

# LAMPLIGHTER

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

Vol. XXXIX

May 2018 June

No. 3

## The Church in Prophecy







# Observations by the Editor

## Goals

Dr. David R. Reagan

When I established this ministry 38 years ago on April 1, 1980, I stated that the goal of the ministry was "to proclaim to as many people as possible, as quickly as possible, that Jesus is coming soon."

That purpose statement continues to this day to be the fundamental goal of this ministry. And I believe that one of the main reasons God has blessed the ministry so richly is because we have never wavered from that purpose statement.

It was very tough to get a ministry going back in the 1980s before the Internet became accessible to the general public in 1995. Today, if you have something valuable to say, you can start a ministry relatively easily because you can become known overnight via the Internet. But not back in the decade of the 80s. I labored in obscurity for years — but God used those years to fine tune me and my message about His Son's soon return.

In recent years, God has multiplied our outreach exponentially, both through our television program and our website. But we are still anxious to reach more people with our message.

Our messages are being translated into Spanish by Donald Dolmus in Nicaragua, and he is posting them on the Internet for Spanish speaking people all over the world to read ([www.edefensa.delafe.org](http://www.edefensa.delafe.org)). Our materials are also being translated and published in many of the major languages of Pakistan and India. And a condensed version of our magazine is being published in English in India.

Through the Daystar satellite system, our TV program can be viewed in nations around the world.

Our greatest outreach is probably through our website. Our Web Minister, Nathan Jones, is active on the site every day, posting new materials and responding to questions from people all over the world.

We currently have two very important goals that are related to our outreach. We are praying for the Lord to supply us with 3,000 Prophecy Partners and over



Dave and Tim LaHaye at the ministry's 25th anniversary celebration in 2005.

100,000 subscribers to this magazine.

We currently have almost 2,800 Prophecy Partners, and the subscribers to our magazine have increased rapidly during the past year from 48,000 to 70,000!

As you will see on page 19 of this issue, we had just a little over 5,000 donors last year. That may not sound like much, but they supplied us with over \$3 million in revenue. But then, that is always the situation with ministries and churches. A small group pays all the bills.

I hope you will also notice on the 2017 summary report on page 19 that we provided over \$340,000 in financial gifts and services to other ministries, both foreign and domestic. I learned a long time ago that you cannot outgive God. I also discovered that when you give generously, God will send funds your way so that you can be a channel of His blessings to others.

You can help us reach our goals by remembering us in prayer, partnering with us financially and telling others about our ministry. Many of you receive a digital copy of this magazine via email. Please take a moment to forward a copy to family and friends, together with a brief message that they can subscribe to it free of charge by signing up at our website.

Meanwhile, we will continue proclaiming the fact that we are living in the season of the Lord's return. God wants this message to be proclaimed worldwide because He does not wish that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance (2 Peter 3:9). **Maranatha!** ✠

The cover photograph shows the chapel at Yosemite National Park in California. The photo was supplied by iStock.com. The photographer was Jim Veilleux.

### *The Lamplighter*

is published bi-monthly  
by Lamb & Lion Ministries

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# The Church in Prophecy

## Past, Present and Future

**Dr. David R. Reagan**

There is much talk going around these days about how unified, triumphant and glorious the Church will be in the end times right before the return of Jesus. This pollyanna image of the Church is certainly attractive, but it only partially corresponds with what the Bible prophesies.

But before we take a look at end time prophecies regarding the Church, let's take a look at the Church in Bible prophecy in the past and present.

### Old Testament Prophecies

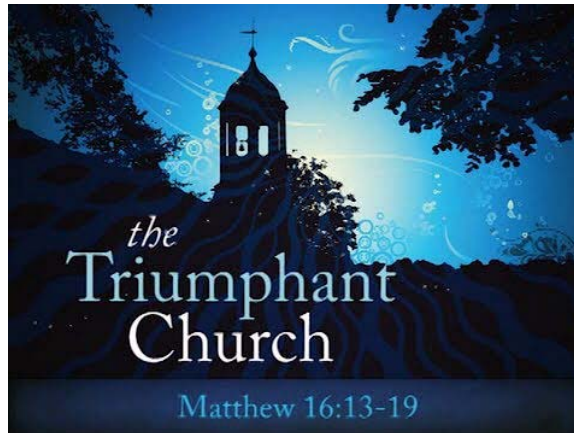
Some theologians take the position that the Church is not mentioned in the Hebrew Scriptures. This is both right and wrong. It is correct that there is no specific mention of the Church. But, on the other hand, the Church is certainly intimated in a number of prophecies in the Old Testament.

The Apostle Paul referred to five of these prophetic passages in Romans 15 where he justified his preaching of the Gospel to Gentiles. He specifically quoted:

- 1) 2 Samuel 22:50 and Psalm 18:49 — both of which speak of a time when God will be praised among the Gentiles (Romans 15:9).
- 2) Deuteronomy 32:43 — which says a time will come when Gentiles will rejoice with the Jews (Romans 15:10).
- 3) Psalm 117:1 — which says there will be a day when the Gentiles will praise the God of the Jews (Romans 15:11).
- 4) Isaiah 11:10 — which says when the Messiah comes ("the root of Jesse"), Gentiles will find hope in Him (Romans 15:12).
- 5) Isaiah 52:15 — which says that one day the Gentiles will come to know and understand the Messiah (Romans 15:21).

And these are only a few of the Old Testament prophecies about the future inclusion of Gentiles into God's Plan for the Ages. Isaiah 42:1 says the Messiah will bring "justice to the nations [Gentiles]" A few verses later, Isaiah proclaims that the Messiah will be "a light to the nations [Gentiles]" (Isaiah 42:6). Isaiah repeats this prophecy in Chapter 49 where he quotes God as saying that He will make the Messiah "a light to the nations [Gentiles]" so that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth" (Isaiah 49:6b).

One of my favorite prophetic references to the future inclusion of Gentiles in God's kingdom is found in Isaiah 9:1-2



(<https://youtube.com/watch?v=Z9gc6Wr7cV4>)

where the prophet says that one day God will make glorious the "Galilee of the Gentiles." Specifically, he states that "the people who walk in darkness will see a great light [the Messiah]." Another is found in Isaiah 54:1 where the prophet declares that a time will come when "the sons of the desolate one [the Gentiles] will be more numerous than the sons of the married woman [Israel]."

The cornerstone prophecy about the inclusion of Gentiles in God's plan of salvation is to be found in the Abrahamic Covenant, which is first enumerated in Genesis 12:1-3. In this passage, Abraham was told by God that through his descendants "all the families of the earth shall be blessed." That promise certainly included the Gentiles.

### Fulfillment of the Prophecies

Although it was always possible for Gentiles to be saved during Old Testament times by responding to the Creator in faith (Joel 2:32 and Romans 2:14-15), their specific inclusion in God's Plan for the Ages did not occur until the Day of Pentecost in about 30 AD. This was when the Church was established. The Apostle Peter preached the first Gospel sermon (Acts 2:14-36), and three thousand souls responded.

It is true that all of these were Jews. It is true that the Church began with Jewish people responding to a Jewish message about a Jewish Messiah. And thus, the Church began as what appeared to be a Jewish sect. But within a few years of its establishment, the Church was opened up to Gentiles in fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies.

This began when the Apostle Peter was given a vision by God that made it clear that Gentiles were to be included in the Church (Acts 10:9-15). That same day, Peter was summoned to Caesarea Maritime to preach to a Roman soldier named Cornelius (Acts 10:19-22). When Peter shared the good news of salvation with this soldier, he and all his household received Jesus as Lord and Savior. The Holy Spirit fell on them, and they were baptized in the name of Jesus (Acts 10:34-48).

This turning-point event caused a crisis in the Church. Some questioned whether or not pagan Gentiles should be included. Others argued that if they were to be included, they must be required to submit to circumcision and the laws of the Torah.

These controversies resulted in a conference in Jerusalem where it was decided that it was God's will to include Gentiles (Acts 15:6-29). It was also determined that Gentiles should not be compelled to become practitioners of Jewish laws. In the process, Peter quoted a prophecy from the Hebrew Scriptures that envisioned a day when "the rest of Mankind would seek the

Lord,” including “all the Gentiles” (Acts 15:14-18 in reference to Amos 9:11-12).

Near the end of Paul’s second missionary journey, after his arrival in Corinth, he became upset with the persistent resistance of the Jews to the Gospel. This frustration prompted him to declare, “From now on, I shall go to the Gentiles” (Acts 18:6). And over the next few years, the whole complexion of the Church changed from a Jewish sect to a Gentile congregation.

### New Testament Prophecy

The first specific mention of the Church in prophecy is found in the New Testament in Matthew 16:18 where Jesus is recorded as having said: “Upon this rock I will build My Church; and the gates of Hades shall not overpower it.” The context of this statement makes it clear that the “rock” Jesus was referring to was Peter’s confession of Him as “the Christ [Messiah], the Son of the living God” (Matthew 16:16).

This prophecy has, of course, been fulfilled throughout history since the time Jesus spoke those words. Satan has tried in every way possible to destroy the Church, first through persecution, and then through internal corruption. But Jesus has sustained His Church to this day and continues to do so today in the midst of growing apostasy and increasing worldwide persecution.



(<https://joequatronejr.com>)

I believe Jesus prophesied rather specifically about the future of His Church in the seven letters that He dictated to the Apostle John in Revelation, Chapters 2 and 3. The letters were directed to seven churches located in the area of western Turkey today. There were many more churches than these seven. I think Jesus selected the ones He did because they were representative of seven types of churches and seven periods of church history. In each period, all seven types of churches would exist, but one type would predominate.

The church at **Ephesus** is representative of the apostolic period from 30 A.D. to 95 A.D., when the Church was concerned about organization and doctrine to the point that it became legalistic.

The church at **Smyrna** represents the persecuted church or the martyr church that existed from 95 A.D. to about 312 A.D. It’s the Church that existed at the time that the book of Revelation was written.

Then we have the liberal church of **Pergamum** representing the apostate church that existed from 312 to 590 A.D. This period developed after the Emperor Constantine was converted and the Church and the state were welded together. As is always

the case in such unions, the state began to corrupt the Church.

The church at **Thyatira** represents the dark, pagan period from 590 to 1517 when the papacy developed and the Church became full of Babylonian occultic practices.

When we come to the Reformation in 1517, we think of it as a time of life. But it was only partially so. The Reformation produced the Protestant state churches of Europe — churches that had a reputation for being alive but were really dead because of their union with the state. So the church of **Sardis**, the dead church, with the reputation for being alive, represents the post-Reformation period from 1517 to about 1750.

The opposite of Sardis is the church at **Philadelphia**, the alive church. It represents the period of church history from about 1750, when the Church began to send missionaries out all over the world, until about 1900, when the German School of Higher Criticism invaded seminaries worldwide and destroyed many people’s faith in the Word of God. As a result, people began to look upon the Bible, not as the revealed Word of God, but as man’s search for God, and therefore they decided it was full of myth, legend and superstition.

The Church of today is represented by the church of **Laodicea**, a church that says to the world, “I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing” (Revelation 3:17). But Jesus says to that church, “You are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked” (3:17). It is a worldly, apathetic, apostate church that will not even let Jesus in the front door (3:20).

The best summary of these letters I have ever encountered is the one penned by John Stott in his book, *Basic Christianity*. He sees the message of Jesus as threefold in nature. To a sinful Church, He is saying, “I know of your sin, repent!” To a doubtful Church, He is saying, “I know of your doubt, believe!” To a fearful Church, He is saying, “I know of your fear, endure!” Repent, believe, and endure — that’s a very relevant message for the Church today.

### Negative End Time Prophecies

The predominance of the Laodicean church today is the fulfillment of many other New Testament prophecies that point to the growth of apostasy, cultism, heresy and worldliness in the Church of the end times.

### Apostasy

The picture of the Church in the end times that is portrayed in the Bible is not a very pretty one. For one thing, the Bible prophesies that the Church will be racked by apostasy. Jesus prophesied that “many will fall away” (Matthew 24:10). Likewise, Paul said the Antichrist cannot be revealed until “the great apostasy” takes place (2 Thessalonians 2:3).

Paul reveals the source of the apostasy in 2 Timothy 3:5 — “Men will hold to a form of religion but will deny its power.” As pointed out above, the fulfillment of this prophecy began in the early 20th Century with the ascendancy of the German School of Higher Criticism and its teaching that the Bible should be approached like any other piece of literature — with a critical eye. The concepts of the special inspiration and inerrancy of the Bible were rejected. The Bible came to be viewed as Man’s search for God rather than God’s revelation to Man. Churches began to reject some of the fundamentals of the faith.



This assault on the integrity of God's Word opened the floodgates of apostasy. Before long Christian theologians and ministers were laughing about the virgin birth of Jesus, discounting His miracles, casting doubt on His resurrection, and flatly denying His second coming.

As the uniqueness of Jesus was downplayed, many denominations began to embrace the damnable doctrine of Universalism. And that is where we are today, caught up in the midst of a gross apostasy which says, "Believe what you want. The important thing is to be sincere. There are many roads to God." All of which makes a liar of Jesus who said: "I am the way, the truth and the life, no one comes to the Father except through Me" (John 14:6). The result is that there are a lot of sincere people who are sincerely going to Hell.



([www.virtualpreacher.org/articles/cults](http://www.virtualpreacher.org/articles/cults))

## Cultism

A second set of prophecies warn that the Church will be assaulted by cultic deception in the end times. Jesus emphasized this point repeatedly in His Olivet Discourse (Matthew 24:5,11, 24). And Paul underlined it in the strongest possible language when he wrote: "The Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons" (1 Timothy 4:1).

The fulfillment of these prophecies began in the 19th Century with the rise of Mormonism and its demonic teaching that Jesus is the brother of Lucifer, one of thousands of gods created by the super god, Adam, an exalted man. The Jehovah's Witnesses were next on the scene with their perverted teaching that Jesus is the Archangel Michael.

This century has witnessed the rapid multiplication of the cults, just as prophesied. Today, lifelong Christians who do not know why they believe what they profess to believe are being sucked into the cults by the tens of thousands.

Equally appalling is the direct penetration of the Church by cultic doctrine. Well known Christian leaders are advocating the ancient Shamanistic practice of visualization as the key to prayer. Others are teaching one of Satan's oldest lies — that those who have been born again are "little gods."

The latest cultic fad is the concept of Satanic salvation; namely, that we do not owe our salvation to the blood Jesus shed on the Cross but rather to some imaginary torment which He suffered at the hands of Satan for three days in Hell. And then,

of course, there is Masonry, the oldest form of cultic penetration of the Church, with its secret blood oaths, its works salvation, and its Universalism.

## Heresy

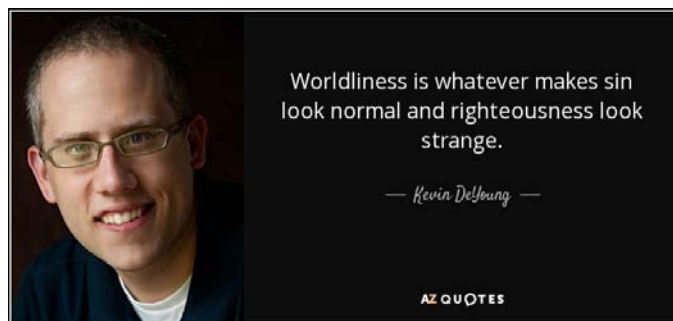
A third group of prophecies indicate that in the end times the Church will be assailed by heresies. These are doctrinal errors that do not damn the soul but which confuse and weaken the spirit.

In 2 Timothy 4:3-4, Paul says: "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires and will turn away their ears from the truth, and will turn aside to myths." There are many popular myths in Christendom today that either rob people of the power of their faith or else deceive them into practicing a presumptuous faith.

Among Fundamentalists there is a myth that God retired in the First Century and that with Him went all manifestations of the supernatural, including angels, demons, spiritual gifts and miracles. Among Charismatics the doctrinal abuses have been epidemic, including the following myths:

- Faith is to be placed in your faith and not in God.
- It is always God's will to heal.
- The believer has the authority of Jesus.
- It is God's desire that believers be financially prosperous.
- Believers can have what they want through positive confession.

The winds of doctrine (Eph. 4:14) are blowing through the Church at gale-force and believers are being tossed here and there by the waves, all in the fulfillment of prophecy.



## Worldliness

A fourth characteristic prophesied about the Church in the end times is that it will be compromised and corrupted by worldliness. We have already seen the prophetic picture of this worldly church in Revelation 3:14-22, where the church at Laodicea is described.

In fulfillment of this prophecy, our churches today are filled with cultural Christians who have accepted Jesus as Savior but not as Lord. They are schizophrenic Christians who walk with one foot in the Church and the other in the world. They are carnal Christians who shout "Hallelujah!" on the weekend but who live like pagans during the week. They are greedy Christians in pursuit of health, wealth and power. The Cross and its message of sacrifice is as offensive to them as it is to the world.

## Judgment

Because of the apostasy, heresy, cultism and worldliness that the Bible says will characterize the end time Church, the Bible prophesies that the Church will come under judgment. In Revelation 3:19 Jesus says to the church at Laodicea, “Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline.”

The glitzy, overindulgent church of the last few decades is now tasting the judgment of God. Sin is being exposed. Religious empires are being dismantled. The Lord is calling us from the Cadillac to the Cross. Through discipline, the Spirit is motivating us to humility, righteousness and holiness.

Judgment has begun in the House of the Lord, where it always begins (Ezekiel 9:6 and 1 Peter 4:17). The Lord is disciplining His Church as a prelude to the pouring out of His wrath upon the world.

### Positive End Time Prophecies

Not all the prophecies about the Church in the end times are negative in nature. In fact, there are many more positive ones, and their glorious nature more than overshadows the negative ones.

### The Latter Rain

The incredibly good news is that the Bible prophesies a great pouring out of God’s Spirit in the end times to empower those who are receptive to stand against the onslaught of Satan.

The prophecy is found in Joel 2:28-30. Because this prophecy was quoted by Peter in his sermon on the Day of Pentecost to explain the phenomenon of tongues (Acts 2:14-21), many have assumed that it was fulfilled on that day. That assumption is erroneous.

The context before the passage (verses 18-27) makes it clear that there will be two outpourings of the Spirit (the “early and latter rain”) and that the final outpouring will occur after the Jews are regathered to their land and re-established as a nation. Also, the context after the passage (verses 31 & 32) indicates clearly that the ultimate fulfillment of the prophecy will occur during the season of the Second Coming.

We have been in the period of the “latter rain” ever since the re-establishment of the state of Israel on May 14, 1948. The Spirit is being poured out, and the gifts of the Spirit are being manifest in a way unparalleled since the First Century. The praise and worship of the Tabernacle of David are also being restored to the Church to further empower it for spiritual warfare.

This great anointing of the Spirit is producing a remnant that is immersed in the Word, committed to righteousness, crucified to self, dedicated to prayer, surrendered in worship, zealous for evangelism and yearning for the soon return of Jesus. It is this remnant that will respond to the Lord’s appearing in the Rapture with a cloud of praise.

### Special Blessings

The great outpouring of the Spirit is only one of many glorious blessings promised to the Church in the end times. Among them are the ones listed below:

- **Rapture** — The promise that Jesus will appear in the heavens at the end of the Church Age and will resurrect the

dead in Christ, giving them glorified, eternal bodies. Immediately following their resurrection, the Lord will snatch away all living believers, translating them from mortal to immortal on the way up, without experiencing death (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18).

- **Rewards** — Following the Rapture, all Church Age believers will be judged in Heaven by Jesus, not to determine their eternal destiny, but to ascertain their degrees of rewards, based on their service in this life (2 Corinthians 5:9-10, 1 Corinthians 3:13-15 and 1 Corinthians 4:5).
- **Celebration** — After the rewards have been distributed, the Church (the Bride) will celebrate its union with Jesus (the Bridegroom) at the marriage feast of the Lamb (Revelation 19:6-9).
- **Second Coming** — The Church will return to earth with Jesus and will witness His triumph over the Antichrist and his forces (Revelation 19:11-21).
- **Coronation** — The Church will witness the triumphal coronation of Jesus as King of kings and Lord of lords after He enters the Eastern Gate (Psalm 24:7-10) and begins to reign from the Temple Mount in Jerusalem (Isaiah 2:1-4).
- **Millennium** — Believers will be scattered all over the earth to reign with Jesus for a thousand years over those believers who lived to the end of the Tribulation and were allowed to enter the Millennium in the flesh (Revelation 20:1-10). The Redeemed will witness the earth flooded with peace, righteousness and justice, as the waters cover the seas (Isaiah 11:9).
- **New Jerusalem** — At the end of the Lord’s thousand year reign, the Redeemed will be transferred to the New Jerusalem Jesus has been preparing (John 14:1-4). From that vantage point, they will witness the earth being consumed with fire, as the pollution of Satan’s last revolt is burned away (2 Peter 3:10).
- **Eternal State** — After God provides a new earth and refreshed heavens, the New Jerusalem will be lowered down to the new earth, and God Himself will come to earth to reside among the Redeemed. In other words, Heaven will come to earth, and the Redeemed will live eternally in the New Jerusalem in the presence of their Creator and their Savior (Revelation 21:1-7 and Revelation 22:1-5).

### Conclusion

So, as you can see, there is both bad news and good news for the Church in the end times. But the good news is so much better than the bad — so incredibly glorious — that the Apostle Paul was motivated to declare (Romans 8:18):

*I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.*

Hallelujah! And Maranatha! ❖

# Does the Church represent the full expression of God's kingdom?

**Dr. David R. Reagan**

Let's consider in detail the assertion of Amillennialists that the Church is the kingdom and there is no other kingdom promised for the future, certainly not a Millennial kingdom when Jesus will reign over all the earth from the throne of David in Jerusalem.

The Amillennialist argument is usually expressed as follows: "The Lord is not coming back to establish a kingdom here on earth because the kingdom was established in the First Century in the form of the Church, and that is the only kingdom that will ever exist on earth."

I know this argument well because I grew up in a church that taught it. We were so dogmatic about it that we refused to pray "The Lord's Prayer" because it contained the phrase, "Thy kingdom come on earth as it is in Heaven." Our position was that the kingdom had already come in the form of the Church, and therefore such a prayer was irrelevant, since it had already been fulfilled.

This argument that "the Church is the kingdom, and therefore there is no future kingdom" is the cornerstone argument of most Amillennialists. It is usually accompanied with wild assertions that "Premillennialists degrade the importance of the Church," or "Premillennialists believe that Jesus failed in His mission to establish the kingdom."

## **An Irrelevant Argument**

All of this is really ridiculous, because the argument that the kingdom is the Church completely misses the point of Premillennialism. I am a Premillennialist, and I do not deny that the Church is the current manifestation of God's kingdom upon the earth.

Let me say that again in a different way: I would agree that the Church is God's kingdom on the earth today. Despite all the propaganda to the contrary, there are many Premillennialists who do not deny that Jesus is currently reigning in glory over His kingdom, the Church.

It is true that there are some Premillennialists, known as Dispensationalists, who do make a distinction between the kingdom and the Church. But their viewpoint is not representative of all Premillennialists. And, in fact, in recent years, a new viewpoint within Dispensationalism has emerged called "Progressive Dispensationalism," and its spokesmen argue that the Church is God's current kingdom on earth.

## **Diversity among Premillennialists**

The thing to be kept in mind here is that there are Premillennialists and there are Premillennialists. In other words, Premillennialism is not a monolithic doctrine. All Premillennialists believe that Jesus is coming back to this earth to establish a kingdom, but beyond that basic belief, they differ widely.

Likewise, all Christians believe that Jesus is Lord, but beyond that basic belief, they disagree on many things. To attack the validity of Premillennialism by asserting that Premillennialists are wrong because they believe the Church is not the kingdom is equivalent to attacking the validity of Christianity by asserting that Christians are wrong because they believe in the infallibility of the Pope!

I am a Christian, but I do not believe in the infallibility of the Pope. I am a Premillennialist, but I do not believe in the doctrine that the Church and the kingdom are distinctive entities. But sometimes there is just no way to win this point. I say this because when I labor mightily to stress that all Premillennialists do not believe the same things, I am often confronted with the counter-argument that the disagreement which exists among Premillennialists is proof positive that Premillennialism is wrong!

The fallacy of this kind of thinking can be illustrated decisively by pointing out that the same argument could be applied to Christianity as a whole — that is, Christianity is invalid because Christians disagree! This, of course, is sheer nonsense.

It should be kept in mind, too, that Amillennialists disagree strongly with each other. Some spiritualize the kingdom completely while others materialize it in the Church. Some deny that there will ever be a Millennium of any kind; others argue we have been in a spiritual Millennium ever since the Cross. Some take the position that the book of Revelation was fulfilled in the First Century in the pouring

out of God's wrath on the Jews.

While some assert that the book of Revelation is a prophecy about the struggle between the Church and the Roman Empire, others argue that the book is a prophecy about the battle between Catholics and Protestants. And still others idealize the book to the point of contending that it represents nothing except the ongoing conflict between the forces of good and evil.

There are even Amillennialists who believe that our eternal abode will be a new earth, whereas most would hotly deny this, arguing instead that we will spend eternity in an ethereal spirit world.

## **The Amillennial Contention**

There are four basic arguments that Amillennialists use to justify their contention that the kingdom was established in the First Century in the form of the Church and that the Church is the only kingdom which Christ will ever have on this earth:

- 1) They point to passages like Acts 2:29-31 to establish the fact that Jesus is currently reigning.



- 2) They refer to scriptures like Matthew 10:7 to illustrate that Jesus taught the kingdom was “near” or “at hand.”
- 3) They use Matthew 16:18-19 to prove that Jesus used the words “church” and “kingdom” interchangeably.
- 4) They utilize scriptures like Hebrews 12:28 and Revelation 1:9 to emphasize that the kingdom is a present reality.

### **The Diversity of the Kingdom Concept**

All I can say in response to these scriptural references is “Amen.” I agree that they prove the Church is the current manifestation of God’s kingdom in the world. *But to say that the kingdom is the Church is not the same as saying that the kingdom is only the Church.*

The Scriptures clearly teach that the Church is the kingdom. They do not teach that the kingdom is only the Church. Consider these references to the kingdom in scripture:

- 1) The kingdom is identified with the creation itself, for God is sovereign over the creation. See Psalm 93:1-2 and 1 Chronicles 29:11.
- 2) The kingdom is expressed in the nation of Israel. See Exodus 19:6 and 1 Samuel 8:7.
- 3) The kingdom is equated with the Church. See Colossians 1:13 and Revelation 1:9.
- 4) The kingdom is viewed as something more than the Church, yet to come in the future. See Matthew 8:11, Luke 22:28-30, Acts 14:22, 1 Corinthians 6:9, and 2 Peter 1:11.
- 5) The kingdom is yet future, to take the form of a reign of Christ and His saints upon the earth. See Daniel 7:18,27, 2 Timothy 2:12, Revelation 3:21, and Revelation 20:6.
- 6) The kingdom is yet future, to take the form ultimately of a reign of God over the Redeemed upon a new earth. See 1 Corinthians 15:24-28 and Revelation 21:1-4.

### **The Unity of the Kingdom Concept**

I believe these scriptures teach that God has always had a kingdom upon this earth, but it has been manifested in different ways. The kingdom was originally expressed in the creation itself, in its perfect obedience to God’s will. With the corruption of the creation through the sin of man, the kingdom was expressed in the lives of the Patriarchs who, like Job, responded obediently in faith to God’s will.

The kingdom became focused in a more tangible manner after the call of Abraham and the emergence of the nation of Israel. Since Pentecost, the kingdom has been expressed in the Church. But the Bible promises different expressions of the kingdom in the future — first, in the form of a thousand year rule of Jesus upon this earth, and second, in the form of an eternal rule of God upon a new earth.

Notice that the progression here is both circular and expansive. It is circular in that it begins and ends with the reign of God over a creation that is in perfect submission. It is expansive in that after the Fall it constantly expands in scope from a few Patriarchs and their families, to the nation of Israel, to the

Church, and finally to all nations of the world.

The kingdom is thus past, present, and future. It is currently expressed in the Church, but it is like a rose in the bud, yet to bloom in its full glory. The kingdom has always been coming, and it will continue to come until God’s will is done perfectly. Even during the Millennial reign of Jesus the kingdom will be coming, for the Bible teaches that rebellion will be lurking in the hearts of men.

The consummation of the kingdom will not come until all enemies of God have been subdued. That will occur at the end of the Millennial reign of Jesus (Revelation 20:7-15) at which time He will surrender the kingdom to His Father, and God Himself will reign forever over a redeemed creation (Romans 8:18-23 and 1 Corinthians 15:24-28).

### **Jesus and the Kingdom**

This concept of the progressive unfolding of the kingdom was taught by Jesus in the parable in which He compared the kingdom of God to the growth of grain, stating “the soil produces crops by itself; first the blade, then the head, then the mature grain in the head” (Mark 4:26-29).

Jesus clearly expressed His belief in a future literal Jewish kingdom here on earth at the time of His Ascension. As He stood with his disciples on the Mount of Olives, they asked Him, “Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?” (Acts 1:6). He responded, “It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority” (Acts 1:7).

Notice, Jesus did not rebuke His disciples by telling them that the kingdom was going to be a spiritual kingdom called the Church and not a Jewish kingdom here on earth. Rather, He simply told them that it was not God’s will to reveal to them when the Jewish kingdom would be established.

Jesus also expressed the progressive coming of the kingdom in the prayer He taught His disciples to pray: “Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven” (Matthew 6:10). This is a clear expression of Hebrew parallelism, a poetic form in which the first statement is refined and defined by the second. Thus, to pray, “Your kingdom come,” is to pray, “Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.” We certainly have not achieved that goal during the current Church Age.

The ultimate truth about the concept of the kingdom is that Jesus Himself was the incarnation of all that the concept represents, for He obeyed God perfectly in all things (Hebrews 5:8-9).

### **Answering the Question**

Is the Church the kingdom? Yes and no. Yes it is the Lord’s kingdom in the world today. No, it is not the full expression of the kingdom. The kingdom is present and yet still coming. Let us pray for its more glorious expression by joining the Apostle John in his prayer: “Amen. Come, Lord Jesus” (Revelation 22:20).

Then the sovereignty, the dominion, and the greatness of all the kingdoms under the whole heaven will be given to the people of the saints of the Highest One; His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and all the dominions will serve and obey Him.”

(Daniel 7: 27) ❖



# Why are the Nations in an Uproar?



([http://conflict-of-nations.wikia.com/wiki/Conflict\\_of\\_Nations.Wiki](http://conflict-of-nations.wikia.com/wiki/Conflict_of_Nations.Wiki))

## Colonel Tim Moore

*Why are the nations in an uproar, and the peoples devising a vain thing? The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers take counsel together against the Lord and against His Anointed, saying, "Let us tear their fetters apart and cast away their cords from us!" (Psalm 2:1-3).*

In past editions of this magazine I highlighted the providence of God as demonstrated in the history of the nation of Israel. While other ancient peoples and nations have disappeared into the sands of time, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob remains faithful to the children of Israel — though they have not been faithful to Him. Honoring His promise to Abraham, God has indeed blessed his offspring and preserved them.

God has also clearly interacted with other nations and communities of people throughout history — pouring out blessings or meting out judgments. Recognition of that truth seems to be fading in our own society. For Westerners in general, and Americans in particular, a prideful sense of rugged individualism has crept into our worldview in ways we do not even realize. Instead of relying on God, we are trusting in our own abilities.

Christians rightfully place special emphasis on the responsibility and accountability of each individual. It clearly comports with Scripture's call to personal faith and individual accountability. The adage that God has no grandchildren communicates the truth that no man or woman will gain admittance to heaven based on their parent's faith in God. Every person must choose to trust Him individually.

Yet, Scripture also tells of the repercussions of sin lasting for generations and speaks to the judgment of God that will fall on entire nations and societies.

## God's Relationship with Nations

So, just what is God's relationship with nations? And, how does He hold nations and communities accountable for their collective sin? We have several examples.

In Genesis, God condemned the gross wickedness of Sodom and Gomorrah. When He fellowshiped with Abraham, He revealed His intention to weigh those evil cities and pour out judgment. Abraham appealed to God, urging Him to spare the cities if He could find just a handful who were righteous by comparison to the broader society.

God agreed to spare those immoral cities if He could find as few as ten righteous souls. We all know the rest of the story. God found only four people creditable as righteous — Lot, his wife and their two daughters. They were given provision to escape the destruction, but destruction did fall. We can speculate that those cities were filled with people of every age, and that by our way of thinking some of them were more "innocent" than others. But God's discernment is perfect and His judgment is always right.

Elsewhere in Scripture, prophets recorded declarations of impending judgment. Time and again God poured out obliterating judgment on whole nations for their willful immorality and idol worship, for rejecting the messengers of God who called them to repent and turn to Him, and for their callous treatment of Israel.

## Further Examples from Scripture

Isaiah prophesied concerning cities like Damascus, Samaria, and Tyre (Chapters 8 and 23) and kingdoms like Assyria, Babylon, Moab, Ethiopia, Egypt, Edom, and Arabia (Chapters 10-31). His message concerning nations is clear:

Draw near, O nations, to hear; and listen, O peoples! Let the earth and all it contains hear, and the world and all that springs from it. For

the LORD's indignation is against all the nations. . . (Isaiah 34:1-2).

Jeremiah also prophesied against nations and cities, including Philistia, Moab, Ammon, Damascus, and Babylon (Chapters 47-51). He foretold that Babylon's downfall would come as punishment for her treatment of Israel (Jeremiah 51:5-6). Ezekiel likewise pronounced judgment on Ammon, Moab, Edom, Philistia, Tyre, and Egypt (Chapters 25-30).

What was Ammon's great sin that led to its destruction? God declared His anger with Ammon because the people of that nation had said, "'Aha!' against My sanctuary when it was profaned, and against the land of Israel when it was made desolate, and against the house of Judah when it went into exile" (Ezekiel 25:3). Clearly antagonism against Israel angers God.

Amos, Obadiah, and Micah also declared prophecies against Gentile nations. And Jonah's famous calling was to preach to a singular despised enemy of Israel — Nineveh, the capital city of the Assyrian empire.

Scripture repeatedly shows that while God relates personally and intimately with individuals, He also weighs nations in the balance and passes judgment on collective assemblies of people. Compared to the greatness of Almighty God, even great nations are but a "drop from a bucket" or a "speck of dust on the scales" (Isaiah 40:15).

Some would argue that God's national focus is on kings and rulers. Certainly the prophets often issued their proclamations to rulers and leaders. But, as Egypt clearly exemplified, entire nations suffer the consequences of a king or ruler's defiance of God. National leaders represent the will and attitude of the people, whether for good or bad.

In Psalm 2, the nations are in an uproar because their kings and rulers are rebelling against the Lord and His Anointed One. That is why He laughs, scoffingly dismissing the rebellious ranting of the kings of the earth (2:4). In the fullness of time, those rebellious nations themselves will be given over to the Son as His inheritance (2:7-8).

### Modern Applications Close to Home

Lest we be tempted to rest on the laurels of living in a nation with a Christian heritage, consider North Korea. This nation that is now given over to idolatrous dictator worship and is causing so much international angst, used to be a haven of Christian sentiment in the Far East. One hundred years ago, Pyongyang was so welcoming to Christian missionaries that it was called the "Jerusalem of the East."

Ruth Bell Graham (Billy Graham's wife) attended high school in Pyongyang during her parents' tenure there as missionaries. What happened to North Korea? The nation's leaders and its people collectively turned their back on Christianity, allowing it to become a world pariah.

How does this apply to us today? As Lamb & Lion has declared for years, the United States is turning its back on God, willfully embracing a secular worldview that rejects Jesus Christ specifically. That truth is doubly tragic because we know better.

Founded on Christian principles, our nation once aspired to be a specifically Christian beacon to the world. Our founders pointed to the truth of Christianity when laying the foundations



for our republic. Our great universities were established to pursue truth as revealed by God and explicitly purposed to equip ministers and missionaries for the gospel of Jesus Christ. The "city on a hill" reference our politicians still cite today comes from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5.

Unlike those nations who cannot claim a Christian heritage or an unprecedented outpouring of the blessings of God, ours once would have been credited with righteousness. That is not to say that our nation has ever been perfect. Given the shortcomings we have manifested throughout our own history, America has never been truly righteous. But, like Noah and Abraham and countless other individuals in Scripture, our nation was credited with righteousness because it collectively believed in God. It purposed to follow His laws and uphold His precepts.

Just consider this: Every one of our 50 states, including those who joined the union well into the 20th Century, have written within the preamble to their Constitutions a clear statement of faith in God. They recognized that Almighty God is the source of all our blessings and they expressed gratitude to Him. Can you imagine a state including words like that in a constitution written in 2018?

How far we have fallen! Ruth Bell Graham is credited with saying, "If the Lord does not judge San Francisco, He will have to apologize to Sodom and Gomorrah." That should break our hearts. It should also convict us to avoid the false claim that America is still a Christian nation. We were certainly founded on Christian principles and blessed beyond measure. But today? As America tolerates sin and promotes ungodliness, it must certainly be an affront to God for anyone to call ours a Christian nation.

Other nations are also abandoning godly precepts in their



rush toward paganism. Even so-called Christian countries, like England, have embraced same-sex marriage and abortion — declaring this abominable behavior to be wholesome and good. In fact, most of Western Europe has abandoned any pretense of Christian faith.

### **Attitude Toward Israel Still Matters**

As we've already seen, one manifestation of a nation's determination to abide by the will of God is its willingness to bless Israel. Ammon and Moab learned that merely sneering at Israel's punishment by God's own hand earned His wrathful ire. With nations around the world aligning against Israel today, we can be assured that the cup of God's wrath is filling once again.

Our own nation remains Israel's strongest friend and ally, but our leaders have proven fickle at best — consistently insisting that Israel divide its Promised Land with its sworn enemies. That is one reason it is so important that Lamb & Lion offers regular pilgrimage opportunities. When our groups of committed Christians travel to Israel, we testify to God's continuing love for that land and its people, and we demonstrate that we stand with Israel and bear witness to Jesus — the Messiah of Gentile and Jew alike.

### **Your Calling in the Season of the Lord's Return**

So, what are we to do as followers of Jesus Christ? First, recognize where your primary allegiance lies. It is not as an American, or a member of a given political party or even as a member of a certain denomination. It is with Jesus Christ. (As a member of the Kentucky House of Representatives, I have personally and futilely appealed to numerous of my fellow legislators over the past 10 years to adhere to their professed Christian faith and support pro-life efforts. I have been repeatedly told, "Well, I'm a Democrat first.")

Our citizenship is not with this world. Do not imagine that God's throne is draped with the flag of any nation.

Second, understand that God expects you to be a conduit of His blessing wherever you are. If you find yourself in the deepest dungeon like Paul and Silas, bless the jailor and your fellow prisoners by praising God and testifying about Him. If you are thrown in jail after wrongly being accused (like Joseph), realize that God is not done with you, but may yet use you to bless an entire nation. Even if you are in captivity in a foreign land, serve there for the welfare of that people (Jeremiah's counsel to the Jewish captives in Babylon).

Finally, realize that your very presence may be the reason God is withholding His judgment. When God gave Noah a calling and a work, He held off the rain of judgment until Noah's work was finished. Until the Lord comes, there is a chance that those you are witnessing to may repent and come to believing faith in Jesus Christ.

Like Noah, we must be "preachers of righteousness," even as we know that the end is coming soon. Ours is not to gloat or take pleasure in the impending doom of millions around us. As eager as I am for the Rapture and Jesus' return in glory, I am convicted by Amos 5:18-20 on behalf of so many who do not know Him as Savior and Lord:

Alas, you who are longing for the day of the LORD, for what purpose will the day of the

LORD be to you? It will be darkness and not light; as when a man flees from a lion and a bear meets him, or goes home, leans his hand against a wall and a snake bites him. Will not the day of the LORD be darkness instead of light, even gloom with no brightness in it?

While I know the Rapture will be glorious for those who are among the Bride of Christ, for those who are left behind, the earth will become a living hell of unimaginable darkness. And later, at the Second Coming many will be condemned before the judgment seat of Christ.

That is why Paul lamented over the fact that his fellow Jews did not know the Lord:

I have great sorrow and unceasing grief in my heart, for I could wish that I myself were accursed, separated from Christ for the sake of my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh. (Romans 9:2-3)

Does your motivation to share the gospel run that deep? Do you feel great sorrow and unceasing grief when you consider the desperate condition of our nation and the lost individuals in it?

### **The Hope of the Nations**

There is only one solution to the sinful, rebellious condition of both nations and individuals. There is only one way to escape the judgment that awaits all who reject Jesus Christ:

Now therefore, O kings, show discernment; take warning O judges of the earth. Worship the LORD with reverence and rejoice with trembling. Do homage to the Son, that He not become angry, and you perish in the way, for His wrath may soon be kindled. How blessed are all who take refuge in Him. (Psalm 2:10-12) ✚



**Tim Moore**

Tim Moore is a Colonel in the U.S. Air Force Reserves. He serves in the Kentucky Legislature, and he is a pilot and pilot instructor for UPS. He also is an Associate Evangelist for Lamb & Lion Ministries, and in that capacity, he goes out on weekends and speaks at churches and conferences in behalf of this ministry.

Tim is also the one who hosts our pilgrimages to Israel. He will be leading our "Battle for Israel" Pilgrimage in May and will return to Israel in October to host our "Walking Where Jesus Walked" pilgrimage. If you are interested in having Tim speak at your church or conference, you can contact him

through this ministry. You can find more information about Tim on our website at [christinprophecy.org/?staff=tim-moore](http://christinprophecy.org/?staff=tim-moore).

# Zephaniah Stops the Youth Exodus

Nathan Jones

**A**bsolute devotion to Jesus Christ is tragically a rarity in this day and age. Just think about it. Living ensconced in the comfort of our Western cultural diversity and national Judeo-Christian roots, when have you ever been challenged to deny Christ or die? Probably never. And yet, Western Christians, especially the youth, are leaving their faith in Christ at an alarming rate.

According to a five-year study of young adults by the Barna Group, by age 15 a whopping 59% of Christian teens have dropped out of the faith. Of those who identify as Christian into the ages of 18-25, a staggering 38% have significant doubts about their faith.<sup>1</sup>

## The Youth Exodus

Why the mass exodus of Christian youth from their faith in God and church families? According to the Barna study, the most prevalent reason reported by those surveyed was their feeling that biblical morality had become old fashioned and therefore totally obsolete in our modern hedonistic society. The Bible, the youth believe, couldn't possibly stand against the appeal of a society which tells its people that they should be free of the moral constraints the Bible has placed on them.

Society woos us with the pretext that marriage is a dated and suffocating contract. It coerces us with the freedom that sex should be with whomever and whenever you want it. It consoles us that consequences can be avoided by a speedy abortion or STD vaccine. It lies to us that non-Christian religions are also truth. It swells us with pride when proclaiming we are the center of the universe and deserve all the best life has to offer, so go ahead and take it by any means. These are the falsehoods society rams down our throats through incessant advertising, marketing and the most effective tactic of all—peer pressure.

## The Weapon

Who are the most susceptible to society's anti-biblical teachings? According to Harvard Medical School psychologist Dr. John T. Chirban, it's the children. "Individuals often find themselves conforming to the group's norms, behaviors, attitudes, speech patterns and dress code to earn acceptance and approval."<sup>2</sup> In other words, our self-worth is tied to being accepted by our peers and society. Conform and you're cool and accepted, do not conform and you are ridiculed and ostracized. That's why Christian parents are repeatedly confronted by these statements from their children: "My friends are all doing it. Why shouldn't I?" "I don't want to be left out." "What if they don't like me anymore?"

When faced with choosing to be cool like their friends or being a fuddy-duddy like their parents and their "outdated" Bibles, many children invariably choose society. And, when society is the choice, what naturally follows is the abandonment of the child's reputed faith in God. The heart of the problem

remains their easily disposable faith, which had never been truly internalized as their own, and lasts only as long as it had been because it was riding on the coattails of their parent's faith.

## A Biblical Example



Despite the unwavering onslaught of societal peer pressure, our Christian children can still maintain their faith in God. The Minor Prophet Zephaniah dealt with it. For 57 years, the people of Judah under the wicked King Manasseh grew up knowing nothing about God or His ethical laws. This moral void left the people committing acts so heinous that they made the child-sacrificing Amorites look good by comparison. The evils committed by both Judah's king and his people were so utterly contemptuous that they greatly angered God.

The affluent and anti-moral political climate under which Zephaniah had been born into threatened to be very dangerous to a believer in God. Zephaniah and his contemporaries, the prophets Jeremiah and Nahum, had to be very careful about revealing their love of God and true faith in Him. Zephaniah served as a nobleman in the Jerusalem capital, assailed by evil from every direction. Yet, he did not surrender to the peer pressure to become as corrupt as his fellow aristocratic brethren. Zephaniah learned firsthand that the world will pressure you into becoming a spiritually complacent person by lying to you that the Lord will never punish evil. God's messenger was called to proclaim otherwise.

## The Solution

We all experience times in our lives when we've fallen into spiritual complacency, a condition that is easily identified. When trouble comes in life, we may run to the Lord for help, but only as a last resort. And, once that help is received, after a short time we find ourselves crawling back under the unspiritual blanket of apathy and sinful living. Some even become consumed by bitterness and despair when God's solution is to place challenges in our lives for the purpose of restoring a right relationship with Him. God inevitably rocks our world until we surrender.

Surrendering begins with us — the parents. Your children and grandchildren are watching you. Search your heart first and be honest with what you find. If spiritual apathy defines your present heart condition — and truly what a sad condition that is — then it's time to make a change. Get serious about God first before attempting to bolster your own children's faith.

Once you're right with God, don't be passive. Rather, become active in their spiritual development. They must see that Jesus is far more valuable than what the world has to offer. Model a Christlike life, clinging close to Him alone through



life's trials, and your children will then have a template to follow.

If you've never recognized spiritual fruit in their lives, then share the Gospel fresh with them. Don't depend on others to lead your own children to Christ. Your family remains your primary mission field. Challenge them to surrender their lives to Jesus Christ by praying from their heart for His salvation. Mile-mark and periodically celebrate their spiritual birthday when they obeyed the call to "seek the Lord, all you meek of the earth, who have upheld His justice" and "seek righteousness, seek humility" (Zephaniah 2:3).

Once saved or recommitted, allow your children to encounter situations where they must take a stand for Christ. Sure, it's scary as a parent, but over-sheltering your children actually impedes their faith walk. Begin with water baptism. They need to learn to publically give all of their life over to God to counter the pressures to conform to society's immorality. Taking a stand for Christ forges a faith that becomes one's own. In doing so, they will thereby gain the wisdom that brings true peace and an enduring trust in the Lord.

Be the spiritual leader by guiding them to grow in their relationship with Christ through daily Bible study and prayer. Anchor them to the wonders of fulfilled Bible prophecy and Apologetics, so they internalize that the Bible is in truth the very Word of God. Build a wall of protection against falling into faithlessness through accountable relationships with other believing peers by joining solid Christian groups. Encourage them to live outside of themselves in Christian leadership and service to others.

When your child's self-worth is tied to God's love rather than society's siren call, you can then be assured that their faith has been braced to weather life's pressures. ✚

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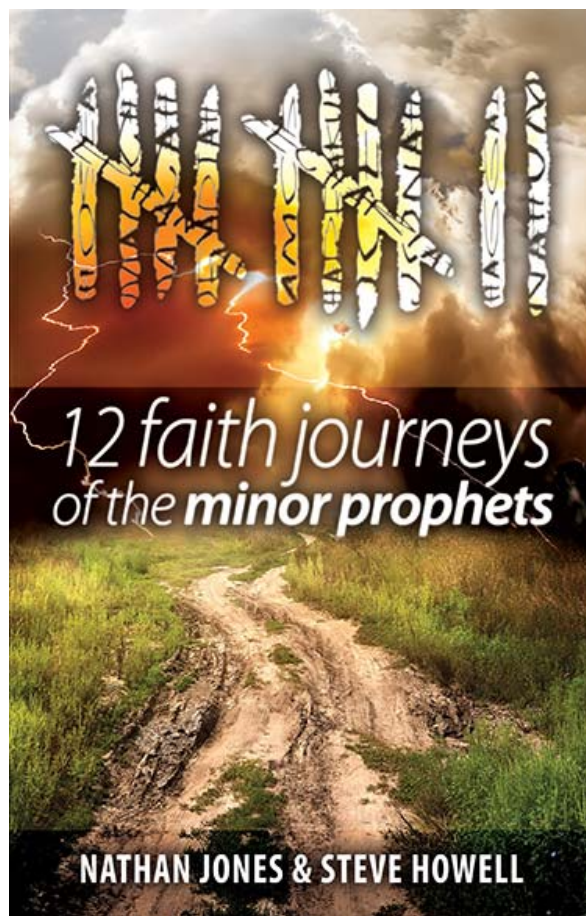
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Nathan Jones

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## An Outstanding Book on the Minor Prophets



### Observations by Dr. David R. Reagan

I grew up in what was often referred to as "A New Testament Church," and we rarely ever heard anything preached from the Old Testament. I was 30 years old before I discovered the Minor Prophets. I fell in love with them immediately, and I have studied them ever since.

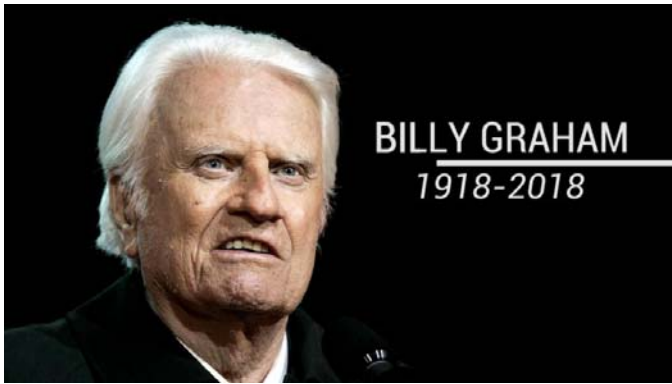
I had always had the impression that they were called "minor" prophets because their messages were not all that important. I later discovered that they had been given that name because of the brevity of their books, as compared to the Major Prophets.

It did not take me long to discover that their messages are very important. They are also fresh, as if they were written yesterday, and that is due, of course, to the fact that Mankind has not changed any since they were written.

I have read every book I could ever find on the Minor Prophets, and I can say without hesitation or exaggeration that this book is the best one I have ever encountered. I consider it to be must reading. I can guarantee you that if you read it, you will be blessed.

The book has a total of 314 pages and sells for \$20, including the cost of shipping. You can order it through our website at [lamblion.com](http://lamblion.com) or by calling our office at 972-736-3567. If you call, please do so Monday through Friday between 8am and 5pm Central time. ✚

## Billy Graham



(www.foxnews.com)

### Dr. David R. Reagan

**B**illy Graham died on February 21 of this year at his home in Montreat, North Carolina, at the age of 99.

During his remarkable lifetime, Billy reached more people with the Gospel than any evangelist who had ever lived. It is estimated that more than 200 million people attended one or more of his 400 evangelistic crusades. In March of 1995, he broadcast a sermon from Puerto Rico that was carried by 37 satellites to 185 nations and territories in a total of 117 different languages. I saw it while I was preaching in Poland.

### Prophetic Fulfillment

His ministry partially fulfilled two end time prophecies. The first is a prophecy in the book of Joel that says there will be two great outpourings of the Holy Spirit — what Joel referred to as the “early and latter rains” (Joel 2:23). The early rain began on the Day of Pentecost in approximately 30 AD when Peter preached the first Gospel sermon and 3,000 people responded by receiving Jesus as their Messiah (Acts 2:14-41).

Joel’s prophecy indicated that the second pouring out of God’s Spirit — “the latter rain” — would occur after the re-gathering of the Jewish people and the re-establishment of their state, which occurred on May 14, 1948 (Joel 2:18-23).

And, sure enough, the latter rain began a year later in October of 1949 when Billy Graham started a three week tent revival in Los Angeles that eventually extended to a total of eight weeks. For some reason, still unknown to this day, the media mogul of that time, William Randolph Hearst, sent a telegram to all his media outlets that simply read, “Puff Graham.”

The next day, Billy was besieged by reporters from all over the nation. Within a month his picture had appeared on the covers of most of the nation’s leading magazines, and he was being invited to hold crusades all across America and around the world. Billy’s ministry had taken off like a rocket, and it was to flash around the world like a brilliant comet during his lifetime.

The second prophecy that Billy’s ministry fulfilled in part was one spoken by Jesus. It is recorded in Matthew 24:14: “And the gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world for a witness to all the nations, and then the end shall come.”

This prophecy will not be completely fulfilled until near the end of the Tribulation, right before the final outpouring of God’s wrath in the Bowl Judgments. We are told in Revelation 14:6 that God, in His grace and mercy, will not execute His final judgments of the Tribulation until He sends forth an angel who will circumnavigate the earth, proclaiming the Gospel to every living person.

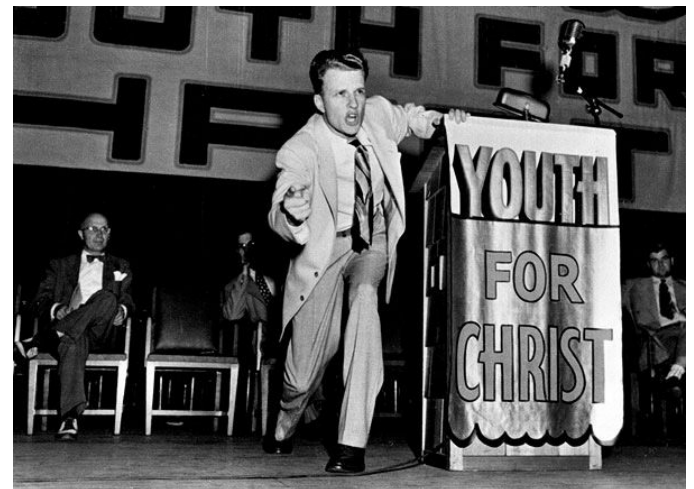
But, again, Billy’s ministry is the closest thing we have thus far experienced to true worldwide evangelism. The only thing that comes even close to it is the ministry of The Jesus Film Project ([www.jesusfilm.org](http://www.jesusfilm.org)).

### A Ministry of Integrity

One thing I always respected about Billy’s ministry was his moral and financial integrity. He fully realized his human frailties, and he took positive action to keep them in check. In November of 1948, before he became famous, he and his evangelism team met in a hotel in Modesto, California and drew up a document of ministry guidelines that came to be known as “The Modesto Manifesto.” It addressed the three main problems that had destroyed many ministries: sex, money and power.

In the manifesto they laid down principles for handling money. They pledged to be accountable to each other regarding their relationships with women. They also pledged to avoid sensationalism, inflated publicity and criticism of local pastors. And they promised to actively pursue follow-up to those who responded to Billy’s invitations. Later, in 1979, Billy played a key role in the establishment of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA) which requires its parachurch members to provide full financial disclosure.

The result of all these efforts is that The Billy Graham Evangelistic Association was never afflicted with a breath of scandal. Controversy, yes. Scandal, no.



**Billy preaching at a Youth for Christ crusade in 1946.**

(Billy Graham Evangelistic Association)

### Controversies

One of the first national controversies occurred in 1953 at one of Billy’s crusades in Chattanooga, Tennessee. He personally removed the rope that local organizers had placed in the crusade tent to separate Blacks from Whites, and he declared, “Church people should be the first to step forward and practice what Christ taught — that there is no difference in the sight of



God.” His brave action marked the end of segregated seating at his meetings in the Deep South.

Greater controversy was generated over the years as Billy warmed up to Catholic leaders, including the Popes. And this controversy became white hot when he started turning over response cards from Catholics to local Catholic parishes. There were rumors as early as 1950 that his staff was doing this, but they issued a strong denial that read: “. . . that you should give any credence to the idea that Mr. Graham would ever turn over any decision cards to the Roman Catholic Church seems inconceivable.” But by the early 1970s this was being done openly at all his crusades. To Fundamentalists, as well as many Evangelicals, it was astounding that people responding to the Gospel would be referred to Catholic priests who knew little, if anything about the Gospel.

**8 GREAT DAYS of REVIVAL MEETINGS**

will be conducted at the  
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The Young People of Peniel will  
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and  
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**EVERY EVENING AT 7:30**

FLORIDA C.E. NEWS PRINT

Poster advertising a revival meeting to be conducted by students of the Florida Bible Institute, where Billy was a student. This was in 1937 when Billy was 19 years old. ([www.karmel.net/2018/03/06/billy-graham-amerikas-pastor-stedt-til-hvile](http://www.karmel.net/2018/03/06/billy-graham-amerikas-pastor-stedt-til-hvile))

### Relationship with Presidents

Billy was very well known for his associations with all the Presidents from Truman to Obama. This often prompted controversy as he was criticized for seeming to favor one candidate over another. He was particularly close to President Nixon, and after many of the Nixon White House tapes were opened to the public in 1974, Billy was shocked over the President's vile language and his duplicity.

The tapes seem to jolt Billy into an awakening of how he had most likely been used by many of the Presidents for their political purposes. But, in typical Billy Graham style, he responded by saying, that he had probably used them as well. Nonetheless, he decided to avoid political entanglements thereafter.

Billy's worst controversy occurred in 2002 when more tapes from the Nixon White House were released. They contained a



**Billy Graham with Richard Nixon in 1968.**  
(Billy Graham Evangelistic Association)

conversation between Nixon and Billy in which the President unloaded some crude anti-Semitic remarks, and Billy agreed with them and even added some of his own. It was totally out of character for Billy, particularly since he had always gone out of his way to speak kindly of the Jewish people and to support Israel. Billy tried to nip the controversy in the bud by quickly apologizing profusely. But the revelation left a scar on his heritage.

### The Preacher

Billy's overwhelming success as a preacher was a mystery to many people, including other preachers. They often dismissed his sermons as "lightweight," "superficial" and "simplistic."

What they did not seem to grasp is that Billy preached the Bible and stayed focused on the Cross, and because of this, he received a heavy anointing of the Holy Spirit. Here's how Billy described it:

If God should take His hands off my life, my lips would turn to clay. I'm no great intellectual, and there are thousands of men who are better preachers than I am. You can't explain me if you leave out the supernatural. I am but a tool of God.

Billy kept his sermons simple on purpose. He did not feel called to preach theology. His desire was to preach Jesus as the only hope for Mankind. Here's how he once put it: "My one purpose in life is to help people find a personal relationship with God, which I believe comes from knowing Christ." Al Mohler, the President of Southern Theological Seminary, summed it up this way:

Billy Graham's simple gospel message came down to human sin, and the fact that every single human being is a sinner and that our plight is absolutely impossible, except for the fact that God in Christ made atonement for our sins.

Billy once said that his task was not mass evangelism, but personal evangelism on a mass scale. His sermons were therefore tailored in such a way that people often felt he was talking directly to them.

When Pastor Robert Jeffress of the First Baptist Church in Dallas was asked to comment about Billy's heritage, he empha-

sized how totally focused Billy was on delivering the simple Gospel message. He said Billy was so obsessed with this message that when he was asked to do a microphone check, he never said, "Testing, one, two, three . . ." Instead, he always started quoting John 3:16 because it contained the essence of his message.

### Wrestling with God

In an article that Billy wrote in 1956, he revealed that in 1959, before his famous Los Angeles revival in October of that year, he had experienced a crisis of faith. He called it "the intellectual battle of my life." He was wrestling with what he thought were "apparent contradictions in the Scriptures."

In August of 1959, he took this spiritual battle with him to a Presbyterian retreat and conference center located in the mountains outside of Los Angeles. A few days after his arrival, he went hiking in the woods, when he suddenly felt compelled to kneel on the ground before an open Bible. He cried out:

Lord, many things in this book I do not understand. But you have said, 'The just shall live by faith' . . . Here and now, by faith, I accept the Bible as Your Word. I take it all. I take it without reservations . . . If this pleases You, give me authority as I proclaim Your Word, and through that authority, convict me of sin and turn sinners to the Savior.



**Billy Graham and his wife, Ruth, on their 50th wedding anniversary in 1993.** (Billy Graham Evangelistic Association)

### Ruth Bell Graham

Another key to Billy's success was his wife, Ruth, who died in June of 2007 at the age of 88. She was born in China to medical missionary parents, and she grew up dreaming of becoming a missionary to Tibet. She surrendered that hope to Billy's career and to the care and raising of their five children (two boys and



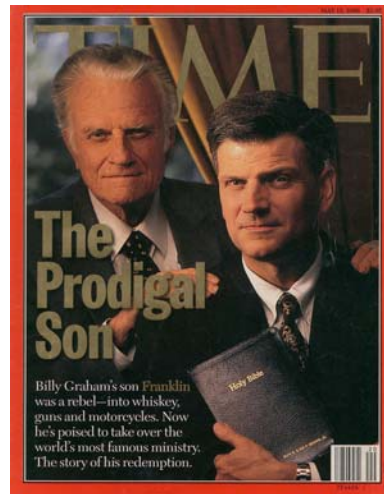
**The Graham family in 1962. The youngest child, Ned, is sitting next to his mother. The other children in the background, left to right, are Franklin, Anne, Virginia ("Gigi") and Ruth ("Bunny").**

(Billy Graham Evangelistic Association)

three girls). And with Billy gone most of the time, her nurturing of the children was a full time job. She was once asked how she felt about Billy's prolonged absences. Her response: "I'd rather have a little of Billy than a lot of any other man."

Ruth was a voracious reader who constantly supplied Billy with sermon illustrations and references for his books.

### Succession



**Time Magazine, May 13, 1996**

In 1995, the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association announced that Billy's son, Franklin, would succeed his father as the leader of the ministry. This type of family transition within a ministry often does not work well because the family member selected to receive the mantle does not have an anointing of God.

But this has proved not to be the case with Franklin. However, he is not anointed to be an evangelist like his father.

Instead, he has been given the anointing of a prophet, and thus, unlike his dad, Franklin is a very blunt-speaking person on the cutting edge of the culture war. Meanwhile, other members of the family continue the evangelistic thrust, including Billy's daughter, Anne Graham Lotz, and Franklin's son, Will.

So, the Graham heritage marches on, continuing to touch souls around the world. It can best be summed up with the following statement by Billy:

The greatest legacy one can pass on to one's children and grandchildren is not money or other material things accumulated in one's life, but rather a legacy of character and faith. ❖



# The Real Reason for School Violence

**Dr. David R. Reagan**

**W**hy have our schools become so violent? All across our nation people who are fed up with school violence are demonstrating in behalf of gun control.

But guns are not the basic problem. I graduated from high school in Waco, Texas in 1956. There were 450 in my graduating class, and on any given day there would be two or three dozen pickup trucks in the school parking lot equipped with gun racks. Many of those racks would contain three guns — a deer rifle, a .22 rifle and a shotgun. Yet, no one worried about some student shooting up the school.

One of my best friends who is my age grew up in Amarillo, Texas. When he was 14 years old, he rode his bike into town and purchased a rifle. No questions were asked. No background checks were made. The boy wanted a gun, and the store sold it to him.

## A Radical Cultural Shift

So, what has changed in the 60 years since 1956? There is a poem circulating on the Internet that points to the answer. It has been around since the 1980's, and the author is unknown. It has been edited many times over the years. The latest edition is produced below.

### The New School Prayer

Now I sit me down in school,  
Where praying is against the rule.  
For this great nation under God,  
Finds mention of Him very odd.

If Scripture now the class recites,  
It violates the Bill of Rights.  
And anytime my head I bow  
Becomes a Federal matter now.

Our hair can be purple, orange or green,  
That's no offense; it's a freedom scene.  
The law is specific, the law is precise.  
Prayers spoken aloud are a serious vice.

For praying in a public hall  
Might offend someone with no faith at all.  
In silence alone we must meditate,  
God's name is prohibited by the state.

We're allowed to cuss and dress like freaks,  
And pierce our noses, tongues and cheeks.  
They've outlawed guns, but FIRST the Bible.  
To quote the Good Book makes me liable.

We can elect a pregnant Senior Queen,  
And the "unwed daddy," our Senior King.  
It's "inappropriate" to teach right from wrong,  
We're taught that such "judgments" do not belong.

We can get our condoms and birth controls,  
Study witchcraft, vampires and totem poles.  
But the Ten Commandments are not allowed,  
No word of God must reach this crowd.

It's scary here I must confess,  
When chaos reigns the school's a mess.  
So, Lord, this silent plea I make:  
Should I be shot; My soul please take!  
Amen

As this poem clearly indicates, the reason for school violence is not guns. The reason is that we have kicked God out of our schools.

I started public school in 1944, and until I graduated in 1956, we had a daily Bible reading and prayer. We had Easter plays and Christmas pageants. We were taught Christian morals. In fact, one of my English readers in high school consisted of Bible stories with a moral clearly stated at the end of each story. When I graduated from high school, we had what was called a baccalaureate service the day before our graduation ceremony. It consisted of a worship service and a sermon by a local pastor.

Since that time, our Supreme Court has outlawed Bible reading and prayer in the public schools. It has even declared it to be unconstitutional for the Ten Commandments to be displayed. The Court has also stopped the teaching of Creationism as an alternative to Evolution. In this regard, in the words of Romans 1:18, we as a nation are guilty of "suppressing the truth in unrighteousness."

## Reaping What We've Sown

When we banned God from our schools and proceeded to teach children that they are descended from apes, why are we surprised when they start acting like wild animals? When we saturate them with violent movies, TV shows and video games, why are we surprised when they resort to violence?

This nation is raising a whole generation of moral pygmies, and all the gun control imaginable is not going to stop the violence.

We are reaping what we have sown. Theologians refer to the result as "abandonment wrath" — the kind of wrath exhibited by God when He turns His back on a rebellious person or society, allowing self-destruction.

We have thumbed our nose at God. We have barred Him from our schools. We have made a mockery of His Word. And He has responded by stepping back, lowering His hedge of protection and allowing evil to run its course. ✚



# Incredible Outreach

**Dr. David R. Reagan**

The Lord has graciously blessed us with an outreach via television that is beyond anything I could ever have imagined. Within the United States we now have access to 110 million homes! And through the Daystar satellite system, we have access to every nation in the world. We praise God for this blessing, and we thank our supporters for their prayers and their faithful and generous donations.

We continue to look for opportunities to expand our TV outreach to local stations, and we are being ably assisted in that effort by a wonderful media expert, Erich Lau, president of Lighthouse Media in Chandler, Arizona.

In February, I was invited to travel to Oklahoma City to appear as a guest on the Prophecy Watchers TV program that is hosted by Gary Stearman. We shot two programs, one about my book, *Israel in Bible Prophecy: Past, Present & Future*, and the other about my book, *God's Prophetic Voices to America*.



Gary Stearman interviews Dr. Reagan.

## 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. & Fri. 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 (gebamerica.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 & Area Stations:

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

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

**KDAF** — Dallas-Ft. Worth area broadcast station, Sun. 8:00am CT, channel 33 (cw33.com).

**KFJX** — Joplin, MO, Sun. 7:30am, CT, channel 14 (fox14tv.com). **NEW!**

**KSCE** — El Paso broadcast station, Sun. 10:30am MT, DirecTV & DISH Local 38, AT&T U-verse 38, (kscetv.com).

**KUBE** — Houston, TX, Sun. 8am CT, AT&T U-verse 57, Comcast cable 53, DirecTV & DISH local 57 (http://kub57.com). **NEW!**

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

**WATC** — Atlanta, GA, Sun. 8:30am ET, channel 57 (http://watc.tv). **NEW!**

**WBNA** — Louisville, KY, Sun. 8:30am ET, channel 21 (www.wbna21.com). **NEW!**

**WCCB** — Charlotte, NC, Sun. 7:00am ET, channel 18 (ccbcharlotte.com).

**WTOG-TV** — Tampa and St. Petersburg, FL, Sun. 8:30 ET, channel 44 (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. ✚



### 1) Television and Video

Broadcast 52 weeks of *Christ in Prophecy* TV programs over 13 national networks with access to over 110 million homes inside the United States. Also provided access to our programs on demand on 7 Internet websites.  
Broadcast via Daystar satellites to almost every nation in the world.  
Added 6 regional stations in Dallas/Ft. Worth, Houston, Tampa Bay, Louisville, Charlotte, and Joplin..  
Produced 34 new *Christ in Prophecy* TV programs and revised 8 others.  
Ended the year with the broadcast of our 799th television program.  
Produced 3 new video albums, and reproduced and distributed thousands of DVD video programs.

### 2) Internet and Website

Sent out 28 e-newsletters to 66,000+ subscribers, sharing biblical messages and the electronic *Lamplighter* magazine.  
Experienced an average of 144,000 unique visitors monthly downloading 509,000 pages per month.  
Blogged at christinprophecyblog.org posting 181 new articles.  
Exceeded 52,000 downloads of the Lamb & Lion App.  
Ministered to 17,000+ Facebook group members and 10,500+ Twitter fans.  
Live-streamed our annual Bible conference to nearly 7,000 viewers.  
Streamed over 330 different *Christ in Prophecy* TV shows.  
Produced 8 new "The Inbox" short video teachings.  
Answered thousands of Bible prophecy email questions.

### 3) Preaching and Teaching

Completed a total of 32 speaking engagements:  
19 Weekend conferences at churches.  
13 Bible prophecy conferences.  
Participated in 43 media interviews and programs.

### 4) Publications

Published a Holy Land calendar for 2018.  
Continued publishing our books as e-books.  
Continued publishing many of our materials in Spanish.  
Continued publishing a version of our magazine in India.  
Published *Israel in Bible Prophecy: Past, Present & Future*.  
Published *God's Prophetic Voices to America*.  
Published books in Pakistan in the Urdu language.  
Produced 6 issues of the Ministry's magazine, *The Lamplighter*.  
Increased circulation of magazine from 46,000 to 72,000.



Dr. Reagan and Nathan Jones on our TV set.

### 5) Missions

Supplied \$51,500 for relief aid to Nigerian Christian refugees who were fleeing from Muslim terrorists.  
Supplied \$6,500 to provide a water well for the Nigerian Christian refugee camp.  
Provided regular monthly financial support to 23 missions — 8 domestic and 15 foreign.  
Donated a total of more than \$341,000 in cash and services to missions.

### 6) Israel

Conducted one Holy Land pilgrimage.  
Provided financial assistance to several ministries in Israel.

### 7) Conferences

Conducted our annual Bible conference with 800 attendees.  
Conducted our first regional Bible prophecy conference in Frankfort, Kentucky.  
Participated in 13 Bible prophecy conferences sponsored by other ministries.

### 8) Finances

Received 23,855 gifts from 5,028 donors.  
Ended the year with 2,619 Prophecy Partners.  
Received re-certification as a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability.  
Received a four star rating (the highest possible) from Charity Navigator for the 13th year in a row.  
Ended the calendar year with all bills paid in full for the 37th year in a row.



# The Lamb & Lion Board of Trustees



The Lamb & Lion Board of Trustees met in March for one of its three annual meetings (March, August and December). The board is composed of 22 trustees, and all but one was present.

The board is the owner of the ministry, and it determines all the ministry's principles of operations. It also oversees the ministry's finances. One of the very important principles the board established in 1980 was for the ministry to operate debt free. Accordingly, the ministry is blessed to be completely debt free. We owe nothing on our buildings, grounds and equipment except for a mailing machine which we lease.

Another operating principle that has existed from the beginning concerns Dr. Reagan's compensation. The board decided that Dave would always be on a salary that they would determine and which would be provided through their donations to the ministry. Thus, no donations made to the ministry by other people have ever gone to Dr. Reagan.

The ministry is a member in good standing of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability. Our annual audit is posted on our website. Monthly financial statements are available on request. The ministry has received the highest possible rating from Charity Navigator for 13 years in a row. ✚



## *Spreading the Gospel Worldwide!*

Did you know that your financial support of less than \$1.00 per day as a **Prophecy Partner** can impact someone's eternity?

Join us in boldly proclaiming the Good News of Jesus' soon return to a world looking for Hope.

To partner with us, visit [lamblion.com/donate](http://lamblion.com/donate) or contact us at (972) 736-3567, M-F, 8a-5p CST.



**BE A PART. BE BOLD. PROCLAIM JESUS.**



## Bible Prophecy —

“What we do on earth will reverberate in the halls of Heaven forever.” — Robert Jeffress, Pastor of First Baptist Church in Dallas.

“Those who spiritualize Bible prophecy end up telling lies.” — Andy Woods, President of the Chafer Theological Seminary in Albuquerque.

“Bible prophecy is not meant to scare you but to prepare you.” — Ed Hindson, Dean of the School of Divinity at Liberty University.

“I believe that in our glorified bodies we will be able to travel at the speed of thought.” — Tim LaHaye, Bible prophecy teacher and writer (1926-2016).

Regarding the interpretation of prophecy: “Contracts or Covenants are always meant to be interpreted literally — never symbolically. Don’t you wish you could interpret your mortgage symbolically?” — Charles Clough, spokesman for Bible Framework Ministries and Chairman of the Board of Chafer Theological Seminary in Albuquerque.

“The Tribulation receives more space in the Bible than any other historical period described, whether it be past or future. Compare, for example, the period known as the Millennial Kingdom. We would be hard-pressed to find a dozen chapters in the Bible that describe this incredible 1000-year period. And yet, the short seven-year Tribulation is mentioned 49 times in the Old Testament, given two chapters each in both Matthew and Luke, one chapter in Mark and 13 chapters in the book of Revelation, among others. In fact the only subject in the New Testament that is given more space than the Tribulation is the subject of Jesus Himself.” — Tim LaHaye, from *The Popular Handbook on The Rapture* by Tim LaHaye, Tommy Ice and Ed Hindson.

“The Bible says that believers in the last generation will not experience physical death, but will be caught up in what is called the ‘Rapture’ — the ‘snatching away’ to meet Jesus in the air and be reunited with loved ones who have died in Christ and have gone before us. It will be the trip of a lifetime — a trip that is out of this world. Are you ready?” — Anne Graham Lotz, daughter of Billy Graham and head of Angel Ministries.

“... if you are aware of Christ’s imminent return, that will impact your desire to witness to others about the Gospel. If we take prophecy seriously, it will affect the way we live. Some of the most energetic people I know in the Church have been transformed by their study of prophecy. They’re ministry oriented, reaching out to the lost because they understand what will happen in the future. Prophecy is intensely practical — it is the driving force behind evangelism and righteous living.” — David Jeremiah, Pastor of Shadow Mountain Church in El Cajon, CA.

“Bible prophecy was given to show and to reveal — not to puzzle and veil.” — Paul Lee Tan, Bible prophecy expert and author of *The Interpretation of Prophecy*.

“I believe God knows how to communicate. I believe He says what He means and means what He says. I don’t believe you have to have a doctorate in hermeneutics to understand the Bible. The essentials, instead, are an honest heart and the in-dwelling of God’s Spirit.” — David R. Reagan.



## Glenn Meredith —

Glenn Meredith is the Pastor of Brookhaven Church in McKinney, Texas — the church that Dr. Reagan attends. The quotes below are taken from sermon notes made by Dr. Reagan.

“The guillotine, the hangman’s noose and the electric chair — no one would think of wearing one of these symbols because they represent instruments of execution. Yet, we wear crosses, and the cross is also an instrument of execution. The other methods are all swift. The cross was designed to be the most excruciating form of drawn-out, tortuous death. Yet, we wear crosses. Why? Because through the sacrifice of Jesus on a cross, the cross was transformed into a symbol of God’s love.”

“The Bible says if you will draw near to God, He will draw near to you (James 4:8). That means you and I are as close to God today as we want to be.”

“Why do some prayers go unanswered? Because the will of God is a safety net for us.”

“The Holy Spirit speaks the way He writes. Since He wrote the Bible, the more familiar you are with His Word, the easier it will be for You to recognize His voice when He speaks to you.”



Glenn Meredith

## Corrie ten Boom —



Corrie ten Boom (1892-1983) was a Dutch Christian. She and the rest of her family were sent to Nazi concentration camps for hiding Jews in their home. She was the only member of her family to survive. She spent the rest of her life traveling the world witnessing Jesus. She referred to herself as “A Tramp for the Lord.” She is best known for her book, *The Hiding Place*, which was made into a movie.

“If you look at yourself, you will become depressed. If you look at the world, you will become distressed. If you look at Jesus, you

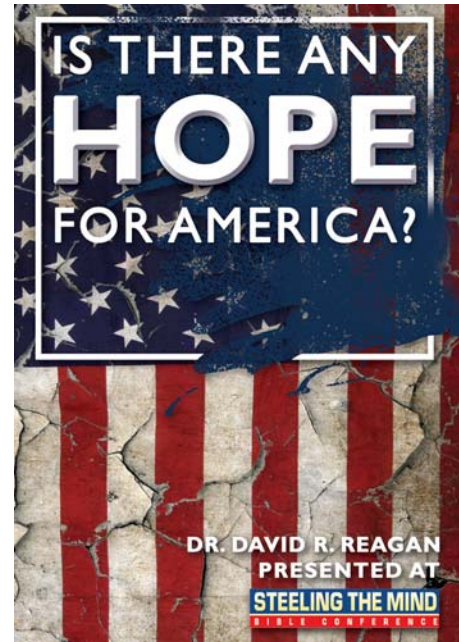
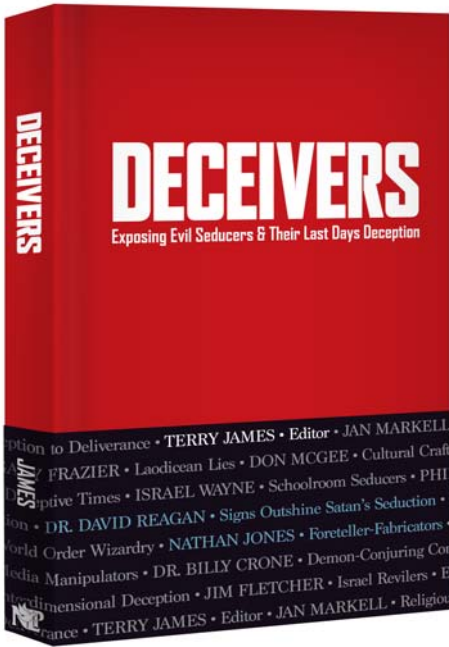
will find rest.”

“Worry does not empty tomorrow of its sorrow, it empties today of its strength.”

“This is what the past is for — every experience God gives us, every person He puts in our lives, is the perfect preparation for the future that only He can see.”

“Hold everything in your hands lightly, otherwise it hurts when God pries your fingers open.” ❖

# New Bible Prophecy Study Resources



Indoctrination disguised as education. The religion of climate change enshrined. Witchcraft and the occult made mainstream. Fake news. We live in a world where deception is rampant and true agendas are rarely revealed.

Jesus foretold of this time as He answered His disciples' question: What will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age? Bible prophecy experts present analyses of today's issues and events in *Deceivers*, revealing that Christ's prophecy is literally unfolding before us today.

A collection of essays by 12 leading experts.

- Discover false prophets hiding behind the thin veneer of religious half-truths.
- Unveil the globalist agenda behind diplomatic, judicial, and political hypocrisy.
- Go behind misleading headlines and entertainment illusions to discern the truth.

The editor, Terry James, is the author, general editor and co-author of numerous books on Bible prophecy. He is also the co-host of the Rapture Ready website.

The authors include, among others, Gary Frazier, Michael Hile, Jim Fletcher, Gary Stearman, Phillip Goodman, Daymond Duck and Jan Markell. Dr. Reagan and Nathan Jones also contributed chapters to the book.

The book is a hardback that runs 335 pages in length. It sells for \$25, including the cost of shipping.

This video album was recorded as Dr. Reagan spoke to a Stealing the Mind Conference in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

It begins with an in-depth analysis of America's number one enemy — namely, the religious philosophy of Humanism. Dr. Reagan demonstrates how this philosophy has been the religion of Satan from the beginning and continues to be so today. He traces the history of its growing influence in the United States during the 20th Century, and he shows how it generated the culture war that is raging in our nation today.

Dr. Reagan then turns to a survey of the prophetic voices that God has raised up in this nation since 1944 to speak out against the ungodly philosophy of Humanism and to warn of its impending dangers. He covers four of those voices in the past and nine on the scene today.

He concludes his presentation by addressing his remarks to the title of the album. He asserts that God has given the nation a window of grace through the election of President Trump, but he strongly warns that the future destruction of this nation has been sealed by its overwhelming rebellion against God and His Word. In the process, he presents sobering evidence that Christians have lost the culture war and America has crossed the line of no return in its rejection of God.

The presentation closes with Dr. Reagan teaching that although our nation may not have any hope, both believers and unbelievers have great hope in Jesus.

The video runs 48 minutes in length. It sells for \$20, including the cost of shipping.

**Special Offer:** We can supply both of these items — the book and the video — for \$35, including the cost of shipping. To place your order for either one or both, call our office at 972-736-3567 Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm Central time. Or, place your order through our website at [www.lamblion.com](http://www.lamblion.com). If you desire to purchase both, please ask for offer number 381.



# Ministry News

## Schedule of Activities —

### May:

Vic Batista & Nathan Jones radio program in Miami, FL at 5:30pm ET on 102.3 FM. Also streamed on Facebook & Twitter (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).

### June:

Vic Batista & Nathan Jones radio program (6,13,20,27).

Display at the North American Christian Convention in Indianapolis hosted by trustee Darryl Nunnolley (26-28).

### July:

Vic Batista & Nathan Jones radio program (4,11,18,25).

Lamb & Lion Annual Bible Conference (13-14).

Dave Reagan at the Brookhaven Church in McKinney, TX (29 - evening only).

### August:

Vic Batista & Nathan Jones radio program (1,18,15,22, 29).

Dave Reagan at the David Hocking Prophecy Conference in the Los Angeles area, site yet to be determined (3-4).

### September:

Vic Batista & Nathan Jones radio program (5,12,19,26).

Nathan Jones at East Ridge Baptist Church in Lake Charles, LA (26).

Dave Reagan at Maranatha Ministry's Bible Prophecy Conference at Trinity Baptist Church in Lake Charles, LA (28-29).

Dave Reagan at the Brookhaven Church in McKinney (30).

## Holy Land Pilgrimage —



Our regular Holy Land Pilgrimage is scheduled for October 13 thru 24 of this year. It is a comprehensive spiritual tour that includes two nights in Tel Aviv on the shore of the Mediterranean Sea, two nights at Tiberias on the shore of the Sea of Galilee and five nights in Jerusalem. The trip lasts a total of 12 days, with ten days in Israel. The group will be led by

Tim Moore, our associate evangelist, and he will be assisted by Rachel Houck, our chief operating officer. Some of the highlights include: Independence Hall in Tel Aviv, the historical port of Jaffa, the Roman port of Caesarea Maritime, the Crusader port of Akko, the picturesque city of Haifa, Jesus' childhood home of Nazareth, the towns in the Galilee where Jesus ministered, the ancient fortress of Megiddo, the incredible excavations at Biet She'an, Herod's fortress on the Dead Sea called Masada and all the major sites in Jerusalem that relate to the life of Jesus, including a communion service at the Garden Tomb. One highlight that people never forget is a cruise across the Sea of Galilee. For details as to cost, call our office for a brochure (972-736-3567) or check our website (lamblion.com).

## Conferences —

Our next regional conference is scheduled to be held at the 412 Church in San Jacinto, California on May 18-19. It will begin Friday evening with a concert by a Messianic band called Lev Shelo ("His Heart"), followed by a keynote address to be delivered by Billy Crone. The conference will continue all day Saturday with presentations by Don Perkins, Tom Hughes, Nathan Jones and Dave Reagan. The conference is free of charge. You can register at 412church.org. Click on "Events" and then scroll down the page to the advertisement of our conference.

Our annual conference, scheduled for July 13-14 is full. But the conference will be live-streamed free over the Internet, so you can watch it there. Just go to our website on the day of the conference and you will see a link to the live-streaming.

## The Hollingsworths —



Jack & Sally

We announced earlier this year that Jack Hollingsworth, the man who was the featured singer on our TV program for 15 years, died suddenly of a heart attack in November of last year. His wonderful wife, Sally, who brought him to the Lord after he had lived on the streets as a homeless person for 20 years, died peacefully in her sleep in March. Through the generous donations of our supporters, we are go-

ing to be able to supply a granite tombstone that will be at the head of both of their graves. They were buried in the cemetery of a rural Methodist church located near Panama City, Florida. We are confident that Jack is now dancing before the Lord and Sally is egging him on!

## Amazon Purchases —

Instead of going to amazon.com to shop, please consider going to [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com). This is Amazon's site where a portion of what you purchase is given to an organization of your choice. Just designate Lamb & Lion Ministries in McKinney, Texas to receive your support. You only have to sign up one time, and then the next time you sign in to Amazon Smile, it will remember you and Lamb & Lion. A total of .05% of your purchase will be given to us. Thanks!

## Prophecy Partners —

Our goal is 3,000 Prophecy Partners. We are currently approaching 2,800. If you believe our message that we are living in the season of the Lord's return, please consider helping us proclaim that message worldwide by becoming one of our Prophecy Partners. You can find detailed information about our Prophecy Partner Program on our website at [lamblion.com](http://lamblion.com). If you would like to talk to one of our staff members about the program, call 972-736-3567 and ask to speak to our Finance Associate, Todd Hutchinson. Just ask for "Hutch." ❖



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## Dr. Reagan's Comprehensive Book About Bible Prophecy

First published in 2005, this book has gone through many printings since that time. It covers every aspect of Bible prophecy.

The book is divided into five sections: Prophetic Significance, Prophetic Issues, Prophetic Viewpoints, Prophetic Signs and Prophetic Hope. It concludes with a Prophetic Epilogue in which Dr. Reagan presents a verse-by-verse explanation of Psalm 2, which is one of the greatest prophetic passages in the Scriptures.

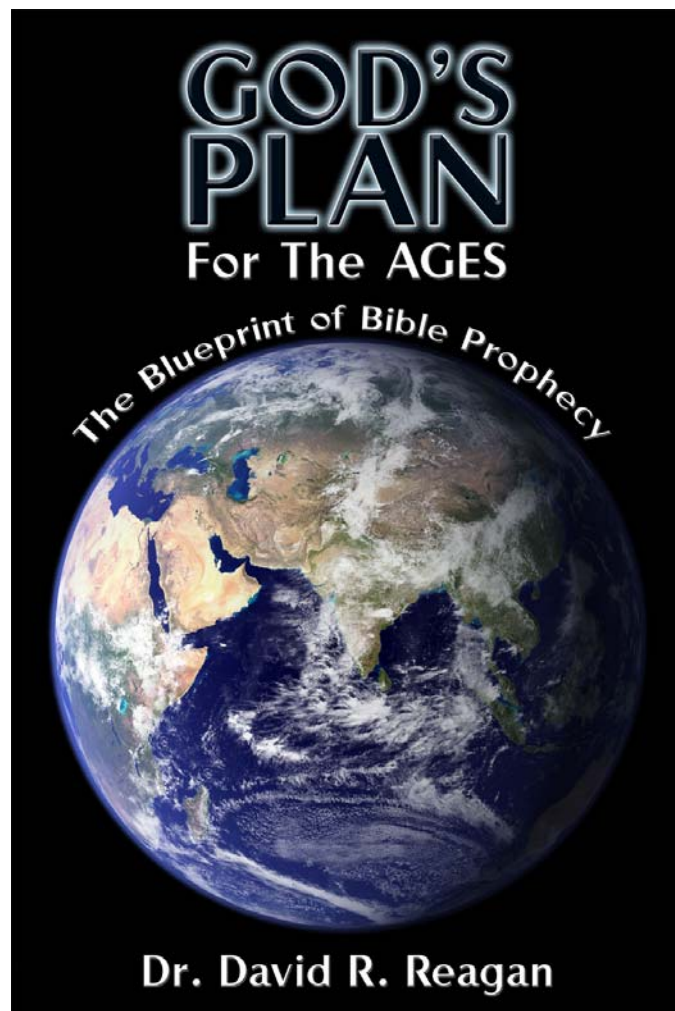
There are a total of 42 chapters plus the epilogue, and one of the features of the book is that each chapter stands on its own. In other words, this is not a book that has to be read in order, from beginning to end. Instead, you can skip around and read any chapter you may be particularly interested in.

When the renowned Bible prophecy teacher, Jack Van Impe, read this book, he sent out a letter to his supporters in which he said:

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

As I studied this extraordinary volume, I not only repeatedly marked passages (nearly 60 separate times), but I also wrote "Wow!" very often. That's some kind of record for me.

This book literally covers scores of prophetic signs and details that numerous scholars have missed. I, as one who has more than



100,000 hours of study in God's Word, was spiritually blessed beyond measure.

The book was not written for theologians, and you do not have to have a seminary degree to understand it. It is written in Dr. Reagan's regular down-to-earth, easy-to-understand style.

The book runs a total of 415 pages. It sells for \$20, including the cost of shipping. To order, call 972-736-3567 Monday thru Friday, 8am to 5pm Central time, or place your order through our website at [lamblion.com](http://lamblion.com). ✚