

Prophecy in Perspective

Dr. Scott Gregory Downing
An email newsletter

Our Times - Prophecy in Current Events



God had a definite purpose in the founding of America. When you get the chance I highly recommended that you go and see "**America, What Would the World Be Like Without Her?**" produced by Dinesh D'Souza. (Pictured on left) (<http://www.dineshdsouza.com/speaking/>)

Proverbs 14:34 tells us that "**Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.**" Followers of Islam want to see the overthrow of Israel. They are ignorant of the fact that the God of the Bible, in Whom they do not believe, will never allow that! But, in their willful rejection of the Bible, they understand that they will not destroy Israel so long as America stands strong. Therefore, they are working to plot terrorist attacks against America from outside by attacking American interests, and by designing attacks from within America as well. This why leftism in America tends to be so accommodating to Islam, they are actually working as allies for the "transformation," of America. The liberal left in America has rejected God and believes that America, instead of being a force for good is really a force for evil in the world. While they are often unaware they are doing so, the left is helping Islam to gain strength by encouraging America to give up its traditional stand on morality, God and the Bible.

They are pushing new forms of marriage, unknown in the Scriptures, and new understandings of the value of human life, through abortion. Leftism is actually humanistic, which makes it, by definition, an actual religion. President Obama and his philosophical followers is obviously seeking to transform America into a decidedly secular country. Islamists must be elated with this because they know that this effort will destroy America from within. They understand that the weakening of America makes it more likely that they will be



Declaration of Independence
Image: Photodisc /Getty Images

able to establish a Caliphate (Islamic rule) in this country. The radical and deliberate weakening of America is actually happening today! America's moral heart is being destroyed. Even Christians, while building the biggest churches ever are none the less giving in to the secularization of America by affirming non biblical same-sex "marriage," the murder of the unborn, and moral and spiritual compromise through the advancement of the unbiblical teachings and methodologies of the Emerging Church, Chrislam and Contemplative/Mystical Christianity. There is also the real and growing problem of great moral and theological compromise in the lives of individual churches, ministries and Christians.

Look at the deep and heart-felt beliefs of some of our Founding Fathers. This will show just how far America has drifted from God, the Bible, biblical morality and basic national righteousness:

According to author, Mary Fairchild:

No one can deny that many of the founding fathers of the United States of America were men of deep religious convictions based in the Bible and their Christian faith in Jesus Christ. Of the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence, nearly half (24) held seminary or Bible school degrees.

These Christian quotes of the founding fathers will give you an overview of their strong moral and spiritual convictions which helped form the foundations of our nation and our government.

George Washington

1st U.S. President

"While we are zealously performing the duties of good citizens and soldiers, we certainly ought not to be inattentive to the higher duties of religion. To the distinguished character of Patriot, it should be our highest glory to add the more distinguished character of Christian." --*The Writings of Washington*, pp. 342-343.

John Adams

2nd U.S. President and Signer of the Declaration of Independence

"Suppose a nation in some distant Region should take the Bible for their only law Book, and every member should regulate his conduct by the precepts there exhibited! Every member would be obliged in conscience, to temperance, frugality, and industry; to justice, kindness, and charity towards his fellow men; and to piety, love, and reverence toward Almighty God ... What a Utopia, what a Paradise would this region be." --*Diary and Autobiography of John Adams*, Vol. III, p. 9.

"The second day of July, 1776, will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary Festival. It ought to be commemorated, as the Day of Deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever."

--Adams wrote this in a letter to his wife, Abigail, on July 3, 1776.

Thomas Jefferson

3rd U.S. President, Drafter and Signer of the Declaration of Independence

"God who gave us life gave us liberty. And can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are of the Gift of God? That they are not to be violated but with His wrath? Indeed, I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just; that His justice cannot sleep forever; That a revolution of the wheel of fortune, a change of situation, is among possible events; that it may become probable by Supernatural influence! The Almighty has no attribute which can take side with us in that event."

--*Notes on the State of Virginia, Query XVIII*, p. 237.

John Quincy Adams

6th U.S. President

"The hope of a Christian is inseparable from his faith. Whoever believes in the divine inspiration of the Holy Scriptures must hope that the religion of Jesus shall prevail throughout the earth. Never since the foundation of the world have the prospects of mankind been more encouraging to that hope than they appear to be at the present time. And may the associated distribution of the Bible proceed and prosper till the Lord shall have made 'bare His holy arm in the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God' (Isaiah 52:10)." --*Life of John Quincy Adams*, p. 248.

William Penn

Founder of Pennsylvania

"I do declare to the whole world that we believe the Scriptures to contain a declaration of the mind and will of God in and to those ages in which they were written; being given forth by the Holy Ghost moving in the hearts of holy men of God; that they ought also to be read, believed, and fulfilled in our day; being used for reproof and instruction, that the man of God may be perfect. They are a declaration and testimony of heavenly things themselves, and, as such, we carry a high respect for them. We accept them as the words of God Himself." (Adapted from "Quotes of the Founding Fathers", By Mary Fairchild) --*Treatise of the Religion of the Quakers*, p. 355.

Colleges around the United States are aggressively excluding the God of the Bible from their classrooms. But, many are not aware of the very subtle push to infiltrate campus Bible study groups with non-Christian leadership under the guise of multicultural- inclusivism as the following article shows:

Colleges and Evangelicals Collide on Bias Policy

The New York Times

By MICHAEL PAULSON JUNE 9, 2014

BRUNSWICK, Me. — For 40 years, evangelicals at Bowdoin College have gathered periodically to study the Bible together, to pray and to worship. They are a tiny minority on the liberal arts college campus, but they have been a part of the school's community, gathering in the chapel, the dining center, the dorms.

After this summer, the Bowdoin Christian Fellowship will no longer be recognized by the college. Already, the college has disabled the electronic key cards of the group's longtime volunteer advisers.

In a collision between religious freedom and antidiscrimination policies, the student group, and its advisers, have refused to agree to the college's demand that any student, regardless of his or her religious beliefs, should be able to run for election as a leader of any group, including the Christian association.

Similar conflicts are playing out on a handful of campuses around the country, driven by the universities' desire to rid their campuses of bias, particularly against gay men and lesbians, but also, in



Reid Wilson, left, and Zackary Suhr, who have graduated, were part of the Bowdoin Christian Fellowship at Bowdoin College.

Photo Credit Image by Katherine Taylor for The New York Times

the eyes of evangelicals, fueled by a discomfort in academia with conservative forms of Christianity. The universities have been emboldened to regulate religious groups by a Supreme Court ruling in 2010 that found it was constitutional for a public law school in California to deny recognition to a Christian student group that excluded gays.

At Cal State, the nation's largest university system with nearly 450,000 students on 23 campuses, the chancellor is preparing this summer to withdraw official recognition from evangelical groups that are refusing to pledge not to discriminate on the basis of religion in the selection of their leaders. And at Vanderbilt, more than a dozen groups, most of them evangelical but one of them Catholic, have already lost their official standing over the same issue; one Christian group balked after a university official asked the students to cut the words "personal commitment to Jesus Christ" from their list of qualifications for leadership.

At most universities that have begun requiring religious groups to sign nondiscrimination policies, Jewish, Muslim, Catholic and mainline Protestant groups have agreed, saying they do not discriminate and do not anticipate that the new policies will cause problems. Hillel, the largest Jewish student organization, says some chapters have even elected non-Jews to student boards.

The evangelical groups say they, too, welcome anyone to participate in their activities, including gay men and lesbians, as well as nonbelievers, seekers and adherents of other faiths. But they insist that, in choosing leaders, who often oversee Bible study and prayer services, it is only reasonable that they be allowed to require some basic Christian faith — in most cases, an explicit agreement that Jesus was divine and rose from the dead, and often an implicit expectation that unmarried student leaders, gay or straight, will abstain from sex.

In America, we have come to the place when Christians need to carefully pray for the Lord to direct them to schools that will not require them to compromise their biblical convictions. Too often we are seeing some of these campus Christian groups giving into the moral and spiritual compromises that the college's require of them. This causes a disastrous watering down of biblical truth and teaching within these Christian groups and weakens their testimony. These colleges know this will be the result. Which is what they want! Growing numbers of "Evangelical" Bible study groups, ministries and churches are blindly giving in to these demands. This is a part of the sad fulfillment of Biblical prophecy for the latter days which states:

This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded (arrogant), lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: (the Deity of Christ, His resurrection and Second Coming) from such turn away. For of this sort are they which creep into houses (seductive and popular false teachers) and lead captive silly women (mothers of the next generation) laden with sins, led away with divers lusts, Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. (2 Timothy 3:1-7, KJV)

Christians need to obey the Lord, by believing and obeying the Bible in these latter days! We are called and empowered by the Holy Spirit not to compromise the Word of God. The lost need to hear the truth! The faithfulness of Christians on college campuses around the country is being tested, but this is what the Scriptures warn us will happen. Paul goes on to state to these faithful latter days Christians:

Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. But evil men and seducers (theologically and morally) shall wax (become) worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived. But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them. (2 Timothy 3:12-14)

The effects of the secularization of America continue to hinder witnessing for Christ through the "grievance" methodology of the left who seek to stop Christians from speaking about Jesus Christ to the lost by claiming to be "offended," as the following article shows:

Muslims 'Offended' by Gospel Tract Distributed by Virginia Church

June 13, 2014 Evangelism and Missions, Life & Society, Top Stories | By: Heather Clark



ROANOKE, Va. – Some Muslims in Virginia have expressed offense to local media over a gospel tract that is being distributed by a local church that denounces Islam.

The Bible Baptist Church of Roanoke has been distributing tracts every Sunday in an effort to tell others about Jesus Christ. One tract that has generated controversy is entitled *Unforgiven* by Chick Publications, and specifically seeks to reach Muslims.

The tract, which is in comic book format, tells the story of a man named Lamont who converts to Islam while in prison and changes his name to Mohammed. His grandmother then seeks to witness to Lamont and tell him that Jesus is the only way. Lamont later turns to a Muslim leader for advice, who tells him that the Koran says that she is his enemy and that he must not let her in his house.

After Lamont kicks his grandmother out of his house when she urges him to turn to Christ before it is too late, she advises him that he has declared Jihad on Jesus. "So be it!" he snaps back.

The tract then ends with the note that Lamont died six months later, and stood "before the One he hated, the Lord Jesus Christ," where he was condemned to everlasting punishment. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved," it reads, quoting from Acts 16:31.

...Reaction to the matter has been mixed.

"As a Christian, I think we should spread the good news about the gospel, not run down another religion. Shine your light in a positive way and let others make up their own mind," commenter Rebecca McGinley stated. "These negative messages turn people away from Christ."

"I'm sorry; I'm offended by the Muslim community being offended by the Christian community," said commenter Teresa Hiner. "The difference is the people don't care if Christians are offended and make a great big deal when Muslims and atheists are offended."

“I see nothing wrong with it,” remarked another commenter. “This is not a hateful message. It’s just the truth, which offends people.” (<http://christiannews.net/2014/06/13/muslims-offended-by-gospel-tract-distributed-by-virginia-church/>)

Jesus warned that in the latter days: ***“And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.” (Matthew 24:10)*** The fact of being offended for the truth and the persecution that arises from it is actually designed by the Lord to help to weed out the true witness from the false. Again, Jesus said about shallow soil in His parable of the sower and the soils: ***“And have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or persecution ariseth for the word's sake, immediately they are offended.”(Mark 4:7)*** Christians who are spiritually shallow will easily give into pressure to change their convictions, because their convictions are only skin deep.

Another example of the secularization and watering down of American exceptionalism and moral integrity, is President and Michelle Obama's part, in what I call, the aggressive homosexualization of America. I reported in the last issue of *Prophecy in Perspective* on how the Southern Baptist Convention failed to make a clear statement of rebuke about a (formally) Southern Baptist congregation in California whose pastor came out in favor of the practice of homosexuality. With this affirmation on the part of this apostate pastor, Barak and Michelle Obama could not wait to get him before the public eye as a trophy of their ongoing war against the biblical family in America. Look at the following article:

Apostate Pastor’s Pro-Homosexual Sermon Earns Him Special Trip to White House

June 28, 2014 | Filed under: Apostasy, Law & Government, Society, Top | By: **Garrett Haley**

LA MIRADA, Calif. – An apostate former Southern Baptist pastor, who endorsed homosexuality in a recent sermon, has been invited to attend a ‘gay pride’ reception at the White House with President Obama.



Danny Cortez
Photo: YouTube

As previously reported, Danny Cortez leads New Heart Community Church in southern California. Earlier this year, Cortez surprised his Baptist congregation by declaring that he has accepted a pro-homosexual position.

“This is a huge step for a Southern Baptist church!!” Cortez ecstatically wrote in a letter to a *Patheos* blogger. “So now, we will accept the LGBT community even though they may be in a relationship. We will choose to remain the body of Christ and not cast judgment.”

In his letter, Cortez further explained that his 15-year-old son came out as “gay” soon after he changed his mind on the homosexuality issue.

Following Cortez’s homosexuality-affirming sermon on February 9, the leaders of New Heart Community Church decided to not dismiss him from the preaching position, instead voting to part ways from the Southern Baptist Convention and become a “third way” congregation.

Now, according to reports, Cortez and his son have been invited to attend a reception at the White House as a result of their pro-homosexual position. An online fundraising campaign organized by friends of the Cortez family explains the details of the situation.

“As you know, the Cortez family has recently been under fire for reaching out to those in the LGBT community, who have been marginalized far too long,” the page states. “And while their actions have come at a great price, the Cortezes are at peace; they know this cause is more important now than ever.”

“In light of the recent events, of his standing in the gap of our LGBT brothers and sisters, Danny and Drew have been formally invited to a reception with the President at the White House in Washington, D.C.” the fundraising page explains. “... This will take place on June 30.”

The “reception” mentioned on the fundraising page appears to be a special White House event celebrating LGBT Pride Month. According to sources, both President Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama will be present at the event, scheduled to take place Monday at 4:30 p.m.

Several people congratulated Cortez and his son on the upcoming trip to the nation’s capital. “I’m so proud of the work you are doing on behalf of all of our families!” one commenter wrote. “Wow! Such an amazing opportunity!” another person wrote. “So proud and thankful for you guys.”

However, others expressed dismay at this latest development, citing the Bible’s explicit condemnations of homosexuality. “Not only is [Cortez] defying church doctrine, he is also calling God a liar,” one commenter argued. “If he does not repent of this it will not go well for him and those who support him. God will not be mocked!” “God loves all people, but not all behaviors,” another stated. “The pastor should know better.”

“[Cortez] provides no biblical justification for his change of view,” a third alleged. “Needless to say the reason for that is that there is no biblical support for his change of view. And, in fact, ... the Bible condemns all the sexual practices of homosexuality regardless of the context they are engaged in.”

(<http://christiannews.net/2014/06/28/apostate-pastors-pro-homosexual-sermon-earns-him-special-trip-to-white-house/>)

On this Fourth of July, "Independence from Tyranny Day," we are being systematically compelled by the rebellious elements in America to turn aside from God's truth. But The Scripture tells us: ***"And do not turn aside; for then you would go after empty things which cannot profit or deliver, for they are nothing." (1 Samuel 12:21, NKJB)***

There is today a continual and deliberate effort to worsen America's spiritual and moral condition. This effort comes through a satanic war against God and the Bible. Many of those who are at the forefront of this movement follow the designed methods articulated in Saul D. Alinsky's, Rules For Radicals. This book is dedicated to the first rebel, Lucifer. The methods articulated in this book are being followed to the letter in government, law, education and liberal religion today. We are seeing this through the willful increase of the national debt, raising of taxes, growth of the welfare state, corrupted use of the departments of the IRS, DHS, DOJ, DOI, etc. for the intimidation and control of the masses, changing and redefining of marriage and morality, and the overloading of the system through "open borders" practices. These efforts tell the faithful that we are now, as a nation, playing right into the hands of the enemies of America that want to see our down fall.

The sudden formation of Hurricane Arthur just off the coast of Florida, and its quick progress up the Eastern Seaboard of America is yet another wake-up call for America. This wake-up call is especially for Bible believing Christians to begin to take a real stand for truth. We need to live out the biblical faith through active and dynamic testimony. Satan will seek to strengthen all that will hinder the Church, and America as a Christian nation, through Islam, Chrislam, Leftism, Emerging, Contemplative Christianity, and moral compromise in our own lives. The devil will use persecution to pressure you to compromise and to make you feel hopeless and alone in your trial. But you can **"Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world." (1 Peter 5:9)** We should show in our lives, in our support for a strong America, as "One Nation Under God," the reality of our faith in Jesus Christ, and the wonderful news that He is coming soon!



Hurricane Arthur over the Atlantic is shown in this photo from the International Space Station and tweeted by European Space Agency astronaut Alexander Gerst on July 3, 2014

Happy Fourth of July!



**"So then, have your minds ready for action. Keep alert and set your hope completely on the blessing which will be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed."
(1Peter 1:13, GNT)**

**"Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown."
(Revelation 3:11, NKJB)**

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(Note: If you would like to interact with Dr. Downing concerning this newsletter, views, etc. you can "blog" with him at prophecyinperspective.com. If you would like to subscribe to this newsletter at no charge, please send your name and email address to: sgdowning@bellsouth.net. Also, you can purchase his books: "Good News From a Far Country", a study in the book of Daniel [\$15]; "Becoming Mighty in Spirit...through Revelation's Prophecies" [\$10]; "Becoming Mighty in Spirit...through Developing a Prophetic Walk...A study in the lives and ministries of Elijah and Elisha" [\$10] by contacting him. Dr. Downing's newest book, "God's Unfolding Purpose and Unfailing Power" is now available! [\$10].