## Safety In The Wrong Place

No Protection in Caves Martin G. Collins Given 09-Jun-18; Sermon #1437c

Politicians and ultra-wealthy citizens think they are prepared for a catastrophic tribulation.

**Proverbs 18:11** (*The Living Bible*) The rich man thinks of his wealth as an impregnable defense, a high wall of safety. What a dreamer!

Cheyenne Mountain is a military command and control complex buried 2,000 feet underground, carved out of solid granite, and able to withstand a direct hit from a nuclear bomb. The military uses it to monitor and respond to threats from all sources including terrorism, weapons of mass destruction, strategic adversaries and cyberattacks.

A recent FoxNews.com article by Trina Thompson, published May 11, 2018, takes a closer look at this Complex as a U.S. Government place of safety. It is titled, "Rare look inside Cheyenne Mountain Complex, 'America's fortress'." Here are some excerpts from the article:

"Deep within the most fortified military installation in North America is a 15-building complex that protects the world from ongoing terror threats.

The Cheyenne Mountain Complex in Colorado Springs, long dubbed "America's fortress," is a bunker like no other. It sits 2,000 feet below solid granite, hidden deep in a mountain, and was built to withstand any type of threat. ....

Inside this fort, which can withstand a nuclear, biological or electromagnetic disaster, scientists are preparing for the worst - and making sure the world is safe. Sophisticated screens allow the men and women inside to monitor the air space of Canada and the United States.

"We have two 25-ton blast doors to protect the inner workings of the complex," said Col. Robert Moose, who is in charge of all support operations, maintenance and testing inside Cheyenne Mountain.

The complex was built in the 1960s - the height of the Cold War - when the

Safety in the Wrong Place by Martin G. Collins (http://www.cgg.org) threat of a nuclear attack by Russia was a chilling reality.

Because of ongoing threats, the Cheyenne Mountain complex is a 24/7 operation and can go into lockdown mode at a moment's notice. The facility is a completely self-sufficient city inside a mountain.

"We have food, water, sewage, power, everything we'd need in order to survive for an extended period of time," Moose said.

The buildings were constructed on top of massive springs designed to act as shock absorbers in case of any seismic event. Impenetrable from the outside, the bunker can resist any electromagnetic pulse, even a nuclear attack.

Despite Cold War fears easing since the 1950s and 1960s, the mood in the United States is still tense. Moose said because of North Korea's recent ballistic missile launches and the uncertainty of what will happen with Iran, the mission of the workers at the complex has taken on a new sense of urgency.

Inside the complex, workers analyze surveillance systems all across the world, and in space, and send the data to decision makers at the Pentagon to assess threats and determine how to deal with them. In order to stay sharp, they run drills within the mountain almost constantly.

But, they still keep a close eye on any unusual activity and potential threats. ....

"If that were to occur, we're ready," Moose said. "If it's the worst day in American history, the airmen that are on duty are ready at a second's notice to react and do what's necessary to protect America."

Cheyenne Mountain is not the only highly secure, underground attack-proof operations center the U.S. government has. The Raven Rock site is in Pennsylvania, not far from Gettysburg and the Maryland border. Raven Rock is a "back-up Pentagon" where the military will run war operations if the actual Pentagon comes under attack.

Mount Weather is a civilian complex near Bluemont, Virginia in the Blue Ridge Mountains, which serves as an emergency operations bunker for the U.S. government if there is a need to abandon the Capitol.

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There are nuclear bomb-proof underground bunkers in the Greenbriar Hotel in West Virginia, which for decades served as a back-up location for Congress to conduct business in the event of a nuclear attack on Washington. The 112,000-square-foot bunker, which was built 720 feet into the hillside, was completed in 1961 and was maintained in a constant state of readiness until 1995, when the *New York Times* exposed its existence.

Regarding doomsday preparation for the super-rich, the Survival Condo Project is a former missile silo north of Wichita, Kansas, that has been converted into \$7 million luxury condos for people worried about the crackup of civilization. There are many more of these facilities.

One American bunker manufacturer, Rising S Company, saw a 200 per cent increase in sales in 2017 compared to 2016, according to general manager Gary Lynch.

In a sense, this reminds us of the biblical description of the reaction of the proud to God's terrifying judgement. The prophet Isaiah referred to what they do during the Day of the Lord:

**Isaiah 2:12** For the day of the Lord of hosts shall come upon everything proud and lofty, upon everything lifted up, and it shall be brought low —

Isaiah 2:17-22 The loftiness of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be brought low; the Lord alone will be exalted in that day, but the idols He shall utterly abolish. They shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth, from the terror of the Lord and the glory of His majesty, when He arises to shake the earth mightily. In that day a man will cast away his idols of silver and his idols of gold, which they made, each for himself to worship, to the moles and bats, to go into the clefts of the rocks, and into the crags of the rugged rocks, from the terror of the Lord and the glory of His majesty, when He arises to shake the earth mightily. Sever yourselves from such a man, whose breath is in his nostrils; for of what account is he?

When God's vengeance comes, people will try to escape by fleeing into such places as those underground bunkers and caves. They will be terrified because God will shake the earth. It will be so terrifying to them they will want the rocks to fall down on them.

Isaiah called on the house of Jacob—that is, Israel, including Judah—to stop trusting in man because his words are nothing more than mere vapor. That is what it means

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("breath in his nostrils"). His breath can be snuffed out quickly. Therefore, to trust in him is nonsensical, because man is easily removed from existence.

Isaiah gave examples of the nation's present sins that needed to be judged by God. He would take away from the nation any semblance of good government and replace it with a sense of futility. Isn't that what is beginning to happen today to this government? There is a sense of futility, as everyone in the nation feels like things are futile, regarding our government solving anything.

Because of the nation's sin, God would take away all the supplies and people on which she relied: food and water, soldiers, civil and religious leaders, wise people, military leaders, and skilled workers. All those things are contained within the description of what Isaiah prophesied.

Even though many of the remaining descendants of Israel who are living toward the end of the Day of the Lord are still sinful and will be repaid double punishment for their wickedness, God promises that He will eventually bring them back to their land and restore them upon their repentance:

Jeremiah 16:14-18 "Therefore behold, the days are coming," says the Lord, "that it shall no more be said, 'The Lord lives who brought up the children of Israel from the land of Egypt,' but, 'The Lord lives who brought up the children of Israel from the land of the north and from all the lands where He had driven them.' For I will bring them back into their land which I gave to their fathers. "Behold, I will send for many fishermen," says the Lord, "and they shall fish them; and afterward I will send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain and every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks. For My eyes are on all their ways; they are not hidden from My face, nor is their iniquity hidden from My eyes. And first I will repay double for their iniquity and their sin, because they have defiled My land; they have filled My inheritance with the carcasses of their detestable and abominable idols."

The U.S. government thinks it is well prepared for every kind of nuclear, chemical, biological or terror attack or for any natural disaster. But this reliance on themselves to deal with their own fear will be their downfall.

**Proverbs 29:25** The fear of man brings [or, will prove to be] a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord shall be safe.

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In other words, "Fear of man is a dangerous trap, but to trust in God means safety."

There is safety only in a personal relationship with God! No amount of physical activity and human planning is going to save anyone from God's wrath.

But in contrast, the Psalmist says of the faithful—those who obey and reverence God—in Psalm 4:8, "I will both lie down in peace, and sleep; for You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety."