

# The Rapture and Technology in the End Times

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By [Nathan Jones](#)

**August Rosado:** Well Shalom everyone this is Evangelist August Rosado with Today in Bible Prophecy Ministries. I want to welcome you to our radio program Signs of the Times with August Rosado it is good to be here with you on this lovely Saturday here in the New England area. I am not sure how the weather is where you are at, but we are having some great weather up here in New England, and it is just a blessing to once again be here on the program. We have a special guest with us today, my good friend Nathan Jones of Lamb and Lion Ministries. Nathan are you there?

**Nathan Jones:** Yes sir.

**August Rosado:** There he is Nathan Jones of Lamb and Lion Ministries, he is our special guest today and you have an opportunity to either e-mail or call Nathan with a prophecy question, things related to Israel, -----, the rapture of the Church, the Antichrist, he is knows it all, amen. Well Nathan it is great to have you with us buddy.

**Nathan Jones:** Oh, hey, August anytime it is great to be talking to you man.

**August Rosado:** Amen. Nathan and Dr. Dave Reagan the Founder of Lamb and Lion Ministries, they interviewed I believed it was back in March, Nathan?

**Nathan Jones:** Yeah, and then we ran the series with you I believe it was in the end of August, great series, good response. Everybody just loves your happy personality, and your incredible amount of knowledge about Bible prophecy.

**August Rosado:** Oh, brother, you are just ....of me there, but I appreciate the comment, amen. Brother Nathan is on staff full-time with Lamb and Lion Ministries and he has a lot of knowledge concerning Bible prophecy and I really enjoyed my time with him and Dr. Reagan on the TV set of the nationwide TV program Christ in Prophecy, it is seen on the Inspirational Network, INSP, DayStar Television Network, the Church Channel, and I also believe it is on the National Religious Broadcasters correct?

**Nathan Jones:** Correct, yes.

**August Rosado:** Yes, you can catch the program Christ in Prophecy and you can see Brother Nathan along with Dr. Reagan as they interview a personality every single week on the show. And I highly recommend that you tune in for the program it is a real blessing. So before we get to Nathan and ask him some questions, let me just give you a run down on what is going on over here with us in Today in Bible Prophecy Ministries. Next month I am going to be in Texas

and on December the 4<sup>th</sup> I will be preaching at Bethel Baptist Church that is in Pittsburg, Texas, not Pennsylvania, Pittsburg Texas, Bethel Baptist Church, I will be preaching the Sunday morning and the Sunday evening service there. So if you live anywhere near the Pittsburg, Texas area come on out and join us as we study God's prophetic Word in light of current events. We would love to have you. Then of course I will be hooking up with my good friend Nathan we will be at the Pre-Trib Conference there in Dallas, and we go there every single year it is a real blessing to me and of course I get to fellowship with Dr. Dave Reagan and of course our special guest today Nathan Jones.

**Nathan Jones:** That is where I met you right August? Wasn't it at the Pre-Trib?

**August Rosado:** Right, exactly that is where we met up, and one thing has led to another, amen.

**Nathan Jones:** Yeah, I feel like I have known you all my life, I can't remember when I didn't know you. It must have been the Pre-Trib.

**August Rosado:** I know, can you imagine that? That is where I met Brother Nathan and got to Dr. Dave Reagan, and then of course at last year's conference he invited me for a TV interview. Believe me I was shaking in my boots when he asked me that. But the Lord worked it out and I was so blessed, but we will be there at the Pre-Trib Conference that will be December 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and the 7<sup>th</sup>, and so we will be there, and we will be going down to South Texas and I will be in the Corpus Christi area and I will be preaching at the Lamb of God Baptist Church, Corpus Christi, if you live in that area come on out and visit us that Sunday Morning. And December the 14<sup>th</sup> I will be preaching at First Baptist Church in Gregory, Texas and then down into the Rio Grand Valley where I will be preaching at the Cornerstone Baptist Church there in Donna, Texas and then that Sunday evening I will be preaching in Harligen, Texas at Great Baptist Church. We are going to be pretty busy there in Texas next month, so if you want to know where we are going to be at just go to my website, [www.todayinbibleprophecy.org](http://www.todayinbibleprophecy.org), that is [www.todayinbibleprophecy.O-R-G](http://www.todayinbibleprophecy.O-R-G), look at our calendar of events and you will see where we are going to be at. Also again before we get to Nathan, March of 2012 we are going to be taking a tour to Israel, 10 days in the Holy Land and we are calling this the Bible Prophecy Tour of Israel. If you are interested and wanting to go to Israel with us in March of 2012, just give us a call here, 774-888-8025, that is 774-888-8025 we would love to send you a free color brochure of the tour, give you more information, answer any questions that you have, we take one small tour to Israel with maybe 15 to 20 people so if you want to come to Israel with us we would love to have you join us for this trip of a lifetime. Once again we have Nathan Jones with us here from Lamb and Lion Ministries. Nathan can you just tell our listening audience a little about yourself?

**Nathan Jones:** Oh, certainly first I want to add about your trip to Israel, I have been twice with our ministry that also holds tours, and I would highly recommend it to everybody. I mean you read the Bible and you picture all these kind of things in your mind. But when you see them in person the Bible comes to life and it is just a wonderful experience to go to Israel and have the Bible come to life before your eyes. But a little about myself I have always, I come from a

long line of pastors, and Bible salesmen and just love the Word, and I always wanted to serve the Lord. And I went to Bible College at Philadelphia Biblical University and met my wife Heather there, and worked at a mission board for two years, originally we were going to go out and we were going to serve the street children of Brazil, and we were going to work with them. And the candidate director at the ministry I was working for at the time said, "Well why don't you go out and get some real world-experience." And I thought, "Okay," but you know looking back I kind of wonder was the best advice or the worst advice I ever gotten. Because when I got out there looking for a job, Bible degrees don't get you much, so I looked for a job and I ended up having to go back to school, went into technology and found a real love for web development, the design and understanding that the internet at the time it was the mid-90's was a new median that is reaching the entire planet. Matter of fact there are over 2 billion people plus on the Internet right now. And after working at a number of businesses and starting my own business called Creation Websites, and I worked for a large church in Kentucky, Southeast Christian Church for six years as a Web Architect, and that is where I heard Dr. David Reagan speak he did a four part series and through a mutual friend I found out he was looking for someone not just to develop the web, but to use the web as a tool to minister to others. And so Dr. Reagan offered me the position and about four years I came down to Texas, here in Dallas and have been serving the Lord at Lamb and Lion Ministries ever since. And I look back and like wow, how the Lord has set me, given me a bigger mission field then I could have ever imagined having.

**August Rosado:** Wow, that is a real blessing. How does it feel to work with someone like Dr. Reagan? I consider Dr. Dave Reagan, I mean this man, he has been a brain, he is very, very intelligent, he is very smart; he wrote many, many books. How does it feel working with somebody like Dr. Reagan and being on T V with him every week?

**Nathan Jones:** Tiring, who can keep up? He is a well of energy. The man is so passionate about the Lord's soon return and proclaiming that message. It permeates everything about him. All of his conversation, all of his relationships, everything we do. If there is anyone who I have ever met in life that is dedicated to one single purpose in life Dr. Reagan is to proclaiming the soon return of Jesus Christ. And it is a honor that the Lord has given me the opportunity to serve with him, to learn Bible prophecy from him, and it has been a great growing experience, you know about I began ministering the web and then started having me on Christ in Prophecy as a co-host, and we have done conference, and you know I don't have the speaking schedule that you do and I am not sure many people have the speaking schedule you do August, God bless you man. But I get around the country a little bit and we do tours, and mostly my mission field is on line and I notice like instead of traveling around the country more people want me to Skype over the internet and do conferences over the internet so I don't have to go out in the world as much, the world kind of comes to me through the internet, and it is just a whole new field, and I am on the cutting edge of it, and it is a great blessing to serve the Lord in this new way.

**August Rosado:** Well amen; if you want to know more about Lamb and Lion Ministries they have a website. Give them more information about that Nathan.

**Nathan Jones:** Sure, lamblion.com that is L-A-M-B-L-I-O-N.com, the name comes from Jesus came first as the suffering lamb, will come back at His second coming as the concurring King, so Lamb and Lion Ministries Dr. Reagan started that little over 30 years ago. And ever since it has been dedicated to nothing but the proclaiming the soon return of Jesus Christ, pointing out the signs of the times, and because there are so many signs of the times that have to do with apologetics we do a lot of apologetic type of ministry as well. We have a passion for Israel like you do August, we love Israel and we know that God has a plan for her. And lamblion.com is our website, and that is also my pulpit and you can find all sorts of articles about all aspects of Bible prophecy, our TV shows are posted there. If you want to speak with other Christians we have about 4500 people on our facebook group discussing. If you need a daily dose of Bible prophecy we have our blog at lamblion.us, and we have a newsletter you can sign up right off the homepage and every other week we will send you a newsletter that has up to date prophetic information. And we continue to grow and expand that web ministry; we even have it set up so that after the Rapture of the church, which I believe we are talking about today, we will be able to share the Gospel with people even after the Lord has taken us out of here. To me man that is exciting, that is what juices me up to know that we have been given the tools by the Lord to reach people unlike any generation has ever seen.

**August Rosado:** Amen to that, you know Dr. Reagan has been my mentor for years now Nathan. I had been following Zola Levitt before he went home to be with the Lord, he was my main mentor. But when he went home to be with the Lord you know I have really been following Dave Reagan. I remember when I got saved in 1988 and we first started going on the radio I started listening to Dr. Reagan and for some reason there was a connection there, you know I didn't know him and he didn't know me but I really enjoyed his teaching. Then I started these Bible prophecy conferences up here in the New England area and of course I would have Dennis Pollock come down here. Dennis was Dave's right hand man for some time before he started his own ministry. And he would have Dennis come up like every year up to my prophecy conferences. And now Dennis is off doing his thing. And now the Lord has placed you there Nathan. It is just amazing how God can work something out. I mean I was never even think about in my wildest imagination that I would one day be on Dave Reagan's TV show Christ in Prophecy. It's just amazing how God works things out. And then He brings you into the picture, now of course you strike up a good friendship. I mean Nathan God is just too good.

**August Rosado:** You're not kidding, I remember the first time I met Dr. Reagan, well I didn't met him I was introduced to him so to speak. Southeast Christian Church is a mega church at one time before Joel Osteen's church it had the biggest facility in the country, we could seat 9100 people in our auditorium. And that was the night that Dr. Reagan was speaking and other than Max Lucado only Dr. Reagan could max out all 9100 seats and he did that night. And he just gave a riveting message; I remember it was all about Hurricane Katrina and how it was God's judgment on us for how we were treating Israel. And I was like wow, this is amazing, I consider Dr. Reagan probably one of the best preachers in the country, he just really knows how to connect to an audience. And then a buddy of his that was in a Bible Study with me said, "Yeah he is looking for a Web Minister." And at that time I really felt like my ministry at Southeast was winding down and it was time to pass the baton. And so like you said it is just

amazing how the Lord works. And I watched Dr. Reagan all the time, you know try to get tips on how he preaches. And I understand his passion and it is just a great, great learning experience. And like you said a great blessing of the Lord.

**August Rosado:** He put a great message together last year at the Pre-Trib Conference concerning the false teaching of a Muslim-Islamic Antichrist. And it seems to be really catching fire in the Christian community today, especially those that study Bible prophecy. But we will have more to say about that in a minute. Folks we have the lines open. You can call us toll-free at 877-659-8944, that is a toll-free number all across the United States and around the world, 877-659-8944. If you have a question for Nathan Jones of Lamb and Lion Ministries you have an opportunity to call us at that toll-free number, again 877-659-8944. If you are phone shy and you want to send us an e-mail then send an e-mail question to Nathan at [august.todayinbibleprophecy@gmail.com](mailto:august.todayinbibleprophecy@gmail.com), that is [august.todayinbibleprophecy@gmail.com](mailto:august.todayinbibleprophecy@gmail.com). Don't forget next week we are going to have another special guest and that will be Donald Perkins, he will be with us next week as we ask him questions concerning Bible prophecy and world events. So don't forget to tune in next week as Donald Perkins will be our special guest. And of course Nathan Donald Perkins is no stranger to Lamb and Lion Ministries.

**Nathan Jones:** No, no, I consider him a friend. He is very knowledgeable about Bible prophecy. He was actual a feature speaker at a conference I put on myself. It will be a great blessing to your audience to have Don there next week.

**August Rosado:** Yeah, we are really looking forward to it. He just confirmed with me today that he would love to be on the program next week so Lord willing unless that trumpet sounds brother we are looking forward to having Donald with us.

**Nathan Jones:** Praise the Lord.

**August Rosado:** Nathan we are going to get to the questions right now, and you know we might get some e-mail questions, we might not get any phone calls at all, but that is okay we will just keep on rambling away unless someone calls. Other than that Nathan what is your position, just tell people briefly your position there at Lamb and Lion Ministries. I know I tell them that you are the Web Minister and simply what does that mean?

**Nathan Jones:** Well my title is Evangelist and Web Minister. Dr. Reagan is the Senior Evangelist. Evangelist just means you are a preacher without a church. But technically I don't have a church, but on-line. What is great about on-line is you can reach people who have no access to the Gospel. I mean we have people coming into our facebook group and onto our blog and all who say they live in a Muslim country and they love Jesus and if anyone found out they would be killed. And the only Gospel they get is coming to our website and reading our materials, and other materials. We had a lady this week who wrote in from South Africa who says that there is just no solid Bible believing church in her area so she comes to our website and our ministry and speaks with the other people in our group and that is how she gets her church. Another lady in England same thing all the churches around her have gone emergent

and this is how she gets her Christian fellowship. So the idea that church meets in a building, certainly we need follow Hebrews 10:25 and met with other believers.

**August Rosado:** Right.

**Nathan Jones:** But the structure of how church is, is changing in this era. And why I won't say that our ministry on-line is a church, it provides a lot of what people need church wise in getting the Gospel and getting that solid doctrinally, Bible based teaching that these people all over the people need. So that is my position basically. I guess you can say I evangelize the lost all over the internet. I edify believers by giving them the Gospel. But overall it is almost like an on-line pastoral role you could say. Of course I come from a technical background so I am a programmer, I do the design work, web marketing so I design all the newsletters and promote products. So I wear a lot of hats, you know normally a team of people do that, but we are not a huge ministry so I kind of wear all of those hats. But it is just great because I get to use all these different skill sets that I picked up along the way to serve the Lord. And you know at times when you feel like you are kind of burned out; you have answered 100 questions that people have e-mailed in. And you are like, I can't take any more of that, I can switch over to design a neat graphic, or program a cool interface. Now the Lord kind of keeps going, I love what I do I got to say. What is really neat to me is running into people like Brian Thomas and Chris Perver, and other guys who have seen our ministry on-line and said, "I can do that. I don't have to be a full-time minister. I can be at home work my normal job, but after hours I can minister to people on-line." And building up other Web Ministers to minister to people over the internet all over the planet, to me is just like church multiplication, but I am multiplying other evangelists. Donald Domus in Nicaragua fantastic guy, he has a wonderful website, and he takes out materials and he converts them to Spanish and extends our range throughout the Spanish speaking world. So that is what Web Ministry is all about. It is bringing people to Jesus Christ over the Internet and expanding the reach of the Lord through this dynamic new communication tool.

**August Rosado:** Can you imagine if the Apostles 2,000 years ago Nathan would have had the technology that you and I possess today? Can you imagine the impact? I mean they had a major impact don't get me wrong. But can you imagine if they had the technology that we have today. Can you imagine how they would have just turned this world upside down?

**Nathan Jones:** Well I think that this technology is such a sign of the end times. Matter of fact Daniel talked about in the end time that technology would increase. I mean people go to and fro and knowledge would increase I believe that is Daniel 12:1. And he talks about how in the future near the end times the Gospel would spread all over the planet or the message of God would spread all over the planet; and the Internet is doing that. On the negative side I see the internet is like our modern Tower of Babel, it is doing everything the Tower of Babel meant to do, it is increasing our knowledge, it is increasing our connectivity. But used in the right hands, you know people shouldn't throw out the internet and say, "Oh it is a tool of the Devil." Which some people say that it is crazy. It is a tool to reach people for God just like radio, or speakers. But you talk about if Paul could do it today, Billy Graham a few years back one of his last

sermons he held a crusade and they put in on-line, they used every technology possible and it reached more people in that crusade than all the people who were reached up from Jesus' time to now. That is the power of technology. Of course there are people groups out there who don't use technology, but it is increasing so exponentially. I mean just a few years back we hadn't had smart phones for instance, you know people didn't really check out the internet over their phones. Once people really got into the cell phone thing, and the internet it almost doubled the opportunity to reach people, doubled the amount of people that you could reach. So we went past the 2 billion mark, you know when you think about it the world just hit 7 billion people just last week so we are talking about 2 ½ billion maybe, a third of the world can be reached over the internet. And language isn't a barrier because there are all sorts of translation programs and people take their materials and repurpose them into their own languages. And I think it is the Lord's way of using us to get the Gospel out as quickly as possible because He is coming back really soon. And we leave it as a time capsule for those who are left behind.

**August Rosado:** And you know folks there is a verse that Nathan was referring to was in Daniel 12:4 where God told the Jewish prophet Daniel, he said, "Thou O Daniel shut up the words and seal the book, even to the time of the end many shall run to a fro and knowledge shall be increased." I believe that is our generation that is talking about today. So Nathan He must be coming back real soon.

**Nathan Jones:** Oh, amen brother. Again that is the primary message of Lamb and Lion Ministries. We want people to get excited. You know when it feels like the Lord is never coming back, that He is never going to keep His promise that He will return like He said at His ascension, that people they grow lax, they grow lazy. But if you believe and you understand that Jesus is coming back it gives us hope for a future in a dark, dark world. It gives us a point of living because we know we need to evangelize to the best of abilities. And it gives us a future hope, it is that hope that we know that the Lord return, so that we should live holy lives. I have little kids and occasionally you come across them and they are doing something they are not supposed to be doing. You know how they give that, you have kids August, they give that look Oh, so guilty.

**August Rosado:** Yeah.

**Nathan Jones:** I don't want to be like that when the Lord comes back. When the Lord comes back I want to be doing the right thing and serving Him. So understanding Bible prophecy gives us that idea to live holy lives; anticipating that the Lord could return any moment.

**August Rosado:** That's right. You know when you just mentioned that I was reminded of what Paul said in Titus 2:11-12 he said, "For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people.<sup>12</sup> It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age," And then he says in verse 13, "while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ." So Bible prophecy motivates us to live holy. It motivates us to live lives that are godly in this present world. So Bible prophecy puts the fear of God in us, knowing that Jesus can return at any moment.

**Nathan Jones:** Amen, exactly. Bible prophecy is a third of the Bible, 31% of the Bible is Bible prophecy. And yet so many people because they don't want to study it, or they think it is too difficult just ignore it. But you can't ignore 31% that would be like reading a book and forgetting, or not even reading the last third of the book. I mean how do you know how it's going to turn out? How was the mystery solved? Did the good guy win or did he lose? Well that is what Bible prophecy gives us, it gives us the ending to the book, and we know that Jesus will return. He will defeat His enemies. He will cast Satan into Hell on day. And those of us who put their faith in Jesus Christ will live with Him forever in eternity in His home the New Jerusalem which will be brought to earth. I mean, wow that tells us what our destination is, it tells us what our relationship with Christ will be. It gives us hope that all the wickedness that we see now will finally end. Wow, I can see why Dr. Reagan and now me is infectious, and you August have gotten so excited because Bible prophecy gives us so much hope and anticipation for the future.

**August Rosado:** It's just, it is a great comfort, you know when you study prophecy, and it is unfortunate that many in the church today they don't want to study prophecy. You even have those within the church that are denying that there will ever be a Rapture. That Jesus Christ is not coming back. Whenever people approach me at Bible conference, and believe it or not I get them Nathan, they tell me, "August I don't believe Jesus is coming back." And I look at them and say, "You know you are a fulfillment of Bible prophecy because 2 Peter 3:3-4 tell us that in the last days that there would come scoffers, there would come mockers. They would walk after their own ungodly lusts. And they will say, 'Hey where is the promise of His coming?'" I tell people, "You are a fulfillment of Bible prophecy because the Bible 2,000 years ago predicted you and many like you would come on the scene in the last days denying that He would return." I mean it is just amazing.

**Nathan Jones:** Oh, we had a Bible prophecy conference a few years back and we were right next door to a plumbing company and I was outside. Talk about wearing many hats I was directing traffic as well. But one of the plumbers was coming in to turn in his truck and he came up to me and he asked, he said, "What is going on here?" I said, "Oh, we are holding a Bible prophecy conference. We are talking about the Lord's soon return." And he looked at me and laughed and said, "Everything has been the same as it always been. Jesus isn't coming back."

**August Rosado:** Wow.

**Nathan Jones:** And man that verse that you just read just pop into my mind because that is the mindset of people today. And you know there are definitely scoffers but then there are definitely people who are tired. One of my former supervisors back at the church, loved her. And she said that she was so excited about Bible prophecy when Hal Lindsey came out with the *Late Great Planet Earth*, back in the early '70's but then it became the 80's, and then the 90's then the 2000's and well where was the Lord? And she kind of gave up. That is a tough thing for many Christians; even if they do know that the Lord will return and they are excited about it, you know our human minds have a hard time having the patients of God. But when the Lord says soon, soon for Him means different then soon for us. Right? I mean surely a day is like a

thousand years to the Lord, not is a thousand years, but like a thousand years. In other words time for God doesn't mean as much as us who have these tiny little lives. So it does feel like it is taking forever. But we should never give up hope, because His promises 100% of the time. Matter of fact in the Old Testament 300 general prophecies, 109 specific prophecies about Jesus first coming, and you now what? He fulfilled all 109 prophecies. Now statistically speaking just fulfilling 8 of those 109 prophecies is 1 in 10 to the 17<sup>th</sup> power, an astronomical number. Peter Stoner was a mathematician who came up with the calculation of what would that be like, he said if you filled the entire state of Texas two feet with quarters, marked one coin and just threw it in. Then released a blind man to wander around Texas for a few days, the first coin he picked up that would be the one with the mark. Now that is statistically impossible. That is how impossible is it that Jesus fulfilled 8 of the 109 prophecies, yet He fulfilled all 109 prophecies. So if He can fulfill those, the 500 prophecies, and the one in every 25 verses in the New Testament that talk about Jesus' Second Coming, well we can be 100% sure He is going to come, so all we have to do is be patient. I think of the verse where the Lord says, He is patient because He doesn't want anyone to be lost. Now you have the encyclopedic mind August what's that verse again? See I require the Internet to look up verses. So while you can do that off the tip of your head, unfortunately I have to look it up.

**August Rosado:** I think you alluded to 2 Peter 3:9 you know, "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." And that is the answer that I give people, Nathan, when they ask me, "August, Jesus hasn't returned yet. You guys have been preaching this for years now. Hal Lindsey has been preaching it for years now. Dave Reagan has been preaching it for years now. Zola was preaching it for years, and He hasn't returned. Why hasn't He returned yet?" And that is the verse that I give them from 2 Peter 3:9, God wants to see more souls saved until He is ready to have that trumpet sound and the Lord Jesus pick us up and bring us home.

**Nathan Jones:** Exactly, and thank you yes. As your listeners ought to know, August you are gifted with the ability to memorize verses like there is no tomorrow. I teach Bible Drill we have to memorize 25 verses every session, dude if I was you that is the gift I would want. But you are right in the NIV it says, "He is patient with you not wanting anyone to perish but everyone to come to repentance." I think each and every one of us today should be happy about that because if you think about it if the Lord wasn't patient He could have come back 20, 50, 100 years ago before we were even born, so I owe my whole existence on the fact that the Lord is patient and wanting everybody in this Church Age to come to repentance. And we can be sure that when every single person that the Lord has chosen to be part of His Church, the Bride of Christ, to be raptured, that will be it. He will come and He will fulfill those promises.

**August Rosado:** Amen what a blessing. Well Nathan everybody wants to know what is the Rapture? And how can we know when it will happen. And I know Jesus says, no man knows the day, and no man knows the hour. But this seems to be on the lip of everybody that are in the church today, even in the secular arena people want to know, "Hey what is the Rapture?" What

is this rapture of the Church all about? Can we know when it will happen? So Nathan just tell our listeners what is the rapture of the Church, and can we know when it will happen?

**Nathan Jones:** Sure. Well sadly the Rapture has gotten a lot of attention, not for positive reasons. Harold Camping made two predictions this year that Jesus would come back. And each time with the latest being October 21<sup>st</sup> and of course obviously the Lord did not come back, the world did not end. But it got the secular world talking about this word the rapture. And so sometimes the secular world is more interested in what the Rapture is then the Church. And that is because you can't find the word rapture in the Bible, just like you can't find the word Bible in the Bible, or you can't find the word Trinity in the Bible. But 1 Thessalonians 4:17 has the word rapture in it let me read the verse, "After that we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever." That word caught up, in the Greek is harpazo, when the Bible was translated into Latin for the 1,100 years that we had the Latin Vulgate it was rapio, and so the English version of caught up in Latin is rapture. So I could say that great snatching away, or the great catching up, or the great taking out. But it is easier just to say rapture from the Latin rapio, you can find that in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, there are references to it in 1 Corinthians 15:51-58, John 14 has it. Basically there are a lot of verses in the Bible that talk about the Rapture of the Church. And there are also verses about Jesus' Second Coming; Zechariah 14:1-21, Matthew 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-37, and Luke 21:25-27, all talk about Jesus Return. So the Rapture of the Church is about when Jesus will come in the clouds, He will call up all those who have trusted Him as Savior. First those who have died in Christ since the Church was founded at Pentecost up to now will be resurrected first. Then those of us who are alive, and in a blink of an eye, just a snap of a finger it will happen so fast that we will hear the archangel call out something we don't know what, maybe come up here, or it is time, or the Lord is waiting for you. And we will be transformed from our physical bodies to our new glorified bodies. We will be resurrected and we will all meet the Lord in the air. And after that the seven years plus if there is an intermediate time of tribulation that will befall the earth and it will be a different era, a different dispensation. But the Rapture of the Church is for the Lord coming for all those who believed in Him for the last 2,000 plus years, to take them to Heaven before He pours His wrath out onto the world for its sin and rebellion against him.

**August Rosado:** Now Nathan people say does something have to be fulfilled in order for the Rapture of the Church to take place? I am reminded of what the Pharisees and Sadducees in Matthew 16 you know they were looking for a sign from Jesus. And Jesus responded by saying, "This adulterous and sinful generation looks after a sign but no sign will be given to them except the sign of the prophet Jonah." Many say today, something has to be fulfilled in order for the Rapture to take place. Is that true?

**Nathan Jones:** No, the Rapture of the Church is a signless event. Now we can know that there are signs of the times that point to the Lord's soon return so we know we are getting closer to the time. But Jesus said in Matthew 24:42 and 44, "Therefore keep watch because you do not know what day your Lord will come. So you also must be ready because the Son of man will come in an hour when you do not expect Him." So we know that the Lord will come and

take His Church. Matter of fact in Matthew 24:36 it says, "No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father." So there are lots of other verses Titus 2:13 and 1 John 2:28 and so forth that says that nobody knows when the Rapture of the Church will come. Now this is separate and this is kind of hard for folks, but the Rapture is separate from Jesus' Second Coming, it is a different event. You can read about the Rapture and you can read about the Second Coming and it is talking about two totally different events. We know when the Second Coming is because there has to be seven years of Tribulation, there has to be an Antichrist that comes on the world. There has to be 21 judgments that befall the planet. It even gives us the calculations so we know exactly that it is seven years or 42 months of 30 days each for when Jesus will come. So there are plenty of signs for the Second Coming. But there are no signs that have to happen before the Rapture of the Church, it is an imminent event.

**August Rosado:** Yeah, because if we look at the Rapture and the Second Coming the Rapture is when Jesus is coming for Church. The Second Coming is when He is coming back with His Church. So that Rapture and Second Coming is separated by Daniel seventy-week of prophecy or what we would call the Tribulation period.

**Nathan Jones:** Oh, yeah. I would say that there are 10 differences between the Rapture and the Second Coming. With the Rapture believers meet Christ in the air, Christ does not come to the earth He is in the air and we go up to Him. But in the Second Coming Christ returns to the earth and lands on the Mount of Olives we are told, and He meets believers that are already on the earth. (2) The Rapture the Mount of Olives is unchanged, but when Jesus comes back at the Second Coming He is going to split the Mount of Olives, this is an mountain right outside of Jerusalem and it will form a new valley just East of Jerusalem. (3) The Rapture living believers will get these new glorified bodies, but at the Second Coming the living believers still on the earth remain in the same body, so we have to talk about two different groups of believers here. (4) The Rapture believers go to Heaven, but in the Second Coming like you said glorified believers come with Christ back to earth. (5) The Rapture the world is left unjudged and living in sin, but at the Second Coming when Jesus comes back He brings justice and judgments. (6) The Rapture depicts a deliverance of the Church from wrath, but at the Second Coming it depicts the deliverance of believers who are already enduring wrath. (7) Is the Rapture like we just discussed now signs precede it, but the Second Coming there are so many signs. Matter of fact we even know the exact day from the beginning of it, from when the Antichrist (Daniel 9:26-27) makes a peace treaty with Israel, exactly seven years to when it ends. (8) We know the Rapture is revealed only in the New Testament, but the Second Coming we are given all sorts of references in the Old and New Testament. (9) The Rapture deals with only those of us who are saved, while the Second Coming deals with both the saved and the unsaved; as Jesus comes for as a relief for those who have been saved during the Tribulation, but a terrible judgment on those who have continued to rebel during that time. (10) And after the Rapture Satan remains free, he is on this earth, he is pretty much thinking he is ruling and reigning it because he has his number one man the Antichrist who will form a global government. But at the Second Coming Satan is defeated and is thrown into an abyss for 1,000 years. So clearly the Rapture and the Second Coming are totally different events.

**August Rosado:** You know when you look at the prophecies concerning the Second Coming especially in the book of Revelation you look in Revelation 19:14 it tells us, "The armies that were in heaven followed Him upon white horses clothed in fine linen, white and clean." That has to refer to the saints who were raptured seven years earlier coming back with Him seven years later. Zechariah 14:4 says, "His feet touch the Mount of Olive, the Mount of Olives split." So yeah you would have to come to that conclusion that the Rapture is a separate event from the Second Coming separated by a seven year period of Tribulation. I mean you are forced to conclude that.

**Nathan Jones:** Oh, yeah. The Church has to be in Heaven during these seven years because the Bible tells us about what the Saints will be doing in Heaven during the seven years of God's wrath is poured out on the earth. The first things we will do we will participate in a judgment by God while in Heaven. Now this isn't a judgment to say we are going to hell or not, because we are in Heaven with Christ, that means we are already saved. It is a judgment of the just. And it determines our degrees of reward. You can find that in 2 Corinthians 5:10, and Revelation 19:6-9. So there will be a judgment for the Church, but it will be in Heaven, it will be for our rewards in Heaven. The Bible talks about fancy clothing, crowns that depict how we have served Him, it talks about new names which I won't be called Nathan anymore I will get a new name. My wife says Nathan is the best name out there, so maybe God will let me keep it ☺ But all these things will be used to worship and glorify what Christ has done through us. The Second even the Bible tells us in Revelation 19:7-9 talks about the Wedding Supper of the Lamb, how the Church, the Bride of Christ as we are called will be married to the Lord. And you know I don't know what that means exactly but we do know there is a spiritual marriage between us and Christ, a reunification with us and our Savior who saved our souls. And the third thing we will do is after the Judgment of the Just and the Marriage Supper of the Lamb is that we will prepare to go with Christ back down to earth at the end of the seven years so Jesus can wage the Battle of Armageddon; which just by speaking He defeats His enemies. It says like you read, we will return with Him on horses. I don't know what these kinds of horses are, they could be angels, and they could be real horse. But it says that we will be in white robes and we will be following Jesus back. So you know we can't be following Jesus back to earth if the Rapture and the Second Coming is the same because we would be going up and coming back at the same time, it doesn't make any sense. So those are the three things that we will be doing up in Heaven while the Tribulation is going on.

**August Rosado:** Nathan what signs can we specifically see happen right now, that is indicating to you and I that the Rapture of the Church is close at hand?

**Nathan Jones:** Oh my goodness, there are just so many signs that talk about the Lord's soon return. For one is nature, Luke 21:11 says, "there will be great earthquakes in varies places, plagues and famines, there will be terror and great signs from heaven." Now we know that as Jesus comes back, Matthew 24:8 says it is like birth pains. You and I have had children so we have gotten to watch our wives, thank goodness we didn't have to go through it, but our wives went through it where the labor pains get stronger and closer together and faster. And so natural disasters which the world has always had because it is a fallen world but they will be

more frequent in intensity, they will get stronger and more devastating. You know it used to be years if not months between the natural disasters, and now it seems like every week we get another natural disaster. Matter of fact between October of 1991 and 2004, nine of the ten largest insurance natural disasters happened. Nine of the ten greatest disasters ranked by FEMA caused relief. Five of the costliest hurricanes happened in history. And three of the four largest tornado swarms. I am in Texas right now and we are having the worst drought ever. I mean if you go out to Lake Lavon that is near us you can walk across it because there is almost no water left in it. Terrible droughts, meanwhile other parts in the world up in the New England area, Thailand, Bangkok is pretty much under water. Earthquakes, we are having earthquakes all over the planet, in D.C. and Oklahoma where we don't usually see them. We have hurricanes like Katrina and many others who come destroying. I mean these natural disasters are probably the number one sign that the Lord is returning. And fortunately there is a good side to it is that it is a sign that most people will acknowledge and say, "Hey, wait something must be going on." I mean you will see the news and they will say, "It is an act of God," or the insurance claim will say, "An act of God." That is when secularist have to admit, "Hey there is a God." So the signs of nature are a big one.

The second one I would say is the signs of society, 2 Timothy 3:1-4 the Bible says, "Realize that in the last days difficult times will come for men will be lovers of self, money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient, ungrateful, malicious gossip, irreconcilable, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, treacherous, reckless..." I mean it goes on and on. And it says the signs of the times are that society will return to the days of Noah. Before Noah and the Ark society was so bad that God said, "I just have to do something about it, they are just so evil." And when society becomes like that again today that is a sign. So that is the sign of society.

There are spiritual signs. For one the Gospel will spread across the entire planet. But Matthew 24 tells us it will also be a time of lots of false Christs, lots of cults, lots of people being confused. I think of the Church of Laodicea the last end time Church that Revelation 3 talks about, it says the Church will grow apathetic. And clearly we are seeing the Church today, which thinks it is wealthy with its big church buildings and our big budgets. But spiritually we are just falling apart, we are just eating milk all the time and not the Word of the Lord.

The fourth one I would say is the sign of world politics. Matthew 24:6-7 says you will be hearing of wars, and rumors of wars for nation will rise up against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. In the 20<sup>th</sup> Century we saw two of the worst world wars in history. More people died in the last 100 years than ever before. So clearly the world is gearing up to another major world war, World War III which the Bible talks about is the Antichrist conquering and destroying the world.

We talked about a little earlier technology, how Luke 21:26, "Men will faint from fear over the expectations of things which are coming upon the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken." And clearly today we have the technology to see all that is going on in the world and put the pieces together.

And probably your favorite sign August if I know you right man is the sign of Israel, Zechariah 12:3.

**August Rosado:** Oh, yeah.

**Nathan Jones:** "And it shall come about in the day that I will make Jerusalem a heavy stone for all the peoples. All who lift it will be severely injured. And all the nations of the earth will be gathered against it." Clearly the entire world, it has to be Satanic because how can anyone hate one tiny little country like Israel like the whole world hates Israel, and wants to take Jerusalem from her. That is a major, major sign indicating the Lord is coming back.

Those are the six major categories. I would have to say Dr. Reagan composed an article, if you go to our website go under article, then signs, we have a number of articles listed there that will put these out in details for people who are listening who want to follow up on that information. Dr. Reagan even has a list of 50 of them if you are interested. And he said he could just keep on going after 50. So there are a lot signs that say the Lord is coming back really, really soon.

**August Rosado:** You know for anyone to say that Israel is not a fulfillment of Bible prophecy simply is just ignorant, you know to put it mildly. You know Zola when he was alive; Zola rigorously defended Israel, and even went head to head with some major Bible scholars out there taught about Israel in the Tribulation Period, and Israel in the Millennium Kingdom. But during the Church Age Israel is not a fulfillment of 20<sup>th</sup> Century Bible Prophecy and things of that. How can anybody say that when you read Deuteronomy 30, and Ezekiel 36:24, Amos 9:15, Ezekiel 37 the dry bone vision? How can anybody even ignore the fact that Israel is not a modern day fulfillment of Bible prophecy? It is just absolutely mind boggling to me.

**Nathan Jones:** Oh, you are not kidding. I mean what nation or people group that has been dispersed across the entire planet for 1,900 years forms their country again? I mean have the Hittites risen up in power and formed their country again? No! It hasn't happened. Have the Native American Tribes formed their nations again? It is just, it doesn't happen. And clearly that is Israel God gave us the Bible through the Jews. He has given us the Messiah through the Jews. He has given the promises the mystery of the Church through the Jews. Should make us say, "Hey wait a minute. This isn't just a historical aberration God must be telling us something. And like you said when we have these Bible verses that talk about Israel in Zechariah 12 and also in 14 that talk about Israel being a stumbling block to the world and every nation that goes against it will be dashed to pieces. And every nation that has gone against Israel, the British Empire, the Ottoman Empire, you name it even us. American is getting so crippled, the more we interfere with Israel and just not leave it alone and be supportive, the more our economy is falling apart. You can look at Canada and Germany right now are the two countries that somewhat support Israel and their economies are thriving. So those types of signs are clear that the Lord loves those who bless Israel, Genesis 12:1-3, He has given them promises. And we need to understand that. So yes Israel is not a historical aberration. It grieves me when I hear Christians even friends who I respect, say, "Yeah Israel doesn't matter." And that is because they are the same people who don't care about Bible prophecy at all. They want the

Church to conquer the world for Christ, even though the Church was never meant to conquer the world for Christ. Christ meant to conquer the world for Christ. So Israel has a future and it has a purpose. And it is the number one sign. I tell you August, watching the news reading the reports lately especially Iran getting the bomb, and Hezbollah's 1,000 missiles pointed at Israel in Gaza. Egypt the whole Arab spring as the Muslim world becomes more radical and hating Israel. The idea that there is just three months left before Israel will have to do something and attack Iran and if that happens Iran will activate Syria, and Hezbollah, and Lebanon, and Gaza. And so we are looking at a major world war that will start in the Middle East. But we know Psalm 83, Ezekiel 38 and 39 they all tell us that these things need to happen. And as scary as that is Bible prophecy it has scary parts but we know in the long run there is that hope and a future of Jesus' victory. But we have to get through some of the scary parts first. And frankly man I believe that the Rapture of the Church will happen long before we see Israel really get into it, like Ezekiel 38 and 39 says.

**August Rosado:** Well I agree with that Nathan. Hey you still have an opportunity to call Nathan Jones from Lamb and Lion Ministries, 877-659-8944 it is a toll-free number all across the United States and around the world, 877-659-8944. We have a little time left in the program so you have an opportunity to call Nathan and ask him a question concerning Bible prophecy, 877-659-8944. Or you can e-mail a question at [august.todayinbibleprophecy@gmail.com](mailto:august.todayinbibleprophecy@gmail.com). We did have an e-mail question that just came in for you Nathan and for some reason I lost it, not sure where it is. Is Israel relevant? I think we already answered that question. Let me read this one here: Nathan how should we approach the study of the book of Revelation? We have those who approach it literally, and those who approach it figuratively, allegorically. How should we approach the Book of Revelation?

**Nathan Jones:** Well I believe that we need to approach it literally like anything in the Bible. Certainly there are poetic parts to the Bible and we need to take them as such. Certainly there are symbolic parts of the Bible. But usually when there is symbolism the other Bible verses will explain what the symbolism means. So we need to take the study of Revelation literally. I mean obviously the Antichrist isn't a giant beast that is trumping and stomping the planet earth, but he is like a giant beast. You know John was a First Century man who was trying to put a 21<sup>st</sup> or whatever century it will be pictures into words and trying to make us reading it understand it. Revelation interpretation can be difficult, Revelation is a difficult book. There are other prophecies in the book, but I believe and I think the Bible supports too that we need to take a literal interpretation of the Bible. We have a saying at Lamb and Lion Ministries, "If the plain sense makes sense, look for no other sense, otherwise you will end up with nonsense."

**August Rosado:** I love that.

**Nathan Jones:** That is what happens when people take an allegorical view of the Bible. Or they spiritualize the Bible they create whatever meaning that they want to create, they create their own ideas. You know that is being like God. You can't be like God and just make up whatever you want about the Bible. Just take the Bible for what it says and follow that and that is the best way and most important way of interpreting the Bible.

**August Rosado:** So what you are telling our audience is that the approach to the Book of Revelation is the literal interpretation.

**Nathan Jones:** Yes, literal interpretation.

**August Rosado:** Folks I agree with Nathan on that. We should approach the Book of Revelation from a literal point of view. And I love when Dr. Reagan says that saying on TV, "If the plain sense makes sense, don't look for any other sense, or you will end up with nonsense." And folks there are a lot of nonsense out there when it comes to the study of Bible prophecy. As Nathan said when you allegorize and you spiritualize you are making yourself God, you are in the driver's seat, you are in control and you can come up with any form of doctrine that you want. So that is something that we really need to be careful about. Always approach the book of Revelation from a literal point of view. Nathan what do we do with Iran? People keep on asking me, "When do you think Israel is going to attack Iran?" Does Iran play a major role in end time Bible prophecy? And what would you tell our listening audience about Iran.

**Nathan Jones:** Well Iran obviously, one of the side effects of the United States attacking Iraq and removing Saddam Hussein is that we removed a check to the mullahs who dominate as a theocracy over Iran. And so Iran is extending its influence and power all through the Middle East to create what is called a Muslim Crescent or a Shiite Crescent that is the form of Islam that they follow Shiite. And so they want to basically take over the Middle East and take over the riches and power. Sadly they can't get that type of influence without Russia, so behind pulling the puppet strings behind Iran is really Russia, providing them all the nuclear knowhow to build these reactors, to build these bombs. Just this week the International Atomic Energy Committee- part of the UN came out and said, "Yes they aren't just using these nuclear reactors that they are building for peaceful purposes, like they continue to claim. They are building nuclear weapons." And the commission said that they will have four possible nuclear weapons with the capability to launch them by April of 2012. So that gives Israel maybe to late March at the most to deal with these weapons. And you know President Ahmadinejad who is the President he is kind of the puppet for the ayatollah's who run the country, but they hate Israel with a passion because in Islam if any land is taken away from Muslims they feel it is an insult against Allah and they will do everything they can to get that land back. So no matter what we do in the matter of peace processes, and appeasement which never works, it can't because we have offended Allah to them and they must defend Allah because they are in Allah's bad spot right now, they believe Allah is mad at them until they get Israel back. So they want to wipe Israel off the map. You know all this talk about them loving the Palestinians is crazy because they want irradiate all of Israel. You do not love the Palestinians if you want to irradiate the whole country. So Iran is a major problem right now, and unfortunately the European Union and American leadership is extremely weak. Russia and China are profiting off of Iran, and so they want to extend to them. And this fulfills Ezekiel 38 and 39 which talks about Iran, along with a bunch of other countries that have never been as a coalition before; Russia, Iran, Turkey, we've got down in Africa the Sudan, Ethiopia, and Libya all these countries that are experiencing the Arab Spring are supposed to come together and unite and attack Israel. And God said He will show Himself to the world through it by annihilating their forces. Joel 2 says

only a fraction of them will make it and they will all be running off to the northern parts most likely Siberia. So we know that Iran all this yelling and screaming and wanting to kill Israel has no real future. Now there is a lot of talk, Bill Salus has been bringing up the idea that maybe Jeremiah 49 and the prophecy against Elam which is part of the land of Iran right now will experience devastation first and that might be a precursor to Ezekiel 38 and 39, we will have to see. But Iran definitely has a place in Bible prophecy and it is a place of absolute defeat and destruction. And I believe, I wrote an article called, "Timing Gog and Magog," you can find that on our website, where I try to place when is Ezekiel 38 and 39 going to find its fulfillment. And to me most likely the fulfillment will be before the Tribulation but after the Rapture because the entire focus of this is off the Church and back to Israel again. So another sign with Iran ramping up and Russia forming these coalitions to me is a major sign pointing that we are really, really close to the Rapture.

**August Rosado:** Nathan the e-mail question is from David and he says, "Nathan what is your take on UNESCO recognizing the Palestinian Authority. Is there any fulfillment of prophecy in that?"

**Nathan Jones:** No, UNESCO is a bunch of educating, scientific doves that are Anti-Semitic and hate Israel; they have no backbone and no authority to proclaim anybody. They could say, "Hey Alaska is its own country." It matters nothing. Clearly the Security Council has to be unanimous on voting a country in. And already the United States said they would veto it. We might not have to because the clerk there this week came out and said there is no way the votes would be there anyway. But it gives the Palestinians a lot of street cred to the rest of the world. The UN hates Israel; I mean it spends all its time making resolutions against Israel. I mean all these horrible things are going on in Syria, and down in Sudan they could care less. It is just a bunch of Communist countries and Islamic countries united. They took over the UN from its purposes of bringing peace and justice to the world and now it's just a body that hates Israel. And I think this will be a body that will be abolished at one point when the Antichrist comes when he becomes a world leader. So UNESCO they could vote on my becoming a country, it doesn't matter. It is just symbolic how Anti-Semitic they are.

**August Rosado:** Hey David I want to thank you for that e-mail question for Nathan. And you know in reference to UNESCO I mean the United States just cut off all funding for them. And I understand that they are pretty much hurting right now financially because of this move. Like you said it means nothing, I agree it means nothing, by them recognizing the Palestinian Authority they are hurting financially now because the US just stripped them of all their money.

**Nathan Jones:** Yeah, you know that we have such a Jewish remnant in the United States, in the past election they filled the seat in NYC with a Republican that had never been done before. It shows that these little local elections really could make a big difference because that sends a message to President Obama saying, "Hey you are losing the Jewish vote." So all of a sudden he is coming out now and he is trying to help them and trying to sound touch with the Palestinians. But I think Obama has played his cards pretty well showing that he is totally Anti-Semitic and is all for the Muslim and Arab countries coming against Israel. So you read in

Ezekiel 38 and 39 and it talks about how the Sheba and Dedan which are Arabian countries, and the young lions of Tarshish which would be the United States, Canada, and Australia we sit it out, we watch to see what will happen. So we know the United States isn't going to do more than cut funding, and veto things, we aren't seriously going to go out there and defend Israel according to Ezekiel 38 and 39. We are just going to watch and see what is going to happen pretty much.

**August Rosado:** Well we got one quick e-mail here. We've got about 2 minutes left. "Nathan a report of the Arab Nations prepping to strike Iran, do you think this is also a fulfillment of Bible prophecy?"

**Nathan Jones:** I think that when you read the nation list of Ezekiel 38 and 39 that you will notice there are a number of Arab countries missing. You will notice all the surrounding countries around Israel are not listed there. How could that be? So there must be a Bible prophecy that is fulfilled before Ezekiel 38 and 39. I believe that is Psalm 83. Psalm 83 will fulfill that prophecy and Israel will have to subdue the nations around it before Ezekiel 38 and 39 can be fulfilled.

**August Rosado:** Well I don't know who sent that e-mail but I want to thank you so much. And Nathan we have 20 second left. Why don't you just give everybody your contact information for Lamb and Lion again?

**Nathan Jones:** Sure, lamblion.com, just hit contact you can send e-mails into me and I would be happy to answer them.

**August Rosado:** Well Nathan I want to appreciate you for coming on the show. It has been a real blessing and a joy. And I am really looking forward to being with you in Dallas next month.

**Nathan Jones:** Me too August it is always fun hanging out with you.

**August Rosado:** Appreciate you, brother. Tell Dr. Reagan we said hello. And hopefully we will have you on the program again soon.

**Nathan Jones:** Awesome. God bless you.

**August Rosado:** God bless you brother. That was Nathan Jones with Lamb and Lion Ministries. And I want to thank all of you for joining us today on the program. Don't forget next week I will have Donald Perkins he will be my guest and you will have an opportunity to ask him questions. Keep looking up because Jesus is coming soon. This is August Rosado with Today in Bible Prophecy Ministries hope to see you again next week. Shalom and pray for the peace of Israel.

**End of Program**