

## **Christ in Prophecy**

### **Prophecy 32: The Blood Moons**

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#### **Opening**

**Dr. Reagan:** There has been much hoopla in recent years over what is called The Blood Moon Phenomenon. Is all the attention really justified? Do the Blood Moons really constitute an omen of some biblical event that is about to occur? And, if so, what? Stay tuned.

#### **Part 1**

**Dr. Reagan:** Greetings in the name of Jesus, our Blessed Hope, and welcome to Christ in Prophecy. My colleague, Nathan Jones, and I are going to share some thoughts with you about the Blood Moon Mania that seems to have simply swept Christendom in the past few years. It all began in 2008 when a Pastor in Tacoma, Washington by the name of Mark Biltz announced that he had discovered an astronomical phenomenon that might point to the date of the Lord's return. The concept was based on what is called blood moons. Nathan why don't you get us started on our study here. And let me just ask you this question: What in the world is a blood moon?

**Nathan Jones:** Well a blood moon is a complete lunar eclipse. It is where you have the sun, and the moon and the earth passes through it and the shadow of the earth goes across the moon. And as the light comes and it bends around the atmosphere of the earth it gives the moon kind of a reddish color, so it looks a lot like that.

**Dr. Reagan:** Ok, so not all lunar eclipses are full, there's partial ones and then total ones. So we are talking here about total eclipses that cause the moon to appear red.

**Nathan Jones:** Correct.

**Dr. Reagan:** Alright, now how rare is this?

**Nathan Jones:** Well for the 20th Century for example there are 229 partial eclipses, but total there were 81 that totally covered the moon so you could see it.

**Dr. Reagan:** Ok.

**Nathan Jones:** Now in the 21st Century there is going to be 228 and of those 85 will be total eclipses.

**Dr. Reagan:** Total eclipses, 85. Now there is something even more rare than that I understand it is what is called a tetrad. What in the world is a tetrad?

**Nathan Jones:** Well a tetrad is four total lunar eclipses that occur over the course of two years.

**Dr. Reagan:** Four over the course of two years, ok. Now how often does those occur?

**Nathan Jones:** Well there's only been 87 since the time of Christ. Matter of fact in this century alone there will be eight. But some centuries there's never any at all.

**Dr. Reagan:** Oh, so 87 since the time of Christ. So we are talking about something very, very rare.

**Nathan Jones:** It is very rare yes.

**Dr. Reagan:** Now there is something even rarer.

**Nathan Jones:** Yes.

**Dr. Reagan:** And that is what Mark Biltz discovered. And that is what I call the Feast Tetrads. What is that?

**Nathan Jones:** Well that's the Jewish feasts actually fall on the same dates as those four total lunar eclipses; the Feast of Pentecost, and the Feast of Tabernacles.

**Dr. Reagan:** Alright well give us an example of what you are talking about. For example I think there was one in '67, '68 that were Feast Tetrads.

**Nathan Jones:** Yes.

**Dr. Reagan:** So, give us an example of that.

**Nathan Jones:** Well for example Passover happened on April 24th, 1967 there was a Blood Moon on that day.

**Dr. Reagan:** Right.

**Nathan Jones:** And then on Tabernacles of October 18th, 1967 another Blood Moon. Then the next year Passover again, April 13th, 1968, and then October 6th, 1968.

**Dr. Reagan:** Alright so you had four Blood Moons over a period of two years and they fell on the feasts the Jewish Feasts of Passover and Tabernacles.

**Nathan Jones:** Super rare, only eight since Jesus.

**Dr. Reagan:** And only eight since the time of Jesus. Ok, now the crucial point here is that Mark Biltz argues that these particular Feast Tetrads tend to be omens or prophecies, or harbingers of major events that are going to occur in Israel. And I think we'll just take a break here and come back and take a look at that argument.

**Nathan Jones:** Ok.

## Part 2

**Dr. Reagan:** Welcome back to Christ in Prophecy. My colleague, Nathan Jones, and I are discussing Blood Moon Mania that has swept the Christian world in the past few years. Ok, Nathan let's pick up where we left off in the last segment and let me just do that by asking you to tell us about these Feast Tetrads; the four Blood Moons that fall on the Jewish Feast, there's been eight of them since the time of Christ. And Mark Biltz says that these are omens, or

harbingers, or prophecies of major events that are going to occur in Israel and he gives us some examples. Now what three examples does he really focus on?

**Nathan Jones:** He focuses on three examples of the eight in particular, one was 1492 when Ferdinand and Isabella expelled all the Jews out of Spain.

**Dr. Reagan:** Ok.

**Nathan Jones:** The second one was 1948 when the Jewish State was created. Then again in 1967 during the Six Day War.

**Dr. Reagan:** Ok. Well now on the surface that sounds very, very, important.

**Nathan Jones:** Major.

**Dr. Reagan:** For those are three of the major events in Jewish history again: when the Jews were expelled from Spain, when the nation of Israel was re-established, and when the Six Day War occurred. But, there is a problem here and the problem is that the first one of those is not legitimate because the Blood Moon, the Feast Tetrads occurred after the event. They were expelled in 1492. The tetrad occurred in 1493 and 1494 so it was not a harbinger, or a prophecy, or an omen of any kind.

**Nathan Jones:** Totally missed the year.

**Dr. Reagan:** Totally missed. Alright, the second one he pointed to has to do with the re-establishment of the State of Israel which occurred on May the 14th, 1948. But the tetrad, the Feast Tetrads occurred again a year later, it occurred in '49 and '50 so again it was no harbinger, it was no prophecy, it was no--

**Nathan Jones:** Missed it again.

**Dr. Reagan:** --missed it again. So, out of the eight of these Feast Tetrads that have occurred since the time of Christ there is only one, only one that would serve as a prophecy, or an omen, or a harbinger of something great that was going to happen in Israel and that was the Six Day War in '67 because the Feast Tetrads then was '67 and '68. So it really occurred after the first Blood Moon of that tetrad in 1967.

**Nathan Jones:** And the first five fell on nothing of significance for the Jews.

**Dr. Reagan:** Nothing of significance whatsoever. So, one out of eight is not very good odds.

**Nathan Jones:** I wouldn't bet on them. No I wouldn't.

**Dr. Reagan:** But anyway I think that even so we need to emphasize the point that the Bible does teach that there are signs that can occur in the heavens that can have some spiritual significance. In fact the Bible begins by stating that doesn't it?

**Nathan Jones:** Yes, I have this verse ready. I want to share this because it's a very important thing to point out that the Bible does frequently talk about signs in the skies so people are taking this really seriously. Genesis 1:14 for instance, "And God said, 'Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night. And let them serve as signs to mark seasons, and days and years.'"

**Dr. Reagan:** So, that was the fourth day of Creation. He put the lights in the heavens and He said that they are there to be signs as well as seasons for us. So there are to be signs. And so, for example the one that comes to mind immediately would be the special star in the heavens that led the Magi all the way from Iran down to Bethlehem. That would be a special sign in the heavens.

**Nathan Jones:** The Star of Bethlehem, exactly.

**Dr. Reagan:** Or I think of the special sign that occurred when Jesus was crucified and there was a total eclipse, total darkness followed by a great earthquake. So there are signs. Plus Jesus tells us that we are to watch for signs in the end times, a great variety of them and one of those are signs in the heavens. I am reading from Luke 21:24.

**Nathan Jones:** Ok.

**Dr. Reagan:** Where it says, "They will fall by the edge of the sword," He is talking here about believers in Him. "They'll fall by the edge of the sword and will be led captive into all the nations and Jerusalem will be trampled underfoot by the Gentiles." He is talking about the Jews here. And then in verse 25 He says, "And there will signs in the sun, and moon, and stars and upon the earth dismay among nations in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the waves." And He's talking here about the Second Coming of Jesus in particular. So at the Second Coming of Jesus there is going to be some spectacular signs in the heavens. And this is mentioned in a number of places in the Bible. So, it's not just crazy to say well let's look at a particular sign or here is one that is going to occur and maybe something is going to occur as a result of that. But it just that this particular sign is not something that has never occurred before, it is something that has occurred in the past. And only one out of eight times was it an omen of something great that was going to occur in Israel.

**Nathan Jones:** Yes.

**Dr. Reagan:** Ok.

### Part 3

**Nathan Jones:** Welcome back to Christ in Prophecy and our discussion of the Blood Moon Mania. Ok, we are talking about Blood Moons obviously there must be something happening that there is a reason we are talking about it. What is going on right now concerning the Tetrad?

**Dr. Reagan:** Well we are in the midst of this Feast Tetrad that Mark Biltz talked about. It is the only one that is going to occur in this Century according to the calculations of NASA, and that's another reason that he put a lot of emphasis upon this particular tetrad. Again a tetrad is where you have four Blood Moons in a row over a period of two years. And a Feast Tetrad is where you have four that fall on Jewish Feasts. And we are in the midst of that one right now the one for 2014-2015. Now it started in April of 2014 on the Feast of Passover. The next one was in October of last year that was the second one. And now the third one has already occurred, it occurred on April the 4th of this year on the Feast of Passover. And the final one of the four Blood Moons is supposed to occur on September the 28th at the Feast of Tabernacles. So, right now we are on the threshold of the fourth Blood Moon in this Feast Tetrad and that's the reason that there is this great expectation that something very significant is going to occur; in either

Israel or in the whole world. You've got to keep in mind that when this was first discovered there was a lot of talk that this pointed to the Second Coming of Jesus. Now people have backed away from that, most have and are talking instead about it just being a major event to occur in Israel. But it's certainly not is not going to point to the Second Coming of Jesus.

**Nathan Jones:** Yeah, is that your conclusion then that those who are saying this is going to be the Second Coming of Jesus, it's not.

**Dr. Reagan:** No, I don't think so at all. And I think so, you could give us some reasons why it is not going to be the Second Coming.

**Nathan Jones:** Well I think those who look at it as a the Second Coming of Jesus either put the Rapture at the Second Coming, or they don't believe in any Rapture at all.

**Dr. Reagan:** Yes, yes.

**Nathan Jones:** But for the Second Coming of Jesus to happen you have to have seven years of Tribulation upon this earth, and then you have all the events of that Tribulation. You have to have the Rapture of the Church before the Tribulation. You have to have the Antichrist rising. You have to have God's 21 judgments upon the world. You have to have seven years, and you have to have Jesus Christ returning. So, there is a tremendous amount of things that have to happen before the return of Jesus Christ. There is no way that Jesus is going to return by October of 2015; unless it's the Rapture of the Church and that is separate from the Second Coming.

**Dr. Reagan:** And further more I think we need to emphasize the fact that the Bible teaches over and over that we cannot know the date of the Lord's return.

**Nathan Jones:** No, not at all.

**Dr. Reagan:** Now we can know the general season because we are given signs to watch for. But we cannot know the date of the Lord's return. In fact when Mark Biltz first came up with this concept he was challenged on that point. And he very strongly defended the idea of date setting because he said, you know that doesn't really apply to the Second Coming of Jesus. That had to do with the fact that the Feast of Tabernacles had a rather indecisive date and people didn't know for sure. He gave many, many arguments to support the fact that you really could know the date. Later on he backed off that and he hasn't emphasized that in his recent teachings. But there are some people who still think that maybe this could be the date of the Lord's return.

**Nathan Jones:** Now this teaching came out of the Hebrew Roots Movement though, right?

**Dr. Reagan:** Yes, it did. It came out of the Hebrew Roots Movement which unfortunately is a Judaizing movement trying to get Christians under the Law. But I think the most important thing is just the fact that it is legitimate to look for signs in the heavens. But this is a sign that has no validity in the past except for the one time, the Six Day War which fell in the middle of it. But we've got one out of eight. And again that's not very good odds. In fact there is a reason why people associate this with the Second Coming and a very good reason. Not only because of what I've read a few minutes ago from Luke where Luke talks about the fact that there are going to be supernatural phenomenon in the heavens. But one of the greatest of passages on this is found over in the Minor Prophets.

**Nathan Jones:** Ok.

**Dr. Reagan:** And that's in the book of Joel. And in Joel chapter 2 he makes a very interesting comment there in verse 30. He says, God is speaking here and speaking about the Second Coming of the Messiah. And He says, "I will display wonders in the sky and on the earth: blood, fire, and columns of smoke. The sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes." So very definitely supernatural phenomenon in the heavens. But this is not talking about the Feast Tetrads, this is a supernatural thing.

**Nathan Jones:** Yes.

**Dr. Reagan:** It's not some natural phenomenon. And why is that? Because it is impossible for there to be a lunar eclipse and a solar eclipse at the same time.

**Nathan Jones:** Why is that? Some might ask? You kind of need the sunlight right to create a shadow.

**Dr. Reagan:** Well, yes, I mean it's just not possible. And so the result is that this has to be a supernatural phenomenon that God Himself orchestrates and produces in the heavens at the Second Coming of Jesus. It's not some natural phenomenon that has occurred in the past and is going to continue to occur in the future. So I think we need to keep that in mind at least with regard to the idea of some sort of natural phenomenon. This is supernatural in nature. Then again I think that your point is very important concerning whether this could be pointing to the Second Coming of Jesus. And that is that we've got to have according to the literal interpretation of the Bible we first of all have got to have a period of seven years called the Tribulation that has to occur during that time. Now when this first brought out, when Mark first proposed this theory people immediately responded by saying, "Hey, Mark there has to be a seven year period of Tribulation." And he said, "Well that could happen because this is January of 2008. So, the Tribulation could begin in September or the fall of 2008 count forward seven years, 2015."

**Nathan Jones:** There you go. Not anymore.

**Dr. Reagan:** And he even put an article to that effect on his website. But later on when the Tribulation did not begin he backed off that and began to talk more about in terms of this being some major event that would occur in Israel. Now you know Nathan, one thing I would point out is that you are not taking any big risks whatsoever if you say in the future in this two year period of time from 2017-2018 something important is going to happen in Israel. Come on.

**Nathan Jones:** Everyday something so important happens in Israel.

**Dr. Reagan:** Important things are happening there all time. Even more so now than ever before because all of end time prophecy focuses upon Israel.

**Nathan Jones:** Yes.

**Dr. Reagan:** And the whole world is focusing on it. The Bible says that in the end times the whole world is going to come against Israel, that includes the United States and that is what we are seeing today.

**Nathan Jones:** Yes.

**Dr. Reagan:** So, more and more major events are going to occur in Israel. So nobody takes a chance if they say, "I say to you in this two year period of time in the future 2017-2018 something important is going to happen in Israel. Ok, I agree. Something important will happen in Israel.

**Nathan Jones:** And it will, yes.

**Dr. Reagan:** So there's really no big risk here of saying something like that is going to happen. I think the problem that we're faced with here is the fact that the whole field of Bible prophecy is plagued by sensationalism. It is just plagued by it. There are times, Nathan when I am embarrassed to tell people that I am a teacher of Bible prophecy because the moment I say that they roll their eyes. And justifiably so because there is so much sensationalism that characterizes the whole field of Bible prophecy. And let's come back to that in just a moment.

#### Part 4

**Dr. Reagan:** Welcome back to Christ in Prophecy and our discussion of the Blood Moon Mania. Nathan, I have said over the years many times that Bible prophecy can be green pastures for disciples if it's taught properly. It can cause you to grow in the Lord Jesus Christ, commit your life to holiness, commit your life to evangelism. But, the problem is as we were talking about before the break, it is also a playground for fanatics. And as a result of that there is probably no field of theology that is held in such contempt as the field of eschatology. The average person thinks of it as a playground for fanatics, sensationalism. And unfortunately that reputation is justified in many regards. In fact we devoted a whole magazine to that recently it is called, "Prophetic Craziiness" in which I plead for people to stop searching for sensational things.

**Nathan Jones:** Yes.

**Dr. Reagan:** And to focus instead upon what the Bible has to say. Give us some examples of prophetic craziness in the past.

**Nathan Jones:** Well I think the most common that we just got through was the Mayan Calendar of 2012. They even made a movie, "2012." The end of the world everything was supposed to line up, the Mayan Calendar ran out of time. And it was just a big disaster.

**Dr. Reagan:** And there were Bible prophecy teachers focusing on that instead of focusing on what the Word of God says.

**Nathan Jones:** Exactly. It was the same thing when Y2K happened when the computers were all supposed to shut down and put us back in the Dark Ages in the years 2000. Nothing came of that. There was the Hale-Bopp Comet of 1997 that everybody thought would--

**Dr. Reagan:** All the planets were going to line up and as a result of that there was going to be a gravitational pull that would cause the oceans to cover the United States of America. People were going crazy over that.

**Nathan Jones:** Yeah the Jupiter Effect of 1982. Yeah. And I could go on and on and on. But people are always looking for something outside of the Bible to be excited about and to justify their faith as if their faith is--

**Dr. Reagan:** Well this is one of my pet peeves that's why I devoted a whole issue of our magazine to it. I remember a few years ago I had a fella call my during the Y2K thing. During the Y2K think I think first of all we had a major Bible prophecy teacher here in the United States who told people he put out a tape in which he said, "You need to go out into the wilderness. You need to buy some property there." In fact he did that himself. He said, "You need to build a bunker and you need to fill it with guns and with food, and water because they are going to come after you when the whole United States collapses over Y2K." There was a very well-known Bible prophecy teacher in Canada who wrote a whole book about this. I will never forget reading that book. He had a list four pages of all the things in your household that were going to stop operating. He had the toaster on there. And that's when I decided I had to do something about this because my toaster could care less what day it is, what hour it is, what week it is, what month it is and what Century it is. All it wants to do is toast some bread for me. So at that point I decided this was about 1998 to really do some research on this. And I devoted a whole issue of our magazine to it in late 1999 and basically what I said was, "My conclusion is #1 it has nothing to do with Bible prophecy. And #2 nothing is going to happen everybody is prepared for this; the government, the industry everyone. It will cause a ripple at most but it's not going to cause any major effect here in the United States." You know during that time I had a guy call me and he said, "I'm putting together a major Bible prophecy conference in Texarkana, Texas. And I'm inviting all these well-known speakers and I'd like for you to be one of them." I said, "Well what's the theme?" He said, "Y2K." I hadn't published my article yet, but I had finished it. I asked him, "Well, do you know where I stand on Y2K?" He said, "Well, no. Where do you stand?" I said, "I have concluded #1 it has no prophetic significance, and #2 it's not going to have any effect." There was this long silence and he said, "Well, I think we'll invite somebody else." Because they weren't interested in what was really going to happen, or what the Bible had to say. What they were interested in was something sensational. And we see this over, and over and over people pursuing the sensational. In fact I had a fella call me not too long ago who said, "What's wrong with your ministry?" I said, "Well what do you have in mind?" He said, "Well I've been following it for quite a number of years." And he said, "You just don't ever have anything new and exciting to say. It's just the same old stuff over, and over, and over." I said, "First of all God called me to teach with the Bible says about the end times and that's what I'm doing. And furthermore that is very exciting. I mean if you don't consider what God has promised concerning the end times to be exciting and even absolutely sensational then you don't really understand what God has promised or else you don't believe those promises."

**Nathan Jones:** Exactly. I was deep in the Y2K things with my tech background at the time. We were working on it with a bank trying to get them converted and ready. So there was technological problem that could have shut down a lot of computers.

**Dr. Reagan:** Sure.

**Nathan Jones:** But they had years to prepare for it and there was very little that happened at Y2K. I remember I was working all through the night, New Year's Day, New Year's Eve manning, ready for an avalanche of problems with the bank. Nothing happened. There was nothing prophetically significant about it. But you're right. And I asked a relative about this who was very into this Blood Moon thing at the time and she just wanted to really get into she thought something was going to happen. I said, "Why are you into it? There is nothing biblical about this in the way the Blood Moon Tetrad showed, not of course the way the Bible shows when Jesus comes. She said, "Well I am so tired of waiting, I just want hope. I want something



there that will help me believe that Jesus Christ is coming soon." And people are tired of waiting for the Rapture and they are grasping at straws wherever they can. The problem is, I think you're absolutely right as soon as these things, Y2K and Hale-Bopp and all come and go people give up. They get tired of waiting for Jesus Christ.

**Dr. Reagan:** Yes, they get disillusioned.

**Nathan Jones:** Yeah, and then they wipe all 31% of the Bible being Bible prophecy they wipe it all away and say forget it. And we are seeing that in the churches as churches are no longer interested in Bible prophecy anymore they are giving up too. And it's a dangerous, dangerous thing.

**Dr. Reagan:** Oh, yes. Well again I would just emphasize to our viewers that if you really understand what God has promised for the future.

**Nathan Jones:** Oh, yes.

**Dr. Reagan:** You get excited. I mean it is sensational. In fact the hardest part about it is to believe some of the things that God has promised for the future. Because again as Henry Morris once said about the book of Revelation it's not hard to understand, it's just hard to believe. If you believe what it says, let me tell you'll get excited. I mean God has promised that one day very soon His Son is going to appear in the Heavens. The Rapture of the Church is going to occur; we're going to be taken out of here. We are going to be given glorified bodies. I won't have any arthritis anymore. You know none of the problems we have now. We are going to be given immortal bodies. We are going to be living with the Lord Jesus Christ in Heaven until He returns to this earth. We are coming back with Him. We are going to see Him crowned King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

**Nathan Jones:** Amen, get me excited.

**Dr. Reagan:** We are going to see Him reign over this earth and bring peace, righteousness, and justice to this earth. We're going to be there when He defeats Satan completely and totally. And we are going to be taken and put in that New Jerusalem that He is preparing right now. And we are going to see the greatest fireworks display in all of history as this earth is heated up, and the new earth and new heavens is prepared for us. And we are going to come down and live on that new earth forever in the presence of Almighty God and Jesus in glorified bodies.

**Nathan Jones:** Amen.

**Dr. Reagan:** I mean what do we need sensationalism for? I mean the Lord has promised us the most sensational future you can possible imagine.

**Nathan Jones:** It is exciting!

**Dr. Reagan:** So what is your advice for people as they seek to understand God prophetic Word?

**Nathan Jones:** Well I would say this, is that the Bible you can trust the Bible. Go to the Bible for your Bible prophecy read that. Don't go out for extra-biblical things. Don't get all excited about Nostradamus and Y2K and all this stuff. Stick to the Bible. Stick to a literal interpretation of the Bible. And get excited about it. A third of the Bible is Bible prophecy. There's lots there. Well you go me excited. I can't wait. I can't wait.

**Dr. Reagan:** Well, I tell you. You know I grew up in an Amillennial church.

**Nathan Jones:** Ok.

**Dr. Reagan:** That taught that the Lord was never going to put His foot on this earth again. He just wasn't going to do it. He wasn't going to come back and reign over the earth. He was going to bring-- They argued we were in the Millennium now. In the Millennium now?

**Nathan Jones:** No.

**Dr. Reagan:** And you know that is the majority viewpoint in Christendom today that we are in the Millennium now. Well I'll tell you what if we are in the Millennium now the Lord is doing a very poor job of reigning over this earth because every nation on planet earth is in rebellion against the Lord Jesus Christ this very moment.

**Nathan Jones:** Yes.

**Dr. Reagan:** No, we're not in the Millennium now. And what God promises about the Millennium is for real. The wolf will lie down with the lamb. The lion will eat straw with the ox. The earth will be flooded with peace, righteousness, and justice as the waters cover the sea.

**Nathan Jones:** Yes.

**Dr. Reagan:** These are promises of God and they are going to take place. And if you can believe that let me tell you, you can get excited. I have so many preachers who say, "I just don't pay any attention to Bible prophecy because it is all pie in the sky. It all has to do with the future and nothing to do with the present." But you know as well as I if you can ever convince people in a Church #1 Jesus is really coming back, not to convince them here, but convince them there. And #2 that is an event that can occur any moment, their lives will be transformed because they will be committed from that point on to evangelism, and to holiness. To lining their lives up with the Word of God and getting serious about the Lord's return. Well I--

**Nathan Jones:** And that's our blessed hope.

**Dr. Reagan:** That is our blessed hope.

**Nathan Jones:** It's not Y2K, Blood Moons, no.

**Dr. Reagan:** Not all these sensational things that people get so excited about that really are not in the Word of God. They are not based on the Word of God and I just urge people get in the Word, stay in the Word, learn what the Word promises and that's all the sensationalism you will ever need. Well, folks, that's our program for this week. I hope it has been a blessing to you. Until next week the Lord willing this is Dave Reagan speaking for myself and Nathan saying, "Look up, be watchful, for our redemption is drawing near."

**End of Program**