

23 September 2015 – the end?

Introduction

I was going to ignore this topic completely. However, as the dreaded date is only a few days away now and the excitement and videos are hotting up, I thought that I should make some simple comments in order to reassure worried brethren.

In a nutshell: is the secret rapture going to occur on 23 September? No it is not.

Eschatological pointers claimed to occur during September

This is a selected list of the many events claimed to point to a serious eschatological event on the 23 September, which many claim will be the day of the secret rapture.

Regarding Israel

- 23 September 2015 is the 70th Jubilee (50-year cycle) of Israel (since deliverance from Egypt).
- Yom Kippur (Atonement) is on 23 September in 2015. [The date is slightly different every year.]
- 14 September there is the sounding of the shofar (trumpet) in Israel. It is also the feast of Rosh Hoshana.
- 14 September is the 6,000th year since the creation of Adam in Jewish speculation.
- 28 September: Feast of Tabernacles.

Regarding economics

- The Dow Jones index dropped dramatically recently and reached 15,666 – the 666 is indicative!!!
- 14 September is the first day of Wall St trading after the summer break and after the end of the Shemitah year (the seven-year Jewish cycle).
- 17 September: The Federal Reserve meets and is expected to raise interest rates.
- Many economists have warned of a global economic collapse occurring in September or soon afterwards.

Regarding politics

- 15 September is the 70th session of the UN. Its agenda includes a Palestinian state.
- End of the Jade Helm operation in the US (the biggest military homeland operation in history).
- In Hispanic countries 15 September is called the Day of Independence.
- 17 September is the US Constitution Day.
- 17 September is the deadline for Obama's Iran deal.
- 21 September is the UN 'Day of Peace'.
- 500 days before 23 September a French politician claimed that there were only 500 days to sort out climate change.
- 24 September: the Pope will address the US Congress for the first time.
- 25 September: the Pope will address the UN.

Regarding culture

- 16 September: Madonna has a concert at Madison Sq Garden; the culmination of her concerts that have been increasingly satanic. This concert is themed 'The desecration of the bride and the coming of fallen angels'.
- 27 September: The 'Tomorrow-land Festival' occurs in Georgia; a massive New Age idolatrous party.

Regarding the occult

- 14 September is the year of Anno Lucius ('the year of light') a feast day of Satanists.

Regarding astronomy

- There is a partial eclipse on 13 September.
- 23 September is the last day of summer; i.e. autumn equinox is 23 September.
- 23 September: the CERN Hadron particle collider will be initiated to full power. CERN apparently stands upon the site of an ancient temple to Apollo.
- 23 September is claimed to be the date when a comet will hit the earth.
- 28 September: fourth blood moon of the tetrad; tied in with Jewish feasts. It is claimed that each blood moon tetrad in history is associated with a major Jewish event.

Regarding eschatology

- Many voices are claiming that September is the end of days.
- Many more voices are claiming that 23 September is the time of the secret rapture.

Regarding religion

- 18 September is a Day of Prayer, called the 'Days of Awe' in Idaho.
- 21 September is the Hadj (pilgrimage to Mecca for Muslims).
- 22 September the Muslim 'Day of Arafat' (i.e. Yasser Arafat).
- 23 September is the Muslim 'Feast of Sacrifice'.
- 23 September the Pope visits the White House, the 266th day of the year (the period of human gestation). Symbol of the birth of the New World Order.
- 21-23 September is the time of the birth of Jesus.

Sober analysis of the many pointers

Books and articles upon this subject are filled with fatuous nonsense and superfluous guff yet have sold in millions but have no solid argument or facts to prove that 23 September is an eschatological crisis.

Circumstantial factors mean nothing

The simplest way to deal with this is to summarise points in list form.

- To most of the factors we can say, 'So what'! Just itemising events is meaningless unless there is some definite, rational link and connection to a Biblical eschatological event. Every day of the year could attract a number of unusual factors associated with it, but with no rational connection.

- Many of these items just have no religious significance at all, such as the ‘Tomorrowland Festival’ or Madonna’s concerts. Idolatrous cultural events are occurring all the time. Why single out these?
- The claimed exceptional and odd connection of Jewish feasts with certain lunar events or lunar cycles is not weird. It is entirely normal since the original Jewish calendar and feast days were connected to a lunar calendar.
- Certain historic events have occurred on Jewish feast days in the past because the global elite deliberately engineered this. There is nothing supernatural about it.
- Claimed connections between Jewish festivals or the Shemitah year throughout history are circumstantial.¹ We could create an even longer list when these festivals were associated with nothing at all.
- The events mentioned occur throughout September and do not coalesce on one day.
- September is a normal time when new things begin due to the nature of culture. It is the period after the summer holidays and the beginning of new things. For example: the new session of Parliament; the school year begins; the university and college years begin; the economic market cycle begins; the Parliamentary Party conference season begins; TV channels revert to prime shows after the summer hiatus; and so on.
- Every year there are a number of occult or false religious events, such as Chinese New Year cycles. The occult year of Anno Lucius or other religious festivals means nothing to Christians.
- If I had a pound for every time someone made an eschatological event out of the appearance of the number 666 I would be a rich man. There is nothing exceptional about the digits of the number. Its significance in Revelation is symbolic and makes a certain point (the evil of man trying to be like God). There is nothing magical about the number itself.
- Astronomical events come and go. Every time there is something unusual, religious freaks say it is the end of the world. I have seen this multiple times with events such as comet Halle-Bopp, the alignment of the planets and previous blood moons. Nothing happened then; nothing will happen now.
- Why would a fourth blood moon be significant on 28 September if a secret rapture had already occurred on 23rd?
- Man does not set God’s calendar. Whatever the Hadron-Collider does, it will not trigger the end of the world.

The one exception

While most of the supposed crisis events are circumstantial and superficial, there is one that may be significant. This is the economic collapse that has been predicted for years.

Now we cannot state the exact time of this crisis but many creditable economists have suggested that it will occur this autumn, perhaps in September.

The reason for this is mathematical and due to market forces and economic cycles, not speculation.

The current rigging of the markets by the Federal Reserve to prop up the dollar and keep precious metal prices low can only be maintained for a while; eventually market forces will assert themselves, the laws of economics will prevail and confidence in the dollar will collapse. This is certain, but the exact time is not.

¹ Such as the expulsion of Jews from Spain or the 6-Day War.

In any event this will not trigger the end of the world or the secret rapture, but it may precede a new world system of economics and culture that will enable a future totalitarian global government.

A quick word about the secret rapture

I am not going to fully evaluate this as I have covered this in eschatology papers many times, all of which are available.²

The secret rapture is a key factor in Dispensationalism, which I have, many times, exposed as a false theological system that grew up after 1830 and had never appeared in history before that time. It is a late perversion of premillennialism.

As Dispensationalism developed, initially in the movement associated with the heretic Edward Irving, and later the scandalous Catholic Apostolic Church that treated him so badly, the main feature of Dispensationalism was a radical separation between the church and Israel, with Israel taking the prime place in God's decrees. This is serious heresy that denies multiple NT doctrines and blasphemes Christ himself, whose body is the church.

Other doctrines include a millennium reign of Christ on earth, that includes sinners (itself a blasphemy of Christ's perfect glory and holiness) after a tribulation; and the division of history into seven dispensations where different types of salvation existed.

The secret rapture was the missing ingredient that unlocked a number of difficulties in the system. This did not appear until the ecstatic utterances of a sick, deluded teenager called Margaret Macdonald. This is the origin, in about 1830, of the secret rapture idea. John Darby and his student William Kelly then adopted this and popularised it amongst the early Brethren. However, several godly early Brethren leaders condemned the teaching as demonic in origin (such as Tregelles).

As it became popular due to the spiritual, prophetic fervour caused by the approaching millennium (this happens every millennium), the global elite saw this as a suitable vehicle for making the Gentile church favour Jews and support a future homeland for Israel in Palestine. Thus they committed elite banking money to promoting it in books, preaching tours, pamphlets and so on; but the chief boost came through the publishing of the Scofield Bible, which sold millions and led to a great deception.

While there are now many variations of Dispensationalism, the most popular form in America is the Pre-Tribulation variety which teaches that believers will be secretly raptured to heaven to avoid the coming 'Great Tribulation' associated with the totalitarian antichristian government. However, the Bible teaches nothing of this and clearly explains that end-time Christians will be persecuted not raptured away.

Needless to say that there is no such thing in Scripture as a secret rapture. The rapture of the saints mentioned in 1 Thessalonians, is the receiving up of believers who are alive on earth when Christ returns in power and glory. It is associated with the death and general resurrection of all men who ever lived and the destruction and burning up of the earth before its final restoration to its original perfection and glory.

² Such as: 'Concise eschatology', 'Intro to eschatology', 'Signs of the end', 'The order of events at the end times', 'Dispensationalism', 'Origins of Dispensationalism'.

But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive *and* remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words. 1 Thess 4:13-18

But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labour pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as others *do*, but let us watch and be sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. 1 Thess 5:1-7

Note:

- The return of Christ predicted here is a one-off, single, triumphant, glorious, return. There is nothing secret about it.
- This return is with a shout from heaven, the voice of an archangel and the trumpet of God. No secret about all this. It is the noisiest thing in history.
- The return of Christ includes bringing dead believers with him from heaven to be transformed with the saints alive on earth. The dead are transformed first.
- Other Scriptures teach us that when this rising up of the saints occurs, it is the end of all things.
- This return of the Lord comes with the parallel destruction upon the world and all that is in it ('sudden destruction comes upon them, as labour pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape').

So, there is not going to be a secret rapture of the saints alone from the earth on 23 September, or any other time.

Reasons why we should ignore hype of this sort

God does not set his calendar by the signposts of the world

Just because the secular, religious and occult worlds have significant dates, whether or not they coalesce, it means nothing to Christians.

The coming of Christ is when there is global security

For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. For when they say, 'Peace and safety!' 1 Thess 5:2-3

This is a far cry from the world that we are in today. Never has there been a time when there is so much insecurity.

- There is the threat of a world war with Ukraine as the spark point.
- There is a threat of world war with the China Sea as the spark point.
- There is a threat of world war that is based upon Muslims versus Christians.

- There is every likelihood of an imminent global economic crisis that could throw us back into the dark ages.
- There is an immigrant crisis flooding Europe (caused by America).
- There is the likelihood of a Greece default that could bring down the Eurozone, which could even ruin the EU.
- There is the continuing crisis caused by the rise of Islamic State and the threat of international terrorism.
- There is the destabilisation (caused by America) of Iraq, Syria, Yemen and Libya which could cause the Middle East to boil over and even initiate nuclear strikes by Israel.

The list goes on.

This is not the setting for the end of the world.

Christ comes after an Antichristian global empire has stabilised the world's problems and brought about relative peace.

The coming of Christ is when there has been a global persecution of Christians

The evil end-time totalitarian state will be Antichristian in that it will:

- Thoroughly persecute Christians and the church to the point where the world will believe that Christianity is eradicated (Rev 11:7-9). This will affect every nation on earth. Matt 24:9, 'Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake'.
- Establish itself as a source of religious worship (typified by the False Prophet, the second beast) so that the world worships the First Beast (the end-time world system) Rev 13:11-12.
- The focus of all people will be selfish hedonism and a giving over to flagrant sin and enjoyment of all that the beast offers, which is based upon idolatry and occult heathen religion (Babylon) Rev 17:2, 15.

The coming of Christ is when there has been a worldwide preaching of the Gospel

This is clearly stated by the Lord in Matthew 24 and elsewhere.

And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come. Matt 24:14

While we are close to this, the Bible has not yet been translated into every language and there are still places on the earth that missionaries have not yet reached.

Conclusion

Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter. 2 Thess 2:1-2

We must not be frightened and stampeded by the vague and crazy notions of speculative religious thinking; especially ideas that emanate from spurious religious theologies, occult festivals or secular ideas.

The day of the Lord will not strike us by surprise, but we will have clues and prompting by the Spirit if we are faithful. We must watch, pray and look for signs (fulfilment of sure Biblical prophecy) but not trust in the words of crazy people.

There may be an economic collapse in September, because sound economists are concerned about this plus mathematics and market forces (the laws of economics) appear to indicate this. But this is not the end of the world but the foundations of the next phase.

Scripture quotations are from The New King James Version
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