

# Future Story F

Got Understanding?

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The End Of Days Is Much Less Predictable

Issue of Concern:

Some prepare beforehand, thinking their preparations will guarantee their safety through the tribulation period. Some falsely assume protection when the Word only promises safety through it, including safety through martyrdom. Jesus Christ speaking: "You will be betrayed even by parents, brothers, relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. All men will hate you because of me. But not a hair of your head will perish. By standing firm you will gain life." (Luke 21:16-19; NIV)

Stan had built his "Prayer Closet" ...

Dave and Marilyn had secretly constructed a basement dwelling off the grid whereby they safely navigate through the storm of the tribulation period ...

Sam, anticipating how easily the system could come up with some excuse to undermine the preparations of the Dave and Marilyn types (further developed below), decided to blend into the cultural mass of his city's street people ...

All four of them thought this would get them safely through the time of intense darkness before the Rapture Gathering at the Final Trumpet. Their stories end up unfolding quite differently than each of them had anticipated. Read on for some specifics.

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Stan, Dave, Marilyn and Sam had one final meeting together before splitting up and going their own ways according to the convictions of their hearts. During this fellowship time they shared their thoughts as to how each of them was going to respond to the new global system being imposed upon much of the world. Sam carefully tried to show his close friends, Dave and Marilyn, how their efforts could so easily be derailed. "Dave, I can give you four scenarios where you'd be helpless to prevent them from hauling you two away." "Okay, Sam," Dave said, "share them. I honestly don't think you can."

"Before I start, I just want to say thank you for listening. I want you to go into this having considered as many options as possible." Turning to Marilyn, Sam said, "Sincerely, thank you!" Then, Sam, turned to the whole group and went on to say, "Here are some of the possible ways they can undermine your good intentions:

1. They can simply come in by force and you'd be helpless to stop them;

2. They could turn their heads when the people who are sympathetic to this global cause decide to take action (against you) and rid the world of you and your types – sincerely, some of them are so angry with Christians they would kill them thinking they are actually doing God a favor. Read it: John 16;
3. They could impose new taxes on you even though you are off the grid and have made what you thought were all the arrangements necessary to live autonomous from them. For example, even if you arranged to have someone pay your annual taxes, etc., they could still instate a new law mandating you pay your debts personally or forfeit all that you own. Who knows what else they could come up with in light of the fact this time will be worse than social conditions under the Nazis. The point: Those administrating the system could so easily overthrow all your careful plans to make it through this period of chaos. We simply cannot guarantee we'll be able to avoid their agenda actions;
4. They could come through a personal plant (a spy; an agent). The Scriptures speak of betrayal during this time. They could use one of your relatives to sabotage your solar panels and/or wind generators. They could poison your hand-pump water well. Dave, the possibilities are many; and, yes;
5. Those committed to the evil global order under the antichrist could choose to simply let you alone since your place is so out in the boondocks and thus don't consider you to be a threat to their agenda, but you never know!"

Marilyn reached over to Dave and simply said – whereby the entire group heard – “Honey, I know Sam’s counsel may potentially unfold, but I’m willing to put our plans into God’s hands and hope the fifth possibility will actually end up being our experience.” Dave nodded, looked over at Sam and said, “Brother, I know it’s because you care. Thanks for sharing your insights with us.” Stan added, “Perhaps, given each one of us has made up our minds as to the direction we’re taking from here, we could pray together before we part ways.” And that they did – for hours. As they prayed, they all confessed their response to the days ahead did not guarantee any of them would survive the global persecution. What God granted them in response to their prayers was this: They enjoyed great peace – His peace which passes all understanding – knowing God was their heavenly Father Who held each one of them safely in His hands.

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Through it all, know this: God is faithful to His precious promises to us. Some of us will be honored as His tribulation Saints in special ways, for His Word foretells it. In fact, may we consider this irony: Those who persecute us are actually contributing to our eternal state. What irony indeed. May we enter into this time of tribulation with the mindset He’s commended we have! “Count it all joy ... pray for those who mistreat you ... those who live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution ... in this world you will have tribulation, but be of good cheer, for I have overcome the world.” Pretty cool Counsel!

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