

Alaska Quake

By T.W. Tramm

BACK-to-back earthquakes measuring 7.0 and 5.7 in magnitude rocked Anchorage Friday (Nov. 30), sending people running into the streets and briefly triggering a tsunami warning.

Large earthquakes are not uncommon in Alaska. The state has recorded quakes with magnitudes ranging from 7 to 8 at least once a year on average since 1900, making it the most temblor-prone region of the US. This year, however has seen a wave of seismic activity considered unusual for even Alaska.

On January 23, a massive 7.9 earthquake, initially measured an 8.2, struck near Kodiak, prompting tsunami warnings and advisories not only for most of coastal Alaska, but also the entire coast of British Columbia, the U.S. West Coast, Hawaii, and as far away as American Samoa.

On August 13, Alaska's North Slope region saw its strongest earthquakes ever, a magnitude 6.4 and a 6.0, accompanied by an unprecedented swarm of more than 200 tremors near Kaktovik. Both quakes shattered the previous record for magnitude in the region by a substantial amount: the 6.4 was 16 times bigger and 631 times stronger than the previous most powerful temblor in the North Slope, a magnitude 5.2 in 1995.

On October 25, two unprecedented earthquakes shook Southwest Alaska's Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta coast. The 4.9 and 3.6 magnitude struck about 45 miles offshore from the community of Hooper Bay. Earthquakes are rare in Southwest Alaska, and none have ever been recorded within a hundred miles of where these two struck.

Friday's earthquakes near Anchorage are unusual because the vast majority of Alaska's seismic activity occurs in remote or sparsely populated regions. The 7.0 and 5.7 occurred about 7 miles north of the state's largest city, with a population of about 300,000. Many people said the quake felt longer and more intense than anything in recent memory.

Jesus told us 2,000 years ago that earthquakes would occur in different places and become more frequent and powerful in the last days. He also told us that when this and other signs begin to manifest to look up because our redemption is at hand (Matt. 24; Luke 21).

Look up!

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<https://www.apnews.com/101ba6d6df894e629bddff152a45146d>

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/kodiak-alaska-earthquake-tsunami-warning-west-coast-hawaii-california-today-2018-01-23/>

<https://www.alaskapublic.org/2018/10/25/two-unprecedented-earthquakes-shake-y-k-delta-coast/>

<https://www.ktuu.com/content/news/USGS-Unprecedented-motion-in-64-Kaktovik-earthquake-491520601.html>

<http://www.kyuk.org/post/two-unprecedented-earthquakes-shake-y-k-delta-coast>