

## Prophetic Paradigms

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*The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass...*

*– Revelation 1:1 –*

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There is no doubt we are living in the last days. The student of Scripture knows that the last days began when Christ ascended to Heaven. We cannot know when Jesus will return, we are just to be watching. That said, we are closer today than yesterday, and it could be today that He comes for us!

The understanding of biblical eschatology is greatly enhanced by studying what God's Word says about our Adversary who plays a great role in the unfolding of prophecy. Satan is genius, but limited – a finite being whose power with men is neither all-encompassing nor irrevocable. With these parameters around him, he must “practice”, as it were, in order to get better at deceiving mankind. He's been doing it for millennia. The arch Fiend has prepared many antichrists throughout the ages. From Nero to Hitler, history affords us ample evidence of the working of hellish principalities and powers in the governing affairs of men. With the advancement of Artificial Intelligence and the budding scientific field of “transhumanism”, our Enemy is working overtime in our generation to prepare the way for his Man of Sin. It appears that the rider on the first horse may be in the wings (Rev. 6:2).

Speaking of those mysterious horsemen in Revelation 6, we see some other paradigms unfolding in our day. That second rider has power to take peace from the earth (Rev. 6:4). The Russia-Ukraine conflict has produced multiple headlines about a possible third World War. It also has us talking about food shortages and famine. The words behind the third rider with the balances have never been more eerily applicable in modern times, “A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine” (Rev. 6:6).

Jesus Himself told us that the days preceding His return would be marked by widespread pestilence (Mt. 24:7; Lk. 21:11). We have just gone through a global pandemic. The world has certainly seen these before. But what gives me pause to ponder the prophetic implications of this most recent one is the syntax of so many of the elites. Early in 2021, just as Covid-19 was named a pandemic, Dr. Fauci said that we are in “the era of pandemics”. What does that mean? And Bill Gates has recently been touting the “next” pandemic. It makes one wonder, what exactly do these Satanically controlled people know?

Mankind is increasingly comfortable with making war with the Lamb (Rev. 17:14). These and other prophetic paradigms will continue to unfold and gain steam until they are either interrupted by a sweeping revival amongst God's people, or until the Lord comes to catch us away. I welcome either. How about you? -- D. Murcek