

There Shall be Signs! Luke 24:25

Did you ever sit on a railroad track as a child, waiting for a train to come? Excitedly, you wait, and listen. Long before the train arrives, you place your ear on the smooth surface of the rail and wait to feel the faintest vibration. The first tremor is nearly indiscernible. *Is it my imagination?* you wonder. A few seconds later the vibration becomes more distinct, getting louder with each passing second.



It's coming! you suddenly realize. You glance up, half-expecting the train to instantly round the corner; but still no train. A bit later, the vibration on the track is joined with the definite sound

of the approaching train. Finally, the locomotive bursts into view. The noise quickly becomes a deafening roar as the train races past just a few feet away.

In the same way, the sober sounds of ancient biblical prophecies predicting an approaching 'End of Days' are steadily increasing. However, only those who are intently listening to catch the steady tread of events will *"know that it is near—at the doors!"* (Matthew 24:33, NKJV). Sadly, many people have actually died at railroad crossings because they weren't paying attention, or had the music in their automobile cranked up so loud that they couldn't hear the warning blasts from the train.

Take note of this. When Jesus Christ was on earth nearly two thousand years ago, He clearly identified certain "signs" of His return; but today, millions are ignoring His merciful warnings, or simply aren't paying attention. They either aren't interested, or are too busy being entertained.

Intense Violence

Jesus predicted, *"As the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be"* (Matthew 24:37, NKJV).

What was it like in Noah's days just before the flood? Here's the answer: *"The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence."*

According to a resource article on the University of California's web-site, by the time the average US child finishes high school, he or she will have witnessed 8,000 murders on television, and by age 18, over 200,000 acts of violence. A March 14, 2014 report by Fox News stated that in one study, children who often played violent video games, "showed an increase in aggressive behavior such as shoving, hitting and pushing."



Violent video games are extremely popular today, and are often linked with fatal school shootings. Consider also the unspeakable brutality of groups like ISIS, and many others. In Noah's day, when God saw such violence upon His earth, *"He was grieved in His heart"* (Genesis 6:6).

Surely our loving Creator grieves today.

Sexual Immorality

Jesus also warned, *"As it was in the days of Lot Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed"* (Luke 17:28,30).

Lot was a man who lived in a city called Sodom. What was Sodom known for? *Sexual perversity*. The shocking, open, and aggressive nature of this evil is recorded in Genesis 19 which describes how the homosexual men of

Sodom tried to rape the visitors who entered the city. In Genesis 19, God intervened. The very next day *"the Lord rained brimstone and fire on Sodom"* (verse 24). Archeologists have discovered that ancient city buried under layers of ash.

Sodom's ruins exist today.

Look around. The sacred nature of the marriage institution, established by God Himself in the Garden of Eden (see Genesis 2:24), is crumbling on all sides. On TV and the Internet, sexual perversity is shocking. Even children are targets.

Sodom is rising again.

Just three years ago (January 2012), there were only six US states that recognized same-sex marriage. Today, that number has jumped to 35. The Supreme Court recently struck down the *Defense of Marriage Act* (DOMA) and sounded a warning to any individual state attempting to pass laws discriminating against a homosexual lifestyle. The result? Gay rights have trumped religious rights in America.

Before 2010, there were only six countries that had fully legalized same-sex marriage. Today there are 18. Same-sex marriage is not only being legalized world-wide, but homosexuality is being pushed, even in elementary schools. Yes, those who struggle with same-sex attractions are people too who need love, and prayer. But the fact is, many are militant, and dangerous.



Sodom has returned.

Jesus Christ warned us about this “sign” too.

Religious Extremism, Killing in the Name of God

“The nations were angry ...” (Revelation 11:18) *“... the time is coming when whoever kills you will think that he offers God service”* (John 16:2).

Once again, consider ISIS, Al-Qaeda, Boko Haram in Africa, and other militant Islamic radicals now viciously advancing throughout the Middle

East, Europe, England, and even in America. Yet the Bible counters with this enlightened truth, “whatever

you want men to do to you, do also to them” (Matthew 7:12). *“God is love”* (1 John 4:8), reports the world’s best-selling Book. God never forces anyone to believe in Him, but gives everyone free choice (read Revelation 22:17).

The radicals are angry. They kill in the Name of God. Once again, such “signs” were predicted by Jesus Christ, who never lies.

Mass Animal Die-Offs

Right before God destroyed the ancient world in the days of Noah, He gave its doomed inhabitants one final sign of pending judgment. Do you remember what it was? It was a sign of animals and birds entering the ark unaided by human hands (see Genesis 7:13-16). This odd and unnerving event caused those who remained outside the ark to look everywhere but to Noah for an explanation. Although Noah had been warning them for 120 years that God was going to destroy the earth with a flood, they refused to accept this unique sign of impending doom. Apparently, “scientific” and “natural” explanations quieted their fears.

If God gave a sign from His animal kingdom in Noah’s day, might He do the same thing again? Consider the following news reports:

- January 1, 2011: 5,000 blackbirds fell from the sky dead in Beebe,

Arkansas.

- January 3, 2011: 2 million dead fish wash up in Chesapeake Bay.

- January 4, 2011: Nearly 500 birds fell from the sky, dead, in Louisiana.



- January 7, 2011: 8,000 doves rained down dead in Italy.

- February 16, 2011: An estimated 5 million fish wash up dead in Kenya.

- March 8, 2011: Millions of dead fish stink up the King Harbor Marina in California.

- May 13, 2011: Thousands of dead fish wash ashore in Lake Erie.

- July 15, 2011: Hundreds of thousands of Prions (birds) die in New Zealand.

- August 1, 2011: Thousands of fish perish in a lake that turns blood red in Texas.

- January 2, 2012: 20 tons of dead fish wash ashore in Norway.

- January 7, 2012: Thousands of fish die in the Gholani River in India.

- April 25, 2012: Porpoises die in alarming numbers near China.

- May 30, 2012: Mysterious “red tide” slaughters 55 million abalone in China.

- July 6, 2012: Sixty million oysters perish, leaving farmers broke in Quang Ninh, Vietnam

- November 12, 2012: Mass deaths of sea gulls turn beaches into mass graves in Morocco.

- December 31, 2012: 300 more blackbirds drop dead in Tennessee.

- December 31, 2012: Thousands of tons of dead herring wash ashore in Iceland.

- January 11, 2013: Thousands of birds perish in Michigan.

- January 25, 2013: Millions of oysters wiped out in NSW, Australia.

- February 8, 2013: Immeasurable numbers of dead fish litter the Fitzoy River, Australia.

- March 21, 2013: Millions of prawns wash up dead in Chile.

- April 8, 2013: Thousands of birds wash up dead in England.

- April 9, 2013: 190 vultures drop from the sky dead in Trinidad.

- June 20, 2013: Report of over 37 million bees dead in Ontario, Canada.

- July 12, 2013: Hundreds of thousands of dead eels cover beach front in China.

- August 6, 2013: Hundreds of thousands of dead fish wash ashore in Pakistan.

- September 16, 2013: Crows and pigeons drop from the sky in Nepal.

- January 26, 2014: Report of 10 million scallops washed up dead in waters near Vancouver, Canada.



- May 26, 2014: Hundreds of thousands of dead fish wash ashore in Texas.

- June 26, 2014: Thousands of dead sea birds found along the coast of Peru.

- August 26, 2014: Thousands of dead fish wash ashore in Saudi Arabia.

- September 22, 2014: More birds fall from the sky dead in Russia.

- December 18, 2014: 30 million dead fish wash up in a lake in Bolivia.

- January 15, 2015: Report that over 100,000 dead birds have washed up on US and Canadian beaches over the past 3 months.

While these 34 news reports covering a four-year period are all startling, there are approximately 2141 other reports of different mass animal die-offs that occurred during those same four years!

In Old Testament times, because of Israel's many sins, God predicted, *"Therefore the land will mourn ... with the beasts of the field and the birds of the air; even the fish of the sea will be taken away"* (Hosea 4:3). In the New Testament, Paul wrote that Old Testament events are "examples" to us living near "the end of the ages" (see 1 Corinthians 10:11).

Waters Turning Red

Bible prophecy is filled with ancient/modern parallels. In other words, we are to learn from the past to better understand the future. In the time of Moses, just before the ten plagues fell upon Egypt (read Exodus 7-12), God gave special signs to convince His own people that His words would surely come to pass. God told Moses that *"The water which you take from the [Nile] river will become blood on the dry land"* (Exodus 4:9).

Thus, when water turned the color of blood, it was a "sign" to ancient Israel. Could the following accounts represent a parallel warning to us that "the seven last plagues" described in the book of Revelation are about to fall upon a lost world? Consider these news reports:

- CBS News, August 2, 2011: *"Armageddon Alert After Texas Lake turns Blood-red."*
- The Daily Star, February 16, 2012: *"Beirut River Mysteriously Runs Blood Red."*
- English-Russia, July 25, 2012: *"The Azov Sea Turned Bloody Red" (near the town of Berdyansk).*
- NY Daily News, August 9, 2012: *"Blood Red Mystery: Lakes Flow Eerie Red in Southern France."*



- ABC News, September 7, 2012: *"Yantzee River Turns Red." Chinese officials do not know why.*
- ABC News, November 27, 2012:

"Beach [Sidney, Australia] Turns Blood Red, Swimmers Flee."

- The Examiner, November 1, 2013: *"River Waters Turn Red in the Netherlands..."*
- ABC News - July 25, 2014: *"Chinese River Mysteriously Turns Bloody Red Overnight."*



The November 27, 2012 ABC News story about Australia mentioned above reported:

"Sydney's famous beaches, popular with surfers, looked more like a scene out of a horror movie today when the waters were stained blood red from an algae bloom."

As the article states, researchers believe the red waters are linked to a rise in bacteria and rare algae blooms—another symptom of bizarre climate changes. Is God using natural phenomenon to forewarn His people of what is about to happen, just like He did in the time Moses, right before the ten plagues hit Egypt? We believe so.

Revelation 16:3 says, *"The second angel poured his vial upon the sea, and it became as the blood of a dead man ..."* (KJV). Notice it says *"as the blood of a dead man."* Will the water literally become bloody, or merely red like blood? We don't know for sure, but we do know that this awful judgment will come right before the end (see Revelation 16:17-20).

Anciently, water turning red was a sign to Israel that their long-awaited deliverance from Egyptian bondage was at hand. To us today, the last chapter of the Bible says, *"the time is at hand!"* (Revelation 22:10).

The very fabric of nature seems to be threadbare and ripping apart at the seams. The sheer magnitude of killer natural disasters worldwide reveals, in

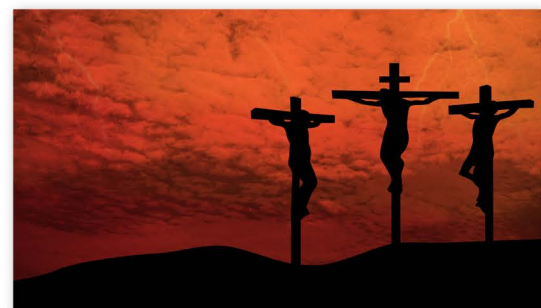
unmistakable language, that planet Earth has entered its "last days" (1 Timothy 3:1). As up-to-date as a CNN headline, the Bible reports:

"The earth mourns and fades away, the world languishes and fades away; the haughty people of the earth languish. The earth is also defiled under its inhabitants, because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant. Therefore the curse has devoured the earth, and those who dwell in it are desolate" (Isaiah 24:4).

An apocalyptic "train" is approaching. Time is running out. Are YOU listening?

Hope for Humanity

Humanity is on a collision course with disaster. If God doesn't intervene, our world would eventually become depopulated. Yet there is Good News. Our Creator won't leave His world to self-destruct. As in the time of Moses, His wonderful plan is to rescue those who trust in Him.



"I will come again" (John 14:3), Jesus Christ promised. *"He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him"* (Revelation 1:7). After *"the day of the Lord"* comes *"as a thief in the night,"* and *"the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat"* (2 Peter 3:10-12), then God will marvelously recreate a "new heaven and a new earth" just like the Garden of Eden. Then *"there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away"* (Revelation 21:1,4).

In these final hours of earth's history before God eliminates sin, He urges each of us to repent of all wickedness, and to trust His great love, which motivated Him to sacrifice His very life on a

cruel cross for our sins (read 1 Corinthians 15:3). In this cosmic conflict against sin, He wants our loyalty. He is worthy of our love.

"God so loved the world," Jesus told us, *"that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life"* (John 3:16).

If your house caught fire in the middle of the night, and you and your family were sound asleep, wouldn't you want your neighbor to sound a warning—to wake you up? He might

even shout in a loud voice, "Your house is burning!" In the same way, God Himself is seeking at this very moment to warn us of impending doom.

It's the time of Noah all over again. These are the days of Lot and Sodom, Part 2.

As in the time of Moses before the ten plagues struck Egypt, earth's waters are already turning red.

Similar to the history of ancient Israel, *"the birds of the air"* and *"the fish of the sea"* are being *"taken away"* (Hosea 4:3).

Dear friend, it's not an accident that you are reading this. Jesus Christ loves YOU. He is pleading with you to read His Book (the Bible), and to learn the truth.

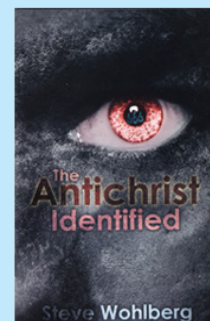
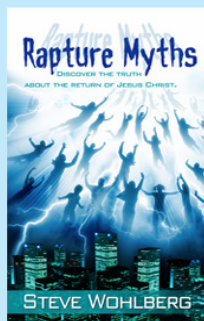
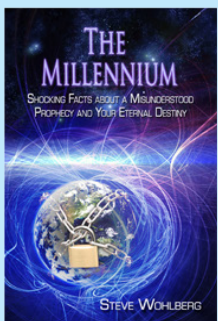
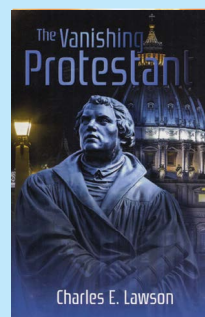
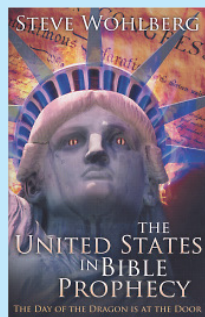
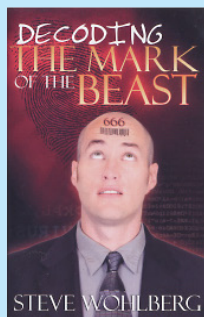
With a loving heart, Jesus urges you to turn from all sin, to trust Him, and to invite Him into your heart as your personal Savior today.

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