Christmas Canceled in Bethlehem?

The war taking place between Israel and the Iran-backed terrorist group Hamas has split the world in two: those for Israel and those against.

The often-quoted quip, “from the river to the sea, Palestine will be freed,” is not so much a pro-Palestine saying, but one that pushes for the eradication of the nation of Israel.

Even conservative circles have become split by the pro-or-not stance for Israel.

Recently, conservative commentators Ben Shapiro and Candace Owens, both of The Daily Wire, have been at each other’s throats over their respective stances on Israel.

Shapiro, an Orthodox Jew, is fully behind U.S. support of Israel and believes that the civilian losses occurring are an acceptable price to pay for the eradication of Hamas. He regularly points out that the Palestinians elected Hamas in to power, and they will be free of the terror organization once Israel defeats them.

Owens on the other hand is part of the growing “America First” movement which runs parallel to Donald Trump’s “Make America Great Again” following. Owens is against sending money, aid or military to foreign countries and their conflicts that have nothing to do with the U.S.

These opposing positions have led to furious online back-and-forth’s between the two, with a large part of X (formerly Twitter) watching to see how this plays out.

> *Candace, if you feel that taking money from The Daily Wire somehow comes between you and God, by all means quit.*

— Ben Shapiro (@benshapiro) November 15, 2023

So why is the reluctance for many Americans to support Israel such a big thing? Is it simply because they want to fix things at home first? Or is there a deeper reason?

While many Americans are burned out on the massive amounts of unchecked funding that went to the war in Ukraine for the past year-and-a-half, many Christians, but sadly not all, view Israel as a much different story.

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Christian leaders such as Pastors John Hagee, Jentezen Franklin, Perry Stone, Greg Locke, Jack Hibbs and many others have proclaimed their unflinching support for Israel, and back their stances up with the Bible.

Yet there are just as many who claim to be a follower of Christ who do not believe that the country of Israel and its citizens are the nation of Israel described in the Bible. Many of these people are a part of the America First movement, and do not want America involved in the Israel-Hamas war whatsoever and cannot fathom why so many Christians are "obsessed" with the country.

To put it plainly, it is because of what the Word of God says. The covenant between Abraham and God in Genesis chapter 12 lays it out very plainly in God's own words: "I will bless them who bless you, and curse him who curses you."

Cursed by God should be reason enough to support Israel, but for many it is not. Perhaps they do not believe that the covenant is still in place, a folly of biblical proportions.

Prophecies from the Bible are still coming to fruition, and

until the end of the age, God’s hand of protection will be over the nation of Israel. There will be those who revolt against her, and by doing so, they revolt against God.

Yet even with biblical prophecies over centuries, Christians and Jews have not had a great relationship. It was not until the third resurrection of the nation of Israel in 1948 that Christians really took notice, and talk of the end times coming to fruition began to dominate Christian media.

Since this third iteration of the nation of Israel, America has stood by her and supported her. Perhaps they were not always in agreement and did not see eye to eye in a host of matters, but they remained allies.

In these days that many believe are the lead up to the Great Tribulation, it is imperative, according to the Word of God, that America stand with Israel, even as the world turns against her. Note that standing with and supporting do not entail blindly following and being silent should things cross a line. As the old saying goes: Your best friends are the ones who tell you want you need to hear, not what you want to hear.

There is nothing wrong with being a patriot in America and caring deeply about righting the ship at home, because Lord knows the country needs it. But for this to happen, God must be placed first, not America. The blessing over this country through the years is because she was founded on God’s principles and design and honored Him, even while being an imperfect nation.

God was and is the pillar that keeps America held high. To turn against Him, as many in the country have done, and His people, would be a devastating blow to America, should He remove His hand of blessing and protection from the nation.

If somebody wants to put America first, then understand that means putting God first and abiding by His Word, His principles and His design for humanity.

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James Lasher *is Staff Writer for Charisma Media.*

IHOPKC Announces Major Update in Bickle Investigation

In a recent interview with Charisma News, Pastor Brian Gibson shed light on the powerful revival sweeping through different areas under his ministry, including a significant transformation in the life of Pastor Greg Locke of Global Vision Bible Church. The conversation delves into the origins of their collaboration and Locke's journey from a cessationist perspective to embracing the charismatic movement.

Pastor Gibson reminisces about Locke's early days, marked by a strong voice against lockdowns and government interference. The turning point occurred during a rally in Kentucky when Gibson invited Locke to join the cause against the lockdowns. Little did Gibson know that Locke, a full-fledged cessationist at the time, would become an essential ally in their shared mission. As they traveled together, Gibson's charismatic expressions, including praying in tongues, challenged Locke's preconceptions, eventually leading to a profound shift in his beliefs.

"So, Locke goes on the road with me, and we preach in like, 30 states," Gibson shares. "And I didn't know he was a full-fledged cessationist and that he hated charismatics back then. I didn't know he had written a book about guys like me.

“I remember Locke looking over at me, like ‘what in the world’s happening,’ but he would watch us and I would give words of knowledge and prophesy. As we were travelling he kind of figured out, ‘Man, this guy’s not crazy, at least not totally crazy, right?’ And God was already speaking to Spirit of God was working on him.”

Locke’s immersion into the charismatic movement involved encounters with prophetic ministries and pivotal moments, such as a visit to Gibson’s church in Owensboro. A prophet named Gustavo Paez played a crucial role in revealing significant aspects of Locke’s life, ultimately impacting his ministry and prompting him to write a book about the experience.

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Addressing the sustainability of the ongoing revival, Pastor Gibson humbly acknowledges his lack of expertise but emphasizes the central role of passion for Jesus. Keeping Jesus as the focus and not overshadowing His presence with guest speakers is paramount in their approach. Gibson stresses the importance of continual prayer, especially in the face of heightened spiritual attacks. He shares personal experiences of late-night calls, such as a recent incident where the devil attacked his brother’s health.

Gibson underscores the power of gospel preaching as a form of spiritual warfare, highlighting the simplicity of proclaiming the message of Christ’s death, burial, Resurrection, repentance and belief. He also emphasizes the need for external support through prayer, as attacks intensify during times of revival.

“Middle of the night, I get a call and the devil attacked my brother’s health last night. My brother went down in front of his wife, got up straight out of bed, threw up and said call

the ambulance," recalls Gibson.

"You just get uncommon attacks when stuff like this is happening. Don't fear it, right? We don't have a spirit of fear. We have authority over the devil. But raising up that shield of faith with prayer. We need people praying for us, praying for our team, praying for safety, praying for protection."

Looking ahead, Pastor Gibson reveals plans to rotate the revival meetings between different locations, observing that the revival seems to follow wherever they go. Testimonies of salvations during funerals, in beauty salons and at baptisms underscore the widespread impact of the revival.

As the flames of revival continue to burn, Pastor Brian Gibson and his team remain committed to walking humbly before the Lord, recognizing the need for awakening and revival in these crucial times.

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Dr. Ron Kenoly Rebukes Congregation During Worship

In a quiet Icelandic town, Grindavik, a state of emergency has been declared, and residents have evacuated their homes due to the threat of a volcano eruption. The ground beneath them is trembling with a surge in seismic activity, prompting authorities to take swift action. As thousands of earthquakes

and tremors shake the southwestern peninsula since November 10, the possibility of a volcanic eruption looms large.

The Icelandic Meteorological Office warns that the likelihood of an eruption in the Reykjanes Peninsula “remains high.” The earth is in motion, with over 700 earthquakes reported in just 12 hours, signaling the movement of magma beneath the surface. Although most are considered micro-earthquakes, their collective impact is felt, leaving the small fishing town on edge.

The situation has escalated to the point where defense walls are being constructed around a geothermal power plant, a vital source of electricity for the entire country. It’s a race against time to safeguard infrastructure from potential lava flows. The people of Grindavik, facing one of the largest evacuations in their history, are grappling with the magnitude of the incident.

This natural turmoil, however, brings to mind biblical prophecies. In the Bible, the end times are foretold, and one sign mentioned is the increase in earthquakes. It’s a reminder for Christians to exercise biblical discernment in these uncertain times.

Pastor Jack Hibbs of Calvary Chapel in Chino Hills, California, expressed similar sentiments. He exhorted Christians to pay attention to the world around and compare the events taking place to the words of Jesus and end times prophecies foretold in the Bible.

> *HAPPENING NOW.*
>
> *4000 people evacuating Iceland under increased massive threat of volcanic eruption.*
>
> *Jesus said there would be days like ://*
>
> *Earthquakes come and go, but Jesus said that as mankind gets*

closer to the end of days, there would be an…

— Jack Hibbs (@RealJackHibbs) November 14, 2023

The seismic upheaval in Iceland echoes the biblical passages such as Matthew 24:7, where Jesus speaks of the end times: “For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines, epidemics and earthquakes in various places.” The recent surge in earthquakes, the war in Israel and Ukraine along with the recent pandemic aligns with these words, serving as a call for Christians to stay vigilant and discern the signs around them.

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As residents return briefly to salvage belongings, witnessing the cracks in their homes and roads, it’s a stark reminder of the fragility of life. The Icelandic people, facing an unprecedented situation, are encouraged to remain resilient. This resilience reflects a broader message found in the Bible—a call to endure and trust in God during times of adversity.

While volcanic activity is not a new occurrence in Iceland, the scale and intensity of this event draw parallels to the volcanic eruptions that have shaped the nation’s history. It is reminiscent of the eruption in 1973 on the island of Heimaey and the international impact of Eyjafjallajökull in 2010.

In times of uncertainty, Christians are reminded to turn to the Lord for strength and guidance. The Bible encourages believers to be steadfast in their faith, irrespective of the challenges they face. As the ground trembles in Iceland, let us reflect on the biblical prophecies and teachings given to

us by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, using supernatural discernment to navigate these turbulent times.

The events unfolding in Iceland provide an opportunity for Christians to reflect on the biblical principles of resilience, discernment and steadfastness in the face of a changing and unstable world. Just as the earth groans with birth pangs, Christians are called to stand firm in their faith, trusting in God and His plan for the earth during these times of upheaval.

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Dallas Mass Deliverance 2 Conference Aims to Set the Captives Free

Davids declared on a recent Facebook post, “God is on schedule to release another wave of real deliverance in Dallas, Texas. Demons are real! Oppression is real! Ignoring the devil is inviting him to operate. Jesus is ready to break you free from demonic oppression. Thousands will be eternally impacted by the Holy Spirit.”

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From the Heartland to Holy Land: American Farmers Strengthen Israel's Frontlines

A sea of demonstrators expected to number in the hundreds of thousands will converge on the National Mall on Tuesday for the "March for Israel." Organized by the Jewish Federations of North America and the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, the event aims to condemn the surge in antisemitism and demand the release of Israeli hostages held by Hamas in Gaza.

Eric Fingerhut, President and CEO of the Jewish Federations of North America, emphasized the importance of standing against terror: "Israel's fight against Hamas is no different than America's fight against Al Qaeda and ISIS."

Pastor John Hagee, Founder and National Chairman of Christians United For Israel, will be on hand and is encouraging other Christians to support Israel during this time of rising antisemitism.

> *We need your support! Join Pastor Hagee TODAY at 1pm at the National Mall in Washington DC! If you're not able to join us in person, visit for more information on how you can help stand with Israel!*
>
> *— Pastor John Hagee (@PastorJohnHagee) November 14, 2023*

The rally, confined to the National Mall and with enhanced security measures, anticipates a turnout of 100,000 attendees. DC Mayor Muriel E. Bowser announced National Guard support for traffic safety points.

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Organizers emphasize the peaceful nature of the march, aiming to demonstrate America's support for Israel's actions against Hamas. The event will also express gratitude for the recent $14 billion emergency military assistance approved by the Biden administration.

The rally's primary focus is denouncing antisemitic rhetoric and urging Hamas to release Israeli hostages. William Daroff, CEO of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, stated, "Hamas' brutal acts of terror have no place in a civilized world."

As America unites in solidarity, the "March for Israel" seeks to send a resounding message: a rejection of anti-Israel sentiment and a commitment to shared values of peace, justice and freedom.

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Prophetic Warning to

Megachurches: Free Chapel’s Revival Signals Paradigm Shift