

Prophecy is like a lamp shining in a dark place. 2 Peter 1:19

Lamplighter

LAMB & LION MINISTRIES
a Non-Denominational Christian Media Ministry

SEP/OCT 2024



AMERICA

IN THE BALANCE

Lamplighter

September/October 2024

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by Lamb & Lion Ministries

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Observations from the Editor

Our 2024 Bible Conference theme was “Nation in Freefall.” Offering both warning and hope, it was a tremendous blessing to all who attended or viewed the livestream. But for a few days, it looked as if the conference would get off to a disastrous start.



But God had another plan. He answered our prayer, but in an unexpected way. God sent Terry Cooper, another gifted preacher, to deliver a prophetic message of warning and encouragement that is still reverberating in the hearts of many who were there.

Clearly, Christians can recognize that America is in rebellion against God. We have prayed, “Please, Lord”—hoping that our nation would come to its senses and turn back to God.

The recent tragedy at a Trump rally in Pennsylvania offered grim evidence that those who have foolishly sown the wind have stirred up a whirlwind of division and animosity. One American was killed and two were wounded. Donald Trump’s miraculous deliverance from his own tragic end led him to testify that it was “God alone who prevented the unthinkable from happening.”

A spirit of deception and division infects our nation, and the urgency of America’s choice is as near as the election this fall. This is yet

another inflection point when we will collectively choose once again what leaders—and what ideological agenda—to follow.

The Democrats intend to promote and celebrate unfettered abortion and all the pathologies associated with the LGBTQ+ agenda. The Republicans may lack clarity regarding what they want to affirm, but they at least stand in opposition to such ungodliness.

Our nation in freefall may have already reached the point of no return with regard to incurring God’s wrath. But as long as Christians inhabit the world and have influence to exert, a voice to speak out, or a vote to cast, we must advocate for that which honors the Lord and reflects His will.

This edition will examine where we’ve been, where we are, and where we are headed as America hangs in the balance.



Tim Moore
Executive Editor
Director | Sr. Evangelist
Lamb & Lion Ministries



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SEP 15-17 **ACCORDING TO PROPHECY MINISTRIES**
22nd Annual West Coast Prophecy Conference 2024
Arise Church - 9581 Ridgehaven Ct, San Diego CA, 92123
Speakers: Donald Perkins & Tim Moore

OCT 3 **SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT**
Harmony Heights Baptist Church (with KNEO Radio)
2025 S Indiana Ave, Joplin, MO 64804
Speaker: Tim Moore

OCT 5-6 **SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT**
Emmanuel Baptist Church
282 W 6th St, Coquille, OR 97423
Speaker: Tim Moore

OCT 13 **SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT**
Community Bible Church
638 Parris Island Gateway, Beaufort, SC 29906
Speaker: Tim Moore

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308 Walnut St, Doniphan, MO 63935
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Jack Hibbs' "Real Life Network" is featuring our entire "Nation in Freefall" Conference on their RLN feed.

Visit www.reallifenetwork.com



AMERICA

IN THE BALANCE

Tim Moore

Imagine the President of the United States hosting a state dinner for a major foreign head of state. Gourmet food is served on the White House's finest china as wine flows and military bands play. Suddenly, in the middle of the formalities and festivities, a man's hand appears out of thin air and begins writing on the immaculate walls: "Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin."

Would anyone be surprised if the president's face grew pale as his thoughts alarmed him, and his hip joints went slack while his knees began knocking together? That was the description of Belshazzar's reaction when God sent a hand to write on his palace wall in the middle of a great feast (Daniel 5). The king's conjurers, Chaldeans, and diviners could not decipher the inscription or make known its interpretation, even when promised great wealth and authority. Then the prophet Daniel was summoned before the king.

Daniel declined the king's gifts and rewards but agreed to read the inscription and make its interpretation known. He first offered a brief history lesson from the life of Nebuchadnezzar, demonstrating that "the Most High God grants sovereignty, grandeur, glory, and majesty" as He desires—and that He deposes those who are full of pride and arrogance.

The alarming message contained in the inscription was this: Belshazzar's kingdom would come to an end because he had been "weighed on the scales and found wanting." Indeed, his kingdom would be divided and given over to a dreaded foe. The prophecy's fulfillment was not long in coming; Belshazzar was slain that same night and his kingdom was given over to Darius the Mede.

"Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people."

Proverbs 14:34

Surely that Couldn't Happen Here

I became aware of politics when Ronald Reagan was ascending to the national spotlight. The dis-



Ronald Reagan

trous Carter administration had left America feeling weaker and more confused than at any previous moment. Jimmy Carter's personal claim to Christian faith did not translate into an inspiring vision. Proverbs 29:18 was demonstrated during his tenure: lacking vision, America became unrestrained, or as some translations indicate, the people ran amok.



Jimmy Carter

President Reagan was not perfect. As Governor of California, he signed legislation allowing no-fault divorce and abortion in certain cases. He came to regret the unintended consequences of both laws. They bore tragic fruit that haunts us still today. But Reagan

Where there is no vision, the people are out of control, but how blessed is he who keeps the law.

Proverbs 29:18

had a deep and abiding faith—in God and in the ideals upon which America was founded. For a brief, shining moment, the Nation embraced the hope expressed in his 1984 campaign slogan: “Morning in America.”

Forty years after his presidency, the drift that began in the 60s and 70s has become a headlong rush into post-Christian paganism. Neither Reagan nor Carter—nor any other Republican or Democrat from the early 1980s—could have imagined our country so morally confused that our leaders now celebrate sexual deviancy and cannot even determine what a woman is.



And yet, against all reason, what would have been dismissed as a dystopian nightmare by former generations has become our reality. Our culture and many of our leaders clamor to be shed of the Lord God and His Anointed. Here. In America.

At the Precipice or Over the Edge?

During our 2024 Bible Conference, Pastor Terry Cooper offered an urgent message entitled, “Point of No Return.” Like David Reagan, he believes that America is either past the point of no return—or teetering on the edge of a great precipice. His presentation was lauded by some and rejected by others. But no one can argue that our culture and society have not largely rejected God. In a very practical but tragic sense, millions (including most of our education and entertainment elites) reflect the foolish attitude of the kings of the earth in Psalm 2, “[taking] counsel together against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying, ‘Let us tear their fetters apart and cast away their cords from us’ ” (Psalm 2:2-3, NASB).



Are we past the point of no return? Or are we dangerously close to witnessing irrevocable harm to America? As important as that question is, I submit that we will not know until we have the advantage of hindsight, just as no Roman could anticipate the moment the



“If God does not judge America, He will have to apologize to Sodom and Gomorrah.”

- Ruth Bell Graham

Empire was doomed to fall. Unlike crossing the proverbial Rubicon, there is no geographical boundary to indicate when a line has been crossed to unavoidable disaster.

In our last *Lamplighter*, Bob Russell told of three men seeking to serve as the Pharaoh’s charioteer. Asked how close they could get to a cliff while carrying the Pharaoh, only one man was wise enough to respond that he would not risk the Pharaoh’s life by getting close to the edge of a cliff in the first place. He got the job.



And yet, today, many who know the Word of God are blasé about the judgment we are risking. Some are even repulsed whenever someone like Terry Cooper sounds the alarm. They would rather have their ears tickled and hear assurances of “peace, peace” (Jeremiah 6:14). But the lessons of Scripture are clear: If God was willing to punish and reject Israel and Judah—His chosen people—for their idolatry and sin—why should we be any different?

Faithful to warn before pouring out judgment, God has been sending prophetic voices to America for generations. From Peter Marshall to Francis Shaeffer to Alexandr

Solzhenitsyn, they have all sounded a consistent theme: America is abandoning its first love, casting itself adrift on a sea of moral confusion, and forgetting God.

But unlike the ancient city of Ninevah, that exhibited penitence from the king to the lowliest citizen, America has thumbed its nose at God. We have sown the wind and are just beginning to reap the whirlwind (Hosea 8:7).

If My People, Who Are Called by My Name

Whenever I sound this warning, I’ll hear from dear, committed Christians who will cite to me the promise of 2 Chronicles 7:14: “If My people, who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will listen from heaven, I will forgive their sins and I will heal their land.”

I have participated in many “National Day of Prayer” ceremonies where that verse was read as an iron-clad promise to 21st Century Christians. But the Word of God offers us clarity through the context of that ancient text. The LORD appeared

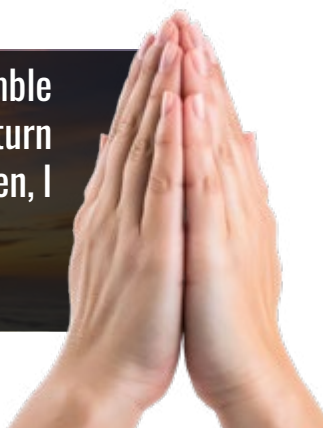
to Solomon following his dedication of the temple and declared that He had “chosen this place for Myself as a place of sacrifice” (2 Chronicles 7: 12). His promise to hear His people followed the pronouncement of various calamities that would ensue if they strayed from Him in their pride and wickedness.

The Shekinah glory of the Lord had already filled the temple in Jerusalem (2 Chronicles 7:1). And God’s specific promise was directed at His chosen people, Israel. But even God’s patience has limits. Later, the Lord would proclaim judgment upon Israel through His prophet Ezekiel:

Now the end is upon you, and I will send My anger against you; I will judge you according to your ways and put all your abominations upon you. For My eye will have no pity on you, nor will I spare you, but I will put your ways upon you, and your abominations will be among you; then you will know that I am Yahweh! (Ezekiel 7:3-4).

If... My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their evil ways, then I will listen from heaven, I will forgive their sin, and I will heal their land.

2 Chronicles 7:14



In the following chapters, Ezekiel describes the tragic vision of the glory of God leaving the temple, departing Jerusalem, and rising from the Mount of Olives (Ezekiel 9:1-4; 10:4-5, 18-19; 11:22-24). Yet, even as God was preparing to destroy the city, He commanded an angel to mark those who were anguished over the abominations taking place in the midst of the city (Ezekiel 9:4). God always preserves a remnant for Himself.

In recent months, I've cited Elijah's great contest with the prophets of Baal. Elijah prophesied 275 years prior to Ezekiel—calling out Ahab, the evil king of the northern kingdom. Ahab had embraced the pagan gods of his wife, Jezebel, and led the people into wanton sin and wickedness. God sent Elijah to confront the king and declare a drought upon the Land for a period of years—a devastating blow to an agrarian society. The aftermath of that account reveals the providence of God in the midst of discipline.



Following the demonstration of God's power on Mount Carmel, Elijah fled to Beersheba, fearing Jezebel's threat on his life. He bemoaned the apparent futility of his zeal for the Lord, complaining, "I have been very zealous for the

For the vision is yet for the appointed time; it hastens toward the goal and it will not fail. Though it tarries, wait for it; for it will certainly come, it will not delay.

Habakkuk 2:3, NASB

LORD, the God of hosts... And I alone am left; and they seek my life, to take it away" (1 Kings 19:10-14).

God's response conveys a truism that continues to this day. He told Elijah to keep on serving Him faithfully and to anoint Elisha to succeed him as prophet. And God declared that there were "7,000 in Israel" who had not bent their knees to Baal. In other words, God preserved a faithful remnant, even amidst the wickedness infecting the Land.

But there is another critical lesson here. Those 7,000 who had not bent their knees to Baal were undoubtedly praying to the Lord for forgiveness and relief. As His people, they remained humble before Him. God had noted and, in the language of Ezekiel 9:4, marked them. Still, drought and devastation were visited upon the land because of the wickedness of the overwhelming majority and the evil perpetrated by their king.

We Will Not Die

Wherever you live in 2024, consider the clear implications of God's Word on our contemporary situation. Will the God who held His own chosen nation accountable for their flagrant wickedness turn a blind eye to those who wantonly rebel against Him today? Are nations and peoples who have been

exposed to His goodness and grace held to a higher standard if they turn away from Him?

Jesus' words to Chorazin, Bethsaida, and Capernaum indicate that "it will be more tolerable" for cities like Tyre and Sidon and Sodom on the day of judgment (Matthew 11:20-24). The clear implication is that, just like my parents when I was a child, God expects more from those who "know better."



And yet, we recoil at the idea that our own nation would be held accountable—especially when others seem even more wicked in our eyes. That was Habakkuk's response when God declared that He would raise up the Chaldeans to punish wayward Judah. Shocked, Habakkuk rationalized, "We will not die" (1:12). But God's decision was locked in. As with all the prophecies He has revealed, He affirmed, "the vision is yet for the appointed time; it hastens toward the goal and it will not fail. Though it tarries, wait for it; for it will certainly come, it will not delay" (Habakkuk 2:3, NASB).

What About US?

What about us—the United States (or any nation that is straying from God)? Have I built the case from Scripture that we are past the point of no return? No, only God knows where that line is and whether we have crossed it.



But all of us who have not bent the knee to the modern Baals manifesting throughout our land have to take our cue from the Word of God. To that end, let's speak frankly about our reality, our responsibility, our resolve, and our hope.

Our Reality

The truth is that although we like to claim that ours is a Christian nation, that is no longer demonstrably true. An argument can be made that we were founded upon Christian principles and once aspired to Christian ideals (albeit imperfectly throughout our national history). But that is no longer the case.



When our president makes the unfettered slaughter of unborn children a central theme of his ad-

“God will not be mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap”

Galatians 6:7, KJV

ministration, undermines God's natural order relative to man and woman, upends the God-established covenant of marriage, and celebrates deviancy at every turn—with widespread approval within our culture—such a claim mocks God.

I say this with a broken heart.

Does that mean that we should not advocate for our nation? Of course not! John MacArthur says, “Complete noninvolvement would be contrary to what God's Word says about doing good in society.” Wherever Christians live, they should be dedicated to the betterment of their family, their community, and their country. That is also a biblical mandate (Galatians 6:10, Titus 3:1-2)

Our Responsibility

The most dramatic example of tough faith in the midst of a pagan society—and the responsibility that the people of God bear—is given to us by Jeremiah. The “weeping prophet” was forced to witness the devastation of his beloved homeland and the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple. He had faithfully warned the people of Judah that they were doomed if they did not return to the LORD (3:12-14), repenting and putting away their detestable things (4:1-2), and circumcising themselves by “[removing] the foreskins of [their] heart” (4:4).

Our first responsibility is to sound a clear warning to our wayward nation. “God will not be mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap” (Galatians 6:7, KJV). Many have been deceived into believing that flaunting wickedness has no repercussions—in this life or the next. Even in the Church, some Christians have bought into the lie that God is no longer holy and righteously indignant. They have turned the mercy of God into an unspoken or insinuated license to sin.



We must take up the message of John the Baptist: “Repent, for the Kingdom of God is near!” (Matthew 3:2, NET). Whether God's wrath is kindled against individual nations, or the Rapture occurs and the world descends into unrestrained godlessness, or individual sinners step into eternity and fall into the hands of an angry God, this is our urgent message.

Second, while we are living in a pagan land, we can harken to the same words of encouragement God offered the exiles living in Babylon through the prophet Jeremiah:



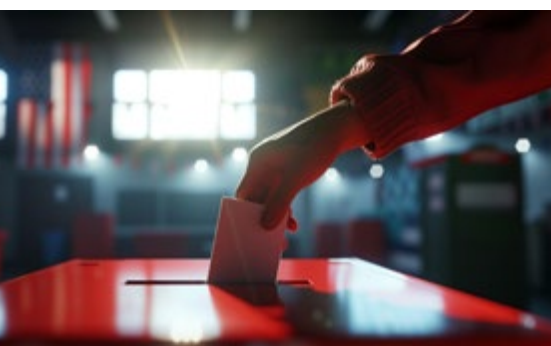
“ I also urge you to vote for another reason. I believe it is a God-given responsibility. Understand the issues...know where the candidates stand on them...ask God to guide you—and then vote. Beyond that, however, pray for our nation and its leaders—not just the President, but all who’ve been entrusted with public office. ”

- Billy Graham

Build houses and live in them; and plant gardens and eat their produce. Take wives and father sons and daughters, and take wives for your sons and give your daughters to husbands, that they may give birth to sons and daughters; and multiply there and do not decrease. Seek the prosperity of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf; for in its prosperity will be your prosperity. (Jeremiah 29:5-7)

In other words, live! And while you are living and raising your own family, seek the welfare of the society in which you live.

That means that when an election occurs, support and vote for candidates who will promote the greatest good—at the local, state, and national level. Advocate earnestly for policies that honor God’s provisions for the flourishing of mankind—and respect the inalienable right for Christians to serve the true and living God.



Billy Graham said, “I also urge you to vote for another reason. I believe

it is a God-given responsibility. Understand the issues...know where the candidates stand on them...ask God to guide you—and then vote. Beyond that, however, pray for our nation and its leaders—not just the President, but all who’ve been entrusted with public office.”



Frankly, that does not mean that Christians can only vote and pray for Christian candidates. Obviously, if the choice is between a convictional Christian and a pagan, I will vote for a Christian every time. But, if the contest is between two whose faith in Christ is unclear or obviously lacking, I will support the candidate who will best respect Christians as they serve the Lord and who most closely follows Christian principles. And, I recognize that despite carefully produced campaign propaganda to the contrary, no candidate—Christian or otherwise—is perfect.

Christians in other democratic nations face this challenge in every election. Indian Christians might have to choose between a fervent Hindu and a radical Muslim. Should

they decline to vote? Of course not. Sitting out an election might ensure the victory of the more threatening of the two candidates. Instead, they should prayerfully consider which candidate aligns with the principles I outlined above.

The stakes in 2024 are higher than they’ve ever been. I suspect that if the Lord tarries for another four years, the stakes in 2028 will be even higher. Unless America collectively turns back to God, we will stay on the precipice—or find ourselves suddenly in total freefall as we cross God’s red line.

One of our greatest responsibilities is to advocate today for the kind of nation we want our children and grandchildren to live and thrive in tomorrow—free to worship the Lord and serve Him with all their heart and soul and mind.

Let’s not go wobbly.



Our Resolve

When I served in the legislature, one of the “dry” counties in Ken-

tucky went through a series of “wet/dry” votes. Advocates for un-restrained alcohol sales regularly solicited enough signatures to put the issue before the voters.

The first time it happened, area churches united to defeat the measure soundly. A few years later the churches banded together to turn back the effort again, but their energy level had diminished. The third attempt saw only a handful of churches engage proactively; the county remained dry by a very slim margin. On the fourth try, only one pastor stood against the tide and by a surprising majority, the voters embraced liquor sales. The county has been wet ever since.

Satan is willing to play the long game, attacking time and time again until he wears down his target. We must be determined to persevere, even when those arrayed against us seem overwhelming and our numbers appear insufficient for the battle at hand.



In his first inaugural address on January 20, 1961, President Kennedy cited Romans 12:12 as he called Americans to a “twilight struggle, year in and year out, ‘rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation.’ ” He



was describing the Cold War. But our fight is against “the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places” (Ephesians 6:12). Talk about a twilight struggle! And yet we have a Champion. And He has given us armor. We cannot grow weary in this battle or withdraw from the battlefield due to fatigue or self-pity.

There is another reality we have to face. In this life we will have trouble—“little-t” tribulations as Jesus warned in John 16:33. Our assurance is not that we will win every battle, but that He has already won the war.

This too should stoke our confidence and inspire us to keep fighting. Satan would love for us to give up. He conspires against us at every turn—and He seems to be gaining ground in this world. That is exactly what God’s Word tells us will happen in the End Times. Should we be surprised? Of course not! But neither should we be disheartened, for we know it’s getting “gloriously dark.”

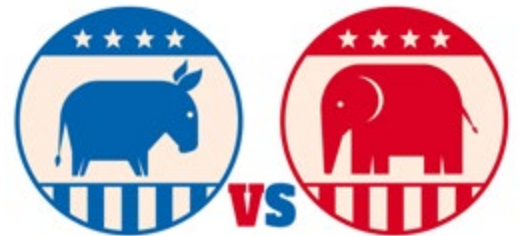
No matter what persecution arises and what troubles befall us, we can cling to the bold faith of Job: “Though He slay me, I will hope in Him” (Job 13:15).

Our Hope

This brings us to our final hope—our Blessed Hope.

Do we really trust Him? Or do we merely honor Him with our lips when times are good, while our hearts are far from Him (Matthew 15:8, citing Isaiah 29:13)?

My hope is not in the Republican Party or the Democratic Party. It is not in Donald Trump or Kamala Harris—or any other candidate in this or any election. Thank goodness! All of them fall short of the glory of God. All of them will disappoint—to a greater or lesser degree.



I will be voting this November. It is my right as an American and my responsibility as a Christian. I will advocate for policies and platforms that respect God’s position on life, on marriage and morality, and on what best allows for human flourishing. Through my voice and my vote, I will plead for America to step back from the precipice and return to God.

But I will not be devastated if my preferred candidate loses, or if my beloved nation strays even further from the Lord, or if I am subject to persecution, troubles, and tragedies—because all those things are fleeting. My true citizenship is in Heaven, and I am eager to live eternally under a worthy and anointed Monarch.

... he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

James 5:20

Our Deliverer is Coming

Although Jeremiah had to witness the destruction of his nation, God promised to deliver him (1:19). Likewise, all of us who trust in Jesus will be delivered from the wrath to come.

We may have to witness greater paganism and wickedness. If the Lord tarries, I am sure that we will. But He is waiting because He does not wish any to perish. What a great opportunity we still have to proclaim Light to those groping in darkness, hearing to those

who have not yet heard the Shepherd's voice, healing to those beset by sickness, and life to those walking in death.

America is in the balance. More importantly, millions of souls hang in the balance. Let's be about His work, proclaiming our Blessed Hope until He comes, praying that by "turning a sinner from the error of his way [we] will save his soul from death" (James 5:20). If we focus on that task, there might just be hope for America as well. ⚖️





AMERICA'S CHRISTIAN HERITAGE

In 1988, David Barton founded WallBuilders—an organization dedicated to documenting America’s forgotten heritage and heroes. He has painstakingly researched the Founding Fathers’ writings to demonstrate that this nation was indeed established on Christian principles, contradicting the historic revisionism of the radical secularists who now control our educational institutions.

Although not all of those men can be categorized as born-again Christians, most of them were. They were as imperfect as we are today, but the majority sincerely revered Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. It was with a conscious determination to promote and propagate

the Gospel of Christ that they endeavored to establish a more perfect union. Their reliance on Divine wisdom birthed a nation that has aspired to be a shining city on a hill—a phrase John Winthrop (Massachusetts Bay Colony Governor and a confessing Puritan) borrowed from Matthew 5:14 when he cast a vision for the New World in 1630.

Three hundred and fifty years later, Ronald Reagan would cite that same phrase from Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount to describe his hope for America. His Christian convictions were clearly in line with the sentiments of the Founders who established America, as the following statements reflect:



Samuel Adams

Signer of the Declaration of Independence, “Father of the American Revolution,” Ratifier of the U.S. Constitution, Governor of Massachusetts

He also called on the State of Massachusetts to pray that . . .

- the peaceful and glorious reign of our Divine Redeemer may be known and enjoyed throughout the whole family of mankind.
- we may with one heart and voice humbly implore His gracious and free pardon through Jesus Christ, supplicating His Divine aid . . . [and] above all to cause the religion of Jesus Christ, in its true spirit, to spread far and wide till the whole earth shall be filled with His glory.



Benjamin Franklin

Signer of the Declaration of Independence, Diplomat, Printer, Scientist, Signer of the Constitution, Governor of Pennsylvania.

As to Jesus of Nazareth, my opinion of whom you particularly desire, I think the system of morals and His religion as He left them to us, the best the world ever saw or is likely to see.

The body of B. Franklin, Printer, like the Cover of an old Book, its Contents torn out And stript of its Lettering and Gilding, Lies here, Food for Worms. But the work shall not be wholly lost; For it will, as he believ'd, appear once more, In a new & more perfect Edition, Corrected and amended By the Author. (Franklin's epitaph that he wrote for himself.)



John Hancock

Signer of the Declaration of Independence, President of Congress, Revolutionary General, Governor of Massachusetts.

Sensible of the importance of Christian piety and virtue to the order and happiness of a state, I cannot but earnestly commend to you every measure for their support and encouragement.



John Witherspoon

Signer of the Declaration of Independence, Ratifier of the U.S. Constitution, President of Princeton.

There is no salvation in any other than in Jesus Christ of Nazareth.

He is the best friend to American liberty who is the most sincere and active in promoting true and undefiled religion, and who sets himself with the greatest firmness to bear down profanity and immorality of every kind. Whoever is an avowed enemy of God, I scruple not to call him an enemy to his country.



Robert Treat Paine

Military Chaplain, Signer of the Declaration of Independence, Attorney General of Massachusetts.

I desire to bless and praise the name of God most high for appointing me my birth in a land of Gospel Light where the glorious tidings of a Savior and of pardon and salvation through Him have been continually sounding in mine ears.



Benjamin Rush

Signer of the Declaration of Independence, Surgeon General of the Continental Army, Ratifier of the U.S. Constitution, "Father of American Medicine," Treasurer of the U.S. Mint, "Father of Public Schools under the Constitution".

The only means of establishing and perpetuating our republican forms of government is the universal education of our youth in the principles of Christianity by means of the Bible.



Josiah Bartlett

Signer of the Declaration of Independence, Governor of New Hampshire.

As Governor of New Hampshire, called on the people to . . .
confess before God their aggravated transgressions and to implore His pardon and forgiveness through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ . . . [t]hat the knowledge of the Gospel of Jesus Christ may be made known to all nations, pure and undefiled religion universally prevail, and the earth be filled with the glory of the Lord.



Patrick Henry

Revolutionary General, Ratifier of the U.S. Constitution, "The Voice of Liberty," Governor of Virginia.

It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded, not by religionists, but by Christians; not on religions, but on the Gospel of Jesus Christ. For this very reason, peoples of other faiths have been afforded asylum, prosperity, and freedom of worship here.

The Bible... is a book worth more than all the other books that were ever printed.

Righteousness alone can exalt [America] as a nation...



George Washington

First President of the United States, Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army, President of the Constitutional Convention, "Father of His Country".

My words are few and plain. Listen well to what I tell you and let it sink deep into your hearts...You do well to wish to learn our arts and ways of life, and above all, the religion of Jesus Christ. These will make you a greater and happier people than you are.

I now make it my earnest prayer that God...would most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility and pacific temper of mind which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed Religion (Jesus Christ), and without a humble imitation of whose example in these things, we can never hope to be a happy nation.



Alexander Hamilton

Revolutionary General, Author of the Federalist Papers, First Secretary of the Treasury.

Following his duel with Aaron Burr, Hamilton's dying words were recorded by Reverend J.M. Mason: Here the General, letting go my hand, which he had held from the moment I sat down at his bed side, clasped his hands together, and, looking up towards Heaven, said, with emphasis, "I have a tender reliance on the mercy of the Almighty, through the merits of the Lord Jesus Christ."



John Jay

President of Congress, Diplomat, Author of the Federalist Papers, First Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, Governor of New York.

Providence has given to our people the choice of their rulers, and it is the duty as well as the privilege and interest of our Christian nation, to select and prefer Christians for their rulers.



John Adams

Second President of the United States, Signer of the Declaration of Independence.

The general principles on which the fathers achieved independence were the general principles of Christianity. I will avow that I then believed, and now believe, that those general principles of Christianity are as eternal and immutable as the existence and attributes of God.



Thomas Jefferson

Third President of the United States, Signer of the Declaration of Independence, Governor of Virginia, Secretary of State.

I am a real Christian – that is to say, a disciple of the doctrines of Jesus Christ.



James Madison

Fourth President of the United States, Signer of the Constitution, Author of the Federalist Papers, Framers of the Bill of Rights, Secretary of State.

A watchful eye must be kept on ourselves lest, while we are building ideal monuments of renown and bliss here, we neglect to have our names enrolled in the Annals of Heaven.



John Quincy Adams

Sixth President of the United States, Secretary of State, US Senator and Representative.

In the chain of human events, the birthday of the nation is indissolubly linked with the birthday of the Savior. The Declaration of Independence laid the cornerstone of human government upon the first precepts of Christianity.



Francis Scott Key

U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia, Author of the “Star Spangled Banner”.

May I always hear that you are following the guidance of that blessed Spirit that will lead you into all truth, leaning on that Almighty arm that has been extended to deliver you, trusting only in the only Savior, and going on in your way to Him rejoicing.



Daniel Webster

U.S. Senator, Secretary of State, “Defender of the Constitution”.

The Christian religion – its general principles – must ever be regarded among us as the foundation of civil society.



Noah Webster

Revolutionary soldier, Judge, Legislator, Educator, “Schoolmaster to America”.

The Christian religion is the most important and one of the first things in which all children under a free government ought to be instructed. No truth is more evident than that the Christian religion must be the basis of any government intended to secure the rights and privileges of a free people.



Abraham Lincoln

Sixteenth President of the United States.

In regard to this Great Book (the Bible), I have but to say it is the best gift God has given to man. All the good the Savior gave to the world was communicated through this Book.



Ulysses S. Grant

Eighteenth President of the United States.

Hold fast to the Bible as the sheet-anchor of your liberties; write its precepts in your hearts, and practice them in your lives.



Teddy Roosevelt

Twenty-Sixth President of the United States.

A very large number of people tend to forget that the teachings of the Bible are so interwoven and entwined with our whole civic and social life that it would be literally—I do not mean figuratively, I mean literally—impossible for us to figure to ourselves what that life would be if these teachings were removed.



Harry Truman

Thirty-Third President of the United States.

The fundamental basis of this Nation’s law was given to Moses on the Mount. The fundamental basis of our Bill of Rights comes from the teachings which we get from Exodus and St. Matthew, from Isaiah and St. Paul...If we don’t have the proper fundamental moral background, we will finally wind up with totalitarian government which does not believe in rights for anybody except the state.



Congress, U. S. House Judiciary Committee, 1854

Had the people, during the Revolution, had a suspicion of any attempt to war against Christianity, that Revolution would have been strangled in its cradle... In this age, there can be no substitute for Christianity... That was the religion of the founders of the republic and they expected it to remain the religion of their descendants.

Congress, 1854

The great, vital, and conservative element in our system is the belief of our people in the pure doctrines and the divine truths of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Pastor Robert Morgan tells about attending an event where President George W. Bush was answering questions. Asked what a former president does each day, President Bush responded, “There is no regular routine... No two days are alike. Well, there is one part of my routine that doesn’t change. Every morning, I spend time reading the Bible. I started when I was forty years old. I read the Bible every morning during my presidency, and I do the same now. In fact, I find I need it now more than ever.”

Reflect on America’s undeniable Christian heritage, and then consider the statement of the 44th President of the United States:

“Whatever we once were, we are no longer a Christian nation.” (Barack Obama, June 28, 2006)



Barak Obama

Is he right? You decide.

But weigh carefully how the Lord God would answer that question... ⚖️



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wallbuilders.com/resource/the-founding-fathers-on-jesus-christianity-and-the-bible/



THE POINT OF NO RETURN

Terry Cooper

At our annual Bible conference in June, Pastor Terry Cooper offered our Keynote Conference presentation when Pastor Jack Hibbs became ill at the last minute. In a taped greeting, Jack said that God had His reasons for bringing a message that “*maybe I would have gotten in the way of.*” We know that Jack does not shy away from proclaiming the prophetic Word of God, but as Jack said affirming the sovereignty of God, “*I know that God redeems everything.*”

God once sent a reluctant prophet to the wicked city of Ninevah. In our day, He brought Terry Cooper, a dedicated servant from a church named Ninevah, to bring a powerful prophetic message.

One of the greatest revivals in the Old Testament happened in a place called Nineveh. God uses the most unlikely circumstances to do the most incredible things. So I’m going to address a spiritual question that many do not want to tackle. Let me just start by asking a question: Is there a point of no return with God?

Can a person reach a point in their rebellion against God that He lets them go to their own destruction, abandoning them to an eternity in hell? We’re not going to focus on opinions. Everybody’s got one of those.

I believe the Bible is the only physical source of absolute truth on this earth. And so we’re going to trust the Bible to answer the question: “Is there a point of no return?”

Or if I send a plague into that land and pour out my wrath on it through bloodshed, killing its people and their animals, as surely as I live, declares the Sovereign Lord, even if Noah, Daniel and Job were in it, they could save neither son nor daughter. They would save only themselves by their righteousness.

Ezekiel 14:19-20

Learn from Judah

To offer a visual representation of this question, is there a point where there are no more exits on the road that you have chosen to walk upon? No way to get off of the road you're on. You can't turn around or get on another road. No more off ramps. You've passed the last one.



Let's begin in the Old Testament with the nation of Judah around 600 years before Christ. Ezekiel 14:12 says,

Then this message came to me from the Lord: "Son of man, suppose the people of a country were to sin against Me, and I lifted My fist to crush them, cutting off their food supply and sending a famine to destroy both people and animals. Even if Noah, Daniel, and Job were there, their righteousness would save no one but themselves, says the Sovereign Lord." (NLT throughout, unless noted)

We have three things in this text. First, we're dealing with a nation,

a country. "Suppose a nation were to sin against Me." But a nation is just an assembly of people. So, this country, this nation, has sinned against God so much that God has raised His fist to crush them. He declares that He is going to destroy them. God told Ezekiel, I'm going to bring destruction upon people and animals alike.

Secondly, God reveals the power of intercessors. God brought it up to Ezekiel. "Even if Noah, Daniel, and Job..." Normally these men could ask God and God would listen. But in this case, if Noah, Daniel, and Job were to ask, He would still say no. That tells us that even if these three holy men ask God to turn back His wrath, there is a point of no return. Even with holy men interceding for the nation, there is a red line that could be crossed.

But there is a third point. Although there is a point of no return for the rest that joined in the rebellion against God, the holy men themselves would be saved.

Waves of Judgment

God gave the prophet Ezekiel specific insight about the first judgment that He was planning for Jerusalem. That judgment, which definitely had a point of no return, was cutting off the food supply and bringing a famine upon the land, the nation that would eventually

destroy the people, including the animals. Even with holy men interceding in prayer, that judgment would fall (Ezekiel 14:15).



But there is more judgment to come. God increases the devastation. He says, "Suppose I bring wild animals to invade the country, kill the people, make the land too desolate and dangerous to pass through as surely as I live, says the sovereign Lord, even if those three men, Noah, Daniel and Job, were there, they wouldn't be able to save their own sons and daughters. They alone would be saved, but the land would be made desolate."



There is yet another wave of tragedy to come. At first it was famine. Then wild beasts. God says, “Or suppose I were to bring war against the land, and I sent enemy armies to destroy both people and animals, as surely as I live,” says the Sovereign Lord. “Even if those three men were there, they wouldn’t be able to save their own sons or daughters. They alone would be saved” (Ezekiel 14:17-18).



A fourth and final wave of destruction completes God’s judgment. “Or suppose I were to pour out my fury by sending an epidemic (or, pandemic, in our modern understanding) against that country and pour out My wrath in blood on it to cut off man and beast from it. As surely as I live,” says the Sovereign Lord, “even if Noah, Daniel and Job were there, they wouldn’t be able to save their own sons or daughters. They alone would be saved by their righteousness” (Ezekiel 14:19-20).



So do not pray for this people nor offer any plea or petition for them; do not plead with me, for I will not listen to you.

Jeremiah 7:16

Now this is what the sovereign Lord said to Ezekiel, revealing the impending judgment of four dreadful punishments about to fall upon Jerusalem.

This word of God to Ezekiel was real. It was not hypothetical. It was meant specifically for Jerusalem. For Judah, Jerusalem was reaching the point of no return, and God was going to bring war, famine, wild animals and disease to destroy them. And only the holy men would be safe.

No Hope

The prophets Ezekiel and Jeremiah both lived to see what happens when God reaches a point of no return. Jeremiah was also told about this same point of no return, even with holy men interceding on behalf of the nation. God even got to the point with Jeremiah that he told Jeremiah to stop praying for the nation. Jerusalem fell to the Babylonian king Nebuchadnezzar in 586 BC.

Can you imagine being Jeremiah and hearing from God, “Pray no more for these people Jeremiah. Do not weep or pray for them, and do not beg Me to help them, for I will not listen to you” (Jeremiah 7:16). They had reached a point of no return.

Since we know that there is a point of no return in God’s eyes, it is critically important that we de-

termine what so offended God that He told His prophet to stop praying on their behalf.

What had the people and their leaders done that was so offensive to God?

Two Capital Sins

The first offense was idolatry. Throughout the towns of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem, the children gathered wood and the fathers built sacrificial fires. The women kneaded dough and made cakes to offer to the “Queen of Heaven”—the false god Jonathan Cahn refers to as the seducer (Ishtar or Astra).



But Judah’s king doomed his people to God’s wrath when he grievously offended the Lord through his actions. What did he do that was so egregious? Beside rampant idolatry, what was the sin that brought the nation of Judah to the point of no return with God?

God specifically cited the sin of Manasseh, the son of Hezekiah (Jeremiah 15:4). King Manasseh built pagan altars inside the temple of the Lord and sacrificed his son to a false god.

Because of their flagrant sins of idolatry and child sacrifice—partaken in by the masses and celebrated by the leader of their nation—Judah and its capitol Jerusalem, the chosen people of the covenant, were destined to die. God said, “I will make [My people, Judah] an object of horror to all the kingdoms of the earth because of Manasseh, the son of Hezekiah, the king of Judah, for what he did in Jerusalem” (Jeremiah 15:4, NASB).

The people of Judah were trapped. They were on a road with no exits, no off ramps, no place to go and turn around. They had passed the point of no return.

What About America?

So what about America? Have we passed the point of no return? I do not know. I do know that we serve the same God that declared judgment on Judah and Jerusalem—for idolatry and the shedding of innocent blood.



God would say to those in our nation who flaunt their wickedness, “Am I the one you are hurting?” They hurt themselves to their own shame. Why? Because there is a point of no return with God.

I will make them an object of terror among all the kingdoms of the earth because of Manasseh, the son of Hezekiah, the king of Judah, for what he did in Jerusalem.

Jeremiah 15:4, NASB

A point beyond which God says, “Do not intercede with prayer. Do not weep for them anymore, for I will not listen to them when they cry out to me in distress” (Jeremiah 11:14).

Even holy men like Noah, Daniel and Job can’t intercede. Fasting won’t work. Jeremiah 14:11 tells us: “And when they fast, I will pay no attention. And when they present their burnt offerings and grain offerings to me, I will not accept them. Instead, I will devour them with war, famine and disease.”

False Hope Abounds

Jeremiah pointed out that many false prophets were proclaiming blessings on the people of Judah and Jerusalem. He records:

But, “Ah, Lord GOD!” I said, “Look, the prophets are telling them, ‘You will not see the sword nor will you have famine, but I will give you lasting peace in this place.’”

The Lord replied and plainly said, “These prophets are telling lies in My name. I did not send them or tell them to speak. I did not give them any messages. They prophesy of visions and revelations they have never seen or heard. They speak foolishness made up in their own lying hearts.”

In fact, God declares that the false prophets would meet their

end by sword and famine—the very calamities they said would never come.

Where is the Mercy of God?

Jeremiah gives voice to the same question that rises in our hearts upon hearing such devastating news: If destruction is unavoidable and people are to be destroyed in their sin, where is the mercy of God?



This question is particularly important to Jeremiah because he is living among the chosen people of God in Judah and Jerusalem. Like Habakkuk, he thinks surely God’s mercy will abound in the midst of wrath (Habakkuk 3:12).

Everyone loves the idea of the mercy of God. Of course we do. But He is also holy. God’s holiness and mercy both exist side by side. We must put the mercy of God alongside the absolute holiness of God.

The love and mercy of God are reflected in Jeremiah 14:17, where He describes Himself weeping night and day for His virgin daughter—His precious people. He doesn't want them to die. He doesn't want them to perish. They have been struck down and they lie mortally wounded because of their own sin. He speaks of going out into the fields and seeing the bodies of people slaughtered by the enemy and of walking the city streets and seeing people who have died of starvation.

The prophets and priests continue with their work, but they don't know what they're doing. They have religion without reality. Sound familiar? In that statement, we see the heart of God. God would say the same to us today that He said to Jeremiah: "Night and day, my eyes overflow with tears."



Is God not the God of mercy? Is God not the God of justice, righteousness, and absolute holiness? Is God not the God that forgives and the God that restores? But on the other hand, is God not the God that brings judgment on those who rebel against Him in their wickedness?

Jeremiah understood the covenant God had made with the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and

Jacob, and essentially asked, Lord, have You completely rejected Judah? Do You really hate Jerusalem? Why have You wounded us past all hope of healing? We hoped for peace, but no peace came. We hoped for a time of healing but found only terror. Lord, we confess our wickedness and that of our ancestors too. We have all sinned against You. And for the sake of Your reputation, Lord, do not abandon us (Jeremiah 14:19-21).

At his moment of greatest despair, Jeremiah pled with God for the sake of His own name. He confessed, we're all sinners, but for the sake of Your own name, do not abandon us. Do not disgrace Your own glorious throne. Please remember us and do not break Your covenant.

Jeremiah's bottom line is this: we will wait for you to come and help us (Jeremiah 14:22).

It's at this point in the story that many of you will think that God will relent and reveal that he really didn't have a point of no return at all. When Jeremiah brings up the covenant and cries out to God, you'd think God is going to say one more chance, one more chance.

And you'd be wrong.

God is Not a Man

If you think God is running a big bluff, you'd be wrong. You see, God is not a man. He doesn't think or

reason like men do. His ways are not our ways. His thoughts are not our thoughts. He was not running a big bluff with idle threats against Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and the nation of Judah.

God does not bluff. This is how God responded to Jeremiah's humble and desperate plea: "Then the Lord said to me, 'Even if Moses and Samuel stood before Me pleading for these people, I wouldn't help them. Away with them! Get them out of My sight!'" (Jeremiah 15:1, NLT).

God continued, "And [if] they say to you, 'But where can we go?' tell them, 'This is what the Lord says: "Those who are destined for death, to death; and those destined for the sword, to the sword; and those destined for famine, to famine; and those destined for captivity, to captivity" ' " (Jeremiah 15:2, NASB). His proclamation of destiny was locked in for people who had no idea that they were beyond the point of no return.

Remember the grievous sin that pushed Judah and Jerusalem past that irreversible point? Idolatry and child sacrifice—even to the point that those flagrant sins were endorsed by the nation's leader. Does that sound familiar today?

In America, God has been pushed out of the public square, out of school, out of government, out of academia. Out, out, out. But the

Then the Lord said to me: "Even if Moses and Samuel were to stand before me, my heart would not go out to this people. Send them away from my presence! Let them go!"

Jeremiah 15:1

And all who dwell on the earth will worship him, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who has been slain. If anyone has an ear, let him hear. If anyone is destined for captivity, to captivity he goes; if anyone kills with the sword, with the sword he must be killed. Here is the perseverance and the faith of the saints.

Revelation 13:8-10

resulting vacuum was filled with false gods—what the one true God calls idolatry. And what about the shedding of innocent blood? Abortion plagues our land today. And it is embraced and celebrated by our elected leaders at every level.

Have we passed the point of no return?



Our Challenge and Our Mission

Our government seems to be promoting the very sins that brought down the nation of Judah. Everything seems to be falling apart. Our challenge and our calling is to remain faithful to the end.

We know that Jeremiah survived the siege of Jerusalem. So, the in-

dividual Jeremiah survived when the nation of Judah fell. There was a point of no return for the nation of Judah, including Jerusalem. But Jeremiah lived.

It's not for us to determine the point of no return for individuals. In other words, we can't look at someone and say they've crossed the line. Only God can make that determination. We leave that determination and judgment to God and God alone.

The same is true for our nation right now.

America is a nation in freefall. Along with David Reagan, I believe our nation has passed the point of no return. No one can know for sure. I don't know if that red line has been crossed. I believe it has. Some of you may disagree. If it has not been passed, we surely teeter on the edge.

Our Only Hope and Our Urgent Responsibility

Soon, Jesus will come for those

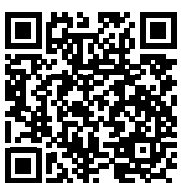
who are His. The world will spiral out of control and quickly enter the period we call the Tribulation. The Seal Judgments will mirror the horrors God revealed to Jeremiah for the people of Judah and Jerusalem—but they will be poured out upon the entire earth.

But there is an even more horrible fate awaiting all those who pass the point of no return by rejecting the Gospel of Jesus Christ: an eternity in Hell. That is the message of Revelation 13:8-10.

Since we do not know where that point is for people all around us, let's proclaim the Good News of God's mercy in Jesus Christ. Those with ears to hear will listen and understand (Revelation 13:9).

God's holy people have been delivered from the everlasting wrath to come. Until Jesus comes for us, we must endure persecution patiently and remain faithful.

He is coming soon! ⚖️



Terry's hour-long message emphasizes the urgency of doing just that: enduring and remaining faithful. Jesus and the Apostles sounded that same warning many times, urging us to resist deception and discouragement.

You can view his entire message at the Christ In Prophecy YouTube channel.



TEARING DOWN STRONGHOLDS

Pastor Jack Hibbs

Pastor Jack Hibbs was scheduled to be the keynote speaker at our 2024 Bible Conference, but he fell ill that week and was unable to attend. In a follow-up video greeting, Pastor Jack shared his Christ-centered attitude—recognizing that “God had His reasons” for giving another speaker the opportunity to address the attendees. Jack affirmed God’s purpose, stating, “What was said to you by one of the other speakers had to be said, and maybe I would have gotten in the way of that.”

We share Jack Hibbs’ faithful bottom line: *“I know that God redeems everything.”*

With that in mind, here are some thoughts Pastor Jack shared after our conference:

Unfortunately, I was unable to attend and speak at the Lamb & Lion Bible Conference this June. It was a blessing to be invited and I wanted to honor the incredible legacy of Dr. Reagan, who has been such a witness in my life and my ministry.

I had hoped to share, with a prophetic spin, from 2 Corinthians 10, and most specifically, verse 3: “For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh” (NKJV throughout).

Think about these Last Days in which you and I are living and remember, “the weapons of our warfare are

not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds” (2 Corinthians 10:4).

Right now, in this prophetic age, as we approach the end, we are going to be surrounded more and more by strongholds. I don’t mean strongholds that are going to take us captive. I believe these strongholds are the enemy’s attempt to advance his kingdom upon this earth—this enemy-occupied territory. When these strongholds surround us, we need to see that they are none other than opportunities for you and me, in this prophetic age to use the Word of God.



...for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the tearing down of strongholds

2 Corinthians 10:4

Prophetic Application

I appreciate everyone who studies the prophecies of Daniel, and Ezekiel, and the prophecies that are in the Psalms. But, what about Jeremiah? John in Revelation? What about the Olivet Discourse? We must know these prophecies and teachings, but what if we never do anything that backs up, in a practical way, the urgency of being a believer in these Last Days?

In 2 Corinthians 10:5, Paul is going to bring it, he's going to deliver it, and it is this, "casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ." And here comes the punchline. Verse six says, "...and being ready." How many times does God's Word tell us to "be ready"? You do not know the hour! Be ready for Me, I could come at

any moment! You do not know! Be on guard, be vigilant.

How do we do that? He's going to tell us, and it's epic, "...and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled" (2 Corinthians 10:6).

If you and I believe Jesus is coming back soon (and I hope today), then that means I am to be obedient and in my obedience to Christ, my light and my witness—your light and your witness—will punish disobedience.


Be Ready and Vigilant

When was the last time you believed that your Christian example punished wickedness, punished unrighteousness, or punished ungodliness?

Knowing the times and the seasons in which we live, we ought to be ready and vigilant regarding Christ's return. We must live out

our faith, our witness, and the stewardship of the truth that's in us.

You and I, by our light and our witness for Christ, should cause Hell to tremble. Learning the truth of God's prophetic Word is great, but make sure you put it into practice. Make sure you do righteousness, which is simply to do the right thing. Do what Jesus would do. By you and I doing that, we just might hasten the coming of the Lord as Peter talks about in 2 Peter 3:11-15.

I leave it in the hands of God that you trust that we're going to see Him soon, either by rapture or by rupture, by going up or by being transported into His presence by death. Either way, to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. And so, we look forward to our "blessed hope and the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ" (Titus 2:13). 



A BREACH IN THE WALL

Tim Moore

Paul had a great desire to go to Rome. Even as he served as an evangelist and planted churches throughout the Roman Empire in the East, his missionary journeys pushed further and further west. Paul leveraged his Roman citizenship to overcome some persecution and to eventually claim his right to appeal to Caesar. Faced with Paul's well-played trump card, Festus responded, "to Caesar you shall go" (Acts 25:12).

This is not to say that Paul personally planted a church in Rome. His letter to the Roman church exists because he was eager to be with them in person and wanted to ground their faith in solid teaching about

the Gospel. To this day, I frequently cite the words of Paul as I recount my own prayer in anticipation of speaking at a church:

For I long to see you so that I may impart some spiritual gift to you, that you may be established; to be mutually encouraged while among you, by each other's faith, both yours and mine. (Romans 1:11-12)

When Paul eventually arrived in Rome, it was in chains—figuratively, if not literally. But Paul understood that by impacting the capital city of the far-reaching Roman Empire, seeds of the Gospel would be flung far and wide to bear much fruit in the lives of indi-

vidual believers and the churches they would establish—just as David Wilkerson felt compelled to preach in New York City.



Rome eventually surpassed Jerusalem as the focal point of the increasingly Gentile Church. Eventually, the catholic Church (meaning “all-embracing”) fractured and the Roman Catholic Church became centered in Rome—with the Papacy and all it entails. And, once Constantine had embraced Christianity, the Roman government essentially imposed faith on its citizens. To this day, many European nations have state churches that are obligatory but devoid of real and living faith.

Which brings me to my point. In 2020, a new church was planted in the heart of Rome. Called Breccia di Roma (breccia means “breach” in Italian). The name refers to the aspiration to breach the Catholic wall of religious oppression in the city Paul longed to reach. This Evangelical church has become a beacon of light in a dark place.

A few years ago, the Italian government attempted to impose an onerous tax on Breccia di Roma, claiming that because their building did not look like a typical Catholic church, it could not claim a religious exemption. Lower-level courts sided with the Breccia congregation, but the government would not relent, appeal-

ing the case all the way to the Italian Supreme Court. In late May, Breccia di Roma was formally stripped of their religious tax exemption.

The handwriting on the wall indicates that governments throughout the West are becoming increasingly hostile to Christians and local churches. The same pressure is mounting in places like Germany, Great Britain, Australia, and Canada. Lest you think it could not happen here in the United States, government officials across the spectrum have demonstrated hostility toward Christian churches—or threatened to revoke tax-exempt status, just like Breccia di Roma. In 2014, Houston Mayor Annise Parker tried to force Christian pastors to submit their sermons for government approval.



We are praying for our Christian brothers and sisters in Rome—and many other Kingdom outposts around the globe. We’ve also contributed to the fund that will allow this local body to continue worshipping God. If you feel led to do the same, you can visit the Breccia di Roma website and donate online. Regardless, pray for them, and speak out lest our own religious liberties be eroded away.

The Church really is all-encompassing. Built by Jesus Christ, it is a global body of believers that stretches back to the Apostles. Organized into local bodies and various denominations on every continent, the Church has been promised that even the gates of Hell will not prevail against it (Matthew 16:18).

Talk about a breach! Let’s be bold and rescue those who are just a footstep (and a heartbeat) away from Hell’s eternal fire. ⚖️



DONATE NOW
www.brecciadroma.it/english



COWARDLY LIONS

Tim Moore

I recently had the opportunity to interact with a senior executive from a major US corporation. The man was a former military officer and has publicly testified to his faith.

My conversation focused on his recent corporate statement fully endorsing the LGBTQ+ agenda. In a statement celebrating what is ironically called “Pride Month,” this man offered glowing affirmation for “gender fluidity.” Dad to dad, I asked him if he actually believed in what he wrote and if it would apply to his own children.

His response was telling.

He said his personal beliefs are different, but that he must sound a different note in his corporate position.

His gushing enthusiasm for the entire spectrum of LGBTQ+ ideology was simply “expected.”



I was immediately reminded of my experience flying into Jordan in 2003. As the mission commander, I had to interact with several Jordanian officers. One-on-one they were personable and candid, but when gathered together they engaged in obvious “group speak.”

One officer would initiate a conversation and opine that Israel was to blame for 9/11 and the ensuing war. Immediately, the other officers would chime in—each endeavoring to outdo the other. It became obvious that each officer was merely posturing, lest he be deemed insufficiently loyal to the perceived collective mindset.



Bow Down or Else!

These two episodes reflect our human desire to fit in. None of us wants to stand out as the sore thumb in any group. Teenagers supposedly succumb to peer pressure the most, but in my experience, many adults also find it very difficult to stick out as different. They may talk big, but their hearts melt away and they act like cowardly lions.

The repercussions may not involve the threat of a fiery furnace, but many Christians have lost opportunities, jobs, income, friends and family, and even their

lives for their determination to live out their Christian testimony. And in our own nation, the pressure to conform is growing greater by the day.



Some Evangelical Christians wonder why I, and others, often reference Pope Francis’ infamous wavering on Catholic doctrines. Plainly stated, the Catholic Church claims many doctrines that are antithetical to Scripture, but it has been clear in its support for life, marriage, and natural order defined in the Bible. With Francis equivocating on those foundational beliefs, Evangelical Christians will soon find themselves further isolated as we stand firm on the Word of God.



A Country Such as This

A new movie by director Brett Varvel (son of the editorial cartoonist Gary Varvel, whose work often appears in our magazine) portrays an America where churches have been driven underground and the Bible is officially banned. Some would assert that this dystopian view of the future is too far-fetched to be believable. But Houston’s mayor already tried to pre-approve pastor’s sermons and other Western nations have tried to label the Bible as hate speech. Does anyone really doubt that if America elected a far-Left President and majority in Congress that they would not seek to undermine religious liberty in the United States? They have already expressed their disgust for Christian “troublers” who

Wake up! And strengthen the things that remain, which were about to die

Revelation 3:2

are standing in the way of their progressive ideology.

As I see it, there are three insidious inclinations we need to guard against:

1 Like a frog in the pot, the rising threat comes incrementally, lulling us into complacency. If the threat arose suddenly, our “red line” might be crossed in a dramatic fashion. But when it creeps in over a long period of time, we either don’t establish a red line—or we allow it to gradually shift and erode.



I suspect that even those who were dozing off through the 90s and early 2000s have awakened to the rising threat in and to our nation. But there are some who are still asleep, to whom Jesus would say, “Wake up! And strengthen the things that remain, which were about to die” (Revelation 3:2).

On that note, can you imagine what this country will be like in 20 years if it continues its present trajectory? What kind of world will your children or grandchildren live in? If that thought troubles you,

then my question is this: when is the right time to engage and work to change that trajectory? The obvious answer is: now, not twenty years from now and not even tomorrow. Right now.



2 We recognize the threat but want to bide our time—rationalizing that we need to save our effort for the “really big battles.” When I was in the Kentucky legislature, one of our minority leaders was always encouraging us to “keep our powder dry.” He did not want us to waste our energy on battles that he thought were doomed to fail—or he hoped that we would find a more strategic opportunity to engage.



But I frequently urged greater engagement, because we will always lose the battles we don’t fight.

Paul’s testimony to Timothy was, “I have fought the good fight” (2 Timothy 4:7a). A form of the word “fight” appears twice in that six-word statement. Christians need to realize that we are in a fight—a spiritual battle where the stakes are greater than we realize. We need to learn from Paul and fight, so that when we are called Home we can also say, “I have finished the course, I have kept the faith” (2 Timothy 4:7b).

3 Finally, we can misdirect our loyalty in such a manner that our boldness is blunted. In an Army magazine article entitled, “Is Loyalty Overvalued?”, Lt. Col. Pete Kilner (US Army, Ret.) observed that “leaders and organizations that demand loyalty typically aren’t worthy of it. Loyalty, it turns out, is typically the highest value in organizations that lack virtue.”

Our culture often demands loyalty that is not earned. For instance, I can sing along with Lee Greenwood, “I’m proud to be an American!” But much of what our government tolerates and promotes is abhorrent to me as a Christian. I’ve said it before: whereas pop culture once revered “Truth, Justice, and the American Way,” I doubt a majority of Americans could even agree on those terms anymore. And our present national leaders seem determined to undermine all three according to the definitions that align with a biblical worldview.

Hold! Hold!

In the movie, *Braveheart*, Mel Gibson depicts a battle where William Wallace encourages his men to “Hold! Hold!” As the enemy calvary charges toward their line, most of his men grow increasingly nervous. Wallace knows that they can win the day—if they hold their line and follow his instructions. But if they turn and run, they will be cut down and defeated absolutely.



I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith.

2 Timothy 4:7

In that scene, the line does hold and Wallace’s forces prevail. Your next opportunity to “Hold, hold!” may very well come today, and tomorrow, and the day after that. It will come this November 7th, when Christians need to vote in accordance with a Christian worldview. It will also come as you interact with your own children and grandchildren—raising them in the fear and admonition of the Lord and readying them for the battles they must fight if Jesus tarries.

Our Commander has given us certain orders and assured us of victory. He has commanded us to stand firm and hold until He comes. He alone is worthy of our loyalty—not because He demands it, but because He has earned it, because He is worthy, and because He is the King of kings and Lord of lords. ⚖️

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The inevitability of death looms too large—and the stakes involved are too high—to leave our eternal destiny to chance.

The Bible is quite matter of fact about our natural end: “the wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23). But the same verse assures us that we can have eternal life in Jesus Christ.

Dr. David Reagan explores what awaits beyond this life—the mere score of years any of us can expect to linger in our natural bodies. Many die bereft of hope and facing eternity apart from God. Others can hardly wait to meet their Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ.

DR. DAVID R. REAGAN



We Win

Governor Mike Huckabee

I don't know what the future of America is. I just don't. I can't tell you. I'd love to tell you, "It's all going to be fine."

I am an eternal optimist. I want to believe that there will be a remnant and a revival. And I will do everything I can to pray for and to seek God's face so that He would shine again on this great country of ours and bring us back to Him and revive us. That's my prayer, and I want that to happen, but I cannot guarantee that it will.

We could fall as a nation because of our disobedience and our willful rebellion against the holiness of God. He has been so good to us that we should at least serve Him with some level of humility and gratitude. I don't see it a lot.

But if you're a believer, I do have good news that no matter what happens to the culture or to the country, I know what's going to happen to you. Because I did something that, if you haven't done it, you ought to. I actually read the end of the book. And you know what? We win. We win!

It doesn't mean that America will, because America is not mentioned in the Bible and I can't promise you that America will win. I can promise you that Israel will. And I would say to people who are attacking Israel, get out of the way and don't stand near a window because God will protect His people and His land! He has made a promise and a commitment and I don't want to be on the wrong side of that one.

That is for sure. 



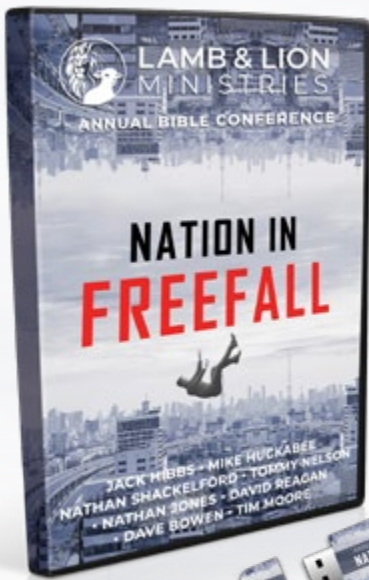
Governor Mike Huckabee was the featured Saturday speaker at our 2024 Bible Conference. His presentation was full of humor and biblical insight. He related personal experiences that required tough and persevering faith, demonstrating that the detours in our life are often God's destinations—or His means of deepening our trust in Him.

His full message is accessible on the Christ In Prophecy YouTube channel. All of the presentations from our 2024 Conference are also available on a 3-DVD set or flash drive.



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NATURE

America is in the midst of hurricane season, with National Weather Service forecasters predicting “above-normal hurricane activity” with four to seven major storms in the Atlantic basin. Citizens in coastal areas can do little more than pray to avoid the storms.



In a major affront to the natural order, in April the Justice Department quietly redefined “sex discrimination under Title IX to include “sexual orientation, and gender identity”—virtually destroying the educational protections for women enacted in 1972.



SOCIETY

Retailers are pulling out of cities headed by liberal progressive leaders and wracked by escalating violence. From groceries to clothing to medication, there are urban swaths that will soon be devoid of the commodities people need to live.



A report solicited by the Biden Administration was leaked in early summer. In it, a team of supposed experts named former military personnel and religious Christians as the greatest terror threat to the nation.



SPIRITUAL

The UMC continues to lurch away from biblical clarity. Former UMC pastor Buddy Smith (recently retired as a vice president at the American Family Association) says, “the UMC is no longer United, is not Methodist, and is not even a Church as defined by the New Testament.”



Originally aired through a Disney-owned network, “Little Demon” an adult animated sit-com about Satan’s “Antichrist” daughter. Starring Danny DeVito and produced by his daughter Lucy, the jokes supposedly fly “fast and furious.” It is still available through streaming services.



The Lord told the Children of Israel that they were to serve as a living testimony of the blessing of being in relationship with the living God—and a warning for going astray from Him. As we approach yet another presidential election, the Signs of the Times are glaringly evident within the United States—even to those without spiritual eyes to see or ears to hear. We don't have to look half a world away for apostasy, wickedness, rebellion against God and His anointed. How long, O Lord? How long?

WORLD POLITICS

The Harris-Walz campaign, not satisfied that the US is already an outlier in the world with regard to abortion access (even European countries have far more restrictions), is promising a radical expansion of taxpayer-paid abortion in America.



In mid-July, US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken announced that Iran is 1-2 weeks away from amassing enough enriched uranium to produce a nuclear weapon. He denies that the \$ Billions in assets freed by the United States contributed to Iran's increased belligerence.



TECHNOLOGY

Reproductive technology is giving rise to moral quandaries. IVF (In-Vitro Fertilization) offers hope to some childless couples, but over a million embryos are left frozen and ultimately discarded as unwanted by-products. Pro-Life advocates argue this is morally indefensible.



Drone, stealth, and hypersonic technology is accelerating the revolution in military warfare and creating a rising threat to the US homeland. Military officials fear that America's adversaries could gain the upper hand—through theft, unfettered R&D, or unmatched ruthlessness.



ISRAEL

Israel indicates that it intends to address Iranian-backed Hezbollah terrorists after finishing with Hamas, even as it decries the fickle support flowing from the United States and Europe. President Biden's pledged support has proven half-hearted and unreliable.



After dying back to a simmer over the hot summer months when college students leave the institutions of indoctrination, the anti-Israel agitators were back in force at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago and are coming to a campus near you.

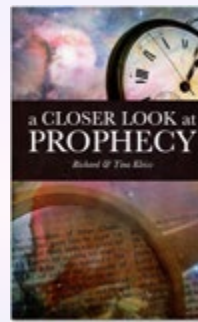


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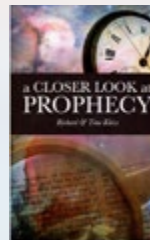


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