



Thoughts from First Thessalonians ...

## “Peace and Security”

Mankind is blissfully unaware of the sudden devastation that is about to come upon them and the earth they live upon. They tend to get caught up in believing their own propaganda, beginning with thinking that earth is something like four billion years old. While they profess some concern about “earth’s dwindling resources,” they really expect this planet to last billions of more years. “It escapes their notice,” was the way Peter described them, “that by the word of God the heavens existed long ago [but not four billions of years!], and the earth was formed out of water and by water.” The rebellious ones not only refuse to recognize that God created the earth, but they also deny that man’s sinfulness caused God to destroy the earth

with the Flood. Naturally, then, they are totally unaware and unbelieving that “the present heavens and earth by His word are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men” (2 Peter 3:5-7).

● **Saying “peace and safety”** — Christians, having been taught from the first by Jesus Himself, are aware that He will come suddenly like a thief in the night. But for the rest of the world, the apostle Paul comments, “While they are saying, ‘Peace and safety!’ then destruction will come upon them suddenly” (1 Thessalonians 5:3). The English Standard Version translates the statement as, “There is peace and security.” Paul and the Holy Spirit are, as to be expected, very careful in the wording: They are *saying* peace and security, not that there necessarily is any. One of the things which is a signal that Jesus’ return is imminent is world influencers’ mouthing those words.

● **Peace and security institutions** — Being curious, I googled “peace and security” to find what would pop up on the internet. The first item to show was an article written for the World Economic Forum by Robert Muggah, research director of the Igarapé Institute on March 1, 2016, headlined, “The UN has a plan to restore *international peace and security*—will it work?” (Emphasis added). Underneath the lead picture was the caption, a quote from within the article, “The UN is getting its act together to confront the most intractable threats to international peace and security.”

The article went on to highlight the results from three different commissions set up by former United Nations Secretary Ban Ki-moon, which basically called for a more robust UN financed by more money. Thus the final internal heading was “A new UN for a new global order.” The piece calls for the UN to partner up with regional organizations to counter threats to the developing new world order — older organizations such as NATO, as well as new ones such as the Economic Community of West African

States and the Union of South American Nations. Of course, one of the major “extremist” threats to *international peace and security* is Christianity, because the teachings of Jesus are counter to the goals of the godless UN and the Satanic forces of the new world order.

Of man, whether he be rich or poor, his tendency is not to think about eternity. “Their inner thought is, that their houses are forever, and their dwelling places to all generations” (Psalm 49:11). “While they are saying, ‘Peace and safety!’ ” is Paul’s tipoff to the saints, “then destruction will come upon them suddenly like birth pangs upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.” Whether the current emphasis on “peace and security” is the prelude to the Lord’s second coming, or whether it is a temporary phase of human history, time will tell. Certainly there have been similar promises throughout the span of man. But one thing that should be considered is that this time the emphasis is on global or *international peace and security*. This has never happened before on that scale, and if the people who are pushing for it get their way, there will be no freedom left on this planet for the proclamation of the gospel. But the saint can be encouraged either way: if it is not the final, there is future opportunity on earth; if it is final, Jesus is coming!!

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and security!*

JAY WILSON