

FROM OUR PASTOR

September 10, 2016

Sabbath Greetings to everyone!

The "World Doomsday Clock" has been set closer to midnight by the Atomic scientists who apparently monitor world events. The Doomsday Clock - a means of measuring the likelihood of war - puts the current time at 23.57, with all-out war being 00:00. It represents the closest the clock has come to midnight since 1984 and before that the early-1950s.

Perhaps the reason was the recent nuclear test by North Korea. North Korea conducted its fifth and biggest nuclear test on Friday. The land of craziness also said it had mastered the ability to mount a warhead on a ballistic missile, ratcheting up a threat that its rivals and the United Nations have been powerless to contain.

Of course many other nations loudly complained, the UN called a special hearing, and the usual response is repeated. However, two nations, China and Russia, are actually doing something--preparing for war.

The Red Chinese have been developing and building modern weapons at a withering pace. They have been building islands in the ocean to use as bases and expand their influence as the Chinese army increases in size and technology. As they see it, they are on the way up and the USA is on the way out.

However, Russian strong man Vladimir Putin is openly preparing for war with the West. The Russian president has invested heavily in decking out top-secret facilities around Moscow in the event of war. Russia is building what is probably the world's largest underground bunker so Putin and his government can survive and direct the next war.

The Sun reported this week, in an article titled, "Vladimir Shootin," that Satellite images have revealed a giant nuclear bunker facility in Russia's remote Ural mountains region. The complex is 400 square miles in size and is reported to be where any future conflict could be directed from. Russia is also in the process of building the world's most powerful nuke - the Satan-2, believed to be big enough to destroy an area the size of France.

The US and many other governments around the world also have survival shelters and underground command centers, but probably none on the scale of the one to protect Vladimir Putin.

Do you have a plan to survive the coming conflict? Underground shelters might protect a few, but there truly is only one plan that will work long term. Nahum 1:7 says, "The LORD is a stronghold in the day of trouble; And He knows those who trust in Him."

The experts agree that the day of trouble is coming. Jesus Christ predicted this time would be so terrible that it would have to be cut short in order for mankind to survive. "For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened." Matthew 24:21-22

Happy Sabbath

*Rex Sexton
Pastor, UCG Portland*