

UPLOOK!

The

What's Next?



This Month's Features:

1. NOW, UPON OUR HORIZON
2. HOW full is "FULL"???

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"Present your case," says the LORD. "Bring forth your strong reasons," says the King of Jacob.

"Let them bring forth and show us what will happen; . . . ,

Isaiah 41:21-22a

"Oh no! Another date setter!"

No, no dates—that is strictly forbidden (Matt 24:36, Mk. 13:32)!! —Although some will yet insist that they can determine the date of Christ's returning "after the 70th week starts"—but if you're unfamiliar with that position, don't bother yourself with it, . . . Yet, as per the challenge of the opening text—the true God actually glories in being able to tell us "what will happen," and since we are increasingly aware of our presence within the terminal generation, it really does seem reasonable to expect for Scripture to fill us in on what to expect in the near term, does it not?

An obvious application of this very principle would be for brethren to have said confidently, within the 19th century, that Israel *would* one day return to her land, in accordance with Luke's gospel (chapter 21:24)—and reclaim Jerusalem, as per the prophet Zechariah's prophecy (in chapter 12, verse 6). Of course, such predictions based upon Scripture

also violate a "sacred cow," of sorts— Since, by admitting that future events are scheduled to take place prior to Christ's returning, . . . we are also admitting that the New Testament writers never did actually say that Christ "would return at any moment" —And for ourselves? Can it really be, that there really are events *yet scheduled* to take place prior to Christ's returning??

As was presented in the first video, "Corona War"* --we really must realize that the study of Bible prophecy is much like intelligence gathering, wherein we must "decrypt" the messages sent down to us from Heaven (2

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Peter 1:20-21). Having this point of view enables us to keep searching even if, while deciphering an “encrypted” message, what we discover what appears to be only gibberish (i.e. something that doesn’t line up with obvious truths, within Scripture).

In such a case we will not throw up our hands in despair, and say that the Sender was mad or insane! No, we will realize that we must fine tune our point of view, and get a proper “key” for unlocking what is being broadcast from Heaven! Intelligence gathering is like that: a constant learning process. With time and diligence (and, in our case, with much prayer and the seeking of God’s face) the accuracy of our interpreting of Heaven’s messages will gain clarity. For God has promised us that the Holy Spirit will show us “things to come” (John 16:13).

Further, Scripture informs us that within our case, as Christians—a failure to watch and make an *attempt* at understanding where we are in Scripture can be very detrimental to our spiritual well being. We can see this by applying these terms to our understanding of the foolish virgins in Jesus’ story of the 10 virgins: five wise & five foolish (Matt. 25:1-12). For in that story those who failed to take enough oil for their lamps were left in the Dark. It is true that the oil represents the Holy Spirit’s activity within our lives, but Holy Spirit activity is based

upon a life of faith (Hebrews 11:6) . . . and without accompanying actions faith remains dead in the water, so to speak (James 2:17). So, what are you doing with your faith today?

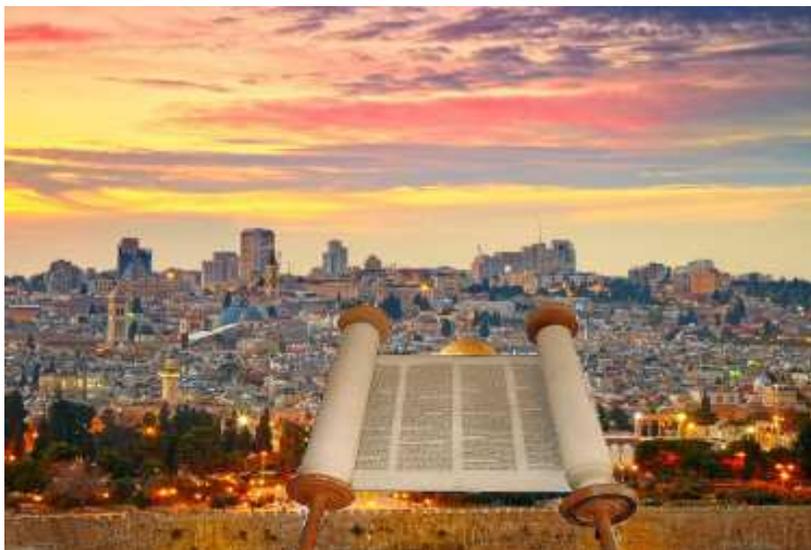
And are you ready to consider a startling possibility now looming upon our horizon??

The projection made within this UPLOOK, concerning the NEXT MAJOR EVENT upon the prophecy calendar is the result of decades of research while seeking the Lord’s face, and was revealed to me while working on my latest book. However, time and sweat do not equal “truth” within the Kingdom of God: even here, we walk by faith and are dependent upon being blessed by God’s condescending grace to us. My advice, therefore (although this places my own position at risk)—is for the reader to consider the projection presented within this UPLOOK—while seeking God’s face for yourself in prayer and fasting, as you *dig into the Book for yourself*: and keep an eye open towards the horizon.

And by all means: keep me in prayer, as well(!).

Be blessed in Jesus.

†



Now, Upon Our HORIZON

"And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, . . ."

Zechariah 12:10

Although there is a tremendous amount of information in the Bible about Christ’s second coming, as well as many descriptions of the events leading directly up to His glorious appearing in the sky—for many, within the West, where freedom of religion has persisted as a right guar-

anteed by government fiat—the most popular opinion of Evangelical Christianity has been to hold any reference, made within Scripture, of believers going through physical trial and great tribulation, as “irrelevant” and of no real concern to ourselves, or to the faithful among us. Such an

opinion, of course, is a result of the belief that we will all be “out of here” and caught up into the heavens, “before the shooting starts.” (Not literal shooting, of course, but those “shots” that pertain to the loss of life and limb, while maintaining a practical expression of faith & practice within the marketplace.) This belief, rooted in what is described as a “pre-trib rapture” is based upon a passage that makes no mention, whatever, of “great tribulation” in relation to Christ’s second coming—as within the Olivet discourse, within Matthew, Mark & Luke’s gospels (eg. Matt. 24:21).

So that by reasoning from silence, as well as by conflating the word “tribulation” with “wrath”—many Evangelicals now point to the following passage as proof positive that God would never send the Church, His beloved, through *great* tribulation.

⁹ *For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,*
¹⁰ *who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him.*

1 Thessalonians 5:9-10 (NKJV)

Yet this passage clearly states that it is “wrath” that those who trust in Christ are spared . . . not tribulation (which our Lord assures us that every believer will encounter—John 16:33)!

—**Just a thought.** A painful one, I know, but one that is necessary, nonetheless. For a doctor cannot alleviate suffering by assuring a patient dying of cancer that the pain they are experiencing is only imaginary. “Take two aspirin, and call me in the morning from bed (or, have your relatives call me, from the morgue) in the morning.”!!

Further, the context of the above verses appears to be that of an admonition to look hopefully into the future *in spite of tribulation*, which will precede Christ’s returning (see verses 3-7) so that we may avoid fainting (or falling asleep) in the Night of deception, that *will* precede His coming (vs. 8). —All of which sounds very reminiscent of Christ’s statements regarding the wise and foolish virgins who *did fall sleep* just prior to an alarming event preceding Christ’s second coming (compare 1 Thes. 4:6 with Matt. 25:5)! But, of course, I anticipate and expect better things of those who are regular readers of the UP-LOOK!

Thus, with an enlightened view of Bible prophecy, while maintaining a hopeful application of Christ’s Olivet

discourse which opens with the serious caveat, “be careful not to be deceived!” (Matt. 24:4, Mk. 13:5, Lk. 21:8) —we *will* read the Scriptures with our eyes wide open, and be unafraid of applying what we read in Christ’s discourse . . . to ourselves. And what do we find in its “opening shots”? Warnings of:

Deception in the church (Matt. 24:5) —also mirrored in 2 Thes. 2:1-3

Wars and rumors of wars (vs. 6) —generally present within any generation

Kingdom vs. Kingdom (verse 7a = literally, “ethnos” vs. “ethnos” = i.e. ethnic rivalry . . . Such as Black Lives Matter, and company . . .)

Pestilences (verse 7b = ‘nuf said, just turn on the daily “fake news” for the latest scare concerning the virus named, you-know-what . . .)

Earthquakes in various places (verse 7c = just heard of one in North Carolina, which took place near unexplored fault lines, on August 9th . . .)

A notation in verse 8: “these are the beginning of sorrows” [Translation: “You ain’t seen nothing yet, brother/sister!”]

What is most interesting, and generally ignored, is the statement made within the very next verse (vs. 9)—stating that believers will be hated of *all nations*. Of course, since the US

is a “nation” this must include us!

I mention the above run up of current events to inform the reader, and to caution all those daring to look away from “fake news” (or scary news, designed to keep you up at night, and cause you to purchase new tranquilizers, and “no doze” to rock you to sleep in a COVID fit, until morning—when a new dose of doom & gloom will be administered . . .) STAY AWAKE (1 Thes. 5:4)!

Just one note more, concerning possible “fake news” being issued by those who believe and teach that *Russia and company* are the ones to look for, in a run-up towards Armageddon, —when Scripture clearly states that Gog and Magog (Russia and company, as mentioned in Ezekiel 38:10-11) do not descend until the close of the millennium (Rev. 20:7-8) —While Zechariah’s prophecy in the fourteenth chapter just as clearly comes into complete alignment with the angelic pronouncement saying that Jesus will return to the Mount of Olives (compare Acts 1:9-10 with Zechariah 14:1-3)—which states:

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[Translation: “You ain ’t seen nothing yet, brother/ sister! ”]



HOW FULL IS “FULL”?

And I will bring the third part [of the Jews] through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God.

Zechariah 13:9 (KJV)

Before we can fully appreciate God’s provision for the upcoming revival, in which 1/3 of Israel will be saved, we must first acquaint ourselves with God’s general salvation plan which Israel will soon explosively reenter. So what, exactly, is Israel’s relationship to her Messiah, *today*?

²⁵ *For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.*

²⁶ *And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: . . . ²⁷ For this is My covenant with them, When I take away their sins.”*

Romans 11:25-27 [emphasis added]

This verse is just begging for us to ask the question, from where we are now standing, “When is this fullness of the Gentiles a reality—and what are the parameters of this “fullness” exactly?” For the fact is, that Christ came into the world to save us *at a very high a price!* Therefore, it seems obvious that the issues presented above touch at the very center of God’s will. Further, Scripture as-

ures us, “it is not His will that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance” (2 Peter 3:9) and yet . . . Jesus also clearly states that we may only enter into eternal life by a “narrow gate” (Matt. 7:13) and that He is the only Way into this Life, forever (Jn. 14:6)!

So, it becomes obvious that this is no mere “past time” event, or “hobby” that one must engage in. No, Jesus clearly taught that what He seeks an all-consuming relationship with each of us, that begins NOW.

And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

John 17:3 [emphasis added]

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”

John 14:6

So that, in a very real sense, those who enter into true fellowship with God through Jesus, the Christ, are entering a relationship that is most precious. So precious, in fact, that the Lord calls these persons His “jewels” (Malachi 3:17).

Yet, how are these persons “chosen,” and how is it possible that we may find our way into this most precious relationship?? Is it not true that the Bible also says that these persons are pre-ordained, and known by God, beforehand? In fact, shortly after the apostle Paul & Barnabas had been commissioned by the Holy Spirit to go out as mission-

aries, they entered a certain town and so preached that “*as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed*” (Acts 13:48). WOW!! You mean that such a thing can happen(??). That it is actually possible, after the Word of God has been preached, for *everyone* in that area who has been chosen by God to have responded?

To be honest, this appears to be the only place in Scripture where a set of meetings resulted in every single person in a specified area—who was ordained by God—actually repenting and believing. But please do note that, this is not a case of either being ordained *or* believing, or of just “happening by” and being “sucked up into the Kingdom” during these meetings! No, it is *both*:

- Being ordained as well as,
- Accepting the invitation, to be saved.

I prefer to understand these cosmic (eternal) realities in terms of a statement made by the apostle Paul in the eighth chapter of his letter to Roman believers. Wrote the apostle Paul:

For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

Romans 8:29-30

Great. Wonderful! God not only calls, but equips those whom He calls. . . However, I now have two serious questions. The answer to one, seems almost obvious—the other, taking a little more effort to discover. So let’s take the easy one first: How do we know when we are “chosen” and predestined?

Answer: by the way we respond to the gospel (and, just in case you were wondering: Yes, we are told to “be certain” of our calling and election (Phil. 2:13,14!)). Being called, is similar to the call to marriage. How do you know you have a marriage made in Heaven? First, say “I do”—and then work at it! (A little over simplified, but you get the idea.)

Our next question takes a little more effort, and reasoning—but before we go into the actual numbers of our reasoning, it may help to first take a mo-

ment to examine predestination from *God’s perspective*. I believe this will help us to better appreciate the “proportional” measurement that we will apply in a moment. For, within our self-centered 21st century, many people get the concept of “eternal security” wrong—mainly because they see it as an insurance policy designed to protect us, when actually . . . the reverse is true. So, let us step back in time for a moment, shall we?

Great: So, at the moment of our discussion begins, we have just entered Jerusalem in the winter season (November) during the Hanukkah celebration—also called the festival of lights, when the Jewish nation was celebrating its most recent victory over an invading empire (Greece, during the period of the Maccabees). Jesus is being questioned by His adversaries, as usual, while relating stories about sheep, and our having access to the Father.

The Lord has been telling the crowds that He is the Good Shepherd, and the Doorway to Heaven (John 10:7), while also relating His willingness to lay down His life for the sheep (vs. 15) and then . . . He ups the ante (so to speak) by saying that none of His sheep will ever be lost (vss. 27-29). Jesus, a good shepherd? Perhaps, but *never losing any sheep?*

We have the advantage of perspective, today, because we live in a time when “Christianity” is well known. Yet, while Christ walked the earth, we must realize, even the name “Christian” was totally unknown, and Christ Himself, was a mere “novelty” of sorts. Today, EVERYONE knows of Jesus, the Christ. At the time Jesus was speaking, however, Jesus was a nobody to the high brows (in Rome, for example) and to “people in the know.” I mean a NOBODY.

In their eyes (to those “important” and the ruling class) there was a very, very, real possibility that Jesus would just pass into oblivion as “just one more Messiah figure” in history. Yet, as the Man of Glory Who had stepped out of Eternity, this was in no way enough, or even a remotely satisfactory description of what He was engaged in. He was very conscious of the fact that what He was doing was to last for Eternity, and that He was sowing the seeds of a movement that would, quite literally, change

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(Con. from page 3) . . . *on Our Horizon*

² For I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem; . . .

³ Then the LORD will go forth And fight against those nations, . . . ⁴ And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, Which faces Jerusalem on the east . . .

Zechariah 14:2-4 [emphasis added]

There's that "all nations" statement again: and no, the US is not (at this moment) aligned against Israel. So you just may wish to vote for a President who favors Zion (Gen. 12:3)!

Yet, Zechariah actually tells us more, quite a bit more about the geopolitical activities that are ramping up, in preparation for the Lord's returning. Backing up two chapters from the fourteenth, for example, we read:

² "Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of drunkenness to all the surrounding peoples, when they lay siege against Judah and Jerusalem.

³ And it shall happen in that day that I will make Jerusalem a very heavy stone for all peoples; all who would heave it away will surely be cut in pieces, though all nations of the earth are gathered against it.

Zechariah 12:2-3

Now, I know that informed prophecy watchers are well aware that Bible prophecy, particularly prophecies that point deep into the future, seldom appear in sequential order across several chapters (after all, I have been hammering the subject of "layers of prophecy" over, and over, again in John's Revelation!). However, within the prophecy of the prophet Zechariah we just happen to have one of those rare sections of prophecy that *does* read sequentially, almost like a novel, from chapter 12 through to chapter 14. — And while some prefer to apply chapters 12 & 13 to the future millennial kingdom — the two verses, cited

above read so much like the morning newspaper, that I seldom hear that "millennial" perspective* taught from anyone's pulpit, these days. For it does appear quite obvious that what we are reading about in Zechariah 12, is a description of:

- Israel's return to her land & the world's anger at her prospering (vs. 1-3)
- The 1948 & 1967 wars between Israel and her neighbors, where:

. . . the one who is feeble among them in that day shall be like David, and the house of David shall be like God, like the Angel of the LORD before them.

It shall be in that day that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.

[we now live in] a world increasingly allergic to even the smell of Truth . . .

Zechariah 12:8-9

And let us not forget verse six, where the prophet states that "Jerusalem shall be inhabited in her own place—Jerusalem"!!

So, why is it that we do not hear more teaching, reflecting on these verses? Can it be because we are afraid of seeing ourselves *presently* in the midst of those exciting times leading directly up to our Lord's returning? No matter, for I am officially putting the church (and world) on notice that the incredible promise of verse ten (10) is the next MAJOR event upon God's

prophetic calendar. For it is within this verse, and those following, that the amazing dream of the apostle Paul becomes realized, as Israel recognizes her Messiah: Jesus, the Christ.

¹⁰ "And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.

Zechariah 12:10

This sovereign event, performed by the living God, will be absolutely amazing to watch, as formerly resistant Jewish brethren turn into flaming firebrands (like the apostle Paul)—who in turn will declare the naked truth to a world that is increasingly allergic to even the smell of Truth, itself—and in that day many will stop their ears, as the projection of God's truth causes them to be persecuted their own, and even by family members (Zech. 13:3)—so that, although "all Israel will be saved" (Rom. 11:26)—this will actually (within the visible world) comprise a remnant of Hebrew believers that will be composed of *one third of the nation of Israel* (Zech. 13:8,9)!

Can you imagine that?

A Jewish revival, that the apostle Paul describes as a resurrection, in its own right:

For if their being cast away is the reconciling of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?

Romans 11:15

Yet, if "only" 1/3 of the Jewish nation will have their souls saved, is this a "defective revival"? Actually, it is not. But to explain this critical truth will require a whole new article.

So I encourage you to keep reading!

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*Note to new prophecy watchers: The Millennial reign of Christ is described in Revelation chapter 20.

(Continued from page 5) ...How... “Full”?

the world forever (Dan. 2:44). What Jesus was bringing to earth was much more than a revival, a movement, or even a “revolution.” He was bringing a whole new world; the “kingdom of God” itself, into the earth, and into the hearts of women & men (Luke 17:21). So it should not surprise us that He would occasionally pull back the curtain to reveal the “warranty package” or “heavenly guarantee” that He had arrived upon this planet with. And this is one of those occasions when Jesus will reveal His “rights” and privilege from Heaven’s point of view.

There are those who like to make statements like, “If you were the only person on earth who would be saved, Christ would have gone to the Cross for you.” In a sense this may be correct, for true love is absolute, and all encompassing. But we must remember that this is the Lord of Glory. He created us, not we Him. We are to *live for Him*—especially when we remember that His love is so great that He died for us (2 Cor. 5:14,15).

However, the prophet Isaiah notes that it is guaranteed that a multitude will believe in Jesus (Isaiah 53:11)—and **this is exactly what Christ was referring to when saying that as the Good Shepherd, His sheep would hear His voice, follow Him, “and no one can snatch them out of My Father’s hand” (Jn. 10:26-31)!**

In another place Christ said that the Jewish diaspora (of the New Testament era) would scatter the Jewish nation all over the world “until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled” (Luke 21:24) or, as we saw earlier, “until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in” (Romans 11:25). Thus, what we are witnessing here is Jesus forecasting that, in a sense, His entry into the “Jewish equation” would make belief in the God of Abraham, Isaac & Jacob—an international religion (see also Isaiah 49:6, Genesis 12:3). Yet, again, how “full” is this fullness of Gentiles to be? Can we know? Is it possible?

Is it even significant? Indeed it is, and this information is actually utilized within Scripture to allow those with a hearing ear and discerning heart to better appreciate the awesomeness of our God, and the completeness of His gospel program. For we may actually discern the fractional equivalent of

the human race that may actually be saved. (Is everyone to be saved (100%)? How about one eighth (1/8) or one seventh (1/7)?) Further, not only will this help us understand a statement about all of Israel being saved after experiencing a “life from the dead” event, that is soon to take place within Israel (Romans 11:25-26)—but it will also give us a better appreciation of a key symbolic overlap within John’s Revelation (the seven trumpets).

So, let us consider the possibilities by first considering the two extremes; by using fractions.

Everyone being saved would be 1/1—but this is clearly too many, since Christ said that the way is narrow (Matt. 7:13,14), and only those who enter the narrow gate can become God’s jewels.

- How about ½ (or, half)? —Also too broad, since, by definition a “narrow” way means that there are *fewer* saved than lost. With ½ being saved, the *same number of persons* are both saved and lost. Yet, because it is God’s will that none perish (in other words, that the maximum number be allowed in— 2 Peter 3:9) we must seek the largest fractional divide that fulfills both requirements of being both rare, and generous:
- Which brings us to 1/3—being more generous than the next lower fraction (1/4) but narrower than ½.

—And it is this fractional equivalent, exactly, that the Lord utilizes when designating the portion of Israel that will be saved at the end of the age after pouring out the “spirit of supplication and grace” upon every household within Israel (Zech. 12:10, 13:8)!

As for making use of 1/3 for unlocking the Revelation? This fraction is utilized *four times* when describing the first four, of the seven trumpets. Discerning how to properly interpret and apply this information within that particular symbolism, however, will require a whole new discussion and consideration. Suffice it to say that, in some way, the first four trumpets apply to the church world in a very significant manner, within “the beginning of sorrows” (Matt. 24:8, 1 Peter 4:17).

Until next time, be blessed in Jesus.

What Must I do?

“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved.”

Acts 16:31

How?

If you will confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

For with the heart man believes unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Romans 10:9,10

In Other Words

Acknowledge: your need

—as a sinner (Romans 3:23, II Cor. 5:14-15)

Accept: His work on the Cross —to be your Savior

Confess: your acceptance of His lordship over you.

Live for Him: with your new life!

For the scripture says, “Whoever believes on Him will not be ashamed.”

Romans 10:11

ENDNOTES; unless otherwise noted, all Scriptures, quoted from NKJV

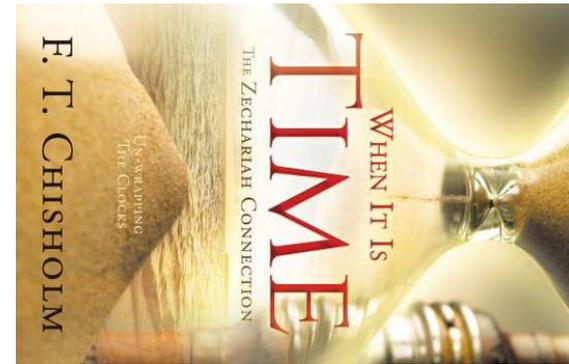
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A Comprehensive Approach

—to end time events



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