

The King of the North
Part 5 – The 20th Century and the Commencement of the Time of Trouble

The evidence from the Bible, Sister White, and the historical teaching of the Adventist church point to the end of the Ottoman Empire in 1922 as the commencement of the “time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation.” *Daniel 12:1*. The previous four articles in this series have clearly pointed this out. But let me be clear, I am not saying that probation has closed, or that we have entered Jacob’s trouble. The time of trouble has only commenced, what is still coming will make the past look like child’s play.

Does the history of the 20th century back this conclusion up? What will be happening in the land during this time of trouble? “...In the time of trouble, when sword, famine, and pestilence are in the land...” *Early Writings, page 56*.

“The judgments of God are in the land. The wars and rumors of wars, the destruction by fire and flood, say clearly that the time of trouble which is to increase until the end, is already in the world.— Letter 93, 1904, pp. 7, 8. (To W. C. White, February 21, 1904.)” *Manuscript Releases, Volume 4, page 89*.

“The time of trouble has already begun. We hear continually of riots and accidents, of murders and robberies. Human life is no longer safe unless under the protection of God. God’s servants must not be surprised that they meet with great difficulties and persecution at this time. In His day, the world’s Redeemer, the Son of God, was shamefully treated by the people He came to bless. He had to go from city to city to ensure His safety, and this persecution followed Him until His work on earth was accomplished.” *Manuscript Releases, Volume 21, page 101, Written September 3, 1907*.

What does the time of trouble consist of? Sword, famine, and pestilence, destruction by fire and flood, riots, accidents, murders, and robberies, with persecutions of God’s people. Now think about the 20th century a little bit. Is this not exactly what we have seen? Let’s just take a few minutes and think about the numbers.

Sword

When we consider warfare in history we immediately find that the most destructive wars in history have occurred in the last one hundred years.

“World War I involved more countries and caused greater destruction than any other war except World War II.” *World Book Encyclopedia, Vol. 21, 1991, page 454*.

“The total number of military and civilian casualties in World War I were over 35 million. There were over 15 million deaths and 20 million wounded ranking it among the deadliest conflicts in human history.

“The total number of deaths includes about 10 million military personnel and about 7 million civilians. The Entente Powers (also known as the Allies) lost about 6.0 million soldiers while the Central Powers lost about 4.0 million.” *Wikipedia, World War I casualties (parenthesis supplied by*

Wikipedia).

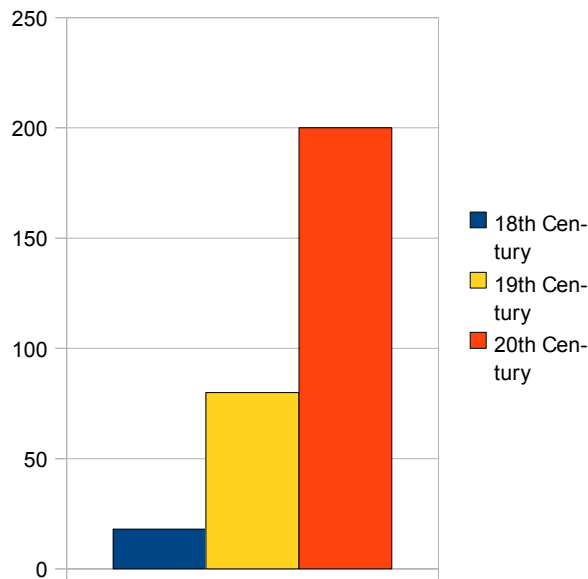
Compare this to the Napoleonic Wars of the previous century. “Civilian deaths are impossible to accurately estimate. Whilst military deaths are invariably put at between 2.5 million and 3.5 million, civilian death tolls vary from 750,000 to 3 million. Thus estimates of total dead, both military and civilian, can reasonably range from 3,250,000 to 6,500,000.” *Wikipedia, Napoleonic Wars casualties*. This was only a fraction of what we saw in World War I.

Now compare these numbers to World War II. “World War II killed more people, destroyed more property, disrupted more lives, and probably had more far-reaching consequences than any other war in history.” *World Book Encyclopedia, 1991, Vol 21, page 470*.

“World War II fatality statistics vary, estimates of total dead ranging from 50 million to over 70 million. The sources cited in this article document an estimated death toll in World War II of 62 to 78 million, making it the deadliest war in world history in absolute terms of total dead but not in terms of deaths relative to the world population.” *Wikipedia, World War II casualties*.

Never before in history have we had two such devastating wars within 100 years, yet these two wars occurred within 30 years of each other. Since World War II and even before it there has been one war after another. Between the two world wars, we had the Russian Civil war, costing up to 9 million lives, and before that the Mexican Revolution in 1911 which killed 2 million. In 1950 the Korean War killed 3 million, 500 thousand. Then we had Vietnam with 6 million, 20 thousand. The second Sudanese War from 1983 to 2005 costing 2 million. The Iran-Iraq war of 1980 to 1988 with 2 million. The second Congo War of 1998 to 2003 with 5 million 400 thousand. The war on terror itself has claimed more than 4 million lives. When you add the figures together the total is 146 million, 920 thousand. This makes the last 100 years the deadliest century in history, just from the warfare and there were many more conflicts during this time that we didn't even mention!

To put these numbers in perspective consider that the the 19th century saw about 82 million deaths from warfare, 60 million of these were from the Taiping rebellion in China in the 1860's. Also consider that the Crusades which covered a span of 200 hundred years killed up to 9 million and the Mongol invasions lasted for 300 years and killed up to 60 million.



Deaths by Sword (In Millions)

In addition to warfare we can't forget the genocides we've seen in the last century. We are all familiar with Hitler who killed up to 10 million people he did not approve of. Then there was the Ukraine in 1932, 8 million dead. Cambodia in 1975-79 killed 3 million. There were 3 million Germans who died in the aftermath of World War II. The Rwandan Genocide of 1994 killed 1 million. The Armenian Genocide killed 1.5 million. The Greek Genocide of 1915 to 1918 killed 800 thousand. There was the Don River in Russia in 1919 with 500 thousand. The Assyrian Genocide of 1915 to 1918 with 750 thousand. The Ustashe in Croatia, 1941-1945 with 655 thousand. The atrocities in Bangladesh in 1971 killing 3 million. There are many other genocides all of which have occurred during the last century. But just with what we have listed here the total is almost 33 million people killed by the sword.

When these two figures are combined, and remember I've only mentioned some of the most notable ones, we come close to 200 million dead by the sword in the last century. Why isn't any of this bloodshed in prophecy? The answer is, it's there, we've just been too blind to see it. Take a look at this in the Testimonies. "I was shown the inhabitants of the earth in the utmost confusion. War, bloodshed, privation, want, famine, and pestilence were abroad in the land. As these things surrounded God's people, they began to press together, and to cast aside their little difficulties. Self-dignity no longer controlled them; deep humility took its place. Suffering, perplexity, and privation caused reason to resume its throne, and the passionate and unreasonable man became sane, and acted with discretion and wisdom.

"My attention was then called from the scene. There seemed to be a little time of peace. Once more the inhabitants of the earth were presented before me; and again everything was in the utmost confusion. Strife, war, and bloodshed, with famine and pestilence, raged everywhere. Other nations were engaged in this war and confusion. War caused famine. Want and bloodshed caused pestilence. And then men's hearts failed them for fear, 'and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth.'" *Testomonies, Volume 1, page 268.*

Most Adventist believe that this is predicting wars that are still future, but is it not a perfectly accurate

description of World Wars I and II? A terrible conflict, then a time of peace followed by a more terrible conflict with more and different nations involved. Don't forget that sister White wrote those words during the civil war. The world at that time had never seen conflicts like the World Wars. The civil war was thought to be horrible and it killed 700 thousand. Have we not seen men's hearts fail them for fear of a nuclear holocaust ever since World War II?

What about this statement? "John writes, 'I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne.' Angels were united in the work of Him who had broken the seals and taken the book. Four mighty angels hold back the powers of this earth till the servants of God are sealed in their foreheads. The nations of the world are eager for conflict; but they are held in check by the angels. When this restraining power is removed, there will come a time of trouble and anguish. Deadly instruments of warfare will be invented. Vessels, with their living cargo, will be entombed in the great deep. All who have not the spirit of truth will unite under the leadership of satanic agencies. But they are to be kept under control till the time shall come for the great battle of Armageddon." *Bible Commentary, Volume 7, page 967.*

This was written in 1900. Think about it. The airplane had not yet been invented. Today we not only have war planes, but incendiary bombs, nuclear bombs, Napalm bombs that burn with white hot heat, laser weapons that reduce their targets to the molecular level, and a host of other instruments of warfare that could not even have been conceived of in her day! They are the most sinister and deadly weapons ever known. It is not impossible that there will be worse weapons invented, though it is hard to conceive of weapons worse than these.

Now think about this one "In India, China, Russia, and the cities of America, thousands of men and women are dying of starvation. The monied men, because they have the power, control the market. They purchase at low rates all they can obtain, and then sell at greatly increased prices. This means starvation to the poorer classes, and will result in a civil war. There will be a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation...—Ms 114, 1899." *Manuscript Releases, Volume 5, page 305.*

Russia was the first of the nations mentioned to see civil war in 1917. This was followed by the division of India in 1947. Then we had China in 1949. We have not seen civil war in the cities of America but it is coming and could be starting even now.

Just the number of wars has increased. "The 'Human Security Report 2009/2010' a project led by Mack and funded by several governments, is a worldwide examination of war and violence and has been published as a book. It cites jarringly low numbers. While the number of wars has increased by 25 percent, they've been minor ones." *Bombings, beheadings? Statistics show a peaceful world,* http://www.msn.com/id/44999572/ns/world_news/

Isn't it interesting that even those who are trying to prove that we are entering an age of peace are forced to admit that we are experiencing more conflicts than ever before? Can we brush this fulfillment of prophecy aside as insignificant? Are we not nearing the great climax of the time of trouble? Could probation be closing now or in the near future? Don't get me wrong, this is only the commencement of the time of trouble, what is right before us now is much worse.

Famine

Famine seems to always follow in the wake of war and revolution. Were you aware that the worst famine on record occurred during the 20th century?

“The Great Famine of China, which took place from 1958-61, is one of the greatest tragedies of recorded history, killing between 14 and 40 million people. The typical estimate is generally placed around 30 million people. To compare this number with other major human death tolls, World War II may have killed 80 million people in total. But while these people were starving, information about the famine was greatly suppressed and what did get out about the harvest figures was manipulated. The true extent of what happened was only discovered decades later by the world and it is still difficult today to find information about this specific famine.”

<http://library.thinkquest.org/C002291/high/past/chinese.htm>

In Russia, 17 million died in 1932-33, from famine. There were an additional 5 million in Russia who died of famine in 1921, 1 million in Leningrad during World War II and 1.5 million in Russia in 1947. The Bengal famine in India killed 4 million in 1943. More recently we have had the Somalian famine in 1991 with 300 thousand dead and the North Korean famine of 1996 killed 3.5 million. These are only a few of the major famines of the 20th century and yet the total of just these is over 75 million. Today the world is facing the greatest threat of famine ever with the food reserves dangerously low, and with soaring food prices, we could be faced with worldwide famine on a scale never seen before. Is this not consistent with the time of trouble continually increasing in severity till probation closes and the world receives the wrath of God? If we are not on God's side, the future is fearful indeed. Do we have any time left to get ready?

Pestilence

What about pestilence? Pestilence, or epidemic disease, always follows warfare and famine. What have we seen in the 20th century? The very first thing that comes to mind is the Spanish Flu of 1918. Beginning in World War I, it killed up to 100 million people in two years. Smallpox alone killed 300 million during the 20th century. But deaths from infectious diseases have declined steadily, supposedly due to vaccination, but mainly due to better sanitation and treatment practices. But the mass vaccination campaigns have led to a different type of pestilence.

“Mass vaccination campaigns of the 1950s and 1960s are now suspected in thousands of deaths per year via a cancer-causing virus contained in the early polio vaccines... Researchers discovered this deadly vaccine tragedy in 1994—when Dr. Michele Carbone found the SV40 virus in 60 percent of lung cancers (mesotheliomas) studied, 33 percent of osteosarcoma bone cancers and 40 percent of other bone cancers... Known as SV40, this virus came from dead monkeys whose kidney cells were used to culture polio vaccines. More than 98 million people in the U.S., plus more in other countries, were exposed to the contaminated vaccine... At the height of the polio epidemic in the early 1950s, the first polio vaccines were cultured in monkey tissue. The vaccine was rushed to market and made mandatory because of government panic and public hysteria... Bernice Eddy, Ph.D., of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), discovered that 70 percent of hamsters injected with kidney cell cultures containing SV

virus died without apparent cause. She later discovered that tumors could be passed easily from one animal to another over a long time period. The virus was dubbed SV40, meaning simian virus number 40... A group of Merck scientists led by Dr. Maurice Hilleman eventually proved both the Salk and Sabin forms were contaminated with SV40... SV40 is so virulent, it became a popular tool of cancer researchers awed by its ability to transform healthy animal cells into tumor cells. This tiny but mighty life form can completely disrupt cells, cause them to lose control of themselves and reproduce wildly... Researchers do not understand why SV40 is still spreading... SV40 appears in 61 percent of all new cancer patients, including patients too young to have received the vaccine 40 years ago.” *Lee Euler, www.cancerdefeatedpublications.com (Parenthesis supplied by website)*

This is not the only disease that has been spread as a result of vaccination. Some claim that the AIDS epidemic, which has killed over 25 million people so far, is the result of mass vaccination campaigns in the Congo. Today the number of recommended vaccinations are more than double what they were 30 years ago and the rates of Autism have gone from 1 in 1,000 to 1 in 100. Is there a connection? The evidence points to one and many people believe there is. Whether these things are a result of vaccination or not, the fact remains that while the numbers of deaths from formerly well known infectious diseases have gone down, the numbers of new, and chronic, diseases has steadily risen. Just in the US, out of a population of about 300 million, 100 million are chronically ill. Does pestilence rage in our land today?

“God has not restrained the powers of darkness from carrying forward their deadly work of vitiating the air, one of the sources of life and nutrition, with a deadly miasma. Not only is vegetable life affected, but man suffers from pestilences. Cholera and unexplainable diseases have broken out.” *Manuscript Releases, Volume 3, page 312. Written in 1890*

Vaccination isn't the only way chronic illness is introduced. What about all the environmental toxins we have today? Our food is tainted with pesticides, herbicides, and chemical fertilizers, our air and water are polluted. Then there is radiation. Some estimates from the Chernobyl disaster claim that over 1 million people have died so far. We will never know for sure. We have no idea what the cost of Fukushima will be and these are only the accidents people know of. There have been many more during the 20th century that most people are not aware of because they were never told about them. Is not radiation a pestilence that “walketh in darkness”? What about the massive chemtrail campaign that was started in the United States about 15 years ago? There are reports that at one point the sky over Los Angeles turned red and the morgues were filled with thousands of people who had died from mysterious respiratory problems.

Just with what we've mentioned the total is 500 million deaths from disease in the 20th century alone. Ebola is another new disease with a 90-95% mortality rate. Malaria is killing more and more people every year. Many of the infectious diseases, like tuberculosis, that we thought we had under control, are coming back, mutated to resist the drugs we use to treat them. In many cases the treatment can be even more deadly than the disease itself. It is difficult to find the numbers of deaths from pestilence in previous centuries to compare these numbers to, but we do know that the black death killed 75 million people over a span of 5 centuries.

We've only been talking about the death rates. There have been many millions more injured, weakened, mutilated by these things, who did not die, but have suffered throughout the remainder of their lives as result of these wars, famines, and pestilences. The amount of human suffering during the last century has been unprecedented. Is not this what we would expect to see during the time of trouble? But remember, this is only the beginning of the time of trouble. What's coming is worse. Is it not the right time to give the loud cry?

Floods

So far we have covered the increase of war, famine, and pestilence during the 20th century. Have we also seen a rise in fires and floods? Consider this statement from the Spirit of Prophecy. "The enemy has worked, and he is working still. He is come down in great power, and the Spirit of God is being withdrawn from the earth. God has withdrawn His hand. We have only to look at Johnstown [Pennsylvania]. He did not prevent the devil from wiping that whole city out of existence. And these very things will increase until the close of this earth's history, because he has come down in great power, and he works with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish. What is he doing? Going about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. And when he sees those who are resisting the light, and that God does not shelter them, he will exercise his cruel power upon them. This is what we may expect." *Sermons and Talks, Volume 1, page 109.*

What flood was she talking about here? "On June 1, 1889, Americans woke to the news that Johnstown, Pennsylvania, had been devastated by the worst flood in the Nation's history. Over 2,200 were dead, with many more homeless... Johnstown in 1889 was a steel company town of Germans and Welsh... 3-mile long Lake Conemaugh was held on the side of a mountain—450 feet higher than Johnstown—by the old South Fork Dam. The dam had been poorly maintained, and every spring there was talk that the dam might not hold... But at 4:07 p.m. on the chilly, wet afternoon of May 31, 1889, the inhabitants heard a low rumble that grew to a "roar like thunder." Some knew immediately what had happened: after a night of heavy rains, the South Fork Dam had finally broken, sending 20 million tons of water crashing down the narrow valley. Boiling with huge chunks of debris, the wall of flood water grew at times to 60 feet high, tearing downhill at 40 miles per hour, leveling everything in its path." <http://www.johnstownpa.com/History/hist19.html>

How many died in this flood? 2,200 lost their lives. This doesn't seem like much when you compare it to the numbers we are familiar with today. In 1901 the Galveston Hurricane and flood killed up to 12,000. What about the Central China Floods of the 1930's? "The 1931 Central China floods or the Central China floods of 1931 were a series of floods that occurred during the Nanjing decade in the Republic of China era. It is generally considered the deadliest natural disaster ever recorded, and almost certainly the deadliest of the 20th century (when pandemics and famines are discounted)... The human deaths are estimated from 145,000, to between 3.7 million to 4 million." *Wikipedia, 1931, China floods (parenthesis supplied by Wikipedia).*

In recent years we've had the tsunami in India in 2004 with 230 thousand killed, Hurricane Katrina in

2005 killed almost 2,000 and caused \$81 billion of damage. The Myanmar flood of 2008 killed 138 thousand, and the tsunami in Japan in 2011, which was the worst tsunami there since the 1890's killed more than 20 thousand. Then we had extensive flooding in Australia and the mid western United States. It seems we are seeing more large floods than ever before. This is just what we would expect if we are in the commencement of the time of trouble. Things are continuing to increase to a great climax. What is coming is much worse.

Fire

How about fires? "In the visions of the night a very impressive scene passed before me. I saw an immense ball of fire fall among some beautiful mansions, causing their instant destruction." *Christian Service, page 111.*

"On August 6, 1945, the first choice target, Hiroshima, was having clear weather. At 8:15 a.m. (local time), the Enola Gay's door sprang open and dropped "Little Boy." The bomb exploded 1,900 feet above the city and only missed the target, the Aioi Bridge, by approximately 800 feet.

"Staff Sergeant George Caron, the tail gunner, described what he saw: 'The mushroom cloud itself was a spectacular sight, a bubbling mass of purple-gray smoke and you could see it had a red core in it and everything was burning inside... It looked like lava or molasses covering a whole city...' The cloud is estimated to have reached a height of 40,000 feet.

"Captain Robert Lewis, the co-pilot, stated, 'Where we had seen a clear city two minutes before, we could no longer see the city. We could see smoke and fires creeping up the sides of the mountains.' Two-thirds of Hiroshima was destroyed. Within three miles of the explosion, 60,000 of the 90,000 buildings were demolished. Clay roof tiles had melted together. Shadows had imprinted on buildings and other hard surfaces. Metal and stone had melted."

<http://history1900s.about.com/od/worldwarII/a/hiroshima.htm>

Does this event fit the prophecy? Remember, the people in Ellen White's day had never seen, or even heard of the atomic bomb.

How about this one? "In the night I was, I thought, in a room but not in my own house. I was in a city, where I knew not, and I heard expression after expression. I rose up quickly in bed, and saw from my window large balls of fire. Jetting out were sparks, in the form of arrows, and buildings were being consumed, and in a very few minutes the entire block of buildings was falling and the screeching and mournful groans came distinctly to my ears. I cried out, in my raised position, to learn what was happening: Where am I? And where are our family circle? Then I awoke. But I could not tell where I was for I was in another place than home. I said, Oh Lord, where am I and what shall I do? It was a voice that spoke, 'Be not afraid. Nothing shall harm you.'

“I was instructed that destruction hath gone forth upon cities. The word of the Lord will be fulfilled. Isaiah 29:19-24 was repeated. I dared not move, not knowing where I was. I cried unto the Lord, What does it mean? These representations of destruction were repeated. Where am I? ‘In scenes I have represented that which will be; but warn My people to cease from putting their trust in men who are not obedient to my warnings and who despise My reproof, for the day of the Lord is right upon the world when evidence shall be made sure. Those who have followed the voices that would turn things upside down will themselves be turned where they cannot see, but will be as blind men.’” *Manuscript Releases, Volume 11, page 361.*

Have you heard of what happened to Dresden Germany at the end of World War II? Dresden was a cultural center, a beautiful city, full of art and music, with few military targets. The Red Cross was assured by the Allies that the city was not a target and would not be bombed. Because of this, thousands of refugees flocked there till the population swelled to over 1 million people. Then when the city was so full that people were sleeping in the streets, the bombers came.

“My grandmother would always begin the story of Dresden by describing the clusters of red candle flares dropped by the first bombers, which like hundreds of Christmas trees, lit up the night sky—a sure sign it would be a big air raid. Then came the first wave of hundreds of British bombers that hit a little after 10 p.m. the night of February 13-14, 1945, followed by two more intense bombing raids by the British and Americans over the next 14 hours. History records it as the deadliest air attack of all time, delivering a death toll that exceeded the atomic blasts on Hiroshima and Nagasaki... Altogether, the British dropped nearly 3,000 tons of explosives that shattered roofs, walls, windows, whole buildings, and included hundreds of thousands of phosphorous incendiaries, which were small firebombs that sprinkled unquenchable fire into every crevasse they rolled into, igniting the inferno that turned Dresden into a ‘hurricane of flames.’

“By the time the Americans flew in for the third and last air raid, smoke from the burning city nearly obliterated visibility. One American pilot recalls, ‘We bombed from 26,000 feet and could barely see the ground because of clouds and long columns of black smoke. Not a single enemy gun was fired at either the American or British bombers.’

“The Americans dropped 800 tons of explosives and fire bombs in 11 minutes. Then, according to British historian David Irving in his book, *The Destruction of Dresden*, American P-51 fighter escorts dived to treetop level and strafed the city’s fleeing refugees.

“My grandmother described the horrific firestorm that raged like a hurricane and consumed the city. It seemed as if the very air was on fire. Thousands were killed by bomb blasts, but enormous, untold numbers were incinerated by the firestorm, an artificial tornado with winds of more than 100 miles an hour that ‘sucked up its victims and debris into its vortex and consumed oxygen with temperatures of 1,000 degrees centigrade...’ Dresden, the capital of Saxony, a centre of art, theatre, music, museums and university life, resplendent with graceful architecture—a place of beauty with lakes and gardens—was now completely destroyed. The city burned for seven days and smoldered for weeks... It took more

than three months just to bury the dead, with scores of thousands buried in mass graves... German estimates of the dead ranged up to 220,000, but the completion of identification of the dead was halted by the Russian occupation of Dresden in May...

“Elisabeth, who was a young woman of around 20 at the time of the Dresden bombing, has written memoirs for her children in which she describes what happened to her in Dresden... ‘the screams were very frightening... The memory that has remained so vividly in my mind was seeing and hearing humans trapped, standing in the molten, burning asphalt like living torches, screaming for help which was impossible to give... The Dresden experience has stayed with me very vividly through my entire life. The media later released that the number of people who died during the bombing was estimated in excess of two hundred and fifty thousand—over a quarter of a million people. This was due to all the refugees who came fleeing from the Russians, and Dresden's reputation as a safe city. There were no air raid shelters there because of the Red Cross agreement.” <http://proliberty.com/observer/20030402.htm>

“ ‘You guys burnt the place down, turned it into a single column of flame. More people died there in the firestorm, in that one big flame, than died in Hiroshima and Nagasaki combined.’ ...Others hiding below ground died. But they died painlessly—they simply glowed bright orange and blue in the darkness. As the heat intensified, they either disintegrated into cinders or melted into a thick liquid—often three or four feet deep in spots.” <http://www.rense.com/general19/flame.htm>

Gruesome? Yes. Horrific? Yes. It defies the imagination, and yet it is history. Was this part of what sister White saw in vision? Wouldn't you expect to see scenes like this during the time of trouble? Remember, we have only been describing the destruction of one city. There have been hundreds of others bombed in similar fashion. Bombing towns and cities has become an almost everyday thing in this world. Where you aware that the United States President is constantly shadowed by a man who carries a briefcase containing the codes to launch a nuclear strike anywhere in the world? It would only take one word from the President and untold suffering and destruction would occur almost immediately.

But we have also seen fires that are not started by man. There have been Increasing numbers of fire storms all over the world. We've seen fire storms in the United States, Australia, and Russia. Things are fast heating up for the final crisis. Soon we will see the complete desolation of the earth. Is it time to sit at our ease and enjoy the world? Can we afford to focus our time and attention on making money, building houses, and buying lands now? Is now a time for building earthly wealth? No, all of these things will be swept away in a moment. We have seen it happen before. It is time to be laying up eternal riches, and if you don't have your deposits in the bank of heaven, you will have no shelter in the times that are coming. You can't relax because so much has already happened. What is coming is much worse. Are you ready for probation to close?

Natural Disasters

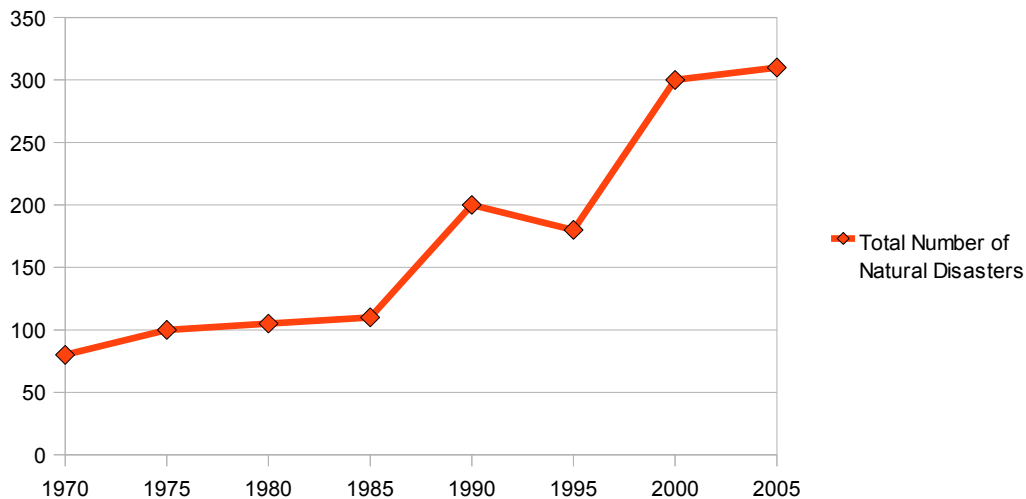
How about natural disasters? Have they increased? In 1890, Ellen White had this to say. “I expect that during the year 1890 there will be great mortality. There will be crimes greater than any now on

record. There will be weeping and lamentation and woe. During the past year, 1889, there has been brought to us almost daily the news of disasters by sea and by land—unusually destructive fires; earthquakes burying cities and villages with their inhabitants; railway accidents most terrible; tornadoes and floods that destroyed an immense amount of property, including the terrible Johnstown and Williamsport floods, which destroyed more than two thousand lives.

“The disasters of the past year in America have caused hearts to tremble, and similar disasters have fallen upon other countries. **Already sprinklings from the vials of God’s wrath have been let fall upon land and sea**, affecting the elements of the air. The causes of these unusual conditions are being searched for, but in vain...These things are the result of drops from the vials of God’s wrath being sprinkled on the earth, and are but **faint representations of what will be in the near future**. Earthquakes in various places have been felt, but these disturbances have been very limited... And the religious world too is to be terribly shaken; for the end of all things is at hand.—Ms 24, 1891. (Written about January 1, 1890.)” *Manuscript Releases, Volume 5, page 15-16. (Emphasis supplied)*

Now take a look at this from 2010. “Just a few months into 2010, and Mother Nature has delivered a slew of costly and deadly natural disasters. From the catastrophic Haiti and Chilean earthquakes to the U.S. blizzard that descended on Washington, D.C., last month, which was mostly just inconvenient by comparison, 2010 is already above average in terms of natural-disaster casualties. In comparison to previous years, the number of casualties from natural disasters in 2010, which is already well above 200,000, is outside the norm... Over the decade from 2000 to the end of 2009, the yearly average was 78,000, according to the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR). For the 1990s, the average was 43,000...” <http://www.livescience.com/6212-disastrous-year-2010-death-toll-abnormally-high.html>

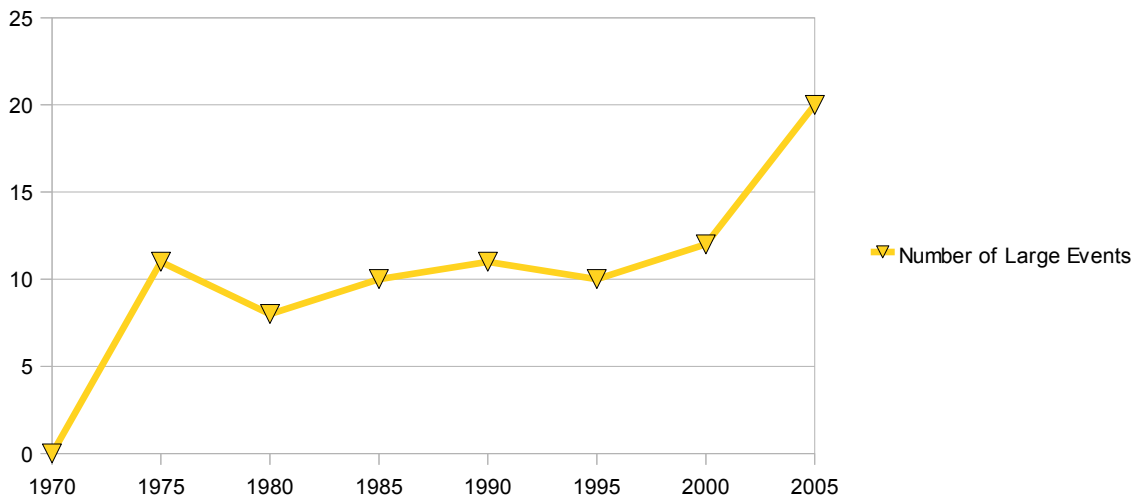
Are we seeing the fulfillment of prophecy? Some will claim that it only appears to be worse than it was. These things have always happened, we just have better reporting now, so we hear about it sooner. Let’s think about that for a while. We have pretty good records of natural disasters around the world for the last 100 years. The evidence shows that the sheer number and frequency of occurrence has greatly increased.



(Based on data from EM-DAT)

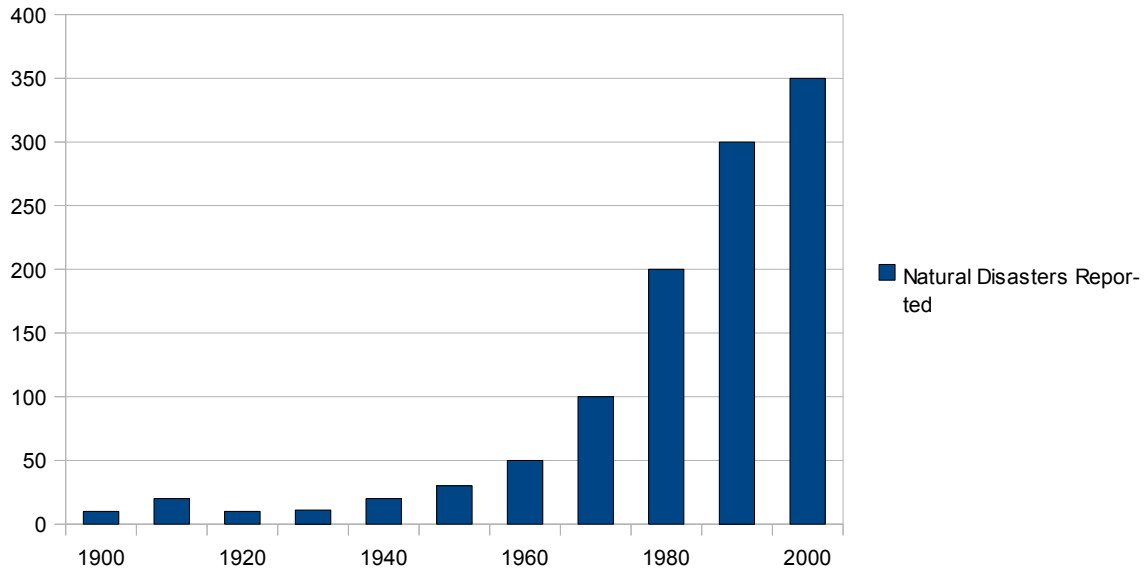
“According to the EM-DAT(i) the total natural disasters reported each year has been steadily increasing in recent decades, from 78 in 1970 to 348 in 2004.”

<http://www.happyheartsfund.org/disstat.php>



Note: A Large event is an event in which the intensity is above the mean of the normalized killed distribution (Data Based On EM-DAT)

“Debarati Guha-Sapir, director of the Center for Research on Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED)(ii) in Brussels, Belgium, suggests that a portion of that increase is artificial, due in part to better media reports and advances in communications. Beginning in the 1980s, agencies like CRED and the US Agency for International Development (USAID) began actively looking for natural disasters. However, about two-thirds of the increase is real and the result of rises in so-called hydro-meteorological disasters. These disasters include droughts, tsunamis, hurricanes, typhoons and floods and have been increasing over the past 25 years.” <http://www.happyheartsfund.org/disstat.php>



(Based on OFDA, CRED, and EM-DAT)

“In 1980, there were only about 100 such disasters reported per year but that number has risen to over 300 a year since 2000.” <http://www.happyheartsfund.org/disstat.php>

Do these numbers have significance? Are they a fulfillment of prophecy? Are you doing the work that God gave his people to do? Are you open and receiving the latter rain? We have only been living in the commencement of the time of trouble. What will the climax be like?

Persecution

Of the things mentioned in prophecy as occurring during the time of trouble we have talked about sword, famine, pestilence, flood, fire, and natural disasters. In each area the 20th century has been a nightmare, and we’ve only mentioned a small number of the events that have happened. We haven’t even talked about persecution yet. What about persecution?

“The time of trouble has already begun. We hear continually of riots and accidents, of murders and robberies. Human life is no longer safe unless under the protection of God. God’s servants must not be surprised that they meet with great difficulties and persecution at this time. In His day, the world’s Redeemer, the Son of God, was shamefully treated by the people He came to bless. He had to go from city to city to ensure His safety, and this persecution followed Him until His work on earth was accomplished.” *Manuscript Releases, Volume 21, page 101, Written September 3, 1907.*

“We have no time to lose. Troublous times are before us. The world is stirred with the spirit of war. Soon the scenes of trouble spoken of in the prophecies will take place. The prophecy in the eleventh of Daniel has nearly reached its complete fulfillment. Much of the history that has taken place in

fulfillment of this prophecy will be repeated. In the thirtieth verse a power is spoken of that ‘shall be grieved, and return, and have indignation against the holy covenant: so shall he do; he shall even return, and have intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant. And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate. And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits. And they that understand among the people shall instruct many: yet they shall fall by the sword, and by flame, by captivity, and by spoil, many days. Now when they shall fall, they shall be holpen with a little help: but many shall cleave to them with flatteries. And some of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, even to the time of the end: because it is yet for a time appointed. And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done.’ Daniel 11:30-36.

“Scenes similar to those described in these words will take place. We see evidence that Satan is fast obtaining the control of human minds who have not the fear of God before them. Let all read and understand the prophecies of this book, for we are now entering upon the time of trouble spoken of: ‘And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever. But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.’ Daniel 12:1-4” *Manuscript Releases, Volume 13, page 394.*

The persecuting power described in verses 31-36 was the papacy. But surely the papacy has not been involved in persecution during the 20th century, right? Think again.

In 1929, just seven years after the Ottoman Empire came to its end the “deadly wound” of the papacy was healed. In 1798 the Pope was taken captive by orders of Napoleon. While he regained control of the papal states a few years later, by 1870 the Pope had become a prisoner in his palace at the Vatican with no temporal power. This truly was a “deadly wound.” Things remained in this state till 1929 when the Lateran treaty created Vatican City, an independent state within the city of Rome, controlled by the Pope, and thus granting him temporal power. Since that time the Pope has continued to regain his power. Notice that the king of the north appears when the deadly wound is given to the papacy “at the time of the end,” 1798. This king then “comes to his end” just before the deadly wound is healed and “all the world wonders after the beast” who is then destroyed by the “brightness of his coming.”

But the Pope hasn’t been involved in persecution since 1929, right? Think again.

In 1917 the world was embroiled in World War I. Since the time of Catherine the Great, Russia had been a haven, of sorts, from religious persecution for some of the people of Europe. While the official state religion was Greek Orthodox, Catherine invited the Lutheran, Mennonite and other persecuted religious sects from Germany to come to Russia where they were granted religious freedom and exemption from military service. This freedom continued to a greater or lesser degree under the succeeding Tzars until 1917. Then, the atheistic, communist, Bolshevik revolution took over the

county and began the systematic suppression of religion. This was simply a reenactment of the French Revolution, we saw predicted in Daniel 11:37-39. But this wasn't connected to the papacy, it was atheistic, right? Think again.

When the Jesuit order was abolished and suppressed by the Pope in 1773, they didn't disband, as commanded to. The black pope died in prison but a successor was elected. Many of these ex-Jesuits went to Bavaria, Russia, England, and the United States. They gained complete control over Freemasonry and in Bavaria they started a new order, the Illuminati. The Illuminati professed to be opposed to the Jesuits, but this was only a cover to hide their true intentions. The Illuminati then infiltrated France and fomented the French Revolution. What was the result? In the end the Pope was captured and taken prisoner. The Pope died a prisoner and succeeding popes remained in exile and captivity until 1814. In that year the Pope was returned to Rome after agreeing to reinstate the Jesuit order, which he did later that year. Since that time any Pope who has refused to follow the directions of the order has been assassinated and the Jesuits have had complete control over the Vatican. They never forget and never forgive.

The historic evidences points to the Jesuits as the instigators and financiers of the Bolshevik revolution. To what end? With the goal of destroying the Greek Orthodox Church in Russia and eventually turning it into a Catholic country, and they are succeeding.

There is one more element involved in communism that we should note. "The trades unions will be one of the agencies that will bring upon this earth a time of trouble such as has not been since the world began.—Letter 200, 1903." *Country Living*, page 10.

Have the trade unions been involved in all this? Yes! The following was written by the communist propagandists in 1920:

"It is evident from the discussion going on since the Russian Revolution that both the extreme reactionary and the ultra-radical have distorted conception of the unions: their origin, present and future functions and tasks.

"We already have the benefit of real revolutionary experience. Suffices to mention Hungary, Germany and Russia in order to safely state that **during the Revolution whoever has the unions on his side, is going to win it.**

"Comrade Lozovsky says that '**it is impossible to accomplish a social revolution outside of the unions or against their will.**' Lenin has also said that the Bolshevik Revolution could not have lasted two weeks without the aid of the unions." *A. Lozovsky, The Role of the Labor Unions in the Russian Revolution, Marxists Internet Archive*, <http://www.marxists.org/archive/lozovsky/1920/russrevunion.htm> (Emphasis supplied by the web site)

Have we seen a fulfillment of prophecy? We have seen Daniel 11:31-39 repeated in the Jesuit

orchestrated communist take over of nearly half the world. Millions have died at their hands. But they have hidden their true character and origin under a cloak of atheism. The labor unions were their tool to accomplish this. When communism was no longer needed it was allowed to crumble and the pope proclaimed himself the victor.

Now Islam has become their tool of choice. In 2001, the people of the United States watched in horror as the twin towers collapsed, trapping and killing all those inside the buildings. In the end the death toll was much less than was at first supposed. About 3,000 died. The official story is that the disaster was caused by an Islamic terror organization, but conspiracy theories abound that it was really an inside job by the US government. It matters little at this point what really happened. The fact remains that it was used as the excuse to invade the middle east, causing untold destruction and suffering. The end result has been an unleashing of Moslem fury against all Christians and an effort by the Moslem extremists to wipe out Christianity. Just as the Ottoman Turks tried to do in 1914. Repeating the events foretold in Daniel 11:40-45, just as we were warned would happen.

The Moslem religion was begun by the Catholic church for the purpose of capturing Jerusalem and Constantinople and wiping out true Christianity in the Middle East. This purpose is still being met by Islam. When the United States entered Iraq, President Bush called the war a crusade. This means that it was a religious war. But what religion is being fought? Certainly not Islam, and not Catholicism either. Under Sadam Husein, order was ruthlessly maintained, which held extremism in check. True Christian missionaries were able to work for the most part unmolested. But when the United States invaded these Christians had to flee for their lives and the work in Iraq almost completely stopped. Have you noticed that the churches in America are praying for the troops? What happened to praying for the missionaries? The war on terror truly is a crusade against all who do not co-operate with Babylon.

“Much of the history that has taken place in fulfillment of this prophecy will be repeated.” *Manuscript Releases, Volume 13, page 394.*

It seems that we have seen many pieces of the prophecy repeated already. It has been more subtle than in the past but it has been there. We’ve seen decades of persecution in the 20th century by communism and now, again, by Islam, both tools of the Jesuit order. The Voice of the Martyrs claims that more Christians are being martyred today than were killed by the Roman Empire. According to Eric Phelps, in his book, *Vatican Assassins*, the Jesuit order has been involved in the deaths of 200 million people during the 20th century. That is 2/5^{ths} of the total number killed by the church during the 1260 years, only this has been done in one century and under various disguises. Has Satan changed? Not at all.

Today the Jesuits have their net surrounding the world and have begun to tighten the noose. Their goal is to bring the entire world into a one world communistic system that worships Lucifer. They nearly have all the pieces in place. Are you ready to stand for your faith in face of a universal death decree? It’s coming faster than you think it is.

The Meaning of these Catastrophes

The 20th century is supposed to have been the most civilized and advanced century and yet it has been

a humanitarian catastrophe. Why didn't the Bible warn us of all this? The fact is, it did. In Daniel 12:1 we were told that when the king of the north came to his end there would commence a time of trouble of nations such as never was since there was a nation. Just think about it a little bit, put yourself back in 1890. Now imagine that someone came to you and told you about the events of the 20th century that I have just described to you. Remember that these are only some of the things that have happened. Would you not be horrified? Would you even be able to imagine what was coming? We are looking at history and it is hard to grasp, even when we know we are looking at the facts and we could go on and on and on. We haven't even talked about the accidents by land and sea, the murders and crime, the total disregard of human life and suffering, but I think you get the picture. Can there be any other explanation for this, except that the time of trouble commenced around 1922, at the end of the king of the north, just like the angel told Daniel it would? Yet we have only seen the beginning. When probation closes and the plagues fall, it will make the 20th century seem like a picnic. We are almost there. The crisis of the ages has already begun. Tremendous things are right before us. Are you ready?

There are four way marks in prophecy that deal with Constantinople. Each one marks a change in the religious world. It's founding in 321 AD coincided with the shift to Sunday observance in the church and the uniting of church and state in the papacy. It's capture by the Turks in 1451AD signaled the beginning of the protestant reformation. It's acceptance of the protection of the western powers in 1840 signaled the beginning of the investigative judgment and the giving of the three angel's messages. In 1922 the Ottoman Empire completely collapsed, in 1923 the capitol was moved to Ankara. By 1930 Constantinople had officially changed it's name to Istanbul. Constantinople has not been of much significance in world affairs since then. Just as in the other way marks, this was a sign to God's people that it was time to give the Loud Cry, that the Latter Rain had begun, and the time of trouble was commencing. This is the very reason Satan has tried to pull our attention away from this significant event. He has tried to bury it in history because he knows that if God's people are fully awake and aware of this his time will be shortened. Why have things gone on so long? Because we have been asleep. We have been caught up in worldly things. We love this world too much. We have not gone ahead and done our work but have been lazy, like Israel of old who did not drive out the Canaanites. We have in our possession the message that will bring Jesus back. This message is found in Revelation 18:1-4. It is a message calling for a separation from the world and from all who are connected with the coalition of Babylon.

“While the judgments of God were falling upon the land of Egypt, the Lord directed the Israelites not only to keep their children within their houses, but to bring in even their cattle from the fields...As the Israelites kept their children within their houses during the time when the judgments of God were in the land of Egypt, so in this time of peril we are to keep our children separate and distinct from the world. We are to teach them that the commandments of God mean much more than we realize. Those who keep them will not imitate the practices of the transgressors of God's law.” *Spalding and Magan Collection, page 243-244.*

Are we ready to give this message of separation and end all this misery? If we don't give this message, are we not guilty to some extent of all the suffering that has occurred and is continuing to this day? Is this a time to send our children to worldly schools and universities? A time to dream of worldly wealth and prosperity? No, our eternal welfare is worth far more than anything in this world.

Returning to the prophecy, “And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth

for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.”
Daniel 12:1-3

Here we have the time of trouble, the close of probation (just before the climax of the time of trouble) the deliverance of God’s people (at the voice of God) and the special resurrection. Followed by the most wonderful and looked for event in this world, the return of Jesus to rescue his people.

Now I put the question to you. What will you do with the last century? Is it a part of the time of trouble in Daniel 12:1? Or does it fit in a gap somewhere between Daniel 11:39 and 40? This is where you must put it if the king of the north is the papacy. Or does it fit in a gap somewhere between Daniel 11:43 and 44? This is where you must put it if the king of the north is Islam. What will you do with it? Will you deny that the last century even happened? Will you brush it aside as insignificant, so insignificant that God failed to warn us about it? Or is it a part of the time of trouble that God warned us was coming? Have we been living in the commencement time of trouble for all our natural lives? Are we now entering the crisis of the ages?

Are you prepared for the close of probation? Have you received the latter rain? Are you giving the message of separation? Listen carefully. In all these calamities we can hear the footsteps of Jesus as he prepares to leave the Sanctuary. I can almost hear the bells on the hem of his robe as he is about to leave. There is little time left to prepare. The time of trouble has been all around us for nearly a century and is increasing toward the great climax. We are not at the beginning but are nearing the end of the time of trouble, the crisis is right upon us. What is coming is worse than all that has gone before. Are you ready to meet Jesus?

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