

Rise of the Dominion

Part I

April 4, 2059

Fritch Texas - Church of Divinity and Salvation Compound

Pastor Elijah H. Kane looked over his flock that crowded into the nave of his church. All day they had come almost without reprieve, young and old, rich or poor, black or white, it didn't matter. He had seen on the news that people throughout the nation were crowding into the churches to escape the calamity that was slowly enveloping the world. The end was finally here, after centuries of promises and prophecies the powers of almighty God split the Earth and cracked the heavens. The first three asteroids had killed millions of people in Germany, the Ukraine, New York and Quebec. But the fourth asteroid had been the worst. It fell in the Pacific Ocean only seven hundred miles west of Los Angeles and the tidal wave that followed swept the inhabitants of the West Coast, Hawaii, Japan and much of south east Asia into the rising sea. Since then mass hysteria gripped the survivors as they fought for whatever supplies weren't nailed down.

Pastor Kane knew that he would survive whatever evil was amassing on the outside of his compound, because he was chosen by God to lead mankind through the coming dark ages. He had foreseen everything that happened today. For years, his dreams had been nightmares of the coming tribulation, cities turned to ashes, men slaying men for survival, and the screams of countless multitudes as they were ripped away from their mortal shells and cast into a sea of fire. Since those days when God chose to reveal the future to him he had spent most of his father's inheritance money on building his compound and church and stocking it with food and water and munitions. With the sheer number of people here tonight he would have to have his security forces shut the gates and prevent any more people from entering the compound. Otherwise his resources would be depleted before the end of the coming nuclear winter. He would have to call his security detail when he had finished delivering his flock the news that they didn't want to hear.

"You have come here tonight seeking safety and comfort. Unfortunately, I can promise neither. Today the world in which we were born and raised has been destroyed and we are all to blame. The sins in which we perpetuate each day, the sins of flesh or envy, of greed and false idols, the sins that we commit without repentance and the sins in which we nailed our Lord and Savior to the Cross with have been revisited on our heads a thousand fold. This is the day of Divine Retribution. This is the day foretold by John in the Holy Book of Revelation."

"I would like to promise you that within a few short hours or days that we would all be with Christ, but this is not to be the case. Christ's messenger tells us in Revelation thirteen verses seven through ten, 'He was given power to make war against the saints and to conquer them. And he was given authority over every tribe, people, language and

nation. All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast – all whose names have not been written in the book of life belonging to the Lamb that was slain from the creation of the world. He who has an ear let him hear. If anyone is to go into captivity into captivity he will go. If anyone is to be killed with the sword, with the sword he will be killed. This calls for patient endurance and faithfulness on the part of the saints.”

“What this means brothers and sisters is that in a short time we will be persecuted for our faith. We will be put into bondage and slavery and increasingly killed and persecuted for our belief and standing with the Lamb of God. But I tell you the truth that this persecution we face is an honor for we shall surely reign with God in paradise.”

“But beware you will face temptation; you will be offered the chance to save your lives if you rebuke your faith in Him who has died for the sins of the world. And if this choice be presented to you, do not fall victim the sin of denying the Son of God, for you will save your life but you will be lost eternally.”

“Some may ask, will our leaders save us and save the world which we fought to build? I tell you the truth that these men are already doing the bidding of the Lord of the Flies. This afternoon I read the President’s address to the nation as well as many throughout the world. Martial law has been declared, in the coming days there will surely be only war and genocide. As the days and months pass by these governments will consolidate power to keep themselves together. As they consolidate ruler will rise against ruler until only one powerful ruler extends his authority over all the earth. And then brothers and sisters, the true persecution of the children of God will begin.

“As I stand here, I am sure that many doubt my words. You say that this is a crisis that will surely pass and we will all resume our everyday lives as if nothing happened. But look at the facts and look at his prophecy. Revelations chapter eight verses seven through thirteen, ‘The first angel sounded his trumpet, and there came hail and fire mixed with blood, and it was hurled down upon the earth. A third of the earth was burned up, a third of the trees were burned up, and all the green grass was burned up. The second angel sounded his trumpet, and something like a huge mountain, all ablaze was thrown into the sea. A third of the sea turned to blood a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed. The third angel sounded his trumpet, and a great star, blazing like a torch, fell from the sky on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water – the name of the star is Wormwood. A third of the waters turned bitter, and many of the people died from the waters that had become bitter. The fourth angel sounded his trumpet, and a third of the sun was struck and a third of the moon, and a third of the stars so that a third of them turned dark. A third of the day was without light, and also a third of the night. As I watch I heard an eagle that was flying in midair call out in a loud voice: ‘Woe! Woe! Woe to the inhabitants of the Earth, because of the trumpet blasts about to be sounded by the other three angels.’”

“Were there not four asteroids? Did they not destroy the land, the water and the sea? Are the skies not turning dark? If you do not believe me look out the window and see the blood red sun set? It is the ashes in the sky that cause the sun and the moon to be as blood and soon they will cover all the skies and all of nature will be thrown into turmoil and mankind will suffer greatly.”

“Right now many of you are thinking what can we do? I tell you pray, pray for strength, pray for wisdom and do not be led into the temptations which will destroy your faith in Him who has saved you. I cannot tell you how long we will be able to stay in this

place. We shall ration food and save energy. Every man here must prepare himself to fight for Christ, to fight for your mothers, your wives and your children. Many of us will be put to the sword; many of us will perish in the coming plagues and famine. But for a few of us, we will survive and build on this earth the Kingdom of Christ that will last for a thousand years. And when that time ends, we shall see the resurrection and the final Day of Judgment.”

I tell you the truth for those who keep their faith in God, today is not a sad day or a day of mourning. But instead, today is a day to rejoice for we will reign with Christ, forever. Amen.”

His words of passion had not calmed the worry within his followers. Everywhere the members of his congregation were whispering to each other in worried tones and there were tears in every eye. With that, Elijah turned and exited into the chancel. He sat in his chair to catch his breath. He felt the fire of the Holy Spirit burn throughout his veins and the words of Christ on his tongue. He picked up the walkie-talkie that sat on his desk.

“Colonel Sanchez,” Kane called through his radio.

“Yes sir.”

“Seal the gates, from now on no one is to enter or leave the compound. Is that understood.”

“Yes sir.”

Kane placed his radio down and walked to the window. The sun was setting across the old world. In a few days it would be lost behind a vast shroud of death as the dust covered all the skies of the Earth. Kane walked back to his desk and picked up an old college notebook filled with his writings and flipped through it until he found what he was looking for. The Seven Pillars of Faith he called them. Like Moses, he would give his followers instructions for building a moral and just society and when the sun came again he would lead his followers from this place across the blighted landscape to build a Godly kingdom where they would reign with their savior forever.