



# The Living God Ministries, Inc.

Montgomery & Spanish Fort, Alabama

January 10, 2020

## **An Increasingly Troubled and Dangerous World.**

Warm hellos to you dear brethren, co-workers, and spiritual family here on the Coast of the Gulf of Mexico, and scattered children of God from our offices here in Spanish Fort.

This last week many eyes were glued to the news media with unfolding events, as well as President Trump's address to the United States.

The U.S. Secretary of State stated Friday that Iranian Major General Qassem Soleimani was apparently planning a "a broad, large-scale attack" against American facilities, including U.S. embassies, in the Middle East. Pompeo made these comments during a White House press briefing.

When events like this take place, those who live in countries involved can become suddenly carefully examining where we might be in prophecy from the Word of God.

Prophecy is always a topic that boosts Bible Study and Worship Service attendance. Even in the world, many are interested in prophecy. One of the most informative chapters in the Scriptures concerning prophecy is Matthew 24. The words there were spoken by the same person who later revealed to the apostle John some amazing prophecies concerning events relating to the time period called the "Day of the Lord" or as John describes it "the Lord's Day."

In addition to prophetic details, Jesus gives some warnings and prodding to be alert to what is happening around us in an increasingly troubled and dangerous world. Luke 21:36 admonishes us to be carefully watching world events, but even more importantly our own spiritual condition with our Creator.

Interestingly, Matthew 24 has a two part application. Jesus had referred to the stones of the Herodian Temple being thrown down (v.2). The disciples came to Jesus privately and asked when Him, "when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?" Some of the events that Jesus predicted would apply to both the time of 70 AD and the destruction of the Herodian Temple by the Roman armies and also to the time period referred to as "the end of the age".

The parallel prophecy in Luke is also both instructive and interesting. Notice Luke 21:20: "But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is near." There is both an initial application of this prophecy and a later or latter day one. The following text is from the scholastic "Handbook of Biblical Chronology", Finegan, 1999, p. 106:

*"In his account of the second destruction Josephus gives the following sequence of events. On Xanthikos 14 Titus encamped before the city (War 5.99; 5.133; 5.567). On Panemos 17 the daily sacrifices ceased (6.94). On Loos 8 the Roman armies completed their earthworks (6.220) and Titus ordered the gates of the temple area set afire (6.228). On the following day, which was Loos 9, Titus resolved to spare the temple (6.241). On yet the following day, which was Loos 10, amidst the fighting, a soldier cast a firebrand into the temple and it was burned (6.244, 252). The date of the burning is stated explicitly by Josephus: "the tenth of the month Loos, the day on which of old it had been burnt by the king of Babylon" (6.250). In the later correlation of the Macedonian calendar as it was used in Palestine, Loos was parallel to Ab, the fifth month. Therefore Josephus's date of Loos = Ab 10 is identical with Jeremiah's 52:12 date of the tenth day of the fifth month for the first destruction, and just one day later than the ninth day of Ab taken as the official date by the rabbis".*

The account in Matthew 24 adds something more: "Therefore when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (whoever reads, let him understand), then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains." (v.15-16)

The action of the Roman soldiers entering both the holy place and the most holy place to destroy them and then cart off any valuable items could be looked at as an "abomination" and a "desolation."

It seems possible that in the latter days some kind of structure that is termed the temple will be set up as well as an altar, and daily rituals will be associated with them which will be terminated when the abomination is set up. (Revelation 11:1-3; 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4; Daniel 8:11-14, 26; Daniel 12:11)

Analyzing these details is a subject for further comment at another time.

Will the future armies entering Jerusalem and the desolation of a temple take place at the same time of year as the previous desolation of the temple of Solomon and that of the temple of Herod? Only time will tell.

It appears that there will be a window of opportunity for those who are alert and watching to quickly get away from Jerusalem and flee to the mountains and wilderness areas. An interesting statement is made concerning Christ's disciples who will be present in the area of Jerusalem at the end of the age. Jesus instructs them, "And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath." (Matthew 24:20)

This is an obvious validation that the disciples of Jesus (implied by the word "your") will be observing the weekly Sabbath at that time. Why else would Jesus mention this?

Jesus then introduces the coming of "great tribulation" on a scale such that it will be the greatest ever to take place. (v.21)

In future Friday evening thoughts to you all, I'll look at challenges and warnings that are brought out in the verses that follow...my friends, we live in times where we need to make sure we are connected to God, for man cannot ultimately protect any of us from utter destruction.

May God bless and encourage you on His upcoming Sabbath, and I wish you good health. Our prayers and thoughts are with you daily. Please do pray for us as well.

**-Scott Hoefker**

(Pastor, *The Living God Ministries Gulf Coast*)

The schedule for this week's Sabbath is:

**January 10<sup>th</sup> / Friday: Evening Praise Sacrifice to welcome God's Sabbath - 6:30 pm** (via Teleconference live connect with Stephen Glover and Friends.)

**January 11<sup>h</sup> / Saturday: Spirit and Truth Worship Services - 10:15 am**, with services held in **Montgomery** (those in our Spanish Fort congregation and all others are welcomed and encouraged to connect live to Worship Services via our normal *telephone conference* from Montgomery). There will be a pot-luck fellowship noon meal in **Montgomery** shortly after Worship Services are finished.

**January 11<sup>th</sup> / Saturday: Malachi 3:16 Sabbath Fellowship** (Interactive Bible Discussion) - **3:30 pm** from Montgomery. (Connecting live with all via telephone conference).

**January 11<sup>th</sup> / Saturday: Monthly Family Meeting** with our Congregations **5:00 p.m.** (Connecting live with Spanish Fort and others via telephone conference).

Next Sabbath's Schedule:

**January 17<sup>th</sup> / Friday: Evening Praise Sacrifice to welcome God's Sabbath - 6:30 pm** (via Teleconference live connect with Stephen Glover and Friends.)

**January 18<sup>th</sup> / Saturday: Spirit and Truth Worship Services - 10:15 am**, with services held in **Montgomery and Spanish Fort** (All are welcomed and encouraged to connect live to Worship Services via our normal phone conference from Montgomery or Live Webcast from Spanish Fort). There will be a pot-luck noon meal in **Spanish Fort** shortly after Worship Services are finished.

**January 18<sup>th</sup> / Saturday: Malachi 3:16 Sabbath Fellowship** (Interactive Bible Discussion) - **3:30 pm** from Montgomery. (Connecting live with all via telephone conference).

Telephone Ministry (English): Call **1-712-770-4700**; then, when asked, enter Code **112165 #** to join.  
(Note: All callers are muted and must press \*6 to comment and \*6 to resume mute.)  
All times are listed in Central Standard Time zone.

Our Daily Bread Recordings

Sunday through Saturday / Our Daily Bread [listen anytime 24/7 to a recorded 15 minute message] Call 1-712-770-4709 (note this call in number is different and ends in "9"), then when asked, enter code 112165# [reference code numbers are on "Spiritual Fellowship Opportunities" on this website <http://www.tlgministriesgc.org> or at "Resources/Archives" on <http://www.haggai114.net>]

Daily Fellowship Opportunities

Sunday – Friday / **Morning Sacrifice** (Prayers & Scripture Reading) at 6:00 a.m.  
Sundays / **History & Background of the Gospels** (Interactive) at 6:30 p.m. [Scott & Friends]  
Mondays / Africa Discipleship at 7:00 a.m. [Stephen & Moses]  
**Almond Branch Fellowship** at 6:30 p.m. (Interactive) (Stephen & Friends)  
Tuesdays / **Haggai Fellowship** (Interactive) at 6:30 p.m. (Interactive) [Stephen & Friends]  
Wednesdays / Africa Discipleship at 7:00 a.m. [Stephen & Moses]  
1st & 3rd Wednesday / **Sons of God Fellowship** (Young men training) at 6:30 p.m. [Stephen & Friends]  
2nd & 4th Wednesday / **Lydian's Fellowship** (Ladies) at 6:30 p.m. [Esther/Gayle/Laura & Friends]  
Thursdays / **Mt. Carmel Fellowship** (Interactive) at 6:30 p.m. [Hoefkers & Friends]

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