

WORLD POLITICS IN THE END TIMES

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FROM THE EDITOR

Archimedes said, "Give me a place to stand, and a lever long enough, and I will move the world."

What he postulated as a mathematical law of physics has become the megaloma-



niacal dream of mankind: Give me enough power—concentrated in time and place—and I will rule the world. Kings and rulers have ranged from the relatively benevolent to the utterly despotic. Even today, that spectrum is manifest among the nations of the world.

To the Greeks, "politics" described the affairs of the cities. The Old Testament speaks of kings who ruled over individual cities in Canaan. Later, God gave the Israelites a king following their clamor to "be like all the other nations." He warned that even the most benign rulers would still take some of their bounty and some of their freedoms.

Today, there is a renewed demand for ever-expanding governmental power. The cry, "there ought to be a law!" leads to an insidious expectation for government solutions to every problem—real or perceived. This, of course, plays into the machinations of our great adversary, who fashions himself a ruler preferable to Almighty God.

That is not to say that government in and of itself is evil. Just as God instituted the family as the basic building block of society, He ordained government to uphold order, encourage societal goods, and punish inevitable wrongs. Within its proper boundary, government is an agent for good.

But Satan has incited mankind to pursue powers and policies that reject God's laws and usurp His authority. Since Babel, the result has been disappointment, failure, and heartbreak.

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God's Word tells us that the nations of the world will align in a particular way in the End Times. Aspiring global elitists will try to manipulate the nations like pieces on a chessboard. The swirl of world politics is yet another sign that we are living in the season of the Lord's return.



But the King of kings has the final move!

As we explore the Signs of World Politics, take comfort in knowing that neither the elephant or the donkey will prevail in the end. The Lamb who was slain will return as a roaring Lion to set up His own righteous Kingdom on the earth.

I am looking forward to that glorious benevolent Monarchy!

Zim Moore

Tim Moore
Executive Editor
Director| Sr. Evangelist
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July 22-23: Tim Moore Lakeview Baptist Church Vermillion, OH

August/September: Tim Moore Trinity Baptist Church Priest River, Idaho (date pending)





THE KINGDOM OF THE WORLD

TIM MOORE | SIGNS IN WORLD POLITICS

The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He will reign forever and ever.

~Revelation 11:15



ince early in America's history as a Republic, politics has been a source of ongoing frustration and bemusement. Will Rogers once observed, "Congress is so strange; a man gets up to speak and says nothing, nobody listens, and then everybody disagrees." That might be slightly better



Will Rogers

than another humorist who reported that his own brother had run for office. Asked what his brother did after the election, the insightful man said, "Nothing—he got elected!"

As a recovering politician (I served in the Kentucky legislature for 13 years), I understand both the idealism that draws some into "public service" and the disappointment most people feel about our own government. Following my first election to serve as a Representative, people would ask what I thought about serving in the legislature. I'd tell them it was everything I thought it would be—and less!

Aggravation with elected officials and ever-multiplying bureaucrats is one thing, but Americans are losing faith in the system itself, and with each other. One observer rightly says 100% of Americans think 50% of Americans have lost their minds. I'd up that percentage several points, because it seems that election after election, the wheels are coming off.

Politics is not just a playground for fanatics or a parlor game to pass the time. It is a realm of human activity that is woven throughout God's prophetic Word.

PROPHETS AS POLITICAL PRONOUNCERS

I find it quite ironic when people claim that God has no interest in the affairs of mankind in general, or the political infighting that happens within and between nations. Many Old Testament prophecies had to do with the behavior of kings and kingdoms—forthtelling God's pronouncement of judgment based on several factors, including personal conduct, administration of justice, adherence to His laws, and treatment of His people.

Most of the original prophets (including Jacob, Joseph, Moses, and Joshua) were raised up to deliver messages to the chosen offspring of Israel. When a man of God said, "Thus saith the LORD..." people listened—or, to their great discredit and regret, did not.

Once Israel demanded and was granted a king, prophets were sent by God to intercede on His behalf. Samuel anointed both Saul and David. Nathan was raised up to chastise David in a dramatic rebuke from the Lord, and then was instrumental in Solomon ascending to the throne as his chosen heir. Ahijah pronounced the division of the kingdom into Israel and Judah (1 Kings 11:28-38). Unnamed prophets, such as the man of God who came from Judah, decried the false religion Jeroboam had introduced in Israel.

Later, prophets like Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Hosea, and Joel denounced the widespread apostasy and rebellion of the Jewish people—calling them to repent and turn back to God. At other times, they and others like Amos and Zephaniah and Zechariah spoke to the nations surrounding Judah and Israel. Jonah and Nahum were sent specifically to prophesy to Israel's mortal enemy, Nineveh.

The Lord's pronouncement of blessings and curses were not just for the Jews. David foretold a great curse on those who opposed the Lord's anointed (Psalm 40:14-15). Ezekiel prophesied vindication to the mountains of Israel against the enemy nations that had spoken against God's promises. Ezekiel spoke condemnation on Ammon, Moab, and Tyre—for gloating while Israel was being punished (saying "Aha!" as Ezekiel put it) or dismissively assuming that "the house of Judah is like all the nations" (Ezekiel 25:2-4, 8-11; 25:2-5).

Is God uninterested in the affairs of men or the sordid sphere of human endeavor we call politics? Absolutely not. If anything, much of His prophetic Word that points to the return of Jesus Christ is intertwined with His proclamations regarding world politics.

NATIONS OF THE WORLD AS PROPHETIC BEACONS

In addition to the other categories of signs, there are clear indications of Jesus' imminent return in the alignment of nations today. But because we exist in the moment—aware of the present but forgetful of the past and uncertain of the future—we sometimes miss the forest for the trees.

To gain understanding, we must start and end with the Word of God. On top of that, it is much easier to recognize patterns looking at the past and then extrapolate them to the future. What do I mean by that? Consider Daniel's prophecies of a succession of kingdoms in Daniel 2 and 7. Envisioned by Nebuchadezzar as a mighty statue but by Daniel as a series of four beasts, the vision is clearly understood now to refer to Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome. The editors of my NASB Bible have even

Many of the original prophets were raised up to deliver messages to the chosen offspring of Israel. When a man of God said "Thus saith the LORD..." people listened—or, to their great discredit and regret—did not.

inserted helpful sub-headings within those chapters to explain the accepted prophetic meaning of the passage. The Lord revealed that Medo-Persia and Greece would succeed Babylon (Daniel 8:20-21). Yet even Daniel did not understand all he was foreseeing.

Daniel asked the Lord about the very revelations he was recording but did not understand. He was told, "Go your way Daniel, for these words are sealed up until the end time" (Daniel 12:4, 9). God said many would be purged, purified, and refined, but "those who have understanding will understand" (Daniel 12:10).

Hindsight, and the fact that much of what Daniel recorded was sealed up "until the end of time," has allowed us to gain understanding that even the great prophet Daniel lacked over 2,500 years ago.

Regarding the nations of the world, Jesus said that among the signs preceding His coming and the end of the age, nation will rise up against nation and kingdom against kingdom (Matthew 24:6-8). The prophesied end-time state of the nations—or what we call the Sign of World Politics—is coming into alignment. Here are six indicators:



01 The Roman **Empire** has been resurrected in the form of the European Union

Daniel prophesied a sequence of empires that would end with the Roman Empire. Daniel was also clear that the final mortal empire would remain on the world scene, diminished in overarching power for a long period and brittle compared to the monolith that was Rome in Christ's day.

For the past 2000 years, the nations within the territory that once constituted the Roman Empire have been in near constant conflict. Ostensibly united in Christian faith since before the Middle Ages, they still have been divided by language, culture, geography, and nationalistic aspirations.

Following the devastating wars of the last century, European politicians clamored for a unified European government. Through fits and starts, the European Union (EU) is comprised of 27 nations that represent most of the western Roman Empire.

Headquartered in Brussels, Belgium, the EU has a single currency, a united military, and a homogenized identity. But, it still lacks a strong central leader—resulting in periodic economic and diplomatic tension. That reality is a fulfillment of Daniel's End Times prophecy of a kingdom combining iron with clay—simultaneously strong and brittle (Daniel 2:41-43).

Daniel also foretold that this final kingdom will eventually be led by a single strong leader—the man who will emerge as the Antichrist (Daniel 7:7-8; 8:9-14, 23-25; and 9:26-27).

Shockingly, many European leaders are actually clamoring for just such a man. Paul-Henri Spaak, who once served as the Prime Minister of Belgium, said this:

We do not want another committee, we have too many already. What we want is a man of sufficient stature to hold allegiance of all people, and to lift us out of the economic morass into which we are sinking.

Send us such a man, and be he god or devil, we will receive him.

At all times and in all seasons, Satan has had just such a man poised and ready to go.



02 Russia will re-emerge as a major threat

In the 2012 Presidential campaign, Republican Mitt Romney asserted that in spite of the subsided Cold War, Russia was a rising threat to America and the world. President Barak Obama scoffed at him, responding, "the 1980s are now calling to ask for their foreign policy back, because the Cold War has been over for 20 years." Just four years later, Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton would claim that Donald Trump was colluding with America's most formidable foe: Russia.

Clearly, rumors of the Russian Bear's demise were premature.

Of late, Russia has again been denounced as a pariah state led by an unmitigated despot. The scorn heaped on Russia is greater than anything Ronald



Paul-Henri Spaak

Reagan voiced—and he is the one that labeled the Soviet Union an "evil empire."

Students of Bible prophecy knew in the early 1990s that declarations of Russia's pacification were premature. While it was nice to hope that American and Soviet militaries were reducing their hair-trigger nuclear forces, the perestroika and glasnost (Russian for reform and openness) that broke out was short-lived.

Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39 describe an end-time configuration of nations that participate in what he calls the "Gog-Magog War." Gog is the name or title of a leader from a nation located "in the remotest parts of the north" named Rosh. That nation was populated by ancient Scythians and is known today as Russia.

Ezekiel 38:12 describes the motive that will compel Gog: he will come down from Russia leading a coalition of nations to plunder Israel's wealth. This axis of evil will include Magog, Meshech, Tubal, Persia, Ethiopia, Put, Gomer, and Beth-togarmah (Ezekiel 38:3-6). The modern nations that comprise the ancient territory of Magog likely includes Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, and possibly Afghanistan. Turkey, along with Azerbaijan and Armenia lie where Meshech, Tubal, Gomer, and Beth-togarmah once lay. Persia obviously became modern Iran, ancient Ethiopia now includes Sudan, and Put has become Libya and possibly Algeria and Tunisia.

The unifying feature of the nations that will align with Russia is that they are Muslim. What Israeli wealth might motivate this motley crew? Today it could be energy in the form of massive quantities of natural gas or cutting edge technology—both of which Isra-



el has become well-known to possess.

Ezekiel is very clear. The invasion will be thwarted by a supernatural intervention by God. On the mountains of Israel, He will personally defeat this massive army, humiliating Israel's antagonists and making His Holy Name known in the midst of Israel and the nations of the world (Ezekiel 38:1-7).

This demonstration of the providence and protection of the God of Israel will further discredit Islam, likely pushing it aside as a threat to the world.



03What about American power?

Throughout the previous discussion of Gog and Magog, there was no mention of the United States. At present, America is Israel's strongest ally (although that relationship is quite strained under the current Biden administration). So, where is the USA as Israel faces an existential threat from the north? Absent from the scene.

Many people are surprised to hear that America does not play an apparent role in Bible prophecy. Given our superpower status for the past 75 years, they wonder how we could disappear so quickly or be so inconsequential to end times events. Some people even assert that when Revelation 12:14 tells of the woman (Israel) fleeing from the dragon on "two wings of the great eagle," that must refer to America because the bald eagle is our national bird. I simply point out that 26 nations have an eagle as their national symbol, including Albania, Mexico, Poland, and Zimbabwe. No, John's prophetic reference to a great eagle ties back to Deuteronomy 32:11, where Moses poetically describes God "like an eagle...that hovers over its young" and spreads its wings to catch, carry, and guide them.

I absolutely believe the United States is in a state of decline. The dramatic degradation of our power may come over a period of time like the Roman Empire and so many others that have risen and fallen before us. Or, it may come very quickly following the Rapture of the Church from the world.

Either way, the other nations of the world will sit idly by as Gog-Magog descends on Israel—perhaps motivated by growing antisemitism. And, as the power of the United States ebbs away, there is another predator nation poised to ascend to world dominance.



04 China rises in the East

Revelation 16 describes a mighty army marching toward Jerusalem from the East. John records, "The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way would be prepared for the kings of the East." In another passage, an army of "200 million horsemen" is described (Revelation 9:16). Only two nations in the world have the population to field an army that large: China and India--both to the East.

Although India and China represent ancient civilizations, throughout most of the past 2,000 years they have been relatively weak compared to western nations. Indeed, until the 20th Century, both were subjected to colonialization by other great powers. While possessing tremendous natural resources and human potential, neither were considered great powers themselves until very recently.

Then, in 1972, President Richard Nixon went to China. He alone recognized the potential benefit of opening China as both a supplier and a market-even if he failed to appreciate

the danger of catching a tiger by the tail. India also emerged from several hundred years of British rule to quickly rise as a developing nation. Today, both China and India possess nuclear weapons and are significant players on the geo-political scene.

The Bible describes the kingdom of the Antichrist coming apart at the seams near the end of the Tribulation. While putting down a rebellion in the south, he learns that eastern kings are about to attack his flank. The unprecedented mass of men and equipment converges in the Valley of Jezreel in northern Israel—what most people call the Valley of Armageddon. Although the rebellion is directed against the Antichrist, all of these nations are in ultimate rebellion against **Tesus Christ.**

Revelation 14:20 says that the slaughter will be horrific. John describes God's wrath as a wine press and says that blood will flow "up to the horses' bridles, for a distance of two hundred miles." And all that carnage will be unleashed by a word from the Lord.

In terms of a sign of world politics, it is important to understand that it would have been impossible for any nation-or coalition of nations-to field a 200-million-man army until just the past century. John foresaw the rise of China and other eastern nations in both population and power-something even Richard Nixon did not discern 50 years ago.

Today, many Westerners are growing alarmed by Communist China's rapid rise and global aspirations. Certainly, there is reason for concern. But those of us who are looking for Jesus Christ should have our eye on another much smaller nation.





05 Israel is back

One of the most frequent prophetic themes in the Old Testament is God's promise to protect the Jewish people, regather them in the End Times, and reestablish their nation once again.

Jews and Gentiles alike sometimes wondered if God's promise for protection was a back-handed blessing, because persecution has been the typical Jewish experience. And yet protect them He did. No other ancient people group is identifiable today. The Canaanites, Philistines, Babylonians, and Romans have all faded into history. Only the Israelites have persevered.

The miracle of their preservation cannot be overstated. Historical records claim that two different advisors to great rulers were asked to prove the existence of God. Their two-word answer was, "the Jews."

The prophets also foretold that God would regather the Jews after scattering them, and then restore them as one nation on the mountains of Israel (Isaiah 66:7-8; Ezekiel 36-37; and Zechariah 12:1-6; among many other passages). That promise remained unfulfilled for 1,897 years.

Faithful Christian scholars and writers as late as the early 20th Century could not fathom how God would

DIASPORA:

the worldwide dispersion of the Jewish people from Israel since 70 AD.

orchestrate history to motivate the Diaspora to return to Israel, or provide them a home there. While Christians accepted His promises by faith, the fulfillment of them seemed inconceivable.

Beginning in the late 1800s, God raised up Jewish and Christian Zionists—like Theodor Herzl and William Blackstone. Through cataclysmic upheavals and horrors throughout the 1900s, He motivated Jews from around the world to go back to their ancient homeland. And, on May 14, 1948, He saw to it that Israel came to life. The dry bones of Ezekiel 37 stood up and became a nation once again—for His Holy Name's sake.



Over the past 75 years, other Bible prophecies have been fulfilled. Israel has become the focus of all the nations of the world, with control of Jerusalem the central question. In spite of rising satanically-inspired antagonism toward Israel, God has promised

provision and protection for the Jewish people regathered to their ancient Promised Land (Amos 9:15).

Israel is the greatest sign that Jesus is coming soon. Like a prophetic bill-board, Israel's existence tells us that we are in the End Times. But the rest of the world is pursuing one more aspiration that will prepare the way for the coming Antichrist.



06Clamor for a one-world government

I've already cited the foolish longing of Belgian Prime Minister Paul-Henri Spaak. He merely gave voice to an aspiration of mankind since it first began to organize into a larger society.

As Noah's descendants multiplied upon the earth, they decided to disobey God. They chose to build a city and a tower, making a name for themselves lest they be scattered over the earth (Genesis 11:4). That first attempt at a one-world government did not work out so well. God confused their language and scattered them over the face of the whole earth.







Since then, countless dictators and despots have attempted to expand their power. Geography, distance, and language and cultural differences made it difficult to establish and sustain an empire. Today, technology and hubris in the heart of man is giving rise to hope/fear that a one-world government is coming soon.

Bible prophecy makes clear that a future leader will emerge from the revived Roman Empire to conquer the whole world (Revelation 13, along with Daniel 9:26-27 and Revelation 6:1-2). He will ascend to power quickly through smooth words and deception, and then unleash a reign of terror toward any who oppose him. We do not know who he is because he will not be revealed to the world until the start of the Tribulation. That is why I said Satan has always had a man poised and ready to go-because he does not know when the Rapture will occur, leading to the Tribulation.

This particular indicator tells us the world is poised to embrace the man Scripture calls the Antichrist. The Great Reset is just the latest attempt to push this globalist agenda. Like a lion waiting to pounce, Satan is biding his time but preparing to launch his final assault. He will succeed for a season—seven years to be precise.

If you have put your trust in Jesus Christ, you will not have to witness or endure that horrific period of Tribulation when the wrath of God is poured out on the earth. Those who come to trust in Christ after the Rapture can take comfort in knowing that the Tribulation will not endure forever. The global rule of the Antichrist will come to an end—with nations rebelling against him and Jesus Christ returning to annihilate the armies of the earth and usher in His 1000-year reign of peace, righteousness, and justice.

RECOGNIZE THE SIGNS. **KEEP FOCUSED ON JESUS**

Like the other categories of signs, the Signs of World Politics alert those with eyes to see that we are living on borrowed time. Jesus is coming soon.

So, while we recognize the signs and study their implications as foretold in the Word of God, we keep looking for our Blessed Hope. In other words, we don't fixate on the road sign, or stop to gaze upon it, or have a roadside picnic. Instead, we continue to our destination.

We are blessed to live in a time when the Signs of the Times are multiplying like never before. We have seen Bible prophecy fulfilled in recent years that faithful Christians could only imagine (or found inconceivable).

Like stars in the heavens that pour forth speech without words (Psalm 19:1-3), the signs are coming into prophetic alignment and proclaiming the soon return of Jesus Christ.

Are you ready? 1



WORLD POLITICS



AN INTERVIEW WITH

MICHELE BACHMANN

Tim Moore recently sat down with Congresswoman Michele Bachmann—an unwavering Christian Conservative who ran for President of the United States and serves today as Dean of Regents University. Their conversation focused on the rising globalism in the world today. The following excerpts are from that interview.



Congresswoman Bachmann—Dean Bachmann—you served faithfully in the political sphere for many years. What is your perspective on politics and politicians?

MICHELE:

Well, it's a necessary evil. We have to have governance. Otherwise, our society would have to have anarchy.

The founders of our nation looked to the Bible for their guidance when they crafted our genius system of government here in the United States.

They were very learned men who knew the Lord. "They prayed and had great debates, understanding that as long as men and women are imperfect, you're going to have an imperfect system.



The government of the United States is an imperfect system. But what is unique and genius about our system is that it recognizes human nature and the fact that mankind is fallen.

In other words, we are sinful, we are self-seeking. And that's why our system is brilliant. It tries to check our worst impulses.

TIM:

Lately, our government seems to encourage our worst impulses. How has America strayed so far in recent years?

MICHELE:

You're right about that. When our nation was formed, there was essentially a biblical consensus in the nation that remained true for about 150 years.

There was a culture of Christianity, you might say, that undergirded the United States.

Alex de Tocqueville, a Frenchman, visited the United States and wrote a famous book to describe this extraordinary nation that had produced so much freedom and so much material wealth. How did it happen?

This Frenchman discovered that the key to America's greatness was its churches and its goodness. He prophetically said America will cease to be great when America ceases to be good.

George Barna tells us that today only about 6% of the American population adheres to a truly Biblical world view. When we have a diminished number of people who hold to that worldview, we don't have that shared sense of understanding about how life should

work. Our various levels of government reflect the people who live in that community. So as we see increased secularization, we see that reflected in our legislatures.

TIM:

Turning our attention to international politics, do you see evidence of rising globalism leading to a one world government?

MICHELE:

I recently went to Europe to attend the international assembly of the World Health Organization (WHO). Incredibly, amendments to previous agreements were proposed by the Biden administration to change the WHO from an advisory body to a regulatory and enforcement body empowering them as a regulatory and enforcement body.

For three years during the pandemic with Covid 19, we saw our lives completely upended and turned upside down. Government power was abused at the Federal, state, and local level based on "emergency powers"

that were finally lifted on May 11 of 2023. Now the Biden administration is seeking to give emergency powers over health policy to the WHO.

This international body that's a part of the UN could declare an emergency and force us into a lockdown. We could be forced to wear masks and get vaccinated. Our churches and businesses could be closed again. So why in the world would the Biden administration want to lead an effort this crazy and this unconstitutional to give away U.S. power to the U.N.?

TIM:

What can we do to push back against the callous betrayal of our sovereignty and liberty?

MICHELE:

What was very sad is there wasn't one member of the U.S. House of Representatives or Senate that was there for this meeting. Many of them attend World Economic Forum meetings, but they didn't attend this meeting. And this has such profound consequences



for every person on earth because the plan envisioned is that every person on earth will come under the Dominion and control of the WHO.

A press letter went out that said the European Union has already developed a global digital passport that would regulate health issues and the ability of people to travel. It was also announced that the WHO is adopting the EU's "global digital passport," which essentially requires that an individual comply with WHO mandates in order to travel.

I hope that people will contact their US Representative and Senators and tell them: "I don't want to be in the system. I'm not giving consent. I'm not going to be in the system."

TIM:

A lot of attention has been given to Russia lately. What is your analysis of Russia?

MICHELE:

Russia is still an extremely powerful nation. It has huge stockpiles of weaponry—including the atom bomb and a hypersonic missile system it knows how to use and has demonstrated the will to use.



All the nations mentioned in the Bible said are highly motivated and they're on the march. In addition to Russia, there's also the European Union that we believe the Bible refers to as the revived Roman Empire—the vision of Nebuchadnezzar as the iron legs that devolve into feet and toes made of iron and clay. Out of that region will come the Antichrist to rule over a one world government."

TIM: How do you see Israel playing into the international political scene?



MICHELE:

I flew directly from Geneva to Israel. I'm the co-chair of the Jerusalem Prayer Breakfast. We gath-

ered over 400 people from about 50 different countries and went to the Knesset to meet with Israeli leaders and pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

I think the biggest misconception of the West is a failure to appreciate that Israel's greatest enemy is Iran. Iran is surrounding Israel with her proxies, whether it's the Islamic Jihad or Hamas or Hezbollah or the Islamic jihadist groups.

Unfortunately, the United States of America, under our current Biden administration, is taking a posture of coercing Israel by empowering Israel's greatest enemy, Iran.

We are not blessing Israel right now with our policies. We are cursing Israel because we're preferring Israel's enemy and empowering them rather than being a blessing to Israel. So we need to pray for our leaders that they'll come into alignment with God's Word.

TIM:

With the converging swirl of prophetic signs, where do you find hope—in spite of world politics?

MICHELE:

Well, you know, I was coming to a point of great despair watching the convergence of events that have been happening in recent months.

But I have to tell you that the Holy Spirit restored my joy several months ago because I was called to hunger and thirst even more for the Word. And as I spend more time in God's Word, what I'm seeing is that prophesied events are happening in front of our eyes. This shows us that every jot and tittle of the Bible is true.



That should free us to engage in the most powerful tide of witnessing we've ever had in our lives. I feel so free to witness and to share the things of the Lord with people because His advent is upon us. He is at the door!

We need to rejoice and share the good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ with everyone. We're about to participate in the culmination of the greatest event in world history. And I can't wait! **1**

"We are not blessing Israel right now with our policies. We are cursing Israel because we're preferring Israel's enemy and empowering them..."



MALEVOLENT NATIONS ALIGN



Xi and Putin Raise Global Stakes as Biden Touts Re-Election

LT. GEN. (RET.) JERRY BOYKIN AND LELA GILBERT



EDITOR'S COMMENTS:

Malevolent dictators from the North seeking to plunder Israel. Huge invading armies from the East. The Bible prophesies an orchestration of geopolitical forces in the End Times that will culminate in the rise of the Antichrist, the horror of the Tribulation, an existential threat to the Jewish people, and the glorious return of Jesus Christ.

Jerry Boykin has unique insight into the military and political forces at work in the world today—and how they demonstrate the validity of God's prophetic Word.

oday's map of the world reveals explosive conflicts, crumbling alliances and features three huge countries led by men of international significance. These world leaders' names are persistently in the headlines: Xi, Putin and Biden. Unfortunately, only two of them appear to be successfully maintaining global power and influence.

One of these key players is Vladimir Putin. Although he is one of the wealthiest men in the world, his great wealth fails to satisfy him. Putin appears to be acting in the name of elite Russian sovereignty and culture – past splendors he promises to restore to his people. But Putin has a problem with his dreams of glory. First, Russia's historical prestige is in the world's rearview mirror. And Putin's pretense of being a Russian Orthodox Christian

icon is eclipsed by his KGB-inspired brutality and ongoing war crimes.

China's President Xi Jinping is, in many ways, much like Putin. They both have enormous egos and demonstrate insatiable ambitions. But Xi has no interest in playing a religious leadership role in China. He is an ardent atheist, who loathes the very idea of any Higher Power – apart from himself.

Both Putin and Xi want to be the planet's foremost military and political spearheads. For now, they appear to be allies. The reality, however, is that they're not allies at all. Xi is embracing Putin because he is keenly interested in essential Russian exports. Meanwhile, Putin is willing to take the risk of being exploited, allowing himself to be used by Xi. Why? Because Putin has invested himself and his military in a war with Ukraine that he is not winning. This is causing him serious difficulties with the Russian people.

Xi pretends to support Vladimir Putin. He recently paid Putin a visit in Moscow, presenting himself as an ally, ostensibly demonstrating China's solidarity with Russia. Many observers believed Xi's trip was meant to solidify his relationship with Vladimir Putin; he made a point of promoting the idea that he was there to help, to be supportive of Putin's efforts.

But days after leaving Moscow, Xi showed his hand. Shortly after returning to Beijing, he publicly invited the leaders of four former Soviet republics in Central Asia - Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan - to a first-ever joint summit in China, scheduled for May.

Vladimir Putin was not invited.

Business Insider headlined their report about this meeting, "Xi snubbed Putin after their summit, calling a meeting of Central Asian countries as part of an audacious power play."

Also, according to Zawya News, Beijing's increasing influence in Central Asia is not universally welcomed. They report:

Sections of the population in Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan, which along with Tajikistan have borders with China, have voiced a degree of concern and opposition. All have Muslim majorities. These concerns relate particularly to land acquisition by China, government debt owed to Beijing and the latter's brutal treatment of its Muslim Uyghur minority, which is also present in Central Asia.

Russia's influence is clearly being challenged by Xi, and increasingly so since Putin's invasion of Ukraine. Yet both leaders are diligently working to undermine the global strength and leadership of the United States.

Xi is very much like Putin in several ways. Xi is the only man in in China who has ever served three terms in office as the president of the country. That is not, by the way, because of a decisive vote by the people of China, but by the decision the Chinese Communist Party. Meanwhile, Putin appears to be opting to be dictator-for-life, playing the role of an ancestral Russian Tsar.

But while these two global power players are both competing and cooperating, they seem to be critically out-maneuvering the third global leader – U.S. President Joe Biden. Putin and Xi are happily watching and assisting the diminishment of America's international influence. Biden's feckless leadership of the United States reflects his clear rejection of our country's powerful role in the world, as well as his lack of respect for traditional American values.

While Biden plays politics, the rest of the world knows that Xi wants to seize Taiwan. Will he do it soon or wait until later? It seems that for now, the status quo serves Xi well. He has chosen an easy, comfortable path. He is presenting himself as a great peacemaker, a powerful ally, and a man who holds sway over a growing number of nations. At the same time, Xi contin-

ues to build new partnerships, develop new allies, and do all he can to embarrass the United States, making it clear the America is in decline.

Xi and Putin closely observed Biden's disgraceful withdrawal from Afghanistan, which underscored the President's incompetence. It showcased his foolish squandering of billions of dollars of up-to-date military equipment – now in the hands of Taliban terrorists – alongside the execution of inestimable numbers of brave Afghan warriors who fought alongside American troops.

Putin and Xi are also eagerly witnessing Biden's shocking retreat from the Middle East. While abruptly turning his back on Israel, Biden has also betrayed other U.S. allies who have fought against Iranian aggression and embraced the Abraham Accords. As a result, Xi quickly moved in. He has brokered an unprecedented and historic agreement between Iran and Saudi Arabia, while cutting enormous oil deals with the Saudis, potentially paid for in Chinese yuan, not US dollars. And while pursuing deadly nuclear ambitions, Iran is increasingly providing arms and drones to Russia, and Biden is turning a blind eye to the Ayatollah's nuclear ambitions.

Who will stop Putin's brutality in Ukraine? What will prevent Xi's invasion of Taiwan? The surging aggression of Russia and China is largely due to Biden's impotence, even though he is Commander in Chief of a military upon which the whole world depends. It seems that serious concerns with Putin and Xi will not be resolved until after the U.S. presidential election in 2024. Meanwhile, the future of American global leadership, economic power and political authority hangs in the balance. And clearly, the whole world will face the consequences.

While these kings of the earth take their stand and take counsel together, He who sits in the heavens laughs (Psalm 2:2-4). All the efforts of man to thwart the purpose and plan of God will fail. In the end, God's prophetic Word will be fulfilled and Jesus will reign supreme over all the earth. Until then, to cite the end of Psalm 2, kings, judges, and each of us would be wise to worship the LORD with reverence, rejoicing as we do homage to the Son.

Join Col. Tim Moore and Lt. General Boykin as they co-host the "Battle for Israel" Pilgrimage next June 22—July 3!

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For more information, visit ChristInProphecy.org









EDITOR'S COMMENTS:

Human history is driving toward a one-world government—the despotic dream of every tyrant since Nimrod. Government leaders and cultural elitists are already clamoring for a single great leader to bring order to the world.

The Bible tells us that just such a man will emerge following the Rapture of the Church. He will rise to power through cunning and deception, then consolidate his authority by waging war on any nation that does not submit to his rule.

But before this man of lawlessness is revealed, it is likely that other major wars will occur. If the Sign of World Politics focuses on the affairs of nations and societies, then the fault lines that erupt into armed conflict are a major emphasis of Bible proph-

Dr. David Reagan's book, 9 Wars of the End Times, steps through those anticipated wars from a Biblical perspective. This excerpt offers a glimpse to Dr. Reagan's insights and will demonstrate why you will want to get a copy of this important book.

his book was motivated by the fact that ever since I established Lamb & Lion Ministries in 1980, I have received phone calls, texts and email messages every time a war broke out in the Middle East, asking me if I thought it was the War of Armageddon. Thus, over time, it became obvious to me that most Christians were familiar with only one endtime war.

One year, I was leading a pilgrimage group through Israel, and when I got to the Valley of Armageddon, I asked the group how many were aware of any end-time wars prophesied in the Bible, besides the Battle of Armageddon. No one raised a hand. So, I started telling them about all the end-time wars in God's Prophetic Word, and they were amazed.

That's when I put together a PowerPoint presentation about the wars of the end-times and started presenting it at Bible prophecy conferences. Again, I discovered that even people who were well-informed about Bible prophecy were unaware of how many end-time wars are prophesied in the Bible

It was then that I decided to write this book.

It is my hope that this book will help to clarify end-time Bible prophecy for you, and that in the process, it will draw you into a deeper relationship with God as you see His sovereignty over all the affairs of Mankind. I pray too that it will motivate you to delve deeper into God's Prophetic Word, for as you do so, your hope regarding the future will grow exponentially.

I hope too that you will rejoice over the fact that most of the horrible wars that lay ahead of us will occur after the Rapture of the Church, and thus believers will be immune to them.

FUTURE WARS

War has now become a never-ending reality for us, just as it has been for the nation of Israel ever since it was established in 1948. Our wars have drained our financial

resources and have exhausted us emotionally.

Nor is there any relief in sight. For the first time ever, all the end-time signs of the Bible have converged, making it clear that we are now living on the threshold of the Tribulation that seven-year period of constant warfare that is described in the book of Revelation.

One of the specific signs Jesus told us to watch for was an epidemic of "wars and rumors of wars" (Matthew 24:6). He further emphasized the proliferation of violence later in the same passage when He said He would return at a time when the world will be like it was in the days of Noah (Matthew 24:37). Genesis 6 reveals that Noah's society was characterized by two things — immorality and violence. Both have reached exponential proportions in our day and time, and there is no prospect of their receding. In short, we are living on borrowed time.

The Bible makes it clear that the wars of the Tribulation will be unparalleled in their carnage, resulting ultimately in the deaths of more than one half of the world's population.

The reason that the world is going to experience such unthinkable horror is because of the development of nuclear weapons that can be delivered anywhere in the world with intercontinental ballistic missiles. Also, since the first and only use of nuclear



weapons at the end of World War II, their power has been increased exponentially to include thermonuclear hydrogen bombs that make the original bombs look like firecrackers.

RESOUNDING GOOD NEWS

However, there is hope amid the bad news that we are facing the worst wars in human history. It is the hope of the Rapture of the Church which the Bible indicates will occur before the Tribulation begins. This is the promise contained in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 that Tesus will take His Church out of this world before God pours out His wrath upon all of humanity, as He did in the days of Noah.

Further good news revealed by Bible prophecy is that when Jesus returns to this earth at the end of the terrible period of Tribulation. He will establish a worldwide kingdom centered in Jerusalem, and the earth will be flooded with peace, righteousness and justice for a thousand years.

But first, the world must pay for its unrepentant rebellion against God and His Word by suffering through a series of these nine end-time wars... 1

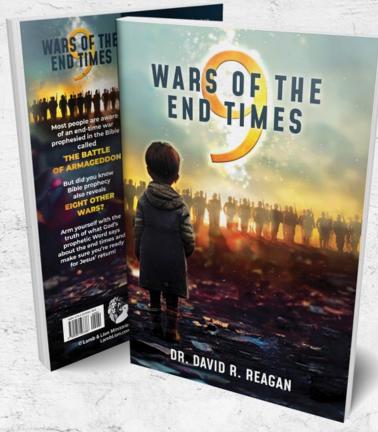
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GL BALISM JEFF KINLEY AND THE 1



THE COMING WORLD DICTATOR

EDITOR'S COMMENTS: Jeff Kinley is half of the Prophecy Pros duo along with Todd Hampson. The founder of Main Thing Ministries, he is a gifted author and podcast host, and was just recently named the official host and teacher for The King is Coming television program—seen every week on HisChannel. Jeff has been a tremendous friend and encourager to Lamb & Lion Ministries.

or some 6000 years, Satan has longed to accomplish his original threefold objective: to be God, to rule the earth, and to be worshiped by all of humanity.

But in order for this to happen, the world must be fundamentally changed. Satan must reshape and re-create it in his own image. This requires four essential elements in his strategy;

- 1. Reform the governments of the nations
- 2. Deceive the hearts of humanity
- 3. Prepare and position his man of sin
- 4. Remove the Church's influence

Each of these four prophetic pillars is predicated upon crisis. Let's examine what Scripture says about how each of these will be fulfilled, and what contemporary clues indicate they are currently in formation.



REFORMING AND REALIGNING THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE **NATIONS**

Daniel 2 and 7 speaks of a revived Roman empire (also reflected in Revelation 13 and 17).

This 10-king alliance will likely be representative of the most powerful European and Western nations in the last days.

Keep in mind, kingdoms and countries can be crippled in a matter of weeks or months due to war, economic collapse, invading armies, or through divine judgment.



Scripture does not specify who these 10 kings will be, or what their kingdoms will look like. Presumably, they will include existing nations, pre-existing alliances/conglomerate governments, or even newly formed multinational alliances. One king may represent many nations. It's even possible that the current European Union could be represented as one kingdom by their president. Again, Scripture doesn't fill in the blanks for us here.

These future nations could each represent many countries/regions themselves. Historians and theologians agree that once-mighty Rome could be revived as a 10-nation confederation. What we can be confident of is the fact that there will be a unified one world government formed in the Tribulation. Is there evidence of movement towards that goal today?

THE PAST FORESHADOWS THE FUTURE

On January 10, 1920, the League of Nations was formed as the first worldwide intergovernmental organization. Originally meant to encompass 32 nations, its purpose was to prevent another world war through disarmament, collective security, and intergovernmental dialogue. President Woodrow Wilson won the Nobel Prize for his role as the leading architect of the League.

But the United States Senate refused to join the League out of concern for American sovereignty. And we know that the League of Nations was not able to prevent another global war. Adolf Hitler, aspiring to conquer Europe then the globe, plunged humanity into another World War. Interestingly, Hitler's plan had included a thousand year Reich (realm or empire), counterfeiting the future thousand year millennial reign of Jesus Christ. And the Holocaust he inflicted on the Jews was an eerie prelude to Revelation 12—representing Satan's attempt to prematurely jumpstart the tribulation and his reign on earth.

After the war ended in 1945, Winston Churchill advocated for the formation of the "United States of Europe"—his vision for the future of Europe and world peace. In 1957, France, West Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium, and Luxembourg, signed the "Treaty of Rome," establishing the European

economic community (EEC), or the "European Common Market." What is known today as the European Union currently has 27 nations.

In addition, the United Nations has become a bloated, self-important bureaucracy seeking to expand its power over every nation and individual in the world.

NEVER LET A CRISIS GO TO WASTE

When the Covid pandemic hit, current and former world leaders issued calls for a global governance system. Tony Blair, Gordon Brown, and former general secretary of the UN, Ban Ki Moon, urged for the united efforts of the G-20 nations, the UN, the International Monetary Fund, and the World Bank to secure "human rights, solidarity, and justice" by stimulating our shared "responsibility as global citizens."



Tony Blair and Ban Ki Moon



Ban Ki Moon and Gordon Brown

Currently, Ban is the deputy chair of "The Elders," an independent group of international leaders "working together for peace, justice, and human rights." Among their global agenda is multilateral cooperation among nations, peace, universal health coverage, and battling climate change, towards "justice for all."

A relatively new player on the global scene has joined this mix. Klaus Schwab, founder of the World Economic Forum (WEF), has been



Other religious leaders and globalists were eager to chime in:

Each one of us is evolving towards the godhead. I believe that the messiah whom we await whom we all without any doubt await, is the universal christ; that is to say, the christ of evolution.

> - Teilhard de Chardin French Jesuit Priest, Philosopher, Paleontologist, Evolutionist

We must move as quickly as possible to a one-world government, a one-world religion, under a oneworld leader. At his choice hour, the absolute supreme will ring his own victory bell here on Earth through the loving and serving heart of the United Nations.

- Robert Muller former Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations, Proponent of the "Global Constitution"

So, what catalyst could catapult the world's nations into such a unified agreement? What global emergency or planetary predicament would be so severe, so acute, so devastating, and so impactful that it would motivate the nation's leaders to cast aside their differences and past conflicts? What would move them to essentially dissolve their borders, weaving global economics and common pursuits together in order to become one? What, or who, will unite them?

The Covid response was a foreshadow of things to come. Their real agenda, according to the world economic forum and international monetary fund, is climate change, economic equality, and social justice. What does this look like practically? It essentially involves worshiping the planet and destroying capitalism in favor of socialism, and casting aside the Judeo-Christian faith system that would stand in their way.

Those are but surface issues masking an even deeper agenda, found in Psalm 2:1-6.

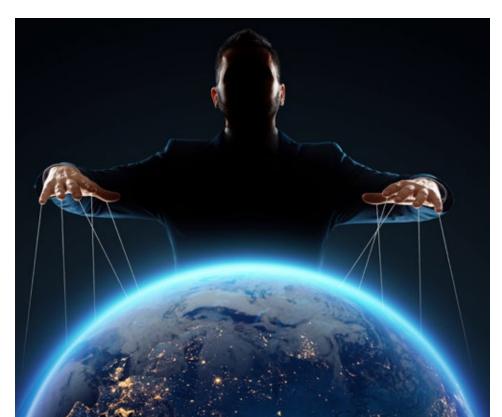
Why are the nations in an uproar and the peoples devising a vain thing? The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers take counsel together against the Lord and against His Anointed, saying, us tear their fetters apart and cast away their cords from us!" He who sits in the heavens laughs, the Lord scoffs at them. Then He will speak to them in His anger and terrify them in His fury, saying, "But as for Me, I have installed My King upon Zion, My holy mountain.



Yes, a one world government is in formation, looming on the horizon. As Michele Bachmann has testified, political leaders in Europe are avidly pursuing such a goal. And America is currently led by a man whose "Build Back Better" campaign was lifted verbatim from the pages of the WEF's global reset agenda.



The second essential element in Satan's global strategy to reset and rule the nations is through deceiving the hearts of humanity. In order to accomplish this, he must utilize a crisis.



Prior to 2020, could you imagine your own government dictating:

- · When you could leave your house
- · Where you could go
- When and if you would be allowed to gather for worship
- · When and where you could travel
- Whether you could continue your business
- · Whether you would be allowed to keep your job



Government responses to the pandemic demonstrate the ruse. Both incrementally and boldly, Satan has lied (John 8:44), manipulating the masses using fear.

Promising peace and safety (1 Thess 5:9), he persuaded the majority of Earth's inhabitants to buy into the plan. First it was through empty promises utilizing lockdowns, masks, social distancing, and vaccines as the pathway to peace, health, and returning back to normal.

However, as impatient as Satan is, he has overplayed his hand before the watching eyes of discerning believers. He did this by implementing force through mandates and government overreach. This too, however, is a preview to the grand illusion that will eventually blanket the minds and hearts of billions during the Tribulation (2 Thess 2:8-12).

Today, many people recognize that we are in the midst of a seismic shift of historical proportions. The strategy of deception, manipulation, and coercion may backfire in the short run, but it fits the pattern of the Antichrist's one world government described in Bible prophecy.

But in order to complete the download of lies into the collective consciousness of humanity, Satan must assault the human mind on multiple fronts. Fear of death from a mysterious virus is but one way to ensnare his prey. He must also redefine morality, virtue, humanity itself, and our relationship to our Creator. He must also alter the very nature of humanity as well.

The evil one is succeeding quickly and overwhelmingly in our own society. Many people enthusiastically deny the Creator that made us. Casting aside the fetters of morality and religion, they clamor for a new world order overseen by a global government.

Satan has just the man to lead this brave but godless new world.





TO PREPARE AND POSITION HIS MAN OF SIN

The third component in Satan's master plan is to prepare and position the man of his own choosing, the Man of Sin. Some may bristle at talking about the Antichrist. I mean, shouldn't we just talk and teach about Jesus? Isn't teaching about the Antichrist giving the devil more attention than he deserves? So why even talk about him?

- · He's in the Bible
- More than 100 passages of Scripture mention him
- · He is the most dominant end times person, apart from Jesus Christ
- He is definitely coming (1 John 2:18)
- · The spirit of antichrist is already among us (1 John 4:3)
- He is likely alive today

What is the Antichrist's profile? What will this nefarious figure be like? The Scripture doesn't reveal his name, it does outline for us a profile of the man of sin. We cannot see his face, but we can trace his silhouette. Piecing together Scripture's puzzle pieces, there is actually much we can know about the coming Antichrist, Satan's Superman.

It is likely he will rise out of a nation within the borders of the old Roman Empire, possibly from within an existing European Union nation.

He will rise to prominence, positioning himself, or perhaps being positioned by Satan, to lead the new world order. He will complete the great reset, at least for a while. He will draw his energy and authority directly from Satan himself (Revelation 13:2-6), until he is fully possessed by the devil.

The Bible states that "the whole earth was amazed, and followed after the beast, and they worshiped the dragon because he gave his authority to the beast, saying who is like the beast and who is able to wage war with him?"

There is so much more we could say about the Antichrist. Scripture adds that he will make war with the saints and the Jews (Revelation 13:7ff; 12:12-17; 20:4). He will also fully unite the world through enacting the mark of the beast (666) (Revelation 13:11-18).

The global reset is a grand delusion and satanic scheme through which Satan is grooming the planet for a godless unity and to receive his global leader with open arms.

Which brings us to his final strategy.



TO SILENCE/REMOVE THE CHURCH'S **INFLUENCE**

As long as believers are present and able to exert influence, Satan will not be able to fully implement his End Times strategy. To propel his man into prominence and preeminence, he will

need a global crisis like none the world has ever seen. That crisis must be bigger and more frightening than a virus that has a 1% mortality rate among the elderly.

I believe that crisis will be the Rapture of the Church.

And you know what restrains him now, so that in his time he will be revealed. For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains will do so until he is taken out of the way.

2 Thessalonians 2:6-7

Some have said the Restrainer is human government, the Gospel, the Jewish people, the Holy Spirit, the Church, or Michael the archangel.

Whoever the Restrainer is, He must be more powerful than both the Antichrist and Satan. Therefore, He must be divine. So it must be the Holy Spirit's influence through the Church. But His influence through the Bride of Christ will be removed when the Rapture oc-

As long as the Church is present, the Antichrist cannot be revealed nor can he rise to power and prominence. But once the Church is taken out of the world at the Rapture, the Antichrist will be revealed and begin to consolidate his power.

Right now, both Satan and a depraved human race want the same thing; for those who believe in Jesus and follow Him to just "get off the planet"—to just "disappear." God will grant them that wish through the Rapture. Not for their sakes, but for ours.



"the defender of faith" or all faiths, the Archbishop of Canterbury (known for his clear departures from "the faith once for all handed down to the saints") remained faithful to the original text of the ordination charge. In spite of representatives from Judaism, Islam, Buddhism, and Sikhism being present officially, the ceremony required a spoken pledge by King Charles to serve as defender of the faith, and quite specifically the Protestant faith.



We are often asked whether Charles might become the Antichrist. While he certainly does not hold to Christian faith as his mother did, Charles is a poor candidate for the Antichrist. He is clearly ambivalent toward Biblical Christianity—or even passively dismissive of its power and authority. But he lacks the charisma and strength of personality to sway the world to his will. Instead, he is simply a reminder that the Christian faith once prevalent in Great Britain has become a dim shadow of its former glory.

Charles also reminds us that just as the people of Israel clamored for a king to be like all the other nations, no earthly king can match the wisdom, power, and majesty of our soon-returning King.

So, when you hear the British exclaim, "God save the king," know that God has already sent the Ruler of rulers—the King of kings—to save you!



Whenever I travel on behalf of Lamb & Lion Ministries, I am frequently asked, "What's Dave Reagan up to these days?" My standard answer is that he is enjoying his semi-retirement with Linda. I say semi-retired because he is still writing and engaged with the Ministry on a regular basis. Having said that, we thought it might be fun to go right to the source...

How are you enjoying your "semi-retirement?"

Wonderful! It is stress-free. I left because of my age and to minimize the stress (deadlines, daily distractions, etc), with no time to do the writing I really wanted to do. I'm enjoying it because I can write and travel with my wife and attend Bible prophecy conferences where I don't have to speak, but can enjoy as an attendee.

'Some people have tried to tell me, "you can't retire from ministry." My response is that I haven't completely retired, but Numbers 8:25 does tell us that priests should step back at age 50. If the Lord tarried, I always intended to pass the Ministry off at some point—and that is what I did in 2021 after 41 years—and very successfully I believe.

What are you doing now that you don't have to stay on top of the day-to-day operations at Lamb & Lion Ministries?

My wife and I have a joint devotional for 90 minutes every morning after breakfast. Then we have personal

prayer time for another 90 minutes. I'm reading five chapters of the Bible every morning (three from the Old Testament, one from the Psalms, and one chapter from the New Testament) using the new Legacy Bible and marking it up as I go through.

Then I go through my prayer journal and write prayers (Lamb & Lion, other ministries, churches, family and friends, personal, etc).

I spend part of the morning reading from two books-one on Bible prophecy and one on history. Then we have lunch together.

I spend the afternoons writing. I've already produced four books since semi-retirement, and am just about done with the fifth right now.

Later in the afternoon, we usually go to the Senior Citizens center to spend 30 minutes working out. And, many evenings we enjoy local concerts or plays or watch a favorite movie at home. I've also been encouraging our new Congressman who is serving in Washington as a committed Christian.

What has been your greatest joy and biggest surprise in this phase of service to the Lord?

My greatest joy is writing, so I'm thrilled to now have the time to write with no daily distractions. I'm able to dig deep into a topic and then take complex ideas and make them simple and easy to understand.

My biggest surprise is somewhat silly and trivial: I cannot keep up with what day of the week it is. Every day seems like Saturday! I guess that's a great blessing. Since I don't have a regular routine, I have six Saturdays each week leading up to Sunday!

What is Linda involved in now that she has made the full transition to Texas?

Linda was married for 54 years to a pastor and was involved in many types of service that she has continued.

Her passion is teaching children, so she is still doing that at our church. She doesn't like the trend in modern children's ministry where they just play cartoons and call that Sunday School.

Children can learn doctrine and truth if they are properly taught.

She is also very engaged in teaching teachers. She has a teachers conference coming up this summer.



Linda also does a lot of counseling. She has many, many contacts and is on the phone throughout each day offering counseling.

What is your next/upcoming book (or other) project?

We recently finished the 9 Wars of the End Times book and it is selling tremendously. One of our affiliated prophecy ministries just bought 600 copies!

The next book I'm working on is a re-do of my book entitled, *Eternity—Heaven or Hell*. It will be called *How to Die with A Smile on Your Face*. I've just about finished it and so it will be going to proofreaders very soon.



Dave celebrating Father's Day with his daughters Rachel and Ruth Ann



Linda leading the children at their preschool graduation ceremony

Then, I will be working on audio versions of my books, *America's Suicide* and *Trusting God*. After I finish those projects, I'll see what the Lord has in store for me.

What advice can you offer your Christian brothers and sisters who may be looking forward to transitioning away from working according to a schedule?

Avoid sitting in a rocking chair or just going out and playing all the time. Look for ways to serve the Lord and minister to people. Stay engaged in a local church and serve during the week in a meaningful way. Don't just rest and rust.

Men in particular have an identity in a job. My dad didn't know what to do with himself after he retired, so he just sat in a dark room and read old letters from people wanting money—because they gave him a sense of being wanted.

God wants us to stay engaged in serving Him as long as we are able to do so. I intend to do that.



What interesting things have you recently done outside of ministry work, and what are you looking forward to?

Linda and I just celebrated our second wedding anniversary by travelng to East Tennessee to visit with some dear friends. We also attended a Friday night taping of the Mike Huckabee show in Nashville. While there we enjoyed visiting the Grand Ole Opry, the Hermitage, and other Nashville sights.

And, of course, I'm looking forward to the return of Jesus Christ!

Well said, Dave. Aren't we all! ♦



THE STATUE AND THE STONE THE END OF FAILED HUMAN GOVERNMENT

id you know that right now nearly 200,000 people are suffering in the modern-day equivalent of Nazi concentration camps? These horrifc work camps can be found in North Korea. This Asian country, officially and ironically named the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, is according to the United Nations Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights one of the worst offenders of all the nations when it comes to their appalling human rights record. North Korea's government infringes on nearly all their people's Universal Declaration of Human Rights such as the freedom to have an opinion and expression. Murder, torture, slavery, sexual violence, mass starvation, and other abuses are common methods employed by this authoritarian government to terrorize its population into submission.

> When the Korean Conflict unofficially ended in the early 1950s, the dictator of North Korea, Kim Il-Sung, declared himself "Eternal President" and closed his nation's borders

to establish a totalitarian Communist government.

Voice of the Martyrs (VOM), a persecution watch ministry, estimates that some 30,000 Christians suffer daily in these labor camps for the "crime" of not worshipping their "Dear Leader," and many never make it out alive.

> VOM tells a true day-in-the-life story of Christian persecution in a little village there called GokSan. A pastor and 26 of his underground church members were bound and taken before a screaming crowd of Communists. Soldiers demanded that the Christians "Deny Christ or die!" Not getting the answer

they were looking for, the soldiers then threatened to kill the children. The only response to be heard was a mother who leaned down and whispered to her young daughter, "Today, my Love, I will see you in Heaven."

The Communists proceeded to hang the children. When the sobbing parents still refused to deny Christ, the soldiers rolled out a huge steamroller and proceeded to crush the remaining church members, all of whom were singing together, "More Love, O Christ, to Thee, More Love to Thee."



Photo Credit: Voice of the Martyrs

GOD'S PURPOSES FOR HUMAN GOVERNMENT

Regimes such as North Korea clearly do not understand the purpose of government. So, what then is the purpose of government?

United States Founding Father Thomas Paine, in his pamphlet Common Sense (1776), wrote that security is "the true design and end of government." Another Founding Father, John Adams, in his book Thoughts on Government (1776), believed its purpose was to be found "in the goal of happiness through virtue." Thomas Jefferson, in his writing titled Political Economy (1816) declared, "The most sacred of the duties of a government is to do equal and impartial justice to all its citizens."

Security instead of enslavement, justice instead of corruption, virtue instead of vice, and the preservation of the happiness of its people rather than the cause of their suffering—those were the godly ideals these men founded a nation upon. These ideals correspond to what the Bible says is the true purpose of government—namely, to provide an atmosphere in which believers can live, as 1 Timothy 2:2 teaches, "a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity."

Are nations like North Korea merely bad apples, or do they demonstrate that government is in and of itself inherently evil? Because they were steeped in the Bible, the Founding Fathers thought very poorly of human government. Thomas Paine wrote,



"Government, even in its best state is but a necessary evil, in its worst state an intolerable one."

The reason the Founding Fathers believed government was inherently evil was because they believed in the biblical teachings (such as Romans 3:23 and 10:10-18) that mankind is inherently evil and in need of a Redeemer. In fact, Jeremiah 17:9 reveals that there is nothing more corrupt than the human heart!

Therefore, the Bible warns over and over not to trust in Man. One of the strongest of these warnings is found in Psalm 118:8-9:

It is better to take refuge in Yahweh than to trust in man. It is better to take refuge in Yahweh than to trust in nobles [politicians]. As another Founding Father, Alexander Hamilton confirmed,

Men are inherently evil, governed by greed and lust and love of power and a host of even less endearing passions.

America's first President, George Washington, put it this way:

Government is not reason. Government is not eloquence. It is force. And, like fire, it is a dangerous servant and a fearful master.

The authors of the United States Constitution knew that while human government is a necessary evil, it remains prone to falling into villainy and corruption. Therefore, in their writings, they wisely taught that government must be limited. Government must constantly be checked by the population so that it can only extract the least amount of taxes to perform the most limited of functions—providing security for its people.

A government that isn't constantly monitored will grow into a monster, one that to feed its endless thirst for power will consume its population's money and trample on their God-given inalienable rights. In other words, the Founding Fathers knew that gov-



Some 30,000 Christians suffer daily in these labor camps for the "crime" of not worshiping their "Dear Leader" and many never make it out alive.



ernment is composed of people, and people are inherently fallen and evil. Inevitably, the more corrupt and evil a government becomes, the greater the people will suffer. As the former president of Fuller Theological Seminary, Dr. David Allan Hubbard, once remarked:

When the lawless, vicious men are the government, where do the people go for help? They must feel like a little child who flees from a bully into the arms of his father, only to have his father hold him while the bully beats him.

HOW HUMAN GOVERNMENT WILL END

To whom can we flee to when our own government is the bully? How can we, like those Christians from the little village of GokSan, maintain some semblance of hope when human government has utterly failed us at providing security, justice, and tranquility?

Our Lord provides the much-needed answer to this dilemma through a disturbing dream given to a troubled monarch.

The great King Nebuchadnezzar dreamt of a massive statue with a head of gold, chest and arms of silver, belly and thighs of bronze, two

legs of iron, and feet a mixture of iron and clay. Nebuchadnezzar next beheld a great stone—one not cut by hands-come human crashing down out of the sky. It smashed the statue, blasting it into pieces, and its dust blew away. The stone grew and grew into a great mountain that quickly filled the entire earth.

Daniel interpreted the king's dream. He explained that the head was Nebuchadnezzar himself, and each metal down was a successive empire: the Babylonian Empire, Medo-Persian Empire, Greek Empire, Roman Empire, and a Revived Roman Empire. The great smashing stone represented "the God of heaven" who "will cause a kingdom to rise up which will never be destroyed... it will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms..." (Daniel 2:44-45).

While Daniel couldn't begin to comprehend the breadth and scope of this vision, Jesus Christ centuries later would describe in detail to the Apostle John in Revelation 19-20 this very event—the coming of the King of Kings.

For thousands of years, human government has failed mankind. Government cannot keep war, poverty, hunger, and disease at bay. Corruption quickly rots its once noble core, and many of its leaders fall into villainy. Times of security, peace, and safety have been as fleeting as the life of a mayfly.

And yet, God promised the prophet Daniel that in one glorious day a "stone not cut out by human hands" would burst from the heavens and destroy the statue of Gentile world government, and His Son's kingdom would fill the entire earth. This Kingdom will be ruled over by a perfect, divine Monarch, its administrators will be the resurrected saints in their glorified and sinless bodies, and its population will initially all be believers who are taught at the feet of their King.

Christ's kingdom of peace, righteousness, and justice will be established. But first, before we can enter that long yearned-for age, King Jesus must return and destroy the failure that is flawed human government. And, with that joyous hope just barely over the horizon, we can only cry out: "Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus!" 1

THAT'S MY UNG

The Bible says

He's the King of the Jews

He's the King of Israel

He's the King of Righteousness

He's the King of the Ages

He's the King of Heaven

He's the King of Glory

He's the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords

Now that's my King!

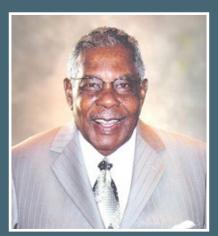
Do you know Him?

He's the King of Kings And He's the Lord of Lords That's my King!

He always has been
And He always will be
He had no predecessor
and He'll have no successor
There was nobody before Him
and there'll be nobody after Him
You can't impeach Him
and He's not going to resign



THAT'S MY KING!



Shadrach Meshach Lockridge (March 7, 1913 – April 4, 2000) was the Pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, a prominent African-American congregation in San Diego, CA, from 1953 to 1993. Lockridge was born in Robertson County, Texas, the oldest of eight children and the son of a Baptist minister.

During Lockridge's tenure at Calvary Baptist, he preached at crusades, revivals, religious rallies and evangelistic conferences around the world. He held doctorates and numerous honorary degrees, and was often sought as a public speaker, even after he retired in 1993. He served as guest lecturer at numerous schools and universities and on the faculty of several others, including the Billy Graham School of Evangelism.

He was known for his preaching across the United States and around the world. Although this is just a small portion of Pastor Lockridge's wonderful sermon, the entire clip can be heard at: youtube.com/watch?v=8tyECoPCYHg

And do not participate in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead even expose them. Ephesians 5:11



Each Lamplighter issue spotlights a few of the Signs of the Times multiplying all around us. As you consider these signs outside the realm of World Political Signs, consider how they are all converging and realize that the Rapture of the Church is imminent. The Lord has given us many signs that are literally shouting the message of Jesus' soon return!

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

TIM MOORE

SIGNS OF NATURE





- ▲ Biden Administration Climate Czar John Kerry is jetting around the world to negotiate away America's energy independence in his fixation on eliminating our carbon output; some expect him to advocate outlawing barbecue grills as some European cities have already done.
- An earthquake measuring 5.5 on the Richter scale recently rumbled off the coast of Northern California—continuing a pattern of increasing temblors, causing geologists to warn of a coming catastrophic West coast earthquake.

SIGNS OF SOCIETY



- **★** City University of New York (CUNY) allowed a militant anarchist from Yemen to rail against America, Israel, and the rule of law at its School of Law graduation. Student activist Fatima Mohammed called for violent resistance against capitalism, Zionism, and the American military.
- **1** Established American brands and retailers from Anheuser-Busch, to Target, to the LA Dodgers, have jumped on the woke bandwagon, attempting to prove their adherence to the new LGBTQ ideology—even when it costs them millions of customers and billions of dollars.



with their gay pride kids' clothing line. Now Kohl's has also joined the insanity,

SPIRITUAL SIGNS



- ★ The largest gathering of Satanists on record took place in Boston recently. Promoted as SatanCon, this "impious" gathering promoted free-thinking, independence, and personal expression-along with hostility toward Christianity and unabashed support for Leftist ideology.
- Awakening to the moral drift and rising threat to religious liberty in America, many Christians are beginning to realize that the only group that will not be tolerated in our brave new world is followers of Jesus Christ; the persecuted Church has a strong track record of resilience and

perseverance.



- ★ Amidst the Biden Administration's prolonged dithering as it pursues a nuclear agreement with Iran, the pariah state is poised to have the material and the means to develop a nuclear weapon; its leaders have proclaimed their intention to strike out at "the Great and Little Satan"—the United States and Israel. Anticipation is building that the red
 - heifers moved to Israel last September will fulfill the Jewish interpretation of Numbers 19:1-5; while we know that the perfect sacrifice was already offered for sin, the Jewish hope that the Temple will soon be rebuilt and the Messiah revealed are growing.

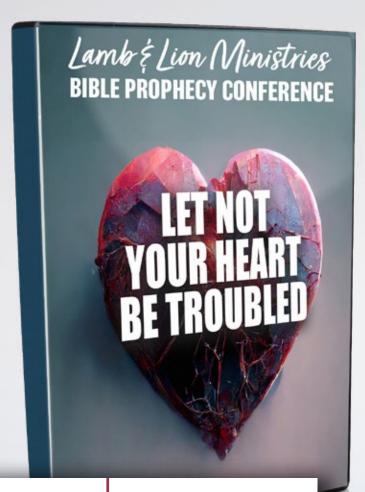


- telescopes peering into the darkest regions of space have discovered thousands of galaxies in the tiniest sliver of the sky-proving the grandeur of God described in Romans 1:20.
- # Governments around the world are eagerly pursuing Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC)—a form of electronic money that can be easily taxed, restricted, or confiscated, controlling the ability to buy and sell.



Overwhelmed by the hopeless outlook of today's disintegrating society? Struggling to find peace until Jesus comes?

This power-packed DVD will challenge, inspire, and encourage you as you await the victorious return of the King of kings!



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