

The Lakeside



Message in a bottle

Verse of the day for Monday February 16, 2026 - Zephaniah 3:17

17 The LORD your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing.”

Read Zephaniah 3 for meditation and inspiration.



IT WILL BE AN "AI" FUTURE

Dear Lakesiders and Friends,

Most of us have used a GPS system to map our directions to some unfamiliar destination or have "Googled" some desired product or downloaded recommended apps to our phone. Whether we realize it or not, artificial intelligence has entered all our lives. From Google maps to the Uber app, voice assistants like Siri and Alexa, and face recognition to unlock our phones, A.I. is here to stay. But that's just the tip of the digital iceberg. Philosopher Susan Schneider, author of the book "Artificial You: A.I. and the Future of Your Mind" tells us that so-called "Super intelligent artificial intelligence (SAI) will exceed the best human-level intelligence in every field, including social skills, general wisdom, and scientific creativity," among others.

Consider this: Former Google Chief Business Officer Mo Gawdat says that A.I. will one day become a billion times smarter than humans and predicts it will exceed human intelligence as soon as 2029. And he cautions us, saying, "The time is now to influence it with the right ethics to have humanity's best interests in mind."

In his book entitled, "Scary Smart; The Future of Artificial Intelligence and How You Can Save Our World," Mr. Gawdat warns, "There has never been a time when the risk of technology ruining our humanity has been bigger, and this book offers a blueprint, pointing the way to what we can do to stop what he considers the onslaught of diminishing human control and dominance to a machine.

With this coming in the near future, we could throw up our hands and surrender to a future of loss and even life for people around the world. We could start to feel minimized and like we have little value in the big picture of things.

Often when bad or difficult things seem inevitable, we hear the words, "BUT GOD!" We know that our scripture states: "God created man in His image" from Genesis 1:27. God did not create AI to replace God. God did not create AI to rule the world. God did not send a Savior to save AI. NO! "God created a man and a woman." God commanded: "Thou shall have no other God's before me." God sent Jesus the Christ to save you and me. "His name shall be called Emmanuel" is a biblical prophecy from Isaiah 7:14 and Matthew 1:23, meaning "God with us." And we read, "a savior which is Christ the Lord" in Luke 2:11.

You are precious, you are loved, you are God's son or daughter and with the angels we hear from the heavens even in the midst of AI: "Fear not for I am with you."

Remember Romans 8:31-39

31 What then shall we say to this? If God is for us, who is against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, will he not also give us all things with him? 33 Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies; 34 who is to condemn? Is it Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised from the dead, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us?[e] 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36 As it is written,

"For thy sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."

37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

AMEN,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Roger".