



## A World in Chaos! Should We Be Afraid?

**Luke 21:25:** (NASB) *There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth dismay among nations, in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the waves.*



A world in chaos! We have the Ebola virus - war between the Palestinians and Israel - Iraq being plundered by ISIS - Christians in the Middle East being persecuted and killed - worldwide anti-Semitism on the rise and we have the tenuous problems with Russia and Ukraine. In our country, we have lawlessness - on the southern border there are government scandals over the IRS - the health care system - Benghazi - a skyrocketing national debt...shall we continue? It certainly seems that chaos and unrest are spreading faster than ever before. What should we be doing? Should we be afraid?

Fear (noun) Dictionary definition:

- 1: an unpleasant, often strong emotion caused by anticipation or awareness of danger
- 2: a state marked by this emotion, anxious concern
- 3: profound reverence and awe especially toward God
- 4: reason for alarm: danger

Today's conversation is going to be all about **Trouble!!**

We are surrounded by trouble of many different kinds. On each segment of the program, we will highlight one aspect of the trouble and then give a God-driven perspective on that trouble or "storm cloud." So, each storm cloud we present is guaranteed to come with a *silver lining!*

### First Storm Cloud: Financial and Economic Disasters.



**James 5:1-3:** (ASV) <sup>1</sup>Come now, ye rich, weep and howl for your miseries that are coming upon you. <sup>2</sup>Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth-eaten. <sup>3</sup>Your gold and your silver are rusted; and their rust shall be for a testimony against you, and shall eat your flesh as fire. Ye have laid up your treasure in the last days.

Let's take a quick look at our current financial position here in America now compared to our financial position at the time of the mortgage crisis of 2008. There are some startling differences with where we are today:

(Source for the following: <http://www.usdebtclock.org>)

	CURRENT	2008
POPULATION:	319,238,000	305,202,000
NATIONAL DEBT:	Almost \$18 trillion	About \$11 trillion
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT	\$17,119,374,000	\$14,142,380,000
"REAL" UNEMPLOYMENT	17,908,000	13,500,000
NOT IN LABOR FORCE	92,396,000	80,209,000
FOOD STAMPS	46,264,000	32,700,000
DISABLED - SOCIAL SECURITY INCOME	10,954,000	8,380,000





The following is a graphic illustration of one trillion dollars: If you had a stack of \$1000 bills, to get \$1,000,000, the stack would be four inches high. To get one billion dollars, that stack of dollar bills would now have to be 33 feet high. To get to one trillion dollars, that stack would need to be 61 miles high! The point is that a national debt of about eighteen trillion dollars is an incredible and unimaginable amount of money.

### **Fear itself, FDR (1933) First Inaugural Address**

- This is preeminently the time to speak the truth, the whole truth, frankly and boldly. Nor need we shrink from honestly facing conditions in our country today. This great nation will endure as it has endured, will revive and will prosper. So, first of all, let me assert my firm belief that the only thing we have to fear is fear itself—nameless, unreasoning, unjustified terror, which paralyzes needed efforts to convert retreat into advance.*

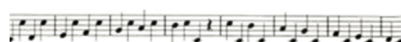
In January of 1933, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt was facing a nation in crisis. Depression had swallowed America, confidence in leadership (Herbert Hoover) was shattered and he needed to attack the problem.

### **Silver Lining:**

James 5:7-8: (KJV) <sup>7</sup>Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming (Parousia) of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. <sup>8</sup>Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

The return of Jesus is going to oversee the rebuilding of society...not on society's terms but on God's terms.

### **What about honesty - has it become a lonely word?**



**"Honesty," (Verse 1) Billy Joel**  
If you look for truthfulness  
You might just as well be blind  
It always seems to be so hard to give  
Honesty is such a lonely word  
Everyone is so untrue  
Honesty is hardly ever heard  
Mostly what I need from you

### **Second Storm Cloud: Dishonesty, especially on the part of those with power.**

Luke 12:1-3: (NASB) <sup>1</sup>Under these circumstances, after so many thousands of people had gathered together that they were stepping on one another, he began saying to his disciples first of all, beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy.

This is a VERY revealing statement - the sin (leaven) being spoken of is hypocrisy.





Once identified, Jesus gives a prophecy to explain God's handling of the matter:

<sup>2</sup>But there is nothing covered up that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known. <sup>3</sup>Accordingly, whatever you have said in the dark will be heard in the light, and what you have whispered in the inner rooms will be proclaimed upon the housetops.

All that has been hidden will be revealed!



A caller from Connecticut suggests: Isaiah 24:18: (KJV) *And it shall come to pass that he who fleeth from the noise of the fear shall fall in to the pit...* The Christian doesn't live in fear but acts in faith. Do not worry. Micah 7:8: (KJV) *Rejoice not against me, O mine enemy: when I fall, I shall arise; when I sin in darkness, the LORD shall be a light unto me.* The most important state for the Christian is prayer. Do not cloak yourself in worry, but cloak yourself in God.

The following is just one small example of the lack of integrity that we experience in our society and government today. We are not making a political statement or choosing a political side - we are simply using a current and convenient example to make the point:



**Affordable Care Act, Architect Jonathan Gruber on a panel in 2013**

- This bill was written in a tortured way to make sure CBO did not score the mandate of the taxes. If CBO scores the mandate's taxes, the bill dies. Okay? So, it's written to do that. In terms of rife-rated subsidies, if you had a law, which said healthy people are going to pay in - it made it explicit that healthy people pay in and sick people get money, it would not have passed. Lack of transparency is a huge political advantage, and basically you call it the stupidity of the American voter or whatever, but basically that was really critical to get anything to pass and it's the second best argument. Look, I wish Mark was right and we can make it all transparent, but I'd rather have this law than not, so it's kind of like his reporter story. You know, there are things I wish I could change, but I would rather have this law than not.*

The question here is, does the end justify the means? What he is really saying is do whatever you must do to get what you think is the most important thing. Being deceptive, lying, covering it up, it does not matter. He is saying the end justifies the means. We are not making a political statement, but this is symptomatic of what happens in the environment of government.

Here is the value of the words we speak - notice Jesus is not referring to the value of what we want an end result to be, but he is referring to the value of the pathway (the words) that we use:

Matthew 12:33-37: (NASB) <sup>33</sup>*Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad; for the tree is known by its fruit.* <sup>34</sup>*You brood of vipers, how can you, being evil, speak what is good? For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart.* <sup>35</sup>*The good man brings out of his good treasure what is good; and the evil man brings out of his evil treasure what is evil.* <sup>36</sup>*But I tell you that every careless word that people speak, they shall give an accounting for it in the Day of Judgment.* <sup>37</sup>*For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.*

Jesus is not saying by your intentions you will be judged; he is saying by your words and by what you do will be the judgment upon you. We are in a world





where the idea of saying what is convenient is acceptable rather than speaking what is true. Sometimes truth is not convenient, sometimes truth is not easy and will not get you the reaction that you would like to have, but truth is truth.

*"We turn to God for help when our foundations are shaking, only to learn that it is God who is shaking them." ~ Charles C. West*

Silver Lining:

**The scripturally principled answer:**

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14: (NASB) <sup>13</sup>The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person. <sup>14</sup>For God will bring every act to judgment, everything which is hidden, whether it is good or evil.

Reverence God and keep His commandments.

**What are the commandments of God?**

Exodus 20:16: (NASB) *You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.*

We can apply this principle to every interaction we have.

Deuteronomy 25:13-15: (NASB) <sup>13</sup>You shall not have in your bag differing weights, a large and a small. <sup>14</sup>You shall not have in your house differing measures, a large and a small. <sup>15</sup>You shall have a full and just weight; you shall have a full and just measure, that your days may be prolonged in the land which the LORD your God gives you.

Be fair and honest no matter whom you are dealing with. We need to be full of integrity.

**Is anti-Semitism a real threat to our civilization?**

Third Storm Cloud: The growing roots of anti-Semitic sentiment and actions.



**Worldwide poll - more than one in four adults harbor anti-Semitism, CBS2 News, New York**

- (Dana) Anti-Semitism is more widespread than you might think. The Anti-Defamation League conducted its first global survey and said the results are sobering. CBS Richard Brennan here with more. Dick?
  - (Dick) Well, Dana, the poll asked eleven questions based on age-old Jewish stereotypes about power, loyalty, money and behavior. People who responded YES to six or more negative statements about Jews are considered to hold anti-Semitic attitudes.
  - (Reporter) The poll held by the Anti-Defamation League says that around the world some 26 percent of those surveyed are deeply infected by anti-Semitic views and 35 percent have never heard of the Holocaust.

Those are disturbing numbers. 26 percent of people surveyed are anti-Semitic. That is a massive storm cloud!

**There is a deep privilege and a deep responsibility in being chosen:**

Amos 3:1-2: (NASB) <sup>1</sup>Hear this word which the LORD has spoken against you, sons of Israel, against the entire family which He brought up from the land of Egypt: <sup>2</sup>You only have I chosen among all the families of the earth; Therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.







Such punishment must be public - we have seen this in the dispersion of Israel to the four corners of the earth!

🔊) Examples - global wave of anti-Semitism has little to do with Gaza, Fox News

- *I think there was an expectation after the Nazi Holocaust that anti-Semitism would die out. In fact, the creation of Israel has given an opportunity for anti-Semites to reinvent, to re-brand their hatred and to target Jewish communities throughout the Jewish state.*
- *Right, and Rabbi, I am going to move to you next. You spent your time educating people about the Holocaust. Is this something worrying to you?*
- *Oh, absolutely. If you look at what's happening now, the chief Rabbi of Holland's home was broken in five times. The Director of International Relations for the Simon Wiesenthal Center of Paris - his tires were slashed, and last week at a so-called peaceful demonstration at a Palestine demonstration, his car windows were shattered. In Berlin, you have one of the main Imams for Islamism there, and he preached a sermon where he said, "Oh, God, kill every last Jew," and then he reminded his listeners that the Jews are responsible for all the plagues and all the wars in the history of mankind. Now that is exactly what the Nazis said 75 years ago.*



A caller from Indiana suggests our world is a very devious and complex system that cannot survive long-term and is ready to collapse on its self.

Even though we have witnessed the miraculous return of Israel to their land, more trouble is still to come:

Psalms 83:1-5: (NASB) <sup>1</sup>O God, do not remain quiet; do not be silent and, O God, do not be still. <sup>2</sup>For behold, Your enemies make an uproar, and those who hate You have exalted themselves. <sup>3</sup>They make shrewd plans against Your people, and conspire together against Your treasured ones. <sup>4</sup>They have said, Come, and let us wipe them out as a nation, that the name of Israel be remembered no more. <sup>5</sup>For they have conspired together with one mind; against You they make a covenant:

Prophetically there will be some very difficult times coming for Israel.

*"We must embrace pain and burn it as fuel for our journey." ~ Kenji Miyazawa*

The journey of Israel will be painful, but there is a silver lining to all of this anti-Semitism.

Silver Lining:

Now, the rest of the story:

Romans 11:25-29: (KJV) <sup>25</sup>For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in. <sup>26</sup>And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Zion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: <sup>27</sup>For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins. <sup>28</sup>As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the fathers' sakes. <sup>29</sup>For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.

They are blinded! But because of God's love and promises to Israel's forefathers, they still have a place in God's plan. (But we will see God remove that blindness!)





## Israel is, in spite of all their coming troubles, to be richly blessed!

Amos 9:11,14,15: (KJV) *<sup>11</sup>In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and close up the breaches thereof; and I will raise up his ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old: <sup>14</sup>And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them. <sup>15</sup>And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land, which I have given them, saith the LORD, thy God.*

The symbolism is the same as the time of the return of Jesus. It is just like today. Jesus is saying, when you see these things, I am not on my way but I am already present to bring in the end of this world and bring in the new world. Jesus told them to pray *thy kingdom come thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*

## What about ISIS?

Fourth Storm Cloud: The developing power and destructive presence of ISIS.

### A time of Trouble:

Daniel 12:1: (KJV) *<sup>1</sup>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.*

Daniel says there will be the greatest trouble you have ever seen...and then the greatest deliverance.



A caller from Connecticut suggests: A couple of things come to mind about the role of Israel. Just think...no Israel, no Bible! The people who hate Israel should be put on notice. God says, *who so touches you, touches the apple of my eye.* Now to answer your question, do we fear? Isaiah 35:3,4: (KJV) *Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees. Say to them that are of a fearful heart, be strong, and fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with recompense; he will come and save you.*

God has a plan and Israel is the centerpiece. Israel has a major positive blessing role to play in the plan of God.

ISIS is looking to take over the Middle East with their radical perspective on Islam. They are fighting everybody.

### The day cometh that shall burn as an oven:

Malachi 4:1: (KJV) *<sup>1</sup>For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.*

### Where did ISIS come from? NBC News

- *The Islamic state is really the descendent of Al Qaida and Iraq, which began under Abu Musab al-Zarqawi. He took advantage of the disorder and disaffection amongst the Sunnis in Iraq after the U.S. invasion to establish this new group. The big thing that set Al Qaida and Iraq apart from a lot of the other groups was that it became very well organized and very quickly and this*





*did a variety of things for it: One, It made it efficient and very effective at mobilizing fighters and resources. Another thing, though, is it made it very difficult to destroy the organization by killing its leader. The United States began targeting the leadership of a variety of resistance movements -very successful targeting, some of them. Some other leaders fled the country, and when that happened to a lot of these groups they simply collapsed, whereas Al Qaida loses leadership and is able to continue fighting. This gives them a big advantage because they're then able to absorb some of the former fighters from some of these other groups.*

### The Day of Vengeance: (The Day of Trouble)

Isaiah 34:8: (KJV) *For it is the day of the LORD'S (Jehovah's) vengeance, and the year of recompenses for the controversy of Zion.*

#### Where did ISIS come from? NBC News

- Yes they're violent, but there are lots of violent extremists. You can look at Boko Haram and other groups in Africa and the Movgrab, but the real distinguishing feature is that they're not just violent they are incredibly effective. If you think about it, they've been fighting to at least some extent the Syrian government, the Iraqi government, the Kurdish Peshmerga, the freed Syrian army and they've made progress on all of those fronts that really has only been blunted recently by the application of U.S. airpower.*

This is **pure speculation**, but ISIS may be the tool of God Almighty to reduce the power and authority of the Islamic nations against Israel.

***When it is dark enough, you can see the stars. ~ Ralph Waldo Emerson***



#### "War," Edwin Starr (1969)

War, whoa, Lord  
What is it good for  
Absolutely nothing  
Listen to me  
War, it ain't nothing  
But a heartbreaker  
War, friend only to the undertaker  
Ooooh, war  
It's an enemy to all mankind  
The point of war blows my mind  
War has caused unrest  
Within the younger generation  
Induction then destruction  
Who wants to die  
Aaaaah, war-huh

### Silver Lining:

#### Now the absolute and dramatic turnaround:

Zechariah 8:21-23: (NASB) <sup>21</sup>*The inhabitants of one will go to another, saying, Let us go at once to entreat the favor of the LORD, and to seek the LORD of hosts; I will also go. <sup>22</sup>So many peoples and mighty nations will come to seek the LORD of hosts in Jerusalem and to entreat the favor of the LORD. <sup>23</sup>Thus says the LORD of hosts, In those days ten men from all the nations will grasp the garment of a Jew, saying, Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.*





**Zechariah 12:9-10:** (NASB) *<sup>9</sup>And in that day I will set about to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. <sup>10</sup>I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace and of supplication, so that they will look on me whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for him, as one mourns for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over him like the bitter weeping over a firstborn.*

### What is the lesson from the tragedy in Ferguson, MO?

**Fifth Storm Cloud:** The restlessness of the masses that do not feel respected.

The situation in Ferguson is a current example of the roaring of the sea and the waves mentioned in our theme Scripture.

**Luke 21:25:** (NASB) *There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth dismay among nations, in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the waves.*

### Introduction - Ferguson braces for Grand Jury Decision, CNN

- (Reporter) Ferguson is on edge. Some business owners are busy fortifying their shops.
- (Salon owner) It's hurtful. It's really, really hurtful.
- (Reporter) Salon owner Constance Garnett says she can't afford to take a chance that unrest will crash head on into the business she built here for the past eleven years.
- (Salon Owner) If they should come and loot our area, then it's going to cost us.
- (Reporter) Protests haven't stopped for three months on her street so we asked one of the police's most confrontational protestors about those concerns.
- (Protestor) Now as far as what's happened in the last 90 days, people know that if you've been paying attention there hasn't been any looting, no violence or whatnot. We've been keeping it completely peaceful.
- (Reporter) Nevertheless, plenty of folks worry that may change. If the Grand Jury announcement goes against what protesters want: the indictment of Officer Darren Wilson for the killing of unarmed teenager Michael Brown.

Take note of the last sentence: "If the result is against what the protestors want." What about the facts?

While this next text is NOT about the events that transpired in Ferguson, it does show the principle of God's view of attitudes that are solely focused on their own agenda:

**Zechariah 7:8-14:** (NASB) *<sup>8</sup>Then the word of the LORD came to Zechariah saying, <sup>9</sup>Thus has the LORD of hosts said, Dispense true justice and practice kindness and compassion each to his brother; <sup>10</sup>and do not oppress the widow or the orphan, the stranger or the poor; and do not devise evil in your hearts against one another.*

This is the proclamation of God - an instruction to follow for all men.

*<sup>11</sup>But they refused to pay attention and turned a stubborn shoulder and stopped their ears from hearing.*

Sometimes we block out reality to only hear what we insist upon hearing! If justice is not in accordance to what we want, we just block our ears. What happened then is what happens now. We can create a tremendous storm cloud of unrest.





<sup>12</sup>*They made their hearts like flint so that they could not hear the law and the words, which the LORD of hosts had sent by His Spirit through the former prophets; therefore great wrath came from the LORD of hosts. <sup>13</sup>And just as He called and they would not listen, so they called and I would not listen, says the LORD of hosts; <sup>14</sup>but I scattered them with a storm wind among all the nations whom they have not known. Thus the land is desolated behind them so that no one went back and forth, for they made the pleasant land desolate.*

Here is the recompense for that attitude. God called Israel and they would not listen. So, God said as a result, "I will not listen. I will give them what they gave out to show them the injustice of their actions." Their land was left desolate.

In this country, we all have access to the examples of those who have gone before and paved the road as overcomers. Whether it is biblical or a contemporary example, the answer is there!

*"Sometimes in tragedy we find our life's purpose - the eye sheds a tear to find its focus."  
~ Robert Brault*

What happens in these situations is there is often one group of people that sets themselves against another group of people. Unfortunately in the example of the Ferguson situation, it ends up looking like a black versus white kind of thing. That is very unfortunate. For most of us, that sense of racism is not a part of our life. Do I really want justice or do I want *what I want* justice to be?



**"From a Distance," (Last verse) Bette Midler**

From a distance you look like my friend  
even though we are at war.  
From a distance I just cannot comprehend  
what all this fighting is for.  
From a distance there is harmony  
and it echoes through the land.  
And it's the hope of hopes, it's the love of loves  
it's the heart of every man.  
It's the hope of hopes; it's the love of loves.  
This is the song of every man.  
And God is watching us, God is watching us  
God is watching us from a distance.  
Oh, God is watching us

Bottom line: God is watching us, just like in the Zechariah scripture. Every man truly wants true absolute justice.





### Silver Lining:

#### True Justice will be served with compassion:

**Isaiah 42:1-4:** (NRSV) <sup>1</sup>Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. <sup>2</sup>He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; <sup>3</sup>a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. <sup>4</sup>He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching. **Jesus will bring justice!**

#### All will have opportunity to prosper:

**Micah 4:3-4:** (NASB) <sup>3</sup>And He will judge between many peoples and render decisions for mighty, distant nations. Then they will hammer their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; Nation will not lift up sword against nation, and never again will they train for war. <sup>4</sup>Each of them will sit under his vine and under his fig tree, with no one to make them afraid, for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken.

### What about the Ebola epidemic?



**Sixth Storm Cloud:** Rampant disease and despair spreading throughout the world.

When you think about rampant disease, you think about Ebola. It is very real and very prevalent. It has created quite a stir and rightfully so.

 **Onset, What Happens When Ebola Infects You, [gistonthis.com](http://gistonthis.com)**

- *You have a temperature and no appetite. Your head is aching and your throat is sore. It may appear as though a common cold is lurking, but unbeknownst to you, the vicious Ebola virus has started to attack your immune system. The virus destroys the same cells as those targeted by HIV though the Ebola infection is more aggressive, wiping out the building blocks of the body's immune system. It has an incubation period that is the time from when infected to when the first symptoms present themselves between two and twenty one days, increasing the risk of the highly infectious illness spreading.*

(Source: [www.internationalosos.com](http://www.internationalosos.com) - November 8, 2014) The latest Ebola Response Roadmap Situation Report from the World Health Organization (WHO) reports that up to 4 November there have been 13,268 cases and 4,960 deaths worldwide due to Ebola. Active transmission is ongoing throughout Sierra Leone, and the capital cities in each country remain hotspots for disease spread.





**Luke 21:25-26:** (NASB) <sup>25</sup>*There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth dismay among nations, in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the waves, <sup>26</sup>men fainting from fear and the expectation of the things which are coming upon the world; for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.*

Ebola is a symptom of what is happening in the world around us. It is an example of the fear in the *roaring of the seas*. There are other diseases that we do not think about or talk about much, but they belong in this conversation.

(Source: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchstp/newsroom/docs/std-trends-508.pdf>) CDC estimates that nearly 20 million new sexually transmitted infections occur every year in this country, half among young people ages 15-24. Each of these infections is a potential threat to an individual's immediate and long-term health and well-being. In addition to increasing a person's risk for HIV infection, STDs can lead to severe reproductive health complications, such as infertility and ectopic pregnancy. STDs are also a serious drain on the U.S. health care system, costing the nation almost \$16 billion in health care costs every year.

Sexually transmitted diseases happen when people are loose with their sexual partners. Multiple sexual partners increase the odds of contacting sexually transmitted diseases. Look at what happens with freedom of expression. It is rampant. We have lost our grip on living a moral life. This is just *another* sign of a world gone mad.

*I ask not for a lighter burden, but for broader shoulders. ~ Jewish Proverb*

We are not asking God to take away the difficulties. What we are asking for is the understanding to bear them and to focus on the silver lining rather than the dark cloud.

Silver Lining:

**God knows. He has always known and has always had His plan in place for relief!**

**Isaiah 35:5-10:** (NASB) <sup>5</sup>*Then the eyes of the blind will be opened and the ears of the deaf will be unstopped. <sup>6</sup>Then the lame will leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute will shout for joy (great healing). For waters will break forth in the wilderness and streams in the Arabah. <sup>7</sup>The scorched land will become a pool and the thirsty ground springs of water; In the haunt of jackals, its resting place, grass becomes reeds and rushes. <sup>8</sup>A highway will be there, a roadway, and it will be called the Highway of Holiness. The unclean will not travel on it, but it will be for him who walks that way, and fools will not wander on it. <sup>9</sup>No lion will be there, nor will any vicious beast go up on it; these will not be found there. But the redeemed will walk there, <sup>10</sup>And the ransomed of the LORD will return and come with joyful shouting to Zion, with everlasting joy upon their heads. They will find gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.*

The silver lining is that all the distress, all of the disease, all of the dysfunction, all of the lack of morality and lack of integrity, the wars, the rumors of wars, the interracial tension... all of these will be dissolved in accordance with the will of God for eternity!





So, what do we have?

**Fear**- and we now see that we can look at it in two different ways:

F - **Fear**

F - **Faith**

a decision, not an emotion.

E - **Emotion**

E - **Expectation**

here is where you test the  
Roots of your faith.

A - **Alters**

A - **Action**

here is where you test the  
Reality of your faith.

R - **Reality**

R - **Rejoice**

here is where you witness the  
Results of your faith.

The rejoicing and results come in the middle of the storm. We are happy that God's plan understood those things ahead of time, labeled those things ahead of time and He said, "here is what is going to happen" and here is what the end result is going to be. We know the ending of the storm is not the ending of humanity. The storm must come, the storm must be difficult and hard but through it all rejoice because *your redemption draweth nigh*.





*So, a world in chaos, should we be afraid?  
For Jonathan and Rick and Christian Questions...  
Think about it...!*

*And now even more to think about...  
only in the **Full Edition** of CQ Rewind!*



A little bit more elaboration on the idea of taking our fear and turning it into faith:

**F. – Faith – is a decision not an emotion**

Foolish emotion is futile - in such cases a decision is required - and remember, no decision is a decision!

**RESET: reposition yourself to alertly receive - change your posture.**

Habakkuk 2:1: (Young's Literal Translation) *On my charge I stand, and I station myself on a bulwark, and I watch to see what He doth speak against me, and what I do reply to my reproof.*

**E. – Expectation – here is where you test the roots of your faith**

When we change our posture, we project our level of expectation. Faith dictates that our posture be one of readiness, readiness to receive whatever the message or experience may be, knowing that it ultimately holds salvation!

**With this being said, let's go back to prophecy:**

Daniel 12:1-4: (KJV) *<sup>1</sup>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. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>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.*

What do we expect when we look at this prophecy? Do we expect the worst time of trouble ever to come upon this world? OR, do we expect deliverance as a result of this trouble?

**A. – Action – here is where you test the reality of your faith**

**The action of patience, of faithfulness, of grasping the vision, and of changing our posture!**

Luke 21:25-29: (ASV) *<sup>25</sup>And there shall be signs in sun and moon and stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, in perplexity for the roaring of the sea and the billows; <sup>26</sup>men fainting for fear, and for expectation of the things which are coming on the world: for the powers of the heavens shall be shaken. <sup>27</sup>And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>But when these things begin to come to pass, look up, and lift up your heads; because your redemption draweth nigh. <sup>29</sup>And he spake to them a parable: Behold the fig tree, and all the trees:*





Again, we see a prophecy that gives a fearful picture - or does it? The fearful part is the beginning; it is the short path that needs to be trodden to get to the eternal part - the redemption. Jesus knows our frame, which is why he gives the ending with the beginning! Lift up your heads:

### **R. – Rejoice – here is where you witness the results of your faith**

**Matthew 6:25-33:** (NASB) <sup>25</sup>*For this reason I say to you, do not be worried about your life, as to what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, as to what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?* <sup>26</sup>*Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they?* <sup>27</sup>*And who of you by being worried can add a single hour to his life?* <sup>28</sup>*And why are you worried about clothing? Observe how the lilies of the field grow; they do not toil nor do they spin,* <sup>29</sup>*yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these.* <sup>30</sup>*But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, will He not much more clothe you? You of little faith!* <sup>31</sup>*Do not worry then, saying, what will we eat? Or what will we drink? Or what will we wear for clothing?* <sup>32</sup>*For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.* <sup>33</sup>*But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.*

**Romans 13:11-14:** (NASB) <sup>11</sup>*Do this, knowing the time, that it is already the hour for you to awaken from sleep; for now salvation is nearer to us than when we believed.* <sup>12</sup>*The night is almost gone, and the day is near. Therefore let us lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.* <sup>13</sup>*Let us behave properly as in the day, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality, not in strife and jealousy.* <sup>14</sup>*But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts.*

**Ebola:** [www.internationalsos.com/ebola/](http://www.internationalsos.com/ebola/)

#### 8 November

WHO: The latest Ebola Response Roadmap Situation Report from the World Health Organization (WHO) reports that up to 4 November there have been 13,268 cases and 4,960 deaths worldwide due to Ebola. Active transmission is ongoing throughout Sierra Leone, and the capital cities in each country remain hotspots for disease spread.

In addition, the WHO have released a protocol for 'How to conduct safe and dignified burial of a patient who has died from suspected or confirmed Ebola virus disease.' This protocol will assist with reducing the number of new infections which occur during the burial process, whilst still allowing for families to be part of the burial and performing modified religious rites.

#### 11 November

The Ministry of Health reports 90 newly confirmed cases for 10 November in: Bombali (9), Port Loko (29), Tonkolili (12), Bo (1), Moyamba (2), Western Area Urban (29) and Western Area Rural (8).

The National Ebola Response Centre (NERC) announced that the Government of Sierra Leone has approved a one-time death benefit payment of US\$5,000 to all health care workers who die from Ebola in the line of duty. The NERC is also working with payment teams to ensure hazard incentives are paid to all frontline staff by 14 November and continue on a bi-weekly basis.





#### 10 November

There are 111 additional confirmed cases on 9 November as reported by the Ministry of Health and Sanitation in; Western Area Rural (22), Port Loko (21), Tonkolili (20), Western Area Urban (18), Moyamba (14), Bombali (10), Kono (3), Kambia (2) and Kailahun (1).

#### 9 November

The Ministry of Health has reported 45 confirmed cases for 8 November in Kailahun (2), Bombali (6), Koinadugu (4), Port Loko (2), Bo (4), Moyamba (3), Western Area Urban (12) and Western Area Rural (12). According to the World Health Organisation daily update of 8 November, the last case admitted to the *holding centres* in Kailahun was 30 October.

#### 8 November

The World Health Organization states in their recent SitRep that intense transmission is continuing nationwide, except in Bonthe, Kailahun, Kono and Pujehun districts which each have less than five new cases identified in the previous 21 days. The Ministry of Health reports 41 confirmed cases for 7 November; Bombali (6), Koinadugu (6), Port Loko (2), Tonkolili (12), Western Area Urban (10) and Western Area Rural (5). A total of 247 confirmed cases are currently in treatment centres and 857 people have survived to date.

#### 6 November

WHO: Ebola transmission continues to be a major concern, according to the WHO's latest Ebola Response Roadmap Situation Report. More than 110 new confirmed cases were recorded in the capital city, Freetown. Bombali, Port Loko, western rural areas, Tonkolili and Koinadugu also continue to be majorly affected. However, Kenema and Kailahun recorded a decline in cases.

The Ministry of Health report 36 confirmed cases for 5 November; Bombali (2), Kambia (4), Koinadugu (15), Bo (4) and Western Area Rural (7). 814 people have survived Ebola to date. A 92-bed Ebola treatment facility at Kerry Town has opened. The centre will have an 80-bed treatment centre for the public, run by Save the Children, as well as a 12-bed treatment centre dedicated to health care workers and international aid staff, run by British Army medics. The Australian Government will assist with staffing of the facility.

#### 5 November

There are 56 additional confirmed cases for 4 November as reported by the Ministry of Health and Sanitation in; Bombali (24), Port Loko (2), Tonkolili (3), Bo (3), Moyamba (3), Western Area Urban (8) and Western Area Rural (13).

#### 4 November

The Ministry of Health has reported 61 confirmed cases for 3 November; Bombali (7), Port Loko (2), Kailahun (1), Western Area Urban (35) and Western Area Rural (16). Over 820 patients have been treated and discharged.