

LAMPLIGHTER

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

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Revival vs. Revolution
Which will it be?



Observations by the Editor

Gloom and Doom

Dr. David R. Reagan

Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 15:13).

I received a message recently from a gentleman who wrote to complain about our publishing too many negative articles. He suggested that we write more about hope.

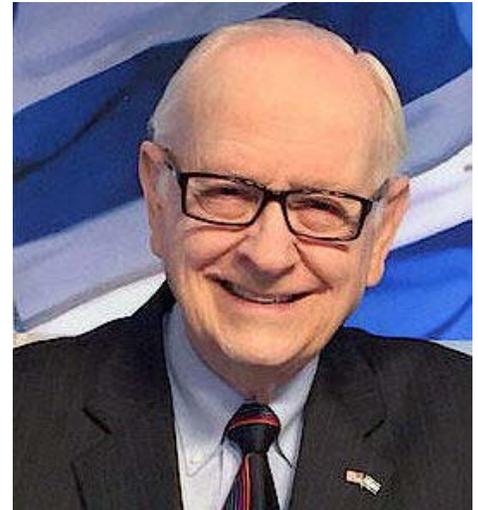
I was surprised by his complaint because each of our staff members who write for this magazine always try to end our articles with an assurance of hope. We have done that consistently since the beginning of the ministry in 1980.

What has changed is that in the decade of the 80s, we would usually conclude any article about our nation by pointing the reader to 2 Chronicles 7:14, asking them to pray for a spiritual revival in America. That passage says: "If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sins, and will heal their land."

In the 1990s I stopped referring people to that passage because I came to the conclusion that our nation had passed the point of no return in its rebellion against God. I no longer believed there was any hope for our nation. We had come too far in our rejection of God. Therefore, when it came to hope, I shifted my attention from our nation to individuals.

I began to stress that even though I felt there was no hope for America, there is incredible hope for those who put their faith in Jesus. Yes, there is gloom and doom in Bible prophecy, but it is for unbelievers — for those who reject the grace that God provides through faith in His Son, Jesus.

For those who put their faith in Jesus, there is incredible hope. First, there is the indwelling of the Holy Spirit who will guide us, console us, pray for us and enable us to understand the depths of God's Word. Then, there is the promise of life after death — life in a glorified body that is perfected and immortal!



Dr. David R. Reagan

Believers even have the hope of escape from this steadily darkening world of immorality and violence. That hope is called the Rapture of the Church, which will occur before the Great Tribulation begins. Yes, Church Age believers — both the living and the dead — will be taken off this planet before God begins pouring out His wrath on the world's rebellious nations.

Does the sealed fate of our nation mean we are to do nothing in response? Not at all! We are to be salt and light, standing up for and speaking out in behalf of righteousness. But far more important, we are to share the Gospel with as many people as possible as quickly as possible because the signs of the times clearly indicate that we are living on borrowed time.

And that is what this ministry is all about. On the negative side, we have been called to identify the sins of our nation, call people to repentance and warn of the impending doom of our nation. But on the positive side, we have been ordained to proclaim the soon return of Jesus, first in the Rapture, and then in His Second Coming to this earth when He will rule in glory and majesty from Mount Zion in Jerusalem, and the whole world will be flooded with peace, righteousness and justice.

That's what I call HOPE! The Bible says it is the "anchor of our soul" (Hebrews 6:19). And it is because of this hope, that each morning when I awake, My heart cries out, "Maranatha!" (1 Corinthians 16:22). ❖

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Revival vs. Revolution

Which Will It Be?



(i-Stockphoto.com)

Dr. David R. Reagan

Our beloved nation is in the midst of what appears to be “The Perfect Storm.” First came the pandemic, then the stock market crash followed by the collapse of our economy. And now, violence and looting in our streets. Radicals of all types and colors are calling for revolution.

The Judeo-Christian values this nation was founded upon have been rejected. We are waving our collective fist at God and His Word, saying, “We will do as we please.” It appears that God has turned us over to what theologians call “abandonment wrath.” That’s when God steps back, lowers His hedge of protection around a nation and allows sins to multiply.

An Unfounded Hope?

One thing I have noticed in the midst of all the chaos is that several Evangelical leaders whom I greatly respect have proclaimed their belief that the frightening events all around us will drive people to their knees seeking God, and the result will be a great spiritual revival that will bring our nation back to God. I hope they are right, but I personally believe it is a false hope.

They have based their hope on what has happened in America in the past. Each of these Christian leaders have pointed to the fact that our nation has grown cold in the Lord several times in the past, and each time people were driven to prayer, and the result was a great spiritual revival.

These revivals have usually been referred to as “Great Awakenings,” each of which lasted several years. The first began in 1730, the second in 1800, the third in 1890 and the final one in the late 1960s.

The problem with this argument is that our nation has not simply grown cold in the Lord. During the past 60 years, we have become militantly hostile to God and His Word. Today, we are aggressively mocking and blaspheming God, and we are jettisoning our Christian heritage.



(Shutterstock.com)

The number of people in our nation claiming to be Christian is at an all time low (65%). And half of those could most likely be classified as “Cultural Christians,” meaning they are Christians in name only. Recent polls by the Pew Research Center have revealed that only 17% of those who claim to be Christian can be classified as “Bible-believing.” Meanwhile, weekly church attendance has plummeted to its lowest point ever (23%).

The Point of No Return

Our nation has clearly become a secular, pagan nation that has rejected God. What a tragic development this is! We have cast aside the very One who blessed us with unparalleled freedom and prosperity. And the Scriptures clearly reveal what our future will be because the history of Judah shows how God deals with a rebellious nation which He has so richly blessed:

- 1) He raises up prophetic voices to call the nation to repentance. And, if there is no repentance,
- 2) He places remedial judgments upon the nation.
- 3) If the nation repents, He forgives and blesses. But if there is no repentance,
- 4) God destroys the nation when its rebellion becomes entrenched, reaching a point of no return.

Yes, the Bible teaches that there is a point of no return when a nation turns its back on God, particularly a nation that God has richly blessed. That point is referred to in the Scriptures as the stage in a nation’s revolt when “the wound becomes incurable.”

Jeremiah declared that Judah had “an incurable wound” (Jeremiah 30:12). Jeremiah was even told to stop praying for Judah. (Jeremiah 7:16). Ezekiel was told the same thing, but in even stronger terms. Ezekiel was told that if the most righteous men who have ever lived — Noah, Daniel and Job — were to intervene for Judah, it would be of no avail, except for themselves and their families, because the nation had reached the

point of no return and was going to be destroyed (Ezekiel 14:12-21).

People laughed at the warnings Jeremiah gave. Their response was to chant, “The temple, the temple, the temple.” This chant meant that they did not believe that God would ever allow anyone to destroy His temple, regardless of how sinful the nation might become. But God sent the Babylonians and used them as His hammer to destroy the nation of Judah, its capital city of Jerusalem and the temple.

Two of the saddest verses in the Bible describe Judah’s destruction. They are found in 2 Chronicles 36:

15) The LORD, the God of their fathers, sent word to them again and again by His messengers, because He had compassion on His people and on His dwelling place;

16) but they continually mocked the messengers of God, despised His words and scoffed at His prophets, until the wrath of the LORD arose against His people, until there was no remedy.

Even when dealing with the evil Assyrian Empire, God sent Jonah to warn of His impending wrath. When the king and his people repented, God withheld His wrath. But 150 years later, when God sent a second prophet, Nahum, the message was, “Your wound is incurable.” That time there was no repentance, and the empire was overthrown by the Babylonians.

All of which reminds me of some words of the prophet Nahum that should be sobering to our nation (Nahum 1):

2) A jealous and avenging God is the LORD;
The LORD is avenging and wrathful.
The LORD takes vengeance on His adversaries,
And He reserves wrath for His enemies.

3) The LORD is slow to anger and great in power,
And the LORD will by no means leave the guilty
unpunished.

Application to America



(Shutterstock.com)

Now, let’s apply these principles to the United States. As I have pointed out many times before, I believe God raised up this nation with the purpose of using our great natural resources and technical ingenuity to spread the Gospel all over the world.

As we fulfilled His purpose, He poured out blessings upon us — blessings like unparalleled freedom and prosperity and immense power and worldwide influence. He even gave us the



The tombstone shows the date of the Supreme Court’s decision to legalize same-sex marriage. (i-Stockphoto.com)

blessing of serving as the key nation in the rebirthing and nurturing of the nation of Israel.

But, like ancient Judah, we became enamored with our wealth and power, and we began turning our back on God.

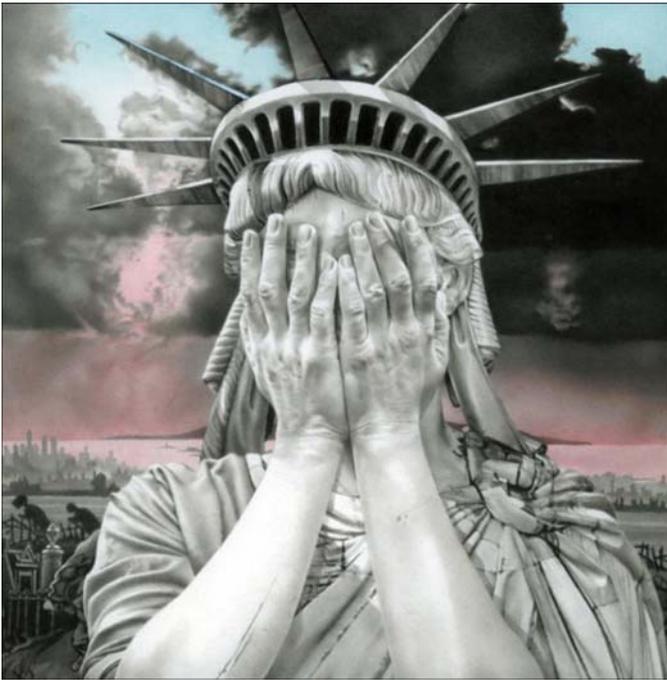
- The Almighty Dollar became our god.
- Greed became our motivator.
- Gambling became a national pastime.
- Sex became our obsession.
- We became the world’s largest consumer of illegal drugs.
- We kicked God out of our schools.
- We legalized abortion.
- We endorsed homosexuality and same-sex marriage.
- And we became the moral polluter of planet earth through our violent, immoral and blasphemous movies and television programs.

God’s Response

As we wallowed in the sexual revolution of the 1960s, God began raising up prophetic voices like Dave Wilkerson, calling this nation to repentance. And in the years since that time, he has raised up many more prophetic voices, 13 of which I identify in my book, *God’s Prophetic Voices to America*.

When we refused to repent, the remedial judgments began to fall:

- The Vietnam War which occurred on the heels of the sexual revolution of the 1960s.
- The 9/11 Attacks (2001) — God allowed the terrorists to be successful in attacking the two symbols of our pride: The Twin Towers in New York, which represented our wealth; and the Pentagon in Washington, DC, which represented our power.
- Hurricane Katrina (2005) — Undoubtedly God’s response to our immorality and our forcing Israel to abandon the Gaza Strip. The storm formed in the Gulf on the last day of the Gaza Strip withdrawal and hit New Orleans as it was getting ready to host its annual homosexual festival.



“Oh, America!” by Gee Vaucher.
(www.pinterest.co.uk)

- The September 2008 Stock Market Crash — Again, a response to our attempts to strong-arm Israel into surrendering its heartland. It occurred on the eve of Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, and the market fell by 777 points — indicating the signature of God.
- The Election of Barack Obama (2008) — God gave us the kind of leader we deserved — a man who was the most pro-abortion, pro-homosexual, anti-Capitalist, anti-Israel leader in the entire history of our nation.
- “The Perfect Storm” of 2020 — A pandemic combined with a stock market crash, the collapse of our economy and pandemonium in the streets.

The Decay of Society

Let me take a moment to emphasize to you how serious the decay of our society has become. Only a person my age can appreciate how radically and how quickly our society has disintegrated.

I was born in 1938 when autos still had running boards and gasoline was 20 cents a gallon. When I was born . . .

- Abortionists were sent to prison.
- Pregnancy out of wedlock was thought of as scandalous.
- Homosexuality was considered unnatural and immoral.
- Pornography was despised as a sexual perversion.
- Drugs were something you bought at a drug store.
- Marriage was sacred.
- Living together was taboo.
- Divorce was a disgrace.
- Same-sex marriage was beyond even the wildest and most depraved imagination.

- Homemaking was honored, and daycare was provided by mothers in their homes.
- Child abuse was almost unheard of.
- Ladies did not curse or smoke.
- The word, “damn,” was considered flagrant language in a movie.

The first major motion picture to use a curse word was *Gone with the Wind* in 1939. The movie ended with the phrase, “Frankly, my dear, I don’t give a damn.” In 2013 a film called *The Wolf of Wall Street*, starring Leonardo DiCaprio, had the “f-word” in it 544 times in 180 minutes!

In 1997, the veteran television star, Steve Allen, denounced the growing filth in movies and television by saying, “We have become a society where vulgarians entertain barbarians.” And that was over 20 years ago!

A Temporary Respite

It is true that in His grace and mercy, God has given us a temporary respite — a window of grace through the miraculous election of Donald Trump in 2016.

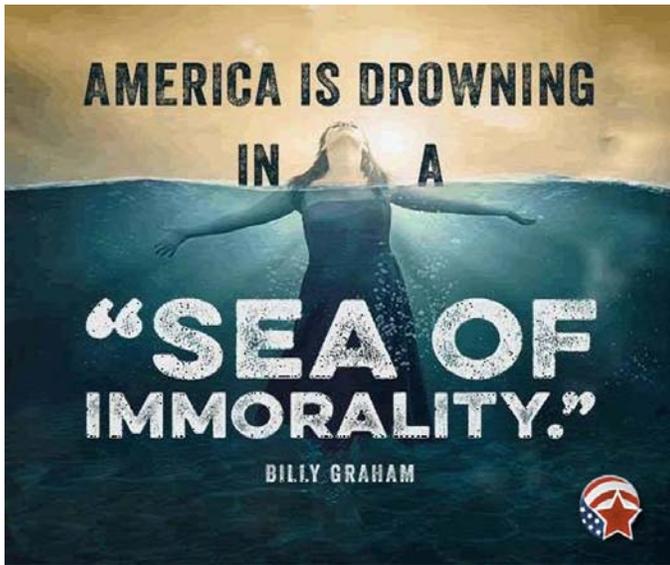
I think it is very interesting that back in 1980 when Ronald Reagan was elected, Francis Shaeffer, one of God’s prophetic voices to America, referred to Reagan’s election as a “window of grace” from God, and it was.

But as soon as his term ended in 1989, our society took up where it had left off in its rejection of Judeo-Christian values and proceeded in its downward spiral into the secular, pagan pit of Humanism.



President Trump was elected on a platform proclaiming that he would “Make America Great Again.” After his election, I said several times that we could not count on his doing so. I said that because I emphasized that no one could make our nation great again as long as we continued in our outright rebellion against God and His Word.

Our nation, like Judah, has gone too far in its rejection of God. I believe our wound is incurable. The election of Trump is not a portent of our future. And I can prove that with four brutal facts. After eight years of the most ungodly administration in American history:



(<https://theamericanrenewalproject.org>)

- 1) President Obama left office with a 60% approval rating.
- 2) His designated heir, Hillary Clinton, received 3 million more votes than Trump.
- 3) Our nation's future — the Millennials (18 to 29 year olds) — supported an out-and-out Socialist, and when he failed to get the nomination, they voted overwhelmingly for Clinton.
- 4) Most important, the ignorance of God's Word has come to characterize both our nation and professing Christians.

This ignorance is reflected in the latest polls conducted by the Barna Association which show that only 9% of Americans can be characterized as Bible-believing. And even more shocking, only 17% of professing Christians are truly Bible-believing.

And what determines a Bible-believing Christian? Answers to the following six questions:

- 1) Does absolute moral truth exist?
- 2) Is the Bible totally accurate in all of the principles it teaches?
- 3) Is Satan a real being and not simply a symbolic force?
- 4) Can people earn their way into Heaven by doing good works?
- 5) Did Jesus live a sinless life?
- 6) Is God the all-knowing, all-powerful creator of the world who still rules the universe today?

Again, only 9% of Americans can answer these questions biblically, and only 17% of professing Christians can do so.

Is it any wonder that a recent national poll by the George Barna's American Culture and Faith Institute revealed that: 77% of Americans believe divorce is acceptable; 71% believe sexual intercourse between unmarried adults is okay; 69% believe there is nothing wrong in having a baby outside of marriage; 58% believe viewing pornography is acceptable.

Or, consider what public opinion polls are showing regarding same-sex marriage. Acceptance of the abomination of same-

sex "marriage" has increased rapidly from 37% in 2007 to 67% in 2018. The latest 2018 poll showed there is only one state left in the Union where a majority of people oppose same-sex marriage — Alabama!

Our nations needs to wake-up to the fact that legalizing an abomination does not make it moral. Here's how one organization has put it:

"Legality does not equal Morality.
Slavery was wrong, when it was legal.
Abortion is wrong, even though it is legal.
Gay 'marriage' is wrong, even though it's legal."

The Triumph of Humanism

My friends, we need to face up to the fact that we have lost the culture war. Humanism has triumphed. We are now a nation begging God to deliver us from judgment to destruction.

If President Trump is succeeded by another radical liberal supported by a radical liberal Congress, the turnaround will be swift and breathtaking:

- All of Trump's executive orders in accordance with Judeo-Christian principles will be reversed overnight.
- The 2nd Amendment will come under concerted attack.
- Abortion, euthanasia and infanticide will be promoted.
- Hate speech legislation will be broadened to prevent people from speaking out against the Sexual Perversion Movement and abortion.
- Israel will be abandoned.
- Expressions of Christianity will be confined to church buildings.

People say, "But the Supreme Court will stand as a wall against the tide of paganism and secularism." My response is "Don't count on it."



United States Supreme Court, 2020.

(<https://commons.wikimedia.org>)

A radical President with a supporting Congress can undercut the Court by passing legislation to increase the number of members from 9 to 11 and to allow for additional appointments for each judge who stays on the court beyond the age of 70.

What most people forget, or don't know, is that six times in American history, Congress has changed the size of the Supreme Court by either increasing or decreasing the number of justices — each time for political reasons.

Our Constitution does not specify the number of judges. The Court began with 6 judges. It was increased to 7 in 1807 and to 9 in 1837. It was further increased to 10 members in 1863 and then reduced to 7 in 1866 to prevent President Andrew Johnson from making any appointments. The current size of 9 was set in 1864.

Furthermore, as recent decisions of the Court are proving once again, you can never tell for sure how a justice will vote once he is appointed to the Court. The trend throughout modern history has been for conservative justices to become liberal, as is the current situation with Chief Justice John Roberts.

The Warning of Romans 1



I think Romans chapter 1 makes it crystal clear that the fate of our nation is sealed. It says that the wrath of God is called down from Heaven by: ungodliness, unrighteousness, suppression of the truth and worship of the creation rather than the Creator.

Well, that's exactly where we are in our nation's history. We are practicing ungodliness as we kick God out of our schools and all aspects of our public life. We are practicing unrighteousness in our daily murder of babies. We are suppressing the truth of the origin of the universe and of life through our teaching of the lie of evolution, and we are worshiping the creation rather than the Creator.

Romans 1 tells us how God responds to this kind of rebellion against Him and His Word. He steps back and lowers the nation's hedge of protection, allowing evil to multiply. And the results are:

- 1) A sexual revolution — which occurred in our nation in the 1960s (Romans 1:24-25).
- 2) A plague of homosexuality — which followed in the 1980s and 90s (Romans 1:26-27).
- 3) The society being delivered over to a depraved mind — which is where we are today (Romans 1:28-32).

What else but depravity of mind could explain our nation's celebration over the Supreme Court's decision to legalize same-sex marriage? President Obama even had the audacity to light up the exterior of the White House with the colors of the Sexual

Perversion Movement.

As we celebrated, God must have wept.

I have no doubt that we signed our nation's death warrant on June 26, 2015 when our Supreme Court rendered its despicable, ungodly decision.

Nor are we alone. Europe has also rejected Christianity. And Christians are being persecuted and slaughtered worldwide.

Our world is a ticking time bomb.

And one of the greatest tragedies is that the average person is just going about his normal business as if nothing is wrong, oblivious to the fact that the wrath of God is about to be poured out.

Our Hope

Is there any hope for our nation? I do not believe so. But we should not despair for several reasons.

First, what we are experiencing is a fulfillment of end-time prophecy. The biblical prophets, including Jesus Himself, all prophesied that in the end-times, society would disintegrate into violence and immorality — that it would become as evil as in the days of Noah — and that people would go about their business as if everything was normal. That is exactly where we are today.

And thus, we are witnesses to the very signs that are heralding the soon return of Jesus. This is why the great pastor, Adrian Rogers, once said, "The world is growing gloriously dark." Or, as Jan Markell likes to put it: "The world is not falling to pieces; rather, the pieces are all falling into place."

The second reason we should not despair is because there is individual hope. For those of us who are believers. God has promised that He will never forsake us.

A third reason we should not despair is because of what God is doing in Heaven right now. The Bible says in Psalm 2 that while all the political leaders of the world conspire against Him, His Word and His Son, our Creator sits on His throne and laughs. He is not laughing because He does not care. Oh no! He is laughing because He has the wisdom and power to orchestrate all the evil of Mankind and Satan to the triumph of His will in history.

And don't forget, we have a fourth reason for hope. We have the incredible hope of the Rapture.

There is also hope for unbelievers. As the pastor of First Baptist Church in Dallas, Robert Jeffress, likes to put it: "When the darkness deepens, the light of Jesus will shine more brightly, like a diamond on a black cloth, and more and more people will be drawn to Jesus and be saved."

Meanwhile, as the darkness deepens, those of us who are believers must serve as salt and light, standing for God and His Word and refusing to give in to the demands of a pagan society, regardless of the cost.

We must be beacons of hope, pointing people to the God of hope while urging them to put their hope in their only hope — Jesus, the Son of God and the soon returning King of kings and Lord of lords.

Maranatha!

“Systemic Racism” The BIG Lie

Dr. David R. Reagan

I was watching a local Dallas, Texas, television station interviewing protestors in a crowd that had descended on Dallas City Hall after the killing of George Floyd. Individuals in the crowd were asked, “Why are you protesting?” Some said, “I’m protesting against police violence.” But most gave an answer that really surprised me. Over and over I heard these words: “I’m protesting against systemic racism.” Young protestors in the streets using an academic phrase?

Providing a Definition

Now, that is not a phrase that would naturally roll off the tongues of street protestors, nearly all of whom were in their teens and twenties. It had to be supplied by the protest organizers. I kept hoping that the TV interviewer would ask one of the people what they meant by the phrase because I was certain none of them had the slightest idea what it meant — either because of naiveté or a lack of historical knowledge and perspective.

The word, systemic, is defined as something that is ingrained throughout a whole system — something that is intentional, methodical or implemented according to a plan. Thus, “systemic racism” in reference to a nation would mean that everything in the society is designed to discriminate against one or more races. The former policy of Apartheid in South Africa would be a classic example.

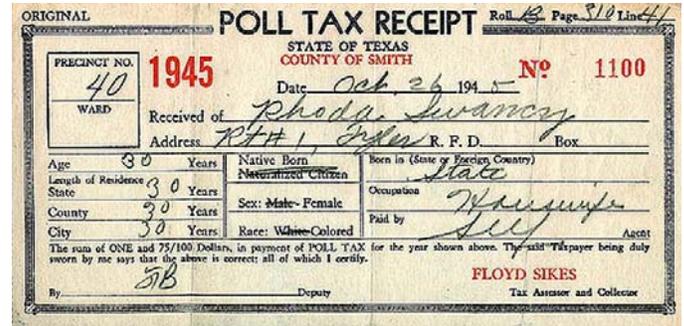
Now, with that definition in mind, just try to wrap your brain around the insanity of someone in Dallas, Texas, protesting against “systemic racism.” The top governmental official in Dallas is the City Manager, who is a black man. Additionally, the Mayor is a black man, the Police Chief is a black woman, the District Attorney is a “progressive” black man, and the Sheriff is a black woman. The previous Sheriff, who resigned to run for Governor, was an Hispanic lesbian. I ask you, where is the “systemic racism”?

Personal Experience

I happen to know very well the meaning of “systemic racism.” That’s because I grew up in it. I was born in Texas in 1938, and I was raised in the 1940s and 50s when racism was interwoven in the fabric of our nation. Everything was segregated, and I mean everything — schools, hotels, sports arenas, restaurants, public transportation, movie theaters, churches and yes, even drinking fountains.

One of the most important ways of keeping blacks “in their place” was to deny them the right to vote. There were a variety of barriers

to voting, like the poll-tax, which was essentially a voting fee. This technique was not outlawed until the passage of the 24th Amendment in 1964.



Texas poll-tax receipt from 1945. The cost was \$1.75, which had the purchasing power of \$25 today. (www.yourvoteyourvoicemn.org)

Literacy tests were another technique used to limit black voting. An illiterate white person would always miraculously pass the test, while a black who could read and understand Shakespeare, just never could seem to read well enough to qualify.

Always lurking in the background in many states was the Ku Klux Klan, which was more than willing to intimidate blacks from voting.



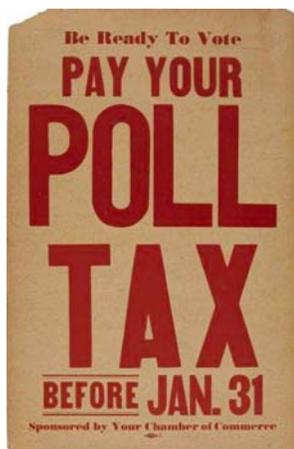
Grand Dragon of the Ku Klux Klan of Georgia at his investment ceremony in Atlanta at Stone Mountain on July 24, 1948. (https://en.wikipedia.org)

Blacks were mainly confined to manual labor jobs. Access to professions like law, medicine and teaching were highly limited. The military was segregated.

Franklin Roosevelt

The President of the United States during my childhood years was Franklin Roosevelt. Although he was a liberal icon, he did nothing to improve race relations. That’s because the key to his powerful political coalition was what was referred to as the “Solid South,” and he was unwilling to do anything that might jeopardize Southern support.

He was first elected in 1932 and was re-elected for a second term in 1936. In 1937, he had his first opportunity to nominate a Supreme Court justice. His selection was a U.S. Senator from Alabama named Hugo Black. This man had been a lawyer for the Klan and was on record as having said terrible things about



(https://americanhistory.si.edu)

Blacks, Jews and Catholics. He was confirmed easily by the Senate by a vote of 63 to 16. Can you even imagine such a person being nominated today?

Right before our nation got involved directly in World War II, President Roosevelt made his most daring decision regarding race relations. In June of 1941, he created by Executive Order the Fair Employment Practice Committee. Its assigned purpose was to prevent “discrimination in the employment of workers in defense industries or government because of race, creed, color or national origin.” But this applied only to the national government. Beyond this, the President realized he was walking on eggs, and he had no desire to break any of them.

After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in December of 1941, President Roosevelt very quickly issued an Executive Order in February of 1942 that constituted one of the worst racist actions in our nation’s history. Incredibly, he ordered all Japanese Americans arrested and sent to ten internment camps located in seven states. They were kept there for the duration of the war. This was obviously a very racist decision since no similar action was taken against Americans of German heritage despite the fact that we were also at war with Germany.



Racism in Southern California during World War II.
(<https://thegreatdepressionandwwii.weebly.com>)

The President’s highly unconstitutional action was upheld by the Supreme Court in December 1944 by a vote of 6 to 3. Justice Hugo Black wrote the majority opinion. Again, can you even imagine something like this happening in America today?

Personal Experiences with Racism

Although I am a white man, I have personally experienced the emotional pain of racism three times — twice as a child and once as an adult. The first occasion occurred in 1948 when I was ten years old. One of my dad’s younger brothers came to visit us in Waco, Texas, for a couple of weeks. He had worked during World War II in the Pearl Harbor shipyards in Hawaii. During that time he had met and married a beautiful and very sweet lady of Asian descent who had been born and raised in Hawaii. Her name was Rosie.

One Saturday while they were visiting with us, it was decided, for some reason I can’t remember, that I should take Rosie downtown and accompany her while she was doing some shopping. So, we took the bus and spent the morning going from store to store. As noon approached, Rosie asked if I knew where we could get a sandwich before returning home. I told her I knew



A sign published by the Lonestar Restaurant Association of Dallas, Texas. Displayed in the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, Tennessee. (Source: Library of Congress at www.loc.gov.)

where there was a soda fountain.

When we arrived, there were two stools available that were adjacent to each other, so we sat down and waited to be served. And we waited and waited and waited. Finally, I grew impatient, so I leaned across the bar and grabbed the arm of a waitress who was walking by. I said, “Ma’am, we’ve been waiting a long time. Could you take our order?” She stepped back, looked at my aunt and then back at me. Then, she snarled, “I don’t serve Japs!” I was embarrassed and enraged, but before I could say anything, Rosie put her arm around my shoulders and whispered, “It’s okay, David; let’s go home.”

Two years later, in 1950, my parents bought a very nice new home in Waco in a very upscale part of town. The house had a detached garage, and above the garage was an apartment. My folks proceeded to rent the apartment to an Asian couple.

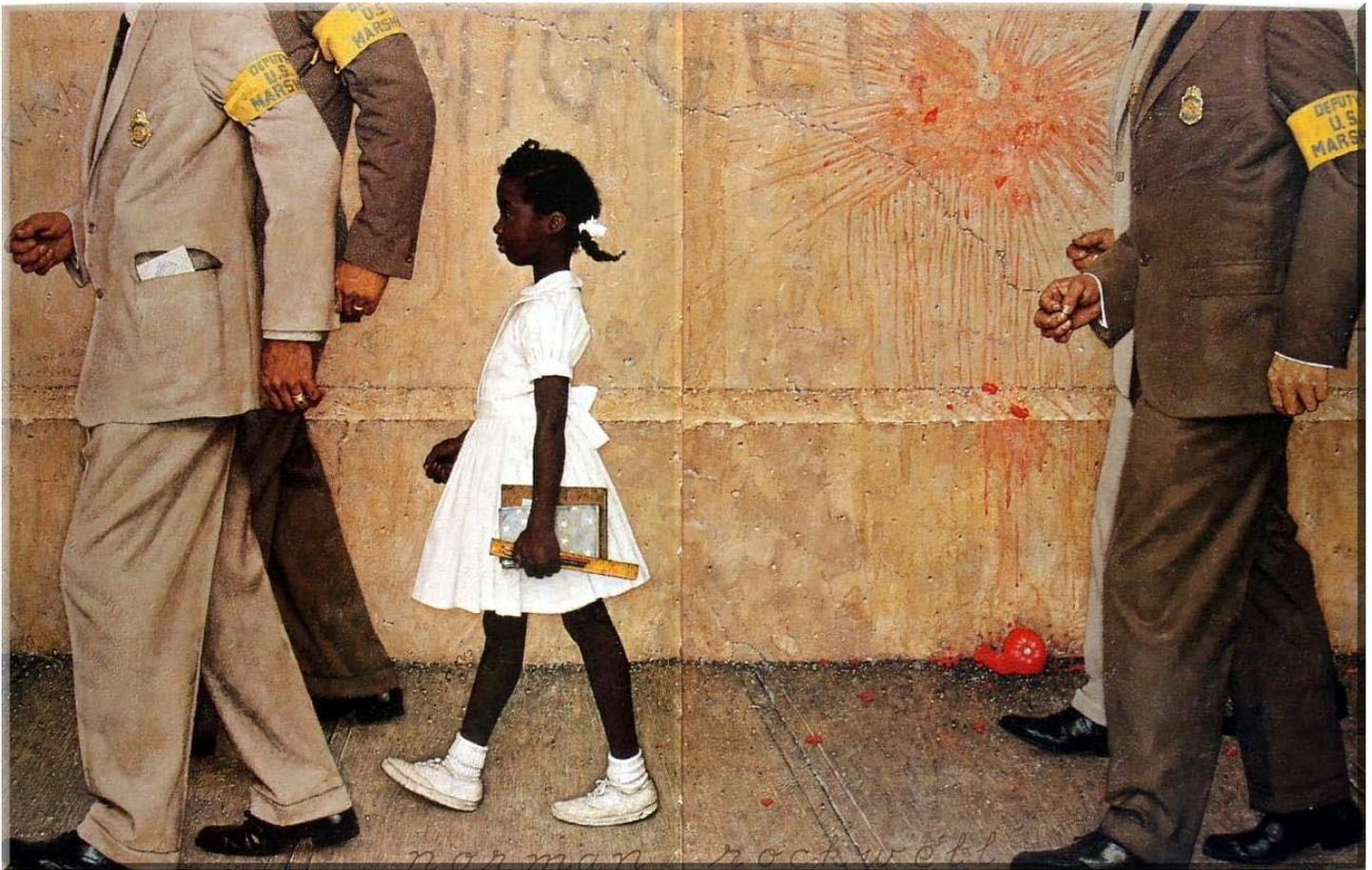
Over the next few weeks, my parents received a series of nasty phone calls and hate letters condemning them for renting to Asians. The neighborhood kids picked up on their parents’ attitude and started harassing me, calling me a “Jap lover.”

My worst experience with racism came ten years later in 1960, when my new wife and I moved to Boston, where I was going to attend a Harvard graduate school. We had arranged to stay the first week with a pastor and his wife while I searched for an apartment.

The first morning after our arrival, I surveyed the apartment ads in the Boston paper, selected the ones that were in my price range and started calling. What happened next was something I could not understand. As soon as I would start inquiring about the apartment for rent, the person on the other end of the line would either hang up or interrupt me by saying, “It’s already been rented!” This happened over and over, and it continued the second day. I could never get past my opening words.

Finally, on the third day, I ran across a brutally honest person. He yelled, “I don’t rent to niggers!” That’s when it dawned on me that my Southern accent was my problem. Again, this was 1960 when regional accents were still very strong, before they began to be leveled out by national television. So, I had to start going personally to seek an apartment. Still, what I experienced was nothing compared to a black person who could not even go personally.

That was not the end of the matter. Over the following three years, I came to the realization that Boston was the most outwardly racist city I had ever lived in. The Italians hated the Irish, and the Irish reciprocated. Both of those groups seem to hate Blacks and Jews. When the movie, *Exodus*, opened in Boston in 1960, hundreds of people demonstrated against it in the street in



This powerful painting by Norman Rockwell appeared as a centerfold in the January 14, 1964 issue of *Look* magazine. The artist titled it, "The Problem We All Live With." (Reprinted with the permission of the Norman Rockwell Estate.)

front of the theater because the film was favorable to the Jewish people.

The Turning Point

That was America in 1960 — characterized by real systemic racism to the nation's core.

The first real chink in the armor of that entrenched system occurred in 1954, when the Supreme Court outlawed segregation in public schools. Up to that time, the rule had been "separate but equal." The states recognized the separate part of this equation, but gave the equal part little attention. Thus, schools for colored children were usually run down and poorly equipped.

It soon became very apparent that a court decision was worthless without enforcement follow-up. Thus, nine years later, in 1963, Governor George Wallace of Alabama was still proclaiming, "segregation now, segregation tomorrow, segregation forever." Wallace backed up his words by standing in the door of a building at the University of Alabama campus in Tuscaloosa, refusing to allow two black students to enter. President Kennedy had to call out the National Guard to get the students in the school.

Praise God, the tumultuous decade of the 1960s would prove to be the real turning point in the fight against systemic racism in America. First came the Civil Rights Act of 1964 which outlawed racial discrimination in schools, employment and public accommodations. The bill had been proposed by President Kennedy, but he was unable to get it through Congress. His

assassination in November of 1963 changed the political system. His successor, President Lyndon Johnson, called on the Congress to pass the bill as a memorial to Kennedy.

The Civil Rights Act was revolutionary, but its provisions concerning voting were very weak. For example, it did not eliminate literacy tests. It just specified that all rules and regulations concerning voting had to be applied equally to all races. There was no recognition of a "right" to vote, and therefore the concept of qualifying to vote in some way was left in place.

This serious problem was addressed the next year in the Voting Rights Act of 1965. It guaranteed the right to vote to all racial minorities. Many legal experts consider this bill to be the most effective civil rights legislation ever enacted in the history of our nation. Its purpose was to enforce the rights guaranteed in the 14th and 15th Amendments of the Constitution. The 14th Amendment, adopted in 1868, guaranteed "equal protection under the law;" the 15th, adopted in 1870, prohibited states from denying the right to vote based on "race, color or previous condition of servitude." Yes, these vital freedoms had been in our Constitution since the Civil War, but they had not been enforced.

The guarantee of the right to vote was the nail in the coffin of systemic racism. It would be only a matter of time before minorities of all colors would be elected to important public offices throughout our nation, culminating in the election of Barack Obama as President in 2008.

The Key Element

The key factor in accomplishing these major legal victories against racism was the Civil Rights Movement led by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. from 1955 to his death in 1968. He was an ordained Baptist preacher who believed very strongly in nonviolence. He therefore advocated peaceful civil disobedience.

Yes, there was a lot of violence associated with his movement, but his protesters were not the source of the violence. Rather, the violence was directed toward them on the part of white racists. In fact, the willingness of his followers to be beaten in behalf of their beliefs, without retaliation, was what began to turn the tide of public opinion in America.



This stamp was issued by the U.S. Postal Office in 1999 to commemorate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have A Dream" Speech. (i-Stockphoto.com)

Luther's movement climaxed on August 28, 1963 with a rally at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. This was the historic occasion when he delivered his incredible, "I Have A Dream," sermon. In that sermon, he presented his dream for an America of racial equality. Eight times he proclaimed, "I have a dream . . ." The most memorable was when he said:

I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.

He concluded the sermon by saying that he was dreaming of the day when "all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing, in the words of the old Negro spiritual, 'Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!'"

The Need for Historical Perspective

So, where are we today with regards to racism? Systemic racism is dead. The legitimate protesters in our streets today who are denouncing systemic racism are too young to appreciate how far this nation has come since 1960. Instead of condemning our

nation, they should be celebrating its freedom and its advancement for racial equality. And they need to realize that the great accomplishments of the Civil Rights Movement were gained peacefully under the leadership of a Baptist preacher who believed in non-violence.

They also need to realize that if systemic racism was still a reality, millions of white Americans would not have been outraged by the killing of George Floyd, and the policeman responsible would not have been arrested and charged with a crime.

As for those protestors who have resorted to violence, most are thugs and hoodlums who could care less about racial equality. They just want to ride the issue as an excuse to loot and burn to satisfy their greedy and irresponsible hearts. And then there are the anarchists who desire to exploit the issue as a way of venting their fury against law and order and Judeo-Christian values.

Does the elimination of systemic racism in our nation mean that there is no lingering aspects of the problem? No! There are still racists in our nation among all groups. White people do not have any exclusive franchise dealership on racism. There are black racists. In fact, the two loudest racist voices in America today are both blacks. They are Louis Farrakhan and Al Sharpton.

Let me give you an example of widespread black racism that occurred all across our nation in 2008, during the presidential campaign when Barack Obama was running against John McCain. I have a dear friend who is a black evangelist, and every Monday during the campaign, he would call me and say, "Well, Dave, it happened again yesterday." That's all he needed to say because I knew exactly what he was talking about.

You see, each Sunday when it was time for him to preach, the host pastor would say to the congregation, "Before I introduce our visiting evangelist, I want to emphasize how important it is for you to vote for Obama." He would then launch into a pep talk for Obama before turning the pulpit over to my friend.

Afterwards, my friend would go to the pastor privately and say, "I can't believe you are endorsing Obama. Don't you know that he mocks Judeo-Christian values — that he is in favor of abortion, that he promotes homosexuality and that he is anti-Israel?" And always, the pastor would respond by saying, "Yes, I know, but he's a bro." That, folks, is racism. And it is a particularly sad form because it consists of a representative of God who is willing to elevate skin color above God's Word.

Police Reform

So, if systemic racism is dead in America, what is the problem with our police departments? Well, first of all, the vast overwhelming majority of police in this nation are responsible officers. They are not racists, and they do not get up every morning looking forward to shooting someone. And when they do shoot a black person, it is by no means automatically an action of racism.

The police officers of our nation constitute our first line of defense against barbarism. Every day they have to deal with some of the worst elements of our society. Their lives are often at risk, and they often find themselves in dangerous situations that require split-second decisions. They can certainly make mistakes, but they must always be given the benefit of doubt.



(www.shutterstock.com)

The last thing in the world we need to do is “defund the police” or “abolish the police.” These are idiotic ideas that can come only from either very naive minds or depraved minds. What we should be doing, instead, is to provide the police increased funding to be used for more extensive and in-depth training.

I have actually heard “progressives” proposing that police be replaced with psychological counselors! Do these people really believe a counselor can control a hardened criminal by giving him a big bear hug and telling him that we love him?

Are there reforms that are needed? Of course, there are. For example, we need to establish a national computer base that identifies police who have been dismissed for improper conduct or who have been convicted of crimes. That would stop bad apples from silently transferring from one police department to another.

Police candidates need to be screened more carefully, and they need to be given specific training in how to peacefully diffuse highly volatile situations.

A Basic Problem

Some people respond that the majority of police must be racists because so many more blacks are arrested each year, totally out of proportion to their population. That is true, but that does not mean the cops are racists. It’s due, instead, to the fact that a disproportionate amount of crime is committed by blacks.

And why is that? I would argue that it is due to the collapse of black families, resulting in young blacks growing up in dysfunctional households where they have no male parent. Thus, we have the startling statistic that 77% of black children today are born into a home without a father.



Daniel Patrick Moynihan

A remarkable man by the name of Daniel Patrick Moynihan (1927-2003) predicted this would happen as a result of the “Great Society” programs of the Lyndon Johnson Administration. He issued his report in 1965 while he was serving Johnson as Assistant Secretary of Labor. Despite his warnings, the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program included a rule

that no payments could be made to any family if “a man was in the house.” The liberals condemned Moynihan as a “racist.” But his warning proved to be prophetic. Moynihan was later to serve four terms in the United States Senate, representing the state of New York (1977-2001).

Another Aspect of the Problem

The most important factor in all this — applying to blacks and whites and citizens of all colors — is that there is a famine of the Word of God in our land today (Amos 8:11).

We have kicked God and His Word out of our public schools and the public arena. Church attendance has fallen to an all time low. Parents are distracted and are neglecting moral training. And our kids are being bombarded on television and the Internet with violence, blasphemy and immorality. The result is that we have raised a whole generation of moral pygmies who are willing to kill each other over a pair of tennis shoes.

The Answer to Racism



(https://jamesstrauss.com)

During the 2016 presidential campaign, Franklin Graham went to every state capital in our nation to hold a prayer rally. He was not there to endorse any party or candidate. He just wanted people to join him in praying for our nation. He began each rally with the same words:

I have no hope in the Democratic Party, and I have no hope in the Republican Party. Zero hope. Our only hope is God.

Franklin Graham was 100% correct with these insightful words. The answer to continuing racism in our nation is not politics or violence or socialism. The answer is Jesus. That’s because He transforms hearts and turns haters into lovers.

The Problem with the Solution

I know that some of you will respond to this assertion of mine by saying, “If that’s true, then why did so many pastors and Christians defend slavery before the Civil War and segregation after the War? I can think of three reasons: 1) Social Pressure, 2) Religiosity and 3) Spiritual Weakness.

What I mean by “Social Pressure” is that many were intimidated into being silent about racism. The pastor who wanted to speak out feared losing his pulpit. The laymen feared losing friends and jobs.

This type of intimidation is still alive and well today. Consider the Christians in the limelight who are caving in to social pressure — people like sports stars, movie actors and singers. Over and over again we see them speaking out in behalf of some



(www.i-stockphotos.com)

Christian value — like opposition to abortion or sexual perversion — only to watch them then fast-track backward, apologize and ask for forgiveness when they are attacked for expressing their Christian viewpoint.

A second and more important reason that so many Christians were silent is because of what I call “Religiosity.” By this, I mean that many professing Christians over the years, and today, are not really Christians. They are just caught up in religion. They are what I call “Cultural Christians,” or, “Christians-in-name-only.”

This is so true of our nation today. About 65% of Americans claim to be Christians. But most of them are simply professing Christians who have never been born again, who never read their Bibles, who never pray and who hardly ever attend church. The result is that public opinion polls show that only 17% of professing Christians are “Bible-believing.”

The third reason for the failure of Christians to stand against racism is a very sad one. It is what I have labeled “Spiritual Weakness.” I’m speaking of the fact that many true, born-again Christians are actively grieving the Holy Spirit within them. Yes, the Holy Spirit can be grieved (Ephesians 4:30), and He can be quenched (1 Thessalonians 5:19).

The purpose of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit within true believers is to shape and mold them into the image of Jesus. But the believer retains his free will, and he can resist the efforts of the Spirit to cleanse him of all his evil thoughts and practices.

Let us pray that every Cultural Christian in America will get serious about their faith and truly receive Jesus as their Lord and Savior. And, let’s pray that all true Christians will surrender their wills to the Holy Spirit, enabling Him to cleanse their hearts of any racism.

One other thing — keep in mind that despite these Christian failures in the past, many of the abolitionists were very outspoken Christians. The abolitionist movement in England was led by a Christian named William Wilberforce, and the modern civil rights movement in our nation was led by a Baptist preacher, Martin Luther King, Jr.

A Warning

When responding to racial issues, Christians need to be salt and light, speaking out in behalf of righteousness. But Christians also need to be discerning. I’m issuing this warning because Christians tend to think the best of everybody, and this naivete often gets them in a lot of trouble.

Take the Black Lives Matter organization, for example. No Christian should be affiliated with it in any way. Just check out its website and you will see that it is a radical left-wing socialist organization that opposes the biblical view of marriage and supports the Sexual Perversion Movement. Its leaders are committed to violence, and they are virulently anti-Semitic.

Now, notice, I did not say avoid identifying with the slogan, “Black Lives Matter.” I’m speaking, instead, of the BLM *organization*. It is an abomination that is fomenting racism by playing the race card with respect to every event it possibly can.

The Sanctity of Life

Do black lives matter? Of course they do! In fact, all lives matter, including precious babies in the wombs of their mothers.

And that concern for life should also apply to the elderly and the increasing efforts to get states to pass laws legalizing euthanasia. I have always said that if a society will allow parents to pay doctors to kill their children, the day will come when children will be allowed to pay doctors to kill their parents.

All human beings are created in the image of God (Genesis 1:27). That image is sacred. Life is sacred.

I [the Lord God Almighty] call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. So choose life in order that you may live, you and your descendants . . .

Deuteronomy 30:19 ❖



(www.shutterstock.com)

A Pastor's Perspective

Glenn Meredith

(Editor's note: Glenn Meredith is the pastor of The Brookhaven Church in McKinney, Texas. He serves as pastor for both me and Nathan Jones, as well as other staff members. During the coronavirus lockdown, he started delivering short daily video devotionals over the Internet, called, "Two Minutes of Encouragement." On June 2nd he delivered a special message in honor of "Blackout Tuesday." Since I am spiritually gifted as a prophetic voice, and therefore I speak bluntly, I thought it would be good to follow my hard-hitting article about "systemic racism" with one that comes from the heart of a person gifted to be a pastor.)

There will not be a regular "Two Minutes of Encouragement" video today because all across our nation, people are observing "Black out Tuesday" on social media.

This is an attempt to communicate that, in light of the terrible unjust killing of a black man, George Floyd, by a white police officer in Minneapolis on Memorial Day, that we cannot just go on as though nothing has happened. So for today only, I am suspending the video I have recorded and in its place I ask you to pray for healing in our land.



Pastor Glenn Meredith

Our nation today is hurting. The horrific, unjust, and indefensible abuse of power by a Minneapolis police officer in taking the life of George Floyd has deeply wounded the black community of our nation. Their anger is understandable. Many have turned out to protest in a peaceful and lawful manner to express that enough is enough and that it is time for a change.

become the excuse we use to deny there is a real problem and to turn a deaf ear to the cries of the many once again.

It is urgently important that we communicate that the taking of this man's life and the way it was done has also wounded the heart of every decent, kind and caring person in our nation, regardless of the color of their skin. All of us who know Jesus, regardless of our race, should be grieved and outraged over this cruel injustice.

What happened to George Floyd is sadly not an isolated event. For years, many of us have heard of the discrimination and injustice too often leveled against those in the black community. Most of us have never experienced this kind of treatment personally, so for us it has been far too easy to dismiss.

What We As Christians Need To Do

It is time for those of us who know Jesus to acknowledge there is a problem. It is a complicated problem that frankly has no easy solutions. There are no laws that can remove bias, prejudice, and hate from the human heart. Only Jesus can do that. But, for those of us who know Jesus, we need to ask the Lord to show us how we can be a part of the solution and not part of the problem.

For those of you in our church family who are black, we want you to know that we are truly sorry for what happened to George Floyd. It should have never happened. We are sorry for any pain, anger or fear that you may feel today. We are saddened if you have personally experienced unfair treatment, bias and discrimination in your life.

I acknowledge that I do not understand what you and others in your family have gone through. But I want to understand. I need you to help me understand. Our church family wants to be a part of the solution. I would very much cherish the opportunity to learn from you and together to show our community that Jesus really is the answer to the problems of the human heart.

I am grateful to those of you who have been watching regularly these two minute videos and sharing them with others. We will resume them tomorrow.



(i-Stock.com)

But as is often the case, a few are seeking to hijack this peaceful demonstration for their own purposes. None of us condone the violent response of a few that are looting and rioting across our country. This is inexcusable and needs to stop. But let's not let the actions of a few who are acting incorrectly

But today, let's ask the Lord to teach us how to love more than we ever have before and to heal our land.

Prayerfully,
Glenn ✝

Is An Increase in Racism A Sign of the End-Times?

Nathan Jones interviews Don Perkins

(Editor's note: Nathan Jones is the Internet Evangelist for Lamb & Lion Ministries. Don Perkins is the Evangelist for According to Prophecy Ministries in San Diego, California, a ministry that he founded in 1998. Don has a TV program called "Your Future in Bible Prophecy," which is broadcast over HisChannel.com. This interview is taken from the brief Prophetic Perspectives videos that posted regularly on our website at lamblion.com.)

Nathan Jones: Don, Jesus prophesied in Matthew 24:7 that in the last days it would be "nation against nation," which we know in the original Greek was "ethnos versus ethnos," or "race versus race." In other words, one of the signs of the end times would be a rise in racism. Don, do you believe an increase in racism is a sign of the end-times?

Also, can we find a cure for racism? For instance, Black Entertainment Television's (BET) president Robert Johnson says the cure to racism is \$14 trillion dollars in reparations. Are reparations the answer, or does the answer go much deeper?

Don Perkins: The answer goes a whole lot deeper. As a matter of fact, the crux of the matter concerning racism is sin. Racism is a sin problem. You cannot throw enough dollars at this problem to fix it. The only way the problem of racism can be solved is by accepting Jesus Christ. Jesus is the remedy for racism.

We've got racism across all the different ethnos' and nations. There's racism everywhere. There's racism between black and white and black and other ethnicities and so on, so racism is everywhere. What I've found out is that even a lot of people who complain about racism the loudest are racists themselves. Yes, a lot of these social justice warriors are racists themselves. They have not allowed the blood of Christ to touch their hearts.

I've met people who are true racists, but when they met Jesus, I saw a change of heart. I've seen the racism in their hearts replaced by hearts filled with the love of God. It's amazing to see the love of God develop once their hearts are given over to God and they start walking with Jesus. So, racists need a change of heart. And again, it only comes through Jesus Christ.

And, yes, these race riots are a definite sign of the end-times. As we witness the chaos that is going on in the streets today, it's truly a latter-day sign pointing to the soon return of Christ.

Nathan Jones: Don, we keep hearing the media and crowds claim that the United States is a "racist country" and that we have "systemic racism." As you said, what race doesn't have their racists? I like to think that we are all part of the human race, but then there will be people who will call me a racist for saying that, which in and of itself is a racist statement, so there's no end to it.

I love what Jesus taught in Matthew 22:36-40 where He gave the two greatest commandments: "You shall love the Lord



Don Perkins



Nathan Jones

your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Can you imagine what a world this would be like if we, in a culture that has forgotten God, would remember God, and love God, and show God's love to other people?

Don Perkins: Sure, the love of God is the cure. Something that we can definitely look forward to that's taught in Bible prophecy is what the world will be like entering into the Millennial Kingdom and continuing further on into the Eternal State. Then we will experience firsthand this unconditional love that God showed by sending His Son to die for humanity's sins.

We know that back in Genesis 4:8, the first murder occurred when Abel was killed by his brother Cain. Hatred of his brother constituted a type of racism. Today, what we have in the streets is hatred among black and white and different other races who are really all brothers and sisters.

When it comes to "systemic racism," the problem is that humanity does not have Jesus Christ. I've met black racists; I've met white racists; I've met Filipino racists. It seems like I've met every kind of racist under the sun. So, all of humanity has a sin problem. and the only way that's going to be resolved is by accepting Jesus Christ as Savior. That's the only way! I know I love everybody, but that's because of the love of Jesus working in and through me.

Nathan Jones: Beautifully said, Don! I think of the Church as being a little bit of Heaven on earth. I love that my church is multiracial. We look at each other as people. We don't look at each other as skin color. And, that's what Heaven is going to be like. Ethnicities won't matter anymore. After all, we're supposed to look like ourselves in Heaven, right? So, that means we're still going to be the same color that we are now for all of eternity. We'll all be one race — the human race — and there won't be any hate.

Don Perkins: We will truly become the family of God.

Nathan Jones: Thank you, Don, for clearing that up. Folks, if you are looking for a cure for racism, Don said it. It's the love of God, it's compassion for other people, and it's forgiveness. When you have those three things, you have the cure for racism. The time is overdue for us to start loving, empathizing and forgiving our fellow human beings, regardless of color. ❖

GRASSROOTS: PATRICK'S PERSPECTIVE



WHITE GUILT

(Editor's note: Patrick Hampton is a Christian minister, educator, charter-school administrator and columnist who writes regularly for the Patriot Post website at <https://patriotpost.us>. This article is reprinted from the Post with permission.)

Patrick Hampton

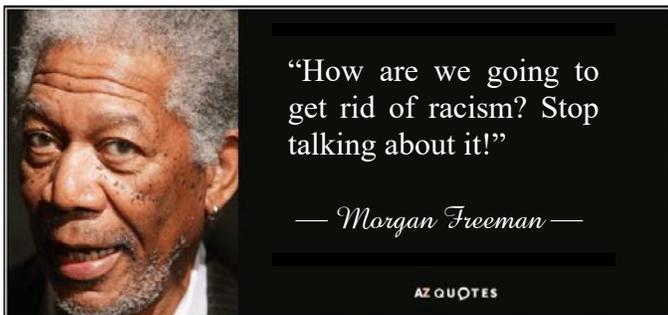
“They’re not protesting. They’re not making a statement. They’re stealing. When they burn down a building, they’re committing arson ... A handful of criminals and thugs tore up the place.”

In 2015, President Barack Obama said these words as he addressed the Baltimore riots upon the death of Freddie Gray.

But what’s hypocritical is how today’s riots are far more intense than anything America has seen in a couple of decades, yet these heinous acts affecting local businesses aren’t deserving of what truly was a sound and reasonable response from the Left.

Instead, the red carpet is being rolled out for looters and thieves, as people of all colors under the flags of BLM and Antifa take advantage of this massive wave of white guilt.

The mainstream media has officially mastered the art of bringing white liberals to their knees, all in an effort to vindicate one solitary act of violence against one single black man (who without question deserves justice).



The Forgotten Victims

Meanwhile, they’ll never focus on the bigger picture, the other casualties of this brigade — the victims whose stories will never see the light of day or airtime on news platforms so long as this narrative lives.

So far, at least nine black people were killed in the rioting, but we don’t remember their names. But we thought this was about black lives.

Minority businesses burn to the ground, destroying economic opportunity as people’s life savings turn to ashes. But we thought we were fighting for black people who lacked opportunity by way of systemic racism?

Liberals and socialists feel so guilty that they haul away merchandise while wearing AirPods and Apple watches. Taking a knee against injustice in the brand new sneakers they stole, these looters freely indulge in the plight of black America for their own gain, recording it all on brand new phones.

And in their arrogance, these rioters post their footage on social media, flaunting it as a sort of badge of honor to make their other white friends feel guilty. In intimidation, these types demand that all of their white friends kneel and speak out on behalf of black people, or else their silence equates to “violence.”

The truth of the matter? White guilt in 2020 has more to do with elitism than it does with actually helping black lives.

The Kneeling Fad

And now America is on its knees. Kneeling to look good on social media. Kneeling to protect businesses from getting fire-bombed. Kneeling to save white lives, families and communities from being destroyed.

Local police and even the National Guard are kneeling to hopefully stop the rioting so that some semblance of society will remain. We are kneeling in fear, giving control to something sinister that we do not understand.



Portland Community College designated April “Whiteness History Month,” calling it an “educational project.” (<https://endtimesand2019.wordpress.com>)

I only ask that you kneel to our Almighty God.

Only He knows the truth within each person’s heart. He knows every racist there is. If you want to know if you are one, turn only to Him for the answer.

To all American Patriots who identify as white — do not fall for this charade. Stand up, but not just for yourself. Stand for Americans of all skin colors who, likewise, are fed up with destruction and chaos.

And when you do stand, keep your feet on the ground, never again to be swayed by the next divisive mainstream media tactic aimed at bringing White America — no, all of America — down. ✚

Nearing Midnight

The Perils of Being Perpetually Offended

Todd Strandberg

(Editor’s note: Todd Strandberg is the founder of the Rapture Ready website. He is a widely recognized expert on Bible prophecy. See: www.RaptureReady.com.)



Todd Strandberg

Our nation has reached a point where it is a hair trigger away from chaos. A host of liberal groups are constantly looking for something they can take offense to.

Almost 60% of the news today is about what the writer thinks is wrong with the world. One Yahoo news story actually questioned why Trump was drinking a glass of water in an odd manner! On the same page, another story had an Atlanta megachurch pastor apologizing for saying that people might find “white blessing” more palatable than “white privilege.”

The thought police have now taken down Aunt Jemima and Uncle Ben. My one-time favorite syrup will no longer have the iconic image and name of Aunt Jemima. PepsiCo Inc declared they are changing the name and the brand of the pancake mix and syrup because it has a “racist history.” The logo of the more than 130-year-old brand features an African American woman named after a character from 19th century minstrel shows. The offensive caricature is rooted in a stereotype of a friendly black woman working as a servant or a nanny for a white family.



(<https://nowtoronto.com>)

Uncle Ben’s owner, Mars, Inc., is planning to change the rice maker’s “brand identity.” In a statement on its website, Mars wrote that “now is the right time to evolve the Uncle Ben’s brand, including its visual brand identity, which we will do.” The Mars spokesman added, “We don’t yet know what the exact changes and timing will be, but we are evaluating all possibilities.”

The ever-expanding Cultural Revolution has Kellogg’s cereal boxes under its demented scrutiny. Fiona Onasanya, a former British Labor Party MP who became only the second person in

history to be kicked out of Parliament by their own voters using a recall petition, has called on Kellogg’s to justify why Rice Krispies is represented with “three white boys” while the Coco Pops mascot is a monkey . . .



(www.indy100.com)

I’m guessing that Colonel Sanders will be next on the chopping block. His southern image will soon be viewed as too much of a reminder of the slave-holding plantation owners. The investors of all companies that use a surname will need to pray that their company is not linked to ancestors with troubling racial views.

We are never going to restore racial harmony to our nation if it only takes one wrongful death to trigger fresh riots. There is no systemic discrimination at work in America. George Floyd died because of one cop’s act of stupidity. People have become so insane with hate, they don’t realize that they are the bigots.

I think this world was a far better place before platforms like Twitter and Facebook came along. These social media sites are destroying the very fabric of democracy, imperiling the very nature of human relationships and peddling an addictive drug called anger. Instigators know they can attract people to their platform and control if they get them mad enough.

One possible way to defuse that perpetual offense cycle is a huge backlash as a result of the violence. Already a dangerous profession, truckers — who value their lives more than the cargo they haul — have been heard on the CDLLife app calling for a nationwide moratorium of delivering goods until the riots stop. To understand why truckers are rejecting deliveries to certain cities, last week 1,212 users of the trucking app responded to a poll, with 79% saying they will not deliver loads to lawless cities. . .

The perils of being perpetually offended are that you eventually lose contact with reality. Everyone else is wrong, and no amount of evidence will change your mind. At that point, our society seems doomed to self-destruction. The Word of God clearly says that the time for repentance is a limited window.

“So I gave them up to their stubborn hearts to follow their own devices” (Psalm 81:12).

“Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves” (Romans 1:24). ❖

White versus Black Or Light versus Dark?

Brian C. Thomas

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As a Christian black man living in America, I am very disturbed by what I am seeing and hearing in our nation. It seems that every direction you turn, there are images and narratives about blacks facing injustice at the hands of whites.

I want to state up front that I do not buy into the broad-brush depiction that blacks are being targeted by whites. More on that in a moment.



Brian C. Thomas

The End-Time Sign of Disunity

In Matthew 24:3, the disciples went to Jesus on the Mount of Olives and asked Him, "And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?" Jesus responded with a thorough outline of the "signs of the times." One of the signs He mentioned was that nation will rise against nation (Matthew 24:7). In the original Greek, this is written *ethnos* against *ethnos* which is where we get the word "ethnicity."

In other words, our Lord said that ethnicity against ethnicity would be a sign of His Second Coming. That is an extremely important fact to make note of as we examine the racial tension in the nation.

Satan has been sowing division since the Garden of Eden where he pitted Adam against Eve. Jesus prayed that our oneness would be an indicator to the world that He had been sent by the Father (John 17:20-23). Thus, division is a work of the enemy whereas unity is work of the Spirit. As we examine the climate, we must remember this along with the fact that we wrestle against principalities in wicked places, not flesh and blood (Ephesians 6:12).

The End-Time Sign of Lawlessness

Another sign Jesus mentioned that would point to His soon return was that the love of many would grow cold, due to lawlessness (Matthew 24:12). All we have to do is turn on the news, and we can see how cold love has grown due to lawlessness. Many are defying curfews and are rioting and looting. This spirit

of lawlessness and anarchy comes directly from the spirit of antichrist which is detailed in 2 Thessalonians 2:7-12.

What makes it obvious that this is a demonic spirit is to just look at the transgressors' actions. What does a business owner in New York City have to do with the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis? Absolutely nothing.

But those who have been taken over by the spirit of lawlessness are looting entities that are literally thousands of miles away from the epicenter. They are not truly seeking justice for blacks. They instead are motivated to create chaos and division which will ultimately destroy the nation. Jesus specifically stated that this spirit would be a sign of the end of the age.

The New Buzz Phrase

The buzz phrase that we are bombarded with today is "systemic racism." The liberal media pushes this narrative by inciting the masses with emotion-provoking headlines. Every time a white police officer shoots a black man, the headlines shout, "WHITE POLICE OFFICER SHOOTS UNARMED BLACK MAN." They could just as well state, "Police Officer Shoots Unarmed Man." But they highlight the race because they have the goal of inciting people's rage. Forget the facts, they just want people to react, so they play the race card.

Anyone in their right mind knows this country at one time had unjust policies towards blacks, beginning with slavery, through Jim Crow, etc. But just because it existed then does not mean it exists now. I am not so naive as to think racism does not exist in any capacity. Certainly there are racists, just as there are liars, thieves and coveters. All of these are sins that will continue to exist until Jesus returns to set up His eternal kingdom.

But I do not accept the systemic racism narrative. I was watching the local news with my wife one evening, and the anchors mentioned systemic racism repeatedly. The newscast then cut to press conferences being delivered by local chiefs of police. Of the three largest cities in my area, each police chief was black. I turned to my wife and stated, "How can there be systemic racism against blacks when so many chiefs of police are black?"

Our nation is 13% black and 77% white. When we consider the fact we elected a president who had a black father, along with numerous black chiefs of police, black mayors, etc, how does one come to the conclusion there is systemic racism? The reason



The need for forgiveness and unity.

(Shutterstock.com)

is due to believing a lie rather than the truth.

By the way, the progressives ignore the fact that Planned Parenthood was founded by a white racist for the purpose of eradicating blacks. If that is not systemic racism, I do not know what is. But liberals would rather ostracize law enforcement while applauding the killing of the unborn. We are witnessing the depravity of minds referred to in Romans 1:28.

The Media Lie

The lie that so many are accepting is that all cops are racists and all whites are racists. It is simply not true. I personally know numerous police officers and whites who are born again followers of Christ, and they are not racists.

But the liberal media is seducing people into believing a lie. It is conditioning the world to accept an even greater lie of the future. That great lie will be that of the Antichrist, who will require that all must worship him. The Bible declares that the one who will possess the Antichrist is the father of lies (John 8:44-45).

What is even more disturbing is the position of many churches. I have seen numerous churches immediately align themselves with Black Lives Matter in the aftermath of the George Floyd killing, even though its platform is in direct contradiction to the Christian faith. The true Church would never align itself with such thinking, but this is another sign of the times — that a great apostasy would occur at the end of the age with many churches falling from the faith.

The Bowing Fad

Scenes are playing out all over the country of people bowing to their knees in the streets, assembly halls, churches, etc. The theme is that they are “taking a knee” to represent solidarity and apology to blacks for systemic racism and the actions of our nation’s forefathers. A video has surfaced of a black man demanding a white woman to kneel and apologize for her “white privilege.”

I have watched footage of a church congregation assembled under an outdoor tent. The pastor, who is white, led the white members who were positioned on one side of the tent to kneel before all the blacks who were standing facing them on the opposite side of the tent.

In a separate incident, a police officer was criticized because he refused to kneel to protesters in the streets. He stood while all his comrades kneeled because he declared that he only bows to our Lord. People branded him a racist. It reminds me of Romans 11:4, which tells how the Lord commended those who would not bow their knees before the false god, Baal.

Satan has tried to get mankind to bow the knee before anything but God throughout history. Now they are bowing to an ethnic group. The Bible declares that the only appropriate bowing is to the one true God (Exodus 20:3), and it further states that one day every knee shall bow at the name of Jesus (Philippians 2:10).

Jumping to Conclusions

Whenever there is conflict between a white and a black, why do many assume that it is motivated by racism? I stated immediately upon viewing the George Floyd killing that it was a social injustice, but I did not know if it was a racial injustice.



Faculty, staff and students from Penn State Medical Center and College of Medicine kneel to reflect on racism and violence against people of color during a “White Coats for Black Lives” event on campus. (<https://pennstatehealthnews.org/topics/racial-justice-2020>)

Declaring it racial injustice would mean I knew for a fact what the officer’s motive was, which I did not. Did the officer shout a racial slur, did he pen a manifesto stating hatred toward blacks, were there social media posts declaring hatred for blacks? I have yet to see any of that presented but everywhere you turn, people are calling him a racist.

Why? It is because people have unforgiveness in their hearts. The devil causes people to run even when no one is after them (Proverbs 28:1). It is called paranoia. Yes, slavery was brutal and Jim Crow was wrong, but there must come a point when we must move past it.

The Necessity of Forgiveness

When one holds on to past transgressions, he becomes a prisoner held captive in his own unforgiveness. How many times must whites apologize for the sins of some, not all, of their forefathers — every time there is a conflict between a white and black? If I have a conflict with my wife, does that mean I have to apologize for every incident where I offended her over the past 14 years? Rehashing all that serves no benefit.

How did Stephen respond when he was stoned to death (Acts 7:54-56)? He asked God to forgive them even as the stones were being hurled that ultimately killed him. And look at our Lord Jesus. While being mocked and crucified, He asked God the Father to forgive His transgressors (Luke 23:34). We must follow the example of Stephen and Jesus if we want to be set free and have true racial reconciliation.

The Apostle John looked into the future and saw a great multitude in heaven composed of every ethnicity from earth (Revelation 7:9). Our Lord is for all people, not just whites, not just blacks, not just “fill in the blank.”

If you want eternal life in the kingdom of God, you must forgive. If you want freedom and peace, you must forgive. If we want Jesus to forgive our sins, we must forgive others. He died for us all. Now, let us embrace one another as brothers and sisters of the human race and display the love of our Lord!

Unity is a work of God, a gift from above. There is a reason Jesus prayed for oneness. May we look to our Lord and stand together against the enemy in the last days of this age.

We are not in a battle of white versus black. It is a battle of good versus evil, it is a battle of light versus dark. Do you recognize the signs of the times? Maranatha! ❖

Erasing History

Dr. David R. Reagan

“The foundations of law and order have collapsed.
What can the righteous do?”
(Psalm 11:3)

When the mobs started tearing down statues of Confederate generals, we yawned. When they shifted their attention to memorials of Confederate soldiers, we shrugged our shoulders. When they actually started destroying statues of abolitionists, including President Abe Lincoln, we woke up. It was only when the mobs decided that the Lincoln Memorial, the Jefferson Memorial and the images of presidents on Mount Rushmore had to be destroyed that we became outraged.

What we have been witnessing is barbarians intimidating spineless politicians who are unwilling to take any decisive action to stop the insanity — forcing President Trump to intervene.

The Justification

There is really no justification in destroying any of these statues. One of the most beautiful ones to come under attack is in Dallas, Texas. It depicted General Robert E. Lee riding a horse with a young boy riding alongside of him. It was sculptured by A. Phimister Proctor (1860-1950), who is considered to have been one of the greatest sculptors of animals.



Robert E. Lee Statue in Dallas, Texas.
(www.waymarking.com)

The statue was dedicated on July 12, 1936 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt who described Lee as “one of the greatest American Christians and one of our greatest American gentlemen.” At least this priceless work of art was not destroyed. Instead, the Dallas City Council voted to remove it and put it in storage.

All across the South, governors and mayors have given in to pressure to remove memorials to Confederate soldiers. This has been very disturbing to me. These are not memorials to slavery. They were erected in memory of husbands, fathers, sons and brothers who were killed in America’s bloodiest war. What about their descendants? Are we to have no compassion for them as the

memorials to their ancestors are defaced, destroyed or hidden?

A Local Example of Compassion

In McKinney, Texas, close to where I live, there is a beautiful cemetery still in operation today that contains the burial places of many Confederate soldiers. Are their graves to be desecrated?

I am pleased to report that just the opposite has been the case for several years — all due to a Boy Scout who needed a community project to earn a particular merit badge. His parents had been taking him for years to visit the cemetery on each Memorial Day because the city sponsored a special commemorative service. The boy noted that a small flag was placed at the grave of every person who had served in the U.S. Armed Forces, but there was no recognition of Confederate graves. So, he came up with the idea of also marking the graves of Confederate soldiers with a Confederate flag.

It was an idea that deeply touched the hearts of many people because it was an idea motivated by love rather than hate. I was pleased to see this last year that the procedure was still taking place, although the Confederate Battle Flag had been replaced with the regular flag of the Confederacy.

Attacks on Lincoln!

Once the mobs started tearing down statues, their appetite became both insane and insatiable. The wonderful Lincoln Emancipation statue in Washington, D.C., and its duplicate in Boston became targets.

Why Lincoln? There didn’t need to be any reason — although some were given. “The statue shows a black man kneeling before a white man.” No, it shows a freed black man rising up from his slavery. One mob member justified his actions



Lincoln Emancipation Statue.
(www.i-Stockphoto.com)

by declaring, “Lincoln didn’t go far enough!” Incredible! Lincoln only gave his life in behalf of emancipation.

President Trump intervened to save the statue in Washington, D.C., and he provided protection for all the other statues in the city. In contrast, the Boston City Council voted unanimously to remove their copy of the statue to storage!

Incidentally, the original Lincoln statue in Washington, D.C. was paid for by donations from former slaves. It was dedicated on the 11th anniversary of Lincoln’s death by Frederick Douglass, who was the leading black abolitionist. Why in the world would such a statue be offensive to those demonstrating against racism?

The Height of Irrationality

The point is that reason has been thrown to the wind. Further evidence can be found in the wanton destruction of the statute of Hans Christian Heg which has stood in front of the Wisconsin Capitol building since 1925. And its destruction was not enough to satisfy the mob. They actually hauled the statue to Lake Monona and threw it into the water!



Statue of Hans Christian Heg at the Wisconsin Capitol.
(www.i-Stockphoto.com)

And who was Mr. Heg? He was a Norwegian immigrant who came to the United States in 1840 and became the leading abolitionist in the State of Wisconsin. He was appointed a colonel in the Wisconsin infantry and was killed in the Battle of Chickamauga in Georgia in September of 1863 while fighting to free the slaves.

The rationale for destroying Heg’s statue was the same as an attempt to destroy Ulysses S. Grant’s statue in New York City. It just happened to be convenient. Who cares that Grant led the Union Forces to the victory that freed the slaves? Mobs are not characterized by rationality.

Further, these actions have made it clear that anarchists who hate American have been using racial equality as a pretext for rampant and widespread destruction. Yet cowardly politicians continue to do nothing in response for fear they will be labeled “racists.”

The Newest Targets

And then, there are our Founding Fathers — like Washington and Jefferson and Hamilton. They have to go too. After all, they actually owned slaves. Yes, they did, as did most of the people worldwide at that time who could afford to do so. But through the Declaration of Independence and our Constitution, our Founding Fathers laid down the philosophical principles that guaranteed the ultimate abolition of slavery.



(Michael Ramirez via www.creators.com)

Tearing down statues does not erase history. But it does help to hide it from future generations. And that is dangerous because those who do not know history are destined to repeat it. Why not use these monuments as teaching aids to impress upon young minds the horrors of racism?

Further, if we can erect statues only to perfect people, then all statues must come down, including the newly erected one of Martin Luther King, Jr. There has been only one perfect person, and that one is Jesus of Nazareth. And even His statues have come under attack because “they portray Him as a white man.”

All of this statue-bashing is just sheer insanity.

A Fundamental Question

I have a crucial question for the persons in the mobs. Why do they think they are so morally superior to the people whose statues they are defacing or destroying? I would be willing to say that the overwhelming majority of those participating in the mobs favor the killing of the most innocent life on planet earth — namely, babies in their mother’s wombs.

Our Founding Fathers would have been adamantly opposed to abortion. In fact, it would have been beyond their imaginations that American society would ever become so secular and pagan that the murder of babies would become legal.

I wonder, too, how many of the self-righteous people in the mobs are living together immorally without being married? How many of them are actively involved in promoting the Sexual Perversion Movement in our nation? How many are obsessed with pornography? How many are motivated by an overwhelming hatred of Christianity and the Bible? How many of them are anti-Semites, like the leadership of the Black Lives Matter organization? In the words of Jesus, “Let him who is without sin cast the first stone” (John 8:7).

Luke 6:41

“How can you say to your brother, ‘Brother, let me take out the speck that is in your eye,’ when you yourself do not see the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother’s eye.” ❖

Does the Bible Condone Slavery?

(Editor's note: This article is taken from the GotQuestions.org website, which is the most outstanding site on the Internet for finding Evangelical answers to Bible questions.)



There is a tendency to look at slavery as something of the past. But it is estimated that there are today over 27 million people in the world who are subject to slavery through forced labor, sex trade, or as inheritable property, etc.

As those who have been redeemed from the slavery of sin, followers of Jesus Christ should be the foremost champions of ending human slavery in the world today. The question arises, though, why does the Bible not speak out strongly against slavery? Why does the Bible, in fact, seem to support the practice of human slavery?

The Bible does not specifically condemn the practice of slavery. It gives instructions on how slaves should be treated (Deuteronomy 15:12-15, Ephesians 6:9 and Colossians 4:1), but does not outlaw slavery altogether. Many see this as the Bible condoning all forms of slavery.

Slavery in the Biblical World

What many fail to understand is that slavery in biblical times was very different from the slavery that was practiced in the past few centuries in many parts of the world. The slavery in the Bible was not based exclusively on race. People were not enslaved because of their nationality or the color of their skin.

In Bible times, slavery was based more on economics; it was a matter of social status. People sold themselves as slaves when they could not pay their debts or provide for their families. In New Testament times, sometimes doctors, lawyers and even politicians were slaves of someone else. Some people actually chose to be slaves so as to have all their needs provided for by their masters.

Modern Slavery

The slavery of the past few centuries was often based exclusively on skin color. In the United States, many black people were considered slaves because of their nationality; many slave owners truly believed black people to be inferior human beings.

The Bible condemns race-based slavery in that it teaches that all men are created by God and made in His image (Genesis 1:27). At the same time, the Old Testament did allow for economic-based slavery and regulated it. The key issue is that the

slavery the Bible allowed for in no way resembled the racial slavery that plagued our world in the past few centuries.

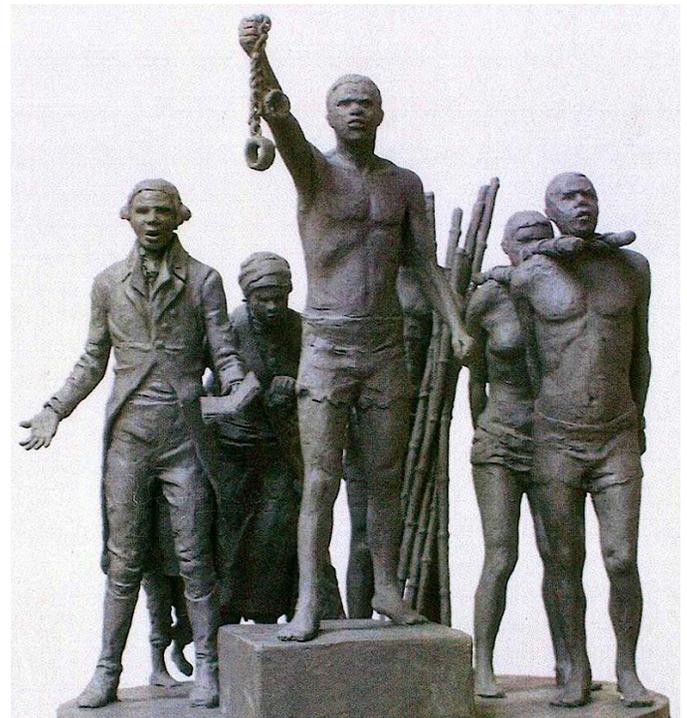
In addition, both the Old and New Testaments condemn the practice of "man-stealing," which is what happened in Africa in the 16th to 19th centuries. Africans were rounded up by slave-hunters, who sold them to slave-traders, who brought them to the New World to work on plantations and farms. This practice is abhorrent to God.

In fact, the penalty for such a crime in the Mosaic Law was death: "Anyone who kidnaps another and either sells him or still has him when he is caught must be put to death" (Exodus 21:16). Similarly, in the New Testament, slave-traders are listed among those who are "ungodly and sinful" and are in the same category as those who kill their fathers or mothers, murderers, adulterers and perverts, and liars and perjurers (1 Timothy 1:8-10).

The Bible's Focus

Another crucial point is that the purpose of the Bible is to point the way to salvation, not to reform society. The Bible often approaches issues from the inside out. If a person experiences the love, mercy and grace of God by receiving His salvation, God will reform his soul, changing the way he thinks and acts.

A person who has experienced God's gift of salvation and freedom from the slavery of sin, as God reforms his soul, will realize that enslaving another human being is wrong. He will see, with Paul, that a slave can be "a brother in the Lord" (Philemon 1:16). A person who has truly experienced God's grace will in turn be gracious towards others. That would be the Bible's prescription for ending slavery. ✚



Pictured above is the model of a proposed anti-slavery statue done by a British artist, Les Johnson. The proponents of the statue have been trying since 2002 to secure \$5 million in private or government funding for casting the 14-foot statue in bronze and placing it in Hyde Park in London. (www.theconversation.com)

The Antichrist Won't Have to Rent-a-Mob When Utter Lawlessness Visited My Hometown

Jan Markell

(Editor's note: Jan Markell is the founder of Olive Tree Ministries, located in the Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota area. She is the host of a weekly radio program that is broadcast on over 300 stations nationwide. See: <https://olivetreereviews.org>.)

Do you have "crisis fatigue" yet? That happens when we get overwhelmed by constant unrelenting pressures, images, dilemmas and heartaches. And that describes our state of affairs since early March, 2020. This year is not for the faint-hearted!

Gun shops are selling out. Those in the know warn of a serious revolution in America. Such confusion reigns that in some cities, police officers are joining the side of the protesters and rioters! Mix some strong delusion in there because there is serious talk of cities like mine dismantling their police departments! Others are slashing their police budgets. Parts of America will resemble the Wild West!

On January 25, I spoke at a prophecy Conference in California. I reviewed ten top stories that people should keep their eyes on in the new year. Number one on my list was the rise of the spirit of the Antichrist around the world!

Little did I know at that time that such lawlessness was going to come to my hometown — Minneapolis/St. Paul, and that these two cities would become "ground zero" in the rioting and looting scenario that broke out right after Memorial Day.

I've had an up-close-and-personal look at mankind at his worst. Thankfully, I am 30-40 minutes from the mayhem, although there have been constant threats to move the turmoil to the suburbs.

In the Twin Cities, 1,000 properties have been vandalized, looted, burned or totally destroyed, along with apartments above these businesses and homes. Our media shows business owners staring in stunned disbelief, as many were reeling from coronavirus destruction, but now they face the result of rampant anarchy. The media adds insult to injury by calling the destruction "peaceful protests."

How peaceful was it to spray a wheelchair-bound woman with a fire extinguisher?



Jan Markell



(i-Stocphoto.com)

So the Twin Cities looks like Somalia. I hope Rep. Ilhan Omar, in whose district a great majority of the damage resides, is finally happy. We are Mogadishu on the Mississippi!

Our liberal politicians cry crocodile tears while their loyalties are with the demonstrators. They seem detached from reality by obsessing over proper social distancing of all involved, and the looting thugs realize they can get away with literal murder in such a climate of lunacy.

To Minnesota politicians, demonstrating is "essential" but being with sick and dying loved ones is not, visiting our elderly is off the list, funerals and weddings are put on hold and church is but an inconvenience. What bizarre reality is this?

In the meantime, mile after mile of landscape has been changed in the Twin Cities that will take years — and perhaps a decade or more — to reconstruct. The rent-a-mob business is alive and well, very organized, and brutal. And lawless — but nothing like the lawlessness that is to come.

The smoke and tear gas are gone now and I have had time to reflect. Though I am many miles from ground zero, I have seen enough film of the rioting that I had the opportunity to look at the faces of the lawless. I could sense their heartlessness and brutality. "And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold" (Matthew 24:12).

One of the names of the Antichrist is the "lawless one." The term was coined by Paul in 2 Thessalonians 2:3 where he warns the Church of the man who will come on the scene and deceive the masses in the latter days during the Tribulation.

Again, this occurs during the Tribulation from which the Church will be absent. Yet what we have seen playing out on the streets of America in May and June is a dress rehearsal, though subdued compared to the lawlessness and turmoil in the Tribulation. What we are seeing now is setting the stage.

The Antichrist won't have to rent-a-mob. When he reigns, much of the world will be lawless, godless, tumultuous and confused. Antifa will be the normal! The burned and looted sections of my hometown will be the gold standard around the world.

With the restrainer gone, there will be absolutely nothing to hold back the evil, selfishness and out-of-control behavior! The world can go crazy and will. They will glory in utter chaos. What we have now is a trial run that is a weak firecracker in comparison. Multiply it by ten or a hundred or a thousand!

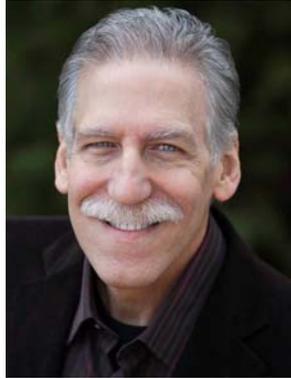
In Matthew 24, Jesus reminds us that the last days will be as the days of Noah. They will resemble Noah's time of lawlessness, violence, wickedness and depravity. Satan is working overtime today to prepare the way for the man of the hour who will, in the near future, make his grand appearance. The Church does not get to witness this, thanks to the promise of the Rapture.

The good news is that God will consume the Antichrist and his minions at the end of the Tribulation with the brightness of His coming! (2 Thessalonians 2:8). ❖

The Supreme Court Reminds Us Why Our Trust Should Be In God Alone

Dr. Michael Brown

(Editor's note: Michael Brown is a Messianic Jew who serves as President of the FIRE School of Ministry in Concord, North Carolina. Additionally, he is the host of a daily, nationally syndicated radio program called, "The Line of Fire." He also hosts an apologetics television program called "Answering Your Toughest Questions." His website can be accessed at <https://askdrbrown.org>.)



Dr. Michael Brown

I remember that sinking feeling as the election results were announced in November 1992. William Jefferson Clinton would be the next president of the United States. George H. W. Bush was out. Yet we were so close to having a conservative majority on the Supreme Court who would overturn *Roe v. Wade*! At least that's what I thought.

It was at that moment that another feeling struck me, a realization that has stayed with me over the decades. I suddenly realized that I was putting too much trust in our system. That I kept thinking that the expected change was just one election away. Or one more SCOTUS appointee away. Yet that magical moment never happened. Not with the Reagan presidency, and not at any time since — at least, not on the level for which I had been hoping.

Trusting in the Government Invites Disappointment

In short, when it comes to changing the society, we cannot put our trust in the Court. Or in the president. Or in the government. To do so is to invite disappointment.

Certainly, the actions and decisions of our government and its institutions can have massive implications for good or for bad. But real societal change, the kind of change we must have, cannot come by legislation or executive order or ruling. It can only come through the changed hearts of the people, which then changes the will of the people, which then makes its way up to the courts and the White House and the government.

Government cannot save! Only Jesus can save. And He must be our message.

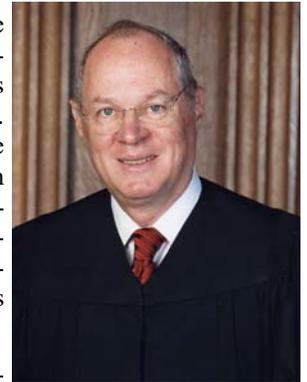
That's why I wrote in 1993 (yes, this was written 27 years ago), "For years we put our trust in the government. We hoped that the President would hold the line, that the right appointees to the Supreme Court would help stem the flood of unrighteousness, that a politically active church would turn our nation back. But we have been misled! We have put our confidence in the flesh. In our fight for religious rights we have subtly confessed, 'In man do we trust.' But government cannot save! Only Jesus can save. And He must be our message."

I continued, "Oh yes, we should exercise our rights and vote. We should meet with our children's educators and write to our elected officials." But, I explained, the key was changing the hearts and minds of the people. Otherwise, the change we longed for would never come.

Is This Too Spiritual an Idea?

But maybe I'm sounding too spiritual. Let's think about this in simple, concrete terms.

Who was the critical swing vote in the *Obergefell v. Hodges* decision, redefining marriage? It was none other than Anthony Kennedy. And who nominated Kennedy to the Supreme Court? None other than Ronald Reagan. So, one of our greatest conservative presidents nominated the man who played the pivotal role in calling same-sex unions "marriage."



Anthony Kennedy
Associate Justice
1988-2018

(<https://en.wikipedia.org>)

Of course, Reagan unsuccessfully nominated Robert Bork. And he was successful in nominating the great Antonin Scalia. But we cannot deny that Kennedy was selected by Reagan too. So much for our man in the White House changing SCOTUS.

As for George H. W. Bush, it is true that he nominated Clarence Thomas for the Court, and Thomas has remained consistent through the years. But Bush also nominated David Souter. *Politico* tells us the rest: "While Souter voted along generally conservative lines in his first year on the bench, he soon began to drift left. By 1992, he was part of the majority in *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* that reaffirmed the core holding of *Roe v. Wade*."



David Souter
Associate Justice
(1990-2009)

(<https://en.wikipedia.org>)

On cases ranging from voluntary school prayer to affirmative action, Souter lined up with his liberal colleagues. By 1995, the conservative *Weekly Standard* labeled him the "stealth justice" and called him "one of the staunchest liberals on the court — a more reliable champion of liberal causes than Clinton appointees Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Stephen Breyer."

So much for my hope for a second term for President Bush in 1992. Maybe he would have appointed another Souter?

And what of the appointees of George W. Bush? Samuel Alito has stayed the conservative

course, but Bush also appointed Chief Justice John Roberts, the swing vote in Obamacare and one of the key votes in recent liberal rulings by the Court.

Trump Appointee Gorsuch Has Disappointed Us, But God Never Will

That brings us to the present. The first of Trump's two appointees, Neil Gorsuch, recently stabbed conservatives in the back with his ludicrous redefining of the word "sex" to include transgenders. And as if his vote was not bad enough, he wrote the opinion for the majority. What in the world happened?



Neil Gorsuch
Associate Justice
Appointed in 2017
(<https://en.wikipedia.org>)

This doesn't mean that he won't make other solid rulings in the future. And this doesn't mean that we would have been better off with Hillary Clinton appointing justices to the Supreme Court and the federal courts. In that respect, Trump has done much good.

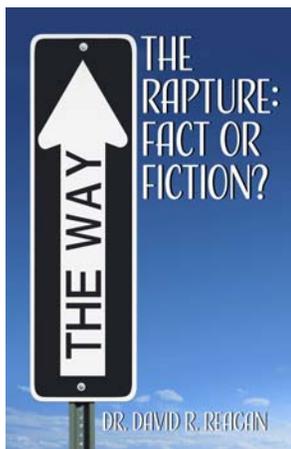
But here's where the reality check comes in. The Supreme Court will disappoint us again, and we can only expect the President or Congress to do so much. As for those who voted for Trump primarily with the courts in mind, the Gorsuch ruling is both a slap in the face and a stark reminder of the point I have been trying to make. We must be

careful where we put our trust.

So, while we continue to vote and lobby, remember this simple truth: *we must put our trust in God and the Gospel, not government.*

The Lord and His message will never fail us. Our government and its institutions, sooner or later, most certainly will. ❖

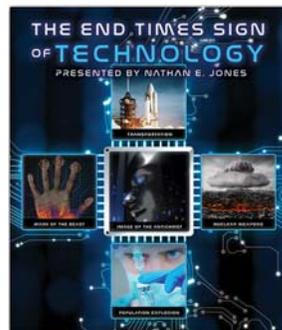
Study Resources



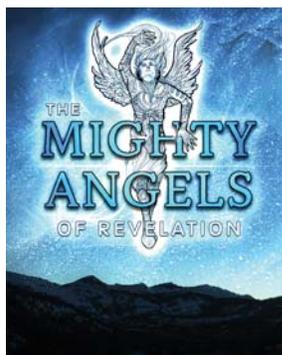
The Rapture: Fact or Fiction? — The book is divided into four parts. It begins with an explanation of the concept of the Rapture. The second section focuses on responses to the 21 most frequently-asked questions about the Rapture. The third section presents responses to the 13 major challenges that have been presented to the belief that the Rapture is most likely to occur before the beginning of the Tribulation. The final section presents the spiritual blessings of believing in the promise of a Pre-Trib Rapture. This section also contains a strong evangelistic

appeal to unbelievers. 104 pages. \$15, including shipping. All items featured on this page can be ordered via our website at www.lamblion.com, or by calling our office at 972-736-3567, Monday thru Friday, 8am to 5pm Central time.

The End Times Sign of Technology — A dynamic, one-hour, computer-animated program about the various signs of technology that clearly indicate that we are living in the season of the Lord's return. The program is presented by Nathan Jones, the Lamb & Lion Internet Evangelist. He explores nine of the technologies that the Bible prophecies will exist in the end times. By the conclusion of this informative and entertaining teaching, you will marvel at how ancient prophecies are being fulfilled in our day, and you will understand how to apply these revelations to your life in these fast-paced times we are now living in. The video album is available only on a Blu-ray disc. It sells for \$20, including the cost of shipping.



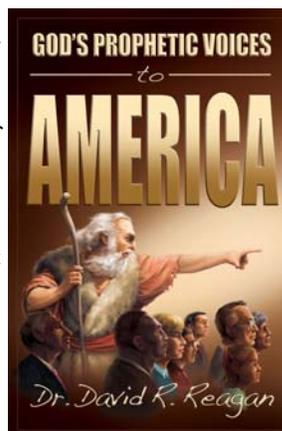
The Mighty Angels of Revelation — Come and travel along with a man called the Elder and his angelic guide as the end times are revealed throughout the book of Revelation in stunning detail. Along the way, meet 72 of God's mighty angels as they proclaim God's messages of warning and hope to a lost world. This book is a thrilling and comprehensive introduction to the nature and role of angels. The book originated out of a series of year-long radio programs which Nathan made together with Vic Batista, a former Calvary Chapel pastor in Florida, who now serves as an Assistant Evangelist for Lamb & Lion Ministries.



A special added feature of this book is 12 fantastic full-page drawings of some of the main angels mentioned in the book of Revelation. The drawings are by a very gifted Christian artist named Shalis Stevens.

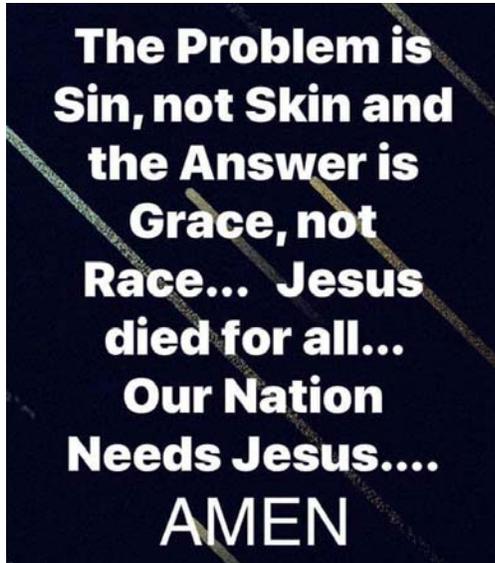
350 pages. \$20, including the cost of shipping.

God's Prophetic Voices — Dr. Reagan considers this to be the most important book he has ever written. It features 13 prophetic voices God has raised up to call this nation to repentance and to warn of impending destruction — four in the past and nine in the present. It clearly explains why our nation is experiencing the current "perfect storm" of medical, economic, political and societal chaos. Because this book is so important, we are offering it for only \$10, including the cost of shipping. ❖

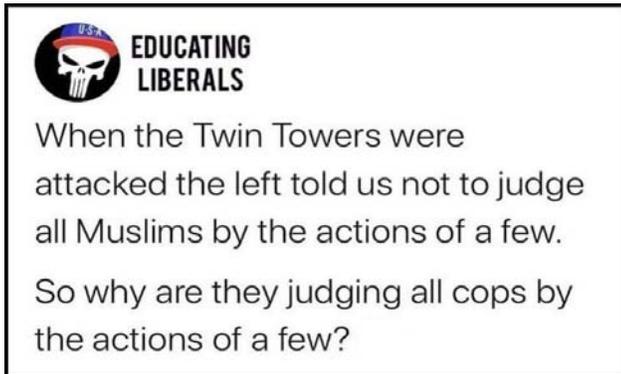


Thoughts

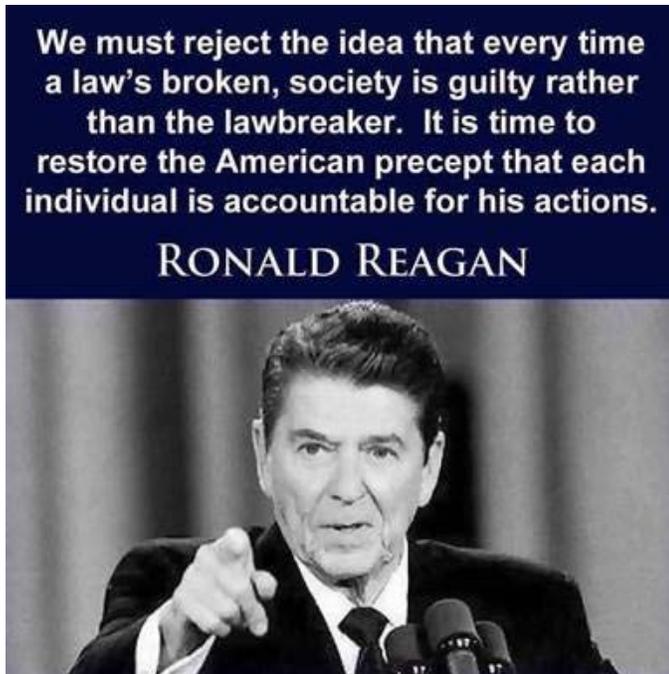
America's Basic Problem —



Defunding Police —



Responsibility —



Random Quotes —

“Planned Parenthood kills more blacks in two weeks that the KKK killed in a century.” — Ryan Bomberger, Co-Founder and Chief Creative Officer for the Radiance Foundation.

“The forces of darkness in our land want to crush anyone who cherishes life and liberty and upholds biblical principles.” — Tim Wildmon, President of the American Family Association.

“Darwinists are experts at drawing things that never existed to support their theory that never took place. If you take away their box of crayons, they have nothing left.” — Russ Miller, founder and spokesman for Creation, Evolution and Science Ministries.

“The purpose of prophecy is to excite us so much about the future that we will work powerfully in the present.” — Source unknown.

“Our nation seems to be unraveling in hatred.” — Franklin Graham.

“The only free cheese is in mouse traps.” — Common sense.

“Grumbling and complaining is verbalizing unbelief.” — Glenn Meredith, pastor of Brookhaven Church in McKinney, Texas.

Reparations —



More Random Quotes —

“A lot of prophetic interpretation is found in the book of Second Illusions.” — Ron Rhodes, Christian author.

“We cannot determine truth by counting noses.” — R. C. Sproul (1939-2017), American Christian theologian.

“When people stop believing in God, they don't believe in nothing — they believe in anything.” G. K. Chesterton (1897-1936), British Christian theologian. ✚

Ministry News

Schedule for 2020 & 2021 —

September:

Nathan Jones' preaching engagement with the Immanuel Baptist Church in Three Springs, PA which was scheduled for the 12th & 13th, has been postponed to next year due to the coronavirus.

The "Footsteps of Jesus" Holy Land pilgrimage which was scheduled for the 12th thru the 23rd has been postponed until June of next year due to a resurgence of the virus that forced the closure of Israel's borders to outside groups.

Nathan Jones' teaching engagement with the Bible Center in Breckerfeld, Germany, scheduled for September 26 thru October 4, is dependent on the reopening of flights between the United States and Europe.

October:

Possible Regional Conference at the Brookhaven Church in McKinney, Texas, depending on whether or not social distancing is still in place. Scheduled for the 16th & 17th. Decision will not be made until the end of August.

Prophecy Watchers Conference in Colorado Springs, CO, 22nd thru 25th. Nathan Jones.

Prophecy Conference at Liberty Lighthouse Church in Sherman, TX, 24th & 25th. Dave Reagan.

Mt. Zion Baptist Church in West Paducah, KY, on the 25th. Tim Moore.

November:

Brookhaven Church in McKinney, TX, on the evening of the 29th. Dave Reagan.

Notice: The ministry is receiving invitations for speaking engagements in 2021 for churches and conferences. Our speakers, in addition to Dr. Reagan, are Tim Moore, Nathan Jones, Vic Batista and Patrick Oliver. You can find photos, bios and booking information for all five of these men on the ministry's website at <https://christinprophecy.org/events/booking>. Give us a call! We are a faith ministry, so we do not charge for our services. All we ask is that you cover expenses and take up a love offering for the ministry.



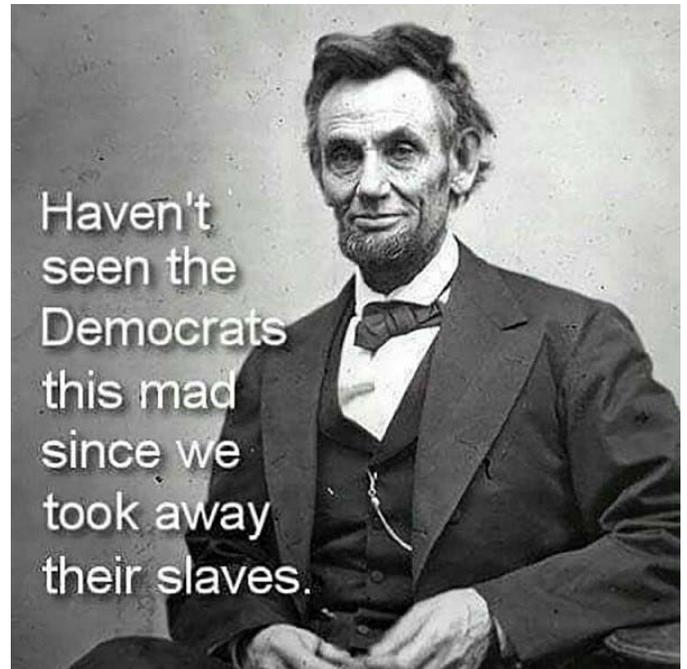
Website —

The next time you visit our website at www.lamblion.com, be sure to scroll down the home page to "Prophetic Perspectives Videos." These are short video messages, usually less than four minutes. They focus on the relevance of Bible prophecy to current national and international events. We try to add at least two new ones to our website each week. If there are specific topics you would like for us to address, send your suggestion to webminister@lamblion.com.

Prophecy Partners —

Our greatest need is for additional Prophecy Partners. We currently have 3,100. Our goal for this year is to reach 3,500. To become a Prophecy Partner, we ask that you commit to pray for us regularly and provide a donation of \$25 or more each month. In return, you will receive an insider letter each month from Dr. Reagan, plus a gift. Six months of the year, the gift is a printed copy of our bi-monthly magazine. In the other months, we send out gifts like a booklet, a video program on a DVD, special editions of our Bible Prophecy Insights, and our annual calendar. Prophecy Partners also receive discounts on materials produced by this ministry.

Racism —



New Publication —

Our Associate Evangelist, and Dr. Reagan's designated successor, Colonel Tim Moore, has just completed an outstanding 44 page booklet titled, *Looking Forward to the Reign of Jesus Christ*. It is subtitled, *Why I am a Premillennialist (And Why It Matters)*. This publication will be distributed free of charge to our Prophecy Partners in October. It will be advertised in the next edition of this magazine and will sell for \$10, including the cost of shipping. This booklet presents a solid case in behalf of the Premillennial view of end-time Bible prophecy. And what it reveals about the coming reign of Jesus will inspire you and give you hope. ✚



Crossroads Presbyterian Church in Desert, Texas.



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Second Edition!

The second edition of Dr. Reagan's comprehensive study of Bible prophecy, **God's Plan for the Ages**, has just come off the press.

This is the book that was praised by the late Dr. Jack Van Impe in the following words:

"God's Plan for the Ages offers a sweeping panoramic view of prophetic events unlike anything I have ever studied, even after having read more than 11,000 books!"

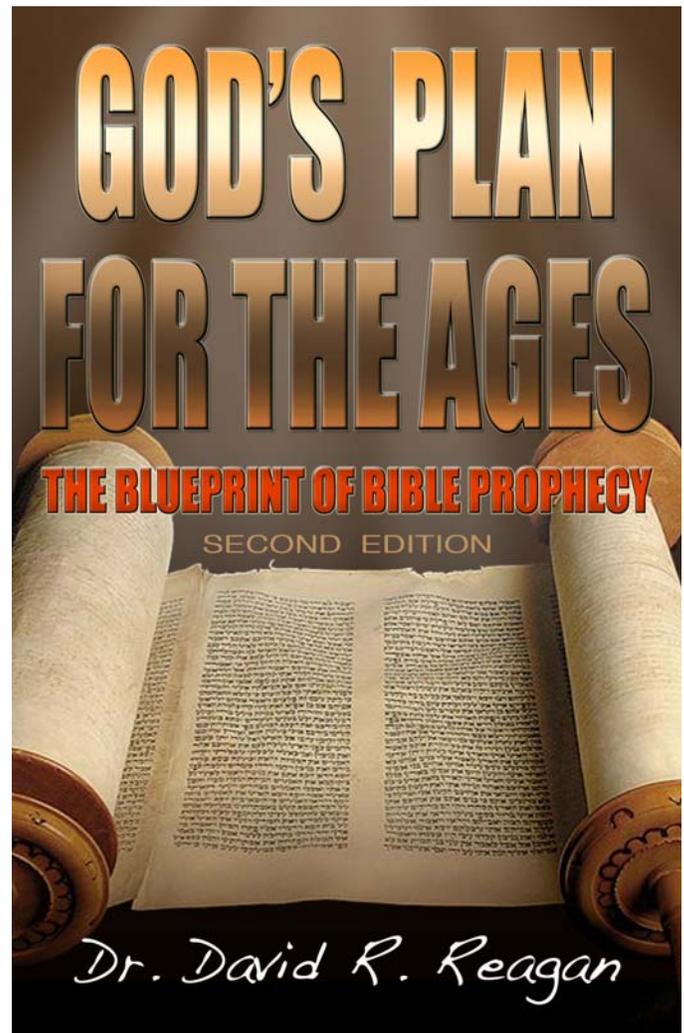
This book literally covers scores of prophetic signs and details that numerous scholars have missed. I, as one who has more than 100,000 hours of study in God's Word, was blessed beyond measure spiritually."

That enthusiastic endorsement was completely unsolicited.

In this book Dr. Reagan presents a panoramic survey of the fundamentals of Bible prophecy, with a focus on the prophecies that relate to the end-times. In the process, he reveals God's plan for the redemption of Mankind and the restoration of the Creation.

The book is written in Dr. Reagan's down-to-earth, easy-to-understand style. Each chapter, while relating to the overall theme, is also designed to stand alone. This makes it possible for the reader to either read straight through or skip directly to any topic.

Part 1 contains seven chapters about the significance of Bible prophecy. Part 2 presents 13 chapters about a great variety of prophetic issues like the U.S. in prophecy, the meaning of Heaven and the nature of Hell. Part 3 consists of eight chapters about Millennial viewpoints, comparing and contrasting them. Part 4 features nine chapters about the signs of the times that indicate we are living in the season of the Lord's return. The book ends with five chapters about prophetic hope.



So, the book consists of 42 chapters, plus a 12 page appendix that contains a exhaustive, annotated bibliography, arranged according to topics.

The book also contains charts and diagrams to illustrate prophetic concepts.

The book runs a total of 383 pages and sells for \$20, including the cost of shipping. It can be ordered through our website or by calling our office. The website address is www.lamblion.com. If you phone in your order, please call 972-736-3567 Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm, Central time. ❖