



# PTNews

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## The Sudden Collapse of This Present World System

*“...then sudden destruction cometh upon them, ... and they shall not escape” 1 Thessalonians 5:3*

By Mike Wingfield

We live in a remarkable time in history. Many of our basic needs, and even many of our wants, are easily met, allowing us to enjoy a comfortable and active lifestyle. The global food supply chain and transportation systems make it possible to enjoy a wide variety of foods every day. We also benefit from reliable utilities that provide electricity and clean water, along with systems that help us heat, cool, clean, and maintain our homes. In addition, modern technology allows us to learn about and experience events happening anywhere in the world almost instantly, while also giving us access to a wide range of entertainment and educational resources.

No other generation of people in the history of planet earth have had the opportunity to live in luxury and

experience the opportunities we have in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. However, this modern way of life has gradually created a deadly lifestyle that makes us very vulnerable. Unlike people who lived several generations ago, most of the global population have allowed itself to become totally dependent upon the world system.

While the lives of our great-grandparents were difficult, they were self-reliant. There were no major grocery stores. Families raised most of the food they consumed on the little farm where they lived. They did not have electricity. They cooked and heated their little houses with wood from the forests. They did not have cars but relied on real horsepower. The same horse that pulled their buggies also plowed

their gardens. They raised their own vegetables, fruit, and meat. They canned and dried their food for use during the winter and spring months. They had chickens for eggs and a cow for milk. In essence, they were self-sufficient. They understood the Biblical admonition, **“If any would not work, neither should he eat” (2 Thessalonians 3:10)**. When winter or difficult times came, they weathered the storms of life because they were prepared. They followed all the Biblical counsels that exhort us to prepare for days of adversity (**Proverbs 3:1-10; 24:3-5, 10**).

We live at an unprecedented hour in which we have created a world system that is vulnerable to sudden changes that could alter our way of life in any given 24-hour period! Our lifestyles and work ethic are founded upon a world-system that does not know God or honor His admonitions to work and be self-reliant. According to the Scriptures, a future catastrophic event will suddenly collapse our world system. When this happens, this present generation will not be prepared to live life without our modern provisions. As a result, billions of people will die relatively quickly! This is called the Tribulation Period.

When Jesus answered His disciples about the character of the Tribulation Period, He told them that it would be like the days of Noah when the flood suddenly came upon the global population and they were all swept away. In **Matthew 24:36-39**, He said,

*“But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. But as the days of [Noah] were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that [Noah] entered into the ark, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.”*

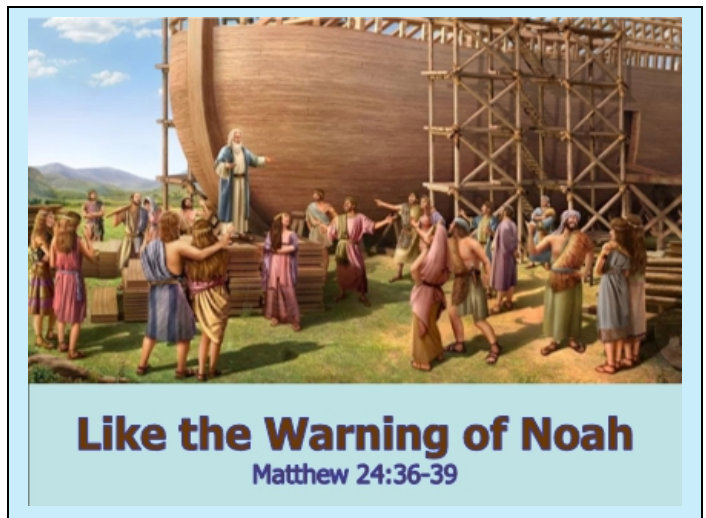
Notice that Jesus said that Noah’s generation was totally surprised by the sudden global flood. Only hours before the flood came, they were enjoying life

as usual and were totally oblivious to their impending deaths.

The Apostle Paul gave a similar warning concerning the approaching Tribulation Period. In **1 Thessalonians 5:2-3** he said,

*“For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord [the Tribulation] so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.”*

Notice that Paul describes the beginning of the times of the Tribulation as a time of **“sudden destruction.”** This means that like the days of Noah, the world will be suddenly faced with the sudden collapse of our present world system. The fact that they **“shall not escape”** indicates they will be trapped in a world that will bring about the death of many of them.



Friends, it has become abundantly clear to me, based upon Scripture, that we are witnessing the events that are creating the world for the opening events of the Tribulation Period! According to the Bible, during the last days, Israel will be at war with Iran on two separate occasions. The first war is the current war with Iran, mentioned in **Jeremiah 49:34-39**, and the second and final one is mentioned in **Ezekiel 38-39**. I wrote about these wars in my

previous newsletter in April. Extra copies are still available.

It seems clear to me that when the present war with Iran will be completed, it will create the perfect diplomatic environment for the desired expansion of the Abraham Accords. As I have expressed in previous newsletters, I believe these accords will be the same as the predicted false peace agreement between Israel and the Antichrist that will usher the world into the horrific Tribulation Period. The ancient prophet, Daniel, wrote that this tumultuous time would begin when the Antichrist would **“confirm the covenant with many for one [prophetic week of 7 years]”** (Daniel 9:27).

We know from Scripture that when Iran is defeated in the first war of **Jeremiah 49**, it will not give up its consuming passion to destroy Israel. According to **Ezekiel 38**, Iran will join Russia, Turkey and other radical Islamic groups to attack Israel in a land invasion from the north. When you examine **Ezekiel 38-39**, it is very revealing concerning what will develop in the Middle East after the Iran war mentioned in **Jeremiah 49**.



When the **Ezekiel 38-39** war takes place, four major things will have changed since the previous current war with Iran.

Before we examine these four radical changes that are about to take place, we need to understand that the **Ezekiel 38-39** war of Gog and Magog will take place immediately before or after the Rapture of the church. [If you want to consider the Biblical facts about the timeline of the Gog and Magog war and its

aftermath, order Mike's Bible Study chart #305. See Page 8 to order this chart.] Therefore, when we look at the radical changes that occur between the current war with Iran and the imminent future war of **Ezekiel 38-39**, we are looking at the events that will occur immediately before or after the Rapture. While it does not tell us the exact day of the Rapture, it does give us an approximate reference point of time when it will occur.

Let us examine the four major changes that are about to take place before the land invasion of Israel by Iran and other nations in **Ezekiel 38-39** in the immediate future.

### Change #1: A False Peace with Israel

According to **Ezekiel 38**, when Iran and its partners invade Israel, the Jewish people will be living in their own land. **Ezekiel 38:8** says the Jewish people in the latter years will have regathered **“into the land that is brought back from the sword, ... and is gathered out of many people.”** Three times, **Ezekiel 38** reports that the Jewish people will be living in their land while dwelling in safety (**verse 8, 11, 14**). The Hebrew word that is translated **“safety”** does not mean the Jewish people are living a life of perfect peace in their land with no concerns of war. In an earlier chapter of Ezekiel, the prophet mentions what this word means. **Ezekiel 28:26** speaks of the Jewish people living in their own land when they have been regathered from the nations of the world. It says, **“And they shall dwell safely therein, and shall build houses, and plant vineyards; yea, they shall dwell with confidence, when I have executed judgments upon all those that despise them round about them; and they shall know that I am the LORD their God.”** Please notice that the same Hebrew word that is translated as **“safely”** is translated in this same verse with the words **“with confidence.”** This shows us that the kind of peace that the Israelis enjoy in the last days is a peace that is based upon their own confidence to defend themselves against the enemy nations that surround them and despise them (see **Ezekiel 28:24; 36:3-7**).

The Israeli sense of confidence will be bolstered by the approaching peace agreement of the Antichrist. Following the war with Iran in **Jeremiah 49**, it

appears that the diplomatic efforts of President Donald Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu will advance their agenda to persuade the Sunni Arabs of the Persian Gulf to sign the Abraham Accords. As this takes place, Israelis will rejoice. The chief enemy that has challenged their security in the land for 47 years has been Iran. The Sunni Arab Islamic nations in the region have also been threatened by Iran. Therefore, in the moment of relief from the defeated evil regime in Iran, the Middle East will celebrate that peace by temporarily embracing Israel's right to live in their own land.

The official signing of the Abraham Accords, in my opinion, will signal the beginning of the Tribulation Period. As we watch this unfold, we need to prepare for our exit from this world!

### **Change #2- Economic Collapse in Iran**

When Iran and its friends invade Israel in the war of [Ezekiel 38](#), they will be motivated by their own economic desperation. According to [verses 12-13](#), the invading nations, including Iran, will do so because they have their eyes on the food and wealth in Israel.

It is not hard to imagine how this will materialize after this current war with Iran. The area of the Persian Gulf supplies the world with about 25 percent of oil. With the closure of the Strait of Hormuz, this is having a major economic impact upon all the nations in the Persian Gulf area and all of those who depend upon their commercial business with these Arab/Islamic nations. It is having a major impact on the global economy.

While we focus upon the exports from this region, we must not forget the import of goods that these Arab nations desperately depend upon, mainly food imports. Most of the region of the nations of the Persian Gulf are arid desert lands. They grow very little of the food they consume. They depend upon the import of food from other nations for their survival. These nations collectively import about 85 percent of their food.

Russia and Turkey are being economically threatened by the lack of trade with Iran. Almost

two-thirds of Turkey's energy imports flow out of the Persian Gulf. Russia has been crippled in its war with Ukraine because it depends upon the imports of military hardware from Iran. As the entire world's economy suffers from the war with Iran, it will ultimately force Iran and its friends to invade Israel to remedy their economic woes.



### **Change #3- The Global Isolation of Israel**

When Iran and its coalition invade Israel as described in [Ezekiel 38](#), Israel will be standing all alone in defending itself. Notice that in [Ezekiel 38:13](#), several nations verbally question the invasion of Israel, but no nation comes to help Israel defend itself. Once again, Israel will be completely isolated from any support from the world. Except for this current war with Iran, Israel has been forced to fight alone in its past wars with those who have continually attempted to annihilate them.

The world is already blaming Israel for the war with Iran. The world refuses to blame Iran for the war it has waged against Israel and the West for 47 years. The world refuses to identify with the plight of the Jewish people and their attempts to defend themselves. The aggression of their neighboring Islamic nations has been going on since the beginning of the modern state of Israel in 1948. The nation of Israel is the nation that the world loves to despise.

Therefore, when this invasion of Israel takes place, one must ask, what has happened to Israel's ally and friend, the United States? Looking at the current political climate in the U.S., it is not hard to imagine

how support for Israel could diminish very quickly. On April 16, 2026, many Democrats voted to block a bill that would send \$300 million in arms sales to Israel. They do not care that Israel is fighting for its survival. Statistical data indicate antisemitism is growing among young Americans. The American public has been persuaded by our liberal media and liberal university professors have lied to our youth about Israel. Very soon, Israel will have no ally except God. And that is exactly what God wants. He will demonstrate to Israel that He is the Holy One of Israel (**Ezekiel 39:7, 22**). Like in days of old, God will prove to the Jewish people that He, and He alone, is the Defender of Israel (**Psalms 121**).

### Change #4

#### A Sudden Collapse of our World System

According to **Ezekiel 38**, the invasion of Israel by Iran and its coalition of Russia, Turkey, and others, will take place in the last days (**Ezekiel 38:8, 16**). The current war with Iran was also to take place in **“the latter days”** (**Jeremiah 49:39**). As we have watched this current war unfold, we have been awed by the high-tech warfare that has been waged against Iran.

However, as the future **Ezekiel 38** war takes place, the Scriptures demand that it will be fought with ancient weapons (**verse 4**) and horses (**verses 4, 15**). Are we to interpret this literally? Some would argue that it is not realistic to take this literally. They claim that the prophets used the language of their time to describe these wars of the end times. Obviously, the ancient prophets could not have written about the use of our modern weapons of warfare.

However, it is my conclusion that the text in **Ezekiel 38-39** demands that this war will be fought with horses and primitive, ancient weapons. Please note that the Lord will supernaturally destroy these invading armies (**Ezekiel 38:19-22**). **Ezekiel 39** describes what will happen in Israel after the defeat of these invading forces. In **Ezekiel 39:9-10**, the Bible declares that the Israelis will burn these weapons made of wood for seven years. You cannot burn tanks and other modern metal weapons of war. Furthermore, the horses and the flesh of

men will be devoured by carnivorous birds (**Ezekiel 39:4, 17-20**). This demands that whatever is meant by **“horses”** must be something edible that birds could eat. The context forces us to interpret this text literally, not symbolically.

How can this happen in the 21<sup>st</sup> century? A literal interpretation of this passage demands that something radical and devastating has happened to the world since the war with Iran in **Jeremiah 49**. It must mean that devastation of some kind must have taken place so that it will prevent these invading nations from using high-tech weapons. The devastation is so extreme that it forces a return to ancient forms of warfare.



This fits the context of the last days. Notice that the war of **Ezekiel 38** will end with a global earthquake. In **verse 20**, all the people of the earth and the wildlife on earth will shake at God's presence. The mountains will be thrown down and **“every wall shall fall to the ground”** (**Ezekiel 38:20**). Therefore, it is not hard to imagine that a previous earthquake or some other global phenomenon will have occurred before this invasion of Israel.

Furthermore, in the final battle of the Tribulation at Armageddon, the world's armies are described as arriving on horseback (**Revelation 19:18**). In **Revelation 6**, near the beginning of the Tribulation, the world will experience a global drought, famine, pandemic of diseases, and economic collapse (**Revelation 6:5-6**). This will collectively kill one-fourth of the global population. This will be followed by a massive global earthquake that shifts every mountain and island from their original positions (**Revelation 6:12-14**). All of this indicates something devastating has taken place in the world at the beginning of the Tribulation.

Let me tell you why this final war with Iran is so crucial in the plan of God. This war of Iran and other nations in [Ezekiel 38-39](#) will result in a massive spiritual impact upon the Gentile nations and Israel.

As Israel faces the invasion of the massive military might of Russia, Turkey, Iran, Libya, Sudan, and other radical Islamic elements, it will be standing all alone. Israel's own high-tech weapons will have been rendered inoperable. They will face a wave of hundreds of thousands of soldiers as described in [Ezekiel 38:9](#), ***"Thou shalt ascend and come like a storm, thou shall be like a cloud to cover the land, thou, and all thy bands, and many people with thee."***

As these armies prepare to attack, God intervenes and destroys them with a massive earthquake ([verse 19-21](#)) and volcanic eruptions on the Golan Heights ([verse 22](#)). The magnitude of this supernatural response from God and its precise timing will stun the entire world and especially Israel.

The Bible reports, ***"Thus will I magnify myself, and sanctify myself; and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and they shall know that I am the LORD"*** ([Ezekiel 38:23](#)). Later in [Ezekiel 39:21](#), the Lord declares, ***"And I will set my glory among the heathen, and all the heathen shall see my judgment that I have executed, and my hand that I have laid upon them."***

The spiritual impact on Israel will be profound and life-changing! As a result of God's rescue of His people, He declares, ***"So I will make my holy name known in the midst of my people Israel, and I will not let them pollute my name any more"*** ([39:7](#)). ***"So the house of Israel shall know that I am the LORD their God from that day and forward"*** ([39:22](#)). ***"Then shall they know that I am the LORD their God, ... for I have poured out my spirit upon the house of Israel, saith the LORD God"*** ([39:28-29](#)).

This declaration from God must mean that this is the beginning of a powerful spiritual revival among the Jewish people, as well many of the Gentiles around the world. This must be viewed as the event that is connected to the beginning of the Tribulation Period! In my next newsletter I will examine this great

spiritual revival and how it fits into the events of the opening days of the Tribulation Period.

Friends, I cannot explain the excitement that overwhelms me as I watch these events unfold before us. Spiritually, it excites me. Physically, it causes me much concern for the unsaved. I feel compelled to warn them to prepare for the sudden collapse of our world system that is upon us. The only way we can prepare for it is to keep our eyes fixed upon Jesus. If you are not saved, please bow your head now and confess your sins to Him. Give Him your life and soul. Ask Him to save you! Time is short!

I don't know exactly what this sudden collapse might be or when it could happen, but it seems possible that it could occur at any time. Given the ongoing conflict with Iran and the major global changes already taking place, it feels like we may be drawing closer to significant events.

If you are too attached to this world system, then you will panic and be filled with fear. We do not need to be afraid. This world is not our home. We need to ***"set [our] affection on things above, not on the earth"*** ([Colossians 3:2](#)). We shall soon be with Jesus.

Jesus is the Master over the storms of life. I am reminded of the occasion when Jesus and His disciples were caught in a storm on the Sea of Galilee ([Matthew 8:23-27](#)). The disciples were afraid they were about to drown. The Bible says Jesus was asleep in the boat. The disciples woke Jesus up and said, ***"Lord, save us: we perish"*** ([verse 25](#)). Jesus said to them, ***"Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was great calm"*** ([verse 26](#)). When the storms of life are raging, nothing takes the place of Jesus being in your boat!

Keep your eyes on Jesus, the storm is coming!

***"Therefore, be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh"*** ([Matthew 24:44](#)).

Be ready for the shout that will take us out!