## The Alarm

**The Alarm Clock** — To drag us from slumber and make us face the obligations of a new day, the alarm clock, with its often loud and disagreeable sound, renders us a fine service. If we either cancel or ignore its signal, we risk losing our job or missing an important appointment. These days, an alarm is incorporated into our handy electronic devices—offering a variety of signals, giving us even more resources than ever. Shutting it off and rolling over for another nap might be unwise.

**The Smoke Detector**—This gadget, essential in the kitchen and throughout the house, sounds off well before smoke and flame take over. Extremely sensitive, it may even squeal when there's no real danger. Nevertheless, it would be very ill-advised to permanently disable it.

**The Alarmist or the False Alarm**—Although there may be potential unpleasant aspects with the two preceding items, disabling them could have serious if not tragic consequences. But there are alarms that don't need to worry us; such as False Alarms, sounded by alarmists who spread vague rumours about imagined dangers that never materialize. This kind of deception, like crying wolf when there is none around, only serves to condition us to become insensitive when there comes a warning of true danger.

**The Air Raid Siren**—Now here's an alarm that no one ignores! Radar and other defence techniques can locate and warn about enemy missiles or bombers heading our way. Once the siren wails, we need to head immediately for shelter. Not in panic but with hurried steps!

**The Faithful Alarm**—Crying wolf? No! But warning of real danger? Absolutely! Would anyone stand and watch a house on fire without calling 911, or alerting the neighbours? It is clearly everyone's responsibility, and failure to follow through would result in severe condemnation.

The Divine Warning—I believe God's warning has now sounded, and I want to bring it to your attention. Luke 21:29-30 says: Behold the fig tree, and all the trees. When they now shoot forth, ye see and know of your own selves that summer is now nigh at hand. In the Bible, the fig tree is a picture of Israel, the nation that reappeared after the Second World War, and is at the centre of the conflict that now worries every nation (the "trees" of our verse). Read on to verses 31-33: So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand. Verily I say unto you, this generation shall not pass away till all be fulfilled. Heaven and earth may pass away; but my word shall not pass away. In 1 Thessalonians 5:3 we read: For when they shall say, Peace and Safety, then sudden destruction cometh upon them.... and they shall not escape. This refers to the judgments that await this world, guilty of rejecting the Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ. Anyone who wants to escape needs to heed the timely Biblical alarm signal.

**The Last Call?** — Perhaps a last call. Salvation is in Jesus only because it was He who died on the cross and came back to life the third day to offer you eternal blessings. *How can we escape if we neglect so great salvation?* (Hebrews 2:3). The Lord Jesus Christ is coming back soon to judge the world in righteousness, as promised. WAKE UP! Smoke is in the air. The gospel siren is loud!This is not Crying Wolf, but sounding a serious alarm. Be warned!

Michel for Vision 2020 in 2024 Send all correspondence to: <u>vision2020@dailysowers.org</u> NOTE: If this is a forwarded message and you would like to be added directly to my mailing list please send an email to the above address. To have access to previous messages visit: <u>https://www.dailysowers.org/Vision2020E.html</u>