# L'Dor Acharon

# Is this the *FINAL*, End-Time Generation?

How close are we to the END of this world as we know it? What do the signs all tell us? How close is "the end" of all things? What lies ahead of us as we plummet into the 21<sup>st</sup> century? What are the signs to recognize the "FINAL generation of mankind, before "the end" comes, and the coming of the Messiah?

#### William F. Dankenbring

Figuratively speaking, we are within the calendar time known as "between the straights". This is the three weeks between Tammuz 17 and Av 9 in which calamity has befallen the people of God and the children of Israel and Judah as a nation, ever since Israel came out of Egypt in 1491 B.C., almost 3500 years now. The reason for this calamity boils down to sin. Sin is disobedience to God—transgression of his commandments and failure to do what is right in God's sight. Living contrary to God's way in sin invokes the penalty of calamity, destruction and ultimately death.

The Word of God warns, in Romans 6:23—"*the <u>wages of sin</u> is death.*" Furthermore, God says in Ezekiel 18:4—"Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: *the soul that sins, it shall die.*" Death is the reward of sin, and the death of nations occurs when nations go contrary to God and sin.

# The Wages of Sin

Today we can see a whole world going contrary to God's way, being led in this careening course of disaster by the United States of America—the remaining *super power* in the world today. We are transgressing God's law flagrantly floundering in sin on both the right and left. Our leaders seem to be on a crash course of self-destruction taking us right along with them if possible.

We need to realize the severity of the days in which we are living and come to understand by asking God as Daniel did by prayer and fasting. Sometimes it was successively up to three weeks that Daniel sought (*inquired of the Lord*) God's answer and good understanding of what the future held. God revealed powerful prophecies that were to be fulfilled in our day today. God showed Daniel, step by step, many of the things which we of faith are seeing in this end-time generation.

One of the most mind-boggling things that occurred in this generation since WW II is the complete "flip-flop" and turn-around in the world of nations and ideology. America once stood for patriotism, liberty, and justice for all as recited in our pledge of allegiance. America once stood for God, country and home. Our ancient values have been toppled, besmirched, disgraced and destroyed by political leaders and infiltrators in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries.

# America in Desperate Crisis

After the end of WW II, America has been on a toboggan slide going downhill. The Supreme Court decisions negating God in the community, then the schools and educational system, government and contradicting the laws of God concerning life – supporting abortion. Just recently the U.S. Supreme Court legalized same sex marriages (justifying the coupling of male with male and female with female).

This is a folly and <u>life-style</u> that Almighty God not only disapproves of but condemns and abhors as an abomination. Because of that very sin, God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah. The citizens of the U.S. are now walking in the same abomination to God as Sodom and Gomorrah. The citizens of this country are held responsible for this sin, not just the government. Because the people elected the leaders in government, the people are responsible for bringing this destruction down on their own heads in this country.

If we were in some other country, we might find ourselves in a worse situation, because the whole world is in rebellion against God today. The Word of God warns us in Revelation 12:9—"That old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which **deceives the whole world**; he was cast out into the earth."

Satan is called the prince of the Power of the Air and is leading all the nations astray. We read in Ephesians 2:2 (NIV) – "As for you, you were dead (doomed / because of) in your many sins (transgressions), in which you once walked (lived) when you followed the way (course) of this world and of the ruler (prince) of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient."

Most Americans have not been educated and taught the principles of God in their home so that they can discern between right and wrong, good and evil. Today people think evil is good, right is wrong and wrong is right, black is white and white is black. They are mixed up and filled with confusion, because of departure from God's word and the Law of the Living God with giving only "lip-service". The ministers and churches of the world are going along with and endorsing this new life style (same sex unions), and abortions (murder of living unborn babies).

People today no longer understand that America is no longer the land of the free, the home of the brave and the republic that stands for democracy and self-rule where the people govern. That is a deception that has been foisted on the people who voted and thought that they made a difference. However, the candidates they were given to vote for were chosen by the ultra-rich and the ultra-liberal parties in power (political prostitutes) today. Voting has been corrupted in state after state and "ballot-box stuffing" is now happening in America.

#### Marxism American-Style

*WorldNet Daily* lays it on the line, in an article titled —"Marxism, American-Style" Wake-up and understand what is really happening in our country.

Says "Whistleblower" magazine, published by World Net Daily, "To most people, the very idea of 'Marxism (Communism) in America' sounds absurd. After all, this is the 'land of the free,' plus we won the Cold War against the Soviet Union and its failed Marxist "utopia" didn't we? Yes, but the truth is, the good old USA–'after sending hundreds of thousands of its finest young people overseas to fight and die to combat the evils of Marxism – has quietly and steadily succumbed to the same ideological seduction right here at home." (June 2012 issue).

We sing *God Bless America*, and then people curse God on TV, in the movies and take God's name in vain, yet say "God bless America" spiritually. What devastating hypocrisy in God's ears. "Marxism, American-Style reveals with jaw-dropping clarity how Marx's godless, materialist ideology – characterized by an all-consuming obsession with government control of resources and production, as well as the radical 'redistribution' of wealth and power to perpetually aggrieved 'victim' segments of society —is increasingly dominating America." That belief is increasingly controlling the governing powers of our country.

This is just the beginning of the spiritual black-hole chasm our country is falling into.

## The Curses of God Have Begun to Fall

We are seeing curses occur increasingly around the world. Do people not understand the law of cause and effect: For every effect there is a particular cause? This was discovered and demonstrated by Sir Isaac Newton's *Laws of Motion* centuries ago. There are laws that govern motion. There are laws of success that govern nations with nations. Today America has endorsed homosexuality and abortion and is a far cry from what it was just 70 years ago just after WW II.

In Leviticus chapter 26 (NIV) God clearly states: "Listen and observe my laws and I will walk among you and be your God and you will be my people. I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt so that you would no longer be slaves to the Egyptians: I broke the bars of your yoke and enabled you to walk with heads held high." God promises reward for obedience to his law (eternal Life).

"But if you will not listen to me and obey my commandments, and if you break my covenant by rejecting my laws and treating my regulations with contempt, I will punish you and you will be defeated by all your enemies. They (those who hate you) will rule over you and you will run even when no one is chasing you." Listed are the ways God will set his face against Israel if Israel remains hostile and fails to learn the lessons from these, God says he will punish <u>seven times over</u>.

"If after all this, Israel continues to betray God and refuses to listen and remains hostile, I will lay waste your land, your cities will lie in ruins and I will scatter you among the nations and draw out my sword and pursue you. You will receive due punishment for your sins—rejecting my regulations and despising my laws."

The curses have begun! Our nation's weather in due season has become unreliable, aquifers are drying up, justice has fallen in the streets, the Middle East is fermenting and unstable, Korea is rattling the saber of war, civil war in Syria continues almost two years now, America is becoming despised by nations around the world especially by Russia and China, and Obama's foreign policy is lacking traction.

The Obama Administration is very intolerant of Christianity. People from Europe, England, and Holland migrated to America to establish freedom of religion and practice Christianity without the interference of the state (government). Now the U.S. government is beginning to overwhelm Christians and dictate how to worship and what they can and cannot preach or do using the power of the IRS, Homeland Security, surveillance systems and legislation by political leaders.

Whereas the once proud home of freedom of religion and religious liberty, the U.S. is rapidly becoming the land of persecution. I'm talking about the persecution of Christians! Persecution of Christians is in foreign countries around the world like Pakistan, Indonesia, Africa and Asia—not your home town or city, right?

#### Coming Time of Martyrdom

Think you are safe living in America? Well, think again! Obama has begun his war against Christians with the first shot already having been fired. It is just the beginning.

Jesus Christ warned it would be so. He declared in John 16:2—"the day is coming when he that kills you will think he is doing service to God."

In Revelation 20:4, the apostle John saw thrones, and the people sitting on them had been given authority to judge. "And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their testimony (witness) about Jesus and for the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or his image and had not received his mark on their foreheads."

This is speaking of the time of Jesus Christ's return – the world today. Guillotines are going to be used to chop off the heads of Christians around the world, and even in America – believe it or not!

Ted Gunderson, retired FBI agent says: The information we received is that the use of guillotines for "governmental purposes: was lobbied for and passed in the U.S. Congress. The information we received is that 15,000 are currently stored in Georgia and 15,000 in Montana. There are over 800 prison camps in the U.S. All are fully operational and ready to receive prisoners."

Does that shock you? Are you prepared to die for Christ, if it is necessary?

In addition, President Obama's "*Executive Order* **11921** allows the Federal Emergency Preparedness Agency to develop plans to establish control over the mechanisms of production and distribution of energy sources, wages, salaries, credit and the flow of money in the U.S. financial institution in any undefined national emergency. It also provides that when a state of emergency is declared by the President, Congress cannot review the action for six months. They are all staffed and even surrounded by full-time guards. But they are all empty. These camps are to be operated by FEMA (Fed. Emergency Management Agency) should Martial law need to be implemented in the U.S. and all it would take is a presidential signature on a proclamation and the attorney general's signature on a warrant to which a list of names is attached.

*"Executive Order* **11049** assigns emergency preparedness function to federal departments and agencies, consolidating 21 operative Executive Orders issued over a fifteen year period. FEMA's powers were consolidated by President Carter to incorporate the *National Security Act of 1947*. The1950 *Defense Production Act* gives the President sweeping powers over all aspects of the economy. In 1979 these powers were transferred to FEMA in a sweeping consolidation in 1979."

#### Count the Cost

We need to consider the cost. Yeshua tells us in Luke 14:26-33—"If any man come to me, and hates not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yes and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple. And whosoever does not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple. Which of you who intends to build a tower, doesn't sit down first and <u>count the cost</u>, and checks whether he has sufficient to finish it. Lest haply, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to ridicule him, saying this man began to build, and was not able to finish." Christ added, "Likewise, whoever of you that forsakes not all (everything) that he has, he cannot be my disciple."

Are we willing to die for Christ?

Study Daniel 7 and Revelation 13. Persecution is coming – in waves! Realize that the Antichrist is going to make war on the saints (followers of Christ) and he will prevail over the saints, for 42 months or  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years (see Dan.7:25, Rev.13:5-7)..

However, God does promise a place of safety (protection / refuge) to those who love Christ, who are serving God and are zealously effective and diligent in keeping His commandments (Rev.3:10, 12:14-16), who are praying earnestly to be worthy to escape

these things (Luke 21:34-36). Read carefully **Psalm 91** which explains God's promises of protection and refuge for those who love the Lord with all of their heart, soul and strength.

God says that 1,000 may fall at your right hand and 10,000 dying on your left hand from the arrows and raging epidemics, but "it shall not come near you."

Nevertheless, around the world, especially in Muslim nations, dramatically increasing persecution of Christians is one of the tell-tale SIGNS that we are living in the END of this age, shortly before the return of Christ! Christians are being butchered, beheaded, raped, murdered, beaten, flogged, burned out, crucified at the stake, burned alive in groups, and hated and despised the world over.

### **Obama's War on Christians**

*Whistleblower* (June 2013 issue, vol. 22, number 6) reports on "Obama's War on Christians". Editor David Kupelian says: "Just scratch a little below the surface of all the current scandals, and the mother-lode comes fully into view. Take the IRS scandal. Who exactly are all these 500-plus 'tea party,' 'patriot,' 'conservative' and 'prolife' groups being targeted by the revenue agency?"

Who populates these organizations? What beliefs and values animate them?

"By and large, they are Christians and Jews who strongly hold to a traditional, biblical, Judeo-Christian worldview. Haven't you wondered why the Obama Department of Homeland Security warns law enforcement departments that the real 'extremist' threats to America are from pro-lifers, patriots, constitutionalists, amnesty opponents, gun enthusiasts and military veterans? Have you wondered why would the U.S. military recently threaten to court-martial Christian service personnel just for sharing their faith with others?"

"The truth is: Barack Obama considers traditional, freedom-loving, center-right Christian America —not Marxism, not Islamism, not a toxic culture nor a stagnant economy – to be his biggest enemy, his greatest obstacle to fundamentally transforming America" into a socialist state. Whistleblower Editor David Kupelian calls this "*the biggest Obama scandal of all*". What is really behind the never-ending attacks on everything "decent' and "normal?" Highlights of Obama's War on Christians include:

- "Banning Christianity from the armed forces" by Joseph Farah, who reports that the U.S. military was recently advised that Christian believers are "monsters" who "terrorize" others with their faith.
- "Under Obama, Christians and conservatives are 'extremists' by Bob Unruh, on the current administration's relentless demonization of opponents of abortion, same-sex marriage and illegal immigration."
- "Obama care forcing Christian companies to provide abortion pill," showing how some of the Obama administration's causes are so egregious that the judiciary is siding against them.

- "IRS demands Christian pro-lifers reveal 'the content of their prayers'—one of the most outrageous abuses in an era of outrages.
- "Warning from Canada: Orwellian future awaits U.S." by Art Moore, who documents how the lessons of 10 years of same-sex marriage in our neighbor to the north totally shatter the argument of "gay marriage" supporters.
- "Feds require employees to give open LG BT approval" by Matt Baber, who explains the decree from the Obama Justice Department: no longer is it OK for Christians just to be intimidated and "shut up" regarding "lesbians, gay, bisexuals and transgenders" in the federal workplace they must verbally support it! As one internal D.O.J. memo to employees puts it: "*Silence will be interpreted as disapproval.*"
- "How a revered Christian institution was brought down" by Peter LaBarberas, a poignant, insider look at what really caused the downfall of the Boy Scouts of America."

As of 2008 there were 8 million names on the surveillance list when Obama was elected president, and how many more have been added in the last five years?

We need to seriously realize that we are living in a decidedly unfriendly, unchristian, unconverted carnal-minded country. Since the end of the WW II our country has been taken over by the occupying forces of Communist thinkers and atheists in our institutions of higher learning, our churches and our political offices. Our country has been transmogrified and turned into a beast.

President Ronald Reagan was the last real Christian president since WW II that America had. He made some wonderful outstanding statements about God, Christ, Christianity and salvation while he was president. He usually got ridiculed or condemned for it by the liberal left, but he did it anyway and spoke out about his religious faith.

Since Ronald Reagan, our country has gone into the depths of abysmal religious confusion, apathy and ignorance. Since then we have had the failed presidencies of George H.W. Bush, William Jefferson Clinton, George Walker Bush, Jr., and now Barack Obama, the worst and most notorious of them all.

#### The Time of the "END"

In the book of Daniel we read that an angel said to Daniel: "understand that the vision refers to the *time of the end*." This is a vision that refers to our time today. "I was in a deep sleep with my face to the ground, but the angel touched me and said, 'I am making known to you what shall happen in *the latter time of indignation*. For at the appointed time *the end* shall be. . . .For *the end* will be at the *appointed time*."" (Daniel 8:17-18, 27)

Verses 32-35 speak of our day today. Those who do wickedly against the covenant (God's), he (the Antichrist) will corrupt them with flattery. "But the people who know their God shall be strong and do great exploits" with the help of God's Spirit.

Those people who understand the truth of God will "instruct many, yet for *many* days they shall fall by the sword, captivity, the flame and plundering. When they fall they shall be helped with a little help, but many shall join them by flattery (intrigue). Some of those of understanding (God's true servants) shall fall to refine and purify them to make them white until the *time of the end*, because it is still for the appointed time."

"You, Daniel, shut up the word, prophecies, and seal the book until the *time of the end*. Many people will run to and fro (through books, universities, studies, researches) and knowledge shall rapidly increase (a computer generation)." (Daniel 12:4).

Daniel did not understand what will be the END of these things. The angel told him, 'Daniel, go your way. The words are *closed up and sealed until the time of <u>the end</u>." (Dan.12:8-9).* 

We are living in that time of the end right now. We are going to go through those horrific times prophesied to occur just before the coming of the Messiah, Yeshua the Christ!

Many will be made white (righteous) by going through these tests (refined by the suffering), but the wicked will go on doing wickedly and will understand none of these prophecies. But the wise that obey and fear God, they will understand these things (Daniel 12:9-10).

#### Lamentations

In the book of Lamentations of Jeremiah, we read—"the face of the Lord scattered them. God no longer regards them because of their wickedness and does not hear their prayers. The people do not respect the priests and ministers; neither do they show favor (kindness) to the elders. Still our eyes failed us, watching vainly for our help. In our watching, we watched for a nation that could not save us." (Lam.4:16-18).

Why does God turn His back on His people? The people turned their backs on God and his laws.

Things will be so bad, Jeremiah wrote, that the government will spy on the people – a massive surveillance society will be in operation, just as it is today! The prophet declared, "They **tracked our steps** so that we could not walk in our streets" (Lam.4:18). Surveillance is everywhere today -- even in our home appliances, our cars, and stores and government track our purchases. Shades of George Orwell's *1984 "Big Brother" is watching everywhere!* 

# The END Has Come

Our end is coming and God's judgments are beginning to fall. This time is spoken of in Ezekiel 7:2-10—the time of the end!

"An end, the end has come upon the four corners of the land. NOW the end has come upon you, and I will send My anger against you: I will judge you according to your ways, and I will repay you for all your ABOMINATIONS" (Ezekiel 7:2-3).

"A disaster, a singular disaster; Behold, it has come! An END has come, THE END has come, it has dawned for you; Behold, it has come! DOOM has come to you, you who dwell in the land, the TIME has come, a day of trouble is near" (Ezek.7:5-7).

"Behold, the day! Behold, it has come! DOOM has gone out; the rod has blossomed, pride has budded. Violence has risen up into a rod of wickedness . . . the time has come, the day draws near . . ." (vs.10-12).

We are living in the "END" time and God's anger is going to be sent upon people and He will judge their ways and He will repay everyone for their abominations without pity. "Then you shall know that I AM the Lord Eternal and Creator, your judge who strikes. The end has come. I will pour out my fury."

This is the end-time generation and the end is coming. This gospel shall be preached as a witness to the entire world and the end will come. It will not delay.

The apostle Peter wrote —"The end of all things is at hand. Therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers" (IPeter 4:7).

#### The Fig Tree Generation

One of the premier signs that we are living in the END of this age is the nation of Israel. In Scripture, Israel is compared to the fig tree. Yeshua said to His disciples, "Now learn this parable from the fig tree. When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves you know that summer is near. So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near—at the doors!" (Matt.24:32-33).

God compares His people Israel to a fig tree. He says, in Jeremiah, "Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel: Like these good figs, so I will acknowledge them that are carried away captive of Judah . . . For I will set Mine eyes upon them for good, and I will bring them again to this land and I will build them and not pull them down; and I will plant them, and not pluck them up" (Jer.24:5-7).

Israel is a type of the fig tree and has been putting out fruit ever since it was established in 1948. Christ went on to say, "Assuredly I say to you, THIS GENERATION [THE GENERATION OF THE FIG TREE] will by no means pass away TILL all these things take place" (Matt.24:34).

How long is a Biblical "generation"? Psalm 90 tells us, "The days of our lives are seventy years" (verse 10). Thus a human generation would be 70 years. If we count 70

years from the founding of the state of Israel, in May 14, 1948, we come to the year 2018!

Therefore we are living in the "generation" Christ spoke of, and its termination point would be about 2018 – just a few short years from now!

## הדור האחרוך Ha Dor Ha Acharon

The Hebrew term which can be translated "the final generation" or "the last generation" or "the generation to come" is *ha dor ha acharon*. It means the time of the end or "the generation that comes", or "**the generation at the end**." Says *Gesenius Hebrew Lexicon*, "(1) *hinder, latter*, as opposed to former, foremost . . . (2) *after, later, following*, 'after generation,' Psalm 48:14, 'after-time,' Prov.31:25; Isa.30:18 . . . (3) *last,* Neh.8:18; Isa.44:6, 'I (God) am the first, and I am the last'; Job 19:35. Fem. Adv. *At last, last, Dan.*11:29. Also Deut.13:10 and Num.2:31; Eccl.1:11, *at last, lastly*."

Let's notice how this term applies to the last, final generation..

Deuteronomy 29:14-24-—"The Lord made this covenant so that no man, woman or family of all the tribes of Israel should turn away from him to worship gods of other nations and so that no root would bear such poisonous and bitter fruit. Let no one who hears the words of this oath written in this book of the law bless himself in his heart and think he will have peace (be safe), even though he follows the dictates of his heart (goes his own way)—as though the drunkard could be included with the sober. The Lord would not spare him; for then the anger of the Lord and his jealousy will burn against that man and every curse that is written in this book would settle on him and the Lord would blot out his name from under heaven.

"So that *the generation to come* of your children that shall rise up after you, and the stranger that shall come from a far land, shall say, when they see the plagues of that land, and the sicknesses which the Lord has laid upon it; And that the whole land is brimstone, and salt that is burning, that it is not sown nor bearing, nor any grass grows therein, *like the over-throw of Sodom and Gomorrah, Adman, and Zeboim* which the Lord overthrew in his anger and his wrath. All nations shall ask, 'Why has the Lord done this to the land? What is the meaning of this great anger'?"

Take note especially of the fact that *ha dor ha acharon* can just as readily be translated as "THE LAST GENERATION," or "the FINAL generation." *Acharon* means "hindmost, last in order, last of a series." Or, simply, "last."

# The "Last Generation" in the Psalms

Next notice Psalm 48:1-14—"Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God in the mountain of his holiness. Beautiful in elevation, the joy of the whole earth is Mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great king. God is in her palaces; He is known as her refuge. The kings of the earth joined forces. When they

advanced together, they saw her and were astounded; they fled in terror. Fear took hold of them there, and pain, like that of <u>a woman in labor</u>. You destroyed them like ships of Tarshish shattered by an east wind."

"As we have heard, we have seen in the city of the Lord of hosts, in the city of our God. God will establish her forever. We have thought of your loving kindness, O God in the midst of your temple according to your name, so is your praise to the ends of the earth; Your right hand is full of righteousness; Mount Zion rejoices, the villages (daughters) of Zion are glad because of your judgments. Walk about Zion and go around her, count her towers, consider her ramparts, view her citadels that you may tell it to *the generation following* [L'Dor Acharon -- "the last generation"]. For this is God, our God forever and ever. He will be our guide even unto death."

This whole Psalm speaks of the trouble of the great tribulation, a woman in labor pangs, disastrous winds on the high seas, and the plagues of God poured out on the wicked, and is a special message for "the last generation"!

Psalm 102 is another prophecy for the future end-time generation (last generation). It is a prayer of the afflicted—when he is overwhelmed and pours out his complaint before the Lord.

"Hear my cry. In the day that I am in trouble incline your ear to me: in the day when I call, answer me speedily. My days are like a shadow that declines – my health is gone, my heart is smitten and my enemies are sworn to kill me; I eat ashes like bread and my drink is mixed with weeping because of your indignation and wrath: for you have lifted me up and cast me down. But you O Lord shall endure forever, and your remembrance unto all generations. You shall arise and have mercy upon Zion: for the time to favor her, **the set time is come**.

"So the heathen shall fear the name of the Lord and all the kings of the earth your glory. When the Lord (Christ) shall build up Zion, he shall *appear in his glory*[the second coming of the Messiah]. The Lord will regard the prayer of the destitute, and not despise their prayer. This shall be **written for the generation to come [the final generation]:** and the people which shall be created shall praise the Lord."

Remember, the "generation to come" is a special reference to the LAST or FINAL generation – the generation that will see and experience all these things!

The Psalm continues:

"You looked down from your sanctuary TO hear the groaning prisoner, TO declare the name of the Lord in Zion and his praise in Jerusalem: when the people are gathered together, and the kingdoms, to serve the Lord. You weakened my strength and shortened my days. O God do not take me away in the midst of my days, your years will have no end. You laid the foundation of the earth: and the heavens are the work of your hands. They shall perish, but you shall endure. All of them shall wax old like a garment; a

vesture (clothing) shall you change them and they shall be changed: but you are the same, and your years shall have no end. The children of your servants shall continue and their seed (descendants) shall be established before you."

This prayer could be the prayer of all of us, today.

God is making his last appeal to our generation today—to listen and to understand the ancient words of scripture.

He has commanded us to search the Scriptures for the hidden inner meaning of these verses that would illuminate God's plan for each one who searches. Chiefly and clearly this would include the Messianic prophecies of Christ's coming, prophecies which have been hidden from the generations since the days of Daniel until now – this final generation – this "*L'Dor Acharon* – the "last generation".

#### Downfall of the Antichrist

Even the downfall of the Antichrist is connected to the "last generation" in another prophetic psalm of David.

King David declares, "Hold not thy peace, O God of my praise. For the mouth of the wicked and the mouth of the deceitful are opened against me; they have spoken against me with a lying tongue. They compassed me about also with words of hatred and fought against me without a cause. For my love they are my adversaries, but I gave myself unto prayer [Heb., "I am or became prayer"]. And they have rewarded me evil for good, and hatred for my love. . . . Let Satan stand at his right hand. When he shall be judged, let him be condemned, and let his prayer become sin. . . . Let there be none to extend mercy unto him . . . Let his posterity be cut off and *in the generation following [the final, last generation] let their name be blotted out*" (Psalm 109:1-13).

This prayer is a clear prayer of a servant of God suffering from the lying hatred of a powerful king – a type of the end-time "Antichrist." In type it referred to Judas Iscariot, the disciple who betrayed Christ due to his own heart of "causeless hatred." The Antichrist will be such a son of Satan, the son of perdition and doom, just as Judas was, and will go into perdition and be cast into Gehenna fire at the return of Christ (Rev.19:19-20). His family will be "cut off."

The apostle Paul writes of him, "Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the FALLING AWAY [APOSTASY] comes first, and the MAN OF SIN [lawlessness] is revealed, the SON OF PERDITION, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped,, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God" (II Thess.2:3-4).

He is called "the lawless one," in verse 9. He is empowered by the "working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved" (vs.9-10).

#### The End-Time Signs

There is no doubt about it! He who will become the Antichrist bestrides the world, today. He rising to increasing power. We are now living in what the Moffatt translation calls "the crisis at the close." The signs are everywhere, and fast accelerating and multiplying.

Christ Himself said, "When it is evening you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red'; and in the morning, 'It will be foul weather today, for the sky is red and threatening.' Hypocrites! You know how to discern the face of the sky, but you cannot discern the signs of the times" (Matthew 16:2-3).

Look around you. Survey the earth. Scour the news reports. Observe the signs. Watch world events. Search out the times. Be like the children of Issachar who "had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do" (I Chron.12:32).

"Watch, therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming" (Matt.24:42).

"Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster or in the morning—lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. And what I say to you I say to all: Watch!" (Mark 13:35-37).

#### WATCH!

"See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil" (Eph.5:14-16).

#### WALK CIRCUMSPECTLY!

"Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is" (v.17). "And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit" (v.18).

#### PRAY EARNESTLY AND BE FILLED WITH GOD'S HOLY SPIRIT!

The apostle Peter declared, "Giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue [power], to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, to brotherly kindness love [the love of God]. For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ" (II Pet.1:5-8).

"For he who lacks these things is short-sighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins" (v.9).

"Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things, you will never stumble" (II Peter 1:10).