

Prophecy in Perspective

Dr. Scott Gregory Downing
An Email Newsletter

Our Times - Prophecy in current events

God's Prophetic Warnings Through Creation

The Lord Jesus, as the Son of God, had perfect insight into the future. He told us everything we needed to know prophetically. Jesus desires His disciples, both then and now, to be discerning as to the times they are living in so we will know how to witness in the most effective way. These present days show every indication that many of the prophecies of the Lord, as well as of other New Testament writers are coming true today. Let's look at what I believe to be three examples of current events that should make every student of the Bible and or prophecy sit up and take notice.

In reference to the latter days just prior to His return, Jesus said in Luke 21:11, ***"And great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven."***

Stronger Eruptions at Two Alaska Volcanoes, Scientists Say

By **Melissa Gray**, CNN updated 7:48 PM EDT, Tue June 25, 2013

STORY HIGHLIGHTS

- The volcanoes are both on the Alaskan Peninsula
- They began erupting weeks ago but are now showing stronger seismic activity
- They are producing small amounts of lava and ash
- One of them is producing smoke plumes as high as 28,000 feet

(CNN) -- Two Alaskan volcanoes that began minor eruptions weeks ago are showing their strongest seismic activity yet, emitting small amounts of lava and ash along with smoke plumes, the Alaska Volcano Observatory said Tuesday. The observatory warned of more vigorous activity with the Pavlof and Veniaminof volcanoes, both on the Alaskan Peninsula -- though that will likely just mean more ash. Pavlof, a snow-covered, cone-shaped mountain, has been erupting since early May. While its activity since then has waxed and waned, seismic activity increased since Tuesday morning and the volcano has started continuously shaking, said David Schneider, a geophysicist with the U.S. Geological



Pavlof Volcano

590 miles SW of Anchorage
theextinctionprotocol.wordpress.com



avo.alaska.edu

Survey. Some lava is flowing, and the volcano is spewing a cloud of steam and ash that has risen as high as 28,000 feet, said Schneider, at the observatory in Anchorage.

"It's a pretty good size, but not high enough to affect overflying aircraft between America and Asia," he said. "It's more of a problem for local aviation."

Pavlof is near the town of Cold Bay, a regional transportation hub whose long World War II-era runway serves flights to area villages, Schneider said. The ash has at times affected those local flights.

Veniaminof, about 60 miles from Pavlof, started showing activity in early June and began erupting June 13, Schneider said. It has also produced a lava flow and an ash plume, though not as high as Pavlof -- only about 8,200 feet.

Veniaminof is a broad mountain topped with a large, flat ice field, and in the middle is a small cone that produces the lava and ash.

The eruptions of both volcanoes compare to those in the past, where activity lasted for weeks or months before dying down again. The main hazard now, Schneider said, is ash fall, which is more of a nuisance than anything else.

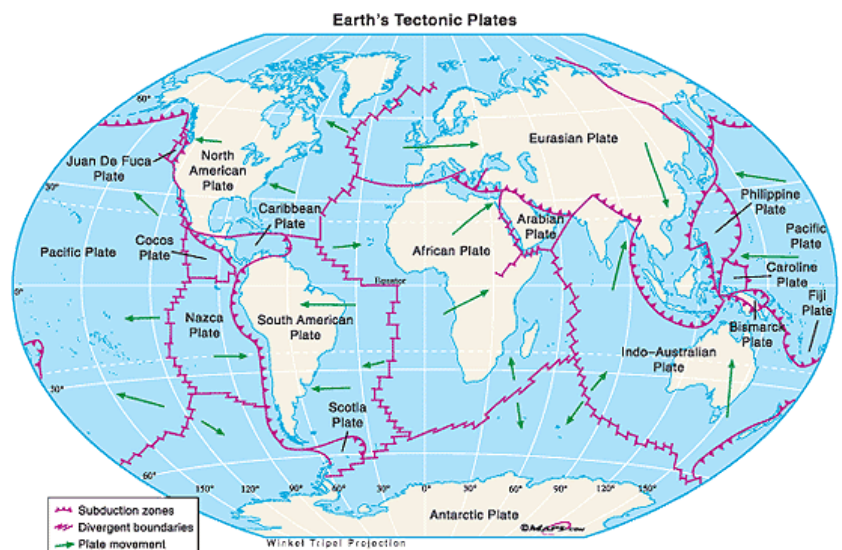
"So far there's been trace amounts of ash, so it's just a fine coating," he said. "Our best estimate of what is going to happen is similar to what's happened in the past -- this level of activity and some level of ash."

In Luke 21:25, Jesus also foretold of the natural disasters that would surround His return. He said: **"And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring."** The reason for these disasters would be God's judgment upon a wicked and rebellious world. There would be nations that would grow more and more determined and creative in their violence against the innocent, as we are seeing in abortion. They will make new laws that will seek to end marriage and the family as God designed them. They would do everything, through satanic power and influence to deny the existence of God and of the authority of His Word. Entire societies will seek greater ways to promote vile immorality and idolatrous and false cults and religions. As the following article shows, there is growing indications today that God is letting mankind know how He will cause the **"sea and the waves"** to roar and to bring **"distress of nations,"** through this stirring up of the seas.

Tectonic Disaster Looming

Think the Lisbon earthquake of 1755 was catastrophic? You haven't seen anything yet. A new anomaly of the behavior of the Earth's crust has been detected off the coast of Portugal. Is this the start of a new phase of the Wilson Cycle, where the movement of plates breaks up and creates continents? Experts predict the disappearance of the Atlantic Ocean.

The process of *subduction* is where a plate cuts under another and moves below it into the mantle, below the Earth's crust. The process has been observed before at passive margins along the tectonic plates but now for the first time a passive margin has become active - a static part of the line along the divide between tectonic plates has started to move.



The process has been identified by scientists from Monash University led by Dr. João Duarte from the School of Geosciences. His team mapped the Ocean floor around the passive margin (apparently) at the Southwest Iberia margin (SIM). Here they found that the Gibraltar Arc and the SIM appear to be connected and found stresses from the Gibraltar Arc related to the Africa-Eurasia convergence.

The scientists predict that this has the potential to form a new eastern Atlantic subduction system, bringing Europe and America together, slamming Iberia into the United States of America, meaning that the Atlantic Ocean will disappear. The report, published in *Geology*, predicts that the process will take around 220 million years.

According to Dr. Duarte, the 1755 earthquake and subsequent tsunami, which destroyed the Portuguese capital, Lisbon, in 1755, was a part of this process, as would have been another serious quake in Lisbon in 1969. If the tectonic plate is moving, as it has now been proved to be the case, how many more earthquakes will appear on either side of the Atlantic, and when? (Timofei Belov, Pravda, 6-20-13)

Perhaps science is simply seeing what God is about to do on the earth in the latter days. Naturally, because the evolutionist's approach to science dictates that the earth is billions of years old and that geological activity such as tectonic plate shifting is extremely slow, the 220 million year time frame is put forward. However, the Bible indicates that the shifting and dividing of the continents occurred in a matter of days rather than eons. In Genesis 10:25 we read that, ***"in his days (the days of Peleg), was the earth divided."*** Many creation-scientists believe that this is a reference to the division of the continents. Others believe that the continents were divided through the great upheavals of the world-wide flood of Noah's day. Either way, the Scriptures indicate that God is able to shift the continents when and how He desires. The extraordinary length of time the evolutionary scientists use tends to mislead people as to God's existence and power to do as He pleases when and how He pleases. It also disconnects the Divine purpose from being considered as an underlying reason for all geologic activity.

In 2 Peter 3:1-9 we can see how the skeptics depend on the "millions and billions" of years scenario to disconnect natural phenomena occurring in creation from the deliberate and predicted purpose of God. ***"Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation."*** In this way they deny God, His sovereign control over creation and His use of natural disasters as indications of Divine judgment and of the return of the Son of God. This approach removes man's moral and spiritual obligations to God and to one another. In our present day, truth and morality is what man, or government, says it is. This world-view is taught in public education, and is the underlying theme for the relativistic interpretation of ethics, morality and spirituality in America and around the world today! The recent decision of the US Supreme Court striking down the "Defense of Marriage Act," was an act on the part of a secular humanistic judiciary which basically affirmed the validity of same-sex marriage. This is a case in point of the downward shifting of the morality of America through the secular humanistic and evolutionary philosophies of latter-day thinking. Little wonder that the Lord is speaking through geological disturbances in creation, through the increases of the threat of disease in the modern world, and through unusual climatic instability. Jesus predicted these occurrences. My prayer is that believers will be faithful and bold in their witness for Jesus Christ and that the lost might repent and come to faith in Him. As the Lord's return draws closer we should be more ready than ever to ***"sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear" (1 Peter 3:15).***

Paul warned Timothy, and us, that as the last days unfold there would be a greater and greater dislike for the biblical design for the family. In 1 Timothy 4:1-3 Paul warns the Church: ***"But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons, by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron, men who forbid marriage and advocate abstaining from foods which God has created to be gratefully shared in by those who believe and know the truth."*** The growing number of scandals in America today indicate there is a deliberate effort systematically carried out to disrupt freedoms of those who have conservative and biblical world-views. The fact is that our present liberal government is "transforming" America by "transforming" our understanding of reality. To do this we will be increasingly watched and monitored as to voting, moral convictions and habits. This is preparatory to the asserting of the mark of the beast: 666 as described in Revelation 13. The following article shows only one example of the growing disdain that the lost have for God and His purpose for marriage and the family.

Mothers and Fathers No Longer In Vogue

In the new school year, a new subject, mandatory sex education, will be introduced in all French schools. Children will be educated from the age of six. Sex education is intended to completely shift the perception of the traditional biological roles of males and females in the children's minds, replacing them with the ideas about the so-called social gender.

France has become a field for growing new unnatural humanity. Holland's government has incredible perseverance in the introduction of gay marriage and allowing same-sex couples to adopt children, supplemented by systemic measures to educate the young generation who will have no concept of a man and a woman.

The democratic government provides no alternative. The subject will be introduced in all French schools, including private and religious ones. In February, the Commission of Cultural Affairs of the National Assembly approved a legislative amendment of the Socialist Party deputy Julie Sommaruga, according to which the mission of the school is "teaching gender equality."

According to the amendment, elementary school students should be taught the theory of gender equality and shown that the differences between men and women are not natural, but rather historically and socially constructed and reproduced.

The amendment was supported by the President of the Commission, as well as Trotskyite-like leftists in the parliament - the Socialists, the Communists, and "environmentalists." On March 19th, the National Assembly of France adopted the "gender law" in the first reading, paving the way for official corruption of minors in French schools.

The proposed concept includes a "Theory of Genres." It is easy to understand what kind of genres (styles) they are talking about looking at the system of genders introduced today. Unlike the classic gender roles, today the same person can have multiple gender roles. In addition to "untrendy" traditional men and women there are homosexuals (gays and lesbians), as well as such "species" as bisexuals, transvestites, and transsexuals. That is, homosexuality that used to be considered a disease by the standards of history is served as one of the "genres" of sexual relations.

The very concept of "gender" was introduced into the French school textbooks in 2011. Gender ideology introduces a concept according to which gender is not determined biologically, but is a consequence of the cultural and social development of an individual in the society.

Driven to absurdity, these considerations in modern France have become "an excuse" to legalize same-sex marriages and allow perverts to adopt children. Judging by current trends, it will become the basis for institutionalized pedophilia and homosexual breakdown of the younger generation who from a young age will be instilled the idea of perverted sex as the underlying purpose of life.

When such an ideology is being implemented by the government in a public institution like universal education, there is no doubt that there is a realization of the global plan for the destruction of mankind by shifting the fundamental concepts of the generated evolution of human sexuality.

First, celibacy and principled approach to the strict regulation of sexual life in a family was targeted, then homosexuality was normalized, now ideas about multiple sex roles are being introduced that are the basis for the formation of physically sick and manipulated society. (Anatoly Miranovsky, Pravda, 6-19-2013)

Jesus, as the Son of God, authoritatively pronounced God's verdict as to how we are to view man and woman: **"And He answered and said, 'Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE'" (Matthew 19:4).** These words put to end forever the legitimacy of any effort to mingle the genders or to deny their created distinctions in unbiblical ways. The prophet, Malachi, stated to the rebellious people in his day that they needed to understand and continue to support God's definition of and purpose for marriage: **"And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed" (Malachi 2:15).**

God's motive in marriage is for oneness in the husband and wife's relationship as well as for a **"godly seed."** The effort in many quarters today to overthrow this arrangement is another clear indication that the Lord's return is near. Obviously, Satan's effort in this movement is to cut off a **"godly seed."** Truly we have seen great advances of the devil's plan to redefine marriage and to stop the godly protection and instruction of children in America these days. These are all indications that the Lord's coming is drawing near. And this is an additional incentive for believers to take a stand for truth and to do all they can to seek and maintain solid biblical marriages and to do whatever it takes to raise children in the **"fear and admonition of the Lord."** (Ephesians 6:4)

Upward Call - *How to walk in view of Prophecy*

The Doctrine of the Rapture is Still Important!

Though the doctrine of the rapture has been virtually forgotten in the preaching of most pulpits in America today, the Lord is still coming to remove His Bride, the Church from the earth at any moment. Paul clearly wrote the inspired revelation of the doctrine of the rapture of the Church in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18. Part of that important, but often forgotten, passage states: **"For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words" (1 Thessalonians 4:16-18).**

Notice that the **"Lord Himself,"** will **"descend from heaven."** The soul and spirit of every believers who is now in heaven (verse 14) will be brought by the Lord down from heaven. Jesus will descend with them to the height of the clouds, and will not touch down at this phase of His return on the earth, but He will call up from the grave (similar to his call to Lazarus) the bodies of those who have died and reunite those resurrected bodies to the soul and spirit of all the saints that He brings with Him from heaven. Next the Lord will catch away all of us living saints who have received Jesus Christ as our personal Savior. He will take us up into the **"clouds, to meet the Lord in the air!"** Many voices today, are claiming that the doctrine of the rapture is "escapist!" Yet apparently, the Lord does not think so! For, He clearly promises that He will do this for us. In Titus 2:13, the rapture is called our **"blessed hope."** The rapture could be at any time! World events and the growing apostasy of the church point us to the Word of God which clearly predicts these developments. But we are not to grow disheartened or defeated but we should all the more boldly live as "salt and light," and to proclaim the Lord Jesus, His cross, resurrection, and His soon return, until He comes!

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(Note: If you would like to interact with Dr. Downing concerning this newsletter, views, etc. you can "blog" with him at prophecyinperspective.com. If you would like to subscribe to this newsletter at no charge, please send your name and email address to: sgdowning@bellsouth.net. Also, you can purchase his book, "Good News From a Far Country", a study in the book of Daniel [\$15]; "Becoming Mighty in Spirit...through Revelation's Prophecies" [\$10]; or his latest book, "Becoming Mighty in Spirit...through Developing a Prophetic Walk...A study in the lives and ministries of Elijah and Elisha" [\$10] by contacting him.)