

Bible Prophecy Update – August 25th, 2019

- For today's update, I want to talk about the trajectory of both where and how quickly the fulfillment of Bible prophecy is heading.
- Specifically, related to the description we have of the condition of the church, in the last days prior to the rapture of the church.
- Doubtless you've heard of the recent well-known Christian leaders who have in effect, renounced their Christian faith publically.

On Wednesday, The Washington Examiner, published a well-written article titled, "Famous Christian departees have lost their sense of truth." - "The evangelical world has been rocked with the recent news of several prominent Christians who are suddenly and very publicly abandoning their faith. Marty Sampson, a Christian music artist, wrote that he believes Christianity is "just another religion." Weeks earlier, Joshua Harris, known for his books on dating and sexual purity, posted on Instagram that he had undergone a "massive shift in regard to my faith" and declared he is no longer a Christian."

<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/famous-christian-departees-have-lost-their-sense-of-truth>

- As you might imagine the debate rages as to whether or not these "famous Christians," were even true Christians to begin with.
- While God knows the heart, the truth of the matter is God's Word tells us this is exactly what will happen at the time of the end.
- Not only are we told that this will happen, we're told why this will happen. Simply put, it's that they won't tolerate sound doctrine.

2 Timothy 4:1-4 - 1 In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: 2 Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. 3 For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. 4 They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.

- You'll forgive the simplicity with which I say this, but it all comes down to the Word of God and prayer, both of which are lacking.
- I would suggest that the church today has neither preached the Word of God, nor has the church emphasized praying to God.
- It's for this reason it should come as no surprise that the church and the Christians in the church are in the condition they're in.

Luke 18:1-8 - 1 Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. 2 He said: "In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. 3 And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, 'Grant me justice against my adversary.' 4 "For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, 'Even though I don't fear God or care what people think, 5 yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won't eventually come and attack me!' " 6 And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. 7 And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? 8 I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?"

Revelation 3:7-13 - 7 "To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: These are the words of him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. 8 I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. 9 I will make those who are of the synagogue of Satan, who claim to be Jews though they are not, but are liars—I will make them come and fall down at your feet and acknowledge that I have loved you. 10 Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come on the whole world to test the inhabitants of the earth. 11 I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown. 12 The one who is victorious I will make a pillar in the temple of my God. Never again will they leave it. I will write on them the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from my God; and I will also write on them my new name. 13 Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

- This is why we do these weekly prophecy updates and end with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the simple ABC's of Salvation.
- The Gospel, or good news is that Jesus was crucified, buried, rose again on the third day, and is coming back for us one day.

1 Corinthians 15:1-4 - 1 Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, 2 by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. 3 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures,

The ABC's of Salvation

- The A is for Admit you're a sinner and your need for the Savior, (Romans 3:10, 23 – 6:23).
- The B is for Believe in your heart that Jesus is Lord and God raised Him from the dead, (Romans 10:9-10).
- The C is for Call upon the name of the Lord and confess with your mouth that Jesus Christ is Lord, (Romans 10:9-10, 13).