

The Final Countdown – Modern Technology

Part 1

“Well, as you guys know, last week it didn’t turn out too well for Al, you know what I’m saying? He had yet another police officer incident!

And so when he got released, he had to get a ride home from a taxicab since he didn’t have a driver’s license as we saw last week...

Well anyway, on the way home, Al tapped the taxicab driver on the shoulder to ask him a question.

But the taxicab driver screamed bloody murder, lost control of the car, nearly hit a bus, went up on a footpath, and stopped just inches from a shop window.

And for a second everything went quiet in the cab, then the driver said, ‘Look buddy, don’t ever do that again. You scared the daylights out of me!’

And Al, he apologized and said he didn’t realize that a little tap on the shoulder could scare the guy so much.

And the driver calmed down and replied ‘Hey listen, I’m sorry, it’s not really your fault. You see, today is my first day as a taxicab driver – for the last 25 years, I’ve been driving a hearse!’”

Now folks, how many of you guys would say that taxicab driver’s fear was justified once you understood the whole context there, you know what I’m saying? Uh huh! He was scared out of his wits, wasn’t he, and rightly so! But that’s right folks, believe it or not, did you know he’s not alone? The Bible says one day **the whole planet** is going to be **scared out of their wits** just like that guy at the rapture of the Church! And the Bible says their hearts will actually “fail them with fear,” or in other words, they’ll be dropping like

flies with massive heart attacks all over the place because they are so terrified! And that's because they just entered the 7-year Tribulation and it ain't no joke!

And folks, the time of the Tribulation is not a party. It's an outpouring of God's wrath upon a wicked and rebellious planet. In fact, Jesus said in **Matthew 24** that it would be a time of greater horror than anything the world has ever seen or will ever see again. He also said that unless that time of calamity is shortened, the entire human race would be destroyed. But God is not only a God of wrath; He's a God of love as well. And **because He loves you and I**, He has given us many warning signs so that we would know when the Tribulation could be near and that Christ's 2nd Coming is rapidly approaching. Therefore, to keep you and I from experiencing the ultimate surprise of being left behind, we're going to continue taking a look at **The Final Countdown**.

In the last chapter we looked at the **#10** sign on **The Final Countdown**, which was **The Jewish People**. And there we saw that God lovingly foretold you and I that when we see the Jewish people returning to the land, becoming a single united nation with a powerful military, blossoming as a rose in the desert with a currency of the shekel and preparing to rebuild the temple, and last time, developing an unfortunate

relationship with the antichrist, that this would be an indicator that we are in the last days.

But that's not the only sign that God has given us. The **#9** sign on **The Final Countdown** is none other than **Modern Technology**. So just what are these specific prophecies being fulfilled today concerning **Modern Technology**, revealing that we could be in the last days? Well, I'm glad you asked. The **1st End Time Prophecy** concerning **Modern Technology** is that **There Would Be A Great Increase of Travel and Knowledge**.

Daniel 12:4 "But you, Daniel, keep this prophecy a secret; seal up the book until the time of the end. Many will rush here and there, and knowledge will increase."

Many scholars see this passage as **strictly** referring to people rushing here and there, **increasing their knowledge of prophecy** in the last days. Which is exactly what we see today, do we not? Then there are those who see this passage **strictly** referring to people **traveling all over the earth** with an **explosion of information like never before**. Which is **also** exactly what we see today, do we not? Therefore, I think that it's not necessarily one or the other, **but actually both**.

So, specifically, just what kind of **Modern Technology** has arisen to enable this prophecy to come to pass? Well, I'm glad you asked. The **1st** way that **Modern Technology** reveals that we could be in the last days is by an

Increase of Travel. You see, when Daniel wrote down the words of this prophecy, the mode of travel had been basically the same for thousands of years. It's only **in this last century alone** that we've seen a major change in transportation.

For instance, the fastest that mankind could travel for thousands of years was about 30 mph via horseback. From Adam to Alexander the Great to Abraham Lincoln, transportation pretty much stayed the same. For instance, at the turn of the century in New York, the major traffic concern was **dead horses!** Each year there were about 15,000 horses dying from exhaustion, beatings, or accidents. And believe it or not, they had their own air pollution too. How's that you say? Well, only from a **million pounds** of manure produced every day! That's right, people quickly learned to keep their windows closed during the summer. But by and large, the major means of transportation for thousands of years was the horse.

That is, until now. **All in the last century alone**, we have gone from the horse to the horseless carriage; the car. We've gone from a top speed of 30 mph to literally hundreds of mph. And in **just a few decades**, we now **rush here and there** an average of 14,000 miles per year, with an estimated **1 Billion** cars on the road by 2025.

Oh, but that's only by land. Thanks to the invention of the airplane, **which also occurred in the last century**, the world has become a much smaller place. For instance, the first flight by the Wright brothers was only 120 feet. Had they flown from the back of a Boeing 747 they wouldn't have even made it to first class. The first plane had limited seating. But a Boeing 747 can carry more than 400 passengers, fly 8,300 miles without refueling, has 6 million parts, 171 miles of wiring, 5 miles of tubing, and a tail the size of a six-story building.

And because there are so many people traveling today, the industry is making it even easier and faster to **rush here and there**, just like the Bible said would happen. For instance, you can not only order your tickets online, but also print boarding passes from your own computer. And for those of you who worry about your loved ones flying, **worry no more**. Thanks to the Internet, you can follow a flight in transit, graphics and all, observe the speed and altitude it's traveling, and be told when it has arrived and not just the Internet, but now even on your cell phone. You don't even need to be at a computer anymore, it's with you wherever you go! Isn't that convenient!

In fact, they're now combining this ability to travel on Land and Air to where you can **really rush here and there** in your own flying car! Check this out!

“In 1900, Henry Ford Markets his first automobile. In 1903 the Wright brothers have their first light at Kitty Hawk. In 1949 Molt Taylor invents the Aerocar. In 2004 the FAA creates Light Sport Aircraft category. In 2009, the “Transition” flying car passes it’s first flight test. In 2010, the next generation design of the Transition is released to the public.

We’ve always dreamed about having a flying car, and here it is. The idea of combing the automobile with the airplane is no longer a fantasy. Celebrated by news media around the world as the modern day flying car, the Transition represents a safer and more practical approach to personal air travel.

It sounds like science fiction but before long Britain will have its first car-planes. American company Terrafugia has developed a new model which drives on the road with wings folded before opening them to take off as a light aircraft. The Terrafugia Transition has a top speed of 185 kmph in the air and can be parked in the garage at home.

The Transition costs around \$280,000 and the first deliveries are expected in 2012. The car-plane offers a unique opportunity to drive to the airport and take off in the same vehicle – and perhaps to avoid traffic jams.

Aircraft have looked essentially the same for the past 50 years. Transition really is the next step in the evolution of aircraft. The transition can convert between flying and driving almost instantly; you just get in the cockpit, push a couple of buttons and the wings fold up.

Although it has been dubbed “a flying car,” the Transition is really an airplane that can legally and safely be driven on roads and highways and parked in your single car garage. The Transition’s a really fun flying car to drive; it’s got a lot of power, it’s got a well-tuned suspension, it’s very responsive.

The Transition flies like a really nice airplane. I’ve flown 20 to 30 different airplanes in my career and the Transition is by far the easiest airplane to land. It’s smooth, controllable and very stable. The Transition is designed to fly like any other like sport aircraft, but it provides a unique capability to land and continue your trip on the ground safely, no matter what the weather is like.

Pilots who get behind the controls for the first time will feel at ease in the Transition's comfortable and user-friendly interior. The control panels are designed to be intuitive and easy to use, the touch screen interfaces. There's also just one GPS navigation system that combines both your road maps and your aviation charts.

The Transition is fuelled by super unleaded gas, which is cheaper and more environmentally friendly than aviation fuel.”

Oh, but that's not all. Because of this new travel technology, you can go down to your local store and get fresh crabmeat from Thailand, or have a thoroughbred horse shipped to you from New Zealand. You can now get fresh flowers from South America, a genuine New York City pizza delivered anywhere in the world, and send a package from Japan in the afternoon and have it in Washington by the next morning.

Oh, but the friendly skies are not the only place we like to **rush here and there**. You see, the airplane paved the way for **space travel**. Now we can fly around the planet in eighty minutes. In fact, pretty soon, you don't even have to be an astronaut anymore to go into space. Thanks to Virgin Airlines, or should I say Galactic Airlines, we'll soon be going into space!

“Sir Richard Branson and New Mexico Governor Susana Martinez dedicate the ‘Virgin Galactic Gateway to Space.’ Looking skyward, more than 800 guests marveled at Virgin Galactic's commercial space vehicles as they soared through the skies of southern New Mexico during the dedication ceremonies of Virgin Galactic's new home at Spaceport America. The flight of WhiteKnightTwo and SpaceShipTwo was the highlight of a spectacular ceremony which featured the dedication of the Sir Norman Foster-designed building and announcements of new scientific and educational customers for the world's first commercial space line.

“Today is another history-making day for Virgin Galactic,” said Sir Richard Branson. “We are here with a group of incredible people who are helping us lead the way in creating one of the most important new industrial sectors of the 21st century. We’ve never wavered in our commitment to the monumental task of pioneering safe, affordable and clean access to space, or to demonstrate that we mean business at each step along the way.”

Branson and his children, Sam and Holly, who will be the first commercial passengers on SpaceShipTwo, brought the event to a spectacular conclusion by officially naming the world’s first purpose-built spaceline terminal as the “Virgin Galactic Gateway to Space” while rappelling together from the roof of the striking new building.

“I trust that will be the first of many safe landings at Spaceport America! What an absolute joy to celebrate the naming of the Virgin Galactic Gateway to Space with Governor Martinez!” said Sir Richard, as the family touched the ground.

The Virgin Galactic Gateway to Space, a combined terminal and hangar facility, will support up to two WhiteKnightTwo and five SpaceShipTwo vehicles. In addition, The Gateway will house all of the company’s astronaut preparation and celebration facilities, a mission control center, and a friends and family area. There is also space committed to public access via the planned New Mexico Spaceport Authority’s Visitor Experience.

The iconic 120,000 square-foot building, which meets LEED Gold standards for environmental quality, was designed by world-renowned United Kingdom-based Foster + Partners, along with URS Corporation and local New Mexico architects SMPC. The trio won an international competition in 2007 to build the first private spaceport in the world.

Built using local materials and regional construction techniques, the facility is sustainable with few additional energy requirements due to the use of a range of sustainable features including geothermal heating and cooling. New Mexico Governor Susana Martinez participated in the dedication ceremony with U.S. Congressman Steve Pearce, representing New Mexico’s 2nd District.

“New Mexico has a long tradition of pioneering innovation in aerospace and related technologies,” said Governor Martinez. “We already possess an impressive array of facilities and expertise in advanced technologies. Spaceport America and the opening of the Virgin Galactic Gateway to Space significantly deepen those capabilities and strengthen our global position as a powerhouse supporter of the space industry. Our partnership with Virgin Galactic is a perfect example of how government and private industry can work together to drive economic growth and science education.”

Virgin Galactic CEO and President George Whitesides said the company continues to make excellent and unequalled progress, under the motto ‘safety is our North Star.’ Whitesides remarked, “Flight testing by prime contractor Scaled Composites is progressing very well, with 30 SpaceShipTwo flights and 75 WhiteKnightTwo flights to date. We are also recruiting aggressively and assembling a highly talented and accomplished workforce focused on safe commercial operations led by Vice President of Operations Mike Moses, who will run our efforts at the spaceport.”

In addition, the company is taking steps to expand its mission beyond commercial space tourism. The company announced last week that it had been awarded a contract under NASA’s Flight Opportunity Program for research flights to a potential value of \$4.5m. During the ceremony, it was announced that new flight reservations have been made by research and education institutions to support research initiatives and inspire students. Purdue University, Space Florida, the Challenger Center for Space Science Education and Southwest Research Institute were recognized as the most recent participants in this new growth area for Virgin Galactic.

“For me, my children and our ever growing community of future astronauts, many of whom are with us today, standing in front of the Virgin Galactic Gateway to Space as it glimmers majestically under the New Mexican sun brings our space adventure so close we can almost taste it,” said Sir Richard.

Present for the dedication ceremony were over 150 Virgin Galactic customers from 21 countries who have already made deposits to fly to space. A total of over 450 future astronauts worldwide have signed on to join Virgin Galactic for a voyage into space.”

Oh, but that's right! For those of you who don't like flying and yet still want to go into space, they've even thought of that one too! Other researchers are working on what's called a "Space Elevator." And that's a device that uses carbon-technology that suspends a massive line anchored to earth all the way up into outer space, and it will be able to transport us into space **via an elevator** all the way into the upper atmosphere.

"The main problem with space travel is cost. To put you in orbit around the planet earth costs about \$10,000 a pound. Once you're outside the first 100 miles you coast, you coast all the way out to Pluto. So if the first 100 miles is the only problem, why not have a space elevator where you simply hit the up button and you ascend up a cable into outer space. Although this idea seems impossible, I can start by saying that our technology is increasing exponentially, meaning that we learned more in the last 12 years than in the past 200 years. You still don't Believe? What if I tell you that Japan's Obayashi Corp. has announced plans to build a space elevator by 2050

In 1959 a Russian scientist, Yuri N. Artsutanov, suggested using a geostationary satellite as the base from which to deploy the structure downward. By using a counterweight, a cable would be lowered from geostationary orbit to the surface of Earth, while the counterweight was extended from the satellite away from Earth, keeping the cable constantly over the same spot on the surface of the Earth. But building a compression structure from the ground up proved an unrealistic task as there was no material in existence with enough compressive strength to support its own weight under such conditions until now.

For a century, we thought that this idea of a space elevator was ridiculous. Now we have a new game changer Carbon Nanotubes. Carbon Nanotubes are a form of carbon with a cylindrical nanostructure. These cylindrical carbon molecules have unusual properties, which are valuable for nanotechnology, electronics, optics and other fields of materials science and technology. It is stronger than steel, and have electrical properties that rival the best semiconductors, yet they have a diameter smaller than hair. Carbon Nanotubes will be able to withstand the tension of traveling at enormous

velocities in outer space as the space elevator rotates with the planet earth. It is the strongest substance known to science and it will suspend a space elevator without breaking. Theoretically the main challenges have been negotiated.

To build a space elevator, first we need to use a space shuttle to carry reels holding a thin inner-layer cable of carbon nanotubes into orbit. The 22 thousand miles cable would then be unrolled with the free end being snaked down from orbit and attached to an anchoring barrage in the ocean to keep some flexibility. To stabilize the upper-end of the cable, an artificial "asteroid" would be attached to act as a counterweight, this counterweight could also be a space station itself with house labs, living space, and photovoltaic panels that could transmit electricity back the the ground. With the initial inner cable in place, automated "climbers" would then begin adding additional strengthening layers of cable from the ground up. The elevator would get energy by using a laser-beamed power.

Total construction time is estimated at three to five years. It could open up the universe for the average person.”

As well as a whole new set of fears! How many of you guys are afraid of elevators? Wait till you see that one! It's going to be your worst nightmare! But that's still not all! We not only went to the moon and back in rockets, but now our eyes are the planet Mars. And people, keep in mind that this is **in the last century alone!** Do you get the feeling that things are being sped up? Somehow, Star Trek doesn't sound so foreign anymore, does it? Speaking of which, did you know that **teleportation is no longer a myth?** That's right, in the past couple of years, scientists have successfully teleported light particles over a few miles. It would appear as if nothing is

holding us back from being able to **rush here and there**, wherever and whenever we want.

That is, except God. You see, the sad thing is that this explosion of modern travel technology has made us arrogant and overconfident like the Edomites of long ago **who also tried to escape** the boundaries of Almighty God.

Obadiah 1:3-4 “The arrogance of your heart has deceived you, You who live in the clefts of the rock, In the loftiness of your dwelling place, Who say in your heart, Who will bring me down to earth?’ Though you build high like the eagle, Though you set your nest among the stars, From there I will bring you down,” declares the LORD.”

You see, even if we can one day **arrogantly boast** that we don’t need God because we can **rush here and there**, even to the edge of the stars, God will one day, just like the Edomites, bring us down. When? In the last days.

The 2nd way that **Modern Technology** reveals that we could be in the last days is by an **Increase of Knowledge**. When Daniel wrote down the words of this prophecy, the amount of retrieving and sharing knowledge was severely limited. We didn’t even see the invention of the printing press until a few centuries ago. Oh, but look at us today! **All in the last century alone**, just like the Bible said, we are experiencing nothing short of an information explosion! In fact, let’s take a look at some information on information:

- The total store of human knowledge is now doubling every 8 years.
- 80% of all the scientists who have ever lived are alive today.

- Every minute 2000 pages are added to man's scientific knowledge.
- The scientific material produced in 1 day would take 1 person 5 years to read.
- About 1/2 million new books are published every year.
- Since 1970 computer technology has developed so fast that if the auto industry had developed at the same rate, you would today be able to buy a Rolls Royce for three dollars and you could fit 8 them on the head of a pin!
- And speaking of Rolls Royce's and "head of a pin" thanks to nanotechnology we can now construct motors that fit on the head of a pin...thousands of them via a new emerging technology called nanotechnology as this article shares.

"Nanotechnology is the new technology that has emerged whereby scientists can now manipulate matter on an atomic and molecular scale. It is considered a key technology for the future and various governments have invested billions of dollars in its future. The USA has invested 3.7 billion dollars through its National Nanotechnology Initiative followed by Japan with 750 million and the European Union 1.2 billion.

Nanotechnology may be able to create many new materials and devices with a vast range of applications, such as in medicine, electronics, biomaterials, and energy production. Most applications are limited to the use of first generation passive nanomaterials which includes titanium dioxide in sunscreen, cosmetics, surface coatings, and some food products; Carbon allotropes used to produce gecko tape; silver in food packaging, clothing, disinfectants and household appliances; zinc oxide in sunscreens and cosmetics, surface coatings, paints and outdoor furniture varnishes; and cerium oxide as a fuel catalyst.

Further applications allow tennis balls to last longer, golf balls to fly straighter, and even bowling balls to become more durable and have a harder surface. Trouser and socks have been infused with nanotechnology so that they will last longer and keep people cool in the summer. Bandages are being infused with silver nanoparticles to heal cuts faster. Cars are being manufactured with nanomaterials so they may need fewer metals and less fuel to operate in the future. Video game consoles and personal computers may become cheaper, faster, and contain more memory thanks to nanotechnology.

Nanotechnology may have the ability to make existing medical applications cheaper and easier to use in places like the general practitioner's office and at home. Nanorobotics centers on self-sufficient machines of some functionality operating at the nanoscale. There are hopes for applying nanorobots in medicine. A new breed of nanobots is being designed to assist doctors by going where no surgeon or technology has gone before.

Working at the scale of molecules, these micro-machines are taking their cues from bacteria and the way in which they find their way around the human body. If they are successful, they could bring about a new type of molecular surgery and a different perspective to our own inner space.

The engineers and scientists working on the development of these nanobots – the size of only a few molecules – believe they could reach liquid parts of the body difficult or impossible to get to using today's medical practices, precisely delivering drugs to areas such as the eyeball cavity or arteries in the heart.

They might sound like the stuff of science fiction, but at their most basic level these medical micro-robots are man-made protein "machines" that produce movement through chemical reactions.

Dr. James Friend, senior lecturer in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at Monash University in Australia, is developing a nanobot propelled by a tiny rotor motor measuring about five-millionths of a meter. A simple injection would place the tiny machine into the body and it would swim to its intended target.

"We aim to provide doctors with a means to avoid major surgery and extend the capabilities of doctors to diagnose and treat patients. The powerful micro-motor will have its own power supply and be perform tasks by remote control," said Friend.

- A weekday edition of any major newspaper has more information than the average person living in the 17th century would have come across in a lifetime.

- Thanks to the Internet, 1,000's of international papers are at your fingertips.
- Every day, the equivalent of over 300 million pages of text is sent over the Internet with millions of sites.
- About 1/2 of all medical knowledge is outdated every 10 years and in some scientific fields, such as biotechnology, the cycle is less than 6 months.
- There are now wristwatches that wield more computing ability than some 1970s computer mainframes.
- Ordinary cars today have more intelligence than the original lunar lander.
- Did you know the 25% of India's population with the highest IQ's is greater than the total population of the United States. Translation: India has more honors kids than America has kids.
- The Top 10 in-demand jobs in 2010 did not exist in 2004. We are currently preparing students for jobs that don't yet exist using technologies that haven't been invented in order to solve problems we don't even know are problem yet.
- 1 out of 8 couples married in the U.S. last year met online.
- There are over 200 million registered users on MySpace. If MySpace were a country it would be the 5th-Largest in the world. (between Indonesia and Brazil)
- We are living in exponential times. There are 31 Billion searches on Google every month. In 2006, this number was 2.7 Billion.
- Around 90 trillion emails were sent through the Internet in 2009 with an average of 30 million emails per day. 1.4 billion emails users worldwide (Jan 2010). Over the last 12 months over 100 million people have become new email users.

- There are 1.83 billion Internet users worldwide. Projection for 2012 is 2.10 billion. There was an 18% increase of Internet users since the previous years (08-09). The U.S. Internet of 2015 will be at least 50 times larger than it was in 2006. Global Internet traffic is expected to increase 5 times from 2008 to 2013.
- Bing estimates there are more than 1 trillion pages of content on the Internet. That's almost 150 pages per person alive. The number of website in 2009 was 234 million. 47 million alone were added in 2009.
- If Facebook were a country it would be the third largest in the world just below just below China and India and above the United States. Facebook tops Google for weekly traffic in the U.S.
- Social media has overtaken pornography as the #1 activity on the web. What happens in Vegas stays on Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube.
- YouTube is the second largest search engine in the world. While you read this 100 plus hours of video will be uploaded to YouTube. In fact, more video was uploaded to YouTube in the last two months than if ABC, NBC, and CBS had been airing new content 24 hours a day 7 days a week 365 days a year since 1948 which was when ABC started broadcasting.
- The first commercial text message was sent in December of 1992. Today, the number of text messages sent and received everyday exceeds the total population of the planet.
- Years it took to reach a market audience of 50 million. Radio 38 years. TV 13 years. Internet 4 years. iPod 3 years. Facebook 2 years.
- The number of internet devices in 1984 was 1,000. 1992 1,000,000. 2008 1,000,000,000. The average online viewer watches 12.2 hours of online video each month.
- The mobile device will be the world primary connection tool to the Internet in 2020. The computer in your cell phone today is 1 million times cheaper, and a 1,000 times more powerful, and about 100,000

times smaller, than the 1 computer at MIT in 1965. SO what used to fit in a building, now fits in your pocket.

- Two to three new Twitter accounts are activated every second. Twitter averages 50 million tweets per day. Ashton Kutcher and Britney Spears have more Twitter followers than the entire populations of Sweden, Israel, Switzerland, Ireland, Norway, and Panama.
- Adults spend 15 plus hours a week on the Internet. Broadband access will grow from 55% to 90% in 2012. 35% of the global work force will be mobile by 2013.
- There are about 540,000 words in the English language. About 5 times as many as during Shakespeare's time. Wikipedia has more than 14 million articles written by 75,000 contributors in 260 languages viewed by 684 million viewers.
- It is estimated that 4 exabytes (4.010^{19}) of unique information will be generated this year. That is more than the previous 5,000 years.
- The amount of new technical information is doubling every 2 years. For students starting a 4-year technical degree this means that half of what they learn in their first year of study will be outdated by their third year of study.
- NNT Japan has successfully tested a fiber optic cable that pushes 14 trillion bits per second down a single strand of fiber. That is 2,660 CDs or 210 million phone calls every second. It is currently tripling every six months and is expected to do so for the next 20 years.
- By 2013, a supercomputer will be built that exceeds the computational capabilities of the human brain. Predictions are that by 2049, a \$1000 computer will exceed the computation capabilities of the entire human species.

So what's all this mean? Well folks, maybe it's just me, but it sure looks like we're experiencing some sort of information explosion, how about

you? That's what it means! In fact, as you just saw with those statistics, experts are saying that the technology is growing so fast that we are headed for a serious danger called, **singularity**. And this is the term to describe the point where the technology grows so fast that it actually spawns a type of super intelligence that far exceeds any kind of human intelligence and then it begins to take over, which, upon this point, and experts are saying it could happen very soon, "The human era will be ended." Machines will take over.

And here's the point. The Bible says, when you see these things take place, you better wake up! It's a sign you're living in the last days!

The **3rd** way that **Modern Technology** reveals that we could be in the last days is by an **Increase of Unrest**.

2 Timothy 3:1,7 "But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. Always learning but never able to acknowledge the truth."

You see, the Bible also warned that in the last days, not only would we be traveling like never before and acquiring information like crazy, but we would also **see an increase of unrest**. Why? Because we would become a people who are always learning yet are never able to acknowledge the truth, leaving us in a frustrated and restless state. And folks, is this not exactly what has happened to our society? We are being told today that the more we acquire this **new technology**, the more time it will save us, so we can spend even more time **rushing here and there**. Then, if that wasn't bad

enough, we are being told that the more we can learn from this **increase of information**, the more peace it will supposedly produce in our lives.

But is this true? Have we really saved more time and created more peace in our lives with all this new technology? Absolutely not! We have actually become a society on the brink of disaster! And this is exactly what the **secular experts** are saying. Even though we have the most highly funded educational system in the world, we are producing the most confused, ignorant and violent children ever. Rates of depression have been doubling every ten years and suicide is the third most common cause of death among young adults in North America. Fifteen percent of Americans have had a clinical anxiety disorder and serial killers are now commonplace.

How can this be? It's simply because we are always learning yet never able to come to the truth! You see, **the truth is** that the more we fill our lives with so-called timesaving devices, the more rushed we feel. In fact, we are in so much of a rush that "we tap our fingers while waiting for the microwave to zap our instant coffee." Think about it! **The truth is**, these devices that are supposed to save us so much time so that we can rest more, are actually making us **more restless**. In fact, one researcher made this comment. See if it sounds familiar:

"This century's mad dash of innovation has produced the most frantic human era ever. We phone. We fax. We page. We e-mail. We race from one

end of life to the other, rarely glancing over our shoulders. Technology, mass media and a desire to do more, do it better and do it yesterday have turned us into a world of hurriers. Stop and smell the roses? No more. Instead, we have a world of 7-day diets, 24-hour news channels, 1-hour photo, 30-minute pizza delivery, 10-minute facials, 2-minute warnings, and Minute Rice. Fast food. Fast computers. Fast cars in fast lanes. DVD players with 5 fast-forward settings. Sound bites and the rat race and instant coffee. Get rich quick. Live fast, die young, leave a good-looking corpse. Run on empty. Just do it. Places to go, people to meet, planners to fill, files to download, bills to pay, planes to catch, frozen dinners to nuke, web sites to surf, kids to pick up, stress to manage, and speeding tickets to pay.”

One guy said, “It’s significant that we call it the Information Age. We don’t talk about the Knowledge Age. Our society is basically motion without memory, which of course is one of the clinical definitions of **insanity**.”

We have advanced beyond our wildest dreams technologically, yet we are still spiritually bankrupt about the **true meaning of life**. And it’s all because we have been tricked and seduced by a **restless** rat race society! You see, the problem of being in a **hurry all the time** is that you never take the time to stop and think about what is most important in life. Therefore, you will never find the truth. But just in case there was a teensy weensy little bit of time left in the day after running like a restless rat all day, there’s a stranger out there who steers us away from God, like this man recognized.

“A few months before I was born, my dad met a stranger who was new to out small Tennessee town. From the beginning, Dad was fascinated with this enchanting newcomer, and soon invited him to live with our family. The stranger was quickly accepted and was around to welcome me into the world a few months later.

As I grew up I never questioned his place in our family. In my young mind, each member had a special niche. My brother, Bill, five years my senior, was my example. Fran, my sister, gave me an opportunity to play ‘big brother’ and develop the art of teasing. My parents were complementary instructors – Mom taught me to love the Word of God, and Dad taught me to obey it.

But the stranger was our storyteller. He could weave the most fascinating tales. Adventures, mysteries and comedies were daily conversations. He could hold our whole family spellbound for hours each evening. If I wanted to know about politics, history, or science, he knew it all. He knew about the past, understood the present, and seemingly could predict the future.

The pictures he could draw were so life like that I would often laugh or cry as I watched. He was like a friend to the whole family. He took Dad, Bill, and me to our first major league baseball game. He was always encouraging us to see the movies and he even made arrangements to introduce us to several movie stars. My brother and I were deeply impressed by John Wayne in particular.

The stranger was an incessant talker. Dad didn’t seem to mind but sometimes Mom would quietly get up, while the rest of us were enthralled with one of his stories of faraway places, go to her room, read her Bible and pray. I wonder now if she ever prayed that the stranger would leave.

You see, my Dad ruled our household with certain moral convictions. But this stranger never felt obligated to honor them. Profanity, for example, was not allowed in our house—not from us, from our friends, or adults. Our longtime visitor, however, used occasional four letter words that burned my ears and made Dad squirm.

To my knowledge the stranger was never confronted. My Dad was a teetotaler who didn’t permit alcohol in his home, not even for cooking. But the stranger felt like we needed exposure and enlightened us to other ways of life. He offered us beer and other alcoholic beverages often. He made cigarettes look tasty, cigars manly, and pipes distinguished.

He talked freely, probably too much too freely, about sex. His comments were sometimes blatant, sometimes suggestive, and generally embarrassing.

I know that my early concepts of the man-woman relationship were influenced by the stranger.

As I look back, I believe it was the grace of God that the stranger did not influence us more. Time after time he opposed the values of my parents. Yet he was seldom rebuked and never asked to leave.

More than thirty years have passed since the stranger moved in with the young family on Morningside Drive. He is not nearly so intriguing to my Dad as he was in those early years. But if I were to walk in my parent's den today, you would still see him sitting over in a corner, waiting for someone to listen to him talk and watch him draw his pictures.

His name? We always just called him 'TV'."

People, don't we see what's happening to us? All this Modern Technology, this explosion of travel and information, is not only a sign we are living in the Last Days that ends up creating a restless rat race society, but it ensures that in the Last Days we don't even take the time to seek out the One Who Alone could give us rest, and that is God! Instead, we spend our time with **TV, the Internet, texting, cell phones, YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, and a whole slug of other things** that are supposed to save us time and give us peace **but they don't!** It's a trap, a spiritual one! Can I state the obvious? You cannot grow spiritually watching 3 hours of TV a day versus 3 minutes of the Bible a day! You don't pray to God but you socialize on Facebook! It's a trap! It's taking away whatever time you have left in the day after running the rat race to spend time with God, when of all times, in

the Last Days, we're going to need Him the most! Don't you see it? It's so obvious that even the devil admits it!

“One day the devil called a worldwide convention of his evil demons and said this. ‘We can't keep the Christians from going to heaven, but we can keep them from forming an intimate relationship in Christ. If they gain that connection with Jesus, our power over them is broken. So here's what we do

Let's steal their time, so they can't gain any strength in Jesus Christ. Let's distract them by keeping them busy in the nonessentials of life and invent unnumbered schemes to occupy their minds. We'll over stimulate their minds so that they cannot hear that still small voice.

We'll entice them to play the radio or cassette player whenever they drive, to keep the TV, the VCR, and their CD's going constantly in their homes. And we'll see to it that every store and restaurant in the world plays music constantly jamming their minds to break that union with Christ.

We'll fill their coffee tables with magazines and newspapers and pound their minds with the news twenty-four hours a day. We'll invade their driving moments with billboards and flood their mailboxes with junk mail, sweepstakes, mail order catalogues and every kind of newsletter and promotional offering promising false hopes.

We'll even get them to be excessive in their entertainment or recreation and send them to amusement parks, sporting events, concerts, and movies so they'll return exhausted, disquieted and unprepared for the coming week.

And even when they meet for spiritual fellowship, we'll involve them in gossip and small talk so that they leave with troubled consciences and unsettled emotion. Why, we'll crowd their lives with **so many things** that they have no time or energy to seek power from Christ.

It was quite a convention in the end. And the demons went away eagerly causing Christians everywhere to get busy, busy, busy and rush here and there. Don't forget what 'busy' means. B-eing U-nder S-atan's Y-oke. Has the devil been successful at his scheme? You be the judge.”

I'll say it one last time. The problem of being in a **hurry all the time** is that you never take the time to stop and think about that which is the most important in life. And because of that, it's not only a sign that you're living in the last days, but that you've been lassoed by satan's yoke and therefore, you will never find the truth because you're just too busy! Wake up! Instead of worshipping the one True God, we have **bowed to the idol of technology**. And the sad thing is that the truth about life is right before us, if only we'd stop long enough to listen. You see, we don't need to travel halfway across the world for truth. In fact, we don't even need that latest computer gizmo to understand it, nor spend a dime to receive it. Why? Because the truth about a **restful life** has been right under our noses all the time, in the words of Jesus Christ.

Matthew 11:28 "Then Jesus said, 'Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.'"

People of God, please don't be fooled into thinking that by **rushing here and there** and by **increasing your knowledge** is where you'll find rest. Because if you do, you will not only remain restless, but you may one day wake up to find yourself in the **greatest time of unrest** the world has ever known, the Great Tribulation and it's sooner than you think! This is why God has given us the warning sign of **Modern Technology** to show us

that the Tribulation is near and the 2nd Coming of Jesus Christ is rapidly approaching. And that's why Jesus Himself said:

Luke 21:28 "When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

People of God, like it or not, we are headed for **The Final Countdown**. And so the point is this. If you're a Christian here today it's time to get busy, not for satan, but for Jesus! We need to get busy working together saving souls and doing great things for Him! Amen? But if you're here today and you're not a Christian, then I beg you, please, heed the signs, heed the warnings, give your life to Jesus today, because tomorrow may be too late! Amen?

To find the way to God, to understand the *truth* of God's Word, and to receive the gift of eternal *life*, begin by repentance and faith through a prayer like this:

"Dear God, I understand that I have broken Your Law and sinned against You. Please forgive my sins. Thank You that Jesus suffered on the cross in my place. I now place my trust in Him as My Savior and Lord. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen."
