

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

Watching, Waiting, Wondering When

by Gene Lawley raptureready.com

Just like every other year, 2017 starts off with our wondering if this will be the time and season when the Lord will take out that final one from the Gentiles for His namesake, if...if...if...if....

I was looking at Ezekiel 37 recently, trying to see if there is some hint in the Old Testament prophetic accounts about the selection and ordaining of the 144,000 special Jewish messengers, as recorded in Revelation 7. That is the chapter in Ezekiel telling about the valley of dry bones coming to life, a unique portrayal of the restoration of the nation of Israel. I didn't find anything about the 144,000, but I did notice what was missing in the content of chapter 37 and those following it.

After the restoration of Israel, Ezekiel goes directly to the invasion of Israel by Gog of the far north, in chapters 38-39. The valley of dry bones account has its parallel in Luke 21:29 and following with the budding of the fig tree. But why did Ezekiel not mention those events in between Israel's rebirth and the Gog-Magog war? And of further interest is that he goes right into a detailed plan for the construction of the new temple. Temple reconstruction fits into the first half of the seven years of the covenant that is confirmed, according to Daniel 9:27.

Another interesting comment at the end of Ezekiel 37 is the promise there of a “covenant of peace” that the Lord assures Israel that it will be everlasting:

“Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them, and it shall be an everlasting covenant with them; I will establish them and multiply them, and I will set My sanctuary in their midst forevermore” (Ezekiel 37:26).

Is this indirectly referring to that covenant confirmation Daniel introduces in Daniel 9:27? That one is solely a product of the Gentiles (the United Nations, possibly) and is not everlasting, as it is for only seven years. Also, is the reference to establishing “a sanctuary in their midst forevermore” another reassurance to Israel to look beyond what is scheduled in their forefront during the seven years of the imposed covenant to that time when Jesus sets His feet on the Mount of Olives (Zechariah 14:4) and sets up His earthly kingdom for a thousand-year reign from Jerusalem and erases the desolation of the sanctuary caused by the lawless one?

What about the Rapture event? He doesn't mention it, nor what has and is happening since the rebirth of Israel. I had to conclude that Ezekiel was a prophet, primarily, to the Jews, and we look to

Daniel to see the parallel of biblical history with secular history. Then we have the prophecies of the New Testament filling in the details and the end-time wrap up. Paul introduces the details of the New Covenant of Christ's redemption plan as mysteries that had not been told previously. Indeed, Peter says these are "things which angels desire to look into" (1 Peter 1:12).

After the conclusion of the Gog-Magog war, at the end of chapter 39 of Ezekiel, the Lord reviews again His sending Israel into captivity and why, and reminds them that He will no longer turn his face away from them, having restored them to their land. Why is it so hard for the "Replacement Theology" proponents to believe and understand that God does not make promises He does not intend to keep?

In order for the temple to be rebuilt, as the chapters following Ezekiel 39 so describe it, there must have been the "confirmation of a covenant with many" of seven years, as mentioned in Daniel 9:27. Halfway through that seven-year covenant, that descendant prince of the ancient Romans who destroyed the city and temple will desecrate this new temple, shutting down the sacrifices and declaring himself God.

Paul writes in 2 Thessalonians 2:4 of this imposition, "...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."

That is exactly what Isaiah 14:12-15 says is the ambition of Lucifer:

"How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations! For you have said in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.' Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, to the lowest depths of the Pit."

The central figure in all his claims is "I" just as this word connection indicates: Sin, Pride, Lucifer.

As believers watch, wait and wonder what all these things that are happening have to do with God's plan for our redemption, I am one who is convinced that God will not allow mankind to create circumstances in their own timeframe that will fulfill His plan that was made before time began. "Flesh and blood" is never allowed to inflict its "Adam-defiled" poison into His holy purposes.

The atmosphere of rebellion in America against what is intended to be a return to law and order, safety from the threat of terrorism, and a return to national stability of social and economic conditions is so radically contrary to common sense. It has all the marks of Satanic motivation—good is evil and evil is good (Isaiah 5:20). There is an apparent principle in God's economy that as people turn away from God, He, then, turns away from them, letting them "gorge themselves" with the degradation that their sinfulness so desires. Note, for example, in Romans 1:22-24, how that came about:

"Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things. Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts...."

Solomon recorded this truth, that "fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom" (Proverbs 10:9), yet these "profess themselves to be wise."

We have thought that the "falling away" that must happen before the Lord comes back for the believers, as Paul reports in 2 Thessalonians 2:3, it means "falling away from the faith," but it could

well include in its meaning the total rejection of all that even hints of God. That documentary I saw, years ago, of lemmings rushing pell-mell over the cliff to their deaths is a vivid reminder of what this culture is now portraying.

There is an answer for that emptiness of life and purpose, that sense of futility:

“On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, ‘If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink’” (John 7:37).

As Jesus cried out those words of anguish and longing for those who are lost those many centuries ago, His eternal plea still rings out today. Those who belong to Him realize that in these troubled times, He is our Blessed Hope, whose appearance we are expecting soon.

Pope Francis: ‘Muslim Terrorism Does Not Exist’

In an impassioned address Friday, Pope Francis denied the existence of Islamic terrorism, while simultaneously asserting that “the ecological crisis is real.”

“Christian terrorism does not exist, Jewish terrorism does not exist, and Muslim terrorism does not exist. They do not exist,” Francis said in his speech to a world meeting of populist movements.

What he apparently meant is that not all Christians are terrorists and not all Muslims are terrorists—a fact evident to all—yet his words also seemed to suggest that no specifically Islamic form of terrorism exists in the world, an assertion that stands in stark contradiction to established fact.

“No people is criminal or drug-trafficking or violent,” Francis said, while also suggesting—as he has on other occasions—that terrorism is primarily a result of economic inequalities rather than religious beliefs. “The poor and the poorer peoples are accused of violence yet, without equal opportunities, the different forms of aggression and conflict will find a fertile terrain for growth and will eventually explode.”

The Pope also reiterated his conviction that all religions promote peace and that the danger of violent radicalization exists equally in all religions.

“There are fundamentalist and violent individuals in all peoples and religions—and with intolerant generalizations they become stronger because they feed on hate and xenophobia,” he said.

While denying the existence of Islamic terrorism, Francis also seemed to condemn the denial of global warming, asserting that “the ecological crisis is real.”

“A very solid scientific consensus indicates that we are presently witnessing a disturbing warming of the climatic system,” he said.

We know “what happens when we deny science and disregard the voice of Nature,” the Pope said. “Let us not fall into denial. Time is running out. Let us act. I ask you again—all of you, people of all backgrounds including native people, pastors, political leaders—to defend Creation.”

While acknowledging that science is not “the only form of knowledge,” and that “science is not necessarily ‘neutral’” and often “conceals ideological views or economic interests,” he still insisted

that people of good will should not oppose “scientific consensus” regarding global warming.

Leftist media like the liberal Guardian in the U.K. immediately politicized the speech, predictably claiming that the Pope was backing “anti-Trump protests,” despite the fact that the Pope himself denied such a claim, explicitly declaring that “I am not speaking of anyone in particular.”

“I am not speaking of anyone in particular, I am speaking of a social and political process that flourishes in many parts of the world and poses a grave danger for humanity,” he said.

Moreover, although the Guardian claimed that the Pope was “condemning populism,” in point of fact, he was speaking to populist movements and praised their commitment to democracy.

“The direction taken beyond this historic turning-point,” Francis said, “will depend on people’s involvement and participation and, largely, on yourselves, the popular movements.”

Nevertheless, the Vatican’s Secretary of State, Cardinal Pietro Parolin, said Monday that the Holy See is concerned over growing populist and nationalist movements, both in Europe and in the United States.

In an interview for the Italian evening news on the state-owned RAI network, the Cardinal was asked whether the Vatican is worried about what the interviewer called “the spread of nationalism and populism not only in Europe but also in the United States with Donald Trump.”

“I think so, I think so,” Parolin said. “Certainly these closings are not a good sign,” since many of them “are born of fear, which is not a good counselor.”

In his address Friday, the Pope denounced “the guise of what is politically correct or ideologically fashionable,” which he described as a “hypocritical attitude,” while urging real solutions to unemployment, corruption, the identity crisis, and “the gutting of democracies.”

“The system’s gangrene cannot be whitewashed forever because sooner or later the stench becomes too strong,” he said.

The Era Of Human-Animal Hybrid Chimeras Has Begun

prophecynewswatch.com

Human-animal mutant creatures make for great material for science fiction writers, but we aren't supposed to be creating them in the real world.

In so many ways, the technological advancements that we have made as a society are outpacing our ability to handle those advancements, and this field is certainly a glaring example of that reality.

Just because we can create human-animal hybrid chimeras does not mean that we should. Genetic modification is a particularly dangerous science, because we are literally tinkering with the future of our planet.

And when it comes to humans and animals, those are two things that definitely should not mix.

Unfortunately, they are being mixed, and this could have enormous implications as our society

plunges into a very uncertain future.

During all of the chaos surrounding the 2016 presidential election, a stunning announcement by the National Institutes of Health went unnoticed by almost everyone.

The following comes from a Huffington Post article entitled "The Island of Dr. Moreau For Real"...

In August 2016, the National Institutes of Health announced that it was lifting its ban on research that introduces stem cells from humans into animal embryos. Stem cells have the ability to evolve into any human cell and can grow into any human tissue.

The goal of this type of research is to grow human tissues and eventually human replacement organs in animals.

What an innovative way to improve upon transplantation medicine! But to realize this potential, we would create an organism that is part animal and part human! These hybrids are the stuff of ancient mythology.

These mixtures of different animals are called chimeras after the mythical ancient Greek creature that was part lion, snake and goat.

One goal of today's research is to produce tissues and organs for experimentation that will improve our understanding of human disease.

An alternative and longer term goal would be to produce organs directly for human transplantation. Imagine an infinite source of human organs - one wears out and you produce a new one as a replacement.

When human stem cells are introduced into an animal embryo, that creature becomes part human.

So does a part-human creature have rights?

If so, how do those rights differ from those of a full human?

These are the kinds of questions that ethicists are starting to wrestle with.

The thought of creating human-animal hybrids just for the purpose of growing organs which will be used for medical transplants is beyond disturbing. But this is what our scientists actually intend to do.

And just this week, the National Academies of Sciences and Medicine has released a brand new report that endorses the genetic modification of humans. The following comes from a Gizmodo article...

Today, the National Academies of Sciences and Medicine released a major new report and recommendations to ensure any such research done stateside in the future is performed responsibly and ethically.

The implicit message is that whether we like it or not, a future of gene-edited humans is on its way.

Messing around with the genetic material of humans means that you are literally messing around with the future of the human race.

And once this genetic material starts being passed from generation to generation, it will literally be impossible to put the genie back into the bottle ever again.

Fortunately, there are some experts that are extremely alarmed by this new report...

"The recommendations and conclusions of this report are unsettling and disappointing," said Marcy Darnovsky, PhD, Executive Director of the Center for Genetics and Society.

"Although they're couched in apparently cautionary language, they actually constitute a green light for proceeding with efforts to modify the human germline -- that is, to engineer the genes and traits that are passed on to future children and generations."

Hopefully the scientific community will listen to people like Dr. Darnovsky before things get wildly out of control.

There are some scientists out there that actually want to "enhance" humans by introducing genetic material from animals.

The theory is that introducing genetic material from animals could give us "super sight" or "super strength" or other extraordinary powers.

This is the kind of thing that researchers such as Steve Quayle and Tom Horn have been warning about for years.

In the future we could literally have a creature that is 60 percent human and 40 percent bear for example. How would we treat such a creature?

And as such creatures became more numerous, how would they treat us?

If you think that such a thing could never happen, just consider ten examples of creatures that are already being created by science...

#1 Genetically modified cattle with human DNA

#2 Rats with human kidneys

#3 Human-mouse hybrids with freakishly large brains

#4 Humanized milk-producing goats

#5 Mice with human anal sphincters

#6 Rabbit Eggs with Human Cells

#7 Pigs with Human Blood

#8 Sheep with Human Livers

#9 Cow Eggs with Human Cells

#10 Cat-Human Hybrid Proteins

How human does a creature have to be before it has a human soul?

Somebody better start asking questions like this, because we are "playing god" and we are tinkering with things that we do not fully understand.

We have already gone way too far, but scientists all over the globe continue to press on even farther. Even if we were to completely ban this kind of "research" in the United States, it would still progress in other industrialized nations all over the planet.

The genetic modification of humans and animals is part of a larger trend that we are currently witnessing. In the scientific community, there is a tremendous amount of excitement about the fact that humans can finally "take control of their own evolution".

There are many scientists that believe that we can use various forms of technology to give ourselves superhuman powers and radically extend our lifespans.

And as technology continues to increase at an exponential rate, these scientists believe that we will be able to ultimately create a "post-human society" where all sickness, disease, poverty and war are eradicated.

So they aren't concerned about the potential dangers of these new technologies because they believe that we are right on the verge of achieving immortality and transforming this planet into a technological utopia that will be perfect in every way.

In other words, they believe that humanity will no longer need "god" because we will be our own gods.

Unfortunately for all the rest of us, in their relentless pursuit of this very foolish dream they are racing toward genetic Armageddon, and they are opening up a Pandora's box of horrors that they simply do not understand.