 17:5).
That is why Christ can and will make war in righteousness against deceit and lies. Against the whitewashing of Satan, listen to this; And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light (2Cor 11:14). *Satan has whitewashed Mohammedans, transformed as ministers of righteousness, whose end shall be according to their works which is, deceit, lies and death. Listen to this;* Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: (1John 2:23).
Now that the identity of the rider of the white horse is determined, let us proceed further. And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to

conquer (Rev 6:2). *In the beginning of the gospel age, Christ went out to judgment and war wearing but one crown, however, now near the end He is wearing many crowns emblematic of many battles and victories won, turn to;*
Revelation 19:11-16 (11) And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.
(12) His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.
(13) And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.
(14) And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.
(15) And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.
(16) And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.
Revelation 6:2 tells us the rider of the white horse had a bow. Why a bow? It is a type of weapon used by an archer. Which he can draw tight to send an arrow to its target. When a hunter shoots an arrow straight and true, it will pierce the prey and kill it. However, pierce can also mean: to affect sharply with some sensation or emotion. So what does it mean, He had a bow and He went forth to conquer? Turn with me to;
Acts 2:1-8 (1) And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.
(2) And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.
(3) And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of

fire, and it sat upon each of them.
(4) And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.
(5) And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven.
(6) Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.
(7) And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans?
(8) And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?
An amazing thing happened! The Apostles were given special powers from God. He sent the Holy Ghost just as Jesus Christ had promised and it sat on each of them and they began to speak with other tongues. What happen a little later was truly amazing as Jesus raised His bow through the Apostles and shot the gospel arrow straight and true into the hearts of men. They were pierced, that is, pricked in their hearts and cried out, what must we do?? How a frightened they must have been when they realized they were guilty of crucifying the Son of God!! They had thought they were right but now were repentant. They knew they were in sin. Together let's read of their amazing encounter with the bow as recorded in;
Acts 2:36-41 (36) Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.
(37) Now when they heard this, **they were pricked in their heart**, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?
(38) Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.
(39) For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall

call.
(40) And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation.
(41) Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.
This is not the work of antichrist! This is the work of Jesus Christ mounted on a white horse as revealed in Revelation 6:2, and He went forth conquering and to conquer!! Three thousand souls added to the Church in one day is quite a conquering accomplishment! I can't imagine what satan may have been thinking. Perhaps he thought he had eliminated the Son of God on the cross, but now His blood as a great divide which satan could not penetrate or make non-effective. After that, the Church grew rapidly and the disciples went far and wide preaching the gospel to every creature. Even Saul of Tarsus, who was terrorizing the Church was eventually conquered by the Rider on the white horse. After his piercing of heart he had no small thing to say about the Gospel or it's Author. He wrote this account; For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek (Romans 1:16). *Revelation was right on when it prophesied, Christ went forth conquering, and to conquer!! There can be no doubt the rider on the white horse is speaking of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. When has white ever depicted evil?? Never!! People are transformed by the gospel becoming white as snow, having their spots and blemishes cleansed by the blood of the Lamb. Satan's whitewashing however is a clever coup, convincing people to believe they are saved without having obeyed the commands contained within the faith. The only Biblical example of 'faith only' is this;* Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only (James 2:24). *Blessed is the man who is a doer of the word and not a hearer only. Now a white horse*

depicts purity and victory. The ordinances that were against us and contrary to us were taken out of the way, nailed to His cross, a victory. But there was yet something else to be taken out of the way, there was yet the prophecy of Daniel 9:26-27 to be fulfilled, turn with me to;

Luke 21:20-28 (20) And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh.
(21) Then let them which are in Judaea flee to the mountains; and let them which are in the midst of it depart out; and let not them that are in the countries enter thereinto.
(22) For these be the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled.
(23) But woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck, in those days! for there shall be great distress in the land, and wrath upon this people.
(24) And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.
(25) And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring;
(26) Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.
(27) And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.
(28) And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.

The Holy Spirit points out that the way into the true Holy of Holies is not yet thrown open as long as the former temple remains a recognized institution and is still standing.

Do not take my word, turn with me to;

Hebrews 9:6-8 (6) Now when these things were thus ordained,

the priests went always into the first tabernacle, accomplishing the service of God.

(7) But into the second went the high priest alone once every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and for the errors of the people:
(8) The Holy Ghost this signifying, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing:
The destruction of the temple and Jerusalem came about; For these be the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled *(Luke 21:22). As long as the temple stood the holiest of all was not yet made manifest. From the beginning of Christ's ministry the Jewish nation wandered approximately 40 years in the wilderness of unbelief until the abomination of desolation prophecy was fulfilled in 70 A.D.. There is now remaining, until the judgment day, the free gift of grace by Faith in Christ which is the effect of belief in the gospel; it is only those who first believe the testimony of God, by faith repent of their sins, confess Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and are baptized into Him for remission of sins that have received the full and explicit testimony of pardon. This is the power of the gospel. Are you a partaker of God's grace? If not, it's power is calling you to repent, confess Christ and be baptized into Him for remission of sins, also prayer requests will be taken for other reasons. In either case come, state your request while we persuade with song.*

This message approved by
Jack Warford
a minister for Christ

Did the Mayan Calendar Predict The End?

The Mayan calendar ended one of its great cycles in December 2012, which fueled predictions about an apocalypse on December 21, 2012 at 11:11(UTC). Not the end after all.

Countdown to December 21, 2012, 11:11 UTC

One theory suggests a galactic alignment which would create chaos on Earth because of the gravitational effect between the Sun and the Black hole called Sagittarius A, which is located at the center of our galaxy.

Another theory involves a 'polar shift', which means a reversal of the north and south magnetic poles.

Scientists believe that the Earth is overdue for a geomagnetic reversal. However, this can take up to 5,000 years to complete and does not start on any particular date.

Doomsday Pprophecies

Our Mayan Calendar Countdown was very poopular in the day.

Just a New Beginning

NASA scientists have thoroughly studied and analyzed the possibility of the Earth ending in 2012, and have concluded that 21st December 2012 will be nothing more than a normal December solstice.

There is simply no scientific evidence to support any claims of an apocalypse on Earth on December 21, 2012.

No Planetary Alignment

In response to theories about planetary alignments leading to an apocalypse on Earth on December 21, 2012, scientists say no planetary alignments are likely to occur in the next few decades. And even if they did, the effects on our planet would be negligible.

NASA scientists also claim that the 'polar shift' theory is totally impossible. Although continents move slowly throughout time, a magnetic reversal is very unlikely to happen in the next few millennia and would not cause any harm to life on Earth.

The scientists' conclusion is that the end of the Mayan calendar does not imply the end of the world, only the end of the Mayan long-count period. The 'long count' is a part of the Maya calendar,

which is shaped like a wheel. When we reach the end of the wheel, it will turn to the beginning again, just like our modern Gregorian calendar starts again every January 1.

A durable doomsday preacher predicts the world's end -- again

Kimberly Winston, Religion News Service

Updated 3/23/2011 12:51:05 PM

OAKLAND — Save the date: May 21, 2011.

Preacher Harold Camping, shown in his study in Oakland, is gaining attention for his prophecy that on May 21, 2011, Jesus will return and the righteous will fly up to heaven,

By Kimberly Winston

Preacher Harold Camping, shown in his study in Oakland, is gaining attention for his prophecy that on May 21, 2011, Jesus will return and the righteous will fly up to heaven,

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Preacher Harold Camping, shown in his study in Oakland, is gaining attention for his prophecy that on May 21, 2011, Jesus will return and the righteous will fly up to heaven,

If preacher Harold Camping is right, that's the exact date Jesus will return and the righteous will fly up to heaven, leaving behind only their clothes.

That will be followed by five months of fire, brimstone and plagues, with millions of people dying each day and corpses piling in the streets. Finally, on Oct. 21, the world ends exactly as the Book of Revelation says it will — with a bottomless pit, a lake of fire and, at last, a new heaven and new earth.

FAITH & REASON: Prophecy websites blame human sin for Japan disasters

Doomsday preachers come and go, but at nearly 90 years old, the spry Camping has managed to ignite a nationwide movement that has garnered national attention.

Camping is not an ordained pastor with a church, and has no formal religious training. He can't read or speak Greek, Hebrew or Jesus' native Aramaic. His main predictive tool rests by his side in his wood-paneled office that looks like it was borrowed from the set of AMC's Mad Men.

"I made a very deliberate decision to make the Bible my university," Camping said, reaching for his battered, brown King James Bible

and flipping nimbly through pages with marked-up margins and taped-up tears.
"I bought a Bible with a good leather cover. This is the sixth one. When you use them all the time they wear out."
The same can't be said for Camping. Since the 1950s, he has broadcast his views via Family Radio, a global network of Christian stations where he now serves as unpaid president and primary on-air talent. His teachings air worldwide five nights a week via Open Forum, a call-in show that draws listeners as far away as China and Ghana.
"Thank you for calling Open Forum," Camping has said countless times in his trademark baritone, "and shall we take our next call, please?"
One of those callers is Chris McCann, an independent preacher who is part of a Philadelphia group of Camping followers that is spreading the word about May 21.
"God has put his stamp of approval that this is the day," McCann said in a telephone interview. "I don't doubt it, and I don't look at the possibility of May 22 happening."
Neither does Camping. Asked how he arrived at the date, he opened his Bible to Genesis and said Noah loaded animals into the ark in 4990 B.C., a number he said he arrived at years ago after looking at carbon dating, tree rings and other data. Paging forward to 2 Peter, he read aloud, "one day is with the Lord as a thousand years and a thousand years is one day."
Leafing back to Genesis, he said that the seven days Noah spent loading the ark was really 7,000 years. He then added 7,000 to 4990 B.C to arrive at 2010. He added one more year, he said, because there is no year one in the Bible.
As for the exact date of May 21, he pointed again to Genesis, which says the flood began on the "17th day of the second month." According to the Jewish calendar, which he believes God uses, that is May 21.
"Now I am telling you, that gets pretty heavy when you see this coming right out of the Bible," he said, looking up from his Bible's dog-eared pages.
Camping finds further proof in the headlines: same-sex marriage, devastation in Japan, popular uprisings across the Arab world.

They're all divine warnings of the earthly obliteration to come. "There are still people that God has to save, and he uses them to get them to cry out for his mercy," Camping said.

Camping is not the first to be enthralled with biblical numerology. In the 1500s, Scottish mathematician John Napier invented logarithms to better predict Jesus' return. American farmer William Miller (the founder of Seventh-day Adventism) picked dates in 1843 and 1844. More recently, Chen Tao, a group based in Garland, Texas, predicted God's return in the late 1990s.

A poll conducted last year by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press found that 41% of Americans expect Jesus' return before 2040. But pinpointing an exact date is unusual, said John R. Hall, a sociology professor and author of "Apocalypse," an examination of doomsday groups.

What is interesting is that (Camping) is claiming he is studying the Bible and this is what the Bible says," Hall said. "That is a very different thing than saying God has spoken to me and this is what has been revealed. It leaves him quite a bit of wiggle room."

Camping has wiggled before. He first predicted Jesus' return in 1994 in a book named for that year — but with a big question mark at the end. While writing the book, he said the year 2011 began to come up in his calculations, but 1994 was more prominent.

When the year came and went, Camping explained that he was wrong and needed more study. "It just was a cudgel to keep studying," he said.

Camping was once well-regarded in the evangelical community, both for his encyclopedic knowledge of Scripture and his radio empire. But in the late 1980s, when he began teaching that churches have strayed from the Bible and embraced false doctrine, he lost much of that support.

He announced his current prediction in his 2005 book, Time Has an End, and spreads the word through tracts, postcards and his radio shows. The final countdown has brought an international billboard campaign and a fleet of 20 decorated recreational vehicles that tour the country like movable billboards.

One set of RVs came to the University of Oregon, where Daniel Wojcik is a professor of folklore and author of The End of the World As We Know It, a study of end-times groups. Wojcik said prophets

and their followers generally regroup after their prophesy fails, often recommitting themselves to the prophet.

"People try to rationalize it," he said. "Often they say the end didn't come, but a spiritual transformation took place, so the prediction was right on. Then there is the test-of-faith response, where they say, 'Well, we weren't ready for it.' Or he (Camping) might just admit to being wrong."

Asked about that, Camping does not hesitate.

"I do not even think about that possibility because I am trusting the Bible implicitly."

His followers, in turn, are trusting Camping. Allison Warden, a 29-year-old office manager in Raleigh, N.C., runs a website, WeCanKnow.com, dedicated to spreading news of Camping's predictions. But what if he is wrong?

"It is a fair enough question," she said. "But the fact that it is in Scripture is why you can say it with such a degree of certainty. It's one of those things where you have to trust God."

Benson Commentary
Luke 21:24. And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations — The fulfilment of this part of the prophecy, we have Bell., Luke 7:16, where Josephus describes the sacking of the city. “And now, rushing into every lane, they slew whomsoever they found without distinction, and burned the houses, and all the people who had fled into them. And when they entered for the sake of plunder, they found whole families of dead persons, and houses full of carcasses destroyed by famine; then they came out with their hands empty. And though they thus pitied the dead, they did not feel the same emotion for the living, but killed all they met, whereby they filled the lanes with dead bodies. The whole city ran with blood, insomuch that many things which were burning were extinguished by the blood.” Thus were the inhabitants of Jerusalem slain with the sword: thus was she laid even with the ground, and her children with her. Ibid. — “The soldiers being now wearied with killing the Jews, and yet a great number remaining alive, Cesar commanded that only the armed and they who resisted should be slain. But the soldiers killed also the old and infirm; and taking the young and strong prisoners, carried them into the women’s court in the temple. Cesar appointed one Fronto, his freedman and friend, to guard them, and to determine the fate of each. All the robbers and seditious he slew, one of them betraying another. But picking out such youths as were remarkable for stature and beauty, he reserved them for the triumph. All the rest that were above seventeen years old he sent bound into Egypt, to be employed in labour there. Titus also sent many of them into the provinces, to be slain in the theatres by beasts and the sword. And those who were under seventeen years of age were slain. And during the time Fronto judged them, one thousand died of hunger.” Chap. 17. — “Now the number of the captives that were taken during the time of the war, was ninety-seven thousand; and of all that died and were slain during the siege, was one million one hundred thousand, the most of them Jews by nation, though not inhabitants of the place; for being assembled together from all parts to the feast of unleavened bread, of a sudden they were environed with war.” Thus were the Jews led away captive into all nations. However, the falling by the edge of the sword, mentioned

in the prophecy, is not to be confined to what happened at the siege. It comprehends all the slaughters that were made of the Jews in the different battles, and sieges, and massacres, both in their own land and out of it, during the whole course of the war. Such as at Alexandria, where fifty thousand perished; at Cesarea, ten thousand; at Scythopolis, thirteen thousand; at Damascus, ten thousand; at Ascalon, ten thousand; at Apheck, fifteen thousand; upon Gerizim, eleven thousand; and at Jotapa, thirty thousand. And thus was verified what our Lord told his disciples, the first time he uttered his prophecy concerning the destruction of Jerusalem, that wherever the carcass was, there the eagles should be gathered together, Luke 17:37. See notes on Deuteronomy 28:62; Matthew 24:15-21; and Mark 13:14.

Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles — The accomplishment of this part of the prophecy is wonderful. For, after the Jews were utterly destroyed by death and captivity, Vespasian commanded the whole land of Judea to be sold. Bell., Luke 7:26. — "At that time Cesar wrote to Bassus, and to Liberius Maximus, the procurator, to sell the whole land of the Jews; for he did not build any city there, but appropriated their country to himself, leaving there only eight hundred soldiers, and giving them a place to dwell in, called Emmaus, thirty stadia from Jerusalem; and he imposed a tribute upon all the Jews, wheresoever they lived, commanding every one of them to bring two drachms into the capitol, according as in former times they were wont to pay unto the temple of Jerusalem. And this was the state of the Jews at that time." Thus was Jerusalem in particular, with its territory, possessed by the Gentiles, becoming Vespasian's property, who sold it to such Gentiles as chose to settle there. That Jerusalem continued in this desolate state we learn from Dio: for he tells us, that the Emperor Adrian rebuilt it, sent a colony thither to inhabit it, and called it Ælia. But he altered its situation, leaving out Zion and Bezetha, and enlarging it so as to comprehend Calvary, where our Lord was crucified. Moreover, Eusebius informs us, that Adrian made a law, that no Jew should come into the region around Jerusalem. Hist., Luke 21:6. So that the Jews being banished, such a number of aliens came into Jerusalem, that it became a city and colony of the Romans, Hist., Luke 4:6. In later times, when Julian apostatized to

heathenism, being sensible that the evident accomplishment of our Lord's prophecy concerning the Jewish nation made a strong impression upon the Gentiles, and was a principal means of their conversion, he resolved to deprive Christianity of this support, by bringing the Jews to occupy their own land, and by allowing them the exercise of their religion, and a form of civil government. For this purpose he resolved to rebuild Jerusalem, and to rear up the temple upon its ancient foundations, because there only he knew they would offer prayers and sacrifices. In the prosecution of this design he wrote a letter to the community of the Jews, which is still extant among his other works, inviting them to return to their native country; for their encouragement, he says to them, among other things, "The holy city, Jerusalem, which of many years ye have desired to see inhabited, I will rebuild by mine own labour, and will inhabit it," epist. 25. And now the emperor, having made great preparations, began the execution of his scheme with rebuilding the temple; but his workmen were soon obliged to desist, by an immediate and evident interposition of God. "He resolved," says Ammianus Marcellinus, lib. 23., "to build, at an immense expense, a certain lofty temple at Jerusalem; and gave it in charge to Alypius of Antioch, to hasten the work. But when Alypius, with great earnestness, applied himself to the execution of it, and the governor of the province assisted him in it, terrible balls of fire bursting forth near the foundation, with frequent explosions, and divers times burning the workmen, rendered the place inaccessible. Thus the fire continually driving them away, the work ceased." This fact is attested, likewise, by Zemuth David, a Jew, who honestly confesses that Julian was hindered by God in this attempt. It is attested, likewise, by Nazianzen and Chrysostom among the Greeks, by Ambrose and Ruffin among the Latins, who lived at the time when the thing happened; by Theodoret and Sozomon, of the orthodox persuasion; by Philistorgius, an Arian, in the extracts of his history made by Photius; (lib. 7. cap. 9;) and by Socrates, a favourer of the Novatians, who wrote his history within the space of fifty years after these things happened, and while the eye-witnesses thereof were yet alive. Thus, while Jews and heathen, under the direction of a Roman emperor, united their whole force to baffle our Lord's prediction, they did but still the more conspicuously

accomplish it. See notes on Deuteronomy 28:64-68. Until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled — The time determined in the counsel of God for the conversion of the Gentiles. The Apostle Paul has given us a clear explication of this passage, Romans 11:25. This part of the prophecy answers to Daniel 9:27 : He shall make it (Jerusalem) desolate, even until the consummation, namely, of wrath upon this people, and that determined be poured upon the desolate. The meaning of both passages is, that after the destruction here foretold, Jerusalem shall continue desolate, until God has poured upon it the whole wrath he has determined; and this wrath will not be finished until the Gentiles are converted.

Luke 21:25-26. There shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, &c. — These seem to be highly figurative expressions, signifying the decaying of all the glory, excellence, and prosperity of the nation; and the prevalence of universal sadness, misery, and confusion. And upon the earth — Or, upon the land, as the words may be rendered; distress of nations with perplexity — The Jewish tetrarchies shall be distressed and perplexed: the sea and the waves roaring — The roaring of the sea and the waves may be a metaphorical expression; for, in the first clause of this verse, the signs in the sun and the moon and the stars are plainly so, answering to what by Mark is expressed thus: The sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars of heaven shall fall. For, though the darkening of the sun and the moon may be intepreted literally of eclipses, no reader can understand the falling of the stars literally. See on Mark 13:24-26, and Matthew 24:29-31. Men's hearts failing them for fear — Greek, αποψυχοντων ανθρωπων απο φοβου, literally, men expiring through fear; and for looking after those things — Those dreadful calamities; which are coming on the earth — Or, on the land. For the powers of heaven shall be shaken — For this shall not be like former invasions, or captivities, which only produced some transient disorders in the state, or at most an interruption in the government for a few years; but it shall be attended with a total subversion of it; even of the whole Jewish polity, laws, and religion, which were the work of heaven, or which, containing in them the light of truth, are signified by the sun, moon, and stars in the preceding verse; and therefore might in this be called the powers of heaven. The consequence shall be such

vast, extensive, and lasting ruin, that it shall be a most lively emblem of the desolation of the whole world at the last day. The above is the exposition commonly given of these verses, compared with the parallel passages in Matthew and Mark. And in consistency therewith, επι της γης, which our translation renders, upon the earth, is thought to be only intended of the land of Judea and Samaria. But Dr. Campbell thinks the prophecy is not to be confined to that country, and therefore he prefers the common version, for which he assigns the following reasons: "First, though what preceded seems peculiarly to concern the Jews, what follows appears to have a more extensive object, and to relate to the nations and the inhabitable earth in general. There we hear of συνοχη εθνων, distress, or anguish of nations, and of the things, επερχομενων τη οικουμενη, coming upon the habitable world; not to mention what immediately follows, to wit, that the Son of man shall be seen coming in a cloud, with great glory and power. Nor is it all probable that, by the term, εθνων, nations, used thrice in the preceding verse, manifestly for Gentiles, are meant in this verse only Jews and Samaritans. Secondly, the prediction which the verse under examination introduces, is accurately distinguished by the historian, as not commencing till after the completion of the former. It was not till after the calamities which were to befall the Jews should be ended; after their capital and temple, their last resource, should be invested and taken, and the wretched inhabitants destroyed, or carried captive into all nations; after Jerusalem should be trodden by the Gentiles; nay, and after the triumph of the Gentiles should be brought to a period; that the prophecy contained in this and the two subsequent verses should begin to take effect. The judicious reader, to be convinced of this, needs only give the passage an attentive perusal."

Luke 21:27-28. Then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud — They shall see the accomplishment of what Daniel foretold, by the figurative expression of, "the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven;" for the destruction of the Jewish nation by the Roman armies, and, in after ages, of other persecuting and antichristian powers, and the spreading of my gospel in consequence thereof, according to this my prediction, shall demonstrate to all unprejudiced persons, that I am the Son of man, prophesied of by

Daniel, and that the conversion of the world to Christianity is the glorious universal kingdom which Daniel foretold was to be given to the Son of man; and this is the true sign from heaven, about which the Jews have been so solicitous. See note on Matthew 24:30-31.
With regard to the destruction of the Jewish nation, and the consequent downfall of their religious institutions, which they all along opposed to Christianity, it may be observed, that no events whatever could have contributed so effectually to the conversion of both Jews and Gentiles.
"For it is a known fact, that while the Jewish constitution subsisted, the spreading of the gospel was hindered, both by the believing and unbelieving Jews; the former disgusting the Gentiles, by endeavouring to subject them to the law of Moses; and the latter, terrifying them by the persecutions which they raised against the disciples, even in heathen countries. But the abolition of the Mosaical institutions confuted the error of the one, and the destruction of the nation brake the power of the other. The success, therefore, of the gospel, depending in a great measure upon the downfall of the Jewish state, was very properly predicted as the natural consequence thereof. Moreover, as this prophecy described so minutely the catastrophe of the Jewish state, its accomplishment could not but make a strong impression upon the minds of the Gentiles, as we know in fact it did bring over many of them to Christianity." When these things begin to come to pass — The things I have been predicting; then look up — With firm faith; and lift up your heads — With joy; for your redemption — Out of many troubles; draweth nigh — By God's destroying your implacable enemies.

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