

December 17, 2019

Dear Members and Friends:

A well-known Christmas song, which we can't avoid hearing, no matter where we are, goes like this:

"It's the most wonderful time of the year... It's the happiest season of all with those holiday greetings and gay happy meetings... and caroling out in the snow. There'll be scary ghost stories and tales of the glories of Christmases long, long ago..."

For a converted Christian, these words could not be further from the Truth. Rather, they describe the most dreadful time, which, sadly, we must endure in this world ruled by Satan. After all, true Christians know that the Christmas season is not biblical at all; it is pagan to the core, and placing a "Christian" mantle on those horrible or silly customs constitutes a mockery of the real Jesus Christ who died for us and reconciled us with God the Father, so that we can flee from demon-inspired worship services.

Still, some of the words of the above-quoted song contain inadvertently a somewhat hidden and often-times overlooked revelation: "There'll be scary ghost stories..." What do they have to do with Christmas, supposedly the time of Christ's birth? (Christ was of course not born on December 25 or anywhere near that time). Simply put, they manifest the fact that Christmas is demonic. We know, of course, that there are no ghosts, but we also know that there are demons which masquerade as ghosts and which are responsible for creepy supernatural phenomena. Therefore, ghost stories are quite fitting for Christmas... they all go together and show the simple-mindedness of gullible people who don't even give a second thought to thoroughly ridiculous celebrations.

As true Christians, we focus on God's Holy Days—not on man-made superstitious traditions. The next annual godly Festival season begins in April of 2020 with Passover and the Days of Unleavened Bread. They picture Christ's death and our departure from sin... and God tells us that it is SIN to celebrate Christmas. Christ DIED for our sins—why would we trample Him underfoot and observe demonic festivals which God clearly prohibits and which are an abomination to Him?

Christmas falls in the darkest time of the year. Traditions dictate to light many Christmas lights, which to some religious people picture victory over darkness (Of course, most people do not really care one way or the other. They display blinking light decorations in their front yards, which are supposed to look pretty, especially to children; but which many times constitute kitsch or design in poor taste in the highest degree).

We know, of course, that the pagans kindled lights during this time of year in honor of their evil sun gods and to frighten away evil spirits.

In spite of demonic attempts to suggest the opposite, there is no victory in Christmas; rather, it is Satan who pretends to be an angel of light and who deceives people into thinking that Christmas celebrations are in some way pleasing to the righteous God. At the same time, he has convinced *professing* Christians that God's true Holy Days are no longer valid. *True* Christians know that this is another lie. (We have included our new pocket calendar containing the dates for God's annual Holy Days until and including 2026.)

While the world celebrates Christmas and New Year's with revelry and drunkenness during the darkest time of the year, true Christians realize that this world is getting darker indeed. Just reflecting on 2019, we can see all that has happened during this year, and we can comprehend how fulfilled prophetic

events point at the final hours of this present civilization. Just take the time to review sections from the *Current Events* of our weekly Updates [#858 until #903] to see what has transpired in this year alone. [You might also revisit our *StandingWatch* programs from 2019.] Here are just a few of our headlines throughout the year, which were gleaned from [mostly non-religious] newspaper articles as they appeared on the Internet:

*On Brexit and the European-British relationship:* "The Most History-Shaping Election since WW II"; "Brexit Almost Certainly a Given!"; "The EU vs. GB"; "Boris Johnson UK's last PM?"; "The End of the British Empire."

*On Europe's emerging power and might and the deteriorating German/European-American relationship:* "The End of the German-American Affair"; "US Threatens to Withdraw Troops from Germany"; "USA and UK vs. Europe"; "US Allies Are Distancing Themselves from America"; "German-US Relationships... Never Been Worse Since World War II"; "US-European Relations at Worst Level Ever"; "EU Has Many More Weapons Systems than the USA"; "Europe Is Ready for Its Own Army"; "Europe Must Intervene in the Middle East"; "The EU to Become an Empire"; "Merkel: Europe Must Unite to Stand Up to China, Russia and US."

*On the role of the Catholic Church:* "Controversial Pope's Quest for a World Religion"; "Pope Condemns Groups like the Churches of God"; "Vatican Endorses EU Superstate."

*On Donald Trump and America's relationship with Israel:* "USA to Recognize Israel's Sovereignty over Golan Heights"; "Donald Trump... the 'Chosen One' Sent by God?"; "Donald Trump—the Last US President?"; "Trump—the Anointed King to Build the Third Temple?"; "God Wanted Trump to Become President."

*Other articles on the USA:* "Magnitude 7.1 Earthquake Strikes California"; "US Power Severely Limited—but the USA Does Not Notice it"; "Unparalleled National Debt... but Nobody Cares."

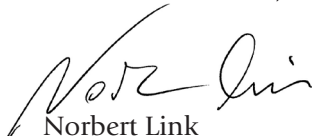
*On Russia and the Russian-Chinese relationship:* "Russia and China Forge New Ties"; "China and Russia—'Together We Can Rule the World'"; "Russia Prepares for Regional Wars in Europe"; "Ukraine—Back to Russia?"

In addition, we published the following headlines for articles which relate to *the diversity of important prophetic developments:* "Anti-Semitism in Germany on the Rise"; "Europe vs. Israel"; "Israel Without Arab Friends"; "Worldwide Hatred for Jews; "Killing NATO"; "The End of the World As We Know It"; "Global Military Spending at Its Highest."

Those who understand the prophecies of the Bible should be able to see clearly how these headlines, and many more, which we did not mention in this letter, are part of a puzzle, which, fitly framed together, show an emerging picture of end-time events, which will culminate in the Great Tribulation and the return of Jesus Christ. You can expect similar and even more explosive headlines in 2020, as this world grows darker and darker, and no Christmas celebrations will change that; in fact; they will only contribute to bringing about the end of this present evil age.

As we know all of this, blessed are we if we keep what we have, so that no one can take our crown and cheat us of our full reward.

With Christian love,



Norbert Link