Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn
An End Time Prophet to America
Observations by the Editor

At long last . . .

The presidential campaign is over! I’m just thankful that I do not live in one of the “swing states” where people were bombarded with political ads 24/7. If so, I think I would have been brain dead by now!

I’m even more thankful for the outcome of the election, for it appears that God has given our nation a window of mercy.

Although I voted in all the state and local elections in my area, I did not cast a ballot in the presidential race because I could not in good conscience vote for either Clinton or Trump. And as I have said many times before, I believed that our nation would lose, regardless of who won. I still feel that way.

The election of Trump is not going to turn this nation around. It is only going to slow down the process of our national deterioration and ultimate destruction.

It is impossible for Trump “to make America great again.” That’s because he thumbs his nose at God’s Moral Law, both in his personal life and in his public leadership. The evidence can be found in his endorsement of the ungodly LGBT Movement. Further, he is a classic narcissist who is consumed with himself. And, as is always the case with such people, he will be humbled by the Lord sooner or later.

I believe our nation was delivered from the ungodly, corrupt and lawless Clinton family through the power of prayer. Christians all across this nation repented of our nation’s sins and cried out to the Lord for mercy. And I believe the key element was Franklin Graham’s “Decision America” campaign during which he conducted a vigil of repentance and prayer in every one of our state capitals.

Now that the election is over, we need to pray earnestly for our new president. Pray for him to remain faithful to his campaign promises.

But first and foremost, pray for his salvation — that he will truly come to know Jesus as his personal Lord and Savior.
ALEKSANDR SOLZHENITSYN

THE DANGER OF FORGETTING GOD

Dr. David R. Reagan

Can a virgin forget her ornaments
Or a bride her attire?
Yet My people have forgotten Me
Days without number.
(Jeremiah 2:32)

Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn spoke like an Old Testament prophet when he warned America and all the Western world that it was imperiled because it had forgotten God. It proved to be a message that people did not want to hear. Accordingly, Solzhenitsyn died as a prophet without honor.

Solzhenitsyn was a Russian novelist, historian and short story writer who was born in 1918. He was an outspoken critic of the Soviet Union and Communism, and he helped raise global awareness of the inhumanity of the Soviet regime.

Solzhenitsyn grew up in poverty. His father was killed in a hunting accident shortly after his wife’s pregnancy was confirmed. Solzhenitsyn’s mother never remarried. She was an educated woman, and she encouraged her son’s literary and scientific education. She also raised him in the Russian Orthodox faith.

His War Experiences and Arrest

During World War II, Solzhenitsyn served as an officer in the Red Army. He began to develop growing doubts about the moral foundation of the Soviet government when he witnessed repeated war crimes by the Soviet army against German civilians. Elderly people were tortured and looted, and young girls were gang raped to death.

In February of 1945, while serving in East Prussia, Solzhenitsyn was arrested for writing derogatory comments in personal letters about Stalin and his conduct of the war. He was charged with “anti-Soviet propaganda” and was sentenced to an eight year term in a labor camp.

During the next eight years, he was transferred from one forced-labor camp to another throughout what he labeled as “The Gulag Archipelago.” This gave him firsthand observations within the Soviet system for political prisoners. His experiences during this time served as the basis for his novel, One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich.

In March of 1953, after his prison sentence ended, Solzhenitsyn was forced into internal exile in northeastern Kazakhstan. He was diagnosed with a cancerous tumor and almost died before the tumor went into remission. It was this experience that served as the basis for his novel, Cancer Ward, which was published in 1968.

Solzhenitsyn’s terrible experiences in the Gulag convinced him to completely abandon Marxism, and he began to return gradually to his early Christian faith.

The Thawing of Russia

In 1956, Nikita Khrushchev delivered his famous “secret speech” to a closed session of the 20th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. In the speech, Khrushchev denounced Stalin as a brutal leader and then proceeded to provide a litany of many of his crimes.

This speech launched a period of “de-Stalinization” that included a thaw in the censorship of literature. As a result, Solzhenitsyn was freed from exile. He took a position as a secondary school math teacher and continued his research and writing about the Gulag.

His First Publications

In 1962, at age 44, his short story, One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich, was published in Novy Mir magazine with the personal approval of Khrushchev who later defended his decision by declaring: “There’s a Stalinist in each of you; there’s even a Stalinist in me. We must root out this evil.”

The story caused a sensation and was subsequently published in book form. It became an immediate bestseller in both the Soviet Union and the West. It was the only book by Solzhenitsyn to be published in his native country, because after Khrushchev was ousted from power two years later, the censors once again clamped down on anti-Soviet writings. However, between 1962 and 1964, he did publish three short stories in Russian magazines. His next two novels, In The First Circle and Cancer Ward, and a play, The Prisoner and the Camp Hooker, were all published abroad in 1968.

In 1970, Solzhenitsyn was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature. He refused to travel to Stockholm to receive the award because he feared that the Soviet authorities would not allow him to return to Russia. The award cited him “for the ethical force with which he has pursued the indispensable traditions of Russian literature.”

His Historical Blockbuster

Solzhenitsyn’s most famous book, and his tour de force, was The Gulag Archipelago, written between 1958 and 1967 and published in France (in Russian) in 1973. It was a three-volume,
seven part detailed historical exposé of the Soviet forced-labor prison system.

The book quickly became one of the most influential publications of the 20th Century. It has since sold over 30 million copies in 35 languages. The book was not published in the Soviet Union but was vehemently attacked by the government controlled press. In the West it was hailed as a masterpiece. George F. Kennan, the influential U.S. diplomat, called the book “the most powerful single indictment of a political regime ever to be levied in modern times.”

The word, GULAG, in the title of the book is an acronym for the Russian name of the bureaucracy that governed the Soviet labor camp system of prisons. The word, archipelago, was used by Solzhenitsyn to portray this system because the camps were spread across Russia like a vast “chain of islands.”

The publication of this book was the last straw for the Soviet government. In September of 1974, Solzhenitsyn was arrested and deported. In the process, he was stripped of his Soviet citizenship, becoming a stateless person. He went first to Cologne, Germany and then to Zurich, Switzerland. In 1975, Stanford University invited him to move there where he lived on campus before deciding to move to Cavendish, Vermont in 1976. He remained there until 1994 when he returned to Russia.

The Speech That Stunned the Western World

Solzhenitsyn’s first public speech in the United States was delivered in June of 1978, three years after his arrival. The occasion was the commencement ceremony at Harvard University where he was granted an honorary degree. He arrived on campus as a hero; he departed as a pariah.

The Harvard intelligentsia was outraged over his presentation, and some actually booed him! The New York Times declared him to be a “dangerous zealot.” The Washington Post wrote him off as a man who did not understand Western society. Critics denounced him as a “Tsarist reactionary, an Orthodox ayatollah, a hater of democracy [and] a Russian ultranationalist.” None of which were true. As one of his biographers, Daniel J. H. Mahoney, has put it: “Solzhenitsyn wasn’t just dismissed; he was demonized.”

What in the world had Solzhenitsyn done to provoke such outrage? The answer is simple. He spoke prophetically, and he spoke the truth. And his audience did not want to hear it. So, what did he say?

He began his speech by proclaiming that the Western world, including the United States, had lost its courage in confronting evil. He declared that our foreign policies were based on “weakness and cowardice.” And then he observed: “Should one point out that from ancient times, declining courage has been considered the beginning of the end?”

Next, he attacked American democracy for its exercise of liberty without self-restraint and for its obsession with solving all problems through its legal system. His words sound like they were spoken yesterday instead of almost 40 years ago.

The defense of individual rights has reached such extremes as to make society as a whole defenseless against certain individuals . . . It is time in the West to defend not so much human rights as human obligations.

Destructive and irresponsible freedom has been granted boundless space. Society appears to have little defense against the abyss of human decadence, such as, for example, the misuse of liberty for moral violence against young people [with] motion pictures full of pornography, violence and horror.

Solzhenitsyn’s next target was the press. He criticized it for its lack of “moral responsibility.” He declared the press to be the greatest power within the Western countries, and then he asked, “By what law has it been elected and to whom is it responsible?”

He characterized the press as being full of “hastiness and superficiality,” and he argued that the press has a herd mentality which gives birth “to strong mass prejudices” and “blindness.”

He then shifted his focus to the moral degradation of American society. He pointed to “TV stupor,” “intolerable music,” and “the overall decadence of art.” He decried the lack of “great statesmen.” And he pointed to the thin “surface film” of social stability that can easily be shattered with an electrical blackout that produces looting.


He then posed the crucial question: “How did the West decline from its triumphal march to its present sickness?”

He answered this question by pointing to what he called “anthropocentricty” — the elevation of Man over God, to the extent that “man [is] seen as the center of everything that exists.” In other words, at this point in his speech, Solzhenitsyn began to attack Humanism, the godless philosophy that has become the religion of the Western world.

He proceeded to point out that Humanism always leads to Materialism and Materialism produces “moral poverty.” He
made the point powerfully:  

All the glorified technological achievements of Progress, including the conquest of outer space, do not redeem the 20th Century moral poverty which no one could imagine even as late as the 19th Century.

This observation brought Solzhenitsyn to his concluding and defining statement:

On the way from the Renaissance to our days, we have enriched our experience, but we have lost the concept of a Supreme Complete Entity which used to restrain our passions and our irresponsibility.

We have placed too much hope in political and social reforms, only to find out that we were being deprived of our most precious possession: our spiritual life. In the East, it was destroyed by the dealings and machinations of the ruling party. In the West, commercial interests suffocate it. This is the real crisis.

It was a breathtaking, challenging and stunning presentation. It is no wonder that the negative response to it was so strong. The wonder is that he was not lynched on the spot!

Yet, 33 years later, in 2011, the Harvard Magazine published the speech in full and introduced it with these words that must have outraged Harvard professors:

“The Exhausted West,” delivered in Russian with English translation under overcast skies, chastised the arrogance and smugness of Western materialist culture and exposed the adverse effects of some of those achievements that Western democracies had long prided themselves upon . . .

Solzhenitsyn’s brilliant, iconoclastic speech ranks among the most thoughtful, articulate and challenging addresses ever delivered at a Harvard commencement.

In like manner, Michael Novak, resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute, has described Solzhenitsyn’s Harvard speech “as the most important religious document of our time.”

His Greatest Speech

But Solzhenitsyn had an even more powerful and insightful speech he was yet to deliver. It came five years later in May of 1983 when he received the Templeton Prize. This is an award presented by the Templeton Foundation in Pennsylvania. It is an annual award given to a living person who, in the estimation of the judges, “has made an exceptional contribution to affirming life’s spiritual dimension, whether through insight, discovery or practical works.”

Upon receiving the award at age 65, Solzhenitsyn delivered an address titled, “Godlessness: The First Step Toward the Gulag.”

He began with a reminiscence from his childhood:

More than half a century ago, while I was still a child, I recall hearing a number of older people offer the following explanation for the great disasters that had befallen Russia: Men have forgotten God; that’s why all this has happened.

Then, picking up steam, like a black preacher who gets into a cadence and starts repeating a word or phrase, Solzhenitsyn began to emphasize his point over and over:

What emerges here is a process of universal significance. And if I were called upon to identify briefly the principle trait of the entire 20th Century, here too, I would be unable to find anything more precise and pithy to repeat once again: Men have forgotten God.
He then proceeded to warn that the Western World “is experiencing a drying up of religious consciousness.”  
He said this was happening because “the meaning of life in the West has ceased to be seen as anything more than the ‘pursuit of happiness’...”

Another problem he identified was the refusal of people to realize the evil that is in the individual human heart and the consequent unwillingness to declare anything as good or evil. The result, he declared, is that the West “is ineluctably slipping toward the abyss.”

Solzhenitsyn emphasized that we in the West must come to the realization “that human salvation can be found neither in the profusion of material goods nor in merely making money.” Rather, the aim should be “the quest of worthy spiritual growth.” He then asserted that Mankind’s hope can be found only by redirecting our consciousness “in repentance to the Creator of all; without this, no exit will be illumined, and we shall seek it in vain.”

Putting the same thought in different words, Solzhenitsyn concluded his remarks by urging his listeners to engage in “a determined quest for the warm hand of God, which we have so rashly and self-confidently spurned.”

His Concluding Years

In 1990 Solzhenitsyn’s Soviet citizenship was restored, and in 1994 he and his wife returned to Russia where they settled near Moscow. He had been married twice and had fathered three sons by his second wife. He died in 2008 of heart failure at the age of 89. He was buried at a monastery in Moscow.

The Bible says that a prophet never finds honor in his own country (Mark 6:4). Nor did Solzhenitsyn in his or in his adopted country. His native country expelled him, and America shut its ears to his fervent warnings and his pleas to return to God. We are now suffering the consequences.

You have forgotten the God of your salvation
And have not remembered the Rock of your refuge.
(Isaiah 17:10)

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Stalinists Speak

Despite the fact that Stalinism proved to be morally bankrupt and resulted in the deaths of more than 60 million Russians, there are Stalinists who are still active in the former Soviet Union.

On October 9th they hanged an effigy of Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn in front of the Gulag Museum in Moscow. A group called The Revolutionary Communist Youth Union took credit for the action on their website, calling Solzhenitsyn “that malicious anti-Soviet liar.” A similar incident occurred in 2015 when a large sign saying “Judas” was attached to a Solzhenitsyn memorial in Vladivostok.

The effigy that was hanged in Moscow had pinned to its chest a large sign that read:

Here, the traitor Solzhenitsyn has been hanged,
The one who liked to mock the sacred truth,
Who shamelessly lied about the Gulag.
He is a terrible enemy of the Motherland!
The Gulag Museum goes ahead with lies
And former dissidents are being glorified.
Now they are embracing as two pals:
The traitorous man and the treacherous museum!

Even more chilling is the fact that on October 4th the Russian Ministry of Justice listed an organization called “Memorial” as a “foreign agent.” This is a highly lauded group that documents Stalin-era crimes and monitors human rights violations in Russia. It appears the Russian government has decided to start blotting out the nefarious crimes of the Stalin era. “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it” — (George Santayana).
Guest Editorial

A View of America’s Soul

Don McGee

(Editor’s note: Don McGee is the founder and evangelist of Crown & Sickle Ministries based in Amite, Louisiana. This article is condensed from one that was published in his ministry’s newsletter in May of 2016. You can subscribe to his excellent newsletter through his website at crowndricksickle.org. Don is an outstanding writer with deep insights about our nation.)

Official America continues to choose wallowing in filth over walking in righteousness.

A nation has what could be called a soul, but it is not like a human’s. It is the national conscience and character of a people, and it changes as the nation’s official policy changes. Our country has such a soul.

Changing Moral Values

America has never been perfect. But her founders knew the critical role God plays in a nation’s establishment and continued welfare, and they used the Bible as a guide as they wrote, edited and re-wrote the founding documents. The eventual result was the U.S. Constitution which established national policy and severely limited the power of the federal government.

But, things have changed. Modern career politicians could not care less about the convictions of the Founding Fathers and they, along with modern jurists, are doing all they can to transform the Constitution into a “living document” that can be easily changed by culture-influenced judicial activism.

The Founders’ intent was that it would forever be an original document that could be amended only by the people. But, you see, that hinders cultural revolution. And so, our Constitution haters have resorted to culture-influenced judicial activism.

When this nation ignores God’s moral law, it is not simply rejecting what the Founding Fathers believed and incorporated into official America, it is rejecting God whose Word was greatly relied upon for purpose and stability.

The result has been the changing of the standard by which free people are to live. The standard went from one of moral strength and sanctity to one where the increasingly corrupt practices of a God-hating, seething mob of humanity reigns supreme.

Liberty becomes confused with license which, in turn, leads to a situation where moral rot festers like pus in an infected, swollen carbuncle. That is official modern America.

Truth is the new hate speech. “During times of universal deceit, telling the truth becomes a revolutionary act.”

A Nation in Revolt

But today even the term “godly” no longer applies to official America. God, the Bible and prayer have been removed from anything having to do with the government.

Schools dismissed God from their classrooms in the 1960s. He was replaced with anti-God speech, gutter-level vulgarity, physical assault, indiscipline, politically correct speech, socially correct school promotions, etc.

Presently military chaplains, VA chaplains and others are being ordered to stop praying in the name of Jesus and to stop quoting from the Bible. One evangelical chaplain from a San Diego VA facility quit in 2013 due to official VA harassment, and soon after another was dismissed for refusing to heed the no-Jesus, no-scripture rule.

Since 1973 America has murdered, under official government sanction, 59 million babies in their mother’s wombs. The Internal Revenue Service, an official collection and enforcement arm of the U.S. Government, admitted after the 2012 election that it had targeted and harassed Christian groups with unprecedented questions on their tax exempt applications. The IRS asked for the content of their prayers and even demanded they not protest a particular Planned Parenthood abortion mill. Further, America’s President Obama refuses to call Muslim terrorists what they are — namely, Muslim terrorists — though they killed more Americans on 9/11 than the Japanese did at Pearl Harbor.

The Original Intention

America’s Founding Fathers did not intend for their new republic to become a nation whose official religion was Christianity. An official state religion was something the Pilgrims were fleeing from in Europe, and who knew what flavor of Christianity the country would adopt as official?

No, the Founding Fathers knew that the establishment of a state religion would be counter to liberty. Rather, they connected the republic to Judeo-Christian principles that any liberty loving people would support, and provided that the practice of religion would be individual and free from any government oversight.

But, things have changed under color of law. Christian practices are now considered offensive to others. And that’s because Christians take stands on moral issues. That is the rub.

When Christians say homosexuality is sin, that men using women’s restrooms is sin (and paves the way for monstrous crime), that shaking up is sin, etc., they immediately become officially offensive. They become the targets of the worse kind of scorn and rage that can be imagined.

Secularists charge Christians with hating homosexuals and fornicators while knowing that is not true though never admitting it. The truth, you see, does not enhance their agenda. They know that disagreeing with a practice or an ideology is not hatred, yet the accusation rolls easily off their tongues, and it is accepted by the ignorant without a second thought.

Basically they hate God, they hate the Bible and they hate...
anyone whose allegiance is to God. This is now the official, legal, national soul of modern America. And in case one can’t see it, modern America’s soul has absolutely nothing to do with Christianity.

Some Christians wonder if this downward slide can be stopped. God may do whatever He wants to do in response to prayer, but I don’t think anything of great significance will change.

The True End Time Scenario

Scripture says very clearly that there will be no great revival during the end time. In fact, just the opposite is true; see 2 Thessalonians 2, 1 Timothy 4, 2 Timothy 3, etc. There are sporadic exceptions with revival coming in small pockets, but there will be no worldwide revival nor anything resembling a national revival.

God may respond to the fervent prayers of His people in any way He wishes, but scripture shows there will not be a global turning to God that will derail the wrath that is coming upon this world and upon this nation.

The dark truth is that the general population of America is isolated from God and from any real spiritual influence, and that this isolation is self-imposed. Americans live where evangelical churches are mostly everywhere, and there is no shortage of Bibles, but few take advantage of them. It is not that God has closed off the truth from America; the fact of the matter is that we don’t want it! And the issue of so-called sexual identity is the latest example of this.

The Suppression of Truth

Many people are wondering how we, as a nation, could have become so comfortable in the sewer of depravity. The answer is easy because it is the same answer to the question of why most scientists accept the theory of evolution as fact. Everything they see that points to God and His creation must be rejected, and the only way to do that is to begin all research under the pre-established assumption of atheism. No matter what is discovered that proves that God exists and that He created the very matter they examine, it must be rejected. Paul, in Romans chapter 1, said they “suppress the truth in unrighteousness.” That makes a nation comfortable in filth.

Just as God established the laws that promote life and order in the material world thus making atheism a farce, so He has established a Moral Law that is evident to any who might wish to take note; a fact that makes people accountable before Him (Romans 1:18,19).

People do not have to really wonder if homosexuality, bestiality, incest and a number of other perversions are wrong. Nor do they have to really wonder if men using the public facilities of women and little girls is a bad idea or not. That they are suppressing truth is quite obvious, but they do not care.

Is America a Christian nation? Not hardly. Once godly? Yes, to some degree. But now we would rather live for sensuality and materialism, purposefully blinding ourselves to the truth that nature itself so clearly reveals. We should be warned: God will not long tolerate the sin and buffoonery of a debased, obstinate national will.
Guest Editorial

When a society rebels against God, absurdity rules.

Tim Wildmon

And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. (Romans 1:28)

All was quiet in the home state of Andy Griffith until February 22 of this year (2016) when the Charlotte City Council passed an ordinance requiring all government agencies and private businesses to ensure that men could use women’s bathrooms if they wanted to.

The legal problem with that move was that the state constitution of North Carolina requires all “public accommodation” laws to be handled at the state level. In other words, what Charlotte did was not within their authority, so the governor and the state legislature responded by passing HB 2 on March 23, which “mandates people use the bathroom corresponding to their biological sex in public buildings, places, and schools.”

Simply put, everything was fine — Charlotte enacted a law they had no authority to enact, and the state of North Carolina put everything back like it was.

The Response of the LGBT Mafia

For this simple common sense law, the state of North Carolina has become the whipping boy for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender political machine and their many powerful supporters in big business, academia, the liberal media, and the entertainment industry.

No single group of people holds more power in America today than does the LGBT lobby, this despite the fact that they represent a relatively small number of people. It is estimated that 2% of Americans are lesbian or gay and 0.3% are transgendered, i.e., a person who is a male but says he is a female or vice versa.

Even the National Collegiate Athletic Association punished North Carolina by taking away sporting events scheduled for the Tar Heel state. NCAA leadership is made up of university presidents. So, very smart people who have reached the highest levels of academia sat around in a room somewhere and decided that because North Carolina wants to keep men out of bathrooms reserved for women and young girls, the state must be punished. And this law applied only to bathrooms, showers, etc. that were state property.

In other knee-jerk reactions over the issue, PayPal Corporation withdrew its plans for building a large office complex in North Carolina. PayPal is the same company that built their global operations center in Malaysia where homosexual behavior is against the law, punishable by whipping or prison time.

The NBA pulled their all-star game out of Charlotte. Christian sports celebrities Russell Wilson and Stephen Curry condemned their home state for wanting to keep women’s bathrooms for women and girls only. Legendary Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski said what North Carolina did was “embarrassing.”

The Root Problem

What is going on here? Why is the whole world coming down on North Carolina over something like this? Even if you thought welcoming men into women’s restrooms and showers was a good idea, does the penalty fit the “crime?” You would think North Carolina had reinstated slavery.

What is going on is a country in rebellion against God Almighty. This is about putting the final touches on the sexual revolution. The Bible clearly states that homosexuality is unnatural, immoral, and unhealthy. Everyone knows that a man who thinks he is a woman has a mental disorder, not to mention a spiritual one.

Bruce Jenner will always be a man even if he wears a dress and heels the rest of his life. Yet, his confusion is lauded by the media and popular culture as brave and heroic. What’s really going on here is demonic. It’s a culture shaking its collective fist at God and shouting: “Don’t tell us how to live! We will not listen to your rules!”

What we are watching in America today is Romans 1 being played out before our very eyes.

Tim Wildmon is the president of the American Family Association. This article is taken from that ministry’s magazine, AFA Journal, November 2016.
Internet Sensation

Why the Peaceful Majority is Irrelevant!

Paul E. Marek

(Editor’s note: This article went viral on the Internet when the author posted it on February 20, 2006. The author is a Canadian blogger who lives in Saskatoon. He has a blog site on the Internet called “Celestial Junk.” It can be found at http://cjunk.blogspot.com/p/why-peaceful-majority-is-irrelevant.html.)

I used to know a man whose family were German aristocracy prior to World War II. They owned a number of large industries and estates. I asked him how many German people were true Nazis, and the answer he gave has stuck with me and guided my attitude toward fanaticism ever since.

“Very few people were true Nazis” he said, “but, many enjoyed the return of German pride, and many more were too busy to care. I was one of those who just thought the Nazis were a bunch of fools. So, the majority just sat back and let it all happen. Then, before we knew it, they owned us, and we had lost control, and the end of the world had come. My family lost everything. I ended up in a concentration camp and the Allies destroyed my factories.”

We are told again and again by “experts” and “talking heads” that Islam is the “religion of peace,” and that the vast majority of Muslims just want to live in peace.

Although this unquantified assertion may be true, it is entirely irrelevant. It is meaningless fluff, meant to make us feel better, and meant to somehow diminish the specter of fanatics rampaging across the globe in the name of Islam.

The fact is that the fanatics rule Islam at this moment in history. It is the fanatics who march. It is the fanatics who wage any one of 50 shooting wars worldwide. It is the fanatics who systematically slaughter Christian or tribal groups throughout Africa and are gradually taking over the entire continent in an Islamic wave. It is the fanatics who bomb, behead, murder, or honor-kill. It is the fanatics who take over mosque after mosque. It is the fanatics who zealously spread the stoning and hanging of rape victims and homosexuals. The hard quantifiable fact is, that the “peaceful majority” is the “silent majority” and it is cowed and extraneous.

- The average Japanese individual prior to World War II was not a war mongering sadist. Yet, Japan murdered and slaughtered its way across South East Asia in an orgy of slaughter that included the systematic killing of a million Chinese civilians; most killed by sword, shovel, and bayonet.

History lessons are often incredibly simple and blunt, yet for all our powers of reason we often miss the most basic and uncomplicated of points.

- Peace-loving Muslims have been made irrelevant by the fanatics.
- Peace-loving Muslims have been made irrelevant by their silence.
- Peace-loving Muslims will become our enemy if they don’t speak up, because like my friend from Germany, they will awake one day and find that the fanatics own them, and the end of their world will have begun.

Peace-loving Germans, Japanese, Chinese, Russians, Rwandans, Bosnians, Afghans, Iraqis, Palestinians, Somalis, Nigerians, Algerians, and many others, have died because the peaceful majority did not speak up until it was too late. As for us who watch it all unfold, we must pay attention to the only group that counts; the fanatics who threaten our way of life.

Irrelevant Majorities

When the Communists took over Russia in 1918, there were 200,000 of them compared with the total population of 103 million. The Communists constituted two-tenths of one percent of the population. By 1986 Communist Party membership had climbed to 10 million, or 7% of the Russian population of 147 million.

When the Communists took over China in 1949, there were 1.2 million of them compared to the total population of 542 million. Again, the Communists constituted two-tenths of one percent of the population. Today, the Communist Party membership stands at 87 million out of 1.3 billion people, or 6.6%.
The World’s Hatred of Israel

Dr. David R. Reagan

End time Bible prophecy focuses on the nation of Israel. One of those prophecies states that in the end times all the world will come together in its opposition to the nation of Israel and its occupation of Jerusalem (Zechariah 12:2-3):

2) “Behold, I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that causes reeling to all the peoples around; and when the siege is against Jerusalem, it will also be against Judah.

3) “It will come about in that 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.”

In fulfillment of this prophecy, Israel is, without a doubt, the most hated nation in the world today, and I can prove it quickly and decisively.

United Nations Folly

Just consider a partial listing of condemnations issued by the United Nations Human Rights Council since it was established in 2006. Israel has been condemned 62 times, Syria 17 times, North Korea 8 times and Iran 5 times.

Of the 193 members of the United Nations, only 11 nations have been condemned, representing six percent. Of the 116 resolutions of condemnation, 53% have been aimed at Israel!

Not a one of the following states have received a single condemnation despite the fact that all of them have horrible records of human rights violations — Cuba, China, Pakistan, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Somalia, Nicaragua and Venezuela.

Yet Israel has been condemned 62 times.

Or consider this list of terrorist organizations — ISIS, Al Qaeda, Boko Haram, Fatah, Hamas, Hezbollah and Islamic Jihad. The only one that has been condemned by the UN Human Rights Council is ISIS, with one condemnation!

Yet Israel has been targeted 62 times.

Israel is a democracy that provides the highest standards of freedom for all its citizens, both Jew and Arab.

Yet Israel is condemned.

There is not one Arab country in the world that will allow Jews to be citizens, and there is not one that will allow freedom of religion for Jews and Christians.

Yet it is Israel that is condemned.

In contrast, Israel allows Arabs to be citizens and to vote and serve in its parliament. It also provides freedom of speech and religion for both Christians and Muslims.

Yet it is Israel that is condemned.

Women in Arab countries throughout the Middle East are subjected to honor killings and are denied basic rights like voting and privileges like driving an auto, yet the UN Council on the Status of Women wrapped up its most recent meeting in March of 2016 by condemning only one country in the world — Israel, for supposedly violating the rights of Palestinian women!

Yet it is Israel that is condemned.

In the same month, the latest session of the United Nations Human Rights Council issued one condemnation each for North Korea, Syria and Iran.

Israel received 4!

That means that 98% of the 193 member states of the United Nations — inhabited by 6.6 billion people — got no mention at all in the resolutions of the UN Human Rights Council.

Israel is one of the smallest nations in the world. It is only 300 miles long and 75 miles wide — about the size of the state of New Jersey. Does the United Nations really believe it is the source of all the world’s problems?

UNESCO Nonsense

The latest UN fiasco has come from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). In October of 2016 this Arab dominated wing of the UN adopted two outrageous resolutions presented by the Palestinians in which they denied any historical connection between the Jewish people and Jerusalem, the Temple Mount and the Western Wall (or "Wailing Wall" as it is often called).
The frieze from the Arch of Titus showing Jewish prisoners carrying items confiscated by the Romans from the Temple in Jerusalem in 70 AD.

Israel’s Ambassador to UNESCO called the resolutions “absurd,” and in a show of defiance, he tore them up and threw them in a trash can. Israel’s Foreign Minister declared, “UNESCO’s vote on Jerusalem is a piece of rubbish, rightly dumped in the garbage can by our Ambassador.” Israel’s Interior Minister proclaimed, “If the Jews do not have a connection to the Western Wall, then UNESCO does not have a connection to education, science and culture.”

Israel’s Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, denounced the resolutions as “absurd theater.” He went on to say that if Israel has no connection to the Temple Mount and to the Western Wall, then “China has no connection to the Chinese Wall and Egypt has no connection to the Pyramids.” He then declared that “UNESCO has lost its legitimacy.”

The prime Minister also pointed to extra-biblical evidence of the Jewish connection to Jerusalem. He suggested that if the UNESCO members do not believe the Bible, they should visit the Arch of Titus in Rome because it contains a frieze showing the loot that the Romans brought back to Rome after they destroyed the Jewish Temple in 70 AD.

Part of that loot which is clearly displayed is the seven-branched menorah that was in the Temple and which is the official symbol of Israel today. The Prime Minister then observed sarcastically, that once they see this evidence of the Jewish connection to Jerusalem, they will probably “say that the Emperor Titus engaged in Zionist propaganda!”

Anti-Semitism in Europe

Further evidence of the world’s hatred of the Jewish people is to be found in the rising wave of anti-Semitism that is currently sweeping Europe and the emigration to Israel that it is provoking. It is a phenomenon that was featured on the cover of Newsweek magazine in August of 2014.

Here’s how a feature article in US News and World Report put it in April of 2015: “Seventy years after the Holocaust, anti-Semitism is again growing more virulent in Europe. From Toulouse to Paris, London to Berlin, Brussels to Copenhagen, Jews are being harassed, assaulted and even killed.”

According to the Pew Research Center, by 2013, Jews were being harassed in 34 of 45 European countries and anti-Semitic harassment worldwide had reached a seven-year high.

All over Europe, and particularly in Greece, France and Belgium, Jews are seeing their religious freedoms violated, their cemeteries vandalized, and their synagogues desecrated. They are also experiencing increasing personal attacks that often result in death. In France, the annual number of anti-Semitic incidents is currently seven times as high as in the 1990s. In 2014, they doubled.

The elections to the European Parliament in 2014 showed a surge of support for extreme right-wing Neo-Nazi parties in France, Greece, Hungary and Germany.

The population of Europe today is 742 million. Only 1.4 million of those are Jews. That means the Jews constitute only one-tenth of one percent of the population, and yet they are the focus of hatred and persecution. And in the process, they are blamed for most of Europe’s problems.

I could extend this discussion considerably by demonstrating the ways in which our own nation has turned against Israel, particularly during the last eight years. And I could show you extensive evidence of growing anti-Semitism in America, even among Evangelicals. But I will save all this for a future article.

I want to conclude this essay by sharing with you the thoughts contained in a brilliant speech by Israel’s Ambassador
Ambassador Ron Dermer to the United States, Ron Dermer. The speech was delivered this past year in May at an annual conference in New York City that is sponsored by the Jerusalem Post.

The Dermer Speech

The Ambassador focused his remarks on the difference between fact and fiction regarding the way Israel is portrayed in the world press. The full speech can be found on the Internet in many places. I am going to share only portions of it with you.

“In a world of fiction, Israeli soldiers are war criminals.

In the world of fact, the IDF deserves the Nobel Peace Prize for the efforts its commanders make and the risks its soldiers take to keep Palestinian civilians out of harm’s way.

In a world of fiction, it is Israel that has an extremist, brutal and bloodthirsty society.

In the world of fact, Hamas terrorists rule Gaza and welcome every drop of blood spilled in Jerusalem. Palestinian children are educated to hate Jews and Palestinian public squares are named after mass murderers.

In a world of fiction, there never was a Temple on the Temple Mount, and the Jewish people are foreign colonialists in the land of Israel.

In the world of fact, the Temple of Solomon was built by the son of David 3,000 years ago in Jerusalem, and what the world calls the West Bank is the same Judea and Samaria where the patriarchs of the Jewish people prayed, where our prophets preached and where our kings ruled.

In the world of fiction, Iran will seek to reconcile with the United States after the nuclear deal and become a partner for solving problems throughout the Middle East.

In the world of fact, Iran is vowing to remain an enemy of the United States and is wreaking havoc throughout the Middle East.

In a world of fiction, a richer Iran will curb its aggression, end its support for terrorism and stop trying to annihilate Israel.

In the world of fact, a richer Iran is dispatching troops and proxies throughout the region, shipping more arms to Hezbollah, hosting Holocaust denial contests and test-firing ballistic missiles inscribed with threats to wipe Israel off the map.

In a world of fiction, Prime Minister Netanyahu is not prepared to negotiate with President Abbas.

In the world of fact, President Abbas has avoided negotiations for the last seven years.

In a world of fiction, settlements are the obstacle to peace and Israel is ethnically cleansing the Palestinians.

In the world of fact, our conflict predates the building of settlements in post-1967 Israel by 50 years, the Palestinian population in the territories captured in the Six Day War has grown at least threefold, and those who allege ethnic cleansing are those who insist that a future Palestinian state be devoid of all Jews.

It is at times like this, when the world predictably rushes to defame and demonize Israel, that I am proudest to serve Israel. Because despite being the most maligned country on earth, Israel is the most remarkable country on earth.

Not perfect, but remarkable. With a people who are moral and compassionate. With soldiers who are brave and decent. With institutions that are sound and resilient. And with a Prime Minister I know is as determined as ever to secure Israel’s future.

Someone once said that if the story of Israel were submitted as a movie script, it would be rejected for being too fantastic to believe. After all, the restoration of sovereignty in our ancestral homeland after 2,000 years, the return of the exiles of our people from across the globe, the defense of Israel against implacable enemies, and the transformation of Israel from a desert backwater to a global technological power, seems to defy both history and logic.

But ladies and gentlemen, Israel is not a work of fiction. Israel is a real country. And the people in Israel are real people.

So, whether you are a citizen who lives in Israel, a soldier who defends Israel, a friend who supports Israel, or a newspaper privileged to cover Israel, let’s all remember how fortunate we are to live at a time when the Jewish people are once again writing our own story in our own land and once again determining our own future.”

Jewish People Book

Dr. Reagan’s powerful book about the Jewish people shows how they are rejected by the world but beloved by God. It runs 231 pages in length and sells for $20, including the cost of shipping. To order call 972-736-3567 Monday thru Friday 8am to 5pm Central time — or place your order thru our website at www.lamblion.com.
In September of 2016, Pope Francis declared Mother Teresa of Calcutta, India to be a venerated saint. This means that Catholics throughout the world can consider her to be holy, to be in Heaven, and to be trustworthy to pray to as an intercessor before God. Liturgies can be conducted in her name and churches can be dedicated to her.\(^1\)

Being declared a venerated saint is the culmination of a canonization process that begins with what is called beatification. A person is beatified when he or she is declared by the Catholic Church to have led a holy life. To be elevated to the status of saint, two miracles must be attributed to the intercession of the beatified person after beatification is declared.\(^2\)

“The core of beatification and canonization is the belief that very good people of the church go straight to Heaven, rule with Jesus, and intercede with God on behalf of the people on earth and in purgatory.”\(^3\) The whole process of beatification and canonization is completely extra-biblical, and the proclamation of certain persons as “venerated saints” is totally un biblical.

Papal Power

The Pope does not have the power to simply declare that a person has earned their way to Heaven by their good works. Nor does he have the power to make a person a saint.

The only saints mentioned in the Bible are those who accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior and who are born again, receiving the indwelling gift of the Holy Spirit. Accordingly, the Apostle Paul began his first letter to the Corinthian church by declaring that they were “... sanctified in Christ Jesus, saints by calling, with all who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ ...” Likewise, in Ephesians 2:19 Paul says that those of us who are believers in Jesus are all “... fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God’s household ...”

The Bible clearly teaches that there are going to be special rewards for those who serve the Lord faithfully in this life, but those rewards are going to be distributed by Jesus when we are judged by Him about how we used our spiritual gifts to advance His kingdom (2 Corinthians 5:10). The Pope has no authority to distribute any special spiritual rewards.

Mother Teresa

As for Mother Teresa, there are grave doubts that she was even a Christian. One of her last requests before she died in 1997 was that all her letters be destroyed. They were not. Instead, they were collected and published in 2003 in a book titled, *Mother Teresa: Come Be My Light*.\(^4\) Her letters reveal a tormented soul who constantly doubted the existence of God and who had no personal relationship with Jesus.\(^5\)

At the beginning of her ministry in Calcutta in the late 1940s, she wrote: “Where is my faith? Even deep down there is nothing but emptiness and darkness. If there is a God — please forgive me.”\(^6\) Eight years later she was still expressing “such a deep longing for God,” adding that she felt “repulsed, empty, no faith, no love, no zeal.” In 1959 she wrote: “What do I labor for? If there be no God, there can be no soul. If there be no soul then, Jesus, You also are not true.”\(^7\)

These doubts persisted in her letters until her death. On one occasion she wrote: “I feel just that terrible pain of loss, of God not wanting me, of God not being God, of God not really existing.”\(^8\)

*Time* magazine featured a cover article about her in its issue of August 23, 2007, which was titled, “Mother Teresa’s Crisis of Faith.” Her letters were summed up as presenting “a startling portrait in self-contradiction.” Her deeds in ministering to the poor “seemed inextricably connected to her closeness to God,” but in reality she “was living out a very different spiritual reality privately, an arid landscape from which the deity had disappeared.”\(^9\)

Mother Teresa was fully aware of this dichotomy. In one of her letters she stated that her constant smile was “a mask” or “a cloak that covers everything.”\(^10\)

Faith or Works?

The world — and most Catholics — would probably respond by saying, “So what?” They would argue that her beliefs about God and Jesus are irrelevant because of the incredibly
good works she performed for the outcasts of this world. After all, she has been proclaimed as “the greatest humanitarian of the 20th Century,” and she was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1979 “for work undertaken in the struggle to overcome poverty and distress, which also contribute a threat to peace.”

Tragically, what both the world and most Catholics cannot grasp is that good works — no matter how magnificent and glorious — are not sufficient to gain anyone access to Heaven. The only door to Heaven is Jesus who said, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me” (John 14:6).

Mother Teresa ignored this truth in her ministry because she was content in ministering to the physical body only. She ignored the condition of the soul. And thus, she wrote: “We never try to convert those who receive [aid from her ministry] to Christianity, but in our work we bear witness to the love of God’s presence, and if Catholics, Protestants, Buddhists or agnostics become for this, better men — simply better — we will be satisfied.”

It is comments like this that motivated Mike Gendron, an expert on Catholicism, to state that Mother Teresa “taught a bizarre ‘pseudo-pantheism’ in which she believed Jesus was present in everyone.” He then concluded that the Catholic Church has declared an “unbelieving agnostic to be a saint.”

Notes:
2) Ibid., page 2.
7) David Van Biema, page 5.
10) Ibid.
11) Ibid., page 2.

This 65 minute video program contains an in-depth interview with Mike Gendron, founder of Proclaiming the Gospel Ministries (www.proclaimingthegospel.org).

For 34 years Evangelist Mike Gendron was a devout Roman Catholic and a strong defender of the “one true church.” Then, in 1981, at an evangelistic seminar, Mike heard for the first time that salvation is not by works or sacraments but by grace through faith in Jesus Christ! He also discovered the Bible must become his authority in all matters of faith.

Mike gave up his very successful business career to focus on preparing himself to share with other Catholics the wonderful gospel he had discovered. He entered Dallas Theological Seminary, and upon graduation, he established his ministry which is located in Plano, Texas.

In this video program Mike explains why he considers Catholicism to be a false religion. In the process, he presents a startling comparison between the fundamental beliefs of Catholicism and Evangelical Christianity, showing clearly that the two are incompatible.

The video sells for $20, including the cost of shipping.

Bonus: With each order we will include a DVD copy of a recent TV program in which Dr. Reagan interviewed Mike about Pope Francis. You can order thru our website at lamblion.com, or by calling 972-736-3567, Mon.-Fri., 8am to 5pm Central.
As we witness the world around us devolving politically, morally and economically, many Christians sense the approaching fulfillment of Jesus’ prophecy regarding the end times: “Just as it was in the days of Noah, so also will it be in the days of the Son of Man . . .” Luke 17:26 (NIV).

Since Jesus made a point to highlight Noah and the world’s condition leading up to the flood, it is appropriate to re-examine this Old Testament exemplar of faith and relate him to our world today. Noah — and God’s provision for salvation in the form of an ark — offer us important prophetic insights into the Lord’s plan for mankind.

The judgment of the flood teaches that a holy God cannot countenance sin; His patience has limits. He will, however, go to great lengths to reveal His intentions to those who listen to His voice and to provide a means for their salvation from judgment. The global deluge and Noah’s ark of deliverance offer a picture of the Gospel itself.

A Modern Day Replica

In Northern Kentucky, an Evangelical group has built a full-scale, 510-foot long model of Noah’s ark to tell the Gospel story rooted in the book of Genesis. Over 100 Amish craftsmen from multiple states labored to turn 3.3 million board feet of lumber into the largest timber-frame structure in the world.

Under the leadership of Ken Ham, his ministry, called “Answers in Genesis,” originally established a Creation Museum to bring to life the biblical account of creation and illustrate its significance to Christian doctrine.

Pushing back against the secular explanation of life based on random and accidental evolution, the Creation Museum explains God’s eyewitness version of creation, the origin of man’s sin, and the prophetic provision for salvation. Based in true science (not the speculative explanations of many secular models), the Creation Museum has been engaging visitors with Christian apologetics since 2007.

Following the success of the Creation Museum, Answers in Genesis began work on constructing a life-size version of Noah’s Ark in 2008. Though Indiana and Ohio were considered as building sites, Kentucky was chosen because it offered several advantages: close proximity to the existing museum, reasonable land cost, and state tax incentives offered to any large tourist attraction operating in the state.

Those “Tourism Tax Incentives” allow large tax-generating and job-promoting enterprises to receive a sales tax credit for up to 10 years. After paying a five-figure consulting fee to government-mandated consultants, Answers in Genesis demonstrated that it met all the state requirements to qualify for the incentive — even after the state insisted on an unreasonably low attendance estimate. (To give you an idea of how skewed those estimates were, Kentucky presumed the Ark Encounter might draw 325,000 visitors in its first year. In fact, over 400,000 have visited the Ark in just its first 100 days of operation!)

The Liberal Opposition

As with many Christian-oriented enterprises, attacks from the secular left were inevitable and unrelenting. Groups such as “Americans United for the Separation of Church and State” and the “Freedom from Religion Foundation” quickly cried foul — claiming that the state of Kentucky could not allow a Christian
organization to be given the same incentive consideration as a secular operation.

Kentucky’s governor at the time immediately backtracked on the tourism tax incentive that he initially supported. He stopped Answers in Genesis’ application from moving forward and denied due process to appeal. In a letter from his administration, the state claimed that the practice of hiring only Christians and the specific act of “telling people about Jesus” was a threat to the good order and conduct of business in Kentucky!

Answers in Genesis sued — but not because a successful operation of the Ark Encounter was dependent on the tax credits (contrary to false accusations by the secularists, no tax dollars were sought or used in the purchase of the land or the construction of the ark). Answers in Genesis sued because it was unwilling to allow intimidation to undermine yet another Christian venture.

A federal court in Kentucky ruled in favor of Answers in Genesis — finding that the state cannot discriminate against an organization on the basis of religious content. The court went further to declare that the Ark Encounter is “obviously religious” and therefore due an exemption from secular hiring regulations. Kentucky’s current administration (under Governor Matt Bevin, an Evangelical Christian) declared that Kentucky will not appeal the federal decision and has been even-handed in its support of the Ark Encounter.

Not to be deterred, many secular organizations continued to protest the building of the Ark and misrepresent the nature of the tax incentives it has earned. One local atheist group staged protests at the exit off Interstate 75 and tried to erect billboards with the message, “Genocide and Incest Park — Celebrating 2,000 years of Myths” — something even the billboard companies would not allow.

**Intimidation of Schools**

Shortly after the Ark Encounter’s ribbon cutting on July 7th (a symbolic date because Genesis 7:7 tells of Noah and his family entering the ark), the Freedom from Religion Foundation (FFRF) tried other distracting tactics. It sent letters to 1,000 school districts in Kentucky, Tennessee, Ohio, Indiana, and West Virginia warning that field trips to the Creation Museum or Ark Encounter would violate a supposed constitutional separation between church and state. It even warned a local school band to refrain from playing at the Ark’s opening ceremony.

Unlike Kentucky’s former governor, who immediately retreated before the secularists’ intimidation, local and state officials were quick to refute FFRF’s position. Donald Ruberg, a Grant County Schools attorney and education law expert, made it clear that FFRF’s interpretation of the law is incorrect.

And, responding to FFRF’s letter, Kentucky’s Education Commissioner, Stephen Pruitt, reassured school districts that outside groups cannot dictate field trip policy. Public schools are still free to offer “off-site trips . . . directly related to the school curriculum . . . to maximize student learning by enhancing the classroom experience.” That guidance fits with Ham’s vision: “The Ark is a place you can bring non-Christian friends to a non-threatening but professional presentation of the Christian worldview.”

**A Sign of the Times**

As we witness the ascendency of militant secularism in our society, expect more private and governmental criticism of that Christian worldview, and less official encouragement and support. This should not come as a surprise. Jesus told us that ungodliness will be multiplied in the season of His return (Luke 17:26-30), leading to the final judgment of a wicked and unrepentant world.

Noah labored for many years building an ark to God’s specifications. An engineering marvel, it bore Noah, his family, and representatives from the entire animal kingdom through the flood.

Thanks be to God, Jesus is the vessel for deliverance from sin. And, just as only one door led to safety on the ark, there is only one way to escape the wrath to come. Those who receive Jesus Christ as their Savior, God Himself will seal for eternity. When Jesus said, “It is finished,” He completed the work that assures salvation (John 19:30). You simply have to put your trust in Him and get onboard before God closes the door and pours out judgment on the world.

If you visit northern Kentucky, make a point to experience the Creation Museum and the Ark Encounter. Marvel at the beauty and scale of the ark God instructed Noah to build. Gain appreciation for the ingenuity and tenacity of that exemplar of faith. And, most importantly, praise the One who saved Noah and his family from the flood — and still saves sinners like you and me from the wrath about to fall.

Tim Moore is an Assistant Evangelist for Lamb & Lion Ministries, and as such, he is available for speaking engagements. He is a Colonel in the US Air Force Reserve, a pilot instructor for UPS and a member of the House of Representatives of the Kentucky State Legislature.
Christianity Dying in America —

Robert P. Jones, the founder of the Public Religion Research Institute (PRRI) has just published a disturbing new book, The End of White Christian America (Simon & Schuster, 2016). In it he reveals that young white adults between the ages of 18 to 29 (the Millennials) are less than half as likely to be Christians as their white seniors age 65 and older. Nearly 7 in 10 American seniors (67 percent) are white Christians, compared to fewer that 3 in 10 (29 percent) young white adults.

The decline of Christianity among young whites has been “swift and dramatic,” and has occurred among Evangelicals as well as the old mainline Protestant denominations. White Evangelical Protestants comprised 22 percent of the population in 1988. That number had plummeted to 18 percent by 2016. In 1972 white Protestants’ median age was 46 years old; today it is 53.

Never before in U.S. history have so many Americans chosen to be unaffiliated with any particular religious group. The percentage of “nones” in this nation has absolutely skyrocketed over the past decade. Back in 2007, “nones” made up 16 percent of the population, but now that number has risen to 23 percent. “Nones” are defined as those who self-identify as atheists or agnostics, as well as those who say their religion is “nothing in particular.” Among Millennials, 35 percent can be classified as “nones.”

Prayer Under Attack —

Joe Kennedy, the football coach at Bremerton High School in Washington state, was fired last year for kneeling in mid-field after each game and offering a brief, silent prayer. First Liberty Institute in Plano, Texas — the nation’s largest non-profit law firm that specializes in defending Christian liberties — has come to his defense. One of the firm’s spokesmen said, “If the Constitution protects the right of a football coach to kneel in protest, it should certainly protect the right of a football coach to kneel in prayer.”

Last September after West Point won its first football game of the season, one of the coaches led the players in a prayer in the locker room. A video of it was posted on Facebook, and the Military Religious Foundation (which really is an anti-religion organization) immediately filed a complaint with the West Point administration. A spokesman for the American Family Association responded by observing: “The whole reason these young men are at West Point is to defend the Constitution and the freedoms that it gives. Imagine their surprise to learn that the military doesn’t have the same constitutional rights as the civilians they are protecting.”

Lt. Commander Wes Modder, a 19 year Navy chaplain was told by his base commander to refrain from offering prayers in the name of Jesus. This prohibition is becoming widespread throughout the military. After a long court battle, Modder was excused of all disciplinary actions and was given an honorable discharge.

In September of last year, the Florida High School Athletic Association refused to allow the players of two Christian schools to broadcast their pre-game prayer on the loudspeaker system. FHSAA officials said that because they were a state organization, they did not have the legal right to grant permission to broadcast the prayer. One of the schools has appealed to the federal courts.

Depraved Minds —

Social commentator, Dennis Prager, recently published an article in which he pointed to ungodly trends in what he calls “the godless West.”

- The Supreme Court of Italy has ruled that public masturbation is legal except in front of minors.
- The New York City Council voted that public urination is not a criminal act.
- The San Francisco City Council decided, by one vote, to continue the city’s ban on public nudity, not on the grounds of “decency” but on the grounds of “public health.”
- Teachers in Charlotte, NC were instructed to refrain from referring to their elementary school students as “boys and girls.” Instead, they were told to call them “students.”

Prager’s conclusion was that “these are all inevitable consequences of the death of belief in God and Judeo-Christian values, and of the Bible as society’s primary moral reference work.”
A Poem For Our Times —

God give us men!
A time like this demands
Strong minds, great hearts, true faith and
ready hands;
Men whom the lust of office does not kill;
Men whom the spoils of office cannot buy;
Men who possess opinions and a will;
Men who have honor; men who will not lie;
Men who can stand before a demagogue
And damn his treacherous flatteries
without winking!
Tall men, sun-crowned, who live above the fog
In public duty, and in private thinking;
For while the rabble, with their thumb-worn
creeds,
Their large professions and their little deeds,
Mingle in selfish strife, lo! Freedom weeps,
Wrong rules the land and waiting Justice sleeps.

This powerful poem which speaks of the need for godly leadership was written by Josiah Gilbert Holland (1819-1881). He was an American novelist and poet who helped found and edit Scribner’s Monthly magazine. This poem appeared in his book, *Wanted*, which was published in 1872. The poem was submitted by Bob Yawberg, a retired pastor, who lives in Roanoke, IN.

Homosexuality —

Dr. Paul R. McHugh is a psychiatrist, researcher, and educator. He is the University Distinguished Professor of Psychiatry at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

In a recent interview about homosexuality, he denied that there is any such thing as a “gay gene.” He pointed, instead, to environment being the most important factor. “If you are a man and you grow up in a rural environment, you are four times less likely to have homosexual relationships than if you grow up in a metropolitan area. That’s not left-handedness.” He continued: “If you are a lesbian, you are much more likely to be college educated. That’s not something that happens at conception.”

He further observed: “It’s amazing — I mean, 50 years ago homosexual behavior was a crime, and now we’re talking about same-sex marriage. Anyone who wants to stick with the tradition is accused of being a biblical literalist or a homophobic racist, because, in part, of the more fundamental change in our society towards permissiveness, that is, easy divorce, cohabitation and concubination, abortion, pornography and euthanasia. The issue of the homosexual is not separate. It’s all part and parcel of the pandemonium that the permissive movement has brought. We have just licensed all kinds of behavior. You see, what has happened with the permissive movement is that it has picked up on the Freudian confusion of desire and love, making them the same — with the implication, for example, that I must desire my mother. I don’t desire my mother. I love my mother.”

Jesus is Able! —

“I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able” (2 Timothy 1:12).

Able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think (Ephesians 3:20).

Able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work (2 Corinthians 9:8).

Able to aid those who are tempted (Hebrews 2:18).

Able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them (Hebrews 7:25).

Able to keep you from stumbling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy (Jude 24).

Able to keep what I have committed to Him until that day (2 Timothy 1:12).

(A meditation taken from the classic devotional book, *Daily Light*, by Jonathan Bagster who originally created the work for his family’s daily devotional time. It was published in 1875 and has remained in print since that time. Thomas Nelson publishes a version today that is edited by Anne Graham Lotz.)

Our National Debt —

Rick Kasel is the Stewardship Pastor at Shepherd of the Hills Church in Porter Ranch, California. He recently submitted the following statistics to help us better grasp the enormity of our national debt.

U.S. tax revenue: $2.2 trillion
Federal budget: $3.8 trillion
New debt: $1.6 trillion
National debt: $19.3 trillion
Recent budget cuts: $38.0 billion

Let’s convert the numbers from trillions and billions to thousands and pretend it’s a household budget.

Annual family income: $22,000
Money spent by family: $38,000
New credit card debt: $16,000
Credit card balance: $193,000
Total budget cuts: $385

Here’s another way of looking at our federal budget’s debt ceiling: Let’s say you come home from work and find there has been a sewer backup in your neighborhood, and your home has sewage all the way up to the ceiling. What do you think you should do? Raise the ceiling or pump out the sewage? 🚚
Speakers

**Tommy Ice** — Director of the Pre-Trib Study Center which he co-founded in 1994 with Tim LaHaye. He is a former pastor who has co-authored over 30 books, written hundreds of articles, and is a frequent conference speaker. He is also a very accomplished debater who frequently engages in public discussions in defense of the Pre-Trib Rapture. He lives in Justin, TX with his wife Janice. They have three grown sons.

**Andy Woods** — Pastor of the Sugar Land Bible Church in the Houston, Texas area. He also serves as a professor of theology at the College of Biblical Studies in Houston. He is a prolific writer on Bible prophecy topics and is a frequent and popular conference speaker. He has been featured in Lamb & Lion videos and television programs. He and his wife, Anne have one daughter.

**Don Perkins** — Founder, director and evangelist of According to Prophecy Ministries, located in the San Diego, California area. The only full time black evangelist in the United States who focuses entirely on the teaching and preaching of Bible prophecy. He is a frequent guest on television programs and is a much sought after conference speaker. He and his wife, Marie, are the parents of two daughters.

**Glenn Meredith** — Pastor of the Brookhaven Church in McKinney, Texas. An outstanding preacher and Bible prophecy expert. He has led the Brookhaven Church for 34 years and is currently leading the church through a major building campaign. He is Dr. Reagan’s pastor. Glenn and his wife, Carol, live in McKinney and are the parents of a son and daughter.

**Dave Reagan** — A former professor of international law and politics. Founder of Lamb & Lion Ministries and serves as its Senior Evangelist. Host of the ministry’s TV program, “Christ in Prophecy,” which is broadcast nationwide. Author of many books about Bible prophecy. Expert on the Middle East which he has visited 45 times. Producer of many video teaching programs. He and his wife, Ann, are the parents of two daughters.

Banquet

The conference will kick-off on Friday evening with a banquet that will feature a concert by the highly acclaimed group called Brian Free & Assurance, followed by a keynote address that will be delivered by **Ed Hindson**, the Dean of Liberty University’s School of Religion. Dr. Hindson is the host of The King is Coming television program and is an eloquent Bible prophecy speaker.

Registration

The five Saturday sessions of the conference are free of charge, but seating is limited, so registration is required. To register, call 972-736-3567 between 8am and 5pm Central time, Monday through Friday, or register at our website: www.lamblion.com. For those desiring to attend the Friday evening banquet, concert and keynote address, there is a charge of $50 per person that must be paid at the time of registration for the conference.

Venue and Accommodations

The conference will be held at the Marriott Conference Center in Allen, Texas, a suburb of Dallas. The Marriott will also serve as the official conference hotel. A special room rate of $104 has been arranged. To reserve a room, call 214-383-1151 or 1-800-627-7468 and ask for the Lamb & Lion room block. We can provide you with a list of other hotels and motels in the area.

We look forward to seeing you at the conference! ✨
Brian Free is undeniably the most recognizable southern gospel tenor of our generation. Since 1982, he has been at the forefront of southern gospel music since first joining Gold City Quartet, then moving on to form his own group. While Brian and the group have enjoyed tremendous success in their musical careers, their first priority has and always will be their families. Brian and Pam have raised two sons, Ricky and Bryce, who are now heavily involved in the ministry. Ricky is a full-time songwriter, drummer, studio musician and produces all of BFA’s recordings. The group has recorded many of Ricky’s songs and continue to use his drumming talents on each of their CD’s. Bryce is a graduate of Belmont University (Nashville, TN) and creates the group’s graphic design and videography.

Bill Shivers (lead) resides in Temple, Georgia with his wife Michelle and their three children, Brittany, Sara and Brent. He has been singing gospel music since he was 19 years old. When asked why he is so animated when he sings, he replied, “When you sing for the King of kings and Lord of lords, that’s something to get excited about. You see, when Jesus touched my life, He gave me the joy that is unspeakable.”

From Sandersville, Georgia, Mike Rogers and his wife Bekki have two daughters, Coraline and Everlee. Mike joined the group in 2013 as their baritone singer, being selected over 300 other applicants. He previously was the lead singer for The Dixie Melody Boys.

The group’s outstanding bass singer, Jeremy Lile, recently had to retire due to health issues. They are currently looking for a bass singer to take his place, and they should have one when they sing at our annual Bible conference next summer.

Southern Gospel music has always been Brian Free’s first love, and fans have responded to his music by honoring him and the group at the Dove Awards for Southern Gospel Performance of the Year, “Say Amen,” in 2014 as well as “Long As I Got King Jesus” in 2006.

Brian Free and Assurance has made a number of notable television appearances, including TBN, Gospel Music Channel, Prime Time Country (TNN), Hee Haw (CBS), the Today Show (NBC), and 27 of the Gaither Video series. In the summer of 2014, BFA was chosen by the BBC to represent Elvis Presley’s love of Gospel Music on “That’s Alright Mama,” a Tribute to Elvis Presley with Brian’s arrangement of “Peace In The Valley.”

These accolades show the consistent response to BFA’s music, how God has used them, and how he will continue to use them. While the guys all come from different backgrounds, they all agree on one thing, and that is to use their God-given abilities to take the message of Jesus Christ to everyone they can. You can find their website at www.brianfreeandassurance.com.

The mission of Brian Free and Assurance is to lift up Jesus Christ through their music, see souls come to know the Lord as Savior and be an encouragement to believers across the nation and abroad. They believe in helping others grow in their walk with the Lord by forming exhorting relationships with their fans and investing in them at concerts. Everything is done for the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ. Brian, Bill and Mike are passionate about their calling and they are unashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
Interesting Guests

We have recently interviewed a number of very interesting guests on our television program. These include Terry James, Todd Strandberg, Avi Mizrachi and Steve Jaslow.

Terry James is a prolific Bible prophecy author. His latest book is about the Rapture. Specifically, he presents 15 reasons why he believes the Rapture could occur any moment. We are offering his book, *Rapture Ready or Not?* for a gift of $20 or more, including the cost of shipping.

Todd Strandberg is the founder of the very popular website called Rapture Ready (www.raptureready.com). Terry James helps Todd maintain the website.

Steve Jaslow is a Messianic Rabbi in Duncanville, Texas, a suburb of Dallas. He was born and raised in New York and came to know the Lord when he was introduced to Calvary Chapel in California and heard Hal Lindsey and Chuck Smith preach about Bible prophecy.

Avi Mizrachi is the foremost Messianic evangelist in Israel. He pastors a church in Tel Aviv and witnesses Yeshua throughout all of Israel.

New Outreach

We were delighted to be contacted recently by Mike Seay, the director of the Christian Biker TV network. He said that he really liked our TV program and the way in which our teachings are always biblically based. He invited us to place our program on his website, and we agreed to do so.

Video Production

We have issued a very important new video program called, “In Defense of the Pre-Trib Rapture.” It was produced in response to a very mean-spirited video that was recently released by a ministry in California that viciously attacked anyone they felt was responsible for the development of the concept of a Pre-Tribulation Rapture.

In this video, Dr. Reagan responds in a kind manner to all their attacks. In the process he interviews six Bible prophecy experts. This video shows clearly that the idea that the Pre-Trib Rapture was conjured up by some weird people in the early 19th Century is a total myth.

The video runs 90 minutes in length. It sells for $20, including the cost of shipping. You can order it through our website at lamblion.com, or you can call our office at 972-736-3567, Monday through Friday between 8am and 5pm Central time.

Television Broadcast Schedules

**National Networks:**

Daystar — Wed. 6:00pm CT, DirecTV 369, Dish 263, Cable, AT&T U-verse 563, Broadcast Stations, World Satellites, & Web Streaming (daystar.com).

TBN (The Trinity Broadcasting Network) — Tue. 3:30 CT, DirecTV 372, Dish 260, Cable, AT&T U-verse 560, Broadcast Stations, World Satellites & Web Streaming (www.tbn.org).

TCT — Sun. 7:30pm CT, DirecTV 377, ten broadcast stations in the Midwest, & Web Streaming (tct.tv).

NRB (National Religious Broadcasters) — Sun. 4:00pm CT, DirecTV 378 & Web Streaming (http://nrbnetwork.tv).

Upliftv — Mon. & Fri. 9:30am CT, DirecTV 379 (www.upliftv.com). The Dish satellite system will start carrying this network in December on a channel yet to be determined.

**Regional Networks:**

VTN (The Victory Television Network) — Covering the state of Arkansas. Tues. at 10:30am CT and Sat. at 2:00pm (vtntv.com).

Family Vision Network — Sun. 12:30am CT, Mon. 8:30am, and Wed. 7:00pm, Three Broadcast Stations and Cable throughout Southern Louisiana (familyvisiontv.com).

KSCE — Sun. 10:30am MT, Broadcast Station in El Paso, TX. DirecTV & DISH Local 38, Cable, AT&T U-verse 38, & Web Streaming (kscetv.com).

CFNT — Broadcast station in Wichita Falls, TX. Fri. 3:00pm CT (cfnt.org).

**Internet Networks:**

Our programs are available on demand on these websites.

HisChannel — HisChannel.com

LightSource — LightSource.com

YouTube — YouTube.com/user/ChristinProphecy

Vimeo — Vimeo.com

GodTube — GodTube.com via LightSource.com

DailyMotion — (European equivalent of YouTube.) DailyMotion.com/us

Lamb & Lion Ministries — LambLion.com

Christian Biker Network — BikerTV.org NEW!

We Need YOU As A Prophecy Partner!

Our Prophecy Partners serve as the financial foundation of this ministry. They are also our prayer warriors. Their faithful and generous donations and their fervent prayers are what make it possible for us to proclaim the soon return of Jesus worldwide.

We would like to invite you to become one of our Partners. All you have to do is make a commitment to pray for us regularly and provide us with a donation of $25 or more per month. In return, Dr. Reagan will send you a letter each month about the ministry’s activities, together with a gift such as a video program or a publication related to Bible prophecy.

The Lamplighter

January - February 2017
Ministry News

Schedule of Activities —

January:
- Nathan Jones does radio interviews with Pastor Vic Batista in Miami, FL (4,11,18,25).
- Dave Reagan attends the Acts 29 Board Meeting in Panama City Beach, FL (6).
- Dave Reagan at First Baptist Church of Dallas, TX Discipleship University Class (22).
- Dave Reagan at the Brookhaven Church in McKinney, TX (29 – evening only).

February:
- Nathan Jones does radio interviews with Pastor Vic Batista in Miami, FL (1,8,15,22).
- Dave Reagan at the Steeling the Mind Conference at the Danforth Hotel in Spokane, WA (25).
- Nathan Jones attends the NRB Christian Media Convention in Orlando, FL (February 27 thru March 2).

March:
- Nathan Jones does radio interviews with Pastor Vic Batista in Miami, FL (1,8,15,22,29).
- Lamb & Lion Board of Trustees Meeting in Allen, TX (4).

Israel Pilgrimage —

Our next pilgrimage to the Holy Land is scheduled for April 29 through May 10. Our Assistant Evangelist, Tim Moore, will host the tour. This is a great opportunity for you to increase your Bible knowledge and deepen your faith. It is a marvelous spiritual experience. The group will spend two nights in Tel Aviv on the coast of the Mediterranean Sea, two nights in Tiberias on the shore of the Sea of Galilee and six nights in Jerusalem. For more detailed information, check out our website at lamblion.com or call our office at 972-736-3567.

Recent Visitors —

We recently had a delightful visit with three men from Poland who are pictured above. In the early 1990s a great man of God named George Bajenski contacted Dr. Reagan and invited him to come to Poland and teach Bible prophecy. Dr. Reagan agreed, and while he was in Poland, he met a Christian pastor named Kazik Barczuk. This pastor had just discovered that he was Jewish. Dr. Reagan encouraged Kazik to step out in faith and form a Messianic ministry aimed at reaching Jews for Yeshua. Kazik did so. He formed the very first Messianic congregation in Warsaw and continues to shepherd it to this day. Traveling the States with George and Kazik is Kazik’s younger brother, Jan, who is on the staff of Pioneer Bible Translators.

Back in the 1980’s Dr. Reagan held two meetings at a great church in central Illinois that was pastored by a man named David Butts. In 1993, David and his wife, Kim, decided to step out in faith and establish Harvest Prayer Ministries located in Terre Haute, Indiana. Today, he continues heading up his prayer ministry while also serving as Chairman of America’s National Prayer Committee. He stopped by for a visit with Dave while he was in the Dallas area, and the two enjoyed renewing their friendship after not having seen each other for over 30 years. You can find his prayer ministry on the Internet at harvestprayer.com.

Missions —

We recently supplied Standfast Oyinna in Nigeria with funds to purchase the 2000 Toyota Jeep shown above. It will greatly facilitate his transport of relief supplies to the hundreds of Christian refugees he is caring for.
Do you want to understand the book of Revelation?

A dramatic, visually packed video presentation that takes the viewer through the book of Revelation chapter by chapter. The video is full of maps, diagrams, charts, still photos, animations and video footage. The theme is that the book of Revelation is not difficult to understand; rather, it is difficult to believe. Therefore, if you will believe it for its plain sense meaning, you will understand it. This video program makes common sense out of a book that most Christians think is indecipherable.

75 minutes long. $20, including the cost of shipping.

The second edition of Dr. Reagan’s chapter by chapter commentary on the book of Revelation. It is an easy to understand book designed for the layman. It reveals Revelations’s prophecies for the end times and also shows how the book is relevant to Christian living in the present. The book contains many charts and diagrams.

240 pages. $20, including the cost of shipping.

Special sale: Both the video and the book can be yours for $30, including the cost of shipping. This offer (#703) is good only through the end of March 2017. To order, call 972-736-3567 or place your order through our website at lamblion.com.