

When the Copies are Destroyed

‘This is the transcript of an actual radio conversation of a US naval ship with Canadian authorities off the coast of Newfoundland in October, 1995. Radio conversation released by the Chief of Naval Operation, 10-10-95: **Americans:** Please divert your course 15 degrees to the North to avoid a collision. **Canadians:** Recommend you divert *YOUR* course 15 degrees to the South to avoid collision. **Americans:** This is the Captain of a US Navy Ship. I say again, divert *YOUR* course. **Canadians:** No. ... I say again, you divert *YOUR* course. **Americans:** ***THIS IS THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER USS LINCOLN, THE SECOND LARGEST SHIP IN THE UNITED STATES ATLANTIC FLEET. WE ARE ACCOMPANIED BY THREE DESTROYERS, THREE CRUISERS, AND NUMEROUS SUPPORT VESSELS. I DEMAND THAT YOU CHANGE YOUR COURSE 15 DEGREES NORTH, THAT’S ONE FIVE DEGREES NORTH, OR COUNTER-MEASURES WILL BE UNDERTAKEN TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF THIS SHIP.*** **Canadians:** This is a lighthouse. ... Divert *YOUR* course.’

How embarrassing for the Americans! We all know that some of us can truly be arrogant SOBs. And I imagine the Canadians could hardly contain their glee when they got the last word, silencing that captain! But what a mistake! Either a malfunction of their navigational systems, or somehow misidentifying a light-

house to be just another ship, it's a mishap that's unconscionable in our modern naval systems even from many decades ago! Yet it illustrates a point. The Americans on that ship mistook something more real and more solid than their own ship, as just another ship. It's analogous to the difference between our physical world, like the ships, and the spiritual, heavenly world, which is like the lighthouse permanently built on a shoreline that would not be moving, no matter how big an aircraft carrier came at it.

As we saw last week, we are so used to living in a physical world, some people completely deny that there is a spiritual world at all. But many atheists, though denying God's existence, nevertheless can not trump their own "God-given" sense within themselves that this that we can see and touch is not all there is. And therefore they seek out what seems to be esoteric, "hidden" or secret knowledge about unusual, unnatural, or supernatural things and events. Thus, the thriving popularity of all things that are of the occult. And with it, the more people fall prey to the evil of the demons, fallen angels, and unclean spirits that are restricted to living on this earth and in the atmosphere and space of our physical universe. Few of these people ever realize that they are not in control of their own actions. Few ever come to see that they have been hoodwinked and trapped, caught up in the snares of evil, some to the point of losing their lives.

Such was the fate of nine people just over a week ago in Houston, Texas. While these nine were suffocated and/or tram-

pled to death, over a hundred more people were seriously injured by a crowd of 50,000 who were supernaturally “moved”, literally moved, to get ever closer to their idol, their false god. The Bible tells us he is known by the name of satan, the one who opposes God. Of course, the devil wasn’t physically directly on stage that Friday evening of November 5th, but he was spiritually there in the performance of Travis Scott, if not actually inhabiting in some sense Scott’s body. It doesn’t take a Christian to realize that that whole “music festival” was “orchestrated” from the very pit of hell. Even secular, nonbelievers quickly came to the same conclusion. And so far, nine people died—human sacrifices offered in worship to the devil himself. If that in itself isn’t tragic enough, the fact that 50,000 people swarmed to hear this so-called diabolical music is heart wrenching beyond description. How can we as a nation have sunk so low? Is the daily aborting of 3,000 babies in America not enough? Of course not, because the devil won’t be satisfied until every, single, last one of us is permanently dead. Tragic for him, however, we who’ve given our lives to Christ Jesus will never die! Up until the end, satan needs humans to accomplish his agenda, so he puts up with as many who will do his bidding until they’re no longer useful. And he’s been doing this for all the thousands of years of earth’s history. We who grew up in safe and secure Christian America are only now waking up, horrified to see just how far along he’s gotten here!

But not all of us were unawares. Father God has known

from before time began that these things would be happening. And He has revealed many of these things to us via the prophets of old, and the prophets of now. The broad outlines, peppered with many stunning details, have been physically recorded for us in the Holy Bible. Four of Lord Jesus' twelve closest disciples were with Him that day on the Temple steps in Jerusalem when they commented on how beautiful and magnificent the Temple buildings were. Lord Jesus, having only thirty-some years before been among the real Temple in Heaven, matter-of-factly remarked in Mark 13:2, and in Matthew and Luke as well, "Yes, look at these great buildings. But they will be completely demolished. Not one stone will be left on top of another!" For they were but an earthly copy of the reality in "spiritual" Heaven. He told them flat out that this glorious Temple complex, the most magnificent religious compound in all the world, would, not too many years hence, be completely and totally demolished. And in the year 70, "thanks" to the tireless work of the Romans, not just the Temple but the entire city of Jerusalem was burned to the ground. And with it, the end of the nation state of Israel.

Scattered to the four winds on the earth, the Jews lived isolated, lonely, existences in exile, forever in danger of losing their identities completely and disappearing from the pages of earth history. But God. Despite it all, unlike every other people and ethnic group, He kept the Jews separate and distinct for the intervening thousands of years. And then, in 1948, a nation was re-

born in a day, as Isaiah 66:8 had long ago prophesied. The very fact that not only had God preserved His Chosen People for these millennia, He resurrected their nation, with their original language! These miracles should, by themselves, be enough to convince anyone that God exists and is the one and only Living God.

But long before that, God had revealed to a man very dear to God's heart, by the name of Daniel, what would happen to the very end of earth time. Here in chapter 11, up to verse 35, not all of which we read today, there are 135 prophecies, all completely fulfilled down to the minutest detail. But following them, there are many more prophecies that have not yet come to pass, but are being checked off one by one in our own day!

The archangel Gabriel here is essentially dictating to Daniel exactly what God wanted him to both hear and record, for us, yes, for us, who would live thousands of years in the very future he would be describing for us. But first, the chronology of coming events begins with Daniel's present. He is told that there would be four more Medo-Persian kings. The last of which was Darius III, who reigned only four years from 336 to 332 B.C., and who unwisely provoked the Greeks. In response, Alexander marched against him, defeating him. And so began the fall of the once mighty Medo-Persian Empire. It took Alexander the Great the next thirteen years to conquer every last piece of it. But Alexander would himself die young, of malaria and syphilis at only 32. As revealed to Daniel, his empire would be divided in four parts,

and the various generals who took control of the various pieces and crowned themselves kings, and their descendants competed with each other, fighting almost endlessly to extend their domains. As is all recorded in Daniel, precisely.

Daniel, at this point in his life, was an old man. He lived a longer life than most people of those days, even long by today's standards. So as all the accurate-to-a-tee prophecies amaze and astound all who read them, then and now, their very accuracy sets us up for what comes next in his writing. For next come the prophecies that speak of our own times. Just as Lord Jesus told us through His disciples what to expect in ages future, so here Daniel is shown many other details of things that are starting to take shape right now. The very fact that God has told us before hand is an immense blessing! He hasn't told us just so we see just how interesting it all is. No! We are to use this knowledge and prepare for what's coming. For example, during Hitler's time of terror in Europe, millions of Jews, and certain other despised minorities, were massacred. But many of them could have saved their lives, had they just heeded the many warnings that God gave to so many of their rabbis, and Christians as well. Yet few listened, and they paid with their lives. But for those who were faithful to the end in their captivity, they will be compensated by God. For, as we know, death in this life, is just a shadow. For the true reality, for us in Christ Jesus, is that we will live and never die. So thank Him, and live for Him for our days here are so few.

