

# THE UPWARD CALL

*Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet;  
but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead,  
I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God  
IN CHRIST JESUS.*

(Philippians 3:13-14 NASB)

TUC #08-1414

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September 14, 2014

## **7-Year Cycles**

It is interesting that many are talking about 7-year cycles and how we are either in the midst of one or one is about to end and another start. Some relate these cycles to economics, Stock Market crashes, astronomy, and globalist plans (astrology) to establish their new world order, to name a few.

I just read an article that stated everyone is talking about the 7-year cycle of economic crashes and we are perilously close to a crash. Within these cycles, the months of September-October seem pivotal, especially in relation to Stock Market crashes. These cycles are traced back to 1931 (worst year for the Stock Market crash of the Great Depression) and each successive 7-year period. Thus, we see 1987 ("Black Monday"), 1994 (worst bond market crash), 2001 (recession; September 17<sup>th</sup>, greatest one-day Stock Market crash), and 2008 (unless you lived in a cave, you know what September 2008 brought to the global financial system). Following these cycles, one must wonder what September 2015 will bring. A recent article was titled: *If Economic Cycle Theorists Are Correct, 2015 to 2020 Will Be Pure Hell For The United States.*

Jonathan Cahn, in his book titled *The Mystery of the Shemitah*, refers to the biblical 7-year cycle leading up to September 13, 2015. The *shemitah* refers to God's command to ancient Israel that they were to allow the land to rest and to release certain debts every 7 years. One of the reasons *Judah* was exiled to Babylon for 70 years was due to their failure to keep this command. By the way, *Israel* had already been cast out of the land and dispersed in Assyria for turning from the Lord to other gods. Jonathan Cahn also highlights the importance of Elul 29, which is the last day of a cycle, the day before Tishri 1 or the *Feast of Trumpets (Rosh Hashanah)*. The great Stock Market crash of September 17, 2001 occurred on Elul 29. The next crash that exceeded this one occurred on September 29, 2008, which was Elul 29. Will we see a repeat of this in September 2015?

Dr. Stephen Jones, who has discovered a fascinating array of biblically and historically based prophetic time-cycles, believes that we are coming to the completion of a 21-year cycle (7 x 3) culminating on October 16, 2014 that will then start another 21-year cycle ending in 2035. He sees these cycles as leading to the saints or overcomers taking full authority of the Kingdom on earth. The completion of the current 21-year cycle, which started in 1993, signifies that the scepter (authority) of *Judah* is being given to the saints of the Most High as recorded in Daniel 7. The next 21-year cycle has to do with Joseph and the birthright (kingdom).

Adding to all this, I came across another article about Daniel's 70 weeks (490 years), **metonic cycles** and **embolismal years**. Although I do not adhere to the conclusions of this study, it does offer some further insight into cycles. This is too involved to explain here, but metonic cycles are based on the work of the Greek mathematician and astronomer Meton of Athens (5<sup>th</sup> century BC) dealing with lunar cycles. Embolismal years refer to an extra or second month of Adar (Adar 2) being inserted into the lunar-solar calendar in order to keep the calendar lined up with lunar cycles. The upshot of this study is that 2014-2021 starts with an embolismic year (Adar 2) and consists of 86 moons (as opposed to 87 moons) during this 7-year period ending at Tishri 2021. This study sees this period as a possible completion of Daniel's last 7 years of the 70 weeks. Personally, I see these years having been completed with Jesus' crucifixion, but the uniqueness of this upcoming cycle makes it rather intriguing. The year 2021 caught my attention.

Add to all these proposed cycles the fact that four Blood Moons will occur in 2014-2015 in conjunction with Passover and Tabernacles and the blogosphere chatter can get quite fascinating, to say the least. Many prophecies are going forth proclaiming a full spectrum of events from doom and gloom for the world to great

times coming upon the church to a full-blown outpouring of the Holy Spirit to all the above. Of course, I have left out the ones looking for the rapture so they can escape this earth, leaving this ol' world behind before things really heat up. This needs to be discarded in the ash heap of the traditions of men.

As for 7-year cycles, it is not surprising that there is so much focus on the number 7. Biblically speaking, the number **7** signifies *spiritual perfection*, which means that when 7-year cycles are in operation, God is at work in some special way and we need to learn His way (plan). There are many biblical examples of the number 7 and its factors (i.e., 49, 490, etc.). In addition, there are 7 Hebrew feasts, often based on 7 days of celebration; there is a 7<sup>th</sup> day of rest; and there is 7 x 7 or 49 years then a Jubilee. But even the globalists and the occultists use the number 7 and see 7-year cycles. As we have seen, some economists see 7-year cycles in the financial world. Actually, the number 7 seems to be written upon all mankind. After all, we live in time based on a 7-day week, and the entirety of our existence revolves around what we do in these 7 days.

So, where does all of this lead us? I greatly appreciate the work many have done to discern the time in which we live, and I will continue to glean what I can from their studies and discernment. But, at the end of the day, I am going to go with what light I believe the Lord gives me as I seek Him to discern the times. All I know is that I need to keep proclaiming the **Kingdom of Christ** as I see more and more structures crumble and as the Spirit leads. However, in this light, I do have a view that coincides with these cycles, a view that began to develop back in 2008. In February 2009, I posted article #18 titled *When the Day Comes*, in which I summarized what I had seen up to that point. The article could use some updating and a little correction, but it nonetheless serves as a marker for me personally and gives some insight as to why I believe what I do today.

I do believe that God has put 7-year cycles into play in our day. As Dr. Jones points out in many of his writings, we have come and are coming to the completion of many prophetic time-cycles that stretch back 2520 years (7 x 360). However, I see a cycle that he does not. Whereas he sees a 21-year cycle ending and another commencing, I see us in the 14<sup>th</sup> year of a 21-year cycle that will end in 2021. I have shared on this cycle in several of my writings, including the above referenced article. Most recently, I shared on this in TUC issue #08-1401 – *Thoughts on 2014*. It is interesting that when I look at the life of my wife and me, many, if not all, of our major turning points have followed a 7-year pattern that leads up to and coincides with this latest 21-year cycle.

Now, one thing to keep in mind is that the cycles coincide with the fall feasts of the Hebrew calendar. The month of Tishri is the 7<sup>th</sup> month of the Hebrew religious calendar and the 1<sup>st</sup> month of the civil calendar. This month is important, for Tishri brings the 7 annual feasts to a conclusion. The final three feasts commence with Tishri 1, which is commonly called *Rosh Hashanah* or the *Feast of Trumpets*, and proceeds to *Yom Kippur* or the *Day of Atonement* on Tishri 10, and concludes with the *Feast of Tabernacles* running from Tishri 15-21, with the last great day or the 8<sup>th</sup> day occurring on Tishri 22. As already pointed out, Elul 29 is the day before Tishri 1 and concludes the previous year. This is important, for we need to think in terms of events transpiring within a year that starts in September-October, depending on the date of Tishri 1, which changes each year on our solar calendar. This year the Hebrew year commences on September 25, 2014, meaning Elul 29 is September 24<sup>th</sup>. All of this leads to an overlap with our normal yearly calendar, so that the Hebrew year starting on the 25<sup>th</sup> of 2014 runs to September 13 of 2015 or Elul 29.

Given this, when I write of a period from 2014-2015, I am referring to the Hebrew year that commences with Tishri 1 of the first year and ends with Elul 29 or the day before Tishri 1 of the end year.

The bottom-line is this: With the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, I believe the world and the church entered into a 21-year cycle divided into three 7-year periods running from 2000-2001 to 2007-2008 to 2014-2015 to 2021-2022. The previous 7-year periods have been punctuated with major world events, and I believe we will see this same pattern appear September 2014 to September 2015, with greater intensity of events, both good and bad, during these next 7 years leading up to Tishri 1 of 2021. We are entering into what could be the most significant period of world and church history. Knowing something of the exact details of what will transpire would be nice, but it is far more important to take heed, keep on the alert. **Watch!** We need to be like the five wise virgins who had extra oil in their lamps. **Behold the Bridegroom! Come out to meet Him!**