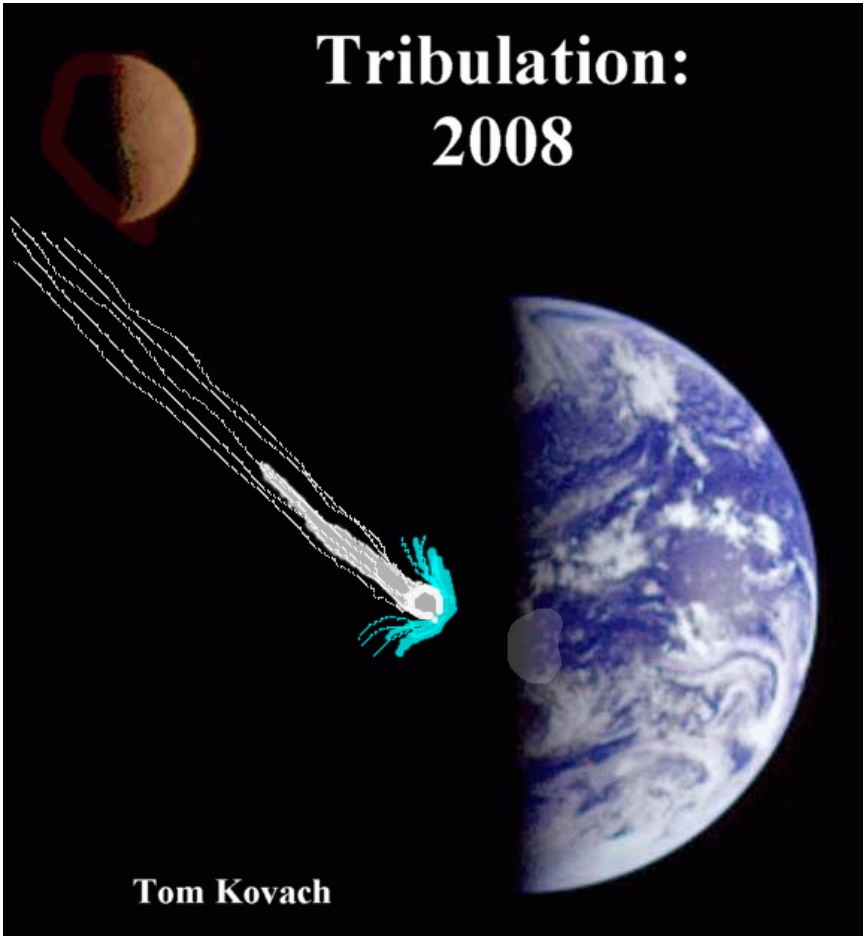


# Tribulation: 2008



**Tom Kovach**

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by: Tom Kovach

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(special preview edition, PDF download-only)

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# Introduction

This analysis of Scripture and political events has been 33 years in the preparation — ever since this author first read *The Late, Great Planet Earth*, by Hal Lindsey<sup>1</sup>. (The preparation has been more of this writer than of this writing.) With all due respect to Mr. Lindsey and his work, this author believes that there are a few errors in his conclusions over the years. The same is true with some of the conclusions reached by the investigative videojournalism of Alex Jones<sup>2</sup>. In both cases, however, those errors are very few. And, because Mr. Lindsey comes from the political Right, while Mr. Jones comes from the political Left, the fact that so much of their information fits together underscores both the accuracy and the urgency of those points of convergence.

Because of information that has come to public knowledge recently, other pieces of information that have long been known can now be examined from new angles. Those new angles allow the reader to see the integrated whole of the Biblical predictions regarding the end of this age. Merely looking at a few verses, willy-nilly, could produce a number of wrong conclusions. Hal Lindsey was entirely correct to demonstrate that one must compare Scripture with Scripture, and then with historical and scientific facts, in order to reach proper conclusions about Biblical prophecy. Some of those facts, however, did not yet exist at the time that Mr. Lindsey's first book was published.

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<sup>1</sup> [www.HalLindsey.org](http://www.HalLindsey.org)

<sup>2</sup> [www.InfoWars.com](http://www.InfoWars.com)

One error of modern readers is to think that what is seen on the surface (whether of history, politics, geology, or even Scripture) is all that there is. For that reason, many miss the importance of the integration of all those factors. In order to be correct, an understanding of prophecy would need to be correct from all angles simultaneously. (A recurring theme of Jesus' ministry was that people would "be made whole". Seeing things in their "wholeness", or integration, is a key goal of this book.) This presentation will compare some existing views of Biblical prophecy, and then show information that disproves those views. In some cases, this information could "rock your world". The reader is thus forewarned.

**Next preview portion begins in mid-chapter.**

The sixth seal returns to events in the physical world<sup>3</sup>. This is the longest and most detailed description (verses 12-17) of any seal except the seventh. In order for an event in the physical world to qualify as corresponding to the opening of the sixth seal, it would need to match all of the details written. Has such an event occurred; and, did that event occur in correct chronological order after the other five seals?

The United States detonated the first hydrogen bomb, nicknamed Ivy Mike, at Enewetak Atoll in the Pacific Ocean on 01 November 1952. This event marks the graduation from the atomic bomb<sup>4</sup> (such as those used against Hiroshima and Nagasaki) to the thermonuclear bomb category, with hundreds of times more destructive power. How does the description of this event line up with the description of the sixth seal of Revelation?

The beginning of the description (verse 12) follows, in precise sequence, a basic description of a thermonuclear explosion. The explosion of Ivy Mike caused a violent earthquake, and created a crater more than a mile in diameter. The crater was deeper than the Houston Astrodome is tall, and completely destroyed the island on which the bomb had been placed.<sup>5</sup>

Verse 12 goes into specific detail, though, by saying that "the sun became black as sackcloth made of hair, and the whole moon became like blood." Under normal circumstances, this would imply both a solar and a lunar eclipse. But, a thermonuclear detonation is not a normal circumstance. And, as covered elsewhere in this book, God uses a combination of solar and lunar eclipses to mark other events.

Certain things happen in rapid succession in such an explosion. One is an intense ball of light and fire. Some scientists note that this type of nuclear explosion momentarily produces a temperature hotter than the

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<sup>3</sup> Although, in *all* cases, events in the physical world are triggered by events in the spiritual world. The opening of the seals is simply the most graphic example of that fact.

<sup>4</sup> Interestingly, the nickname for the original atomic bomb test program was "Trinity". The test detonation site is now a National Historic Landmark.

<sup>5</sup> To compare "before" and "after" photographs, see: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ivy\\_Mike](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ivy_Mike)

surface of the sun. As the heat and blast rapidly move outward in a shock wave, it actually *bakes* the air in front of it. As the blast and heat energies ventilate upward, the shock wave produces a vacuum behind itself. That vacuum literally sucks the dirt from the ground.

It is the dust from the ground that produces the stem of the famous mushroom-shaped cloud that is the signature of a thermonuclear explosion. Dust is thrown 15 to 20 miles into the sky in a matter of a few seconds! Among other things, that cloud of dust momentarily blocks the sun ... if the blast is in the daytime. The blast of Operation Ivy Mike was in the daytime. So much earth was dislodged in the blast that it actually wiped out the entire island upon which the bomb had been placed.



**Dust from nuclear blast blocks the sun.**

Light below cloud is from *fireball*, not sun.

(US Government photo: "Harry 1" blast at the Nevada Test Range, 19 May 1953)

Regardless of whether the blast is in day or night, the high-altitude dust cloud will linger in the upper atmosphere for days. During that time, moonlight is filtered through the dust — just as it is after a volcanic eruption. In both cases, the moon takes on a reddish color.

Thus, even *without* a solar or lunar eclipse, the sun was darkened and the moon "became as blood".

In Verse 13, the next part of the description of the event that follows the opening of the sixth seal says that "the stars of the sky fell to earth, as a fig tree casts its unripe figs when shaken by a great wind". On the surface, this part of the description would not seem to fit, because this blast occurred in the daytime. But, when one views the details of a thermonuclear explosion, one can see that the Apostle John — who had no precise language for describing such a blast — could easily have presumed that the stars had been shaken from the sky.



**Balls of fire spew from *bottom* of nuclear blast cloud as it rises.**

To the Apostle John, it would look like stars shaken from the sky.

Note the clouds in the sky "rolled back like a scroll", also.

(US Government photo: "Ivy King" blast, 16 Nov 1952)

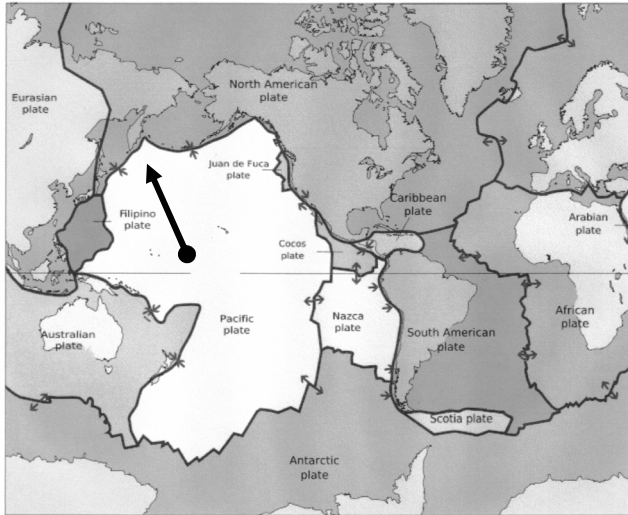
As the photo above shows, balls of fire spew in all directions from the bottom of the nuclear blast cloud as it rises toward the edge of outer space. John's analogy of figs and a great wind is also fitting. The balls of fire spewing from the bottom of the rising mushroom cloud, in addition to glowing like stars, are also shaped like figs. (We will examine the analogy of the fig tree in more detail later.) The thermonuclear blast is accompanied by two enormous blasts of wind. The first is the blast shock wave going *outward* from the detonation site. The second is the "return wave" — a huge rush of air *inward* toward the detonation site — to fill the vacuum created by the original

blast shock wave. The mushroom cloud could also be said to be tree-shaped. Thus, "stars" fell from the sky like figs from a tree shaken by a great wind. How else could John have described it?

As the photo also shows, consistent with the continuing description in Verse 14, the sky was "split apart like a scroll when it is rolled up". That is a precise depiction of the "condensation cloud" that is produced inside the "rarefaction zone" (where the heat bakes the air) behind the "shock front" of the blast effect. The shock wave moves so fast that, as the superheated air cools off behind the "shock front", the cooling air forms a cloud. The cloud ring parallels the shock wave, which moves simultaneously outward and upward from the blast. If watched from the ground-up perspective (as it appears that John's vision did), then the vacuum that the blast produces ahead of the condensation cloud would actually discolor the sky (because the refraction of sunlight through the air gives the sky its blue color). Thus, it would appear as though the sky had been "split open" — because it actually *had been* split open! There was no way that a fisherman living 2,000 years ago could have imagined a donut-shaped cloud ring, moving at supersonic speed, and rolling up just like a scroll across the sky. The only way that he could have described a thermonuclear blast so accurately is if it had truly been a vision from God. But, wait, there's more.

Verse 14 continues by saying that "every mountain and island were moved out of their places". Three days after the Ivy Mike blast, the most powerful earthquakes ever recorded by a seismograph occurred on the Kamchatka Peninsula off the eastern coast of Siberia. The first quake measured 9.0 on the Richter scale, with strong aftershocks. A look at the tectonic plates of the Earth's crust shows that the Enewetak Atoll is almost dead center in the Pacific Plate. Along the east coast of Asia, the plate mostly parallels the curvature of the Chinese coastline. But, there is a point between the Asian curve of the plate and the Alaskan curve of the plate. The Alaskan curve mostly parallels the Aleutian Island chain. The two curves come together in a point, which is pointed almost dead center toward the Kamchatka Peninsula. Thus, any seismic shock wave from the center of the Pacific Plate would have been concentrated — like an echo between two stone cliffs — at the point where the two curves come together. Thus, the seismic wave was intensified to create the strongest earthquake on record. (Could

this blast — and other test blasts like it — have disrupted Earth's crust so much that a never-ending series of earthquakes was created? The record of earthquakes seems to suggest that possibility.



**Blast came from center of Pacific Plate to point at Kamchatka.**  
Seismic energy was funneled into largest-ever-recorded earthquake.  
(Map source: Wikipedia<sup>6</sup>.)

Verse 14 continues by saying, "... every mountain and island were moved out of their places." This writer was not able to find specific seismic data related to the Ivy Mike explosion. However, some data was available for other explosions, including the Soviet Union's test of the largest man-made explosion in history: Tzar Bomba in 1961. The seismic shock wave from Tzar Bomba was recorded to have gone around the entire Earth *three* times! Notably, that explosion was about three times larger than Ivy Mike. Thus, one can infer that the seismic wave from Ivy Mike went around the entire Earth at least once. Thus, "every mountain and island" was moved from its place, even if that movement was only a millimeter or two.

**The next preview portion begins in mid-chapter.**

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<sup>6</sup> For detailed info, see: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pacific\\_Plate](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pacific_Plate)

There is a large and detailed book, *Compromised — Clinton, Bush, and the CIA*, by Terry Reed, that details the drug-running operations at the remote Mena Airport in northwestern Arkansas. Those operations were connected to the Iran-Contra arms-shipment operations<sup>7</sup> (Reed was the CIA pilot that trained the Nicaraguan *contra* pilots to airdrop the shipments.) Agents of the "off-book" operation were documented, by Reed, bringing back large amounts of cocaine from Panama<sup>8</sup> after refueling there on the return leg of the arms-drop flights. Reed's book alleges that Clinton's financial advisor made large deposits to Clinton's bank account after those cocaine-laden flights returned to Mena. That was apparently part of the "rent" package for use of the airport. In return, Clinton provided a secure perimeter around the airport, via a special unit of the Arkansas State Troopers. The first two names on the Bill Clinton Body Count list were 12-year-old boys playing along the railroad tracks near the Mena Airport. As were many deaths on that list, it was ruled a suicide by the Arkansas Medical Examiner's Office. The peculiar nature of those deaths coined the word "Arkancide". The last time I checked, there were 57 names listed.

**This portion redacted from the Preview Edition.**

But, wait, there's more.

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<sup>7</sup> At the height of my military career, I was approached by a former Green Beret to join the team of "kickers" aboard those Fat Lady missions. The name comes from the C-123 Provider aircraft used for the larger shipments. For personal reasons, I declined the invitation. Later, the Fat Lady was shot down over Nicaragua. The only survivor was Eugene Hassenfus, a kicker that had always worn his own parachute rig. He spent six months in a Nicaraguan prison, where he gave an interview to *60 Minutes* and told all.

<sup>8</sup> Several of my columns have detailed the corrupt actions of the man that was the base commander at my last military assignment. Military tradition is that a commander, or his close representative, should greet an aircrew that comes back from certain types of missions. At that base, I worked on security patrols, on the flightline, almost every night. The only time that I saw that particular commander come out to greet a returning overseas transport aircraft was if it was coming from Panama. Hmmmmm.

## Afterword

As the final chapter of this book was being typed, computer problems were in plentiful supply. Just as a mighty storm came in an attempt to prevent Jesus from arriving at the shore of Gadara, and thus casting out the legion of demons from a man there, it seems that The Enemy was trying to prevent this book from warning and encouraging people regarding the truth of the Holy Bible and the authority of Jesus.

Also while the final chapter was being typed, the Republic of Georgia has invaded the tiny country of South Ossetia. In retaliation, Russia sent tanks and troops, and damaged the Georgian capital of Tbilisi. What does this have to do with Bible prophecy? Plenty.

Russia was the last Christian empire, before Communism took over. After the Communist-led government of the Soviet Union fell apart, and the Russian Republic replaced it, several of the former Soviet "satellite republics" broke away. Georgia was one of those. But, the Georgian possession of South Ossetia wants to rejoin with Russia.

The above might seem to be merely an internal ethnic struggle. And, were it not for the massive and strategic oil pipeline that passes through the Caucasus Mountains of that region, it might remain so.

But...

An American lobbyist formerly worked for the Republic of Georgia. He was instrumental in the negotiations to get the pipeline into that region. And, that pipeline has the ability to undermine the economy of certain Muslim nations to the east. As Russia seeks a return to its

former nationalistic pride (which included a strong Christian heritage), and the Muslims seek to destroy or undermine Christianity by means of their oil profits, the pipeline becomes an important trigger in the sometimes delicate world of international relations.

Many claim that Russia is the ancient "Gog and Magog" mentioned in several End Times prophecies. Regardless of whether that identity is correct, it is obvious that the largest country on the planet (by land area; China is the largest by population) would certainly figure into any End Times scenario. And, if the Russian oil pipeline can supply oil faster and cheaper than shipping it through the Persian Gulf, then that pipeline can easily become a source of controversy that could trigger a war between Russia and any number of Muslim countries.

Oddly enough, that scenario could put the United States into the role of "bad guy". How? We currently have oil trade established with those Muslim countries — even though several of them consider us to be their enemy. The need for oil in America could force us to side with the Muslims against Russia. (That becomes even more likely if Barack Obama becomes president.) But, before you get all excited and think that you can prevent this cataclysmic clash by simply voting for "the other guy", consider this fact.

The lobbyist that negotiated the deal for the Georgia pipeline is now the foreign-policy advisor to the presidential campaign of ... Senator John McCain! (And, *his* last name means "son of Cain". Consider the Biblical implications of that.)

There is no getting around the fact that all of the signs are in place, and all of the actors are in the wings of the stage, for The Tribulation.

For the person that is already a true Christian, this is a time for inner joy because the claims of the Bible will be fulfilled before our eyes. If we have been looking up with expectant hope, then our "joy will be full". But, for the person that is not a Christian (even if they have previously *thought* that they were), then this could be a terrifying time.

The one thing that makes the difference between joy and terror is faith in Jesus the Messiah. If you have never accepted that faith; or, if your faith has been weak in the past, now is the time to decide to become a subject of the Prince of Peace and of the King of the Universe. Then, you can have confidence that, no matter what happens in the next seven years, you can spend eternity in joy and peace with Jesus.

Amen!

## About the author



**Tom Kovach** lives near Nashville, is a former USAF Blue Beret, and has written for several online publications (see below). In 2006, he published his first book, *Slingshot*. Tom is an inventor, a horse wrangler, a certified paralegal, and a former network talk-show host. He has also run for Congress. To learn more, and to order a copy of *Slingshot*, visit: [www.TomKovach.us](http://www.TomKovach.us).

