

Removing the Cover – Lifting the Veil

by Bill and Karen Bishop

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The Biblical use of the words “cover” and “veil” (and various forms thereof) are basically interchangeable. They have always been Scripturally meaningful to us, but the prophetically spiritual significance of these terms is now becoming more focused in our line of vision. These terms are pregnant with implication. The veiling (covering) has been in place, and the unveiling (uncovering – lifting of that veil) is about to occur. We are at the cusp of the intense prophetic revelation that we have awaited. The “unveiling” is upon us. The picture we see unfolding is profound beyond measure, and **MUST** be shared NOW.

To see how this fits into place, we want to review and piece together several instances where these terms are applied in our Scriptures – here a little and there a little. We will be drawing from Numbers, Song of Solomon, Matthew, Luke, 1 Corinthians, 2 Thessalonians, and Hebrews; then we can weave together the picture we see forming as we consider these various texts.

Our format for each passage will be 1) to present the passage with key words bolded, and important concepts underlined. 2) to highlight the Hebraic or Greek meanings for the bolded words to provide a fuller picture 3) to draw together our thoughts about how these more extensive meanings may apply prophetically to these passages. Toward the end we will draw all of these thoughts together to formulate a more substantive evaluation of just where we may be in the end-times picture today. Then to conclude the article, we will quote a “word” that a highly respected brother in Messiah feels he was given. Though we reject most modern-day prophecies out of hand today, this does not appear to be such a prophecy. Rather it is a “word” this dear brother perceives that he was given regarding the manner of end-times progression. It strongly resonates with us, and we see value in sharing it. It brings closure to the thoughts we are presenting, and we hope it will help to complete the picture for you as well.

So here goes:

### **NUMBERS 5:18**

Numbers 5:18

(18) And the priest shall set the woman before the LORD, and **uncover** the woman's head, and put the offering of memorial in her hands, which is the

jealousy offering: and the priest shall have in his hand the **bitter water** that causeth the curse:

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**Uncover** = Strong's H6544 (para') – *let loose the restraints*

**Bitter** = Strong's H4751 (mar) – *bitterness; of pain*

**Water** = Strong's H4325 (maiym) – *water; of danger, violence, transitory things*

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Thoughts: In this passage, the **bitter water** was a judgment that could bring forth danger and a violent effect on the woman's body if she was found to be adulterous. Commentaries conclude that the **covering** she wore on her head was worn to show that she was under the protective authority of her husband. Before she could undergo the potentially debilitating judgment ahead, the **covering** of her husband that protected her must be removed.

### **MATTHEW 24:37-42**

Matthew 24:37-42

(37) But as the days of **Noe** were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

(38) For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark,

(39) And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

(40) Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

(41) Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

(42) Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.

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**Noe (Noah)** = The Exhaustive Dictionary of Bible Names by Dr. Judson Cornwall & Dr. Stelman Smith – *rest*

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Thoughts: Our Genesis account of the times of **Noah** tells us that there was a lot of upheaval and wickedness in those days. Yet Matthew stresses that (in spite of all of this wickedness) eating, drinking, marrying and giving in marriage were standard fare. We know though that the days ahead as depicted in the Genesis account offered no rest to the wicked – only massive death and destruction. Y’shua provides a picture in our Matthew passage of departure of one, while another remains behind – a type of “rapture” scenario. Though there is wickedness to great proportions in our world today, most still eat, drink, and continue marrying. That may not be the case for much longer, as it appears that tribulation may quickly be approaching when we must find our deliverance and rest in Y’shua or be subjected to the destruction that lies ahead. **Noah’s** name means “rest”, and only those that accompanied **Noah** aboard his ark would find that rest. **Noah** was a type of Y’shua – a source of salvation that offers rest for those who would otherwise face trials beyond measure.

### LUKE 17:26-32

Luke 17:26-32

(26) And as it was in the days of **Noe**, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man.

(27) They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all.

(28) Likewise also as it was in the days of **Lot**; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded;

(29) But the same day that **Lot** went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all.

(30) Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is **revealed**.

(31) In that day, he which shall be upon the housetop, and his stuff in the house, let him not come down to take it away: and he that is in the field, let him likewise not return back.

(32) Remember Lot's wife.

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**Noe (Noah)** = The Exhaustive Dictionary of Bible Names by Dr. Judson Cornwall & Dr. Stelman Smith – *rest*

**Lot** = The Exhaustive Dictionary of Bible Names by Dr. Judson Cornwall & Dr. Stelman Smith – *covering, veil, covered, concealed*

**Revealed** = Strong's G601 (apokalypto) - *to uncover, to lay open what has been veiled or covered up, disclosed, made bare; to make known, make manifest, to disclose what before was unknown*

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Thoughts: We have **Noah** in this Olivet discourse passage as well. However, the mention of **Noah** is coupled here with a reference to **Lot**. The Genesis narrative explains that the times of **Lot** were similar, in that the depravity of the region he inhabited was horrific. Again though, Luke shows us that the standard business practices were still occurring in his environment - buying and selling, planting, and building. Life was moving along somewhat normally when the moment of judgment came. There was no ark in **Lot's** story, but angels came and physically removed him from the scene so they could bring judgment on the wickedness of that place. In spite of angelic warning, **Lot's** wife looked back and was judged. We are to look only forward to our Savior at this time, and are cautioned to remember **Lot's** wife! It is important to realize that **Lot's name means "covering"**. As a type of covering, **Lot** had to be removed before judgment could begin (Genesis 19:22), even as in the covering of the adulterous woman had to be removed from her before judgment could begin! This Luke passage also brings the joyous message that the Son of Man (Y'shua) will be **revealed** at that time. Though we don't fully comprehend yet how complete this revelation will be, and to how many, we know that He will at least make Himself known at this time to those who depart to be with Him.

### **SONG OF SOLOMON 5:2-7**

Song of Solomon 5:2-7

(2) I sleep, but my heart waketh: it is the voice of my beloved that knocketh, saying, Open to me, my sister, my love, my dove, my undefiled: for my head is filled with dew, and my locks with the drops of the night.

(3) I have put off my coat; how shall I put it on? I have washed my feet; how shall I defile them?

(4) My beloved put in his hand by the hole of the door, and my bowels were moved for him.

(5) I rose up to open to my beloved; and my hands dropped with myrrh, and my fingers with sweet smelling myrrh, upon the handles of the lock.

(6) I opened to my beloved; but my beloved had withdrawn himself, and was gone: my soul failed when he spake: I sought him, but I could not find him; I called him, but he gave me no answer.

(7) The **watchmen** that went about the city found me, they smote me, they wounded me; the **keepers of the walls took away my veil from me.**

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Watchmen = Strong's H8104 (shamar) – *guard, protect, have charge over*

Keepers = the same Hebrew word as watchmen - Strong's H8104 (shamar)
- *guard, protect, have charge over*

Wall = Strong's H2346 (chowmah) – *wall, wall of protection*

Took Away = Strong's H5375 (nasa') – *to lift, bear up, carry off, take away; to be lifted up, to be exalted, rise up, be carried away*

Veil = Strong's H7289 (radiyd) – *something spread, wide wrapper, veil*

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Thoughts: In this passage we find the words, "but my beloved had withdrawn himself, and was gone". The anguish of these words has echoed in the hearts and minds of many over time. Her love was at her door, but she procrastinated instead of opening it immediately for him, and he was gone. It is reminiscent of the five foolish virgins in Matthew 25:10-13 who were looking for their bridegroom, but were not ready, and were unable to go with him through the door. In this SOS passage, the story gets worse. The one who was too late in responding to her love found that she was in a heap of trouble. The **watchmen** that went about the city found her, they smote her, and they wounded her. Then the conclusion of that sentence seems to explain how this happened: The **keepers of the walls** had **taken away her veil** from her. What is happening here?

We find it interesting that this same Hebrew word was translated in two different ways here, and rightfully so. We believe that the "watchmen" (mentioned first) were MAN'S version of protectors (who were supposed to watch over and guard her); but they turned on her. It was they who smote her and wounded her. Conversely, the "keepers" (mentioned second) were her DIVINE protectors. These "keepers" were of the "walls". The walls imply protection for her. They did her no harm, but it was they who actually removed her veil (her protection) so judgment by the "watchmen" could begin. The harm that came to her was a typology for the period commonly referred to as the Tribulation. Unfortunately, this time of trouble will be realized even by many in the body of Messiah if they are not ready to depart when their Bridegroom comes. (We know that many teach that the church will ALL go when the Bridegroom opens the door, but there is FAR TOO MUCH Biblical evidence that indicates there are at least two departures [raptures per se], and that only those who are ready will depart before the

onset of the devastating events that lie ahead.) It is to our own peril that we ignore these Biblical messages of caution. Instead, many tend to allow pastors to preach to their itching ears!

## 2 THESSALONIANS 2:3-8

2 Thessalonians 2:3-8

(3) Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a **falling away** first, and that man of sin be **revealed**, the son of perdition;

(4) Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

(5) Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?

(6) And now ye know what **withholdeth** that he might be **revealed** in his time.

(7) For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now **letteth** will **let**, until he be **taken out of the way**.

(8) And then shall that Wicked be **revealed**, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

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**Falling away** = Strong's G646 (apostasia) – *departure, defection from truth*

Note its relationship to Strong's G647 (apostiasion) – *divorce; repudiation*

**Withholdeth** = Strong's G2722 (katecho) – *to hold back, detain, restrain; hinder (the course or progress of)*

**Letteth** = Same Greek word as Withholdeth - Strong's G G2722 (katecho) – *to hold back, detain, restrain; hinder (the course or progress of)*

**Will Let** = (This is italicized in our Biblical text, as it was added as an extension to the term "letteth" in this same verse.)

**Taken** = Strong's G1095 (ginomai) - *arise; come to pass, be fulfilled, become into existence, begin to be, receive being, to come to pass, happen (events); appear in history, come upon the stage; to be made, finished; of miracles, to be performed, wrought; to become, be made*

**Out of** = Strong's G1537 (ek) – *out of, from, by, away from*

**Way** = Strong's G3319 (mesos) – *middle, in the midst of, amongst, from among;*

Note that this same word is translated as **midnight** along with G3571 in Matthew 25:36 – “and at **midnight** there was a cry made, Behold the Bridegroom cometh, go ye out to meet him.”)

**Revealed** = Strong's G601 (apokalypto) - *to uncover, to lay open what has been veiled or covered up, disclosed, made bare; to make known, make manifest, to disclose what before was unknown* (the same word found in our Luke 17 passage above)

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Thoughts: There is a dual application of the term “**falling away**” in this passage. People argue about whether the “departure” aspect of this term is related to a rapture scenario or to a departure from the faith. To this, we say “yes” to both thoughts. It may well be one of the many instances when Yah’s majestic use of language indicates not one or the other, but both. We see the potential for the departing of those who are ready at this point, and also the ensuing consequences of those who are **fallen away** from the totality of the roots and fatness of the faith that they were supposed to embrace. They are not ready when the Bridegroom opens the door for them. To those who are NOT ready, the covering is removed from them and they are left behind due to their defection from the faith. This is a divorce-type of judgment (as noted in the Greek rendering of “**falling away**” above). In Hebraic thought, divorce can be rendered during the betrothal period before the actual marriage. This is a judgment to reject the would-be Bride when she has not been faithful to him during the time they are apart. The commandments decreed by Yah are a type of marriage contract for the would-be Bride to follow while she awaits her Bridegroom’s (Y’shua’s) arrival. Those who are rebelling against the commandments would not be counted as a part of the faithful and worthy Bride for Y’shua - Luke 21:36, Colossians 1:10, 1 Thessalonians 2:12, 2 Thessalonians 1:5, & Revelation 3:4.) Verses 6 & 7 tell us that something is **withholding** or restraining the course or progress of the **revealing** of the anti-figure to come. This restraining force is the covering that is preventing the oncoming judgment. This restraining force continues to restrain (**let**) until it is removed or “**taken out of the way**”. Just as in our Luke 21 passage about Lot, the lifting of

this restraining force or covering **REVEALS** that which has been hidden. Just as the Son of Man was revealed in the rapture scenario of Luke 17, the son of perdition (the anti-figure) will be revealed at this time also! The removal of the cover brings this dual revelation! The Greek here shows us that this covering is removed from the midst of the unfolding drama at the midnight cry at the fulfillment of time in history when the stage is set for the judgment to be unleashed. This covering that prevents judgment is the righteous and prepared remnant Bride. It is this Bride that must be lifted up – the removal of the covering that opens the world below up to judgment. The Bride must depart (go through the door Y’shua opens for her) when he beckons for her to join Him. All hell will break loose in the days that follow her departure.

### 1 CORINTHIANS 11:6-10

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(6) For if the woman be not covered, let her also be shorn: but if it be a shame for a woman to be shorn or shaven, let her be covered.

(7) For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, forasmuch as he is the image and glory of God: but the woman is the glory of the man.

(8) For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man.

(9) Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man.

(10) For this cause ought the woman to have power on her head because of the angels.

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**Covered** = Strong’s G2619 (katakalypto) – *to veil or cover oneself*

**Power** = Strong’s G1849 (exousia) – *the veil with which propriety required that a woman cover herself; the sign of regal authority, a crown; jurisdiction, power of authority*

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Thoughts: This passage speaks of a physical **covering**. It is really not our purpose to dwell on the physical aspect of the covering per se in this article. It seems that this physical **covering** is to depict a much more profound spiritual application that relates to the departure of the remnant before judgment. That being said, however, we would certainly suggest a review of the physical **covering** to see if actually wearing a physical **covering** (particularly in this period of time) might not be a worthwhile consideration!



(For many reasons that we elaborate on in other writings, we do not believe the woman's **covering** is the hair. It is something else that is easy to put on or take off.) It is to be worn to show that the woman assumes her Biblical place under her husband's authority. The physical state of man and wife is to depict the spiritual application of the Bride and Bridegroom (the faithful Believer and Y'shua). Awareness of this should impress upon us the need to be sure we are in compliance with Y'shua's every desire. In the physical state, the woman is subject to her husband. It is a bride-typology of the Bride of Y'shua. As His Bride, we are to be subject to all He asks of us. Verse 10 of this passage indicates that the **covering** of the woman is to be worn "because of the angels", which lends a spiritual component to the concept. In the physical, it represents a woman's commitment to and protection by her physical husband. As we transition from the physical to the spiritual application, we lose the gender specific component. When we are in Y'shua, there is neither male nor female (Galatians 3:28). Y'shua's Bride is composed of both males and females. However, as a typology, his body of Believers is supposed to strive to be a worthy Bride for Him. In the spiritual sense then, this **covering** becomes a type of **power** for her – a crown of the regal authority of the Bridegroom Y'shua over his Bride (to protect her) and towards His Bride (to sustain her). As she submits to His authority, it allows for His protection of her.

Because the faithful Bride IS a type of covering for the world, the judgment will begin after her departure. The unsubmitted portion of the body that remains here falls under the covering of the world's protection because it has chosen the ways of the world and its authority over Y'shua. They have chosen the way of the world over Him, and the world will now be their covering. The authorities in the world system will then become the "watchmen" (of our SOS passage) that will turn on her and end up bringing harm to her in the times that come after the true Bride's removal.

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Hebrews 6:19-20

(19) Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which **entereth** into that **within the veil**;

(20) Whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.

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**Entereth** = Strong's G1525 (eiserchomai) – *to come in, to come into life*

**Within** = Strong's G2082 (esoteris) – *the inner space which is behind the*

veil

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The veil in this Hebrews reference separates between the life on the other side of the divide and the death that inhabits our realm. As the veil is lifted here, it opens up the door to the other side where fullness of life abides with our Bridegroom who crossed over (**entered** into that **within** the veil) before us. It is critical to be ready when that door opens!!!

### LUKE 12:40

Luke 12:40

(40) Be ye therefore **ready** also: for the Son of man **cometh** at an **hour** when ye **think** not.

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**Ready** = Strong's G2092 (hetoimos) - *prepare, ready, to receive one coming*

**Cometh** = Strong's G2064 (erchomai) - *to come from one place to another, arise, come forth, be established; to go or follow one*

**Hour** = Strong's G510 (hora) - *any definite time, point of time, moment*

**Think** = Strong's G1380 (dokeo) - *to be of opinion, think, suppose; to seem, to be accounted, reputed; it seems to me, I determined*

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Thoughts: To be "**ready**" here relates to being prepared to receive the One who is **coming** (our Bridegroom). This "**coming**" also implies going - coming and going from one place to another, in and out, etc. This in and out motion is often correlated to the activation of authority in the Bible. Y'shua will come from the right hand of the Father to draw His Bride out of this three-dimensional realm into a place where her new body can be manifested - a place where she will become His Bride, and He will establish an abode for her to be with Him.

Y'shua Himself emphasizes that this will NOT occur at a time when we "**think**" it to be (suppose it to be, account it to be, repute it to be, or determine it to be). It will be at an **hour** (a specific, definitive point in time) that is determined by the Father (Matthew 24:36), and unknown to anyone

else. As we see it, it will be a deliverance mission of sorts to secure the Bride from the coming judgment, and only the Father knows when this mission must occur. Likewise, the removal of the Bride is the uncovering of the unfaithful portion of the body of Messiah that begins the rapidly increasing judgment upon the world.

We too typically maintain somewhat elevated hopes for the Bride's departure when certain of the Feast Days come along. However, this passage (as well as Matthew 25:13 at the end of the 10-virgins passage) shows us that such a simplistic time-table may not be the answer to the timing of the Bride's departure. While other aspects of prophecy may maintain critical relativity to the Feast cycles, the timing for this catching away of the remnant Bride may be totally unanticipated. In the story of the Hebraic manner for the Bridegroom coming for the Bride, she had no idea when to expect Him. She was to be ready at all times. A midnight cry would be her only warning, which might well equate to a shout, the voice of the archangel and the trump of Yah (1 Thessalonians 4:16) that those with ears to hear might hear.

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OUR OVERALL PERSPECTIVE

As we watch the current political shenanigans, and realize the potentials that may play out with respect to each polarized position, we can almost hear the practice tones of Yah's trump as He prepares to blow it – prepares to send His Son for His Bride.

Could the final and authoritative declaration of the electoral victor be the timing for the "uncovering" – the timing for the removal and the revelation (of our 2 Thessalonians passage)? Even if this verdict is not the signal for the removal of the remnant Bride, it seems that we would have only a little bit longer here before the removal occurs, as judgment is upon us.

If this election showdown does mark the "revealing" on the physical plane, then the spiritual "uncovering" that removes the Bride must be simultaneous with it. We don't know how long the uncertainties will continue, so there is no way to predict the day or the hour of such a verdict. December 14 and January 20 are key markers, but are far from certain in our present state of uncertainties. There is even talk that the entire election may be thrown out. What then?

If these scrambled and uncertain times are a precursor to or a catalyst for the revealing of the infamous one per 2 Thessalonians chapter two, then it

may be quickly upon us. That would mean that it is likewise about time for the removal of the cover (catching up of the Bride -to-be) that allows him to be revealed. The entire scenario is circular in logic, as the Bride is removed to spare her from judgment, yet it is her removal that begins the judgment for those who remain here.

To close, we will present the following "word" that our brother in Messiah believes he has been shown. We hope it will be as meaningful to you as it was to us.

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THE FRIGHTENING & GLORIOUS REALITY IS TAKING HOLD

"Arise for I have much to say to those who have ears to hear. I am shaking all that can be shaken. For those who have eyes to see you can see it all around you. Most do not comprehend what it is I am doing, nor do they want to, because it is more than they can bear. They cannot bear to think or believe that what they thought was reality was a lie and they are not in control of their own destiny.

It is so frightening for them to think that there are powers beyond their understanding which are controlling everything and that there is no where they can hide, no where they can go and nothing they can do, so most refuse to accept or even contemplate the possibility of that truth. Because if they did, it would change everything and they would not know what to do next, as they have no experience, no grid system and no ability to figure out how to navigate and walk in such a reality.

This is why when reality comes upon them, most will follow directions and do what they're told. They have listened to the voice of the world for so long; they don't know and cannot hear any other voice. They continue down the path that is wide, for the way is easy and they trust what they think they know to be the truth, because it is the reality they know and understand and it requires little thought, no sacrifice and is the path of least resistance.

However, there is a remnant! There is a remnant that has awakened and whose eyes have been opened. There is a remnant that has dared to listen to another voice. There is a remnant that has contemplated in the spirit, the reality of what is really taking place. My remnant has been watching, they have been preparing and readying themselves for such a time as this. In the past they saw dimly, what they are now seeing face to face. They already know there is a reality in addition to what they can feel, sense or

touch. They are ready and have been training for what is unfolding before them. Although they do not know exactly how and when, they are expectant and their lamps are full, so when the Bridegroom returns they will go with Him. They have searched the scriptures and sought the heart of the Living Word. They have forsaken and separated themselves from the world. They have been bought with a price and are no longer possessed by the world, but are one with the Bridegroom, whose commandments and covenant are written on their hearts and their spirits have been stamped with the mark of their King.

Eternity is right around the corner, the consummation of the age is close at hand. You see before you the culmination of centuries and eons of planning and struggle unfolding at rapid pace all around you. This in turn is causing the earth to move and shake, tremble and writhe as these eternal plans and struggles are manifested and birthed. Do not be surprised, what happens next, do not let you hope in what is to come be dashed or diminished. Do not look at what the world does or contemplate in the flesh what only the Spirit can reveal. Now is the time to press forward. Now is the time to keep your eyes peeled on what is before you, forgetting what's behind, and not looking to the left or the right, but pressing in to take hold of the objective before you. Eternity has been waiting for this moment and my remnant has been expectantly anticipating the arrival of this time. There is still much to unfold, but know this, the unfolding has begun."

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(Fulton also provides very insightful financial updates periodically that are available to you at your request at <http://fultonsheenuupdates.com/> .)

May you be blessed as you contemplate these things, and may we all be "prepared" when the Father has Y'shua open the door to receive His remnant Bride!