

# Absolute Truth & Prophecy

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NEWSLETTER

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### THEY KNEW NOT GOD – PART I

“...and there arose another generation after them, which knew not the LORD, nor yet the works which he had done for Israel.” (Joshua 2:10)

*It is easy today to be confused, to be fearful, when we look at just what is going on in the world. We live in a world defined by chaos in many spheres; - political, social, cultural, moral, economic, religious. We are a generation that seems to have lost its way. And that comes with consequences. Whenever Israel lost its way God didn't stop loving them. But He did subject them to judgment. Often it was simply the act of letting them reap what they had sown. We may be in that same place today. This short series will attempt to put in perspective the confusing times that we are living through. We will spend time diagnosing the problem and then offer what I believe is the Biblical solution. Hint: It's spelled R-E-P-E-N-T-A-N-C-E !!*

### A CONFUSED & FADING FAITH

“Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?” (Luke 18:8)

“Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times, some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons”. (1Timothy 4:1)

Now in some Biblical translations, the second passage quoted above would be preceded by a heading on it saying ‘The Great Apostasy’. It's talking about an evolving time of preparation before the return of Christ that sets the stage, if you will, for the entrance of the Antichrist. It describes a period of changing spiritual conditions that creates the necessary mindset in the people of the world to accept this ‘man of sin’ as their leader. I would argue that that is just what we are seeing today. There is a growing tendency for increasing numbers of Christians to sprinkle their ‘Christianity’ with doctrines and beliefs taken from other systems; in direct contradiction to orthodox and Biblical Christianity. It might seem harmless, if someone calling themselves Christian dabbles in a little Eastern mysticism or yoga or understands God to really be ‘Energy’. But would we really go that far; - to call such wanderings “doctrines of demons”? If we're going to be biblical, the answer is a most definite yes. The Scriptures take such wanderings seriously indeed. In his second letter to the Corinthians, Paul asks, “**For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: ‘I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people.’ Therefore “Come out from among them And be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you.”** (2Corinthians 6:14-17) A pretty stark warning, indeed! A recent survey by the Pew Forum gives us a hint about just how ‘Professing Christianity’ may have fallen. Here are some of its findings.

According to the survey conducted over the summer, 29% of all Americans say that they've been in touch with the dead. Surprisingly, the number is exactly the same among those who call themselves Christians. Fifteen percent of the general population admit that they've consulted a psychic. The number is 14% for Christians. Now how about that New Age concept that God is energy and is found in everything? Twenty six percent of the public says that they've “Found ‘spiritual energy’ in trees etc”. And even though the Bible teaches the exact opposite, 23% of professing Christians hold to those same beliefs of finding “spiritual energy” in created objects. Paul addresses that issue explicitly in his letter to the Romans. God is always described as being separate from His creation. Further, and most importantly, he points out that it is at its root a moral issue, subject to the judgment of God. “**For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness.**” He says of such, that “**although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise they became fools.**” That refusal to acknowledge the true nature of God takes them inevitably down a road that leads to increasing perversion of God's law as they “**exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator.**” (Romans 1:18, 21-22, 25) ‘Spiritual energy’ in trees, - indeed! Still, orthodox Christianity is taking some hard blows from those that claim to be its adherents.

The spiritual landscape of the West, our nation and the Church is undergoing profound change. First, while over 90% of Americans believe in God, according to a *USA Today* analysis of a 2008 Pew study reveals that about "70% said 'many religions can lead to eternal life,' and 68% said 'there's more than one true way to interpret the teachings of my religion.'" What we're actually witnessing is something I've referred to in the past as 'Cafeteria Christianity', but which is more properly called syncretism. That refers to nothing more than the picking and choosing of beliefs and doctrines from a menu offered by the world's most popular religions or sometimes even our own fertile imaginations. It gives us such anomalies as the fact that 26% of Catholics and 21% of Protestants believe in reincarnation, - no matter what the Bible teaches. Many are adopting Eastern and New Age beliefs and practices and just attaching them to rather confused and misunderstood belief systems painted with a veneer of Christianity. About two-thirds of Americans admit to grabbing elements of these philosophies. Some are even moving away from labeling themselves as Christian. That number has dropped about 11% over a generation.<sup>1 2 3</sup>

It's no wonder, with the forces that have set out to influence the culture. Hyper-tolerance is the byword of the age. There is no moral / religious system that is not to be tolerated, or even celebrated, save one that champions an exclusive allegiance to the God of the Bible. Some of this influence is being orchestrated by a powerful and socially /spiritually liberal media that advances a universalist agenda based on an individual and relative morality. One of the most powerful and influential agents of this new spirituality is Oprah Winfrey. Millions of Christians are among her daily audience and they are being fed a menu of heresy and New Age concepts along with an empty assurance of Oprah's nominal adherence to a form of Christianity that does not exist in the Scriptures. The mantra is: *There are many paths to God. There is no sin. My mind is part of God therefore - I am holy, and - My holiness is my salvation, so - My salvation comes from me!* The Queen of Daytime promotes the idea that "God is a feeling experience, not a believing experience."<sup>4</sup> New Age author Marianne Williamson hosts a show on the Oprah Radio Sirius satellite radio channel. The channel promotes the study A Course in Miracles, which alleges to be 'new revelation' from Jesus Himself. Here is a quote from the teacher's manual for the course. "The name of Jesus Christ as such is but a symbol. But it stands for love that is not of this world. It is a symbol that is safely used as a replacement for the many names of all the gods to which you pray."<sup>5</sup> Other lessons include: "God is everything I see", and the inherently blasphemous "I am the light of the world" and "My salvation comes from me."<sup>6</sup> All is permitted in a world without objective moral Truth.

This is in effect a call for the general unification of everything. And that is the natural outgrowth of our the new global ethic that is sweeping the planet. Since the onset of Darwinism and the state has been increasingly assuming power once exercised by other spheres, in such areas as the family, education, the handling of the poor etc. Add to that the death of objective moral Truth that has accompanied this modern & post-modern age. In Hegelian terms, this has resulted in the 'worship of the state'. As Nietzsche put it, without Truth there is only power. [Since its onset, this philosophy has resulted in 170 million deaths. Quite the monument to Total Government!<sup>7</sup>] What drives this is the notion of 'The State as Savior'. The State will provide all. The problems we face though are bigger than nations and so the natural and logical conclusion is that the movement ends up in a gathering momentum for World Government. The Nation State is not big enough to 'do' all that needs to be done: Therefore we need a Global State.<sup>8</sup> So we see the Global Climate Summit in Copenhagen designing and longing for the architecture of global governance to be written into 'enforceable' treaty form: And we see the Parliament of World Religions meeting at the same time in Australia, offering their "messages of support" for the same goals. Theirs is a mission to bring forth a harmony among the planet's various faith traditions, that - whether consciously or not - is blazing the path toward the prophesied One World Religion of the Antichrist.<sup>9</sup>

The sadness of it all is the lost-ness of which it all speaks. This is a generation, - sometimes spiritual, - sometimes seeking, - but without the resolve to do what is truly necessary; - to take itself off the throne and surrender all to the God that loves them enough to offer the REAL TRUTH and True Peace & the Love of a SAVIOR. They search for a god - but only want one that will justify them - created in their own image. This is truly a generation lost. A generation **"which knew not the LORD!"**

## **THIS IS WHAT IT'S ABOUT**

Rev Randy Smith

**"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6)**

**"Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us." (Matthew 1:23)**

For many people Christmas is the only time of the year when "religion" becomes a reality. And even that is rapidly becoming less and less. The public school system now calls Christmas vacation "winter break" and Easter has become "spring break". How far and how quickly we have drifted and forgotten what these Holidays represent.

Let's take a look at Christmas. For many people Christmas has become a party event with the idea of exchanging or giving gifts without knowing why. Throughout the Old Testament there are more than 300 prophecies concerning the coming of a Savior for mankind. They have all been fulfilled. That is pretty incredible in itself. The first one of these prophecies is found in the first book of the Bible. Genesis 3:15 reads, **"And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."** What makes this amazing is that way back in the Garden, - even at the Creation, - this plan was already in the heart and mind of God. Revelation 13:8 explains, **"And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world."** Jesus was the Lamb slain before the world was! And what makes this even more incredible is that these prophecies tell us exactly when, where, and how the Savior would come. There are no errors or contradictions in any of the prophecies. They were all perfectly fulfilled!

Just imagine, at the appointed time, Jesus stepped out of eternity into time! Galatians 4:4-5: **"But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons."** **"Born of a woman, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son"** Isn't that what the prophet Isaiah said? **"For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given."** (Isaiah 9:6) Look at the names He is given: **"Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace"**, and most important **"Immanuel"**, God with us. All, because an obedient handmaiden submitted to the Lord! Luke 1:38 **"And Mary said, 'Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to your word'. And the angel departed from her."** That's how the prophecy found in Isaiah 7:14 was fulfilled. **"Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."** Mighty God becoming flesh! This was the same God that breathed the very universe into existence! **"By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth."** (Psalm 33:6) (KJV) The God that breathed His breath into a dirt pile - gave it life. **"The spirit of God has made me, and the breath of the Almighty has given me life."** (Job 33:4) (ASV) So, our marvelously-designed bodies became flesh. Just think about your body for a minute. We each have 75 trillion cells and enough DNA that if it were stretched out it could make 178,000 trips to the moon and back. This awesome God became man in the form of a baby. God Himself laid in the manger that night in Bethlehem. There is a lot to think about in these few sentences, so let us end with this, Dec.25th do you desire presents or His Presence? This poem kind of sums it up:

*'Twas the night before Christmas and all through the earth,  
Creation was longing for the Savior's birth,  
The prophetic word hung firmly, in the portals of time,  
About to come forth in a baby sublime.  
The angels all gathered round the glorious throne,  
as visions of redemption brilliantly shone  
Our Father in heaven with His Son by His side,  
Said, "It's the appointed time now go and abide".  
There was thunder through the heavens as the Godhead spoke,  
Now is the time to bring mankind their hope.  
The windows of heaven opened wide that day,  
as the seed from above in a manger lay.  
The stars shone brightly on that old rugged inn,  
the way of redemption will now begin.  
When what to man's wondering eye should appear,  
but a wondrous babe that would take all our fear.  
As the child grew older as an obedient Son,  
Prophecy echoed, "He's the One!"  
Now hurting, now searching, now sinner and saint,  
Come to this Child without restraint.  
From the north and the south and the east and the west,  
Come, come to Jesus and find your rest!  
His countenance marred, He was beaten and bruised,  
This God-man sacrifice, God's only Son used.  
Between two thieves He was hung on a cross,  
In order that man would no longer be lost.  
Three days in a tomb this Jesus did lay,  
But O Hallelujah! He rose up in power to lead the way!  
He now rules and reigns with the Father above,  
touching our hearts with unconditional love.  
He sent us His Spirit, within us to abide,  
that with victory and joy we'll walk by his side.  
Come to this Savior, Come to this King,  
Let Him give you the best gift, the gift of life,  
And a new song to sing.*

Pastor Randy Smith, My Father's House, Elma, NY

## **YADAS**

**They're At It Again** – Back on November 17<sup>th</sup> Air Tran Flight 297 was scheduled to fly from Atlanta to Houston. Thirteen Muslims in traditional attire boarded, and seated themselves around the plane. As the aircraft was preparing to take off, and the flight attendants began their spiel, - several began a "deliberate and obvious" disturbance, by insisting on using cell phones, cameras and shouting aggressively in Arabic. At least ten of them left their seats at the same time. The plane went back to the terminal, where the thirteen were "escorted from the aircraft". After interrogation, ten were allowed to re-board. Traumatized, the flight crew and some passengers left. Doug Hagmann of Northeast Intelligence

quotes one security official as saying, “ This was a deliberate, well planned attempt to disrupt a domestic flight that was organized in advance”. Back in 2006 a similar incident occurred and legal action was taken – not against the Muslim ‘disturbers’ – but against passengers that reported the action.<sup>10</sup>

**Climate Walkout** – African nations staged protest ‘walkout’ at the Copenhagen Climate Summit as they ostensibly sought ‘binding emissions reductions’ from the industrialized powers.<sup>11</sup> But there may be more to it. Prison Planet’s Paul Joseph Watson reports the action was triggered when “poorer countries learned of the globalist’s neo-colonial agenda”, in a leaked story. The plan was to force developing countries to take “green loans” from the International Monetary Fund as well as adopt cuts in CO2 emissions that would be financially crippling. The IMF has been known to force their globalist will on poorer countries in the past. Watson writes: “In what amounts to little more than modern day colonialism, debt forgiveness requires countries to sell their health, education, electric, water and other public services to globalist corporations.”<sup>12</sup> Interesting too, in this context are the revelations of a 1991 UN Policy Paper that outlined a 35 year strategy to transfer First World wealth to the Third World, stabilize populations and fundamentally change global structures by implementing a de-facto world government, financed by what would start as a small – but increasing – international tax. The process would entail reducing the standard of living in the US and Europe – in the name of ‘Economic Sustainability’. The envisioned global government would extend its control even to the operation of culture and the physical make-up of urban areas in the fading nation-states.<sup>13</sup> Creepy!

**British Headline** – “To Hell With the Science?! Tony Blair: ‘World must take action on climate change even if the science is not correct’”<sup>14</sup> No explanation needed.

**Iran’s Nuclear Trigger** – The London Times reports that Asian sources have confirmed that Iran has been busy working on a ‘neutron initiator’. This can best be described as the component that triggers an explosion in an atomic bomb. Of course that’s exactly what’s needed by any state that’s pursuing a ‘peaceful nuclear energy program’.<sup>15</sup>

**Tehran: Trolling For Allies** – Iran’s Defense Minister Ahmad Vahidi, - who expects an attack by the Israelis within a month, - headed to Damascus with large contingent of military brass, to solidify Syria’s status as Iran’s ally. He said, “The countdown for war is coming close to its end and we must get our strategic partnership in shape ahead of time.” To that end he is attempting to get the Syrians to commit to joint military action against Israel – if and when a strike against the Iranian nuclear facilities materializes. The Syrians have offered only half-hearted assurances thus far saying that an attack on Iran would be considered an attack on Syria and warrant a “commensurate” response.<sup>16</sup>

**Turkey Says ‘No!’** – The Turks have warned that their airspace is off limits to Israel in any attack against Iran. Prime Minister Erdogan warned that their response to Israel would resemble an “earthquake”.<sup>17</sup>

**Obama Supports Jerusalem Giveaway ?** – According to PA officials, the administration has assured Palestinians that they will soon be given the West Bank for a state of their own. According to Aaron Klein of World Net Daily, they were told that “Obama will soon offer the Palestinians a public pledge that a Palestinian state will encompass most of the West Bank and eastern Jerusalem.” An EU draft document supports the division of the Holy City with East Jerusalem and control of the Temple Mount going to the Palestinians. The administration has not taken issue with that proposal.<sup>18</sup>

**RAND Calls For National Police Force** – The RAND Corporation, a very ‘connected’ and influential think tank, is calling for the establishment of a nationalized, militarized, “Stability Police Force” for use in “crowd and riot control” and against “organized criminal groups”, - [you know like abortion opponents, 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment guys and returning veterans].<sup>19</sup>

**Protecting Who From Whom ?** – Winchester, the arms manufacturer, has signed a contract to supply up to 200 million rounds of ammunition to the Homeland Security Department. [*Now I feel more secure! Don’t you ?*]<sup>20</sup>

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## **WANT TO KNOW MORE?**

**Want to get a deeper understanding of what you’re reading? If you have any issues or questions you’d like us to address – or if you’d like this Newsletter’s author, Rob Palaszewski, to come and speak to your church or organization please contact us at [rob@atpministry.com](mailto:rob@atpministry.com)**

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- <sup>1</sup> Cathy Lynn Grossman, More U.S. Christians mix in 'Eastern,' New Age beliefs, USA Today, December 10, 2009
  - <sup>2</sup> More Americans Believe in the Devil, Hell and Angels than in Darwin's Theory of Evolution, Harris Interactive Poll, December 10, 2008
  - <sup>3</sup> American Religious Identification Survey, March 2009
  - <sup>4</sup> Church of Oprah Exposed, [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JW4LLwkgmqA&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JW4LLwkgmqA&feature=player_embedded), viewed December 14, 2009
  - <sup>5</sup> A Course in Miracles/Manual for Teachers/Does Jesus Have a Special Place in Healing?, Section 22 A Course in Miracles: Manual for Teachers, accessed December 14, 2009
  - <sup>6</sup> "Oprah and Friends" to teach course on New Age Christ, Warren Smith, November 2007
  - <sup>7</sup> RJ Rummel, Death by Government, quoted by Del Tackett, The Truth Project, Focus on the Family, Lesson 9
  - <sup>8</sup> Del Tackett, The Truth Project, Focus on the Family, Lesson 9
  - <sup>9</sup> Climate change can unite religions, The Jewish Chronicle, December 10, 2009
  - <sup>10</sup> Douglas J Hagmann, Security incident aboard Air Tran Flight 297 suggests terror "Dry Run", Northeast Intelligence, December 3, 2009
  - <sup>11</sup> African Nations Lead a 'Walkout' at Copenhagen, Tree Hugger .Com, December 14, 2009
  - <sup>12</sup> Paul Joseph Watson, The Real Reason Behind The Copenhagen Walk-Out, Prison Planet, December 14, 2009
  - <sup>13</sup> Jurriaan Maessen, Shocking 1991 UN Policy Paper Describes the Exact Purpose and Trajectory of Current Copenhagen Treaty, Blacklisted News, December 10, 2009
  - <sup>14</sup> To Hell With the Science?! Tony Blair: 'World must take action on climate change even if the science is not correct', London Telegraph, December 14, 2009
  - <sup>15</sup> Secret document exposes Iran's nuclear trigger, London Times, December 14, 2009
  - <sup>16</sup> If attacked, Iran wants Syria to hit back at Israel. Damascus hedges, DEBKAFfile, December 10, 2009
  - <sup>17</sup> Turkey warns IAF against using airspace, Jerusalem Post, December 10, 2009
  - <sup>18</sup> Aaron Klein, Obama administration 'assures Jewish evacuation', World Net Daily, December 10, 2009
  - <sup>19</sup> William Grigg, RAND Corporation Blueprint for Militarized "Stability Police Force", Lew Rockwell, December 10, 2009
  - <sup>20</sup> Winchester to Deliver 200 Million 40-Cal. Rounds to Homeland Security, Gun Reports, August 22, 2009