The Final Countdown – Worldwide Upheaval Part 3

Now folks, I didn't want to say anything, but I don't know if you've noticed or not, but Jon Gibson's been looking pretty trim lately, have you noticed? I mean, he's looking kind of buff, losing weight, working out, you know? And believe it or not, for those of you wondering, I think I've discovered his secret to rapid weight loss. Check this out.

"You see, apparently what Jon's been doing, at lunch, right across from his workplace, He goes into this cafe and sits down to get something to eat when he notices that the special of the day is cold chili. (Hmmm. I wonder if that's his secret? Let's find out.)

And when the waitress comes over to take his order, sure enough, Jon says, 'I'll take the cold chili.'

But the waitress replied, 'I'm sorry sir, but the gentleman next to you got the last bowl.'

So Jon, disappointed says, 'Oh alright, I'll just have the coffee then.'

But after a while, Jon notices that the guy next to him who got the last bowl of cold chili was finishing a rather large meal and the chili bowl he ordered was just sitting there, still full.

And so Jon asked the guy, 'Are you going to eat that?'

And the other man replied, 'No.'

And so Jon said, 'Would you sell it to me?'

And the other man said, 'You can have it for free if you want it.'

So Jon, he's all excited, he takes the bowl of chili with lots of nice big

chunks in it and begins to eat it. But as he got about half way through the bowl, he notices a dead mouse in the bowl and pukes the chili back into the bowl.

And the other man said to Jon, 'Yeah, that's about as far as I got, too.'"

Who's ready for lunch? Now folks, how many of you guys would that's a pretty creative diet plan Jon's got going on there? Yuck! I guess it would work! But seriously folks, I think the point is obvious. Jon's situation went from bad to real worse, didn't it? But that's right folks, Jon's nifty diet plan is not the only thing that's going to make people puke one day. Believe it or not the Bible says one day the whole planet is going to puke their guts out at the rapture of the Church! And that's because they just entered the 7-year Tribulation and it ain't no joke! For those of you who don't know, the 7-year Tribulation and is not a party. It's an outpouring of God's wrath on a wicked and rebellious planet. In fact Jesus said in Matthew 24 it's going to be a "time of greater horror than anything the world has ever seen or will ever see again. And that "unless that time of calamity is shortened, the entire human race will be destroyed."

But praise God, God's not only a God of wrath, He's a God of love as well. And **because He loves you and I**, He's given us many warning signs to show us when the Tribulation was near and Jesus Christ's 2nd Coming was rapidly approaching. Therefore, in order to keep you and I from

experiencing the ultimate bad day of being left behind, a seriously pukey experience, we're going to continue in our series **The Final Countdown**.

And so far we've already seen how the #10 sign on The Final

Countdown was The Jewish People. The #9 sign was Modern

Technology. And the last two times we saw how the #8 sign was

Worldwide Upheaval. And there we saw that God lovingly foretold you and I that when you and I see an Increase of Famines, Earthquakes, and Pestilence, and last time an Increase of Wars and rumors of wars, and Signs in the Sky, uh...you better wake up! This is a clear indicator from God, you are living in the last days.

But that's still not all! The **sixth sign** to indicate that we are headed for **Worldwide Upheaval** i.e we are living in the last days, is that there would be an **Increase of Volcanic Activity**. But don't take my word for it.

Let's listen to God's.

Revelation 6:12-14 "I watched as he opened the sixth seal. There was a great earthquake. The sun turned black like sackcloth made of goat hair, the whole moon turned blood red, and the stars in the sky fell to earth, as late figs drop from a fig tree when shaken by a strong wind. The sky receded like a scroll, rolling up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place."

Now folks again, this is what we've already seen a couple of times, but I want to point out another item that we skipped over, and that is this.

Notice what happened right after this **great earthquake** that was mentioned

turned **blood red**, right? Or in other words, after this earthquake, the sun is going to become darkened during the daytime and at night the moon is going to take on a reddish hue, right? And so here's the point. Many experts believe this passage is to be taken **literally** because for the first time in mankind's history, thanks to the science of **seismology**, we now know this fits the perfect description of an after-affect of an earthquake. It's called **Volcanic Eruption!** And we now know, it's common sense today, when a volcano erupts, it spews forth massive tons of volcanic ash into the air, and guess what it does? It darkens the sunlight, almost like something's covering it, like maybe sackcloth **and** at night the moon takes on a reddish color. Where have I heard that before? It fits the text perfectly! Mystery solved!

And so that's the question. Do we see any signs of Volcanic Activity increasing on the planet to show us we're getting closer to this giant one going off in the 7-year Tribulation? Uh, yeah! Just a few! In fact, if you've been paying attention to the news folks, **volcanoes are on the rise** all over the world! There's been the recent ones in Iceland, Costa Rica, and Ecuador, that sort of made the news, but that's the tip of the iceberg! What they haven't been telling you is there's all kinds of volcanoes going off **right now** all over the world in Europe, Africa, Central America, the Caribbean,

the Pacific Islands, Indonesia, Japan, South America, the Philippines, and even in the Antarctica **right now!**

In fact, one of big ones that's supposed to be going off anytime now here in the United States, is the infamous Yellowstone Caldera or **Super Volcano**, that experts are saying, "Would explode with a force 1,000 times more powerful than the Mount St. Helens, spew forth lava and ash into the sky that would fan out and dump a layer of toxic air and ash 10 feet deep up to 1,000 miles away, turning 2/3^{rds} of the U.S. into an uninhabitable wasteland, forcing millions to flee." Gee, that almost sounds like that Volcano in Revelation Chapter 6! In fact, it might be closer than many people realize as this article shares.

"The oldest, most famous national park in the United States sits squarely atop one of the biggest volcanoes on Earth. Yellowstone's volcano is not extinct. To an unsettling degree, it is very much alive.

There are volcanoes, and then there are supervolcanoes. The latter have no agreed-on definition—the term was popularized in a BBC documentary in 2000—but some scientists use it to describe explosions of exceptional violence and volume.

The U.S. Geological Survey applies the term to any eruption ejecting more than 1,000 cubic kilometers (240 cubic miles) of pumice and ash in a single event—more than 50 times the size of the infamous Krakatau eruption of 1883, which killed more than 36,000 people.

Volcanoes form mountains; supervolcanoes erase them. Volcanoes kill plants and animals for miles around; supervolcanoes threaten whole species with extinction by changing the climate across the entire planet.

No supervolcano has erupted in recorded human history, but geologists have pieced together what an explosion must have been like. First, a plume of heat wells up from deep within the planet and melts rock just beneath the crust of the Earth, creating a vast chamber filled with a pressurized mix of magma, semisolid rock, and dissolved water vapor, carbon dioxide, and other gases. As additional magma accumulates in the chamber over thousands of years, the land above begins to dome upward by inches. Fractures open along the dome's edges, as if burglars were sawing a hole from beneath a wooden floor. When the pressure in the magma chamber is released through the fractures, the dissolved gases suddenly explode in a massive, runaway reaction.

It's like "opening the Coke bottle after you've shaken it," says Bob Christiansen, a U.S. Geological Survey scientist who pioneered research on the Yellowstone volcano in the 1960s. With the magma chamber emptied, the surface collapses. The entire domed region simply falls into the planet, as though the Earth were consuming itself. Left behind is a giant caldera, from the Spanish word for "cauldron."

The "hot spot" responsible for the Yellowstone caldera is rooted deep in the Earth, and the tectonic plate above it is moving southwest, ghostly calderas from the more ancient explosions are strung out like a series of gigantic beads across southern Idaho and into Oregon and Nevada, the subsequent lava flows forming the eerie moonscapes of the Snake River Plain.

The last three super-eruptions have been in Yellowstone itself. The most recent was a thousand times the size of the Mount St. Helens eruption in 1980, which killed 57 people in Washington. But numbers do not capture the full scope of the mayhem. Scientists calculate that the pillar of ash from the Yellowstone explosion rose some 100,000 feet, leaving a layer of debris across the West all the way to the Gulf of Mexico.

Pyroclastic flows—dense, lethal fogs of ash, rocks, and gas, superheated to 1,470 degrees Fahrenheit—rolled across the landscape in towering gray clouds. The clouds filled entire valleys with hundreds of feet of material so hot and heavy that it welded itself like asphalt across the once verdant landscape. And this wasn't even Yellowstone's most violent moment.

An eruption was more than twice as strong, leaving a hole in the ground the size of Rhode Island. In between, was a smaller but still devastating

eruption. Each time, the whole planet would have felt the effects. Gases rising high into the stratosphere would have mixed with water vapor to create a thin haze of sulfate aerosols that dimmed sunlight, potentially plunging the Earth into years of "volcanic winter."

For all their violence, the supervolcanoes have left little behind beyond a faintly perceptible sense of absence. The Yellowstone caldera has been eroded, filled in with lava flows and ash from smaller eruptions and smoothed by glaciers. Peaceful forests cover any lingering scars. The combined effect makes it almost impossible to detect, unless you've got a good eye, or a geologist whispering in your ear.

"You're seeing two-thirds of the entire caldera," says Bob Smith. "The size is so immense that people don't appreciate it." Smith is a University of Utah geophysicist and a prominent expert on the supervolcano at Yellowstone.

We're standing atop Lake Butte, an overlook at the east end of Yellowstone Lake, one of the best places to see the caldera. But I don't see it. I can see the lake spread out for miles beneath us and a few little hills to the north—old lava domes. But I can't follow the caldera rim visually because much of it is beneath the lake and because of the sheer scale of the thing—roughly 45 miles across. I see only distant mountains on the horizon on either side and between them, to the west, the "unmountains," the emptiness where the land swallowed itself in the course of a few days.

The park roils with geysers, fumaroles, mud volcanoes, and other hydrothermal activity. Half the geysers on the planet are in Yellowstone. The hydrothermal features change constantly in temperature and behavior, with new ones popping up in the forests, spewing clouds of steam visible from airplanes, exuding vapors that have been known to kill bison on the spot.

In spite of this "most violent gaseous ebullition," the volcano beneath Yellowstone was long thought to be extinct, or at least in its dying days. Indeed, after federal surveys in the late 19th century, the volcanic nature of Yellowstone received little scientific scrutiny for decades.

Then in the late 1950s, a young Harvard graduate student, Francis "Joe" Boyd, became intrigued by the presence of a welded tuff—a thick layer of

heated and compacted ash, which he realized was a sign of pyroclastic flows from an explosive, geologically recent eruption.

In 1965 Bob Christiansen found a second distinct welded tuff; the next year he and his colleagues identified a third. They determined that the three tuffs were the result of three distinct eruptions. Each created a giant caldera, with the most recent eruption largely burying signs of the previous two.

Then one day in 1973, Bob Smith and a colleague were doing some work on Peale Island, in the South Arm of Yellowstone Lake, when Smith noticed something odd: Some trees along the shoreline were partially submerged and dying. He had worked in the area back in 1956 and was planning to use the same boat dock as on the earlier trip. But the dock was also inundated. What was going on?

Intrigued, Smith set out to resurvey benchmarks that park workers had placed on various roads throughout the park beginning in 1923. His survey revealed that the Hayden Valley, which sits atop the caldera to the north of the lake, had risen by some 30 inches over the intervening decades. But the lower end of the lake hadn't risen at all. In effect, the north end of the lake had risen and tipped water down into the southern end. The ground was doming. The volcano was alive.

Smith published his results in 1979, referring in interviews to Yellowstone as "the living, breathing caldera." Then in 1985, heralded by a "swarm" of mostly tiny earthquakes, the terrain subsided again. Smith modified his metaphor: Yellowstone was now the "living, breathing, shaking caldera."

In the years since, Smith and his colleagues have used every trick they can devise to "see" beneath the park. Gradually, the proportions and potential of the subterranean volcanic system have emerged.

At the shallowest level, surface water percolates several miles into the crust, is heated, and boils back up, supplying the geysers and fumaroles. About five to seven miles deep is the top of the magma chamber, a reservoir of partially melted rock roughly 30 miles wide. Basaltic magma is trapped inside the chamber by denser, overlying rhyolitic magma, which floats on top of the liquid basalt like cream on milk.

By looking at the way sound waves created by earthquakes propagate through subsurface rock of varying densities, the scientists have discovered that the magma chamber is fed by a gigantic plume of hot rock, rising from the Earth's upper mantle, tilted downward to the northwest by 60 degrees, its base perhaps 400 miles below the surface. When the plume pumps more heat into the chamber, the land heaves upward. Small earthquakes allow hydrothermal fluids to escape to the surface, easing the pressure inside the chamber, which causes the ground to subside again.

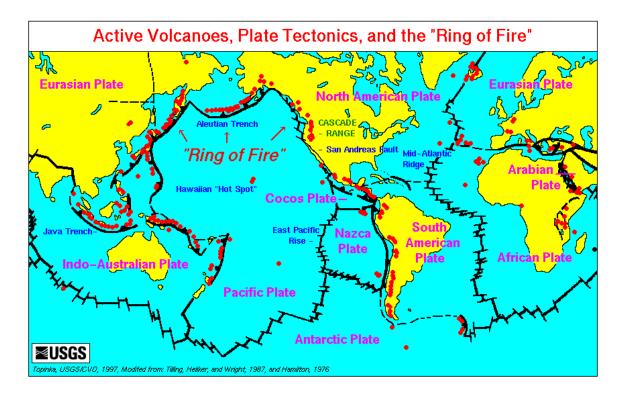
After the 1985 earthquake swarm, Yellowstone fell eight inches over the course of a decade or so. Then it rose again, faster this time. Since 2004, portions of the caldera have surged upward at a rate of nearly three inches a year, much faster than any uplift since close observations began in the 1970s. The surface continues to rise despite an 11-day earthquake swarm that began late in 2008, causing a flurry of apocalyptic rumors on the Internet.

"We call this a caldera at unrest," Smith says. "The net effect over many cycles is to finally get enough magma to erupt. And we don't know what those cycles are."

So, the colossal question: Is it going to blow again? Some kind of eruption—perhaps a modest one like Mount Pinatubo's in the Philippines, which killed 800 people in 1991—is highly likely at some point. The odds of a full, caldera-forming eruption—a cataclysm that could kill untold thousands of people and plunge the Earth into a volcanic winter—are anyone's guess; it could happen in our lifetimes."

And that's just **one** Super Volcano going off. And as horrible as that is, taking 2/3^{rds} of the U.S. with it, just one, the Bible says that's chump change compared to what's coming! Remember, the Biblical rule. Anything we can dream up in a movie screen, pales in comparison to the actual reality. Especially when you put this other piece of information we now know thanks, together with it, to modern **Seismology**. Check out this map we now

know of **current active volcanoes** around the planet and noticed where they're positioned.



As you can see, all the red dots, the volcanoes, are lined up **right on top** of all the fault lines around the earth. And so now, for the first time in
mankind's history, guess what we can see? When that earthquake goes off in
Revelation Chapter 6, the one that removes every mountain and island from
their place, **all** those fault lines are going to get adjusted, and so guess
what's going to happen? Not just one volcano like in that video clip is going
to go off, but most likely **all** those volcanoes are **all** going to go off **all at the same time...all** over the world! And what would that do? I think it'll cause,
"The sun to turn black like sackcloth and the moon turn blood red," all over

the planet, how about you? Folks, we are getting so close it's not even funny!

But that's not all! The **seventh sign** to indicate that we are headed for **Worldwide Upheaval** i.e we are living in the last days, is that there would be an **Increase of Global Catastrophes**.

Joel 2:30-31 "I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and billows of smoke. The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD."

In other words, you don't want to be there! But here we see in this text that God will not only show us signs in the **sky** that He's getting ready to judge us, but He's also going to do it where? **On the earth**, right? Not just in the sky, but on the earth! And so that's the question, "Do we see any **signs** that the **earth** is **also** going through some weird aberrant behavior letting us know that God's getting ready to judge us real soon? Uh yeah!

And the **first sign of Global Earth Catastrophes** letting us know God is getting ready to judge us any day now is **The Rise Weird Weather**.

Job 37:5-6 "God's voice is glorious in the thunder. We cannot comprehend the greatness of his power. He directs the snow to fall on the earth and tells the rain to pour down."

Now folks, according to our text, I think it's pretty obvious who in the world is the ultimate weatherman? It ain't mother nature it's Almighty God,

right? He's got control over the **weather**, and it ain't just the **rain and snow**. Let's look at some other weather He's also controlled in the past.

- 1. Caused the world to FLOOD: Genesis 7
- 2. Caused FIRE from heaven upon the cities: Genesis 19
- 3. Caused plagues of HAIL, THUNDER, and LIGHTNING in Egypt: Exodus 9
- 4. Caused the WIND to divide the Red Sea: Exodus 14
- 5. Caused the SUN to stand still: Joshua 10
- 6. Caused DEW to form on Gideon's fleece: Judges 6
- 7. Caused a WHIRLWIND to carry Elijah to heaven: 2 Kings 2
- 8. Caused RAIN in answer to Samuel's prayer: 1 Samuel 12
- 9. Caused a STORM to confuses the Philistine army: 1 Samuel 7
- 10. Caused DARKNESS at the crucifixion: Matthew 27

And folks, the reason why I bring this up is because most people, even Christians, think that when it comes to the weather, it's just some naturalistic explanation. And yet, they have no idea it might actually be a wake up call from God! He controls the weather! He uses it for Judgment! And so that's the question. Do we see any signs of weird wacky weather on the planet lately, that very well could be a wake up call from God, letting us know His Judgment is just around the corner? Uh, yeah! Just a little bit! And I quote, scientists are not only right now, "Warning the world to prepare for Extreme Weather," but listen to this, "2010 through 2011 brought extreme weather not only to the United States but to the entire world. Record-setting rain triggered massive floods and mudslides from Australia to Mexico; bulb-shattering blizzards brought minus temps across most of North America."

And another person stated, "Earthquakes, heat waves, floods, super typhoons, blizzards, landslides, and droughts, killed at least ¼ million people in 2010 alone – the deadliest year in more than a generation. In fact, more people have been killed worldwide by natural disasters **this year** alone than have been killed in terrorism attacks in the past 40 years combined." And that's still the tip of the iceberg. Check this out.

"The global impact of natural disasters took a turn for the worse in 2010 with an increase in fatalities and economic damage, according to a report released Tuesday. There were 385 natural disasters worldwide last year alone that killed more than 297,000 people, affected over 217 million others and caused \$123.9 billion dollars in economic damages, according to the Annual Disaster Statistical Review. The number of victims increased from 198.7 million in 2009 to 217.3 million in 2010. In fact, just two of the megadisasters that occurred in 2010 made it the deadliest year in at least two decades." And lest you think this really isn't a trend of things getting worse, you need to check this out.

In 2009, there were 1,146 tornadoes in the United States. In 2010, there were 1,282 tornadoes in the United States. In 2011, there were 1,691 in the United States. In 2012, we are on pace to far exceed the total we saw in 2011.

And believe it or not, it's projected to get even worse as this next report shows:

"In just the first half of 2011, the world experienced so many natural disasters that it was the most expensive year ever for property damage."

The year 2011 began with a flood in Australia so vast it turned an area almost twice as large as Texas into a disaster zone.

The first half of 2011 saw thousands of lives lost to natural disasters and made it the most expensive on record in terms of property damage.

In January, earthquakes hit Argentina, Chile, Iran, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Tonga. In February, they hit Burma, the Pacific Islands and the big one, in Christchurch, New Zealand.

The quake struck at midday. Buildings were toppled. Scores were buried under rubble and 181 died. Survivors who crawled from collapsed office buildings were stunned.

One woman who appeared dazed, said of her office building, "It just came down. Like, right down."

The monster earthquake of 2011 in Japan was like something out of a science fiction movie. From 20 miles under the surface of the Pacific, the quake created a wall of water 130 feet high that traveled six miles inland, causing cars and boats to bob like toys.

It was a quake so powerful it moved the island of Honshu eight feet. More than 15,000 people died and nearly 5,000 are still missing.

Then in a terrible twist, after the quake knocked out power at the Fukushima nuclear plant, the tsunami washed out its backup generators, the last line of defense against overheating. It would be the world's first triple meltdown, spreading radiation over a wide area.

It was the worst disaster to afflict Japan since World War II.

The world was still in shock when the southern and eastern United States experienced the worst rash of tornadoes in recorded weather history. The 2011 "Super Outbreak" included four EF-5 tornadoes, and led to almost 350 deaths and more than \$6 billion in insured losses.

Then just weeks later on a Sunday afternoon in May, a mile-wide multiple vortex EF-5 tornado plowed through Joplin, Mo., obliterating parts of the city, killing 159 people and causing an estimated \$2 billion in insured losses.

The insurance industry was left reeling. Americans were in shock.

Vinson Synan, author of 19 books and the dean emeritus at Regent University in Virginia Beach, Va., says the unprecedented string of calamities is forcing many Americans to ask, 'Why?'

"It's a sobering thing, for even natural man to face up to natural disasters that don't make any sense at all. And to hit randomly in the world, and may hit you," Synan said. "And the question, in the back of their minds -- 'What does this mean?"

"So I think it brings people to question the ultimate end of everything," he explained.

And unfortunately, the world's worst disasters could still be ahead, like a category five hurricane making a direct hit on a large American city.

Experts have studied other disaster scenarios that many Americans do not know about.

For example, geologists have warned that heavy rains on Mount Rainer in Washington State could cause a deadly 40-mile mudslide moving at 60 mph, filled with rocks and trees.

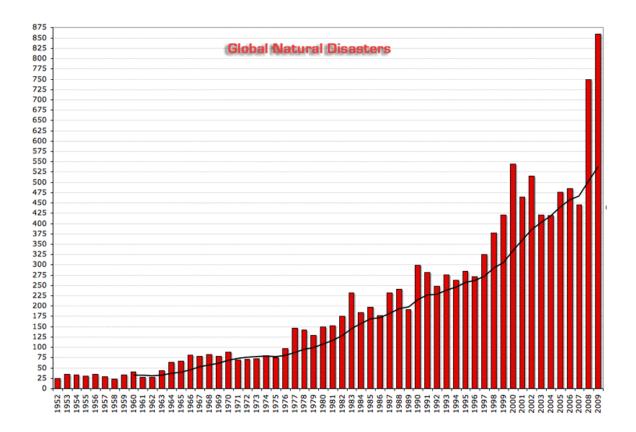
Some fear the collapse of the giant volcanic mountain Cumbre Vieja in the Canary Islands could send an 80-foot high tsunami slamming into the east coast of the United States at 600 mph.

And along the Mississippi, a catastrophic quake at the giant new Madrid fault would cause utter devastation to America's heartland, changing the course of the mighty Mississippi, and causing the ground to roll like the ocean, as it did in 1811 and 1812.

Many Americans might think they live in one of the safest periods in world history. But do they? Why have so many natural disasters struck the planet this year, and what does it mean?

"It brings people to question the ultimate end of everything. Even the natural man who doesn't even know God, is saying 'Something bad is happening,' 'It's getting worse and worse,'" Synan told CBN News.

In fact, lest you think this is just a flash in the pan, check out this chart on the rise of Natural Disasters.



And folks, I think the point is obvious. Maybe it's just me, but I kind of think God's trying to get our attention or something, how about you? I mean, it's almost like He's trying to send is a signal that He's not too pleased with us, and His judgment is just around the corner, you know what I'm saying? Sounds to me like we'd better get right with God, how about you?

But that's still not all. The **second sign of Global Earth**Catastrophes letting us know God is Judgment is just around the corner is

The Rise of Plagues. You know, like in the Bible times.

And the **first plague** that very well could be a sign of God's Judgment coming upon us is **The Rise of Animal Deaths**

Exodus 9:1-3,5-6 "Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh and say to him, 'This is what the LORD, the God of the Hebrews, says: "Let my people go, so that they may worship me." If you refuse to let them go and continue to hold them back, the hand of the LORD will bring a terrible plague on your livestock in the field – on your horses and donkeys and camels and on your cattle and sheep and goats. The LORD set a time and said, "Tomorrow the LORD will do this in the land." And the next day the LORD did it: All the livestock of the Egyptians died."

Now folks, I think it's pretty clear in our text that one of the things that God apparently does as an act of His Judgment, is what? He'll judge you by taking out your animals won't He? Exactly! And folks, I don't know if you've noticed or not, but that's exactly what's going on **right now** all over the world! There's a whole bunch of **weird mass animal deaths** all over the world, and it makes you wonder, is this a sign from God that He's fixing to Judge us? Check it out! This is wild!

"As you're likely aware, there's been a pretty bizarre spate of mass animal deaths reported around the world. First, it was the thousands of birds that fell from the sky in Arkansas on New Year's Eve. Some 100,000 fish also washed up on the shores of a river 100 miles away. Birds fell from the sky in Louisiana and Kentucky, too. Two million fish washed up dead in Chesapeake Bay. 50 birds fell from the sky in Sweden. 100 tons of fish washed ashore in Brazil. 40,000 crabs were found dead in England.

All of this carnage has left people around the world wondering the same thing: What is going on? Unfortunately, there's no good answer."

But once again, that's just the tip of the iceberg. It's not just birds dying off, falling from the sky, it's all kinds of animals dying off, all over the planet, all at the same time, in mass quantities. In fact, here's a list of animal deaths from around the world that occurred in just one month's time!

- Hundreds of dead seals washed ashore in Canada
- 200 cows found dead in Wisconsin
- 100 dead carp found in U.K.
- 730 African grey parrots died during flight
- 300 grackles found dead on a highway in Alabama
- Thousands of gizzard shad fish washed up near Chicago
- Countless fish found dead in U.K. brook
- 100 starlings found dead on highway in California
- Dozens of dead starlings turn up in Romania, blamed on "drunkenness" (Gotta watch ut for those party animals)
- More than 1,000 dead turtle doves found in Italy
- 40,000+ dead Devil crabs washed ashore in the U.K.
- Hundreds of dead birds fall to ground in Kentucky
- Hundreds of dead birds found on highway in Texas
- Hundreds of dead snapper washed up on New Zealand beaches
- Up to 100 jackdaw birds found dead in Sweden
- Several dead manatees found dead on Florida coast
- Thousands of dead fish washed up on creek bank in Florida
- Hundreds of dead fish found on St. Clair River in Canada
- Hundreds of blackbirds dead in Louisiana
- Thousands of dead octopuses washed ashore on Portugal beach
- Two million dead fish washed up in Chesapeake Bay, MD
- 100 tons of dead fish washed ashore in Brazil
- 100,000+ dead drum fish found in Arkansas river
- 5,000+ birds found dead in Arkansas
- 70 bats found dead in Tucson, AZ

- Scores of dead fish washed ashore in a lake in Haiti
- Hundreds of dead starfish, jellyfish washed ashore in South Carolina
- Ten tons of mostly dead fish found in fishing net in New Zealand
- 100+ dead pelicans drop in North Carolina, unknown causes
- Thousands of dead fish turned up in bay in Philippines
- Dead fish washed ashore at lake beach in Indiana
- Thousands of dead fish washed ashore on Florida beach
- Thousands of dead barramundi fish washed up in Australia

Hmmm. It's almost like God's giving us a wake up call. What'd the text say? If you don't turn around, if you don't do what I say Egypt, and stop rebelling against me...I'm going to take out your livestock! Whew! Good thing we don't see any sign of that happening any time soon! Folks, what more does God have to do? We're living in the last days and we need to get right with Him **now**!

But that's not all. The **second plague sent by God** that very well could be a sign of His Judgment is getting ready to come upon us is **The Rise of Insects**.

Exodus 8:16,21:10:12 "Then the LORD said to Moses, "Tell Aaron, 'Stretch out your staff and strike the dust of the ground,' and throughout the land of Egypt the dust will become gnats. If you do not let my people go, I will send swarms of flies on you and your officials, on your people and into your houses. And the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over Egypt so that locusts will swarm over the land and devour everything growing in the fields."

And again folks, I think it's pretty obvious, when God wants to judge a nation, He'll not only take down their livestock, but He'll flood them with

what? **Insects**, right? Massive invasions! And so that's the question. Do we see any signs of a **massive insect invasions** across the world as a sign that God is getting ready to Judge us just like He did with Egypt? Uh, yeah. Just a little bit! Let's take a look.

"Of all things, believe it or not, a massive stink bug invasion is occurring in 29 states of the U.S. and is spreading at an alarming rate. "These dime-sized brown bugs are crawling into homes over windowsills, through door crevices and between attic vents in such numbers that homeowners talk about drowning them in jars of soapy water, suffocating them in plastic bags or even burning them with propane torches. Get used to it, experts say – the invasion is only going to get worse. And that's because they have no natural predators in the United States and pesticides don't work effectively. In fact one person commented on how bad it is, "I literally have made homemade chili and had to throw it out because there were stink bugs in it." In fact, they went on to say, "I have had people refuse to come over for dinner because they knew about my stink bug problem."

Another article shared how another insect invasion of saltmarsh caterpillars were so bad in the South that a farmer used a roller to crush the worms crawling across a road between his fields, causing a slick road surface, and not just saltmarsh caterpillars, but grasshoppers, sugar cane beetles and armyworms are showing up in high numbers in the South which caused one entomologist to report, "This year's insect situation is getting weirder and weirder." In fact, researchers are now saying that three more insect invasions are getting ready to converge on the South and that is the Japanese beetle, emerald ash borer, and the gypsy moth and that a complete infestation is expected to occur within the next 2 to 25 years.

But that's still not all. Not just in the U.S. but in various places around the world, just like in the Bible, people are experiencing the worst locust invasion they've seen in decades:

"A plague of biblical proportions, as locusts invade South Wales in Australia. The swarms could cost billions in Aussie dollars in damage to the agriculture industry. Some have predicted that the area affected could be the size of Spain."

"Swarms of locusts, that once again inundating parts of the state. Hundreds of thousands of the insects are eating through paddocks and even farmhouse doors."

Sarah Abo:"A blanket of locusts covering a farmhouse in the state's midnorth. This home video recorded early this months shows hundreds of thousands of the little pests which have reached papau stage"

Property owner Paul Smart: "Never been this thick not around house and through yards it's just moved like the ground was alive"

"Triggered by the rains an all devouring army-LOCUSTS! Millions emerge from eggs buried in the sand gathering into columns which may stretch for 10 kilometers. At this stage they can't fly, only hop, but it doesn't hinder their progress. These sweeping hoards devastate any new growth in their path. After 5 weeks of steady munching the infantry becomes airborne. These breeding swarms can cover up to 80 kilometers a day."

"Oh my God, there's an absolute invasion. There's one on the window right here. (girl crying in the background) Oh my God Oh my God here they come here they come!"

"Portions of southern Russia are under attack courtesy of millions of locusts. The weather recently has been particularly good for locust production and it shows in this video from the country's Dagestan region. Locusts have taken over thousands of acres of land in Dagestan over the past two weeks as well in other areas within the Russian caucuses.

Last month, the U.N.'s Food & Agriculture Organization said it will help numerous countries in Eastern Europe and central Asia in an attempt to save farmland from a locust crisis said to be threatening the food security of some 20 million people. The Food Agency has also indicated that it will start a 5 year program to save more than 60 million acres of cultivated farmland from the giant grasshoppers."

"Large swarms of locusts have laid waste to vast tracts of Northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region, with authorities expecting the plague to worsen as the weather heats up.

The locust plague began in the pastureland of the Ili River Valley and Taer Basin in late April, said Wang Xinchang, an official with the animal husbandry bureau in Tacheng Prefecture, on Tuesday.

"Locusts have infested nearly 100,000 hectares of pastureland in Tacheng Prefecture," he said.

As the summer heat persists, the situation might still worsen next month. At least 400,000 hectares of pastureland could become infested, he said. Xinjiang's regional headquarters of locust and rodent control said an estimated 15.7 million hectares of pastureland would suffer from the locust plague this summer.

The local governments in IIi and Tacheng have stepped up monitoring of the plague and have launched a pesticide spraying campaign to stop it spreading. Xinjiang has more than 100 kinds of locusts, one of the major menaces to the health of its grassland. It has a history of using chickens, ducks and other birds to fight the insects."

Locust plague hits eastern Australia. Swarms of locusts have been ravaging crops in a vast section of eastern Australia following recent floods in the region. They have infested a huge area of eastern Australia roughly the size of Spain.

Chris Adriaansen, head of the Australian Plague Locust Commission, said the quick-breeding creatures had hit from Longreach in Queensland in the northeast to Melbourne and Adelaide -- about 500,000 square kilometres (190,000 square miles).

"What we've got certainly is a very large and widespread infestation," he told AFP. "It's simply a reflection of the fact that we've had widespread rain across that entire area."

Adriaansen said some swarms covered areas as large as 300 square kilometres, and with about 10 locusts per square metre, "that's a lot of locusts."

Local media said the insects had already wiped out thousands of hectares (acres) of crops and were also damaging grazing areas and gardens in the key agricultural area.

"One farmer has about 400 hectares (1,000 acres) which will have to be resown," an agronomist in the town of Forbes, Graham Falconer, told public broadcaster ABC. "The locusts are doing considerable damage."

Adriaansen said the insects, which had destroyed some early planned cereal crops but mostly fed on pasture, were set to multiply in coming months as their offspring hatch.

"Come the middle of September through to October across that entire inland area...we expect there to be some very large infestations again," he said.

Swarms are expected in southern Queensland and northern New South Wales, areas which last month were flooded after heavy rains broke almost a decade of drought."

"U.S. states brace for invasion of cicadas as they hatch after 13 years underground. Even at this very moment, billions of the winged insect are crawling from their exoskeleton cages, ready to suck the sap out of every plant, tree and bush that gets in their way.

But they are here to breed, laying eggs in the twigs and branches of trees as they call out to mates with their deafening song. The red-eyed army has already reached the southern states of America, prompting many farmers to cover their crops with heavy protective netting.

"There are billions of them in the trees,' Greta Beekhuis told USA Today from her home in Pittsboro, North Carolina. 'The sound of the cicadas is clearly audible over the line. 'When I drove from my house to the grocery store, I ran over thousands of them. They're everywhere. The air is just thick with them.'

There have been reports of mass-hatchings in South Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina and Arkansas. But now the inch-long insects are heading north, desperate to continue their breeding frenzy."

Folks, maybe it's just me, but it sure looks like there's a rise of insect invasions going on all over the planet, where have I heard that before? And gee, I wonder if it's God's way of getting our attention, just like Egypt? I kind of think so!

But that's not all. The **third plague sent by God** that very well could be a sign of His Coming Judgment is **The Rise of Hail**.

Exodus 9:22,25 "Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand toward the sky so that hail will fall all over Egypt – on men and animals and on everything growing in the fields of Egypt." Throughout Egypt hail struck everything in the fields – both men and animals; it beat down everything growing in the fields and stripped every tree."

And so folks, one last time, **yet another** instrument that God will apparently use as an act of His Judgment, to get our attention, just like Egypt, is with what? **Hail**, right? And so that's the question. Do we see any signs of an **increase of Hail Storms** all across the planet as a sign that God might very well be getting ready to judge us real soon? Uh yeah. Let's take a look folks!

"Recently 40 people were killed in China due to a violent hour-long hailstorm in their Northwest region. It "wreaked havoc" on all of the country's 18 townships and affected more than 2/3^{rds} of it's 450,000 residents. Roads were blocked, houses collapsed, and farmland was destroyed."

But that's not all. Recently there's indications that the hail storms are not only getting much much more ferocious but much more numerous. So

much so that they are actually creating rivers. Check out this actual transcript of a recent news broadcast in Texas:

"I have to tell you I have never ever, ever, ever seen what you're about to show."

Pete Dellkus Chief Meteorologist: Yeah, let's take a look at this video right now. I want you to check this out and you can see we had anywhere between two and four feet of hail. Two to four feet deep in hail and then it all started to melt. (A river of melting hail is shown flowing just like a raging river)

This was north of Amarillo, it was just to the south of Dumas. Look at the hail piled up over there on the right side of the screen. I mean this is absolutely amazing stuff courtesy KVII that's and ABC affiliate up in Amarillo.

Check out some of these pictures right here. That's not water that's just hail that started to fall right there on Highway 287 that runs north out of Amarillo. It started to fall on this truck- got just trapped - it stopped because of the enormity of the hailstones and just the sheer mass of it all.

Look at these pictures right here, it looks like something you'd see in the winter time. I have another picture I want to show you and you can see that it's 287 Northbound. That's just amazing stuff.

And this comes courtesy of the National Weather Service in Amarillo, that firefighter, that guy has a four foot pile of hail there next to him."

But that's still not all. The hailstorms are not only getting more ferocious and numerous, they're also getting bigger. Recently a small town in South Dakota experienced a massive hailstorm that, "punched holes through the tops of buildings and left dents in the ground as large as coffee cans" as this next report shows:

"This immense hole (shows a massive hole in a roof) by a hailstorm of biblical proportions with rocks of ice pounding into cars and homes. Holes were punched in the tops of buildings, and for Les Scott he'll never forget what it sounded like.

Les Scott: Guys throwing bricks at the house and there was many of them. It was scary.

Scott watched as massive hailstones pummeled the ground. Today the divots are still visible, some as large and deep as coffee cans but when the hail stopped, a certain stone grabbed his attention.

Scott: I just happened to see this one fall and the only reason I went out and got it because it had all of these fingers sticking out of it, and I thought, well that's weird and I'll go get that one.

Scott originally wanted to make a daiquiri out of the hail but he decided to contact the national weather service instead. Today they were in Vivian. They carefully took out the stone from the freezer and placed it in a cooler with dry ice. The next stop was at the post office where the hail had a date with the federally certified scale. Moments later the hail weighed in at 1.9375 lbs.

Officially we know where records have been kept this will be the U.S. record and the World record for weight. So very impressive.

The finder said the ice chunk could have been even bigger but with no power to keep the freezer going it had shrunk by 5 centimeters."

A **two-pound** hailstone? Now folks, how many of you would say that would cause some serious damage? Uh huh! But believe it or not, that's just a baby one compared to what's coming! Remember the Biblical rule. All of this, is just a **birth pain**. These two-pound hailstones, they're baby ones! Here's how big the hail is get in the 7-year Tribulation!

Revelation 16:17,21 "The seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and out of the temple came a loud voice from the throne, saying, "It is done!" From the sky huge hailstones of about a hundred pounds each fell upon men. And they cursed God on account of the plague of hail, because the plague was so terrible."

Now let's put all this in perspective. Here you see a picture of the **two-pound** hailstone:



But if you multiply it by **50 times** then as you can see on the next page, here's the approximate size of a **hundred pound** hailstone:



Can you imagine a hailstone the size of a Volkswagen Beetle falling from the sky? Folks, you can laugh and scoff all you want, but unless you accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, that's what you're going to get!

But God doesn't want you to be there, and that's precisely why, out of love, He has given us all these signs of **Worldwide Upheaval**, earthquakes, famines, pestilence, wars and rumors of wars, signs from the sky, volcanoes, Global Catastrophes, and plague-like activity 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 this:

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

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! We've got to lay aside our differences, stop fighting, get busy working together saving souls, 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 received 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."