



Trumpet Sounds

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REBECCA O'CONNOR

EDITOR: DENNIS O'CONNOR

JERUSALEM

Today, although I am writing for June, is May 14...a day to mark in history. I watched the celebration of our American Embassy move from Tel Aviv to open in Jerusalem, the established capital of Israel. According to *The Times of Israel*, Guatemala and Paraguay have followed suit, and Honduras may be next.

This is not the first time something like this has happened. God moved Cyrus to allow the Jews, who had been in captivity under his predecessor's reign, to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the destroyed Temple.

Even though Pres. Trump declared Jerusalem was Israel's capital, this was declared by other presidents who never followed their words with actions in proof of those declarations. In December 2017, Trump made the declaration and today, 5 months later,

it has been realized by the proof.

(Side Note: While there are those of you out there who have dismissed Israel as "Replacement" or obsolete to God's purpose, I will tell you that if you disregard the clock you will never hear the alarm when it sounds as well as not know the time or season. We are in Jer-USA-lem as they are in us. We have been connected throughout our history. Like Siamese twins, we are joined at the hip having separate organs yet sharing one heart with the same God. Like this nation, they have accepted and rejected God, followed and strayed, recognized and overlooked Him, yet He has never left or forsaken the Peters who deny Him. Without the clock there is no watch. Think about that for a moment because Jesus told us to set a watch.)

My greatest argument to the transferal issue is in Jesus Words: **Luke 13:34 -35 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killeth the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, and ye would not! 35 Behold, your house is left unto you desolate: and verily I say unto you, Ye shall not see me, UNTIL the time come when ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.**

We cannot take one Scripture away from another. They all come to agreement, for look in the very same book of Luke and the same red letters marking Christ's own words:

Luke 21:24 And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, UNTIL the

times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.

UNTIL: ἄχρι, ἄχρις: achri achris -- Akin to G206 (through the idea of a terminus, which is a final point in space or time; an end); (of time) until, up to (a point of time): - as far as, till, (even, un -) to, until

There is a terminus/term limit in both Scriptures. I am sure I am saying this to tedium to many of you, but these are serious times for us to negate God's clock by picking out a few Scriptures. Jesus was giving prophetic Words that do not pass away even when this world does. Yes, Christians are born of God's Spirit and are waiting for His return. Those who do not believe in Jesus as God will see Him for their first time when He returns a second time. All prophesies will come to pass and many have.

The prophecy of **Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, UNTIL the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled** was started in 1967 when Israel gained back Jerusalem from the Gentiles, yet not completed until Pres. Trump declared then moved our embassy to the capital of Israel... JERUSALEM in a year of Jubilee.

So, let us look at the significance of what a Jubilee is all about: **Jubilee year** occurred from Sept. 24, 1966 to Oct. 13, 1967 (these dates are from atonement/Yom Kippur 1966 to atonement/Yom Kippur 1967). This entire span of time from Sept. 24, 1966 to Oct. 13, 1967 of the following year was the **Jubilee year**. The Solar Jubilee from Yom Kippur 1967 will highlight the final 50th Year of Jubilee from 2017 to 2018. Both of these times of Jubilee

have been important to Israel for gaining Jerusalem in 1967 and 2017 Trump declared Jerusalem the capital, 2018 moved the embassy to Jerusalem.

My granddaughter has been following this and asked me what was next on the hit parade...look and see: (After Jerusalem's return Lu 21:24) **Luke 21:25-28 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; 26 Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. 27 And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. 28 And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.**

How long will all of this take place?

Luke 21:32 Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled.

I have always pondered what a generation might be, but whether it is 40 years, 70 or 80 (Ps 90:10), it does not say **after** a generation but that the generation would not pass on to the next before all of the events prophesied would be fulfilled.

Even though there are no clear dates, there are clear signs. We always need to be watching and working until we are with Jesus.

Inside this issue:

<i>Third Temple?</i>	2
<i>Reckless Love</i>	2
<i>Trust Is Believing</i>	3
<i>Any Questions</i>	3
<i>A Study Of "ME"</i>	4
<i>I Lay ME Down</i>	5

Third Temple?

There are many Christians and even scholars believing in a third Jewish temple construction as the ultimate sign in Jesus' return. While I am not saying that there will not be the manifestation of another temple, I am also not looking at it as necessary for His return. Let me just present my thoughts as something to consider as I see it from the Scriptures.

Remember that the Bible is a Living Word that came off the pages into human form. Here are His Words that come to me every time I hear about a third temple expectancy before His return: **John 2:19-21** *Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up. 20 Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days? 21 But he spake of the temple of his body.—1 Cor 6:19* *What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?—Matt 12:6* *But I say unto you, That in this place is*

one greater than the temple.—Acts 7:48-49 *Howbeit the most High dwelleth not in temples made with hands; as saith the prophet, 49 Heaven is my throne, and earth is my footstool: what house will ye build me? saith the Lord: or what is the place of my rest?—Acts 17:24* *God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;*

The first temple in Jerusalem was destroyed as Daniel prophesied during the reign of Antiochus Epiphanies IV and the second Temple was destroyed by Vespasian's Roman army in 70 AD as Jesus prophesied in His Luke 21 address. Both prophesies have been fulfilled.

The only replacement theory of my own is that Jesus is the last and only temple restored to the body of believers whether Jew or Gentile. The building made by hands/temple in Jerusalem is used in Muslim worship. According to the New Testament, Jesus' death and resurrection fulfilled

the ceremonial sacrifices and solemn feasts of Israel performed by the Levitical priesthood over the previous fifteen centuries. These sacrifices and feasts pointed to the offering up of the Lamb of God for the sins of Israel and the world.

This does not take the Jews or Israel out of the picture prophetically as being replaced.

Rom 1:16 *For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek/ Gentile.—Rom 2:9-10* *Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile; 10 But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile:*

This is to those who are believers whether Jew or Gentile because in Jesus a believer is not a nation or country but a believer. Yet just as people have a destiny, there are na-

tions of destiny as well.

It was easy for most commentators whose commentaries were written well before 1948 to exempt Israel from the end of times picture for there was no nation of Israel. Their commentaries were not open to the signs we have today but this is also spoken in **Dan 12:4** *But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.*

I would say that men can travel country to country in a matter of hours and back again in the same day to be with his family for the evening meal! Knowledge is so exponential that the year before a student graduates, the technology has already been replaced and upgraded.

I am not saying that there could not be a physical manifestation of a spiritual Truth concerning a new temple or a takeover of the temple mount by Israel, but it does not change the significance of Jesus' Words and definition of the true temple which believers hold.

Reckless Love

We sing a song at church, God's Reckless Love, with lyrics that go:

*Before I spoke a word, You were singing over me
You have been so, so good to me
Before I took a breath, You breathed Your life in me
You have been so, so kind to me
O, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God
O, it chases me down, fights 'til I'm found, leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn't earn it, and I don't deserve it, still, You give Yourself away
O, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God, yeah
When I was Your foe, still Your love fought for me
You have been so, so good to me
When I felt no worth, You paid it all for me*

*You have been so, so kind to me
O, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God*

These lyrics give the view of a reckless love that chases me and fights 'til I am found. The reckless kind of love that even when I was His foe, His Love fought for me just as recklessly as now that I am found and no longer a foe. He believes in me when I do not believe in myself.

The part that I would love many who feel unworthy of breath and life to know and understand is that He is chasing after you in your mistakes, sins, as well as your neglect. He chases fiercely, not that He cannot find you, but so **you** can find **you** and see your

identity is greater than your mistakes and mistrust.

Reckless love is a love that does not regard the consequences of its giving itself away. The world cannot understand it because it makes an investment in order to get back what it thinks it deserves with interest.

The parable Jesus gave is the Good Shepherd that would leave the 99 to go after the one who ran away...the one who disobeyed...the one who wanted no part in life to play...the one who was rejected...the one who was hated and the one who hated back. He chases after the bitter and unforgiven...WHY? The only answer is in a love that goes be-

yond comprehension...a sacrificial love that does not stop or quit.

In other words, there is nothing you have done or ever will do that will stop a reckless love. Whether you feel your sin is as immovable as a mountain, God is an irresistible force that, like a wave, pummels away at the mountain until bit by bit the wave carries it off and it becomes part of His ocean of love.

*When I felt no worth,
You paid it all for me
You have been so, so kind to me
O, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God*



Trust Is Believing

Believing God's Word is the key to peace, safety and yes, even the answers we will receive though all impossibilities try to diminish and claim the faithful prize.

We remember Job's dilemma, when Satan targeted him with fear of the unseen and unknown "what-ifs" that tortured him until he relented and everything he feared came to pass. Both our trust and our fear are strong contenders for future events.

What we allow to keep rotating in our minds plays a huge factor in outcomes...whether in the finale we admit, "I knew this was going to happen," "I saw this coming," "I told ya so!"

There is a colossal difference between prognostication and prophecy...one is man guessing by the way things may seem on the outside or by fear on the inside, the other is God speaking, yet belief adds the fertilizer of growth.

One mother brought her little girl, Mary, to my weekly prayer meeting. God's Spirit moves very simply in me because I have learned not to let intellect prevent

it. Sometimes I will get the simplest phrase, word or picture. I gave Mary what I trusted God was communicating: "Mary has a little Lamb. Its fleece is white as snow, and everywhere that Mary goes the Lamb is sure to go." Mary understood the Lamb was Jesus. One day I received a text that Mary's liver was failing. The doctors gave her an outcome, but Mary's trust in the Lamb gave her another. This time Mary followed the Lamb and told everyone that she was healed, even though the tests did not show it. Strong belief in what God says as faith speaks from the resolve of our hearts becoming prophecy. Mary came back with her mother months later to share what even the doctors have agreed that her liver is healing and healed.

Prov 23:7-8 For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee. 8 The morsel which thou hast eaten shalt thou vomit up, and lose thy sweet words.

Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks Lu 6:45. Put this together with Pro 23: 7-8 and

look again at Job's words: **Job 3:26 I was not in safety, neither had I rest, neither was I quiet; yet trouble came.**

Job ate the morsel of fear and believed that he was not hedged in as God had stated, so he lost sleep over his fear and out of the abundance of his heart his fears vomited into speaking forth and he lost all the sweet words of trust in God.

I have heard many Christians speak faithful Scriptures coupled with fearful statements of opposition to those very Scriptures in the next breath. What comes to mind is **James 1:6-8 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. 7 For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. 8 A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.**

It is not the memorized Scripture that heals us, but the fidelity in our trust of those Scriptures. Which brings to mind this Scripture: **Amos 3:3 Can two walk together, except they be agreed?** If we could just agree in

our spirit and our soul we could walk out anything in victory rather the constantly tripping one over the other.

Both trust in God's Word and trust in fear produce an outcome. Jesus even said, **Mark 9:23 If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.** This was said to a father whose faith was under a great amount of attack, yet answered Jesus by confessing: **Mark 9:24 Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.**

This is an honest prayer, since we as Christians do believe, yet circumstances that we grasp with our 5 senses and intellect or reasoning try to overtake the unseen power of a very real God and Savior who paid the price in full for all we need, want or ask. Those senses buffet Trust as if a five to one battle. It is those times we cry out and say, "Lord, I believe; help mine unbelief!" There is no shame in a confession of truth when we admit our weakness. You and I have been there no matter how long we have lived with Jesus. Recognizing the Truth of God's Word and the truth about our trust is half the battle.

Any Questions?

John 21:25 And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen.

John 16:12 I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now.

Dan 12:4 But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be in-

creased.

What do these three scriptures have in common? There is something missing in each; look again and see what is missing.

John 21:25 What things more did Jesus do that we do not know?

John 16:12 What things more had Jesus not yet told?

Dan 12:4 What things more were written in the book Daniel closed holding information for a future generation in which other generations had no access?

If you are under the assumption that the Bible as it has been preached and taught from the past to now is exhaustive and that all there is to uncover in Christendom has been received in its entirety, your understanding of God's Word is less than the knowledge you have of someone's pet hamster three blocks away. Like technology, the mysteries of in the Word holds myriads of exponential revelation that have not surfaced or reached anything we could imagine.

Remember that the Word is an eternal living being. You may have an introduction and basic synopsis in miniscule yet to say we know a fraction of it is an over exaggeration in the amount we give ourselves credit.

*Th-th-that's not all folks: **John 16:13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.***

A Study of “ME”

“Human-centric” is human based and centered. “Christ-centric” is Christ based and centered. Christians are for the most part human-centric because we make the Bible a Book for us and about us, while Christ-centric sees it about Christ from “In The Beginning” to the last “Amen” in Revelation. The Bible shows us the relationship between humankind and the Trinity of God.

Why is this important to distinguish? Being human centered Christians sets its limits to human nature boundaries, while being Christ centered opens all doors without the boundaries of time or natural constraints.

To coin a similar phrase with a twist, “*Ask not what the Kingdom can do for you; Ask what you can do for the Kingdom.*” In other words, God is not here for you, but you are here for God.

Most Christians see the Kingdom of God as something that is working for them with a God that serves them. God is expected to assist us by hearing, answering prayers, watching over lives for safety and constructing our heavenly mansions etc., etc.

I have said this before, but if I asked you who it was that had the starring role in the books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, who would you say? They were Christ-centrally written. I questioned John’s a bit more since he allowed himself a supporting role more than the others, but he left out his name so that we could fill in our own as Christian disciples.

Look at the differences in where we place centric:

The argument on pre, mid or post tribulation for the human-

centric it is something worthy of knowing because we need to know our position...how prepared must one be to go through tribulation or do we escape, etc.? For the Christ-centric, it changes nothing in Christ. God having no beginning or end befuddles the human-centric reasoning, but for Christ-centric it changes nothing in Christ. Christ-centric believers can stretch their knowledge farther and except what is not familiar because it does not change Christ like the boundaries set of human-centric believers whose belief is more segmented with where they will start and where they will stop God. Revelation will be nourishing to the Christ-centric, yet the next argument for debate to the human-centric.

Religion itself is human-centric with doctrines setting boundaries to God’s “dos and don’ts” as well as declaring what God hates more than what God loves because their denomination, culture or nationality KNOWS. Radical Muslims, for example know that their god hates Christians and Jews as infidels and pigs.

If you look back at the article, “Any Questions”, you see an example of the differences in our centric. The human-centric will have difficulty with the possible answers to the three statements, while Christ-centric will be open to the challenges of the unfamiliar... WHY, because change in the human will have to happen to receive the unfamiliar, but nothing changes the Gospel of Christ yet opens more understanding to Christ-centric.

Little things boggle and concern the human-centric:

◇ Who did Cain Marry?

◇ Who were the giants in Genesis?

◇ Tongues?

◇ Dispensation?

◇ Replacement Theology

These things seem important to us, yet nothing changes Christ no matter what bars we set. These arguments are human-centric pursuits in the scheme of a small world. Human-centric sees a smaller universe than the one in existence simply because we ARE the universe and only lifeform in it.

Even the disciples regarded the Samaritan woman as someone in whom they had no affiliation (human-centric), but Jesus did not see her as a Samaritan but as someone thirsty. The church saw the adulterous woman as a death sentence (human-centric), while Jesus saw her as forgiven. The Gospel changes the human, it does not change Christ. The human-centric form Christ in their own opinion making judgments Christ did not make except to the burning review to the human-centric Pharisees.

The human-centric group themselves with the likeminded and tolerant of those who are not like them. Christ-centric extend love beyond themselves to all creatures.

If you have ever said to yourself or another, “I am only human,” pay closer attention to that meaning. You are probably identifying yourself more than giving an excuse. We are triune beings since God created us after Himself. Why then do we never say, “I’m only spirit?” It is because we

hide behind our flesh containers?

We cannot begin God and end Him just because our imagination or thinking and reasoning cannot stretch beyond our flesh. We see limitations and limit God with the same measure yet give Him an occasional extra mile but no further distance for fear He becomes out of reach to the only mindset we can grasp. We make judgments upon others based upon Old Testament principles; yet jump over to the New Testament to accept grace that was not earned. We cannot expect a grace that we cannot extend as well and here is the proof of that statement in the parable of the unforgiving debtor: Matt 18:21-35. Judgment is for us to use to judge ourselves rightly.

I am learning to know where I end and Christ begins instead of determining where Christ ends and I begin. I am committing that to judging me, myself and I, since God is greater than my narrow mind. Therefore, I am allowing my mind to be pried wider through what the Holy Spirit tries to initiate into my “*littleness*”.

A custodian takes care of the building but does not own it. In the same respect we take care of our bodies but they do not belong to us. We have been given life, yet it is not all about us.

Before any race there are stretches that prepare us for the run. No matter what age you have reached, if you count yourself in the number of Christians you are in the race...we all need to STRETCH!

I LAY ME DOWN

In regard to being Christ-centric, this is the perfect song with lyrics that have so much meaning for me personally. I am not admitting to perfection but to striving to be better than my humanness and frailties. You do not have to be perfect to receive Jesus, witness, write of Him, teach or preach, but you must be willing to learn.

Living life is a constant school of lessons to learn and grow or resist and become handicapped in all areas. Jesus sees us through the hardest of battles and, like a good parent, does not take us out of the hard part of life but holds our hand through it getting us to the other side. I cannot tell you the times I have heard someone in difficulty say, "This is just killing me," yet they are still very much alive years later. What does not kill us does tend to make us stronger. Any way, here are the lyrics to the song...make it your prayer.

With this heart open wide
From the depths from the heights
I will bring a sacrifice
With these hands lifted high
Here my song here my cry
I will bring a sacrifice
I will bring a sacrifice

I lay me down
I'm not my own
I belong to you alone
Lay me down
Lay me down
Oh, hand on my heart
This much is true
There's no life apart from you
Lay me down
Lay me down

Letting go of my pride
Giving up all my rights
Take this life and let it shine, shine, shine
Take this life and let it shine

I lay me down
I'm not my own
I belong to you alone
Lay me down

Lay me down, oh oh oh
Hand on my heart
This much is true
There's no life apart from you
Lay me down
Lay me down
Oh oh oh
Lay me down
Lay me down

It will be my joy to say
Your will, your way
It will be my joy to say
Your will, your way
It will be my joy to say
Your will, your way, always
It will be my joy to say
Your will, your way
It will be my joy to say
Your will, your way
It will be my joy to say
Your will, your way, always

I lay me down
I'm not my own
I belong to you alone
Lay me down
Lay me down, oh oh oh
Hand on my heart
This much is true
There's no life apart from you
Lay me down
Lay me down, oh oh oh
Lay me down
Lay me down, oh oh oh
Lay me down
Lay me down

