I do not know who will be elected to serve as our next President. But there are two things I know for certain. First, I know that God is in control. Second, I know that America is under God’s judgment.

The sovereignty of God is something unbelievers scoff at. The greater tragedy is that most professing Christians seem to know little about it. After all, many, if not most, churches today are hearing messages based on pop psychology rather than biblical fundamentals.

But you can be assured that God is in control. Even when things seem to be completely out of control, God is on His throne. Psalm 2 says that while all the political leaders of the world plot against the Creator and His Anointed One, the Messiah, God sits in the heavens and laughs! He is not laughing because He is unconcerned. No, He is laughing because He has all the world’s events under control. The bottom line is that God has the wisdom and power to orchestrate all the evil of Satan and Man to the triumph of His Son, Jesus.

Our God is in the heavens; He does whatever He pleases (Psalm 115:3).

The king’s heart is like channels of water in the hand of the Lord; He turns it wherever He wishes (Proverbs 21:1).

How God deals with rebellious nations, particularly those He has greatly blessed, is also unknown to most professing Christians. As the articles in this issue will explain in detail, God first sends prophetic voices to call the nation to repentance. If they are ignored, God will then send remedial judgments. And if those are likewise ignored, God will turn the nation over to destruction, either from external or internal forces.

Our nation is currently in the throes of what theologians call “abandonment judgment.” This is when God steps back, lowers His hedge of protection around the nation and allows sin to multiply, resulting in the nation destroying itself.

The sins of our nation are so atrocious (see page 5) that God’s judgment will remain on us regardless of who wins the Presidential election. If the Democrats win, our national destruction will be accelerated due to their ungodly programs. If the Republicans win, the pace will be slowed, but it will not be stopped. We have already gone too far in the renunciation of the Judeo-Christian values this nation was based upon.

This is a nation that has turned its back on the very One who has blessed us so abundantly. Our society has secularized and even paganized. Our churches are rampant with apostasy. We are shaking our fist at God and spitting in His face — as we did, for example by lighting up the White House with the colors of the Sexual Perversion Movement to celebrate the legalization of same-sex marriage by our Supreme Court.

Our nation is going down. The crucial question is whether or not you are going with it. Have you placed your faith in Jesus as your Lord and Savior? If so, then you have hope because you have the promise of the Rapture and everlasting life. If you have refused the grace that God has extended through His Son, then you are doomed.

He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him (John 3:36).

Are you under grace or wrath? If you are under grace, you have nothing to fear and very much to look forward to. If you are under wrath, your future is dismal. Flee from the wrath that is to come by fleeing into the loving arms of Jesus now!

The cover illustration is from i-Stockphoto.com.
Dr. David R. Reagan

The first time I can remember hearing the term, “perfect storm,” was in 1991 when a very strong storm off the coast of Nova Scotia was given that name by meteorologists. The storm was produced by a cold front from the northwest that converged with a cyclone surging down from the northeast. The storm headed south toward New England where it converged with Hurricane Grace. This convergence of a cold front, a cyclone and a hurricane produced the “perfect storm.”

The storm got a lot of publicity because it produced waves up to 30 feet tall that flooded President George H. W. Bush’s vacation home in Kennebunkport, Maine, causing major damage. It got even more attention when it veered back up to its starting point off the coast of Nova Scotia where it produced waves as high as 100 feet. It was in this area that the fishing vessel, Andrea Gail, sank, killing her crew of six. This tragedy inspired the book, and later movie, The Perfect Storm (2000).

Our Societal Storm

Today, we here in the United States are experiencing another “perfect storm” of a different type that is far more dangerous. It is a storm that hit us suddenly and overwhelmingly. First, came the coronavirus pandemic which produced a stock market crash of 8,000 points. Then, came a shutdown of the economy, followed by widespread rioting and looting in the streets. Millions have been thrown out of work, thousands of businesses are declaring bankruptcy and millions of people are defaulting on their rental and mortgage payments.

One moment our nation was sitting on top of the world enjoying one of the greatest economic revivals in history. Then, in what seemed like a moment’s notice, we plunged into economic, social and political chaos.

As I reported in the last issue of this magazine, I witnessed a similar overnight societal collapse in Russia in 1992. When I
arrived in Moscow, I could hardly believe my eyes. The nation was in absolute chaos. Only a few months previously, this had been the most powerful nation on planet earth, with more nuclear weapons than any other country.

I found all the stores in Moscow empty — and I mean completely empty of both food and clothing. Thousands of people were standing on the sidewalks with card tables full of items to barter. People were trading food products like milk and potatoes for blue jeans, shirts and underwear. At the first class hotel where I was staying, the only food they had to serve was potatoes, and a Coke had to be shared with three other people.

As I viewed this heart-breaking spectacle, the Lord spoke to my heart and told me to go back to America and share the devastation that He can pour out in an instant, no matter how powerful the nation may be — just as He did with Babylon in Old Testament times.

He said for me to emphasize that His judgment on our nation would be much worse. After all, the Russian people had been under a totalitarian dictatorship for 70 years during which time Christians had been severely persecuted and the distribution of Bibles had been outlawed.

In contrast, during that same time period, God had poured out abundant blessings on our nation. Further, we have churches on every corner, an average of five Bibles in every home, and we have the Gospel being proclaimed on radio and television.

In short, unlike the Russian people, we have no excuse before God for our wanton rebellion against Him and His Word. The verse the Lord laid on my heart for this nation was Luke 12:48 which says that to those to whom much is given, much is expected.

Public Scoffing at Prophetic Warnings

I have been proclaiming that message far and wide since that time — in books, magazine articles, sermons, television programs and video productions. And I discovered early on that people did not want to hear the message.

That’s nothing new. The prophetic voices God sent to nations throughout Old Testament times were treated the same way. People mocked them, scoffed and jeered at them, harassed them and even tried to kill them.

When Jeremiah started warning the people of Judah of God’s impending judgment, they did not repent. Instead, they laughed at him and responded by crying out, “The temple, the temple, the temple!” (Jeremiah 7:4). What they meant, of course, was that they did not believe God would ever allow anyone to destroy the temple. After all, the Shekinah Glory of God resided in the temple.

Likewise, I have found that Americans tend to respond in the same way to warnings of God’s impending wrath on this nation. “Never America!” they chant. I’m convinced that many believe God is sitting on His throne draped in an American flag!

How God Deals with Rebellious Nations

The Bible clearly reveals a definite pattern of how God deals with a nation He has blessed when it starts turning against Him. First, He sends prophetic voices to call the nation to repentance. In our case, God began to do that in the mid-1970s when He raised up voices like David Wilkerson, Francis Schaeffer, Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn and Donald Wildmon. Since that time, the Lord has demonstrated great patience with us as He has continued to send prophetic warnings, despite our refusal to repent.
When we dug in our heels and stubbornly resisted the calls to repentance, the Lord began to bombard us with remedial judgments to get our attention — judgments like the 9/11 attacks (2001), Hurricane Katrina (2005), the Stock Market Crash of 2008 and the election of Barack Obama in 2008. And now, the “perfect storm.”

God’s Grace Toward America

When President Trump was running for election in 2016 on the motto of “Make America Great Again,” I warned repeatedly that no one could make our nation great again as long as we were thumbing our nose at God. I pointed specifically at several things in particular:

- The gross apostasy in the Church.
- Our legalization of the slaughter of babies in their mother’s wombs.
- Our legalization of same-sex marriage.
- Our flooding the world with violent, immoral and blasphemous movies and television programs.
- Our overwhelming addiction to drugs.
- Our determination to kick God out of all aspects of public life.
- Our leading the world in the production of pornography.

God orchestrated the election of Trump and gave us a window of grace. God allowed Trump to launch an “economic miracle,” but I believe He allowed it in order to dramatize His destruction of it overnight.

God wanted us to be fully aware that we are experiencing the His wrath. The problem is that most Americans have become so secular that they cannot perceive the spiritual any longer. So, they dismiss God’s wrath as “bad luck.”

Destruction from Within

We are reaping what we have sown (Galatians 6:7). As I pointed out in my book, God’s Prophetic Voices to America, we began surrendering our nation’s Christian heritage at the beginning of the 20th Century when our mainline churches started treating the Bible as Man’s search for God rather than God’s revelation to Man. These churches abandoned the true Gospel for the Social Gospel, and the churches began to die.

This apostasy began at the same time that Humanists were beginning to organize and push their atheistic agenda, calling for the secularization of our society.

Very quickly, Humanism (faith in Man) became our religion. Materialism (the love of money) became our God, and our lifestyle became Hedonism (the pursuit of pleasure). This was in fulfillment of prophecy. In general terms, the Bible says that in the end-times, society will become as evil as it was in the days of Noah (Matthew 24:37) — a time that was characterized by immorality and violence (Genesis 6:5 and 11).

Specifically, the Apostle Paul prophesied that in the end-times men would love three things — self, money and pleasure (2 Timothy 3:1-5). That’s precisely where we are in America today. But God cannot be mocked (Galatians 6:7). When those three things converge into a “perfect storm,” the result is always Nihilism — which is a fancy philosophical word for despair. And thus, we find our society wallowing in despair as people seek meaning in all the wrong things — like sex, money, drugs, alcohol and the pursuit of power.

Basically, what we are witnessing today is God allowing us to destroy ourselves. Theologians call it “abandonment wrath.” It is outlined in detail in Romans chapter one. That chapter says that when a nation becomes characterized by ungodliness, unrighteousness and the suppression of truth — and when it begins to worship the creation rather than the Creator — God will step back, lower His hedge of protection around the nation and allow evil to multiply.

When this happens, Romans 1 says the first manifestation will be a sexual revolution (verse 24). If there is no repentance, God will then step back a second time and lower the hedge further, producing a plague of homosexuality (verses 26-27). If the rebellion persists, God will lower the hedge a third and final time, delivering the nation over to a depraved mind (verses 28-32). That’s where we are.

Evidence of Depravity

So, we should not be surprised that people are demanding a Socialist government to take care of them from the cradle to the grave. Nor should we find it unbelievable that people are in the streets demanding the removal of the statues of some of our greatest historical figures. Nor should we be shocked by the following goals of the “Progressives:”

- To overrule all of Trump’s executive orders that enforce Judeo-Christian principles.
- To expand hate crime legislation to include speech against abortion, homosexuality, same-sex marriage and transgenderism.
- To promote the Sexual Perversion Movement to include legal protection of polygamy, polyamory, prostitution and other deviant sexual behaviors.
- To defund our police departments.
- To gut the Second Amendment by sharply curtailing the right of Americans to own arms.
- To impose taxes on churches and ministries that refuse to
endorse the sexual revolution.

- To impose draconian taxes on middle class Americans to provide reparations for blacks and homosexuals.
- To socialize major aspects of the American economy in order to bring about a “re-distribution of wealth.”
- To pack our Supreme Court with judges who have utter contempt for our Constitution.
- To try to amend the Constitution to eliminate the Electoral College.
- To isolate and endanger Israel by giving maximum support to its enemies.
- To maximize our support for the United Nations and other world organizations in order to move us toward the establishment of a One World Government.

**President Trump’s Personality**

Another factor that has contributed to our current “perfect storm” is one that most conservatives do not want to recognize. It is President Trump’s monumental ego. Again, I have warned repeatedly that although President Trump’s policies are in accordance with Judeo-Christian principles and should be applauded and supported, his constant bragging about his wealth, his wisdom and his greatness constitute a danger to himself and the nation because God hates pride. Consider the following scriptures:

**Proverbs 16:5** — “Everyone who is proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD; assuredly, he will not be unpunished.”

**Jeremiah 9:23** — “Thus says the LORD, ‘Let not a wise man boast of his wisdom, and let not the mighty man boast of his might, let not a rich man boast of his riches . . .’”

**Isaiah 2:12** — “For the LORD of hosts will have a day of reckoning against everyone who is proud and lofty and against everyone who is lifted up, that he may be abased.”

**Proverbs 16:18** — “Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before stumbling.”

**Proverbs 26:12** — “Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him.”

**Matthew 23:12** — “Whoever exalts himself shall be humbled; and whoever humbles himself shall be exalted.”

**James 4:6** — “. . . God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble.”

These are awesome and sobering warnings. Again, **God hates pride.** We cannot expect Him to bless the prideful person. Remember King Nebuchadnezzar. As he was congratulating himself on his greatness, he was reduced to insanity.

A second personal problem that characterizes President Trump, and which is responsible for much of the hatred and division in our nation today, is his juvenile responses to his critics. Instead of dealing with their criticisms, he attacks them personally in tweets that are often crude, rude and even vulgar.

One of God’s modern-day prophetic voices is Albert Mohler, Jr., the President of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. He recently spoke to the problem of President Trump’s personality. In June, in an interview with *The New Yorker* magazine, Mohler called Trump “a huge embarrassment” to Evangelicals because of his “misbehavior” and the “glaring deficiencies in his private and public character.” Nonetheless, Mohler said he was going to vote for the President because “the alternative is unthinkable.”

One favorable thing about Trump, in addition to his conservative values, is that he has kept his word concerning the political promises he made in 2016. In fact, I think it would be very difficult to find any President who has been as faithful to his promises. We have become so accustomed to politicians lying about what they will do if elected, that it is particularly refreshing to find one who actually means what he says.

**The Nature of Our Constitutional Government**

But let’s get back to the “perfect storm” of mindless violence we see all around us. It reminds me of the fact that our Founding Fathers purposefully did not create a democracy because they believed that pure democracy would result in mob rule. That belief was based upon God’s Word and its teaching about the fallen nature of Man and his corrupt heart (Jeremiah 17:9 and Matthew 15:18-19).
tem of government.

Our Founding Fathers emphasized over and over that our Constitutional form of representative government could prevail only if there was a foundation of religion and morality. Consider the following statements:

**Samuel Adams** (1722-1803) — Governor of Massachusetts, signer of the Declaration of Independence, and organizer of the Boston Tea Party:

A general dissolution of principles and manners will more surely overthrow the liberties of America than the whole force of the common enemy. While the people are virtuous they cannot be subdued; but when they lose their virtue they will be ready to surrender their liberties to the first external or internal invader.

He further added:

Religion and good morals are the only solid foundations of public liberty and happiness.

**Benjamin Rush** (1745-1813) — Signer of the Declaration of Independence, attendee at the Continental Congress, physician, and first Surgeon General:

The only foundation for . . . a republic is to be laid in Religion. Without this there can be no virtue, and without virtue there can be no liberty, and liberty is the object and life of all republican governments.

**Patrick Henry** (1736-1799) — First governor of Virginia and member of the Continental Congress:

The great pillars of all government and of social life [are] virtue, morality, and religion. This is the armor, and this alone, that renders us invincible.

**John Adams** (1735-1826) — Member of the Continental Congress, one of the drafters of the Declaration of Independence, and second President of the United States:

We have no government armed in power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion . . . *Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people.* It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other. [Emphasis added].

**Thomas Jefferson** (1743-1826) — Governor of Virginia, first Secretary of State, principle author of the Declaration of Independence, and third President of the United States:

No nation has ever yet existed or been governed without religion. Nor can be. The Christian religion is the best religion that has ever been given to man, and I as chief Magistrate of this nation am bound to give it the sanction of my example.

**James Madison** (1751-1836) — Political philosopher, considered the “Father of the Constitution” and the “Father of the Bill of Rights,” member of the House of Representatives, and fourth President of the United States:

We have staked the whole future of American civilization, not upon the power of government, far from it. We have staked the future of all of our political institutions upon the capacity of mankind for self-government; upon the capacity of each and all of us to govern ourselves, to control ourselves, to sustain ourselves according to the Ten Commandments of God.

What these men are saying is that the form of government created by our Constitution depends for its success on a foundation of religion and morality. Without this foundation, we will have mob rule which will lead to martial law and ultimately to a dictatorship.

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**The Destruction of Our Nation’s Foundation**

This necessary foundation for our Constitution has been eroded beyond recognition. We as a nation have rejected God in the public arena, and our churches have perverted Christianity beyond recognition.

The vast majority of our children today are being raised in homes where God is either ignored or denied. Those who are attending church are hearing a watered-down, false gospel of pop psychology, without any teaching about the fundamentals of the Faith. Additionally, in the public schools, they are being fed the lie of evolution that teaches them they are just animals evolved from apes. Is it any wonder that they are now in our streets acting like beasts?

As I have said many times before, we are raising a whole generation of moral pygmies who are willing to kill each other over pricey tennis shoes.

And the answer is not the election of more Republicans as many Evangelicals believe. First of all, it is not likely this is going to happen. Our nation has deteriorated to the point that only 23% attend church every Sunday and only 9% have a biblical worldview. Most professing Christians in America today are carnal people who profess to be Christians but who have no personal relationship with Jesus.

And even if we could elect more Republicans, we have to keep in mind that they are just as weak and corruptible as Democrats. That’s the reason that both our national and state governments have so many RHINOs in positions of power — a RHINO being a Republican-in-name-only. President Trump discovered
this truth very quickly when he tried to “drain the swamp” in Washington. Many Republicans were a part of that swamp.

I am reminded of my colleague and my designated successor, Colonel Tim Moore. He served in the House of Representatives of Kentucky for 13 years before resigning in preparation to take over the leadership of this ministry. The first time he ran for office, he ran on a very strong pro-life platform. He quickly became the leader of the pro-life forces in the Kentucky House. When the first vote came up on a pro-abortion bill sponsored by the Democrat Governor, one of the members of Tim’s pro-life coalition — a man who had run for office opposing abortion — voted for the Governor’s bill!

When Tim confronted him and asked why he had given the Governor his vote, he said, “The Governor told me that if I would vote for his bill, he would see to it that I got an office with a window.” So, he traded a window for the lives of babies.

The classic example of misplaced trust in politics is the record of Supreme Court justices. Over and over, conservative Presidents have appointed conservative justices, only to watch them migrate to the left over time and give their votes to uphold abominable things like abortion, same-sex marriage and transgenderism. Our current Chief Justice, John Roberts, was appointed to the Supreme Court by President George W. Bush because he claimed to be a strong conservative and constitutionalist. Now, he is voting with the liberals.

Christian Involvement in Politics

Does this mean that those of us who are Bible-believers and supporters of our Constitution should withdraw from politics? No! But it does mean we are not to look to political solutions for our nation’s problems when our problems are rooted in the rejection of God and His Word.

I have no idea what is ahead of us in the upcoming election. Will God in His mercy orchestrate the re-election of Trump and allow our current window of grace to be extended? Or, will He see to it that both Trump and our nation get what they deserve?

Whatever the outcome of the election, I know for certain the ultimate fate of our nation — and not because I have been given any supernatural revelation by God. I know our fate because God’s Word reveals that when a nation God has blessed decides to turn its back on the source of its blessings, God will pour out His wrath, and the nation will be destroyed.

That is precisely where we are headed.

Is There Hope for Our Nation?

Do we have any hope? Not as a nation. We have passed the point of no return. The percentage of Americans professing to be Christians has plummeted from 85% in 1990 to 65% today, and probably more than half of these are “Cultural Christians” who have never been born again. Only 9% of Americans have a biblical worldview according to the Pew Research Center. And only 17% of those professing to be Christians can be classified as “Bible-believing.”

Keep in mind, too, that despite being the most unbiblical President in American history, Obama left the office with a 60% approval rating. And his designated heir, Hillary Clinton, received three million more votes than Trump. Most important, those in their 20s — the Millennials who are the future of our nation — favored a Socialist in 2016, and when he did not get the nomination, they voted overwhelmingly for Hillary. They repeated that conduct again this year when they favored Bernie Sanders for the Democrat nomination. Our Millennials are the most secular generation in our history. Few go to church, and they are enamored with Socialism.

No, I do not believe there is any hope for our nation. But there is incredible hope for individuals who place their faith in Jesus as their Lord and Savior. They have the hope of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, the hope of the Rapture, the hope of Glorified Bodies, the hope of reigning with Jesus during His Millennial Reign over all the earth, and the hope of eternal life with God in a New Jerusalem on a New Earth.

Maranatha! ✝

How Are Christians to Respond?

This is one of Dr. Reagan’s most popular books. It was first published in 2000. This is the second edition that came out in 2015. The publisher of the first edition refused to accept the book’s sub-title because he said it was too radical!

The first two chapters are very hard-hitting ones that deal with the rapid decay of society and the explosion of apostasy in the church.

The next ten chapters present principles that Christians can follow to live victorious lives in the midst of a world that is coming apart at the seams, returning to what it was like in the days of Noah. The final two chapters present prophetic material about the victory believers will experience when Jesus returns.

323 pages, $20, including the cost of shipping. ✝
We Were Warned!

Dr. David R. Reagan

God never pours out His wrath without warning. First, He will send prophetic voices, and if there is no repentance, He will start sending remedial judgments. He is patient, merciful and long-suffering, but He will by no means leave rebellious sinners unpunished (Nahum 1:2-3).

Past Prophetic Voices

God began warning our nation as far back as World War II, and He has continued to send very specific warnings ever since the mid-1970s. Consider the examples below.

In 1944, Peter Marshall, the great Scottish-American preacher, sensed in his soul that our nation was heading in the wrong direction — toward a secular, pagan society. He decried our racism and growing materialism. He proclaimed, “We badly need a prophet who will have the ear of America and who will say, ‘If the Lord be God, follow Him, but if Baal be god, then follow him and go to Hell!’”

In 1974, God began answering Peter Marshall’s prayer when He started raising up a series of prophetic voices who identified our nation’s sins, called us to repentance and warned us of God’s wrath if we refused to repent. The first was David Wilkerson, a Pentecostal preacher in New York City. In his shocking book, The Vision, Wilkerson catalogued the sins of our nation and predicted they would multiply and worsen in the future. He concluded, “I believe we have passed the point of no return.”

Also, in 1974, Francis Schaeffer began work on his book and documentary film titled, How Should We Then Live? It was an in-depth study of the rise and decline of the Christian world view in Western Europe and our nation. Schaeffer spoke prophetically about our society. He said, “As the memory of the Christian consensus which gave us freedom within the biblical form increasingly is forgotten, a manipulating authoritarianism will tend to fill the vacuum.”

In 1976, God anointed a country preacher in Tupelo, Mississippi with the courage to take a stand against the cascading filth in movies and television programs. His name was Don Wildmon, and he founded what is known today at the American Family Association. Strongly denouncing the increasing secularism in America, he proclaimed: “Atheism and agnosticism, with their step-children of humanism, hedonism and materialism, may not be the official religions of our country, but they have become the accepted practical religion by many in key positions of influence.”

In 1978, the Russian author, Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn (who had taken up residence in the United States in 1975 after his deportation from the Soviet Union) stunned the American intelligentsia at Harvard University when he strongly condemned the moral degradation of American society. He asked, “How did the West decline from its triumphal march to its present sickness?” He answered his question by saying it had occurred by “the elevation of Man over God.”

In 1983, Solzhenitsyn delivered his most pointed speech about the spiritual decline of our nation. It was delivered in his acceptance of the Templeton Prize for his contributions “to affirming life’s spiritual dimension.” He declared that our nation was in the process of making the same mistake his forefathers had made in Russia: “Men have forgotten God.”

In 1984, in his last book, The Great Evangelical Disaster, Francis Schaeffer castigated the Church itself for contributing to the demise of our nation by its failure to stand for truth, its accommodation “to the world spirit of the age” and its abandonment of belief in the inerrancy of the Scriptures.

Current Prophetic Voices

In more recent times, God has raised up more prophetic voices to our nation. I have in mind people like Erwin Lutzer, David Jeremiah, William Koenig, Jan Markell, Albert Mohler, Jr., Franklin Graham, Robert Jeffress, and Messianic Jewish voices like Jonathan Cahn and Michael Brown.

Over and over, through these voices and others, God has called us to repentance and warned us of impending judgment. We as a nation have turned a deaf ear to these warnings. The judgment has begun.

Because you have turned from the God who can save you — the Rock who can hide you; therefore, even though you plant a wonderful, rare crop of greatest value . . . yet you will never harvest it — your only harvest will be a pile of grief and incurable pain — Isaiah 17:10-11 (TLB).
Societal Chaos

War Against America

Dr. Ed Hindson

(Editor’s note: Dr. Hindson is one of Christendom’s foremost experts in the field of Bible prophecy. He serves as host of “The King Is Coming” television broadcast, and he is a prolific writer. He is a professor of Old Testament studies and eschatology at Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia. He is also a much sought-after conference speaker.)

America is at the Tipping Point!

As we begin our 245th year, the nation faces its most serious crisis in recent history. Anti-American forces are attempting to undermine and destroy the very soul of the world’s greatest nation. The convergence of political extremism, social unrest, pandemic paralysis and general confusion has left us gasping for breath and groping for solutions. Many are confused, asking: “What is happening to our country? Where did all this begin? Why are we so divided?”

The Root Cause

Let us begin by examining the root cause of the current chaos. In the nineteenth century, a Princeton theologian named Charles Hodge warned that when American education ceased to be distinctively Christian it would only remain neutral (non-Christian) for a while, and then it would ultimately turn decisively anti-Christian. Within 100 years, his prediction came true.

A Supreme Court decision in 1962 (Engel v. Vitale) ruled prayer out of the public schools. Subsequently, even voluntary moments of silence were eliminated and, in time, all religious instruction was banned from American public education. While students are still free to pray privately or in small groups, the absence of God in American public education is now glaringly obvious. The result is rampant secularization.

The secularization of America has increasingly grown into a stranglehold on public discourse. Nearly 60 years later, the process looks like this:

1. Secularism: There is no god.
2. Relativism: There is no truth.
3. Selfism: I am all that matters.
4. Materialism: Give me more stuff.

The Elements of the War

The war against America is the result of the spiritual battle for the soul of the nation. It plays out in several areas under the disguise of social justice and political correctness. But make no mistake, it is a covert attack of Satan against the very heart of America's Christian values. Here is how it works:

1. Deny Our Heritage: Eliminate any positive discussion of Christian influence in America's founding. Pilgrims, Puritans, Quakers, and others seeking religious freedom are portrayed as "invaders" who mistreated Native Americans.
2. Defame Our Heroes: Emphasize their faults and weaknesses while neglecting their contributions. Denounce Christopher Columbus, who lived in 1492, by the standards of 21st century "correctness." On that basis, nobody living in 1492 was "acceptable!" Everyone becomes a target of the culture wars: Washington, Jefferson — even Lincoln.
3. Desecrate Our Monuments: Public statues and government monuments are symbols of the America that extremists want to destroy. This is not merely about the Civil War or racial injustice. The extremists, like Antifa, want everything gone. "Tear it all down!" they keep shouting.
4. Dismantle Our Freedoms: Free speech is only acceptable for the radical, liberal left. Conservative Christians are denounced as racists, bigots and anti-intellectuals. Any attempt to criticize or question the left-wing agenda is met with censorship, hostility and ridicule.
5. Destroy Our Nation: The end result of the secular onslaught will eventually bring America down. Left unchecked, a godless society will implode. Perhaps this is why America is not specifically identified in Bible prophecies of the End Times.

America is in serious trouble and only the power of God can save us. We desperately need His divine intervention. America needs a spiritual awakening and a genuine revival of repentance, regeneration and re-engagement with the culture. Nothing short of a radiant, Spirit-filled Christianity can speak truth into a decadent and self-destructive culture.
Weary Remnant Watchmen

Jan Markell

The Sons of Issachar were men who understood the times (1 Chronicles 12:32). Today, very few people have an interest. The following e-mail represents hundreds that I get:

Jan, I am viewed as crazy just by mentioning how excited I am for the Lord to return . . . It makes me nervous to even mention world news and events, or end-time prophecies, with anyone who claims to be a Christian. The reactions I get are so very negative. I haven’t found even one person at my church, work or extended family who would be willing to discuss any of these issues.

We are in the most biblically relevant times in history with the least amount of interest in them. We are in a season of exploding “signs of the times” with the most amount of scoffing (all predicted in 2 Peter 3:1-4).

Why the Weariness?

Here are some potential reasons for the weariness:

- Way too many people are in love with this world. They cling to it and derive tremendous pleasure from it. And b-u-s-y has become the new four letter word.
- Coupled with this are the preachers who are telling people they can have their best life now. And that is their all-consuming goal.
- Reality has become terrifying. Some are saying our life will never return to normal, whatever that was as recently as nine months ago. And those voices just might be right. Life may have turned a dark corner in 2020.
- Satan is the distractor! He is in a hyper-active mode keeping people from paying attention to how late the hour is. If they aren’t watching the times, he can lull them into complacency and keep people from even sharing the gospel. His goal is to keep people majoring in the minors.
- Detaching from reality is a coping mechanism. Some can’t keep hearing, listening and watching natural disasters, pandemics, riots and looting, persecution and suffering. These things crush their spirit.
- Many churches and Christians today represent Laodicea. This church was lukewarm and indifferent. It very likely was totally focused on self and self-gratification. If you are consumed with looking within, you cannot pay attention to what is happening on the outside.
- Many church pulpits remain silent. If the pastor is not talking about the times, the sheep feel they need not pay attention to the times! Too many pastors want to avoid anything controversial or cutting-edge. They will not address some of the stunning events taking place daily, even if the events have biblical significance.
- God has turned some people over to a mindset that does not allow them to understand the times. He may have given some people you care about over to a reprobate mind (Romans 1:28). Four of the most terrifying words in the Bible are “God gave them over.”
- The obsession with social justice has replaced the good news that the King is coming. It has also replaced the Great Commission and the Gospel of Salvation. Many would rather save the planet than save souls or talk about the Lord’s return.
- Many Christians know they are not right with God and they avoid reality. If the signs of the times that we watch remind them their time is running out, they choose to tune out.

This recent email says a lot:

Jan, I am looked at like I am an alien just because I track with what is happening and relate it to the Bible. A few of you online teachers help me celebrate my alien status. I feel like a lonely gold fish in a bowl. So much of what the Bible predicted is coming true every day! Keep sounding the alarm.

A Call for Perseverance

So, what must Noah have felt like? He preached for 120 years and was totally ignored! And he didn’t have Facebook, Instagram or Twitter. He didn’t have a microphone or a pulpit. Finally the Ark door closed on a scoffing society.

It’s going to close again, but this time it will come by way of the Rapture of the Church. And millions will miss it because they didn’t listen to the watchmen. But some will, so don’t be silent.

Let’s seize this moment in history. Even the secular world is noticing that we are in unprecedented times.

Time is running out, and I’m awaiting His return.

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Jan Markell is the founder and director of Olive Tree Ministries in Maple Grove, Minnesota. Her weekly radio program, “Understanding the Times,” is broadcast on 800 stations all across our nation.
Racism

Black Opinions

Compiled by Dr. David R. Reagan

Candace Owens — She is the co-founder of Blexit, the organization that aims to get Blacks to stop supporting the Democrat Party. Her testimony before a Congressional Committee:

“There isn’t a single adult today that in good conscience would make the argument that America is a more racist, or a more White nationalist society than it was when my grandfather was growing up. Here are some things we never hear. The single motherhood rate in the Black community, which was at 23% in the 1960s when my grandfather was coming up, is at a staggering 74% today. And there are more Black babies aborted than born alive in cities like New York. My point is that White nationalism did not do any of those things that I just brought up. Democrat policies did. The bottomline is that White supremacy, racism, White nationalism — words that once held real meaning — have now become nothing more than election strategies. Every four years, the Black community is offered handouts and fear. I will not pretend to be a victim in this country. The biggest scandal in America politics is that Democrats have been conning minorities into believing we are perpetual victims, all but assuring our failure. Racial division and class warfare are central to the Democrat Party platform. They need Blacks to hate Whites, the rich to hate the poor, and soon it will be the tall to hate the short.”

Brandon Tatum — He is a former police officer and is the co-founder of Blexit.

“When you look at numbers [of police killings], they’re very, very clear. In 2019 there were nine African-American people shot who were unarmed. Most people can put two and two together and realize that just because you’re unarmed, don’t mean you’re not a threat. But for the sake of arguing, just say that all nine unarmed black males were killed by police unjustifiably — there are 44 million black people in the U.S. When you look at those numbers, and then you go and you look at the amount of black people who get killed on a day-to-day basis through black-on-black violence, and you do not see the same level of outrage, we can clearly see that there’s some brainwashing going on.”

Larry Elder — Black radio host in Los Angeles.

“One of the big fake news narratives is that ‘institutional,’ ‘structural’ and ‘systemic’ racism remain a major problem in America, when, in fact, race has never been a more insignificant barrier to success in America.”

Barack Obama — His Father’s Day speech in Chicago in 2008.

“If we are honest with ourselves, too many fathers are missing — missing from too many lives and too many homes. They have abandoned their responsibilities, acting like boys instead of men. Children who grow up without a father are five times more likely to live in poverty and commit crime, nine times more likely to drop out of schools and 20 times more likely to end up in prison.”

Mike Ramey — He is a minister, syndicated columnist and street gangs consultant.

“In my humble opinion, many of those who are rioting in the streets and cities of urban America are not doing so for the cause of justice, but as a means of seeking, and usurping, political power. Much like Queen Jezebel usurped the power of King Ahab, those who are in our streets today have demonstrated whom they are serving — and it is not the cause of justice. It is the cause of the sinister. They are letting the Devil do his thing — through them! The interesting fact about the Civil Rights Movement is that it started with fasting and prayer in the Urban Church. Churches in Black communities across America for years prayed and marched, and prayed some more until victory was won. The interesting fact about Black Lives Matter (BLM) is that its movement was NOT born in the church. The present BLM leadership is not only light years away from the original BLM cause, it has involved looters, thugs and rioters of all colors. PLUS it has accepted monies from Socialist, Marxist and other such rabble, thus massively corrupting it.”

Shelby Steele — He is an author, columnist, documentary film producer and a Senior Fellow at Stanford University’s Hoover Institution. He specializes in the study of race relations.

“Racism is no longer a barrier to anyone’s life. I absolutely, 100 percent, believe that if you want to do something in American society, whatever it may be — I’m not saying you will not encounter any racism, but racism will not stop you. When I grew up in segregation, racism cruelly constricted our lives and our opportunities, and you could not do things that you might want to do. Today, that’s over. One of the most remarkable things is how little we’ve appreciated the degree of freedom we have as blacks.”

Burgess Owens — Former NFL player and current Congressional candidate in Utah.

“No, my friends, there is no systemic racism in America… just systemic ‘Marxist Elitism’… an evil that uses, abuses and discards anyone for POWER.”
Brian Thomas — He has worked as a Computer Quality Assurance Analyst for more than 20 years. He also has an Internet ministry called “Blessings to Israel.”

“It pains me to say that a lot of racism is spewed from the pulpits of predominantly black churches. I was at a service once where the black pastor stated during a sermon that ‘a white man can’t tell me nothing because he hasn’t walked in a black man’s shoes.’ I wanted to ask him if that meant Jesus cannot tell him anything either. I could tell so many accounts of local churches where Black Liberation Theology is preached every week, year after year. It is nothing but hate-filled rants.”

Martin Luther King, Jr. — Leader of the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 60s. Advocate of non-violence and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize (1964).

“Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that . . . Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality. So, let’s act like it. If we’re going to be outraged by injustice, let’s be outraged by injustice against anyone.”

Jason Riley — He is a journalist who is a member of the Wall Street Journal editorial board.

“America has never been fairer or more integrated, yet politicians obsess over wiping out discrimination. In William Julius Wilson’s 1978 book, The Declining Significance of Race, the sociologist argued that racial discrimination was no longer the biggest barrier to black economic advancement. His fellow liberals were outraged. Forty-one years later, Mr. Wilson is still right and the political left is still in denial. Accusations of white racism are all the rage in Washington these days. If you oppose school busing, you’re a racist. If you want immigration laws enforced, you’re a racist. If you’re against slavery reparations or support adding a citizenship question to the census or criticize minority members of Congress, you’re a racist.”

Herschel Walker — Former NFL player.

“I was reading the greatest book ever written, the Bible, and I read, ‘But if you don’t forgive others, your Father will not forgive your offenses’ (Matthew 6:15). So, why are we penalizing people for what their ancestors did? Forgiveness doesn’t mean you get something in return.”

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar — Former NBA player.

“The shocking lack of massive indignation over anti-Semitic outbursts by Black personalities like Ice Cube and others [like Nick Cannon] perpetuates racism . . . These famous, outspoken people share the same scapegoat logic as all oppressive groups from Nazis to the KKK — all our troubles are because of bad-

Walter E. Williams — An economist, commentator, syndicated columnist and professor of economics at George Mason University.

“The true plight of black people has little or nothing to do with the police or what has been called ‘systemic racism’ . . . According to Statista, this year, 172 whites and 88 blacks have died at the hands of police. To put police shootings in a bit of perspective, in Chicago alone in 2020, there have been 1,260 shootings and 256 homicides with blacks being the primary victims. That comes to one shooting victim every three hours and one homicide victim every 15 hours. Three people in Chicago have been killed by police. If one is truly concerned about black deaths, shootings by police should figure way down on one’s list — which is not to excuse bad behavior by some police officers.”

Charles Barkley — Former NBA player and current television sports analyst.

“What’s happening now is we’re turning into a circus. Instead of talking about racial equality, racial justice and economic justice, we spend all our time worrying about who’s kneeling and not kneeling and what’s being said on jerseys. I think we’re missing the point. We need police reform and prison reform. When we spend time focusing on what’s on the jersey, that’s gonna defeat our purpose.”

Unknown Church —

“Do I hear an “Amen,” somebody?”
Societal Chaos

The “Cancel Culture” Has Lost Its Mind!

Dr. Michael Brown

Now that the Pandora’s Box has been opened and the cancel culture has been turned loose, there is no hiding its scope. It is unrestrained and unrelenting. If you dare cross it, even in the slightest, you will be targeted next — even violently. The cancel culture is out of control!

You cannot reason with it or appeal to it. Logic and truth and facts do not matter. The only way to stop it is to confront it and expose it, openly, clearly, boldly and unashamedly. If you compromise on one issue you’ll be forced to capitulate on all issues. There is no middle ground with this irrational and destructive movement. The sooner we realize that, the better.

All Lives Matter?

According to Breitbart News, “Miss Swimsuit UK has been stripped of her title after posting the message ‘ALL lives matter’ on her Facebook page.” She had written:

Yes what happened to George Floyd was wrong and unforgivable but so is what happens to many other people of different races in similar situations. Yet they don’t get to protest, loot, take over social media, create a day for their race or even raise $10.3 million in aid of the person who passed. The majority of crime and deaths regarding black people is caused by black on black crime that happens in America.

Such speech is verboten. Away with her! Off with her crown!

Blue Lives Matter?

According to Policemag.com, after two police officers were ambushed and killed in cold blood, Savannah Chavez, the 16-year-old daughter of one of those officers (who was just 39 years-old), tweeted, “Words cannot describe the pain I’m in, but I’m glad my dad is at peace.” She continued, “You were an amazing man and anyone who ever came across you knew that.” And then this: “I’m going to miss you so much. you died doing what you loved most, you died a hero. I love you daddy, see you soon. #bluelivesmatter ?“

What gall! How dare she claim that her father’s cold-blooded execution could be compared to someone’s death at the hands of a policeman. And how dare she co-opt a slogan, since her dad, by birth, was not blue.

This grieving teenager received so much opposition she ended up deleting the tweet. What on earth is happening to our society? . . .

It Won’t Stop

That is the cancel culture in a nutshell. If you dare stray from the standard script, even for one moment, you are banned for life. No more of you! You can go from ally to enemy in the twinkling of an eye.

No Longer a Free Society

In the words of John Gray, an emeritus professor at the London School of Economics, giving a perspective from the UK, “Today we are no longer living in a free society. Instead, we are ruled by those who try to enforce their extreme views by shaming and ruining those who think differently.”

He added, “It is not far-fetched to compare the methods of this ‘woke movement’ to those of Chairman Mao’s Red Guards, who terrorized the Chinese people half a century ago.”

As for specific examples, he wrote, “‘Critical race theory’ (a sub-Marxist ideology in which ‘white privilege’ is invoked to explain all kinds of injustice) is increasingly being taught as part of ‘decolonizing the curriculum.’ Indeed, no subject is immune from this re-education campaign in our schools and universities.”

To illustrate his point, he stated that “Academics at Birmingham City University have proposed that Mozart be eliminated from music teaching and replaced by the rapper Stormzy . . . And over in Australia, as reported by the Daily Mail, there is a ‘new push to rename body parts like the Adam’s apple and Achilles’ tendon because they are ‘irrelevant and misogynistic.’”

Dr. Michael Brown (www.askdrbrown.org) is the host of the nationally syndicated “Line of Fire” radio program.
Societal Chaos

Commentary on the Storm

R. Albert Mohler, Jr.

(Editor’s note: Albert Mohler is the President of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, the largest Christian seminary in the world. In my book, God’s Prophetic Voices to America (2017), I identified him as one of the modern day prophetic voices that God has raised up to speak to the intellectuals of this nation. His latest book, published this year, is titled The Growing Storm: Secularism, Culture, and the Church. Below are quotations from the book.)

“Christian truth claims have lost all binding authority in the culture, and the loss of that binding authority is the most important fact” (p. xiii).

“As Quaker theologian D. Elton Trueblood warned many years ago, America and its allies were fast becoming ‘cut flower civilizations,’ which, cut off from Christian roots, were destined to wither and die”’ (p. xv).

“One of the clearer developments in the past two decades has been the inevitable collision between religious liberty — America’s most cherished ‘first freedom’ — and the newly established sexual liberties” (p. 7).

“[According to the Canadian philosopher, Charles Taylor] Western history can be defined by three intellectual epochs:
  • Pre-Enlightenment impossibility of unbelief;
  • Post-Enlightenment possibility of unbelief;
  • Late-modern impossibility of belief” (p. 9).

“Liberal Protestantism and secularization have merged” (p.20).

“So many denominations . . . have surrendered theological conviction for the misguided hope that survival in this secular age hinges on abandoning the doctrines and truths of the gospel that have guided the Church since its inception. The results of this idea, however, have devastated liberal churches. It turns out that ‘keep up or die’ really means ‘keep up and die’”’ (p. 24).

“Abortion looms as a great moral scar on the modern age — a singular symbol of the embrace of the culture of death in the most technologically advanced nations on earth” (p. 39).

“The culture of death seems to advance hour by hour in the United States — this is no mere political issue or policy debate, this is an issue dealing with real lives, real human beings, legally murdered on a massive scale” (p. 54).

“[Due to] modern technologies, we can have sex without babies, babies without sex, and both without marriage” (p. 58).

“Pagans speak of holy things as if they were lowly, while speaking of lowly things as if they were holy” (pp. 64-65).

“Pornography represents one of the most insidious attacks upon the sanctity of marriage and the goodness of sex within the one-flesh marriage” (p. 67).

“The end of parental rights is the end of the family, and eventually, the end of human civilization as we know it” (p. 85).

“The transgender movement recapitulates the very sin committed in Eden. Try as they may, the transgender movement cannot escape the Creator. In the end, we cannot create ourselves” (p. 103).

“The subversion of marriage and the family has been one of the most devastating results of modernity, and this very subversion is central to the ambitions of the sexual revolutionaries. Now, this revolution seeks the utter destruction of historic Christianity” (p. 111).

“Unlike those who embrace liberal theology, we do not see Christianity as a system of beliefs that we can just change as we see fit. We do not see the Bible as a mere collection of ancient religious writings that can be disregarded or reinterpreted to mean something other than what it says” (p. 116).

“We meet revolution with revelation — knowing that God has not left us to figure all this out on our own” (p. 121).

“Fifteen years ago, Christian Smith and his fellow researchers with the ‘National Study of Youth and Religion’ at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill took a close look at the religious beliefs held by American teenagers . . . and described them as ‘Moralistic Therapeutic Deism.’ As described by Smith and his team, MTD consists of beliefs like these: A god exists who created and ordered the world and watches over human life on earth; that god wants people to be good, nice and fair to each other, as taught in the Bible and by most world religions. The central goal of life is to be happy and to feel good about one’s self, and God does not need to be particularly involved in one’s life except when needed to resolve a problem. Finally, good people go to heaven when they die” (pp. 123-124).

“. . . entertainment is never merely entertainment. The cultural products we watch and read and listen to are sending moral messages, constantly. Hollywood controls the narrative, and if you can manipulate the narrative, you govern the mentality, worldview and character of a culture” (p. 144).

“The fact that American business is now a major driver of the sexual revolution tells us that the leaders and primary stakeholders in the businesses think that the revolution in morality and sexuality and gender is permanent, unstoppable and powerful”(p. 151).

“Religious liberty is the first freedom — the foundational liberty, upon which every other enumerated liberty depends” (p. 165).

“In this secular age, Christians must display faith in at least three ways: faith in God’s design, faith in God’s Word and faith in the power of the gospel” (p. 191).

Dr. R. Albert Mohler, Jr.
Societal Chaos

Revival or Revolution
Is There Another Option?

Col. Tim Moore

For years, some Christians have held out hope that America would experience another wave of spiritual regeneration. But midway through 2020, anarchists and agitators, culture-drivers and even some politicians, are openly advocating for Socialism, racial division, and the wholesale rejection of Judeo-Christian values.

Prophecy Fulfilled

This reality could be disheartening, but it is exactly what Bible prophecy says will happen in the end-times. Jesus told us that as the end draws near, lawlessness will increase and the love of many will grow cold (Matthew 24:12). Paul outlined the steady decline of any society that rejects God; He gives them over to increasing debauchery and inevitable destruction (Romans 1:18-32). Paul also foretold the rise of apostasy in the latter times, as some fall away from the faith handed down to the saints (2 Thessalonians 2:1-3 and 1 Timothy 4:1).

Perhaps even more disheartening to American patriots — including Christians — is our society’s trend toward revolution. That is not to minimize the power of the Holy Spirit, but merely to state the obvious. Much, if not most, of the Church is preoccupied with the Social Gospel and has long abandoned a zeal for the true Gospel of Jesus Christ. In the age of “woke” relativism, evangelism is passé.

Societal Chaos

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Perhaps even more disheartening to American patriots — including Christians — is our society’s trend toward revolution. In just the last 20 years, we’ve seen a dramatic rise in lawlessness and the wholesale rejection of Judeo-Christian values.

In recent months, chaos has engulfed many American cities. Even now, polls claim that an increasing number of Americans are ready to reject Capitalism in favor of Socialism. At the core of movements like Progressivism and Black Lives Matter is a rejection of Judeo-Christian morality, worldview and societal norms.

But in that regard, we’ve been in the midst of a revolution since the mid-1960s. The sexual revolution that cast off “fetters” of restraint has already resulted in rampant adultery and fornication, an explosion of pornography and divorce and an embrace of every abomination of the LGBTQ+ lifestyle. In every arena, we witness the rise of the satanic religion of Humanism with its idolization of individual autonomy.

So what hope remains if revival is unrealistic and revolution is underway?

Reliance on God’s Word

For the individual believer, the same Word of God that revealed these inevitable end-time realities must ground our faith. Like David, we can boldly proclaim (Psalm 56:9-11):

This I know, that God is for me. In God, whose word I praise, in the LORD, whose word I praise, in God I have put my trust. I shall not be afraid. What can man do to me?

The Bible offers us many examples of people who determined to put their trust in God — even in the midst of catastrophe. Jeremiah offered a testimony of hope in spite of national disaster (Lamentations 3:19-24). Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego proclaimed their reliance on God in the face of a fiery furnace (Daniel 3:16-17). And Habakkuk, who calmed his own heart with a prayer requesting mercy in the midst of wrath (Habakkuk 3:1-2).

Christians can demonstrate that kind of tough faith because we have the revelation of God. He has told us what to expect as the Day of the Lord draws near. And, He has promised never to leave us or forsake us.

Guidelines for End-Time Living

God reveals Himself and His overarching plan for Mankind throughout the entire Word of God. Here are some practical ways Christians can overcome the fear and the apostasy of the present age:

- Study the Word of God (hide it in your heart, glean its promises, become “well-versed”).
- Pray (without ceasing).
- Determine not to quench or grieve the Holy Spirit.
- Keep your eyes on Jesus, not only to receive a blessing, but also to:
  - Motivate urgent evangelism.
  - Ensure holy living.
  - Inspire a vibrant expectancy of His soon return (which guarantees a blessing in and of itself).

Our Only Hope

Our hope is not in national revival. It is not in dodging revolution and national self-destruction through one more election cycle — even as we must stay engaged as salt and light in the gathering darkness. Our blessed hope is in the Person and the promises of Jesus Christ. As believers, we cling to the truth God shared with Habakkuk after revealing ominous news: “the righteous shall live by faith” (Habakkuk 2:4).

If you are not yet a Christian, please understand that national revival is unrealistically optimistic and revolution offers only hopelessness. Christians are not mere optimists or realists — we are people of Hope.

By placing your trust in Jesus Christ — our Blessed Hope — you can overcome the chaos that is leading the world toward inevitable destruction. When you accept Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord, the Holy Spirit will mold you and “guide you into all the truth” (John 16:13).

Revival still happens — one person at a time. And the transformation that every believer in Jesus Christ undergoes is truly revolutionary (Romans 8:29-30).
I can’t keep up. I just can’t. I’m stressed. I’m exhausted trying to figure out what we’re all supposed to do, believe and be offended and outraged by next.

A few months ago, First Responders were all the rage. In fact, they were heroes. We gave them free coffee, meals and cheers as they drove by. Today we are supposed to hate them and want them defunded because they can’t be trusted.

A few months ago, truck drivers were the heroes, as well, for keeping America moving and the grocery stores stocked. Today we block the roads with protesters, drag them out of the cabs and beat them half to death.

Nurses and Doctors are still cool for now. They too are heroes, unless of course they truly believe all lives matter. Then they’re supposed to be filled with hate and are part of the problem like so many others.

Just a few months ago, protests weren’t “essential” and were considered criminal, selfish and a murderous activity. Today they are gloriously critical and celebrated. All of the obvious criminal and murderous activities are simply ignored. If you protest about lockdowns for freedom, you are selfish and you will be a virus spreader. If you protest, loot and riot for social justice, you are a warrior and the virus concerns are unimportant.

Trust the experts. No, don’t trust those experts. Don’t wear masks. On the other hand, wear masks, but only good ones. Wait, don’t wear anything as a mask. Just never mind the masks.

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 5:6-7
When I served in the Kentucky House of Representatives, I chaired the “Veterans, Military Affairs, and Public Protection” Committee. My committee was charged with oversight of the Kentucky State Police and the multitude of law enforcement agencies and efforts across the Commonwealth. During my time in office, a young trooper from my district was tragically killed during a simple traffic stop.

Late one night, State Trooper Cameron Ponder pulled Joseph Johnson-Shanks over for speeding. Upon learning that his driver’s license was revoked, Ponder offered to put Johnson-Shanks and the four children with him up in a hotel for the night. Instead, the man sped away, confusing Ponder’s niece who was with him. When Ponder finally employed a maneuver to stop the car and defuse the situation, the driver shot him dead.

State Police and local law enforcement officials quickly fanned out to locate the suspect, who had abandoned his family and fled into the woods. They soon found Johnson-Shanks, who had already recorded a message of regret for his rash actions toward the trooper. When Ponder finally employed a maneuver to stop the car and defuse the situation, the driver shot him dead.

The young officer was white and the man driving on a revoked license was black.

Although this shooting did not add to the racial tension that would erupt in 2020 relative to policing across America, subsequent investigations were revealing nonetheless. Ponder was a former Navy Seal who was described as shy, selfless and humble. Johnson-Shanks had a record of petty crime, but was said to be turning his life around. Although his immediate family refused to participate in the police investigation, it was determined that he had participated in the Ferguson protests following the Michael Brown shooting. The degree of radicalization he absorbed from the anti-police sentiment of those protests is unknown.

I share that account of a single American tragedy to provide a personal episode of the kind of unrest that is rocking our society today. Hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of individuals have been radicalized to distrust or even hate the police. Stoked by race-baiters and self-serving political hacks, scores of people are succumbing to a mob mentality in the streets of American cities large and small.

In the midst of this unrest, opportunists and anarchists are calling for police departments to be defunded. The irony is that those misguided voices claim to represent the very communities that would suffer the most if police were no longer present. And yet, weak and spineless elected officials are giving in to this madness. The result has already been obvious in places like Seattle, Portland, Minneapolis and Kenosha.

Some will point to needed changes in policing tactics. They will advocate for police departments to be marked by more professionalism, training and accountability. Thinking Christians should wholeheartedly agree with these common sense measures. A partial reallocation of resources to enable non-police responders to de-escalate some situations is fitting and appropriate. But the sweeping “Defund the Police” mantra is being pushed by groups and individuals with malicious political agendas. So, while all police departments need to tirelessly pursue professionalism and accountability, the idea that a community will be better off without police is sheer insanity.

Police serve in a number of roles. Many departments tout their determination to “serve and protect” the public, while others emphasize their responsibility as peace officers.

The Bible is clear in its understanding of human nature. Owing to the sin that infects every heart, mankind inevitably trends toward wickedness. Government itself is established to protect the rights of the general public, punish those who violate the liberty and person of others, and execute justice on the earth. The Apostle Paul said that, rightly exercised, the government “does not bear the sword for nothing, for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil” (Romans 13:4).

Although a dictatorship can compel a certain degree of compliance, a free society requires not only the consent of the governed but a shared sense of what is right and moral. Our nation’s founders respected the ennobling qualities of the Christian faith and were grateful for its common adherence in our land — even if they were not individually committed to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

George Washington put it this way:

Of all the dispositions and habits leading to political prosperity, Religion and Morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of Patriotism, who should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness, these firmest props of the duties of men and citizens.

He went on to say:
Let us with caution indulge the supposition, that morality can be maintained without religion [by which he meant the Christian faith]. Whatever may be conceded to the influence of refined education . . . reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle.

The proof of Washington’s warnings is evident in American cities today. Stripped of common respect for God and the Judeo-Christian values our nation was founded upon, people are now turning against the one institution sworn to reign in lawlessness. It is an attitude the Bible says will characterize the end-times, and it is resulting in mobs of people with rebellious hearts shaking their fists at the justice system and police alike, crying out, “‘Come, let us break His chains,’ they say, ‘and free ourselves from all this slavery to God’” (Psalm 2:3 - TLB).

**A Satanic Lie**

The strife that is being purposely sown with regard to racial disparities in American policing is another lie from the pit of hell. Statistics are notoriously pliable in the hands of someone inclined to manipulate them to fit a predetermined narrative. With that in mind, agitators and advocates — along with their accomplices in the media — have convinced many Americans that the average person of color is most at risk from police at every level. Ignoring the far larger threat of black-on-black crime, gangs and general lawlessness, these minions of darkness have poisoned some minds to the point that they will shoot at paramedics and firefighters, just because they wear a uniform.

In spite of this known reality, politicians are sowing the wind with their careless words. Feeding the frenzy of disunity, Congresswoman Maxine Waters (D - CA) told her supporters to:

> Make sure we show up whenever we have to show up. If you see anybody from [President Trump’s] Cabinet in a restaurant, in a department store, at a gasoline station, you get out and you create a crowd. And you push back on them. And you tell them they’re not welcome anymore, anywhere.

We are now witnessing the tragic culmination of that misguided advice. Even worse, candidates for the highest offices in the land are adding fuel to the fires already burning. Asked specifically about the deadly unrest plaguing American cities in 2020, Democratic Vice Presidential candidate Kamala Harris smiled and said, “a beautiful sight, people of every race, age, gender together.” Asked how important it is for the protests to continue, she said, “It’s critically important.” She then asserted, “they’re not gonna stop . . . this is a movement, I’m telling you. And everyone beware, because they’re not gonna stop . . . before election day in November, and they’re not gonna stop after election day. They’re not gonna let up. And they should not.”

**Selfless Commitment**

So, in this maelstrom of racial and political division, police officers in your hometown will report to duty today to protect and serve you. Men and women as diverse as our population will endeavor to keep the peace through another night. They will hope to return to their own families without being faced with a split-second, life-changing decision. And they will hope that prayers for their own safety and well-being will guard them through another shift.

These underpaid, overworked public servants are being blamed and smeared for all of society’s ills. But mindlessly defunding police departments will only unleash a torrent of lawlessness the likes of which we’ve never seen.

Counselors can never replace trained and professional police officers. As a matter of fact, social workers will typically not respond to domestic violence situations unless they are accompanied by the police.

In the end, the real problem in our society is the same problem afflicting every human heart — namely, sin. Individuals and civilizations that refuse to confront — or at least constrain — that timeless motivator toward evil will suffer the consequence.

James said, “when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death” (James 1:15). We are witnessing this reality on the streets of America. Many are being deceived into believing a lie and joining the mob. They are living out Jesus’ warning about the broad way that leads to destruction (Matthew 7:13).

**Christian Hope and Responsibility**

But we Christians proclaim the good news about a narrow path — and Him who has opened the gate — that leads to life. Until He returns, we should be thankful that police officers stand between us and the barbarians who desire to loot and kill and burn. We should call out the weak-kneed politicians who undermine their own police departments, depriving them of needed resources and destroying their morale.

Christians should unashamedly support our professional police officers, even as we advocate for culling out the handful who bring dishonor on their badge. We should support the training and resources necessary for these agents of good to better fulfill their critical service to society. And, we should demand justice be meted out to the agents and advocates of lawlessness and mayhem.

Students of the Word of God know that in the end-times lawlessness will increase, causing most people’s love to grow cold (Matthew 24:12). But woe to the one who encourages lawlessness. And, as the 1960s Christian song written by Peter Scholtes proclaimed, “they will know we are Christians by our love.” If Jesus reigns in our heart as Savior and Lord, our love can never grow cold.
The Election

A Revealing Document

Dr. Michael Brown, the Messianic Jewish commentator, recently put together a very revealing analysis of the unity agreement that presidential candidate Joe Biden made with Bernie Sanders in order to gain the acceptance of his supporters.

The unity agreement ran a total of 110 pages. It basically revealed Biden’s capitulation to the radical demands of Sanders’ “progressive” followers. Here are the highlights as identified by Dr. Brown:

- God is never mentioned in the document. Not once.
- “Religion” is found one time, specifically in the section dealing with private schools. It states that they would “prohibit the disbursement of federal funds to organizations or providers that discriminate based on race, sex, religion, disability, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or immigration status.”
- The word “faith” occurs four times. But two of those are in the phrase “bad faith.” The other two clearly refer to the Islamic faith, as in their condemnation of the Trump Administration for “banning people from traveling to the United States based on their faith or their country of origin.” In total, there are three references to Muslims and none to Christians or Jews.
- “Israel” is mentioned only once, and in the benign context of promising to invite Israel to participate in designing breakthrough technologies related to clean energy. That’s all.
- In stark contrast to the absence of references to God and the paucity of references to faith, the word “gender” occurs 22 times.
- More importantly, “transgender” occurs twice, and in a very specific context — namely, a promise to enforce transgender students’ rights in all schools. This means that young ladies in high school should get ready to have boys who identify as girls sharing their bathrooms and locker rooms, by federal mandate. And individual states should expect to lose their federal school funding should they refuse to comply.

- The term, “LGBTQ+” is mentioned 17 times in the plan. So, “religion” is mentioned once, “Christian” and “Jew” and “God” are not mentioned at all, but “LGBTQ+” is mentioned 17 times. The document leaves no doubt that Biden will give his full support to the Sexual Perversion Movement.
- As for ethnic issues, “white” is found 19 times, “Native American” 17 times, “Latino” 14 times, and “brown” 8 times. In sharp contrast, “black” is found 50 times. Not only so, but while the words “white” and “brown” are spelled with lowercase “w” and “b,” respectively, Black is spelled with uppercase B.
- As for “abortion,” it appears only once in the plan, but it is part of a major paragraph devoted to specifying the extreme nature of the Biden-Sanders plan. It enthusiastically endorses the continuing slaughter of babies in their mothers’ wombs. It promises the restoration of federal funding for Planned Parenthood and the provision of free prescription contraceptives to all women. Nor is that the full extent. The document also promises to take the question of safe and legal abortion out of the Supreme Court’s hands by passing legislation in Congress that guarantees women in every state the right to unfettered access to abortion care. This would protect the right to choose even in the event that Roe v. Wade is overturned.

These are the major moral issues that are addressed in the unity document. The positions indicated on each issue clearly represent a rejection of the Judeo-Christian principles this nation was based upon — principles that are essential to the successful working of our constitutional system.

The document talks about other issues as well, including a very interesting economic statement: “The U.S. economy is rigged against the American people.” That’s an absolutely astounding statement when you consider the high standard of living our economy has provided for millions of people — and the fact that millions around the world seek to come to our nation to participate in our marvelous economy. Incidentally, that phrase is code language for the endorsement of Socialism.

The choice facing us is as drastic as the one this nation faced in the election of 1860. The question then was whether this nation would continue to embrace slavery, or whether it would take a giant step toward a further realization of the equality of man that was expressed in our Declaration of Independence.

Today, we are faced with the choice of whether this nation will continue as one nation under God, or whether it will take a major leap into the cesspool of paganism.
Societal Survival

Religion & Democracy

Dr. Clayton Christensen

(Video clip from YouTube.com)

Some time ago I had a conversation with a Marxist economist from China. He was coming to the end of a Fulbright Fellowship here in Boston. I asked him if he had learned anything that was surprising or unexpected. And without any hesitation he said, “Yes, I had no idea how critical religion is to the functioning of democracy. The reason why democracy works,” he said, “is not because the government was designed to oversee what everybody does. But rather, democracy works because most people, most of the time voluntarily choose to obey the law. And in your past most Americans attended a church or synagogue every week and they were taught there by people whom they respected.”

My friend went on to say that “Americans followed these rules because they had come to believe that they weren’t just accountable to society, they were accountable to God.”

My Chinese friend heightened a vague but nagging concern I’ve harbored inside, that as religion loses its influence over the lives of Americans, what will happen to our democracy?

Where are the institutions that are going to teach the next generation of Americans that they too need to voluntarily choose to obey the laws?

Because if you take away religion you can’t hire enough police.

Blessed is the nation whose God is Yahweh. (Psalm 33:12)

Unless Yahweh builds the house, they labor in vain who build it. (Psalm 127:1)

Righteousness exalts a nation. (Proverbs 14:34) ☢

Societal Chaos

The True Motives of the Rioters

Dr. David R. Reagan

(Video clip from YouTube.com)

Please notice that I used the word, rioters, and not protesters. There are legitimate, peaceful protesters, but many of their demonstrations have been taken over by anarchists from Antifa and Black Lives Matters. The rioters are not focused on protesting racism or police brutality. No, their focus is the overthrow of the Judeo-Christian values our nation was based upon.

This became very apparent in early August when people in Portland, Oregon, carrying “Black Lives Matter” signs, started burning Bibles and American flags in front of the federal courthouse. As one commentator observed, “It was a scene reminiscent of 1930s Nazi Germany” when Hitler’s storm troopers burned library books.

Christian commentator, Eric Metaxas, spoke out strongly against the Bible-burning during an interview on Tucker Carlson’s TV program. “Too many Americans have forgotten that freedom in the U.S. is utterly impossible without the values that come from the Bible.” He further observed that the Bible and the American flag “have created more human flourishing and have lifted human dignity to a level we’ve never seen in the history of the world.”

Tucker Carlson responded by stating: “Christianity limits the excesses of the state. This is why all authoritarian governments hate it — because when your population worships an actual God, that suggests that you [the government] are not God and there are some things you can’t do.”

Carlson proceeded to point out that this is the reason the Chinese Communist government is currently in the process of cracking down on Christianity. In recent months they have demolished churches, arrested and beat Christians and forced churches to replace traditional Christian hymns with songs praising the Chinese Communist Party. Further, they have ordered pastors to extol President Xi Jinping and slander the United States in their sermons.

We need to wake-up to the seriousness of the internal threat to the democratic institutions of our nation. ☢
Dr. David R. Reagan

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus this year during the Christmas season, let’s remember the promises that were made to Mary when she was visited by the Angel Gabriel:

Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son,
And you shall call His name Jesus.
He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High;
And the Lord God will give to Him the throne of His father, David,
And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever;
And of His kingdom there will be no end.
— Luke 1:31-33

Seven Glorious Promises

This magnificent statement contains seven promises. Four of them relate to the First Advent of the Lord:

1) Mary would conceive a child.
2) Mary would give birth to a son.
3) The son would be great.
4) The son would be called “the Son of God.”

All four of these prophecies were fulfilled in the life of Jesus. Mary did conceive (Matthew 1:18-20) and bear a son (Matthew 1:25). His name was called Jesus (Matthew 1:21). He was great (Luke 7:16), and He was called the Son of God (Matthew 16:16, Matthew 27:54, and Mark 1:1).

The last three promises which Gabriel made to Mary have not been fulfilled. They relate to the Second Coming of Jesus:

5) He will be given the throne of David.
6) He will reign over the house of Jacob.
7) There will be no end to His kingdom.

I call these three promises the “forgotten promises” of Christmas because they are not taught by most churches in Christendom today. That’s because most churches take the position that Jesus will never return to this earth to reign. This is called the Amillennial viewpoint.

Promises Spiritualized

The Amillennial view is based upon the supposition that the Bible does not mean what it says. To substantiate the viewpoint, its proponents are forced to spiritualize Scripture.

Thus, in their interpretation of the last three promises made to Mary by Gabriel, they convert the throne of David into the throne of God and the house of Jacob becomes the Church. They then conclude that the promises have been fulfilled in the current reign of Jesus from His Father’s throne over His Church.

The Throne of David

There is no doubt that Jesus is currently reigning from His Father’s throne over His kingdom, the Church. But to identify that reign with the one promised to Mary takes a great leap of imagination.

The “throne of David” is not the throne of God. The throne
of God is in Heaven. The throne of David is in Jerusalem (Psalm 122:5).

Jesus Himself clearly differentiates between the throne of God and His own throne in Revelation 3:21. In that verse, Jesus says that He will one day allow believers to sit with Him on His throne just as His Father is currently allowing Him to share His throne.

Jesus is not on the throne of David today. He is sitting at the right hand of His Father, on His Father’s throne. He will occupy the throne of David when He returns to earth to reign from Mt. Zion in Jerusalem (Isaiah 24:21-23).

The “house of Jacob” is not the Church. This is an Old Testament term for the children of Israel (Exodus 19:3). The Church is never referred to in Scripture as the house of Jacob.

The Bible teaches that a remnant of the Jews will one day accept Jesus as their Messiah (Zechariah 12:10, Romans 9:27, and Romans 11:25-26). This will occur at the end of seven years of terrible suffering called the Tribulation, or “the time of Jacob’s trouble” (Jeremiah 30:7).

When Jesus returns at the end of that time of suffering, the Jewish remnant will be gathered to the land of Israel and will be made the foremost nation in the world (Ezekiel 37:11-28 and Zechariah 8:22-23). Jesus will then rule over the house of Jacob.

The current Church kingdom is not an everlasting kingdom. The Church Age kingdom will end with the Rapture of the Church.

The Church kingdom will be followed by the Millennial kingdom when Jesus will reign over all the earth from Mt. Zion in Jerusalem (Isaiah 2:1-4). That kingdom will last one thousand years (Revelation 20:1-7).

The final, Eternal kingdom of Christ will be established on a new, perfected earth (1 Corinthians 15:24 and Revelation 21:1-8).

Believing God’s Word

Why can’t we accept the promises made to Mary to mean what they say? The first four meant exactly what they said. Why must the last three be spiritualized? The only reason for spiritualizing them is to force them to conform to some preconceived doctrine.

I believe God knows how to communicate. If God intended to promise Mary that her Son would reign from Heaven over the Church forever, He would have said so. Instead, He reaffirmed to her the promise He had made many times through the Old Testament prophets that His Son would reign from David’s throne in Jerusalem over Israel and that He would be given a kingdom that would last forever (Isaiah 9:6-7 and Ezekiel 37:21-28).

If the promises God made to the Jews did not mean what they said, then how can we be sure that His promises to the Church mean what they say? I believe God means what He says.

A Christmas Hope

During this Christmas season I am going to praise God for sending His Son to die for my sins.

I am also going to pray that God will soon send His Son again to fulfill the “forgotten promises” which Gabriel made to Mary. I thank God that He never forgets a promise. ✞

Bethlehem Morning

A song by Morris Chapman

Lift up your heads, no need to mourn,
His hand is stretched out still,
For unto us a child is born
His promise to fulfill.
Jerusalem! He cried for you.
He did not come to us in vain.
His loving arms are open wide for you,
And he will come, He will come again.

Bethlehem morning
Is more than just a memory,
For the Child that was born there
Has come to set us free.
Bethlehem sunrise,
I can see Him in your eyes,
For the Child that was born there
His spirit never dies

Peace on earth, Good will to all men.
His star will never, will never grow dim
A brand-new dawn,
A new Jerusalem,
And we, and we will reign
We will reign with him.

For the Child that was born there
Is the King of kings
And the Lord of lords.
See Him in the eastern sky. ✞
In Memory

Ann Reagan

Dr. David R. Reagan

My wife of 60 years, Elizabeth Ann, was called home to the Lord on Monday afternoon, August 17. Her graduation to Heaven was a fulfillment of our family’s prayers that the Lord would bring an end to her 18 years of suffering from Fibromyalgia and Acute Fatigue Syndrome, all of which was further complicated by dementia during her last nine years. The dementia she suffered was a very unusual form called Benson’s Syndrome. It causes blindness in addition to dementia.

We had also prayed the Lord would keep her free of the coronavirus and that He would enable her to die peacefully with the family members present. Those prayers were also answered. Ann passed from this world very peacefully while our two daughters, Ruth and Rachel, were at her bedside with me.

Ann’s Background and Interests

Ann and I met at church in the 1950s, and we dated for almost four years before we got married in 1960. Ann earned a Bachelor’s degree in Education with honors from Austin College in Sherman, Texas. She also graduated from East Texas State University with a Master’s degree in Education. She used that training to teach the first grade for 30 years.

Ann loved children. Teaching first graders the most valuable skills of their lives — reading and writing — was her greatest joy.

Ann also loved animals, particularly dogs. She always had a miniature dachshund, or “Doxie,” as she liked to call them. The last one she had was named, “Miss Lizzie.”

My wife was an ardent student of the Bible. She wore out Bible after Bible. Several years ago, I had Charles Ryrie as a TV guest. In my email messages with him before the interview, I mentioned that Ann’s copy of his Study Bible was literally falling apart. He responded by bringing a new copy with him which he autographed for her. At the time of Ann’s death, she had written notes on almost every page of that Bible, including the following one at the end of the book of Job:

The great lesson of this book is that if we really know God, we do not need to know why He allows us to experience what we do not understand. He is in control, and loves us, even when He appears not to.

The Challenge of Dementia

Ann was cared for at home for many years before we had to place her in a memory care center in October of 2017. That was the most difficult and painful decision of my life. When I arrived back home that day, I realized it was no longer a home. Instead, it was just a big empty house.

Dementia is a very dark road to travel. It has many milestones, most of which are heart-breaking. It is difficult to watch as a person forgets how to do the fundamental things of life. And it is particularly hard to watch them become aware of their condition. I think the toughest day for me came when Ann informed me that she could no longer read. She had spent all her professional life teaching kids how to read, and now, she could no longer do so herself.

Throughout Ann’s 18 years of illness, I prayed earnestly that the Lord would enable me to learn all that He was trying to teach me. And He taught me a lot about patience, empathy, compassion, perseverance — and the meaning of that phrase from the 23rd Psalm that says, “I will walk with you through the valley of the shadow of death.”

As long as Ann could express her feelings, she always manifested a very positive attitude. She never wallowed in self-pity. When I would say to her, “I’m so sorry that you are experiencing so much suffering,” she would respond by saying, “Oh, there are many people who are suffering much worse than me.”

Ann’s Personality

Although Ann was redhead, she was not the stereotypical redhead — the high strung, volatile, hot-tempered type of person.

In fact, she was the opposite. She was quiet, patient, calm and peaceful. When she became a teacher, she was known for the fact that when she was upset with her class, she would lower her voice to a whisper — not raise it.

She was just the opposite from me. She had little to say about anything, but when she did speak, people listened. In sharp contrast, I was compulsive, vocal and passionate. She would just roll her eyes when I would get into one of my rants about what was going on in our nation and around the world.

She had no interest in politics. Her attention was focused on Jesus, her family and two social issues: the mistreatment of children and animals.

Because of her calm demeanor, I labeled one of the psalms as “Ann’s Psalm.” It was Psalm 131 which reads as follows:

1) O Lord, my heart is not proud, nor my eyes
Dave and Ann in 2009 with Miss Lizzie.

The Spiritual Impact

But it impacted me even more spiritually, because it suddenly occurred to me that every wish expressed in that song — every desire, every hope, every yearning — was going to be fulfilled in my life and Ann’s because we had accepted Jesus as our Lord and Savior.

For you see, Jesus has promised to return. And when He returns in the Rapture, He is going to resurrect the bodies of those who have died with faith in Him. They will be caught up to meet Him in the sky, together with those believers who are alive, and both groups will receive glorified bodies that will be perfect and immortal.

We will be taken back to Heaven where He will judge our works to determine our degrees of reward, after which we will celebrate our union with Him at the Marriage Feast of the Lamb. At the end of that celebration, we will return with Him to this earth to participate in His glorious Millennial Reign during which the earth will be flooded with peace, righteousness and justice, as the waters cover the seas.

At the end of that reign, we will be transferred from this earth to the New Jerusalem He is currently building. From that vantage point, we will witness the greatest fireworks display in history as this earth is consumed with fire and all the pollution of Satan’s last revolt is burned away.

Then, we in our new bodies will be lowered down to the new earth inside the new Jerusalem where we will live eternally in the presence of our Creator and our Savior.

Because of these wonderful promises, the verse that Ann and I called our “theme verse” — the one I read to her every day — was Romans 8:18: “The sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared to the glory that is yet to be revealed to us.” Or, as the Apostle Paul put it in different language in 1 Corinthians 2:9:

No eye has seen,  
No ear has heard,  
Nor has the mind of man conceived  
What God has prepared for those who love Him.

Maranatha!
My Three Miracles

Nicole Manuel

I became a Christian as a small child of five or six years old. God proved Himself real to me as a child in a powerful way and on more than one occasion, which is why I decided to name this article my three miracles.

When I was a pre-schooler, the church that was located a few blocks away from our house would pick up the children in the local neighborhoods to go to Sunday services. It was during one of these bus trips home that God showed a small fisherman’s child that He is indeed real.

I describe myself as a fisherman’s child because that is exactly who I was and still am. My father, grandfather and great grandfather were all fisherman that made their living off the Mississippi River in Illinois, where I grew up. I have no shame about how they made their living. I only point it out to show I was nobody important.

The first miracle occurred when I was about six years old. I was coming home from one of the bus trips to church when I began to question whether Jesus was really real. I have no idea why I questioned it or what possessed me to do so. I can only remember doing it.

At this time in my life one of the things I most loved to do was be with my grandma. We were very close. The prayer I decided to use to determine if God was real involved her. I prayed, “Dear Jesus, if you are real, please let my grandma come to my home.” Immediately after that prayer, my grandma came around the corner in my grandpa’s brown pickup truck. I was shocked and excited! I can remember jumping up and down telling my grandma about my prayer. Even to this day I am still so amazed how the Lord answered my prayer! He had to know I was going to ask that specific prayer long before I did with my first prayer.

The second, and most likely the greatest miracle of my life, happened when I was around 10 years old. I was playing with my brother in the back yard of our home. I had climbed up pretty high on one of the trees and was swinging on a branch with my arms and legs wrapped around it like a monkey. My brother was watching me below when the branch suddenly broke.

If gravity would have had its way, I should have fallen straight to the ground on my head, but instead, I just floated down like a leaf. Time seemed to literally stand still as I floated, and eventually I lightly landed on a picnic table. I can remember staring at my brother the whole time I was floating down.

You can imagine the shock this was to me and my brother! We ran to tell my parents what happened. The one thing I can remember about their reaction was how surprised my father was when he discovered the branch was all the way on the other side of the yard. It was very heavy and big!

Fast forward 15 years. I am now married to a military man. We have two children, and we are stationed at Fort Lewis in Washington State. I was reading a Christian fictional book by Frank Perretti called This Present Darkness. The book was all about the spiritual world and the battles that go on all around us between demons and angels.

It sparked in me some deep questions about what the Word of God says about angels. I started searching the Scriptures, and I discovered that God does indeed assign guardian angels to us, and they are all always fighting battles in our behalf.

Of course, this brought me back to the day I floated down from the tree. I started wondering, so I asked God, “Do I really have a guardian angel, and if so, is he with me even now?” I did not receive an immediate answer, as I did with my first prayer. However, the next morning, as I was taking the laundry out of the dryer, I discovered a very old copper pendant at the bottom of the dryer. On it were these words: “Saint Michael, Guardian Angel.”

It did not immediately dawn on me that this could be an answer to my prayer. I honestly had forgotten about the prayer until I started asking my family members who the pendant belonged to. No one had ever seen it, nor did any of them have an idea where it might have come from.

Then, a lightbulb went off in my head and I remembered my prayer! By this time in my life, I had learned well enough when God was speaking to me, and I knew this was His answer to my prayer. He had affirmed to me that guardian angels do exist.

I would like to tell you that ever since that amazing day when my grandma pulled up to our house, I have been a dedicated Christian who faithfully served the Lord with all my heart. The sad truth is that when I became a teenager I walked away from God until my early twenties. During that time my life was chaotic, full of painful moments and going nowhere fast.

I came back to Christ after I was married and we were starting our family. It was like a great homecoming, and I realized I had experienced another great miracle — the grace God had shown this fisherman’s daughter!

My life has not been perfect. I have gone through some very dark times when it took every bit of the faith God blesses me with, and other’s faith around me, to pull through them. I still go through hard times, but it is with Jesus by my side.

God does show Himself to be real. He not only is real, but He is deeply involved in our lives. God is still the God of miracles, and don’t let anyone tell you different!
I want to share with you the background of the modern gospel hymn, “Because He Lives.” It was written by Bill and Gloria Gaither, and my congregation almost always sings it at the conclusion of our worship time on Easter morning.

Bill and Gloria Gaither (now 84 and 78 years old, respectively) are two of the most prolific and popular Southern Gospel music writers and performers in the world. Bill normally serves as the composer of the music, and his wife Gloria writes most of the lyrics.

Their many songs include “The Longer I Serve Him,” “The King is Coming,” “Something Beautiful,” “He Touched Me” and “Let’s Just Praise the Lord,” as well as 700 more! Arguably, one of the most popular of them all is “Because He Lives,” and there is an interesting story behind it.

The Gaithers’ story began in the community of Alexandria, Indiana, where Bill and Gloria met while teaching high school together. Bill had roots in Southern Gospel music and began the Bill Gaither Trio (joined by his brother Danny and his sister Mary Ann) while he was a student at Anderson College (now Anderson University), a Christian college in Anderson, Indiana that is affiliated with the Church of God.

Soon after Bill and Gloria met, they began to share ideas about songs. Gloria had been an English major in college so she had a strong command of language and vocabulary. Not long after they were married (in 1962), Gloria took Mary Ann’s place in the trio and, by 1967, Bill was devoting his full-time attention to their career in music.

But the 1960s were a chaotic era and the quantum shift in values was deeply disturbing to Bill and Gloria. They had begun to wonder if God hadn’t given up on the world.

The winter of 1969 was a particularly bleak one for them. Not only had the Indiana winter been a long and hard one, Bill had been stricken with a severe case of mononucleosis. At the same time, Gloria and some other members of their church family had encountered some painful false accusations and belittlement. As you can imagine, this was a very hard time for both Bill and Gloria.

She remembers sitting in their living room in agony and fear on New Year’s Eve. Across the nation, the educational system was being infiltrated with the “God is dead” idea, while drug abuse and racial tension were increasing. The older generation felt that the country’s best days were behind them, and their baby boomer children agreed (yet, both felt that the others were to blame). Sound familiar?

It was about this time that Bill and Gloria discovered that they had a baby on the way. It was wonderful news, yet it also concerned them. Was it really a wise thing to bring a baby into such a world?

One sunny day in the early spring, Bill, Gloria and Bill’s father George walked across the paved parking lot at their small A-frame offices. George called Bill and Gloria’s attention to a spot they had not noticed.

He pointed out a tiny blade of grass that had pushed aside layers of dirt, rock and concrete to reach the sunshine of the world above. It had such a strong will to live that it had overcome all the odds to fulfill its destiny. That blade of grass became a symbol to the Gaithers of how God works in His creation.

And it inspired Gloria to write a song expressing the hope that was shaped by the resurrection of Jesus, as well as that blade of grass and the birth of her son:

God sent His Son, they called Him Jesus;  
He came to love, heal and forgive;  
He lived and died to buy my pardon,  
An empty grave is there to prove  
My Savior lives!  
Chorus:  
Because He lives, I can face tomorrow,  
Because He lives, all fear is gone;  
Because I know He holds the future,  
And life is worth the living,  
Just because He lives!  
How sweet to hold a newborn baby,  
And feel the pride and joy he gives;  
But greater still the calm assurance:  
This child can face uncertain days  
Because He Lives!  
And then one day, I’ll cross the river,  
I’ll fight life’s final war with pain;  
And then, as death gives way to victory,  
I’ll see the lights of glory and  
I’ll know He lives! ✦

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“I am deeply impressed with the in-depth, thorough research the authors have done in preparation of these brief daily devotionals about God’s Prophetic Word. The result is an inspirational presentation of God’s marvelous promises about the future - promises that make it clear that “the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us (Romans 8:18).”

Dr. David R. Reagan
Founder & Sr. Evangelist,
Lamb & Lion Ministries
Television Schedule

Shooting Non-Stop

We continue to take advantage of all the stay-at-home time to focus on the shooting of new television programs and Prophetic Perspectives videos. The result is that we are going to set a new record this year for production of new TV programs.

We have been very busy with Internet speaking engagements via both Zoom and Skype. We have also been involved in radio broadcasts and podcasts.

Needless to say, many of our TV programs and videos, as well as our Internet and radio interviews, have focused on the Coronavirus pandemic and its consequences.

Our newest means of outreach consists of short videos called “Prophetic Perspectives” which we post on our website. These have proved to be very popular. Most of these run around three minutes in length and focus on applying the Bible to current national and international events. Nathan is the key host for these programs. Col. Moore and Dr. Reagan appear with him from time to time. Nathan also features special guests, one of whom recently was his pastor, Glenn Meredith.

Television Broadcast Schedule

National Networks (6):

Daystar — Wed. 6:00pm CT, DirecTV 369, Dish 263, 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).

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

Regional Networks & Area Stations (6):

Arkansas

VTN (The Victory Television Network) — Covering the state of Arkansas, Sun. at 10:00pm, Tues. 9:30am and Sat. at 2:30pm CT (vtntv.com).

Kentucky

WBNA — Louisville, Sun. 8:30am ET, channel 21 (wbna21.com).

Louisiana

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

Texas

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

KDAF — Dallas/Ft. Worth, Sun. 8:00am CT, channel 33 (cw33.com).

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

Internet Networks (9):

Lamb & Lion — lamblion.com

HisChannel — hischannel.com

YouTube — youtube.com/user/ChristinProphecy

GodTube — godtube.com

Truli — truli.com

Vimeo — vimeo.com

DailyMotion — dailymotion.com/us

Roku — roku.com

FaithXtreme — faithxtremetv.com (Australia)

Prophecy Partner Program

The most important way you can help us through the economic impact of the pandemic is to become one of our Prophecy Partners.

You can find detailed information about our Prophecy Partner program on our website at www.lamblion.com.

Basically, participation in the program requires a commitment to pray regularly for the ministry and to supply a monthly donation of $25 or more. In response, Dr. Reagan will send you a monthly insider letter, and we will provide you a gift each month like a video, booklet, this magazine or our yearly calendar.

Prophecy Partners also receive a discount on items produced by this ministry. We currently have 3,200 Prophecy Partners. Our goal for this year is to reach 3,500. Thanks for your consideration of this request!
Miscellaneous

Schedule for 2020 —

October:
Due to continuing requirements of social-distancing and mask-wearing in the Dallas area, we have canceled the regional conference we had hoped to hold on October 16-17.
The Prophecy Watchers Conference which Nathan Jones was scheduled to speak at in Colorado Springs, CO, has been canceled.
Prophecy conference at Liberty Lighthouse Church in Sherman, TX, 24th & 25th, Dave Reagan and Nathan Jones.
Mt Zion Baptist Church in West Paducah, KY, on the 25th, Tim Moore.

November:
Brookhaven Church in McKinney, TX, on the evening of the 29th, Dave Reagan. This commitment is tentative, depending on virus restrictions.

Notice: The ministry is receiving invitations for speaking engagements in 2021 for churches and conferences. Our speakers, in addition to Dr. Reagan, are Tim Moore, Nathan Jones, Vic Batista and Patrick Oliver. You can find photos, bios and booking information for all five of these men on the ministry’s website at https://christinprophecy.org/events/booking. Give us a call! We are a faith ministry, so we do not charge for our services. All we ask is that you cover expenses and take up a love offering for the ministry.

Racism —

“A Jewish movement in Jerusalem became a philosophy in Greece, an institution in Rome, a culture in Europe and a business in America.” (Source unknown.)

“By the end of the 20th Century, much of the Church will be preaching:
Christianity without Christ,
Forgiveness without Repentance,
Salvation without Rejuvenation,
Heaven without Hell.”

A statement by William Booth in 1912 — the founder of the Salvation Army.

Calendar for 2021 —

Our Holy Land calendar for 2021 will focus on the city of Jerusalem, featuring 13 beautiful full color photos of Jerusalem, counting the cover photo. The cost is $10, including the cost of shipping.

The Culture War —

From F. J. Weems, III, the Pastor of First Baptist Church in Atoka, Tennessee:

“How did we ever get to the place where a well-known social media site now recognizes 58 different genders? It was just a few short years ago that the Supreme Court of the United States declared that same-sex marriage was a constitutional right. Many of us were shocked by that departure from what had been the norm. There were warnings that this decision would put us on a slippery slope of decline, but a large percentage of the American population ignored the words of its preachers and moved ahead with accepting this. Well, we are now reaping the fruit of our departure from the moral precepts of the Bible . . .

“We now have pedophiles marching in our streets and some have been demanding that they be recognized and not ostracized from society. How did we get here? Anthropologists may have some ideas they consider to be answers, but I am a preacher of the Word of God, and I accept its answer: Sin has driven this wave of weird sexual identification. We even have people who call themselves ‘ecosexuals!’ Once we turn over to men the definition of normal, we are left to human devices only. God’s Word is very plain about what is happening in 2020 America: ‘Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variances, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, enviousings, murders, drunkennes, revellings, and such like; of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God’ (Galatians 5:19-21 KJV).

“The removal of God from the public arena is bringing a vicious harvest. It is not likely that taking a stand against the current flow of modern society is going to be popular. But God never called His people to be popular, but to be righteous. With compassion for those who have been taken captive by Satan at his will, let us love and pray, but not bend and bow.”

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The Lamplighter
page 31
New Publication!

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