The Time of the Gentiles

James Smyda Recorded on September 1, 2018

As we all know, a little over a week from today all of us in the Church of God will be keeping the Feast of Trumpets, which we know pictures the day of the Lord. As a result, many of us this time of year tend to have our thoughts—the things that we are studying or thinking about—on the events of the end time, when all the prophecies foretell how these events will come about. We're really thinking about how all of this will play out in the future, as this time of year—the holy days—pictures all of this. What we're going to do today is look at this subject as well. We're going to specifically look at a phrase that's used to describe the time of the end, that is used in both the Old and New Testament to refer to not only the day of the Lord but the time of the end leading up to the day of the Lord, and that phrase is *the time of the Gentiles*. We're going to look at this particular phrase to understand what it means and look at how some of these events are probably going to come about. If you would like a title for this sermon, it's:

The Time of the Gentiles

As I mentioned, the Bible actually uses this phrase twice. It uses it once in the Old Testament and once in the New Testament, and as we're going to see it not only refers specifically to the time of the day of the Lord but also in general to the time frame leading up to the day of the Lord. Let's start out first of all noticing these scriptures and how this phrase is used in the Bible. If you'll turn first to Ezekiel 30, we're going to start reading in verse 1.

Ezekiel 30:1 The word of the LORD came to me again, saying, 2) "Son of man, prophesy and say, "Thus says the Lord GOD: "Wail, 'Woe to the day!'

3) For the day is near, even the day of the LORD is near; it will be a day of clouds, the time of the Gentiles. (NKJV)

Notice it's describing this as the time of the Gentiles, the time when the Gentiles are significant—they're the major players in the world. We're going to see in the New Testament it uses this phrase as well but it's not just specific to the day of the Lord, it's the time of the end leading up to the day of the Lord, described with this term as well. Let's turn over to Luke 21 and we'll notice that when Christ is giving the Olivet Prophecy, He makes a very similar statement. Luke 21:20.

Luke 21:20 *"But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is near.*

21) Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those who are in the midst of her depart, and let not those who are in the country enter her.

22) For these are the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled.

23) But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! For there will be great distress in the land and wrath upon this people.

24) And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled. (NKJV)

Notice here we're talking about end-time events that are prior to the day of the Lord, leading up to this time frame, but we're describing it with the phrase, time of the Gentiles. We need to stop and understand this phrase to realize what all this is getting at. When we talk about the time of the Gentiles, or as some translations put it, the age of the Gentiles, we're talking about a time in general when you can say of the Gentiles, they're the dominant players on the world scene.

To really get what that's saying, we need to first of all understand how the word "Gentiles" is used. When you say this is the time when the Gentiles will be the dominant force, we're not talking about any specific nation or nationality or ethnic group, because the term Gentiles doesn't refer specifically to any one group. It's a rather generic term. Gentiles are defined in the Bible, in contrast to Israel. The Bible basically uses the term in contrast to the descendants of Jacob (the Israelites) when it refers to the Israelites and the Gentiles. Because Gentiles is this generic term that refers to everybody who is not an Israelite, it's kind of a catch-all term. So if you say this is the time when the Gentiles will be the dominant force in the word, and they will be significant people who are going to be the dominant force, you're describing everybody but Israel.

Basically we're going to get to a time at the end when modern-day descendants of Israel (even though not be called by the name Israel, they are those whom God would identify as the descendants of Jacob) are going to become insignificant on the world scene. In the lifetimes of those of us who are hearing this message, we've lived through a time when Israel has been dominant across the world. If you look at world history, for the last couple hundred years, you could say Israel has been a dominant force on the world scene. This didn't happen by accident. It wasn't just a coincidence that this came about, it was specifically because of promises that God made to Abraham that were fulfilled through his grandson, Jacob, whose name was later changed to Israel, and therefore the nation is named after him. It was specifically prophesied to be like this.

So let's first of all take a quick look at this history so we have a context in which to understand this whole subject. Let's turn over to Genesis 12 and we'll briefly look at the promises that were made to Abraham and see how this resulted in Israel having this dominant status across the entire world—on the world scene, you might say. Genesis 12 is where we're going to start. Before I go through some of these statements—the promises God made to Abraham—let me first clarify; I'm sure we're all familiar with the fact that as we read through these scriptures, there are not only physical promises but

spiritual promises that are contained in all of this as well. For our purposes today we are going to focus on the physical side of the promises. Realize that in doing that, I am not in any way denying the fact that there are major spiritual promises in these verses as well, it's just that our focus for today is going to be on the physical side of them. Genesis 12:1.

Genesis 12:1 Now the LORD had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, from your family and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you. 2) I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing.

3) I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." (NKJV)

He's telling him not only are your descendants going to become a great nation, He's saying they are going to make a major impact on the world in general. They are going to be major players. Notice if we look over in Genesis 17, He didn't just mention that they would be a nation that would be significant, He mentioned there would be multiple nations that would be significant. We're going to see how this is fulfilled; it wound up being a number of different national entities, you might say, through which this was fulfilled on the world scene. Genesis 17:1.

Genesis 17:1 When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless. 2) And I will make My covenant between Me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly."

3) Then Abram fell on his face, and God talked with him, saying:
4) "As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations. (NKJV)

We're talking now about many nations being descended from him.

5) No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you a father of many nations.

6) I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you.

7) And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you. (NKJV)

God promised Abraham his descendants would become very significant, not only as a single nation, but as many nations, as a blessing to the whole world, and they would be very significant on the world scene. He even promises them that they are going to possess the gates of their enemies. They are gong to have this global impact. World history is not going to be able to ignore these nations—they're not just going to be significant in one corner of the world, they're going to be significant across the globe. Notice in Genesis 22:15, we're breaking into a context where God gave Abraham the

trial of sacrificing Isaac and we're picking up at the end of the story, but for our purposes we're going to start in verse 15.

Genesis 22:15 Then the Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time out of heaven,

16) and said: "By Myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son—

17) blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies.

18) In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice." (NKJV)

Once again He's telling him, your descendants are going to become as numerous as the sand on the seashore, as the stars in heaven; they'll become a multitude of nations and they will possess the gates of their enemies, and the whole world will be blessed through them. It was no accident that Israel became very significant on the world scene because the promises weren't just that they were going to be a prosperous country in one part of the world and be successful—no, He's saying they're going to have a global impact. This is exactly what happened. As you know the nation of Israel, the descendants of Jacob, did become a nation and did inherit the Promised Land in the Middle East. These promises of their global significance and impact didn't really happen during that time. They were significant in their part of the world, but the other side of the planet wouldn't have known about them. They weren't significant in that regard but these promises did get fulfilled over time.

I'm going to summarize some of the basic history because I'm sure most of you are relatively familiar with this. To review the basics, as you know there was a point when Israel ended up disobeying God, which is a common theme throughout their history, and they end up going into captivity. As they come out of the captivity they eventually migrate north, primarily to what we would call today Western Europe, and they end up establishing a number of different nations. As we know, there are numerous nations that we can go through and identify as the modern-day descendants of Israel. Not only did they become successful nations in their part of the world and that part of the globe, they had a massive impact on the entire planet just as was prophesied.

Beginning around the 1500s those nations in Europe began colonizing other parts of the planet and over the next several hundred years, if you look at a world map, they literally colonized the majority of the rest of the planet. It's that significant because if you look at the colonization that happened out of Europe, if you look at the Americas from Argentina all the way up to Canada—every bit of that got colonized. If you look at the continent of Africa, they carved that up with a handful of different European nations taking different sections of it, but they colonized pretty much the whole continent. India got colonized as well; Australia and New Zealand and the Philippines, and various islands all across the world. You look at a globe or a world map and see where these areas are, you are

literally talking about the majority of the planet that at one time or another got colonized by these Israelite-descended nations.

Even as the colonial period ends and all of this recedes—you go from the British Empire being so large the sun never set on it; it was literally that large and ruled so many areas around the globe that it was always daylight—even as it begins to recede and the colonial period ends, the United States becomes the superpower across the world. The twentieth century is a major story of the U.S. becoming a superpower across the world. Even though there wasn't the same type of colonization across the world, even today we have military bases all over the world in numerous foreign countries. So you can see this massive, major impact that we've had. You can see that what's going to happen between now and the end involves some major changes. Even today, when you look at the prominence the Israelite nations once held, I think we've declined quite a bit in that regard; we're not the strong nations that we once were. No one would look at the world scene today and say the United States is insignificant or that they're just not a major player at all. Nobody would really say that today, currently, of Israelite-descended nations. Prophecy tells us we're going to get to a point where that will be the case.

Now we have to ask the question, how does that come about? Growing up as a kid in the Church since birth, there's a common scenario (probably the most common scenario I've heard) speculated as to how this transition would take place, what you might characterize as more or less a sudden military invasion—the idea that the Israelite nations are still at some level of prominence and the beast power does a military invasion and quickly transitions from one to the other. Personally I don't think that's exactly how this plays out, because even looking at the world scene today, the United States is not the powerful nation it used to be; we are very much in decline in many ways but we still have a very powerful military. I doubt any nation of the world today could try to do a military takeover of us and not get themselves destroyed in the process. It's not going to be that type of a scenario. However, I think there's another way that this could come about that is actually directly indicated in scripture, when God warned Israel, telling them of the blessings and curses that they would receive, either for obedience or for disobedience. I think it gives us a path that this is very likely to happen, that shows how this will be fulfilled.

Turn over to Deuteronomy 28 and we can look at a warning that God gave them through Moses. I think gives us a good idea of how this is likely to happen. If it's not the way it happens, I'm sure it's a major portion of how this transition happens. Deuteronomy 28:43.

Deuteronomy 28:43 "The alien who is among you shall rise higher and higher above you, and you shall come down lower and lower. 44) He shall lend to you, but you shall not lend to him; he shall be the head, and you shall be the tail. (NKJV)

Notice this says *the alien who is among you*. This isn't a military invasion where a formal army marches in and takes over your country. It says this is the people living among

you, and the transition of power takes place where the alien becomes the strong one and the Israelite becomes the tail—the weaker, insignificant one.

To look at how this is going to come about, I think today we have what I'm going to call a perfect storm brewing of three different, major factors that are happening now and have been happening for a while, and if you just project forward a few more decades, I think we can see very clearly this coming about in literally every Israelite nation today. The trends we are going to talk about translate across the board. It's a perfect storm of three major factors: falling birth rates, rising immigration, and multiculturalism. These factors, as I explain them, are coming together as a perfect storm. It will take a few decades for this transition to take place but it's going to wind up making a massive switch and I can clearly demonstrate this for you today.

First of all to understand how all this plays together you need to get a general picture of birth rates—how they're measured and the significance they have upon a population— because this is very important to understand. If you look at any stable population of people, and when I say stable I mean any nation or group of people that's not experiencing a war or natural disaster or disease epidemic, or something major that changes life (if life is basically stable), and for that population to maintain its numbers over time, they need to have an average birthrate across the board statistically of 2.1 children per family.

If you look at any large group of people and large number of families, you're going to see people have different numbers of children. Some couples will have a large family—three, four, or five or more children—and other couples will have maybe two or three children. Some couples may have one child, some may not have any. If you look at a population, in general, and you're statistically averaging it all together, they've got to average about 2.1 children as a general statistical average, just for that population to maintain its numbers over time. The reason I say 2.1 children is, as you can imagine, you've got a mom and a dad involved so if they have two children, obviously those children are replacements for themselves, but statistically speaking, over time, just through accidents, illnesses, other circumstances of life, some number of those children are not going to live into adulthood to continue the population, so you have to have a little bit more than two.

If you have 2.1, that's enough to maintain those numbers over time. Now to get a picture of how this affects a population if you go above or below this: If you're at 2.1, that's just a replacement rate that over time means your population rates will remain stable, as people get old and die off and younger people are born; as time moves on they'll stay consistent. The higher your average birthrate numbers go above 2.1, the more your population is going to grow over time. The more you drop below this average, the more your population is going to decline over time. It's also important to understand what an impact this can have if you go significantly below 2.1 and you stay there for a consistent period of time. You set forces in motion you simply can't undo easily or quickly—it's just not possible. Think of it like this, I'm just going to do this for easy numbers: We know replacement rates are 2.1 but imagine you have a generation

of any given population and they just average one child, per couple, across the board. Think about that. Your younger generation is now literally half the size of your older generation. If that younger generation doesn't pick up above 2.1, if they continue to be below 2.1 in their children, your population over time will continue to significantly shrink.

You can't intervene in the middle of this and change this. Just to do an easy demonstration, imagine you have a population and this year they have one million babies. Project forward, twenty years from now, and it's time for those babies to be adults and to enter the work force and start having their own kids; you're going to have a maximum of one million of them, assuming you didn't lose any of them during those twenty years. You can't somewhere along the process decide you're going to need two million people in the workforce and somehow boost this. It's not going to happen—that's not possible. You get forces in motion that you can't undo. Understanding the basics of that, now let's look at how this subject is going to affect this whole time of the Gentiles concept that we're talking about.

As I mentioned earlier, as we all know, the primary launching point, you might say, for the Israelite-descended peoples is Western Europe. That's where they migrated to, and from whence they colonized. If you look at Western Europe as an example it's probably one of the most obvious examples of the concept I'm about to lay out here for you. If you look at this subject, as we all know throughout Western Europe, there's a variety of different nations that are descended from Israel and for ease of demonstration purposes, I'm going to average them together and speak of them as a group, rather than individually, because we can get bogged down in lots of statistics if we do this individually. If you look at them as a collective in Western Europe, the average birthrate among your native Europeans—those we typically say are descended from Israelite people—is about 1.5 to 1.6 and that's been true for some time.

They're significantly below replacement rates and this is across the board. As you can imagine, this affects a population, particularly if you're looking at a population like Europe, and I say this because many of these nations have major welfare programs. To support these programs you have to have a large younger population that is working and being taxed to fund all of this, because as your population ages and you have a larger portion that are older, you get the financial part of this upside down, and not only your workforce. A lot of the nations in Europe in the recent years and recent decades have seen this issue coming and one of the ways they've tried to deal with it is through immigration. They've started to try and encourage lots of immigration into the nations to bring in younger people. Over the last decade in particular, you've probably seen some of this on the news.

In 2015 the floodgates just opened with people pouring into Europe. Where they're coming from primarily is the Middle East and North Africa. You're having massive amounts of population that are coming into Europe and they're flooding in on a daily basis. This is a regular thing if you research this subject. Not only are you having this growing population coming in, if you look at the birth rates that are among these groups of migrants coming in, they are typically averaging three or four children per family. So

not only is the population of those who are pouring in, over time, rapidly growing, the native Israelite populations are shrinking. Over time (and I'm going to show you in a minute some quotes showing some real statistics) this is what's happening: Israelite people are becoming minorities in their own nations.

You've also got cultural issues here. Realize the significance of how your Israelite nations became the prominent nations that they are today on the world scene. It isn't just because God supernaturally intervened numerous times and ordered things in their favor—that certainly happened and history is full of those kind of stories—but one of the reasons why these cultures have been more successful is because of cultural values that had their connection with what we call Judeo-Christian values—basic principles based upon the Bible. If you're bringing in large amounts of people from the Middle East and North Africa, these are primarily Muslim areas where you have a totally different value system, a totally different religion, a way of life that is quite frankly not compatible with the way of life of Western Europe, and it's hostile oftentimes to the values there.

If you change all the values and the way of life of a people, it's not rocket science to see what's going to happen. If you continue to do the same thing over and over again, you get the same results. If you flood Europe with a culture from North Africa and the Middle East and they bring those cultural values, those practices to Europe, you're going to get the same results that they had in their countries, and it winds up tearing the structure of the nation apart. To demonstrate for you that I'm not overstating this, in terms of how this population structure plays out, let me share with you a quote from a book called <u>The Strange Death of Europe</u>. It's by Douglas Murray and this first quote is from pages 11 and 12:

In 2002 the latest census for England and Wales was published. Compiled the previous year, it showed the extent to which the country had changed in the decade since the last census was taken. Imagine somebody then, in 2002, deciding to extrapolate on the findings in that census and speculating on what the next ten years might bring. Imagine that they said, "White Britons will become a minority in their own capital city by the end of this decade and the Muslim population will double in the next ten years."

How would such statements have been greeted? The terms "alarmist" and "scaremongering" would certainly have been used, as most likely would "racist" and (although the coinage was then in its infancy) the word "Islamophobe". Safe to say such extrapolations of the data would not have been greeted warmly...

Yet however abused, anybody offering such analysis in 2002 would have been proved wholly and utterly right. The next census, compiled in 2011 and published at the end of 2012, revealed not just the facts mentioned above, but far more. It proved that the number of people living in England and Wales who had been born overseas had risen by nearly three million in the previous decade alone. It showed that only 44.9 percent of London residents now identified themselves as "white British". And it revealed that nearly three million people in England and Wales were living in households where not one adult spoke English as their main language.

In other words this has already happened in London, where you might say the descendants of Israel, of Ephraim, are now the minority of the population in the capital city. But this is not just happening in one city, this is a general trend; this is going to take a little longer to happen to the entire nation but it is actively happening in the nation. Continuing on from <u>The Strange Death of Europe</u> by Douglas Murray, this quote is from pages 33 and 34:

In the years since the 2011 census, the number of migrants into Britain has continued to soar, and the gap between the official figures and actual figures continues to vary hugely. One indication of the fact is that although the net migration figures for each year since the 2011 census has been far in excess of 300,000, the number of new National Insurance numbers issued each year (because they are required for work) has been more than double that. The rising population of the United Kingdom is now almost entirely due to immigration and to higher birth rates among immigrants. In 2014 women who were born overseas accounted for 27 percent of all live births in England and Wales, and 33 percent of newborn babies had at least one immigrant parent, a figure that had doubled since the 1990s.

On current population trends, and without any further rise in the number of immigrants, the most modest estimate by the ONS of the future British population is that it will rise from its current level of 65 million to 70 million within a decade, 77 million by 2050, and to more than 80 million by 2060. But this estimate assumes immigration to be beneath current levels. Whereas if the post-2011 levels were to continue, the UK population would go above 80 million as early as 2040 and as high as 90 million (that is an increase of 50 percent on 2011) by 2060.

Demographic predictions are a notoriously tricky area, with enough variables to make fools of many. But among serious academic demographers there is a consensus that even without migration at the rate it has occurred in recent years, the demographic make-up of the country will change even more significantly within the lifespan of most people reading this book. For instance, David Coleman, a professor of demography at Oxford University, has shown that on current trends the people that identified themselves as "white British" in the 2011 census will cease to be a majority in the United Kingdom in the 2060s. However, he stresses, if current levels of immigration to Britain continue, let alone rise, that number "will move closer to the present". It would be a time when, as Professor Coleman says, Britain would become "unrecognisable to its present inhabitants". What it's saying here is give it a couple of decades and the population switches. Even in what we would call today Ephraim—Britain and the United Kingdom—basically they've become a minority in their own country. Again, I'm giving you examples specifically of Britain for demonstration purposes but if you research this, the same thing is true, the same general trends are true, across Western Europe.

This is not a unique situation at all. You see this has created a lot of challenges for them because not only do you have this demographic switch, of the native Israelites becoming minorities in their own country, but think about this also from a cultural perspective. If you look specifically at Europe, as I mentioned before, the majority of where the people are coming from, that are pouring in as immigrants, is from the Middle East and North Africa. As a result of this you are getting a mass amount of a Muslim population moving into all of Europe. Their whole religion, cultural values, views of life are very different from the culture of Europe, of what has historically been Western civilization. This has created a number of issues. If you research the subject, the crime problems in Europe have sky-rocketed, particularly the crime of rape. Today, Sweden is oftentimes referred to as the rape capital of the Western world. This is because of the huge migrant population they have allowed in. Think about this, if you are bringing in a huge amount of people whose religious and cultural viewpoint is that anyone who is a non-Muslim is an infidel, and raping infidel women is allowed, it's not a surprise that you have massive gang rape problems across Europe. This is true across a lot of the Western nations if you just do the research; it has sky-rocketed.

I'm sure you've noticed over the past decade the great increase of terrorists attacks that have happened in Europe; even more concerning, you've probably heard the term "no-go zones". These are areas all across Europe that are developing now, where what's happened is the population of Muslims moving in have dominated either an area of a town or in some cases an entire town, and they have literally set up areas where they are governing themselves with their own Sharia courts and basically setting up their own law, their own systems within a European country, ignoring the systems and the laws of the country that they are actually in. They are often referred to as "no-go zones" because the local officials consider it unsafe to even go into these areas.

What you're basically talking about is conquered territory. Just call it what it is. An army didn't come in with tanks and machine guns and helicopters and take the area and put up a flag, but if you have an area that has walled itself off, the local authorities over that area are afraid to go in there. They're governing themselves with their own courts, their own laws and doing it their own way; you're talking about conquered territory in your nation. That's the reality of what is taking place. This is steadily growing across Europe and this type of problem is all over Western Europe. As you can see, if you keep this trend going you can see where this is headed. You wind up, as the population switches, with warring cultures, and what tends to happen at that point is nations descend into civil war situations. Also, think about it, when you have a nation that has been very prosperous and has been significant on the world scene, and you create these kind of internal problems, it's not rocket science to see what's going to happen. They're not going to be able to perform at the same level that they have before, certainly not if they

are descending into a fight, in civil war situations with each other. It destroys the culture.

You also have to consider (we're going to talk about this a little later in this sermon) the whole multiculturalism movement, which is basically robbing these nations of the cultural values that have created their success to begin with. Just project forward a few decades and you can see what's happening and it doesn't require what we would typically think of as a formal military invasion. They're facing an invasion but it's not one that would be recognized as military. Over time it's going to create this switch.

The overall trends I'm describing here are not just unique to Europe. Europe is probably in the worst situation in this regard, but this is not unique to Europe in general. If we look at Canada and the U.S., the same general trends of falling birth rates, rising immigration, and multiculturalism are having similar effects—these similar dynamics are at work. To demonstrate this, let me quote to you from an article specific to Canada. I pulled this off of the Internet, off of a website called <u>theglobeandmail.com</u>. It's an article authored by John Ibbitson and it was published online January 27, 2017. To quote from it, the article is titled "The politics of 2036, when Canada is as brown as it is white":

Opponents of Canada's wide-open immigration policy have good reason to complain. This country embarked on a massive social experiment in the early 1990s, when the Mulroney government opened the immigration floodgates. That experiment is radically altering the ethnic makeup of the population. Yet that decision was never properly debated. Has the time come for such a debate, or is it too late?

A report this week from Statistics Canada forecasting the country's demographic makeup in 2036 suggests it's too late. The transformation of Canada is already far advanced, and continuing. By 2036, the agency predicts, as many as 30 per cent of all residents will not have been born in Canada. Another 20 per cent of the population will be native-born, but with at least one immigrant parent. Since the vast majority of immigrants come from Asian or Pacific nations, within 20 years Canada will likely be as brown as it is white.

So you can see in just another two decades the population switches and they are no longer a majority in their own country. The same is true of the United States. Let me read to you from an article from The Brookings Institute (their website is <u>brookings.edu</u>), authored by William H. Frey, posted on March 14, 2018. The title of the article is "The U.S. will become 'minority white' in 2045, Census projects; Youthful minorities are the engine of future growth". Quoting from the article:

New census population growth projections confirm the importance of racial minorities as the primary demographic engine of the nation's future growth, countering an aging, slow-growing and soon to be declining white population. The new statistics project that the nation will become "minority white" in 2045.

During that year, whites will comprise 49.7 percent of the population in contrast to 24.6 percent for Hispanics, 13.1 percent for blacks, 7.9 percent for Asians, and 3.8 percent for multiracial populations.

The shift is the result of two trends. First, between 2018 and 2060, gains will continue in the combined racial minority populations, growing by 74 percent. Second, during this time frame, the aging white population will see a modest immediate gain through 2024, and then experience a long-term decline through 2060, a consequence of more deaths than births.

As I mentioned, he says a decline of more deaths than births and aging population. He's talking about falling birth rates. As your birth rates decline and you stay that way over time, you wind up with the bulk of your population more towards retirement age and a much smaller portion of the population being in the younger years. As your elders die off, if you stop having more children your overall population declines over time—it shrinks. If at the same time you're bringing in large amounts of immigration with larger birth rates, you're looking at population replacement. Your dynamics are going to change, and those descended from Israel that are the modern-day tribes of Israel will wind up being minorities in their own nations.

More importantly we have to look at the cultural factors that are going to play out with this. As I mentioned before, it's not just a matter of what nationalities, or you might say, skin colors, or things of that nature that we're talking about, because one of the major factors that made these nations prominent and successful on the world scene wasn't just God reaching down and intervening in certain situations to win it in their favor—as we all know, in world history you can site a number of examples where God supernaturally intervened and made that happen—a bigger factor involved with this is cultural values and a way of life, a way of running a country, based more on Judeo-Christian values—basic principles from the Bible that resulted in a culture being successful.

If you wind up changing the entire culture and replacing this with different values, a different religion, a different outlook, you can't totally change how you do things and then expect the results to be the same as they were before. If you change how you're going about approaching something, you're going to change the results. You have to see that that's what's happening here, and just like in the case of Europe, you start bringing in lots of people, their mindset, their religion, their cultural values are hostile to Western civilization, and if you make them the majority of the population, what do you think happens to your Western civilization? It dies.

What we're seeing here is the death of Western civilization. I know that may sound over-dramatic but stop and think about it. As I covered in the brief history of how Israel became prominent on the world scene, when you hear the term Western civilization today, what do people typically mean when they say that? They refer to the United States, Canada, Europe, Australia—referring to the Israelite-descended nations. Western civilization came about as a result of the time of the Israelites, the time where

they were the significant force on the world scene. You make them the minority, overrun them with others in their own countries, take away their culture, you're getting rid of Western civilization. Basically what we're seeing is the death of Western civilization; it will take a few decades to close the casket but that's what is playing out here.

Another major factor in all of this is what is typically referred to today as the multiculturalism movement. This is oftentimes marketed as the idea of appreciating everyone's background and fairness and all getting along with each other but there are some major flaws in this whole theory. First of all to buy into this idea, the first thing you have to do is accept the idea of moral relativity. The basic idea is all cultures are equally good—all viewpoints, all religions, all cultural values—they are all just as good, they're just different, and we should just celebrate them all. We should accept everything in the name of diversity and that's typically how this idea is put across.

Think about that. To even accept that idea, the first thing you have to do is accept moral relativity, because you have to get rid of the idea that there is a standard and this Book that defines right, and what opposes it is wrong. You have to get rid of the idea that there's an Almighty God, and He defines good and evil and sin and righteousness, and cultures that are more in line with His instructions are going to do better by definition than ones that aren't. You have to throw that concept out to accept this idea.

There's another unique thing you notice about multiculturalism, and I'll just put it in the words of Dr. Thomas Sowell. He says Multiculturalism is very often a monocultural phenomenon. What he means by that is how much this whole concept of diversity and multiculturalism is typically focused toward Western civilization. How often have you ever heard anyone say, over in Japan they're not diverse—they have too many Asians over there; we need to bring over a bunch of white guys and do cultural enrichment and give them diversity! No one thinks of that. They tend to have strict immigration laws over there but no one calls them racist.

Look at Saudi Arabia, there's another good example. How often have you heard, there's too many Arabs over there and they're all Muslim—they need cultural and religious diversity over there and they need cultural enrichment! No, people accept that's their ethnic group, that's their culture, it's okay. Just to use a current example, one of the things hot in the news today is controlling the southern border of the U.S. and the flow of illegal immigration against it. When there's a push to have some control over it and enforce some laws, what happens? That's racist—it's evil and bad. What other nations get called racist for wanting to enforce their borders? With multiculturalism, every other culture should be celebrated and accepted because it's wonderful, but the culture of Western civilization should be denigrated and all its faults pointed out.

To share a quote on this, also from <u>The Strange Death of Europe</u> by Douglas Murray, from pages 101 and 102, we're breaking into a thought reading this quote. What he's discussing leading up to this is the whole idea of multiculturalism, that we should accept and celebrate every culture because they are just as equal, they are all just as good,

and in the name of diversity we should celebrate them all. But here's often what actually happens and that's where we are breaking into a thought as he discusses this.

At the same time the only culture that couldn't be celebrated was the culture that had allowed all these other cultures to be celebrated in the first place. In order to become multicultural, countries found that they had to do themselves down, particularly focusing on their negatives. Thus the states that had been so open and liberal that they had allowed and encouraged large-scale migration were portrayed as countries which were uniquely racist. And while any and all other cultures in the world could be celebrated within Europe, to celebrate even the good things about Europe within Europe became suspect. The multicultural era was one of European self-abnegation where the host society appeared to stand back from itself and hoped that it would not be noticed other than as some form of benign convener. It was for this reason, among others, that the celebrated American political philosopher, Samuel Huntington, wrote in his last book, 'Multiculturalism is in its essence anti-European civilisation. It is basically an anti-Western ideology'.

To back this up let me share with you another quote from Dr. Thomas Sowell who has written a lot on multiculturalism. He says, "What 'multiculturalism' boils down to is that you can praise any culture in the world except Western culture—and you cannot blame any culture in the world except Western culture."

In other words, we need more diversity—we need more multiculturalism. Our culture is bad, so we need to bring in all these other cultures to enrich us. You don't see that same pressure put on other non-Western cultures, of being pushed to do the same. What has happened in the Western world, is over the last couple of decades, particularly within our education system (absolutely our colleges), they have enveloped this idea and they indoctrinate generations into this type of thought. Not only has this resulted in Israelite nations facilitating their own destruction because they are buying into this idea that we have to take every other culture because our culture is bad and racist and we should feel guilty and horrible about it. We should embrace every other culture and move away from this culture even though the evidence of history has shown Western civilization to be the most successful civilization in the history of mankind. I'm not suggesting by any means that they didn't have plenty of their own sins and plenty of their faults that created their own problems as well-not by any means trying to paint it as a completely positive picture-but the evidence screams the whole story, that this has actually been successful. What's happening is setting up a culture where the Israelites will be a minority in their own nations and then be convinced to abandon their own culture and to turn against it and facilitate their own destruction.

If we look back in history in the Bible, the term multiculturalism, that's modern-day terminology, but the whole concept of Israel destroying themselves—by denying the culture that God gave them and not following His instructions and embracing the culture of all the nations around them—this is not a new story by any means. This is the history of Israel throughout the Old Testament. In fact, when they started as a nation God

specifically warned them about this very thing. Let's turn over to Deuteronomy 7:1. Notice from the very beginning, God warning them through Moses against this very thing, what we today call multiculturalism.

Deuteronomy 7:1 When the LORD your God brings you into the land which you go to possess, and has cast out many nations before you, the Hittites and the Girgashites and the Amorites and the Canaanites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and mightier than you, 2) and when the LORD your God delivers them over to you, you shall conquer them and utterly destroy them. You shall make no covenant with them nor show mercy to them.

3) Nor shall you make marriages with them. You shall not give your daughter to their son, nor take their daughter for your son.

4) For they will turn your sons away from following Me, to serve other gods; so the anger of the LORD will be aroused against you and destroy you suddenly.
5) But thus you shall deal with them: you shall destroy their altars, and break down their sacred pillars, and cut down their wooden images, and burn their carved images with fire. (NKJV)

Notice He is warning them right from the beginning not to go down this road. We call it today multiculturalism—that term didn't exist then—but notice what He's saying. When you go into these areas, don't take on their culture, don't take on their religion, don't get fascinated with their practices and want to do them as well. Don't look at this and say, wow, this is cultural enrichment, this is diversity, we should celebrate this and we should take part in it as well because they are all equal and it's all just as wonderful. No, God is saying diversity is not your strength—that kind of diversity will be your destruction. Please also take note He didn't say a word about skin color here. He is warning them about false religious and cultural values and the destruction these can have upon them. This is not a racist statement. He is not saying they are bad because they have the wrong skin color. Please take note of that; we're going to make a point of that in just a moment. Turn over to Joshua 23. We're going to see at the end of Joshua's life, he gives them a warning as well, specifically warning them not to go down the road of what we today call multiculturalism. Joshua 23:1.

Joshua 23:1 Now it came to pass, a long time after the LORD had given rest to Israel from all their enemies round about, that Joshua was old, advanced in age.
2) And Joshua called for all Israel, for their elders, for their heads, for their judges, and for their officers, and said to them: "I am old, advanced in age.
3) You have seen all that the LORD your God has done to all these nations because of you, for the LORD your God is He who has fought for you.
4) See, I have divided to you by lot these nations that remain, to be an inheritance for your tribes, from the Jordan, with all the nations that I have cut off, as far as the Great Sea westward.

5) And the LORD your God will expel them from before you and drive them out of your sight. So you shall possess their land, as the LORD your God promised you.

6) Therefore be very courageous to keep and to do all that is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, lest you turn aside from it to the right hand or to the left,
7) and lest you go among these nations, these who remain among you. You shall not make mention of the name of their gods, nor cause anyone to swear by them; you shall not serve them nor bow down to them,

8) but you shall hold fast to the LORD your God, as you have done to this day.
9) For the LORD has driven out from before you great and strong nations; but as for you, no one has been able to stand against you to this day.

10) One man of you shall chase a thousand, for the LORD your God is He who fights for you, as He promised you.

11) Therefore take careful heed to yourselves, that you love the LORD your God. 12) Or else, if indeed you do go back, and cling to the remnant of these nations these that remain among you—and make marriages with them, and go in to them and they to you,

13) know for certain that the LORD your God will no longer drive out these nations from before you. But they shall be snares and traps to you, and scourges on your sides and thorns in your eyes, until you perish from this good land which the LORD your God has given you.

Notice again, this entire warning is about religion and cultural values. If you take on their way of life, if you think this is cultural enrichment and it's diversity, and we should all celebrate it and embrace it, it will not be your strength. This is a buzz phrase you'll hear today among people who promote the multiculturalism movement: Diversity is our strength. Again, realize what God is addressing is not about skin color, nor is it about race. This is about culture and religious values. He's saying if you take on this type of diversity, it will not be your strength, it will be your destruction. It will be your doom and undoing because if you look through the history of Ancient Israel, multiculturalism (the term we would use today) is what destroyed them again and again and again. What did they always do? Mix with the nations around them, intermarry with them, take on their religion, start worshiping their gods, taking on their cultural practices, and then they would be destroyed because they were abandoning the culture that God had given them, defined by His word and His law.

I would like to make a very specific point in talking about this subject, that we are not talking about race and skin color. In today's emotionally charged environment, giving a sermon like this, even discussing this subject, you're just setting yourself up to be called a racist. Even the Bible itself is oftentimes looked at as, these things are just racist and white supremacist, and that is an absolute perversion of what the Bible says. What happens oftentimes is people take these scriptures where God is warning about specific nations and saying don't be a part of them, but they fail to mention He doesn't say the problem is their skin color is different—that's not what He's saying. He's saying their religion, their cultural practices, if you take them on, they are satanic, pagan religions that are going to destroy you. That kind of cultural diversity is going to be your ruin. But it's not about it being some racist, white supremacist issue. If you want to prove that, all you have to do is look in the Bible and do a search of the words "stranger" or "alien". In Hebrew it's the same word in both cases. You'll find in English it can be translated as

one or the other, based upon the translator's choice. What this is referring to by definition is the non-Israelite. The stranger or the alien among them is going to be the person who is different, who is not an Israelite. What you will see throughout the Bible is numerous times God gives the instruction, don't mistreat the stranger. Don't abuse them, don't take advantage of them, remember that when you were in Egypt you were a stranger there. He constantly tells them this because these warnings about other nations aren't about skin color. This is about culture and religious values and how multiculturalism would destroy them. It would not be their strength, it would be their undoing. Let me demonstrate for you from the Bible this very thing very clearly. Turn over to Exodus 12:43. What we're about to read are the instructions involved with Passover. You can't get an any more fundamentally Israelite thing to do than Passover.

Exodus 12:43 And the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "This is the ordinance of the Passover: No foreigner shall eat it. (NKJV)

But let's continue noticing the specific reference to the stranger later and the conditions.

44) But every man's servant who is bought for money, when you have circumcised him, then he may eat it.

45) A sojourner and a hired servant shall not eat it.

46) In one house it shall be eaten; you shall not carry any of the flesh outside the house, nor shall you break one of its bones.

47) All the congregation of Israel shall keep it.

48) And when a stranger dwells with you and wants to keep the Passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it; and he shall be as a native of the land. For no uncircumcised person shall eat it. 49) One law shall be for the native-born and for the stranger who dwells among you."

Notice the stranger is included but what are the conditions? They must assimilate to the culture of Israel—one law for the Israelite and for the stranger. They must be circumcised, they must follow the same rules. It's not a matter of they are the wrong skin color so we exclude them—no, that's not the issue. The issue is they must assimilate to the culture of Israel, not endorse multiculturalism.

Let's notice another instruction; as we've just read about Passover, let's notice the instructions for sacrificing to God. Numbers 15:13—we're breaking into a context where this chapter is discussing the instructions for giving sacrifices and offerings to God.

Numbers 15:13 All who are native-born shall do these things in this manner, in presenting an offering made by fire, a sweet aroma to the LORD. 14) And if a stranger dwells with you [notice the definition of stranger—the non-Israelite we're talking about here], or whoever is among you throughout your generations, and would present an offering made by fire, a sweet aroma to the LORD, just as you do, so shall he do. 15) One ordinance shall be for you of the assembly and for the stranger who dwells with you, an ordinance forever throughout your generations; as you are, so shall the stranger be before the LORD.

16) One law and one custom shall be for you and for the stranger who dwells with you." (NKJV)

Notice again, it's not an issue of they're from the wrong country, they have the wrong skin color so we exclude them and mistreat them—that's not what it says. They can be a part of this, but one law, one custom, applies for the Israelite and the stranger. We do not have multiculturalism. If you want to be a part of this, you accept the laws of Israel, you practice the culture of Israel and you become a part of Israel's culture. It's not a multicultural environment because multiculturalism, that kind of diversity, is not a strength—that is doom and destruction and that is what God warned Israel about again and again. I just wanted to make that picture very clear because even discussing this subject today, bringing up this very idea and the quotes that I read sets one up for the allegation of white supremacy and racism—no, it isn't. That is a gross misunderstanding of the Bible because we are talking about cultural values.

When we talk about Israel and its descendants versus the Gentiles, yes, there is a racial component to that because the Israelites are the descendants of Jacob—you're going to have a racial component to this and that's who the promises were made to. But realize as this plays out, as we covered today, at the time of the Israelites—probably around the 1500s forward, as their impact globally across the entire planet became very significant in one way or another (with the colonial era and through the superpower of the U.S.)—this has all happened for quite some time, but prophecy tells us this is going away. We're going to see before the end, before the day of the Lord comes, a time that can be described as the time of the Gentiles. We're going to have a time when everybody but Israel is significant. In other words, we're saying Israel becomes insignificant.

If we look at this perfect storm that is brewing here from falling birthrates, rising immigration, and a multiculturalism movement that is not only causing the Israelite nations to facilitate their own destruction, but to embrace it and abandon their own culture, and to walk away from the cultural values that made them significant, you put these three together and give it a few decades, and what we're going to see is literally the death of Western civilization. It's just going to take a few decades to close the casket because it's going to play out over time.

It's just like God warned Israel, if they abandon Me, the stranger among you will become stronger and stronger and you will become the tail, you will become weaker and weaker. That is playing out before our eyes right now. It's just going to take some time to come to fruition. It will probably take a few decades. I'm not trying to set dates as to when the end will come, I think it's futile to do so, but as we see this playing out, we can see what the future looks like and how these prophecies will be fulfilled. I'm not saying there won't be a military invasion and a Beast power taking over the Israelite people but I would not expect them to go from being prominent and then suddenly have

that power taken away by military invasion. I think we will fall from within, exactly as God prophesied in Deuteronomy 28, and that's going to bring about the time of the Gentiles.

As we look forward to the fall holy days and the fulfillment of these prophecies, realize we're going to be seeing a massive switch in the next couple of decades on the entire world scene, particularly upon life and what day-to-day life is like in Israelite countries; it's going to change quite a bit as this process changes as well. As we witness this and see the demise of the time of Israel, we're going to see the destruction of Western civilization and the fulfillment of what the Bible prophesies as the coming about of the time of the Gentiles.