

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

The Worst Coup Ever Has Enthroned Erdogan As Dictator Over Turkey

BY MICHAEL SNYDER - END OF THE AMERICA DREAM BLOG JULY 19, 2016

prophecynewswatch.com

What just happened in Turkey? I have been thinking about this for a number of hours now, and I have narrowed it down to two options. Either this was the worst military coup in my entire lifetime, or it was staged.

I will explain how I came to this conclusion below, but in any event the end result of this "coup" is that President Erdogan is even more popular and has consolidated power to an extent that is absolutely breathtaking.

He already was essentially a dictator, but now this "coup" has sealed Turkey's fate and has pushed them even farther down the path toward becoming a radical Islamic state.

If you are going to conduct a military coup, the very first thing that should be on your list is to decapitate the current leadership structure. But even though hundreds were killed and approximately 1,400 people were injured during the short-lived conflict, not a single high ranking official was killed.

I don't know if I have ever heard of a coup where that didn't happen. How do you not get a single high ranking official? Either the planners of this coup were completely incompetent, or it was fake.

And yes, it is entirely possible that only a small portion of the military was involved and this effort represented the best that they could do to try to rescue Turkey from the grip of a ruthless dictator. Maybe they were hoping that once they lit a spark the public would rally to their cause.

But I don't know if I am buying that explanation. There are just way too many inconsistencies.

For instance, according to Reuters F-16s that were controlled by the opposition could have fired on Erdogan's plane and taken him out, but they didn't...

"At least two F-16s harassed Erdogan's plane while it was in the air and en route to Istanbul. They locked their radars on his plane and on two other F-16s protecting him," a former military officer with knowledge of the events told Reuters.

"Why they didn't fire is a mystery," he said.

To me, that simply defies a normal explanation.

In addition, soldiers that took part in the "coup" said "that they thought that they were taking part in military exercises"...

Soldiers arrested during a failed coup attempt in Turkey told interrogators that they thought that they were taking part in military exercises.

A group of 678 troops and 10 officers, headed by a colonel, was detained by authorities at Ataturk International

Airport overnight.

During the interrogations, some of the soldiers claimed that, initially, they had no idea that they were taking part in an attempt to topple the government, thinking that it was just a military drill.

"Only when people began to climb on the tanks, we understood everything," the soldiers said, according to Hurriyet newspaper.

If this is true, then the soldiers were just as surprised as everyone else.

To me, this whole thing stinks. Either it was the worst military coup that I have ever seen in my lifetime, or it was a giant theater production.

In any event, President Erdogan is taking full advantage of it. His popularity in Turkey is now off the charts, and he is going to have power to do virtually anything he wants at this point...

Still, the coup appears to have boosted Erdogan's popularity. Clapping, singing and dancing, thousands of government backers celebrated the defeat of the coup in public squares in Ankara and Istanbul into the wee hours Sunday, bolstering support for the man who's led Turkey for over 13 years.

Erdogan's survival has turned him into a "sort of a mythical figure" and could further erode democracy in Turkey, said Soner Cagaptay, director of the Turkish research program at The Washington Institute.

In public remarks, Erdogan described the coup as "a gift from God", and he has spoken of the need to "cleanse" the government and the military. So far since the end of the "coup", approximately 6,000 officials have already been rounded up...

Turkey widened a crackdown on suspected supporters of a failed military coup on Sunday, taking the number of people rounded up in the armed forces and judiciary to 6,000, and the government said it was in control of the country and economy.

Supporters of President Tayyip Erdogan gathered in front of his Istanbul home to call for the plotters to face the death penalty, which Turkey outlawed in 2004 as part of its efforts to join the European Union.

"We cannot ignore this demand," Erdogan told the chanting crowd. "In democracies, whatever the people say has to happen."

This number includes at least 2,745 judges. I don't even know that it is possible to put together a list of specific judges that you want to target that is that long in just a couple of days. Obviously this was a list that someone had developed before the "coup" ever took place, and now this "coup" has handed Erdogan the perfect opportunity to round them all up.

And you may have heard tales of what goes on in Turkish prisons. The Turks are known for being absolutely brutal, and many of those that have been rounded up are already paying a tremendous price.

Pictures on social media showed detained soldiers stripped from the waist up, some wearing only their underpants, handcuffed and lying packed together on the floor of a sports hall where they were being held in Ankara.

One video on Twitter showed detained generals with bruises and bandages.

As for Erdogan, this is just par for the course. Those that follow Turkey closely know that he has already been acting like a modern day version of Adolf Hitler for years. The following comes from Ralph Peters...

Key opposition figures have been driven into exile or banned. Opposition parties have been suppressed. Recent elections have not been held so much as staged. And Erdogan has torn the fresh scab from the Kurdish wound, fostering civil war in Turkey's southeast for his own political advantage.

Erdogan has packed Turkey's courts with Islamists. He appointed pliant, pro-Islamist generals and admirals, while staging show trials of those of whom he wished to rid the country.

He has de facto, if not yet de jure, curtailed women's freedoms. He dissolved the wall between mosque and state (Friday night, he used mosques' loudspeakers to call his supporters into the streets).

Not least, he had long allowed foreign fighters to transit Turkey to join ISIS and has aggressively backed other extremists whom he believed he could manage.

At this point, there is essentially nothing standing in the way of Turkey becoming a radical Islamic dictatorship. Anyone that dares to be critical of Erdogan is dealt with ruthlessly. In fact, 1,845 "journalists, writers and critics" have been arrested for "insulting the president" since 2014 alone.

Yes, that is actually a crime in Turkey.

Erdogan envisions himself as the one that will recapture the glory of the old Ottoman Empire, and to show how great he is, he had the largest presidential palace in the entire world built for himself. If you can believe it, it is actually 30 times larger than the White House...

The £400 million palace of Turkey's President Erdogan is the biggest in the world. It is also a monstrosity. Thirty times the size of the White House, all the seats of government of Turkey's Nato allies could be contained inside its vast marble halls and endless corridors.

Just who in the world does this guy think that he is, and what does he have planned next?

Unfortunately for the people of Turkey, they are not going to get rid of this dictator any time soon, and he is going to take them much farther down the road toward becoming a truly radical Islamic state.

Understanding Pokemon Go

by Eric Barger

I am still traveling for the next several days but wanted to take the opportunity to address the Pokémon Go craze that is literally sweeping the world and offer a resource for those who may need one.

In short, to play the game users download the Pokémon Go app to their iPhone or Android phones. Then they begin hunting down 150 different Pokémon creatures capturing them in virtual reality. Pokémon Go is unlike any other game or fad we have seen because the game is based on a player's whereabouts and users need to actually go to particular locations to capture the virtual Pokémon. Various Pokémon appear on their screens as they hunt in places like offices, schools, hospitals, businesses, parks, backyards, freeways - everywhere and anywhere. Many users have been meeting together at key locations such as well-known landmarks in their quest to electronically gather Pokeballs.

The balls are then hurled (virtually, of course) at the game's Pokémon characters to capture them. Players often visit sites such as churches, which digitally become "gyms," where battles are fought. (Huh? What are Christians doing playing a game that has its basis in the occult - and doing so in Church? More on the spiritual implications in moment.)

Just how big is it? Since the recent release of Pokémon Go, over \$7.5 billion has been added to Nintendo's stock market value. To give you an idea of the relative popularity, the Los Angeles Times reported that downloads of Pokémon Go (over 7 million so far) are running ahead of Facebook, Snapchat and Instagram in the Google Play store and will pass Twitter soon. (<http://www.latimes.com/nation/la-na-pokemon-go-20160711-snap-story.html>)

Most players are not aware that before they even embark into the virtual world of Pokémon Go that in the user agreement allowing them to download the app they are forfeiting their privacy and possibly even the control of

their phones to play the game. More worrisome to some is the fact that the company who developed the game was owned by Google! [Click here](#) for details on this disturbing factor.

Besides the notion of placing all of your private data at risk, participating in Pokémon Go has proved physically perilous for some. A pair of men fell off a cliff on July 14 while playing near a beach in the San Diego area. One of the men fell 90 feet, the other 50. One was found unconscious and both were taken to a hospital with unspecified trauma injuries. As I write there is no word on their particular conditions.

A New York man escaped with just minor injuries when he crashed his car into a tree while playing the game. His car wasn't as fortunate (see picture [here](#)).

Armed robbers in Missouri used the app to lure victims to isolated locations, police said. Others have been injured chasing the imaginary characters without paying attention to their real-life surroundings.

Stores and malls are reporting a marked increase of foot traffic and a unique security issue because of the game. Kids and adults on a quest to capture the virtual Pokémon creatures are so intense that they sometimes stumble down stairs, knock down other patrons, and even end up behind store counters or in offices marked "employees only." If Pokémon Go had arrived on the scene just a few months ago then reports of men being found in women's rest rooms would probably be surfacing but now that's a sad accepted practice in a culture resembling ancient Sodom!

Police in Darwin, Australia, said they have discovered people trying to find Pokémon characters at their police building, and have since posted signs that the station house is off limits to Pokémon Go fanatics.

Police did offer the following advice to Pokémon Go players:

- Don't play the game while driving a car or bicycle.
- Don't trespass on private property just to "catch" a Pokemon.
- Avoid staring down at your phone and be aware of hazards like roadways, drop-offs and waterways.
- Be cautious of who you share your location with.
- Don't travel alone.

Besides the possibility of the development of various problems for some players such as emotional issues (because of an individual's prowess in playing) or eye problems (due to the strain of watching a screen for long periods, especially at night), Pokémon Go may present perverts and pedophiles with unusual opportunities to prey upon victims.

However, most players have no biblical understanding of just what they may be embracing. That's expected in the secular world. But many Christians seem to have a problem with just jumping in the pool before checking to see if there are sharks present!

Pokémon Go was developed by Niantic Inc. and is funded by Nintendo. However, the original Pokémon franchise was developed by Wizards of the Coast, who gave the world the occult games, DUNGEONS & DRAGONS and MAGIC THE GATHERING. Pokémon comes from a long line of anti-Christian, occult, and evolutionary development. For example, did you know that the very word Pokémon means "pocket monster" - i.e. "demon?"

To help readers understand more about Pokémon I want to offer free access to a chapter from my book *Entertaining Spirits Unaware: The End-Time Occult Invasion*, titled "The Weird World of Pokémon." It is one of multiple sections in the book where I dealt with Pokémon, the popular Yu-Gi-Oh game/cards/TV show, and the Anime & Manga genre in general.

Two quick points as I close.

I realize that many reject warning like this and accuse us of just being "against everything." Still, I gotta say it:

Christians playing Pokémon Go need to consider the occult roots of Pokémon. Defending it is akin to putting lipstick on a pig. I've heard "it's only a game" or "it's just fantasy" more times than you can imagine yet where does the Bible give us license to ignore God's warnings and strong condemnation of the occult just because something may be fantasy - or virtual? (Read Ephesians 5:1-7)

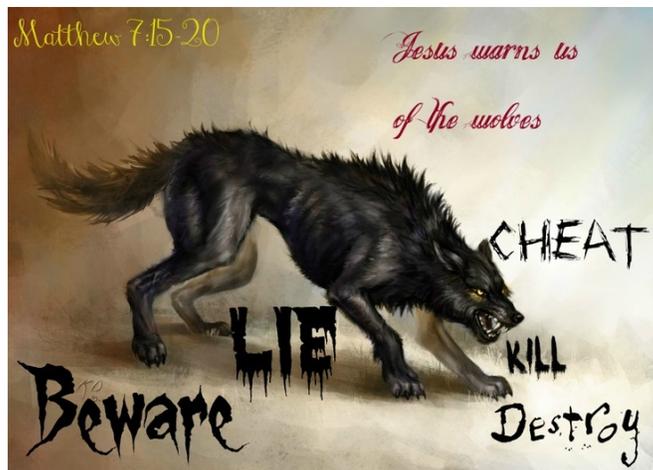
Second, let's add up the sheer amount of time we're spending on stuff like Pokémon Go. The word "idolatry" comes to mind and instead of focusing on our mission in the last days we are going to great lengths literally running around attempting to capture a virtual demon. How Satan must be pleased.

Together 2016: Unbiblical Unity on the National Mall

by Marsha West on July 18, 2016 bereanresearch.org

Wake up, brethren! Evangelicals are being lured into a web of deception by Church leaders we trust. Read the article we're posting and you'll find out who some of these people are.

They're wolves! Run!!



For those who missed all the hype, on July 16 an event called Together 2016 was held at the Washington Mall. Thousands of professing Christians gathered together to pray for Jesus to "reset" the country and their lives. Sadly, attendees at the mall and on live stream were unaware that the event was rife with false teachers. They didn't know that speakers and entertainers braved the blistering heat for one purpose: to reset the Reformation! What was the rallying cry? UNITE! With who? Our Catholic "brothers and sisters."

In a piece over at Herescope, Gaylene Goodroad documents the NAR/dominionist's plan to unite Protestants and Catholics. This is MUST READ for all serious Christians.

Wolves beware

7-16-16 Washington Mall Event to "Reset Christianity"

Millions of evangelical leaders, authors, and entertainers will be gathering at the National Mall in Washington DC on July 16 in a concerted effort to 'bring heaven down to earth' in what has been called a national "revival", "great awakening", or secondary "Pentecost". The Together 2016 event is closely aligned with the doctrines and personnel of the New Apostolic Reformation (NAR) that teaches a strident form of Dominionism, a fact that will be documented in this article. The fervor is high with the backdrop of a hotly divisive election year, violent civil unrest, and looming calamities on all fronts. Organizers of this broadly-touted event say that they want to forge Christian unity in all of this, but in order to achieve it, we must lay aside biblical doctrine which, they say, brings further division. Regrettably, as the Scriptures clearly teach, the resulting spectacle will only lead participants away from Christ and into full-fledged apostasy. Below is what is being touted:

JESUS CHANGES EVERYTHING

Our generation is the most cause-driven in history. But our causes are pulling us apart. Even religion doesn't unite. We believe only Jesus can bring us together. July 16, 2016, is the day our generation will meet on the National Mall to come together around Jesus in unified prayer, worship, and a call for catalytic change.

WE'RE BUILDING TOWARD SOMETHING UNPRECEDENTED.

We believe there's power in coming together. Jesus promised whenever two or more come together in His name, He is present. It's emboldening to join with others, to know we're not alone, to realize we can do more together than apart. July 16, 2016 is the day when this generation lays down what divides us and lifts up Jesus who unites us. On a day of unified prayer, worship, and a call for catalytic change, we will meet on the National Mall to declare that Jesus changes everything. We believe Jesus can do unprecedented things in our time. Our dream is for more than one million people from all backgrounds to be part of this generation-defining day.

IT'S TIME TO COME TOGETHER AROUND JESUS.

There have been times in history where the call to Jesus assembled the masses: Expo 72, promise Keepers' stand in the Gap, crusades led by Rev. Billy Graham. These were historic events where the impact stretched beyond the Church to all of culture.

Now our generation is rising up to lead toward a historic event that will define our time and shift our culture. The statistics of this generation are sobering; young people struggle with depression, self-harm, suicide, and addiction at unprecedented rates. But a call for hope is rising—the hope that only Jesus brings—to change our generation forever.[1]

The Washington Mall has become a choice spot for massive gatherings, probably because it serves as a symbolic unity point near our nation's capital. In 1995 (and again in 2015), controversial Nation of Islam leader, Louis Farrakhan, organized the Million Man March which brought hundreds of thousands of like-minded men together at that very location in a show of solidarity.[2]

In 1997, Colorado coach Bill McCartney, gathered nearly a half million ecumenical Promise Keepers to the National Mall for another massive march. Hundreds of thousands of Catholics and Evangelicals of all stripes swarmed to participate in the historic event.[3]



Then in 2010, the devout Mormon, and political conservative television host, Glenn Beck, organized yet another immense national gathering—an ecumenically religious one—on the Washington Mall in an event called the Restoring Honor Rally.[4] NAR devotee Sarah Palin was a keynote speaker.[5] Given the fact that 2016 is an election year, some wonder when or if these religious rallies will also become overtly political in nature, fervently blending together church and state in dramatic dominionistic fashion. Presumptive Republican Presidential candidate, Donald Trump, has been publicly courted by the Prosperity Preachers and has an affinity for the New Thought writings of the late Dr. Norman Vincent Peale[6] —predecessor to Robert Schuller[7] —and Rick Warren, who initiated his own

ecumenical P.E.A.C.E. Plan and sparked controversy when he gave the invocation at President Obama's 2009 Inauguration.[8] And the NAR-connected May Day event, held in Washington, D.C. at the Lincoln Memorial on May 1, 2010, stated in its Official Program that they were praying the "Prayers of Repentance for the Seven Mountains of Culture," i.e., Dominionism. (Read "May Day Prayers.")

Together 2016 is yet another event to attempt to fulfill the old Latter Rain cult prophecies about filling stadiums with mass numbers of young people, a new breed of elect seed that they believe is an elite specially empowered generation to rule and reign over the earth. (See the article "The Significance of Youth-Filled Stadiums.") Together 2016 aims to fill the National Mall again with over a million zealous souls seeking to induce a pervasive, landmark, and revolutionary spiritual awakening.



Nick Hall (Pulse) organizer of Together 2016 – Source
STUDENT VISIONARY SETS 'PULSE' OF RESET EVENT

The 33-year-old catalyst for the Together 2016 event is Nick Hall, who as a college freshman in 2001, jotted this declaration in his notebook: "My life exists to put Christ at the pulse of a generation." [9] This was the genesis of Hall's 'Pulse' movement—a massive student-led movement—founded to 'reset' the 'pulse' of the nation back to Jesus. *The event's website explains:*

WE'RE ASKING JESUS TO RESET OUR GENERATION.

A reset to our created purpose.

In 2012, a group of people from different backgrounds, known then as RESET Movement, began sharing the message of a "reset" at events and gatherings. The term relates to technology, where a reset clears past errors and gets the system working toward its created purpose. In the same way, every person is created for a purpose—but we have downloaded the wrong files, corrupted the system, and fallen away from God's best for our lives. Each of us needs a reset, and Jesus offers everyone a supernatural reset.[10] [bold added]

Hall's lofty dream first took root after uttering a prayer backstage at a Billy Graham crusade. He asked God to replicate Billy Graham's ministry in his own life:

Hall: "I am back there in the arena, and I prayed one day I want to do this one day. Eight years later, after saying this foolish prayer, the arena was packed and I was speaking on the stage."

Nick's Pulse Movement is like a magnet for young people. At a time when we often hear young people don't go to church, Nick is seeing this. Hall: "I find people are open to hope and love and a second chance."

Nick met with area pastors and church leaders of Fargo-Moorhead today; this as he prepares for Reset, a plan to bring a million people on the Washington Mall next summer.[11]

It appears that Hall's "foolish prayer" was answered. Today, Hall is a member of Billy Graham Evangelistic Association (BGEA) student advisory team, as well as leadership teams for the US Lausanne Committee and the National Association of Evangelicals (NAE). His Reset message has been featured on major media outlets across the country, including the US News & World Report, Fox News, Christianity Today, Moody Radio, Christian Broadcasting Network, Trinity Broadcast Network, The Christian Post, Decision Magazine, and Baptist Press.[12]

"CHURCH... FAMILY DOESN'T ALWAYS GET ALONG"

The ecumenical message of <https://reset2016.com>

MAINLINE PROMOTIONS

Hall has also just published a book, *Reset: Jesus Changes Everything*, a Multnomah book with a foreword by Together 2016 speakers, Josh McDowell, Luis Palau, and Ravi Zacharias. In the spirit of global ecumenism, Hall was also given the opportunity to present his new book, in person, to Pope Francis in June.[13]

Instagram photo: Nick Hall presents the Pope with his book - June 13, 2016[14]

Note the description of Hall's book from the publisher's website:

Let Jesus Be Your Reset

...Whatever has been holding you back, a reset is available to you by the grace of God. Say yes to the life you were meant to live.[15][bold added]

There are no Scriptures actually cited in the entire mushy narrative that is focused on self and not upon the Lord Jesus Christ. Joel Osteen couldn't have said it better.

Pushing Hall's imaginary "reset" button is also a false substitute for biblical repentance. There is no mention of sin here, nor that "dirty", "broken", and "desperate" lives can be "cleaned up", "reassembled", and "replaced" without acknowledging the very iniquities, transgressions, and outright sin that sent the Lord Jesus Christ to the Cross.

Rebooting the computer might fix the man-made contraption, but it doesn't parallel to God's sure plan of salvation and sanctification. Only the Holy Spirit of God—through faith—can restore a sinner to new life and enable him/her to walk in the light (Gal. 5:13-25; 1 Jn. 1:5-6). A person's positive "self-image" is not found in all of Scripture. Instead, believers find their identity in Christ alone (Col. 3:3; Rom. 6:11; 1 Pet. 4:2).

Nonetheless, Hall's book, *Reset*, has been endorsed by several prominent evangelical leaders, authors, and entertainers, many of whom will appear with Hall at Together 2016:

Banning Liebscher[16], founder and pastor of Jesus Culture and author of *Rooted: The Hidden Places Where God Develops* [Ed. Note: Liebscher comes out of Bill Johnson's (NAR) Bethel Church in Redding, CA]

Mark Batterson, New York Times best-selling author of *The Circle Maker* and lead pastor of National Community Church

Kari Jobe, singer/songwriter

Christine Caine, evangelist, author, and founder of the A21 Campaign

Dr. Ronnie Floyd, president of the Southern Baptist Convention and senior pastor at Cross Church

Steve Douglass, president of Cru

TobyMac, seven-time Grammy winner

York Moore, national evangelist for InterVarsity Christian Fellowship USA

Michael W. Smith, singer/songwriter

Leith Anderson, president of the National Association of Evangelicals and author of Faith in the Voting Booth

Ed and Nancy Schafer, Governor and First Lady of North Dakota, 1992–2000 [17]

<https://reset2016.com>

But Hall's goals are even loftier than a simple "reset" life. Charisma Magazine ran a story in June titled, "How a God-Given Dream for a 'Modern-Day Pentecost' Became a Reality," which laid out his full plan:

Nick Hall wants to see a nation bow a knee to Jesus Christ this summer in the spirit of 2 Chronicles 7:14. Although many are skeptical about the manifestation of this verse's promise—"If My people, who are called by My name, will humble themselves and pray, and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and will heal their land"—these God-given instructions have led to transforming revivals throughout history and could again.

Though it seems too long ago, the First and Second Great Awakenings, the Azusa Street Revival and Billy Graham's Explo '72 are among the fruit of this promise in America. Together 2016, a free event that invites Christians worldwide to unite July 16 on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., could be one more step toward the tipping point that brings awakening to the nation....

In spite of the obstacles, Together 2016 is set to be one of the largest intercessory prayer gatherings in the nation's history—and in a critical election year. The rally follows Lou Engle's Azusa Now and United Cry in April in what international author and speaker Dutch Sheets [a self-appointed NAR apostle, ed.] has called a Joel 2:16 year. "For much time, I have been sensing that a huge surge of prayer is coming to America in 2016," he says. "A great work of preparation has been done, and this wave of prayer will now hit its stride this year." [18][bold added]

One of Together 2016's ministry partners, the Assemblies of God, printed a favorable article of Hall, and his brainchild event, in their April 29 edition of PE News. In it, Hall was quoted with this presumptive boast in Dominionist language:

"Ten or 20 years from now, I believe they (those in attendance at Together 2016) will be the leaders of our churches and ministries," Hall says, "and they'll look back at this window of time and see it as the day their vision for God shifted . . . when they realized God wanted them to do unbelievable things and were 'unleashed' for the Kingdom." [19][bold added]

So, rather than a spontaneous work of the Holy Spirit, Together 2016 is admittedly a concerted effort from below—by scores of evangelical luminaries and false prophets—to bring about national revival in the name of Jesus. Although the artificial underpinning of this event is denied by supporters, note the unwitting comparison that R. York Moore, evangelist for InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, makes in defending Hall's immense undertaking:

With a clear vision from God, Hall started reaching out to other prominent Christians to join his movement. The list of names grew quickly. R. York Moore, national evangelist for InterVarsity Christian Fellowship USA and a longtime friend, says he has the same heart for revival.

"What we haven't seen is the move of the Holy Spirit in such a way that it revitalizes the institutions of society," says Moore. "We haven't seen that in generations. I think something like Together 2016 has the capacity to create an altar. No one can schedule a revival—we're not claiming to do that—but I think when God's people come together and humble themselves before Him, it creates an altar. An altar is something God can consume." [bold added]

But altars erected outside the will of God bring judgment, not holy revival. In 1 Kings 18, Elijah's altar was consumed by God's fire while soaking wet, while the prophets of Baal exhausted themselves attempting to get the Lord's attention in vain. The false prophets who outnumbered Elijah, four hundred-fifty to one, were all slain at the Kishon brook.

Moore also mentioned that this would be a "move of the Holy Spirit in such a way that it revitalizes the institutions of society," which ominously adds a political component to this immense gathering at the Washington Mall. What

could be more religiously-political—and ecumenical—than an appearance by Pope Francis himself!

“Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?”
(2 Corinthians 6:14)

(This is actually a much longer article but worth your time....go to <http://herescope.blogspot.com/2016/07/resetting-reformation.html> for the entire thing.

Russia's 400 vehicle strong Armageddon convoy runs practice drill for World War III

Posted on July 13, 2016 by Utopia: the Collapse

“If this were to happen for real—well, we hope you have a fallout shelter somewhere nearby.” –Popular Mechanics

July 2016 – MOSCOW – The largest country in the world by area, Russia has plenty of room to hide things. Naturally, that includes nuclear missiles. Unlike American missiles, which are stationed in concrete silos, Russian intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) are deployed on large truck-like vehicles designed to prowl the country's road networks before unleashing Armageddon. Russia Today has a story on a Russian strategic missile exercise that involves a massive convoy traveling from European-Russian border all the way to the Mongolian border. Russian mobile ICBMs have established permanent bases but leave in groups on month-long patrols. This particular 400-vehicle convoy includes Topol, Topol-M, and Yars mobile missiles, as well as command and control, security, and logistics vehicles.

Topol and Yars missiles are capable of delivering one to four nuclear warheads within roughly a thousand feet of their target, making them accurate enough to destroy American missiles in their silos. This makes them a formidable first-strike weapon capable of wiping out a significant part of the US nuclear arsenal, if the Russians were so inclined. The giant vehicles are TELs, or transporter-erector-launchers, specialized vehicles designed to give a heavy missile a smooth ride over rough roads. TELs not only store the missile but can launch it in the field. The launch tubes can be reloaded back at base (assuming, of course, there is a base to return to). The smaller vehicles are logistic, communications, and command and control vehicles.

Mobile ICBMs are vulnerable to ground attack, particularly enemy special forces who may attempt to destroy the missiles before they are launched. The convoy relies upon a Taifun-M armored reconnaissance vehicle to detect ambushes on the ground. Taifun-M bristles with sensors, including forward-looking infra-red, radar, and traditional optics, and can allegedly detect enemy troops at 3 kilometers. Also part of the convoy is a tracked robotic vehicle equipped with a machine gun. The unmanned vehicle can more quickly close with an enemy threat and eliminate it before the enemy can shoot at the giant, highly flammable rockets with nuclear warheads strapped to them. We've said it before, and we'll say it again: these mobile ICBMs are terrifying. –Popular Mechanics

Russia's missile corps will carry out simulated launch drills to prepare for full-scale war amid the tensions between the superpower and the Western alliance. This year the Kremlin ordered the number of ICBM test runs to be doubled, as Canadian spooks warned Russia is “mobilizing for war.”

Last year, Colonel General Sergey Karakaev, commander of the missile corps, said Russian military experts found the US missile shield was unable to repel the full force of Russia's nuclear might. Russia will also be performing counter sabotage drills as part of their series of field exercises. Vladimir Putin has been stockpiling nuclear weapons, with experts believing he has ten times as many as NATO. Should war come between the Kremlin and the alliance, it has been warned Russia's might would be able to crush NATO in just 60 hours. –Daily Star