

The Juli Gospel Church

Vol. IX Number 35 September 4, 2005

TRAGEDY

All of this week we have been hearing of the hurricane Katrina damage in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. All we are seeing on the television news is about Katrina. If the only news you get is from the television, you have no idea what is happening in the rest of the world.

Looking at http://www.drudgereport.com/ today you will see the following headlines:

New Orleans Left to the Dead and Dying

Chertoff: Feds in Control of New Orleans

Bush Tries to Quell Political Crisis

Do You Know What It Means to Lose New Orleans?

BROOKS: Just as in the '70s, political change lies ahead...

Fed Bailout: 'Worried about looting? You ain't seen nothing yet'...

<u>Tumult in Gulf Region but Little Early Effect Across</u> the Nation

Doctors fear tainted water gave shelter residents dysentery

Katrina's Wrath Hits Holiday Drivers...

Troops begin combat operations in New Orleans

Profile of New Orleans, Before Katrina

New Orleans a 'ghost town' for 9 months

Survivors describe week of horror in New Orleans

Guardsmen 'played cards' amid New Orleans chaos:

200 New Orleans police officers have walked away from their jobs and two have committed suicide

Sen. Frist Becomes Medical Volunteer

Eerie Saturday Night in the French Quarter

<u>Profile of New Orleans, Before Katrina</u> has this first paragraph:

Beneath the frantic and putrid abyss of looters and bodies and desperation that New Orleans became last week, there's a decadent city of crawfish bisque and sparkling jazz, a ferocious city that beat back the British army, a tenacious city that has survived plague and fires, a seductive and sultry and sweet place beloved by many.

Look at the terms that Martha Mendoza uses in her first paragraph to describe New Orleans.

- > Decadent
- > Ferocious
- > Tenacious
- Seductive

In other words, New Orleans is a city of sin like the majority of cities in the world. Look at our city with a strip of night clubs promoting sin and debauchery on Delaware Ave. One even has a bill-board on I95 showing some of the "talent." Then there are the escort services which are fronts for prostitution. The politicians and the DA turn a blind eye to this debauchery.

The Bible tells us that in the last days perilous times will come. Jesus described what the last days will bring.

Matthew 24:1-51

1 And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the temple.

2 And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.

TRAGEDY

- 3 And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?
- 4 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you.
- 5 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.
- 6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.
- 7 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.
- 8 All these are the beginning of sorrows.
- 9 Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.
- 10 And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.
- 11 And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.
- 12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.
- 13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.
- 14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.
- 15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)
- 16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:
- 17 Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house:
- 18 Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes.
- 19 And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days!
- 20 But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day:
- 21 For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time,

- no, nor ever shall be.
- 22 And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.
- 23 Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not.
- 24 For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.
- 25 Behold, I have told you before.
- 26 Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, he is in the secret chambers; believe it not.
- 27 For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.
- 28 For wheresoever the carcase is, there will the eagles be gathered together.
- 29 Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:
- 30 And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.
- 31 And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.
- 32 Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh:
- 33 So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors.
- 34 Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.
- 35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.
- 36 But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.
- 37 But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.
- 38 For as in the days that were before the flood

TRAGEDY

they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark,

- 39 And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.
- 40 Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.
- 41 Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left.
- 42 Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.
- 43 But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up.
- 44 Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.
- 45 Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season?
- 46 Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing.
- 47 Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods.
- 48 But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming;
- 49 And shall begin to smite his fellowservants, and to eat and drink with the drunken;
- 50 The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of,
- 51 And shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

With the rise of catastrophic tragedies in the last few years, we should make sure that we are prepared for the coming of the Lord. Whereas the people in Noah's day were warned of the coming flood, none believed the old preacher. The same is true today where the majority are not reading the signs of the times. The day of the Lord can come upon us in a moment where we are totally not prepared for it. Just like the United States, Louisiana, Mississippi, and the rest of the gulf states were totally unprepared for a hurricane with the destructive force of Katrina. The rise of the devastating effects of severe weather should be a warning to all Christians to make their calling and election sure.

2 Peter 1:10

10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

It seems that the frequency of hurricanes affecting the U.S. has been rising lately. There is a good web site that shows the History going back to 1900.

http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/HAW2/english/history.shtml

When I look at the frequency of the storms hitting the United States, I see a rise in frequency. Last year four storms hit. I think that God is sending us a wake-up call. It is time to make sure we are prepared for the coming of the Lord. With these storms there will be famine with the destruction of the crops. Could the daughter of Babylon become a wasteland?

Revelation 18:1-24

- 1 And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory.
- 2 And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.
- 3 For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.
- 4 And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.
- 5 For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.
- 6 Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double.
- 7 How much she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously, so much torment and sorrow give her: for she saith in her heart, I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow.
- 8 Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and

TRAGEDY

mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her.

9 And the kings of the earth, who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning,

10 Standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, Alas, alas that great city Babylon, that mighty city! for in one hour is thy judgment come.

11 And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more:

12 The merchandise of gold, and silver, and precious stones, and of pearls, and fine linen, and purple, and silk, and scarlet, and all thyine wood, and all manner vessels of ivory, and all manner vessels of most precious wood, and of brass, and iron, and marble.

13 And cinnamon, and odours, and ointments, and frankincense, and wine, and oil, and fine flour, and wheat, and beasts, and sheep, and horses, and chariots, and slaves, and souls of men.

14 And the fruits that thy soul lusted after are departed from thee, and all things which were dainty and goodly are departed from thee, and thou shalt find them no more at all.

15 The merchants of these things, which were made rich by her, shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing,

16 And saying, Alas, alas, that great city, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls!

17 For in one hour so great riches is come to nought. And

every shipmaster, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off,

18 And cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, What city is like unto this great city!

19 And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, Alas, alas, that great city, wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness! for in one hour is she made desolate.

20 Rejoice over her, thou heaven, and ye holy apostles and prophets; for God hath avenged you on her.

21 And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all.

22 And the voice of harpers, and musicians, and of pipers, and trumpeters, shall be heard no more at all in thee; and no craftsman, of whatsoever craft he be, shall be found any more in thee; and the sound of a millstone shall be heard no more at all in thee;

23 And the light of a candle shall shine no more at all in thee; and the voice of the bridegroom and of the bride shall be heard no more at all in thee: for thy merchants were the great men of the earth; for by thy sorceries were all nations deceived.

24 And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth.

Look at how the destruction of Babylon is caused in verse 21. Now is the time to prepare.

4

The Full Gospel Church

3014 E Street

Philadelphia, PA 19134

Church Office Phone: (215) 634-3637

Published by: Rev. LeRoy D. Cressy (215) 535-4037

Services:

Sunday School	11:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship	. 12:00 Noon
Sunday Evening	6:30 PM
Wednesday Evening	7:30 PM

Contact Information:

· E-Mail: leroy@lrcressy.com

· U.S. Mail:

Rev. LeRoy D. Cressy P.O. Box 1731 Philadelphia, Pa 19105-1731

Web Site: http://lrcressy.com