

The background of the entire page is a stylized, textured American flag. The stars are in the upper left corner, and the stripes run diagonally across the page. The colors are slightly muted and the texture is grainy, giving it a vintage or worn appearance.

# LAMPLIGHTER

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

Vol. XL

September 2019 October

No. 5

**ICHABOD!**  
**The Glory is Departing**





# Observations by the Editor

## Our Transition

Dr. David R. Reagan



Dr. David Reagan & Col. Tim Moore

The previous issue of this magazine contained the announcement that the Board of Trustees of this ministry has selected and called a successor to me — Colonel Tim Moore who has been serving this ministry part time for six years as an Associate Evangelist.

The reaction to that announcement has been overwhelmingly positive. Many people have taken the time to send cards, letters and email messages to thank me for my service and to congratulate Tim on his selection as my successor.

### Misunderstandings

A few of the responses have reflected misunderstandings. For example, some people have expressed disappointment that they would never again see me on our TV program. I appreciate this sentiment, but it overlooks two facts. First, the transition is a slow-motion one and will not take full effect until September of 2021. I will continue to host our TV program until that time. Second, even after that, I will occasionally appear on the program as, for example, whenever the ministry publishes a new book of mine. So, I am not simply going to disappear from the scene overnight.

Another misunderstanding has come in the form of people expressing concern over the grief I must be experiencing over surrendering the leadership of the ministry. Again, I appreciate the sentiment, but it is sorely misplaced. I feel no grief at all. In fact, I am elated over the transition. I am praising God daily for raising up such an exceptional successor as Tim Moore.

### The Nature of the Ministry

Keep in mind that this has never been my ministry. It was incorporated as a non-profit corporation in the name of the Board of Trustees, not my name. Accordingly, it was named Lamb & Lion Ministries and not Dave Reagan Ministries.

I have always been under the authority of our Board of Trustees, and it has always been my hope that if the Rapture did not occur while I was heading up the ministry, the Board would be able to find

a suitable successor for me when the proper time came.

I informed the Board about two years ago that it was my desire to step aside from the leadership position on April 1, 2020, which will be the 40th anniversary of the ministry. (I will be 81 years old at that time.) Because Tim has a commitment he cannot wrap up until the summer of 2021, the target date had to be revised to September 2021.

### Concerning Retirement

Another misunderstanding relates to my “retirement.” A few folks have let me know that retirement from ministry is not scriptural. Well, in the first place, that simply is not true. In Old Testament times, the Levitical priests who started serving at the age of 25 were required to retire at age 50, which was an old age at that time, when life expectancy was about 35 years (Numbers 8:24-25).

But the fact of the matter is that I am not retiring! I am only stepping aside from the leadership of the ministry. I plan to move my office to my home where I will focus on writing books and articles for this magazine.

I will no longer serve on the ministry’s Board, nor will I participate in any leadership decisions. I will also stop representing the ministry in speaking engagements. But, I will continue as a part-time staff member focusing on writing.

Please pray for the transition to be a smooth one. And pray especially for Colonel Tim Moore as he assumes greater and greater responsibility during the transition process. Thanks! ✚

Note: The cover photograph was supplied by iStock images at [www.istockphoto.com](http://www.istockphoto.com).

## The Lamplighter

is published bi-monthly  
by Lamb & Lion Ministries

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# The Glory is Departing

**Colonel Tim Moore**  
**Lamb & Lion Associate Evangelist**

The writer of Ecclesiastes tells us that “there is nothing new under the sun.” Some interpret that to mean the more things change the more they stay the same. Others simply assert that although technology and what passes for knowledge has changed, the heart of man has not changed. The Bible proves time and again the truth of the great hymn: “Prone to wander, Lord I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.”

Sadly, that truth does not just relate to individuals, it relates to peoples and nations as well. Kingdoms, city-states, and nations rise and fall. There is yet to be a nation under heaven that has not wandered away from the very God who has poured out blessing upon it. Some have been characterized by faithfulness to biblical Christianity — at least in cultural mores. But, the societies that once reverberated with Christian truth throughout the Western world have succumbed to a post-Christian ambivalence toward truth itself.

How did the West stray so far, and is there hope for America, teetering on the brink of that same fate?

## **Biblical Examples**

We can learn much from the example of Israel and Judah. Made up of God’s own Chosen People, those nations were destined for greatness. Their people were blessed as no other nation, raised up literally to bear testimony to what a relationship with the living God could mean. Long before America sang of God’s grace being shed on our land, His unmerited favor fell on the Jewish people. He did not choose them because they were more worthy. Moses made it clear that He did not even choose them because they were mighty in number, but rather because of God’s love and grace (Deuteronomy 7:6-8).

Did the Jewish people appreciate the singular privilege of such a blessing? Did they revere the God who poured out such blessings? Clearly not. That is why the Lord repeatedly sent prophets to warn, to call to repentance and to declare judgment.

Consider the situation in Israel immediately following the period of the Judges. The book of that name tells us repeatedly that “in those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes” (Judges 21:25). There were a few individuals who lived upright and exemplary lives. Ruth tells of one such man named Boaz, who foreshadowed his descendant who would become the ultimate kinsman-redeemer. But, First Samuel describes a people who were generally going through motions rather than seeking hard after the Lord. Even the priests and religious leaders had grown apathetic toward God.

## **Spiritual Corruption**

The text tells about the worthless sons of Eli — Hophni and Phinehas. Although serving as priests of the Lord, they did not know Him. Their disdain for God and self-serving interaction with the people was well-known. Eli recognized their evil ways — from helping themselves to the sacrifices dedicated to the Lord to sexually cavorting with women at the very doorway of the tent of meeting. And yet, he did not take action to hold his own sons accountable and ensure reverence before God.

In 1 Samuel 4, the people found themselves drawn up in battle against their ongoing foe, the Philistines. After straying from God under the errant spiritual leadership of men like Hophni and Phinehas, Israel found itself defeated. The Israelites expressed complete surprise, exclaiming, “Why has the LORD defeated us today before the Philistines?” (v. 3). Their solution was to trot out the Ark of the Covenant, presuming upon the Lord’s protection. In other words, although their hearts were clearly far from Him, the Israelites looked to their god-in-a-box as the ultimate weapon or the surest talisman.

## **Viewing God as a Good-Luck Charm**

How many people today wear a cross necklace or WWJD bracelet or some other such bobble, not to shamelessly proclaim, “Jesus is Lord,” but because they think God is obligated to shield them from all harm if they just cover themselves in Christian symbols? Sort of like the old horror movies where the vampire could be driven back by a mirror or a cross. But God is not a cosmic good-luck charm to wear when the going gets rough.



Samuel records the results of such callous treatment of God and disrespect of His Shekinah Glory hovering above the Ark's Mercy Seat. To their dismay, Israel was soundly defeated once again and the Ark was captured. On top of that, Hophni and Phinehas — the two men whose position as priests should have given them insight to know better — were killed. When a young man brought news of the tragedy back to Eli, the chief priest of Israel fell over, broke his neck, and died.

The Bible is unflinching in its description of Eli. It says that Eli was very old and could no longer see, and that he was very heavy. It also says that Eli had judged Israel for 40 years. Taken together, it is instructive to consider why those traits are specifically included.



**Eli counseling the young Samuel.**

### **The Symbolism of Eli**

At 98 years old, Eli had clearly lived a long time. He had seen much, stretching back into the period of the Judges. During his lifetime, the Jewish people had established themselves in the land and had been served by a series of judges — men and women who offered unifying leadership.

Eli had seen Israel beset by trials from the very people they were supposed to eliminate from the land. He had witnessed the tribes fracture and drift from their pledge to serve only the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. And, he had served as high priest to the Lord at Shiloh — where the Ark resided in the tent of meeting. It is not unreasonable to think that at 98 years old, Eli should have been at the pinnacle of his priestly wisdom and influence. And yet . . .

He did not effectively intervene to deal with the evil behavior of his sons. He did not counsel the Israelites to seek the Lord

instead of just trotting the Ark out like some holy talisman or charm. In short, other than his wise counsel that young Samuel should respond to the voice he kept hearing by saying, “Speak LORD, for Your servant is listening,” Eli seems to have been ineffectual in his role as judge and high priest. In short, he lacked the wisdom of his own age.

Scripture also says that Eli could no longer see. That is meant as a description of physical limitation, but it seems an obvious commentary on his spiritual state as well. Although he was aware of his sons' wicked behavior, he closed his eyes to it and allowed them to continue their evil ways.

Moses had warned that disobedience to God would lead the Jewish people into spiritual blindness. He wrote, “The LORD will smite you with madness and with blindness and with bewilderment of heart; and you will grope at noon, as the blind man gropes in darkness, and you will not prosper in your ways; but you shall only be oppressed and robbed continually, with none to save you” (Deuteronomy 28:28-29). Even in his old age, Eli had to recognize that Israel had lost its way and become blind under his leadership.

### **Eli's Obesity**

Interestingly, Eli is one of the few characters in the Bible whose girth or weight is deemed worthy of comment. The first was arguably Eglon, king of Moab. Because the sons of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord, God strengthened Eglon to execute judgement. Judges 3 explains that Israel served Eglon for 18 years, until Ehud the Benjaminite struck down Eglon and led Israel to victory and 80 years of peace. The Bible says that Eglon had grown so obese that when Ehud thrust a sword into the Moabite king, his belly fat closed over the blade.

Why is the record of Eli's weight mentioned? Because Eli's weight is also relevant to the story. Upon hearing of the loss of the Ark, Eli fell over backward and broke his neck — “because he was old and heavy.” How does a priest get heavy? It is implied that Eli had followed the self-serving practice of his sons who not only plunged their three-pronged forks into the sacrificial meat, but also demanded uncooked fatty meat. First Samuel 2:17 describes such behavior as despising the offering of the LORD.

None other than celebrity chef Gordon Ramsey has put a culinary twist on the subject, declaring:

I always say, “Never trust a fat chef,” because they've eaten all the good bits! Trust a skinny chef because you know they haven't indulged and eaten everything.

Am I condemning those who tend toward the hefty side today? Not at all. I'm stepping on my own toes even making this observation because I'm already tending to exceed the Air Force weight standards I maintained so carefully for 34 years.

But, in the era in which Eli lived, Israel's economy was driven by agriculture. Most people would have been lean due to a limited diet and tireless work. The picture of a priest who can only be described as heavy is worthy of remark because it offers a contrast. The clear insinuation is that Eli had indeed indulged and eaten himself into obesity — taking advantage of the priestly office he held.

There can be no escaping the fact that America is one of the

most overweight societies in the world. It is as if we have become so accustomed to the bounty of food that we no longer moderate our own intake. As such, the scourge of high blood pressure and heart disease and other weight-related ailments is at an all-time high — and growing every year. And, certainly, that physical description of our society goes hand-in-hand with its increasingly anemic spiritual health.

### A Time of Testing

The last comment on Eli's life was that he judged Israel for 40 years. What an interesting length of time. 40 years or 40 days appears over and over in Scripture. The Bible mentions that specific number 146 times. Moses lived 40 years in Egypt and 40 years in the desert before God called him to service. He spent 40 days on Mount Sinai on two separate occasions and gave the Hebrew spies 40 days to observe the Promised Land. The Jews then wandered in the wilderness for 40 years. Nineveh was given 40 days to repent before destruction fell. And, Jesus was tempted by Satan over a 40-day period.

It has been observed that the number 40 seems to symbolize a time of testing or probation or trial. Obviously, Eli was not the only judge to serve for 40 years (Othniel, Deborah and Barak, and Gideon each judged that long). Saul and David and Solomon also reigned for 40 years each. But, Eli's tenure is marked by a steady decrease in faithfulness and respect for God — as manifested by his own sons. The people of Israel clearly failed that period of probation when they treated the Ark of the Covenant so disdainfully.

### American Parallels



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What application can be made to our society from Eli's tragic end? Eli was old enough to have seen great blessing, and to have known better than to have strayed from truth. The former Speaker of the House of Representatives, Paul Ryan, often declared the United States to be the oldest democracy in the world. Although we could quibble that ours is a republic, the fact remains that our nation is old enough to know how to act better than we do. Instead of statesmen and leaders, we are served by men and women who give lip service to truth but seldom act upon it.

Why did Eli's sons — and Eli himself — stray so badly? It seems that Eli tolerated too much. That was the offense Jesus cited against the church of Thyatira in Revelation 2. How much of America's decline has occurred because Christians have silently tolerated too much?

Regarding sight, Puritan (and later Massachusetts Governor) John Winthrop proposed a society that "shall be as a city upon a



hill, the eyes of all people upon us." And yet, our nation seems to embody the church at Laodicea, to whom Jesus said: "You say, 'I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing,' and yet you do not know that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked" (Revelation 3:17).

Our nation also seems to embody the people Jesus spoke of in Mark 8:18 when He quoted from Jeremiah 5:21: "Now hear this, O foolish and senseless people, who have eyes but do not see; who have ears but do not hear."

And, how much could be written about America's heavy girth? We are one of the most obese nations in the world. How much of our collective and individual bulk reflects a tendency to overindulge — selfishly consuming to an unhealthy extreme? Are we physically or spiritually fit to run a race? Paul admonished the Corinthians (and us, by extension) to run in such a way that they could win (1 Corinthians 9:24-27). Many of us would be hard-pressed to amble for an extended period, let alone sustain the physical and spiritual pace Paul maintained throughout his life as a Christian.

Regarding the 40-year period of Eli's service as judge, I would observe that America has definitely entered an era of steady decline. Our economy is booming, unemployment is at record lows, but most people sense that something is terribly amiss. If the current era represents our time of national testing, or probation, or trial, we are certainly failing. It is obvious that we are demonstrating a steady decrease in respect for God and faithfulness to His Word.

### An Unnamed Voice

There is one other significant player in 1 Samuel 4, although she is never named. Eli's unnamed daughter-in-law understood the gravity of losing the Ark. Upon giving birth to Phinehas' son, she declared that the boy be named Ichabod, saying, "The glory [of the Lord] has departed Israel" (1 Samuel 4:21). Her sadness and despair are palpable.

I am convinced that the glory of God is leaving America. What was once a shining city on a hill has become a twisted



caricature of unholy self-righteousness. Like the ancient Israelites, we think we are immune from harm because we like to think of ourselves as a Christian nation. Would Jesus not say to us as He did the Israel of 2000 years ago, “You hypocrites, rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you: ‘This people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far away from Me’” (Matthew 15:7-8).

### God’s Incredible Patience

Of course, that was not the end of the story for ancient Israel. In God’s good time and because of His graciousness — meaning His willingness to extend unmerited favor, God restored the blessing on Israel and then Judah. Still, time and time again they strayed — until His patience was at an end. He sent prophet after prophet to call the Jews to repent. Jeremiah said it this way (Jeremiah 2:1-13):



- 1) Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying,
- 2) “Go and proclaim in the ears of Jerusalem, saying, ‘Thus says, the LORD, “I remember concerning you the devotion of your youth, the love of your betrothals, your following after Me . . .”
- 4) Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel.
- 5) Thus says the LORD, “What injustice did your fathers find in Me that they went far from Me and walked after emptiness and became empty?
- 6) They did not say, ‘Where is the LORD?’
- 11) Has a nation changed gods when they were not gods? But My people have changed their glory for that which does not profit.
- 12) Be appalled, O heavens, at this, and shudder, be very desolate,” declares the LORD.
- 13) For My people have committed two evils; they have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, to hew for themselves cisterns, broken cisterns that can hold no water.

A sad summary of Judah’s attitude is captured in 2 Chronicles 36:

- 15) And the LORD, the God of their fathers, sent word to them again and again by His messengers, because He had compassion on His people and on His dwelling place;
- 16) but they continually mocked the messengers of God, despised His words, and scoffed at His prophets, until the wrath of the Lord rose against His people, until there was no remedy.

### Our Nation’s Future

David Reagan has long declared that judgment is overdue for America. Many agree. Ruth Bell Graham, convinced that our society was deserving of the wrath of God, said, “If God doesn’t punish America, He’ll have to apologize to Sodom and Gomorrah.”

The question remains whether there is any hope for America. Every indicator screams that we are accelerating our headlong rush away from the living God and into a hellish abyss. Abandoning the God of our fathers, our nation seems determined to embrace the sexual revolution and cast our lot with post-Christian secular Humanism.

If that be the case, our nation will soon join the long line of societies that have been relegated to the dust bin of history. Once vibrant and alive, we are in the process of withering up and becoming just another collection of dry bones in a long, twilit valley.

So, can these bones live?

To cite another prophet’s very wise response when the Lord asked him that exact question, “O Lord God, You know” (Ezekiel 37:3). Indeed He does.

Without a miracle of God, America’s dry bones will not experience another great awakening. The division and rancor within our society are driving us further apart, not together. We are a living fulfillment of Romans 1, and God is undoubtedly giving us over to our own depraved minds (Romans 1:28).

But . . .

Until Jesus Christ calls us to Himself, we must have and share hope, even as we await our Blessed Hope. Many are being deceived. Eventually some will realize that they are wandering in darkness and seek the light. If modern Pontius Pilates ask of us, “what is truth?” we know the Person who is Truth.

Redemption may never come for our nation, but it will come for individuals who put their faith in Jesus Christ. In 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, Paul cites a partial list of the unrighteous acts that can be covered by the blood of Jesus. There is now — and never will be — condemnation for any who are in Christ Jesus. Even as darkness descends and society turns away from Him, the God of Hope offers joy and peace to all who believe in Him by the power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 15:13).

Until He does come, follow Paul’s example. To paraphrase his charge (2 Timothy 4:7-8):

Fight the good fight, finish the course, keep the faith, for in the future there is laid up for you the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to you on that day; and not only to you, but also to all who have loved His appearing.

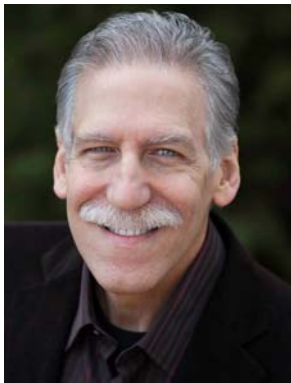
Although Eli’s daughter-in-law saddled her son with the tragic name, Ichabod, it conveyed a tragic truth: the glory of God had departed Israel. We must face a similarly tragic truth today: the glory of God is departing America. But, our hope is not built on the sinking sand of an apostate culture. We can encourage each other because we know that the manifest glory of God is coming again soon in the person of Jesus Christ.

My prayer until He does will remain: Godspeed! ❖

# Is There Any Hope for America?

Dr. David R. Reagan

One of the major prophetic voices that has emerged on the American scene in the past few years is a Messianic Jew by the name of Dr. Michael Brown. He regularly publishes essays in which he speaks out boldly about the rebellion of our nation against God's Word. He also writes insightful essays in defense of the fundamentals of the Christian faith.



Dr. Michael Brown

Dr. Brown, who is 64 years old, is a fascinating personality. He describes himself in his teen years as having been “a heroin-shooting, LSD-using Jewish rock drummer.”

His discovery of God's Word led him to Jesus and a BA degree in Hebrew and an MA and Ph.D in Near Eastern Languages and Literatures. Today he serves as President of the FIRE School of Ministry in Concord, North Carolina. Additionally, he is the host of a daily, nationally syndicated radio program

called, “The Line of Fire.” He also hosts an apologetics television program called “Answering Your Toughest Questions.” His website can be accessed at <https://askdrbrown.org>.

Dr. Brown is the author of more than 30 books. One of his most recent ones is titled, *Saving A Sick America* (Harper Collins, 2017). This is a very thought-provoking book that is well worth reading.

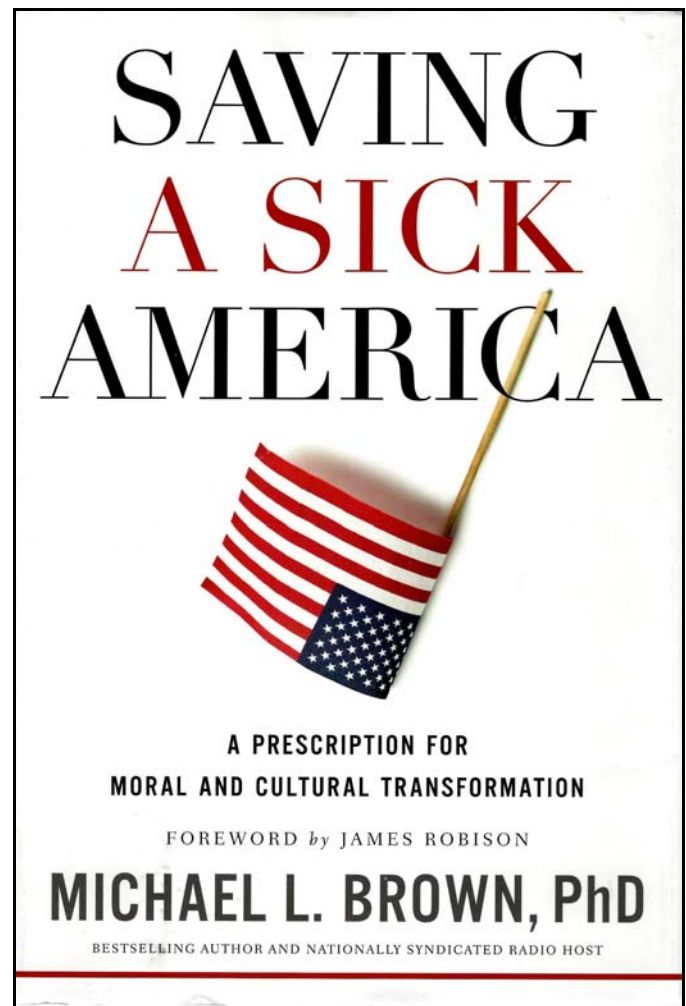
## Our Christian Heritage

It begins with the presentation of overwhelming and fascinating proof that our nation was rooted from the beginning in Judeo-Christian principles. He then provides anguishing statistics concerning the paganization of our nation during the 40 years between 1960 and 2000 — emphasizing not only how radical the changes have been, but also how quickly they have occurred.

But then he does something unique. He writes:

There is something even more striking than the contrast between the America of 50 years ago and the America of today. It's the contrast between America in 1960 and America in the days of our Founding Fathers — or, even more so, in the days of the American colonies (page 13).

He then proceeds to prove his point through the presentation of exhaustive and enlightening proof. In the process he provides absolutely fascinating examples of how strong Christian values were in our nation in colonial days — and continuing through the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. His chapter titled, “The Bible in America History” is alone worth the cost of the book. All of his introductory



chapters contain one priceless quote after another from the times of our Founding Fathers to the present.

## The Book's Organization

The book is divided into three parts. Part 1 is titled, “How Sick Are We?” And it will make you sick to read it. Part 2 focuses on “America's Biblical Roots.” It will make you nostalgic for “the good old days.”

The third part is the longest. It's the section that relates the most to both the title and the sub-title of the book: *Saving A Sick America: A Prescription for Moral and Cultural Transformation*. In anticipation of this section, Dr. Brown states in the book's preface:

If you are looking for a book filled with divine optimism and hope, this book is absolutely for you, since in the pages that follow, I lay out a vision for the moral and cultural transformation of America (page iv).

This brings us to the theme of the book: “America can be great only to the extent that America is good, and for America to be good, it must recapture its biblical heritage” (page 39).

So, the major part of this book is devoted to explaining how our nation can be rescued from its decline into the dark pit of secularism and paganism.

It is at this point that I begin to differ strongly with Dr.

Brown in his conclusions. His theme of America's possible restoration is a conditional one that rests on an invalid supposition — namely, that America will “recapture its biblical heritage.” I see no possibility of that. I believe we as a nation have already passed the point of no return. In his book, Dr. Brown writes off people like me as “pessimists.” On the contrary, I consider myself to be a realist.

Dr. Brown points to the many revivals our nation has experienced in the past, and he argues that it can happen again. But those revivals occurred during times when we had become cold in our relationship with the Lord. That is no longer the case.

Today, we exist in outright rebellion against God and His Word. We have set our jaw against our Creator, and we are shaking our fist at Him — as we did when our President lit up the White House in the colors of the Sexual Perversion Movement in celebration of the Supreme Court's legalization of same-sex marriage in 2015.

### How God Deals With Nations



Illustration by Pat Marvenko Smith.

As we will see, the Bible clearly teaches that there is a point of no return for a nation that has been greatly blessed by God.

When such a nation begins to turn its back on God, He will patiently call it to repentance through prophetic voices and remedial judgments. In my book, *God's Prophetic Voices to America*, I identify 13 such prophetic voices that God has raised up in this nation — four in the past and nine in the present. And I would add Dr. Brown's voice to that list.

As for the remedial judgments, God has showered us with them. I would point in particular to the Vietnam War, the 9/11 Attacks, Hurricane Katrina, the 2008 Stock Market Crash and the Obama Presidency. Our response to these disasters has been patriotism rather than repentance.

Despite our stubborn rebellion, God gave us a “window of grace” — as Francis Schaeffer called it in 1980 — with the election of Ronald Reagan. But as soon as he left office, we picked up where we had left off in our retreat from biblical principles. Our new President, George H. W. Bush, came into office exhil-

arating over the “New World Order” while forcing Israel to engage in an insane policy of appeasement. And then came the disgusting reign of the Clintons, followed by the ineptness of George W. Bush. Our retreat culminated in the Manasseh of our times — Barack Obama.

The Lord, in his grace and mercy, has given us a second “window of grace” with the miraculous election of Donald Trump. Despite his bullying with his crude and often vulgar tweets, we can rejoice over:

- His positive attitude toward Israel,
- His strong anti-abortion stance,
- His conservative appointments to our courts,
- His pro-business stimulus package,
- His support of the 2nd Amendment, and
- His enforcement of immigration laws.

### Is There Any Hope for America?

But Donald Trump cannot “Make America Great Again.” Only God can do that, and you can be assured that He is not going to let that happen as long as we are shaking our collective fist at Him. God cannot bless a rebellious nation that:

- Kills over 3,000 babies per day.
- Worships the Almighty Dollar as god.
- Leads the world in the production of pornography.
- Serves as the moral polluter of our planet through its violent, immoral and blasphemous movies and television programs.
- Celebrates sexual perversion.
- Consumes more illegal drugs than any other nation.

The reason I am so convinced that this second window of grace God has given us will also prove to be temporary is due to three brutal facts we cannot ignore. Just consider that after eight years of the most ungodly administration in American history:

- 1) President Obama left office with a 60% approval rating.
- 2) His designated heir, Hillary Clinton, received 3 million more votes than Trump.
- 3) And our nation's future — the Millennials (18 to 29 year olds) — supported an out-and-out Socialist, and when he failed to get the nomination, they voted overwhelmingly for Clinton.

Even more important, consider the ignorance of God's Word that has come to characterize both our nation and professing Christians. This ignorance is reflected in the latest polls conducted by the Barna Association which show that only 9% of Americans are Bible-believing Christians! And even more shocking, only 17% of professing Christians are truly Bible-believing Christians!

Can there be any doubt that we as Christians have lost the culture war? Again, Dr. Brown would label that conclusion as “pessimism.” I think it is realism, and I think we need to face up to it.





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Furthermore, we need to keep in mind that there is a point of no return for nations. It is referred to in the Scriptures as the point at which “the wound becomes incurable.” This trigger point that motivates God to deliver a nation from judgment to destruction is revealed in the book of Nahum.

The prophet Nahum came on the scene 150 years after Jonah. Like Jonah, he was called of God to preach to Nineveh. But, unlike Jonah, he was not sent to call the people to repentance. Rather, he was told to inform them that the time had arrived for their destruction. This warning was in accordance with God’s character, for He never pours out His wrath without warning.

In Nahum 1:11, God reveals the reason for His unalterable decision to destroy the city and its empire: “From you has gone forth one who plotted evil against the Lord, a wicked counselor.” Thus, the trigger point of God’s wrath is when neglect or rejection of Him turns to war against Him. In response, God declared, “Your wound is incurable” (Nahum 3:19). In short, their fate was sealed.

A contemporary of Nahum’s, the prophet Jeremiah, spoke of the same principle regarding God’s relationship to Judah. He proclaimed that the nation’s wound was “incurable” (Jeremiah 30:12). He added, “There is no one to plead your cause, no healing for your sore, no recovery for you” (Jeremiah 30:13).

### A Chilling Reality

This command to Jeremiah should be sobering to all of us. It illustrates that when a nation reaches this point of no return — this point where “the wound becomes incurable” — prayer is no longer of any avail. Thus, Jeremiah was told by God that he was not to pray for the deliverance of Judah! “Do not pray for this people, and do not lift up a cry or prayer for them, and do not intercede with Me; for I do not hear you” (Jeremiah 7:16). Later, God made this same point again in even stronger terms: “Even though Moses and Samuel were to stand before Me, My heart would not be with this people; send them away from My presence and let them go!” (Jeremiah 15:1).

Ezekiel was told the same thing when he tried to pray for Judah, but in even stronger terms. God named three of the most righteous men who had ever lived — Job, Noah, and Daniel — and He told Ezekiel that even their prayers could not deliver the nation from His wrath (Ezekiel 14:12-21). “I have set My face against them,” the Lord concluded (Ezekiel 15:7).

God is patient and longsuffering. But He cannot be mocked. “Whatever you devise against the Lord, He will make a complete end of it” (Nahum 1:9). God will ultimately deal with the sin of every nation. “The Lord is slow to anger and great in power, and the Lord will by no means leave the guilty unpunished” (Nahum 1:3). Some nations will be destroyed before the Great Tribulation begins, but all nations will taste God’s wrath during that terrible period of international judgment.

### God’s Pattern of Destruction

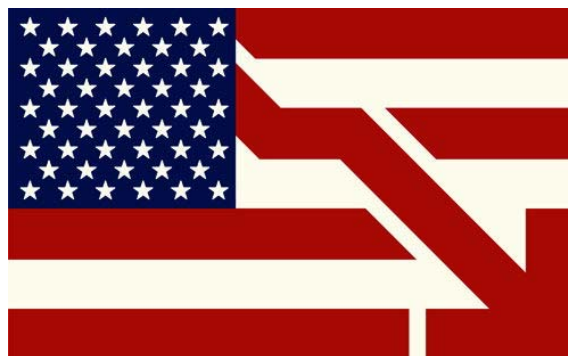
There are many Christians in our nation who refuse to believe that God will ever touch us — that He will ever allow us to be destroyed. They tend to think that God sits on His throne draped in an American flag. But, my friends, God cannot be deceived. He will not tolerate unrepented sin.

The Jews of ancient Judah thought the same thing about their nation. When Jeremiah warned them of imminent destruction, they cried out, “The Temple, the Temple” (Jeremiah 7:4), meaning they did not believe that God would ever allow anyone to destroy His Temple. But He did.

God is gracious. He is longsuffering. He warns and warns before He pours out judgment and ultimate destruction, but He will not tolerate unrepented sin.

He loves our nation. He was the One who raised it up on the foundation of His Word. He is the One who has blessed it so abundantly. He is the One who worked through us to spread the Gospel all over the world. But the Word of God says: “To those to whom much is given, much is expected” (Luke 12:48).

Again, our nation is in full-blown rebellion against God, and God is not going to tolerate it much longer. We are now in open rebellion against God — cursing Him and shaking our fist at Him and mocking His Son.



(<https://iranian.com>)

God in His grace may have decided to give us a little more breathing time, in order that more might be saved, but there is a limit to His patience.

This is exactly what He did with ancient Judah. Following the worst king in their history, King Manasseh, who ruled for 55 years, God raised up a righteous king named Josiah who reigned 31 years and led a national spiritual revival. But when Josiah was killed on the battlefield, the nation immediately fell back into its rebellious ways, and God destroyed it.

***The problem was that evil had become too ingrained in the fabric of the nation.***

And I believe that is where we are today. All of which brings me back to the crucial question: Is there any hope left for our nation?

My answer is, “How could there be?” We have turned our back on God and rejected the very One who gave us all our blessings.

And we need to be clear as to why that happened. It was not due to the attacks of the Secularists, the Humanists, the Atheists

or the Sexual Libertarians. No, it has been due to the failure of the Church to preach the Gospel, call people to repentance and stand for righteousness. In short, the Church has sought popular approval, and in the process, it has gotten in bed with the world.

Just consider, for example, how quickly churches across America have surrendered to the demands of the Sexual Perversion Movement as they desperately seek the approval of the world.



(www.christiantruthcenter.com)

### Apostasy in the End Times

The Bible prophesies in many places that the end times will be characterized by major apostasy — and we are up to our ears in it right now. It all began in the 1920s when our seminaries were captivated by the German School of Higher Criticism which argued that the Bible is not God’s revealed Word, but instead, it is Man’s search for God and is thus filled with myths, legends, superstitions and errors.

This produced the liberal Social Gospel that soon came to characterize the mainline denominations as they focused on social and political action rather than the preaching of the Gospel. This spiritual virus has since spread to the Evangelical sector of American Christianity in the form of the Emergent Church Movement.

In the mid-20th Century, to be an Evangelical meant that the Bible was your source of authority for all beliefs and actions. Today, the term, Evangelical, has lost its meaning because there are professing Evangelicals who believe:

- The Scriptures contain errors and contradictions.
- There is no Hell.
- There are many roads to God.
- Homosexuality is a valid lifestyle.
- Evolution is the true explanation of life.
- The ultimate purpose of the Church is not the salvation of souls but the saving of our planet.

It is no wonder that our nation is wallowing in spiritual darkness and rebellion against God. And how can anyone truly believe there is any hope for our nation in the midst of such gross spiritual apostasy?

Here’s how I put it in my *Prophetic Manifesto*:

We have turned our back on the very God who made us great and showered us with

blessings. We have forgotten that God’s Word teaches that “to those to whom much is given, much is expected” (Luke 12:47-48).

We have stubbornly set our course. We have determined to live as we please and not as God has dictated. We have chartered a course of self-destruction, and God is going to allow us to have our way.

### Hope for Believers and Unbelievers

But there is good news in the midst of the growing spiritual darkness and the consequent decay of our society.

There is *individual* hope for those of us who know Jesus as our Lord and Savior. God has promised repeatedly in His Word that He will never forsake us. For example, in Isaiah 43, He has promised to walk with us through the fire and high water, comforting us in our sufferings and providing our needs (Isaiah 43:2-3). And consider this promise: “The LORD is the one who goes ahead of you; He will be with you. He will not fail you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed” (Deuteronomy 31:8).

We also have the incredible hope of the Rapture of the Church when true believers will be taken out of this world in the blinking of an eye to be with Jesus forever.

There is also individual hope for those who do not know Jesus. As Robert Jeffress has pointed out, when the darkness deepens, the light of Jesus will shine more brightly, like a diamond on a black cloth, and more and more people will be drawn to Jesus as their hearts are penetrated by the Gospel.

The message of the Holy Spirit for **believers** in these end times is twofold: Commit your lives to holiness and share the Gospel with as many people as you can, as quickly as you can.

The message of the Spirit for **unbelievers** is, “Jesus is coming soon. He is returning to pour out the wrath of God on those who have rejected the grace, mercy and love of God. Reach out now and receive Him in faith as your Lord and Savior before it is too late.”

### Ironic Good News



(https://fapnewstoday.com)

I must add that there is an ironic way in which there is good news that can be derived from the collapse of civilization all around us.

It can be found in the statement of Jesus in Matthew 24:37-38 where He said His return would occur at a time when society has gone full circle back to the immorality and violence that characterized the days of Noah. In 1996, a federal judge named Robert Bork published a book about the moral drift of our nation



that was titled, *Slouching Towards Gomorrah*.

Well, we are no longer slouching. *We have arrived*. And that terrible fact points to the good news that Jesus is returning soon.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, let me say we live in the midst of an increasingly secular and evil society — a society that calls good evil and evil good. As we look around the world today, we can see that evil is multiplying. It is as if the whole world is falling to pieces.

But the truth is that from a biblical perspective, as Jan Markell has put it, *the pieces are all falling into place for Jesus to return*.

Which is why the great pastor, Adrian Rogers, once said, “The world is growing gloriously dark.”

As we wait for Jesus’ return, we need to realize that all of us have been desensitized to some degree by the sin that is abounding around us and to our participation in it. And thus, before we go forth to confront the evil in society, we need to face up to it in our own lives and respond in repentance. Righteousness must begin in our hearts before we challenge the unrighteousness of society.

And as we confront society, we should expect increasing hostility and persecution. But the Bible assures us that God will sustain us. Consider these words from Psalm 34:

15) The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous  
And His ears are open to their cry.

16) The face of the LORD is against evildoers,  
To cut off the memory of them from the earth.

17) The righteous cry, and the LORD hears  
And delivers them out of all their troubles.

18) The LORD is near to the brokenhearted  
And saves those who are crushed in spirit.

19) Many are the afflictions of the righteous,  
But the LORD delivers him out of them all.

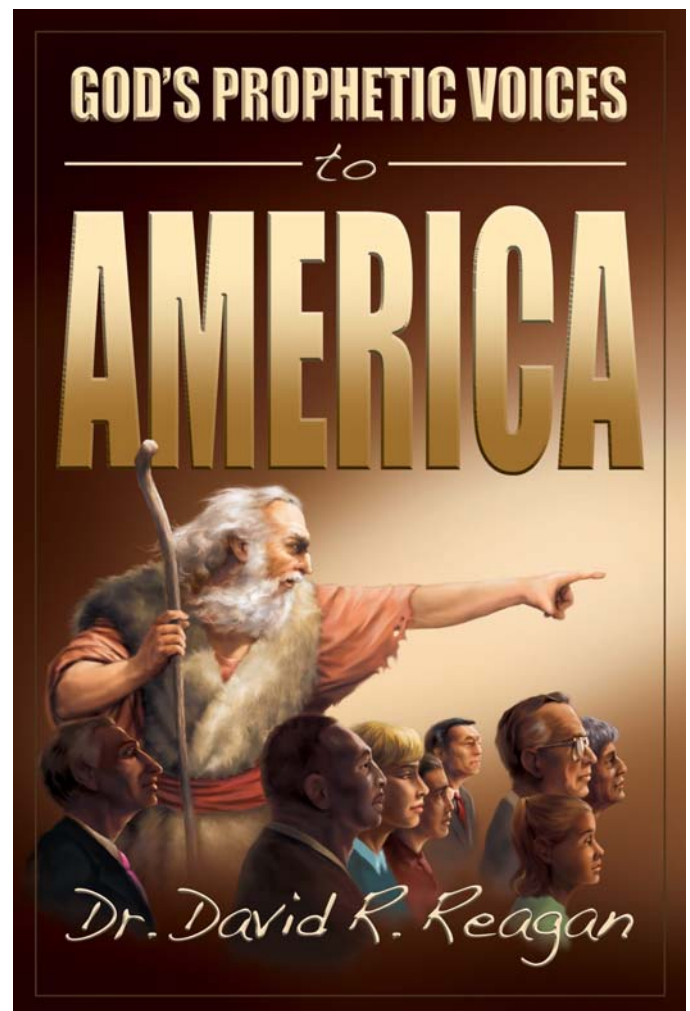
22) The LORD redeems the soul of His servants,  
And none of those who take refuge in Him will  
be condemned.

Let us, therefore, keep our eyes focused on Jesus, for He is “the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God” (Hebrews 12:2).

In summary, as we await the Lord’s return, we are:

- To stand for righteousness.
- To pray for courage.
- To commit to holiness.
- To share the Gospel.
- To put our trust in Jesus and in Him alone.

And don’t forget to cry out daily, “Maranatha, Maranatha! Come quickly, Lord Jesus!” (1 Corinthians 16: 22). ❖



Dr. Reagan considers this book to be the most important one he has ever written.

The book begins with an in-depth description of the major enemy of Christianity in America today — namely, the philosophy of Humanism, which Dr. Reagan claims is the religion of Satan. He then launches into the presentation of summaries of the messages of 13 prophetic voices God has anointed to speak out against Humanism and to warn our nation of its danger. These are voices that have also alerted us to our sins and have called our nation to repentance lest we suffer the wrath of God.

Four of the voices are from the past. The other nine are currently active. The four voices from the past are Peter Marshall, David Wilkerson, Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn and Francis Schaeffer.

The nine current voices are Donald Wildmon, Erwin Lutzer, David Jeremiah, William Koenig, Jan Markell, Albert Mohler, Jr., Franklin Graham, Robert Jeffress and Jonathan Cahn.

The book concludes with an essay by Dr. Reagan in which he addresses the crucial question: “Is America Doomed?”

The book runs 287 pages in length. It sells for \$20, including the cost of shipping. To place your order, call 972-736-3567 Monday thru Friday, 8am to 5pm Central time, or place your order through our website at [www.lamblion.com](http://www.lamblion.com). ❖

# Rapture Conflict

Dr. David R. Reagan

I am sorry to announce that Dr. Michael Brown, whom I highly respect, has recently co-authored a book attacking the concept of a Pre-Tribulation Rapture. His writing partner is Dr. Craig Keener, who is a Professor of Biblical Studies at Asbury Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky.

## A Basic Premise

The book's title, *Not Afraid of the Antichrist*, sums up one of their basic arguments against the Pre-Trib Rapture. Basically, what they claim is that those of us who believe in a Pre-Trib Rapture are a bunch of sissies who are unwilling to suffer for the Lord, and therefore, we have deceived ourselves into believing that we will be supernaturally taken out of this world before the Tribulation begins.

This, of course is a classic straw man argument. I know a lot of Bible teachers and professors who believe in a Pre-Trib Rapture, and I cannot think of one whose belief is based on fear of the Antichrist. Instead, their belief is based upon the Bible's precious promise that at any moment Jesus may return as a Bridegroom to take His Bride, the Church, out of this world (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18). And they believe that the best inference of Scripture is that this event will happen before the Tribulation begins.

In pursuit of their unfounded thesis, the authors spend a lot of their time relating stories of terrible persecution suffered by Christians in places like China and Nigeria. They also devote themselves to quoting verses that assure us that if we truly stand for Jesus, we will suffer persecution. They then ask why true Christians in America should think they will not suffer similar tribulation someday.

## A Significant Difference

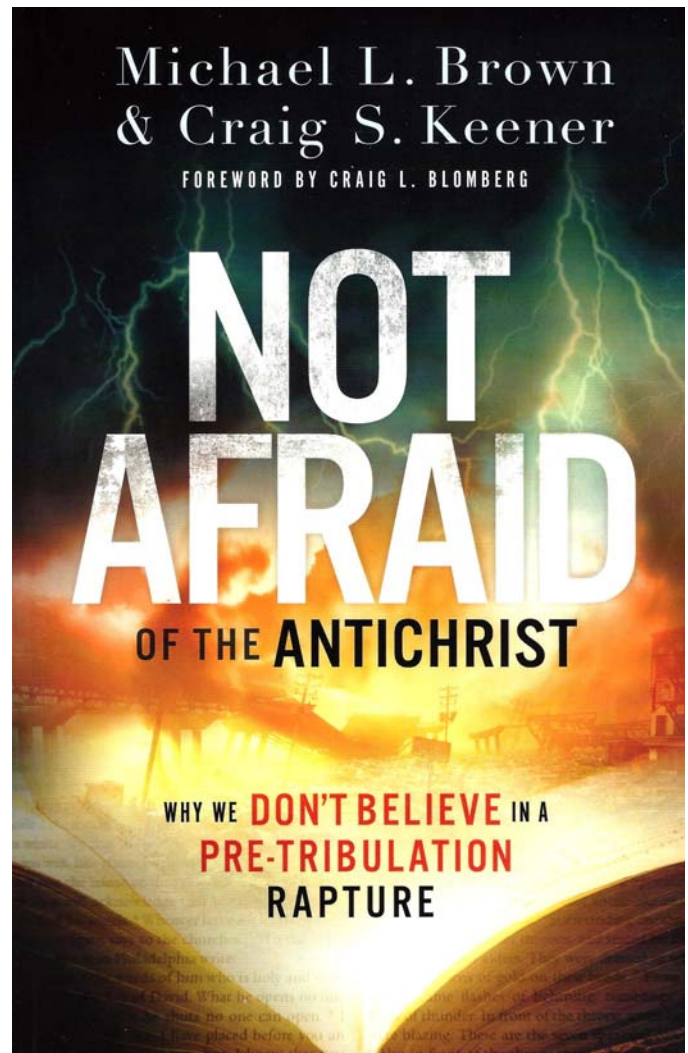


Dr. Craig Keener

The answer to their question is that there is a major difference between tribulation (John 16:33) and the Great Tribulation (Revelation 7:14). No one I know of who believes in a Pre-Trib Rapture also believes that Christians are immune to harassment, persecution and even murder. We Christians in the Western world have been blessed to live in relative peace compared to believers in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

But those days are over. Today, throughout Western Europe and all across our nation and Canada, Christians are being marginalized and are encountering increasing persecution. And it is going to increase in frequency and intensity due to the paganization of our culture.

Those of us who believe in a Pre-Trib Rapture fully expect to suffer Satanic persecution from society. But the Bible promi-



ses us protection from the eschatological wrath of God — the ultimate type of God's wrath that God pours out on all the world.

God has exercised that type of wrath once before in the worldwide Noahic Flood. He has promised it once again at the end of the Church Age, in the form of a series of judgments of unparalleled horror that will last for a period of seven years.

Believers have been promised immunity from this type of God's wrath (1 Thessalonians 1:10). And those of us who believe that promise look forward to a Pre-Tribulation Rapture of the Church. Our hope is based on a promise of Scripture and not a fear of the Antichrist.

## A Second Flimsy Argument

A second theme of this anti-Rapture book is that a belief in a Pre-Trib Rapture is based solely on erroneous teaching and preaching because it could never be arrived at by just studying the Scriptures. Another straw man!

The authors base this allegation on their own experiences. Both grew up in churches that taught the Pre-Trib Rapture, and both came to the conclusion later in life that the concept could not be supported by Scripture.

Well, I have news for them. I grew up in a militantly Amillennial church whose leaders were so dogmatic about their belief that if anyone had the audacity to disagree with them, they were

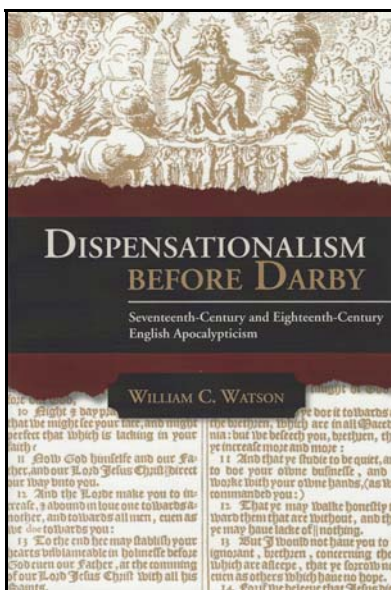


subjected to ridicule. In fact, if they persisted in challenging the Amillennial viewpoint, they were formally disfellowshipped!

I came to a Premillennial understanding of God’s Word through Bible study, and not through teaching and preaching. And in the same manner, I came to the conclusion that the Rapture described in 1 Thessalonians 4 had to be an event separate and apart from the Return of Jesus described in Revelation 19.

Nor am I the only person who has ever come to these conclusions based solely on the study of the Scriptures. In a recent book by Dr. William Watson titled, *Dispensationalism Before Darby* (2015), he proves that there were many people in the 17th and 18th Centuries who also concluded that the Rapture and Return were two different events separated in time — and some even believed the Rapture would be before the Tribulation.

Dr. Watson concludes that by the beginning of the 19th Century, the belief in a Pre-Trib Rapture “was held not only by Baptists . . . but also by leading Anglicans . . . and even by Scottish Presbyterians” (page 262). In other words, It was not just some fanciful concept that popped into the imaginative mind of an English theologian named John Darby in 1830, as the authors claim.



Without Dr. Watson’s detailed evidence, an historian by the name of Dr. Paul Boyer had already come to this conclusion in his book, *When Time Shall Be No More: Prophecy Belief in Modern America*. This book was published by Harvard University Press in 1994. He wrote:

In a sense, Darby’s system contained nothing new. His focus on the future fulfillment of prophecy followed the eschatology of the early Christians . . .

Even Rapture doctrine . . . can be found in the writings of early interpreters . . . But Darby wove these diverse strands into a tight and cohesive system that he buttressed at every point by copious biblical proof texts, then tirelessly promoted through his writing and preaching tours (page 188).

## Another Off-Base Argument

Another of the straw men constructed by Drs. Brown and Keener is that a belief in the Pre-Trib Rapture produces apathetic Christians who are content with sitting on the sidelines waiting for the Lord’s appearing while ignoring evangelism and societal problems.

Nope — I don’t know any of these folks either! In fact, the leading advocate of the Pre-Trib Rapture in recent years — Tim LaHaye — was one of the foremost Christian political activists who was heavily involved with the Moral Majority Movement. And his wife, Beverly, founded Concerned Women of America, a conservative Christian women’s activist group.

## The Book’s Biggest Flaw

The greatest weakness of the Brown-Keener book is its handling of imminency. The authors literally dance around the issue, and of course, there is good reason for them doing so.

The Bible makes it clear that the Lord could return any moment and that we as Christians are to live looking for His return. That’s called imminency. But if you reject the Rapture and believe only in what’s called the Second Coming, there is no imminency. That’s because there are so many prophecies that must be fulfilled before the Second Coming can occur. To name only one — there must be seven years of Tribulation!

Those who reject the Rapture in favor of a belief only in the Second Coming are living looking for the Antichrist. Those of us who believe the Rapture is an event separate and apart from the Lord’s return to earth are living looking for Jesus Christ — not the Antichrist.

## The Authors’ Concept of the Rapture



So, what do the authors do with the Rapture that the Apostle Paul describes in detail in 1 Thessalonians 4? They combine it with the Second Coming. Thus, they argue that when the Lord appears in the heavens, believers will be raptured up to meet Him in the sky and then will immediately return with Him to the earth to reign with Him for a thousand years in the Millennium.

There are many problems with this Post-Trib Rapture concept. For one thing, as I have already pointed out, it destroys imminency.

Another problem is that it does not provide a population for the Millennium. Why? Because if the Rapture and the Second Coming are all one event, then every believer, both Jew and Gentile and both living and dead, will be glorified at the time of the Lord's return. All others will be consigned to Hades. That means there will no people in mortal bodies to enter the Millennium and repopulate the earth.

This is not a problem with the Pre-Trib Rapture concept, for according to it, all Church Age believers, living and dead, will receive glorified bodies at the time of the Rapture — before the Tribulation begins. Then, during the following seven years of the Tribulation, many people will accept Jesus, and even though most of them will be martyred by the Antichrist, there will be a remnant of both Jewish and Gentile believers who will live to the end of the Tribulation. It is this group that will be allowed to enter the Millennium in the flesh. They will repopulate the earth and those of us in glorified bodies will reign over them.

Again, the Post-Trib Rapture provides no one to reign over during the Millennium.

### A Concluding Observation

I will conclude with a quote from one of my favorite Bible prophecy teachers, Dr. Ron Rhodes. Several years ago he was one of the featured speakers at our annual Bible conference. He was asked to speak on the Rapture, and when he got to the point of reviewing the Post-Trib Rapture concept, he began by reminding the audience that the Apostle Paul concluded his description of the Rapture by saying, "Therefore, encourage one another with these words" (1 Thessalonians 4:18).

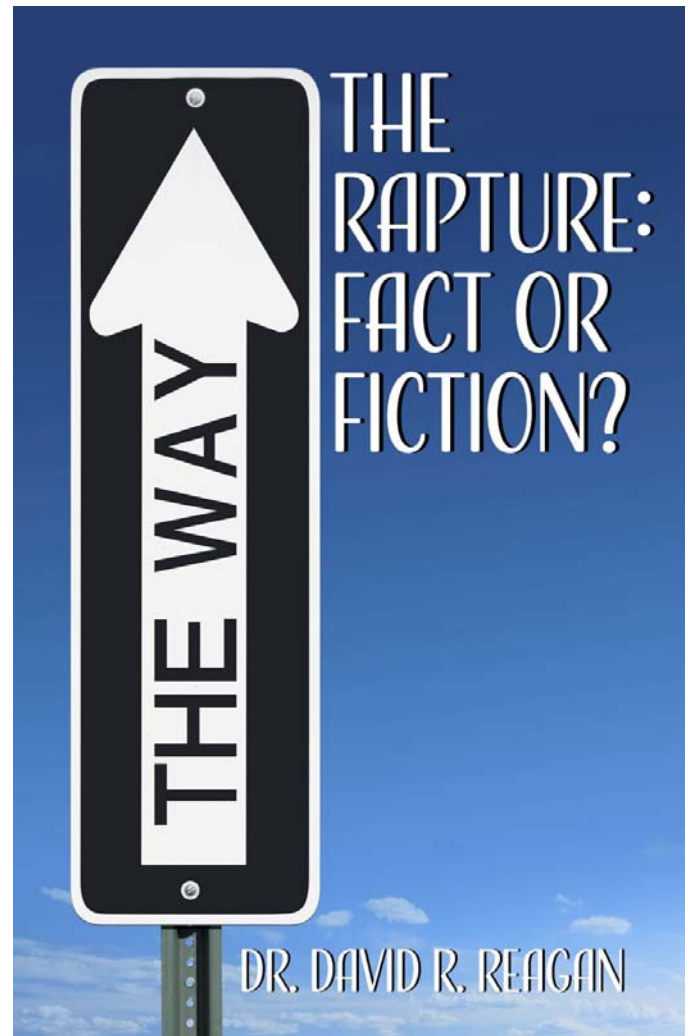
He then summed up the Post-Trib Rapture concept with these words:

Let's imagine for a moment that Post-Tribulationism is true. Here's what this view of the Rapture is saying:

- You will go through the seven years of God's wrath.
- You will suffer through the terrible reign of the Antichrist.
- You will experience the agonizing Seal, Trumpet and Bowl Judgments — which will grow progressively worse and increasingly painful.
- Most of you will die painful deaths as martyrs.

"Therefore, encourage one another with these words" (1 Thessalonians 4:18). I'm sorry, friends — it just doesn't work!

All I can say is Amen! ❖



There are a number of other arguments presented against the Pre-Tribulation Rapture concept in the book by Drs. Brown and Keener that Dr. Reagan did not address in the previous essay, but he does respond to all of them in his newest book which is pictured above.

On June 18, Amazon.com announced that this new book by Dr. Reagan had become the number one best seller among Bible prophecy Kindle books.

Terry James, who is a Bible prophecy expert and co-host of the Rapture Ready website, published a review of the book in which he said, "It is simply the best, because it is presented so simply . . . There is no fluff in the book — just a marvelously plain explanation of all one ever needs to know about that 'twinkling of an eye' moment."

In the book, Dr. Reagan presents his responses to the 21 most frequently asked questions about the Rapture. And then he responds to the 13 major challenges that have been presented to the belief that the Rapture is most likely to occur before the beginning of the Tribulation.

The book sells for \$15, including the cost of shipping. You can order it at our website at lamblion.com or by calling our office at 972-736-3567, Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm Central time. ❖



# Why I Do Not Celebrate Gay Pride

**Dr. Michael Brown**

(Editor's note: This article is a classic demonstration of Dr. Brown's gift of prophetic writing. And by prophetic, I mean the ability to apply God's Word to contemporary social issues. We tend to think of biblical prophets only as foretellers of the future, which they were. But they spent much more of their time forth-telling the present by pointing out the sins of their nation and calling the people and leaders to repentance. This article was issued on June 13, 2019 after President Trump had proclaimed the month to be a celebration of Gay Pride. The article is reprinted by permission. Other outstanding articles by Dr. Brown can be found on his website at <https://askdrbrown.org>.)

If you ask my detractors, they would tell you that the reason I do not celebrate gay pride is that I'm a bigot. A hater. A homophobe. A transphobe. And I understand their perspective.

After all, no matter how Christian I claim to be, if I tell a gay couple I do not believe they are truly married in God's sight, that feels like hatred to them. If I tell a woman who identifies as a man that I still believe she is a woman, that feels like hatred to her.



([www.pbs.org](http://www.pbs.org))

From their perspective, I can understand how unchristian my position seems, how bigoted, how biased, how primitive.

After all, they would be quick to point out, there are gay parents who are more devoted to their kids than some straight parents. There are transgender men and women who are kind, gentle, caring souls.

There are people all across the LGBT spectrum who help the poor, who care for the oppressed, who love the loveless, who are outstanding bosses or employees or friends or neighbors.

Why shouldn't all of us celebrate gay (or, LGBT) pride?

## Three Major Reasons

For me, there are three major reasons, and none of them have anything to do with hatred or fear.

First, I do not accept the categories of LGBT as fixed and definite categories, worthy of special recognition. Put another way, why should there be a special month to celebrate people based on their sexual desires and romantic attractions? Or based on their gender identity perceptions?

The very fact that we've gone from G (as in gay) to LG, to LGB, to LGBT, to LGBTQ, to LGBTQI to LGBTQIP (and beyond) indicates that these are hardly fixed categories.

Or, to zero in on the letter B, why should I celebrate someone who is attracted to both males and females? Why should I put them in a special category (like Hispanic or Asian or Black)?

If the person happens to be a courageous firefighter, I'll celebrate them for that. If the person happens to be a cancer survivor with an amazing story, I'll celebrate them for that.

They are fellow human beings, and if they deserve honor or commendation, I'll gladly give that to them. But I won't celebrate their bisexuality. Why should I?

And that leads to my second point. Why celebrate what is contrary to God's design? If I'm convinced that homosexual practice is contrary to God's design, why should I celebrate it?

If I personally know people whose same-sex attractions were the result of childhood sexual abuse and rape, why should I

celebrate those attractions? If I'm convinced that, ideally, a child should have a mommy and a daddy (rather than two mommies or two daddies), why should I celebrate a family setting that will fully deprives that child of either their mother or father?

Do we celebrate single parent pride? No, we say to those single parents, "It must be hard to raise your child on your own, but we're standing with you to help." There's quite a difference.

Help us champion truth, freedom, limited government and human dignity.

And why should I celebrate transgender identity? What is

there to celebrate?

Why should I celebrate putting a child on hormone blockers? Why should I celebrate a 17-year-old girl having her breasts removed? Why should I celebrate a lifelong regimen of hormones? Why should I celebrate something that causes so many people so much pain, even after “transitioning?”

If you asked me to stand with those who identify as transgender and offer them support and compassion and hope, I would say, “Count me in.”

If you asked me to stand against their harassment and mistreatment, again I would say, “Count me in.”

But if you ask me to celebrate their transgender identity (and all the challenges that come with it), I would have to politely decline.



Quote from Anderson Cooper who is a news anchor on CNN.

### The Destructive Agenda

Third, and finally, I do not celebrate LGBT pride because there is an agenda attached to it.

In other words, this is not just a matter of me appreciating LGBT people as people, or recognizing their accomplishments for the sake of their accomplishments.

Instead, to celebrate LGBT pride is to recognize and embrace a larger cultural agenda.

As I explained in 2011, “the legitimizing of homosexuality as a perfectly normal alternative to heterosexuality also requires that all opposition to homosexual behavior must be delegitimized. At the very least, the gay agenda requires the following three platforms (and let recognized gay leaders renounce this if it is not so).

- “Whereas homosexuality was once considered a pathological disorder, from here on those who do not affirm homosexuality will be deemed homophobic, perhaps themselves suffering from a pathological disorder.
- “Whereas gay sexual behavior was once considered morally wrong, from here on public condemnation — or even public criticism — of that behavior will be considered morally wrong.
- “Whereas identifying as transgender was once considered abnormal by society, causing one to be marginalized, from here on those who do not accept transgenderism will be considered abnormal and will be marginalized.”

And remember, I wrote this in 2011. (In fact, I wrote this several years earlier, but these comments were not published until 2011.)

Again, from the LGBT viewpoint, LGBT pride is all about coming out of the closet. It’s about saying, “We’re just as good and as gifted and as normal as anyone else, and rather than being ashamed of our LGBT identity, we are proud of it. The days of being mistreated are over. That’s what LGBT pride is all about!”

Again, I understand these sentiments, and if it was a matter of caring for people as people, I’d march side by side with them.

But it’s not just that. It’s about creating new categories and foisting them on the society. It’s about celebrating something that should not be celebrated. It’s about a larger agenda.

For those reasons, I do not celebrate gay pride, even though it makes me a hateful bigot in the eyes of many LGBT people and their allies. That saddens me, but that doesn’t change my convictions.

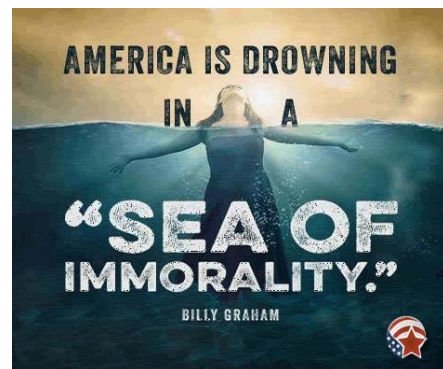
June remains just another month on my calendar. It is not marked off for LGBT pride. ✚

## Celebrating Perversion



The flag of the Sexual Perversion Movement flying over the American Embassy in Tel Aviv, Israel.

One of the largest Gay Pride celebrations in the world is held each year in Tel Aviv, Israel. During the Obama Administration, the Gay Flag was flown at the Embassy, which at that time was located in Tel Aviv. Like his decision to light up the White House in the colors of the Sexual Perversion Movement in 2015 when the Supreme Court legalized same sex-marriage, Obama ordered the flag of the movement to be flown at our embassy in Tel Aviv — demonstrating to the world America’s approval of sexual perversion.





# Common Bonds Between Islam and Catholicism

Mike Gendron

An historic interfaith covenant was signed in the Middle East on February 4 of this year (2019). Sheikh Ahmed al-Tayeb, considered to be the most important imam in Sunni Islam, arrived at the signing ceremony in Abu Dhabi with Pope Francis “hand in hand in a symbol of interfaith brotherhood.” But this wasn’t just a ceremony for Catholics and Muslims.



Mike Gendron

The signing of this covenant was done in front of a global audience of religious leaders from Christianity, Islam, Judaism and other faiths. There was a concerted effort to make sure all of the religions of the world were represented at this gathering. The Pope explained that the document was “born of faith in God who is the Father of all and the Father of peace; it condemns all destruction, all terrorism, from the first terrorism in history, that of Cain.”

As the world’s two largest religions converge we can only wonder if this will be the catalyst for the prophesied one-world religion. In 1994 the Vatican issued a publication entitled: “Spiritual Bonds Which Unite Us: 16 Years of Christian-Muslim Dialogue.” At first glance, the two faiths appear to be vastly different, but under close inspection, they have at least ten common bonds that will help facilitate their convergence.

**1 Both Esteem and Honor Mary** — Muslims and Catholics both call her, “Our Lady.” and venerate her as a pure and holy saint. Most people know the importance of Mary to Catholics and how she is the cause of their salvation and how she delivers souls from death. But not many know of her prominence among Muslims. She is the most revered women of the Muslim faith. Her name is mentioned more often in the Qu’ran than in the Bible. Her name appears 34 times and an entire chapter in the Qur’an is named after Mary.

**2 Both Seek Messages from Apparitions of Mary** — Muslims and Catholics are flocking to apparition sites to receive messages from Mary. Could these be some of the lying signs and wonders Satan will use to unite Catholicism with Islam? Many of the messages make it clear she is coming for all her

children including Muslims, Catholics and Protestants and that people of all religions can be saved apart from Jesus Christ as long as they are good. An average of five million people flock to apparition sites each year.

Years ago I was interviewed on the History Channel that was producing a documentary on the apparitions of Mary. I made a statement that they used in the opening segment. “People travel thousands of miles and spend thousands of dollars to seek messages from apparitions when they can open their Bible right where they are and get a message from God.”

**3 Both Are Anti-Semitic** — The Vatican has issued over 100 anti-semitic documents and taught the Jews should be cursed because they killed Christ. Mohammed’s words recorded in the Hadith say, “The last day will not come until the Muslims destroy the Jews.” This is why Islam is determined to eliminate the Jews from Israel. As long as the Jews remain, it says to the world that Mohammed was a false prophet, Allah is a false God and the Qu’ran is a false revelation.

**4 Both Embrace Another Jesus** — Catholicism has a counterfeit Jesus, who returns to the earth every day at the beckoned call of Catholic priest, to be transubstantiated into a lifeless piece of bread. His death on the cross was not sufficient to save Catholics, so he has to be re-presented on an altar as a sin offering. The true Jesus cried out, “It is finished,” and there are no more offerings for sin (John 19:3 and Hebrews 10:14). Islam also has a counterfeit Jesus (Isa) who is not God, but only a prophet, who did not die on a cross.

**5 Both Seek World Dominion** — Both religions rule with an autocratic government and have a history of forced conversions, and killing those who oppose them. Could these religions which control people with indoctrination, intimidation and fear be a precursor to the rule of Antichrist?

Why would the Catholic Church single out the one religion of Islam and not another of the world’s religions? Could it be that it is not only a religion but a political ideology similar to Catholicism? Islam is a controlling system that lays down detailed rules for society and the life of every person. Islam means ‘submission’ and is not compatible with freedom and democracy. Could this be a pre-cursor to a world that must submit to the strict control of an antichrist?



Pope Francis greets Egypt’s Grand Imam Sheikh Ahmed al-Tayeb after signing documents during the Human Fraternity Meeting at Abu Dhabi on February 4, 2019. It was the first visit by the head of the Catholic Church to the Muslim-majority Arabian Peninsula. (www.philstar.com)

**6 Both Deny the Authority of Scripture** — The pagan beliefs of both religions stand opposed to the Bible. Muslims reject the Bible as the final revelation from God declaring that God has revealed a final testament: the Qu’ran which is their supreme authority. Catholics use their “infallible” teachings to twist and distort Scripture to support their ungodly traditions.

Whenever religions, cults or denominations do not submit to the authority of Scripture they are easily influenced by the lies of the devil. He is the master deceiver, schemer and ruler of this age so it is no wonder that both religions are enemies

of God's Word.

**7 Both Use Prayer Beads to Avoid Punishment** — Catholics pray the rosary to remit punishment for sin. Muslims use 99 beads that correspond to the names of God. Praying to Allah five times a day is an act of obedience to escape the punishment imposed on those who do not pray.



**8 Both Take Pilgrimages to Obtain Favor from God** — Catholics take pilgrimages for religious purification and the promise of indulgences. Muslims take pilgrimages to Mecca, a mandatory religious duty that must be carried out at least once in their lifetime.

**9 Both Have Human Mediators** — Catholics rely on the priesthood to dispense salvation through sacraments and seek Mary to intercede with God on their behalf. Muslims rely on the intercession of Muhammad on judgment day. He will prostrate himself before Allah who will say, "O Muhammad! speak, it will be heard; and be given; intercede, and it will be approved."

**10 Both Have a Works-Righteousness Salvation** — Allah will place one's good and evil works on the divine scale: "Those whose scales are light are those who lose their souls in hell" (Sura 23:102,103). Good works by Muslims are determined by their performance of the Five Pillars of Islam. In Catholicism, sacraments, good works and obeying the law are necessary for salvation. Catholics obtain the joy of heaven, after they "merit for themselves and for others all the graces needed to attain eternal life" (Catechism of the Catholic Church paragraph 2027).

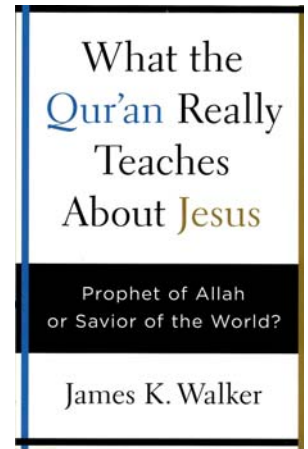
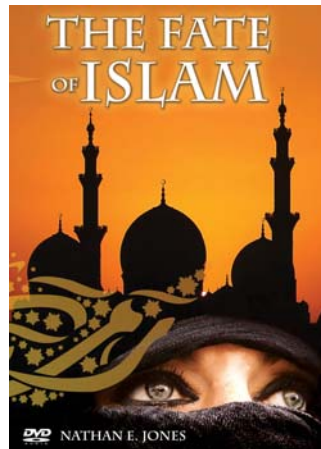
These two religions represent a huge mission field with nearly three billion precious souls. They need to know the true Jesus and submit to His Word as their supreme authority for knowing truth. Only then will they see the need to repent of their works-righteousness salvation and believe the glorious Gospel of grace.

As ambassadors for Christ, let us sow the seed of His Word in these mission fields which are ripe for harvest. Only the truth will set them free from religious bondage (John 8:31-32). ❖

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Mike Gendron is the founder and director of Proclaiming the Gospel Ministries, located in Southlake, Texas. Mike was a devout Catholic for over 30 years before he heard the Gospel, encountered Jesus and was saved. He resigned his business position, entered Dallas Theological Seminary, and established his ministry to Catholics after his graduation. That was 28 years ago in 1991. You can find his website at <http://pro-gospel.org>.

## Special Offer!



For a limited time, until November 15 of this year, we are offering the two resources pictured above concerning Islam for a combined price of \$25, including the cost of shipping. They normally sell for \$20 each, including shipping. You can place your order through our website or by calling our office at 972-736-3567 between 8am and 5pm Central time, Monday through Friday. Ask for offer #869.

*The Fate of Islam* is a one hour video by our Internet Evangelist, Nathan Jones. In it, he surveys the history of Islam, its fundamental beliefs and its goals. He also discusses what Bible prophecy has to say about the fate of Islam. He concludes the video by presenting six methods for reaching out to Muslims with the Gospel. This is a highly acclaimed presentation that will help you to better understand the threat of Islam to the Western world.



Nathan Jones



James Walker

*What the Qu'ran Really Teaches About Jesus* is a 232 page book by James Walker who is the president of Watchman Fellowship, a discernment ministry located in Arlington, Texas ([www.watchman.org](http://www.watchman.org)). Muslims often try to deceive Christians by claiming that they believe in Jesus. In this book, Mr. Walker proves decisively that the Jesus of Islam is not the Jesus of the Bible. The book concludes with three fascinating testimonies by Muslims who have accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior. ❖



# Nothing New Under the Sun

Colonel Tim Moore

For the past several years, the world has seen a precipitous rise in hatred toward Christians and Jews — most prominently in the form of Radical Islam. This has been manifested by imams spewing hate, ayatollahs issuing fatwas, and terrorist organizations fomenting anarchy. This threat to world peace and Western civilization has become the new face of evil in the world.

Some would trace the roots of modern Islamofacism to the 1979 Iranian revolution, when Ayatollah Khomeini returned from exile in France, fomenting the overthrow of a Shah aligned with the United States and leading to American Embassy personnel being held hostage for over a year.

Others would point to the bombing of the US Marine barracks in Lebanon in 1983 as the first indication of a terrible new tactic of terrorist destruction through suicide. But, the conflict between the West and radicals who claim to be the true adherents to the Muslim faith is much older than that.

## The Barbary Pirates

In the late 1700s, various Islamic countries on the southern coast of the Mediterranean Sea (collectively known as the Barbary States) made a practice of seizing foreign ships and crews and holding them for ransom. At one point, the tribute required to free two American crews totaled over \$1 million — fully one fifth of the federal budget of the United States at the time! Although the nations of Western Europe accepted this arrangement as an unfortunate cost of doing business in the Middle East, our nation was determined to end it.

When Thomas Jefferson served as the nation's first Secretary of State, he told Congress it must choose “. . . between war, tribute and ransom.” He advocated the creation of a navy — a costly proposition to our founding nation. Speaking of the Barbary pirates in 1786, George Washington also lamented, “Would to Heaven we had a navy to reform those enemies to mankind, or crush them into non-existence.”

## American Action

When Jefferson became President, he determined that the tributes would stop. The sentiment of the nation at that time was reflected in the words of South Carolina Senator Robert Goodloe Harper: “Millions for defense, but not one cent for tribute.”

Jefferson dispatched the newly-commissioned US Navy to the Mediterranean, complete with a contingent of Marines. That “war on terror” lasted from 1801 until 1815, and saw the US Marines claiming victory on the “shores of Tripoli.”

One young Marine Lieutenant — Kentuckian Presley O'Bannon — so distinguished himself in the battle for Derna in Tripoli that he was presented with the “Mameluke” sword — a Muslim-origin blade that became the model for the Marine saber carried to this day.

O'Bannon led the detachment of Marines that conquered the



Presley O'Bannon (1776-1850)  
as painted by Col. Donald Dickerson (1960).  
([www.flickr.com/photos/usmcarchives/38581199931](http://www.flickr.com/photos/usmcarchives/38581199931))

Muslim fort at Derna. He became the first American to raise the United States flag on foreign soil.

## The Basis of the Conflict

The caliphs who subjected many parts of Western Europe (including parts of Italy and Spain) to their rule did so because they believed that the Quran commanded them to convert or enslave the entire world. Even the much maligned Crusades were launched in response to Islamic overreach and oppression.

This conflict was destined to be so, for God Himself declared to Hagar that her son, Ishmael, would be a “wild donkey of a man” (Genesis 16:12). His descendants — the Arabs — have demonstrated that inherent nature ever since.

## God's Grace

In His love and mercy, God has made provision for a better path. The offer of salvation through faith in His Son Jesus Christ is for Jew and Gentile alike — and for Westerners and Arabs.

God has declared that one day He will bring a great number of people from traditionally Muslim countries to believing faith in Him. We have already seen some first fruits of that bounty to come.

## A Miraculous Conversion

Saeed Abedini was a radicalized Iranian Muslim on his way to commit a suicide bombing when, through the providence of God, he crossed paths with two Christian believers who shared the Gospel of Jesus Christ with him. Abedini put his faith in Jesus and subsequently immigrated to the United States — where

he became a US citizen and a Christian pastor.

Overflowing with love and compassion, he repeatedly returned to his native Iran to minister to orphans and demonstrate his love to the people of his homeland. In 2013, the Islamic regime in Iran arrested Pastor Abedini. Iran's Mullahs convicted him of the "crime" of converting from Islam to Christianity, and he was condemned to eight years in prison.



**Saeed Abedini**

Pastor Abedini's plight resonated with the Kentucky House of Representatives where I was serving at the time. This was because of Kentucky's historical tie to the fight against those whose religion inspires anything but peace. Accordingly, the Kentucky House passed a formal resolution demanding that Iran free Pastor Abedini. In that regard, the Legislature followed in the footsteps of Lieutenant O'Bannon — declaring through its action that it would not bow to a religion that inspires hatred and conflict.

As Americans we should maintain our national determination to invest millions as necessary for defense, lest we be held hostage by advocates of hate, terror and death. But as Christians, we should also be inspired by the testimony of Pastor Saeed Abedini, who wrote from prison to his eight-year-old daughter: "The answer to WHY all this happened is WHO. WHO is in control? . . . The LORD JESUS CHRIST, our GOD! He is worth the price. And He has a plan to be glorified through our lives."

Pastor Abedini praised the risen Christ even while he was unjustly incarcerated because he knew that God works all things for our good and His glory (Romans 8:28). (Pastor Abedini was released from prison in January of 2016.)

### **Conclusion**

Make no mistake: the war between Christian truth and the enemy's lies will rage and become even more pronounced until the King of Glory descends to reign from Mount Zion. When He does, the terror of this present darkness will pale in comparison to the holy terror that will rain down on those who have rejected the Blessed Hope — Christ Jesus Himself.

At Lamb & Lion Ministries, we also believe that God is working all things for our good and His glory. He is keeping His promise to provide signs pointing to the season of His return. We know that soon — and very soon — He will burst forth from Heaven in all His glory and darkness will be banished from the earth.

Until that glorious day, we pray that you will join us in crying, "Maranatha! Come quickly, Lord Jesus!" ❖

## **Prophecy Study**

# **The Gospel Angel**

**Nathan E. Jones**

*Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth — to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people — saying with a loud voice, "Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water" (Revelation 14:6-7).*

As Jesus was preparing to ascend to Heaven, His curious disciples asked, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" (Acts 1:6). To their utter disappointment, Jesus replied, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority" (Acts 1:7). Rather, Jesus left them with the monumental task of establishing the Church across the globe and over the centuries.



**Nathan Jones**

While the question, "When will the kingdom come?" may have still been troubling the Apostle John's mind decades later while he was scribing the book of Revelation, he probably had an inkling that the answer lay with an important teaching Jesus made during His earthly ministry. Jesus foretold that the "end will come" when "this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations" (Matthew 24:14).

### **A Misunderstanding**

Understandably, some Christians today have misunderstood this prophecy to mean that every single person on the planet must hear the Gospel before the Rapture of the Church. But, that is incorrect. The prophecy instead looks forward to the time when Jesus will become King over all the earth, and that will not occur until the end of the Tribulation. Therefore, this prophecy does not mean the Church will evangelize the entire world before we are raptured and before the Tribulation begins. It is talking about the Second Coming, not the Rapture.

Sure, Christians are making a good run of the Great Commission, as various missions agencies report the joyous news that all but the smallest of remote people groups, numbering 50,000-100,000 people or less, have already been reached with the Bible in their own languages. But, no, God has in mind a special final crusade for the inhabitants of the Tribulation, for it is during those seven years that every single person on the planet will be presented with the Gospel.

### **Salvation During the Tribulation**

With the Church long gone due to the Rapture, how will those left behind learn about Jesus Christ and His offer of salvation? To begin with, at the onset of the Tribulation, the removal of millions of Christians off this earth in the Rapture should provide a huge wake-up call. Those left behind will have



access to all our Bibles and other Bible teaching media. Also, the wrath that will be poured out through the 21 Tribulation Judgments is meant to bring people to the end of themselves so that they will repent and turn to God.

The Two Witnesses will preach mightily from Jerusalem during the first half of the Tribulation (Revelation 11:3-12). Furthermore, throughout the first half of the Tribulation and on into the second half, 144,000 Jewish evangelists commissioned by God will evangelize the world (Revelation 7:3-8). And, finally, entering into the second half of the seven years, God will send His mighty angels directly to each and every person to share the Gospel, fulfilling Christ's prophecy (Revelation 14:12).

### Proclaiming Angels

In God's plan to present the Gospel to every single person on the planet before the Second Coming, the Almighty will release three proclaiming angels near the end of the Tribulation. One will warn people not to take the mark of the Antichrist. A second will announce God's judgment on the headquarters of the Antichrist. The third, which we can call the Gospel Angel, will serve as the one who will proclaim the Gospel to all the world.



**The Gospel Angel by an unknown artist.**  
([www.blueprintgps.com/lesson-9](http://www.blueprintgps.com/lesson-9))

John witnessed the Gospel Angel flying across the heavens preaching to every "nation, tribe, tongue and people" (Revelation 14:6). The angel will proclaim the "everlasting gospel," saying in a loud voice, "Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water" (Revelation 14:7).

The four elements of his message are: fear God, glorify God, realize your judgment is at hand and so worship Him.

### The Meaning of Fearing God

When it comes to the Bible's command to fear God, we often misunderstand its meaning. Prophecy expert Daymond Duck clarified what fearing God actually means in the Bible when he wrote:<sup>1</sup>

Satan would have us believe it means to be afraid of God, but that is incorrect. To fear God means to have a holy respect for him, believe he exists, and believe he reigns and will judge all mankind. This kind of fear is the beginning of wisdom, and it pleases God.

Likewise, the author of Ecclesiastes concluded his message emphasizing the necessity of keeping such a reverent attitude. He wrote: "Fear God and keep His commandments, for this applies to every person" (Ecclesiastes 12:13).

The Gospel Angel will proclaim, "The hour of His judgment has come" (Revelation 14:7). For those who heed the Gospel Angel's Good News proclamation, they will surrender to the fact that Jesus died for our sins and beat death by resurrecting Himself from the dead.

When we place our faith and trust in Jesus Christ, we are saved from the just punishment for our sins. The judgment we deserve is taken off of us and placed onto Christ at the Cross. Those saved can then stand before the Father holy and pure, having nothing to fear.

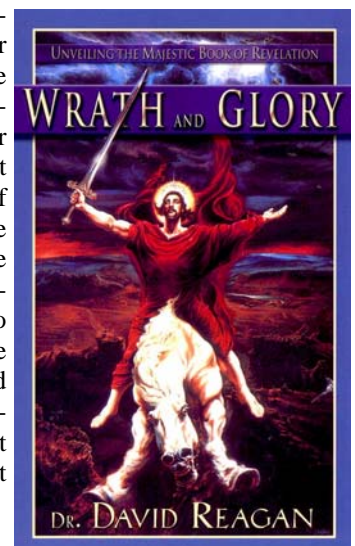
But, for those during the Tribulation who continue to reject the Gospel Angel's message, a warning given by Jesus will apply to them: "But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, fear Him!" (Luke 12:5). ❖

#### Notes:

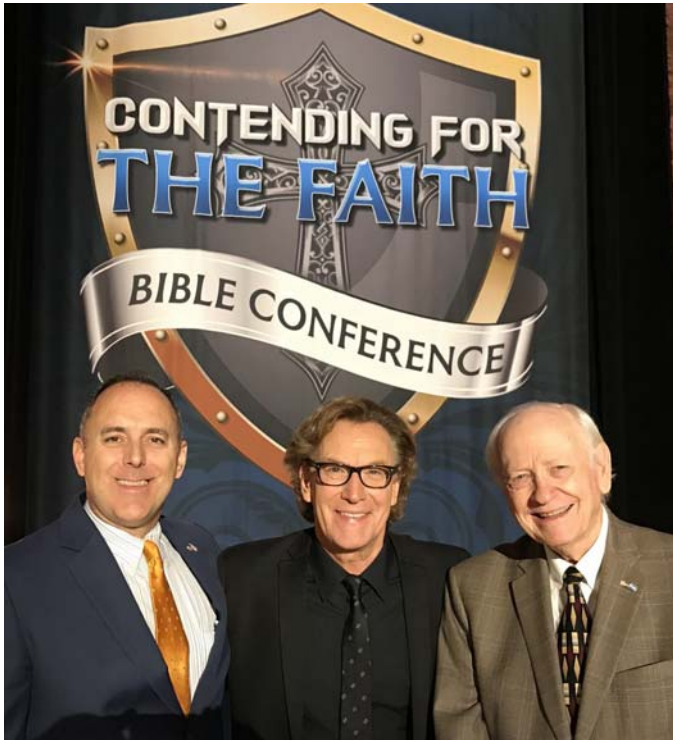
1) Daymond R. Duck, *The Book of Revelation*, (Nashville, TN: Nelson Reference, 2006), page 209.

### For Further Information About the Book of Revelation

This second edition of Dr. Reagan's book provides a chapter by chapter explanation of the meaning of the book of Revelation. It is written in a manner that is easy to understand. It will clear away the mysteries of the book, affirming the message that believers will win in the end. It also shows how the message of Revelation is relevant to daily living here and now. The book is 240 pages long and contains an annotated bibliography of Revelation resources. It sells for \$20, including the cost of shipping. ❖



# A Spiritual Feast



Col. Tim Moore, Marty Goetz and Dr. David Reagan

The Lord poured out His Spirit on our 2019 annual Bible conference, answering all our prayers. We had over 1,200 present. The fellowship was sweet. The displays by many different ministries were informative. The music was divine. And the speakers were inspirational.

## The Transition of Leadership

One of the highlights of the conference was a “passing of the baton” ceremony in which Dr. Reagan publicly acknowledged Colonel Tim Moore as his designated successor.



Dr. Reagan is shown above with three of the missionaries supported by Lamb & Lion who attended the conference. They are (left to right) Paul Liu of China, John Ishmael of India and Marko Kiroglu of South Africa.

Dr. Reagan called Tim and his wife, Amy, up to the podium, together with Nathan Jones and the ministry’s trustees. He then explained that he was going to give Tim one of his most precious possessions — namely, a prayer cloth that had been given to him in 2016 when he was ordained by the Messianic Jewish Alliance of America as an honorary Messianic rabbi. Dr. Reagan and Nathan then placed the prayer cloth on Tim’s shoulders as a symbol of the passing of the anointing. The chairman of the Lamb & Lion Board of Trustees, Mark Strickland, then prayed for Tim, and Marty Goetz sang a Hebrew blessing.

## Friday Evening

The conference began Friday evening with a great concert by Marty Goetz. Actually, it was more of a worship service as Marty engaged the audience with each of his wonderful songs.

Marty was followed by our keynote speaker, Kelly Shackelford, the founder and president of the largest law firm in America — The First Liberty Institute — that is solely devoted to the defense of religious freedom and Christian liberty. Kelly presented a sweeping overview of the assaults on Christian freedoms in the schoolroom, the military, the workplace and the public arena. He also shared some exciting triumphs that his attorneys have recently experienced in the courts.

## Saturday

The conference continued all day Saturday, with Marty leading in worship before each of the five speakers, all of whom focused on defending some aspect of the Christian faith:

- Mike Riddle** – “Defending the Genesis Account of Creation”
- Mike Gendron** – “Defending the Integrity of the Bible and the Gospel”
- Ron Rhodes** – “Defending Jesus’ Promise to Return Again”
- Eric Barger** – “Defending the Church against Apostasy”
- Dave Reagan** – “Defending the Divinity of Jesus”



## Notable Quotes

Some memorable comments that were made by the speakers included the ones below:

If we send our children to Caesar for their education, we should not be surprised when they turn into Romans. — Mike Riddle.

An Evangelist is a person who is called to preach a sermon that the pastor would get fired for preaching. — Mike Gendron.

The test of all things should be, “What does the Bible say?” — Mike Gendron.

A lot of prophetic interpretation is based on the books of First and Second Illusions. — Ron Rhodes.

Back when I was in high school, I realized I had gifts for analytical thinking and public speaking, so I thought I would become either a pastor or a lawyer. And people responded by saying, “That is like a God or Satan choice!” — Kelly Shackelford.

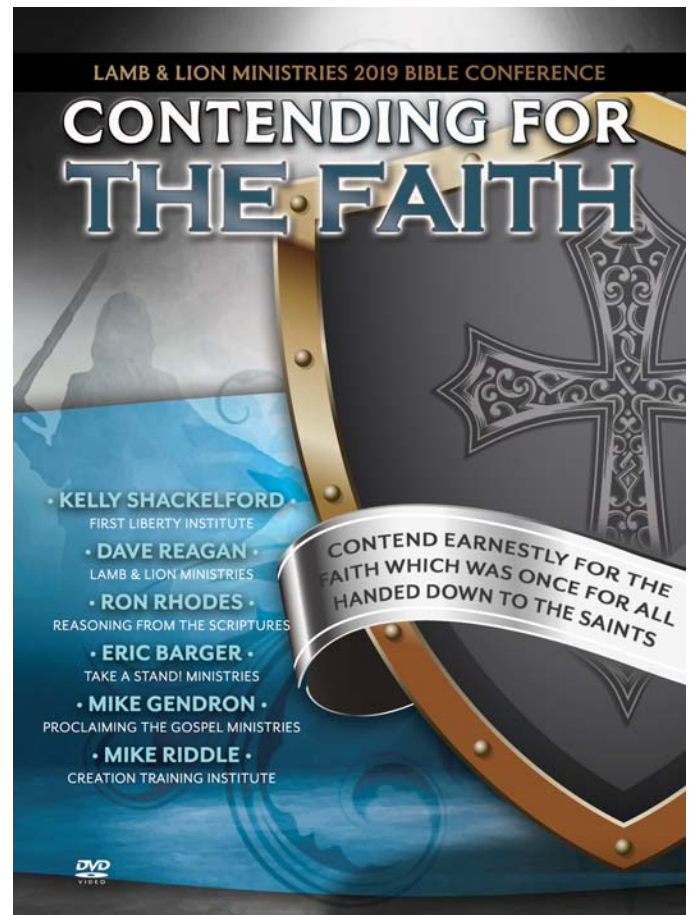
For the first time since the 1920s, we have five justices on the Supreme Court who think their job is to figure out the original meaning of our Constitution. — Kelly Shackelford.

The word, Evangelical, has lost its meaning because there are apostates who today are calling themselves Evangelicals. So, I no longer use that term to refer to myself, as I once did. Instead, I now call myself a Bible-believing Christian. — Eric Barger.

The divinity of Jesus is the central truth of the Bible. It is so fundamental that Christianity stands or falls on it. If Jesus was not God in the flesh, then His sacrifice for our sins was meaningless, and we have no hope. — Dave Reagan

## The Conference Album

The conference video album sells for \$25, including the cost



of shipping. You can order it at our website ([lamblion.com](http://lamblion.com)) or by calling 972-736-3567, Monday thru Friday, 8am to 5pm Central time.

Share the presentations with your family, neighbors and fellow church members. Society is becoming increasingly hostile to Christianity, and Christians need to know how to defend their faith. ❖



Mike Riddle is shown above speaking to the conference in defense of a literal interpretation of the Creation story in Genesis chapter 1.

## 1930s Prophecy Book —

Dr. Reagan recently ran across a book published in England sometime in the 1930s. There is no publication date in the book, but several statements in it indicate that it was published between the two world wars, most likely in the mid-1930s. The book is titled, *What Will Take Place When Christ Returns?* The author was F. E. Marsh. This was undoubtedly Dr. Frederick Edward Marsh (1858-1931) who devoted his life to studying the Bible and unfolding its treasures to others through his preaching and his many books and outlines. In addition to being a well-known conference speaker, he served as a minister of the Bethesda Free Church, in Sunderland, U.K. from July 1887 to 1907. The table of contents of this book is fascinating:

- 1) The Prophetic Word Will be Verified
- 2) The Sleeping Saints and the Living Ones Will be Unified [Post-Trib Rapture]
- 3) Believers Will be Glorified
- 4) The Saints Will be Classified [Rewards]
- 5) Israel Will be Vivified [Re-established]
- 6) Hell Will be Stultified [Binding of the Antichrist]
- 7) Mankind Will be Pacified [Universal Peace]
- 8) Creation Will be Gratified
- 9) The Earth Will be Beautified
- 10) The Holy Spirit Will be Justified
- 11) Christ Will be Satisfied
- 12) The Father Will be Magnified

The book contains a very passionate and florid explanation of the importance of Bible Prophecy:

There is no part of Scripture richer or more munificent in rewards for the faithful inquirer [than the Prophetic Word]. It is a garden of flowers, a cabinet of wondrous jewelry. It is a vast and varied landscape, filled with beauty and grandeur, the horizon of which is fringed with the bright dawning glories of eternal day. Here, and here alone, we can see the real scope and magnificence of man's redemption. Here, and here alone, we can trace God's providential plans to their ultimate consummation, and learn the real majesty of His counsels of love. At every step there is something to encourage and comfort us under the fatigues and trials of life; something to confirm our faith and to fill us with glorious anticipations.

## Michael Brown's Newest Book —

Michael Brown's newest book, *Saving A Sick America*, which Dr. Reagan reviews, beginning on page 7, is full of insightful thoughts, both by the author and by people he quotes. Here are some examples:

“The same men who wrote our foundational documents presup-



posed that America would be a moral and religious society. Otherwise, they realized, the democratic principles on which our country was founded would quickly crumble because we can enjoy freedom only with responsibility.” — Michael Brown.

“When people stop believing in God, they don't believe in nothing — they believe in anything.” — G. K. Chesterton (1874-1936), an English philosopher and theologian.

“One of these days, some simple soul will pick up the Book of God, read it, and believe it. Then the rest of us will be embarrassed.” — Leonard Ravenhill (1907-1994).

“The Christian ideal has not been tried and found wanting. It has been found difficult, and left untried.” — G. K. Chesterton.

Explaining all the efforts to de-humanize babies in the womb, Michael Brown observes: “If the fetus can be humanized, then abortion cannot be justified.”

Writing about absolute truth, Brown says: “Even reality is relative today, since, we are told, you are whatever you perceive yourself to be. As I've said many times before, if perception is substituted for reality, there is no end to the social madness that follows.”

Speaking of the responsibility of the Church for the decay of our society, Brown writes: “Let the truth be told. There is very little thunder from our pulpits, very little preaching that creates an atmosphere of holy reverence (what the Bible calls “the fear of the Lord”), very little that challenges us and confronts us and stirs us and awakens us, very little that equips us to endure hardship or to be courageous or to confront the culture or to live a sacrificial life out of love for our neighbor.”

Characterizing today's preaching, Brown observes:

Many of our leaders preach a toothless, pep talk gospel that fits in perfectly with our convenience store, quick-fix Christianity, promising all kinds of benefits without any requirements. What a deal! Who could refuse it? No wonder we are producing consumers rather than disciples. What else can we expect when we so studiously bypass the cross in so much of our preaching? What else can we expect when we preach God the Genie rather than God the Judge? . . . In today's view, Jesus came to make you into a bigger and better you. Jesus came to help you fulfill *your* dreams and *your* destiny. Put another way, the gospel is all about you!

We are living in a time today . . . when the gospel of personal success . . . has been merged with an exaggerated message of God's love, thereby rendering the listener impervious to warning or correction or rebuke. “If it doesn't make me feel better about myself, it's not from God. If it draws attention to my sin, it's not from God. If it challenges me in any way, it's not from God. It's legalism. It's bondage. It's the law — and it's not for me.” . . .

We are being coddled rather than challenged. ❖



# Television Schedule

## An Appeal

Please pray for the effectiveness of our television outreach. And please consider becoming a Prophecy Partner. It is the donations of our Prophecy Partners that make our TV outreach possible. Call our office for the details of the Prophecy Partner Program (972-736-3567).

### Television Broadcast Schedules

#### National Networks (10):

**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).

**GEB** — Sat. 5:00pm CT, DirecTV 363 and web streaming (gebamerica.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).

**Upliftv** — Mon. & Fri. 9:30am CT, DirecTV 379 (upliftv.com).

**WHT** — Sat. 7:00pm CT, DirecTV 367 and web streaming (lesea.com/wht).

**Folk** — Mon. 7:30am CT, DISH 218 (myfolk.tv).

#### Regional Networks & Area Stations (25):

##### Arizona

**KASW** — Phoenix, Sun. 7am PT, channel 61 (yourphx.com). **NEW!**

##### 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).

##### Colorado

**KCDO** — Denver, Sun. 8:00am MT, channel 3 (k3colorado.com).

**KXTU** — Colorado Springs, Sun. 9:00am MT, channel 57 (fox21news.com/soco-cw).

##### Florida

**WTOG** — Tampa and St. Petersburg, Sun. 8:30am ET, channel 44 (cwtampa.cbslocal.com).

##### Georgia

**WATC** — Atlanta, Sun. 8:30am ET, channel 57 (http://watc.tv).

##### Kentucky

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

**WDKY** — Lexington, Sun. 7:00am ET, channel 56 (https://foxlexington.com).

##### Louisiana

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

**KMCT** — Monroe, Fri. 10:30am CT, channel 39 (http://kmct.tv).

**KTAL** — Shreveport, Sun. 7:30am, CT, channel 6 (arklatexhomepage.com). **NEW!**

**WBRL** — Baton Rouge, Sun. 9:00am CT, channel 21 (bproud.com).

##### Missouri

**KMCI** — Kansas City, Sun. 7:30am, CT, channel 38 (kshb.com/38-the-spot).

**KFJX** — Joplin, Sun. 7:30am, CT, channel 14 (fox14tv.com).

##### North Carolina

**WCCB** — Charlotte, Sun. 7:00am ET, channel 18 (ccbcharlotte.com).

**WRAZ** — Raleigh-Durham, Sun. 7:00am ET, channel 50 (fox50.com).

##### Ohio

**WUAB** — Cleveland, Sun. 7:30am ET, channel 43 (cw43.rocket.us).

##### Pennsylvania

**WPCW** — Pittsburgh, Sun. 7:30am ET, channel 19 (https://cwpittsburgh.cbslocal.com).

##### Tennessee

**WNAB** — Nashville, Sun. 7:00am CT, channel 58 (http://cw58.tv).

**WBXX** — Knoxville, Sun. 8:00am ET, channel 20 (wvlt.tv/cw/home — WVLT is a sister station).

##### Texas

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

**KCEN** — Waco & Temple, broadcast station, Sun. 6:30am CT, channel 9 (kcentv.com).

**KDAF** — Dallas-Ft. Worth area broadcast station, Sun. 8:00am CT, channel 33 (cw33.com).

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

**KUBE** — Houston, Sun. 8:00am CT, channel 57, Comcast cable 53, DirecTV & DISH local 57 (http://kubetv.com).

#### Internet Networks (8):

**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 ❖

# An Urgent Appeal

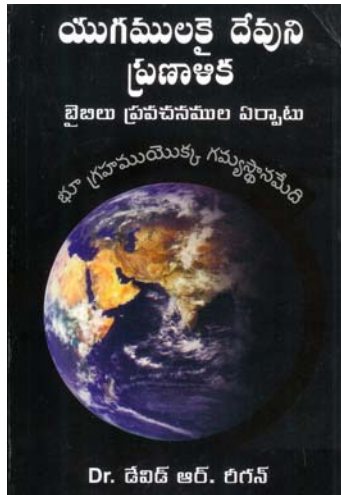
Dr. David R. Reagan

One of the finest foreign missions I have ever encountered is located in Bangalore, India, and is headed up by a remarkable evangelist named John Ishmael. The ministry is called Revival Literature Fellowship. It was founded almost 50 years ago by John's father.



John Ishmael and his family.

The ministry translates and publishes Christian books and articles into some of the key languages of India. Additionally, John holds Bible prophecy conferences for pastors all over the nation. He also has a special ministry outreach to one of the lowest castes in the nation.



God's Plan for the Ages in the Telugu language.

John has been working with us for many years. He has published many of my books in various languages. He uses our materials in his pastor conferences. And he publishes an abridged version of our *Lamp-lighter* magazine. His ministry is controlled by an independent Board of Trustees, and they are committed to the highest principles of financial accountability.

John conducts his ministry under constant persecution, mainly from radical Hindus which have become even more oppressive in recent years as they have gained greater political

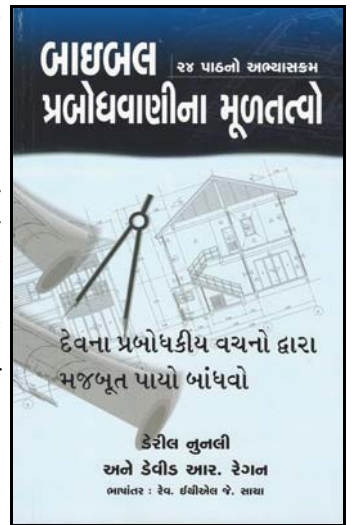
power. One of the tragic results of this is that John has never been able to keep a ministry headquarters for long. Almost as soon as he rents a space and gets moved in, the radical Hindu leaders come against the landlord with all kinds of threats, forcing him to revoke John's lease. And so, John is constantly searching for new space and constantly moving from one place to another.



John Ishmael is shown above conducting a Bible prophecy conference for pastors in the Indian state of Gujarat. He used Lamb & Lion's publication, *The Basics of Bible Prophecy*, as his guide for the conference. The pastors were so enthusiastic about what they learned that they begged John to produce a copy of the book in the Gujarati language. John proceeded to do so, and the book is pictured below.

We have been praying fervently for some time now for the Lord to provide him with a permanent headquarters. Over the past few years the Board of the ministry has frugally saved up a total of \$108,695 in their building fund.

Recently, the Lord opened up a great opportunity for housing the ministry. One of John's Christian friends has decided to build an apartment complex with eight units. He plans to use four of these apartments for his extended family. The other four apartments will be rented only to Christians personally known to him. He has offered to sell one of these units to John's ministry for a total of \$313,589, including legal fees, registration charges and the government taxes. The ministry's Board has voted to pursue the offer. To do so, they must raise a total of **\$204,894** before the end of this year (the complex is scheduled to be completed in December).



Gujarati Edition

That sounds like a lot of money, and it is, but it is pocket change to our God. And remember, "nothing is impossible" with our God. Please pray about this appeal, and if you feel led to help with this important project, send a special donation designated for "India Outreach." We will see to it that every penny donated is forwarded to John's ministry. Thank you! ❖

Update report: When this magazine was going to the printer at the end of July, we had already raised \$112,000 of the \$205,000 needed, leaving a need of \$93,000. **Praise the Lord!**



# Ministry News

## Schedule of Activities —

### September:

Bible Prophecy Cruise [Reagan and other prophecy teachers] (6-11).

First Baptist Church in Dennis, TX (morning) [Reagan] (22).

The Brookhaven Church in McKinney, TX (evening) [Reagan] (29).

### October:

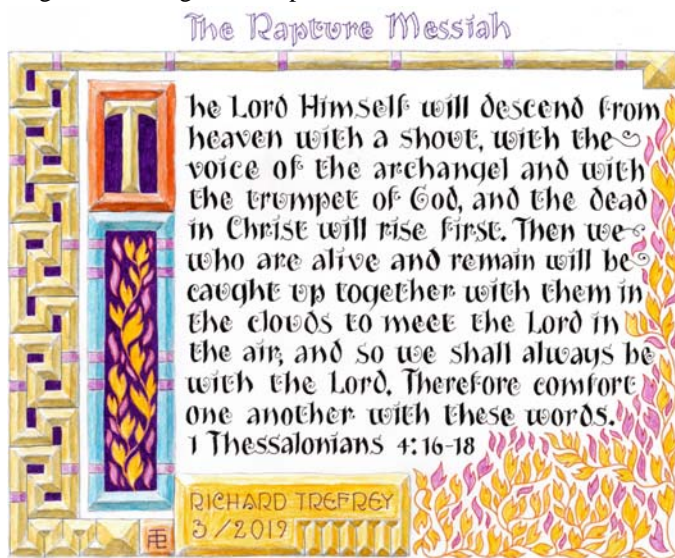
Prophecy Conference at Liberty Lighthouse Church in Sherman, TX [Reagan and Jones] (19-20).

### November:

Bible Conference at First Christian Church in Elizabethton, TN [Reagan and Mike Riddle] (8-10).

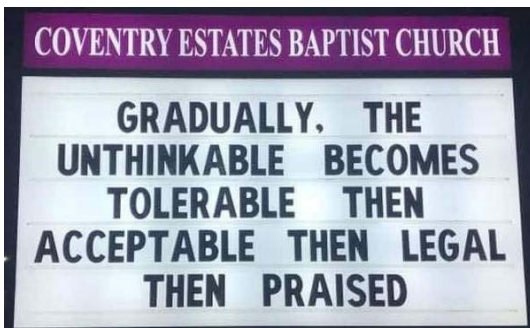
## 2020 Calendar —

Our annual calendar for 2020 will not focus on pictures from the Holy Land for the first time. Instead, it will feature Messianic prophecies presented in amazing calligraphy done by a very gifted artist named Richard Trefrey. Below is an example of the illustration that will appear in the calendar for the month of August, featuring “The Rapture Messiah.”



The calendar sells for \$10, including the cost of shipping. Call for a special price for orders of 10 or more. This would make a great Christmas gift. To order, call 972-736-3567 Monday thru Friday, 8am to 5pm Central time.

## A Chilling Truth —



## In Memory —



Doug Greenwold

On Saturday, June 22, Doug Greenwold and his wife, Nancy, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. The next morning he was found dead from complications resulting from cancer. Doug was a brilliant commentator on the Scriptures, specializing in supplying the full context of biblical stories — not only the textual context but also the context of geography, culture, politics and Jewish customs, among other things. His frequent appearances on our television program were very popular with our viewers.

His incredible insights into Scripture will be sorely missed. His website can be found at [www.preservingbibletimes.org](http://www.preservingbibletimes.org). We thank the Lord for bringing Doug into the life of this ministry.

## Holy Land Scholarships —

Dr. Reagan’s designated successor, Colonel Tim Moore, serves as the host of our Holy Land pilgrimages. A couple of years ago he came up with the idea of providing what we are calling Millennial Kingdom Scholarships. Tim was motivated by his observation that very few young people can afford to go on one of our pilgrimages. These scholarships offer young “Millennials” (ages 18-29) the opportunity to join one of our “Walk in the Footsteps of Jesus” Holy Land tours. It is our belief that participation in one of these pilgrimages will excite the souls of young people, bringing the Bible alive for them and encouraging them to join with us in proclaiming the soon return of Jesus. We are currently accepting both donations and applications for this program. Our next “Walk in the Footsteps of Jesus” tour is scheduled for June of 2020.



## Louisiana Prophecy Conference —

Maranatha Evangelistic Ministries has scheduled its annual prophecy conference for September 6-7 at the Trinity Baptist Church in Lake Charles, LA. This is the wonderful ministry headed up by Al Gist and his wife, Sandy. The theme for this year’s conference is “Countdown to Liftoff.” The featured speakers, besides Al, will be Gary Frazier and Nathan Jones. The conference is free of charge. For detailed information, check Al’s website at [www.maranathaevangelisticministries.com](http://www.maranathaevangelisticministries.com). ❖



Al & Sandy Gist



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## A Suggested Christmas Present

A great new daily devotional book has been produced by Richard and Tina Kleiss, two of our Prophecy Partners in Ocala, Florida. These two wonderful Christians are not amateurs at this sort of thing. This is, in fact, the fourth daily devotional book they have published.

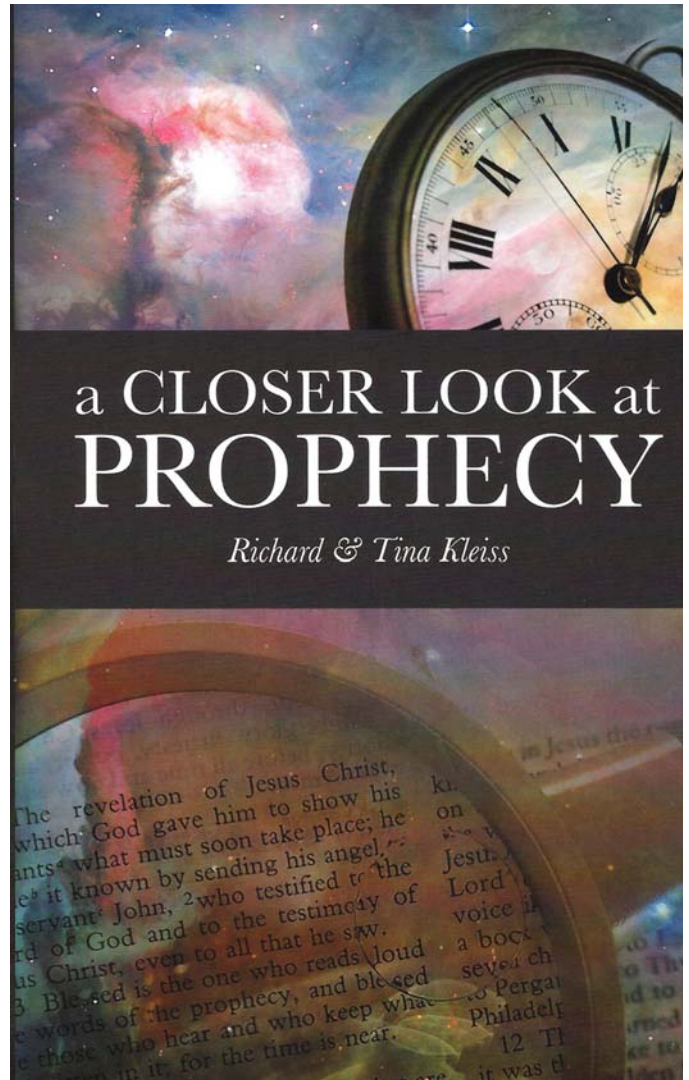
Two of their earlier devotional books focused on affirming God as the Creator of the universe. A third emphasized the integrity of God's Word. This is their first devotional book devoted to Bible prophecy.

The book runs about 400 pages in length, including the introduction and reference notes. (The pages are not numbered; rather each one is given a date for the year.)

Both First and Second Coming prophecies are covered. The authors use some very clever symbols which appear at the top of each page to indicate the content of the devotional for that page. The topics include: Prophetic Promise, Prophecy Basics, Scientific Foreknowledge, Prophetic Warning, Israel, Prophecy Fulfilled, Prophetic Type, Digging Deeper and Key Verse. Each devotional concludes with a quote from the Prophetic Scriptures.

Contributors include Bible prophecy experts like Henry Morris, Tim LaHaye, Ed Vallowe, John MacArthur, Noah Hutchings, David Jeremiah, Daymond Duck, Mark Hitchcock, Beth Moore, Terry James, Arnold Fruchtenbaum, Billy Crone, Grant Jeffery, Bill Salus and Nathan Jones, among others! Thirty-six of the devotionals are by Dr. Reagan.

Dr. Reagan wrote an enthusiastic endorsement of the book, saying, "I am deeply impressed with the in-



depth, thorough research the authors have done . . . The result is an inspirational presentation of God's marvelous promises about the future."

The book sells for \$15, including the cost of shipping. You can place your order through our website at [www.lamblion.com](http://www.lamblion.com) or by calling 972-736-3567 Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm, Central time. ✚