

Newsbytes

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“Let us be alert to the season in which we are living. It is the season of the Blessed Hope, calling for us to cut our ties with the world and build ourselves on this One who will soon appear. He is our hope—a Blessed Hope enabling us to rise above our times and fix our gaze upon Him.” Tozer

Brexit campaigner Farage says UK, Italy to launch EU's disintegration

Reuters June 11, 2016

MILAN (Reuters) - The European Union will start disintegrating after Italians pick the anti-establishment 5-Star Movement candidate as mayor of Rome on June 19 and Britons vote to leave the EU four days later, the leader of the UK Independence Party was quoted as saying.

UKIP's Nigel Farage told Italy's Corriere della Sera in an interview published on Saturday that British Prime Minister David Cameron should resign even if the 'Remain' camp won by a narrow margin in a June 23 referendum on EU membership.

Bookmakers still predict Britons will vote to stay in the EU, while opinion polls have see-sawed - though one on Friday gave a 10 percentage point lead to the 'Leave' side, for which Farage is a prominent campaigner.

"We can't lose this referendum ...there will be a Big Bang of British politics: nothing will remain the same," Farage said. He said he would "destroy the old EU", together with 5-Star leader Beppe Grillo.

"On June 19 the 5-Star movement elects the mayor of the capital and changes Italy. On June 23 Britain leaves the EU and changes Europe. We will trigger a domino effect. After us, other northern European countries will leave, starting with Denmark," he said. "The EU is about to collapse, disintegrating in several pieces."

Municipal elections in Italy last Sunday put 5-Star candidate Virginia Raggi, 37, in the lead to become mayor of Rome ahead of the candidate from Prime Minister Matteo Renzi's center-left Democratic Party (PD). The race will be decided by a run-off vote on June 19.

(Reporting by Valentina Za; Editing by Mark Trevelyan)

Global Economic Collapse: It's More Catastrophic and a Lot Closer Than You Might Think

LA VICTORIA, Venezuela — Unemployed construction worker Roberto Sanchez could hear a time bomb ticking as he waited in line with 300 people outside a grocery store this week, hoping that corn meal or rice might be delivered later in the afternoon.

He fears that Venezuela could explode at any minute into political and economic chaos. "We have no food. They are cutting power four hours a day. Crime is soaring. And (President Nicolás) Maduro blames everyone but himself for the mess we find ourselves in," said Sanchez, 36. "We can't go on like this forever. Something has to give." The question is what will give first. As the economy spirals into deeper disarray, protests aimed at driving the unpopular president out of office are growing. Maduro responded over the weekend by declaring a 60-day state of emergency

to combat what he said are U.S.-sponsored efforts to overthrow his socialist government.

The confrontation has spilled into the streets. On Wednesday, riot police in Caracas fired tear gas as they clashed with thousands of protesters seeking a recall referendum against Maduro. The anti-government protest was the third in a week. The unrest mounts as the country faces continuing shortages of essential food, medicine and toiletries. All the bakeries here in La Victoria, 55 miles southwest of Caracas, stopped producing bread last week because there is no flour. "People are hunting dogs and cats in the streets, and pigeons in the plazas to eat," Ramon Muchacho, mayor of the Caracas district of Chacao, said this month in a tweet that was reported in many newspapers.

Although Venezuela has the world's largest petroleum reserves, the country has suffered from a combination of lower oil prices and tight limits on dollar purchases that have cut off vital food and most other imports. The result has been a plunging economy and the world's highest inflation rate — above 700%. Because Venezuela imports 70% of the goods it consumes, including most medicine, growing shortages of medicines for such ailments as cancer, diabetes, hypertension and HIV has created dire situations for many. —USA Today

Hitting Bottom

Worried about the outlook for the global economy and concerned that large market shifts may be at hand, the billionaire hedge-fund founder and philanthropist, George Soros, recently directed a series of big, bearish investments, according to people close to the matter. Soros Fund Management LLC, which manages \$30 billion for Mr. Soros and his family, sold stocks and bought gold and shares of gold miners, anticipating weakness in various markets. Investors often view gold as a haven during times of turmoil. Hmmm — it sounds suspiciously like George Soros and Michael Snyder are on the exact same page as far as what is about to happen to the global economy. You know that it is very late in the game when that starts happening...

One thing that George Soros is particularly concerned about that I haven't been talking a lot about yet is the upcoming Brexit vote. If the United Kingdom leaves the EU (and hopefully they will), the short-term consequences for the European economy could potentially be absolutely catastrophic. Mr. Soros also argues that there remains a good chance the European Union will collapse under the weight of the migration crisis, continuing challenges in Greece and a potential exit by the United Kingdom from the EU. "If Britain leaves, it could unleash a general exodus, and the disintegration of the European Union will become practically unavoidable," he said.

The Brexit vote will be held two weeks from today on June 23rd, and we shall be watching to see what happens. But Soros is not just concerned about a potential Brexit. The economic slowdown in China also has him very worried, and so he has directed his firm to make extremely bearish wagers.

According to the Wall Street Journal, the last time Soros made these kinds of bearish moves was back in 2007, and it resulted in more than a billion dollars of gains for his company. Of course Soros is not alone in his bearish outlook. In fact, Goldman Sachs has just warned that "there may be significant risk to the downside for the market."

After 73 consecutive months of year-over-year growth, online jobs postings have been in decline since February. May was by far the worst month since January 2009, down 285k from April and down 552k from a year ago. Last week, the government issued the worst jobs report in nearly six years, and the energy industry continues to bleed good paying middle class jobs at a staggering rate.

Texas is one place feeling the pain. Around 99,000 direct and indirect jobs in the Lone Star state have been eliminated since prices collapsed two years ago, or about one third of the entire industry. In April alone there were about 6,300 people in oil and gas and supporting services that were handed pink slips. Employment in Texas' oil sector is close to levels not seen since the aftermath of the financial crisis in 2009. "We're still losing big chunks of jobs with each passing month," Karr Ingham, an Amarillo-based economist, told The Houston Chronicle.

At this point it is so obvious that we have entered a new economic downturn that I don't know how anyone can possibly deny it any longer. Unfortunately, the reality of what is happening has not sunk in with the general population yet. Just like 2008, people are feverishly racking up huge credit card balances even though we stand on the precipice of a major financial crisis...

American taxpayers are quick to criticize the federal government for its ever-increasing national debt, but a new study released Wednesday found taxpayers are also saddled with debt, and are likely to end 2016 with a record high \$1

trillion in outstanding balances. Wallethub, a site that recommends credit cards based on consumers' needs, said that will be the highest amount of credit card debt on record, surpassing even the years during and before the Great Recession. The site said the record high was in 2008, when people owed \$984.2 billion on their credit cards. –Right Side News

Putin sends Russian submarine through the English Channel

June 2016 – UNITED KINGDOM - Vladimir Putin has sent an attack submarine into the English Channel. The Sun can reveal the kilo-class submarine Stary Oskol – armed with missiles and torpedoes – will pass through the Dover Straits at 10am on June 8th. England's heroes in defense on board Royal Navy frigate HMS Kent had intercepted the Russian super-sub in the North Sea.

Exclusive pictures obtained by The Sun show the diesel-electric powered submarine – sailing above the surface – monitored by HMS Kent. A Russian support tug can also be seen in the shock pictures. Insiders said the sub had been tracked since Sunday by anti-submarine Type 23 frigate HMS Kent after it left her home port at Severmorsk.

The submarine was picked up in the North Sea and closely marked as she sailed down the UK's eastern coastal flank, in a defensive move certain to inspire Roy Hodgson's squad. Royal Navy sources refused to say where the sub was headed – but based on previous journeys it is expected to be sailing for the Black Sea. Defense Secretary Michael Fallon was quick to hail the Royal Navy for snuffing out Putin's latest attempt to intimidate the UK ahead of the Euros. Defense Secretary Michael Fallon said: "This shows that the Navy is maintaining a vigilant watch in international and territorial waters to keep Britain safe and protect us from potential threats."

And HMS Kent's Commanding Officer, Commander Daniel Thomas, added: "Locating this submarine was a combined effort with NATO allies and shadowing such units is routine activity for the Royal Navy. "We continue to escort the submarine as it conducts its passage, providing a visible presence." It is the first time in over a decade a Russian submarine has been spotted in the English Channel – although some have certainly made the journey unseen and unreported. Although the Channel is deemed to be international waters, the UK maintains a perpetual defensive presence. And fearsome frigates provide a determined show of strength to potential adversaries. –Sun

The Pope and Hillsong will unite "Together 2016" in Washington D.C.

6.8.16 piratechristian.com

Today it was announced that Pope Francis would deliver a video message to help unite Christians in the "Next Great Awakening" at Together 2016, joining in the ecumaniacal gathering. Together 2016, also known as **The Reset Movement**, bringing together different religions in an effort to erase the lines of doctrinal divisions.

Nick Hall, the founder of PULSE, a prayer and evangelism movement to empower the church and awaken the culture to Jesus, says adding the Pope to the lineup is the best news yet.

"We are humbled and honored by his involvement and are eager to share his message with the crowd that gathers at Together 2016," Hall said in a statement, reacting to the announcement that the pope has added his name to the list of speakers. "That His Holiness would choose to speak into this historic day is a testament to the urgency and the need for followers of Jesus to unite in prayer for our nation and our world."

Hall is the college pastor who came up with the idea of uniting pastors and Christian leaders from all denominational backgrounds to join 1 million people at the free event "in hopes of inspiring true revival in the America."

This so-called revival is bringing Assemblies of God Supt. George O. Wood and Southern Baptist Convention president Ronnie Floyd together to link arms in spiritual unity with the Pentecostal Charismatic Churches of North America, Grace Communion International (formerly the Armstrongism Worldwide Church of God), and a host of familiar Chrislebrities including Hillsong United, Kari Jobe, Francis Chan, Lecrae, Nick Hall, Passion, Crowder, Kirk

Franklin, Ravi Zacharias, Jeremy Camp, Bob Lenz, Andy Mineo, Michael W. Smith, Lauren Daigle, Christine Caine, Mark Batterson, Matthew West, Jo Saxton, Mike Kelsey, Casting Crowns, John K. Jenkins Sr., Josh McDowell, Laurel Bunker, Luis Palau, Tedashii, Tasha Cobbs, Lacey Sturm, York Moore, Trip Lee, Samuel Rodriguez, Ronnie Floyd, Reid Saunders, Jose Zayas, Jennie Allen, Nabeel Qureshi, Ann Voskamp, KB, Christine D'Clario, Matt Maher, Sammy Wanyonyi, Lindsey Nobles, Amena Brown, and Josh Brewer.

This revival movement to Unite faiths is part of the New Apostolic Reformation (NAR), started by C. Peter Wagner from the Latter Rain movement. It is counterfeit Christianity, and here's why: NAR isn't an official organization, nor can it be characterized by a common creed. It is instead a loosely knit and often unaffiliated network of leaders who share a common vision and goal for the visible Church.

Supernatural Signs & Wonders; Dominionism; The Latter Rain Movement; Joel's Army; The 7 Mountain Mandate; Third Wave Revivalism; IHOP; Bill Johnson's Bethel Church, The Hillsong Media Empire, these are all a part of this shape-shifting movement in one way or another. It is gobbling up churches and deceiving millions who don't even know they've become a part of an apostate, end-times falling away.

...and on and on it goes:

Pope Francis Lies To Mike Bickle – Mike Bickle Affirms Pope

Posted on June 13, 2016 by Jeff Maples
pulpitandpen.org

Mike Bickle, founder of Kansas City's International House of Prayer (IHOPKC) along with other charismatic evangelical leaders recently met with the pope of Rome to "discuss Jesus." Remember, the same Mike Bickle that Southern Baptist President, Ronnie Floyd, joined up with in 2015 for a prayer rally?

According to CharismaNews, Bickle stated, "The meeting lasted a couple of hours. They gave us the opportunity to ask questions. The meeting was very warm and personal, I asked [the pope] about his views on the serious error and deception of universalism that claims that 'all paths lead to God' and other religions being saved without receiving the grace of God that only comes through Jesus. He assured me that he believes that Jesus is the only way of salvation."

Considering that the Roman Catholic church officially teaches that anyone who believes that one is justified and saved by grace alone through faith alone is anathema, one wonders why an evangelical leader would affirm such an apostate. Canon 9 of the Council of Trent states:

If any one saith, that by faith alone the impious is justified; in such wise as to mean, that nothing else is required to co-operate in order to the obtaining the grace of Justification, and that it is not in any way necessary, that he be prepared and disposed by the movement of his own will; let him be anathema.

You can rest assured that the pope stands firmly on this belief. The pope simply pulled a fast one on Mike Bickle, and Bickle fell for it. Not that it would matter to Bickle that much anyways since his views of biblical authority and doctrinal truth are just as warped as the pope's. IHOPKC along with its founder, Mike Bickle, have been blaspheming the Holy Spirit since its inception.

Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the judgment of the great prostitute who is seated on many waters, with whom the kings of the earth have committed sexual immorality, and with the wine of whose sexual immorality the dwellers on earth have become drunk." – Revelation 17:1

Why the Holy Spirit is the Restrainer

Prophecy - Signs

Monday, June 13, 2016 Pete Garcia

Confusion and denial over the role and Deity of the Holy Spirit has been a pervasive heresy in Christendom since Modalism was first introduced in the 2nd and 3rd centuries, a new confusion has been recently reintroduced. Although this view is not over the Deity of God the Holy Spirit, but over the varying roles in which He has participated in since Genesis 1:2, and what He will do on into the future.

Marvin Rosenthal introduced a book entitled *The Pre-Wrath Rapture of the Church* which offered up an alternative view to the Pre, Mid, and Post Tribulation Rapture views that had been debated for millennia. Subsequently, Mr. Rosenthal's work opened a flood gate of similar and divergent views as he was followed by Robert Van Kampen and many, many others who have carried this particular eschatological torch to our current day.

The Pre-Wrath view supports the idea that the remnant faithful are delivered in a Rapture event at the Seventh Seal Judgment. For Pre-Wrath, the Seal Judgments are ongoing once opened and allows for the Church to proceed three-quarters of the way into the seventh year, 70th Week of Daniel. Three-quarters of the way in takes them past the midpoint, but delivering them just prior to the Day of the Lord and the subsequent Wrath of God.

The Pre-Wrath view has brought certain issues to light and one in particular that is a 'make or break' passage for whether their view (or ours) is legitimately biblical or not. There simply isn't any other way around it. That passage, is over the identity of this mysterious "Restrainer" and what that entails as the Apostle Paul mentions; (NKJV, emphasis mine)

7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way.

8 And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming.

9 The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, (1) with all power, signs, and lying wonders,

10 and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

11 (2) and for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie,

12 that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness. (2 Thess. 2:8-11)

The problem is that this verse (vs. 7) forces the narrative of the following verses (vs. 8-11), to mean only one thing...essentially, that X can't happen until Y does...which means, the Antichrist (man of lawlessness) CANNOT be revealed, UNTIL the one who restrains the Antichrist, is taken out of the way. That is simply the normal reading of the text and the way it was intended to be understood.

So the dilemma that both the Pre-Tribulation and Pre-Wrath Rapture views face then is that if the Holy Spirit is the Restrainer, then Pre-Wrath (and Post Trib) cannot be true, because we see in the First Seal Judgment (Rev. 6:1-2) unleashing the Antichrist upon the earth...and that means the Holy Spirit must be removed/moved out of the way before this man can be revealed. And since Christians are 'sealed by the Holy Spirit' as a guarantee until the day of redemption, the Holy Spirit's removal would also remove those individuals He indwells and seals.

If the Holy Spirit is not the Restrainer, then the Pre-Trib view cannot be true because the Holy Spirit in His current role would remain on the earth, along with all those He seals and indwells as mentioned in the previous scripture references.

Now, both views will argue incessantly about numerous other passages and words (think Matt. 24 and Parousia), but

the one question everyone has is, why didn't Paul just clarify who the Restrainer was and end any ambiguity about it back in the first century? So first let's take stock and differentiate between what we know, what we don't, and what we assume.

Just so we are all on the same sheet of music, according to Strong's, the English word Restrains (or letteth in the KJV) in the Greek is katechō. It means

to hold back, detain, retain
from going away
to restrain, hinder (the course or progress of)
that which hinders, Antichrist from making his appearance
to check a ship's headway i.e. to hold or head the ship
to hold fast, keep secure, keep firm possession of
to get possession of, take
to possess

There are four main candidates for the "He", "he", "He who lets", "He who restrains" in 2 Thess. 2:7. These candidates are:

1. The Holy Spirit
2. Human Government
3. Michael the Archangel
4. Satan

If we remove those who couldn't fit the singular, masculine, third person pronoun ('He' instead of 'they' or 'them') we get...

1. The Holy Spirit
4. Satan

Michael the Archangel is removed because he alone, couldn't restrain lawlessness over the face of the earth. It would need to be him, and a whole lot of angelic hosts assisting him, thus, they would be 'they' or 'them'.

According to Scripture, a 'house divided against itself cannot stand' (Luke 11:17), thus Satan would not work against himself to restrain lawlessness since he is the father of it.

1. The Holy Spirit

So that really only leaves one viable candidate...God the Holy Spirit.

What we know

1. That the Holy Spirit is God and is omnipotent and omnipresent. (Psalm 139:7; Acts 5:3-5)
2. That God the Holy Spirit has been present on this earth since He 'hovered over the face of the deep' as detailed in Genesis 1:2.
3. The Holy Spirit's role in the Old Testament after Creation, has been to come upon particular individuals to accomplish certain things; Bezalel (Ex. 31), Seventy Elders (Num. 11:25), Balaam (Num. 24), Othniel (Judges 3:9-10), Samson (Judges 13:24-25), Saul (1 Sam. 11:6), David (1 Sam. 16:13-14), Daniel (Dan. 4:9), and Jesus (Isaiah 11:1-3) to name a few.
4. That the Holy Spirit has the ability to physically move people around and up; Ezekiel (Ez. 3:14), Philip (Acts 8:39), John (Rev. 4:1-2).

5. The Holy Spirit existed on the earth, BEFORE He was given on the day of Pentecost. (See previous OT verses)
6. That the Holy Spirit has been referred to by different names; Helper, Comforter, Spirit, Holy Ghost, Spirit of truth, etc.
7. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost (Acts 2) marked a fulfillment to a promise (John 14:26, 15:26) given by Jesus that they (believers) would NOT be left alone as orphans, but would have the Holy Spirit forever and that Christ would return (John 16:16-18) thus marking a new era/dispensation in which the Holy Spirit now sealed believers permanently as detailed by the Apostle Paul. (2 Cor. 1:21-22, Eph. 1:13-14, 4:30)
8. We know that currently, Satan has some form of temporary dominion over the earth. (Luke 4:5-6, Eph. 2:2, 1 John 5:19)
9. We know that The Antichrist is a man, (Dan. 8:23, 9:26-27, Rev. 6:1-2) who has the full backing of Satan, and is able to perform lying signs and wonders (2 Thess. 2:8-11, Rev. 13).
10. We know that the Restrainer (or the One who restrains lawlessness), has to be taken out of the way, before the 'man of lawlessness' can be revealed.
11. Angels, even an Archangel, is a created individual who is not omnipresent.
12. A house divided against itself, cannot stand.

What we don't know

1. We don't know specifically why Paul didn't explain what he meant in 2 Thess. 2:7
2. We don't know exactly what the role of the Holy Spirit will be in the 70th Week of Daniel.
3. We don't know how long it is between the Seal Judgments opening, or how much they overlap each other in regards to the other judgments.

What we assume

1. We assume that Paul was attempting to authenticate his second letter to them in 2 Thess. 2:7, by using that particular phrase (restrains-katechō) as a personal descriptor of the Holy Spirit, which is something he hadn't previously used in writing, but only in person to them, which is why he uses 'He who restrains' to validate this second letter and refute the forgery he previously mentions at the beginning of the chapter. (2 Thess. 2:1-2)
2. We assume that this Antichrist will have the supernatural abilities that surpass the average human. He (and the False Prophet) are able to perform supernatural feats that as of today, we don't have the ability to do, or rather, humans are restrained from doing. God allows that particular barrier to be removed which allows Satan to fully manifest his powers through this man. 2 Thess. 2:9 states the coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders...

Conclusion

I have previously written about this and include it here as well to offer up for your consideration. Revelation 13 chronicles the rise of this man along with the False Prophet, and they are essentially able to take over the entire world. If the Restrainer were simply an angel, say Michael the Archangel, he would not be able to stop Satan and his legions of demonic hosts. So if Michael singularly couldn't do it, and would need help (say from other angels), then it would not be singularly the Restrainer, but Restrainers. And the references wouldn't be to Him, but to them.

The only Person who could singularly, thwart or restrain all evil, is God the Holy Spirit. We already know that Jesus referred to the Holy Spirit as a "He" in the Upper Room Discourse. (John 14-16) We know that in this age, He was given to fill and seal the believers until the day of redemption. We know that He will guide and direct us into all truth. We know that He moves people and leaders to act in certain ways, to accomplish His will. We also know He can physically transport people over long distances or into other dimensions.

So why is it a stretch to say He also is the one who restrains all evil? Granted, we have evil in the earth today, but through the Church, God has used us as the agents of restraint (salt and light), and depending on how faithful we are to the task of 'making disciples of all nations', to one degree determines how much evil is allowed. Compare what the United States used to represent, as compared to Nazi Germany, Iran, North Korea, the Soviet Union, or communist China. Granted, we have fallen far from where we were, but there is still enough salt and light in this nation to keep the flame flickering...until God snuffs it out through the Rapture of the Church. Probably one of the most underrated points of contention FOR the Pre-Tribulation Rapture, and our necessary removal prior to the start of the 70th Week is, the fruits of the Spirit;

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. (Gal. 5:22-23)

No one in their right mind would argue that these things will be present through the seven year Tribulation. Juxtaposed to this, is the Olivet Discourse which states;

And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. 11 Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. 12 And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. 13 But he who endures to the end shall be saved. 14 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. 24:11-14)

The Holy Spirit, through the vessels He inhabits, i.e....the Church, to varying degrees, has held the flood of evil from completely enveloping the world in total darkness. Remember the Dark Ages...when Christianity was suppressed by the Roman Catholic Church for hundreds of years? Marry the fruits of the Spirit up with the barrier God put in place to prevent man from taking on supernatural qualities, and the world is largely like it has been for the past two thousand years. Miracles happen yes, but we aren't seeing the same supernatural events and feats like we did in the Old Testament in today's world.

Taking the Holy Spirit out of the way at the Rapture isn't removing His omnipotence and presence from the earth, any more than before coming down as cloven tongues of fire at Pentecost. What changes is the Holy Spirit's role in these final seven years. Again, I don't pretend to know exactly what that is, but people will still come to saving faith much as they did before the Holy Spirit was given at Pentecost some 2,000 years ago. The testament in Revelation 7 & 13, that many will still come to faith after the Rapture, isn't proof the Church is still here, its proof that God's mercy is boundless, and He is longsuffering that none should perish.

Even So, Maranatha!