



Prophecy in Perspective

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An email newsletter

Our Times - *Prophecy in Current Events*

Where Is The Leadership?

Bible prophecy is clear that the difficulties of the latter days will be marked initially by a lack of real leadership both spiritually and politically. We are seeing this lack of leadership today. The recent Islamic terrorist attacks and murders of 12 and more individuals in the name of avenging Mohammad have served as yet another opportunity for President Obama and the liberal news media to be honest and call these acts what they are: Islamic terror. But I believe that Mr. Obama will never call these acts for what they are: Islamic terrorism. I believe that since he is probably a Muslim in his religious convictions and because he has already called Islam a religion of peace, he will therefore not identify Islam with terrorism! If he would at least be honest about this, then respect for him would rise considerably. But deception is, as I have said, an identifying mark of latter days false leadership according to Bible prophecy.

The Bible sets forth in clear terms how the latter days will be marked by leaders who will bring false representations of evil realities, as well as lies about things that are good. Isaiah speaks of the false prophets, who both politically and spiritually reverse the definition of good and evil. ***Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! (Isaiah 5:20)*** Isaiah, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit further described these leaders as ***those who drag wickedness with cords of deceit and pull sin along with cart ropes. (5:18)*** This means that godless leaders, both political and religious, will be systematic in advancing deception upon the masses for their own purposes. They will control people by controlling the information that is fed to them. They will attempt to systematically lead the people in the direction they want them to go.

We are certainly seeing in President Obama a deliberate desire to lead America in the direction of the liberal left. As I have documented in previous issues of *Prophecy in Perspective*, Mr. Obama has consistently appeared over the years of his presidency to be pro-Islamic, anti-Israel and anti-Christian. Again, Isaiah warns: ***"Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes And clever in their own sight!" (5:21, HCSB)*** But this is not only about President Obama, but about the hundreds and even thousands of political and religious leaders in America who, in these latter days, have replaced the advancement of truth with forwarding their own agendas.

In the latter days, leaders will achieve political and religious leadership positions by charming the masses with exaggerations and outright lies. The public will be enamored by them because these leaders will draw them sympathetically. The masses in America have been taught by public education and the liberal media to embrace immorality and reject the Bible. Because of this, Satan is better able to deceive them into connecting emotionally and spiritually with political and religious charlatans. ***"For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work, but the one now restraining will do so until he is out of the way." (2 Thessalonians 2:7, HCSB)*** Could this trend represent a preparation for the rise of the Antichrist? I believe that his arising is sooner than many of us think!

Yet, it is refreshing to hear a few political and religious leaders speaking truthfully about the threats that are arising in these latter days. Because Israel and the Jews have suffered so miserably at the hands of anti-Semitic governments and religions, and because they are threatened daily with annihilation through Radical Islamic terror, they must be honest with their people and the world about what is really going on in the world.

Recently, after the Islamic terrorist murders in Paris, Israeli Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, clearly denounced these attacks for what they were, Islamic terrorist attacks. Mr. Netanyahu, is careful to be as inclusive as possible in his leadership of the tiny yet powerful nation of Israel. He is faithful as a Jewish leader of Jewish, Muslim, and Christian citizens as well as others of differing and varied religious, racial and political backgrounds. Yet he is honest in his evaluation of the real threat to his country. We can see an example of this in the following important article from the *Times of Israel*:

Netanyahu: Paris Attack Proves World Must Fight Islamist Terror

BY TIMES OF ISRAEL STAFF AND AFP January 7, 2015, 9:09 pm 80



Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at the Jerusalem City Hall's situation room during a briefing on the snowstorm which hit the capital on January 7, 2015.
(photo credit: Kobi Gideon / GPO)

Israel, on Wednesday, denounced the deadly attack on a French satirical magazine, amid a wave of condemnations from world leaders and French Muslim organizations. Earlier in the day three gunmen stormed the Paris offices of the Charlie Hebdo magazine, killing 12, including several prominent French satirical cartoonists, and injuring others.

"On behalf of the citizens of Israel, I offer condolences to the President of France, the bereaved families and the French people," Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said in a press statement issued after the attack. "Israel stands

with you on this difficult day. Two years ago we saw a great intensification of international terrorism and terror that originates from radical Islam. Radical Islamic terrorism knows no bounds, and therefore the struggle which must know no borders," he continued. "I stood at the UN podium a few months ago, and I said that if the terrorist fanatics of Hamas, Hezbollah, the Islamic State and al-Qaeda will not be stopped here, [the attacks] will spread all over the world, and if we do not fight it consistently,

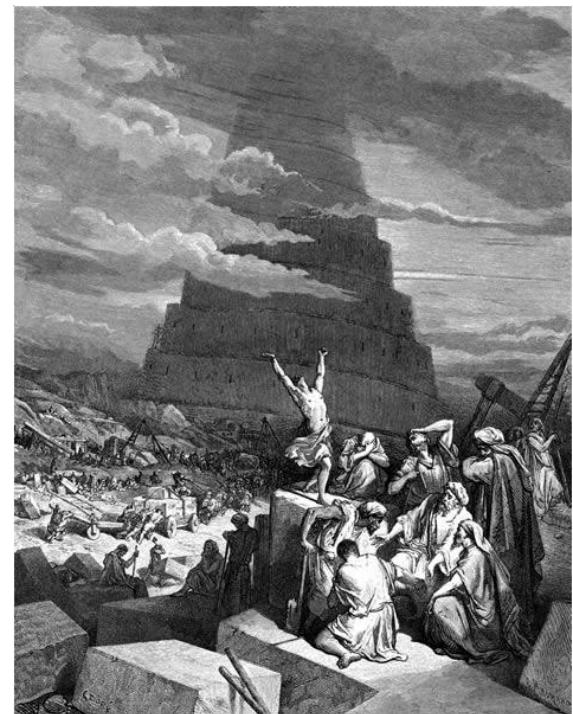
determinedly and unitedly, these horrible acts that we have seen today in Paris, will not be the last, and they will be horrible and difficult."

Netanyahu said the motive of Islamist terrorists was to "destroy society and nations, to uproot human culture which is based of freedom, and the freedom to choose." Therefore, the prime minister continued, "free societies and all civilized people must unite and combat this terrorism." "Combating them means physically fighting, fighting against their false arguments, and under no circumstances accepting the various justifications for their motives," he concluded. (*Times of Israel*, 1-7-2015)

As Christians, we need to pray for Mr. Netanyahu. We should pray that he might continue to be bold in speaking the truth in identifying the enemies of Israel as they are and not play the word games that so many political and even Christian leaders are playing today. Pray for Mr. Obama as well to seek the God of the Bible and to be a leader of integrity, honesty, and a true friend of Israel.

In these days of growing uncertainty we are so blessed to have the unchanging Word of God which promises help, comfort, and victory to believers in Jesus Christ. The Bible assures us that, as born again Christians, we can walk in Spirit-filled confidence assured of the indwelling presence of the Lord. (Colossians 1:27) Our confidence and boldness will be greatly encouraged as we faithfully watch for the Lord's coming. Jesus could return at any moment and rapture us to heaven before the outbreak of the great Tribulation. Yet Satan has succeeded in distracting and discouraging many from belief in this wonderful truth of the rapture. Yet, watching for His coming is an important part of our daily walking, working and waiting on the Lord.

In Psalm 27:14 we are encouraged with the words: "***Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD.***" Having this attitude of complete trust in the Lord and studying His Word every day and faithfully witnessing of Him, we can know that our waiting on His will, will not be in vain. "***But our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.***" (*Philippians 3:20, HCSB*) The future Antichrist will encourage the world to forget about the God of the Bible and trust him to bring all regions together in global harmony. It is unfortunate that America is leading the way of abandoning the God of the Bible through the encouragement of many false prophets in churches and denominations across the land.



However, believers today do not need to be anxious but should rest in the Lord while being prayerful, dynamic and engaged witnesses of biblical truth in an age of apostasy and deception. We need true biblical Christian leaders in these days more than ever! Ezekiel, speaking to the Jews in exile in Babylon sought to be a watchman for God's people. He faithfully answered God's call to remind God's people of the God they were to serve in truth. In one section of Ezekiel he tells the parable of a great eagle. (Ezekiel 17) Many have seen

America in this parable. The great eagle actually speaks of Babylon, but America is closely aligned with the religious and political aspirations of both the past and future Babylon. (Revelation 17 and 18) Quoting from my new book "**Fearless Faith,**" we can see the clear analogy and serious warning that Ezekiel gives for nations like America today:

Many liken this parable to America. It is a fitting analogy! America's leaders are often rebellious against God and disobedient to His Word. They look for clever ways to advance their political ideals and humanistic and Socialistic philosophies which reject God. Many of those in the ecumenical movements in America support this. These are the false prophets. Rejecting God, they tend to be tolerant of religions that oppose the teachings of the Bible. They, and those who follow them, invite God's discipline upon America. Bible believing and conservative Christians and Jews are vulnerable to persecution, and marginalization. This is the condition that America is in now. Because America is historically a haven for the Jew and a supporter of Israel, God will hold us especially accountable for our actions. America, like Judah, has had the benefit of great spiritual and material privilege. And, like Judah, America has squandered these privileges by supporting leaders and prophets who have led us away from God.

This parable that Ezekiel gives to the Jewish exiles in Babylon also has an important personal application: Often, we do not like to stay in an uncomfortable spot. We try on our own to get out from under the consequences for our own unwise actions. But, it is better to wait on God and to yield to whatever He has in mind for us. We can take action, but only at His direction. The most important thing is to prayerfully listen to God through His Word and to be sensitive and surrendered to the promptings of His Spirit. (Fearless Faith, A Study in the Prophecies and Precepts of Ezekiel, p. 106)



The Capital Dome with surrounding scaffolding for repair of damaged and structural weakness is analogous in appearance and inherent weakness to the original tower of Babel in the Bible. Departing from God, any nation will fall, along with its proud monuments. (Isaiah 9:9-11; Revelation 18:9-10)

As with any difficulty facing us today, the best approach is to face the problem as it is and not how we want it to be. There is a desperate need for bold and biblical leaders! There are prophets in our day, but they are rare! You can speak, but let your words be consistent with your actions! Even your vote has implications as to how faithful you are walking in the Lord. For example, how can a consistent Christian vote for a leader who is ok with child murder through abortion or a leader who supports homosexual marriage? Being a Christian leader means being truthful which may even offend people that might be in a position to do you harm. But if you ***Trust in the LORD with all your heart; and lean not unto your own understanding, and in all your ways, if you trust in Him, then He will direct your paths.*** (Proverbs 3:5-6

paraphrased) Today many Christians preachers are afraid to speak the truth and are caving into political correctness. Unfortunately, many of these churches are growing. This means that growing numbers of people are not reading their Bibles but blindly following personalities. This is yet another sign that Satan is preparing the world for the soon arrival of the ultimate false leader, the Antichrist.

While America looks more and more like Babylon, you can still live as a citizen of heaven in the midst of much darkness and shine as a light in a dark place as you wait on God and keep watching for the coming of the Lord. Jesus said:



"Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

(Matthew 5:16, NIV)

Prophecy in Perspective, Copyright, vol. no. 81- January 10, 2015

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