

"Tidings of Stress and Fear"

Girl: Wow, It's already the 6th of December! I haven't finished decorating outside or inside, I've hardly started shopping, I should be baking goodies, or wrapping gifts....! But I'm so worn out. Maybe if I watch TV a while tonight, I will get my second wind. *(uses remote)*

TV: (War and fighting) Despite warnings from North Korea that any new provocation would be met with more attacks, Washington and Seoul pushed ahead with plans for military drills starting Sunday involving a nuclear-powered U.S. aircraft carrier in waters south of this week's skirmish.

Girl: That sounds like another war is around the corner! *(uses remote)*

TV: (*Crime*) A pair of bank robbery suspects are in custody after an Allen Police Department SWAT team used tear gas to get them out of an apartment about 8:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Girl: Allen? That's so close to me! (uses remote)

TV: (Earthquake/famine) In Haiti, earthquake survivors describe the struggle to feed their families. The price of basic foodstuffs have risen 15-30% since the earthquake, while incomes have all but disappeared. They describe the dire health conditions in the camps where infectious diseases are poised to run rampant. Over one million people are estimated to be homeless in the metropolitan area.

Girl: Earthquakes! Disease! Famine! It seems like there is something new every week! (uses remote)

TV: (*Drugs*) A sophisticated cross-border tunnel equipped with a rail system, ventilation and fluorescent lighting has been shut down by U.S. and Mexican officials in San Diego.

Girl: Drugs are everywhere, and the problem is not going away. I'm so afraid for my kids! *(uses remote)*

TV: (Celebrities/divorce) TMZ has learned Lindsey Lohan is officially a California driver again, because her privilege to get behind the wheel has just been restored. Sources close to the actress tell us that she will leaving her sober living facility in Palm Springs for Christmas Day ... but she has to be back by late tonight.

Girl: Oh my goodness, that's the big news now? Is she supposed to be a role model for my girls? *(uses remote)*

TV: (Deception) If there is to be a great deception and falling away in the last days, it has got to be good. It can't be too extreme or true Christians would never accept it. A really good deception has to be so good that no one will dare to question it. In fact, the best deception would be for it to get into the church as a science, a science adopted by the church, popular with both the clergy and laity, a wonderful blend of the best of both worlds.

Girl: That's happening now!

TV: (*Persecution*) A Christian family in Bangladesh were beaten by their Muslim neighbors who then filed a false charge of attempted murder against them and other Christians. Foyez Uddin reported that his neighbor told him that as Christians he and his wife and his two adult children were "polluting" society and beat them on Sept. 17 in Joysen village in Rangpur district....

Girl: It's not safe to be a Christian these days. It won't be long until stuff like that is happening closer to home.

TV: (*Politics/Morals*) There is a great war under way - a spiritual war - and the overwhelming majority of Christians aren't aware of it. Ungodly philosophies are now attacking four distinct categories of Christian family values. These are - first, the sanctity of human life; second, lifetime commitment to marriage; third, family authority and responsibility, and fourth, family heritage.

Girl: It seems like the US is going down in defeat. I'm so afraid for the future of our country!

TV: "Now there were in the same country, shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. Then the angel said to them, "Do no be afraid, for behold, I being you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."

Girl: (sigh of relief) Finally. Now that's good news!

TV: "...and His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace..."

Girl: PRINCE OF PEACE! No need for all this stress and fear. He is in control, and He is the Prince of Peace. Yeah--there are a lot of scary things going on in the world these days--but the government is on His shoulder. Thank goodness I can just leave the burden for Him to carry.