A final edit and repeat of a recent commentary . . .

--CW Says, My phone rings and e-mails accumulate: "Charles, where do you think we are in prophetic time?" For those who may be interested in my personal view, please grant me a few minutes to share my thoughts and avoid much repetition.

I am encouraged by these questions. I sense those asking, somehow recognize the necessity of personal preparation in advance of the coming storm.

My answer begins with a question in return: "Are you asking where we are in Jesus' response to the same question found in Matthew 24, Mark 13 and Luke 21? Or, are you asking where we are in Daniel's visions and John's Revelation visions?"

Hopefully my readers have some understanding of prophetic symbolism. For example, "waters" represent "people, multitudes, nations and languages." (Revelation 17:15). "Winds," on the other hand, represent "strife, war, commotion." (See Jeremiah 25:31-33; 49:36, 27.)

Let me begin with the Book of Daniel.

I believe we are here in Daniel's visions of the end times:

"Behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea." Daniel 7:2.

An unspeakable crisis is about to grip our planet. The present strife between and within nations is but "a gentle breeze" compared to the hurricane brewing -- weeks, possibly days ahead. The Middle East is a cauldron boiling, diverting the attention of World leaders and their citizens, blinding them to the prophetic provocateur -- Iran!

America is preoccupied with economic distress, "expanding wars in the Middle East," the insane price of oil and gasoline, the craziness and impossible-to-resolve partisan politics in Washington, etc., etc. America is in a weakened state and seen by her enemies as such. As
predicted in Daniel chapter 7, the Chinese Leopard is strengthening and the Russian Bear is pushing hot-buttons from the Balkans to the Pacific. North Korea has just threatened "complete destruction upon the United States and South Korea." And then there is Iran!

In Daniel's second vision, Iran (Persia), "the second higher horn of the Ram" (Daniel 8:3, 4), is preparing with her allies: al Sadr in Iraq, Hamas and Hezbollah in Gaza and Lebanon, Syria, Venezuela and North Korea to "push the West." Iran's partners in crime are resolute and ready to attack Israel, within her borders, and America, within her borders! Are you and your family prepared for this looming crisis? Are you safely distant from the great cities?

Most are not ready. Many I know are totally unsuspecting and thus, totally unprepared. They are not prepared for $6-8 gal/gasoline, when it can be found. They are not prepared for suicide bombers in public malls and major city centers across America. They are not prepared for cyber-attacks on our power grids, banking and commerce centers and even our supposedly invincible military establishments. Finally, they are not prepared to feed themselves when crops fail and transportation to markets breaks down. They are not prepared for Martial Law in America!

I believe we have arrived at Matthew 24:6-8 (Mark 13, Luke 21):

"Ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences [exotic diseases], and earthquakes, in divers(e) places. All these are the beginning of sorrows." Matthew 24:6, 7, 8.

I believe our world and every soul upon it is standing immediately before "the door of Judgment" described in Revelation chapters 4-6.

Few understand that the end of the world is prophetically about reward -- about Judgment and wrath -- first the wrath of man, followed by the wrath of God. Few understand that the end of the world is about "winds held" and "winds released" -- pay-day and pay-back. Few understand that the last generation is to drink the full cup of wrath, filled to its brim with "the wages of sin our parents earned for themselves, their posterity and this planet."

These things are awful to ponder and I know most will practice foolish denial and endless mind games, declaring God to be "so full of love, that He will never allow His children to drink the dregs and taste the vinegar of sin!"

It is true, our God is merciful beyond our deserving, but He is also wise and just. He must secure eternity-to-come from the insanity and ravages of sin. His intelligent creation must see in all its ugliness the awful reward of wickedness -- not simply death, but destruction and utter ruin. Man and angel will then see, know and forever refuse the allure of sin.

Please forgive me if I appear coldly unsympathetic with persons who "refuse to get on board the Ark, or leave Sodom because they disdain bad news." There are "scoffers in the last days," the Bible says, "wise in their own conceit." They are the "viperous brood" at the Jordan. mocking John's warning to "flee from the wrath to come."
Who will escape this perfect storm? **Some will escape;** Jesus described them:

"Know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he **would have watched, and would not have suffered** his house to be broken up. Therefore be ye also ready; for in such an hour as ye think not . . ." Matthew 24:43, 44.

I find it difficult to express the inner turmoil I feel as so many Christians *spiritualize* Heaven-sent warnings. The "watching," many explain, is a "spiritual watching," and the protection is of one's "spiritual house." Many absolutely refuse to see the necessity and command to guard a literal as well as a Spiritual house; feed literal bodies and literally flee from the trouble to come. Jesus, on the other hand, describes the end in larger terms:

"Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy **to escape all these things that shall come to pass,** and to stand before the Son of man." Luke 21:36.

Why is it so difficult for so many to see that life, death and the end of the world will constitute a singular, grand crisis -- *a crisis that is both literal and Spiritual*?! Man is a soul -- a real body [flesh] and breath [Spirit] (Genesis 2:7).

The "body" that prepares to live until Jesus returns will need literal food to survive. It will need to be physically secure, in so far as possible, from a desperate criminal throng, soon to rob, rape and pillage. Real bodies of flesh will need to stay *literally* alive if they are to serve "as witnesses for Christ," unless of course, they wish to bear witness through death.

Day after day and week after week, we are sharing warnings and appeals from men and women who occupy high positions in government and finance; warnings from scientists foretelling a potential global collapse of agriculture brought about by wildly swinging patterns in global weather and natural catastrophes. The recent great quake in Japan continues to impede the supply of food and water within Japan while escaping radiation from their nuclear power plants continue to threaten seafood, milk and agriculture over large portions of the northern hemisphere.

Prayerfully, this response to questions many are now asking will awaken and stir them to action and those who are so preoccupied with the cares of life to make adequate preparation, *literal and Spiritual*:

From the book of Wisdom, *Proverbs 22:3*:

"A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished." - King James Version

"The wise see danger ahead and avoid it, but fools keep going and get into trouble." - New Century Version

"Sensible people will see trouble coming and avoid it, but an unthinking person will walk right into it and regret it later." - Good News Translation
"When you see trouble coming, don't be stupid and walk right into it -- be smart and hide." - Contemporary English Version

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It’s often so much easier to tolerate famine, flood and earthquake when it’s “over there.” All we need do is write a check to our favorite charity, turn off the TV, set the dishwasher and coffee-maker, turn out the light and lay our heads on our comfy pillows, safe in the knowledge that the morning will come and our “normal” will continue just like it did today. Eat, drink and be as merry as possible.

Ten years ago this year a new “normal” came knocking when the Towers in New York crumbled to the ground. The world has never been the same since. Thousands of lives later, we are still trying to mop up from a sink that won’t stop spilling over. But as long as it’s “our boys” “over there” keeping the hotheads busy, we can sleep safe in our beds—right?

But have you noticed? The unruly weather and unruly hotheads are getting closer to our own backyards. Planet Earth has become an even more dangerous place to live lately; and it doesn’t look much like stopping, and no one brought some corn for popping. A couple of years past one of the worst financial collapses the planet has ever known we are still wondering how to maintain the constant military monitoring of people with a cause other than ours.

Recently, while the State of Texas burned to the sandy ground, a gigantic weather system made its way across the Southern States. Alabama was the hardest hit and suffered the worst American casualties inflicted by Mother Nature since Katrina hit the coast. After a few minutes of looking at the pictures and watching the footage, the mind takes on a numbness of overload. Many Alabama streets look like a ticker-tape parade just went through, leaving just the debris for the clean-up crews to take care of. Mercifully, the tornadoes went just a little north of us, and we were spared—for now.

The end of the world may not have come by your door, yet. But it will, and one day the end of the world will be here to stay—forever! Things may seem pretty scary right now, but this may be as good as it’s going to get for a while. If you have work to do, now would be a good time to be about it.

“Quotable”

“It is what you read when you don’t have to that determines what you will be when you can’t help it.” —Oscar Wilde

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