



# REPENT AUSTRALIA

*“If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”*

*2 Chronicles 7:14*

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## APOCALYPSE SOON?

Last June the Foxtel Television Network presented a series of programs considering the likelihood that we are living in the last days. As the global economy staggers from pillar to post, as conflicts erupt across the world and natural disasters occur regularly, many people are beginning to wonder how much time we do have left. In fact, rating records in the US were broken when the documentary, “Nostradamus 2012”, was shown there recently, indicating both interest and concern about the near future. Foxtel’s History Channel examined the state of the world today to see just how close we are to the final days. They showed how doomsday prophecies permeate every facet of human experience and though many predicted apocalyptic dates have come and gone, one date looms large in our future: 2012. This is purported to be a time of great change, with the Mayan calendar coming to a close on 21 December 2012, and prophecies of the Hopi Indians and the French astrologer Nostradamus all warning of unprecedented world upheaval in that fateful year. Could the world as we know it end in just three years? Is the earth about to undergo unparalleled cataclysmic disasters such as massive earthquakes, tsunamis, huge volcanoes and nuclear destruction in the very near future?

### **The Galactic Alignment**

Is there any scientific evidence to support these theories? Well, there is the fact that the Galactic Alignment, when the sun will be in line with the Milky Way for the first time in many thousands of years as the Precession of Equinoxes completes its 26,000 year cycle, could be signifying a time of great climatic change. According to these programs, this event will be preceded by a number of forerunners increasing through a domino effect to reach their peak in 2012. Among these are super-volcanoes such as Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming which is now experiencing increased thermal and seismic activity; and observers believe that the signs indicate that something catastrophic may soon happen in the region. Should Yellowstone blow, it will kill all life within 1,000 miles (1,600 kms) and cause an immediate “nuclear winter” of dirt and ash to spread over the entire planet for two years. There are other earthquakes in the offing too. The West Coast of the US could soon be facing its worst earthquake in centuries, in fact one that could measure at least 9 on the Richter scale. But this is just one area that is prone to earthquakes that regularly occur throughout the Pacific “rim of fire”; across another belt through Italy, the Balkans, Turkey, the Middle East, Pakistan and Indonesia; and New Zealand.

### **Like a Spool of Film**

Other ongoing disasters that beset millions throughout the Third World in particular, but not exclusively, include cyclones, tornadoes, floods, famines, a shrinking food supply and the mysterious decline in the numbers of bees, frogs and bats. This earth of ours can be likened to a spool of film that accelerates more and more as it rushes to its end. In the past few decades the world of knowledge and technology has exploded. In this 21<sup>st</sup> century, with the rapidly escalating development of computers, mobile phones and the internet, following on from the remarkable scientific advancements of the last century, knowledge has increased exponentially. A small computer can now store more knowledge than that accumulated throughout the rest of history. Then there are the satellites that have reduced the world to a global village wherein events in far distant corners of the planet are instantly transmitted to the entire globe. Ours is now a world which travellers can transverse in a matter of hours and which also can be destroyed by nuclear weapons at the press of a button. It is also a world where national debt is escalating at an alarming rate and most nations face bankruptcy in the near future.

### **Biblical Prophecies**

Well, what does the Bible say about the last days? Plenty. The Book of Revelation prophesies the coming apocalypse in the form of famines, earthquakes, storms, wildfires and plagues as God pours out His wrath on a sin-besotted earth. Then there comes the final battle at Armageddon between the forces of the Antichrist and his defeat at the hands of **Jesus Christ** on His return. Jesus Himself foretold that in the last days, "You will hear of wars...for nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom." In the past 90 years more people have been killed than in all the previous 500 combined and right now at least 20 major civil wars or armed conflicts are raging around the world. And, knowing human nature, we can be sure there will be more in the days to come. He also warned that "as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be in the days of the Son of Man. They ate, they drank, they married...until the day that Noah entered the ark and the flood came and destroyed them all." Today we eat, drink, marry (some still do), buy, sell, work and sleep, believing that life as we know it will always continue. In fact, the Scriptures verify this in 2 Peter 3:3-4 where we read, "You must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, walking according to their own lusts, and saying, 'Where is the promise of His coming? For since our fathers died, all things continue as they were from the creation.'"

### **The Unseen Observer**

That's just what they thought in Noah's time. But God was an Unseen Observer who saw that the earth was corrupt and filled with violence. Is it any different today? Immorality, perversion, crime, corruption and greed are steadily dragging the nations down into a mire of iniquity. Biblical standards are scorned; fornication and adultery are accepted and often joked about; homosexuality---strongly denounced in Scripture---has virtually gained acceptance as a normal way of life. Alcohol and other drugs are ensnaring more and more young people in their deceptive clutches; pornography is commonplace; abortion is rampant; and Godless education programs are helping destroy the moral fibre of today's youth. The Apostle Paul also prophesied "that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy...lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God". How true of our world today! The desire to serve our own selfish ends, irrespective of others' rights and the community at large has swept across the nations. Responsibilities and respect are brushed aside and rights demanded. Pleasure is our No.1 priority. Surely the time is ripe for God to once again step into the affairs of men on earth!

### **An Offer too Good to Refuse**

Whether the world ends in 2012 or not, the Lord *will* soon return to defeat the forces of evil and set up His own Kingdom of righteousness and peace on this earth. The Holy Scriptures promised as much. "Men of Galilee," asked the angels at His ascension, "why do you stand gazing into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken from you into heaven, will return in the same manner you saw Him go into heaven." Nearly two millennia have passed since that promise was made. Why so long? Because God is long suffering, not wishing that any perish. He allows humans to mock Him, ignore Him, defy Him and challenge Him, ever waiting for that turn of repentance from His rebellious creation. Nevertheless, time is running out fast. Yet God still makes an offer you cannot afford to refuse. "Behold, I stand at the door and knock," Jesus says. "If anyone hears My voice and opens the door I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me." He knocks at the door of your heart. If you open it to Him, He will be your Saviour. You will be born again by His Spirit, reconciled to God, a new creation in Christ made righteous by the precious blood He shed for your redemption when He died on the cross at Calvary. Then, and only then, will you be prepared when He returns in glory to claim all who belong to Him. So why not make that great decision now? Accept Him into your life while there is yet time!

### **PRAYER**

Lord God Almighty, Everlasting Father, Creator of heaven and earth, hallowed be Your name. As the family of the Great I AM, we thank You for the LORD JESUS CHRIST OUR SAVIOUR whose finished work on the Cross overcame all Satan's wiles and deceptions and placed them under His feet. Thank You, Lord Jesus, for reconciling us to the eternal Father by cleansing us with Your precious blood and giving us Your indwelling Spirit to live in faith and be obedient to Your Word. We thank You, too, for blessing "Apocalypse Soon?" as it reveals that the time of Jesus' return is imminent and that it is time we prepared for His second coming. In the meantime may we endure our trials and tribulations with fortitude and without bitterness so we can be more than conquerors, triumphing over all the principalities and powers of evil at work in the world today. Holy Father, may Your all-sustaining presence within give us the strength and the will to walk in obedience to our Lord in the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, perseverance and power, to help usher in Your coming Kingdom of righteousness, peace, love and joy as we wait in earnest expectation for His return in glory. We make this prayer humbly and sincerely so that all our efforts may be to the glory of Almighty God. Amen.

**R.A:** Led by our Lord Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit to glorify the Fatherhood of God with the Brotherhood of Man; in love and in faithfulness to bring glory and honour to His holy name.

**REJOICE IN COVENANT PRAYERS FULLY IN THE HOLY SPIRIT DAILY FOR AUSTRALIA'S REVIVAL.**