

## Mid-East Prophecy Update – April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018

- For today's prophecy update, I want to talk about something the Lord had really impressed upon my heart within the last week.
- The Lord has been speaking to me concerning how we as believers in Jesus Christ have overstayed our welcome in this world.
- As such, it's God desire to bring about disenchantment in the believers life when it comes to this world, to ready us for eternity.

- One need look no further than to the increasing hostility towards both Jews and Christians, as we race to the time of the end.
- It's important to understand that the hostility towards Christians in America is taking place with the backdrop of events in Israel.
- By that I mean, as the threats of all out war in the Middle East escalate, so too does the war on God's people and God's Word.

On Friday, CBN published a report about how a Bill is one step closer to law and could ultimately lead to the State of California ban Bibles. "A pro-LGBTQ bill is quickly making its way through the California state assembly after it was approved on the floor Thursday. The bill now goes to the state Senate for a vote. If passed, Assembly Bill 2943 could ultimately threaten free speech and freedom of religion for Christians. It uses the state's consumer fraud statute to restrict religious freedom and free speech when it comes to issues of homosexuality and gender identity. This means the bill would make it illegal to distribute resources, sell books, offer counseling services, or direct someone to a biblically based model for getting help with gender confusion and homosexuality. <http://www1.cbn.com/cbnnews/politics/2018/april/one-step-closer-to-law-could-a-california-bill-ultimately-lead-to-the-banning-of-bibles>

Also on Friday, CNS News published a report about how GQ is condemning the Holy Bible saying that it's repetitive, self-contradictory, sententious (judgmental), foolish, and ill intentioned. "In an article by "The Editors of GQ," the men's magazine blasts the Holy Bible, declares it a book you don't have to read, and suggests an alternative. ...GQ's review of the Holy Bible begins with a snarky slight of Christians: "The Holy Bible is rated very highly by all the people who supposedly live by it but who in actuality have not read it. Those who have read it know there are some good parts, but overall it is certainly not the finest thing that man has ever produced." ...As for the content of the holy book, GQ's contempt is summed up by this one sentence: "It is repetitive, self-contradictory, sententious, foolish, and even at times ill-intentioned."

<https://www.cnsnews.com/blog/craig-bannister/gq-magazine-condemns-holy-bible-repetitive-self-contradictory-sententious>

On Thursday, the day before, Jews News published a most interesting article titled, "New Yorker To Christians: We Don't Want Your Kind Around Here." In a New Yorker article written by Dan Piepenbring, he writes how that "the brand's arrival here feels like an infiltration, in no small part because of its pervasive Christian traditionalism. Its headquarters, in Atlanta, is adorned with Bible verses and a statue of Jesus washing a disciple's feet." It must surprise the Christians of New York ...that they are "infiltrators" in their own community. But in Piepenbring's world, any outsiders must be shunned. ...He further claims ...its commercial-evangelical messaging are inflected with ...suburban piety." Elsewhere, he's scandalized by the fact that "[t]he restaurant's corporate purpose still begins with the words 'to glorify God..' and that proselytism thrums below the surface of the Fulton Street restaurant, which has the ...homespun ambiance of a mega church." ...Contempt drips from every word of these sentences. ...It's merely Piepenbring's bleating admission that he cannot handle anything reminiscent of the great bugbear of our time: American evangelicalism. <https://www.jewsnews.co.il/2018/04/19/new-yorker-to-christians-we-dont-want-your-kind-around-here.html>

- Here's where I'm going with all of this, this world is not our home, and we shouldn't be surprised when we're hated by the world.

John 15:18–25 - 18 "If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. 19 If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you. 20 Remember what I told you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also. If they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours also. 21 They will treat you this way because of my name, for they do not know the one who sent me. 22 If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not be guilty of sin; but now they have no excuse for their sin. 23 Whoever hates me hates my Father as well. 24 If I had not done among them the works no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin. As it is, they have seen, and yet they have hated both me and my Father. 25 But this is to fulfill what is written in their Law: 'They hated me without reason.'

- Here's the bottom line, the more the world hates us, the more we will want for the Lord to come and take us out of this world.
- Conversely, the more the world loves us and we in turn, love the world, the less interested we are in the Lord's return for us.
- This because, we can become too friendly with and at home in this world, which is why many are not excited about the next.

2 Peter 3:8-9 - 8 But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. 9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

Last week, I happened upon a comment on our YouTube video that really gave me a much-needed reminder of why it's so important to occupy until He comes and seize every opportunity we have to reach the lost while there's still time. The comment was posted on a video from seven-years ago on why the rapture has to happen before the seven-year tribulation. Listen to the comment, "This video was made in 2011, thank you dear God for waiting on us, I only got saved 2 years ago and I'm sure He is waiting for those who are calling upon the Lord Jesus Christ and getting saved everyday. Thank you dear God for your grace and mercy, I pray that many more get saved before our heavenly Father decides it's time for us to come home."