February 2025

FROM US TO YOU

Hallelujah, Donald Trump is back in office as our President! Already we have seen on the news vicious, criminal aliens being rounded up by ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) officers and will be deported out of the country. It's a big job, but President Trump is confident he and can do it. What a mess President Biden left for us! The country is inundated with illegal aliens who don't speak our language or respect our laws. However, thank God, that will come to an end. Whatever happened to America? It used to be such a nice, comfortable place to live, the envy of the world. Yet recently, we have had a bad hurricane in North Carolina, a terrorist attack in New Orleans, a bombing in Los Vegas, and huge fires destroying much of Los Angeles. This used to be a Christian country from its foundation in 1776. The forth stanza of our national anthem has the words "O thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand Between their loved homes and the war's desolation. Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the Heav'n rescued land Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation! Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just. And this be our motto: 'In God is our trust.'" And on our money was written the words, "In God we trust."

Even many churches have lost their way! An example of this occurred when President Trump took the oath of office only to be preached such anti-Christian nonsense at the country's National Cathedral Prayer Service. It should have been a service thanking God for a fresh start of our nation and asking for His blessing. Sadly, it didn't turn out that way! So-called "Bishop" Mariann Budde preached about having mercy for gays, lesbians, and LGBT groups as well as illegal aliens. By contrast the Bible tells us that God always has mercy on the sinner that

repents of his sin (Matthew 9:13). However, homosexual and lesbian relations are evil to God. The Bible says, "Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools... They exchanged the truth of God for a lie... Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion. Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, He gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done" (Romans 1:22-28 NIV).

What should have been a joyous celebration turned sour and offensive to God and President Trump, who is doing what he was elected to do. Those who want to engage in LGBT activity should "...know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God. Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God" (1 Corinthians 6:9-10 NIV). Moreover, it's bad enough that such people engage in sinful activity, but worse still, they want the rest of us, even Christians, to condone what they do

by asking us to have kindness and understanding about it. They even encourage other people to accept their sin and engage in it! If you are part of the LGBT community, and you want understanding for your actions, take your need to God in repentance. He will forgive you and lift you out of this sin if you ask Him to, and you are sincere.

People think that when they want to get closer to God, they just need to go to church. Not so! Especially when the devil's doctrines are taught at so many churches these days, remember what the Bible says, "For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all men—the testimony given in its proper time" (1 Timothy 2:5-6 NIV). So when you pray, pray to God the Father, in the name of Jesus. Only God is God. The Pope is not the Holy Father, God the Father is (Matthew 5:16, 6:9).

Even our military has been subjected to DEI indoctrination, which is basically a form of communism. It is also a major reason why our military is understaffed. Candidates are not going to want to go into the military if they have to be indoctrinated with such

liberal nonsense. The good news is that we have a new President in the Oval Office, Donald J. Trump. Hopefully all of the anti-Christian propaganda will be over soon, and a more conservative theme will take its place. Let's keep President Trump in our prayers. We are pleased with the new cabinet choices Trump has made, and we hope that they will all be confirmed. They will be like a breath of flesh air compared to the past! One of the nominees, Pete Hegseth, has been confirmed as the new Secretary of Defense. During the senate hearings he was confronted by liberal democrats, with moral accusations

from his past. Pete Hegseth has publicly acknowledged that he has become a Christian. That means he has repented of his past and asked God to forgive him, and to come into his life and renew him. He is "born again" (John 3:3). Jesus said, "...by their fruit you will recognize them" (Matthew 7:20 NIV). We all need to do the same in order to escape the fires of Hell (Luke 12:5, Revelation 20:15). "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by His grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus" (Romans 3:23-24 NIV).

Oklahoma's Senator Markwayne Mullin deserves special praise for his defense of Hegseth after the democrats got too personal with their attacks. He told them that they are a bunch of hypocrites. He said many of them had come to work drunk at the Senate, and many of them had gotten divorces for cheating on their wives. So they shouldn't act so high and mighty. He told them to remove the plank that is in their own eyes before standing in judgment of anyone else. He was referring to the words of Jesus (see Matthew 7:1-5). When Jesus was on earth, the one sin that angered him the most was hypocrisy. Perhaps it is time for America to repent and return to Christ who America once loved.

In the Lord's service, Eric and Anne Kaestner



History and Bible Prophecy

By Anne Kaestner

This month I are going to focus on Bible prophecy and what has been leading up to it. This message is to make you aware that events are moving so rapidly toward the return of Christ. Jesus said that before He returns to the earth, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth pains" (Matthew 24:7-8 NIV). This is nothing new. Since Israel became a nation, this has been going on. However, we are at a stage right now where the early pains of birth are turning into near labor. For Satan's rule of this earth (see Matthew 4:8-10, Ephesians 2:2) is being pushed out and will end soon, and Jesus will return to set up His kingdom on earth sooner than you think! Events are starting to take shape in this world like a big jigsaw puzzle in regard to eschatology, (the study of Bible prophecy). So let's take a step backward and look at the past.

It didn't seem that long ago that there was relative peace in the world. Many nations had been through World War 2 and all that ended well. There seemed to be a collective sigh of relief among allied countries and a special gratitude to God that He had helped us. As a result, there was more interest in Christianity and church attendance in those days. America began enjoying a new social and economic dominance in the world. Politically, the United States was on its way to becoming a military superpower. However, due

to the war, Jewish people wanted a country of their own where they could feel safe. So Israel became a nation in 1948. Harry Truman was president in America. The United Nations welcomed Israel and gave her a seat in the assembly. Iran wasn't happy about it, but the Shah was still running the country. People felt it was safe to take vacations in Iran and enjoy its history and culture. However, Satan was busy behind the scene plotting and planning to create as much misery for the world as possible.

After the assassination of President Kennedy, there seemed to be a different attitude among the population. President Johnson built up the Vietnam War, and many Americans died. President Nixon came next and he ended the war. It was a humiliating de-

feat, and the United States lost some of its prestige. Then there was Watergate, and a depressing spirit seemed to take over the nation. The United States ran wild with immorality like Woodstock, and songs about defeat and death like "The Eve of Destruction" and "Bye Bye American Pie" (which we wrote about in our Autumn 2011 newsletter). After Nixon left the presidency, President Ford came into the office for a short time. Then President Carter was elected in 1976. However, Satan knew that God only gave control of this world system to Adam for a specific period of time. That was the time period that Satan acquired it from Adam after Adam sinned against God (Genesis 3:1-24). So, Satan knew that his time of running this world was quickly coming to an end.

It was during the Carter administration that the Shah of Iran was defeated and died after an internal uprising. That's when Iran took over the American Embassy and made the staff hostages. When President Reagan was sworn in the Iranians released the hostages. But Iran continued to chant their hatred toward the United States, because America had helped Israel. However, Iran had another enemy, Saddam Hussein, ruler of Iraq. The rulers of both countries battled over territorial disputes and religious conflicts, Saddam Hussein for Iraq and Ruhollah Khomeini for Iran. Therefore, Reagan decided that, since Iran was their mutual enemy, he would help Iraq. Reagan built up Iraq, enabling them to fight a proxy war for us. Reagan also

built up our military. Vice President George H. Walker Bush became president after Reagan left office. It was during his presidency that Saddam Hussein felt strong enough to invade its smaller neighbor, Kuwait. President Bush went to war with Iraq to defend Kuwait. The United States won the war, but Iraq and Saddam Hussein were considerably weakened.

Then came President Clinton. He was mostly interested in liberal and environmental issues, although he briefly got involved in minor skirmishes with Haiti and Somalia. Clinton was followed by President George W. Bush, the son of President George H. W. Bush. At first, he seemed interested in a more Christian government, and drew the support and trust of many in the country. However, Bush Jr. strongly believed that Saddam Hussein tried to kill his father during a 1993 trip to Kuwait. In retrospect, there is some speculation regarding that. However, in his effort to get Saddam Hussein put to death, Bush Jr. insisted to the world that Iraq had weapons of mass destruction, although there was no proof of that. Iraq denied this, but George W. Bush went to war anyway. Sadly, some Americans in our military were tortured and killed. However, Saddam Hussein was put to death in Iraq. Hussein was an evil dictator, there is no doubt of that. But he presented no danger of attacking the United States. However,

his death caused another problem. It eliminated Iraq as a proxy enemy for the United States involving Iran. Consequently, Iraq became unstable as a country with no strong leadership.

President Barack Obama became our next president. Iran kept threatening the United States and Israel with chants of "Death to the United States. Death to Israel." The wars with Iraq had begun to use up much of our stockpile of weapons that President Reagan had built up. President Obama, however, was more concerned in liberal and social issues and an enemy from the past. North Korea now had a new young ruler,

Kim Jong-Un. He began flexing his muscle, threatening to build up his country's arsenal of nuclear weapons. President Trump, who succeeded Obama, became president in 2017. He traveled to North Korea and met

with Kim Jong-Un. He also met with Russia's Vladimir Putin and China's Xi Jinping. He said that the talks went well. Trump greatly aided our economy. He kept illegal aliens out of the country and began building a wall between the United States and Mexico.

Trump lost his election in 2020, and Joseph Biden became president in 2021. Biden was the most dangerous president of all! He stopped building the wall and greatly encouraged illegal aliens to enter the country. This horribly increased crime. Biden largely focused on environmental issues and, under his administration, the nation's economy suffered badly. During his term our country became weaker in every way. Communist countries included Russia, China, Iran, and North Korea began to draw an alliance and, in the future, will become stronger. President Trump was reelected and became president in 2025. Therefore, as I put together the Bible based pieces of the puzzle, I will add a bit of conjecture to get the picture complete. During the Trump administration I believe many things will improve in America. I believe he will rebuild the wall and will succeed in removing most of the illegal aliens. I also believe that our economy will greatly improve. However, birth pains will not be stopped.

The Bible prophesies a time of turmoil and trouble as the world goes into its final phase. Trump will make a valiant effort to get the illegal aliens out of America, and will succeed in most cases. He will also increase our economy. However, the damage that Biden did will

not be easily undone. Sadly, the Trump administration will only last for four years. Then a new president will take over the country. Those who were young when they came to America as aliens will grow up and become college age or older. Consequently, there will remain a remnant of troublemakers who will sway anti-Israel sentiment among the nation and the world. Jesus said to His Jewish disciples, "Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of Me. At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other" (Matthew 24:9-10 NIV). In those days America will not seem like the same country that it was during the Kennedy administration, or even the Reagan administration! There will also be deep hatred and persecution against Christians as well. But stay close to Christ and remain faithful. Jesus said, "All men will hate you because of Me, but he who stands firm to the end will be saved" (Matthew 10:22 NIV). God knows the end from the beginning. He said "'I am the Alpha and the Omega,' says the Lord God, 'who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty'" (Revelation 1:8 NIV).

Oh course, we all want to be happy and at peace with our lives. No one wants to live in fear or persecution. However, it is the devil, Satan, who is running this world right now (see Ephesians 2:2). That's why there is so much violence and pain in it. God is pushing that kingdom out so that the Kingdom of God (Mark 10:14) will begin. That is when Satan and his demons will be in hell (Revelation 20:4) and Christ will rule the nations for a thousand years (Revelation 20:2-4). It's when "Righteousness will be His belt and faithfulness the sash around His waist. The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. The infant will play near the hole of the cobra, and the young child put his hand into the viper's nest. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea" (Isaiah 11:5-9 NIV).

Did you know that long ago, God told us how Satan's rule over this world will end? It's prophesied in the Bible. Even the European Union is prophesied in the book of Daniel! It was prophesied in the king's dream. King Nebuchadnezzar II had a dream that frightened him so much that he was willing to kill all his wise men who could not reveal the meaning of the dream to him (Daniel 2:24). Problem was, the king could not remember the dream. Daniel asked God to reveal it to him and the Lord told him what it was. Then Daniel revealed it to the king.

Daniel said, "As for me, this mystery has been revealed to me, not because I have greater wisdom than other living men, but so that you, O king, may know the interpretation and that you may understand what went through your mind. 'You looked, O king, and there before you stood a large statue—an enormous, dazzling statue, awesome in appearance. The head of the statue was made of pure gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of baked clay. While you were watching, a rock was cut out, but not by human hands. It struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and smashed them. Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were broken to pieces at the same time and became like chaff on a threshing floor in the summer. The wind swept them away without leaving a trace. But the rock that struck the statue became a huge mountain and filled the whole earth" (Daniel 2:30-35).

King Nebuchadnezzar knew that Daniel had been given the dream correctly. So Daniel continued. "This was the dream, and now we will interpret it to the king. You, O king, are the king of kings. The

God of heaven has given you dominion and power and might and glory; in your hands He has placed mankind and the beasts of the field and the birds of the air. Wherever they live, He has made you ruler over them all. You are that head of gold. 'After you, another kingdom will rise, inferior to yours. Next, a third kingdom, one of bronze, will rule over the whole earth. Finally, there will be a fourth kingdom, strong as iron—for iron breaks and smashes everything—and as iron breaks things to pieces, so it will crush and break all the others. Just as you saw that the feet and toes were partly of baked clay and partly of iron, so this will be a divided kingdom; yet it will have some of the strength of iron in it, even as you saw iron mixed with clay. As the toes were partly iron and partly clay, so this kingdom will be partly strong and partly brittle. And just as you saw the iron mixed with baked clay, so the people will be a mixture and will not remain united, any more than iron mixes with clay. As the toes were partly iron and partly clay, so this kingdom will be partly strong and partly brittle. And just as you saw the iron mixed with baked clay, so the people will be a mixture and will not remain united, any more than iron mixes with clay" (Daniel 2:36-43 NIV).

Bible scholars have determined that the separate parts of the body of the statue are metaphors for kingdoms on the earth. Most of them have already come and gone. The Head of Gold was Babylonia, where Nebuchadnezzar was king, and where Daniel was living, from 626 B.C. The Chest and Arms of Silver

was the Medo-Persian Kingdom, around 539 B.C., after Babylonia. Then the Belly and Thighs of Bronze represented the Greek Empire with Alexander the Great, around 330 B.C. It also included Ptolemies and Seleucids. And around 167 included Maccabees and Hasmoneans. Then came the Legs of Iron, which represented the Roman Empire around 63 A.D. Then came the last of the great human empires on earth, the Feet of Iron mixed with Miry Clay. They represent the ten countries that will band together for strength, economics, and social adhesion. They originally called themselves, "The Common Market." However, in 1993 they became the "European Union." Their powerful military weapons make them strong, like iron. However, they have long histories of war between them and distrust. So they do not have proper unity. Therefore, in the statue, they are combined with iron like miry clay.

The European Union exists today. However, I believe the zenith of its power will not come into effect until after Mystery Babylon is destroyed (Revelation chapter 18). The first Babylon was a land led by a man

named Nimrod. They were one big country where everyone spoke the same language. They decided to build a huge tower into the sky in order to reach God through human means. "The LORD said, 'If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. Come, let Us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other.' So the LORD scattered them from there over all the earth, and they stopped building the city" (Genesis 11:6-8 NIV). So the whole earth had been one big mass of land with everyone speaking one language. God changed all that! "That is why it was called Babel—because there the LORD confused the language of the whole world. From there the LORD scattered them over the face of the whole earth" (Genesis 11:9 NIV). It wasn't until the time of Peleg that God divided the Earth into separate countries and islands (Genesis 10:25). It is believed by some that Mystery Babylon is a nation that was the reverse of that, a country where people come from all over the world speaking different languages and unite as one people. I wrote an article about "Mystery Babylon" in our January 2022 newsletter.

Daniel continued the interpretation of the dream. The ten toes of the statue were the last great human empire (Continued on Page 4)

representing ten countries, forming the European Union. "In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure forever. This is the meaning of the vision of the rock cut out of a mountain, but not by human hands—a rock that broke the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver and the gold to pieces. 'The great God has shown the king what will take place in the future. The dream is true and the interpretation is trustworthy'" (Daniel 2:44-45 NIV. Also, see 1 Corinthians 10:4).

Another sign that we are in the last of the last days before the Lord's return is that, the Bible tells us, "...that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. They will say, 'Where is this 'coming'he promised? Ever since our fathers died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation.' But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and by water. By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men" (2 Peter 3:3-7 NIV). This prophecy answers the question, "When will Jesus

come back?" It tells us how close we are to the end of Satan's kingdom on earth and the Lord's return, to start Christ's millennial kingdom on earth (Revelation 20:2-6). That's when "Righteousness will be His belt and faithfulness the sash around His waist. The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. The infant will play near the hole of the cobra, and the young child put his hand into the viper's nest. They will neither harm nor destroy on all My holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea" (Isaiah 11:5-9 NIV).

America has been through some horrible disasters in recent years on our own soil. There was

the attack on the World Trade Center in New York City, and the other attacks of September 11, 2021. Then, more recently, there's the fires in Southern California. As I write this they are still going on. However, these are just a foretaste of what the Bible tells us will happen in the future, as God attempts to get the world's attention. There is nothing more important than being saved and born again (John 3:3, 1:12-13)! People in this current world want to make money and be successful. But if after everything Jesus suffered to pay for your salvation, you love anything more than you love Him, you will not get to Heaven. If you love the things of Satan's kingdom more than you love Jesus, you will not be saved. You will still be a slave to Satan, and will end up in Hell with him, when he's thrown there (see Matthew 25:41). Even you own family should not come before Him! Jesus said, "Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to turn 'a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law—a man's enemies will be the members of his own household.' Anyone who loves his father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me; and anyone who does not take his cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me" (Matthew 10:34-38 NIV).

Frankly, you're not going to be very popular with certain people

if you love Jesus more. He was hated even by His own Jewish people. He said, "A student is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. It is enough for the student to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If the head of the house has been called Beelzebub, how much more the members of his household! So do not be afraid of them. There is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known. What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs. Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell" (Matthew 10:24-28 NIV). Beelzebub is of the devil, probably a high ranking demon (Ephesians 6:12). They said Jesus did His miracles through the power of devil (see Luke 11:15 and Mark 3:22). So, if they treat Jesus with so much disrespect, they will not respect those who love Him. Many martyrs have given their lives for Christ.

However, Jesus said, "Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. He who receives you receives Me, and He who receives Me receives the one who sent Me" (Matthew 10:39-40 NIV). So if you disown Christ to save your life Jesus will not accept you. But if you die because you love Jesus, you will go to Heaven. I want to emphasize this because there are many lukewarm Christians in American. So please realize that your

faith will be tested, and when facing persecution, you might be tempted to reject Christ to save your life. Don't do it! The cowardly or fearful are among those who will be tossed into the Lake of Fire (see Revelation 21:8). So remember, "Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For everything in the world—the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does—comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever" (1 John 2:15-17 NIV). The Bible tells us that Jesus will come back for those He redeemed at the time of the Rapture (see 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18). But your time of testing may come before that, so be prepared.

The Bible tells us that Jesus will come back to

this planet so unexpectedly, it will be like a thief in the night "...the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare. Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. But in keeping with His promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness. So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with Him" (2 Peter 3:10-14 NIV). Therefore, "See to it that you do not refuse Him who speaks. If they did not escape when they refused Him who warned them on earth, how much less will we, if we turn away from Him who warns us from heaven? At that time His voice shook the earth, but now He has promised, 'Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.' The words 'once more' indicate the removing of what can be shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our 'God is a consuming fire'" (Hebrews



12:25-29 NIV).