

TRUMPET SOUNDS

REBECCA O'CONNOR



“IT’S THE GREAT PUMPKIN, CHARLIE BROWN!”

As this election year is building momentum, and I hear the campaign rhetoric saying that this election is all about the economy, only one phrase keeps coming back to me: “It’s the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown.” If you do not have children, you may have missed all the Charlie Brown holiday specials, so let me fill you in. Linus had a vision extraordinary that if he sat in the most sincere pumpkin patch, the Great Pumpkin would show up and bestow him with entitlements beyond measure. Linus campaigns to get others to see his vision and stay overnight in the patch on Halloween, but only gullible, little Sally stays. As the night comes to an end, Sally realizes that the Great Pumpkin was a stretch of Linus’ imagination and has nothing to show for it. Likewise, today everyone seems to be waiting for the Great Pumpkin to dig us out of a hole deepened by the current administration to sit in the patch with visions of pie in the sky [pumpkin to be sure]. The Great Pumpkin makes for an entertaining cartoon as long as you realize that it is just that... make-believe.

Believing in man’s ability to rectify the situation with fiscal plans is a guarantee for failure. The remedy for this nation or any nation is clearly stated in Deuteronomy 27: 2-13, which starts

out in verse 2: *“And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, IF thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God.”* Harkening to the Voice of God is the guarantee of blessing’s result being manifest. God is not greater than His Word. As long as our flesh becomes Word we are in line for blessings. *John 14:23-24 Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father’s which sent me.* Verses 3-13 in Deut 28 detail the blessings of living inside the Voice or Word of God:

- 3 Blessed shalt thou be in the city, and blessed shalt thou be in the field.*
- 4 Blessed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep.*
- 5 Blessed shall be thy basket and thy store.*
- 6 Blessed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and blessed shalt thou be when thou goest out.*
- 7 The LORD shall cause thine enemies that rise up against thee to be smitten before thy face: they shall come out against thee one way, and flee before thee seven ways.*

- 8 The LORD shall command the blessing upon thee in thy storehouses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto; and he shall bless thee in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.*
 - 9 The LORD shall establish thee an holy people unto himself, as he hath sworn unto thee, if thou shalt keep the commandments of the LORD thy God, and walk in his ways.*
 - 10 And all people of the earth shall see that thou art called by the name of the LORD; and they shall be afraid of thee.*
 - 11 And the LORD shall make thee plenteous in goods, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy ground, in the land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers to give thee.*
 - 12 The LORD shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season, and to bless all the work of thine hand: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not borrow.*
 - 13 And the LORD shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; if that thou hearken unto the commandments of the LORD thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do them:*
- Now that is the campaign speech I want to hear from

someone...anyone! God did not say to hearken to the fiscal plans of man but to hearken to His Word, and we would be blessed.

Secular nations are “bald” nations waiting for the Great Pumpkin to rescue them. No, they do not call it the Great Pumpkin to be sure. They use familiar names like Obama or Romney, all depending upon the party, as well as a cast of others: doctors, lawyers and Indian chiefs! [Not to forget scientists and physicists!] It is time to stop hanging around the pumpkin patch waiting for what will never come and take to our knees in prayer that we will hearken to the Word of God in all things and be in line for true blessings. To quote another line of Scripture: *Deut 30:19 I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:*

[Continued in Issue At Hand p. 4]



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MEAGAN MATTHEWS

2 Chron 7:14-15

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. Now mine eyes shall be open, and mine ears attent unto the prayer that is made in this place.

PRAY!

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Isa 5:20-23

Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!

Woe unto them that are mighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle strong drink:

**Which justify the wicked for reward, and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him!
KJV**

EZEKIEL 14:12-23**Ezek 14:12-23**

The Word of the LORD came to Ezekiel because Israel was at a crossroads with God.

Ezekiel was warned that when the land, meaning a nation or government, sinned against God's ordinances, which is His Word, the staff of bread would be broken and famine would prevail. **Matt 4:4 It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.** When a nation established by God breaks off with God, it has broken the abundance of bread causing famine. Of all our alliances, our alliance with God should never have been broken. This administration broke the staff of our bread by becoming *secular*. Not all Christians have broken the vow of our daily bread in God's Word, so the Scripture goes on reading hope to the individual living under that nation: **Ezek 14:14 Though these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they should deliver but their own souls by their righteousness, saith the Lord GOD.** The nation may not be saved, but those who do not break the vow of bread, meaning His Word, will be saved.

The verses 15-21 of Ezekiel tell of some of the things to expect to happen of that nation which broke off with God.

- **Vs 15: Noisome beasts will pass through the land and spoil it.** Noisome is the Hebrew word: ra' rā'âh which means evil affliction, calamity, distress, sorrow and wretchedness. **Beast** is Hebrew for any living thing such as man, animal, plant, microbes etc. In other words, this has a wide range of distresses from enemy troops or wild animal or insect infestations to microscopic bacteria causing plague and dis-

ease. Remember that though this will be in that nation if you are as Noah warning and testifying or as Daniel faithful to keep God's Word or Job who did not turn from God in the midst of turmoil, you will be saved by your righteousness. However, the Scripture reads: **16 Though these three men were in it, as I live, saith the Lord GOD, they shall deliver neither sons nor daughters; they only shall be delivered, but the land shall be desolate.** Train your children in the way they should go that they do not depart from God and are saved by their righteousness also...remember Job's children.

- **Vs 17: The Sword of war will strike the land.** Many, in fact most all, nations have the ravages of war fought on their own land unlike America whose wars were not fought on her own land since the Civil War but in other lands. This brings the sword to the land of disobedience not to be fought elsewhere but right in our cities and towns. In a war fought on our own land many innocent lives of women and children are the casualties not just the soldiers. Radiation is no discerner of what life it destroys. A war coming to America destroys her buildings, historical landmarks, populations, businesses, homes, farmlands etc. The fallout from nuclear war or eruptions from our nuclear power plants would kill thousands or millions, and the land would be desolate and barren as well as poisoned. **18 Though these three men were in it, as I**

live, saith the Lord GOD, they shall deliver neither sons nor daughters, but they only shall be delivered themselves.

- **Vs 19: Pestilence in the land [in blood]:** **Pestilence** is Hebrew for *deber* which is: murrain [diseases from domestic meat] and plague. Poisoning of our food from a radiated land as well as disease. **20 Though Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, as I live, saith the Lord GOD, they shall deliver neither son nor daughter; they shall but deliver their own souls by their righteousness.**

Other nations have felt the sword and the famine and the noisome beast, and the pestilence, and if it was a warning against Jerusalem, God's chosen, then why would this not apply to America when she has broken with God? Yet the hope lies with the righteous in that same land where judgment fell: **Vs 22:** Speaks about a remnant left...righteous saved with sons and daughters who will have the inheritance of the LORD to bring comfort by their example and the mighty works of Jesus will be in their hands.

Ezekiel was warned about what was about to happen to Jerusalem if they did not repent and turn from their idols and back to God. If this was a warning for Jerusalem and God's chosen people, what then of America? Does America get a pass for her idols and innocent blood?

My hope is for this nation to turn, however, regardless of what we choose this election... **Though Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, as I live, saith the Lord GOD, they shall deliver neither son nor daughter; they shall but deliver their own souls by their righteousness.**

LOITERING IN CHRISTIANITY

What do I mean by loitering in Christianity? I mean having the kind of Christianity by this definition: **waiting to commit Christianity: the offense of standing around with the intention of committing a Christian act without ever actually doing it.**

We stand around with the freedoms our forefathers gave their lives to preserve and waste the day loitering rather than using the opportunities afforded us. [John 9:4 *I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.*]

We are placed here on earth to work not solely for a paycheck but for the Gospel's sake. Satan can use our loitering to give us ideas of how to spend our time, which is what gets us into the predicaments from which we then must pray to be set free! Once free, we feel as if we mastered our purpose and set ourselves back to loitering once more. Our purpose is not to win ourselves over and over but to obey the voice of God to win others. Disciples of Christ did not continually win, heal and deliver themselves day after day; they ministered to others to win, heal and deliver. In other words, my mission is not ME; your mission is not YOU. Our mission is broader than the eye can see.

There was an old English law that posted signs in public places: NO LOITERING.

This was done because of the trend in loitering to cause mischief breaking laws. Many nations adopted this policy for the same reasons. It is Christianity's turn to place the sign NO LOITERING over our hearts and purpose to do the Will of the Father. Our destiny is not to continually save ourselves, yet with loitering Christians that is about the extent of their walk. We are sent here to make a difference for others not to be indifferent to others.

It would do us all good to hear some of the Islamic converts to Christianity. Since the Islamic religion is a way of life, these new converts make Christianity their life not just their insurance policy. Everything they do is Christ centered. Yet most of us in America center on ourselves. Our language has phrases like: self-reliant, self-aware, self-indulgent, self-gratified, self-conscious, self-sufficient, self-satisfied...all being self-centered! We are not the center of the universe. We should not have to take up our whole lifetime to fix I, me, my, mine unless we are simply loitering in Christianity until I, me, my, mine hurts enough to spur us into action.

Spend a day away from yourself:

- If you chronically need prayer, start praying for someone else's need
- If you need encouragement, encourage someone else

- If you want blessings, bless someone else
- If you feel lonely, reach out to touch another life

Whenever you get away from yourself, you are better equipped to see the need of others. By the time you finish giving **of yourself** to another, you find that you are in want of nothing. When, on the other hand, you spend too much time loitering with just yourself in mind, you will notice every pain; drink in depression, worry and stress. You will spend much of your time saving you, healing you, praying for you, ministering to your needs while enlisting the time of others to do for you as well.



THE "EVE EFFECT"

I was talking to the Lord about how the word **abortion** has been clouded in the Christian perspective and given little attention when voting. The Lord always sends me to a Scripture and opens up revelation, so that I can take what He has **said** and see what He is **saying**.

He sent me over to Gen 3 and dropped Eve into my spirit. The phrase "woman with the choice" crossed my mind. I had my answer in just that small phrase.

Let me ask you some basic questions about Eve:

1. When the serpent tempted Eve, was she given a choice which would affect life or death? [Clearly God said to eat of this fruit would bring forth death.]
2. Eve was pro-choice when she made her own decision as a god, just as the serpent predicted she **would be** as a god making her own rules and living by them. When she ate the fruit, did she put at risk death for the innocent lives in the generations to follow?
3. Though Adam had not thought to disobey God, yet at the same time did not want to cancel Eve out, he put his hand to it in the end disregarding God's voice. Was Adam affected by his decision to follow Eve's act whether whole-

heartedly or not?

4. Has the world suffered from a woman's power or right to choose between life and death?

What we do today effects everything in this nation. We know, as Christians, that life is given by no other than God. All of us were destined and written beforehand.

I do not think Christians realize that even though they are pro-life if they put their hand like Adam to a platform of abortion it will affect their lives as well as their children's. I would bet, were Adam still alive, he could attest to the fact that what he put his hand to was the worst day and decision of his life.

Women may be "birthers" and carriers of a life, but God is the author of it. This is not a clouded matter to God as it has become to many calling themselves Christians.

"Suffer the children to come unto me, for such is the Kingdom of heaven," was not meant as a pro-abortion endorsement.

ISSUE AT HAND

The issue at hand this election year is more than discussing a candidate. It is no surprise that in April 2009, our president declared publicly in a speech during his visit to Turkey that we are a "secular nation" rather than a Christian nation. He stated that supposedly to bring an end to our foreign cultural differences. Our flaw, however, is in not understanding the definition of what the word **secular** entails.

Look at the definition in its entirety: **secular spirit or tendency, especially a system of political or social philosophy that rejects all forms of religious faith and worship.** "Rejects" is another word I want people to pause over: **reject**

1. To refuse to have, take or recognize
2. Refuse to grant [a request, demand etc.]
3. To refuse to accept, someone or something; rebuff
4. To discard as useless or unsatisfactory
5. To cast out or reject; vomit

People need to comprehend the language and meaning of secular nation before there is nothing left that we can do. If we are only looking at the economy, we are lost already no matter who is elected. It is not about a man but about One Nation Under God.

America will only be as good as her god. If America has become her own god then she is vulnerable to attack. 9/11 was the harbinger of this and should have been the warning of our vulnerability, but so far we have

been defiant by vowing to rebuild stronger rather than repent. We are in serious times and need to make serious choices based upon our own principles of faith.

Here is my view on the candidates, and it is, of course, from the perspective of a Christian. Since both men claim faith, we are left to judge for ourselves which man best follows the Will of the Father. We, as Christians, cannot leave our faith outside of a voting booth. Jesus asked a very pointed question: *Luke 18:8 Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?* Therefore, the question we must ask ourselves is...are we practicing our faith in all that we do? Even if the economy does improve, we cannot buy a remedy for what lies ahead, but our faith can sustain us through it.

In Deut 28:1-13 in the front page article I gave a perfect description of One Nation Under God, from which we have come. Yet a "secular nation" rejects, refuses to recognize, refuses the demands of, does not accept, discards as unsatisfactory, casts out and vomits Christianity and says no to prosperity in its doctrine. Though I gave the blessing of obeying God's voice, I did not finish the Scripture's admonishment if we do not to obey God. Here is what secular can look forward to:

Deut 28:14-68: We will be cursed in the city, field, basket, store, body, our coming in and going out. We shall gain vexation, rebuke, pestilence, consumption, fever,

inflammation, plague of beasts, scurvy, swelling, madness, oppressions, adulteries, bankruptcy and blindness. Our land will turn to dust and be overtaken by our enemies with leaders of no favor or compassion for our faith [Christianity]. Our land will be owned by a stranger who will enjoy the fruit of our labor but we shall see none of it. We will sow much and gather little. We will serve our enemies in hunger, thirst and in nakedness with a yoke upon our necks. Every sickness yet unnamed will be our inheritance, and in the morning we will wish for night and at night we will wish for morning seeing no hope in either.

We will be as other nations with even more of the wrath of Satan hard against us in payback.

So what is our only hope in this case if this nation's leaders do not turn back to God? Jesus also wrote blessings, but unlike Deuteronomy's blessings and cursing for a **nation**, these blessings are for the **individual** of any nation no matter the leaders. Look at these blessings:

Matt 5:3-16

3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

5 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

7 Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

8 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

9 Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

10 Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

12 Rejoice, and be exceedingly glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

13 Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.

14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

We must keep our savor and let our light shine on!
Amen?



Here is something to put your hand to before going to vote.

HENNY PENNY...NOT!

While some have been consumed with the coming elections, others of us have had our eyes on something much more combustible.

You might remember the beauty of green pastures as far as the eye could see in Sodom and Gomorrah. Those citizens were not worried over economics or fiscally responsible leadership. They had an abundance...and it was all situated on a gigantic, combustible, bituminous slime pit! All it took was one lightning strike, and sin was no longer the problem there.

Jesus left us some interesting words: *Matt 10:11; 14-15 And into whatsoever city or town ye shall enter, inquire who in it is worthy; and there abide till ye go thence...And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words, when ye depart out of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet. Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment, than for that city.*

America, like Sodom and Gomorrah, is at a crossroads. The cry of our infidelity has been given in one harbinger after another. We have enemies who would love to see our implosion, but even greater is the slime pit on which we are situated! It is not called slime pit today. We refer to it, ever so casually, as nuclear power. We do not give it another thought any more than Sodom and Gomorrah did their slime pits.

If you look at the map in the upper right corner you will see the situation of these nuclear plants, and if you are from Illinois like me, you will be just tickled pink to see how well we are decorated! Chernobyl

has nothing on us in Illinois.

Do you happen to remember in recent years what one good shake did to Fukushima, Japan? We are certainly safe from a tsunami in Illinois, but if you look at the map just under the first, you will see another concern. Again Illinois is **the** hot spot to be...ya'll come.

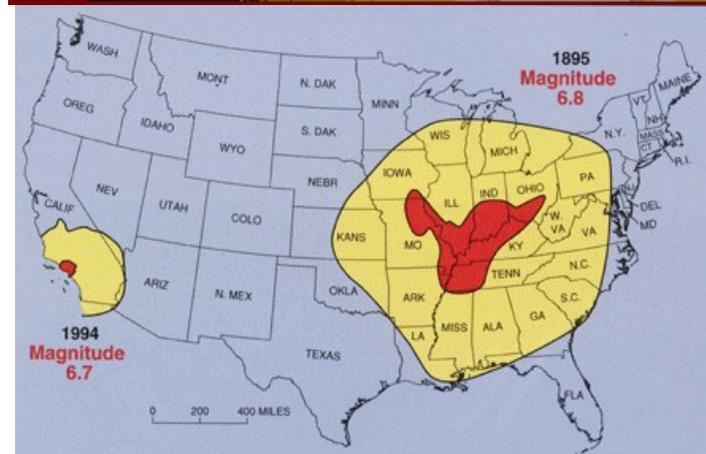
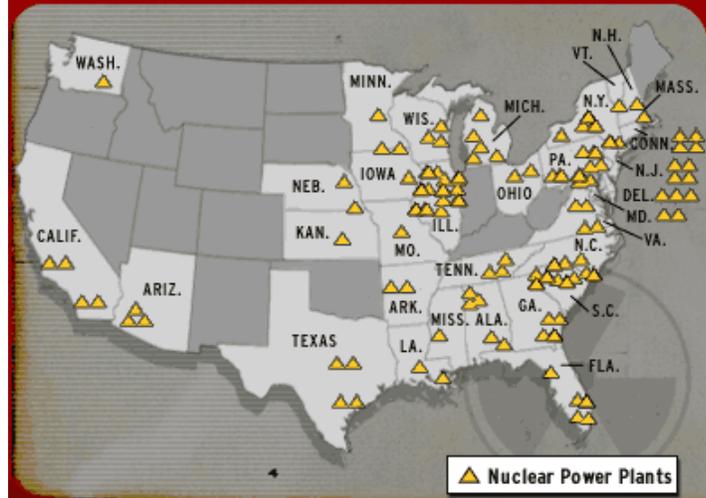
"But why should we prepare supplies, Henny Penny?" The sky is not falling. I will tell you why. You cannot take for granted that sitting in the midst of a slime pit sparks of safety...Oops did I say sparks?

Not only are we being warned, the Word tells us in the third trumpet about "wormwood". This is not a comet. We had the harbinger of Chernobyl, which is Russian for wormwood in 1986 to give us the clue. We do not have to guess; we just have to remember history and pay attention to what the Spirit is saying.

Catastrophe was not averted because Lot was a decent guy with an outstanding relative interceding for him. Though Lot was saved by listening to the Spirit, he still lost his wife who was not as attentive in the things of the Spirit. Lot lost his home, wife and possessions, yet we call him saved. In one day his world changed suddenly.

In the kind of disasters we could be facing, and one generation definitely will, we need to listen to the many voices of people saying **prepare**. After all, Noah's voice went unheeded because no one believed what could actually happen. None of us think of what could happen. Of course, we should not be living in worry or terror of what might be. I am not suggesting anxiety; I am imploring prepar-

Nuclear Facilities in the U.S.



edness.

When I taught school, we often had drills for tornado, fire, earthquake and key phrases and plans in case of terrorism. We even kept a bucket of necessities for a lockdown. We did not do this in fear but preparedness.

In Rev 8:10-11, the third trumpet talks about the waters being poisoned. Water storage is a must in case of a nuclear plant disaster. Food and water storage for at least 30 days for the size of your family is a necessity.

Anyone who lives in what is termed a "secular nation" needs preparation.

You cannot expect the nation to rise up if the Christians are not even roused awake.

We need more than a change in Washington's leadership; we need a change in the very heart of this nation's people, but you do not need to believe me...I repeat: Ezek 14:13-14 says that when the land sins against God there is all manner of destruction and finishes by saying in verse 14: **Though these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they should deliver but their own souls by their righteousness, saith the Lord GOD.**

Those were three Godly men who were not raptured out of the world when disaster made its visit. They had to ride it out with the help of the LORD, but they were right in the midst of it all. It touched their very lives and families. You cannot convince me that Noah did not store food and water for the event!