

**[2000] “COMING CALAMITY”**  
**#2 – WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2005**

## **I. THE PRESENT CLIMATE**

Ours is a world of natural disaster and for the most part we have learned to live with it.

When we search the Bible to see if God has anything to do with disaster we often turn to the following passage:

**[2001] (Job 1:12 NKJV) “And the LORD said to Satan, “Behold, all that he has is in your power; only do not lay a hand on his person.” [2002] So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD.”**

**[2003] (Job 1:16 NKJV) “While he [servant of Job] was still speaking, another [servant of Job] also came and said, “The fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants, [2004] and consumed them; and I alone have escaped to tell you!””**

**[2005] (Job 1:18-19 NKJV) “While he was still speaking, another also came and said, “Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother’s house, [2006] (19) “and suddenly a great wind came from across the wilderness and struck the four corners of the house, and it fell on the young people, and they are dead; and I alone have escaped to tell you!””**

**EMP:** The calamities that fell on Job’s household were obviously from Satan. That fact is reiterated in **Job Chapter 2 and verse 7.**

**[2007] (Job 2:7 NKJV) “So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD, and struck Job with painful boils from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head.”**

**EMP:** There are also times that calamity comes from God.

Whenever disaster strikes the question that arises is, **“Where was God?”** Plastered on the headlines of the newspaper on *September 11<sup>th</sup> 2001* and during the *Tsunami’s of Asia in 2005*, was the caption **“Where was God?”**

When the recent Asian Tsunami and series of hurricanes hit, **multitudes wondered what God was trying to tell them.**

- They were more prone to contribute these events to God.
- Insurance companies refer to nature disasters as **“An act of God!”**
- At minimum they say, **“God allowed it”** or **“God could have stopped it”**

There are calamities that God could have stopped, but there are also calamities that God sends. God sends calamity because of the rebellion of humanity.

Jeremiah the prophet makes it clear that ignoring God’s Law brings judgment.

**[2008] (Jer 6:19 NKJV) “Hear, O earth! Behold, I will certainly bring calamity on this people; The fruit of their thoughts, Because they have not heeded My words, Nor My law, but rejected it.”**

**[2009] (Jer 44:23 NKJV) “”Because you have burned incense and because you have sinned against the LORD, and have not obeyed the voice of the LORD or walked in His law, [2010] in His statutes or in His testimonies, therefore this calamity has happened to you, as at this day.””**

**MOD:** When we turn our back on God, God will turn His back on us.

**[2011] (Jer 18:17 NKJV) “I will scatter them as with an east wind before the enemy; I will show them the back and not the face in the day of their calamity.””**

**MOD:** Calamity is not something that is just talked about in the Old Testament. Jesus teaches that *before* He returns the world will be in turmoil.

**[2012] (Luke 21:25-26 NKJV) “”And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; (26) [2013] “men’s hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of heaven will be shaken.”**

**EMP:** Jesus is speaking to a condition that *brings the world to its knees*; a condition so unimaginable that it creates an atmosphere of distress, anguish, sorrow, and grief.

*The hearts of man will faint from distress. The world will be without an answer.*

- Calamities will begin on a small scale and build to stupendous event.
- Present small calamities are a prelude to the Great one that is to come.
- Each calamity reveals the frailty of man and the power of an offended God.

**EMP:** It is the base immorality of man and the persistence on the church in misrepresenting God that will lead to the judgments of God.

**First,** Let us see what the Bible has to say about the *immorality of man* and the *Judgments of God*:

**[2014]** (Eccl 8:11-12 NKJV) “Because the sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil. **[2015]** (12) Though a sinner does evil a hundred times, and his days are prolonged, yet I surely know that it will be well with those who fear God, who fear before Him.”

**[2015A]** Country Living 7.4 – I am bidden to declare the message that *cities full of transgression, and sinful in the extreme*, will be destroyed by earthquakes, by fire, by flood. **[2015B]** All the world will be warned that there is a God who will display His authority as God. His unseen agencies will cause destruction, devastation, and death. All the accumulated riches will be as nothingness. . . .

**Second,** Lets see what the Bible says about the unfaithfulness among those claiming to be called of God.

God was displeased with His people and thus He drew a line in the sand.

**[2016]** (Jer 25:29 NKJV) “For behold, I begin to bring calamity on the city which is called by My name, and should you be utterly unpunished? **[2017]** You shall not be unpunished, for I will call for a sword on all the inhabitants of the earth,” says the LORD of hosts.”

God also sends calamity to awaken the human kind to the requirements of God.

**[2018]** (Jer 26:3-5 NKJV) “Perhaps everyone will listen and turn from his evil way, that I may relent concerning the calamity which I purpose to bring on them because of the evil of their doings.’ **[2019]** (4) “And you shall say to them, ‘Thus says the LORD: “If you will not listen to Me, to walk in My law which I have set

before you, [2020] (5) “to heed the words of My servants the prophets whom I sent to you, both rising up early and sending them (but you have not heeded).”

**EMP:** God sends calamity to open the ears of those that have ignored Him.

**[2021] Country Living 7.5** – Calamities will come—calamities most awful, most unexpected; and these destructions will follow one after another. *If there will be a heeding of the warnings that God has given, [2022] and if churches will repent, returning to their allegiance, then other cities may be spared for a time.* But if men who have been deceived continue in the same way in which they have been walking, [2023] *disregarding the law of God*, and presenting falsehoods before the people, *God allows them to suffer calamity, that their senses may be awakened.*

The Lord also points out that when this calamity comes there is no escaping it.

**[2024] (Jer 11:11 NKJV)** “Therefore thus says the LORD: “Behold, I will surely bring calamity on them which they will not be able to escape; and though they cry out to Me, I will not listen to them.”

**EMP:** The last thing that I want to do is appear to be insensitive. The last thing that I want to do is to appear judgmental, but I must tell the truth.

**MOD:** What happened in New Orleans was just a taste of what is to come. What happened in the Asian Tsunami is just a taste of what is to come.

Where God is ignored and idolatry, sexual immorality, and debasing carnal practices are embraced, God will step in and show mankind that there is a God with whom we have to give an account.

**[2025] {Country Living, 8.2, Letter 158, 1902.** – There are reasons why we should not build in the cities. On these cities, God’s judgments are soon to fall.

**[2026] Evangelism, p. 29. (1910)** – The time is near when large cities will be swept away, and all should be warned of these coming judgments.—

**[2027] Review and Herald, Sept. 10, 1903., CL 8.4** – “O that God’s people had a sense of the impending destruction of thousands of cities, now almost given to idolatry.”

**[2028]** *Evangelism*, p. 27 – “The Lord will not suddenly cast off all transgressors, or destroy entire nations; but He will punish cities and places *where men have given themselves up to the possession of Satanic agencies*. **[2029]** Strictly will the cities of the nations be dealt with, and yet they will *not be visited in the extreme of God’s indignation*, because some souls will yet break away from the delusions of the enemy, **[2030]** and will repent and be converted, *while the mass will be treasuring up wrath against the day of wrath.*”

**MOD:** Satan has created perversion beyond human imagination, but God sees:

Paul the apostle publishes a list of sins from which mankind must be awakened.

**[2031]** (Rom 1:26-32 NKJV) “(26) For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. (27) Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, **[2032]** burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due. **[2033]** (28) And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; (29) being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, **[2034]** wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, (30) backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, **[2035]** disobedient to parents, (31) undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; (32) who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, **[2036]** that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.”

**MOD:** The Lord pleads with humanity to walk in the path of the just but His voice has been ignored. *When we turn our backs on God calamity is the result.*

**[2037]** *Prophets and Kings*, p. 277. – “*The time is at hand when there will be sorrow in the world that no human balm can heal.* The Spirit of God is being withdrawn. Disasters by sea and by land follow one another in quick succession. **[2038]** How frequently we hear of earthquakes and tornadoes, of destruction by fire and flood, with great loss of life and property! Apparently these calamities are capricious outbreaks of disorganized, **[2039]** unregulated forces of nature, wholly beyond the control of man; but in them all, God’s purpose may be read. They are among the agencies by which He seeks to arouse men and women to a sense of their danger.”

**Quest: You may ask, what does God hope to accomplish by sending judgments on the earth? What good could come out of it?**

**MOD:** Satan has brought upon the Christian world darkness and God is about to reclaim His people from every place that truth of Jesus Christ is not being taught.

**[2040] (Psa 119:126 NKJV) “It is time for You to act, O LORD, For they have regarded Your law as void.”**

**[2041] Selected Message, book 3, p. 387** – “There are many souls to come out of the ranks of the world, out of the churches—even the Catholic Church—whose zeal will far exceed that of those who have stood in rank and file to proclaim the truth heretofore... **[2042]** When the crisis is upon us, when the season of calamity shall come, they will come to the front, gird themselves with the whole armor of God, and exalt His law.”

**[2043] Testimonies, vol. 9, p. 97.** – “The time of God’s destructive judgments is the time of mercy for those who have had no opportunity to learn what is truth. **[2044]** Tenderly will the Lord look upon them. His heart of mercy is touched; His hand is still stretched out to save, while the door is closed to those who would not enter.”

The judgments of God will come to arouse men to a sense of their danger and to open before them the truths that have been hidden so long from their eyes.

**[2045] (Psa 91:15 KJV) “He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.”**