

Prophecy in Perspective

Dr. Scott Gregory Downing
An email newsletter

Last Days Demonic Violence

The world is again shocked at the level of violence Satan was able to raise up once again through Islamic terrorism. ISIS, following the Koran to the letter, committed random murder on a massive scale in Paris yesterday. We need to pray for the poor families who have been devastated by the sudden death or injury of their loved ones through these truly demonic atrocities. We as Christians should know that the One true God of Israel sees and knows how these events will unfold in the world that we are living in today just prior to the return of Jesus Christ. The Bible predicted thousands of years ago, this type of wicked violence would be one of the many indicators of the last days. Even though President Obama refuses to even say "Islamic terrorism," and somehow believes that ISIS and radical Islam is contained and is being worn down, we can be assured that it most certainly is gaining strength. ISIS shot down a Russian airliner last week which killed 224 people. Yesterday, evil Islamic terrorists carried out a highly organized military style operation which was diabolically successful in mass killings, injuries, and property damage. ISIS is anything but "contained," or "wearing down." It is expanding! The reality is that satanic evil is no doubt on the rise in the world today. The Bible assures us that God sees the enemy of His people who desires the complete destruction of all mankind as well as all of Israel and Christians. Yet events like yesterday, and the inadequate response of Americas leaders and even America's preachers, make many wonder, like the Psalmist, if God even sees:



Why standest thou afar off, O LORD? why hidest thou thyself in times of trouble?

The wicked in his pride doth persecute the poor: let them be taken in the devices that they have imagined

He sitteth in the lurking places of the villages: in the secret places doth he murder the innocent: his eyes are privily set against the poor.

He lieth in wait secretly as a lion in his den: he lieth in wait to catch the poor: he doth catch the poor, when he draweth him into his net. (Psalm 10:1-2;8-9)

But, of course, God does see this rise in satanic Islamic and murderous violence against the innocent. God even predicted that this kind of violence would happen through Bible prophecy. Below is a listing of prophetic events and developments that the Bible has clearly stated will come to pass in the last days.

1. Increase of wars and rumors of war (Joel 3:9-10; Matthew 24:6-7)
2. Extreme materialism (2 Timothy 3:1-2; Revelation 3:14-19)
3. Lawlessness (Psalm 78:8; Proverbs 30:11-14; 2 Timothy 3:2-3)
4. Population explosion (Genesis 6:1; Luke 17:26)
5. Increasing speed and knowledge (Daniel 12:4)
6. Departure from the Christian faith (2 Thessalonians 2:3; 1 Timothy 4:1, 3-4; 2 Timothy 3:5; 4:3-4); 2 Peter 3:3-4)
7. Intense demonic activity (Genesis 6:1-4; 1 Timothy 4:1-3)
8. Unification of the world's religious, political, and economic systems (Revelation 13:4-8; 16-17; 17:1-18; 18:1-24)
9. The absence of gifted leadership among the nations, thus making it easy for the Antichrist to take over (Revelation 13)
10. Universal drug usage ("Sorceries" here can also refer to drugs) (Revelation 9:21)
11. Abnormal sexual activity (Romans 1:17-32; 2 Peter 2:10, 14; 3:3; Jude 18)
12. Mass slaughter of innocents by unconcerned people (through abortion) (Romans 1:31; 2 Timothy 3:3)
13. Widespread violence (Genesis 6:11, 13; 2 Timothy 3:1; Revelation 9:21)
14. Rejection of God's Word (2 Timothy 4:3-4; 2 Peter 3:3-4, 16)
15. Rejection of God Himself (Psalm 2:1-3)
16. Blasphemy (2 Timothy 3:2; 2 Peter 3:3; Jude 18)
17. Self-seeking and pleasure-seeking (2 Timothy 3:2, 4)
18. Men minus a conscience (1 Timothy 4:2)
19. Religious hucksters (2 Peter 2:3)
20. Outright devil worshippers (Revelation 9:20; 13:11-14)
21. Rise of false prophets and antichrists (Matthew 24:5, 11; 2 Peter 2:1-2)
22. False claims of peace (1 Thessalonians 5:1-3)
23. Rapid advances in technology (Genesis 4:22; Luke 17:26)
24. Great political and religious upheavals in the Holy Land (Matthew 24:32-34)
(Willmington's Complete Guide to Bible Knowledge, Introduction to Theology, p. 529)

Bible prophecy concerning the last days is being fulfilled daily. Our own government remains surprisingly quiet, self-assured and dismissive of Islamic terror and its threat against America and Israel. But so are the preachers in the pulpits in America predominantly silent about prophecy and in making their people aware of how these current events are relevant to our Christian lives!

America has been kept uninformed and has been lulled to sleep with side issues. So has the church in America been put to sleep spiritually! While Islam seeks to pull the world back to the dark ages so do many Christian leaders want to return to the dark age of theological and biblical ignorance, and especially ignorance of Bible prophecy. Many want to go back to the days of the Reformation and John Calvin instead of the days of the early church and the Apostle Paul. The call for these last days is to preach the whole counsel of God. Also, there is a great call from the Lord for the last days that individual Christians study the Word of God and to be active and dynamic witness for Jesus Christ, winning people to faith in Christ.

We are in the last days and we need to get over our desire for self-fulfillment and inward focus in our individual and church lives. The attacks in Paris by Islam are actually the efforts of Satan to strike against Jesus Christ Himself and against Israel. Satan is already working in the church to keep the gospel from being presented and to prevent people from coming to know the only way of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. We should not be surprised to see this rise of evil and violence in the world because these things are predicted by the Lord. These events should be a call for prayer and repentance among believers and churches. There will likely come real persecution of Christians in America. Meanwhile, compromise is flooding the churches in America. There is a growing need for believers to have their own Bible studies that investigate the underlying



satanic causes of these events and how the Bible instructs us to understand and respond to what God said would happen in the last days. The light of prophecy will brighten the way of those who search out the prophetic Word (2 Peter 1:19). Jesus said: **"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20)**. We are at a most important historical time. How will Christians respond? How will you and I respond? The world needs to hear the truth of God's Word and of His intentions for these last days.

This is not a time for Christians to retreat into the comfort of their church programs and man-made visions and plans. This is not a time to go back to the dark ages of biblical and prophetic darkness, but to watch for the Lord's coming and work faithfully in our witness until He comes.

We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

(2 Peter 1:19)

Prophecy in Perspective, Copyright, vol. no. 94 - November 14, 2015

As usual, 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- SORRY - THIS BOOK IS SOLD OUT - Reprints coming soon]; "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]; and "Fearless Faith" [\$10] by contacting him.

You can contact us, order books, read archived Newsletters, view videos, or book Dr. Downing to speak at your event on: prophecyinperspective.com