

Earthquakes Political and Physical: The Sea and the Waves Roaring March 22, 2011

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Political and physical earthquakes have struck, reminding us of the nearness of the return of the Lord Jesus Christ. While men's hearts are failing them for fear, we can have confidence in our God who rules in the Kingdoms of men and is shifting the political tectonic plates to prepare for His son's return.



Devastating earthquakes and subsequent Tsunami struck Japan this week.

Earthquakes in Diverse Places

Following the terrible earthquake in Christchurch, New Zealand only a few weeks ago, the entire world has been traumatized this week by the devastating 9.0 earthquake that has struck Japan. The world's media has captured the devastating horror of the earthquake, followed by the terrifying tsunami which wiped entire villages off the face of the earth. The sheer force of the tsunami tossed houses, vehicles and ships around like toys. Entire regions were buried; everything which seemed so permanent being swept away. Following this has been the meltdown of some of Japan's nuclear reactors which exploded, releasing radioactive debris into the atmosphere.

The awesome force of power unleashed by these earthquakes and subsequent tsunami in Japan remind us all of the man's miniscule abilities to withstand the power of Almighty God. While we do not believe these events are direct judgments of God per se, we do believe they demonstrate his power as described in Job 41:31:

He makes the deep boil like a pot; He makes the sea like a pot of ointment.

The boiling pot ran over this week and swept away the lives of thousands in its wake, reminding us of our mortality and how precious and fragile life really is.

We are reminded of the words of Christ following the tragic death of the Galileans killed by Pilate in Luke 13:2-5:

And Jesus answered and said to them, "Do you suppose that these Galileans were worse sinners than all other Galileans, because they suffered such things? I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish. Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them, do you think that they were worse sinners than all other men who dwell in Jerusalem? I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish."

These events should *"teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom."* (Psalm 90:12).