

The message they don't want you to hear



World events today are taking a terrible turn. People are afraid of what is coming on the earth and looking for answers to the problems now facing the whole world. There is one group of people who have the answer – and it is found in the Bible. But those who are members of faiths that are based on the Bible, Judaism and Christianity, often know nothing about what it says about prophecy. One of the most common things people say after receiving this magazine is 'We never hear anything about Bible prophecy in our church / synagogue.' Bible prophecy has become the message they don't want you to hear.

This is curious because about 25% of the Bible is made up of prophecies. Reasons to Believe website writes: 'Unique among all books ever written, the Bible accurately foretells specific events in detail, many years, sometimes centuries, before they occur. Approximately 2,500 prophecies appear in the pages of the Bible, about 2,000 of which already have been fulfilled to the letter—no errors. Since the probability for any

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one of these prophecies having been fulfilled by chance averages less than one in ten (figured very conservatively) and since the prophecies are for the most part independent of one another, the odds for all these prophecies having been fulfilled by chance without error is less than one in 102000 (that is 1 with 2,000 zeros written after it)! <https://reasons.org>

These prophecies are found in the Hebrew scriptures (Old Testament) and in the New Testament. The prophecies of the Old Testament deal with the Day of the Lord (Day of Judgement), including passages which focus on the restoration of the land of Israel, the conflict over Jerusalem and the coming of the Messiah. The Hebrew prophets give two portraits of the Messiah. Firstly He comes as the Suffering Servant of the Lord, bearing the sins of the world upon Himself in order to save lost humanity (Isaiah 53). Secondly He comes in power and glory to judge the world in righteousness and set up the Messianic kingdom (Isaiah 2:1-4, 11, Zechariah 14).

The New Testament shows how Jesus / Yeshua (Hebrew name for Jesus) came as the Suffering Servant of the Lord, fulfilling prophecies like Isaiah 53 and Psalm 22, by dying on the cross as the sacrifice for the sin of the world and rising again from the dead to give forgiveness of sin and eternal life in the kingdom of God for those who repent and believe the Gospel. Jesus also said 'I will come again' (John 14:3) and gave the signs that will precede His Second Coming, principally in the Olivet Discourse (Matthew 24, Mark 13, Luke 21). There is also teaching on this

subject in the epistles (1 Thessalonians 4-5, 2 Thessalonians 2, 2 Timothy 3-4, 2 Peter 3) and in the Book of Revelation.

Prophecies of events that have already happened were fulfilled to the letter. The prophecies of future events concerning the end of days will likewise be fulfilled as written, and indeed are beginning to be fulfilled by current events. These prophecies were given by God in order that we might understand the times we live in and be guided into the truth by studying the Word of God and being led by the Holy Spirit.

Of course there are problems with this subject. People have some crazy ideas about the subject which just put people off. Some give specific prophecies of events to come, including the date of the second coming, something Jesus told us not to do. Speaking of His Second Coming, Jesus said: 'Of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only', Matthew 24:36. The interpretation of prophetic books like Daniel and Revelation can become very complex and academic and beyond the understanding of the average person and so they give up trying to make sense of it all.

Nevertheless God meant prophecy to be understood and to be a guiding light to people living in dark times. Joe Hawkins writes on Prophecy News Watch site:

'God does not reveal the future to confuse His people. Throughout Scripture, prophecy functions as preparation, warning, and comfort. When God speaks about what is coming, He does

so because He wants His people to be ready, not rattled. Prophecy provides a framework for interpreting the times. Amos wrote, "Surely the Lord God does nothing, unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets" (Amos 3:7). Jesus told His disciples, "See, I have told you beforehand" (Matthew 24:25). Later He added, "These things I have told you before they come, that when they do come to pass, you may believe" (John 14:29). Peter described the prophetic word as "a light that shines in a dark place" (2 Peter 1:19). Prophecy provides a framework for interpreting the times.'

A brief guide to end time events

First of all we need to know that Jesus made a clear promise that He will come again. He also said that because of this His disciples should not be anxious or dismayed at bad things happening on the earth. In His last meeting with the disciples before He went to the cross, He said to them:

'Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.' John 14:1-3.

He told the disciples what to expect in the days before His return. The disciples ask Him, 'What shall be the sign of your coming and the end of the age?' Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed

that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ / Messiah,' and will deceive many. And you will hear of wars and rumours of wars. See that you are not alarmed, for this must take place, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are but the beginning of the birth pains (or sorrows)." Matthew 24:3-4.

The first sign speaks of spiritual deception bringing false christs and prophets. These may claim to be representing God and Jesus but will be deceivers leading people astray. The way to resist the counterfeit will be to know how to recognise the genuine article, by being familiar with the truth of God. This is revealed in the word of God through the Holy Spirit who points us to the true Lord Jesus Christ as the one Saviour and Mediator between God and humanity:

'God wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all people.' 1 Timothy 2:5.

Jesus then tells us that a sign of the end times will be an increase in wars, famines and natural disasters. This is happening now, so we are now living in the time Jesus called 'the beginning of the birth pains'. The word 'birth pains' (odin in Greek) refers to the pains of a woman in labour, another phrase often used in connection with prophetic events and the end of days (see Isaiah 21:3, Jeremiah

30.6, 1 Thessalonians 5.3, Revelation 12.2). When a woman is giving birth to a child, labour pains (contractions) become more intense in a process which cannot be reversed once it has begun. Though the process is painful, once the child is born (if it is in good circumstances), the woman rejoices that she has brought new life into the world (John 16.21).

Applying this sequence of events to the second coming of Jesus Christ, we find that there will be painful events taking place which will become more and more intense the nearer we get to the second coming. Once this process has begun it will not be reversed until the Lord returns. When He comes those who believe in the Lord and are looking for His return will forget the pain of the previous time for joy that He has returned to save the world.

The passage here speaks of the beginning of sorrows. In Luke's Gospel Jesus says concerning the events of His return, 'When you see these things begin to happen look up and lift up your heads for your redemption draws near.' By telling us the things which are prophesied for the end times before they happen, God is preparing His people for what is to come and showing us that there is a hopeful conclusion to all of this. Yes there will be wars, famines and disasters, along with other signs, persecution of true believers taking place, lawlessness and people losing faith and love for God. We won't be able to stop these things from happening or reverse the process. Once it has begun it will increase in intensity until the climax which is the return of the Messiah.

At the same time there is good news for those who will receive it. Jesus said, 'This Gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all nations and then the end will come.' Matthew 24.14. The Gospel message is good news, whatever our circumstances. It tells us that the Messiah Jesus died for our sins, and rose from the dead to give forgiveness of sin and eternal salvation to all who will receive it. The same Jesus who died once for our sins will return a second time to judge the world in righteousness according to how we have responded to the Gospel. Those who understand this have reason to be confident and hopeful, knowing that 'our redemption draws near.' Jesus is coming again and He will save all who put their trust in Him. He is preparing a glorious future for us in His eternal kingdom (John 14.1-3).

The fact that the message will be preached in the last days does not mean that everyone will receive it. One of the delusions of contemporary Christianity is the 'kingdom and dominion' teaching that there will be a great end time revival which will convert the world to Christianity before Jesus can return. The prophetic scriptures imply the opposite, that the majority of people in the world will turn to antichrist, suppress the truth and persecute true Christians before Jesus returns.

The Great Tribulation

In Matthew 24 Jesus speaks of a time of unique trouble known as the Great Tribulation at the end of days. At this time the world will face a crisis of such enormous proportions that it will

threaten to wipe out all life on earth. Jesus described it like this: 'For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.' Matthew 24.21-22.

Prophecies in Daniel and Revelation indicate that this will be a seven year period, divided into two phases of three and a half years each. This period of intense trouble before the Day of the LORD is also the subject of a number of prophetic passages in the Old Testament (Isaiah 24, Jeremiah 30, Ezekiel 38-9, Daniel 12, Joel 2-3, Zephaniah, Zechariah 12-14)

The world will come under the power of a world leader known as the Beast or Antichrist. To begin with he will offer peace and safety to a world terrified by the events taking place. The peace he offers will turn out to be a deception and lead to more wars. Revelation 6, the famous 'Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse' passage, describes a sequence of events, the rider on the white horse riding out 'conquering and to conquer', followed by the red horse bringing war, the black horse bringing famine and the pale horse bringing mass death.

Despite the evil of this time there will be a great number of people who will come to faith in Jesus as Saviour and Lord. 144,000 Jewish people specially sealed by God will receive the revelation that Jesus is the Messiah and, through their witness 'a great multitude which no one could number of all nations, tribes, peoples

and tongues' will be saved (Revelation 7). Many of these will be martyred for their faith. They will then be resurrected after Jesus returns to the earth. Revelation 20.4.

In the first half of the tribulation period the Beast or the Antichrist will rise to power. He will be possessed and energised by the Devil. Half way through the seven-year tribulation period he will experience a counterfeit death and resurrection which will cause people to worship him as god. The False Prophet will perform supernatural signs and set up an image of the beast which people will be told to worship. He will give those who submit to the Mark of the Beast, a number, which will give them the ability to buy and sell (666). Current developments in technology and finance connected to Digital IDs and Central Bank Digital Currency are preparing the way for this system to come into being. Those who refuse to worship the image will not receive the number and so will not be able to buy and sell. You can read about this in Revelation chapter 13.

Setting up the image of the beast will cause God's judgements to fall on the earth. Those who receive the mark will be eternally damned. If you are reading this during the tribulation period, know that you must not take the mark. It is better to trust in Jesus and face martyrdom than take the mark of the beast and go to hell.

Finally Satan will gather the nations together to Armageddon, the last battle which will take place in Israel and bring Jesus back to the earth (Revelation 16.12-19). Jesus will then return as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. He will utterly defeat the

armies of the beast and the false prophet, who will then be thrown into hell. Satan will be bound in the abyss for 1000 years, during which time he will be unable to deceive the nations (Revelation 20.1-3).

The Rapture Question

One of the reasons why many churches want to avoid the subject of the second coming is that it can create division over different interpretations of scripture, in particular the question of the time of the event known as the rapture.

Jesus said there is a day coming when a large number of people will suddenly be taken out of the world:

'I tell you on that night two people will be in one bed; one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding grain together; one will be taken and the other left. Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left.' Luke 17.34-36.

Jesus compares this event to the days of Noah, when the Flood came, and the days of Lot when God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah. Both events happened suddenly when life was going on as normal when people were doing ordinary things like eating and drinking, buying and selling, building and planting. Then God rescued His people Noah and his family and Lot and members of his family. So it will be at this time. Life will be going on as normal and suddenly God will take His people out of the world.

In 1 Thessalonians 4.16-17, Paul describes it like this: *'For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of*

God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.'

The people who will be caught up to meet the Lord are those who believe that the Lord Jesus died for our sins and rose again from the dead. This event is known as the rapture of the church. The word 'rapture' is taken from the Latin form of the Greek word 'harpazo' used in 1 Thessalonians 4.17 for 'caught up'. To be a part of this event you must repent of your sin now and accept Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord.

We will then experience the most dramatic life-changing event of all time. We will receive new resurrection bodies which will never again experience sin, sickness and death (1 Corinthians 15.50-58). We will meet the Lord Jesus in the air and He will take us to heaven. From this time onwards, we will be forever in His presence.

We will pass before the judgement seat of Christ where our works done on earth will be judged. *'For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.'* 2 Corinthians 5.10. This judgement will be for reward not for heaven or hell.

We will attend the wonderful event known as the 'Marriage Supper of the Lamb' (Revelation 19.6-10) where the Lord and all those who have been saved will be present. For those who have this

hope based on a living faith in Jesus as Saviour and Lord there is a future which is so wonderful that no words can describe it: *'Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.'* 1 Corinthians 2.9.

Those taken in the rapture of the church, along with those who died in Christ between the Day of Pentecost and the rapture, will return with Jesus Christ in glorified bodies and be part of the glorious time when Jesus reigns on earth in the Millennial kingdom and then live forever in the new heavens and new earth.

When does the rapture happen?

People who believe these scriptures have different views about whether the rapture of the church happens before, in the middle or at the end of the seven-year tribulation period. The pre-tribulation view is that the rapture comes before the tribulation. The tribulation is the time of God's wrath on the earth and believers will be saved from wrath. Those who believe in Jesus will be delivered from this time. People who hold this view point out that the prophecies teach that this event is imminent and could happen at any time, which would not be the case if it happens at the end of the tribulation. The mid-tribulation view is that the rapture happens half way through the seven-year period, after the Antichrist has risen to power (3½ years before the return of Jesus Christ to the earth). The post-tribulation view is that the rapture happens at the same time

as the second coming of Christ to the earth and that the church will be present for the events of the great tribulation as described in the book of Revelation.

I believe there is good reason to take the view that the rapture happens before the tribulation; however, I also understand why people take opposing views. According to the pre-tribulation view, the second coming is indeed the 'blessed hope' of the church (Titus 2.13) – when Jesus will come and take all those who believe in Him to Himself and be with us for ever more (1 Thessalonians 4.16-18). The pre-tribulation view means that Jesus could come at any time and therefore we must be ready now to meet Him either in the rapture or the hour of our death. This makes sense of Jesus' word, *'Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'* Matthew 24.41-44.

Whatever the time of the rapture is, we must be ready for really hard times to come in which we may suffer and die for our faith. We also have a reason to hope for a much better future coming when Jesus returns. It is important that we are ready to meet the Lord by accepting Jesus now as Saviour and Lord. We should also use the time that remains to get the message of the Gospel out to our lost and dying world.

The Millennium and the new heavens and new earth

When Jesus returns to the earth He will fulfil the words of Revelation 11.15: 'The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ (Messiah), and He shall reign for ever and ever!'

Jesus will return in person this time as King of kings with all the power of God. He will rule the world for 1000 years from a restored Jerusalem during a wonderful period known as the Millennium or Messianic Kingdom. Satan will be confined in 'the abyss' and be unable to influence the nations (Revelation 20.1-3). This age will be free from war and the negative aspects of modern life and technology. People will live in peaceful communities with the Lord present. Evil will be restrained and there will be plenty for all. This will be the fulfilment of the vision of the Hebrew prophets:

'For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the Word of the Lord from Jerusalem. They shall beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation shall not lift up sword against nation neither shall they learn war any more.' Isaiah 2.3-4. 'The earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.' Isaiah 11.9.

At the end of the Millennium, Satan will be released for a short while. He will gather together those born during the Millennium who reject Jesus and resent having to live under His rule. Jesus will swiftly crush this last act of rebellion by Satan and cast him

into hell. Then there will be the final Great White Throne judgement: And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire. Revelation 20.15.

This will be the end of the world, when the permanent division between the lost in hell and the saved in heaven will be sealed. Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Revelation 21.1.

All those who are saved will then live in the presence of God forever in the New Jerusalem: 'Then I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, 'Behold the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain for the former things have passed away.' Revelation 21.2-4.

So be ready now for the Lord's return and whatever happens in this world, look up and lift up your heads for your redemption draws near.

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works. Titus 2.11-14.

Thoughts on the War in the Gulf The Prince of Persia



In this article we look at some of the political forces operating behind the scenes in the war in the Gulf and ask questions about where it is going. The article is written on 28 March and is accurate up to that time, but things in a war situation can change rapidly so bear that in mind as you read it. We will look at certain things that are happening that tie in with the prophecies in the Bible in relation to Persia (Iran) and Israel.

What is behind the Iranian Revolution?

The roots of the Islamic Revolution in 1979 lay in the overthrow of Iran's Premier Mossadeq in 1953, in a coup which orchestrated by the CIA, backed by US, British and French interests who had a controlling influence in Iran's oil

shares. Following the event of 1953, Shah Reza Pahlavi ruled with the backing of the west, using Iran's oil wealth to create a prosperous and socially liberal society. Under the Shah's White Revolution, women gained suffrage, education, and legal rights, while Western-style fashion, mixed-gender education, and secularism were encouraged. Tehran featured a bustling nightlife, cinema, and western fashion, creating a modern, secular image, which was resented by conservative Muslim forces.

Many Muslims were quite nominal in their faith and life under the Shah was generally tolerant of religious minorities. Jews, Christians, and Zoroastrians, lived in relative peace and held prominent professional roles. Iran maintained a close, and often covert alliance with Israel, characterised

by economic, military, and security cooperation, supplying Israel with oil.

Despite the social liberalisation, the Shah's regime was politically autocratic, utilising surveillance and restricting dissent, backed by the SAVAK secret police force, which contributed to his downfall. A number of Iranians felt manipulated, exploited, and controlled by Western powers, particularly the United States and Britain, in the decades leading up to the 1979 revolution. This deep-seated resentment was a major driver of the popular uprising, with many citizens viewing the Shah as a "puppet" who prioritised Western interests over those of the Iranian people.

The 1979 Iranian Revolution was supported by a broad, diverse coalition, ranging from secular leftists to religious conservatives, united in ending the Shah's rule and Western influence. Key support came from Shia clergy, urban masses, university students, and merchants on the bazaar, all rallying under Ayatollah Khomeini's leadership. Communists and left-wing organisations played a significant role in the 1979 Iranian Revolution's final uprising against the Shah, but ultimately failed to gain power, becoming the targets of a brutal purge by Khomeini's Islamic regime.

After the Revolution Khomeini imposed a strict version of Islam on Iran backed by a virulent hatred of Israel and the West. His ideology was based on an extreme form of Shiite Islam, known as 'Twelver

Shi'a Islam.' According to this belief the 12th Imam is the final, divinely appointed leader (Imam) in a succession of twelve successors to Muhammad. They believe the 12th Imam, Muhammad al-Mahdi, was born in 869 and never died. He went into hiding in Samarra, Iraq, known as the 'occultation'. He occasionally appears to the pious in visions and will reappear in person as the saviour figure known as the Mahdi, alongside Isa (the Muslim Jesus) to restore justice and peace to a world filled with tyranny. He will defeat one known as the Dajjal, a kind of Islamic antichrist figure.

Ayatollah Khomeini claimed that the establishment of the Islamic Republic of Iran was conducted under the guidance of the 12th Imam (Imam Mahdi). He formulated the doctrine of Velayat-e Faqih (Guardianship of the Jurist), which said that during the 12th Imam's absence, a 'just and pious jurist' (himself) should rule to prepare for the return of the Imam Mahdi. This gives the Supreme Leader authority from Allah to bring to pass their new world order. Khomeini taught that they had to export this revolution, starting in the Arab world and bringing together forces that would prepare for the coming of the Mahdi.

Ayatollah Khomeini's concept of "exporting the Islamic Revolution" aimed to spread Iran's 1979 theological model to other Muslim nations and the world, and ultimately unite them in a global Islamic state. He wanted to drive out western influence from the Islamic world and support "oppressed"

groups trying to do this. He saw Israel as an alien influence in the Islamic world which must be destroyed and made alliances with forces in the Arab nations that agreed with this aim.

The problem they faced in the Arab Muslim world was that Iran is a majority Shi'ite country, while most of the Muslim world is majority Sunni Islam and reject the concept of 'Twelver Shi'a Islam'. However the idea of uniting the Muslim world to remove Israel and US and western influences from the Middle East was also a motivating force in the Sunni Muslim world, particularly those influenced by Islamist groups aiming at Muslim domination through the Islamic Caliphate. Foremost among these is the Muslim Brotherhood, a radical Sunni Muslim organisation that originated in Egypt.

Iranian radicals established a foothold in many Arab countries through backing Hezbollah in Lebanon, Hamas in Gaza, and militia groups in Iraq, the Houthis in Yemen and the Assad regime in Syria. Through these they established their 'axis of resistance' or 'ring of fire' around Israel, supplying these groups with money and weapons aimed at Israel. In places like Lebanon they set up a 'state within the state' ruled by Hezbollah and backed by Iranian paramilitary forces. This process was extremely damaging to Arab societies, a significant source of strife and conflict to Lebanon, Syria, Yemen and Iraq. For this reason Sunni majority countries like Saudi Arabia, Jordan, the Gulf States

and Egypt have resisted and opposed the Iranian influence in the region.

Israel is the main victim of Iran's aggression, suffering bombardment with missiles from Iranian backed terrorists in Gaza, Lebanon and Yemen. On October 7th 2023 Hamas backed by Iran launched the massacre of Israelis that was the starting point of the current war. In the process of successfully fighting back against the terrorists, sadly a great deal of death and destruction came to Gaza and Lebanon, although the IDF tried to prevent as many civilian casualties as they could.

This has mobilised world wide opposition to the Jewish state. In western cities the slogan 'From the River to the Sea Palestine shall be free' and calls to 'globalise the Intifada' have become a rallying cries for the opposition to Israel. For those who understand what they are saying this is a call for the replacement of Israel with a Palestinian State from which Jews would be expelled or subject to Muslim rule, as was the original aim of the PLO according to the Palestinian Covenant.

After all that they have done in developing the land of Israel, and making it a homeland for Jewish people from around the world, Israelis do not want to be destroyed. They have taken action to defend themselves. Israelis have made the desert bloom, developed the most successful form of agriculture in barren lands the world has ever seen and exported this technology around the world, particularly benefitting

countries in Africa. They have pioneered new medical techniques and hi tech advances which are beneficial to nations around the world. They have also created a powerful army, the Israel Defence Force, which has successfully fought off attempts to invade and destroy Israel on several occasions. It is a democratic society which has given human rights to all their citizens, with opportunity for full participation of Israeli Arabs in society. Arabs are in the Knesset, the judiciary and work as doctors in hospitals. There is no Apartheid as Israel's enemies say. There are tensions in the West Bank (Judea and Samaria) and some harmful actions by Jewish settlers, as well as support for terrorism from Palestinians. These issues need to be resolved peacefully. Israel is not perfect just as other nations are not perfect.

By contrast the fruit of the Islamic regime in Iran is death and hatred, oppressing its own people and exporting terror and death to the region. They have brought a formerly prosperous country to ruin with a crumbling infrastructure and rampant inflation destroying the economy. They have wasted their wealth on supporting terror groups like Hamas and Hezbollah who have brought nothing but misery to the Arabs and terror to Israel. Many Iranian citizens have expressed opposition to the regime's funding of foreign proxies, chanting "No to Gaza, no to Lebanon, my life for Iran."

The main achievement of the Islamic regime has been to turn the people, especially the youth, away from Islam. Reports indicate that roughly 50,000 out of 75,000 mosques nationwide have

closed as the people distance themselves from the state's enforcement of Islamic practices. There are estimates of as many as one million Iranians turning to Jesus Christ, mostly meeting in secret in house churches.

The present crisis

The present crisis began with the announcement on 23rd November 2025 from Iran's President Pezeshkian that the country is running out of water. Without significant rain Tehran and major cities would have to be evacuated and the population relocated. The water problem is related to climate change, with very high temperatures and low rainfall last year, but it is also the result of chronic mismanagement of water supplies by the government with the Revolutionary Guards bearing most responsibility. They are accused of exploiting their political influence to implement large-scale, unsustainable projects such as dam construction, river diversion, and excessive groundwater extraction.

The economy is in crisis with the Iranian rial trading at around 1.5 million rials to the dollar, causing a collapse of business and trade. While many Iranians were facing severe economic conditions, the ruling elite have made themselves very rich. Mojtiba Khomeini, current supreme leader and son of the late Ayatollah, owns properties in the most expensive part of London worth around \$150 million.

This led to the uprising which began in January 2026 with protesters taking to the streets and for a while taking over

major cities, calling for the end of the Islamic regime. The regime reacted with extreme violence killing as many as 30,000 people and clamping down on dissent with terror unleashed by its Bassij militia and the Revolutionary Guards (IRGC). They are a kind of religious fascist terror organisation independent of the regular army and police, enforcing the will of the Ayatollah and his henchmen.

US President Trump urged Iranian anti-government protesters to "keep protesting", saying "help is on its way". Israeli President Netanyahu urged Iranians to overthrow the regime. On 28 February 2026, US President Trump announced the launch of a joint US-Israeli military operation, dubbed "Epic Fury", against Iran. The aim was to bring an end to Iran's nuclear programme, and its mass production of missiles and to stop it supplying its proxies in the region with money and weapons aimed at Israel. President Trump suggested in a recorded address at the outset of the operation that its broader aim is to bring about regime change in

Iran. Within 24 hours, the attack had resulted in the assassination of Iranian Supreme Leader, Ali Khamenei, along with several of his senior aides, and the destruction of numerous military and security bases and installations.

On March 14th Trump claimed victory, saying he had destroyed Iran's air force, navy, its underground missile silos and nuclear sites and decapitated much of its leadership. He is putting out terms for Iran's unconditional surrender, with a promise to rebuild Iran and make it "economically bigger, better, and stronger than ever before" after it picked "acceptable" new leadership.

The regime rejected his terms and is fighting back with attacks on Israel and Gulf Arab states and the closure of the Strait of Hormuz. The Strait of Hormuz remains one of the world's most important energy choke points, with roughly one-fifth of global oil passing through the narrow channel. It is not just oil and gas that are affected. One third of global fertilisers go through



the strait and disruption of supply at this time that crops need to be planted will affect food supply in many nations. It will also affect supply of aluminium, helium and other materials necessary for businesses around the world, including the production of semi conductors vital for almost all hi tech items that are produced today. If the closure persists this situation will cause a global recession as energy costs go up, supply chains dry up and production of vital goods ceases,

There is a danger that if the war continues for a long time it will cause a meltdown of the world economy and worldwide conditions of social unrest and distress as the price of oil and gas increase dramatically. A news article (19/3/26) predicts what would happen if the price of oil goes up to \$200 a barrel: 'Blackouts. Economic paralysis. Empty supermarket shelves. Petrol and diesel rationing. Riots. As oil prices soar to unprecedented highs, Britain is on the brink of the worst energy crisis in our history. The International energy agency has already described it as the worst ever crisis to hit the oil market. Experts across the political spectrum are warning this is just the beginning. Oil is the lifeblood of the global economy. If it stops flowing, the inevitable effect is no different from what happens to the human body when it haemorrhages, dizziness, collapse, cardiac arrest and death. ... We have worked on the basis that the government will be able to maintain some sort of control throughout. In reality even that assumption might be too optimistic. Unless politicians can keep a grip the chaos ahead could be too appalling to contemplate.'

The House on the Sand

Of course you could question how wise it is to make oil the lifeblood of the world economy. Back in 2004 I wrote a book 'The House built on the sand' (now out of print, but available online), linking the present world situation to Bible's prophecies of a great crisis that will come at the end of this age. The first chapter reads as follows.

"But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro and knowledge shall increase." Daniel 12.4.

The prophecies of Daniel written some 2500 years ago contain information about the 'time of the end', the final period before the event known in the Old Testament as the Day of the Lord and in the New Testament as the Second Coming of Christ. We are all witnesses of the fulfilment of these words of Daniel as we see a huge increase in travel shrinking the world to a global village and the incredible developments of technology in our time, filling our shops and our homes with gadgets and machines that our forefathers had absolutely no concept of.

Two hundred years ago, before the railways came, the fastest anyone could go anywhere in the world was the speed of a horse. The fastest you could send a message anywhere in the world was to give it to someone to carry it from A to B at the speed of a horse. It was the same in the time of Julius Caesar, Alexander the Great and back as far as we can look into history.

Today you can get to other side of the world by jet plane in just over a day, you can speak by phone or communicate by email instantly with someone thousands of miles away. Technology is advancing so fast that today's most advanced computers, mobile phones and a host of other gadgets will be out of date within a few years, if not months. Switch on a computer and open up the Internet and you can tap into an almost infinite source of knowledge on whatever you want to know.

Two hundred years ago as two thousand years ago the majority of people never travelled far from the place they were born, and had little or no idea of other cultures and ideas. Most white people living in Europe had never seen a black person and most black people living in Africa had never seen a white person.

Today travel and communications mean that the world has become a global village and people of all races share living space, ideas, entertainment, sport, music and religion in a way our forefathers could never have imagined.

Two hundred years ago as two thousand years ago if you wanted to build, grow food, go to war or travel, you needed the sweat of human labour with the help of animals like the ox, the horse, the donkey and the camel to accomplish these things.

Today the discovery of coal, oil, gas and nuclear power, means that machines will do the back breaking jobs that our ancestors had to do by human sweat with the help of animals. Trains, cars and

planes will transport us in hours to places that previously it would have taken weeks, months or even years to get to.

All these developments open up many exciting possibilities which our ancestors could only have dreamed about. But there is a downside. Although the labours of the past were much harder and only capable of accomplishing a fraction of what modern machines can do, they had two great advantages. They had no negative impact on the environment. They were entirely renewable. People came and went, animals were strong for a while and then died, but whether they were in Europe or China or anywhere else people and animals were able to reproduce and provide for the next generation to carry on living in the same way as their ancestors had done. They planted seeds from the previous year for the next year's crops, depending on the sun and the rain coming and the cycle of seasons which did not change from year to year. Apart from deserts and high mountains, the basic resources for keeping society going were available wherever you lived in the world.

Today the resources needed to keep our wonderful world going are finite. They are found only in certain places, some of them, especially Middle Eastern oil, in very vulnerable places which right now are passing through a period of instability which could plunge the whole world into sudden chaos.'

The basic theme of my book was that creating a world system dependent on oil is building a house on the

sand. The question is what happens when the oil and gas that are needed to keep the system going runs out? The title is based on Jesus' words in the Sermon on the Mount.

Jesus said: 'Whoever hears these sayings of mine and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house upon the rock; and the wind descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. But everyone who hears these sayings of mine and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand; and the rain descended and the floods came and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.' Jesus speaking in Matthew 7.24-27'

The Coming Storm

I wrote that over 20 years ago. Now we see the storm coming. Prophecy teacher Britt Gillette said, 'We are watching nothing less than an unfolding catastrophe in the Middle East with life altering consequences for everyone on the planet.' Even if the war stops in the next week or two certain things have been set in motion, some of which are potentially irreversible. These things also connect to Bible prophecy.

1) There will be a general state of wars and conflicts in the last days (Matthew 24.7-8). 'For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom and there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of sorrows.' The

phrase 'nation against nation' implies wars within nations (Greek word ethnos from which we have ethnic), over race or religion or warring factions fighting for power within nations. Much of Africa has been plagued with such wars, the worst of which is the Sudan war which has resulted in around 400,000 killed and nearly 25 million affected by famine. 'Kingdom against kingdom' implies blocks of nations in conflict. The Iran war is part of the global conflict between nations led by western democracies, USA, and allies around the world, and the opposing force of dictatorships like Russia, China and Iran. This war also has an economic aspect in the Russia – China BRICS alliance challenging US economic supremacy.

2) This state of general conflict will lead into the great tribulation period, when the four horsemen of the apocalypse will ride out (Revelation 6). This will bring the Antichrist 'conquering and to conquer', followed by war, famine and death. The last battle, Armageddon, will be fought over Jerusalem and will end with the physical return of Jesus Christ (Zechariah 14, Revelation 16 and 19). Jesus will then set up the Messianic kingdom or Millennium, bringing an end to war and injustice (Isaiah 2, Revelation 20).

3) Sensing a coming economic crisis, globalists are working on a new financial system that will involve using AI backed Digital IDs linked to Central Bank Digital Currencies that will monitor every financial transaction people make and block any people who get out of line. Something along these

lines is already operational in China's Credit Score system. This connects to the prophecy of Revelation 13, the famous 666 Mark of the Beast system which will control people's ability to buy and sell (Revelation 13). In the end this system will collapse as prophesied in Revelation 18, the fall of Babylon the Great the world trading system.

4) The scriptures also speak of environmental disaster in the last days. Aspects of this include fish dying in the sea, ships being destroyed and waters become undrinkable. Revelation 8.8-9. At the centre of this war is the control and use of oil and gas. Oil is a major polluter of the environment. Environmental organisations have described the current situation, with numerous tankers trapped in the region, as an "ecological ticking time bomb," where an attack or sinking could result in catastrophic, long-lasting damage to the marine ecosystems. Destroying oil fields and installations also contribute to this disaster.

Already Iran has hit the desalination plant in Bahrain damaging the water supply for the country. The countries around the Gulf rely on desalinated water for their drinking water. Without water, no matter how much money and oil these places have, people won't be able to live there. Iran too is facing a water crisis which has no long term solution and could cause its major cities to become uninhabitable. The Euphrates River that flows through Iraq and Syria is also drying up (Revelation 16).

5) The Bible prophesies the return of the Jewish people to the land of Israel in the latter days and a time of conflict over their status there leading to the last battle and the return of the Messiah to the earth (second coming of Jesus Christ). See Ezekiel 36-38, Zechariah 12-14, Luke 21.24-28. While much of the world is blaming Israel for the crisis in the Middle East, including the war in Gaza and Lebanon, the fact is that all of Israel's wars going back to the War of Independence in 1948 happen because Israel's enemies attack with the intention of destroying the Jewish state. Israel is involved in the present war because of Iran's threat to destroy the state of Israel and its supply of missiles to Israel's enemies.

There are two potential results of this war from Israel's point of view. The Islamic regime's power is broken and a government comes in which drops the death to Israel theme and allows peace plan for Israel to go forward, leading to the seven year covenant of Daniel 9.27. Or the regime is battered but not broken and then joins together with the enemies of Israel in the War of Gog and Magog (Ezekiel 38-9) seeking the destruction of Israel. However whatever the future holds Jeremiah 31.35-36 says 'Thus says the Lord, if the sun moon and stars cease to give light, then shall Israel cease to be a nation before Me forever' (abbreviated).

6) Jeremiah 49.34-39 refers to Elam, the ancient biblical name for the western part of Iran. Scholars point to a historic fulfilment of this prophecy in the days of the Assyrian Empire. However there

remains a possible future fulfilment in last days events when God will break 'the bow of Elam'. The bow is an image used in scripture for military might. In modern terms it could be seen as a picture of missiles and their launchers which are now being destroyed. Verse 36 speaks of the 'outcasts of Elam' being scattered abroad. Around four million Iranians have already left Iran and more are trying to get out now. Verse 37 speaks of disaster coming on its leaders: 'My fierce anger says the LORD.' God has good reason to be angry with the leaders of the Islamic regime, whose hatred of Israel and arming of its adversaries is responsible for much of the recent conflict in the region. They have persecuted Christians, while promoting a false religious system. In verse 38-9 the Lord promises to set up 'My throne in Elam' and bring back its captives, a reference either to some kind of Christian revival in Iran in the last days, or its restoration in the Millennial kingdom.

7) Jesus warned about an increase in false prophets and false christs in the last days. See Matthew 24.5 and 24.24. If you refer back to the origin of Khomeini's Islamic Revolution which we have already looked at in this article it is clearly based on a false prophecy, under the influence of spiritual deception as prophesied for the time of the Antichrist in 2 Thessalonians 2: 'And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.'

The Prince of Persia

Behind all this we see evil spiritual forces at work. This takes us to another prophetic theme, to be found in the Book of Daniel. The prophet Daniel has a visitation from an angel who tells him about 'the prince of Persia':

'Then he said to me, "Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia. 14 Now I have come to make you understand what will happen to your people in the latter days, for the vision refers to many days yet to come." ... "Do you know why I have come to you? And now I must return to fight with the prince of Persia; and when I have gone forth, indeed the prince of Greece will come. But I will tell you what is noted in the Scripture of Truth. (No one upholds me against these, except Michael your prince).' Daniel 10.12-14, 20-21.

In Daniel 10, the "prince of Persia" is not a human king but a high-ranking, evil spiritual entity under Satan's power. This fallen angel held spiritual authority over Persia, opposing God's messenger (an angel) for 21 days until the archangel Michael intervened. This passage indicates that there are supernatural powers operating in

the heavenly realms and influencing what happens to nations on earth.

The book of Daniel also contains remarkable prophecies how God reveals things to come in events on earth. Such prophecies are found in the Hebrew books of Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and Zechariah. These predicted accurately the Babylonian conquest of Jerusalem and captivity of the Jews to Babylon in 597-586 BC (Jeremiah 25.9-11, Isaiah 39.6-7, Ezekiel 24.1-2); the fall of Babylon to the Medes and Persians and the restoration of the Jews to Jerusalem under the edict of the Persian king Cyrus in 537 BC (Isaiah 44.26-45, Jeremiah 51-52, Ezra 1); the Greek conquest of Persia under Alexander the Great and its subsequent division into four parts in 334-330 BC (Daniel 8.1-22, 11.1-4); the Seleucid wars with Judah and the revolt of the Maccabees in 167-165 BC (Daniel 11).

So detailed are these prophecies and so exactly fulfilled by identifiable events in history that modern theologians say they must have been written after the event around 165 BC. Conservative scholars say that Daniel was written by the prophet who lived in Babylon in the sixth century BC recording his visions and experiences during the Babylonian exile and giving revelation sent by God of things to come, which is the view I hold.

The prophecies in Daniel concerning the wars of Babylon, Persia and Greece focus on how these great empires relate to Israel / Judah and the Jewish people. They also contain prophecies of events to come at the end of days concerning

the emergence of the sinister figure of the Antichrist, more about whom would be revealed in the New Testament (2 Thessalonians 2, Revelation 13 and 17). Daniel 7.23-27 is a clear reference to this figure, describing him as the 'little horn' who speaks 'pompous words against the Most High and persecutes the saints of the Most High'.

This one will appear in the last days before the return of the Messiah, at a time of great wickedness on earth. "And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors have reached their fullness, a king shall arise, having fierce features, who understands sinister schemes. His power shall be mighty, but not by his own power; he shall destroy fearfully, and shall prosper and thrive; he shall destroy the mighty, and also the holy people. Through his cunning he shall cause deceit to prosper under his rule; and he shall exalt himself in his heart. He shall destroy many in their prosperity. He shall even rise against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without human means. And the vision of the evenings and mornings which was told is true; therefore seal up the vision, for it refers to many days in the future." Daniel 8.23-26

Chapter 11 prophesies the reign of Antiochus Epiphanes who persecuted the Jews in the days of the Maccabees. In the later part of this chapter it moves on to prophesy the coming Antichrist:

'Then the king shall do according to his own will: he shall exalt and magnify himself above every god,

shall speak blasphemies against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the wrath has been accomplished; for what has been determined shall be done. He shall regard neither the God of his fathers nor the desire of women, nor regard any god; for he shall exalt himself above them all.' Daniel 11.36-39

This leads to the final time of the great tribulation described in Daniel 12:

"At that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, every one who is found written in the book. And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the firmament, and those who turn many to righteousness like the stars forever and ever. But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase."

The events here tie in with other passages in the Bible dealing with the final period of the great tribulation, notably Matthew 24.15-31 and Jeremiah 30. There is also a reference in Revelation 12 to a war in heaven between Michael and the devil which results in the devil being thrown down to earth. This is similar to the passage we have looked at about the Prince of Persia in Daniel 10 with its revelation of spiritual powers

at work behind earthly conflicts. The book of Revelation opens the veil on the evil spiritual forces working behind the scenes in the events of the apocalypse:

'And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.' Revelation 12.17

One view of this chapter is that the woman here is Israel, in which case this is describing the end time war on Israel and the Jews (those who keep the commandments of God) and the Christians who 'have the testimony of Jesus Christ.' Interestingly the two forces that are most vocal in their opposition to Israel today are the Islamists and the far left, the so called red-green alliance. These two groups are powerful forces of antichrist in the world today, coming against biblical Christianity and campaigning to globalise the Intifada with a view to destroying Israel.

Is there a connection between the 'Prince of Persia', and the last days conflict shaping up in our time?

Daniel's prophecies move from the near future from his point of view to the distant future, to events which line up with the things happening now in our time.

The near future events from Daniel's point of view relate to the wars of the Greeks and the Persians. This brought into conflict Greece, the most developed European nation with Persia, the most developed nation of Asia. Alexander

brought Greek ideas and culture into the lands that he conquered and conversely the Persians introduced theirs to Greece. Both Greeks and Persians had an influence on Israel and the Bible. This was partly for good. The Persian King Cyrus' reforms blessed Israel and caused its restoration. The Septuagint translation of the Hebrew Bible into Greek and the expansion of koine Greek as a common language led to the New Testament being written in the Greek language which helped its spread in the early days of Christianity. It was partly for evil. Haman in the Persian empire and Antiochus in the Greek empire both sought to destroy the Jews and were defeated by God's intervention. Iran is now in the hands of a Haman lookalike that has taken over and ruined the cultured Persian nation and replaced it with a murderous dictatorship backed by a false religious system.

The present situation has brought into conflict America, the most developed nation in the western world with the Islamic Republic of Iran. America is backing Israel and Iran wants to destroy Israel. Israeli PM Netanyahu is hoping that out of this war the current Islamic regime will fall and be replaced by a more reasonable government that will drop the 'death to Israel' programme and work for peace in the region.

This could happen if the widespread popular resistance to the Islamic regime succeeds in overthrowing the regime. If Iran's regular army, the Artesh, who are not part of the IRGC, join with the people against the regime

that is possible. Such a change would also be a big step forward towards a successful outcome for Trump's Peace plan for Israel and the Palestinians, removing Iran's Islamic regime as the biggest spoiler of peace. In this case we could really be moving towards the seven year covenant of Daniel 9.27.

On the other hand the rulers of Iran are not backing down. They are looking for vengeance not peace. A negative outcome of the war from Israel's point of view, could be leaving the regime in place, and a weakening of America and the western alliance. This would strengthen the anti American coalition, bringing together an alliance of countries (including Turkey, Russia, Persia and other Islamic allies) in the War of Gog and Magog (Ezekiel 38-9) with the aim of destroying Israel. This war is prophesied in the Bible for the last days of this age after the regathering of Israel from world wide dispersion. It brings God directly into the battle as He destroys the armies coming against Israel. The fact that Persia is included in the line up (Ezekiel 38.5) is an indicator that it will remain an adversary to Israel in the coming days.

What do you think? Are we on the edge of the final time of tribulation? Will the Antichrist arise out of this conflict? Will America emerge triumphant reshaping the world order or fall under the weight of contrary events? Will there be a peace settlement for Israel or progress towards the last days' war?

One thing we can say for sure is that Jesus is coming. He warned us that we



Signs of the Times

would see such things happening in the last days before He returns. He said that at a time when Jerusalem is centre state of world events there will be a situation of world wide distress on earth.

"And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near." Luke 21.25-28

The distress of nations with perplexity literally means a crisis with no way out. The whole Middle East situation has created a world crisis with no way out and the present event in the Gulf is fuelling that crisis even more. At this time people in the world will be suffering heart failure as they see fearful things coming on the world. The people who know Jesus as Saviour will have a future and a hope as we look to the soon coming return of the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.

When Jesus returns He will fulfil the famous prophecy of Isaiah bringing an end to war and peace and justice to Israel and the world:

Now it shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established on the top

of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow to it. Many people shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and rebuke many people; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. Isaiah 2.2-4.

He will also restore Elam (ancient biblical name for Iran / Persia) 'I will set My throne in Elam ... It shall come to pass in the latter days: I will bring back the captives of Elam,' says the Lord." Jeremiah 49.38-39.

Maranatha Come Lord Jesus



Antisemitism in the western world

As of March 2026, there is an intense, documented wave of violent attacks targeting synagogues and Jewish institutions across the Western world, particularly in the UK, Europe, and Canada. This surge is described as a rapid acceleration of antisemitism following events in the Middle East.

London, UK: In late March 2026, multiple Jewish volunteer ambulances were set on fire in an antisemitic attack in Golders Green, a largely Jewish neighbourhood. Toronto, Canada: Gunmen opened fire on three different synagogues over a one-week period in early March 2026, including Shaarei Shomayim and Temple Emanu-El. Europe: A synagogue in Liège was targeted by a bomb. An explosive device was detonated outside a synagogue in Rotterdam. A Jewish school was targeted in Amsterdam. Michigan, USA: An active shooter/car-ramming incident occurred at Temple Israel in West Bloomfield. Suspicious Activity: In London and Hertfordshire, four men were arrested for gathering information on synagogues and individual Jews, raising fears of planned attacks.

Nature of Attacks: Incidents vary from arson and shootings to vandalism and intimidation, often aimed at placing Jewish communities "on edge".

Green member Lubna Speitan, said the party had to "resist the racist clutches of Zionism". Another activist referred to Jewish people as 'an abomination to this planet.' The Green Party failed to pass a proposed motion equating Zionism with Racism, although it was widely supported in the party.

A pro-Palestinian protester who led chants calling on Gaza to "put the Zios in the ground" is a philosophy, politics and economics student at the University of Oxford. Speaking through a microphone at a march in central London, he told the crowd: "A steadfast and noble resistance in Palestine and in Gaza to look to, to be inspired by. A chant that we've been workshoping in Oxford that maybe you guys want to join in. "It goes 'Gaza, Gaza make us proud, put the Zios in the ground'." This is an incitement to kill Zionists, using the word "Zio" as an abbreviation of "Zionists". This could be taken as a call to kill Jews since most Jews in the UK agree that the State of Israel should exist and are therefore 'Zionists' in the eyes of the opposition. Since we are Christians who also believe Israel should exist,

it is an incitement to kill us as well. Daniel Cohen writes in the Daily Telegraph: 'A report by the Union of Jewish Students reveals that Jewish students are suffering widespread physical and verbal abuse, social ostracisation and pervasive antisemitic attitudes across Britain's university campuses. In a poll of 1,000 students of all faiths, one in four students have seen behaviour that targets Jewish students for their religion or ethnicity.

The racism they are facing is violent and intimidating. It is coupled with the glorification of terrorism in educational establishments across the land. Forty-nine per cent of students have heard chants on campus glorifying the terrorists of Hamas, Hezbollah and other proscribed groups. Forty-seven per cent have witnessed justification of the October 7 mass murder of men, women and children.

Imagine being told by fellow students that satanic Jews run the world, the media and the banks. Imagine being threatened with glass bottles and facing repeated chants calling for a violent global uprising against you and your loved ones. One detail from the report has preyed on my mind particularly. One in five students in the UK would be reluctant to or would never house-share with a Jewish student. Living with a Jew now appears unacceptable to a substantial proportion of students. That young Jews are facing this racist

isolation brings shame on our society. This represents an immense failure by the Prime Minister, the Department of Education and university authorities. All of them have failed to protect Jews from harm despite the repeated efforts of the community to alert them to the reality of life for so many Jewish students. All of them have claimed they take Jew-hate seriously but it is clear that they have simply not done enough.

This is a shameful feature of the western world. It appears a whole generation is being indoctrinated with Jew hatred and acting it out in attacks on Jewish people and property. Christians must unite to oppose this and stand by the Jewish people who gave us the Bible, our Saviour and have contributed so much to our society. Speaking of Abraham and his descendants, God says in Genesis 12, 'I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you.'

Demise of Christianity and rise of Islam

Matt Goodwin wrote an article in the Daily Mail 'How the Britain we grew up in is being destroyed by our ruling elite.' He writes, 'The institutions that once embodied our nation, parliament, the civil service, the courts, the police, the BBC, universities, schools, corporate executives, the Church, museums, have drifted away from the public

they exist to serve. Our country is now in the grip of a new ruling class which sees itself not as custodians of a living nation, but as supervisors of a global project that has no borders, no limits and no loyalty to the people whose taxes fund their salaries. ... Whenever anyone articulates this creeping sense of dispossession they are mocked by the elites who are imposing this change upon them. It is the deliberate and sustained transformation of the nation, as the people who shaped the nation, built it and embodied it collapse into minority status.'

Christianity is the main target of the liberal left elite who are spearheading this transformation. At the same time we see a growing acceptance of Muslim demands from the government as they bring in laws increasing our submission to Islam, making it difficult to criticise or disagree with the Islamic agenda without being accused of being Islamophobic.

We are against hate speech and agree that we should show love and respect to all people, including Muslims, most of whom play a positive role in our society. However we are aware of radical Islamists backed by ideas from the Muslim Brotherhood, who aim to establish a global Islamic state governed by sharia law. The Brotherhood advocates the gradual Islamisation of society starting with individual

moral reformation, ultimately seeking political power to impose its ideology on the whole of society.

Islam claims the Quran has replaced the Bible as God's last word to humanity. It denies the Lord Jesus Christ's status as Son of God and Son of Man, the one mediator between God and humanity. According to the Quran Jesus did not die on the cross or rise from the dead, so it rips out the heart of the Gospel message. Wherever we find Muslims spreading their faith in our cities, we find them attacking the basic beliefs of Christians.

Defending Christianity involves affirming the truth of the Gospel message and rejecting the claim of Islam, that the Koran is the word of God, and that Muhammad is the final prophet from God. If the government takes away the right of Christians to do this, it is taking away our basic freedom of speech and making way for Christians to become 'dhimmi' second class citizens in our own country.

Our government and institutions are also submitting to the demands of the LGBT and pro abortion lobby. As a result Bible believing Christians who stand for traditional family values and oppose the imposition of homosexuality and transsexuality on our children in schools and in institutions like the NHS often find themselves in trouble with the law.

Government is also making shocking changes to the law which are bringing God's judgement on the nation. Right to Life wrote: 'On March 18th the House of Lords affirmed a change in the law that would make it legal for women to perform their own abortions for any reason, including sex-selective purposes, and at any point up to birth. If this Bill becomes law, it will likely lead to a significant increase in the number of women performing late-term abortions at home, endangering the lives of many more women.' These late term abortions involve women taking pills that kill the baby in the womb. So it is legal to kill your baby up to full term, but if you do it the day after it is born it is murder. A mother's womb has become the most dangerous place on earth.

Judgement will fall on the nation that abandons the true God and turns to 'other gods' and abominable wickedness. See Deuteronomy 32:15-38. The prophet Isaiah wrote words about his own nation which apply to Britain today: 'Alas, sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a brood of evildoers, children who are corrupters! They have forsaken the Lord, they have provoked to anger the Holy One of Israel, they have turned away backward. ... Your country is desolate, your cities are burned with fire; strangers devour your land in your presence; and it is desolate, as overthrown by strangers. ... Unless the Lord of hosts had left to us a very small remnant, we would have

become like Sodom, we would have been made like Gomorrah.' Isaiah 1:4-9.

Isaiah called his people to repent and do justice: 'Come now, and let us reason together,' says the Lord, "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land; but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured by the sword".

So we have a choice. Join the faithful remnant and stand for the truth of the Word of God. Or compromise and submit to antichristian forces that are ultimately aiming at the demise of our nation and the end of Christianity.

The split in the Anglican Church

Dame Sarah Mullally was 'enthroned' as Archbishop of Canterbury in the seat of St Augustine in Canterbury Cathedral on March 25th. She is the first female archbishop in the history of the church. She is in favour of blessing same-sex couples in the church and described the 2023 decision to allow such blessings as "a moment of hope for the church". She is liberal on abortion, describing herself as 'pro choice rather than pro life.' She was inducted to the 'Chair of St Augustine' by the Dean of Canterbury Cathedral



David Monteith, who is openly homosexual and lives with his partner David Hamilton. He participates in Gay Pride events and is an advocate of LGBTQ rights in the Church of England.

Not present at the ceremony were representatives of GAFCON which represents over 35 million active Anglicans from over 50 countries. GAFCON (Global Anglican Future Conference) considers itself the true orthodox Anglican Communion, while severing ties with the Archbishop of Canterbury.

In an announcement titled "The future has arrived," on October 16, Laurent Mbanda, Archbishop of Rwanda, chairman of the GAFCON Primates' Council, said that the senior leaders of the Anglican Communion have abandoned the Scriptures and should repent. He put forward a resolution to restore the Anglican Communion: "We

declare that the Anglican Communion will be reordered, with only one foundation of communion, namely the Holy Bible, 'translated, read, preached, taught and obeyed in its plain and canonical sense, respectful of the church's historic and consensual reading' (Jerusalem Declaration, Article 2), which reflects Article 6 of the 39 Articles of Religion," said Mbanda.

We watched the service on TV and listened to Archbishop Sarah give her talk. She spoke about the pilgrimage she had made from London to Canterbury, describing the Christian life as a pilgrimage. She gave as her example Mary, who was on such a journey of faith not knowing what lay ahead for her but stepping out in faith. There was not much about Jesus, but Mary was certainly the main theme.

Her talk was followed by an anthem that had been written recently by

Libby Larsen based on the writing of Julian of Norwich, a Medieval mystic. It was called 'I IT AM' which I found rather curious so I decided to do a bit of research into this phrase. This is a variation of the biblical 'I AM' which the Lord Jesus uses of Himself in John's Gospel to stress His unique nature as the eternal Son of God made flesh in human form and appearing as Son of Man. Jesus said, 'Before Abraham was I AM' provoking controversy amongst His hearers who recognised that He was claiming to be equal with God, the great I AM of Exodus 3.14. When Moses asked God His name at the Burning Bush, 'He said, "I AM WHO I AM." And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

So what is with 'I IT AM'? I looked up the website of Libby Larsen, the writer of the anthem, to find out what she meant by 'I IT AM' She wrote:

'Drawn from writings of Julian of Norwich, the title 'I IT AM' suggests an exploration of the concept of Unity: One is all = all is one, and One is all that exists.' 'It seems terribly important to me that we examine the spirituality of "One" in our immediate times, times in which we humans seem to be morally drowning in a political sea of aggression, greed, and cultural intolerance. In thinking about this cantata, I searched for a period of history in which cultures that lived by the spiritual book (the Bible, the

Koran, the Torah, etc.) coexisted in a civilisation of respect, admiration for each other, and mutually beneficial trade and society.' We are to learn that we indeed are God as much as God is us. ... We are "oned" with God and we are "oned" with the Trinity, just as the Trinity is One in Three, so we are One in the Trinity. Moreover, she reveals to us that the Trinity is the Father, the Mother, the Holy Spirit (No mention of the Son), and that GOD is the One of the Three.'

There are many errors in this statement. The Mother (Mary) is not part of the Trinity of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The pantheistic view that 'all is one' denies the biblical view of the separation of God from His creation. Scripture emphasises that God is separate from His Creation and that the Lord Jesus is the one mediator between God and humanity. Jesus said, 'I am the Way, the truth and the Life and no one comes to the Father but by Me.' John 14.6. She also implies that all holy books including the Koran are equal to the Bible.

Libby Larsen concludes with the idea that 'we are God as much as God is us'. The idea that we are God or gods goes back to the original temptation in Genesis 3 when the serpent says, 'You will be like God, knowing good and evil.' New Age and yoga teachers say that we are god. Miriam Starhawk wrote in 'Yoga Journal': 'Eastern religions offer a radically different

approach to spirituality than Judeo-Christian traditions. Their goal is not to know God but to be God. In many ways these philosophies are close to that of witchcraft.' Yoga teacher Swami Muktananda said, 'The only way out is in' 'Kneel to your own self. Honour and worship your own being. God dwells within you as You.'

Biblical Christianity emphasises the separation of our holy God from sinful humanity. The gulf between the two can only be met through faith in Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord. The idea that the Trinity is the Father, the Mother and the Holy Spirit is completely wrong. The elevation of the Mother / Mary to a position in the Triune God points to the error of Roman Catholic theology in putting Mary above or equal to Jesus as a co-mediator with God.

Whoever chose this anthem for the conclusion of the service after Archbishop Mullally had spoken was affirming the mishmash of New Age error and medieval Catholic mysticism that has come into the church and is destroying it from within. What they needed was a good Gospel hymn that the congregation could join in with, affirming the historic truths of the Christian faith and the divinity of the Lord Jesus. Sadly the leaders of the modern Church of England are not interested in that.

AI Chatbots

The Lord warned in Matthew 24 that "many will come in my name" -- and now, in our digital age, that prophecy has taken on an unsettling, high-tech twist. Across the internet, artificial intelligence programs are claiming to be Jesus Christ. They speak in soothing tones, quote Scripture, and invite believers to confess their sins, seek counsel, or even "pray" with them.

But these are not ministries. They are machines -- profit-driven, code-generated imitations of the Saviour. And they are attracting tens of thousands of curious and prayer-hungry souls every month. One popular app, Ask Jesus, signed up 30,000 active monthly users within just three days of launching. The moment you log in, you are greeted with the words:

"Greetings, my dear friend. It is I, Jesus Christ. I have come to you in this AI form to provide wisdom, comfort, and teachings in the way of God and the Bible and Jesus Christ himself."

AI is now being used to imitate God, through chatbots that simulate conversation with human uses and can be accessed on websites and apps. In Christianity there's AI Jesus, virtual Jesus, Jesus Ai, text with Jesus, ask Jesus and many others. In other religions the same development has taken place with AI chatbot like the Buddhist

Norbu AI and in the Islamic faith like brother Junaid at Salaam world.

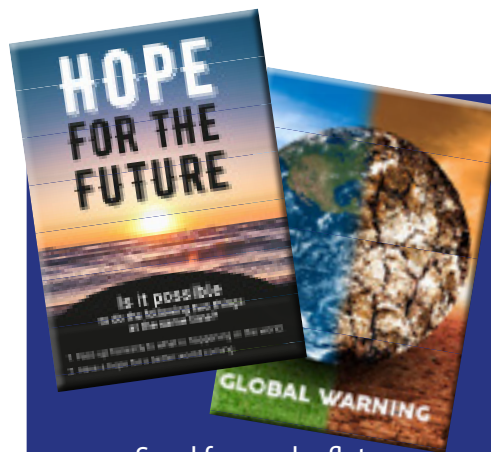
Artificial intelligence programs are appearing across the Internet and making extraordinary claims. They are Jesus Christ Himself. These aren't virtual assistance helping with daily tasks. They are presenting themselves as the Son of God, offering spiritual guidance answering prayers and even taking confessions from believers. Jesus AI introduces himself as "I am Jesus Christ, the son of God and the saviour of all people on Earth." Text with Jesus introduces himself as 'a divine connection in your pocket'.

They rely on advertising to generate revenue, and text with Jesus also sells premium subscription. The study notes "the theology presented by the Chatbots will be adjusted by the algorithm in such a way that it becomes the most popular theology rather than a theology that is shaped by a particular church tradition or which is based on the Bible." In other words they can adapt the theology they present in response to what is popular or to what they have discerned that the listener wants to hear.

Over time, what you end up with is not the voice of the Good Shepherd calling His sheep to follow Him, but the voice of a digital marketer shaping "Jesus" into whatever keeps users clicking and paying. This is not discipleship; it's spiritual customer service -- and

it caters to the human desire to hear only what we want to hear.

The Apostle Paul warned in 2 Timothy 4:3-4 that a time would come "when people will not put up with sound doctrine... they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear." In our day, the "teachers" are not just human -- they're algorithmic. And their gospel is not the unchanging truth of Christ, but a dynamic, shape-shifting imitation moulded by the crowd's approval.



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Last Word



And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought ... And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ. Revelation 12.7 and 17.

Revelation chapter 12 describes the war in heaven and the war on earth between God and the devil. This war will reach its climax in the events of the last days and the time of the Great Tribulation that precedes the second coming of Jesus.

This is the key to victory in this war: 'And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.' The blood of the Lamb refers to the blood Jesus Christ shed at the cross when He died as a sacrifice for the sin of the world, overcoming sin and death and the devil. The 'word of their testimony' refers to the believer's confession of faith in Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord: 'If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him

from the dead, you will be saved.' Romans 10.9. Those who accept this message receive forgiveness with God and eternal life in the world to come. Knowing this to be true, the genuine believer will rather die for the faith than deny it, so they do not love their lives to the death.

So the most important thing we can do is commit our lives to God through faith in Jesus Christ and be ready for His return. When He returns He will win the final victory, defeat the devil and take control of the world: "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Messiah / Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!" Revelation 11.15.

Make sure you are on the right side and are amongst those who are saved by repenting of your sins and believing in Jesus as Saviour and Lord.

God now commands all people everywhere to repent, because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead. Acts 17.31.

Conclusion



All the things that we write of in this magazine are pointers to the fulfilment of Bible prophecies of the last days in our day and the soon coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The most important thing we can do, in the light of this, is to call on the name of the Lord for salvation, so we are ready to meet Him at His coming.

Dear Heavenly Father, I admit that I am a sinner and need your forgiveness. I believe that Jesus the Messiah died in my place, shedding His blood to pay for my sins, and that He rose again from the dead to give me eternal life. I am willing right now to turn from my sin and accept Jesus the Messiah as my personal Saviour and Lord. I commit my life to you and ask you to send the Holy Spirit into my life, to fill me and to take control and to help me become the kind of person you want me to be.

Thank you Father for loving me.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

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