

Absolute Truth & Prophecy

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OF EARTHQUAKES & JUDGMENT

Japan! We've all seen the pictures and films by now. Buildings falling, giant walls of water shoving ships and vehicles and people ahead of its deadly force. Broken roads, miles of piled debris, ships run aground on the roofs of buildings, bodies washed ashore, explosions, fires. One province alone estimates that when all is said and done it will be able to sadly claim 10,000 deaths. As of this writing there have been 275 aftershocks reported and two explosions at nuclear power plants. As many as 160 may have been contaminated by the escaping radiation and 140,000 people have been ordered to "seal themselves indoors".^{1,2} One writer to the UK's Daily Mail described it as "horror beyond comprehension".

But there is something beyond the physical suffering; a greater reality that slapped at my very being. The rising death toll from the earthquake / tsunami disaster brought a sick feeling to my heart. We recently watched a video by Bill Weiss – the man who claims to have visited Hell. God took him there, he says, - and withheld any remembrance that he was a Christian. He describes what he saw and experienced – for 23 minutes. Whether you believe his experience was real or not, Weiss, the former realtor, gives a moving presentation – all backed up by Scripture. I, for one, believe him. Now near the end of his other-worldly experience, Bill describes a giant pit that God showed him. He watched as thousands of the newly dead were falling in. So when I heard that number 10,000 – that's what I thought of. John 3:36 tells us: **"He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."** Elsewhere, John puts the same thought this way: **"He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God."** (John 3:18) Traditionally, polls have shown that only about 1% of Japanese claim to be Christian – though a more comprehensive and recent survey put the number possibly as high as 6%.³ Hebrews 9:27 tells us **"...it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment."** So do the math on those 10,000 plus. That's personal judgment. We will all face it: a reckoning of our relationship with Yeshua Ha Mashiach, Jesus, the Son of God.

And then there are the prophetic implications. That quake, originally estimated at 8.9 on the Richter scale, finally measured off at 9.0. It actually moved the entire island by 8 feet. The Japanese Meteorological Agency also estimates that it "shifted the position of the Earth's axis about 6.5 inches" and likely sped up the rotation of the Earth, actually shortening the day by almost 2 microseconds.^{4,5} Russian scientists believe that the temblor in Japan may actually have triggered some Russian volcanoes and earthquake activity in that nation's Far Eastern regions.⁶ And add to that, that now a massive volcano in southern Japan is spewing forth lava and ash.⁷

Those are the physical aftershocks – but there are economic ones as well. Nuclear power plants are shut down. Electricity is rationed. Refineries burned. Nissan, Sony and Toyota have closed 13 factories between them. The closed refineries have cost the Japanese 600,000 barrels in refining capacity a day of their normal 4,420,000 barrels.⁸ That's huge. And then there's the actual cost of the disaster and cleanup. Strapped for cash to handle the disaster costs, the Japanese have already begun to unload US Treasuries. Financial analyst Greg Hunter points out that Japan is the second largest buyer of American debt. Knock them out of the game and you'll be adding new pressure to drive up interest rates. That could cost the US taxpayer billions in added interest. The Fed is worried that higher interest rates could send the economy into full fledged depression. Hunter ends with this warning: *"If rates do rise, expect the Fed to turn up the printing presses to hold rates down and fuel more inflation."*⁹ The aftershocks of an event are not limited to the natural sphere alone.

Now we've spoken of personal judgment, but in the Olivet Discourse, Jesus warned of a time of global / corporate judgment, that will come just before His return. **"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."** (Matthew 24:7-8) (ESV) Christ seems to be warning, that like labor pains, wars and famines and earthquakes will increase in both frequency and intensity as the Day approaches. This time it was Japan. Last month it was New Zealand and last

year Haiti. As Todd Strandberg points out in *Rapture Ready*, that “*deadly quakes are running off the scale...We now have had five years in a row with massive seismic events. It seems to me that God is slowly trying to get man's attention. The Lord is very patient, but He is no fool. Eventually, earth is going to reach the point at which the ultimate judgment will be poured out.*”¹⁰

Here is prophecy teacher Britt Gillette on the subject of earthquakes as a sign of the End Times. “*According to a Wikipedia list of earthquakes, the past 500 years have witnessed the following number of earthquakes described as a magnitude 7.0 or greater: •15th Century - 2 earthquakes // •16th Century - 3 earthquakes // •17th Century - 7 earthquakes // •18th Century - 13 earthquakes // •19th Century - 29 earthquakes // •20th Century - 123 earthquakes. The first decade of the 21st Century has already witnessed 144 earthquakes with a magnitude of 7.0 or greater, putting humanity on course for 1,440 such earthquakes over the next one hundred year period!*”¹¹ Indeed, the “**birth pains**” have begun.

THE ENEMY WE FACE – PART I

Is Islam our enemy? It is a question that is fairly asked by politicians and pundits alike. As Representative Peter King of New York convenes hearings on Radical Islam, the Obama Administration has been blithe to assure the Muslim community in the United States that we are “not and never will be at war with Islam.” Statements by Deputy National Security Adviser Denis McDonough find the terror threat only in al-Qaeda and its’ affiliates. It is believed that al-Qaeda and the like have somehow hijacked the notion of Islam. As McDonough put it, these were those “who falsely claim to be fighting in the name of Islam.” However, this simplistic notion of ‘The Religion of Peace’ explicitly ignores the mission given them through their Prophet Mohammed. That is: To take the entire world for Islam. That ignores too what Bill Siegel called in *Family Security Matters*, the “second level” of jihad; “Civilization Jihad”. That’s a term first coined by the Muslim Brotherhood itself. He describes it as a “long term effort to peaceably infiltrate American and Western society at all levels in order to bring it down from the inside through the freedoms that Western Constitutions afford.” That’s using ourselves against ourselves. As the Guinness commercial is wont to say: “Brilliant!” It is through their efforts – and our willingness to serve as accomplices in our own destruction, that we get to the notion that we are somehow responsible for the hate they direct our way. It is accepting the Dhimmi / or inferior position in our relationship with Islam. That’s just where they want us. And that’s just the sort of thing that the Congressional hearings are designed to combat.¹²

But this is so much more than a domestic issue. Our perception of this struggle is central to understanding the entire phenomenon that is being unleashed upon the world in these early months of 2011 – as well as the age-old struggle between the forces of East and West; of the Islamic and Christian worlds. We do ourselves no service in pretending that there is no war being fought. If it is only our enemy that recognizes that we are at war – then we are sure to lose this battle of civilizations. The focus of Representative King’s hearings highlight some of the dangers. These include: The recruiting of American Muslims for terror attacks within the US by al-Qaeda, the infiltration and use of mosques within the US to advance the jihadist cause, the refusal to cooperate with law enforcement investigations by many Muslim-American leaders, and the “manipulation and radicalization” of Americans in enlisting them to participate in terror activities. Melvin Bledsoe testified of this very thing. His son was the perpetrator of the attack against the Little Rock military recruiting station in 2009 in which one soldier was killed and another wounded. But wedded to political correctness – and political considerations – say that this is singling out the Islamic community unfairly. The government should be looking at other groups too.¹³

But is it really ‘unfair’? It is the FBI itself that has dubbed CAIR, (the Council on American Islamic Relations) as a front group for the Muslim Brotherhood. CAIR is consistently touted as a moderate Muslim organization, yet several of its leaders have confirmed terror ties and the organization is an unindicted co-conspirator in the “Holy Land Foundation terrorism financing trial.”^{14 15} But still we are told to ignore the evidence before our eyes; to accept the bad behavior of ‘Muslims Behaving Badly’! [No, not all of them or even a majority, but a significant number nonetheless.] (Recall the various airline incidents, like Flight 297 out of Atlanta in 2009. Men in Islamic garb engaged in behavior designed it seem to terrorize passengers and crews alike. To many it even suggested a terrorist “dry run”.^{16 17}) To Siegel, our acquiescence in such cases is a form of a “protection contract: you can live as long as you abide by these conditions.”¹⁸

That has been our history, it seems. Since the 1950’s, “the United States has secretly struck up alliances with the Brotherhood or its offshoots.” We’ve done so to fight Communism, calm tensions among Muslims in Europe, tweak the Soviet Union or improve our relations with the oil producing Arab World. We’ve supported freedom fighters in Afghanistan, which later devolved into al-Qaeda. It is the bed we’ve chosen to lie in. Again we are winking and nodding approvingly at actions of the Brotherhood and its spin-offs. Perhaps it’s the best deal the Obama White House thinks it can

get. But we've made these compromising deals in the past; always to affect short term gains. And they've always played out in the long run with long term losses.¹⁹

We've signaled our approval of the revolutions. Now we must look to the proof of the pudding. Exactly what is it that the revolts are bringing? [Don't get me wrong. Repressive dictatorships should be removed wherever possible. But let's be careful about the revolutionaries that we embrace.] The freedom fighters that succeeded in bringing down Mubarak in Egypt are still Muslim to the core. Polls have found that 84% of Egyptians want the death penalty for anyone leaving Islam. 82% believe adulterers should be stoned and 54% approve of suicide bombing.²⁰ Is that what we support?

The radical nature of this *emerging Egyptian democratic movement... (ahem)...* was demonstrated again by another deadly attack against the Christian community there. Back in December of 2010, the bombing of a Coptic Christian Church killed 21 and wounded 43. In the latest violence, a Muslim mob of around 4,000 attacked the homes of Christians there and burned out the village church. Muslim on Christian violence is relatively routine in this most Western and civilized nation of the Arab world. In April of 2010 Dina el-Gowrahy, Christian daughter of a convert to Islam was attacked with acid. In July her father was stabbed in the neck. In addition, the entire Christian population in Egypt – and more so in other areas of the Middle East – are subject life as 2nd class citizens “legally unable to repair churches, often prey to the predations of Islamists, and at all times unsure of their future.”^{21 22}

Still, it is argued, that is not the way of the majority of Muslims. That is true. Certainly, Muslims, for the most part, are peace-loving, everyday normal people, with the same desires fears and aspirations as other segments of society. Yet all who participated in the 9/11 plot were young Muslim males. It is adherents of Islam that were behind the attack on the Cole, the first attempt at blowing up the Twin Towers, the endless parade of suicide attacks in Israel, and on and on. Writing in the Jewish World Review, Daniel Pipes points out that the Islamic assassins of Egyptian President, Anwar Sadat, (who was killed for making peace with Israel), - decorated their cells with banners proclaiming “The Caliphate of Death”. Is this what Islam really seeks; unfettered, life and death, control of the whole world? According to their religious teachings: YES! There is a direct causal relationship between Radical Islam – (the religion according to their scriptures and teachings) - and Terror. It is a faith committed to world domination, - by any means.

The ‘Religion of Peace’ itself is at the root of terrorism. It is built in to their theological assumptions. The motivation, as Daniel Pipes points out, is not necessarily to cause the West, or the US or even Israel to retreat. Rather the motivation is the establishment of an Islamic World Empire. Bin Laden referred to it as the “pious caliphate”. Islamist thinker Abdullah Azzam declared that his goal was “...the establishment of Allah’s Rule on earth”.²³ This is to come with the arrival of the Mahdi; and that ushered in by a period of chaos.

So do not be fooled into thinking that their motivation is poverty on the Arab Street or resentment of the West. It is simply a literal and dedicated reading of the Koran and the Hadith that spawns the terror, fed by a culture that nurtures it with its 7th century code of ethics and honor.

All the while imams will periodically issue a ruling that justifies the killing of civilians, - so long as it is done in the name of advancing Islam. That is its sole requirement. All the while, the Koran is preached with its clear justifications for violence against the foes of Islam. “Slay the idolaters wherever you find them”, Sura 9:5 commands. And the violent and arbitrary Mohammed himself is held up as model. That ethic has found its expression against the West through terror. Here are some examples worth remembering:

The takeover of the American Embassy in Tehran in 1979, - The 1983 bombing of the US Embassy in Beirut killing 63, - The attack on the Marine barracks in that same year, killing 241, - Take over of the Achille Lauro cruise ship in 1985, - Attacks on American servicemen in Madrid and Germany that same year, - The downing of Pan-Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland that killed 259, - The 1993 attempt to blow up the World Trade Center in New York that resulted in 6 killed and 1,000 injured, - The 1996 Khobar Towers bombing in Saudi Arabia, - The attacks on the American Embassies in Tanzania and Kenya which killed 224, - The October 2000 attack on the USS Cole, the French Tanker and Bali Night Club attacks of 2002, the London Underground attacks of 2005 -The Attack on 9/11. And for Israel: The slaughter of the Munich Olympics, the incessant suicide bombings, till no place is safe: Thus is the fruit of the “Religion of Peace”.

Avi Rath, writing for YNET News gives warning of what lies ahead. “Islam has a clear mission, which it doesn't try to hide – to take over the world.” To Rath, this is all part of a pattern in which the world is shifting once again – away from identification along national and political lines – toward a religious framework. He tackles it from the Israeli perspective.

“This is not a political dispute... What we have here is a deep religious war between Judaism and Islam, with political arguments only constituting the outer layer.”²⁴ By extension we can add Christianity to the enemies Islam has claimed for itself. So as we look at Islam; its origin, its practice, its meaning and its future significance, - we see in it a perfect foil for the nation of Israel, set up in direct opposition to God’s people and the Truth of the Bible. Mr Rath’s headline says it thus: “Prepare for holy wars.” The irony of it is: They are already here!

WISCONSIN: NO ‘RULES FOR RADICALS’

“And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.” (Matthew 24:12)

The chaos begins. Governor Scott Walker and the Republican majority in the Wisconsin Legislature had been stymied. They’ve been trying to balance a budget and they had legislation that would have state workers pay a larger share of their retirement and medical insurance premiums and take away collective bargaining rights from public employee unions – except with regard to wages. They had the votes but they needed at least one Democrat to show up to make a quorum and the Dems had left the state. So the Republicans managed a parliamentary maneuver they removed the budget provisions – meaning that they didn’t need the absent Dems for a quorum – and they promptly passed the legislation curtailing collective bargaining rights. And that’s when the trouble started.

Within hours there were 7,000 protesters at the capitol building in Madison. The crowd by the dozens pushed past police and into the building proper.^{25 26} News footage showed alarms ringing, protesters trying to enter through windows and a very restrained police response. Protest leaders, Michael Moore and Jesse Jackson have been trying to portray the issue as one where the Government of Wisconsin is laying off masses of state workers forcing them to default on mortgages and be pushed out into the streets homeless. The fact is, the proposed arrangement would actually prevent layoffs. [But let’s not let the Truth get in the way of a good revolutionary opportunity.]

In and around the capitol crowds would chant “Do the right thing”, fighting off police and ignoring orders to vacate or disperse. There was incessant ‘pagan’ drumming, random horn blowing, atavistic dancing and a man dressed in a costume reminiscent of ancient religious practices complete with a actual deer head mask. This was like something out of a bad 60’s movie on the protests of that troubled decade.^{27 28} And then there was something much more sinister. There were death threats – addressed to Wisconsin’s GOP Senators. Here’s just little bit of it...so you can get the flavor:

Subject: Atten: Death threat!!!! Bomb!!!!

Please put your things in order because you will be killed and your families will also be killed due to your actions in the last 8 weeks. Please explain to them that this is because if we get rid of you and your families then it will save the rights of 300,000 people and also be able to close the deficit that you have created. I hope you have a good time in hell. Read below for more information on possible scenarios in which you will die...We have all planned to assault you by arriving at your house and putting a nice little bullet in your head.²⁹

It goes on in like way. What we are seeing is a little bit of the revolutionary fever breaking on American shores. This multiplied is just what the Pentagon and Homeland Security has prepared for. That very scenario has brought American combat troops to be assigned and trained for use in case of domestic unrest. This is just what futurists like Gerald Celente and think tanks like LEAP 20/20 have been telling us would happen these last few years. It is the reason that each president since Eisenhower has put in place contingency plans – declared by executive order – to have the Federal Government seize control whenever an emergency is declared. The trouble may be localized now - but in the future...And it is all driven by greed and a growing inability to satisfy our desires. Thus we see selfishness abound across this once great land. Yes we are still filled with many good and godly people who still seek the Lord. But our culture is fallen. And our majority is confused – about right & wrong, and good & evil, and we have lost the one true path. Here are the words of Paul describing the Last Days. **“For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power.”** (2Timothy 3:2-5) I cannot stress this enough. It is time to repent. It is time to seek the Lord of the Universe; to turn from our sins – first as individuals – then as a church – we the ‘people called by His name’ – to fall on our knees. Then finally, as a nation we MUST do the same. But it starts with us.

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