



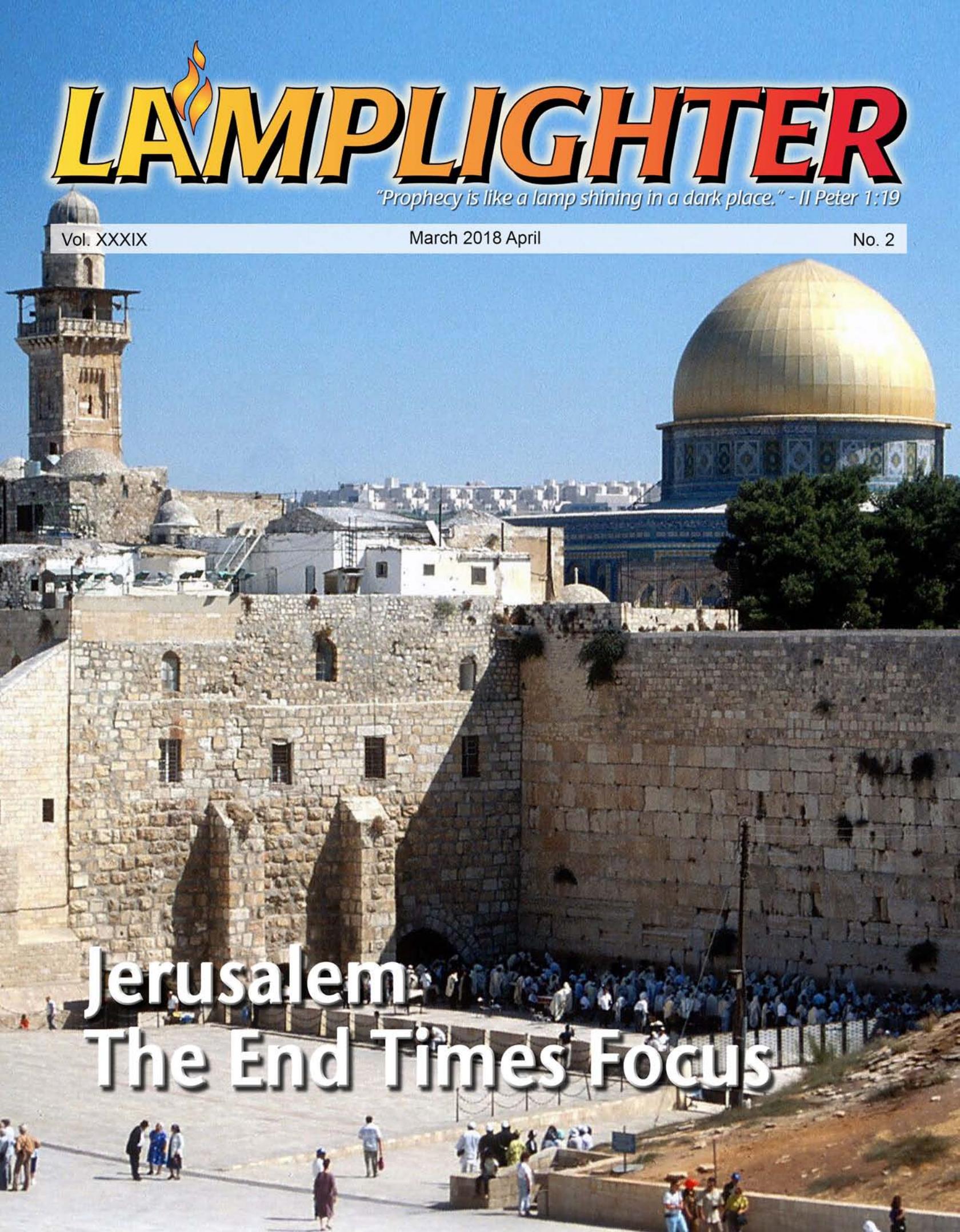
LAMPLIGHTER

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

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Jerusalem: The End Times Focus



Observations by the Editor

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My wife, Ann, and I are shown standing on the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem in 1985. We were celebrating our 25th wedding anniversary on this trip. Behind us, running north and south, is the Kidron Valley that separates the Mount of Olives from the Old City. At the left of Ann's right shoulder is the Eastern Gate.

Yearning for Home

Dr. David R. Reagan

I'm homesick for Jerusalem. It is my spiritual home, and I have not been able to go there for the past four years because of my wife's illness.

Between 1979 and 2014, I visited Jerusalem 45 times — either leading pilgrimage groups, directing video crews or speaking at special events.

I will never forget my first visit in the summer of 1979. My first morning in Jerusalem, I was so excited to be there that I got up at 4am and took a taxi to the top of the Mount of Olives. I sat down on the mount looking east over the Kidron Valley toward the Old City, the Temple Mount and the Eastern Gate. I took the glorious sight into my soul as I watched the first rays of sunlight come up behind me and illuminate the old walled city, reflecting off the gold dome of the Muslim shrine called The Dome of the Rock.

I listened to the sounds of an ancient city awakening. It seemed like there were roosters crowing everywhere, accented at times by the braying of donkeys. Horse drawn carts began passing in the streets.

The scenes, the smells and the sounds of those moments are etched into my memory.

But the most significant thing I ex-

perienced was spiritual. I sensed in my spirit that I was sitting at the center of the earth and the focal point of all history — where God became flesh and where He taught, healed, died and rose from the dead.

In fact, it occurred to me that I was sitting at the very site where He ascended into Heaven, and I was reminded of His promise to return to that very place on the Mount of Olives.

As I contemplated these things, I was suddenly struck with how fortunate I was to be living in the season of the Lord's return — a time when I could witness end time prophecies being fulfilled before my very eyes. I'm referring to things like the re-gathering of the Jewish people from the four corners of the earth, the re-establishment of their nation and the re-occupation of their ancient capital.

Jesus Himself told His disciples that in the end times when the Jewish people returned to their homeland and re-occupied their capital, He would be at the very gate of Heaven ready to return (Luke 21:24-28).

Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, in the city of our God, His holy mountain. Beautiful in elevation, the joy of the whole earth . . . the city of the great King.

Psalm 48:1-2

Cover photo by the editor.

Thank you, Mr. President, for recognizing Jerusalem as Israel's Capital.



In May of 2017 Donald Trump became the first President to visit the Western Wall while in office. (Photo from www.mirror.co.uk.)

Dr. David R. Reagan

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.

Zechariah 12:3 (NASB)

- Presidential candidate Bill Clinton promised to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and move the US Embassy from Tel Aviv to that city.
- Presidential candidate George W. Bush promised to do the same.
- Presidential candidate Barack Obama refrained from making any promise of recognition.
- Presidential candidate Donald Trump renewed the promise.

The promises of Clinton and Bush proved to be insincere, meaningless hot air. Obama's unwillingness to take a stand signaled that he would become the most anti-Israel president in American history. President Trump has kept his promise, and he is to be commended for doing so.

He made his proclamation on December 6, 2017. In it he stated, "This [recognition] is nothing more or less than a recognition of reality. It is also the right thing to do. It's something that has to be done."

The Jewish Tie to Jerusalem

Jerusalem became the capital city of the Jewish people 3,000 years ago when David conquered the city from the Jebusites (2 Samuel 5:6-7). During the 1,878 years that the Jewish people were evicted from the land (70 AD to 1948), Jerusalem never served as the capital of any Arab or Muslim nation.

It should also be kept in mind that when God gave the land of Canaan to the Jewish people, He gave them an eternal title to

it (Psalm 105:8-11). He warned them that if they were not faithful to Him, they would be evicted from the land (Deuteronomy 28:64-67). But He made it clear in His Word that if they were ejected, they would retain their title to the land, and one day they would be regathered to it (Ezekiel 11:14-17).

During the period of their dispersion from the land, it became a barren wasteland, with malaria-infested swamps along the Mediterranean coast and in the Upper Galilee. It was a land that no one coveted except the Jewish people.

Each year, at the end of their Passover meals, Jews worldwide would pray, "Next year in Jerusalem." And when they built their synagogues anywhere in the world, they made sure that they faced in the direction of Jerusalem.

The Return of the Jews to Their Homeland

The land of Palestine, as it was renamed by the Romans, remained sparsely populated. It was owned mainly by absentee landlords, and it was under the domain of the Ottoman Empire whose capital was Constantinople (modern day Istanbul). The people living in Palestine considered themselves to be Syrians.

When the Jewish people began to return to their homeland in the 1890s, they bought the land that God had already given them in perpetuity, and they paid inflated prices for it. The Arabs laughed all the way to the bank over the foolish Jews who were willing to purchase such worthless land.

The Arabs were unaware of a prophecy contained in Ezekiel 36:35 where God promised that when the day came for the Jews to return to their land, it would become "like the Garden of Eden."

And that is exactly what has happened since 1948 when the Jewish state was re-established. Today, the land of Israel is the bread basket of the whole Middle East, and the Arabs now want it back.

The Arab Claim to the Land

The Arabs also want the land because there is a teaching in the Islamic religion that says once a territory is conquered by Muslim forces, it forever belongs to Allah. Therefore, the Muslims of the Middle East believe they have a spiritual obligation to reconquer the land.

This is the reason the Israeli Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, has often said, “If the Arabs put down their weapons today, there would be no more violence. If the Jews put down their weapons today, there would be no more Israel.”¹

Arab Intentions

When the Muslim leaders of the Middle East say they want a “two-state solution,” they are lying. Their desire is not simply a separate Palestinian State. Their goal is the annihilation of Israel. Gaining a separate Palestinian State would serve only as a stepping stone toward their final attack on Israel, just as they have used their acquisition of Gaza as a launching pad for missiles.

It should be kept in mind that a Palestinian State already exists. It is called Jordan. Two-thirds of its citizens are Palestinians, and the nation occupies two-thirds of the area of Palestine that was offered to the Jewish people in the Balfour Declaration in 1917. It was only when the British became concerned about their access to Arab oil that they decided in 1921 to carve out this Arab state from the territory of Palestine.

The Jews were left with only a sliver of land (10,000 square miles) along the Mediterranean coast for the creation of a Jewish State. And they lost almost half of that sliver when the United Nations decided in November 1947 that the small piece of land left should be divided into two states — one Jewish and the other Arabic.

The Re-establishment of Israel

The Jews felt betrayed once again, but they reluctantly accepted the UN resolution and proceeded to proclaim the establishment of their state on May 14, 1948. The Arabs denounced the UN resolution, and five Arab nations attacked Israel when the Israeli declaration of independence was announced.

An important point that is usually overlooked is that the same day the Israelis declared the existence of their state, the Arabs could have legally declared the establishment of a second Palestinian state. But no, they wanted it all, so they attacked Israel, and the Israelis fought them to a standstill in the War of Independence (1948-1949).

The Status of Jerusalem

When the war finally ended, the Jordanians were in control of East Jerusalem, including the Old City of Jerusalem, which included the Temple Mount and the Western Wall. And although the Jordanians promised in the cease-fire agreements to allow the Jewish people access to the Western Wall, they immediately reneged on that agreement before the ink was dry. The

result was that no Jews were allowed to pray at the Western Wall between 1949 and 1967.

Despite the fact that the Israelis controlled only the western part of Jerusalem following the War of Independence, in December of 1949, the Israeli Cabinet proceeded to declare Jerusalem to be the capital of Israel.²

This proclamation was confirmed by the Israeli parliament, the Knesset, on January 23, 1950. The parliamentary resolution affirmed that “Jerusalem was, and always has been, the capital of Israel.”³

This statement was of course, historically correct. Jerusalem had served as the national capital of the Jewish people for more than a thousand years, from the time of King David to 70 AD when the city was destroyed by the Romans and the Jews were dispersed worldwide. Thereafter, the city served as the heartfelt spiritual capital of the Jewish people until they once again acquired possession of it in 1967.

The Re-unification of Jerusalem

When the Six Day War broke out in June of 1967, the Israelis warned the Jordanians not to get involved. But they ignored the warning and attacked Israel. They were quickly defeated, resulting in Israel conquering all the Jordanian territory on the west bank of the Jordan River, including the entire city of Jerusalem.

Thirteen years following the Six Day War, which resulted in the re-unification of Jerusalem under Israeli sovereignty, the Knesset approved what has come to be known as “The Jerusalem Law.” Passed on July 30, 1980, the law declared that “Jerusalem, complete and united, is the capital of Israel.” The law also guaranteed the protection of all “Holy Places” within the city.⁴

The United Nations responded a month later in August with a Security Council Resolution which strongly condemned the Israeli “attempt to annex East Jerusalem.”⁵ It also called on all member states to reject the Israeli law and to withdraw their diplomatic missions from Jerusalem. The resolution passed 14-0, with the United States abstaining. Jimmy Carter was President at that time.

The Departure from Jerusalem

This Security Council resolution resulted in 13 embassies being moved from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv.⁶ All the rest of the embassies were already located in Tel Aviv. The American Embassy was established in Tel Aviv in 1949 since that was the original seat of the Israeli government. It had remained there even though the Israelis later shifted their governmental operations to Jerusalem.

In 1982, Costa Rica moved its embassy back to Jerusalem, followed by El Salvador in 1984.⁷ Arab nations responded by severing diplomatic, economic and cultural ties with the two countries. Since Trump’s recognition, Guatemala has announced that their embassy will be moved back to Jerusalem.⁸



Editorial drawing from *The Dallas Morning News*.

Other nations are expected to follow.

The steadfast refusal of most of the world's nations to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital and move their embassies there is an incredible insult to the Jewish people. It is really an expression of anti-Semitism since no other nation has been treated in such a shabby way. It is equivalent to some nation saying to the American people, "We do not recognize Washington, D.C. as your capital, so we are going to place our embassy in Chicago."

UN Anti-Semitism

This virulent anti-Semitism is expressed regularly in United Nations resolutions condemning Israel for imagined crimes, while reckless rogue nations like Iran and North Korea are ignored. It has also been expressed in recent resolutions by UNESCO.

For example, in October of 2016, UNESCO backed a motion nullifying Jewish ties to the Temple Mount and the Western Wall.⁹ Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu responded by claiming the resolution was a "delusional decision." He added, "To declare that Israel has no connection to the Temple Mount and the Western Wall is like saying that China has no connection to the Great Wall of China or that Egypt has no connection to the Pyramids."¹⁰

The following year, in May 2017, UNESCO went even further. The organization passed a resolution denying that Israel has any legal or historical rights anywhere in Jerusalem!¹¹ And, as if to poke a finger in Israel's eye, they passed this resolution on Israel's Independence Day!

Congressional Action

In 1995, the US Congress got fed up with the inaction on the issue of recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. Our Presidents kept kicking the can down the road, and our State Department was (and still is) dominated by Arabists who had no interest in urging the recognition of Jerusalem and the move of our embassy. So, on October 23, 1995, Congress passed the Jerusalem Embassy and Relocation Act, calling for the relocation of our embassy to Jerusalem no later than May 31, 1999.¹²

The act called for Jerusalem to remain an undivided city and for it to be recognized as the capital of the State of Israel. The vote in favor of the law was overwhelming. It was adopted by the Senate 93 to 5, and by the House, 374 to 37.¹³ The act provided that, beginning in October 1998, the president could suspend recognition and the move of the embassy by signing a waiver every six months saying "such suspension is necessary to protect the national security of the United States."¹⁴

President Clinton refused to sign the bill, but he was also reluctant to veto it. He allowed it to become law without his signature. He and his State Department considered the law to be an unconstitutional infringement of the president's right to conduct foreign policy. Subsequent presidents and their counselors felt the same way. It is interesting to note that of the 22



President Trump displays his recognition of Jerusalem document with Vice President Pence standing in the background.

presidential suspensions between 1988 and the fall of 2009, only George W. Bush's issuances included the following wording: "The Administration remains committed to beginning the process of moving our embassy to Jerusalem."¹⁵

Presidential Reluctance vs A Spiritual Reality

In addition to their constitutional objections to the law, our presidents (both Democrat and Republican) have believed that the recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital would endanger the peace process. This fear is, of course, an

unfounded one since there has never been any credible "peace process" in the Middle East.

What our political leaders have failed to understand is that the Israeli-Arab conflict is not a political one capable of a political solution. It is, instead, a spiritual conflict that can be traced back 4,000 years to the time of Abraham when his family split between the descendants of his two sons, Ishmael and Isaac. This is a conflict that will be resolved only when Jesus, the King of kings, returns to rule over all the world from Jerusalem.

Further Congressional Action

President Trump's proclamation was preceded by a unanimous resolution passed by the Senate on June 6, 2017, commemorating the 50th anniversary of Israel's reoccupation and unification of Jerusalem in the Six Day War of 1967.¹⁶

That resolution, which was sponsored by both the Republican and Democrat leaders of the Senate (Mitch McConnell and Charles Schumer), reaffirmed the Jerusalem Embassy Act of 1995, which stated that Jerusalem should remain a united city and should be recognized as the capital of the State of Israel, with the US Embassy located there.¹⁷

Reactions to Trump's Recognition

Reaction to Trump's bold move came quickly from around the world:

The United Nations — Predictably, the Secretary-General of the UN, Antonio Guterres, stated that, "Jerusalem is a final status issue that must be resolved through direct negotiations between the two parties . . . I want to make it clear: there is no alternative to the two-state solution. There is no Plan B."¹⁸ The entire UN followed suit on December 21, 2017, by passing a General Assembly non-binding resolution that condemned Trump's recognition of Jerusalem. The vote was 128 to 9. Thirty-five nations abstained and 21 did not vote.¹⁹

Ayman Odeh — The Israeli-Arab political leader of the Arab List in the Israeli parliament, declared. "Trump is a crazy pyromaniac who is capable of setting the entire region on fire with his madness."²⁰

Theresa May — The British Prime Minister provided a typical bureaucratic response when she characterized Trump's move as "unhelpful to peace in the region."²¹

Emmanuel Macron — The new Prime Minister of France

dismissed the announcement as “a unilateral decision.”²²

The Arab League — Convened three days later in Cairo and denounced the decision, calling it “dangerous and unacceptable” and a “flagrant attack on a political solution.”²³ They proceeded to call upon the nations of the world to recognize the State of Palestine and East Jerusalem as its capital. (East Jerusalem includes the Old City, which is the location of the Temple Mount and the Western Wall.)

Israel Rabbis — A group of 250 Israeli rabbis sent a letter to President Trump thanking and praising him for his decision. Specifically, they said, “We are confident that you will be remembered in the history of the Jewish people forever as one who stood at the forefront and was not afraid. May God’s promise to Joshua be fulfilled upon you: ‘Did I not command you, be strong and have courage, do not fear and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.’”²⁴ Rabbi Asaf Fried, an official spokesman for the United Temple Mount, saw Trump’s action as similar to the role played by the Persian king, Cyrus, who ended the Babylonian exile and helped with the building of the Second Temple.²⁵

The Palestinian Authority — Mahmoud Abbas, the President of the PA, denounced the decision, saying that it would motivate extremist groups to wage holy war.²⁶ The chief Palestinian negotiator, Saeb Erakat, said Trump’s decision “disqualified the United States to play any role in any peace process.” He added, “President Trump just destroyed any policy of a two-state solution.”²⁷

Recep Erdogan — The President of Turkey said his country would not tolerate the recognition of Jerusalem as Israel’s capital. “Jerusalem is our red line. Any steps against Jerusalem’s historic status and holiness are unacceptable.”²⁸

Benjamin Netanyahu — The Prime Minister of Israel received the President’s proclamation with great joy and appreciation, saying, “The President’s decision is an important step toward peace, for there is no peace that doesn’t include Jerusalem as the capital of the State of Israel.” He then added, “President Trump has inscribed himself in the annals of our capital for all time. His name will now be linked to the names of others in the context of the glorious history of Jerusalem and our people.”²⁹

Mike Huckabee — Former Governor of Arkansas and former presidential candidate, strongly endorsed the decision with these words:³⁰

For over two decades American presidents have talked the good talk on Israel. But when it’s come to taking action, they’ve hesitated . . . instead of standing with our ally and recognizing its right to call Jerusalem its capital. Today, President Donald Trump did what his predecessors didn’t have the courage to do . . . In so doing, he set two great examples for us — how to make good on promises and how to treat your friends.

Robert Jeffress — Pastor of First Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas, and a Trump spiritual adviser, issued a statement that

read:³¹

Jerusalem is and should be recognized as the capital of Israel. It is David’s capital, the site of the first and second temples, the focus of the historians’ accounts, the psalmists’ songs and the prophets’ visions. It is the place where Jesus, a Jew Himself, was crucified and where He was resurrected. It is the place where He will set foot again on earth at His Second Coming. President Trump has demonstrated true leadership today by recognizing Jerusalem as the legitimate capital of Israel. President Trump is a modern-day profile in courage.

The Biblical Perspective

The Bible makes it crystal clear that in the end times, the Jewish people will be regathered to their homeland in unbelief (Isaiah 11:10-12), their state will be re-established (Isaiah 66:7-8), and they will reoccupy their historic capital of Jerusalem (Zechariah 8:7-8).

In His last discourse to His disciples, Jesus said that one of the key end time signs that would point to His return would be the return of Jewish sovereignty over Jerusalem (Luke 21:24).

The Hebrew prophet, Zechariah, also foresaw that the claim of the Jewish people on both their land and Jerusalem would be disputed by the Gentile nations of the world. He prophesied that the whole world would come against Israel (Zechariah 12:2-3).

Ever since the re-establishment of the State of Israel in May of 1948, the nation has been the focal point of world politics, and the status of Jerusalem has been the center of the controversy. The United Nations originally wanted to internationalize the city. The Vatican has laid claim to it. The Arabs demand that they be given exclusive sovereignty over it. The European Union, joined today by the UN, wants to divide it between the Jews and the Arabs.

President Trump’s act of recognition has inflamed the debate and the hatreds that are rooted in Satanic anti-Semitism. In that regard, his action has led to a partial fulfillment of Zechariah 12:2-3, but not to its complete fulfillment.

The fulfillment of the prophecy must await the day when *all* the nations of the world, including the United States, turn against Israel. That reality portends two possibilities: 1) That Trump will ultimately reverse course, or 2) That his successor will do so.

Future Relations with Israel

What could cause Trump to turn against Israel? His pride in being the ultimate deal maker. He believes he can negotiate a peace between Israel and the Palestinians. Like all presidents before him, he will quickly discover that the Palestinians have no real interest in peace. They will remain intransigent, refusing to make any concessions — refusing, in fact, even to recognize the existence of Israel.

When Trump hits this brick wall, he will most likely do what his predecessors have done. He will start putting the heat on the Israeli leaders, arguing that they owe it to him to make major

concessions, such as surrendering half of Jerusalem. And when the Israelis dig in their heels and refuse to budge, it is likely the Great Deal Maker will turn his wrath on them.

The other possibility, and the most likely one, is that any liberal Democrat succeeding Trump will pick up where Obama left off in his zeal to undermine the Jewish state. Remember that Obama interfered in Israel's elections in an attempt to defeat Netanyahu. He engineered a UN resolution condemning Israel's right to any of the so-called "occupied territories." And he conspired behind the back of Israel to make a deal with Israel's number one enemy, Iran — a deal that is enabling Iran to continue with the development of nuclear power. And all the while, Obama was mouthing support of Israel!

Israel's Future

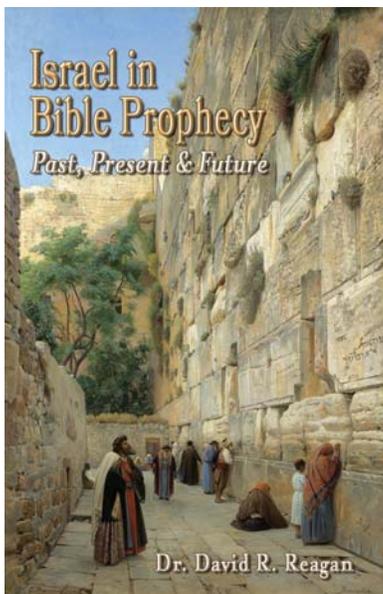
Some dark days lie ahead for Israel, but the Bible says, "Behold, He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep" (Psalm 121:4). It also says that in the end times Israel will be like David against Goliath and that the nations that come against Israel will be destroyed (Zechariah 12:8-9).

And there is a prophecy that should stand as a sober warning to our nation. It is contained in Joel 3:2. This prophecy states that any nation in the end times that gets involved in trying to divide the land of Israel will suffer the judgment of the Lord.

So, pray for President Trump to stand firm in his support of Israel, and pray for his eyes to be opened to the spiritual realities behind the political facade. ❖

Note: The references for this article are contained in the copy posted on our website.

A Book to Help You Better Understand Israel



This new book by Dr. Reagan presents a fascinating survey of end time prophecies about Israel that are being fulfilled before our very eyes, indicating clearly that we are living in the season of the Lord's return.

It begins by taking a look at four prophecies that were fulfilled before the beginning of the 20th Century.

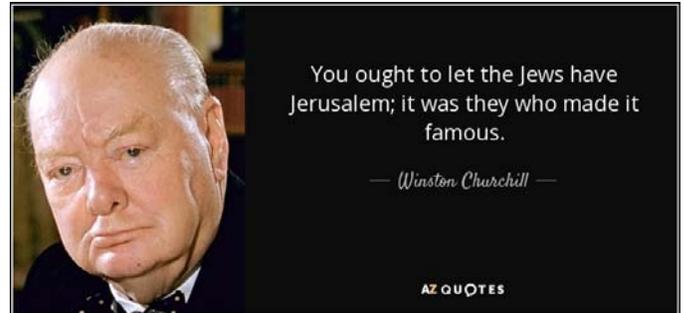
In the second section, it focuses on seven prophecies that were fulfilled in whole or in part during the 20th Century.

The concluding section presents the prophecies yet to be fulfilled in the Tribulation and the Millennium. The book runs 250 pages and sells for \$20, including the cost of shipping. ❖

Jerusalem Quotes

"The victory march will continue until the Palestinian flag flies in Jerusalem and in all of Palestine." — Yasser Arafat (1929-2004), leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

"Without Jerusalem, the land of Israel is as a body without a soul." — Elhanan Leib Lewinsky (1857-1910), a Russian Hebrew writer and Zionist.

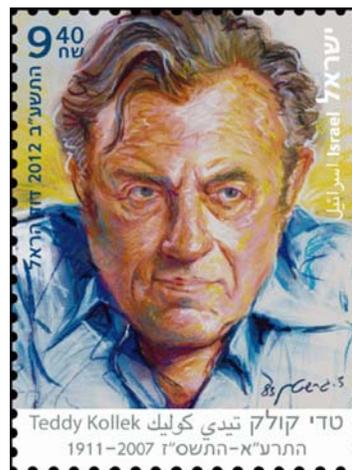


"No city in the world, not even Athens or Rome, ever played as great a role in the life of a nation for so long a time, as Jerusalem has done in the life of the Jewish people." — David Ben-Gurion (1886-1973), the first Israeli Prime Minister.

"How great is the Lord! How much we should praise Him. He lives upon Mount Zion in Jerusalem. What a glorious sight! See Mount Zion rising north of the city high above the plains for all to see — Mount Zion, joy of all the earth, the residence of the great King." — Psalm 48:1-2 (LBP).

"We promise you that we will not cede a single part of Palestine, we will not cede Jerusalem, we will continue to fight and we will not lay down our arms." — Ismail Haniyeh (1963), former Prime Minister of the PA and a senior leader of Hamas.

"I often hear people accuse Israel of 'Judaizing Jerusalem.' That's like accusing America of Americanizing Washington, or the British of Anglicizing London. You know why we're called 'Jews'? Because we come from Judea." — Benjamin Netanyahu (1949), Prime Minister of Israel.



"For three thousand years, Jerusalem has been the center of Jewish hope and longing. No other city has played such a dominant role in the history, culture, religion and consciousness of a people as has Jerusalem in the life of Jewry and Judaism. Throughout centuries of exile, Jerusalem remained alive in the hearts of Jews everywhere as the focal point of Jewish history, the symbol of ancient glory, spiritual fulfillment and modern renewal. This

heart and soul of the Jewish people engenders the thought that if you want one simple word to symbolize all of Jewish history, that word would be 'Jerusalem.'" — Teddy Kolek (1911-2007), Mayor of Jerusalem from 1965 to 1993. ❖

Jerusalem in History and Prophecy



Aerial view of the Temple Mount within the Old City of Jerusalem.
(<https://www.bibleplaces.com>)

Dr. David R. Reagan

On September 25th of 1995, a very special Jewish new year began. It was the year designated by the government of Israel as the 3,000th anniversary of the conquest of the city of Jerusalem by King David.

The City's Significance

There is no other city on the face of the earth as important as the city of Jerusalem. All the other great cities of the earth — New York, London, Moscow, Paris, and even Rome — pale by comparison. What other city can claim to be “the city of God” or “the city of the Great King”? (Psalm 48).

God loves Jerusalem, and He intends to dwell in it eternally. Psalm 68:16 says that God has desired the mountain of Zion “for His abode” and that He intends to “dwell there forever.” Psalm 132:13-14 contains a similar promise: “The Lord has chosen Zion; He has desired it for His habitation. “This is my resting place forever; here I will dwell, for I have desired it.”

When you read these kinds of statements, you can understand why Jerusalem is identified in Ezekiel 5:5 as “the center of the nations” and in Ezekiel 38:12 as “the center of the world.”

Jerusalem is where the Son of God shed His precious blood. It is where Jesus ascended into Heaven. It is where Jesus will return to be crowned King of Kings. It is the city from which Jesus will reign over all the nations of the world.

And Jerusalem will be the scene of history’s last battle when Satan rallies the nations at the end of the Millennium and leads them in revolt against the Lord. Finally, Jerusalem is where God Himself will come to reside eternally with the Redeemed.

It is no wonder that Jerusalem has always been an important topic of Bible prophecy.

The City in History

But before we look at Jerusalem in prophecy, let’s briefly remind ourselves of its history.

The first mention of Jerusalem in the Bible is probably found in Genesis 14:18 where we are told that Abraham paid tithes to the King of Salem, Melchizedek. (This was about 2,000 years before the time of Jesus.) Although we cannot know for certain that this is a reference to Jerusalem, it seems likely because Abraham was in that geographical area, and the city’s name, Salem, is the root word of the city’s later name, Jerusalem.

Later, we are told that Abraham went to Mt. Moriah, just north of ancient Jerusalem, to offer his son, Isaac, as a sacrifice (Genesis 22:2). That mountain was later incorporated into the city of Jerusalem during the time of Solomon, becoming the Temple Mount.

The first mention of the city by the name of Jerusalem is found in Joshua 10:1 where we are told that the city’s king, Adonai-zedek, led a coalition of kings against Joshua and was defeated in the famous battle in the Valley of Ayalon when the sun stood still. However, the city of Jerusalem must not have

been taken at this time by the Israelites because after the death of Joshua, we are told in Judges 1:8 that “the sons of Judah” captured the city, “struck it with the edge of the sword, and set it on fire.”

But the Jebusites must have reclaimed it because it is later referred to in Judges 19:10 as the city of Jebus. And it was still in Jebusite hands two centuries later when David conquered it and made it the capital of the Jewish nation.

The story of the city’s capture by David and his forces is recorded in 2 Samuel 5 and 1 Chronicles 11. According to these passages, David reigned from Hebron for seven years while he served as king of Judah. But after he was crowned the king of both Judah and Israel, he decided to move his headquarters northward to a more central location.

The city he selected was Jebus, which was also known as “the stronghold of Zion” (2 Samuel 5:7). After he conquered it, the name was changed to Jerusalem, but it was often referred to as “the city of David” (2 Samuel 5:9). This occurred 1,000 years before the birth of Jesus — or some 3,000 years from where we stand now in human history.

Now, with this brief historical sketch as a backdrop, let’s take a look at the Bible prophecies that relate to Jerusalem.

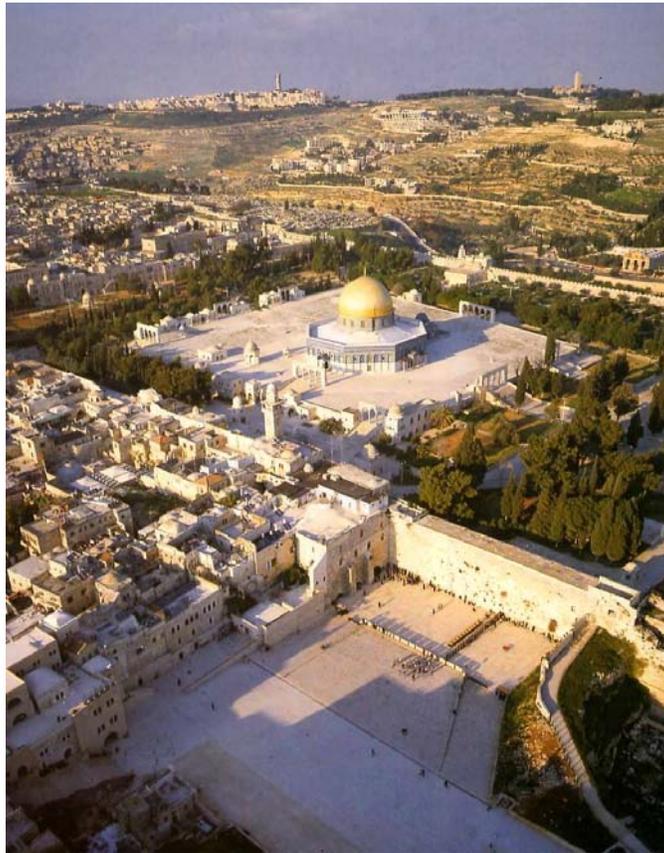
Jewish Jerusalem

The first set of prophecies relating to Jerusalem are those that pertain to it as a Jewish capital before the time of Jesus. Keep in mind that the kingdom of David split into two nations after the death of his son Solomon.

The northern nation of Israel was totally apostate from the beginning. It was given over to idolatry and did not have one righteous king in its 200 year history. In sharp contrast, the southern nation of Judah was blessed with many righteous kings. It was also blessed with Jerusalem as its capital. And it was blessed even more by having the Shekinah glory of God residing in its Temple.

But despite all these blessings, the people of Judah became proud and began to drift in their relationship with God. As the nation began to turn its back on God, the Lord mercifully raised up prophets to warn them and call them to repentance. When they refused to repent, the prophets prophesied that the city of Jerusalem would be destroyed and the nation would be taken into captivity.

The first of these prophecies was delivered by Micah in the 8th century BC — about 130 years before the city was actually destroyed. Micah spoke out against both political and religious corruption, saying, “Her [Judah’s] leaders pronounce judgment



The Temple Mount looking toward the east, with the Mount of Olives in the background. (Source unknown.)

for a bribe, Her priests instruct for a price, and her prophets divine for money” (Micah 3:11).

He lamented the fact that every time these leaders were called to repentance lest the city be destroyed, they always responded arrogantly by observing, “Is not the LORD in our midst? [A reference to the Shekinah in the Temple.] Calamity will not come upon us.” To which Micah replied: “Therefore, on account of you, Zion will be plowed as a field, Jerusalem will become a heap of ruins, And the mountain of the temple will become high places of a forest” (Micah 3:12).

One hundred years later Jeremiah also warned that Jerusalem would be destroyed (Jeremiah 7: 12-15). Speaking for the Lord, Jeremiah declared, “I will make Jerusalem a heap of ruins, a haunt of jackals; and I will make the cities of Judah a desolation, without inhabitant” (Jeremiah 9:11).

When the people refused to believe his words and even sought to kill him as a traitor, Jeremiah reminded them of the previous prophecy of Micah (Jeremiah 26:18). But the people still refused to repent, and the prophecies were fulfilled in 587 BC when Nebuchadnezzar destroyed the city and its temple.

Consider one of the saddest statements in the Bible:

And the Lord, the God of their fathers, sent word to them again and again by His messengers, because He had compassion on His people and on His dwelling place; but they continually mocked the messengers of God, despised His words, and scoffed at His prophets, until the wrath of the Lord arose against His people, until there was no remedy. — 2 Chronicles 36:15-16

Gentile Jerusalem

After 70 years of captivity in Babylon, the Jews returned to Jerusalem and rebuilt their temple and their city. But they refused to receive their Messiah, and so the Lord gave a second group of prophecies relating to a period of time when Jerusalem would fall under Gentile control.

Jesus Himself delivered these important prophecies during the last week of His life. As He was sitting on the Mount of Olives talking with His disciples, He pointed at Jerusalem and its temple and said: “As for these things which you are looking at, the days will come in which there will not be left one stone upon another which will not be torn down” (Luke 21:6).

Later, in the same discourse, Jesus stated that the city would be surrounded by armies which would proceed to desolate it (Luke 21:20). Referring to the Jews in the city at that time, He

said, “they will fall by the edge of the sword, and will be led captive into all the nations . . .” (Luke 21:24a).

These prophecies were fulfilled 40 years later when the Romans, under Titus, completely destroyed the city, including the Temple.

But notice, Jesus made another prophecy about the city in the same speech: He said, “Jerusalem will be trampled under foot by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled” (Luke 21: 24b). The Romans were followed by the Byzantines, and they were succeeded, in order, by the Muslims, the Crusaders, the Mamelukes, the Turks, the British, and the Jordanians.

Just as Jesus prophesied, the city suffered under a long period of Gentile control until June 7, 1967 when — for the first time in 1,897 years — the Jews regained sovereignty over the city. It was on that day that Rabbi Shlomo Goren went to the Western Wall and cried out: “I proclaim to you the beginning of the Messianic Age.”

The third group of prophecies about the city explain why he said these words.

End Time Jerusalem

Four hundred years before Jesus, the prophet Zechariah gave a remarkable series of prophecies about the events that would affect Jerusalem in the end times, right before what we call the Second Coming of the Messiah. These prophecies are recorded in Zechariah 12:1-6. Specifically, the prophecies are as follows:

- The Jews will be back in the land of Israel.
- The Jews will be back in the city of Jerusalem.
- The Israeli army will be like a “firepot among pieces of wood.”
- Jerusalem will become the focal point of world politics.
- All the nations of the world will come together against Jerusalem.

Please note that these are prophecies that have been fulfilled! The Jew is back in his land and his city. Despite the minuscule size of the nation, its military forces are considered to be among the most powerful in the world. They have truly been like a “flaming torch among sheaves” in war after war.

Israel became the focal point of world politics in 1973 during the Yom Kippur War. When the West came to the aid of Israel, the Arabs pulled an oil boycott (remember those long gas lines?), bringing the Western nations to their knees. The result was that all the nations of Western Europe withdrew their support from Israel and either took a neutral position or else lined up with the Arabs in their determination to annihilate the Jewish state.

Concerning the last prophecy cited above, in just the past few years, all the nations of the world, including the United States, have come against Israel, forcing her into a suicidal



Prime Minister Netanyahu’s response to President Obama’s claim that Israel’s settlement plans for East Jerusalem were unhelpful to the peace process (November 15, 2010).
(<http://ubiquitous8thoughts.over-blog.com>)

appeasement policy of trading land for peace.

Zechariah lists some other end time prophecies regarding Jerusalem that have not yet been fulfilled. These exciting prophecies are contained in Zechariah 12:8-10. They state that the Lord will defend Jerusalem against its enemies and that the result of all the end time battles will be the repentance of a great remnant of the Jews “who will look on Me whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over Him, like the bitter weeping over a first-born” (Zechariah 12:10). In re-

sponse, the Lord will save this remnant by opening a fountain of salvation in Jerusalem “for sin and for impurity” (Zechariah 13:1).

In chapter 14, Zechariah describes in detail how the Lord will rescue Jerusalem at the last moment when there appears to be no hope: “then the Lord will go forth and fight against those nations, as when He fights on a day of battle” (Zechariah 14:3). He will speak a supernatural plague that will kill all the enemy soldiers in their tracks (Zechariah 14:12). Verse 9 tells us that the outcome of this momentous day will be the coronation of Jesus as “king over all the earth.”

This wonderful promise introduces us to the fourth category of prophecies that relate to Jerusalem.

Millennial Jerusalem

A glorious day is coming for Jerusalem, for when the Lord returns, He is going to reign over all the world for a thousand years, and His reign of peace, righteousness and justice will be based in Jerusalem: “For from Zion will go forth the law, even the word of the Lord from Jerusalem” (Isaiah 2:3 and Micah 4:2).

Jerusalem will be the political, economic and religious center of the world (Micah 4:1-7).

The city will be very different from the one we know today. The great worldwide earthquake that will occur when Jesus returns will radically change the earth’s topography, including that of Jerusalem (Isaiah 40:4, Revelation 6:12 and Revelation 16:18). The Bible indicates that Jerusalem will be greatly expanded in area and will be lifted up higher, perhaps becoming the highest point on the earth (Zechariah 14:10).

The city will be considerably enlarged and greatly beautified, and the most magnificent temple in history will be built in the midst of it under the personal supervision of the Messiah. That temple is described in detail in chapters 40-48 of Ezekiel.

The glory of Jerusalem in those days is best summarized in Isaiah 62:1-7 where we are told that the city will be “a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord” (verse 3). The prophet also says the city will be “a praise in the earth” (verse 7). For the first time in its long bloody history, it will be a refuge of peace (Joel 3:16-17 and Zephaniah 3:14-20).

It will also be the greatest wonder on the earth. Think about it — it will house the Prince of Peace and will contain His temple. It will also serve once more as the home of God’s spectacular Shekinah glory. But that glory will not be contained within the Holy of Holies. Incredibly, Isaiah says that the Shekinah will hover over the whole city of Jerusalem as a cloud by day and a fire by night, providing a canopy to protect the city from heat and rain (Isaiah 4:5-6).

Zechariah says the nations of the world will send delegations to Jerusalem each year to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles. And the last verse of Ezekiel says that in that day the name of the city will be changed from Yerushalyim to Yahweh-Shemmah, meaning “The Lord is there” (Ezekiel 48:35).

Eternal Jerusalem

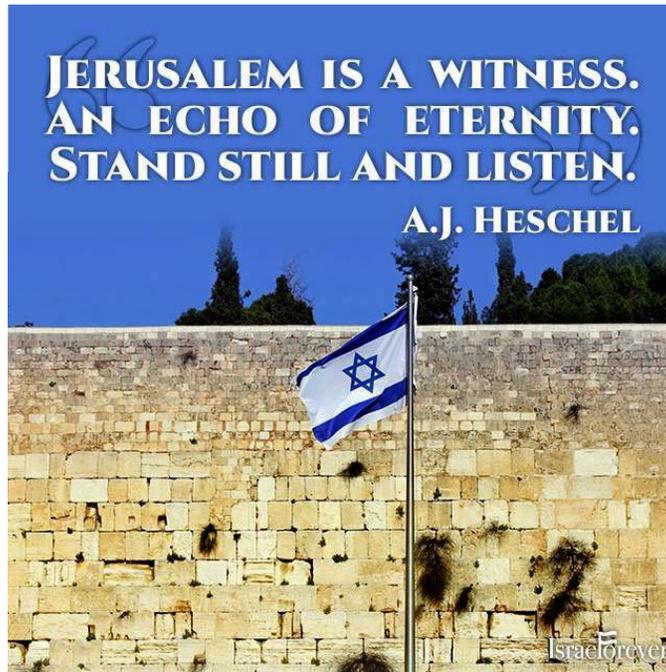
Finally, the prophets tell us that the millennial Jerusalem will be replaced by a new Jerusalem which Jesus is preparing in Heaven now.

At the end of the Millennium, after the earth has been renovated by fire, the new Jerusalem will be lowered down to the new earth, and the Redeemed, in their new glorified bodies, will live in this new city in the presence of Almighty God, who will come down from Heaven to live forever with His children (Revelation 21:1-3). This very clear teaching from the book of Revelation comes as a shock to a lot of Christians who have always been taught that they will live eternally in an ethereal world call Heaven.

What an amazing city this new Jerusalem will be! The Apostle John devotes 24 verses to its detailed description in Revelation 21 and 22. It will be a 1,500 mile cube with 12 foundations made of precious stones — each one named for one of the 12 apostles. Likewise, there will be 12 pearly gates, one named for each tribe of Israel. The walls will be made of jasper. The city itself will be pure gold, like clear glass.

Have you ever stopped to think about the shape and size of this phenomenal city? For example, why will it be 1,500 miles high? The reason, of course, is that in our glorified bodies, we will be immune to the laws of gravity. We will thus be able to utilize all the space of the city, and not just the ground floor.

And how much space will we have? Will there be enough for all the Redeemed? Henry Morris, founder of the Institute for Creation Research, has calculated the space that would exist for each person, assuming that at least 50% of the area would be used for common purposes (streets, parks, recreation centers, etc.) and assuming that 20 billion people have been saved in the course of human history. The result is astounding: each person would have a cube with 75 acres on each surface! That’s certainly more space than most of us have now.



But the best part of this city will not be its beauty or its spaciousness. The best part will be the personal presence of Jesus our Lord and Almighty God, the Father. Revelation 22 says we will eternally serve God in this city and that we will “see His face.” I think that means we will have intimate, personal fellowship with our Creator eternally. And that causes me to stand in awe.

The Message for Us

What does all this mean for you and me? Does it have any relevance to Gentile Christians today? The answer is that it certainly does.

First, it means that God is faithful. Just as He has fulfilled prophecies about Jerusalem in the past and is doing so now, we can be confident that He will continue to do so in the future. There is going to be a millennial Jerusalem and there is going to be an eternal one, and we, the Redeemed, are going to be richly blessed by both — beyond anything we can imagine.

Second, the record of Jerusalem in prophecy means that God is sovereign. He is in control. Even when everything seems to be out of control here on earth, we can be assured that God has the wisdom and power to orchestrate all the evil of Mankind to the triumph of His will in history.

Third, God is calling you and me to live with an eternal perspective. In Hebrews 11 we are told that Abraham lived by faith as “an alien” in this world, “looking for the city which has foundations, whose architect and builder is God” (Hebrews 11:9-10). Isn’t that interesting? Abraham did not consider his arrival in the Promised Land to be the fulfillment of God’s promises to him. Rather, he lived yearning for his ultimate reward, namely, life with God in an eternal city — the new Jerusalem.

In Hebrews 11:13 it says that all the heroes of the faith who are listed in that chapter lived their lives as “strangers and exiles on the earth” because they desired the city which God had prepared for them. The book of Hebrews concludes with a reminder to us that in this world we do not have a lasting city. Instead, we are to seek “the city which is to come.”

Jesus is adding rooms to that city right now to accommodate the members of His body (John 14:1-4). Let us therefore live as aliens and strangers in this world, never becoming comfortable with it. Let us live looking for the coming of the Lord (2 Timothy 4:7-8).

And let us live praying for the peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122:6), realizing that in doing so we are really praying for the return of the Lord, for Jerusalem will never experience true peace until the Prince of Peace returns.

Maranatha! ❖

Illuminated Calligraphy



Richard Trefrey

The ancient art of illuminated calligraphy almost died with the invention of the printing press in 1440. It is an art that calls forth all the skills of the calligrapher and the painter.

A modern day practitioner of this beautiful form of art is Richard Trefrey who lives together with his wife, Carol, at a senior retirement residence located next to the ocean just north of Boston, in Revere, Massachusetts.

Richard focuses on the production of illuminated scripture verses like the one below. He calls these “Lamplighters,” based on Psalm 119:105 which reads: “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.”



Pray for the peace of
Jerusalem: they shall
prosper that love thee.
Psalm 122:6
RICHARD TREFREY, SEPT. 2017

Richard has written, “As a Christian artist, I am mindful of my duty before God to share my faith.” In addition to producing these works of art, he spent many years conducting what he calls “visual concerts” where he lectured about his art while illustrating it with projected images. He no longer does this due to health reasons.

On his website, Richard has posted many examples of his art. The website also contains some very well written articles about his life and his ministry. Here’s how he sums up the purpose of his ministry:

“I want to tell people everywhere of the glorious freedom Jesus brings. It is a freedom that transforms and sanctifies a God-given talent into an instrument in His hands. I want to tell them that God is not against the visual arts. Why should He be? He is the greatest artist of all, the one true Creator of Beauty.

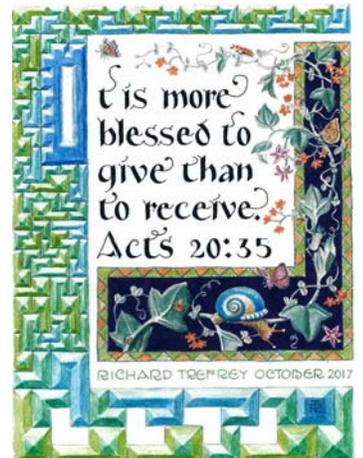
“In sharing my gift I wish to share the message that Jesus has not come to enslave, but to liberate. When surrendered to Him, human creativity may become one part of the creative power of the Holy Spirit, an expression of the character of God, the Great Artist.”

Richard contacted this ministry recently in response to our TV program and Dr. Reagan’s new book about Israel. That’s how we became acquainted with his exceptional ministry.

Contact Information

You can find many samples of Richard’s art on his website at www.trefreyarts.com. You can download both pictures and articles free of charge. You can also contact Richard via email at lamplightersonline@gmail.com. You might inquire about his willingness to take a consignment to produce an illuminated version of your favorite scripture.

His very latest production is an illuminated version of Acts 20:35. ✚



The Jerusalem Song

Dr. David R. Reagan

Notice that I did not title this article, "A Jerusalem Song." Rather, I have titled it "*The Jerusalem Song.*"

Many songs have been written about Jerusalem, but when Jerusalem in song is mentioned, I am convinced that nine times out of ten people think of only one song, whose official title is "The Holy City." It is the song that is played on tour buses in Israel when pilgrims get their first sight of Jerusalem, and the version of it that is played is always the one by Christian singer, John Starnes.

This song has been played so many times to so many Holy Land pilgrim groups from all over the world that John Starnes would be a multi-millionaire today if he had received one dollar for each time it was played.



Frederic Weatherly

The song was written in 1892 by a remarkable Englishman named Frederic Weatherly (1848-1929). He was a lawyer, author, lyricist and radio broadcaster. It has been estimated that he wrote the lyrics to at least 3,000 popular songs, one of the best known being "Danny Boy."

The lyrics were set to music by an equally remarkable man named Michael Maybrick (1841-1913). He was an English composer and singer, best known under his pseudonym Stephen Adams. He became famous as a baritone opera singer. Later in life he switched to performing popular music, much of which he had composed.

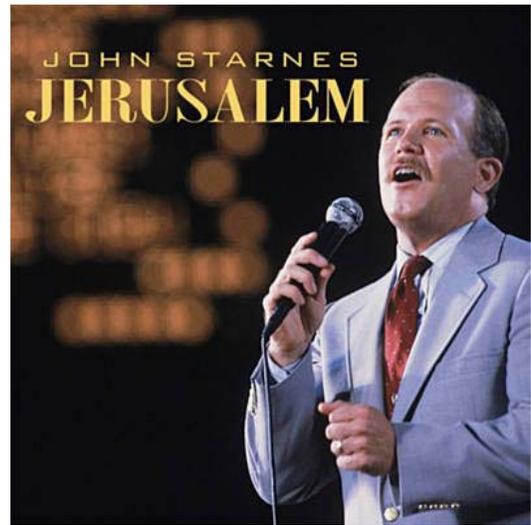
Maybrick was a keen amateur sportsman, being a cricketer, a yachtsman and a cyclist. He also served as captain in a regiment of the British Army Reserve called The Artists Rifles. His songs gained extraordinary popularity during his lifetime. Of all the songs he composed, "The Holy City" remains the best known.



Michael Maybrick

The modern day singer who is responsible for making this song known worldwide is John Starnes. He is a high tenor who sang inspirational gospel music until his retirement in the late 1990s.

He has recorded 15 albums, and has been featured in seven of the "Gaither Homecoming" videos. Starnes is also a licensed pilot who flew for Jimmy Swaggart Ministries in the 1980s. He ultimately became the lead male singer for the Swaggart Ministries, alongside the featured female vocalist, Janet Pascal. He and his wife of 30 years, Teresa, live in Nashville, Tennessee. They are the parents of two daughters.



One night while I was sleeping,
I had a dream so fair,
I stood in old Jerusalem
Beside the temple there.
I heard the children singing,
And ever as they sang,
I thought the voice of angels
From Heav'n in answer rang:

"Jerusalem! Jerusalem!"
Hark, how the angels sing,
"Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna to your King!"

And then I thought my dream was changed,
The streets no longer rang,
Hushed were the glad hosannas
That the little children sang.
The sun grew dark with mystery,
The morn was cold and chill,
As the shadow of a cross arose
Upon a lonely hill.

Jerusalem! Jerusalem!
Lift up your gates and sing,
"Hosanna in the highest,
Hosanna to your King."

And once again my dream was changed,
New earth there seemed to be,
I saw the Holy City
Beside the crystal sea.
The light of God was on its streets,
The gates were open wide,
That all who would, might enter,
And no one was denied.
No need of moon or the stars by night,
Or the sun to shine by day,
For it was the New Jerusalem,
That would not pass away.

"Jerusalem! Jerusalem!"
Sing, for the night is o'er!
"Hosanna in the highest,
Hosanna for evermore!" ✚

Jerusalem in the Heart

“Next Year in Jerusalem!”

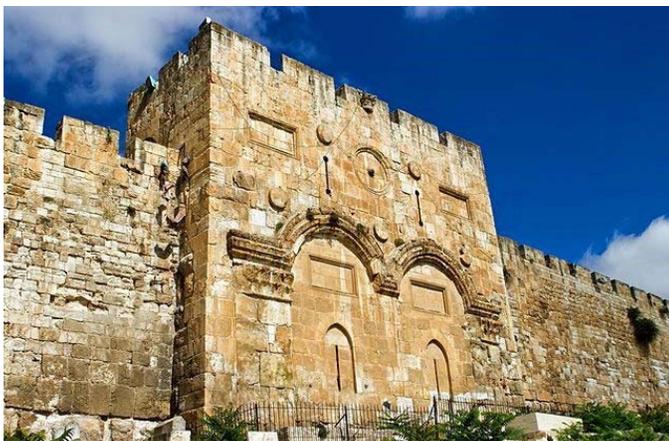
Tim Moore

That annual conclusion to the Seder feast of Passover has pointed Jewish hearts toward their ancient capital city for centuries. It has also become an apt phrase to capture my thrill of anticipation as I look forward each year to leading our Lamb & Lion pilgrimages to Jerusalem.

The first time I arrived in Jerusalem was at the end of a long day trekking south from the Galilee. Our group had stopped at Tel Megiddo and Beit She’an and spent several hours exploring those ancient ruins in the midday sun. We settled in for a long bus ride down the Jordan River valley and then made our ascent up to Jerusalem.

As we climbed from far below sea level in the Jordan rift to the heights of Jerusalem, the air became cooler. On the eastern side of the Jerusalem foothills, the Judean wilderness was stark in its barrenness. When the bus entered the final tunnel that would lead us to the brink of the city itself, our guide started to play the beautiful song, “The Holy City,” by Frederick E. Weatherly. His timing was perfect, because just as the bus emerged from darkness into the light and the shining city of Jerusalem came into view, the first stanza concluded with:

*Jerusalem! Jerusalem!
Lift up your gates and sing,
Hosanna in the highest!
Hosanna to your King!*



Over the next several days, we spent time in and around the magnificent city of Jerusalem. We visited sites throughout the New City of Jerusalem and wandered through the maze of streets and alleys inside the Old City. We circled around the walls erected by Suleiman the Magnificent and prayed at the Western Wall where Jews once again gather to pray and rejoice. Amidst all the fascinating places we still visit on our pilgrimages today, three have special meaning to me.

Two places resonate with Jesus' passion and resurrection. The first is the Garden of Gethsemane, located across the Kidron Valley to the east of the Temple Mount. It was there that Jesus went with three of His disciples to pray on the night He was betrayed. It was among the olive trees of Gethsemane that He prayed for the Father's will to be done instead of His own.

The second is the Garden Tomb. It offers a glimpse of Golgotha even as its empty tomb echoes the proclamation that death itself could not hold our Savior.

My favorite place in all Jerusalem is an overlook on the Mount of Olives. That vantage point offers a panoramic view of the Old City's Eastern Gate and the whole Temple Mount. Suleiman sealed that gate in the mid-1500s to prevent the Jewish Messiah from entering the city. But, He will definitely enter the Eastern Gate. The Bible tells us that when Jesus returns to earth He will first step foot on the Mount of Olives. The mountain will split apart and a valley will open up toward that Eastern Gate. Then, the King of Glory — the Lord of hosts — will enter the gate to take His rightful place on the throne of David!

The first time I stood on the Mount of Olives, all my studies made me feel as if I had been there before — and I knew that I would be there again. My heart thrilled with anticipation of seeing the Lord descend upon that mountain, and I looked forward to joining the multitudes who will once again shout, “Hosanna to the Son of David; Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest!” (Matthew 21:9).

We know that 1,000 years after His return in glory, Jesus will judge every person whose name is not found in the book of life. He will cast them into the lake of fire. Then, He will reveal the holy city of New Jerusalem which will be situated on the New Earth. That is where He will dwell among His people forever.

Jerusalem is mentioned specifically by name 811 times in the NASV Bible. It is referred to many more times through either inferences or poetic titles, like Ariel. It is the place God chose for Himself to put His name (1 Kings 11:36). It is where He motivated King David to establish His capital, and the place Jews have recognized as their rightful capital for 3,000 years. It is where Jesus was presented as an infant at the Temple, where He confounded the scribes with His wisdom as a young boy, and where He taught and manifested His power to heal. It is where He was crucified, where He rose from the dead, and where He will return to reign in glory. It is in anticipation of our righteous and worthy King that we are commanded to pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122:6) — for only when Jesus returns will Jerusalem know true and lasting peace.

Does your heart yearn to be in Jerusalem? Do you feel a tug toward your own eternal home — where you will dwell with the Lord forever? Do you hunger to see and experience the place where Jesus walked and ministered, and where very soon He will return to reign? If you do, pray for the motivation and determination to join us . . . “This year in Jerusalem!” ❖



Tim Moore praying at the Western Wall in Jerusalem.

Israel in the News

Population — “The Ettinger Report” recently stated that “in 2017, Israel is the only advanced economy and Western democracy endowed with a relatively high fertility rate, which facilitates further economic growth with no reliance on migrant labor.” Israel’s Jewish fertility rate in 2017 was 3.16 births per woman as compared to 1.84 in the United States, 1.60 in Canada, 1.57 in China, 1.50 in Germany and 1.46 in Japan. The replacement rate that is necessary to sustain population is 2.1. Nations like the U.S. and Germany have been able to maintain population growth due to immigration. The Israeli birth rate is proving to be a surprise to demographers who have consistently predicted that the large Arab birth rate would one day produce a population in Israel in which the Jews would be a minority. But in 2017 the Arab birth rate within Israel was less than the Jewish. It was 3.11. In fact the Jewish birth rate in Israel exceeded the rates in Saudi Arabia (2.1), Kuwait (2.4), Syria (2.5) and Morocco (2.1). In addition to the high birth rate among Jews in Israel, the nation is also blessed by a continuing stream of Jewish immigrants coming from all over the world. There were 40,000 Jews in Israel in 1900. That number had increased to 600,000 by the end of World War II. Today it stands at 6.5 million — more than the number killed in the Holocaust. Worldwide, the Jewish population is estimated to be 15 million. So, almost half the Jews in the world are now living in Israel.



Mahmoud Abbas

Palestinian Lies — Mahmoud Abbas, the President of the Palestinian Authority continues to spout lies about Israel and its Jewish heritage. In his 2017 Christmas greeting, he referred to Jesus as “a Palestinian messenger”! In the past, he has denied that the Jews ever had a temple located on the Temple Mount. He is also a Holocaust denier. In a recent letter he had the audacity to declare “that the bulk of the Palestinian Christian population fled Bethlehem and its environs

because of Israel.” The fact of the matter is that Christians lived peacefully and safely in Bethlehem until the Palestinian Authority took over the city in 1995. It was only then that the Christians began fleeing the area due to Muslim harassment, persecution and death threats. A further indication of how off-the-wall Abbas is in his thinking, he recently accused Israeli Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, of using racist language because he referred to jailed Palestinian terrorists as “terrorists.” The biggest and most blatant lie being propagated by Abbas today is that “Israel is an Apartheid state.” The truth is that about 1.5 million Palestinians live within Israel and have full citizenship rights. They can vote, they can serve in the Israeli parliament, they have full employment rights, they have freedom of speech and religion, they are recipients of all welfare rights, like education, healthcare and retirement. The only distinction that exists is that everyone in Israel, both men and women, are required to serve in the military, three years for men and two for women. That



requirement does not apply to Israeli Arabs. They can volunteer to serve, but they are not required to do so. It is the Arabs who practice Apartheid. There is not one Arab state that will allow Jews to live within its borders. Yet, the United Nations is constantly condemning Israel’s Apartheid policies! What was it that Hitler’s propaganda minister, Joseph Goebbels, said? “If you tell a lie big enough and often enough, people will begin to believe it.” The Palestinian people have been plagued throughout their modern history by corrupt and deceitful leaders like Abbas. It is one of the reasons that Israel’s most famous diplomat, Abba Eban, once said, “The Palestinian leaders have never missed an opportunity to miss an opportunity.”

Palestinian Attitudes — Unlike the Palestinian leaders, the Palestinians living within Israel have a much more positive view of their Jewish neighbors. In a poll commissioned by *Israel Hayom*, the nation’s newspaper with the largest circulation, 73 percent of Israel’s Arab citizens said they “feel a sense of belonging in the Jewish state,” and 60 percent said they were “proud to be Israelis.” This high support for Israel among Israeli Arabs is consistent with similar polls conducted in recent years. The reason for this positive response is that most of the Arabs living within Israel are secular, and they realize that they have much greater freedoms than exist in any Arab nation. It is the super-orthodox Muslims in Israel who are discontented since they desire a state dominated by Sharia Law.

Other News Items —

- In 2017 the Palestinian Authority compensated terrorists and their next of kin with payments of over \$347 million! Specifically, terrorists sentenced to three to five years in prison received from the Palestinian government \$580 per month, which equals the average Palestinian income. The PA pays terrorists sentenced to 20 years or more in prison over \$2,800 per month. In addition to these base amounts, terrorists who hold Israeli citizenship are given added bonuses. Abbas has steadfastly refused to stop making these incentive payments to terrorists.
- The Trump Administration has announced that it is freezing \$125 million in grants to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) that were designated for Palestinian refugees. When the announcement was made, President Trump tweeted, “We pay the Palestinians HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS a year and get no appreciation or respect . . . with the Palestinians no longer willing to talk peace, why should we make any of these massive future payments to them?”
- Both the United States and Israel have announced that they are withdrawing from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) due to its obsession with passing inane resolutions condemning Israel for anything and everything. Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu stated that “UNESCO has turned into the theater of the absurd, and instead of preserving history, it distorts it.”
- A leading Kuwaiti journalist, Abdullah Al-Hadlag caused a sensation in December when he declared on national TV that Israel is not an “occupying power” and, in fact, the Jews have returned to their homeland legitimately. ❖

Will Islam Conquer the World?

Nathan E. Jones



Islam, for all intents and purposes, appears poised to conquer the world.

Islam's growth rate has risen 500% over the last 50 years as their birth rate dwarfs the birth rates of all other religions. Today's 1.5 billion Muslims make up 22% of the world's population and control 65 nations. Between the twin strategies of holy war (jihad) and immigration, Muslims are expected to exceed 50% of the world's population and surpass Christianity as the largest religion by the end of the 21st Century.

By all indications and by every statistic, Islam will indeed conquer the world. Churches will eventually become mosques. Your children will eventually become Muslims, or die for refusing. That is the direction the world is plunging towards right now.

Or, is it?

I would argue, no. Praise the Lord! Islam has an end according to the Bible. The Bible foretells of three prophetic wars that are coming soon which I believe will absolutely end Islam as a viable religion in the end times.

1) The Psalm 83 War

The first end time war, the Psalm 83 War, strikes at the geographical heart of Islam. It's a war in which Israel will have to deal with its hostile bordering neighbors: Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Gaza, and Jordan.

Israel and these nations repeatedly getting into skirmishes cannot last much longer. Israel needs to do something about living under the constant threat of missile attack. And, according to Psalm 83, when this prophecy is fulfilled, Israel will control these border nations and gain a brief peace.

2) The Gog-Magog War (Ezekiel 38-39)

The second war which follows is found in Ezekiel 38-39. The Gog-Magog War is one of the best described prophetic wars in all the Bible, covering two whole chapters. This exciting war will be a major world-changer.

The Gog-Magog War foretells how Russia, Iran, Turkey, Libya, all those 'Stan nations, and the other countries that form an outer ring of Islamic nations will war against Israel. Israel appears undefeatable after the Psalm 83 War, and so all of those nations combine into a coalition in order to make an attempt to plunder and destroy Israel.



What happens? Will Israel have any chance of standing up against these hordes of uncountable armies? Israel appears doomed!

But, the Bible reveals that God will make His appearance back on the earth, not physically, but He Himself will personally annihilate the invading hordes, so that there's no denying God is behind this divine rescue. God intervenes using biblical types of judgments such as fire and brimstone, making the armies turn on each other, and being decimated by earthquakes. God even rains fire down on the homelands of these invading nations. The entire coalition of Islamic armies, along with Russia, are almost utterly destroyed.

For a religion that's based on having to destroy one's enemies for Allah's honor, it will be difficult when Allah loses every single last days' war big time. I believe these end time wars are going to gut Islam before the Tribulation begins.

3) The Conventional War of the Tribulation (Revelation 6)

The third prophetic end time war should finally hammer the nail in the coffin of Islam.

Despite Islam's might in the world today, there's no mention of Islam during the Tribulation. Rather, we read in the Bible that during the Tribulation four religions will exist. First, there will be Christianity, made up of those Tribulation Saints who accepted Christ after the Rapture. Second, there will be Judaism. The Antichrist spends much of his time persecuting Tribulation Saints and Jews.

Third, there will be what is called the Harlot religion, made up of a conglomeration of world religions. She seems in charge, but the Antichrist is really just using her for his own ends. True to form, halfway through the Tribulation, the Antichrist destroys the Harlot religion and sets himself up as the God of the fourth and final pagan religion.

Now, if you can't have another religion competing with you, especially a militaristic religion like Islam which demands there are no other religions besides itself, what do you do with it? You have to annihilate it.

And, the biggest populations of Muslims in the world, which most don't realize, live in Indonesia and Bangladesh and other eastern nations outside of the Middle East. So, more than likely, the Antichrist is going to spend the beginning of his reign annihilating Islam so that there's no competitor to setting himself up as the true global ruler.

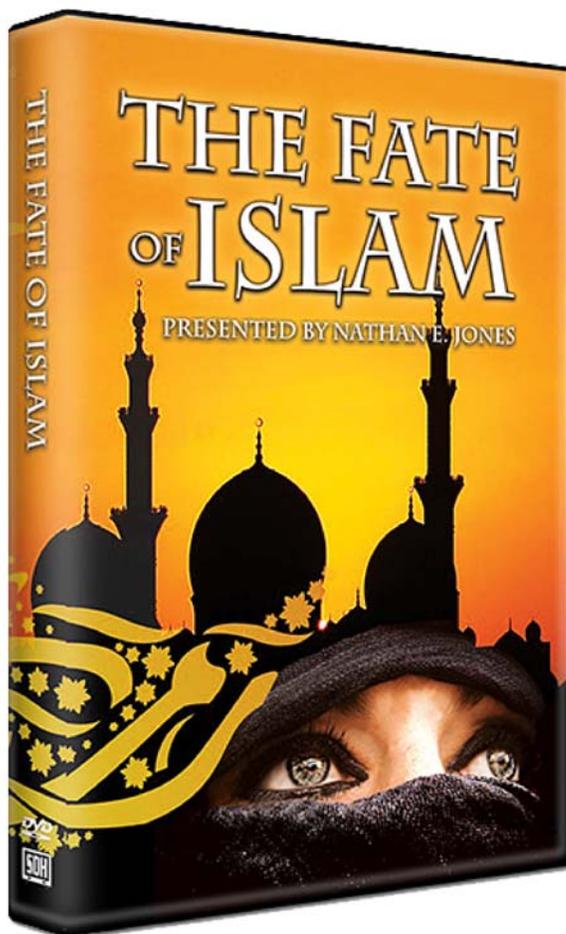
How tragic that 1.5 billion people will die from the Antichrist's Conventional War. But after that war, the Islamic map should be wiped clean.

In Conclusion

Looking at these three biblical end time wars, I can only conclude that Islam doesn't have much of a future left to it. A Psalm 83 War could break out at any minute, along with the destruction of Damascus (Isaiah 17). The Gog-Magog alliance of nations already exists. Europe is so fragile that they are ready for a strong leader to take over. Everything has lined up and is in place.

And so, according to the Bible, Islam has very little time left to it. ❖

The Complete Message



The article about Islam by Nathan Jones was taken from his one hour video, "The Fate of Islam." The video presents his message in far greater detail.

Nathan presented this message for the first time at our regional conference last year in Frankfort, Kentucky. It was received with overwhelming enthusiasm, and many of the conference attendees asked him to put it in the form of a video album. He proceeded to do so, and the message is accompanied by all the PowerPoint slides that he used in his conference presentation.

To understand Islam's goals and ambitions, Nathan takes the viewer into the mind of the Muslim. He points out the reasons behind their actions, and explains the Koranic teachings that fuel the terrorist attacks and rising death toll. You'll be taken back in time to the Seventh Century to discover the foundations of Islam, why it has spread so rapidly over the centuries, and what apocalyptic scenarios Muslims believe will prophetically occur in the near future.

As a bonus, the video concludes with an explanation of six different ways you can reach a Muslim for Jesus Christ.

The album sells for \$20, including the cost of shipping. You can place your order through our website at lamblion.com, or call our office at 972-736-3567, Monday thru Friday, 8am to 5pm Central time. Please consider sharing this vitally relevant teaching with your pastor and Bible study group. ❖

Edward Fudge

Dr. David R. Reagan

A dear friend and spiritual mentor, Edward Fudge, lost his long fight with Parkinson's on November 25, 2017. He was 73 years old.

Edward was a Christian theologian, Bible teacher, church leader and practicing attorney. He earned a graduate degree in biblical languages and a doctorate in law. He had books published by InterVarsity Press, Baker Book House, and Paternoster Press. His articles appeared in *Christianity Today* magazine and other periodicals. He maintained an international Internet ministry at www.EdwardFudge.com.

Like me, he had grown up in the non-instrumental Churches of Christ. And also like me, he fought long and hard against the sectarianism and legalism that characterized that group of churches during the 1940s and 50s. I chose to leave; he decided to stay and try to bring reformation from within.

A Challenge

I first encountered Edward in the late 1980s at a conference in Nashville, Tennessee. I knew nothing about him at the time. One day during the conference, as we were eating lunch together, he suddenly asked me about my view of Hell. I thought at the time that it was a very odd question. I responded by simply stating that I held the traditional viewpoint of Hell being a place of eternal torment for the unsaved.

Edward then asked me if I had ever studied the topic in detail, searching out everything the Bible had to say about it. I said, "No." And he said, "Well, I would challenge you to do so."

That's all that was said. Edward did not tell me his viewpoint, nor did he tell me he had just had a book published about the topic. He just planted a seed and left it up to the Holy Spirit to do the rest.

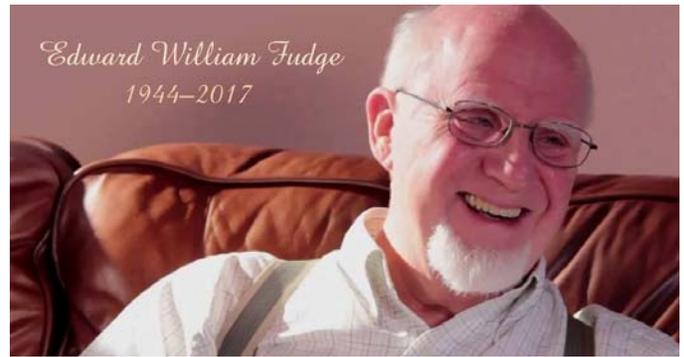
I took him up on his challenge, and the more I studied what the Bible had to say on the subject, the more intrigued I became, and the more difficult I found it to be to defend the traditional viewpoint.

Scriptural Breakthroughs

My first breakthrough came when I discovered that the immortality of the soul is not a biblical concept. Rather, it is rooted in Greek philosophy. The Bible says point blank that God alone is immortal (1 Timothy 6:15-16). Further, it states that the saved do not become immortal until the resurrection of their bodies (1 Corinthians 15:42 & 53). Never once does it say that the unsaved ever become immortal. Instead, it says they will "perish" (Psalm 1:6 and John 3:16), or be "destroyed" (2 Thessalonians 1:9), or suffer the "second death" (Revelation 20:14).

This was a very important discovery, for I have found that most people who believe in the traditional view of Hell feel that the suffering of the unsaved must be eternal since they are immortal beings, when the fact of the matter is that they are not.

The second turning point came for me when I discovered



Matthew 10:28 which states that God can kill both the body and soul in Hell. This statement was made by Jesus Himself. Why, I asked myself, would He make such a statement if it could not be a reality?

Reconciling Eternal Torment With Justice

The more I studied, the more uncomfortable I became with the whole concept of eternal torment because it simply did not line up with the Bible's insistence that our Creator is a God of Justice (Psalm 33:5, Isaiah 30:18, and Isaiah 61:8).

I kept asking myself, "How could a God of Justice submit an unsaved kid killed at age 16 to eternal torment?" It made no sense to me, and it soon became clear to me that this type of question is the reason that so many pastors seldom ever preach about Hell. They don't want to deny the traditionally accepted viewpoint, but they also do not want to endorse something that is so unpalatable.

I soon came to the realization that there is a difference in eternal punishing and a punishment with eternal consequences. The Bible also speaks of eternal judgment (Hebrews 6:2). Is that a judgment that continues eternally, or is it a judgment with eternal consequences? Likewise, the Bible speaks of eternal redemption (Hebrews 9:12). But this does not mean that Christ will continue the act of redemption eternally. That act took place at the Cross, once and for all. It was an eternal redemption because the result of the redemption had eternal consequences.

My Conclusion

I finally concluded that what the Bible really teaches is that the unsaved will be resurrected, judged of their works, condemned to Hell, suffer torment in proportion to their sins, and then be destroyed. In other words, they will experience a punishment with eternal consequences — not eternal punishing.

This view is called Conditionalism since it teaches that immortality is conditional on belief in Jesus as Lord and Savior. I have written extensively and in detail about this viewpoint. You can find my articles on our website at www.lamblion.com. I highly recommend Ed's classic book on the topic, now in its third edition. It is titled, *The Fire That Consumes*.

I believe the traditional view of Hell fails the biblical test. I consider it to be a holdover from the religious superstitions that characterized the Church of the Middle Ages when Hell was portrayed as a place where unbelievers are eternally tormented by demons.

I will be forever indebted to Edward Fudge for challenging me to study what the Bible has to say about this important topic. I have since challenged many others to do the same thing. ❖

A Fine Line

Beverly Taylor

(Editor's note: This devotional appeared in the Upper Room daily devotional magazine in September of 2017. This magazine is published in 33 languages and 100 countries around the world. It is being reprinted here with the permission of the editor. The devotionals published by the Upper Room are written primarily by laypersons from all over the world. Beverly Taylor, the author of this devotional, resides in Colorado. You can find information about the Upper Room publications at www.upperroom.org. This particular devotional deeply touched my heart due to the fact that for the past seven years my daughters and I have witnessed the deterioration of my wife's sight and the intensification of her dementia. In October of 2017, we were finally forced to move her to a memory care facility.)

My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

(Psalm 73:26 – NIV)

I watched my mother's independence fade each year as she aged. As her hearing became worse, she lost the ability to listen to the radio and the TV. A stroke compromised her vision, and the joy she experienced sewing soon disappeared. She stopped reading and writing. A broken hip, difficulty breathing, heart failure — her independence slipped away day by day.

I fervently tried to fix it all, to manage, to make things better, to buy this or that to help. For me, it was a desperate fight. But in the end, my efforts made little difference.

I needed God's help to see the fine line between caregiving and attempting to stop the inevitable. Over time, I recognized my mother's losses as part of her journey. As hard as it was, I realized I had to let go of trying to control her situation and trust that her devotion to God would see her through. And it did.

The psalmist says, "Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, my God" (Psalm 71:18). My mom trusted God through each devastating loss; and I tried, though imperfectly, to accept her losses and to trust God as well.

Prayer: Dear God, give us wisdom to let go and entrust those we love to you. Amen.



Ann Reagan and family at her Christmas party at the Grand Brook Memory Care Center in McKinney, TX.

Stand Still



The Father has a plan,
Though it's hard to see it now.
You feel you're walking all alone,
But He is there no doubt.
When the storm around you rages,
And you're tossed to and fro,
When you're faced with life's decisions,
Not sure which way to go,
Stand still and let God move.

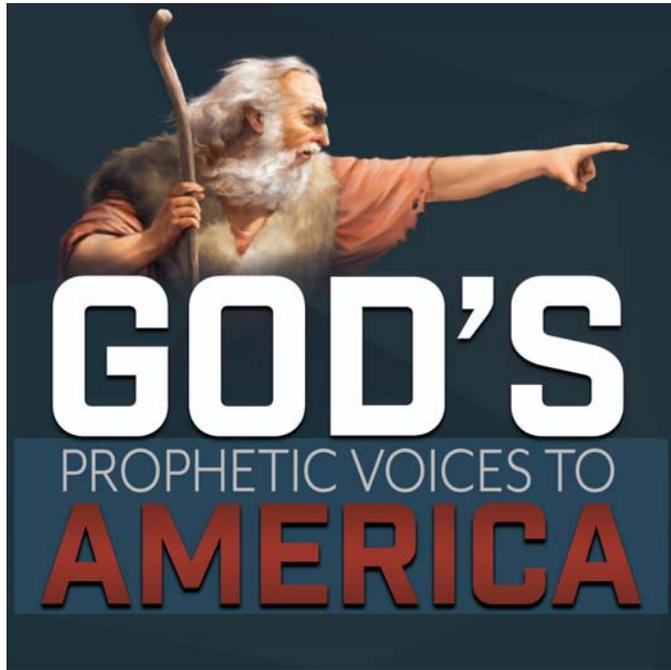
Standing still is hard to do.
When you feel you have reached the end,
He'll make a way for you.
Stand still and let God move.

When the enemy surrounds you,
And the walls are closing in,
When the tide is swiftly rising,
And you wonder where He's been,
Friend, there never was a moment,
When His arms weren't reaching out.
You can rest assured and be secure,
God is moving right now.

When you feel you have reached the end,
He'll make a way for you.
Stand still and let God move.
The answer will come,
But only in His time.
Stand still and let God move.
Stand still and let God move. ❖

(Written by: Chad Everett Gilbert, Ian R. Grushka, Stephen Lee Klein and Jordan I. Pundik. Lyrics © Universal Music Publishing Group.)

Ouz Annual Conference



Date: Friday evening, July 13, and all day Saturday, July 14.

Location: The Marriott Convention Center in Allen, Texas (a suburb of Dallas).

Cost: Free of charge.

We are very excited about the annual Bible conference we have put together for 2018.

We have pulled together some of the leading prophetic voices in America to share with you their biblical thoughts about where our nation stands today in its relationship with God.

The theme verse for the conference is Jeremiah 1:10 which reads, "Know for certain that I hereby give you [the prophetic voices] the authority to announce to nations and kingdoms that they will be uprooted and torn down, destroyed and demolished, rebuilt and firmly planted" (NET).

Changes in Format

For those of you who have attended our past conferences, we want to emphasize that we are changing our conference format this year. In the past, we have had a banquet on Friday evening which featured a musical concert and the keynote address for the conference. We charged for that banquet. All the sessions on Saturday were free.

HEAR

GROW

WORSHIP

CONNECT

Randy & Dawn Wills

- Robert Jeffress
- Jan Markell
- Bill Koenig
- Dave Reagan
- Billy Crone
- Jonathan Cahn

Southern Raised

972.736.3567 M-F, 8a-5p CST
JULY 13 & 14 2018
www.LambLion.com

FREE EVENT!
registration required
limited seating

This year we are dispensing with the banquet and opening up Friday evening to everyone.

Another format change is that we will have fellowship receptions with free lite food and drink on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning.

The Schedule

We will kickoff the conference on Friday evening with a 50 minute concert featuring a Southern blue grass band called *Southern Raised*. They are one of the most popular Gospel music groups on the scene today.

They will be followed by **Dr. Robert Jeffress**, who will deliver the keynote address. Dr. Jeffress is the pastor of First Baptist Church in Dallas and is one of our nation's leading prophetic voices.

On Saturday we have five outstanding speakers:

- **Bill Koenig:** White House correspondent and expert on Israel.
- **Jan Markell:** Founder of Olive Tree Ministries and national radio personality.
- **Billy Crone:** Pastor and evangelist who has become an Internet sensation.
- **Jonathan Cahn:** Messianic rabbi and bestselling author.
- **Dave Reagan:** Founder and senior evangelist of Lamb & Lion Ministries.

Also, all day Saturday, we have a wonderful husband and wife musical team, **Randy & Dawn Wills**, who will be leading in worship before each speaker.



And that's not all. We will also have many exhibits by a variety of ministries in addition to those provided by the speakers and musicians.

Registration opened January 1, 2018. Within 10 days we had received over 450 registrations, so the available seats are going fast. You can register on our website at lamblion.com or by calling our office at 972-736-3567. ✚

Our Regional Conference

California

Our first regional conference for 2018 will be held in May at the 412 Church in San Jacinto, California, which is located east of Los Angeles, about halfway between Riverside and Palm Springs.



The conference theme will be "What on Earth is God Doing?" It will start on Friday evening, May 18 with a concert by a Messianic Jewish band called Lev Shelo ("His Heart"), followed by the keynote address which will be delivered by Billy Crone. Billy is the pastor of a church in Las Vegas, Nevada, and his video teachings have made him an Internet sensation. His topic will be "God is in Control."

The conference will continue all day on Saturday, May 19, with five additional sessions, each of which will be opened with a song by Lev Shelo. The Saturday speakers and their topics will be:

- Don Perkins: "God is Warning of His Son's Soon Return"
- Tom Hughes: "God is Calling America to Repentance"
- Dave Reagan: "God is Preparing Israel for Salvation"
- Nathan Jones: "God is Using Technology to Reach the World with the Gospel"
- Dave Reagan: "God is Warning America of Imminent Judgment"



The conference is free of charge, but registration is required. You can register thru our website at www.lamblion.com or the website of the 412 Church at www.412church.org. If you have questions, give us a call at 972-736-3567 Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm Central time.

Our second regional conference for 2018 will be held in the Fall, hopefully in the Houston, Texas area. The plans for that conference are still fluid. Watch for the details in a future issue of this magazine.

Hope to see you in California! ✚

Television Update

Continued Expansion

Thanks to the generous support of our Prophecy Partners, we have continued to expand our television outreach to new stations and networks.

We started broadcasting on **KFJX** in Joplin, Missouri, during the week of February 4. The program is being aired on Sunday mornings at 7:30am CT. This is a FOX station on channel 14.

We have also added a station in Houston, Texas. It is **KUBE**, channel 57. Our air time is 8:00am CT on Sunday morning. This station is available locally on AT&T U-verse (57), Comcast cable (53), DirecTV (57) and DISH (57). The week of February 4 was also the week we began broadcasting on this station.

And speaking of the week of February 4, that was the week that we broadcast a special program I shot with a wonderful man of God named Jimmy Phillips. In 2017 he completed 70 years of active ministry, and he is still going strong, teaching Bible prophecy in Amarillo, Texas. In 1947 when he began his ministry, he was a 17 year old rodeo cowboy-turned-preacher.



Dr. Reagan with Jimmy Phillips

Since that time, he has preached in 50 different countries around the world, including the world's largest church in Seoul, South Korea where he preached to a congregation of 750,000. When Jimmy was interviewed recently by the Amarillo newspaper, he was asked if he has any plans for retirement. He responded, "No, unless my health breaks, or I get goofy in the pulpit"! ❖

Television Broadcast Schedules

National Networks:

Daystar — Wed. 6:00pm CT, DirecTV 369, Dish 263, AT&T U-verse, cable, broadcast stations, satellites and web streaming (daystar.com).

Word — Tues. 12:30pm CT, DirecTV 373, Cable, AT&T U-verse, cable, satellites and web streaming (thewordnetwork.org).

Angel One — Mon. 8:00am CT, DISH 262 (www.angelone.tv).

CTN — Wed. 12:30pm CT, DirecTV 376, Dish 267 and web streaming (ctnonline.com).

CTVN — Sun. 8pm CT. The network has 44 full-power stations and 57 low-power affiliate stations. Glorystar satellite service

and web streaming (www.ctvn.org).

GEB — Sat. 5:00pm CT, DirecTV 363 and web streaming (geb.america.com).

GodTV — Thurs. 8:30am CT, DirecTV 365 and web streaming (god.tv).

NRB — Sun. 4:00pm CT, DirecTV 378 and web streaming (nrbtv.org).

TCT — Sun. 7:30pm CT, DirecTV 377, ten broadcast stations in the Midwest, and web streaming (tct.tv).

Upliftv — Mon. & Fri. 9:30am CT, DirecTV 379 (upliftv.com).

WHT — Sat. 7:00pm CT, DirecTV 367 and web streaming (lesea.com/wht).

Regional Networks:

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

FVN — Sun. 12:30am CT, Mon. 8:30am, and Wed. 7:00pm, Three broadcast stations and cable throughout southern Louisiana (familyvisiontv.com).

KDAF — Sun. 8:00am CT. Broadcast station covering the Dallas - Ft. Worth area. Channel 33 (cw33.com).

KSCE — Sun. 10:30am MT, broadcast station in El Paso, TX. DirecTV & DISH Local 38, AT&T U-verse 38, cable and web streaming (ksctv.com).

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

WCCB — Sun. 7:00am ET. Broadcast station in Charlotte, NC (ccbcharlotte.com).

WTOG-TV — Sun. 8:30 ET. Broadcast station covering Tampa and St. Petersburg, FL (cwtampa.cbslocal.com).

Internet Networks:

Our programs are available on demand on these websites.

HisChannel — hischannel.com

YouTube — youtube.com/user/ChristinProphecy

GodTube — godtube.com

Truli — truli.com

Vimeo — vimeo.com

DailyMotion — dailymotion.com/us

Lamb & Lion — lamblion.com

Please pray for the effectiveness of our outreach through these networks, stations and websites. Pray that we will be able to reach many lost souls for Jesus, and pray that we will be able to wake-up believers to the fact that we truly are living in the season of the Lord's return. ❖

Ministry News

Schedule of Activities —

March:

- Vic Batista & Nathan Jones radio program in Miami, FL (7,14,21,28).
- Dave Reagan at the Stealing the Mind Conference at Coeur d'Alene Resort in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho (3).
- Dave Reagan at Candlelight Christian Fellowship in Coeur d'Alene, ID (4).
- Lamb & Lion Board of Trustees meeting in Allen, TX. (10).

April:

- Vic Batista & Nathan Jones radio program (4,11,18,25).
- Dave Reagan at The Brookhaven Church in McKinney, TX (29).

May:

- Vic Batista & Nathan Jones radio program (2,9,16,23,30).
- Lamb & Lion Regional Conference at the 412 Church in San Jacinto, CA (18-19).
- Special "Battle Tour" of Israel led by Tim Moore (19-30).

Holy Land Pilgrimages —

Our "Battle for Israel" tour is scheduled for May 19-30. It may still be possible to sign up for it. If you are interested, call Discovery Worldwide Ministries, our tour broker, at (817) 595-2700.

It will focus on sites where biblical battles were fought. It will also feature sites where modern day battles have been fought and sites where Bible prophecy says future battles will occur. We are also trying to make arrangements for the group to visit an Israeli Army camp.

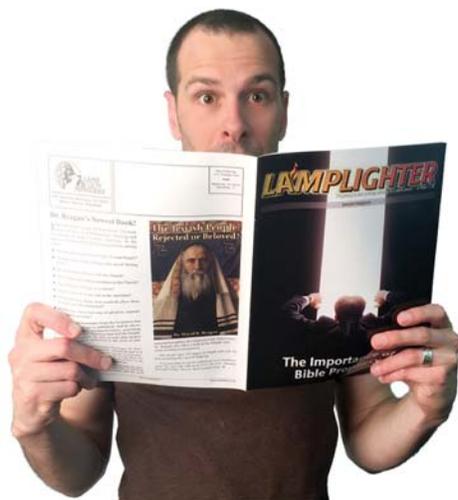
The tour will be led by our Assistant Evangelist, Tim Moore. Tim is a Colonel in the U.S. Air Force Reserve, and he is a graduate of the Air Force War College where he wrote his thesis on the use of Israeli air power during the Six Day War of 1967. Tim is also a pilot instructor for UPS, and he is serving his tenth year as a member of the Kentucky House of Representatives.

Tim is an expert on Bible prophecy and has hosted several pilgrimages to the Holy Land for this ministry. He was trained to be a host by Dr. Reagan. This is his first time to conduct this unique tour.

The cost is \$4,200 per person. This price includes airfare, bus transportation within Israel, hotels, all entrance fees and three meals each day. The only extra is a fee for tips.

For greater details, consult the itinerary posted on our website (lamblion.com) or call our office and request a brochure. Our office number is 972-736-3567. Call Monday thru Friday between 8am and 5pm, Central time.

Our regular Holy Land pilgrimage focusing on the life of Jesus is scheduled for October 13-24. Tim Moore will also be leading that group.



Message —

An email message from Marilyn Jefferson in Louisville, Kentucky:

"To all at Lamb and Lion Ministries:

"At the top of my Thanksgiving list is the Savior's gift of eternal life, and the absolute confidence of its certainty. I had been in church all of my life, but didn't understand that until I passed the age of 50. Until I read the *Left Behind* series I had never heard of the Rapture and precious little of the Tribulation.

"Then my husband and I were introduced to Lamb and Lion Ministries. The first time we heard Dr. Reagan speak, we became Prophecy Partners. One thing led to another. Now we are surrounded by brothers and sisters in Christ who believe the Word of God.

"The latest *Lamplighter* was amazing [the Reformation issue of November-December 2017]. I've read every word twice. I can't stop giving thanks for living in this age when so much of the Word is being understood and taught. How sad for all the generations who were denied access and had so little understanding. I've shared the magazine with a lot of people, and many friends have read it on your website. I thank our dear Lord for all of you and your work."

Prophecy Partner Program —

In the email message quoted above, the writer mentioned that she and her husband are Prophecy Partners. Are you a Prophecy Partner? If not, we would appreciate your seriously considering becoming one. We need your prayers and financial support if we are to proclaim the message of the Lord's soon return to as many people as possible, as quickly as possible. To become a Prophecy Partner, all you have to do is make a commitment to donate \$25 per month or more for one year and also commit to pray for us regularly. In return, you will receive a monthly letter from Dr. Reagan concerning the ministry. With each letter will come a gift, like a booklet, a teaching on a DVD, or other items, like our annual Holy Land Calendar. You will also start receiving a hard copy of this magazine, and you will be eligible to receive discounts on books and videos published by this ministry.

Missions —

Thanks to the generosity of our Prophecy Partners, we were recently able to raise the \$6,000 that was necessary to drill a water well in Nigeria to serve the Christian refugees being cared for by Evangelist Standfast Oyinna. In addition to drilling the well, the money covered the cost of providing the pump and storage tanks. Standfast is currently providing food, clothing and shelter for 254 Christians who have fled from Muslim violence. Please consider making a special donation to this ministry. ✚



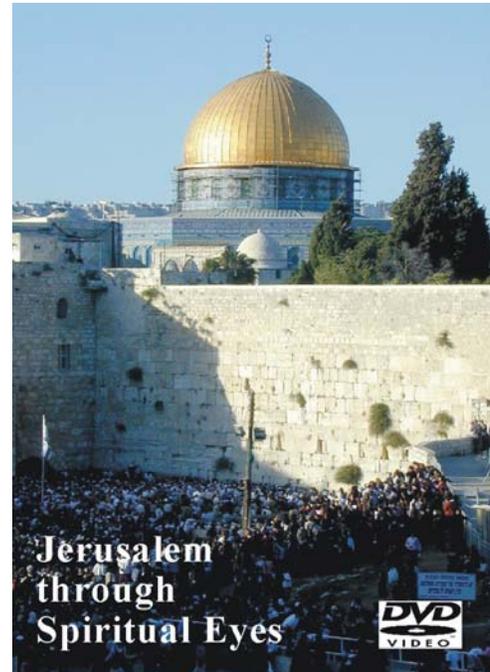
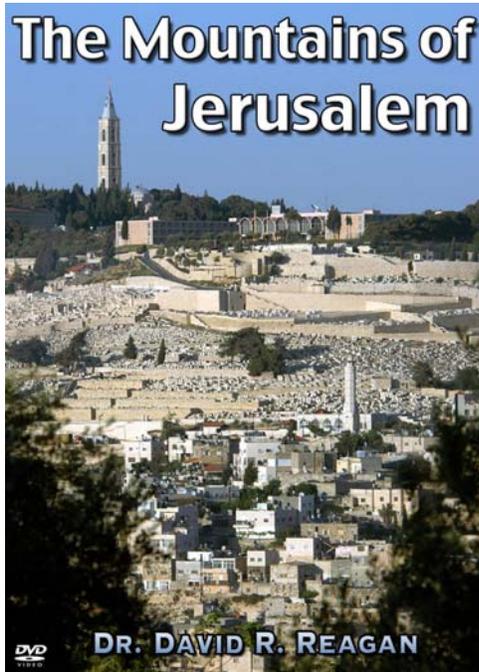


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Video Programs About Jerusalem



Dr. Reagan provides a personal tour of the four mountains of Jerusalem — the Mount of Olives, the Temple Mount, Mount Zion and Mount Herzl. In the process, he explains the relevance of each mountain to the life of Jesus and to Bible prophecies.

Some of the sites, among many, include the Church of the Ascension, the Church of the Agony, the Garden of Gethsemane, the Dome of the Rock, the Western Wall, the Tomb of David, the Upper Room, the Holocaust Museum and the tombs of Theodor Herzl, Oskar Schindler and Horatio Spafford.

The running time of all four programs is 100 minutes.

Dr. Reagan and his colleague, Dennis Pollock, provide spiritual insights about three sites in and around the Old City of Jerusalem:

- The Via Dolorosa, with a focus on the crucifixion of Jesus.
- The Tombs of the City, with a focus on the resurrection of Jesus.
- The Gates of the City, with a focus on the Second Coming of Jesus.

Highlights include visits to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, the Garden Tomb and the Eastern Gate. The running time is 75 minutes.

2 for 1! These DVD albums normally sell for \$20 each, including shipping. Until the end of April 2018, we are offering them both for \$20, including shipping. Call 972-736-3567 (Mon. thru Fri., 8am to 5pm CT) or order them through our website at lamblion.com. Either way, ask for special offer #614.