

ENGINE OF DESTRUCTION

By E.A. Cooey

The story before the story...



The times in which live have become challenging (to say the least) and kind of scary! Millions of people are struggling worldwide with the "Covid19" virus which has killed hundreds of thousands and is still raging in many countries. Globally economies are shaken as small and large business in almost every sector fails and unemployment soars.

Families and single individuals are struggling all over the world to feed themselves, pay the bills and stay in their homes as others are forced into homelessness. We watch as riots and violence run rampant in the streets of many nations and are becoming more and more frequent, while mob rule reigns in some areas and anarchists pillage, plunder and burn whatever they can get their hands on!

Additionally government agencies, institutions and offices are plagued with greed, sexual misconduct and partisan politics as access and preferential treatment are sold to the highest bidder/donor! Even the ranks of our "Law Enforcement Officers" are being challenged as the inhumane treatment and despicable acts of violence against many of those stopped or detained have been witnessed on the internet and media sources worldwide, resulting in calls for the arrest of offending officers and the defunding of many law enforcement agencies!



All this while multiple mass murders are committed in churches, temples, schools, colleges, malls, theaters, industries, department stores, concerts, nightclubs and more. But it doesn't stop there, in large metropolitan areas and big cities across our nation, acts of violence are committed, sounds of gunshots explode in many urban and suburban neighborhoods as gangs vie for territory, resulting in a body count of young adults, teenagers and small children which continues to rise unabated. Even as illicit drugs, sexual immorality and gross indulgence are celebrated not to mention the massive murders of the unborn!



Weather extremes are growing in frequency and intensity resulting in record deaths and property damage. Weather extremes are growing in frequency and intensity resulting in record deaths and property damage. Natural disasters plague the lives of hundreds of thousands as large metropolitan areas, cities and rural communities are threatened by wildfires, hurricanes, flooding, earthquakes and tornadoes.

Do you feel threatened or uneasy by the turmoil that surrounds us all? Do you feel bewildered? Does the new normal seem normal to you? Maybe I'm wrong but I think people worldwide are concerned asking "What is going on?" and "Are there any answers?" ARE THERE? I believe the answer to that question is, yes absolutely! To help you understand why I believe that in spite of everything going on around us is because the answers are laid out for us in the Holy Bible.

For more than four decades "Bible Prophecy" also known as eschatology has been an area of the Bible that I have paid close attention to. By learning of those prophecies fulfilled in the past (there are many), and while watching fulfillment of many more as the world has approached the present day. I now continue my watch as time counts down to those yet to be fulfilled. Why? Because I believe knowledge of Gods prophetic plan can help us all understand what's going on and take comfort in the fact that behind all the confusion a "Divine Plan" is working itself out!

God's word the Holy Bible tells us the times we are living in were prophesied of long ago and that many of the ominous events we are currently being assailed with would occur at various times throughout history. They would be infrequent, more localized and would be accepted as a part of life over the course of human events, but that in the latter times they would affect the entire world greatly and "INCREASE IN FREQUENCY AND INTENSITY AS THE LAST DAYS DRAW NEAR" So much so that Jesus Christ described many of them and gave us this warning...

So likewise ye, when <u>ye shall see ALL these things, know that it is near, even at the doors</u>. Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled. Matthew 24:33-34

The end times are coming, and I believe we are just beginning to experience its beginnings, but this message is urgent not only because of everything that is happening around us, **but also because your personal end time could come at any minute!** I love my Savior and am grateful for the gift of everlasting life through Jesus Christ who gave His life for me! Sharing that gift with everyone I can is literally a matter of life and death to me, and not for me only but the eternal life of everyone I speak to including you!

I've become convinced that the signs of the times in which we are living are the signs we are told to expect. I am not alone in that belief; there are many people from all walks of life who are as convinced as I am that ongoing events worldwide point to a culmination of end time events! So if I truly believe what I say is true and urgent (and I do), then that belief obligates me to share what Gods Word (the Holy Bible) tells me is coming! So because I care, I share... I pray the short illustration that follows conveys the sense of urgency felt by myself and others who love the Lord Jesus Christ and are looking forward to His soon return while preaching Jesus Saves!

ENGINE OF DESTRUCTION

Imagine for a moment you are walking on a train track with your family friends and some neighbors when in the distance you hear very faintly the sound of a train approaching from a long ways off. So you stop for a a few minutes to listen and as you do, the group you are with continues on so that you are left a short distance behind.

As they continue down the track you hear it again but closer this time and you know what's coming but you are not sure of how close it is or when it will reach your location. Before long you begin to feel the tracks vibrating beneath your feet confirming what your ears are hearing and as the sound grows louder and the

intensity of the vibrations increase you soon catch glimpses of a train off in the distance racing through the trees and traveling down the side of a mountain.

Your eyes quickly confirm what your ears and feet have already told you... A massive train is headed your way and unless you and those who are walking on the track (having now moved much farther ahead of you) get off of the tracks quickly you will all lose your lives!

As the sound grows louder and the tracks begin to shake even more violently, you jump off of them and notice immediately that everyone else is still on the tracks as though they hear, feel and see nothing. You race as fast as you can to get far enough ahead of them so they can see you're standing off of the tracks and to the side. Urgently you wave your arms and even try to pull some of them off track while yelling at the top of your lungs "GET OFF THE TRACKS! A TRAIN IS COMING! GET OFF NOW!" You push, pull and plead and scream at them as loud as you can ITS ALMOST HERE! OVER AND OVER! But to no avail..

In spite of your attempts to warn them and the SIGNS of impending doom (the noise, the vibration of the tracks and some quick glimpses of the train as it barrels towards them) they blindly choose to ignore the evidence of the danger they are in, remaining unconvinced of the "Engine of Destruction" hurtling toward them and stay on the tracks peacefully continuing their walk believing themselves to be safe.

Wide eyed and in a frenzy of fear for their safety you continue to cry out to them but can only watch as too late they become aware of the danger and see the train almost upon them, instantly realizing they should have paid attention to the SIGNS and heeded your warnings! The Locomotive blasts its horn and tries to at least slow down but it's too close, too fast, and too heavy to stop and you watch horrified as you witness death come upon your family and friends!

This story describes the reaction and desperation of a person who can plainly see a deadly event coming and tries to warn those who cannot or will not see it, which in spite of all the evidence of their impending doom continue down the tracks on a path of absolute DESTRUCTION and refuse to see or heed the obvious threat!

Consider for a moment that this story parallels the life lead by every lost soul on earth and that the Engine of Destruction (our death) is hurtling towards us and in most cases we never see it coming! Not only does it take us but brings with it an eternity of torment in Hell!

The truth is... There is a "Last Day" for each and every one of us and just like that train... Death is UNSTOPPABLE! Whether you want to face it or not we will all have a last day.

The Bible says...

The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. 2 Peter 3:9 (KJV)

Then the Lord says...

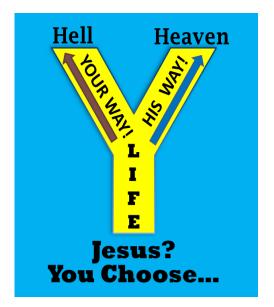
He that overcomes shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

Revelation 21:7-8

In *Mark 9:44, 46 & 48* Jesus describes Hell as a place; "Where their worm dies not, and the fire is not quenched." This description was spoken by Him 3 times in a row. Please take a moment to ponder why the

repetition? Why did He say it over and over again? Why did He warn of a place where the dammed are eternally consumed by worms and burn in blistering agony that is never ending? Could it be because He wants us to understand the reality, the seriousness the absolute error of our decision to reject or neglect the choice of His perfect sacrifice as payment of our sins!

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. John 3:16-18



Your whole eternity depends on what <u>you</u> do with this one man Jesus Christ! The Bible says He ls the savior of the world and that He came to save us from our sins! For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world but that through Him the world might be saved! John 3:17

Now perhaps you are saying "I don't really have a lot of sin in my life, or... Okay but I'm a good person!" But the Bible says we all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" in Romans 3:23 and that "there is none righteous (good) no not one" Romans 3:10



Consider the Ten Commandments (on this page) for a moment... Anyone who has broken even one of the 10 commandments has condemned themselves to suffer an eternity of horrific torment!

Now ask yourself just two questions... Have I ever lied (same as bearing false witness)? Have I ever stolen anything? If your answer is yes then you admit to being a liar and a thief! So because you are a liar and a thief you have sin in your life and because you have sin in your life, you have fallen short of the Glory of God and have reserved for yourself an eternity of torment in hell.

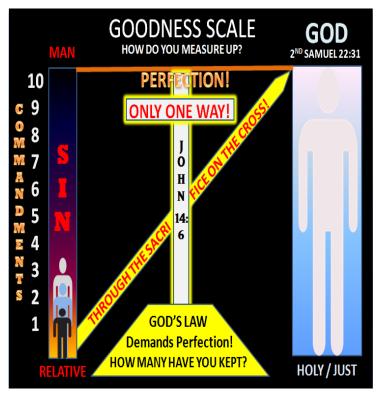
On the day of your death if you die in your sins you will stand before God to give an account of yourself. After admitting you have broken God's law, how will you plead on Judgement Day, guilty or innocent of your sin? Will you tell God about how you are a good person and must be innocent because of all of your good deeds, and how you did it your way?

You may not want to do that because the Bible makes it crystal clear that there is a way that seems right to a man but the way thereof leads straight to death and hell.

But of course you believe that in spite of all your sins and short comings you are still "A Good Person," after all, you have tried to be courteous and considerate of others. Probably you have given of your time, money and resources to help others. Maybe you even attend worship services and are an advocate for your community.

Perhaps you've dedicated your life to assisting the sick, injured and infirm or pursued a career as a "First Responder" risking your life to save others. So maybe like most of us you are just a normal person doing the best you can, to be the best you can be! Sure you make mistakes, poor choices, unwise decisions and behave badly on occasion but everybody does, after all no one is perfect. If that is your reasoning then I agree with you! Relative to the lives we live in this world with the laws and societal boundaries we have set for ourselves I'm sure you are a good person.

I am pretty sure that if we were to measure your "Goodness" on a "Worldly" scale of 1 to 10 with the "Holiest Man" on Earth today (*whomever that might be to you*) being at the top of our scale and the most "Despicable Criminal" you can think of at the bottom of this scale we would find you somewhere in the high middle. Maybe a 6 or 7 even a 4 or a 5 is not terrible because as we said, no one is perfect and there's plenty of room in the middle for shortfalls in good behavior such as idolatry, lying, stealing, cursing, hating, rebellion, adultery and more. After all we don't do those things all the time just when we surrender to the Temptation! Yep we are pretty good people most of the time!



The problem is the scale that we are judged by at our death is very different and demands perfection. It is not a worldly scale. It is a scale of Divine Perfection so Holy, Just and Pure that it defies mortal comprehension.

There is NO MIDDLE GROUND! In a feeble effort to somehow illustrate this, below is a "Goodness Scale" I've created based on the Ten Commandments. Relative to the commandments, how well do you measure up, during your lifetime how many have you kept *(obeyed)* without breaking them maybe 2 or 3 perhaps 4 or 5?

Keep in mind there is no middle ground with God because if you have broken even one of them in your lifetime you are without hope! Perfection is the bar you must reach and any attempt to do so on your own merits has already failed if you have sin in your life.

Why? Because our righteousness, the very best we can do is as "filthy rags" (Isaiah 64:6) before Him. No sin no matter how small will go unnoticed. For God shall bring every work into judgment with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil. Ecclesiastes 12:14.

So God, who is "Rich in Mercy and not willing that any should perish" and knew you could not pay for your sins (none of us can) loves you so much that He made a way to save you from your sins, which without an acceptable payment would condemn you to eternal torment. "But God commended his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8

God sacrificed His perfect, sinless Son, Jesus Christ to take the punishment we deserve and die a torturous death on a cross as payment for our sins against God. He died a criminal's death, not because He broke the Law but

because we have. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16

Three days later Jesus Christ rose from the dead and defeated death: "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6:23

The Bible says that" if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" Romans 10:9-10

Try looking at it from another perspective by asking yourself these "What If" questions...

If I were drowning would I grab a Life Preserver that had been thrown to me?

If I were aboard a plane about to crash would I accept a parachute to save my life?

If I fell off a cliff but grabbed a shrub and was hanging on for dear life would I accept a rescue?

If I were minutes from death and suspected my destination was hell, would I surrender my pride and accept the Gift of God?

Before you answer... Think about that last one for a minute... How many minutes from death are you? There are 60 minutes in an hour, 1440 minutes in a day, 43,200 in a 30 day month and in a 365 day year 525,600 minutes. How many of those can you claim? The honest answer is "NOT ONE!" Death can literally come in a heartbeat (or the lack of one)! And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: Hebrews 9:27.

What will Your answer be?
Whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow.
For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. James 4:14

So, how do you accept God's Gift?

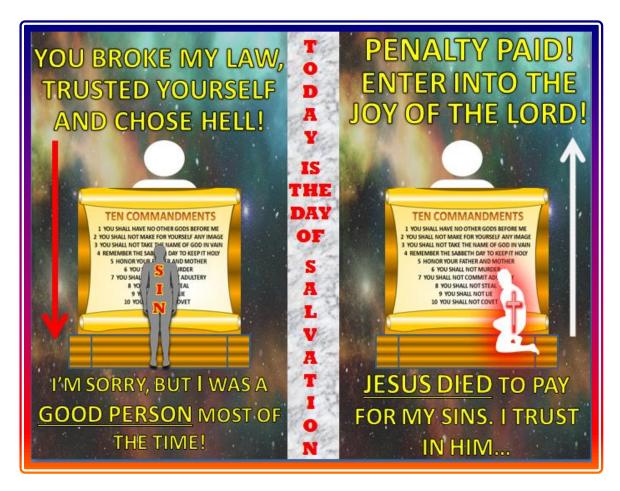
In the Book of John chapter 3 Jesus tells us that "You must Be Born Again" and continues to explain that just as we were "born of the flesh at our birth" so we must be" born again of the spirit" to experience a birth unto" newness of life" and should walk with Him in, and as part of, our lives!

This happens when we confess our sins while sincerely and truly believing in the Risen Jesus Christ who sacrificed Himself as a blood offering to pay for our sins. Not because of any crimes He committed but rather for our crimes He endured the agony of the cross!

That if you shall confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and shall believe in your heart that God has raised him from the dead, you shall be saved. For with the heart man believes unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. *Romans* 10:9-10

The most important decision you will make in your life follows... Will you choose to rely on yourself to make that payment or will you simply refuse to choose? Either is a rejection of God's Gift of salvation unto life eternal and there is nothing you can do to earn it! **Accept God's Gift Today**! Admit you are a sinner and put your trust and faith in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ who suffered and died for you! Don't wait until you are hit by the Engine of "YOUR" Destruction!

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. Ephesians 2:8-9



And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: Hebrews 9:27

What Will Your Answer Be?

A Personal Note

Please allow me to share a personal thought with you if I may regarding my motivation for writing "Engine of Destruction" which would be you dear reader, please understand that this message is an act of love towards you and all who will take the time to read it. It is written to everyone everywhere regardless of status, station, culture, race or religion.

Herein I have simply testified to what I believe to be the only hope for our world and the eternal destiny of every single one of us! Please be assured that every message I share is done with the purest of intentions for which I seek no gain or glory but only that Gods will be done in the lives all whom it touches! For the Bible says...

Blessed *is* the man that trusts in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is. *Jeremiah* 17:7 Greater love hath no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13 What a wonderful friend we have in Jesus!

Thank you for reading! May God Bless you and yours! Visit us at www.PreacherInThePark.com to browse The newest titles to learn more about God's wonderful Gift and the remarkable times in which we live!

Or Click On One of the Titles Below



Your tomorrow is not guaranteed - today is the day of salvation!

Read the Bible daily and apply what you read. A good place to start is the Gospel of John.

Bible Verses of Life - John 14:6, John 3:17, Romans 3:23, Romans 3:10, Ecclesiastes 12:14, Romans 5:8, John 3:16, Romans 6:23, Romans 10:9-10, , 2nd Samuel 22:31, John 14:6, James 4:14 and Hebrews 9:27.