

Prophecy is like a lamp shining in a dark place. 2 Peter 1:19



Lamplighter

LAMB & LION MINISTRIES
a Non-Denominational Christian Media Ministry

July/August
2021

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The *Lamplighter* is a bi-monthly publication produced by Lamb & Lion Ministries

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Observations from our Director

Change. It seems inevitable in a world that is spiraling out of control. The very bodies we inhabit are in a constant state of flux—if not perceptible moment by moment, then evident as we pull out snapshots from years gone by.

There is only One who is constant: Almighty God. He testified about Himself, "I, the LORD, do not change" (Malachi 3:6). James, the brother of Jesus, called the LORD our "Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow" (James 1:17). And the writer of Hebrews testified that "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8).

Many people do not like change, and so it is a great comfort to know that God is a singular constant. He is the unshifting Rock that will anchor our faith until we enter His presence and behold Him face to face.

As Lamb & Lion Ministries completes its years-long transition process, many of you have undoubtedly wondered what changes would occur. How will our message and mission adjust under new leadership?

Let me state emphatically that the message of Lamb & Lion Ministries will not change. We will continue to proclaim the soon return of Jesus Christ to as many people as possible as quickly as possible. Given my military background, that mission statement will guide everything we do. If anything, we intend to redouble our efforts to accomplish that mission with increasing urgency.

What will change are the platforms and presentations we utilize to accomplish that mission. In years gone by, Lamb & Lion transitioned from radio to television and from mimeographed newsletters to the *Lamplighter* magazine you've grown accustomed to. In the months to come, you'll see gradual adjustments to the look of those various mediums—just as you're seeing today with our new magazine format.

The articles in this edition of the *Lamplighter* will highlight the vision we will cast, the reasons Bible prophecy exists and the crit-

ical role the Lord still wants us to fulfill.

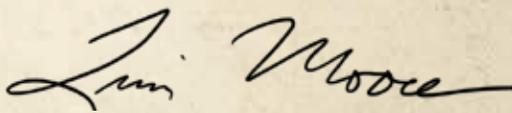
Having already recognized that many people do not like change, I realize that some of you may want everything to remain static. But in order to stay fresh and engaging, we must communicate in ways that will reach new audiences and new generations. None of the adjustments we will make will represent change for change sake; we are intentionally endeavoring to achieve our mission and impact lives for the kingdom of God.

One other aspect of our ministry will not change. Lamb & Lion Ministries will remain dependent upon the Lord to draw the hearts of like-minded brothers and sisters in Christ around the world to join our efforts with their prayers and financial contributions. He has blessed us beyond measure as we've endeavored to serve Him boldly. Together we will fulfill the mission He has called us to—ensuring that He gets the credit. We pray that you will seize the opportunity to partner with us.

Together, we can rejoice to know that we are living in the season of the Lord's return. Very soon Jesus—who is the same yesterday, today, and forever—will affect the change we are all looking forward to. In the twinkling of an eye we will be changed.

Even so, come Lord Jesus!

Godspeed!!



Tim Moore
Director & Sr. Evangelist



TIM MOORE

Casting a Vision

I've often wondered how my heroes of scripture felt as they experienced the wonders their eyes beheld. Did they realize at the time just what God was doing? Did they recognize the privilege of being woven into His unfolding plan?

As you might imagine, for the past few years my thoughts have increasingly focused on the prophets of God. Those visionaries were called of God to foretell future events and to forth-tell His truth to a scoffing world. Other biblical exemplars served as leaders of God's people. You can imagine the challenges men like Joshua and Solomon faced when following in the footsteps of other great men.

As I've anticipated the culmination of our slow-motion transition in the leadership of Lamb & Lion Ministries, the role model who has resonated in my heart is Elisha.

Called to Follow

1 Kings 19:19 states very matter-of-factly that Elijah selected his successor by simply throwing his prophet's mantle on Elisha. From that day forward, Elisha followed Elijah and ministered to him. When Elijah's time of service was nearing an end, he gave Elisha permission to stay behind. Elisha chose instead to stay by Elijah's side.

Before he was taken up into heaven, Elijah asked what he could do for Elisha. Elisha's request was bold and hopeful: he asked that a double portion of Elijah's spirit be given to him. That was a difficult thing, as Elijah quickly pointed out. But Elijah left it in God's hands to fulfill that request or not.

2 Kings 2 records that God did honor Elisha's request; he was able to see Elijah's miraculous departure. As Elijah was taken away, his mantle fell at Elisha's feet. Elisha picked up that man-

tle and carried on—following in the footsteps of his mentor and friend.

When the sons of the prophets in Jericho saw Elisha, they immediately cried out, "the spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha" (2 Kings 2:15). Elisha went on to follow in Elijah's footsteps through a life of service as a prophet of God.

A Tremendous Weight of Responsibility

While I have greatly anticipated picking up David Reagan's mantle and carrying on, I've also been struck by the immensity of this undertaking. I understand how Solomon felt in King David's shadow. Realizing the weight of his responsibility, he wisely prayed, "Give Your servant an understanding heart to [lead] Your people and to discern between good and evil. For who is able to [lead] this great people of Yours?" (1 Kings 3:9).

I think one of the keys to succeeding in a transitional moment is to recognize personal insufficiency for the job. In other words, regardless of gifting and talents, it is imperative to lean upon the Lord and rely on Him at every step. Those who are self-confident to the exclusion of dependence on God will inevitably fall short at some point. But those who trust in the Lord will have every need met as they serve the Lord with an eye to His glory.

Scripture records that Elisha simply went about serving the Lord. I intend to follow his example.

You may be wondering what changes I'll institute at Lamb & Lion Ministries. Let me begin by telling you what absolutely will not change.





We will continue to proclaim the soon return of Jesus Christ through a variety of mediums—print, television, live presentations, and the Internet. We'll encourage people to travel to Israel so that they can see how God is fulfilling His ancient promises with their own eyes. In other words, we'll keep on doing what we've been doing since 1980, to God's glory.

A Vision of Things to Come

As we continue in our fifth decade of proclaiming the Lord's return, it is appropriate for us to look ahead, casting a vision toward the future. On that note, I must cite another of my favorite Proverbs, 29:18, "Where there is no vision, the people perish" (or "the people run amok"). Either way, it is necessary that we seek to discern the vision the Lord would have for us going forward.

With my background as a pilot, I know that perfect vision requires keen near vision and keen far vision, as well as the ability to recognize contrasts, discern colors, and see at night as much as humanly possible. Those areas offer a means of clarifying my vision for the future.

Near

What can you expect in the next 3-5 years

now that this Transition is complete? First, there will be no change in the mission and purpose that David Reagan was called to 41 years ago. We will continue to reach as many people as possible as quickly as possible with the message that Jesus is coming soon. Our goal is twofold: to motivate believers toward urgent evangelism, holy living, and an expectancy of Jesus' imminent call for His bride, the Church. And, to warn unbelievers of the wrath to come, pointing them to the loving arms of our Lord and Savior. This is no different from other prophetic voices in Scripture called to warn people that God's judgment was about to fall, including:

- **Noah** - who warned a wicked and rebellious world that God was about to pour out judgment in the form of a global deluge (Genesis 6-7, 2 Peter 2:5).
- **Jonah** - who was sent to warn a pagan society of God's impending judgment—offering the people of Nineveh the opportunity to confess and repent (Jonah 3:5,8-9).
- **Habakkuk** - who recorded God's plan to pour out judgment on a rebellious people and His assurance to those who live by faith (Habakkuk 2:4).
- **John the Baptist** - who preached, "Repent, for the kingdom of God is at hand!" but scorned the false piety of religious leaders by asking, "You brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?" (Matt. 3:2, 7).

Like Paul and the other writers of the New Testament, we will always preach Christ crucified, dead and buried, resurrected to ascend to the right hand of God the Father—and coming



There will be **no change in the mission and purpose** David Reagan was called to 41 years ago. We will continue to proclaim the soon return of Jesus Christ around the world.

again soon. Our message will be a stumbling block and foolishness to those on whom the wrath of God abides, but the power and wisdom of God to those looking for our Blessed Hope (John 3:36 and 1 Corinthians 1:22-24).

The method for sharing that message has changed over the years. David Reagan first preached in person to small country churches, then by mimeographed newsletter, then cassette tape, then radio, and eventually books, television



and the Internet. The Lord provided an exponential growth in the outreach and impact of this ministry over the past 41 years. We will continue to utilize all of those mediums—except, I suspect, the mimeographed letters and cassette tapes. And, we're already thinking about new platforms and outreach methods to connect with new communities and new generations.

In the very short term, you'll notice changes to the *Lamplighter*, the opening of *Christ in Prophecy*, and our television set. While our message will not change, we intend to keep our con-

tent fresh and relevant in order to embolden the faithful and reach the lost until the Lord returns.

Intermediate

What about an "Intermediate Vision?" It certainly seems appropriate to comment on what I anticipate beyond five years down the road if the Lord stays His coming. The Lord could come any day, but we are prepared to serve Him faithfully until He does return.

It seems inevitable that our society and its culture will become increasingly hostile to our message. The Church's center of gravity will likely move further out of the formerly Christian West. Technology will undoubtedly offer new avenues to reach the world. Even so, our message will continue unabated.

One of my favorite Jewish proverbs says, "If you think the world is going to end tomorrow, plant a tree today." Similarly, evangelist D. L. Moody was once asked, "What would you do today if you knew Jesus Christ was coming tomorrow?" He answered, "I would plant a tree."

In that spirit, we will continue to attract gifted individuals to our staff—hopefully spurred on by growing support and further expanding outreach. We will seek additional new ministries to partner with, channeling God's outpouring of blessing here into other co-laborers for Christ. And, as David Reagan has done, I will be intentional about looking for someone to follow in my footsteps at the right time.

You might think I am being audacious to talk about my replacement right as I assume the lead-

If you think the world is going to end tomorrow, plant a tree today.

~Old Jewish Proverb



ership role. But like Paul, I believe that we must always be pouring into “Timothys,” to follow after us. We must be intentional about raising up young fruit-bearers.

Distant

Now a word about a “distant vision.” It’s tempting to disregard an even longer timeline, because I believe Jesus could come at any moment. Given that hopeful expectation, it seems unnecessary to plan very far into the future. As my friend and fellow Trustee Ron Anderson used to say, “I don’t even buy green bananas anymore!”

But, if David Reagan and the Lamb & Lion Board had taken that attitude 41 years ago—when they also believed that we were already living on “borrowed time”—where would we be today? This ministry would have been designed and operated only for short-term impact instead of faithful long-term outreach.

They would not have been proactive to seek new venues to share the message of Jesus’ soon return, and we would not be reaching people around the world today.

Lamb & Lion’s supporters have been visionary in their own right. Like the prophets of old who gazed into the future and proclaimed history they would not live to see, our Prophecy Partners and many others have invested in reaching people they will never meet.

Eager as we are for the Rapture to occur, Lamb & Lion Ministries will not grow weary in remaining faithful to the message God has called us to share.

Contrast, Color, Night

That brings me to my last category – the ability to see contrasts and colors at night.

Where there is no contrast, it is hard to maintain discernment. Lamb & Lion Ministries will never shy away from proclaiming God’s Word—even as it contrasts ever more with the false message of the world. We will follow Noah, who served as a “preacher of righteousness” as the wrath of God hung over an unrepentant world (2 Peter 2:5).

Noah did not know when the Lord’s judgment



would fall, only that he would have adequate time to obey—telling of God’s impending wrath and the good news of a provision for salvation. The Gospel of Jesus Christ makes clear both the hope of salvation and the foreboding of judgment. That is because, as John the Baptist said, “He who believes in the Son has eternal life, but he who does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him” (John 3:36).

John's admonition represents the eternal contrast of options available to every person: eternal life through belief in the Son, or the abiding wrath of God on all who reject Him.

Regarding color, one of our greatest thrills is to witness the joy a believer has when the black and white of Scripture comes alive in full color. David Reagan has long said that a Pilgrimage to Israel will do just that—allow people to see prophecy being fulfilled before their very eyes.

In another sense, understanding the revela-



tions contained in Bible prophecy opens our eyes to the richness and beauty of God's Word. How else to recognize the way Jesus' birth, life, death, and resurrection miraculously fulfilled ancient prophecies? How else to appreciate the specificity and reliability of other prophecies that point to His rapture of the Church, His return with His saints, His rule from David's throne with a rod of iron, and His reign forevermore?

Finally, I must say this about night vision. In my own experience of wearing night vision goggles to land an airplane in combat, I understand the power of sight when others are merely groping in the dark. Darkness is descending upon our world at an accelerating pace. Many people are groping, some refusing to even believe in light or truth. But we proclaim Jesus Christ who is Light, and Truth, and Life.

It was Adrian Rogers who said, "It's getting

gloriously dark!" We know that Jesus is at the very gates of heaven, ready to come for His bride. He has called us to shine the light of His truth in our dark world. As the night grows thicker, His light will shine even brighter. And His prophetic Word has been given to encourage us even in the midst of the gathering gloom.

Our Motivation and Hope

The prophet Jeremiah said, "Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is" (Jeremiah 17:7, KJV). Certainly, if our trust is in the LORD—if He is our trust—we will continue to bear fruit for Him.

In Titus 2:13, Paul encourages us to be "looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus." His personal testimony captures our motivation: "in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved his appearing" (2 Timothy 4:8).

Those of us whose hearts have been touched by God's prophetic Word understand the breathtaking scope of His revelation. It motivates and inspires us. That is why, even though the age of grace is nearing its end, we are determined to plant trees that will bear much fruit until the Master returns (John 9:4).

41+ Years of Faithfulness—and Counting

For just over 41 years, David Reagan has been faithful to the calling God placed on him. He ordered his entire life around proclaiming the soon return of Jesus Christ—to as many people as possible as quickly as possible.

If the Lord tarries another 40 years, Lamb & Lion Ministries will be faithful to our mission and our call. We will trust in and point to Him who said, "Yes, I am coming quickly" (Revelation 22:20).

Godspeed! ♦



Dave Reagan, Tim Moore and Nathan Jones recently commemorated Dave's 977th and final episode as lead host on *Christ in Prophecy*. The program will continue with Tim Moore and Nathan Jones serving as hosts.

Where to Watch *Christ in Prophecy*

NATIONWIDE NETWORKS:

CTN, DayStar, NRB,
TCT, WORD, GodTV

LOCAL NETWORKS: Check your provider listings or
visit ChristInProphecy.org/Programs/Networks

ONLINE: ChristInProphecy.org, Roku, Truli.com,
Vimeo.com, DailyMotion.com/us, GodTube.com,
Faithxtrmetv.com, HisChannel.com and
YouTube.com/user/ChristInProphecy



AL MOHLER

Standing With Steadfast Conviction

Dr. R. Albert Mohler, Jr., is the President of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. He is featured in Dr. Reagan's book, *God's Prophetic Voices to America*, and has appeared as a guest on *Christ in Prophecy*.

There can be no doubt about the predicament of Christians in the 21st century: We are facing an increasingly hostile culture that is sold out to secularism. We are witnessing before our eyes a clash of world-views—indeed, the world around us has championed godless ideologies that, far from securing flourishing and peace, only reap destruction and chaos. There is a profound moral confusion in our culture, which raises an important question for Christians longing to live faithfully in this secular moment: What is our response?

We might be tempted to confront the culture with the power of the ballot box—perhaps we can turn the tide of moral decline by winning elections, securing seats on the Supreme Court, and electing certain people to every sphere of governance who will enact righteous laws. Elections do indeed matter and they have enormous consequences. Christians, therefore, have a faithful stewardship to consider in the public square.

Politics and political parties, however, are not the most significant answer for Christ's people. It is not the first importance of the church. The

state of our culture and the realities of secularization can only be met with the power of the gospel.

In Luke 18:8, Jesus said, "When the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on earth?" This is perhaps one of the most pressing questions facing Christians today. What do we think will be required of us and our ministries to produce faithful Christians who will not capitulate to the culture? What will faithfulness look like for the church in the midst of this secular age? Where will we go, and to what will we lay hold of in order to see the people of God standing with steadfast conviction at a time when all the cultural forces tell us it is time to "get on the right side of history?"

We face a watershed moment. The acids of modernity will demand of us the greatest level of conviction and the most stupendous level of clarity—and that conviction and clarity will only last so long as we hold fast to God's Word.

If Christians will be found faithful, we will need more of God's Word, not less. If the church is found faithful, it will be because we continue

“When the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on earth?” This is perhaps one of the most pressing questions facing Christians today.



to preach, without apology, the full counsel of God’s infallible, inerrant, authoritative Word.

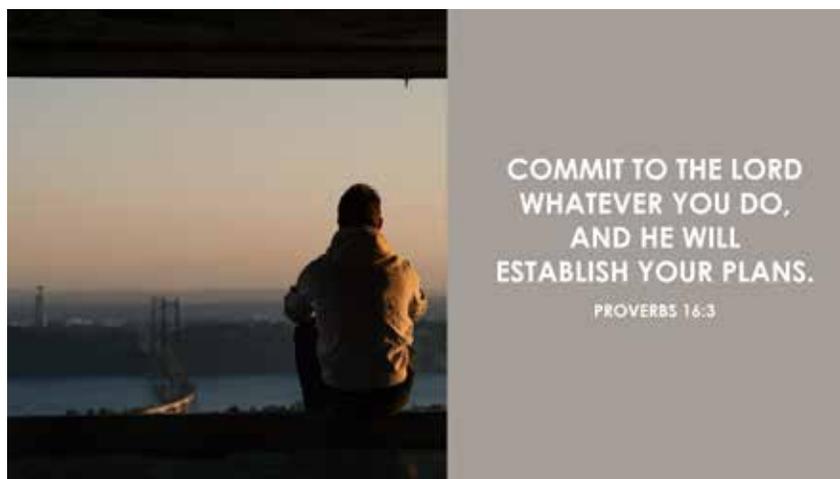
Indeed, we are going to need all the gospel, all the Scripture, all the Holy Spirit, and all of Jesus all the way to the gates of hell.

We have a lot of work to do—a work that demands an unyielding commitment to God’s Word. The task required of us demands, furthermore, leaders who will constantly direct the people of God to the Word of God. That is why I am thankful for Lamb and Lion Ministries and the leadership of Dr. David Reagan, who founded this ministry and directed its gospel efforts since 1980. His stewardship has now passed to Tim Moore, the new Director and Senior Evangelist of Lamb and Lion Ministries.

Transitions can be arduous and present organizations with many challenges. Yet, for Christians and Christian ministries dedicated to proclaiming the gospel to a lost and dying world, transitions must be met with courage, prayer, and a constant vigilance to keep the vision of the ministry at the center of its efforts.

The task is too important and the responsibility too glorious for Christ’s people to be found unfaithful. Now, more than ever, Christians need to root themselves in the promises of God that are sure and unfading. May God, even in the midst of this season of transition, continue to lead Lamb and Lion Ministries in the task of proclaiming the good news of the Gospel.

Between now and the return of Christ, we have a lot of work to do—let’s get at it. ♦



NATHAN E. JONES

10 Reasons Why Bible Prophecy Exists



Nathan Jones serves as Internet Evangelist for Lamb & Lion Ministries. He teaches and speaks at conferences, churches, radio podcasts and over the Internet, sharing the good news of Jesus' soon return. Nathan has also authored many articles and two outstanding books, *12 Faith Journeys of the Minor Prophets* and *The Mighty Angels of Revelation*.

Did you know that a whopping 31% of the Bible is God revealing how events will unfold before they happen? Our Heavenly Father wants His children to know what the future holds!

God's prophetic Word has excited us here at Lamb & Lion Ministries for over 40 years now. And, that excitement will never abate in the years ahead, for the Good News and hope-filled message about our Savior's return is what energizes our passion for evangelizing.

We want you to be invigorated by that same passion as well! And so, I called my fellow Bible prophecy teacher, Todd Hampson of the Prophecy Pros podcast, and we put a list together to share some of the reasons why we believe Bible prophecy exists. (Many more reasons exist, so feel free to add to the list.)

1 Shows that God Speaks the Truth

Bible prophecy has been given to us to show that God is God. He is the Chief! He is the One in charge. He exists outside of time. He knows everything. And so, whatever God says, you can take it as the truth. That's why the first



reason that Bible prophecy has been given to us is so we can live by that truth.

2 Proves the Bible Is God's Word

The second reason why God has given us Bible prophecy is to prove that the Bible is God's word. The fact is that the Bible is the only book ever written that contains genuine, fulfilled prophecies. These prophecies were fulfilled to... the... "T"! Fulfilled Bible prophecy proves the Bible is truly God's Word and so we can place our faith and trust in it and its Author.

3 Shows God Is in Control

A third reason is to show us that God is in complete control. He is sovereign. That may sound like a big theological word, but sovereign means that God is ultimately in control of every single detail. Bible prophecy puts that fact on display like nothing else.

4 Demonstrates God's Love

The fourth reason for God giving us Bible prophecy is to demonstrate that God loves us and that He has a plan for our lives. We're not just floating around on a big spinning orb out in outer space with no purpose and no meaning, as Atheists claim. God has crafted a purpose for every person He has ever made because He loves His children. God has also planned a destination for the faithful. He wants us to live with Him in Heaven and on the New Earth forever. And so, He gives us prophecy to show how world history will end with the faithful living forever with our loving Heavenly Father in the Eternal State.

5 Describes God's Plan

The fifth reason deals with how skeptics of Bible prophecy misconstrue its prophecies as being too general, or too vague, or too big. But, if you take a closer look, God provides many specific details about His plan for the ages. This plan shows how God is working to bring humanity back into a right relationship with Him so that one day we shall dwell in a blessed time of peace, righteousness, and fellowship with our Creator. Bible prophecy can be very specific and very purposeful, for God explains how His plan will unfold through His prophetic Word.

6 Demonstrates God's Might

The sixth reason revolves around God's characteristic of being mighty. The fact that God the Father gave up His one and only Son to die for the penalty of our sins so that those who place their faith in Jesus may be redeemed is truly praiseworthy. The promise that Jesus Christ is

The promise that **Jesus Christ is going to return one day** in might and power to victoriously defeat Satan and his minions and set up His kingdom should make you stand up and shout,

“Hallelujah!”

going to return one day in might and power to victoriously defeat Satan and his minions and set up His kingdom should make you stand up and shout, “Hallelujah!” Almighty God alone is worthy of our praise and worship, and Bible prophecy shows us why.

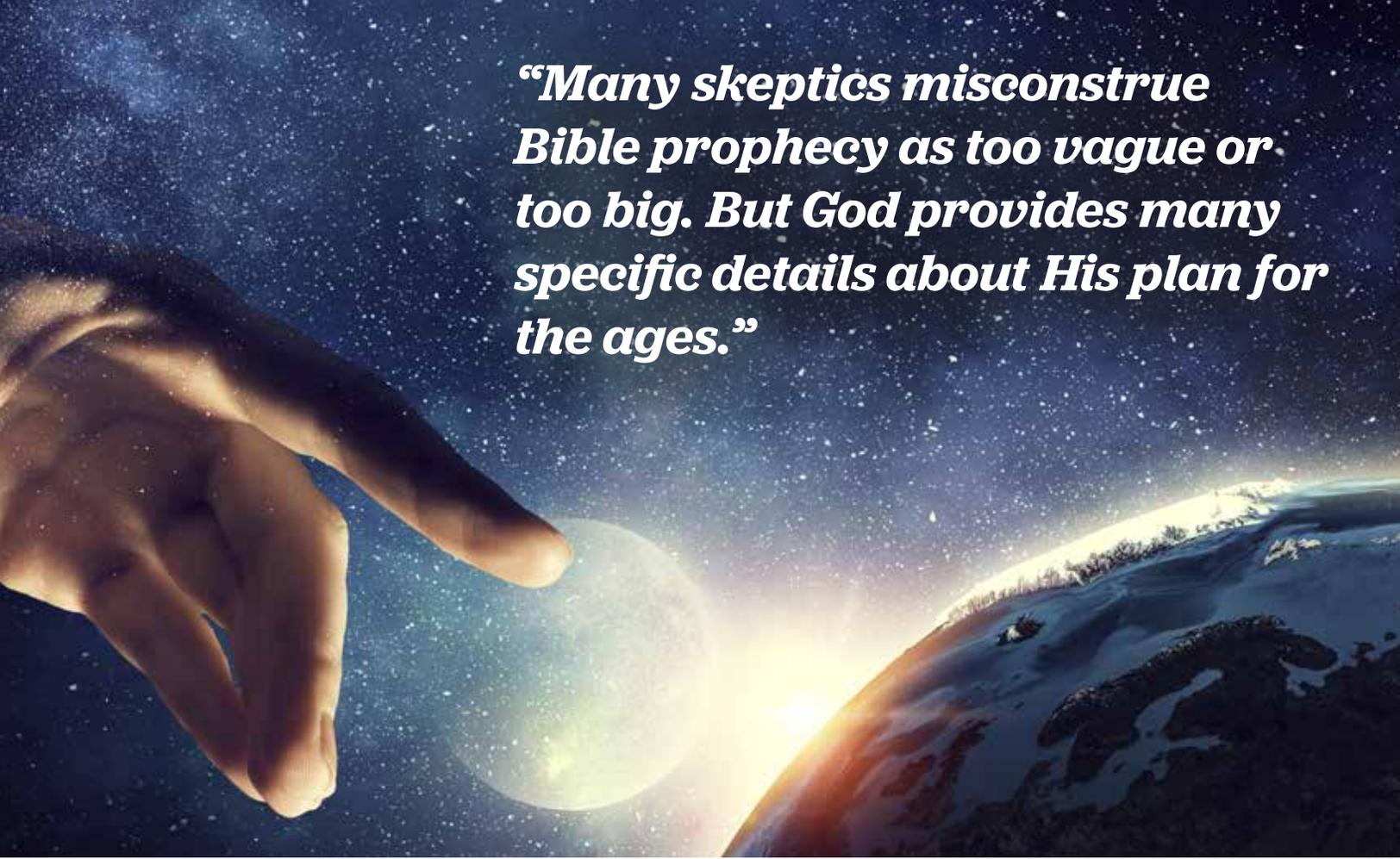
7 Proves God Is Worthy

The seventh reason why God gave us Bible prophecy is to demonstrate how big God is and how teeny-tiny we are in comparison. Nobody is like God. Therefore, He alone is worthy of us living our lives trying to please Him through obedience and acts of love. Even though God is far greater than we are, He still has a use for us, and that is to serve and fellowship with Him. Why should we? Because He alone is worthy of our obedience and praise. Bible prophecy points us to that fact.

8 Promises Evil Will Be Punished

The eighth excellent point involves how on this earth, evil often gets away with its crimes. Bad people commit bad things, often without ever facing punishment. And yet, Bible prophecy promises that swift justice is coming. The evil in this world does have an end to it. While we patiently wait for that glorious day, God is mercifully providing humanity this short reprieve to 1) return to Him in repentance, and 2) grab hold of His gracious offer of having a right





“Many skeptics misconstrue Bible prophecy as too vague or too big. But God provides many specific details about His plan for the ages.”

relationship with Him. Bible prophecy maps out the timeline for that long-desired day of justice.

9 Prepares Us to Get Right with Him

The ninth reason (and it’s a beautiful reason and one that we just love like crazy) concerns how Bible prophecy shows God’s grace. Our Creator lets us know what is going to happen ahead of time so that we can get right with Him. If God wanted to, He could just drop the hammer on everybody because we are sinners, and He is not. We deserve to be sentenced to Hell for our rebellion against our Creator and for breaking His moral law. But, by God’s grace and through His love, our Heavenly Father lets us know ahead of time what He is planning on doing. We know exactly what judgments are coming, as well as exactly what blessings are coming. He grants us the time to prepare and get right with Him.

10 Gives Us Hope

The tenth and final reason in this list (though there are so many more reasons why God has given us Bible prophecy) would be that it is meant to give Christians hope.

The Lord wants us to understand how the future will play out. Sure, there are valleys in life we must traverse, and terrifying times are coming like the Tribulation which is hard to digest, but prophecy is meant to give us hope that this evil age will end. Jesus will return as promised to rapture up His Church before the Tribulation begins, then He will defeat evil, and finally He will institute His thousand-year kingdom of peace and righteousness and justice. We gain hope knowing that the Christian’s final destination is to dwell in peace with our Creator forever in the Eternal State.

So, Bible prophecy is meant to give hope to the believer in that we have a great future ahead

of us. But, Bible prophecy is also meant to serve as a warning to the unbeliever about the eternal destiny they are facing in the Lake of Fire. And so, the Bible calls us all to repent and accept Jesus Christ and His loving sacrifice so that we may be reconciled with God and share in that eternal hope.

You probably agree that people sure need hope right now more than ever. So much craziness is going on in the world. People need to stop putting their hope in the things of this earth, whether they be political or monetary or whatever, that have provided a false and fleeting sense of comfort and stability. As we quickly approach the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, there is no other time in history

more urgent in calling people to put their faith and hope in God alone.

God is perfect. His promises are true. Bible prophecy assures us that God knows what He is doing with our lives and in this soon-passing world. We can have a sure hope in that fact.

If you do not know Jesus Christ, then today is the day to accept Him as your Savior and make Him Lord of your life and so claim that blessed hope. If you already know Jesus as your Savior, then continue to grow in your relationship with Him, exhibiting holy living and practicing evangelism. Start by opening your Bible. And, as we hope you have just learned, don't skip over the prophetic parts. ♦

...looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ... Titus 2:13

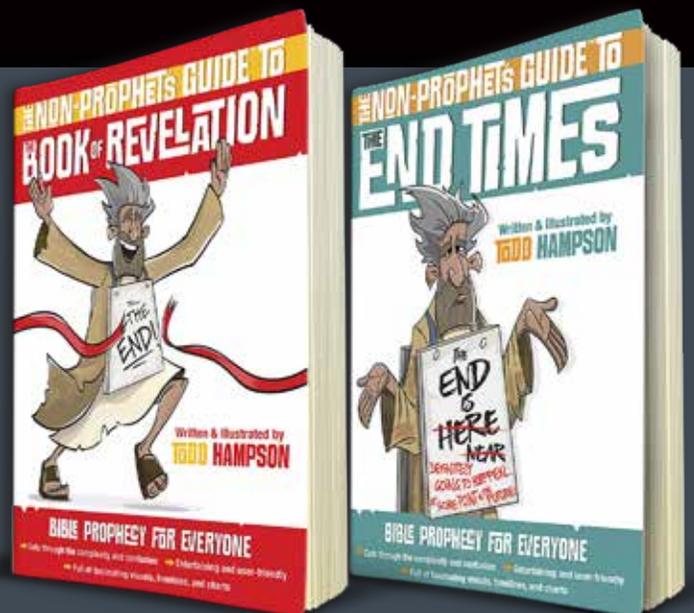
HOPE



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BOB RUSSELL

Passing the Baton



There are three reasons why every church and parachurch organization should consider an intentional transition plan.

First is the Biblical precedent. Moses trained Joshua for 40 years; Elijah passed the mantle on to Elisha; Paul chose Timothy to be his understudy; Barnabas took John Mark under his wing. When the time came, the mentor stepped aside or was taken completely out of the way, and God's mission continued. The Apostle Paul advised, "The things that you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses, entrust to reliable men who will be able to teach others also" (2 Timothy 2:2).

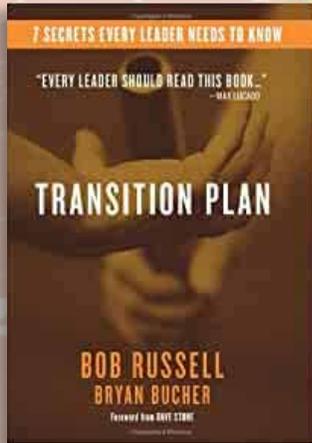
The second reason for a calculated transition plan is the example from the business world. In recent years major corporations have given considerable attention to succession planning. Corporate boards have seen businesses rise and fall on the strength of the CEO, and they've learned to think more long-term.

In his book, "Built to Last," Jim Collins, a popular business consultant, has an entire section on mentoring. He writes, "Do not fall into the trap

of thinking the only way to bring about change and progress at the top is to bring in outsiders, who might dilute or destroy the core. The key is to develop and promote insiders who are highly capable of stimulating healthy change and progress while preserving the core."

The third reason is simply common sense. If a wealthy businessman offered you \$100,000 to drive his two children from Atlanta to Los Angeles in 72 hours, you'd probably jump at the chance. But common sense tells you not to attempt driving that distance alone. You know you're going to get sleepy and need rest. So you'd enlist a friend to share the driving with you. God entrusts us with His church – people who are so valuable to Him that He died for them. The shepherds of the flock are to deliver them to His eternal home.

Unless Jesus returns, we are going to grow weary, feeble-minded...and die. If you sincerely care about the divine mission, common sense demands you think about who will be in the driver's seat when you're absent. Just as we buy life insurance to protect our families should something unforeseen happen, so we need to make



*Editor's Note: Bob Russell is the former pastor of Southeast Christian Church in Louisville, Kentucky, and a longtime friend of Lamb & Lion Ministries. He literally introduced scores of people in the Kentuckiana region to Lamb & Lion and our message about the Lord's soon return. Dr. Reagan utilized Bob's classic book *Transition Plan* (available on Amazon) as the playbook to carefully plan and execute a hand-off of leadership to Tim Moore. Bob continues to minister to pastors as a mentor and coach through personal interaction and regular training retreats. He has been a tremendous resource to Dave and Tim throughout the transition process here at Lamb & Lion Ministries and will be a featured speaker at our annual Bible Conference in July.*

provisions for our church family to continue after we're taken out of the way.

There's a temptation to rationalize, "God is sovereign, and the church is in His hands - therefore we just trust Him." Perhaps you can point to a church that had no transition plan, and when the preacher left, a pulpit committee selected an unknown outsider, and within a few months, the church went on to a greater ministry. So you conclude no succession plan is necessary.

That same line of reasoning could cite examples of people who didn't use a seat belt and yet survived a horrendous crash as a rationale for not wearing seat belts. It does occur, but the odds aren't in your favor. God can bless a variety of transitions, but an intentional plan has the best chance for success.

I applaud the wisdom and humility of Dr. David Reagan in choosing to pass the leadership baton of Lamb and Lion Ministries on to Tim Moore. It takes a special, Godly person to release the baton of leadership when the time comes. Tim Moore is a great choice. He shares David's passion for and understanding of Bible prophecy. He re-

veres God's Word and relates well to people. Tim lives a life of integrity and has a positive vision for the future of the ministry.

Charles Swindoll wrote, "When a man of God dies, nothing of God dies." Thankfully David Reagan is still very much alive! He will continue to contribute to Lamb and Lion and be available for counsel. But it's important for all of us who love David and his ministry to remember that when a man of God retires, nothing of God retires.

When the baton is passed properly in a relay race, the giver stretches forward, and the receiver reaches back. As a result, the team actually gains a step! Let's pray for a smooth transition. More importantly, let's also pray that the ministry of Lamb and Lion will not miss a step but will be propelled to even greater influence in the future.

"I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:13-14). ♦

TIM MOORE

Your Final Transition: Are You Ready?

It's easy for an edition like this one to become purely informational.

You might finish this *Lamplighter* highlighting the transition we just completed and think, "Well and good...I am confident that they'll still be proclaiming the Gospel and the soon return of Jesus."

If that is all you take away, you have received the main thrust of my communication. But that would not be enough.

We will aspire to always leave you with an application for your own life—something that will encourage or challenge you. That may be an appeal for you to actually do something, or it might be an admonishment to be transformed by the renewal of your mind as Paul describes our maturing as believers (Romans 12:2).

The last two years have represented a slow-motion transition of leadership at Lamb & Lion Ministries. Since David Reagan first approached me to ask if I would succeed him, I've understood the immensity of that challenge. When he brought the matter before the board and they immediately affirmed his inclination, I insisted that they delay any vote on the matter for 4 months—giving them time to seek the Lord's will through prayer.

Even when we made the public announcement that I would succeed him as Director and Senior Evangelist, we emphasized that this would be a slow and deliberate process. We

seized upon Proverbs 16:9 as our key verse: "The mind of man plans his way, but the LORD directs his path." That has been our prayer throughout this process.

Much planning and mentoring went into the transition—with assistance from several Trustees on a Transition Committee, and regular counsel from Pastor Bob Russell. Our tremendous staff has been a great blessing, ensuring a smooth transfer of leadership in our daily operations. Only in recent months did Dave and I start keeping track of the weeks and days remaining until the baton was finally passed.

Reflecting on the slow-motion nature of this transition made me realize that the months and weeks and days seemed to accelerate as the final date approached—and passed very quickly in retrospect. Even when I realized June 1st was drawing near, it seemed to approach slowly but was suddenly upon us.

It merits saying that each of us is awaiting a great Transition. Whether the Lord calls us home individually or we hear the trumpet blast and join Him in the air, Christians know that we will all be transformed "in the twinkling of an eye." The slow motion "transformation through the renewing of our minds" Paul talks about will shift into hyperspeed—either when we die or at the Rapture, when we are united with Christ.

Unlike our transition at Lamb & Lion Ministries, none of us knows the day when our final transformation will occur. Followers of Jesus



Christ know that "the night is almost gone, and the day is near" (Romans 13:12). That is why you cannot wait to ensure that you will meet Jesus as your Blessed Hope—and not your Holy Terror.

At Christ's return, will He be your Blessed Hope or your Holy Terror?

John the Baptist said that the wrath of God abides on each person who does not obey the Son (John 3:36). Those who do not obey Him by accepting His offer of salvation will not see life. Whatever their lot in this life, their eternal transition will leave them cast into Hell and separated from God forever.

Do not let that fate await you. Don't delay another day, another moment. As Paul said, "Now is the acceptable time, now is the day of salvation!" (2 Corinthians 6:2). ♦

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Is America Past the Point of No Return?

TIM MOORE

In July of this year, we began airing a new TV series on *Christ in Prophecy*, featuring interviews with “God’s Prophetic Voices to America.”

Based on Dr. David Reagan’s bestselling book, this series focuses on a number of prophetic voices who have been calling America to turn back to God. Throughout the Bible, God sent prophets to warn Israel and Judah that His patience would eventually run out, and His wrath would be kindled. These spiritually gifted men and women have been crying in the wilderness that America has strayed from God.

As Dr. Reagan wrote, “Our nation is currently hurtling down the path of destruction with ever-increasing speed.” To paraphrase the sad account of 2 Chronicles 36:15-16:

“The LORD, the God of their fathers, sent word to them again and again by His messengers...but they continually mocked the messengers of God, despised His words and scoffed at His prophets, until the wrath of the LORD arose against them, until there was no remedy.”

You will be challenged and emboldened as you watch each episode. The first focuses on significant prophetic voices from the 20th Century who are

no longer with us—Peter Marshall, David Wilkerson, Francis Schaeffer and Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn.

The episodes that follow will feature interviews with the living prophetic voices from Dr. Reagan’s book: Tim Wildmon (standing in for his father, Don), Erwin Lutzer, William Koenig, Jan Markell, Al Mohler, Robert Jeffress, and Jonathan Cahn—as well as a surprise or two.

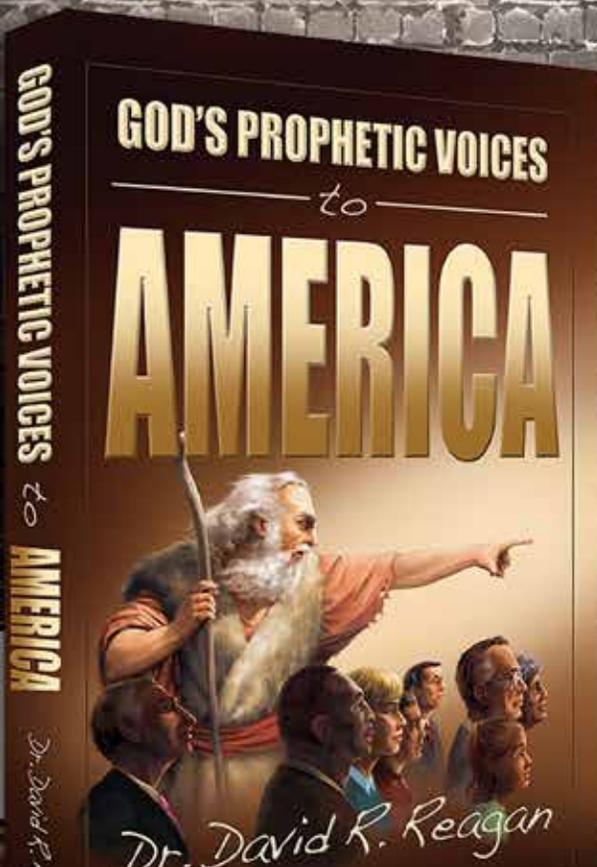
My one-on-one interview with each of these prophetic voices was taped at their home base or headquarters—no small feat with the threat of Covid still hanging over the world. You will find that each of these individuals offers a clarity of vision in this dark and muddled moment in American history.

The Lord is graciously raising up even more prophetic voices to sound a similar and increasingly urgent alarm into the national consciousness. In the months to come, we plan to highlight these additional prophetic voices on our program.

I hope you’ll make a point to join us on *Christ in Prophecy*, via one of the many networks that broadcast or stream our program. You may also visit our website weekly to watch each episode as they are released. We plan to feature many exciting new episodes and teaching series—you will not want to miss them! ♦

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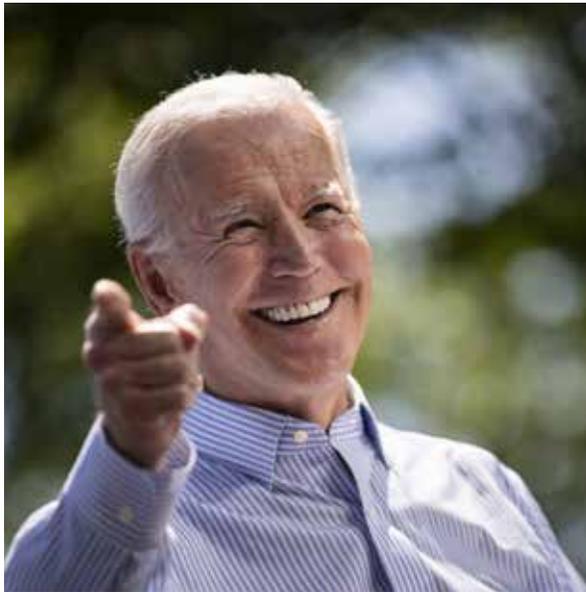


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TIM MOORE

Signs of the Times

We are now six months into the Biden-Harris Administration in Washington. Pronouncements of doom (from the Right) and salvation (from the Left) have proven to be overwrought – as is often the case in politics. And yet, there are clear signs of cultural tectonic forces moving the ground beneath our feet.



Joe Biden has made good on his promise to be the most liberal and progressive president in United States history.

Some people still do not realize that the word “progressive” was adopted years ago by the advocates of socialism. There is no longer any doubt that the policies Joe Biden has

embraced have shifted us in that direction. Socialism’s inherent antagonism toward religion in general and Christianity, in particular, is becoming evident for all to see.

These first six months under Biden have led to a wave of executive orders designed to roll back the religious liberty guarantees in place under President Trump. The massive power of the federal government has been thrown behind a radical sexual revolution while constraints on abortion are gleefully dismissed.





In this environment, Christian voices will continue to be muted by our culture. Over time, our own government will label us as troublemakers and extremists. In 2,000 years, we've come full circle once again.

As we've documented many times before, God's prophetic Word told us these things would happen as the end draws near. We know that every nation will reject God and rebel against Him. Still, it is heartbreaking to witness our nation spiral into godless oblivion.

While we have breath, we must speak out. We can advocate for truth and warn people of the wrath to come. Whether



they listen or not, our charge remains the same. All of us will be marginalized, many of us will be persecuted, and some of us will be prosecuted for standing on the promises and Word of God. That's why it is so important that we stay connected, to encourage one another.

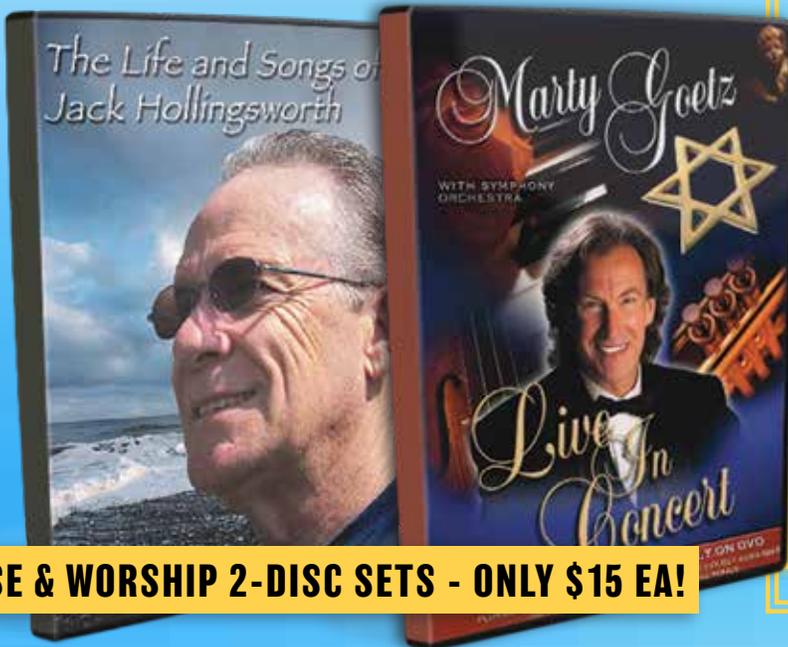
At Lamb & Lion Ministries, we pray for people connected to this ministry by name every morning. Please keep us in your prayers, knowing that your prayers and support enable us to continue proclaiming Jesus' soon return.

Until He Comes! ♦

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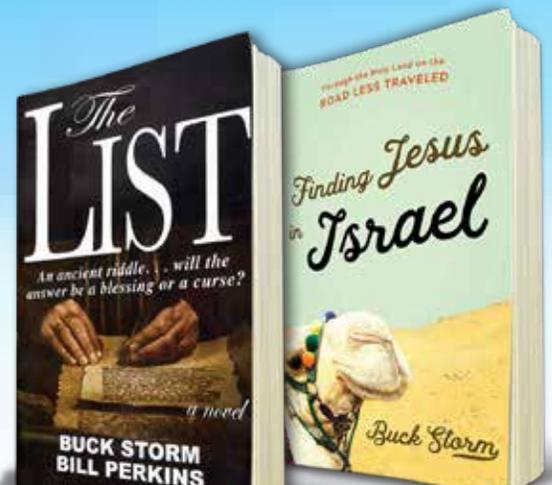
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Lamb & Lion Ministries is a non-profit, 501(c)3 evangelical Christian ministry. Our mission is proclaim the soon return of Jesus Christ to as many as possible, as soon as possible. We do not claim to know the day or hour of the Lord's return, but do believe we can recognize the season of the Lord's return. It is our conviction we are living in that season.