

SIGNS OF THE TIMES!

--PROOF That We Are Living in the LAST DAYS!

Compiled from the writings of David Brandt Berg

God's Word gives us hundreds of Signs of the Times, signs and signals of the Last Days, of the Endtime, signs that we are to watch for and expect, so that we will know when we are near the End. We are now going to examine just a few of these outstanding, literal specific, Biblical predictions and prophecies regarding conditions and events during the final Last Days of Man's rule on Earth, as foreseen by God's prophets thousands of years ago!:

In reply to His disciples question, "What shall be the sign of Thy coming and of the end of the World?" (Matthew 24:3), Jesus said, "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, and earthquakes in diverse places. All these are the beginning of sorrows!"--Matthew 24:6-8. Although we've had these things for millenniums and they re only the beginning of sorrows, it's interesting to note how the scale, severity and frequency of all of these have increased.

"Wars and rumours of wars...": Although the World had never been completely free from war prior to 1914, until then war had never been universal. But from 1914 to 1918, with World War I, total war was waged, and then again from 1939-1945 with World War II. In the latter, 93 million people served in the Armed Forces of both sides: At the 21st Session of the International Red Cross in 1969, it was reported that more than 90 million people have been killed in wars since the 20th Century began, over 3 trillion dollars have been spent on arms and over 130 conflicts on five continents have been waged!

Governments now spend hundreds of billions of dollars yearly preparing for war. The U.S. Defense budget for 1986 was about \$300 billion, or \$1,300 for every man, woman and child in the U.S. The U.S. recently completed a 5-year \$1 trillion arms buildup. As for nuclear weapons, the hell bombs of these Last Days, it has been said that we are the first generation who have the capability to destroy the planet! Presently there are enough nuclear bombs in existence to equal 1.3 million Hiroshima explosions! One nuclear submarine alone carries more explosive force than all the bombs and ammunition detonated in WWII!

"Famines...": The World Health Organisation estimates that about one-third is well-fed, one-third is under-fed and one-third is starving! Over four million people die each year of starvation, 70% of the World's children under six years old are undernourished, and 30 persons die of starvation every minute! In spite of record high food production, the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the U.N. reports that about 460 million people are now living on the verge of starvation, including 60% of all Africans. 12,000 square miles of African farmland becomes desert each year due to deforestation and lack of fertilisers.

"And pestilences...": Jesus predicted that there would be an abundance of these. According to the American Association for the Advancement of Science, 35% of the World's food is lost to insects prior to harvest, while an additional 10% is destroyed in storage by pests. The U.S. Dept. of Agriculture says there are 364 super bugs Worldwide which have developed a resistance to the poisons used to control them.

"Earthquakes in diverse places...": The World Almanac tells us that there were only six earthquakes of major strength in the nearly 100 years between 1800-1896. But in each decade from 1897 until 1947 there were either two or three, in the decade from 1947-1956 there were seven, and from 1957-1966 there were 17. Since 1975 there have been over 40 significant earthquakes! In the last five years of the 1970s, more people were killed by earthquakes than in the entire 75 years preceding! In fact, 25 of the 49 largest earthquakes in recorded history occurred from 1960-1980, within only two decades!

To continue with Jesus description of the Last Days: "And this Gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in all the World for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the End come!"--Matthew 24:14. Now when the Lord gave these other signs in reply to His disciples question about the sign of His Coming and of the End of the World, He said the End is not yet, these would only be the beginning of sorrows. But, He now says, "When the Gospel is preached in all nations, then shall the End come!"

