

THE ONE WHO IS COMING WILL COME, AND HE WILL NOT DELAY!

MARANATHA!

HOPE OF GLORY

MHG #43 * JULY 2012

THE RAPTURE IS IMMINENT!

*"You know what time it is!
It is high time for us to wake up,
for our salvation is nearer now
than when we first believed.
The night is nearly over,
and the day is almost here !"*



**IMPLOSION!
AMERICA
IS TEETERING
ON A PRECIPICE!**

**GILBERT TENNENT
A "SON OF THUNDER"**

THE DAY IS ALMOST HERE !!!

Most of my regular readers are well aware that these times are alarming and crucial, and that the Climax of the Age is near.

"Perilous times are here." (2 Timothy 3:1)

"For the Day of YHWH* draws near on all the nations." (Obadiah v.15). "The Day of YHWH is coming; surely it is near." (Joel 2:1).

(* Yahweh - the Name of God. See final item below)

"You know what time it is! It is high time for us to wake up from slumber; for our salvation *is* nearer now than when we *first* believed. The night is nearly over, and **the day is almost here**. Let us therefore cast away the deeds of darkness and put on the armour of light." (Romans 13:11-12)

The prologue to the Book of Revelation promises:

"Blessed is the one who reads, and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and take to heart, *and guard and keep* what is written in it, for **the time is near!**" (Revelation 1:3)

What is this day that is coming?

There are, in fact, according to the Scriptures, three crucial "days" that are coming.

1. The Day of the Trumpet – the day of Deliverance of the Messiah's people by means of **the Rapture**. This is the believer's Blessed Hope — the confident expectation based on the promise of Jesus, Y'shua the Messiah - that He will come again and receive His people to Himself. (John 14:1-3). It is the time when the trumpet blast begins the Evacuation of the Redeemed of the Lord; the catching up of the Bride of Christ to the Father's House in Heaven. (1 Thessalonians 1:10. & 4:16-18). This is **one single day**.

2. The Day of YHWH, which is a day of darkness and gloom, (Joel 2:1-20); the day of Great Tribulation such as has never occurred before, and that will never be repeated. (Matthew 24:21). It is the seven-year Day of the LORD. It is the Day burning like a furnace. (Malachi 4:1). It's a judgment time. This is for **seven years**.

3. The Day of the Kingdom – the Messianic Millennial Reign that fulfils our 2,000-year-long prayer: “Your kingdom come.” (Matthew 6:10). It is the “Glorious Age” promised through the prophets of Israel. (Daniel 7:13-14. Psalm 47:2, 7-8. 48:1-2). It's the 1,000-year worldwide reign of righteousness of the Messiah – God's Anointed One – the Christ. This is for **One thousand years**. And it is also the first 1,000 years of the Eternal Kingdom, for Y'shua the Messiah will reign for ever and ever. (Revelation 11:15).

THREE AWESOME “DAYS”

will be experienced by three different types of people.

1. The Day of the Trumpet. The Rapture will be for all **born again believers** of this present Age of the New Covenant. They will reign with the Messiah, the King of Kings, as His Bride. This is not intended to be an “exclusive” group, but it is only for those who have received Y'shua the Messiah as their personal Saviour.

The present invitation is for “whoever will,” to come ...

“For whoever will call upon the Name of the Lord will be saved.” (Romans 10:13).

“For *YHWH, the Almighty* God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, so that **whoever** believes in Him, should not perish, but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16)

“The LORD is not slow concerning His promise, as some understand slowness, but is patient toward you, **not wanting anyone to perish**, but for everyone to come to repentance.” (2 Peter 3:9)

2. The Day of the LORD – the Great Tribulation judgment is for **all who are not saved**, and who are living on earth after the Rapture – the people who have been left behind, and have not been caught up to the Father's House.

“Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God now commands all people everywhere to repent, because **He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world** in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all by raising Him from the dead.” (Acts 17:30-31)

3. The Day of the Kingdom – the glorious Millennium is for **believers who receive Y'shua the Messiah during the Tribulation**. Firstly, they are those who **refuse** to worship Satan and receive the Mark of the Beast, and yet survive the seven Tribulation years. They will enter the kingdom when the Messiah returns to earth.

“Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by My Father, **inherit the kingdom** prepared for you from the foundation of the world.’” (Matthew 25:34)

Secondly, those who have been **martyred** during the Tribulation because of their testimony for the Messiah and the Word of God, will be raised to life and will enter the kingdom to reign with the King as His administration.

“And I *saw* the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony for Y'shua and because of the Word of God - these had not worshipped the beast or his image and had not received his mark upon their foreheads or upon their hands. They came to life and reigned with the Messiah for a thousand years.” (Revelation 20:4)

When Will These Three “Days” Take Place?

No one on earth knows the actual date when these three days will begin. A number of people over the centuries have calculated and set dates for the Coming of the Lord, but they have ended up as laughing stocks. The Master Himself said:

"Of that day and hour no one knows; not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only." (Matthew 24:36)

But the **Rapture** day is presented in Scripture as being **imminent**, which means it can be expected to happen anytime soon, perhaps today, this year, or next year.

The **Tribulation** begins shortly after the Rapture, and after the Antichrist is revealed and arbitrates a 7-year treaty. It could start even this year, or any year soon.

The **Kingdom** begins shortly after the completion of the Tribulation, and when the King returns in power. It could possibly start as early as seven or eight years from now, but it depends on when the Tribulation is completed.

Today many Christians are sleeping; many are bogged down in their busy lives, or in entertainment; they are too preoccupied with varied interests to watch, and to be on the alert for the Master's return, and to seriously study the Bible's endtime prophecies. And tragically, many "believers" today seem to be quite sceptical about whether the Rapture will really happen. Some say, "Oh, it could be hundreds or even thousands of years away." They simply don't believe the Second Coming is imminent.

But I want to tell my readers, and as many others as possible, that **the Rapture IS imminent**, and that there are many signs happening **every day**, all around the world, that are proclaiming, **Jesus is coming soon**, and, **"the Judge is standing right at the door."** (James 5:9)

The Master says to **His People**: "Be patient, therefore, brethren, until the coming of the Master." (James 5:7)

"I am coming quickly." (Revelation 22:7, 12, 20)

And to **the world** in general, the Word of God says:

"Seek YHWH while He may be found. Call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts. Let him return to YHWH, and He will have compassion on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon." Isaiah 55:6-7

THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH IS IMMINENT



An Imminent event is one that is expected and could happen at any minute. The imminent return of Jesus Christ for the Church means it can happen **at any moment**. It means that there are no **specific** events that we could say, **must** happen before the Rapture.

As Christians we should be on alert 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The Saviour said:

“Therefore **be on the alert**, for you do not know which day your Master is coming.”
(Matthew 24:42)

If the Rapture is truly imminent, it must take place before the Tribulation begins. If the Church was required to wait for certain events to happen, then the Rapture would not be imminent; it would be predictable.

The **Pre-Tribulation rapture** is the only view that requires the Rapture to be imminent. A **mid** or **post** Tribulation Rapture would require the Tribulation events to take place before the Rapture, and therefore it could **not** be called **imminent**.

To be looking for the **imminent** return of Christ, you need to believe in a Pre-Tribulation Rapture.

The late Dallas Professor, John Walvoord called imminency, "the heart of Pre-Tribulationism."

Y'shua repeatedly said that His return for the Church would be a surprise; it would even be "as a thief" arriving when many believers are not expecting Him.

“Therefore **be on the alert**, for you do not know which day your Master is coming. But be sure of this, that if the head of the house had known at what time the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have allowed his house to be broken into.” (Matthew 24:42-43)

“Be on the alert then, for you do not know the day or the hour when the Son of Man will come.” (Matthew 25:13).

This "any-moment" language, of course, does not fit a post-Trib rapture. If Jesus must hold back from coming until after the battle of Magog, the rise of Antichrist, and the Mark of the Beast, then it would not be imminent, and we would have no need to watch for Him before the Tribulation.

To deny or explain away imminency, is to create another problem regarding the restrictions against knowing the timing of the Rapture

“For this reason you also be ready; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not expect *Him*.” (Matthew 24:44)

Todd Strandberg of <www.raptureready.com> has contributed to the above item. He has also supplied the following historical information.

MARANATHA !



One the strongest cases one can make for the **early Church** expecting an imminent return of Christ is to note their use of the word *Maranatha*, which was used as a greeting in those days. When believers gathered or parted, they didn't say "hello" or "goodbye"; they would say "*Maranatha!*"

Some writers say *Maranatha* is Hebrew or Greek, but it is actually an Aramaic expression. In fact, it is made up of three Aramaic words: *Mar*, which means "**Lord**"; *ana*, which means "**our**"; and *tha*, which means "**come**."

So when you put it together, Maranatha means "*Our Lord, come.*" It perfectly conveys the concept that the Lord could come at any moment. Maranatha is used only once in the Bible.

In 1 Corinthians 16:22, Paul said, "If any man love not the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be Anathema. Maranatha."

The word "anathema" means "banned," so Paul was saying, "If any man love not the Lord Jesus Christ let him be banned from our Lord's coming."

The interesting thing about Maranatha is that it comes in the form of a petition. When a Christian in the early Church would make this statement, he was actually praying for the Lord to come.

If members of the first-century Church believed that certain events needed to take place before the Saviour could return, they would have been silly to greet each other with "Maranatha." They lived nearly 2,000 years ago, and yet they seem to have had a deeper awareness of imminency than many of today's Christians.

THE HISTORICAL RECORD

Many of the contemporary writers who attack imminency try to promote the idea that this doctrine was recently dreamed up by people who were ignorant of the true meaning of Scripture.

One detractor states, "This frenzy [imminency] continues to survive today because of modern misconceptions about the purpose of these prophetic events and the time frame for their occurrence."

Post-Trib believers are the most vocal in their claim that the concepts of imminency and the pre-Trib Rapture only date back to the early 1800s. For several years, their charges went unanswered, but recently a number of diligent believers have dusted off old manuscripts and found several early Church fathers who were clearly looking for an imminent return of the Lord Jesus.

"All the saints and elect of God are gathered together **before the tribulation**, which is to come, and are taken to the Lord, in order that they may not see at any time the confusion which overwhelms the world because of our sins." (Pseudo-Ephraem - 374-427 AD).

The First Epistle of Clement, (written around 96 A.D. by Clement, a prominent leader of the church at Rome who knew some of the apostles personally and probably is the Clement referred to in Phil. 4:3): "Of a truth, soon and suddenly shall His will be accomplished, as the Scripture also bears witness, saying, 'speedily will He come, and will not tarry.'"

As early as 70-180 AD, *The Didache*, chapter 16, section 1, says, "Be vigilant over your life; let your lamps not be extinguished, or your loins ungirded, but be prepared, for you know not the hour in which our Lord will come."

"But what a spectacle is that fast-approaching advent of our Lord, now owned by all, now highly exalted, now a triumphant One!" (Tertullian 155 - 245 AD).



JOHN CALVIN,

the reformer at Geneva during the 1500s, made the following statements in some of his commentaries on books of the Bible:

"Be prepared to **expect Him every day**, or rather **every moment.**"
"As He has promised that He will return to us, we ought to hold ourselves prepared, **at every moment** to receive Him." "Today we must be alert to grasp the **imminent return of Christ.**"

Commenting on 1 Thessalonians 4 — the "Rapture passage" — Calvin said that Paul "means by this to arouse the Thessalonians to wait for it, nay more, to hold all believers in suspense, that they may not promise themselves some particular time . . . that believers might **be prepared at all times.**"

The Westminster Confession, written by the Puritans of England during the 1600s, declared that men should "shake off all carnal security and **be always watchful**, because they know not at what hour the Lord will come."

History has proven that mankind is a dreadful biblical guide. The apostasy that swept over the Church caused a lack of prophecy commentary from about 450 AD until the 1600s. People stopped thinking for themselves. Their interpretation of the Bible became what the institutional church spoon-fed them.

Pre-millennialism largely disappeared after it was condemned as heretical by the Council of Ephesus in 431 AD. It wasn't until the reform movement of the early seventeenth century that we see a rebound in the number of statements that reflect the Pre-Tribulational view.

A great number of verses in the Bible support imminency, including the following. Here are a few of them.

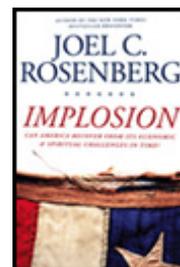
"But of that day and hour no man knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only." (Matthew 24:36)

"And **to wait for His Son from heaven**, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath to come." (1 Thessalonians 1:10)

"For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live sensible (*self-controlled*), upright and godly *lives* in this present age, **awaiting and looking for the blessed hope** - the glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour, Y'shua the Messiah." (Titus 2:11-13)

See also, Mark 13:33-37. Romans 13:11-12. Hebrews 9:28. Hebrews 10:24-25. Hebrews 10:37. James 5:7-9. Revelation 22:20.

Thanks to Todd Strandberg <www.raptureready.com>



IMPLOSION !!

AMERICA IS TEETERING ON A PRECIPICE

BY JOEL C ROSENBERG

More and more people are asking, "**Can America survive?**" What does the future hold? ... What does the Bible say about the future of the United States?

The United States has long been the wealthiest, most powerful nation on the face of the Earth in the history of mankind but now, in the midst of unprecedented and skyrocketing federal debt, severe economic troubles, financial turmoil, political uncertainty, declining morality, a weak Church, growing spiritual apathy and apostasy, historic natural disasters, and myriad other daunting challenges, many wonder if America's best days are behind her.

Will history's greatest democracy stage a miraculous comeback, returning to the forefront of the world's economic and spiritual stage?

Can America's remarkable religious heritage be renewed today with a **third Great Awakening?**

Or will the rise of China, Russia, Radical Islam, and other nations -- coupled with the U.S.'s severe internal struggles -- send her into a **death spiral** from which there can be no return?

Endtime prophetic writer, Joel Rosenberg, confronts these questions in his latest book, **IMPLOSION**. He deals with the enormous economic, social, and spiritual challenges facing the United States in the 21st century, through the lens of biblical prophecy, and explains how we can make a difference at this critical crossroads in our history.

Joel was interviewed by Dennis Miller on his radio show recently. Joel says, "It was a good and lively discussion, but as we were talking about **IMPLOSION**, he scolded me for not getting to the point and asked if I really believed America had gone too far and was really in danger of collapse, or if I was just trying to sell books. And then he was even more pointed and essentially asked, 'Is there any hope?' I answered them in the brief amount of time we had on air." Here is a more detailed response:

FAMILIES ARE IMPLODING, DEBT IS EXPLODING

Our only hope is Jesus Christ, and a Third Great Awakening.

JUNE 13/12. Yes, I do believe that something has gone terribly wrong with the American experiment. Our families are imploding. Our national debt is exploding.

Experts on the left and the right warn we are on an un-sustainable trajectory and urgently need to change course. Yet too many in Washington, academia, the media and even the church are in a "**business as usual**" mode. As a result, millions of Americans fear the ice is cracking under their feet.

Consider the state of the American family. All around us we can see marriages falling apart. Marital unfaithfulness is rampant. Couples we never thought would get divorced are leaving each other, creating devastatingly painful wounds in themselves and their children.

"The **decline of the American family** is the hidden issue in our election," notes Patrick Caddell, a long-time Democrat strategist. "Sadly, neither presidential candidate is talking about our **family structure or traditional values** in any positive or constructive way. But we are now facing a crisis of serious proportions that affects all Americans, regardless of race and class."

William Bennett, the Republican former Education Secretary and Drug Czar in the Reagan and Bush administrations, concurs. He notes that "since 1960, even taking into account recent improvements, we have seen a **467%** increase in violent crime;a **461%** increase in out-of-wedlock births; more than a **200%** increase in the percentage of children living in single-parent homes; more than a doubling of the teen suicide rate and a doubling of the divorce rate."

A new report by the Centers for Disease Control indicates 23% of American **teens** are now smoking marijuana, while 1-in-3 are regularly drinking alcohol, and 20% indulge in binge drinking.

Meanwhile, a new FBI report on crime statistics notes that overall crime declined slightly in 2011. But murders in small towns are skyrocketing – up 18.3% last year alone. Isn't "small town America" the place we thought our faith and values were strong?

Now consider our fiscal crisis. The **federal debt** has blown past **\$15 trillion**. We are facing an estimated **\$65 trillion** of unfunded liabilities related to Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid. Yet even with these massive icebergs of debt straight ahead of us, Washington isn't slowing the ship of state down or changing course. Rather we are speeding up.

Annual deficits in Washington have climbed from \$300 to \$400 billion under President Bush, to **\$1 trillion** or more under President Obama. As a result, the economy remains weak, millions of Americans have lost their homes to foreclosure, and a new report by the Federal Reserve shows the average American family has lost 40% of their net financial worth in the last three years.

“We are steadily becoming more vulnerable to economic disaster on an epic scale,” warned Professor Simon Johnson, an economist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. “These deficits are **like a cancer**. They will truly destroy this country from within if we don’t take care of them.”

“We know we’re going to have **an economic collapse** if we stay on the path we are on,” warned Republican Congressman Paul Ryan, chairman of the House Budget Committee. “To me it’s unconscionable as an elected representative of people to know that that’s coming and not try to do something to prevent it from happening.”

The bad news: We are experiencing **an epic failure at nearly every level of American society**.

But I do believe there is **good news:** Twice in our history we’ve seen dramatic revivals in America. In the early 1700s, America experienced what historians call the “**Great Awakening**” as pastors like Jonathan Edwards in Massachusetts began pleading with God to pour out His Holy Spirit and turn people’s hearts back to Christ. Pastors began holding prayer and fasting meetings. They began preaching verses like 2 Chronicles 7:14:

“If My people who are called by My Name will humble themselves and pray, and seek My Face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sins, and will heal their land.”

And though that was a promise for the nation of Israel, they beseeched God to apply it to America, and God heard and answered their prayers and a massive spiritual revival broke out all throughout New England.

In the early 1800s, we experienced a “**Second Great Awakening**,” which was even more sweeping in its spiritual depth and even broader geographically. Millions of Americans all across the country awoke from their moral and spiritual slumber and turned to a sincere and personal faith in Jesus Christ. They studied the Bible voraciously and obeyed God’s commands. They returned to church, planted new churches, and shared the Gospel.

These new believers also turned their faith into action. They founded elementary schools for girls and boys. They established colleges dedicated to teaching the Scriptures and the sciences. They led social campaigns to persuade Americans to stop drinking so much alcohol and to abolish the evil of slavery. They didn’t expect the government to take care of all their needs; they believed it was the Church’s job to show the love of Christ to their neighbors in real and practical ways. They were right, and they helped get America back on the right track.

It’s time to do it again. Yes, we urgently need leaders to make bold reforms to solve our debt crisis. But we also desperately need to realize that our only ultimate hope is the Lord Jesus Christ. As Jesus said in John 11:25-26:

“I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?”

That’s the central question. Do you believe this? I do. I know that only Christ’s love, mercy, and transforming power can save us. We need to repent of our sins, and plead with Him to pour out His Holy Spirit. We need to beseech Him to give us a Third Great Awakening before it’s too late. Otherwise, **I believe our nation will surely implode.**
<http://flashtrafficblog.wordpress.com/>



GILBERT TENNENT A "SON OF THUNDER"

BY DAVID SMITHERS

It was upon the bed of affliction that Gilbert Tennent was taught of God. In approximately **1728**, this young gifted Presbyterian minister became extremely ill. Uncertain if he would recover, he entered into a deep vision of eternity and time of repentance.

He writes, "I was then exceedingly grieved I had done so little for God . . . I therefore prayed to God that He would be pleased to give me **one half year more**. I was determined to promote His kingdom with all my might and at all adventures."

Mr Tennent's prayer was answered, and he was revived in both body and spirit. He laboured as never before to "sound the trumpet of God's judgment and alarm the secure by the terrors of the Lord."

He was a man literally consumed with a vision of the holiness of God... The anointed George Whitefield writes of him, "Hypocrites must soon be converted or enraged at his preaching. He is a **son of thunder** and does not regard the face of man. He is deeply sensible of the **deadness** and **formality** of the Christian church in these parts, and has given noble testimonies against it."

Gilbert Tennent preached as if "never sure to preach again, and as a dying man to dying men." His preaching was far from typical of his day. A historian of the "Great Awakening" describes the average minister's methods: "The habit of the preachers was to address their people as though they were all pious and only needed instruction and confirmation. **It was not a common thing to proclaim the terrors of a violated law and insist on the absolute necessity of regeneration.**"

Mr Tennent himself describes this kind of popular preaching. "They often strengthened the hands of the wicked by promising them life. They comfort people before they convince them; sow before they plow: and are busy in raising a fabric before they lay a foundation. These foolish builders strengthen men's carnal security by their soft, selfish, cowardly discourses. They have not the courage or honesty to thrust the nail of terror into the sleeping souls!"

From 1736 through the 1740's, Gilbert Tennent's ministry was greatly blessed in promoting revival among the middle colonies in America. His ministry overlapped and supported the ministries of such godly men as Jonathan Edwards and George Whitefield. He carried with him the very seeds of revival, and when he preached, **revival fire fell**. It must be remembered that the American church in the 18th century would probably have died of dry rot without the Spirit-filled ministry of Gilbert Tennent.

During one of Boston's most severe winters, people waded through the snow night and day for the benefit of hearing the fiery Tennent preach. "You could criticize him; you could praise him; but you could not ignore him!"

No one slumbered peacefully when he was around; not even the church. Gilbert Tennent was in truth, **the voice of one crying in the wilderness - REPENT!** He could

boldly warn men of the wrath of God because he had boldly agonized and travailed for their souls, "Often his soul wept in secret for the pride and obstinacy of those who refused to be reclaimed."

Throughout Tennent's ministry he kept his zeal and love for Christ fervent through **constant prayer**. "He made prayer his chief and most delightful employment." HalleluYah!



UNITED STATES

HAVE WE (AMERICA) CROSSED THE LINE?

Grant Phillips writes: - The President of the United States has made it official. He is in full support of marriage between same sex couples. The Vice-President first presented his support which nudged the President to make his support known.

Several States now support same sex marriage, as do many governors and past governors. Most of the Democratic leadership and some even among the Republican leadership also openly support same sex marriage. Nearly all Hollywood celebrities, producers, directors, etc. support same sex marriage. Many in the music field have made their support public. **Even among religious organizations, same sex marriage is supported and promoted.**

Now that the one voice who speaks for all Americans has made his support known publicly, have we crossed the line with God? In my opinion, we are way beyond the line, headed toward destruction. There is no turning back.

The Lord God tells us exactly where we have gone wrong as a nation. Listen to these words.

“Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!” (Isaiah 5:20-21)

Have we crossed the line? It is my belief that we have crossed the line, and there is no turning back from God's judgment, simply because we will not choose to repent.

<http://www.raptureready.com/>

“OBAMA HAS ‘SHAKEN HIS FIST’ AT GOD”

MAY 10/12. Evangelist Franklin Graham, son of Billy Graham, said, “President Obama has, in my view, shaken his fist at the same God who created and defined marriage. “This is a sad day for America. May God help us!”

U.S. JUDGE: “CUT 10 COMMANDMENTS TO SIX”

MAY 2012. Are the Ten Commandments about to become the Six Commandments?

“Thou shalt not edit” is not among the famous list of God's Laws from the Bible, but a U.S. District Judge has suggested that reducing the Ten Commandments to just six would help solve a dispute between the ACLU and the Giles County, Va., School District.

Eighteen months ago, a parent objected to the Ten Commandments being posted in a district high school as part of a huge collage of documents linked to America's political and legal heritage. Several other documents in the school display reference to God,

including the Magna Carta and Declaration of Independence, but no one is asking that those be taken down or edited.

The school district does not want them removed and the case remains in U.S. District Court.

Now federal Judge Michael Urbanski has offered a compromise. He suggested scrapping the first four commandments and leaving just the final six. Urbanski suggested that could resolve the dispute since the first four commandments directly refer to mankind's relationship to God and the final six concern mankind's relationship to creation, other people, and things.

Liberty Counsel, which is representing the school district in court, rejects the judge's proposal.



MOHAMMED MORSI ELECTED AS EGYPT'S NEW PRESIDENT

JUNE 25/12. EGYPT'S first Islamist to be elected to the presidency, vowed to bring peace and unity, and said he will be a leader "for all Egyptians" (Muslims and Christians), and called for national unity after a polarising race.

"I will be a president for all Egyptians," Morsi said just hours after he was declared president following a deeply divisive race against Ahmed Shafiq, the last premier to serve under ousted president Hosni Mubarak.

"I call on you, great people of Egypt ... to strengthen our national unity," he said, adding that national unity "is the only way out of these difficult times."

Mr Morsi ([also spelt Mursi](#)) won 51.73% of the vote. The 60-year-old engineer also vowed to honour international treaties. "We will preserve all international treaties and charters ... we come in peace," he said.

It wasn't long, however, before Morsi was telling Iran he will "reconsider the **Camp David Accord**" with Israel, and that he wants closer ties with Tehran to create a "balance" in the Middle East.

While Morsi presents a face of peace, unity, moderation and harmony, the widespread fears are of very dark days ahead. The country is very divided.

Egypt is once more, **prophecy in the making**. See Jeremiah 46:5-8; Isaiah 19; Ezekiel 29; Daniel 11:40-42; and Joel 3:19.

THE MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD VICTORY: A SEISMIC SHIFT IN THE MIDDLE EAST

BY CHRIS MITCHELL, *CBN NEWS*

The victory today by Mohammed Morsi represents a seismic shift in the Middle East. Now a member of the Muslim Brotherhood, the Islamic organization that has spawned most of the terror groups in the world—including Hamas—is the leader of the largest and most influential Arab nation in the Middle East.

While Morsi said he would govern with "moderate Islamic references," it's important to remember the creed of the Muslim Brotherhood:

"Allah is our objective; the Koran is our constitution, the Prophet is our leader; Jihad is our way; and death for the sake of Allah is the highest of our aspirations."

During Morsi's campaign, he also attended a rally at which Sheik Safawat Higzazi rallied the crowd in a chant to liberate Gaza and make **Jerusalem** the capital of Egypt.

Here's an excerpt from a MEMRI translation:

"Brandish your weapons... Say your prayers... And pray to the Lord. From the eyes of all Jews... Come on, you lovers of martyrdom... Banish the sleep from the eyes of all Jews. Come on, you lovers of martyrdom, you are all Hamas. Indeed, all the lovers of martyrdom are Hamas. I say from this podium, from al-Mahalla, from the heart of the Delta, the heart of Egypt, so that the whole world may hear. We say it loud and clear: Yes, **Jerusalem is our goal**. We shall pray in Jerusalem, or else we shall die as martyrs on its threshold."

A number of huge questions remain following Morsi's victory:

What will the consequences be for Israel? Is the more than 30 year peace treaty in jeopardy?

Will the Muslim Brotherhood confront the military, the current de facto power in Egypt?

What will be the fate of the millions of Coptic and evangelical Christians in Egypt?

Will women's and minorities rights be tolerated?

These questions remain and for now the scenes of jubilation from the Muslim Brotherhood crowds in Tahrir Square have gone around the world. But many, many Egyptians are deeply troubled. Here's how one Egyptian now living in the West expressed his feelings:

"Muhammad Morsi of Muslim Brotherhood won the election in Egypt. Today the true democracy dies in Egypt, may the Lord have mercy over the minority in Egypt, today human rights dies in the Middle East. I lost my country twice, the day that I left, and today."

"CHRISTIANS SHOULD CONVERT, PAY TRIBUTE, OR LEAVE."

According to the popular Egyptian website, *El Bashayer*, the Muslim Brotherhood presidential candidate, Muhammad Morsi, declared that he will "achieve the Islamic conquest of Egypt for the second time, and make all Christians convert to Islam, or else pay the jizya," the additional Islamic tax, or financial tribute, required of non-Muslims, or financial tribute.

On May 27, Morsi allegedly made these comments while speaking with a journalist at the headquarters of the Muslim Brotherhood's Freedom and Justice Party, adding "We will not allow Ahmed Shafiq [his contending presidential candidate] or anyone else to impede our second Islamic conquest of Egypt."

After his interviewer pointed out that the first Muslim conquest of Egypt was "carried out at the hands of Amr bin al-As [in 641]," he asked Morsi, "Who will the second Islamic conqueror be?" Morsi, replied, "The second Muslim conqueror will be Muhammad Morsi," referring to himself, "and history will record it."

<http://www.gatestoneinstitute.org>

JUDGE UPHOLDS CHRISTIAN'S PRISON SENTENCE IN EGYPT

MAY 24/12. A judge in Upper Egypt has upheld a six-year sentence of a Christian man convicted of blasphemy against Islam.

The charges resulted from an argument between 49-year-old Makarem Diab and a co-worker about differences between Jesus and Muhammad. Diab was sentenced on February 29 in a 10-minute hearing during which he had no defence attorney.

At his first appeals hearing on March 16, the co-worker instigated a riot by Muslim attorneys outside the courthouse. The angry lawyers interrupted Diab's hearing, assaulted his attorneys and blocked access to the courtroom.

Diab's lawyer, who said the judge upheld the sentence out of fear, is attempting to appeal the sentence again. Diab is being held in Assiut General Prison.

Pray that Diab will get a fair hearing and that he will remain strong during his imprisonment. Pray that he will exemplify the love of God through consistent love and prayer for those who persecute him. (Matthew 5:43-48). - Source: VOM-USA

IRAN CRACKS DOWN ON CHRISTIANS

The Iranian Revolutionary Guard, the militia of the supreme council of Iran, has stepped up its persecution of Iranian Christians and the closing down of churches.

Iranian believers fear that the militant regime will unleash an extensive persecution, imprisoning and killing Christians in the Islamic republic. The death penalty has already been imposed on those who convert from Islam to Christianity, but converts are usually imprisoned and then offered release if they renounce their faith in Jesus Christ.

Reports coming out of the **Middle East** indicate an increase in the attacks on churches and Christians across this region of the world.

A high ranking Muslim cleric in **Saudi Arabia** recently issued a *fatwah* calling for Muslims to attack all churches, kill Christians and to **rid the Middle East of Christianity**.

Recently a video was screened on Egyptian TV, showing a gruesome **beheading** of a Christian convert in **Tunisia**. After a lengthy berating of the man for the crime of apostasy, and for refusing to recant, his head was hacked off over several minutes. So horrible! This was no "clean," single chop, guillotine beheading!

The persecution of Christians throughout the world today is a foreshadowing of the beheadings and martyrdoms that will take place during the Great Tribulation according to the Book of Revelation.

When Satan and his demonic angels are thrown down from the Heavenly realm, in about the middle of the Tribulation, they will seek to eliminate all who refuse the Mark of the Beast and who stand for Y'shua the Messiah. The Jews who believe in Y'shua, in particular, will be the focus of furious Satanic persecution. (Revelation 12:13-17)

IRANIAN PASTOR'S LAWYER FACES 9 YEAR PRISON SENTENCE

The main defence lawyer for Youcef Nadarkhani, an Iranian pastor who is appealing a death sentence, may be facing imminent imprisonment **for defending the rights of Iranians**, reports Amnesty International.

Mohammad Ali Dadkhah, a prominent human rights activist, had been sentenced in July to a nine-year prison sentence and a 10-year ban on legal practice and teaching. On

April 28, he learned that an appeals court has upheld the sentence. Charges against him include "membership of an association seeking the soft overthrow of the government" and "spreading propaganda against the system through interviews with foreign media."

- www.persecution.net/ir-2012-02-23.htm



ISRAEL

TIME Crowns Netanyahu "KING BIBI"

MAY 23/12. When was the last time the leader of a country with fewer than eight million citizens made the cover of *Time* magazine?

Time Magazine devoted its lead story to PM Benjamin Netanyahu, who is featured on the cover of the renowned publication, under the heading 'King Bibi.'

Underneath the heading, in the article, titled 'Bibi's choice,' author Richard Stengel describes Netanyahu's unshakable political stature, writing that he 'is poised to become the longest-serving Israeli Prime Minister since David Ben-Gurion, the founding father of Israel. He has no national rival. His approval rating, roughly 50%, is at an all-time high.'"

It is further evidence that the eyes of the nations are indeed riveted on Israel, the epicenter of the momentous events that are shaping our times and shaking our world.

'LOST TRIBE' OF ISRAEL RETURNING HOME

MAY 14/12. After a five-year immigration halt, the Israeli government has given permission to a community of **Indian citizens** who believe they are one of the **Manasseh** tribe, to move to the Jewish state.

"We had a major breakthrough, and thank God, the Aliya [return to Israel] is set to recommence this summer, and we hope and pray to bring up to 300 *Bnei Menashe* immigrants, to Israel by the end of August," said Michael Freund, chairman of *Shavei Israel*, which is behind the initiative.

Shavei, based in Jerusalem, hopes to bring the remaining 7,000 Indian *Bnei Menashe* to the Jewish state in the next few years. They believe they are descendants of Manasseh, one of Joseph's two sons and a grandson of Jacob.

Already Freund's group helped facilitate the immigration of over 1,700 of them, with successive Israeli governments allowing and then halting the process.

Once in Israel, the original batches of *Bnei Menashe* converted officially to Judaism and became citizens.

Tribe members live in the two Indian states of Mizoram and Manipur, to which they say they were exiled from Israel more than 2,700 years ago by the Assyrian empire.

Most kept customs similar to Jewish tradition, including observing Shabbat, keeping the laws of Kosher, practicing circumcision on the eighth day of a baby boy's life and observing laws of family purity.

Freund sees the *Bnei Menashe* immigration as biblical, quoting from Isaiah 43:5, which states:

“Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west.”

“Those words,” Freund says, “are coming to life before our eyes. I think this is a very historic project. It is the closing of an historical circle. It is the return of a lost tribe of Israel after 27 centuries of exile, and it is a fulfillment of biblical prophecy.”
HalleluYah!

VATICAN LETS SLIP PLANS FOR ONE WORLD GOVERNMENT

OCT 24/11. In a note on the financial crisis and economic justice, Vatican officials accidentally call for the establishment of a **One World Global "Authority"** to regulate financial markets and national governments.

After gently noting that such a project is "a complex and delicate process," the document begins to capitalize the word "**Authority**" in the most unsettling, conspiracy-launching way possible:

*A supranational **Authority** of this kind should have a realistic structure and be set up gradually. It should be favourable to the existence of efficient and effective monetary and financial systems; that is, free and stable markets overseen by a suitable legal framework, well-functioning in support of sustainable development and social progress of all, and inspired by the values of charity and truth. It is a matter of an **Authority** with a global reach that cannot be imposed by force, coercion or violence, but should be the outcome of a free and shared agreement and a reflection of the permanent and historic needs of the world common good.*

The document was issued by the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, an office in the Vatican that is usually satisfied with issuing vague statements on social issues.

<http://www.businessinsider.com/whoops-vatican-lets-slip-plans-for-one-word-government-2011-10>

TBN NEWS (TIBET - BHUTAN - NEPAL)

NEPAL GOVERNMENT QUILTS

MAY 29. For the fourth time, the Nepal Constituent Assembly has failed to reach agreement on a new constitution that was intended to guide the Himalayan republic's final transition to democracy. The four main parties that make up the unity government were unable to agree on how to divide Nepal into states.

The Maoists, who fought a decade-long civil war against the Hindu monarchy, want the country divided into 14 states drawn and named along ethnic lines. Nepal has more than 100 ethnic minorities. The Maoists have dominated parliament since 2008 when they won the most seats in the first federal election following the abolition of Nepal's Shah Dynasty. But the plan is opposed by many other factions, who argue that, rather than helping to unite the nation, it will further inflame ethnic tensions.

The interim Prime Minister, Baburam Bhattarai, who is also the Maoist leader, conceded defeat on a four-year effort to draft the democratic constitution, and then called for elections in November.

In his Republic Day speech, Bhattarai said, "I beg apology from the Nepali people for the failure to promulgate the new constitution through the CA." He called for calm in the face of widespread frustration over the assembly's failure to reach agreement and improve economic conditions.

Mr Bhattarai vowed to stay on as leader of a caretaker government after dissolving the Assembly just before midnight on 27 May - the fifth anniversary of the fledgling republic. The announcement prompted uproar in parliament. Some called for a restoration of the monarchy.

At least five parties called for Bhattarai's resignation, accusing him of suppressing democratic freedoms and attempting to capture power.

Some analysts have warned that Mr Bhattarai has no mandate to lead a caretaker government and that the decision to delay by six months fresh elections for a new Constituent Assembly will bring government business to a halt.

"The human cost of an election is likely to be very high. Even if the election takes place, it will be very violent," said political analyst Tilak Pathak.

President Ram Baran Yadav said the dissolution of the Constituent Assembly was a matter of serious concern and regret. "Our dreams to build a prosperous, peaceful and democratic Nepal have been shattered once again," he said. - Source> <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/>

PS. A report from a Nepali contact says the government has declared that churches are a part of the religious treasury of Nepal, and they would now be registered, and it categorised them the same as Hindu and Buddhist temples are. But churches must be accountable and owned by an organisation, and not by an individual.

CONCERN for Nepali believers. For the past year or more, there has been a real concern, as included in the draft constitution is an anti-conversion law, which imposes a 5-year jail term for anyone found **influencing** a person to change their religion.



Q. Why do you emphasize the Name of Yahweh?

A. For the simple reason, **the Bible does!** This sacred Name is used 6,855 times in the original (Hebrew) Bible - more than any other name in the Scriptures.

Many mistakenly think the **Name** of the Almighty is "Lord God." But "Lord" and "God" are titles, not names!

Tell me: "Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is His Name or His Son's Name? Surely you know!" (Proverbs 30:4)

Q. Isn't Yahweh an Obsolete Hebrew Name for God?

A. No! It is the Name of the God of Israel, but it is **not obsolete!** The God of Israel is indeed the Great Creator, the God of the Universe, and the God of the Church. And He Himself says this is the Name by which He is to be remembered.

The sacred Name is written as **YHWH יהוה** in Hebrew, and as **Yahweh** in English. Earlier, Christians wrote the Name as Yehowah or Jehovah, but research has led to the accepted current Name of Yahweh.

The Name was revealed first to Adam and Eve. It was known by Abraham, and later it was revealed anew to Moses at the burning bush:

"And God said to Moses, 'I AM WHO I AM'; and He said, 'This is what you shall say to the sons of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you'.' And God also said to Moses, 'This shall you say to the sons of Israel, "YHWH, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. **This is My Name forever, and this is MY MEMORIAL NAME TO ALL GENERATIONS** (by this Name I am to be remembered from generation to generation)."'" (Exodus 3:15)

The Name is connected to the Hebrew verb *hayah* - "to be, to live" and the *"I AM"* in the above verses. This suggests the meaning of "Yahweh," - **"the Eternally-existing One."**

King David and the Biblical writers all knew and used the Name of YHWH, but later, due to a fear of misusing the sacred Name, the Jews ceased to speak the Name. For this reason the exact pronunciation was lost.

It is indeed a holy Name, but God never said, "Don't speak My Name." He said, "Do not take My Name in vain."

The first syllable of the Name, **YAH**, is used in the Bible as the short form of Yahweh. It is used, for example, with the word *hallelu* (praise). *HalleluYah* means, "**praise Yah.**"

The Jews have traditionally used two substitute words for Yahweh - *Adonai* (Lord), and *HaShem* (The Name). Unfortunately most English Bibles use the substitute word - LORD (4 capitals) - instead of the Name. But there are several English Bibles that have not eliminated the Name.

Many Christians pray, "Glorify Thy Name," and profess great love for "the Name of the Lord." But when asked for details of the Name, they shrug their shoulders. It's a mystery! But the LORD has said:

"My **people shall know My Name**; therefore in that day they will know that it is 'I AM' who is speaking. Yes, it is I!" (Isaiah 52:6)

And King David prayed, "They who know Your Name will put their trust in You; For You, O YHWH, have never forsaken those who seek You." (Psalm 9:10)

I encourage believers to **read the portions quoted below, aloud**. It may take some time to get used to speaking the Name of Yahweh. But we should love His Name - He is our Heavenly Father.

The reader may be surprised by the great number of times the personal Name of Yahweh (LORD) is used in the Psalms; and also how often the word "**Name**" appears.

Some Christians are confused about the Name. They say it is unfamiliar, and does not mean anything to them.

Sadly, that's because they have not been taught! I was like that some years ago. But now I know my Father's Name, and I love it; it is like "ointment poured forth."

And I pray, my dear reader, that if you do not yet have a love for the Sacred Name, the Holy Spirit will use these verses to bless you, and to create within you, a deep appreciation of that highly-exalted Name.

Blessed be the Name of Yahweh!

"They who know Your **Name** will put their trust in You; for You, O YAHWEH, have never forsaken those who seek You. Sing praises to YAHWEH who dwells in Zion. Proclaim His deeds among the peoples." (Psalm 9:10-11)

"O YAHWEH, Your **Name** is everlasting; Your renown *and* remembrance, O YAHWEH, *will endure* throughout all generations." (Psalm 135:13)

"O YAHWEH, our Lord, how excellent is Your **Name** in all the earth. You have displayed Your splendor above the heavens!" (Psalm 8:1)

"Blessed *be* His glorious **Name** forever! And let the whole earth be filled with His glory. Amen and Amen." (Psalm 72 :19)

