

LAMPLIGHTER

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

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A portrait of Robert Jeffress, a middle-aged man with short grey hair, smiling. He is wearing a dark blue suit jacket, a white shirt, and a red tie with thin white diagonal stripes. He is standing in front of a large window, with a blurred city street and trees visible in the background.

Robert Jeffress
An End Time Prophet to America



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Observations by the Editor

Answered Prayer

One of the spiritual principles I have taught since the establishment of this ministry is that the God of the Bible is the God of today. He has not changed. He is still on the throne. He still hears prayers. He still answers prayers. And He still performs miracles (Mal. 3:6 and Heb. 13:8).

And when God answers one of my prayers, especially a prayer I have been praying a long time, I try always to share that fact with as many people as possible, in order to encourage them to be faithful and persistent in their prayers.

A Family Member

Four years ago when the severe economic downturn occurred, my daughter, Ruth, lost two businesses that she had been operating for 17 years. She moved in with my wife and me and started looking for a job. She soon discovered that every job she was interested in had 100 or more applicants. She worked at a variety of minimal jobs while she searched for a career position.

Well, the search went on and on while her mother and I prayed fervently for the Lord to open a door for her to an outstanding career position. After three and a half years of praying, the Lord suddenly provided her with a career position that was beyond our wildest expectations, and He did it in a way that left no doubt that He had orchestrated it.

We had to go through a long dry spell, but through it all, the Lord drew my daughter into a deeper relationship with Him, and He renewed and refreshed our relationship with her.

Our TV Program

In like manner, all of us here at Lamb & Lion Ministries began praying several years ago for the Lord to make it possible for us to begin broadcasting our television program over the Trinity Broadcasting Network (TBN), the Christian network with the largest outreach in the world.

But despite all our efforts to get a time slot on TBN, we kept coming up empty-handed. But we persevered, praying for the Lord's will to be done, and thus willing to accept a permanent "No!" from Him, if that was His will.



Dr. David R. Reagan

But it was not. In His perfect timing, He opened the door for us on August 30 when we received the news that we had been granted a time slot by TBN.

A Trustee

Last year one of our trustees suffered a rapid series of strokes that destroyed his memory. He became very agitated when he could not recognize anyone, and he became obsessed with trying to find his wife, who was ministering to him around the clock. He just did not know who she was.

He finally had to be placed in a nursing home. I began to pray fervently for his healing, and I prayed, "Lord, if it is not Your will to heal him, then I pray You will enable him to recognize his wife and call her by name before You call him home to be with You." I informed his wife of this prayer.

A few weeks later, she called me and said that my prayer had been answered! She said she went to visit him, and when she arrived, he was asleep. When he woke up, he looked at her and asked, "Who are you?" She responded, "Who do you think I am?" He thought for a moment, and then he said, "You are my wife." And then he called her name!

Conclusion

Do you have a desperate need? Have you reached out to God in prayer, believing He cares for you and will answer you? If not, I urge you to do so. And as you do so, remember this scripture:

... humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.
(1 Peter 5:6-8)

THE IMPLOSION OF AMERICA

Robert Jeffress

(Editor's Note: This essay is an edited version of the sermon delivered by Robert Jeffress at the Lamb & Lion annual Bible conference which was held in June of this year. Jeffress is the pastor of First Baptist Church in Dallas. The sermon is based on his book, *Twilight's Last Gleaming*, published in 2011. The sermon is available in full in our DVD album, "Living on Borrowed Time." The album contains 6 presentations on 3 DVDs and sells for \$25 plus the cost of shipping. To order a copy, call 972-736-3567 Monday thru Friday, 8am to 5pm Central time, or place your order through our website at www.lamblion.com.)

I believe the doctrine of the Second Coming is the most neglected doctrine in the Church today. People say, "Well it's irrelevant. It doesn't meet my needs today." Or they say, "It's too complicated to understand."

God devotes more space to the subject of prophecy than any other subject in the Bible and we need to understand it. That's why this fall in our church, First Baptist of Dallas, I'm beginning a new series on Bible prophecy called "Perfect Ending: Why Christ's Soon Return Matters Today." And I want to thank you Dr. Reagan for standing firm in the faith and proclaiming, without wavering, the truth of Christ's return.

I really appreciated the kind comments that Dr. Reagan made about my media appearances. I want to say one word about that, and I want to give you a little assignment. Okay? Do you mind having a homework assignment?

Media Appearances

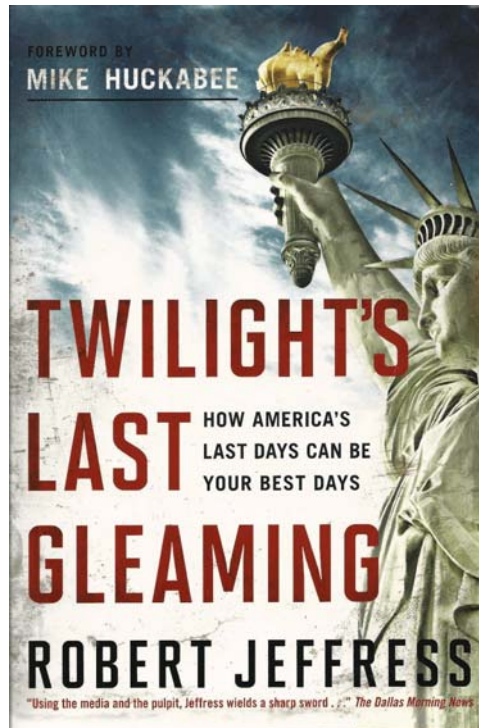
You cannot believe the incredible pressure media outlets like Fox News are under when they have a conservative guest on one of their programs. I'm not at liberty to share everything with you, but believe me, when I am interviewed, the liberals bombard Fox News and any other outlet for having a conservative on, threatening boycotts and other forms of retaliation.



So if you appreciate Bill O'Reilly having me on his program — and he has been very kind to have me on regularly — this is my little assignment for you: E-mail the producers and tell them you appreciate their having me on the

program, or whomever is representing a conservative point of view.

All they hear from mainly are liberals. They need to hear from people who appreciate a conservative biblical viewpoint.



Just e-mail them at: oreilly@foxnews.com. Tell them you appreciated it if you saw me or people like me sharing a conservative viewpoint. You may be thinking, "Well it won't make any difference. I'm only one in a million." But you would be amazed at the impact of one or two emails.

An Illustration of America's Future

I believe America's collapse is inevitable.

I came to understand why this is true just a couple years ago when we were in the midst of preparing for the building of our new church campus. We had to first of all get rid of five of our buildings, consisting of about 600,000 square feet in the middle of downtown Dallas. And so the question arose: How do you get rid of that many buildings in the middle of downtown Dallas without bringing down the surrounding skyscrapers?

The demolition people met with me, and they said the best way to achieve this is through an implosion. And they explained to me what they were going to do. They said, "We're going to take 200 pounds of dynamite and attach it to key structural supports within those five buildings. We will then explode the dynamite, there will be a pause, and then the law of physics will take over. Without those foundational supports, the buildings will fall in on themselves under their own weight." I said, "Well, that sounds pretty good to me. Let's do it."



Church chairman, Mark Lovvorn, Pastor Jeffress, and Dallas Mayor Tom Leppert push the detonation button to destroy five buildings in downtown Dallas in October 2010.

And so, on a brisk October morning in 2010, they closed downtown Dallas. The Mayor and I and our building committee chairman were on a nearby roof top, along with all of the media. CNN, Fox News, and all the local media were there to cover the implosion of our buildings. This was going out live on Fox and Friends and other media outlets around the world.

We did the countdown, 5-4-3-2-1. The Mayor and I pressed

the ceremonial red button, and in the next block we heard the explosions going off just like they predicted. And those explosions were followed by nothing. Absolutely nothing! I cannot begin to tell you what all went through my mind over those next few seconds. I began to think, “Who am I going to fire first?” I could just see this scene being replayed endlessly on YouTube, “Pastor’s Implosion a Dud.” I mean it seemed like forever. But you see, I had forgotten what the demolition people told me. They had told me there was going to be a pause after those explosions.

And suddenly, without any warning, I heard a sound that could only be compared to standing in front of a jet engine. The roar increased in volume as we watched those once mighty buildings fall in on themselves, and within 30 seconds, they were reduced to nothing more than a plume of debris-filled dust.

I learned something that morning about implosions. They begin with a series of seemingly unrelated explosions, followed by a pause, and then a sudden collapse.

Four Explosive Decisions

Ladies and gentlemen, over the last 50 years our Supreme Court has made four explosive decisions that have so weakened the moral and spiritual structure and foundation of our country that our inevitable collapse is certain. Right now we’re simply living between that time of the explosions that have weakened our basic foundation, and the coming implosion.

These four decisions have changed the direction of our country more than any congressional mandate and more than any executive order from the President of the United States. What are those four decisions?

Explosion Number One

Decision number one — I call it explosion number one — was the Supreme Court case in 1962 of *Engel v. Vitale*. This is the case that removed the saying of a prayer in the public schools.

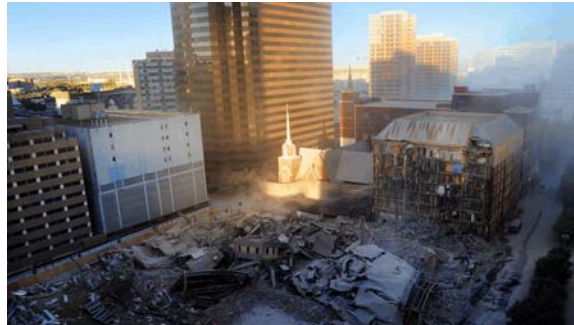
A simple 22-word voluntary prayer was deemed unconstitutional. And of course, it is from that decision that all of the other court decisions cascaded concerning prayer, showing government is not neutral toward religion, but rather is hostile toward it. And government is especially hostile toward the Christian religion.

Explosion Number Two

From that decision eventually came the decision in 1980 of *Stone v. Graham* which stopped the posting of the Ten Commandments in public schools. Specifically, that case came out of the public schools of Kentucky where copies of the Ten Commandments were posted on the school walls. And what was the Court’s reasoning for removing the Ten Commandments from



The implosion of five buildings belonging to First Baptist Church in Dallas.



The aftermath of the demolition. Notice how the sun is illuminating the old original church building!

our schools? If I were to paraphrase this for you, you would think I was making it up. So I want to read to you the Supreme Court’s decision and their reasoning for removing the posting of the Ten Commandments. The Court said:

If the posted copies of the Ten Commandments are to have any effect at all, it will induce the school children to read, meditate upon, perhaps venerate and obey the Commandments. This is not a permissible state objective under the establishment clause of the First Amendment.

In other words, if we post the Ten Commandments, children may actually read, venerate and, heaven forbid, obey them!

Now that was in 1980. In a strange twist of irony, 17 years later in 1997, in the hallways of Heath High School in Paducah, Kentucky, a group of students were meeting together before school began to have a time of prayer. And as those students were praying together,

with their eyes closed, a 14 year old approached them with a handgun and started firing. He seriously wounded five students and killed three. This all occurred in a public school hallway where the Supreme Court 17 years earlier had said, “You cannot post the words, ‘Thou shalt not kill.’”

Now, even if the Supreme Court had ruled correctly, that doesn’t change God’s law. You see, God’s law never changes. But the fact is the Supreme Court did not rule correctly. Consider this — 118 years earlier the Supreme Court had said in the case of *Vidal v. Girard’s Executors*:

Why may not the Bible, especially the New Testament without note or comment be read and taught as a divine revelation in the [schools] — its general precepts expounded, its evidences explained, and its glorious principle of morality inculcated? Where can the purest principles of morality be learned so clearly, or so perfectly as from the New Testament?

The Meaning of the First Amendment

Now you have to ask yourself the question, “What’s changed?” The Constitution hasn’t changed. What has changed is our culture. We have allowed the liberal activists to pervert the meaning of the First Amendment. Let’s be clear about what the First Amendment says and what it doesn’t say. The First Amendment, commonly known as the establishment clause, says, “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.” That Amendment simply says Congress cannot establish a state church and it cannot prohibit the free exercise of religion. And yet we have people who have perverted that into meaning that there is some

imaginary freedom from religion that is found in the Constitution.

Did you notice here in our metropolex, just a couple of weeks ago, that a Joshua High School student who was valedictorian of his class dared to violate the school's regulation and mentioned Jesus Christ in his speech? He was threatened with having his career at the Naval Academy ruined because he did such a thing! And the public school district lawyer said this: "We have to balance this student's right and freedom of religion with other students' freedom from religion." Where is that in the Constitution? There is no constitutional guarantee that somebody doesn't have to listen to a prayer at a graduation ceremony or see a nativity in the public square, or look at the Ten Commandments in the courthouse. That is nowhere in the Constitution. What the Constitution says is everyone is free to practice his or her religion.

Right before I came over here, I got an advance copy of the *Dallas Morning News*, for tomorrow morning. And we are on the front page, our church. Some architectural critic they hired to criticize everything is criticizing our new building downtown. One of the things he said that nearly caused me to fall out of my chair was, "This church has imposed itself on the community downtown with a cross and a Scripture verse. And it is so beautiful that it lures people to come in and look at it." He added, "And Jeffress is showing how he violates the separation of church and state." Have you ever heard of an architectural critic condemning a church for being too open and inviting people to come in? That is the culture in which we are living right now.

Listen, all the Congress said was you cannot establish a state denomination. It had nothing to say about government showing preference for Christianity. It said you can't establish a state religion and make everybody go to one denomination versus another.

You say, "Now pastor, how do you know that? How do you know such a thing?" It is very clear historically. Supreme Court Justice Joseph Story was appointed to the Court by James Madison in 1811. Madison is the man who is known as the architect of our Constitution. Now, I want you to listen to what Justice Story said about the First Amendment in his *Commentary on American Law*. He said:

The real object of the First Amendment was not to countenance, much less to advance Islam or Judaism or infidelity, by prostrating Christianity; but the purpose was to exclude all rivalry among Christian sects, Christian denominations and to prevent any national ecclesiastical establishment which should give a hierarchy the exclusive patronage of the national government.

That's all the First Amendment is about. You can't elevate the Methodist above the Baptist, or the Episcopalian. That's all it is saying. But we have perverted the First Amendment to mean



An architectural rendering of the new entrance to First Baptist Church in Dallas.

something that it is never intended to mean.

Ladies and Gentlemen, even if the Supreme Court had ruled correctly in the last 50 years, do you think that changes God's mind? Do you think that when God looks at America He says, "Oh, I am going to treat you differently than any other nation?" Ladies and Gentlemen — this is going to offend some of you — God doesn't get chill bumps when He hears the Star Spangled Banner! Did you know that? God is not a respecter of people or nations.

Any nation that reverences God is going to be blessed by God. And any nation that rejects God, including the United States, will be rejected by God.

Explosion Number Three

Explosive decision number three was rooted right here in the Dallas-Ft. Worth Metroplex. It was the 1973 decision in the case of *Roe vs. Wade*. It is the decision that has resulted now in the murder of over 50 million children in the womb. By the way, whenever I am on television talking about this, I never allow the phrase to be used, "a woman's right to choose" without completing the sentence: "It is a women's right to choose to murder her child." Don't let anybody else get by without completing that full sentence. That's what this is about. And that is what *Roe vs. Wade* has done. It has sanctioned the killing of unborn children. Now I know what the conventional wisdom says — I heard it during the last election cycle and we are going to hear it in the elections of 2014 and 2016 — and that is that the American people don't care about social issues anymore, all they care about is the economy. Well ladies and gentlemen, you can't separate economic issues from moral and spiritual issues.

In my book, *Twilight's Last Gleaming*, I cited a study that says that if the 50 million children who have been killed in the last 50 years had been allowed to live and grow up and become productive citizens, they would have added anywhere from 35 to 70 trillion dollars to our gross national product. If those 50 million children had been allowed to grow up and live and contribute to society, there would be no Social Security crisis. There would be no Medicare crisis. They would have been paying into the system. You cannot slaughter 20% of your population, no nation can, without severe economic repercussions.

Ladies and gentlemen, the economic repercussions of abortion pale in significance to the most heinous and disastrous result of abortion, and that is the certainty of God's judgment. All you have to do is look at history and see how God has dealt with nations that kill its children. In the Old Testament God raised up the Assyrians and the Babylonians to judge Israel for participating in child sacrifice. During the Second World War God raised up the allied forces to crush Nazi Germany for taking children to the gas chambers by the train loads. Looking at history, does anybody have to wonder how God is going to deal with a nation like ours that sanctions the killing of children? We

need to be in prayer for our Texas State Legislature as they meet to pass a bill that is going to protect the lives of tens of thousands of children in our state. I was talking to Lieutenant Governor Dewhurst about this bill, and he agreed this is a spiritual battle. This is war. This is satanic warfare for the lives and souls of our children. Let's be in prayer.

Explosion Number Four

The fourth explosive decision was *Lawrence and Garner vs. the State of Texas* in 2003. This is the Supreme Court decision that struck down our state's anti-sodomy laws. It was the beginning of a domino effect that we see continuing today. What is interesting is in that decision in 2003 Justice Scalia at that time said, "This reasoning leaves on pretty shaky ground the state laws limiting marriage to opposite-sex couples." Justice Scalia was being prophetic. In fact it was the reasoning of that court in 2003 that led to the recent decision that struck down a part of the Defense of Marriage Act. What you need to understand is that for 226 years our judiciary has understood that the relationship between a man and woman is what constitutes marriage, and it is the bedrock of social order. James Kent, who served as Chief Justice of the [New York] Supreme Court, wrote in his commentary on American Law, "The primary and most important of the domestic relations is that of husband and wife. It has its foundation in nature and is the only relation by which Providence has permitted the continuance of the human race."

If you heard me recently on the O'Reilly show, I was debating a former Clinton advisor who is a homosexual, who along with his partner has adopted a child. And I reminded him that in 1885 the Supreme Court in *Murphy vs. Ramsey* said, "Marriage is a holy union consisting of a man and a woman." And it went on to say, "And it is from that relationship that everything good in nature perceives." Now my question that night was, "What has changed in 130 years since 1885?" Certainly the Constitution hasn't changed. What has changed is the culture.

What we saw in the recent DOMA decision is the Supreme Court caving in to political correctness. Now you know, people say — even Christians — "Well so what? What harm is it to me that homosexuals want to get married? How does that hurt me?" Well, first of all it's not all about you and me, it is about society. But the fact is it does harm society.

The Hoover Institute has done long-term studies on Scandinavian countries that legalized same-sex marriage. Do you know what they found? They found that in countries that legalize same-sex marriage the rate of heterosexual marriage drops precipitously. And the reason is obvious: If marriage becomes anything you want it to be, why bother to get married at all? It was reported last week that our marriage rate here in the United States has dropped to the lowest level it has been in a century. And so you create tremendous instability in society when you allow that to happen. You know what is interesting to me? Sara McLanahan, a Princeton sociologist, has said, "If we were trying



An interior photograph of the new sanctuary of First Baptist Church in Dallas.

to devise a system in which a child's basic needs would be most well met, it would be in a situation where the child is connected to both biological parents." That sounds a lot like a family to me, doesn't it?

God knew what He was doing when He designed the family. And ladies and gentlemen, even though Supreme Court opinions change, even though culture changes, God's Word never changes. He is the one who designed marriage and He knows how it best operates.

Now my point in citing these four cases is simply this: no nation

that outlaws the acknowledgment of God in the public square, that sanctions the killing of unborn children and destroys the most basic unit of society, the family — no such nation can survive. The explosions have already occurred. The implosion is coming. We are simply living in the in-between-time.

The Christian Response

Now the question is, "How are we as Christians to respond to all this?" I want to suggest to you that we turn to the words of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ who told us exactly how we are to respond to a decaying culture. In Matthew 5:13 Jesus said, "You are the salt of the earth, but if the salt has become tasteless how will it be made salty again? It is good for nothing anymore except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men."

Jesus said our first responsibility as believers is to act as salt. Do you know that in Jesus' day salt was a preservative? In the day before refrigerators, salt was the way to delay the decay of the meat. What salt did was simply give the meat a little longer shelf life. Eventually the meat would rot and would have to be discarded. The salt delayed that process. And what Jesus was saying is this, "You're not going to prevent the ultimate destruction of this culture." You know what, ladies and gentlemen? America is going to end because this world is going to end. That is why we know America's days are numbered because this world's days are numbered.

My own reading of the book of Revelation is that America is going to end at least seven years before the rest of the world ends. Because when I look at that final form of government in the world during the last seven years, it is a dictatorship under the Antichrist, in which there is no freedom of commerce, no freedom of speech, no freedom of religion. That means when the Antichrist takes power there will be no U.S. Constitution at that time. Our Constitution will have been done away with by that point. And once the Constitution ceases to exist, America ceases to exist. The fact is America's days are numbered. We are not going to prevent that, but we can delay it.

The Sovereignty of God

You say, "Wait a minute Robert, don't you believe in the sovereignty of God? Don't you believe God has fixed on His calendar the date of America's destruction and there is not one thing you can do to change that? Don't you believe that?" I believed it until I read my Bible, specifically the book of Jonah.

God said to Jonah, “I’m going to destroy the wicked city of Nineveh.” But then Jonah 3:10 says, “God changed His mind.” God relented of His decision. Now look, I don’t understand that. It’s above my pay grade. It is one of my long list of questions to ask God about when I get up there. But here is what I know when I read the book of Jonah. Because of the righteous preaching of Jonah, God delayed His destruction of Nineveh. Now God ultimately did destroy Nineveh, we know that historically. But He delayed the destruction, giving more people time to repent because of the preaching of Jonah and the people’s positive response to it.

And what I believe Jesus is saying to us is, “We’re not going to prevent the destruction of America, but we can delay it so we have more opportunity to share the Gospel.” I therefore believe God has called us as Christians to stand up and push back against the tide of evil and immorality that is sweeping our country.

A Call for Christian Courage

I tell you, I am sick and tired of these wimpy Christians who mask their timidity and lack of courage with some sort of pseudo-spirituality that says, “Well, you know, we’re just not citizens of this world we are citizens of Heaven. And you know, we just need to let the world take its course.” Look, God never encouraged us to engage in silo-spirituality — to separate our faith from the rest of what’s happening in this world. The fact is there are a lot of people in your church right now, perhaps even your pastor, who think for a Christian to use his faith to try to influence other people or unbelievers, or the course of this nation, well that’s un-American, un-Christian and it may be illegal.

Listen, Jesus Christ is not just Lord of the Church, He is Lord over all creation. Jesus isn’t just interested in religious people and religious institutions, Jesus is interested in every institution, and He’s interested in government as well. Whenever you say that God doesn’t want us to influence our culture, just start looking at the Bible itself. Look at men of God like Jonah and David, and Jeremiah, and Isaiah, and in the New Testament, men like John the Baptist.

When you look at the ministries of those men, you will see that they didn’t just preach to themselves. Nor did they just preach to God’s own people. These men of God were willing to stand up in an ungodly culture and confront ungodly leaders and say without stuttering or stammering, “Thus saith the Lord.” We need men of God like that today to do the same. We need men of God who will stand up and say compassionately yet courageously, “Abortion is murder.” “Homosexuality is a perversion of God’s plan for human sexuality.” And “God will reject any nation that rejects Him.”

You know, when you say that Christians shouldn’t try to influence society, you are completely negating Jesus’ words



The 1891 sanctuary of the First Baptist Church in Dallas. The church was founded in 1868. They purchased their first building in 1872. This building was preserved from the demolitions and still stands today.

when He said, “You are the salt of the earth.” How do we influence the world? How do we push back against immorality? It is by engaging in that dirty, filthy word called politics. Now you know I hear this all the time, “Christians shouldn’t get involved in politics.” Do you know what the word politics means? The word means to influence, to control. When you say Christians shouldn’t get involved in politics what you are saying is that Christians shouldn’t try to influence the society in which they live. Can anybody say that with a straight face and believe it?

Christians and Politics

Let me ask you three questions:

Do you believe that God cares about 50 million children being murdered in the womb? Do you think God has any opinion about that? Do you think that God cares about the rampant immorality that is sweeping our land? Do you think that God cares at all about His name being outlawed from mention in the public square? If you’ve answered yes, you have just explained why Christians ought to be involved in politics.

You see, in the Old Testament times it was the king who determined the spiritual direction of the nation. If he was a righteous king, God blessed the nation. If he was an unrighteous king, God cursed the nation. But as John Jay, the first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, said, “God has given us the privilege of selecting our leaders.” And it is the duty and preference of Christians to prefer and select Christians as their leaders.

Every time I use that quote the liberals go crazy, but those were the words of the first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. It is our duty to prefer and select Christians as our leaders. Every time you go into the voting booth, you are either casting a vote for righteousness or for unrighteousness. And if we’re going to push back against this evil we have to get involved — not to save America because we are not going to save America. But we can delay our nation’s collapse if we get involved.

Why Push Back?

The reason we want to buy more time for America is so we as Christians can fulfill our ultimate calling as believers, as stated by Jesus in Matthew 5:14 — “You are the light of the world.” Listen, God has not called us to save America. God has called us to save Americans from the coming judgment of God. The only way that can happen is by introducing them to a personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. The reason we want to buy time for our culture is so that we have the opportunity to do just that.

Do you understand that is the reason that God has left you here right now? Have you ever wondered why is it that God didn’t rapture you to Heaven the moment He saved you instead of leaving you here in this sin-filled world? I mean think about it, if God’s only goal is to have fellowship with you, couldn’t He

have much better fellowship with you in Heaven than He has here on earth with you, where you are distracted by the things of the world? No, the only reason God has delayed His gratification, so to speak, in having a perfect relationship with you and me is so that we can fulfill His agenda, not ours.

God has not left you or me here to build a bulging portfolio, to have a successful business, or even to have a happy family life. The only reason God has left you and me here is to win as many people to faith in Jesus Christ as possible before He returns. That's the reason we've been left here. And let me tell you, when you understand that, it gives you a whole different way of looking at what is happening in the world right now.

I think about the Apostle Paul. I just came back from taking a group to Greece where we retraced Paul's second missionary journey. We went to the city of Philippi where the church was located that Paul wrote to from Rome where he was imprisoned. Paul said, "I don't want you to be upset about my situation. My situation has turned out for the progress of the Gospel."

Now listen, if the Apostle Paul had the goals of most Christians — peace, prosperity, pleasure, and the avoidance of pain — if his life goal had been that of most of us, then Paul's imprisonment was a tremendous tragedy. It was a detour from peace, prosperity, pleasure and the avoidance of pain. But you see, Paul had a bigger purpose in life. His purpose was the spreading of the Gospel, and that gave him a whole different perspective from which to view the difficulties he was facing. He said, "I'm rejoicing in this." And then he exhorted the Philippians to do the same.

You know, the Philippians lived in a much more decadent, anti-Christian environment then we do. They lived in the Roman Empire. Nero was the emperor at that time. But you know what Paul said? He said, "Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say rejoice." And he said in chapter 2 to the Philippians, "I want you Philippians in the midst of this crooked and perverse generation to be children of light, holding out the Word of Life."

A Fundamental Principle About Light

You know why Paul said we could rejoice in the culture in which we are living, even though it may be very wicked? He understood a very simple principle — the darker the background, the brighter the light.

I experienced an illustration of that not long ago. I was helping my younger daughter celebrate a special occasion in her life. I said, "Dorothy, I'll take you to the mall and get you anything you want." Now when I said, "anything you want," I had in mind going to a shop like Forever 21 and getting a \$20 or \$30 dress. So, we go over to North Park Shopping Center and she leads me right past Forever 21 and right into a jewelry store! We're standing there in front of the counter, and the salesman approaches, looks at my daughter and says, "Good to see you again." At that moment, I knew I'd been had! He said, "Would you like to look at that ring you were looking at yesterday?" She said, "Yes."



So he went back and brought forth a little tray with different rings on it and picked out the one she had been looking at. Before he sat it down on the plexiglass counter he took a piece of black velvet, spread it out on the counter and then took that ring and plopped it right in the center of the black velvet. The contrast between that black velvet and the light emitting from the ring was so stark it almost blinded me to the price, not quite, but it almost did.

You see, that salesman understood a fundamental principle: the darker the background, the brighter the light.

The Opportunity Provided by Darkness

Listen, we are living in dark days today, no doubt about it. I'm telling you if your goal in life is peace, prosperity, pleasure and the avoidance of pain, you have every right to be discouraged. You know, so many Christians today are such poor advertisements for the Gospel because they are so downbeat and they are so pessimistic. They send all these depressing e-mails to one another and to me in which they describe all the terrible things happening in our nation.

When somebody gets down about our nation and the situation we are in, many times it simply shows they have the wrong life purpose. Because if it's about us and our pleasure, and our peace, and our prosperity, and avoidance of pain, then these are terrible times in which to live. But if your goal is the same as the Apostle Paul, to share the Gospel with as many people as possible, there could never be a better time to be alive than today, right now. Because the truth is, the darker the background, the brighter the light. The more hopeless this world becomes the brighter the hope of Jesus Christ shines.

So which is it? Are we to be salt? Are we to get involved in politics and try to push back against evil? Or, are we to be light involved in evangelism and sharing the Gospel? It's not an either-or answer. It is both-and. God has called us to do both. He has called us to be balanced. But please don't equate that word balanced with passive. This is not time for Christians living in America to be passive.

I'm reminded of the words of William Watkins in his book, *The New Absolutes*. He wrote, "As Christians we must reject the new tolerance and become a people marked by intolerance. Not an intolerance that unleashes hate upon people. But an intolerance that is unwilling to allow error to masquerade as truth any longer. An intolerance that is willing to stand up and call evil, evil and good, good." May God grant us the courage to do just that. ✚

Dr. Jeffress' book, *Twilight's Last Gleaming*, can be purchased on Amazon.com. He has a new book about Bible prophecy that is scheduled to be published in January 2014. It is titled, *Perfect Ending: Why Your Eternal Future Matters Today*.

Further Comments About America's Spiritual Crisis



Matt Barber

Matt Barber: An attorney concentrating in constitutional law. He is Vice President of Liberty Counsel Action and serves as Associate Dean and Adjunct Assistant Professor of Law at Liberty University School of Law. The observations below are taken from an article of his entitled: "America's Fall: The Modern-Day Roman Empire." It originally was published by WND Commentary on August 30, 2013. It is used by permission.

The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world, God's invisible qualities — His eternal power and divine nature — have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse. (Romans 1:18-20)

The Apostle Paul likely wrote his letter to the Romans about 25 years after Christ's death and resurrection (sometime between A.D. 55-57). Throughout the book of Romans, Paul warned of God's unfolding wrath against the Roman Empire — indeed, all of humanity — for mankind's embrace and practice of pagan morality.

Approach Paul's words with a modicum of objectivity and the reader is left with this dreadful realization: The words of Christ's hand-picked messenger likewise paint an eerily accurate portrait of America, A.D. 2013. The negligible difference is that ancient pagan morality has been sanitized with a new euphemism: postmodern "progressivism."

It is unbridled hubris that presumes America . . . will not suffer that empire's same fate . . .

Pull your eyes from your smartphone, America. Look around you. God's wrath is "being revealed from heaven" once more.

. . . Indeed there is nothing new under the sun. Sexual impurity in all its ugly forms — fornication, adultery, homosexuality, pornography, et al. — is celebrated by our "progressive fools." American culture revels in the degrading of our bodies while purity is mocked. God has given us over to sinful desires.

. . . We have arrived. Shame on you, America . . . Our children are depraved. They are "occupied" by envy . . . They disobey, gossip, slander and hate God. They are insolent, arrogant, boastful "little monsters." They invent ways of doing evil.

Hannah Montana is what America once was. MTV Miley is America today. She "evolved" because we "evolved." You saw it on display. It's ugly. It's Satanic. It's "progressive." ❖

R. R. Reno: Serves as the editor of *First Things*, a journal of religion in public life. He taught theology and ethics at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska for 20 years. He is the author of numerous books. The comments below are taken from a speech he delivered on February 20, 2013 at a Hillsdale College seminar in Bonita Springs, Florida. The speech was published in *Imprimis*, a publication of Hillsdale College.



R. R. Reno

Religious liberty is being redefined in America, or at least many would like it to be. Our secular establishment wants to reduce the autonomy of religious institutions and limit the influence of faith in the public square.

The reason is not hard to grasp. In America "religion" largely means Christianity, and today our secular culture views orthodox Christian churches as troublesome, retrograde and reactionary forces. They're seen as anti-science, anti-gay and anti-women — which is to say anti-progress, as the Left defines progress. Not surprisingly, then, the Left believes society will be best served if Christians are limited in their influence on public life . . .

We are in the midst of climate change — one that's getting colder and colder toward religion . . .

As the religious character of our society changes, so do our assumptions about religious freedom. The main change has been the rise of the "Nones." In the 1950s, around three percent of Americans checked the "none" box when asked about their religious affiliation. That number has grown, especially in the last decade, to 20 percent of the population. And Nones are heavily represented in elite culture. A great deal of higher education is dominated by Nones, as are important cultural institutions, the media and Hollywood. They are conscious of their power, and they feel the momentum of their growth. ❖



David Lane

David Lane: A political activist who works to increase the strength of conservative religious groups and who strives to promote conservative social values. His activities are funded largely by the American Family Association (AFA). The quote below is taken from an email message

of his that was dated August 27, 2013.

America — having lost our Judeo-Christian heritage and its by-product, a Christian culture — has fallen for anything since we won't stand for nothing. We are saturated and soured by the tutoring of the false gods of multiculturalism, political correctness and secularism. Our partial obedience has led to coexisting with these false gods, cooperating with these false gods, and now cowering in fear to these false gods. Until we return to the Foundation and Mission of America established by the Founders in the birthing of America, "For the glory of God and the

advancement of the Christian faith” — we will continue barreling toward collapse.

It might be good to revisit the prayer by Pastor Robert Hunt — after the colonists landed at Jamestown, planted a cross and took communion:

We do hereby dedicate this land, and ourselves, to reach the people within these shores with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to raise up godly generations after us, and with these generations, take the Kingdom of God to all the earth. May this Covenant of Dedication remain to all generations, as long as this earth remains, and may this land, along with England, be Evangelist to the world. ✚



Carter Conlon

Carter Conlon: Serves as the Senior Pastor of Times Square Church in New York City. He joined the pastoral staff in 1994 at the invitation of the founding pastor, David Wilkerson, and was appointed to the office of senior pastor in 2001. The statements below are taken from a sermon of his titled, “Honoring God in an Impossible Place.”

Despite its foundational Christian heritage, America is rapidly degenerating into a godless society. The church in America, although highly visible and active, appears powerless to redirect the rushing secular currents . . .

The powers in America today have chosen a path of rejecting God and His ways. Federal courts have interpreted our constitution as requiring that the Bible, prayer and religious discussion be removed from classrooms and places of public gatherings. Government officials and educators across the country are systematically eliminating any vestiges of God from society. Militant secularists will not be satisfied until God is expunged from every facet of American life.

Our society is fast becoming openly hostile to Christian values. The media trivializes and ridicules Christianity in the name of humanistic and pluralistic concerns. American culture is dominated by television and movies, whose profanity and lewdness tramp God’s honor into the mud, inculcating non-Christian values from infancy. Public schools teach our children how to practice various forms of immorality. One school curriculum in America teaches acceptance of homosexuality in the first grade and mutual masturbation in junior high.

America is reaping the dire consequences of rejecting God. Our society is morally bankrupt, and the problems seem resistant to government cures . . .

The church is seduced by the social agenda of wealth and pleasure, and has condoned sinful compromises. There is moral decay within the church, with highly-publicized scandals involving ministers, and divorce statistics which are not much better than those outside the church. Think of all that we and our churches would have to repent of if a spirit of holiness began to captivate us. How can America be influenced by an inconsistent and hypocritical church? ✚

Don McGee: Founder and director of Crown & Sickles Ministries in Amite, Louisiana. After serving in the Vietnam War, he became a Louisiana State Trooper before entering the ministry as a pastor. He established his current ministry in 2002. The quotes below are taken from an article that appeared in his newsletter in June 2012. The article was titled, “The Increasing National Abhorrence for God.”



Don McGee

That God is now the prime target for every form of man’s mockery, scorn and contempt is undeniable. It used to be that Christians and the Bible were the only visible objects of disdain with any reviling for God Himself being cautiously harbored deep in the rancid confines of human hearts. But, since the ridicule of His people and His Word has not drawn lightning strikes, the God-rejecters have become much bolder. Like noisy, irritating Chihuahuas whose courage is in direct proportion to the length of the big dog’s chain, they now have no inhibitions about publicly blaspheming God personally. They are from all segments of society; even from those we have historically thought to be above such behavior.

Insolent man sees God’s patient love for all humanity as proof that He is really a cream-puff, impotent deity with a lot of bark, but no bite. They err greatly. They choose to ignore the fact that the God who presently endures their incessant yapping is the same God that turned Korah and 250 of his consorts into fertilizer, and the sodomites of Abram’s day into ash. The lesson is that God’s love and patience do not nullify His judgment. The pouring out of God’s wrath upon a vile and depraved world is just as much a part of His redemptive character as was His judgment upon Jesus who carried the sin of all humanity on the cross.

What are the God-haters saying and doing? In truth, their words and conduct are limited only by their perverted imaginations. They feel free to spew forth their curses at any time using any opportunity that presents itself. [He then presents many examples from the daily news.] . . .

In short, many people simply refuse to honor God. His words are no longer taken seriously and are thus no longer deserving of obedience. To them God, if there even is a God, is not exclusive. He is seen as only one way among many to heaven, or whatever place religious people think about going. The idea is you can take your choice, but do not become very excited about any of it, because He is actually a myth. Just be cool, be nice and serve in a soup kitchen sometime.

That God loves them and desires their salvation is a fact. Equally factual, though, is most of them would laugh and spew forth noxious profanities at such a thought. They do not understand that their end will come quickly and unexpectedly as happened with Sodom on the last night of its decadent existence. It is clear that, as a nation, America is willing to sacrifice whatever it takes in order to not bow before God. But bow she will, like it or not. Maybe quite soon. ✚



The End of World Politics

Nathan E. Jones

I'm pretty jazzed by our latest Bible Prophecy Insights video I called "The End of World Politics." It reveals how the Bible prophesies a very specific configuration of nations in the end times, and when this world political pattern appears, it will serve as a sign of Jesus' soon return. This is the fifth video in our series of Bible Prophecy Insights.

What's a "Bible Prophecy Insights" video? It is an illustration of an awesome insight into Bible prophecy — all in just one minute! These specially produced, computer animated videos are designed to be shared all over the Internet, drawing people to the outright amazing promises God has for us all. I think of them as fancy fishing lures, sent out to attract people who have never considered Bible prophecy and drawing them into a deeper study on our website at lamblion.com.

To watch "Bible Prophecy Insights," visit lamblion.com, YouTube and other social networks. If you'd like HD copies for your sermons or teaching lessons, visit sermonspice.com.

The latest video in the series focuses on Bible prophecies about the end time configuration of world politics.

1) The Roman Empire returns in the form of the European Union. (Daniel 2 & 7)

The Prophet Daniel had a vision 2,500 years ago of the four major empires that would dominate the Holy Land until the Jews were scattered all over the world. His vision then jumped to the end times and prophesied that a weak revival of the Roman Empire would exist at the time of the return of the Messiah.

The current torchbearer of the Roman Empire is the 27 nation superpower bloc known as the European Union (EU). It has great economic power, but its lack of central leadership renders it unable to act in a crisis, and so true to prophecy, it is politically weak. It will become strong when it is taken over by the Antichrist who will then expand it into a worldwide kingdom.

2) Russia backs a united Muslim world. (Ezekiel 38 & 39)

The prophet Ezekiel in chapters 38 and 39 gave the most detailed description in all the Bible of an end time alliance of nations when he described the Gog-Magog War. Ezekiel says that a leader designated "Gog," who hails from a nation located in "the remotest parts of the north" named "Rosh," will invade Israel to plunder the nation's wealth.

Russia will be accompanied by a large coalition of nations which today are all Islamic in religion. The resulting battle will take place on the mountains of Israel where God will supernaturally destroy the entire coalition, likely even ending Islam as a world threat.

3) The strength of the U.S. wanes. (Ezekiel 38 & 39)

The Bible is absolutely silent on the United States' role in the end times, even though today the nation is the world's only superpower. Where the slightest hint of America may be found is in Ezekiel 38:13, where we are told that Saudi Arabia (Sheba & Dedan) and the "merchants of Tarshish" (Spain or England) and its villages, or "young lions" depending on the translation, will sit out the battle of Gog-Magog, and with barely a protest, they will allow Russia and her Islamic allies to invade Israel. The apathy of these young lions demonstrates that the will to fight in the West will have greatly diminished and the United States is no longer taking the lead in world affairs.

4) China becomes a mighty power. (Revelation 16)

Revelation 16:12 reads, "The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up to prepare the way for the kings from the East." Revelation 9:16 describes, "The number of the amount of troops was 200 million." Putting such an army together, even considering how much the world population will be decimated by the 21 Tribulation judgments, was not possible even 200 years ago. Clearly the Apostle John saw a massive increase in population in Asia that would produce tremendous military might, which today is fulfilled in China's rise to world power and its ability to amass such a populous army.

5) Israel rises from the ashes of history to become the focus of the world. (Isaiah 66)

Isaiah, Ezekiel and Zechariah are among the prophets who prophesied that the Jewish people would one day be regathered in unbelief and the nation of Israel would be re-established. Though it took 1,897 years for these prophecies to find fulfillment, Israel was resurrected as a nation once more on May 14, 1948. Once the nation of Israel was birthed, it would become the focus of all the nations of the world over who should control Jerusalem. Israel's return as a nation is the cornerstone prophetic event of our age. All end time Bible prophecy centers around it.

6) A one-world government. (Revelation 13)

The creation of a one-world government is the end game of all these end time political events. Prophecies in both Daniel and Revelation reveal that a future leader will rise out of the Revived Roman Empire to conquer the entire world.

When by the end of the Tribulation the world is crippled by utter disaster due to the failed global rule of the Antichrist, Jesus Christ will return at His Second Coming to eliminate the Antichrist and all human government. Jesus will then establish His 1,000 year kingdom of peace, righteousness and justice.

We live in a time like no other, when long expected nations have now finally come into existence and fallen into prophetic alignment, marking the soon return of Jesus Christ. ✚

Honoring Paganism —

The Air Force Academy located in Colorado Springs, Colorado recently spent \$80,000 of taxpayers' money to construct an open air worship center for Pagans and Wiccans. The Stonehenge-like circle of stones with a central altar was built on a hilltop overlooking the Academy. Only three of the 4,300 cadets identify themselves as Pagans. Yet this ridiculous expenditure was made in the name of tolerance and political correctness. What next? Separate chapels constructed at taxpayer expense for Muslims, Buddhists and Hindus? If so, then why not separate chapels for Baptists, Methodists, Episcopalians and Presbyterians?



Targeting Christian Owned Businesses —

Increasingly, Christian owned businesses are being targeted for lawsuits. Here's how it works: A gay couple requests a photographer to photograph their wedding, and when he refuses to do so on grounds of religious conscience, he is sued for unlawful discrimination, forcing him to pay a major fine, and, if he refuses to cave in, forcing him to close his business. It is happening all across America in violation of the Constitutional guarantee of the free exercise of religion.

For example, the owners of "Sweet Cakes by Melissa," located in the Portland, Oregon area, refused to provide a cake for a lesbian "wedding." The couple immediately filed a complaint with the Oregon Commissioner of Labor, and an investigation was launched. Meanwhile, homosexual activists began protesting in front of the building and started threatening the bakery's suppliers in Mafia fashion. Their business was cut in half, and so they closed it and moved it to their home. The discrimination complaint is now in the hands of attorneys, with no end in sight. The owners of the bakery posted a sign on the door of their business announcing it was closed. They added these words:

This fight is not over. We will continue to stand strong.
Your religious freedom is becoming not free anymore.
This is ridiculous that we cannot practice our faith. The
LORD is good and we will continue to serve HIM with
all our heart.

In like manner, homosexuals targeted a New Mexico photographer, demanding that he take photos of their "commitment" ceremony. He refused. They sued. And the New Mexico Supreme Court ruled that the photographer was guilty of sexual discrimination and ordered the payment of a large fine, even though New Mexico law does not recognize same-sex marriage or civil unions.

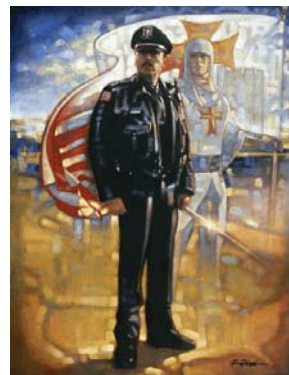
TIMES and Seasons

Celebrating the Perverse —

According to Romans 1:28 the last stage in the collapse of a society that is rebelling against God will take place when He delivers the society over to a "depraved mind." We have arrived. Our society is obsessed with sex. Just go to any magazine rack at a grocery market and look at the covers. Almost without exception you will see articles advertised on each cover concerning some aspect of sex. And increasingly, the focus is on perverted sex. Our President has issued a declaration each June since 2009 declaring the month to be "Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month." Some have wondered when he will add others to the list, like prostitutes, adulterers, pedophiles, fornicators and zoophiles. The obsession with sexual perversion was clearly demonstrated in the way the national press drooled over NBA player Jason Collins when he announced that he was gay. In contrast they treated NFL player Tim Tebow with disdain when he would talk about his Christian commitment. The contrast is brilliantly illustrated below in an editorial cartoon by Scott Stantis of the *Chicago Tribune*.



Practicing Religious Hostility —



A beautiful and inspirational painting by Christian artist Ron DiCianni was ordered removed from an Air Force dining hall at Mountain Home Air Force Base in Idaho. The painting was titled "Blessed are the Peacemakers." It was painted after 9/11 to honor law enforcement. The complaint that led to its removal was that it made an unidentified person "feel terribly uncomfortable, disheartened and disappointed." Instead of directing that person to a psychiatrist, the painting was removed! Two months later, the Air Force paid a drag queen group called "Jewels and the Brunchettes" to perform at Los Angeles Air Force Base on "Diversity Day." When challenged, an Air Force spokesman said, "drag is a symbol of gay pride and unity." ❖

A Nation Out of Control —

“... abortion, same-sex marriage ... pornography, bad TV, worse movies — none of these are the cause of our decadence. They are a reflection of it.

“We worship the golden calf of the Dow Jones Industrial Averages. ‘In Dow We Trust,’ not God. And so, God gives us over to a depraved mind. Too many of us ... are addressing the symptoms and not the cause.

“Lincoln talked about this when he said that the great cause of the Civil War was that we had forgotten God. Solzhenitsyn said the reason that Communism prevailed for seven decades in the Soviet Union was that they forgot God ... There are consequences to a society that puts anything — whether it is a golden calf or physical gold — in the place of God as their center of worship.

“Billy Graham used to say years ago, ‘America is not at a crossroads, as some say. America is a long way down the wrong road and needs to come back to the crossroads and take the right road.’ I’ve never heard anybody put it better than that.” — Cal Thomas, syndicated columnist.

A Business Urging Prayer —

Julio’s Café Corona in El Paso, Texas has a card on each table urging its patrons to pray before eating their meals. The card also offers the opportunity to seek personal prayer from the manager.

WE OWE IT TO HIM

EVERYTHING WE USE AND CONSUME IN OUR DAILY LIVES IS A GIFT FROM GOD. LET US SHOW OUR GRATITUDE AND ACKNOWLEDGE THIS FACT TODAY AND EVERY FOLLOWING DAY. BEFORE PARTAKING OF THIS FOOD, LET US EACH BOW OUR HEAD AND GIVE THANKS... FOR THE BLESSINGS WE HAVE.

HERE IS A SUGGESTED THANKSGIVING BEFORE MEALS... OR USE YOUR OWN WORDS.

"We give thee thanks Almighty God, for these and all thy blessings which we receive from thy bounty. Through Christ Our Lord - Amen."

MEXICAN CAFE CORONA YOU MAY TAKE THIS CARD.

WE WOULD LIKE TO PRAY WITH YOU - ASK FOR A MANAGER

Servants of God —



Dennis Pollock

“God is not looking for golden vessels or silver vessels; He is looking for yielded vessels. He doesn’t require men and women of great talent and polish, but men and women fully devoted to Him and to His Son Jesus Christ. Ours is not to focus on our inability, but to offer ourselves to Christ and let Him do with us as He wills.” — Dennis Pollock of Spirit of Grace Ministries in McKinney, Texas.

The eyes of the LORD move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His. — 2 Chronicles 16:9



Food for Thought

Spiritual Rather Than Christian —

“A growing percentage of Americans are defining themselves as ‘spiritual,’ rather than ‘Christian’ or ‘religious.’ Being atheistic or agnostic does not really appeal to most Americans because to believe in nothing seems void and meaningless, and Americans don’t like hopelessness. But by being ambiguously ‘spiritual,’ a person is able to define ‘god’ in his own terms, which can evolve with the individual’s interests, wants, needs or desires.

“Neither does a ‘spiritual’ person have to answer to ‘god’ for anything. There are no rules to follow as with traditional religious teaching. The rules are whatever you want them to be, if any at all. This approach to ‘religion’ appeals to the selfish nature of man who does not want to be told by anyone or any being that they must conform their lives to some fixed standards of behavior or suffer consequences.” — Tim Wildmon, president of the American Family Association.

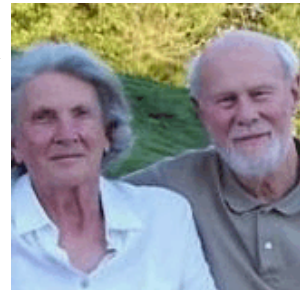
The Christian View of Death —

On August 11, Ruth Hunt, the widow of Christian writer, Dave Hunt, sent out a letter that read as follows:

“I would like to express my deepest gratitude to all of you for your dear cards and letters and prayers [in response to her husband’s death] ...

“I must now share with you that my doctors have declared me terminally ill and have given me approximately four months to live. I am not in any pain and am being well cared for by family, friends and caregivers.

“I truly look forward to this glorious transition and the fact that I will soon be with my beloved Savior and with Dave and others who have gone on before me. The Lord was so kind to me in answering my prayer, which was that He would allow me to stay well enough to care for my dear David until he went home to be with Him. I was blessed to be there, holding his hand, as he drew his last breath, and I knew that he was with Jesus!



Dave & Ruth Hunt

“I thank each one of you for the many, many years of loving fellowship that we have shared, and I pray that you will be comforted by the fact that I am perfectly at peace. I look forward with much joy to our grand reunion in heaven one day soon! ‘What a day, glorious day, that will be!’”

As you contemplate this remarkable letter, ask yourself, in the words of Nathan Jones: “If you were going to die today, would you say, ‘I am leaving home,’ or would you say, ‘I am going home?’”

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord ...

Revelation 14:13 ✚

Broadcasting on TBN!

Dr. David R. Reagan

In the last issue of our magazine there was an article titled “A Miracle of the Transforming Power of Jesus.” The article told the story of a man’s transformation by Jesus and how that transformation prompted him to include our ministry as a beneficiary in his last will and testament.

It was a year ago in the summer of 2012 that we received a notice from a law firm in Illinois that we were included in the will. A year later, during the first week of August, we received a follow-up letter explaining that the estate had been liquidated, except for some properties in Los Angeles, and that the first distribution check would be sent to us before the end of the month.

That check was received on Thursday, August 29. It totaled \$104,372.24. As our staff members were celebrating the arrival of this blessing, I announced, “Do you know what this means? It means that a time slot on TBN is going to open soon.”

I said that because over the past 33 years of ministry, I have learned how God operates in response to faith.

An Earnest and Persistent Prayer

You see, a year ago in September we began praying earnestly that the Lord would supply us with a time slot on the TBN Network. In November we were notified that we would get the slot effective the first of the new year. We immediately made that announcement to you, and we received \$25,000 in donations specified for the TBN broadcast, and we put that money aside in a special fund.

Then, in December, we were notified that the ministry that had surrendered its time slot — the slot we were to receive — had decided to continue broadcasting. I realized it simply was not God’s timing for us to start broadcasting on TBN, so we returned to prayer.

Thus, when we received the large donation, I sensed that the Lord’s timing had arrived for us to start broadcasting on TBN, and I made my announcement to that effect.

What I did not anticipate was how fast the Lord would act. You see, the call from TBN came the very next day — on Friday, August 30!

And to magnify the blessing, we were given the time slot that had just been surrendered by another Bible prophecy ministry, The King is Coming, which features my dear friend, Ed Hindson. So, we will be taking over a time slot that people are already accustomed to accessing for a Bible prophecy program.

We are currently broadcasting on five national Christian networks. TBN should give us access to more people than all five of those networks combined. That means this is a major breakthrough for us in achieving our goal “to reach as many people as possible, as quickly as possible with the message of the soon return of Jesus.”



The Costs Involved

We started airing our program on the Trinity Broadcasting Network on Sunday, September 8. Adding TBN doubled our broadcast expenses.

We immediately tithed the \$104,000 we received from the estate. We sent out a total of \$10,000 in amounts of \$1,000 each to ten different ministries, both domestic and foreign. That left us with \$94,000. Adding that to the \$25,000 we already had in our special TBN fund gave us a total in hand of \$119,000 to spend on TBN broadcasts.

That means we need to raise an additional \$102,000 to cover the TBN broadcasts between now and the end of the year.

An Appeal



We need your help raising these funds. And we need your prayers for the Lord to bless our new outreach over TBN.

I believe that as we get established on TBN, we will recruit many new viewers and Prophecy Partners, and our income will grow proportionately, enabling us to cover our TBN costs within a year or two, without having to make any special appeals.

Already, we have received enthusiastic responses to our TBN broadcast from people all over the nation. Some are new viewers. Others are old ones who lost contact with us when we had to leave the Inspiration Network due to the fact that it decided to convert to secular broadcasting.

Pray about this appeal, and if you feel led to help us with a special donation, please designate it for “TV Outreach.” And again, please pray for God to richly bless this new opportunity for us to greatly expand our outreach. ✚

"Christ in Prophecy" Broadcast Schedule

National Networks

TBN Network DirecTV Channel 372 DISH Channel 260 On broadcast stations and cable networks throughout the nation				
Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day Time	Sun. Noon	Sun. 1:00pm	Sun. 2:00pm	Sun. 3:00pm

Daystar Network DirecTV Channel 369 DISH Channel 263 On cable networks throughout the nation.				
Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day Time	Wed. 4:00pm	Wed. 5:00pm	Wed. 6:00pm	Wed. 7:00pm

The Church Channel Network DirecTV Channel 371 DISH Channel 258				
Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day Time	Sat. 6:30pm	Sat. 7:30pm	Sat. 8:30pm	Sat. 9:30pm

National Religious Broadcasters Network DirecTV Channel 378				
Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day Time	Sun. 2:00pm	Sun. 3:00pm	Sun. 4:00pm	Sun. 5:00pm

Golden Eagle Broadcasting Network DirecTV Channel 363				
Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day Time	Tues. 4:00pm	Tues. 5:00pm	Tues. 6:00pm	Tues. 7:00pm

The TCT Network DirecTV Channel 377				
Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day Time	Sun. 4:00pm	Sun. 5:00pm	Sun. 6:00pm	Sun. 7:00pm

Regional Networks



"Christ in Prophecy" is broadcast throughout southern Louisiana on the **Family Vision Network** at various times. See: www.kajn.com/familyvision.



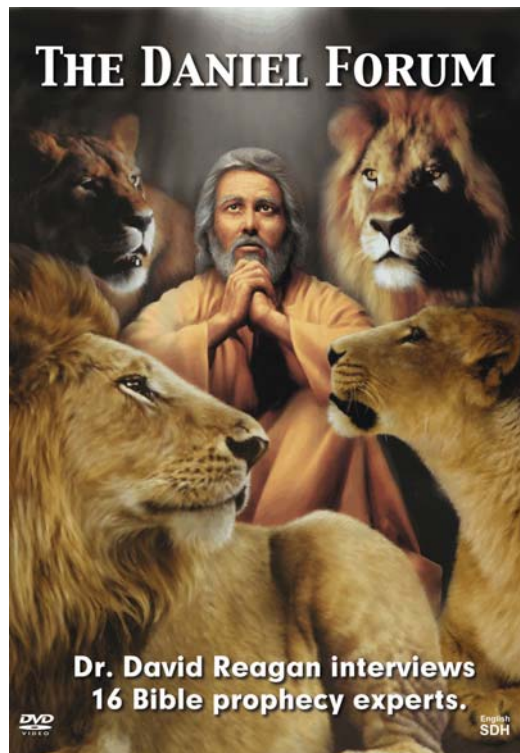
New Mexico Family Stations is a network consisting of two stations in Albuquerque. Our program is broadcast on Thursday at 11:00pm and on Saturday at 3:00pm.



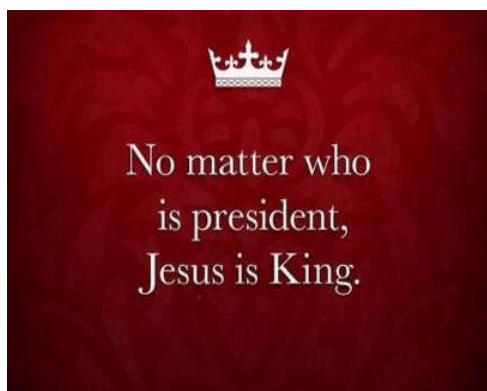
KSCE Life! is located in El Paso, Texas and broadcasts our program on Sundays at 10:30am Mountain time. Also carried on DirecTV Channel 38.

New Television Video Available

During September and October we aired a series of six television programs in which 16 Bible prophecy experts responded to questions about the book of Daniel. We received such an enthusiastic response to the programs that we decided to make all six of them available in an album consisting of two DVDs. The album is titled "The Daniel Forum."



Six programs running 28:30 each, for a total of 2 hours and 51 minutes. Closed captioned. \$25 plus the cost of shipping. To order, call 972-736-3567 between the hours of 8am and 5pm Central time, Monday thru Friday. ✚



Christmas Greetings!

All of us here at Lamb & Lion Ministries — evangelists, support staff and trustees — hope that you have a very blessed and joyous celebration of our Lord's incarnation and birth into this world. What a glorious miracle! What an incredible blessing to all the world! And as you celebrate His First Coming, don't forget to yearn for His soon return when He will come in glory and majesty to bring peace, righteousness and justice to this sin sick world. ✝



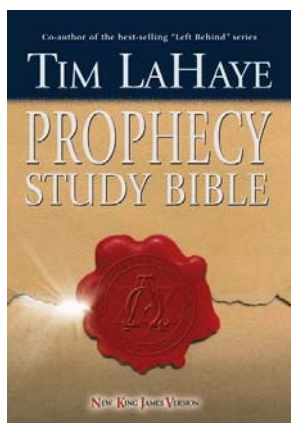
Suggested Christmas Presents

2014 Holy Land Calendar



Features a full color Holy Land scene for each month of the year. Printed on heavy gloss paper. 8½ by 11" in size. Five dollars each plus the cost of shipping. To order, call 972-736-3567 Monday thru Friday, 8am to 5pm Central time. Shipping envelopes will be included for multiple orders.

Prophecy Study Bible

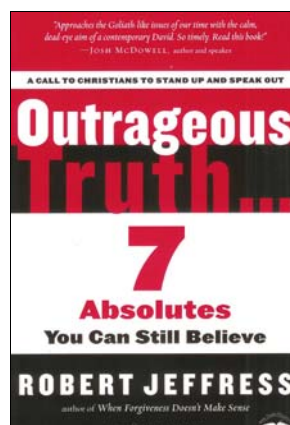


A customized version of the famous Tim LaHaye Prophecy Study Bible, containing an 8 page introduction by Dr. Reagan. New King James Version. Six by nine inches in size, with 1,700 pages. Bound in dark burgundy genuine leather. There are 84 articles by 55 Bible prophecy experts, including two by Dr. Reagan. It features 15 pages of full color prophecy charts, 74 black and white charts and 8 pages of maps. Normally sells for \$75. Christmas special: \$55 plus the cost of mailing. You can request Dr. Reagan to

personalize it for you by writing a brief note and signing it.

Special Bundles

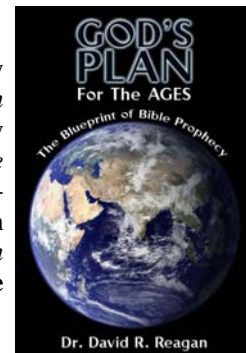
Jeffress Book and DVD: Offer #190



The Book: A hard-hitting, thought-provoking book about how Christians today have been intimidated by political correctness to remain silent about biblical truths that our society needs to hear. The author is the outspoken pastor of First Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas. 256 pages. \$15. **The Video:** Dr. Reagan interviews Dr. Jeffress. The focus is on issues that Christians tend to waffle on today because of concerns about political correctness. Questions covered include: Is Christianity the only true religion? Why does God send good people to Hell? Is God ultimately responsible for suffering? Are husbands supposed to be the leaders of their families? Is homosexuality a perversion? Is abortion tantamount to murder? Is evolution a myth? 53 minutes, DVD, \$12. **Bundle Price: \$20**, plus shipping cost.

Reagan Books: Offer #290

Dr. Reagan's exhaustive study of every aspect of Bible prophecy — *God's Plan for the Ages*, 415 pages (\$15). His study of America in prophecy — *America the Beautiful?*, 216 pages (\$15). His prescription for living in a pagan society with an apostate church — *Living for Christ in the End Times*, 264 pages (\$15). **Bundle Price: \$30** plus shipping cost. ✝



Greetings from the Lamb & Lion Staff

We need your support as a Prophecy Partner!



First row, left to right seated: Reva Frye, Kay Bien, Cathie Grubb, Rachel Houck, Jana Olivieri and Heather Jones. Standing left to right: George Collich, Trey Collich, Jack Smith, Dave Reagan, Leo Houck, Brett Everett and Nathan Jones.

Program Requirements

The support base of Lamb & Lion Ministries consists of its Prophecy Partners. These are the people who pledge to pray for us regularly and who make a commitment to provide \$25 a month or more in financial support for one year.

We currently have 2,500 Prophecy Partners. We need to increase that number to over 3,000 for 2014 if we are to continue to cover the costs of our worldwide television outreach.

We ask our Prophecy Partners to aim at giving \$1 a day for a year — or \$30 per month. Many do this, and some give even more. The minimum contribution is \$25 per month.

The most important thing we expect of our Prophecy Partners is for them to pray daily for the ministry.

Program Benefits

There are many benefits and blessings associated with being a Prophecy Partner. First and foremost is the knowledge that your sacrificial support is going to a ministry whose purpose is to point people to Jesus Christ and to proclaim His soon return.

As a Prophecy Partner you will receive a letter each month from Dave Reagan highlighting major events and decisions affecting the ministry. With each letter will come a gift. Six months of the year that gift will be a copy of our Lamplighter magazine. During the other six months of the year, you will

receive a video program or special publication. You will also receive a copy of the ministry's annual calendar featuring photographs of Israel.

Also, Prophecy Partners are eligible for a ten percent discount on most of the materials produced by the ministry.

Program Purposes

Your donations will be used to help pay for our media outreach all across this nation and around the world via television and the Internet.

We are currently broadcasting our television program on six national networks that have access to over 109 million homes in the United States, and through satellites, we are able to reach every country in the world.

Another aspect of our outreach that your donations will assist is our interactive website (www.lamblion.com). Our Web Minister is active on this site eight hours a day responding to inquiries from all over the world.

Program Integrity

We are a member in good standing of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability which requires the highest standards of financial conduct. You can be assured that your donations will be used properly. Thanks for your consideration. ❖

Ministry News

Schedule: Dr. Reagan will spend most of **November** shooting new television programs for 2014. He will conclude the month by speaking at Eastview Christian Church in Martinsville, Indiana (23-24). In **December** Dr. Reagan will speak at the annual Pre-Trib Conference in Dallas, Texas (2-4). Dr. Reagan will begin the new year in **January** by speaking at a prophecy conference that will be hosted by North Hialeah Baptist Church in Hialeah, Florida (24-26). In **February** Dr. Reagan is scheduled to return to the Summit Church in Wichita, Kansas (February 28 thru March 2).

Social Media Contacts:



Blog: lamblion.us



Facebook: [lamblion.com/facebook/](https://www.facebook.com/lamblion.com/facebook/)



Twitter: [christnprophecy](https://twitter.com/christnprophecy)



YouTube: [youtube.com/user/ChristInProphecy](https://www.youtube.com/user/ChristInProphecy)



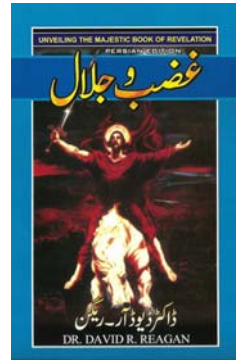
Lamb & Lion App: lamblion.mobi

Israel Pilgrimage: Our next Holy Land pilgrimage is scheduled for March 14 thru 25. It will be hosted by Dr. Reagan, and it will be his last pilgrimage group to host, due to the illness of his wife. His future trips to Israel will be limited to brief one week video shoots. Nathan Jones will accompany Dr. Reagan on the March pilgrimage and will be in training to be a future pilgrimage host. The group will fly via Lufthansa Airlines out of Dallas. To secure a detailed brochure, call the Lamb & Lion office at 972-736-3567 or email us at lamblion@lamblion.com. The deadline for registration is **January 14**. The group is limited to 55 people.



2010 group preparing to disembark on their cruise across the Sea of Galilee.

Foreign Publications: In our last issue, we announced that Dr. Reagan's popular commentary on the book of Revelation, *Wrath & Glory*, was recently published in both Polish and Persian (Farsi). We are in the process of trying to secure both translations in pdf format so that they can be downloaded free of charge from our website. Also the book is available in a beautiful Spanish edition that we will supply free of charge for the cost of shipping. Do you know a Spanish speaking congregation that might like to receive a box of these books? A box contains 48 copies. We can ship more or less.



Kudzu by Doug Marlette



Alf & Alesia Cengia

Volunteer: We are very blessed to be assisted by a number of volunteers who help our Web Minister, Nathan Jones, with the Christ in Prophecy Facebook group. One of the moderators of the group is Alf Cengia who was raised in Australia. He grew up in the Catholic Church, but in high school he began to doubt God. When he did not receive any satisfying answers to his questions from his priests, he turned to the cults and the New Age Movement to find his answers. The 9/11 attacks deeply impacted him, so he googled Hal Lindsey and then read his mother's copies of Lindsey's books. His mother's prayers were answered when Alf gave his life to the Lord. Since then, this manufacturing analyst has developed a passion for Bible prophecy and the defense of the Word of God. He has served as a writer for Jack Kinsella's *Omega Letter*. Alf discovered Lamb & Lion Ministries through Jan Markell's ministry, and Dr. Reagan's book, *Trusting God*, has become one of his favorites. Alf and his wife, Alesia, live in Ohio together with his step-daughter, Michelle.

Prophecy Partners:



Julius & Claudia Hovan of Harrodsburg, KY.



**Revelation 19:
The Return of Jesus**

Prophecy Illustrations:

People are always contacting us to find out where we get the pictures we often use to illustrate our articles and our Power-Point presentations. Some, of course, come off the Internet. But the best ones we use are produced by a very gifted artist name Pat Marvenko Smith. She began painting prophecy illustrations when she was asked to teach a teenage class about the book of Revelation. To keep their attention, she painted an illustration each week and centered the lesson around it. To

date she has painted a total of 40 pictures which illustrate the book of Revelation from beginning to end. You can purchase a CD containing all the pictures in high definition jpeg format for \$45. You can find her website at <https://seureserver.revelationillustrated.com>. The pictures are also available as posters.

Suggestion: If you are one of the 25,000 people who receive this magazine in digital form via email, please consider forwarding a copy to ten or more friends with a recommendation that they sign up to receive it. And if you receive the printed copy through the mail, and you do not keep the copies for future reference, as many do, then consider leaving your copy each month in a public place like a barber shop, beauty salon or doctor's office. One couple has informed us that they leave copies in the libraries of cruise ships! The point, of course, is that we need to spread the message of the Lord's soon return to as many people as possible, as quickly as possible.

Discouraged with Witnessing? Consider the following entries in the diary of the great preacher, John Wesley (1703 to 1791):

- Sunday, A.M., May 5 – Preached in St. Anne's.
Was asked not to come back anymore.
- Sunday, P.M., May 5 – Preached in St. John's.
Deacons said, "Get out and stay out!"
- Sunday, A.M., May 12 – Preached in St. Jude's.
Can't go back there, either.
- Sunday, A.M., May 19 – Preached in St. Somebody Else's.
Deacons called special meeting and said I couldn't return.
- Sunday, P.M., May 19 – Preached on the street.
Kicked off the street.
- Sunday, A.M., May 26 – Preached in a meadow.
Chased out of the meadow as a bull was turned loose during the service.
- Sunday, A.M., June 2 – Preached out at the edge of town.
Kicked off the highway.
- Sunday, P.M., June 2 – Preached in a pasture.
Ten thousand people came out to hear me.

May we have the perseverance that Wesley had!
(Submitted by Al and Sandy Gist of Maranatha Evangelistic Ministries in Louisiana.)

Communications:

Booklet — "My Dad gave me a copy of *A Prophetic Manifesto* a few weeks ago. I want to thank you for putting the condition of our society so eloquently, both in America and the rest of the world. We have had such a moral decline in my lifetime. We are getting closer and closer to mimicking 'as it was in the days of Noah.' It breaks my heart that so many people are lost in a terminally ill world. Again, thank you for allowing the Holy Spirit to use you to print 'the handwriting on the wall, so to speak.'" — Heath Holland in North Carolina.

Magazine — "David, you outdid yourself with the September-October issue about the fulfillment of prophecy in the reclamation of the land in Israel. Couldn't put it down! We read it cover to cover and enjoyed every minute of it . . . Our only sorrow is that the Jews in Israel don't realize that it is GOD that brought Israel back to life . . . Nathan, your article on Egypt in prophecy was wonderful and enlightening . . . What can we say except that the whole magazine was just GREAT. Thank you so much for all the work that goes into the magazine each month. It's a saver, but what we usually do is leave it in the magazine rack at our doctor's office. Who knows who might pick it up and be moved to the Lord?" — Gary & Joy Seals in Sun City West, Arizona.

Website — "For a while now I have been reading intently and enjoying your many articles which I have found to be full of common sense backed up by Scripture. The articles have been compelling, edifying and strengthening to my faith. You make a great difference in this world we live in. Please keep up the great work." — Paul Van-Ostayen in Australia.

TV Program — "Dr. Reagan, thanks to both you and Nathan for a wonderfully relaxed conversational show regarding your newest book, *Living on Borrowed Time*. I have ordered the book, and I'm looking forward to reading it over and over! The show was wonderful, energetic and enlightening — Praise the Lord! I have you programmed into my television so that I never miss a show. As you can see, I am excited for the Lord to come and to COME QUICKLY! I am a retired Deputy Sheriff with 30 years in law enforcement, and I've seen so much evil. It is easy to become hardened . . . but my faith in Christ kept me encouraged throughout those years. Your TV program continues to encourage me, and I thank you." — Kathryn Clark in Cameron Park, California.

Annual Conference — "My husband and I were unable to come to Dallas to your annual conference this year, but we did watch the entire event as it was live-streamed on the Internet. What a blessing! Each presentation just built upon the last, and the information imparted was amazing. When the conference comes out on DVD, we plan to buy the album and invite friends to come to our house and watch and discuss each lesson." — Sherry Buk in Columbus, Ohio.

App — "A while back, I remember suggesting that you folks develop an app that would be a Christian version of the Huffington Post app, with articles about current events from a biblical perspective. After seeing your app's progress so far, I have to say, 'Bravo!' It looks to me like the Lamb & Lion app is on the way to becoming a major media influence for God. That's my opinion as a mass-communications student." — Stanford Kefalos. ✚



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2013 Bible Conference Video

The six outstanding presentations that were made this year at our annual Bible conference are now ready for distribution in the form of a video album containing three DVDs.

The theme of the conference was “Living on Borrowed Time.” Accordingly, all six of the presentations focused on one of the signs of the times that point to the fact that we are living in the season of the Lord’s return.

The six presentations (each running about 50 minutes) were as follows:



Dave Reagan of Lamb & Lion Ministries in McKinney, Texas: “An Overview of the Signs of the Times”



Don McGee of Crown & Sickle Ministries in Amite, Louisiana: “The Rebirth of Israel”



Nathan Jones of Lamb & Lion Ministries: “The Signs of Technology”



Ron Rhodes of Reasoning from the Scriptures Ministries in Frisco, Texas: “The Epidemic of Apostasy”



Alan Franklin, Newspaper Editor from London, England: “The Revival of the Roman Empire”



Robert Jeffress, Pastor of the First Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas: “America’s Coming Implosion”

The album sells for \$25, plus 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.

The presentation Dr. Reagan made at the conference banquet is not included in the album. It is titled “Israel in Prophecy: The Resurgence of the Military.” You can order a copy of it for \$10 plus the cost of mailing. The total running time of the album is approximately 5 hours. Dr. Reagan’s banquet presentation runs 45 minutes. ❖

