

Nr. 38d

The Returning Lord and the Corona-World war

Gottesdienst 11.10.2020 um 10:00 Uhr Riedlingen

Apostles' Creed Part 9, The Returning Lord Reading: 2 Thess. 2:1-12

Dear Brother and Sisters, dear Guests,

Jesus is coming again!

This fact determines a clear goal for our life and the happenings in this world. Most especially in these insane and confusing days of the corona lunacy raging in the world.

Since the beginning of the corona terror, we have been in a third world war.

This war is being conducted differently from the first and second world wars in that it is not about different people groups fighting against each other, but rather it is conducted by a small group of global elites, who apparently, in some way, have succeeded in bringing almost every government in the world into their grip, in order to use them in a war against their own people.

Yes, this world war is being waged by the ruling establishments against their own populations, against humanity worldwide.

It is harming, more or less, the health of all the people of this earth in body and soul with the forced and mostly, no doubt, illegal corona terror measures. It destroys, in a previously unknown measure, the economies and infrastructures of the countries, devastates on a grand scale companies that are driven into insolvency, in order that one day they can be bought up by international high finance for a song.

This World War III is attended by far-reaching limitations on our travel and movement freedom. It is attended by the abolishment of almost all basic rights and freedoms. It goes hand in hand with a massive misuse of data and is in opposition to the much-vaunted data privacy law. It compels the people to wear masks and to the excessive and health-damaging misuse of disinfecting materials. It forces them into social distancing. It forces people to inflict damage on themselves and on their children of almost every imaginable means.

It is a 3rd world war, which, until recently, presumably no normal person could ever have considered possible.

Prof. Hockertz, a worldwide renowned physician and expert in immunology, opined several times in an interview recently: it is worse than science fiction.

A world war is raging, which could not occur, in the worst nightmare, to a normal, healthy and compassionate human mind, to this level of malignancy.

What we are experiencing is the beginning of the end time infernal spectacle. If Mrs. Merkel and Co., as according to reports, actually decided to, and wanted to implement, deploying the military in internal affairs, in order to enforce the inhuman corona terror measures with military force, then the civil war of the unrighteous rulers against their own citizens has militarily begun.

This war has been going on for months on the economic and medical level. In an interview with "Handelsblatt" on Sept. 22, 2020, the German Development Minister, Gerd Müller, stated, "Many more people will die from the effects of the lockdown than from the virus."

The CSU (Christian Social Union in Bavaria) politicians warn, "Alone on the African continent, we must reckon with additional 400,000 malaria deaths and HIV victims, as well as a half a million more that will die from tuberculosis." The pandemic has "released one of the greatest poverty and hunger crises." Please note: all this was not released through the alleged corona pandemic which, as such, there is not and never has been. All this was released through the criminal corona measures which were directed against worldwide humanity.

In Germany at least one girl may have died as a consequence of wearing a mask. In several further cases the status of the information is still unclear.

Michael Tsokos, the head of the "Institute for Forensic Medicine at the Berliner Charite" (University hospital in Berlin), said on Oct. 2, 2020 on an NDR-Talkshow, "But of course, we, as forensic doctors, have now many fewer Covod-19 deaths, but rather, we now see many more incidents of collateral damage. Several times alone last week we autopsied people who since the lockdown never left their apartment again, and were found in a profound state of decay in their "messy" apartment.... we see that now quite a bit....because for them, all the threatening scenarios which were opened up....fear outweighed going out".

The idea that the fear and horror were purposely produced in order to enforce the corona terror measures against people originates from a strategy paper of the Ministry of the Interior. (link) The mask is also an instrument of corona terror, that is likewise openly spoken, for example, by WHO. The mask is a symbol of the danger of Covid-19. It is supposed to continuously remind us of how brutally corona rages among us and how very much we must live in fear and horror of corona, so that this pandemic might not devastate everyone.

All these economic, health and, in multifaceted ways, existential sacrifices in Germany end up in the account of Merkel, Spahn, Söder, Drosten, Wieler, Lauterbach and Co. But also, even into the account of those who participate in this inhuman insanity, those who enforce this terror or are silent about it.

We all carry responsibility in a certain way. Because until today, we have all not prevented this satanic evil from running riot, ruling our country and terrorizing the people.

I expressly include myself in this. Perhaps I, too, have done too little to counter this inhuman insanity. In order to keep my personal guilt for this capital crime against humanity to a minimum, at least I want to do and say what I know I must do and say. I know it is dangerous to raise one's voice against this antichrist evil of the end time. The unrighteous rulers also in our country enforce the decreed injustice with brute force, possibly also soon with military force against their own people. I pray and hope that these unrighteous rulers will not escape earthly righteousness and jurisdiction. But should they succeed in that, to me this certainty is a great comfort: They will not escape divine righteousness and jurisdiction! By the way, dear Brothers and Sisters, that is why Revelation is the great book of comfort to persecuted Christianity from the beginning, because, in view of the satanic evil in this world, it testifies: The Lamb on the throne has all power. Our Lord Jesus has, in spite of

everything, the reins in His hand. And in the end, the victory is His!

From there, also in the middle of this uproar of satanic evil against almost all of mankind on this earth, from our present-day testimony of the Apostles' Creed, a bright light shines in: Jesus is

coming again! The Lord, who has already in principle conquered satan and every evil on the cross of Golgotha and soon will totally annihilate them, stands at the door.

The Lord, whose light drives away all darkness, is coming. Also, the terrors of corona virus undergo a totally other assessment if we live in view of the returning Lord.

Dear Brothers and Sisters, the Lord comes and brings the history of the world, with all its error and confusion to its end. It is the critical date which stands before the world. Therefore, the Bible ends in Revelation 22:20 with the plea, "Amen, come Lord Jesus!"

Sadly, this subject of the returning Lord has in recent years been more and more pushed into the background. In the 1980's it was quite different: Wm. Malgo, Hal Lindsay et al. wrote much-read books about this topic. I will not discuss the worth of those books here. Much was speculated which, through the course of history, was refuted long ago. But the return of Jesus was a theme in the church. It was hotly discussed. It was anticipated, awaited! Today, in contrast, the return of Jesus is lost out of sight.

That is, on the one hand, totally surprising. Every attentive observer must surely be able to grasp how the signs of the end times are looming in the heavens in our day.

On the other hand, it is not surprising at all, but rather actually compelling to expect. For it is exactly the indifference to this event which is one of the signs of the end times. In Matt. 24, Jesus predicts, "as in the days of Noah" "They ate, they drank, they married and gave in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away, so will the coming of the Son of Man be." That means: mankind, even pious mankind, will be completely occupied with everyday things. They live in each day, as if there would be no tomorrow. Not because the trend is not to be recognized, it is rather that they are not paying attention to signs of the times. They are too much occupied with their everyday life. Count Lehndorff relates in his "Ostpreussischen Tagebuch" (East Prussian Diary) : while the Soviet army, only a few kilometers distant, carried out their deadly pincer movement, the womenfolk cleaned their houses and baked Easter cakes. And Helmut Thielke remarked in addition, "In the morning we go to work and in the evening, we sit in front of the TV screen. But in other rooms of history, the tables are already laid for the kingly wedding feast, and the fanfares of the Last Judgment are slowly raised."

And I think, dear Brothers and Sisters, we can already almost see with our own eyes: "the fanfares of the Last Judgment are slowly raised." And I also think that the satanic powers in the background know this. They know that their time is running out. For that reason, they try, in the remaining time, to carry evil to extremes with brute force.

Yesterday I had a message in hand of an alert observer, who, however, is completely esoterically influenced. In it was a clue which affected me quite powerfully. He reported, "Currently one hears from very many different, clairvoyantly gifted people, that they can no longer see into November and the time afterwards until 2021."

That immediately reminded me of earlier reports that were heard. A person goes to a fortune teller. He predicts the future for many years of his life. But then he says, "after that, I can see nothing more." The predicted things all come to pass. And on the day, after which the fortune teller could discern nothing further, this person came to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. From that day on, satan apparently had no insight and no control any longer over his life.

For me the question was – is the Lord's return already so near, that the light which streams out of Him, already after November, blinds the occult seers? Is the Lord so near that He has withdrawn from satan his insight and control over happenings and now he continues his rage against humanity in blind flight, so to say. It is only a question, a spontaneous thought that occurred to me. God's Word exhorts us in this context to vigilance. It warns us about 3 dangers:

!. Slumber

- 2. Fanaticism being carried away
- 3. Seduction being led astray
 - 1. Slumber

The central call is "WATCH"!

The well-known parable of the five wise and five foolish virgins follows the relating of the events of Matt. 24. Whoever does not watch sleeps through the decisive moment and stands in the end before a closed door.

Jesus pointed the disciples to the sign of the fig tree, "So you, too, when you see all these things, recognize that He is near, right at the door." (Matt. 24: 32)

Keep your eyes open. Look at what is happening, so you will be ready! Therefore, Peter writes in 2 Peter 1:19, "So we have the prophetic word made more sure, to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts." WATCH!

Pay attention to the signs of the times!

Pay attention to the prophetic word!

Recognize He is near, right at the door!

Secondly God's Word Warns

2. Fanaticism – being carried away as much by the idea that we could establish God's Kingdom in this world, as also from a fanatical imminent eschatological expectation of Christ's return.

This existed in Paul's time. Therefore, he warns us in verse 2 of

2 Thessalonians 2: "that you not be quickly shaken from your composure or be disturbed either by a spirit or a message or a letter as if from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come."

There, people announced in the name of Paul, that the Lord had already come.

There has been this fanaticism in Christianity again and again. Then the pious ones would move to Jerusalem in order to be there when the Lord would set His feet on the Mount of Olives.

Until this day, they have all been wrong.

Jesus says: No one knows the hour, not the angels, not the Son, only the Father. The objective Bible reader knows there are specific happenings that must occur before Christ comes back visibly. Paul names two that are directly associated: "This day" - that is the day of the visible return of the Lord Jesus Christ- "will not come unless the apostasy (the falling away) comes first and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction..." (2 Thess. 2:3). We have a very clear succession of the 3 events that occur one after another. The first is the apostasy (falling away) of Christianity from the Lord and his Word. There has already always been apostasy. There has already always been heresy and erroneous trends in Christianity. But in the last years and decades this development has reached unprecedented dimensions. We see this exemplified in that in earlier times biblical prophets, to be sure, had their problems in churches and congregations. But in recent years and decades, they are nationwide less and less tolerated. In the state churches, the last Biblebelieving pastors have either adapted themselves and gone under, or they are persecuted, as in the case of Olaf Latzel, and eliminated. After we have experienced for decades the apostasy of the mainline churches, we now experience in recent years the apostasy of the free churches and the greater part of the free congregations. We experience today the attack by satan on the last little groups of Bible-believing Christians. The first event, the apostasy of Christianity, is just about complete. Christianity is not only largely set up for the hostile take-over through satan, it is already taken over. At the top of the roman catholic church, stands Francis, a supremely heathen antichrist person. And in so-called evangelical Christianity, it does not look any better.

With that, the second event is almost immediately impending: the revelation of the antichrist. And not until this one is able to run riot in the short time precisely measured out by God, not until then will Christ return visibly.

Therefore the Word of God says, "WATCH!" and guard yourselves from being carried away. The golden era is not coming just now. The powerful spiritual break-through, world-

wide revival is not coming just yet. Everything will not be better soon. It must first get much worse. But then Jesus will come again. And until then, stay on a clear biblical course!

Therefore, the Bible warns 3rd:

3. Against deception

"Let no one deceive you in any way" 2 Thess. 2:3. Also in Matt. 24, it stands out how insistently Jesus warns many times about deception. Revival is not the sign of the end being near, but rather deception.

The antichrist will do powerful, unimaginable signs and wonders, such as have not been seen since the days of Jesus on earth. He is equipped with the whole power of satan. Our text makes the whole beguiling drama of these events clear in one little word, which unfortunately is reflected really accurately in hardly any translation. It involves the last half sentence in verse 4. Most of the translators (German) neglect to acknowledge and express the drama suitably. The Luther, Menge, Schlachter2000 and also the roman-catholic Einheits (Unity) Translation say: "he proclaims himself to be God." The Gute Nachricht (Good News Bible) translates: "he will declare that he is God." That is all said much too harmlessly. Proclaim, declare, anyone can do that. The matter, dear Brothers and Sisters, is far and away more dramatic!

The Elberfelder Bible, however, translates, in this case, correctly, "that he *proves* his identity, that he is God."

Dear Brothers and Sisters, there we must positively shudder inwardly. Exactly as God's Word says here, the antichrist will prove, confirm his identity as God. The Greek word ($\alpha\pi\sigma\delta\epsilon\iota\kappa\nu\nu\mu\iota$), which stands here in the original text, has the meaning: to provide the evidence for a matter.

This word appears also in Acts 2:22 where, regarding Jesus, it is said, "authenticated to you from God with signs and wonders", that is, as the God become man named in the O.T. as Messiah.

Exactly that is said of the antichrist in Thess. 2:4, he will demonstrate, prove himself, to be God through the signs and wonders that he does. He doesn't just act as if, declare it as if, pretend to be – he provides the evidence for it.

But not at all through the power of God, rather verse 9 emphasizes, "according to the operation of satan, with all power and signs and wonders of a lie.

He will effect powerful signs and wonders which no man can perform. But they are "signs and wonders of a lie, the deception." They are mighty acts of satan, designed to lead us into madness. This deceptive power is so great, that even the congregation of Jesus is in the highest danger through it, " so as to lead astray if possible even the chosen," says Jesus in Matt. 24:24. But on account of the chosen those days will be cut short, "and, unless those days had been cut short, no one would be saved." Matt. 24:22

Salvation always means for eternity, not from temporal suffering. As one might surmise, it does not mean that the time will be shortened in order that the church, the congregation, be spared a part of the suffering, but rather that the chosen ones might not further be deceived. But when the antichrist is made manifest, the Day of the Lord is nearly at the door.

And, dear Brothers and Sisters, then comes that which we read in Rev. 19: heaven is open! The one who is called Faithful and True appears riding on a white horse. He judges and makes war in righteousness. Many crowns are on his head, because He is the Lord of lords and King of kings, the Almighty.

His eyes are like a flame of fire. As a rule, fire in the Bible is a symbol of justice, purification, refining, separation. In the fire of the court of justice, the dross will be separated from the precious metal. That this justice comes out of His eyes might imply – He sees everything. He differentiates like a sharp razor, inerrantly between right and wrong, and His severe justice rules in 100% righteousness and accuracy. And it rules comprehensively and all-encompassing.

He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood. It is the blood of those who, against Him have rejected the Almighty, those who carry out the work of satan on this earth and who rage against humanity with injustice and wickedness.

Dear Brothers and Sisters, why does satan have such a hatred for humanity that he has so run amok with this corona terror? Because God has created man in His image as the crown of His creation. And because satan, in his revolt against God, wants to destroy everything that God has established, everything that He has established to be good and beautiful. But the returning Lord will judge all this inhuman, satanic evil and "He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood." (Rev. 9:13) "And the armies of heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, were following Him on white horses."

(Rev. 19:14)

The white and clean linen is usually understood to be the clothing of righteousness, with which the redeemed children of God are clothed. The raptured and raised to heaven church/congregation returns with the Lord to earth at this time and they are eyewitnesses of His righteous, godly judgment over all satanic evil on this earth.

They don't have to join the battle because this judgment does not occur through human force, but through the sharp sword which goes forth out of the mouth of the returning Lord. This sword is the word of God. "One little word can fell him," Martin Luther sang in the hymn, "A Mighty Fortress is our God".

The antichrist and the evil rulers of the earth, who have surrendered their power to him and are gathered with their armies, have marshalled themselves for war against the Lamb. But then it says quite unspectacularly, "Then the beast was seized (antichrist), and along with him the false prophet...; these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone. And the rest were killed with the sword which came from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse, and all the birds were filled with their flesh." (Rev 19: 20 - 21)

There is no great battle fray. The fight is fought; the victory is won already 2000 years ago on the cross of Golgotha. The victory here is executed through the powerful word of Jesus. The antichrist and his false prophet, who did such powerful miracles, are simply removed. They raged so forcefully; they boasted so impressively. But they will simply be taken by their little heads and disposed of in the lake of fire.

Dear Brothers and Sisters, the evil is still raging, but the Lord is coming and will judge and annihilate it.

What a tremendous, comforting assurance! AMEN!

Jakob Tscharntke, Riedlingen 2020