

# “Peace And Safety”

“For when they shall say, *Peace and safety*; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.” 1 Thessalonians 5:3

## Intro

Christians have been familiar with this phrase for centuries. But many of them have mistakenly applied it to the people of the world. It doesn't apply to them; it applies to the nation of Israel. It speaks of a time when Israel will enter into a peace treaty for a seven year period of time.

In the Greek it looks like this, *οταν γαρ λεγωσιν ειρηνη και ασφαλεια* τοτε αιφνιδιος αυτοις εφισταται ολεθρος ωσπερ η ωδιν τη εν γαστρι εχουση και ου μη εκφυγωσιν. The word *peace* being *irene*, and the word *safety* being *asphaleia*. Their Hebrew equivalents are *shalom webatach*.

Now how we know that this refers to the nation of Israel is determined by who *they* are that Paul is referring to. When we trace backward through the passage we see that the subject they refers to the nation of Israel. So it is while the nation of Israel is saying, “Peace and Safety” that sudden destruction comes upon them.

The phrase “*peace and safety*” was a technical term for the existence of a covenant that went back to ancient Israel and other middle eastern nations. The word *peace* did not refer to an inner sense of hostility, but to the absence of hostilities among two nations that had been at war. The word *safety* did not refer to the safety of wearing a seat belt, but the idea of security on the borders.

So what it meant was that we are no longer are at war. The borders of are respective nations are now secure. We have peace with each other and we can live in safety, and the reason for this is because we have entered into a covenant with each other. There were friendship covenants in those days, marriage covenants and covenants between nations that had been at war with each other, but are called peace treaties.

In 1977 the United Nations, to use their own words, wanted to arrange a peace treaty with the nation of Israel. It was on November 21, 1977 that Anwar Sadat, the then present ruler of Egypt, addressed the Israeli cabinet saying, “**Let us raise two slogans... No War and Security**”! Which is exactly what the Apostle Paul wrote, “**Peace** (no war) and **Safety** (security). Or no more war and secure borders. The leaders of the U.S., Israel and Egypt entered into a peace treaty under the UN fulfilling this covenant that still exists today.

“**They are saying**” refers back to the idea of a slogan commonly used by people in their day to day living. There is the inception of a slogan, the rise in use by the people, then to the place where it is commonly used by everyone. It is while the inhabitants of Israel, lulled by a false senses of security due to this covenant, are saying, “*peace and security*”, that sudden destruction will come upon them.

## A. Who is the antichrist?

Christians throughout the centuries have had many ideas on who the antichrist might be and what he might be. Even today there is much speculation on the idea and most of it misses the mark. The pre-trib crowd thinks they'll be removed from the scene before he shows up, so it's a moot point for them.

To understand what this is all about you have to have a better understanding into the Mystery religions. **There has been an antichrist on earth ever since this side of the Flood.** The very first one was *Cush*, who functioned as the prophet and interpreter of the mysteries. There was one in Shem's days, Abraham's days, David's time, Paul's time and there is one today.

The mystery religion of Babylon was divided up into two arms, the political and the religious. The **political** head of Babylon was the ruler of the world; he was antichrist. The **religious** head of Babylon presided over worship and conducted the mysteries. He was also the representative of the political head.

One of the titles of the religious head was PTR, or Peter, or Pater, or simply as "Father". All priests under him knew some of the mysteries, but not all of them. They only knew to what their level was. To know the mystery they had to have the mysteries revealed to them. The process was called being initiated into the mysteries and the one who did that was his initiator. It was only the high priest of the mysteries who knew all of them and it was he who as the chief initiator. He was the Grand Master of the Mystery religion.

This Mystery religion has continued on to this present day and is found in none other than the Roman Catholic Church. And the Grand Master of the mysteries, the chief interpreter, the high priest over all the other priests is none other than the Pope himself. The term Pope is just an affectionate word for father, which is what pater means. **He is the Peter of Rome, that is, he is the interpreter of the mysteries of the Babylonian religion!**

Some have been looking for a Revived Roman Empire, but what they are unaware of is that Rome has been ruling the world continually! Both the religious and political rule of Mystery Babylon are vested in him, but he grants political rule to whomever he chooses. Whenever a political ruler of Europe is tapped for rule, he becomes the political head of the Roman Empire and at the same time the ruler of the world.

Now it was in 1962 that the Pope turned over to U Thant, the Secretary General of the UN, the tiara and scepter of the Catholic Church. This one act vested the rule that the papacy had over the world now into the hands of the Secretary General. So we now have the Secretary General of the UN, the **political ruler**, being in the position of the antichrist, and the Pope holding the position of the **religious ruler** of the world. Remember, the reformers believed that it was **the institution of the papacy**, with various popes coming and going, that was the antichrist! Whoever the man was at that time was immaterial. Now all this has been vested in the head of the UN.

## B. Confirming the Covenant with Israel.

*“And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.” Daniel 9:27*

1. *“**He** will confirm the covenant with many for one week” - והגביר ברית לרבים שבוע*

Now this passage in Daniel 9:27 is thought by most Christian scholars to be the reference to the coming antichrist and the peace treaty that he is going to enter into with the nation of Israel. But what it reveals is something that is eye opening!

The word *rabab*, (in the text it's *larabim*), means "*the many*". Its Greek equivalent is *hoi polloi*, the many or majority. An interesting side note, the word *many*, *rabim*, is the same as one of Israel's leaders, Rabim. Now the word, *larabim*, "*with many*", or, "*with the many*", takes on the idea of ***the majority***.

Languages, when talking about the numbers of people, have different words to convey the idea of an approximate number of people. There is none, no one, all the way to all, everyone. And in between there is a few, many, a large number and the majority. Here we have the idea of the majority of the citizens of Israel.

So we have Israel, and then there is Mystery Babylon presided over by the political ruler, who will be whatever man at that time who will be holding the position of the Secretary General of the UN, and, of course, the Pope as the religious ruler of Babylon.

We know that the antichrist, who will be the Secretary General of the UN, offering, or making a peace treaty, with the nation of Israel, and that it will encompass a seven year period of time. A time which Christians refer to as "The Tribulation". But what we need to realize is that **there will also be a democratic process exercised by Israel in the ratification of this treaty! In other words, they will vote on it!** This treaty will be put to a vote in Israel and the majority will vote it in.

An interesting point is that the majority of the citizens of Israel will be for this peace treaty, but a majority is not everyone. There will be those living in Israel who will be definitely against it. But as always, in the case of democracy, the minority is tyrannized by the will of the majority. Remember, a republic is rule by principle, while a democracy is a rule by people.

The main thrust of this treaty is to safeguard Israel's security and to provide her with secure established borders. But the problem is where exactly does one put Israel's borders? Israel does not want to give up any of her conquered territories, and the nations around her do not want to give up any land either. So establishing a boundary line defining Israel's borders to both the satisfaction of Israel and her neighbors is still a major problem that needs to be worked out.

But a solution, or at least a compromise, has to be worked out in this area. This is where a limited peace treaty comes in. One that will be for a set period of time, such as, five years, seven years, or ten years, which they're already setting up. They have to start somewhere, so they start with the borders at an agreed to location, with a time limitation to see how it works for everyone.

But not everyone in Israel will go for it. Some will not want to deal with the Arabs, others will not want to deal with Europe and the European Union, and still others just may want more territory, some of those may want the entire middle east!

But most will vote for it. They may not be happy with the situation, but they're tired of fighting; tired of the wars; tired of the pressure and threats and just want to get on with their lives. So to them it's not perfect, but it's workable and we can live with it. “*No more war and secure borders*” is better than the fighting and dying.

So, after being ratified by the majority of the people of Israel, the peace treaty will be signed and Israel will be in covenant with the United Nations, the European Union and the antichrist, the Secretary general of the UN. And then the saying, “*Peace and Safety*” will start to be used by the people of Israel.

## 2. *Confirm – geber* - והגביר

There are several words that one can use in the process of making a peace treaty, and remember, a peace treaty is what you call a covenant between two nations that have been at war.

The beginning – there must be the agreement to enter into a covenant.

Discussion – to bring up the pros and cons.

Arbitration – the settling of disputes by a third party.

The arbiter – the one chosen by both parties to act as the judge between them.

Mediation – the settling of the differences between the two parties.

Negotiation – the bargaining to reach an agreement between the two.

Agreement – the act of coming together in one accord by the two parties.

Ratification – the official approval or authorization of the agreement.

Signing – the visible, official approval by those in authority.

The definition of to confirm means to make valid or binding by a formal or legal act; to ratify, but *geber* doesn't mean that when it comes to the antichrist “*confirming*” the covenant with Israel. It has the idea of to be strong, to prevail, to be mighty, power and strength, mighty in power, to compel, to force, constraint, overbearing behavior. The emphasis of *geber* lies in power and strength, in superiority, of dealing from the upper hand, to be stronger than someone, to be superior to someone. Arbitration, negotiation and mediation ideas are not in view here. The two contracting parties are not viewed as on equal standing or footing. **But the idea that the one who initiates the covenant to the other has prevailed and forces it on the other party from a position of strength!**

The verb *to confirm, geber*, is in the hiphil preterite which is an active causative stem showing that **an action is caused to happen!** The Secretary General of the UN causes, with the idea of force, will force the nation of Israel to sign this peace treaty.

Now there are several ways that force can be exerted by the European Union or the UN on any nation, including the nation of Israel. The obvious one would be through **military strength**. Israel could be forced to ratify this treaty in the face of overwhelming military superiority. A world “peace keeping” army, with the backing of the other nations would certainly be sufficient to accomplish that.

Another coercive element is through **public opinion**. This is what they usually start out with. The military is the last option. Tremendous pressure can be brought to bear on a people and often that is all that is needed. The first phase is public opinion, and if that fails, then economic embargo, and if that fails, then there is the military option.

But there is another means of force and that is **financially**. A trade embargo could be imposed on Israel that would destroy them economically. Now America probably wouldn't go along with it, but the EU more than likely would. It is said that about 80% of Israel's economy is based upon trade with Europe. If that was all taken away the economic repercussions would be devastating.

So there are several ways Israel can be forced into accepting this peace treaty of the antichrist. But what we've got to see is that this is not a peace treaty between Israel and the antichrist, **but a peace treaty that Israel is forced to sign by the antichrist!**

Now this is all done, of course, with great sophistication, manners and protocol. There are no battleships offshore waiting to shell them into submission. It's all very proper, very orderly, very gentleman like, but the message is clear! Either accept and sign this treaty, and even though it isn't perfect, it's certainly workable and only for seven years; either accept and sign it, **or you won't be allowed access to Europe's markets!** Which would be economic suicide.

One can see how the antichrist could force this peace treaty on the nation of Israel. This process has been going on for years with various nations around the world. Abide by the body of the UN, or the US, or else! Peer pressure is brought to bear on the nation that won't go along by other nations. If that fails, then there is an economic embargo trying to “starve them into submission”. If that fails, then the last option is get them to knuckle under by the use of the military. And remember, the antichrist, the man who holds the position of Secretary General of the UN, has the power to already do this. And when he deals with Israel he will be dealing with them from a position of strength.

There is another issue involved in all this and that is an International peace keeping force, (an **army**), will need to be brought in to insure the safety of the Israeli people, the security of their borders and to make sure that the terms of the peace treaty are enforced. This is the idea of Revelation 11:2, “*But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they **tread under foot** forty and two months.*”

What many Christians don't realize is that Gentiles have been living on the land of Israel for the last two thousand years. The Arabs and Palestinians have been there for over 1,000 years, and by the way, during that time the Arabs, Muslims, Christians and Jews lived together peaceably.

What “*treading under foot*” refers to is the presence of a Gentile military on the land! And that will be accomplished by a Gentile world peace keeping force as found under the control by the UN. And we notice this is for 3 ½ years. And all this will come about **as the result of the peace treaty the antichrist forces on Israel.**

To get Israel to sign this treaty there will be the first two concepts of pressure by the other nations of the world to do it, and then the veiled threat of an economic embargo against it. It wouldn't have to be an economic embargo either. All Europe would have to do is tell Israel that they can no longer trade with the European Union and that would be enough to destroy their economy.

When faced with this the people of Israel, or at least the majority of the people, will now view the extents of their borders as not that important. Who cares whether the country is this big or a little smaller, so long as we can work, save money, buy our homes and enjoy our lives with our families!

One of the main reasons today that Israel wants its borders to be pushed farther out is so they can be protected from attack by hostile neighboring countries. But if the UN peace treaty provides for their security, and if UN troops are stationed there to insure that they are protected, then that settles that issue.

What's the big deal if we have to sign away some of our territory and sovereignty if we can have a guaranteed peace and the access to Europe's markets, financial prosperity, and the opportunity to live a normal productive life with peace and prosperity for all! And so the majority will go for it.

We can see how the antichrist will do this, (the one holding the position of the Secretary General of the UN at that time), by using the force of public opinion against Israel to go along with it, by the threat of economic disaster on the one hand if they don't, and on the other hand economic prosperity if they do, and all this time there is the constant pressure of being attacked militarily, as has been going on for so long.

It is not the plan for the antichrist, or any of the other world rulers, to blow Israel off the face of the map, although it seems like that at times. The reason why is that would thwart Satan's plan for it. It is Satan's plan to move the Vatican to Jerusalem where the Pope will establish the worship of the antichrist by the people of the world, and for the antichrist to rule the world with Jerusalem being his capitol city. (To see how Jerusalem becomes the end time Babylon see my On line book study called “The City of Babylon”). The antichrist, living in Jerusalem then, will control all the people of the world because all, through International law, will be under the legal jurisdiction of the City.

### 3. For one week - שבוע אחד

As we know, this covenant will be established for a seven year period of time. A time limitation will be placed on it to sell it to the Israeli people. It'll be along this line, 'Listen, the treaty is going to be for only seven years. Try it and see how you like it. If it doesn't work out, then you don't have to renew it at the end of the seven years'!

And with the people of the world in favor of it, and the antichrist compelling them to do it, a military presence there to make sure all parties behave, and the prosoect of economic prosperity for all as the result, and we're only signing up for seven years, the majority will go for it and then there will be "*peace and safety*".

Many Christians have accepted the idea of a pre-trib rapture. They believe that the antichrist will come on the scene in the middle of the Tribulation after the Church is raptured out. What they fail to realize that it is the antichrist who will be forcing this seven year treaty on Israel. **It is obvious that he has to be "on the scene" before the treaty is signed!**

He will not only have to be on the scene long before this, but in the position of political, religious and military power over the world body. His standing and stature will be as one who has prevailed, one who has conquered and been victorious, one who is strong and mighty in all three areas.

He will be the 666 man. Six being the number of man, double six referring to perfected mand, and triple six referring to deified man. The age old lie of satan back in the garden that man can become a god!

He will have conquered the world; all the nations of the world will have been brought under this total rule, including the US. Lest you think that this is an event far off in the future, it has already happened. There's only a few nations being taken care of now in a sort of "mopping up" operation.

How this has been done is through International law under the UN. All nations, as member states of the UN, (there goes America's sovereignty), have to abide by the laws that the UN passes. Once the UN passes a law, then the member states are required to adopt those laws in the various countries through their own legislatures. The head man over all this is none other than the Secretary General of the UN, who was vested with all temporal rule of the world by the Pope back in 1962.

Anyway to recap, the nation of Israel will be forced into signing the peace treaty by the Secretary General of the UN, a process which has been going on since 1977. Public opinion, economic ruin, or military threat will be the coercive elements to get them to sign. And it will be voted for by the majority of the people of Israel.

Pastor Mike

