

LAMPLIGHTER

"Prophecy is like a lamp shining in a dark place." - II Peter 1:19

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**The Jewish Concept
of the Week of Millenniums**



Observations by the Editor

Hope or Despair?

Dr. David R. Reagan

America's future looks very dim as the forces advocating moral depravity and contempt for God's Word prepare to take over the White House and Congress.

We should expect an all-out effort to encourage the goals of the Sexual Perversion Movement, with its demands to legalize prostitution, polygamy, polyamory marriage and even pedophilia (with "consenting" children!).

Religious expression will become an obsessive target with the aim of forcing it into the closet — declaring that it is appropriate only within the walls of churches, synagogues and mosques. Efforts will be made to reinterpret the constitutional guarantee of "free exercise of religion" as meaning only the freedom of worship. Don't be surprised at efforts to eliminate tax exemptions for churches and ministries (despite the Supreme Court's ruling in 1819 that "the power to tax is the power to destroy").

There will be a determined effort to eliminate all limitations on abortion. And there will be a goal of allowing infanticide up to a year after the birth of a child. Attempts will also be made to further the legalization of euthanasia.

Expect efforts to enact hate speech legislation that would outlaw any criticism of abortion, homosexuality and same-sex marriage. There will also be attempts to declare that the public proclamation of Jesus as the only way to Heaven constitutes hate speech.

And then there are the Socialists who are demanding a minimum income for everyone regardless of whether they want to work.

Regarding foreign policy, expect a lack of support for Israel and the revival of the emphasis that began with President George H. W. Bush on the creation of a One World Order. Consequently, we should anticipate America's national interest to be subordinated to the demands of international organizations like the United Nations.

Expect a renewed effort to grant citizenship to all illegal aliens. Also, expect



Radio broadcasting in December 2001. The daily radio program was converted to a weekly television program in September of 2002.

demands for reparations for Blacks and Homosexuals.

You are probably thinking, "Come on, David, this is too extreme." Yes, it is too extreme in concept but not in reality. These are policy positions endorsed by various Democrats during the last Presidential campaign. And they are evidence of the fact that our nation has reached the last stage of destruction described in Romans 1:28 when God turns the nation over to a "depraved mind."

So, is there any hope for our nation? I do not believe so. We have rejected the Judeo-Christian principles this nation was based upon and which have made this nation great. We have forgotten God and His Word, and we are now determined to do as we please. We are operating in open rebellion against God. In the process, we are digging our own grave.

But there is hope for individuals who place their faith in Jesus as Lord and Savior. They will receive the indwelling of the Holy Spirit who will comfort them, guide them and give them the peace that passes all understanding (Philippians 4:7). They will also become heirs of the promise that they will be included in the Rapture when Jesus appears in the heavens for His Church before the Great Tribulation begins.

And those of us who are believers need to keep in mind that God is in control. Read Psalm 2 and rejoice! ❖

The painting on the cover of this issue is by the Austrian painter Otto Herschel (1871 - 1958). It is titled, "Rabbi Studying the Talmud."

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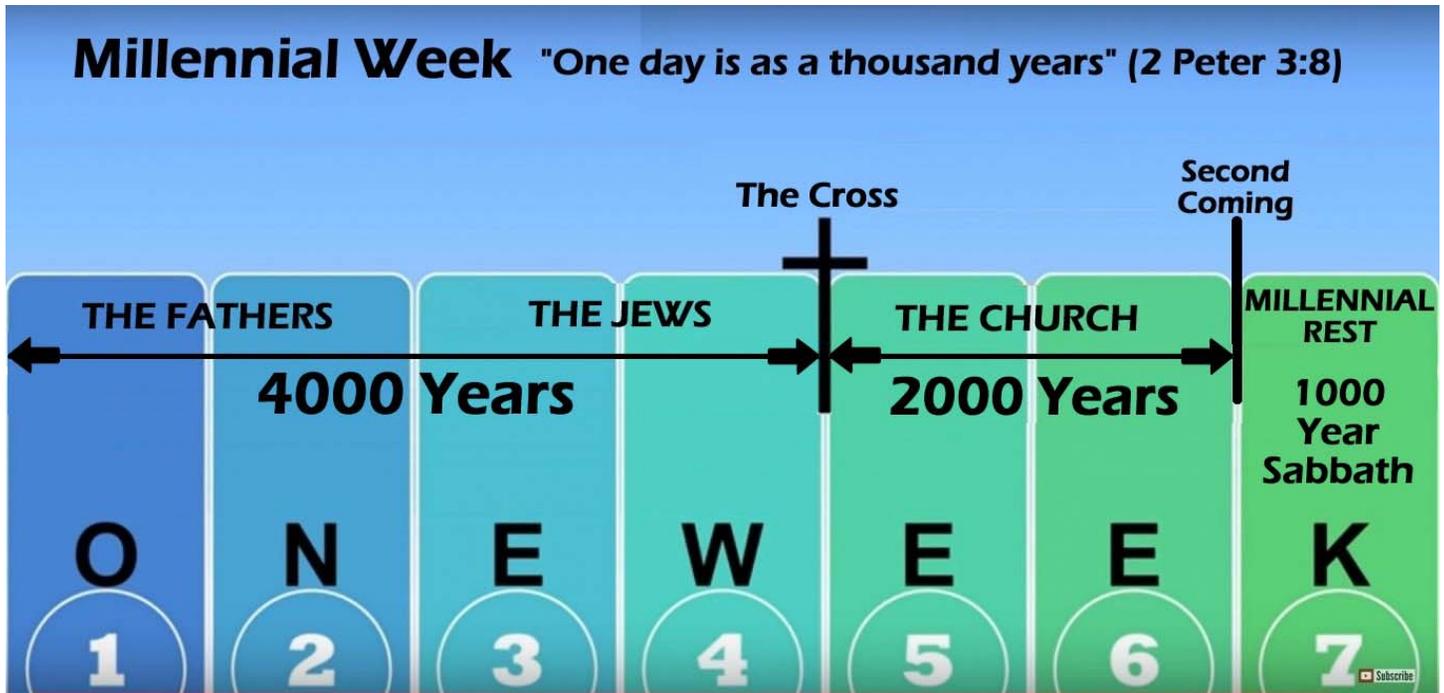


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The Prophecy of the Week of Millenniums



Dr. David R. Reagan

The Scriptures contain an implied prophecy that strongly suggests that we are the terminal generation — the one that will experience the Rapture of the Church.

But before we take a look at it, let's consider a fact that most Christians seem unaware of. Did you know that there is a prophecy in the Old Testament that clearly establishes the season of the Lord's First Coming? It is found in the book of Daniel in chapter 9, beginning with verse 24. It is usually referred to as the "Prophecy of the 70 Weeks of Years."

Daniel's Designation for the Coming of the Messiah

The name of the prophecy comes from the fact that Daniel prophesies that certain events will occur among the Jewish people over a period of 490 years, or 70 weeks of years. He states very clearly that the Messiah will come before the end of 483 of these years. The question, then, that immediately emerges is, "What is the starting point for the countdown of these years?" Daniel says the countdown will begin with "the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem" (Daniel 9:25).

After the Babylonian Empire was overthrown by the Medes and the Persians, three Persian kings issued edicts regarding the return of the Jews to their homeland. The first came in 538 BC, when Cyrus authorized Zerubbabel to rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem (Ezra 1:1-3). The second, issued by Artaxerxes in 457 BC, gave Ezra permission to reinstitute the Temple services, appoint judges and teach the Law (Ezra 7: 11-26). In 445 BC, Artaxerxes issued a decree for Nehemiah to rebuild the city of Jerusalem and its walls (Nehemiah 2:1-8).

On the surface, the third decree, the one issued to Nehemiah, seems to be the most obvious candidate for the starting date of

the prophecy, for it is the only one that specifically relates to the rebuilding of the city. For that reason, most commentators have selected it as the beginning of the 70 weeks of years.

Using 445 BC as the starting point, experts on biblical chronology have concluded that the terminal point of the 483 years would be 27 AD at the earliest and 33 AD at the latest. The differences depend on whether you calculate using solar years or 360 day lunar years.

The point, of course, is that Jesus was born around 4 to 6 BC, and thus His arrival fits the prophecy since His birth occurred before the latest possible terminal point of the prophecy. And this fact presents a major problem to the Jews since they deny Jesus was the Messiah. If He was not, then how can they explain that the Messiah was not born within Daniel's time period? After all, they recognize Daniel as a legitimate prophet of God.

The major point I want to make is that Daniel's prophecy clearly revealed the season of the Lord's First Coming. And, in like manner there are prophecies in both the Old and New Testaments that reveal the season of the Lord's Second Coming — not the date, but the general season. And it is my contention that those prophecies point to our day and time, and thus we are the terminal generation.

An Implied Prophecy

One of the most important of those prophecies is one that is implied in the Genesis account of Creation, as found in Genesis chapter 2:

- 1) Thus the heavens and the earth were completed, and all their hosts.
- 2) By the seventh day, God completed His

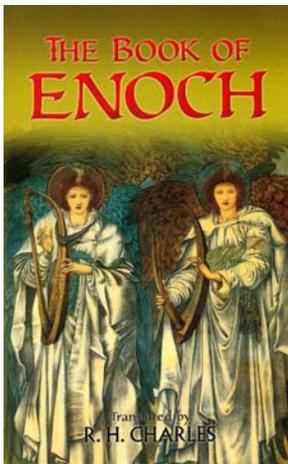
work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work . . .

The Creation account, which consists of six days of labor followed by one day of rest is God's template for time that is repeated over and over throughout the Scriptures. Consider the evidence below:

- 1) **The Week of Days** — Six days of labor followed by a Sabbath of rest.
- 2) **The Week of Weeks** — Seven weeks or forty-nine days between Passover and the Feast of Pentecost, concluding with a Sabbath day of rest.
- 3) **The Week of Months** — The seven months containing the seven feasts of Israel, beginning with Passover in the Spring and concluding with the Feast of Tabernacles in the Fall, which is a celebration of rest from the agricultural labors of the year.
- 4) **The Week of Years** — Seven years followed by a Sabbath year, when the land is allowed to rest from cultivation.
- 5) **The Week of Weeks of Years** — Forty-nine years leading up to the celebration in the 50th year of the Jubilee, and that year is to be a year of rest.
- 6) **The Week of Millenniums** — The idea that 6,000 years of human labor and strife will be followed by 1,000 years of rest during the Millennial Reign of the Messiah.

The last example of the week template that is mentioned above is the theme of this article. It is a concept that some Jews and Christians have agreed upon for the past two thousand years.

A Possible Pre-Jewish Example



In fact, there is evidence that the concept pre-dates the founding of the Jewish people with the call of Abraham. References to the 7,000 year theory can be found in writings attributed to Enoch who lived in the seventh generation from Adam and was Noah's grandfather. Portions of at least ten quotes from the *Book of Enoch* were found in the *Dead Sea Scrolls*.

These writings are not canonical, but there is a quotation from them in the New Testament book of Jude (verses 14-15). It describes the Second Coming of the Messiah, pointing out that according to Enoch, the Messiah will one day come in judgment to pour out the wrath of God on "ungodly sinners."

We know from non-biblical sources that the Second Book of Enoch stated that there would be 7000 years of history and that the beginning of the 8,000th year would mark the start of the Eternal State (2 Enoch 33:1).¹

Whether these writings date from the time of Enoch or were written later by someone using his name, they indicate that the idea of 7,000 years of human history on this earth is a very old tradition.

Jewish Examples



(www.chabad.org)

The oldest existing Jewish reference to the Week of Millenniums is probably the one found in the *Talmud* which references a statement attributed to the prophetic school established by the prophet Elijah:

Six thousand years is the duration of the world. Two thousand of the six thousand years are characterized by chaos; two thousand years are characterized by Torah, from the era of the Patriarchs until the end of the mishnaic period; and two thousand years are the period of the coming of the Messiah (Sanhedrin 97a).

This concept is echoed in a 10th Century AD midrash called *Tanna D'vei Eliyahu*. (A midrash is commentary on part of the Hebrew scriptures.) It reads as follows:²

The world is to exist 6,000 years. In the first 2,000, there was desolation (no Torah, from Adam to Abraham), 2,000 years the Torah flourished, and the next 2,000 years is the Messianic era (He should have come at the beginning of the last 2,000 years; the delay is due to our sins).

Of course, the Messiah did come at the beginning of the last 2,000 years, but He was not recognized by the Jewish people.

This concept of 6,000 years of human toil and conflict followed by 1,000 years of rest is still alive among Jewish rabbis and is being taught by them. Take, for example, Rabbi Baruch S. Davidson, of Brooklyn, NY who is a writer for Chabad, an Orthodox Jewish Hasidic movement. When asked about the 7,000 year theory, he replied:³



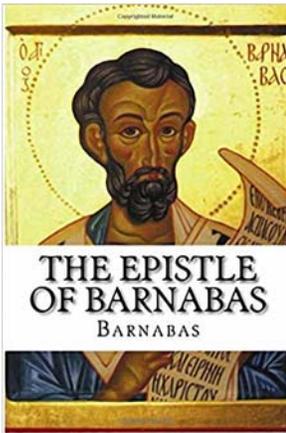
Rabbi Baruch S. Davidson

The Talmud tells us that this world, as we know it, will last for six thousand years, with the seventh millennium ushering in the cosmic Sabbath, the Messianic Era. Six days a week we work, and on the Sabbath we rest and enjoy the fruits of our labor; the same is true with millenniums.

The widespread acceptance of the 7,000 year concept among

Jewish sages today is illustrated by the fact that the idea is accepted “across the Ashkenazi-Sephardi divide, the Hasidim-Misnagdim divide, and across the rational Talmud and mystical Kabbalah perspectives.”⁴

Early Christian Writings



The Jewish Millennial Day Theory was picked up by the earliest fathers of the Christian faith and espoused by them. For example, Justin Martyr (100-165 AD), in his *Dialogue with Trypho*, asserted his belief that the earth will last for 6,000 years followed by a Sabbath of rest lasting 1,000 years.⁵

But even earlier than this, the concept was expressed in detail in *The Epistle of Barnabas*, the complete text of which is preserved in the 4th-century *Codex Sinaiticus*, where it appears immediately after

the New Testament and before the *Shepherd of Hermas*. Scholars estimate it was written between 70 and 132 AD. The author describes the Millennial Day Theory in these words:⁶

“God made in six days the works of His hands, and made an end on the seventh day, and rested on it, and sanctified it” (Gen. 2:2). Attend, my children, to the meaning of this expression, “He finished in six days.” This implies that the Lord will finish all things in 6,000 years, for a day is with Him a thousand years . . . Therefore, my children, in six days, that is, in 6,000 years, all things will be finished. “And He rested on the seventh day.” This means: when His Son shall come, and shall abolish the time of the Lawless One, and shall judge the ungodly, and shall change the sun and the moon, and the stars, then shall He truly rest on the 7th day.” (Epistle of Barnabas, Chapter 15).

Late in the 2nd Century, Irenaeus (130-202 AD), the Bishop of Lyons, France, wrote: “For in as many days as this world was made, in so many thousand years shall it be concluded.” He then added that after the Antichrist has devastated the world, the Lord will return and provide the world rest on “the hallowed seventh day.”⁷

One of the most influential theologians of the 3rd Century, Hippolytus of Rome (c. 170-235AD) asserted that “6,000 years must needs be accomplished in order that the Sabbath may come, the rest, the holy day on which God rested from all His works.”⁸

The widespread belief in the Millennial Day Theory among early Christians is attested to by Edward Gibbon in his history of the Roman Empire. He wrote:⁹

The ancient and popular doctrine of the Millennium was intimately connected with the second coming of Christ. As the works of the creation had been finished in six days, their duration in their present state, according to a

tradition which was attributed to the prophet Elijah, was fixed to six thousand years. By the same analogy it was inferred that this long period of labor and contention, which was now almost elapsed, would be succeeded by a joyful Sabbath of a thousand years; and that Christ, with the triumphant band of the saints and the elect who had escaped death, or who had been miraculously revived, would reign upon earth till the time appointed for the last and general resurrection.

But despite this early popularity of the concept, it fell out of acceptance after 400 AD when the Roman Catholic Church, under the influence of the spiritualizing interpretations of Origen and Augustine, adopted the Amillennial viewpoint which argued that Jesus was never going to return to reign over this earth for a thousand years.

Modern Christianity

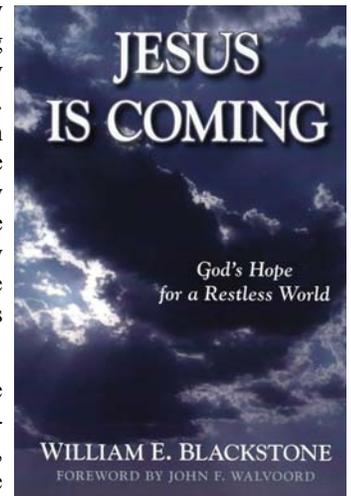
The Millennial Day Theory experienced a renaissance following the Reformation as people began to obtain copies of the Bible in their own languages. The Premillennial viewpoint of end-time events was revived and with it, the idea that 6,000 years of history would be followed by the 1,000 year reign of Jesus.

The concept was strongly endorsed in the first best-selling Bible prophecy book in history — *Jesus Is Coming* by W. E. Blackstone, first published in 1898. He pointed out that the concept was first developed by the Jewish sages before the time of Christ and is frequently mentioned in the *Talmud*. He called it “the Sabbath of God’s weeks.”¹⁰

Many modern day Bible prophecy teachers have also endorsed the theory. For example, in 2012, Dr. Jack Van Impe (1931-2020), one of the foremost proclaimers of Bible prophecy in the 20th Century, gave his support to the concept in an article printed in his newsletter.¹¹ He endorsed it again in 2016, and concluded: “We are on the threshold of the final day! . . . One thing is certain: only a few minutes remain before midnight. Closing time is upon us. The Age of Grace is about to end, and believers are soon to rule and reign with the Lord Jesus Christ.”¹²

Distinguished Christian doctrinal expert, Mike Gendron, echoed the 7,000 year theory in an article he published in 2013 when he observed:¹³

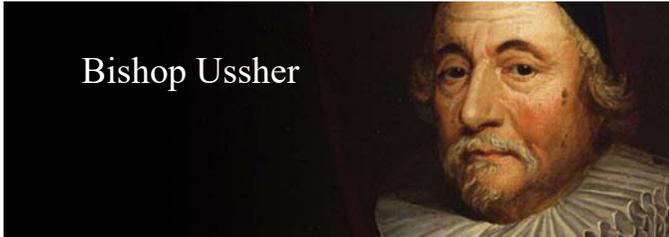
The first 2,000 years of human history ended when the wrath of God was poured out on sin in the Flood. The second 2,000 years ended when the wrath of God was poured out on sin at the Cross. And the third 2,000 years will end with God pouring out His wrath on sin during the Tribulation.



Dating the 7,000 Year Theory

All of this brings us to a crucial question. If this Millennial Day Theory is biblical, then how near are we to the end of the 6,000 years that will inaugurate the Millennial reign of Jesus?

This is not an easy question to answer. The first question relates to the starting point of the 6,000 years. James Ussher (1581-1656), the Archbishop of Ireland in the early 17th Century and a profound scholar, calculated the beginning of the world to be 4004 BC, or exactly 4,000 years before the generally accepted date for the birth of Jesus in 4 BC.¹⁴ He based his finding on the biblical genealogies.



Bishop Ussher

(icr.org)

Many have challenged Ussher's calculations. Others who accept them, have argued that the starting date for the 6,000 years countdown should be the date when Adam sinned. That date, of course, is not known, and it has been estimated to be anywhere from a few months after creation to as much as 110 years.¹⁵

The second question relates to the starting point for the countdown of the last 2,000 years — from the birth of Jesus or from His death? And in either case, what is the correct date? Some argue He was born in 4 BC; others in 6 BC. The generally accepted date for His crucifixion is 30 AD, but I am personally convinced it was 31 AD.¹⁶

Counting 2,000 years from 31 AD places His return around the year 2031. In my research, I found nearly all writers speculating anywhere from 2026 to 2033.

Another problem with all these calculations is whether you use normal years according to the solar calendar or lunar years of 360 days. And this is further complicated by the fact that the Jews used a lunar/solar calendar!

So, as you can see, it is not possible to precisely calculate either the beginning or the ending of the 6,000 years from creation. But by any calculations, the conclusion has to be that we are near the end.

Another Crucial Question

However, there is a question that immediately emerges from my conclusion. If we are near the end of the 6,000 years of human history, why is this the year of 5781 on the Jewish calendar? In other words, if we are so near the end of 6,000 years, why does the Jewish calendar say we are 219 years away from that date?

There is really a very simple answer to this question. Just as the Western Gregorian calendar is off by four to six years, the Jewish calendar contains an even greater error of over 200 years.

The calculation of the years of the Jewish calendar, according to the *Talmud*, was done in the 2nd Century AD by Rabbi

Yose ben Halafta. His rabbinic chronology is called the *Seder Olam Rabbah*.¹⁷ It is almost universally agreed that the calendar is off by at least 200 years due to the fact that Rabbi Yose guessed wrong as to the length of the inter-testamental period for which there are no biblical records. This period is referred to by secular historians as "the Persian period." The rabbinical chronology says it lasted 52 years. The accepted chronology of historical experts says it lasted 207 years, amounting to a difference of 155 years.

A remarkable book published in 1997 examines this problem in detail and proves beyond a shadow of doubt that the Jewish chronology is seriously flawed. It is titled *Jewish History in Conflict*.¹⁸ The author is a New York attorney and Orthodox Jew by the name of Mitchell First. All the errors he points out in the Jewish calendar amount to a total of over 200 years.

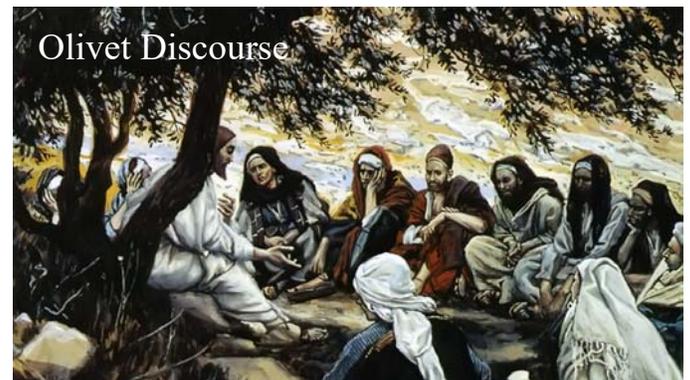
With such overwhelming evidence of major errors in the Jewish calendar, why don't the Jews correct their calendar? The force of tradition is undoubtedly one of the main reasons. Another is what is called in Jewish circles "the doctrine of faith in the pronouncements of the Sages." This doctrine requires that the Jewish Sages be given the benefit of the doubt.¹⁹

There is a third reason for Jewish reluctance, one that most rabbis and scholars are reluctant to admit. Mitchell First denies that it is of any significance, but he quotes three Jewish scholars who bluntly state that they are convinced this reason is the most important.²⁰ It is the idea that the Jewish Sages purposely stated an incorrect chronology of Daniel 9 in order to prevent people from using the passage to accurately predict the time when the Messiah would come.

The bottom line is that instead of this being the Jewish year of 5781, it should, instead, be in the neighborhood of 5991 or later.

Other Substantiating Prophecies

There are two prophecies I would like to mention in closing, one from the Old Testament and the other from the New, both of which substantiate the Millennial Day Theory and indicate that we are definitely living in the season of the Lord's return.



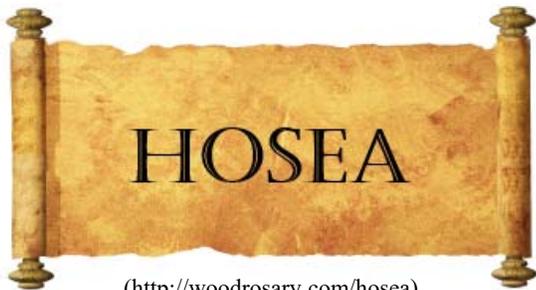
(www.ancientvoicessacredstories.com)

The first was spoken by Jesus in the Olivet Discourse that He delivered to His disciples during the last week of His life. In Matthew 24:32-34 Jesus stated in the "Parable of the Fig Tree" that when the fig tree blossoms again, the generation that witnesses that event will be the one that will be living when the Lord returns.

Throughout the Scriptures, the fig tree is often used as a

symbol of Israel. In fact, an indication of this occurred the day before Jesus spoke this parable. As He and His disciples were walking on the Mount of Olives, they came across a fig tree that was barren. Jesus pronounced a curse upon it, and it withered (Matthew 21: 18-19). This was a symbolic prophecy that because the Jewish people (represented by the fig tree) had rejected Jesus as their Messiah (and were therefore barren), their nation would cease to exist.

Then, the next day, Jesus reminded them of the tree and said when it blossoms again (when the nation is re-established), the Lord will return. That prophecy, like the prophecy of the Millennial Days, indicates we are living in the season of the Lord's return.



(<http://woodrosary.com/hosea>)

The second prophecy that substantiates the Millennial Day Theory is found in Hosea 5:15 through 6:3. This passage says the Messiah will return to Heaven and remain there until the Jewish people acknowledge their guilt in rejecting Him and earnestly seek His face — something that will happen during a time of severe trouble for them (the Tribulation). The Messiah will be gone for “two days.” He will return on “the third day” and will raise up the Jewish people, refreshing them like a spring rain.

As God calculates time, it has been “two days” since Jesus ascended to Heaven, for to God, “one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as a day” (2 Peter 3:8 and Psalm 90:4).

Conclusion

No one can know the date of the Lord's return, but the signs of the times and the prophecies like the ones considered in this article definitely indicate that we are the terminal generation, living in the season of the Lord's return.

The crucial question is this one: Are you ready? If Jesus were to appear in the heavens today to take His Church out of this world before the Great Tribulation, would you be ready? Would you welcome Him with great rejoicing, like a calf released from a stall? (Malachi 4:2). Or, would you crawl into a hole in the ground and cry out for the mountains to fall on you? (Luke 23:30).

To be ready for the Lord's return at any moment, all you must do is repent of your sins and receive Jesus as your Lord and Savior. You will be born again and receive the indwelling of the Holy Spirit who will seal you for redemption and serve as your spiritual guide and helper as you begin living your life for Christ. When you do this, you should seek out a Bible believing church that exalts Jesus as the only hope for the world. You need also to witness your faith in baptism and get involved in a Bible study group so that you can start growing in the Lord. ❖

[Note: The references notes can be found with the article posted on our website.]

Signs

For Further Information About Signs of the Times



This book presents a comprehensive overview of the signs of the times that point to the fact that we are living in the season of the Lord's return.

One of the highlights of the book is a prophetic forum in which 22 Bible prophecy experts respond to a series of 11 questions concerning the signs of the times.

The book begins by laying out the spiritual principles that relate to the signs, such as the fact that although we cannot know the date of the Lord's return, we can definitely know the season.

Then, after surveying all the six categories of signs, Dr. Reagan presents in-depth chapters on nine of the key signs.

He concludes by pointing out that although the most important individual sign is the re-establishment of the state of Israel in 1948, there is an even more important overarching sign — namely, the CONVERGENCE of all the end-time signs.

309 pages, \$20, including the cost of shipping. ❖

Satan's Five-Part Plan to Destroy America

Nathan Jones

(Editor's note: This article is a transcript of a brief interview that our Internet Evangelist, Nathan Jones, conducted with Allen Parr. Allen is a Bible teacher and evangelist whose ministry is located in McKinney, Texas, a suburb of Dallas. To watch the video, go to our website at www.lamblion.com, scroll down the home page and click on "Prophetic Perspectives.")



Allen Parr & Nathan Jones

Nathan Jones: Allen, you contend that "Satan has a five-part plan to disrupt and destroy the United States of America." Tell us about it, point by point.

Allen Parr: Our world is under attack! And, our country specifically. Living through 2020 has been a crazy year. There's a whole lot of changes and scary events going on right now. I see the Enemy using these things to attack our country in some very specific ways. Here is his five-part plan, as I see it.

1 *Creating Confusion Over Sexual Identity*

The first way Satan has been attacking our nation is through the newest generation by causing great confusion over their sexual identity. It seems like now, more than ever, our youth are confused about their gender. Job applications even now offer choices for male, female and other.

Nathan Jones: Gender is also being removed from birth certificates. I recently watched a video by Will Witt, who is with Prager University. He was going around to college campuses asking students how many genders there are. Some responded with "infinite," and some just made up numbers. And yet, the Bible declares there are only two genders.

Allen Parr: Exactly! The Enemy is doing a job on our youth to try to get them to be confused about how they identify sexually.

Nathan Jones: Genesis 1:27 says, "So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them." I'm pretty sure that verse doesn't say "male, female, fluid,..." It mentions only two genders — period!

Allen Parr: Exactly. Again, there's this gender identity confusion, but there is also a sexual preference confusion, which is huge. We see the LGBTQ+ agenda being pushed in every sitcom

Allen Parr was trained as an engineer, but after two years in the corporate world, he decided to enter Dallas Theological Seminary where he earned a Master of Theology degree in 2004. He then founded Allen Parr Ministries whose purpose is to help people grow spiritually. Specifically, Allen's desire is "to help equip Christians with the tools, training and teaching they need to live a victorious life and fulfill God's purpose for their life." His website address is www.allenparr.com.

that we watch. It's blatantly obvious in the media that there's a definite homosexual agenda. Consider how the producers go out of their way to include in every episode a same-sex couple or someone who is inclined to be same-sex attracted.

So, we are seeing the Enemy weave into the fabric of our country the normalization of something God has clearly said is a sin (Leviticus 18:22; 20:13; Romans 1:24-27; 1 Corinthians 6: 9-10 and 1 Timothy 1:9-10). Satan is clearly targeting the minds of our next generation.

2 *Breaking Down Families*

Breaking down families isn't something necessarily brand new, but now there are a lot of different organizations out there that are fighting for feminist rights and many other anti-family positions. Clearly, there is an all-out attack being waged against the family. The divorce rate is higher, even among Christians. We have more people giving up on their marriages. The Enemy knows that we are stronger together than we are apart, so Satan has made a concerted effort to tear apart families.



(www.chabad.org)

Nathan Jones: It's interesting that in Matthew 19:8 that Jesus quotes what was written in Malachi 2:16, which reads, "For the Lord God of Israel says that He hates divorce, for it covers one's garment with violence." Satan really hates the nuclear family

because the nuclear family provides the foundation for society.

Allen Parr: Absolutely, yes. As the family goes, so does society. The Enemy knows that truth, so he creates conflict and discord within the home for the purpose of causing families to break up. We have to realize that divorce has a significant negative effect on children. I am the product, unfortunately, of a broken home. It contributed to me waiting to get married much later in life. I grew up without that family structure that many of my friends were blessed with as they grew up.

So, if Satan can split off the children away from the family then they're far more vulnerable to temptation. That's one of the main tactics in Satan's strategy.

3 Promoting Abortion

The next item on Satan's agenda is abortion, something God abhors. Let's call abortion what it truly is — murder. The Bible in Exodus 20:13 commands, "thou shalt not murder," which is the Sixth Commandment.



(www.creativeminorityreport.com)

Nathan Jones: What is America up to now — 63 million abortions since Roe v. Wade? China has aborted 300 million babies! The death toll from abortion in this nation and worldwide is shocking and tragic.

Allen Parr: Absolutely, the Enemy is trying to normalize murder through abortion, just as he is working to minimize the sin of homosexuality as not being a big deal. He has cloaked the murder of abortion under the auspices of a woman's right to choose, or to have control of her own body. Likewise, he has spread the lie that an unborn baby isn't really life yet and so, therefore, abortion isn't really murder. Satan works to place doubts in people's minds to desensitize them to what is really happening — which, when it comes to abortion, is murder.

4 Fomenting Division

A major thing the Enemy is promoting in our nation today is division. We as a nation are so terribly divided right now. People seem incapable of trying to discuss issues with each other on social media without engaging in name-calling and condemnation of those with differing views.

Nathan Jones: I agree that social media has been a main component in Satan's work to sow discord and division in our society.

Allen Parr: Often times I just want to delete all of my social media accounts, but I can't, because my ministry is online. I see three different ways Satan is causing division: race, politics and denominationalism.

Obviously, there has been a whole lot of racial tension in our country due to the police shootings and the subsequent riots. The Enemy has been using race to sow discord and cause division. Politics, especially in a presidential election year, is always divisive. There are people who claim that if you are a Christian, then you have to vote a certain way, and if you don't, then you are not a Christian. And denominations are well known for their arguments — their endless fussing and fighting over various doctrines and other topics.

Nathan Jones: Christians don't get along well with each other, do we? It's a rather sad blight on the Church.

Allen Parr: Christians should be all on the same team, and yet we've been letting denominationalism totally break us apart. Christians don't even realize that they are being used as a tool of the Devil to create discord.

5 Increasing Emotional Disorders

The last component of Satan's five-part plan to destroy the USA involves the promotion of emotional disorders. I used to teach high school and saw that we are living in a time when many kids are suffering from low self-esteem, depression and anxiety. Children are being put on medications to deal with these conditions. And yet, the Bible says in John 10:10 that, "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I [Jesus] have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly."

And so, these five are the key tactics used in Satan's strategy to really wreak havoc in our country today.

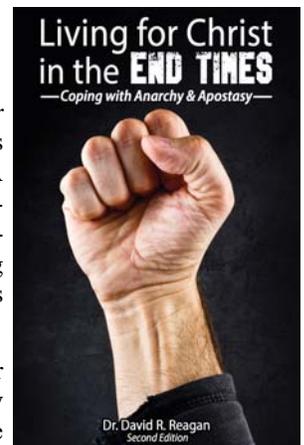
Nathan Jones: Thank you, Allen. Now that we know what Satan's plan is, we can counter it as Christians by continuing to be salt and light in this world. We stand for righteousness in an increasingly dark time period. And, as we wait for the return of Jesus Christ, we must continue to share the Gospel, all the way up to the very day of His glorious return. ✚

Coping with Anarchy and Apostasy

Dr. Reagan's book, *Living for Christ in the End Times*, was first published in the year 2000. A second edition has since been published in 2015. It is a book that predicted the anarchy that is destroying our cities and the apostasy that has rendered the Church ineffective.

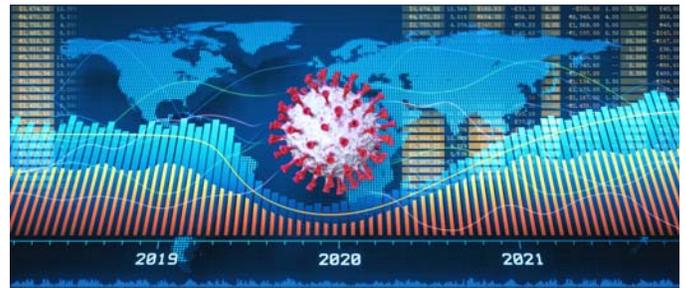
The book predicted that our nation would begin the 21st Century by rebelling against the very One who has showered us with blessings and that this rebellion would lead to societal chaos. The book presents in detail ten things that Christians can do to cope with and overcome the increasing societal violence and Church decay.

The book runs 323 pages and sells for \$20, including the cost of shipping. To order, call 972-736-3567 Monday thru Friday, 8am to 5pm Central time. ✚



Out with the Old, In with the New

Colonel Tim Moore



(www.istockphoto.com)

When I was in the Air Force, my wife, Amy, and I always looked forward to transferring to a new base. No matter how much we had enjoyed a particular assignment, the idea of turning the page and starting fresh always appealed to us.

Many of us are ready to put the year 2020 into our rearview mirror. What started out as a year of great promise seemed to turn into a year of dread and curse. And so it is quite natural to look forward with anticipation to a new beginning.



(www.istockphoto.com)

A Time for Reflection

But it is exactly at a moment such as this that we need to stop and reflect. Scripture is filled with examples of God commanding His people to pause at a moment of transition — to look back and to prepare for what lies ahead. When the children of Israel were poised to enter Canaan, Moses and then Joshua took time to recount their journey — both physically and spiritually — to the Promised Land.

Even the Jewish feasts were meant to be times of reflection and introspection as much as celebration. Just think of the Passover, where Jewish families recount their heritage of captivity in Egypt and deliverance by the hand of God.

Similarly, Rosh Hoshanah marks the first day of the Hebrew New Year. It is set aside as a holy day, not because it is to be filled with frivolity and good cheer, but so that every Jew can look back and consider God's blessings from the past (Leviticus 23:23-27). The meal marking Rosh Hoshanah is known as the Feast of Trumpets, and a series of trumpet blasts on the shofar is commanded. The rabbinical tradition requires a minimum of 30 blasts, but most celebrants use 100 or 101 carefully prescribed blasts.

Even the shofar itself is meant to point the Jewish mind back to a moment when God provided. The ram's horn is a tangible reminder that when Abraham was poised to sacrifice his own son Isaac out of obedience to God, the LORD provided a ram.

The trumpet blast points back to the sound that called the children of Israel to Mount Sinai where they entered into a covenant with God (Exodus 19:13,16-19). And, it points forward to future trumpet blasts. Isaiah spoke of a trumpet, or shofar, that will sound to signal the regathering of the Jewish people (18:3). And Zechariah wrote of the Lord God Himself blowing a shofar when He once again dwells among the Jewish people and goes forth to fight on their behalf (9:14-16).

So, as we turn the page on a year that has been described in terms ranging from surreal to catastrophic, let's pause to praise God. Regardless of the trials and tribulations we experienced in 2020, a follower of Jesus Christ can discern the Lord's hand at work — providing and preserving. Even when darkness seems to be on the rise, we should pause to "count our blessings one by one — because we will certainly be encouraged by all that God has done."

And let's consider what lies ahead — more opportunities to shine the light of Truth in our darkening world, and the soon appearing of our Lord of Light.

No matter how you ring in the New Year, just know that soon "the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God" (1 Thessalonians 4:16). Paul said that the dead in Christ will rise first, but then "we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord (1 Thessalonians 4:17). It is because of our anticipation of this promised deliverance that we can comfort one another.

Finally, it's one thing to roll the calendar forward every year — sloughing off the old and looking forward hopefully to a shiny new year. But how much more spectacular will it be to lay aside all the baggage of this life and put on our glorified, imperishable body as we rise to meet Jesus?

If you do not know Him as Savior and worship Him as Lord, you will be left behind at the Rapture of the Church. 2020 will look like child's play as you enter the Tribulation and endure the wrath of God and the evil reign of the Antichrist. Pestilence, war, natural disasters, and famine of cataclysmic proportions will engulf the world.

Do not wait another day; turn a page right now and start afresh and anew. Trust in Him who sits on the throne of heaven and said, "Behold, I am making all things new" (Revelation 21:5). Ask Him to do so for you today.

Godspeed! ✚

Rumors of Peace: The Elusive Hope of Man

Colonel Tim Moore



Col. Tim Moore

Amid all the chaos and unrest of 2020, a hopeful glimmer arose in the Middle East. The Trump Administration announced the Abraham Accords — a supposed new breakthrough in peace between Israel and two Persian Gulf states.

Ironically, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain have never been at war with Israel in the first place. So what exactly did this accord mean? Will it lead to Middle East peace in our time, or is it just more shouting at the wind?

Historic Perspective

In order to answer that question, a little historic perspective and a lot of Biblical discernment is required. Since its founding in 1948, Israel has been surrounded by hostile Arab nations on every side. Many of them have declared the extermination of Israel to be their highest priority. That level of animosity led to four major wars — in 1948, 1956, 1967 and 1973. Time and time again, Israel has fought against a coalition of enemy nations with vastly superior numbers and resources. But in every war, Israel has emerged victorious.

God promised to preserve and protect the Jewish people once they were resettled in their ancient homeland. He said Israel would be “like a firepot among pieces of wood and a flaming torch among sheaves” (Zechariah 12:6), meaning that they would exhibit great military prowess above their enemies.

Those prophecies have proven true. The Israeli Defense Force (IDF) is respected by friend and foe alike. This superiority has forced Israel to direct an extraordinary portion of its national budget toward intelligence and defense.

Ever since oil became the lifeblood of the world economy, successive American administrations have been ensnared in the political morass of the Middle East. Recognizing that a cold peace beats a hot war, various Presidents have attempted to facilitate peace between Israel and its neighbors — typically by pressuring Israel to make concessions.

Thus, Egypt entered into a peace accord in 1979 in exchange for a return of the Sinai Peninsula. Jordan signed an accord in 1994 when Israel guaranteed Jordanian oversight of Jerusalem’s Muslim holy sites. And in 2005 the US pressured Israel into turning Gaza over to Palestinian leaders controlled by Hamas.

The crux of all those peace negotiations and accords — the prize that every belligerent remains fixated upon — is the Land. Since Israel’s inception, Arab nations on every side have expressed outrage that a Jewish state exists right in their midst. To



September 15, 2020 — Left to right: UAE Minister of Foreign Affairs, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, President Trump and the Bahrain Minister of Foreign Affairs. (Official White House Photo by Shealah Craighead.)

this day Palestinian leaders reject Israel and claim that there was never a Jewish presence in Palestine prior to 1948. Overriding all of that, the city of Jerusalem — cherished by Jew, Muslim, and Christian alike — has been the grandest prize of all.

Spiritual Perspective

Underlying all of the acrimony is a satanic hatred of the Jews. And this remains very much alive in the “Arab Street” (the mob of citizens that underlies the official Arab governments). When Bill Clinton pressured Ehud Barak in 2000 to offer Yassar Arafat everything he was demanding, Arafat rejected even “the offer he couldn’t refuse.” The reason was two-fold: first, he was consumed with hate and did not really want peace; and second, he had stoked hatred in Palestinian hearts to the point that he knew he would be destroyed if he made peace with the Jews.

I witnessed the irrational hatred that holds sway over this region firsthand in 2003. During the war with Iraq, I flew missions throughout the Arab world. At one stopover, I had the opportunity to engage with officers from an allied Arab air force. They asked my opinion of the 9/11 attacks in America, then immediately blamed Israel. Sadly, they consistently reinforced each other’s anti-Semitic paranoia and tried to outdo one another with bolder and bolder anti-Israel sentiments.

The Abraham Accords

Golda Meier once said, “Peace will come when the Arabs will love their children more than they hate us.” Given this dynamic, it is no wonder that true Middle East peace has remained so elusive. And yet, it is the golden ring of American foreign policy. So it comes as no surprise that “deal-maker” Donald Trump waded into this diplomatic swamp.

With that background established, what are the Abraham Accords? In short, they “normalize” relations between the UAE and Bahrain with the state of Israel. That is diplomat-speak stating that they will now engage with one another economically and otherwise.

These two tiny nations are among the richest in the region. Fueled by petro-dollars, they have the highest standard of living and are arguably the most open to Western visitors and ideas. It was not a very heavy lift for them to want to benefit from Israel’s growing economic clout.

As these agreements were announced, the only question of

land acknowledged publicly was an agreement by the Israeli Government to temporarily suspend the annexation of West Bank territory.

An Unbalanced Threat from the East

The greater impetus for this agreement is not so much the



Ayatollah Ali Khamenei
(October 14, 2019)

elephant in the room but the tiger on the other side of the Persian Gulf—namely, Iran. Since Iraq was defanged as both a threat and a regional counterbalance by America, Iran has emerged as the looming menace in the Middle East. The Ayatollahs and radicalized Muslims ruling Iran want to destabilize neighboring countries and solidify Arab hatred of Israel. Their motivation is an extremist worldview based on a Shiite interpretation of Islam.

Ironically, many observers note that Shiite and Sunni Muslims hate each other even more that they hate the Jews. So Sunni Arab nations are applying realpolitik to their diplomatic calculations. Applying an old Arab proverb (“The enemy of my enemy is my friend”), they see Israel as the best regional counterbalance to Iran’s growing power.

Iran understands this — as do other regional players. Under the Trump Administration, the US has welcomed this new Middle East détente and is grateful for a growing coalition of nations united against Iran.

A Dangerous Middle East Coalition



Presidents Hassan Rouhani of Iran, Vladimir Putin of Russia and Tayyip Erdogan of Turkey pose before their meeting in Ankara, Turkey on April 4, 2018. These leaders represent the nations that will be at the core of the Gog & Magog Alliance that will attack Israel in the end times. (www.universaltvsomali.net)

Lurking in the background of this diplomatic breakthrough is a growing threat on Israel’s northern border with Syria. Turkish Prime Minister Erdogan has blended radical Islamist ideology with a cult of personality, turning his nation against Israel. And it has joined with Russia to establish a presence in Syria.

Students of Bible Prophecy recognize the significance of Russia allying with Turkey, Iran, Libya and eventually Sudan. That axis power described in Ezekiel 38 will eventually launch the War of Gog and Magog and invade Israel for the purpose of

seizing spoil and plunder (Ezekiel 38:10-12).

As Amir Tsarfati, an Israeli intelligence officer and Bible prophecy teacher said during a *Christ in Prophecy* TV interview, while there is not yet an “Aha” moment with regard to Bible Prophecy, all the pieces are falling in place for these end times wars to occur. The satanic hatred of some, and the political manipulations of others, will bring about circumstances that will ultimately fulfill God’s prophetic word.

How Peace Accords Can Endanger Peace

These supposed peace accords will create a shadow of darkness that will deepen and grow. Iran will become more fervent in stirring the pot with Hamas and Hezbollah. Coupled with Palestinian recognition that they are being abandoned by their former Arab benefactors, this will lead to desperate measures by Israel’s closest enemies. With Hamas, Hezbollah, the Palestinians and terrorist groups like the Muslim Brotherhood fomenting hatred and swaying the official policy of the Psalm 83 nations, a prophetic war may soon come to pass:

... behold, Your enemies make an uproar, and those who hate You have exalted themselves. They make shrewd plans against Your people, and conspire together against Your treasured ones. They have said, “Come, and let us wipe them out as a nation, that the name of Israel be remembered no more.” (Psalm 83:2-4)

If that reads like a policy decree by Hamas, Hezbollah, or the gangsters who run the Palestinian Authority, it is because hatred already consumes their heart and motivates their actions. These “peace treaties” will only inflame them more. Emboldened by Iran, they will lash out in a war of extermination against Israel. The result will be another overwhelming victory for the Jewish nation — so much so that it will expand its territory and begin to believe itself secure from proximate threats. And that is where Ezekiel 38 comes into play.

Those with biblical discernment realize that true and lasting peace will not be achieved on the earth — in the Middle East or elsewhere — until the Prince of Peace reigns from Mount Zion in Jerusalem. Until then, real peace will remain elusive. The words of the prophet Jeremiah to ancient Jerusalem will still apply as politicians pronounce, “ ‘Peace, peace,’ but there is no peace” (Jeremiah 6:14).

A Concluding Thought for Peace Seekers

Likewise, as lawlessness mounts in the world, peace will remain elusive for every person who turns away from God. Apart from Him you will never find peace.

But there is a way to be at peace — with God and on earth (Luke 2:14). Jesus offers this sure promise to all who put their trust in Him:

Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. (Matthew 11:28-29) ❖

Why Isn't There a Palestinian State?

David Brog

(Editor's note: The author is an American attorney and political writer. He is the former Executive Director of Christians United for Israel, and currently serves as the Executive Director of the Maccabee Task Force which was created in 2015 to combat the spread of anti-Semitism. This article is the transcript of a video presentation he made for Prager University and is presented here with their approval.)

If Israel just allowed the Palestinians to have a state of their own, there would be peace in the Middle East, right? That's what you hear from UN ambassadors, European diplomats and most college professors.

But what if I told you that Israel has already offered the Palestinians a state of their own — and not just once, but on five separate occasions?



David Brog

Don't believe me? Let's review the record.

First Rejection in 1937

After the breakup of the Ottoman Empire following World War I, Britain took control of most of the Middle East, including the area that constitutes modern Israel.

Seventeen years later, in 1936, the Arabs rebelled against the British, and against their Jewish neighbors. The British formed a task force — the Peel Commission — to study the cause of the rebellion. The commission concluded that the reason for the violence was that two peoples — Jews and Arabs — wanted to govern the same land.

The answer, the Peel Commission concluded, would be to create two independent states — one for the Jews, and one for the Arabs. A two-state solution. The suggested split was heavily in favor of the Arabs. The British offered them 80 percent of the disputed territory; the Jews, the remaining 20 percent. Yet, despite the tiny size of their proposed state, the Jews voted to accept this offer. But the Arabs rejected it and resumed their violent rebellion.

Second Rejection in 1947

Ten years later, in 1947, the British asked the United Nations to find a new solution to the continuing tensions. Like the Peel Commission, the UN decided that the best way to resolve the conflict was to divide the land.

On November 7, 1947, the UN voted to create two states. Again, the Jews accepted the offer. And again, the Arabs rejected it, only this time, they did so by launching an all-out war.

Jordan, Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon and Syria joined the conflict. But they failed. Israel won the war, and got on with the business of building a new nation. Most of the land set aside by the UN for an Arab state — the West Bank and east Jerusalem — became occupied territory; occupied not by Israel, but by Jordan.

Third Rejection in 1967

Twenty years later, in 1967, the Arabs, led this time by Egypt and joined by Syria and Jordan, once again sought to destroy the Jewish State.

The 1967 conflict, known as the Six Day War, ended in a stunning victory for Israel. Jerusalem and the West Bank, as well as the area known as the Gaza Strip, fell into Israel's hands. The government split over what to do with this new territory. Half wanted to return the West Bank to Jordan and Gaza to Egypt in exchange for peace. The other half wanted to give it to the region's Arabs, who had begun referring to themselves as the Palestinians, in the hope that they would ultimately build their own state there.

Neither initiative got very far. A few months later, the Arab League met in Sudan and issued its infamous "Three No's:" No peace with Israel. No recognition of Israel. No negotiations with Israel. Again, a two-state solution was dismissed by the Arabs.

Fourth Rejection in 2000

In 2000, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak met at Camp David with Palestinian Liberation Organization Chairman Yasser Arafat to conclude a new two-state plan. Barak offered Arafat a Palestinian state in all of Gaza and 94% of the West Bank with East Jerusalem as its capital. But the Palestinian leader rejected the offer. In the words of US President Bill Clinton, Arafat was "Here 14 days and said 'no' to everything."

Instead, the Palestinians launched a bloody wave of suicide bombings that killed over 1,000 Israelis and maimed thousands more — on buses, in wedding halls, and in pizza parlors.

Fifth Rejection in 2008

In 2008, Israel tried yet again. Prime Minister Ehud Olmert went even further than Ehud Barak had, expanding the peace offer to include additional land to sweeten the deal. Like his predecessor, the new Palestinian leader, Mahmoud Abbas, turned the deal down.

In between these last two Israeli offers, Israel unilaterally left Gaza, giving the Palestinians complete control there. Instead of developing this territory for the good of its citizens, the Palestinians turned Gaza into a terrorist base, from which they have fired thousands of rockets into Israel.

Each time Israel has agreed to a Palestinian state, the Palestinians have rejected the offer, often violently.

So, if you're interested in peace in the Middle East, maybe the answer is not to pressure Israel to make yet another offer of a state to the Palestinians. Maybe the answer is to pressure the Palestinians to finally accept the existence of a Jewish State. ✪

Editor's note: Israel's most famous diplomat, Abba Eban (1915-2002), once said, "The Palestinians have never missed an opportunity to miss an opportunity."

America 1950 vs. America 2020

Michael Snyder

(Economic Collapse Blog September 16, 2020)

If you could go back to 1950, would you do it? There would be no Internet, no cellphones and you would only be able to watch television in black and white. But even though they lacked many of our modern conveniences, people genuinely seemed to be much happier back then.

Families actually ate dinner together, neighbors knew and cared about one another, and being an “American” truly meant something.

Today, we like to think that we are so much more “advanced” than they were back then, but the truth is that our society is in the process of falling apart all around us. Could it be possible that we could learn some important lessons by looking back at how Americans lived 70 years ago?

Of course there has never been any era in our history when everything has been perfect. But without a doubt, things are vastly different today than they were back in 1950.

In 1950, *Texaco Star Theatre*, *The Lone Ranger* and *Hopalong Cassidy* were some of the most popular shows that Americans watched on television. In 2020, a Netflix film entitled “Cuties” was so trashy and so disgusting that four states sent a letter to Netflix asking for it to be removed because it is “fodder for those with criminal imaginations, serving to normalize the view that children are sexual beings.”

In 1950, television networks would not even show husbands and wives in bed together. In 2020, “adult websites” got more traffic than Netflix, Amazon and Twitter combined.

In 1950, people would greet one another as they walked down the street. In 2020, Americans were too enamored with their cellphones to be bothered with actual human contact.

In 1950, gum chewing and talking in class were two of the major disciplinary problems in our schools. In 2020, kids were literally gunning down police officers in the streets.

In 1950, people would make an effort to dress up and look nice when they would go out in public. By 2020, most of the population had become utter slobs, and “People of Walmart” had become one of our most popular memes.

In 1950, a lot of people would leave their homes and their vehicles unlocked because crime rates were so low. In 2020, many that lived in urban areas were deathly afraid of all the civil unrest that had erupted, and gun sales soared to all-time record highs.

In 1950, Americans actually attempted to parent their children.



Michael Snyder

In 2020, we pumped our kids full of mind-altering drugs and we let our televisions and our video games raise our children.

In 1950, Baltimore was one of the most beautiful and most prosperous cities on the entire planet. In 2020, Baltimore regularly made headlines because of all the murders that were constantly occurring. Of course the exact same thing could be said about many of our other major cities.

In 1950, 78 percent of all households in America contained a married couple. In 2020, that figure fell below 50 percent.

In 1950, about 5 percent of all babies in the United States were born to unmarried parents. In 2020, about 40 percent of all babies in the United States were born to unmarried parents.

In 1950, new churches were regularly being opened all over the United States. In 2020, one out of every five churches in the U.S. were forced to shut their doors.

In 1950, children would go outside and play when they got home from school. In 2020, our parks and our playgrounds were virtually empty and we have the highest childhood obesity rate in the industrialized world.

In 1950, front porches were community gathering areas, and people would regularly have their neighbors over for dinner. In 2020, many of us didn’t know our neighbors at all, and the average American watched more than five hours of television a day.

In 1950, the very first credit card was issued in the United States. In 2020, Americans owed more than 930 billion dollars on their credit cards.

In 1950, one income could support an entire middle class household. In 2020, tens of millions of Americans lost their jobs and filed for unemployment, and more than half of all households in some of our largest cities were facing serious financial problems.

In 1950, Socialists and Communists were considered to be our greatest national enemies. In 2020, our politicians in Washington were eagerly embracing Socialist and Communist policy goals.

In 1950, the U.S. Constitution was deeply loved and highly revered. In 2020, anyone who actually admitted to being a “Constitutionalist” was considered to be a potential domestic terrorist.

In 1950, the United States loaned more money to the rest of the world than anybody else. In 2020, the United States ended up owing more money to the rest of the world than anybody else.

In 1950, the total U.S. national debt reached the 257 billion dollar mark. In 2020, we added 864 billion dollars to the national debt in the month of June alone. In other words, we added over three times more to the national debt in that one month than the total amount of debt that had been accumulated from the founding of our nation all the way to 1950.

In 1950, most Americans were generally happy with their lives. In 2020, the suicide rate was at an all-time record high, and it has been rising every single year since 2007. ❖

The Antichrist Cycle

Dr. Robin Schumacher



Robin Schumacher

(Editor's note: The author is the vice president of product management for Embarcadero Technologies, a leading supplier of database software tools. He is also a columnist for *The Christian Post*, and he also writes for CARM and Got Questions.com. He has an M.A. degree in Apologetics from Southern Evangelical Seminary in North Carolina, and a Ph.D. in New Testament from Greenwich School of Theology in the United Kingdom. This article appeared in *The Christian Post* on August 31, 2020 [www.christianpost.com] and is reprinted with permission.)

In his book, *How Should We Then Live?*, Francis Schaeffer describes the background and culture that brought about the totalitarian rule of the Caesars this way:

Before the days of Caesar, the Senate could not keep order. Armed gangs terrorized the city of Rome and the normal processes of government were disrupted as rivals fought for power. Self-interest became more significant than social interest, however sophisticated the trappings. Thus, in desperation the people accepted authoritarian government.

Sound familiar?

In America, we're now seeing a near-complete breakdown of law and order that differs from past episodes in at least two ways. First, historically, criminals used to at least acknowledge they were committing moral wrongs, but not today. Witness the recent example of the looting and property damage that totaled \$60 million in Chicago in just one night, and rather than being decried, it was brazenly supported by groups who called it "reparations."

Secondly, in many cases, the prosecutors and politicians who have been appointed to maintain civil peace are cowardly bowing to the mobs and — in an unprecedented fashion — choosing to keep the criminals safe from us instead of keeping us safe from the criminals.

In short, the same type of anarchy that ancient Rome experienced is occurring today. And like back then, such uproar will produce desperation in a population who, hoping to re-establish peace, will cede their freedoms to an authoritarian ruler who appears on the surface to give them what they want.

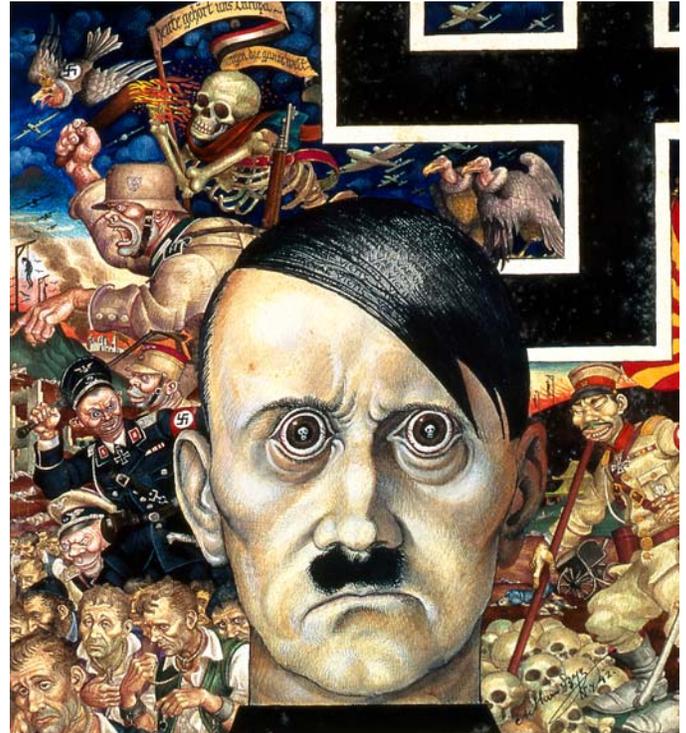
But the Church won't bow the knee, right? Don't be so sure. Remember that even the bishops of the Russian Orthodox Church rejoiced at the elevation of Stalin to the role of Premier of the Soviet Union and saw it as a good and providential act of

God that would result in peace and prosperity for their country. How wrong they were.

Sadly, history shows this cycle repeats time and again. It's also how the Bible says the ultimate and final dictator will one day take control. ✚

The Spirit of Antichrist

Dr. David R. Reagan



"Antichrist" (1942) by Arthur Szyk

I believe the Antichrist will be a very handsome and charming man who will have a charismatic personality. But in reality, he will be evil incarnated because he will be possessed by Satan.

In 1942, the Polish artist, Arthur Szyk (1894-1951) painted a picture of Hitler that he titled "Antichrist." He was not claiming that Hitler was the Antichrist. Rather, his point was that Hitler embodied the evil of the Antichrist to come.

Szyk (pronounced Sike) was a Jew who fled his Polish homeland in 1937 to escape Jewish persecution. He first moved to England, and then in 1940, he came to the United States where he lived the rest of his life. He became a US citizen in 1948.

Before coming to America, he had established himself as a world renowned book illustrator. In the 1930s, he produced a series of 38 paintings depicting the events of the American Revolutionary War, called, "Washington and His Times." He considered his *magnum opus* to be 48 paintings about the Exodus, which he titled, "Haggadah."

During World War II, he focused on producing political paintings that depicted the horrors of German and Japanese Fascism. ✚

Uncertain Times? Not At All!

Jan Markell



Jan Markell

So many write me expressing shock, and even horror, at the tide of our times in 2020. They see America crumbling under the weight of sin, debt, violence, immorality, and strong delusion. Right is wrong, black is white, evil is good, and good is evil.

We Are In the Center of the Storm

People of faith are in the bulls-eye so to speak!

Churches are inconvenient. The remnant of true believers is growing smaller while the Laodicea churches are mushrooming! Many churches said they would not re-open until 2021!

Many don't even know how to think about the future much less plan for it. People write about "uncertainty". Will things get worse? Probably. How can we plan ahead if the turmoil is going to continue?

A Word Fitly Spoken

A pastor sent me this e-mail:

We don't live in uncertain times. Not at all! These times are as certain as any time in all of human history, and the God of the universe laid out this time in great detail, point by point, and in fact, with all the detail needed by His people, to live in times of absolute certainty! So no, there's nothing uncertain about the times we live in to the believer who is seeking to live by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.

It's All Aligning

He is right! The Bible outlined all the "things to come" in great detail and they are shaping up:

- Global government has to form and it is in the process. All governments will become more authoritarian along the way! With the new CDC report that just 6% of Covid deaths are directly attributed to the virus, the "pandemic" was but the crisis the globalists couldn't let go to waste.
- God is sending a final warning to a sinful world.
- For the Church, God is shaking us up, trying to wake us up so that we will look up! There is Tribulation stage-setting going on such as today's lawlessness — a precursor of what is to come when the Church is gone.

- We are in the predicted last days' perilous times (2 Timothy 3).
- America is going to lose international power so that the European power player can arise.
- Politics are important but they won't save America. Government will be quite dysfunctional until Jesus rules from Jerusalem. Only a nation "under God" can be blessed and we have one political party that is at war with God. They want government to be god.
- There are terrible consequences when a nation goes astray and succumbs to a Romans 1 mentality. The Church is still here to put a lid on total chaos and some delusion as well. Just wait until we are gone.

Are the Pulpits Still Silent?

I have referenced an April LifeWay poll before but it takes on even more meaning now. It revealed that a "vast majority of pastors see end times in our current events." Are they talking about this from their pulpits and re-assuring their people? I do not think so.

Are they sharing about our glorious future, giving assurance to people? How about talking about the "blessed hope" now that hope in the world is fading?

I am not optimistic that they are! Rather, are they telling people that they can have their best life now? Hasn't that all been proven to be a lie? Are they giving some end-time warnings?

A whopping 97% of those polled by LifeWay Research believe Jesus Christ will literally and personally return to earth again and 55% expect Jesus to return in their lifetime. This makes for tremendous sermon material! It also calms the mind and soul in troubled times.

Pastors, please don't be silent! Some people are losing things precious to them: businesses, jobs, even lives or the lives of loved ones. Depression and suicides are at all-time highs.

The Most Certain Times in All of Human History!

Are pastors, then, re-assuring their people as my pastor friend did? Let me quote him again. He said, "We don't live in uncertain times. Not at all! These times are as certain as any time in all of human history, and the God of the universe has laid out this time in great detail . . ."

A secular talk show host said that "A blanket of darkness has been thrown over us." But the believer cannot and must not think that way! An opportunity has been handed to us! Desperate people are more inclined to listen.

Things really aren't falling apart. In fact, they are orchestrated. To suggest something is falling apart is to say they are out of God's control. Nothing could be further from the truth as it concerns the last days. It's just that your average Christian does not know the road map through the final days even though the Bible spends almost one-third of its pages talking about them!

In fact, everything is falling into place. Stay cool. Look up. The King is coming. It may be today! And you can't throw a blanket of darkness over anyone with an eternal perspective. ❖

Suddenly! “In the Twinkling of An Eye”

Jan Markell

For you yourselves know that the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night. While they are saying, “Peace and safety!” then sudden destruction will come upon them like labor pains upon a women with child, and they will not escape.

1 Thessalonians 5:2-3

Last days’ events are prophesied to happen quickly. Even suddenly. The word “quickly” (Greek word: *tachos*) is used eight times in Revelation. Think of an automobile tachometer which measures the working speed of an engine typically in revolutions per minute. And it revs up.

We often see sudden destruction falling upon the wicked in the Bible. The unrepentant living during Noah’s time, experienced a sudden and catastrophic flood (Genesis 6-9). They had 120 years to repent as Noah preached to them, but they chose to ignore him and judgment suddenly fell (Genesis 6:3-7).



(shutterstock.com)

Did you notice that in 2020, everything seemed to happen suddenly?

- Our fairly ordinary world suddenly vanished.
- Stores sold out suddenly.
- Fear gripped America — and the world — suddenly.
- People were ordered to suddenly and totally change their lifestyles.
- People lost lifetime businesses suddenly.
- A U.S. President went from popular to “the cause of it all” — suddenly.
- Reality became surreal suddenly.
- Cities turned into ghost towns suddenly.



(Pinterest.com)

- Mankind became lovers of self, treacherous, and without self-control suddenly.
- Cries for global government arose suddenly, as if only a one-world system could slow down the wreckage.
- Virtual became the new way of doing all things suddenly.
- The U.S. economy went from best ever to horrible suddenly.
- Church went from essential to irrelevant in the eyes of the world suddenly.
- Hollywood suddenly stopped making sick movies as theaters suddenly closed.
- Order turned to chaos suddenly with racial tension.
- That tension suddenly turned to lawlessness.
- Lawlessness turned to anarchy suddenly.
- The cry for police protection suddenly turned to “abolish the police.”
- Common sense simply turned suddenly to strong delusion.

Is there a message in all of this? Something else will happen suddenly — the Rapture of the Church. It will take place in “the twinkling of an eye.” That is so fast it can hardly even be measured.

When God begins to move, He doesn’t waste a moment. But He does take time to warn before He judges. And He seems to be telling us that things are going to change for Eternity suddenly — via the Rapture of the Church.

I am awaiting His return. *Maranatha!* ❖

Jan Markell is the founder and spokesperson for Olive Tree Ministries located in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area of Minnesota. Her weekly radio program, “Understanding the Times,” is carried on more than 800 stations nationwide. The website address of the ministry is <https://olivetreeviews.org>.

Racing towards Gomorrah in 2020

John Pototschnik



John Pototschnik

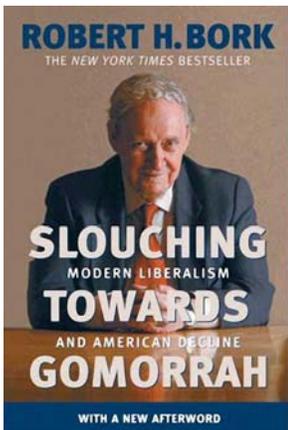
Emeritus member of the Outdoor Painters Society. This article was dated July 5, 2020. His website can be found at www.pototschnik.com.)

Hearing the occasional solitary crack of a fire cracker in our neighborhood and the cancellation of so many 4th of July celebrations across America in 2020, sadly, seemed quite appropriate and errily symbolic.

It was very difficult, and actually felt hypocritical, to be celebrating America's independence when every year we surrender more and more of it to a tyrannical government that continues to take, while at the same time telling us it is for our "good" — after all, they are protecting our "rights" and securing our "welfare," "prosperity" and "freedom."

Don't think this is a condemnation of one political party, for they are both irrefutably corrupt and have been for many, many years. We, the American people are responsible for whom we put in office, and we get the leaders we deserve, because much of our culture, like our leaders, is irrefutably corrupt.

A Prophetic Secular Book



Robert Bork, in his 1996 book *Slouching Toward Gomorrah*, defines "culture" as referring to all human behavior and institutions, including popular entertainment, art, religion, education, scholarship, economic activity, science, technology, law and morality. "Of that list, only science, technology, and the economy may be said to be healthy today." Now 24 years later, even those have been corrupted.

"John, you're so negative!"

Yes, I would agree when it comes to the condition of our country. I consider myself a realist, viewing the world, as best I can, as



Robert Bork was an American judge, government official and legal scholar who served as the Solicitor General of the United States from 1973 to 1977. A professor at Yale Law School by occupation, he later served as a judge on the influential U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit from 1982 to 1988. President Reagan nominated Bork to the Supreme Court in 1987, precipitating a hotly contested Senate debate led by Joe Biden, who was chairman of the Judiciary Committee. The attacks on Bork were so vicious, that they led to the coining of a new word, "Borked," meaning character assassination. (Photo from the Associated Press by Charles Tasnadi.)

God views it — and not as Man proclaims it to be. Positive thinking of itself changes nothing; it can easily be a substitute for a denial of reality. Positive thinking is only of value if it leads to positive action and change. I have lived long enough now to remember the days when I would have gasped and been terribly embarrassed by the things typically seen and heard today, and yet, ashamedly now, they are accepted as part of everyday life.

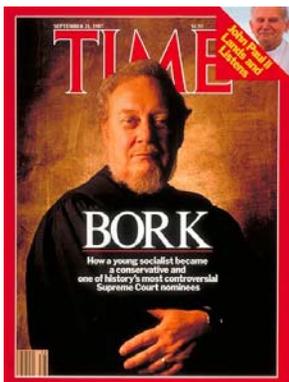
Bork continues, "Improbable as it may seem, science and technology themselves are increasingly under attack, and it seems highly unlikely that a vigorous economy can be sustained in an enfeebled, hedonistic culture, particularly when that culture distorts incentives by increasingly rejecting personal achievement as the criterion for the distribution of rewards.

Bork further observed: "With each new evidence of deterioration, we lament for a moment, and then become accustomed to it. We hear one day of the latest rap song calling for killing policemen or the sexual mutilation of women; the next, of coercive left-wing political indoctrination at a prestigious university; then of the latest homicide figures for New York City, Los Angeles or the District of Columbia; of the collapse of the criminal justice system, which displays an inability to punish adequately and, often enough, an inability even to convict the clearly guilty; of the rising rate of illegitimate births; the uninhibited display of sexuality and the popularization of violence in our entertainment; worsening racial tensions; the angry activists of feminism, homosexuality, environmentalism, animal rights — the list could be extended almost indefinitely."

Bork continued: “So unrelenting is the assault on our sensibilities that many of us grow numb, finding resignation to be the rational, adaptive response to an environment (culture) that is increasingly polluted and apparently beyond our control.”

Conclusions

Arriving at this point in our history did not occur overnight, for there are forces of evil continually at work in the hearts of men. By not resisting the evil tendencies of one’s sinful nature, righteousness wanes while wickedness expands in the human heart, and all of society suffers. The very nature of immorality is to always expand, never being satisfied with just a little. The rejection of God and His immutable Word, have led to a decline in morality, increased lawlessness, more government and dependence upon it, followed by less liberty, and eventually total enslavement.



Is there any hope? Yes, of course there is, but only if there is a nationwide repentance and a turning away from our many sins, and in humility seeking God’s mercy and forgiveness. Make no mistake, I am not talking about just any “god”, but only the God of the Bible who revealed Himself to us through His Son, Jesus Christ.

And, if we don’t . . .

Proverbs 1:28-33:

“They will seek me diligently but they will not find me, because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the Lord. They would not accept my counsel, they spurned all my reproof. So they shall eat of the fruit of their own way and be satiated with their own devices, for the waywardness of the naive will kill them, and the complacency of fools will destroy them. But he who listens to Me shall live securely and will be at ease from the dread of evil.”

Romans 1:28-32:

“And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper, being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice; they are gossips, slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful; and although they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them.”

I pray that God will pour out His Spirit upon us and as a nation we will turn to Him in humility and true repentance. Please join me in that prayer.

Let’s not forget from Whom our blessings as a Nation come. They do not come from man or government. Neither has the right to take them away. They are from God alone, and to Him belongs all praise and glory. ❖

Do Black Lives Matter?

Dr. David R. Reagan

Absolutely! And so do Blue Lives. And so do Baby Lives in the womb.

The police of this nation are what stands between responsible citizens and the barbarians. The idea of defunding the police or declaring open war on them is insanity.

Even worse is the slaughter of babies in the wombs of their mothers. Since the 1973 Supreme Court decision of Roe v Wade, which legalized the killing of babies in the womb, between 63 to 65 million abortions have occurred in our nation. Think about that number for a moment. Let it sink in.

Let’s try to put it into perspective. That number represents the total population of 21 of our states: Utah, Iowa, Nevada, Arkansas, Mississippi, Kansas, New Mexico, Nebraska, West Virginia, Idaho, Hawaii, New Hampshire, Maine, Montana, Rhode Island, Delaware, South Dakota, North Dakota, Alaska, Vermont and Wyoming.

Or consider how the number of babies we have killed relates to the number of Americans killed in our major wars:

The War	Dates	Combat Deaths	Total Deaths
Revolutionary War	1775-83	8,000	25,000
War of 1812	1812-15	2,260	15,000
Mexican-American	1846-49	1,753	13,283
Civil War	1861-65	214,938	635,000
World War I	1917-18	53,402	116,516
World War II	1941-45	291,557	405,399
Korean War	1950-53	33,186	36,516
Vietnam War	1956-75	47,424	58,209
Afghanistan War	2001-	1,833	2,216
Iraq War	2003-11	3,836	4,497
Totals		656,689	1,331,636

The total abortion statistics of 63 to 65 million babies include only surgical and medical abortions. These numbers do not include the babies killed by chemical abortions. Pharmacy experts estimate that 14 million chemical abortions occur in the United States every year!

It should also be noted that the largest percentage of abortions in our nation each year (38%) result in the death of Black babies. Do Black lives really matter?

We as a nation have the blood of the innocent on our hands. And the blood of those aborted babies is crying out to God for revenge.

We are currently witnessing that revenge in the form of God’s abandonment wrath, as He is in the process of turning our nation over to depraved minds (Romans 1:28).

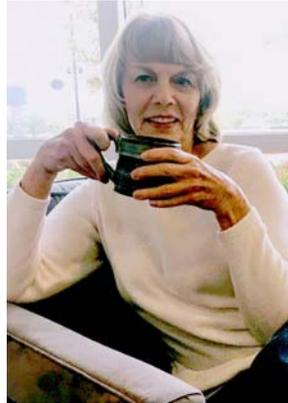
I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. So choose life in order that you may live, you and your descendants . . . (Deuteronomy 30:19) ❖

A Prophetic Poet

Dr. David R. Reagan

Leslie Kay Hedger is a gifted poet with a prophetic heart. She writes powerfully and with great insight about the sins of our nation and the need for us to repent.

In 1994 we published a book of her poems under the title, *The Parched Soul of America* (the book is no longer in print). The book was sub-titled, *A Poet's View of Our National Decay*. Needless to say, since that time, the decay has degenerated into rottenness to the core. Below are some examples of Kay's poems written almost 30 years ago.



Leslie Kay Hedger

Statism

Our Father
 which art the State
 Blessed be Thy provision

Thy will be imposed
 upon the will of The People
 in each State
 as it is in Washington

Give us each day
 permission to exist
 and forgive us our longings
 for freedoms lost
 and our reluctance to relinquish
 our children to Socialism

Lead us not into poverty
 but deliver us from Capitalism
 for by the State we are begotten
 For the State we are preserved
 Through the State we are made
 complete

Parched Soul

Like a wanderer in the desert
 the soul of America
 dies from thirst
 for the Word of God

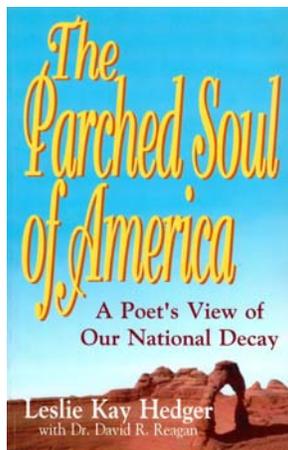
She longs for just one drink
 from the stream of living water
 just one glimpse
 of the Word of life

Lost in the wilderness
 of willful pride
 She has forgotten
 to whom she belongs

Fatal Resistance

Bacteria that defies
 all known treatment
 creates a medical disaster
 of global proportion
 and ushers in a post-antibiotic era

Leading scientific authorities
 are incapable of helping
 a people
 who stubbornly refuse
 to fear God



Moral Decay

Glamorized prostitution
 Legitimized perversion
 Accepted adultery
 Dignified divorce

Aggrandized violence
 Exalted crime
 Obligated illegitimacy
 Approved terror

Protected obscenity
 Glorified rape
 Endorsed abortion
 Fostered drug dependency

While adults indulge the flesh
 Children are taken captive to lust
 While the church compromises
 with immorality
 Vulgarians direct the future

Reaping the Whirlwind

Finding their security
 in external influences
 citizens celebrate "Earth Day"
 and worship a "Nature"
 that has turned against them
 – the result
 of sowing to the wind –

Adulterated Church

Helpless to overcome
 her addiction to idols
 she pursues her lovers
 like a prostitute for hire
 enticing them to her bed
 of adultery with the world
 and conceives the illegitimate child
 of a demonized culture

Decomposed Standards of Conduct

Ethical acceptance
 of euthanasia
 Gender selection
 pregnancy termination
 A relative standard
 for absolute infanticide

"Death with dignity"
 assisted suicide
 The Hippocratic Oath betrayed
 by doctors of impunity

An epidemic of perversion
 a politically protected disease
 The willful disposal of life
 by scavengers of greed

How Not to Interpret Bible Prophecy

Dr. David R. Reagan

One of our Prophecy Partners recently sent me a copy of a book about Revelation that was written by Dr. Dan Boone, who is President of Trevecca Nazarene University in Nashville, Tennessee. The Prophecy Partner is a member of the Nazarene Church, and he was very upset that a Nazarene leader would author a book that would provide such an “erroneous interpretation of God’s Word.”

The book is a brief one of only 141 pages. It is very well written. The author has an easy-to-understand style that is captivating, and he has an imaginative way with words, as when he sums up the book at the end by writing, “The Alpha has run the alphabet of time and arrived at the Omega” (page 117).

Throughout the book’s 22 very brief chapters, the author comes up with highly imaginative chapter titles that draw you into the chapters like a magnet: “The ‘D’ Word,” “Trouble on the Yellow Brick Road,” “B.J.’s Song” and “Messing with God.”

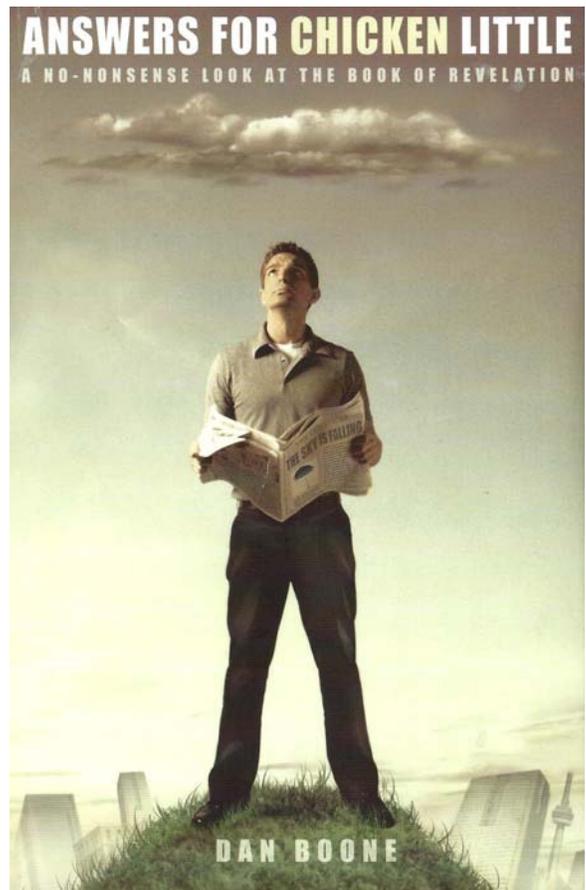
Unfortunately, the content of the book is a disaster. It spiritualizes the book of Revelation from start to finish. In fact, the theme of the book is, “Revelation never means what it says.” After all, it’s apocalyptic!

So is the book of Zechariah, and yet all the First Coming prophecies in it were fulfilled literally. If so, then why wouldn’t the Second Coming prophecies be fulfilled in their plain sense meaning?

Even worse — and bordering on the blasphemous — Dr. Boone argues that “John [the Apostle] follows the pattern of apocalyptic literature by writing as if he were living in an earlier time and detailing current events as if they were the prophesied future” (page 85). Astounding! Do you understand what he is saying? He is arguing that John wrote about current events in his time as if they were future. In other words, John is deceiving the reader into believing that he is writing prophecy, when he is really writing history. This allegation alone is sufficient to justify tossing this book into the trash can.

But there are other significant problems:

- Despite the fact that the book of Revelation claims to be prophecy (Revelation 1:3), the author says it was a message intended specifically only for the seven churches of Asia Minor (modern day Turkey).
- The 21 judgments of Revelation that are poured out on the world are interpreted to be descriptions of the trials and tribulations that believers have encountered throughout history and still do today.
- The only prophetic significance of Revelation, according to the author, is the assurance that believers will triumph in the end.
- All references to Israel and the Jews are really references



to the Church because the Church has replaced Israel.

- The author contends that to attribute the judgments of Revelation to God, makes God a monster. Instead, he asserts, “We ought not make God responsible for the evil we ourselves are doing” (page 12).
- Numbers in Revelation never mean what they say. Instead, they are always symbolic.

Let’s take an in-depth look at an example of this last point. Revelation chapter 20 says six times that the Lord is going to return to this earth to reign for a thousand years, but according to Dr. Boone, it really does not mean what it says. Rather, the number just means that God is in charge! And how does he come to that conclusion? Put on your seat belt because his argument is going to jolt you (page 112):

One thousand is 10 x 10 x 10. This is 10 multiplied by itself three times [Duh!]. Three is the number that represents God. Ten is the number for power and sovereignty. If you do the word math, you come up with God x God x God = God to the max. He has established His sovereign rule. God is totally in charge.

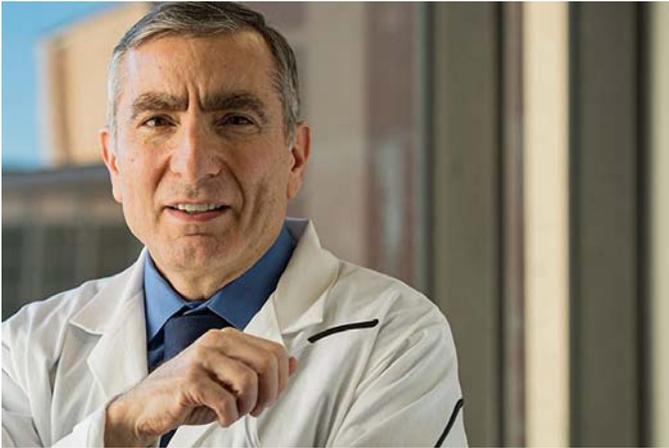
This kind of interpretation is right out of *Alice in Wonderland*.

This book is a classic expression of the Amillennial viewpoint that denies that Jesus will ever return to reign on this earth, and therefore, Bible prophecy does not mean what it says.

Don’t waste your time with this gobbledygook! ❖

A Suprising Testimony

Dr. James Tour



(www.educatetruth.com)

(Editor's note: *Israel Today* magazine recently featured an amazing story about a world famous scientist named James Tour. Professor Tour is Professor of Materials Science, NanoEngineering and Computer Science at Rice University in Houston, Texas. Dr. Tour is considered to be one of the world's top synthetic organic chemists. He has authored more than 700 scientific papers and holds more than 120 patents. In 2013, he was named "Scientist of the Year" by *R&D Magazine*. In 2014, the Canadian Corporation, Thomson Reuters, named him one of "The World's Most Influential Scientific Minds," and in 2018 the Philadelphia based company, Clarivate Analytics, recognized him as one of the world's most highly cited researchers. In 2019, he was invited to speak to Israel's largest Orthodox Jewish university, Bar Ilan, located in a Tel Aviv suburb. His topic was "Nanotechnology Affecting Our World." After presenting his scientific paper, to everyone's surprise, he suddenly launched into a presentation about his religious faith. What he shared proved to be astounding.)

So, I want to tell you my story. . . I will tell you what caused me, a Jew born in New York, to make the [faith] decisions that I made. What is it that drove me to this? And what happened in my own life? I don't know all about these philosophical things, and theoretical issues. I can only tell you what happened in my own life.

A Casual Conversation

In 1977 I enrolled in Syracuse University. I was doing laundry in August of that year, and I was talking to a young man in the laundry room. I knew he was on the Syracuse football team, so, I said, "Do you want to play football when you graduate?" He said, "Oh no, I'm not good enough for that. I can't play pro-ball." So, I said, "Well, what do you want to do?" He said, "Maybe lay ministry." I didn't know what "lay ministry" was. So, I asked, "What's that?" He said, "Well, sort of like a missionary."

I thought, "Missionary? This is 1977, we don't need missionaries, we've got TV. TV can go anywhere. Why do we

need missionaries?" He said, "Do you mind if I give you an illustration of the Gospel?" And this is exactly what he told me. And you'll see how this just pierced me because of moral issues in my life.

A Startling Revelation

He began by reading me a verse from Romans 3:23 that said, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." And I looked at him and I said, "I'm not a sinner."

Now, I don't know what your background is, but in modern secular Judaism, at least at our home in New York, we didn't talk about sin . . . and God was never really talked about very much, except in synagogue, a couple of times a year. So, I said, "How can I be a sinner? I've never robbed a bank, and I've never killed anyone. How could I be a sinner?"

Then he read another verse. "But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart." Pow! This hit me much worse than it would just a typical 18-year-old, and I'll tell you why. Since the age of 14, I had been addicted to pornography. I worked in a gas station on the Hutchinson River Parkway going into New York City. I told the owner I was 16, but I was only 14, so I wasn't supposed to be working there but they didn't check papers in those days. He was glad to get someone to clean the parking lots.

The traveling salesman would throw away their [salacious] magazines on the way home on Friday night. I cleaned the parking lots, so I got all those magazines. And I got addicted to pornography. Long before the days of the internet. I didn't think anybody knew. So, when I read that verse, the Man from 2,000 years before called me out. And it just hit me. Of all verses from the Bible for him to read to me!

A Grim Realization

That was the first day in my life that I realized that I was a sinner. Something happened to me. And then he had me read a few more verses, this is just a couple of them. "For by grace you have been saved, through faith, that not of yourselves, it is a gift of God, not as a result of works so that no one may boast."

He said, "People try lots of good works to get them to God. But you'll never get to God that way. It will never be sufficient. God is holy, we are not." And then another verse: "But God demonstrates His own love toward us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us." I had never heard this before.

At the elementary school that I went to, everybody was originally Jewish, until they started busing in the African-Americans from the project. So, I thought you were either Jewish or you were Black, and that's it. I mean this is what a cloistered Jewish community that I had been raised in. I didn't even know there was this claim on the table [about sinners].

Then he described how Jesus would provide the way to God. "That if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." I thought, "How can anyone believe in a physical resurrection? And how, believing this, will it get me to God?"

A Glorious Encounter

And then came the night of November 7, 1977. I was all alone in room 1812 of the Lawrinson Dormitory on the Syracuse

University Campus. My roommate wasn't there. I got down on my knees. And I don't know why I did that because Jews that I knew stood when they prayed and Christians sat when they prayed. And I said, "Lord, I am a sinner. Forgive me. Forgive me and come into my life. Forgive me Lord."

And all of a sudden this peace began to fill the room, and this burden of sin that I felt I had been carrying just began to lift off. And all of a sudden I sensed that someone was in my room. I opened my eyes to see who it was, and I didn't see anybody. But the presence of God had so filled my room, I just started weeping, weeping uncontrollably, which was very unusual for me. I didn't know what to say. I didn't know what to do. I just enjoyed God's presence for a while. And I didn't tell anybody.

Follow-up Questions

Two weeks later the guy who had shared with me, asked, "Jim, did you receive Jesus in your heart?" I said, "You know, I think so. But I don't know. And why do you ask?" He said, "You haven't stopped smiling for weeks."

I remember asking, "How can I remain close to God?" He said, "I've asked people who have stayed close to God their whole lives, 'Do you read your Bible every day?' And they say, 'Yes.' And then I've asked other people who seem to drift away, and it has no impact on their life, 'Do you read your Bible every day?' They say, 'No.'"

I said, "That I can do" . . . And I started a practice shortly after that of reading the Bible from beginning to end, and when I'm done, I start again. I'm in no hurry. I just say, "Lord, speak to me in the passage that I am in today. Speak to me."

Summing It Up

So, here's a summary: "For the grace of God has appeared bringing salvation to all men, instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires." You see, He doesn't leave us in our immorality. He instructs us "to deny ungodliness and worldly desires, and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age — looking for the Blessed Hope in the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Christ Jesus, who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed. And to purify for Himself a people for His own possession zealous for good deeds." He draws us to these good deeds.

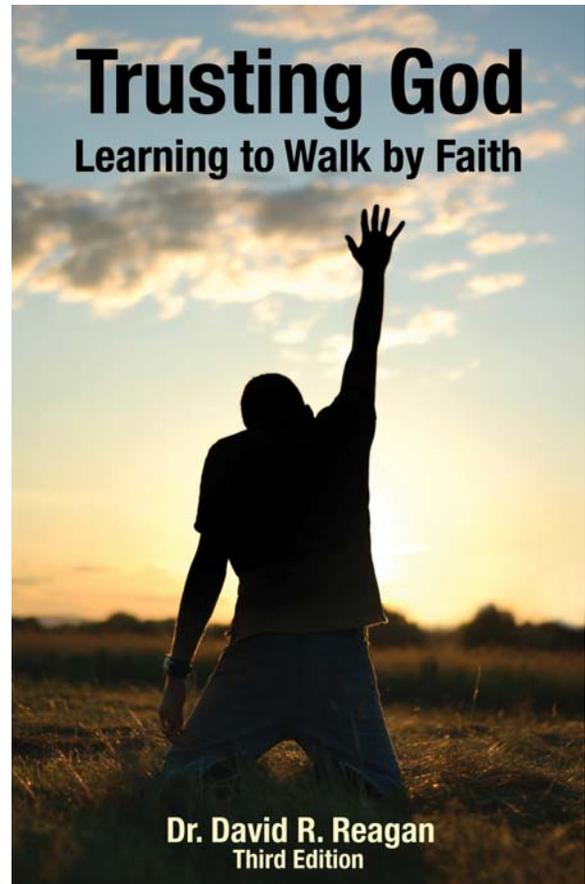
I'm going to leave you with this verse from Ecclesiastes chapter 12, "The conclusion when all has been heard is: fear God, and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person. For God will bring every act to judgement, everything which is hidden, whether it is good or evil."

This applies to every person. To every person, this applies to him or to her. God will bring every act to judgment. But the whole idea behind this is that if you want morality; you've got to get God. Trying to do this on your own is defeating — you'll be defeated.

What happened to me that night on November 7, 1977 is that something changed inside of me, and I've never been the same. That's my story. Thank you. ✨

Another Testimony

Dr. David R. Reagan



The first book I wrote was published in 1987, the seventh year of this ministry. It was not specifically about Bible prophecy. Rather, it was my personal story about what I had learned about walking by faith.

When I began Lamb & Lion Ministries in 1980, I had preached and taught a lot about faith, but I had never done anything by faith. When I stepped out in faith, giving up my 20 year academic career to become a full time Christian evangelist, I was consumed with fearful questions. How would I make a living? Would any churches invite me to speak? Things were not made easier by friends who asked me, "Have you lost your mind?"

Over the next six years, I learned the hard way how to totally trust the Lord and live by faith. It was not easy, but I found it to be exhilarating.

This book is now in its third edition and still going strong. In it, I use anecdotes to teach the principles of living by faith. The most common response I get is, "You had me laughing on one page and crying on the next."

God has used this book to help many people to take steps of faith in their lives, and I am thankful for that. Is God calling you to do something by faith? Are you scared? Try this book.

The book runs 333 pages and sells for \$20, including the cost of shipping. To order, call our office Monday thru Friday from 8am to 5pm (972-736-3567). ✨

Thoughts

Come Jesus Come!

A Song by Stephen McWhirter

Sometimes I fall to my knees and pray,
“Come Jesus come, let today be the day.”
Sometimes I feel like I’m gonna break,
But I’m holding on to a hope that won’t fade.

Chorus:

Come Jesus come,
We’ve been waiting so long for the day You return
To heal every hurt and right every wrong.
We need you right now – come and turn this around.
Deep down I know this world isn’t home.
Come Jesus come, come Jesus come!

There’ll be no war, and there’ll be no chains
When Jesus comes – let today be the day.
He’ll come for the weak and the strong just the same,
And all will believe in the power of His name.

One day He’ll come, And we’ll stand face to face.
Come and lay it all down, ‘cause it might be today.
The time is right now – there’s no need to wait.
Your past will be washed by rivers of grace.

(You can find a great rendition of this song on YouTube at www.youtube.com/watch?v=UViC6DIIcEa&feature=youtu.be)

Prayer —

A prayer by a Puritan minister from the 1600s:

Thou God of all grace,
Thou hast given me a Savior.
Produce in me a faith to live by Him,
To make Him
 all my desire
 all my hope
 all my glory.

May Thy dear Son preserve me from
This present evil world,
 so that its smiles never allure,
 nor its frowns terrify,
 nor its vices defile,
 nor its errors delude me.

Source: “Insight from an Old Prayer” by Dr. Randy Guliuzza, published in *Acts & Facts*, the magazine of The Institute for Creation Research, August 2020.

Quick Quotes —

“Relying on God has to begin all over again every day as if nothing had yet been done.” — C. S. Lewis (1898-1963)

“Prayers, like eggs, don’t hatch as soon as we lay them.” — Catherine Marshall (1914-1983)

“We are at the end of the beginning of the end times, and one of the surest signs is that moral depravity has become a legal right. But the greatest sign is what happened on May 14, 1948.” — Barry Stagner, pastor of Calvary Chapel in Tustin, CA.

Forgiveness —

Thoughts by Glenn Meredith, pastor of the Brookhaven Church in McKinney, Texas:

“Unforgiveness is like a spiritual infection that sets up in wounds inflicted by others.”

“Forgiveness is something we have to give away by grace to people who do not deserve it.”

“You do not have to live as a professional victim because God can heal your wound.”

“Forgiveness is not pretending the affront never happened or minimizing it. When someone sins against you, they owe you a debt that is real. They owe an apology or restoration. Thus, true forgiveness says that person owes me nothing. The debt is forgiven and forgotten.”

“If you wait for someone to deserve forgiveness, you will never forgive. The debt they owe must be cancelled as an act of grace — giving them something they do not deserve and may not have even asked for.”

“God does not forgive us because we earn it or deserve it. He does it for Jesus’ sake.”

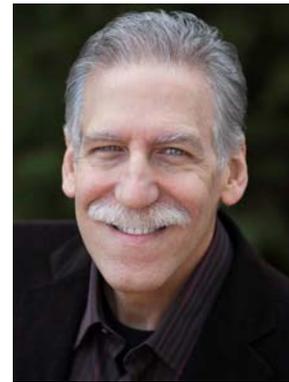
Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

(Ephesians 4:31-32)



Glenn Meredith

Reaping the Whirlwind —



Michael Brown

From an article by the Messianic Jewish commentator, Dr. Michael Brown, in response to a Barna poll pointing to a dramatic drop in biblical beliefs among American Pentecostals and Charismatics:

“In times past, we preached that sinners were wretched and that grace was amazing. Today we tell sinners they are amazing, making grace a needless afterthought.

In times past, we preached a gospel of salvation. Today, we preach a gospel of self-improvement.

In times past, we preached death to the flesh, death to self and death to sin, pointing to a brand new life in and under Jesus. Today, we preach that Jesus came so you could fulfill your dreams, that He came to make you into a bigger and better you.

We used to preach the gospel of self-denial. Today, we preach the gospel of self-realization.

We are reaping what we have sown.” ❖

Cultural Insanity —

In a recent poll by a First Amendment advocacy group, it was revealed that 51% of Americans believe the First Amendment is “outdated and should be rewritten.” Almost half (48%) said they think “hate speech” should be illegal and punishable by prison time. And, of course, “hate speech” would be anything they disagree with!

Facebook recently shutdown a social media group called “500 Mom Strong” because it expressed opposition to drag queen story hours at public libraries.

Last year a transsexual man ran as a woman for the Republican nomination for sheriff of a county in New Hampshire. He/she won the nomination despite the fact that she billed herself as “a transsexual Satanist anarchist,” whose campaign slogan was “F*** the Police.”

Last year the city of Seattle hired a Black Lives Matter activist and convicted ex-pimp to be its “Street Czar” at the rate of \$12,500 a month. He was given the responsibility of coming up with “alternative policing.”

California has adopted transgender reforms into law. Including allowing biological males who identify as female to be placed in women’s prisons. Also, state revenue will be used for gender-transition drugs and surgeries.

Dictionary.com has announced that it is removing the words homosexual and homosexuality from its dictionary because they have become hate words used by heterosexuals.

The Netherlands Supreme Court ruled last year that a doctor who euthanized an elderly patient with dementia against her expressed wishes and while her family forcibly restrained her was innocent of any wrongdoing.

New York State is now allowing minors to change their birth certificates if they self-identify as having a gender other than their biological sex.

A flier distributed among teachers in Ontario, Canada, advertised an “inclusiveness training” session regarding LGGBDTTIIQQ AAPP. This abbreviation was explained to represent “Lesbian, Gay, Genderqueer, Bisexual, Demisexual, Transgender, Transsexual, Twospirit, Intersex, Queer, Questioning, Asexual, Allies, Pansexual and Polyamorous.”

When Facebook went gender crazy, they originally offered 50 gender options, but later expanded the choices to a total of 71.

Amazon.com recently sent out a questionnaire. At the end, there were two optional questions: Age and “Current Gender.”

Last summer, *The New York Times* reported that the city of Somerville, Massachusetts decided to broaden its definition of domestic partnership to include relationships between three or more adults, expanding access to health care. In 2015, the Messianic Jewish commentator, Dr. Michael Brown, wrote, “Perhaps we should change the wedding vows to sound more like this: ‘I take you as my wife, but probably not for life. I take you as my own, but not just you alone. I pledge myself to you, and perhaps to others too. I take you as my bride, although your name is Clyde.’”



Apostasy —

There are many super-liberal Christian denominations today, like the Disciples of Christ and the United Church of Christ, but it seems like the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ECLA) is trying to outdistance them all in its effort to throw the Bible to the wind.

For example, in the ECLA healthcare plan, funds are provided for abortions for any reason. And those abortions are paid for with dollars donated by church members. The ECLA ordains homosexuals and transgenders as pastors. The ECLA convention passed an interfaith resolution last year that stated they did not know what God thinks of non-Christian religions. During the debate, one of the delegates pointed out that the Scriptures make it clear what God thinks about non-Christian religions, because in John 14:6, Jesus is recorded saying that He is the only way to salvation. The delegate’s amendment was voted down by 97 percent. The ECLA is currently promoting prayer to “Our Mother who is within us.”

The Danish Bible Society, which is run by the Evangelical Lutheran Church, recently published a new Bible called “The Bible 2020.” Its distinctive feature is that in the New Testament, it replaces or even ignores the word, “Israel,” 73 times, whether referring to the land or the people. Rabbi Tuly Weisz of Columbus, Ohio denounced this new translation as an obvious exercise in Replacement Theology. He dismissed the translation as ludicrous with this statement: “The notion that Israel can be scrubbed from the Bible is as ridiculous as removing ‘God’ from the Bible.” Fortunately, this perverted Bible is available only in the Danish language — at least for the moment.

Christian Discrimination & Persecution —

A colonel in the US Army who was serving as a chaplain sent out an email message urging his fellow chaplains to read Pastor John Piper’s book, “Coronavirus and Christ.” The Military Religious Freedom Foundation (which fights all vestiges of Christian expression in the military), together with 22 chaplains, demanded that the officer be court-martialed for daring to recommend a book with a biblical message!

Last summer the US Supreme Court ruled 5-4 that a draconian Nevada rule was constitutional that limited churches to only 50 attendees, while casinos, restaurants and entertainment parks were allowed up to 50% capacity. Incredibly, Chief Justice John Roberts voted with the liberals against the churches. Justices Alito, Thomas and Kavanaugh joined in a strong dissent in which they said, “The Constitution guarantees the free exercise of religion. It says nothing about freedom to play craps or blackjack, to feed tokens into a slot machine, or to engage in any other game of chance . . .”

In 1988, Billy Graham gave a nonpartisan prayer at the Democratic National Convention, and it was received respectfully and without controversy. Last August his son, Franklin, said a nonpartisan prayer on the closing night of the Republican National Convention, and Democrats went ballistic, demanding that he be removed as chairman and CEO of the charitable organization, Samaritan’s Purse, for making a “partisan appearance.” ❖

Television

Variety of New Programs

We were recently blessed with the opportunity to interview Amir Tsarfati who was on a speaking tour at churches across our nation. Colonel Tim Moore interviewed him for our TV program and Nathan Jones shot several brief interviews with him for our Prophetic Perspectives series that is posted on our website.

Amir is a native of Israel and serves as a major in the IDF Reserve. He has been a tour guide for the past 20 years. In 2001 he founded a ministry called “Behold Israel,” which provides worldwide real-time access to reliable sources of news and information about Israel from within the context of Bible history and prophecy.

Additionally, we have recently recorded TV programs with Mike Riddle about the errors of Evolution and a program with Mike Mossburg about our nation’s need for hope. And Tim Moore has been busy traveling around the nation shooting interviews with the prophetic voices featured in Dr. Reagan’s book, *God’s Prophetic Voices to America*.



Tim Moore with Amir Tsarfati

Nathan Jones and his assistant, Steven Stufflebean, recently completed the production of their 100th Prophetic Perspectives program. This is a new form of outreach that we began back in late March in response to the pandemic. At first, they focused on brief messages from our staff members and persons visiting to record TV programs. But now, they are featuring more and more interviews by Zoom with people all over our nation. ❖



The 100th Prophetic Perspective video featured Dr. Reagan talking about the Middle East myth that Israel will not allow the creation of a Palestinian state.

Television Broadcast Schedule

National Networks (6):

Daystar — Wed. 6:00pm CT, DirecTV 369, Dish 263, cable, broadcast stations, satellites and web streaming (daystar.com).

Word — Tues. 12:30pm CT, DirecTV 373, Cable, AT&T U-verse, cable, satellites and web streaming (thewordnetwork.org).

CTN — Wed. & Fri. 12:30pm CT, DirecTV 376, Dish 267 and web streaming (ctnonline.com).

GodTV — Thurs. 8:30am CT, DirecTV 365 and web streaming (god.tv).

NRB — Sun. 4:00pm CT, DirecTV 378 and web streaming (nrbtv.org).

TCT — Sun. 7:30pm CT, DirecTV 377, ten broadcast stations in the Midwest, and web streaming (tct.tv). **Note: TCT recently expanded their outreach considerably by adding nine stations, which cover more than 2.65 million TV households.**

Regional Networks & Area Stations (6):

Arkansas

VTN (The Victory Television Network) — Covering the state of Arkansas, Sun. at 10:00pm, Tues. 9:30am and Sat. at 2:30pm CT (vtntv.com).

Kentucky

WBNA — Louisville, Sun. 8:30am ET, channel 21 (wbna21.com).

Louisiana

FVN — Southern Louisiana broadcast stations and cable, Sun. 12:30am, Mon. 8:30am, and Wed. 7:00pm CT (familyvisiontv.com).

Texas

CFNT — Wichita Falls, Fri. 3:00pm CT (cfnt.org).

KDAF — Dallas/Ft. Worth, Sun. 8:00am CT, channel 33 (cw33.com).

KSCE — El Paso, Sun. 10:30am MT, DirecTV & Dish Local 38, AT&T U-verse 38 (ksctv.com).

Internet Networks (9):

Lamb & Lion — lamblion.com

HisChannel — hischannel.com

YouTube — youtube.com/user/ChristinProphecy

GodTube — godtube.com

Truli — truli.com

Vimeo — vimeo.com

DailyMotion — dailymotion.com/us

Roku — roku.com

FaithXtreme — faithxtremetv.com (Australia) ❖

A Plea: Our greatest need is for additional Prophecy Partners. Our Prophecy Partners pledge to pray for us regularly and to provide a donation of \$25 per month or more. It is through their spiritual and financial support that we are able to sustain our very expensive television outreach. The expansion of our Prophecy Partner base is the key to expanding our TV broadcast. Please pray about becoming one of our partners. Thanks! ❖

Annual Conference



Colonel Tim Moore

Scripture tells us that “God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God . . .” (Romans 8:28).

2020 was a year that allowed Christians to flex their faith and build their trust in God and His promises. So, while we were disappointed to have to cancel our 2020 annual conference, we launched new avenues for outreach like our Prophetic Perspective videos and a host of new Christ in Prophecy television episodes. We also have been working on some exciting new opportunities for 2021.

Lamb & Lion Ministries is planning a very exciting one-day 2021 Bible Conference on Saturday, July 17th in the Allen/Plano, Texas area. Our theme will be “The Power of Prophecy — A Voice Crying in the Wilderness.”

A tremendous lineup of speakers including Dr. David Reagan, Bob Russell, Alan Franklin, Nathan Jones and myself will offer a powerful look at the visions God proclaimed through His prophets.

Bob Russell is the former pastor of one of America’s largest churches. He now serves as a Christian columnist and evangelist. Alan Franklin is a Christian journalist from London, England who is an expert of the European Union.

As with all meetings hosted by Lamb & Lion, the focus will be on Jesus Christ and His soon return.

Because this will be Dr. Reagan’s last conference, we will also take the opportunity to recognize and honor his many years of faithful service as our Founder, Director and Senior Evangelist. At the conclusion of the conference, we will host a retirement reception in honor of this gifted proclaimer of God’s prophetic Word.

Registration on the Christ in Prophecy website will open on March 1st. There will be a nominal registration fee to cover the administrative costs. Stay tuned for specific venue information and other details.

You will not want to miss this conference. Mark the date on your calendar: **July 17, 2021.** ❖

Ministry News

Schedule for 2021 —

Note: At this point in time, anything scheduled for 2021 is subject to cancellation due to the pandemic.

January:

Cornerstone Christian Church in Dallas, Texas on the 17th, Dave Reagan.

March:

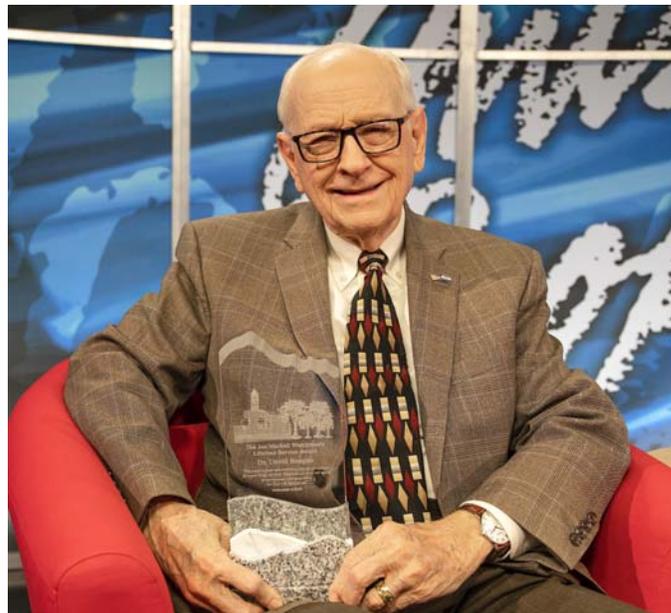
Steeling the Mind Conference in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho on the 13th, Dave Reagan.

April:

Newberry Church of Christ in Williamsport, Pennsylvania on the 11th & 12th, Dave Reagan.

Prophecy Conference sponsored by Jeff Kinley and Todd Hampson in Branson, Missouri, the 15th thru the 18th, Dave Reagan.

Special Award —



Our founder, Dr. David Reagan recently received the Jan Markell Watchman’s Award that is given annually to a Bible prophecy spokesperson by the “I Am A Watchman Ministry.” The first award was granted in 2019 to Jan Markell, and the award is named after her. Dave is the second recipient of the award.

Dr. Reagan thanked Scott Townsend, the founder and director of the “I Am A Watchman Ministry,” which you can find on the Internet at <https://iamawatchman.com>. The award has two verses etched on it from Nehemiah 4:19-20. Those verses contain a statement by Nehemiah to watchmen whom he stationed on the walls of Jerusalem. In the statement he assured them that “God will fight for us.”

Dave stressed that the award was not just for him but also for the trustees, staff members and prophecy partners who have ministered along with him over the past 40 years. ❖

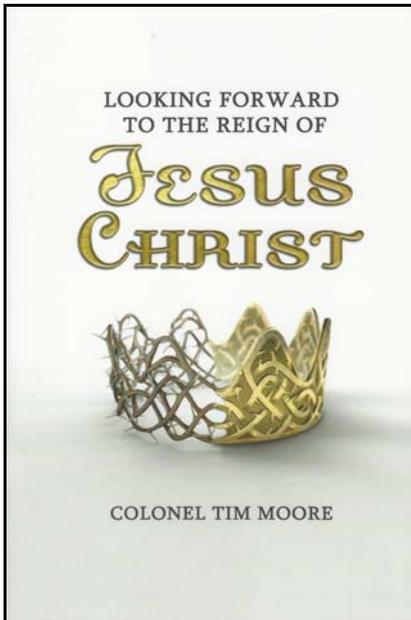


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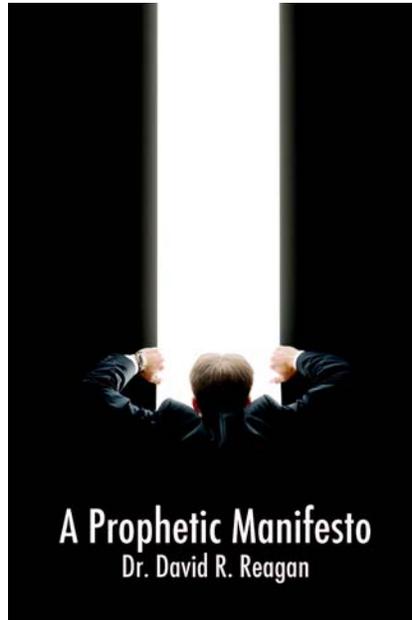
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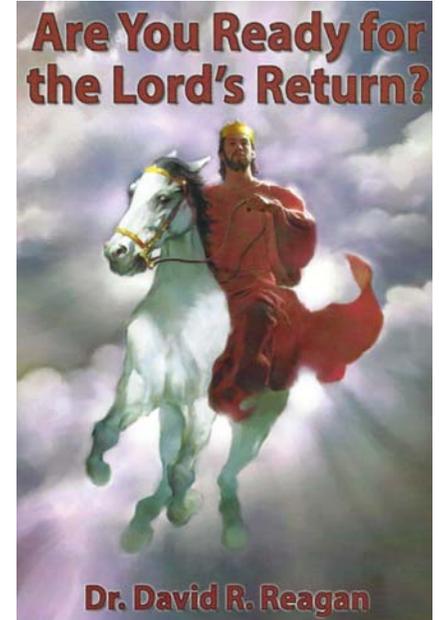
Special Offer on Three of the Ministry's Booklets



A new 48 page booklet by Col. Tim Moore about why he believes the end-time interpretation of Bible prophecy called Premillennialism. In the process, he reveals the serious errors of the majority view in Christendom that is called Amillennialism — the view that denies that Jesus will ever return to this earth to reign. Tim presents irrefutable biblical evidence that Jesus is going to return to Jerusalem to reign over all the world for 1,000 years, and he explains why this rule is necessary.



A 40 page hard-hitting booklet in which Dr. Reagan proclaims the death of America due to the decay of society and growing apostasy in the Church. He also presents evidence that we are living in the season of the Lord's return. He pleads for unbelievers to receive Jesus now before it is too late. He also presents a plea for believers to commit their lives to holiness and evangelism. Over 100,000 copies of this booklet have been distributed worldwide.



A brief 16 page witnessing booklet for both unbelievers and for those professing Christians who have never been born again. Dr. Reagan points out that most professing Christians today are really what might be called, "Cultural Christians." In other words, they are Christians in name only who think they are saved because they were born into a Christian family or because they go to church occasionally or because they have experienced some Christian rite like baptism.

You can purchase any of the above booklets for \$5 each, including the cost of shipping, or you can order all three for \$10, including shipping. To order, call 972-736-3567 between 8am and 5pm Central time or place your order through our website at www.lamblion.com. To order all three, request offer # 962.