

## Gifts from God No. 3.

### GLOBAL RESTRAINTS

Was man's wickedness unrestrained, century after century, *while God stood by and did nothing?* No!

**First**, in Noah's day man's life-span was 900 years. But the longer men lived, the more wicked they became. Genesis 6.5. So God *shortened* man's lifespan. Psalm 90.10.

**Second**, as a later curb to lawlessness, God added *a death penalty* to human law. Genesis 9.6.

**Third**, because “the whole earth had one language” (Genesis 11.1) this helped mankind unite against God. To counter this “the Lord confused the language of all the earth.” Genesis 11.9.

**Fourth**, God's Law was at work in the world 600 years before being given to Moses. God says, “Abraham obeyed my voice and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws.” Genesis 26.5.

**Fifth**, God intervenes to influence and redirect world affairs: “The Lord nullifies the counsel of the nations; he frustrates the plans of the peoples.” Psalm 33.10 (NASB).

**Sixth**, God even allows worldwide spread of man-made religions! Because they ban some types of human depravity, this is better than no restraint at all.

**Seventh**, to help combat evil, God has for 2000 years blessed humanity through his Christian Church - an impact unique in the world.

\* \* \*

**By God's grace, only his constant oversight saves mankind from self-destructing.**

**Ken Packer**