Article of the Month December, 2015

PEACE!

This is the month that the Christian world celebrates the birth of the "Prince of Peace." But there is no peace in the world — except for the peace that dwells in the hearts of Jesus' sincere disciples. But that peace is not the peace for which the "Prince of Peace" was born. The famous words of Isaiah 9:6, 7 still ring in the hearts and hopes of a weary world:

"For unto us a child is born; Unto us a son is given. And the government shall be upon his shoulder; And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end — Upon the throne of David and upon his Kingdom, To order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever. The zeal of the Lord of Hosts will perform this."

But the commentators, the pundits, the analysts, the reporters — yea, all who look at our world, mourn that there is no peace — nor does peace seem in sight. Few, except the faithful watchers of prophetic unfoldings would ever dare to predict that peace is imminent! But it is.

The old adage that it is "darkest before dawn" is supported Scripturally. As Jesus' great prophecy states it:

"Except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved.
But for the elect's sake, those days shall be shortened." (Matthew 24:22)

It <u>is</u> dark right now. It is getting to the place where there "shall be great tribulation such as was not since the beginning of the world." (Matthew 24:21) But the great dawn of peace will interrupt that trouble. As the Psalmist puts it: "Be still, and know that I am

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God. I will be exalted among the heathen; I will be exalted in the earth." (Psalm 46:10) It is darkest before the dawn. But the point is, it is nearly dawn!

God is letting humanity pursue their futile course until they discover how much they want something better. Only when we all are truly ready for it will He step in and establish the long-promised Kingdom of God on earth.

Then shall come to pass all of the wonderful promises which include such delights as:

Luke 2:14	"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, good will toward men."
Zechariah 9:10	"He shall speak peace to the heathen; and his dominion shall be from sea even to sea, and from the river to the ends of the earth."
Psalm 72:7	"In his days shall the righteous flourish; and abundance of peace so long as the moon endureth."
Isaiah 2:4	"They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation shall not lift up sword against nation. Neither shall they learn war any more."
Isaiah 14:7	"The whole earth is at rest and is quiet; they break forth into singing."

Merry Christmas!