

A Prophetic Look at the Tucson Tragedy

The Jan. 8 assassination attempt of Arizona Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords, along with the killing of six others, including a federal judge, his staffer and a 9-year-old girl, has left Arizonans saddened and shocked. Many ministers and intercessors throughout Arizona have expressed their grief and frustration regarding this unanticipated tragedy, in that it seemingly occurred without divine warning. Nevertheless, the setting and circumstances of this tragedy are covered with Satan's fingerprints—revealing his diabolical intentions toward not only the victims, but also the state of Arizona.

The shooting occurred at a **Safeway** grocery store on **7110 N. Oracle** Road in Tucson. The word *safeway* implies a secure passage or refuge, mirroring Arizona's divine redemptive purpose to become a "state of refuge" for thousands across the U.S. (see Mal. 4:2). The word *oracle*, which represents prophets and prophetic ministry, reflects another aspect of Arizona's prophetic destiny—becoming a state of prophetic vision for and declaration to our nation. Moreover, the demonic, premeditated scheme of the assassin is uncovered in the street

address of the
murder scene: "7110."

Psalm

71:10: "*For my enemies speak against me; and those who lie in wait for my life take counsel together*" (emphasis added).

The

time of the shooting reported by the *Arizona Republic*, **10:10 a.m.**, encapsulates Satan's plan to steal, kill and destroy the lives of these innocent victims and the divine destiny of Arizona. Nevertheless, the following passage of scripture reminds us of a prophetic promise that the abundant life and glory of the Lord will soon arise and shine over Arizona as a light to this nation:

John

10:10: "*The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly*" (emphasis added).

For

years Satan has been raging against Arizona, thwarting and mocking our redemptive purpose as a state of refuge, revival, and prophetic vision for the United States of America. In Arizona's early days, thousands suffering from a myriad of health issues would migrate here for physical restoration. In recent years, thousands more from California have relocated here for

economic

restoration and to find refuge from the threat of earthquakes.

However,

most recently, illegal immigration, drug and sex trafficking, kidnapping, and

murder have characterized Arizona in the eyes of most of Americans. Indeed, the

devil has used the media to negatively portray Arizona as a “state of refuse”

instead of the “state of refuge” it is called to be.

Nevertheless, soon

thousands more in search of a spiritual *safeway*, or refuge,

will invade Arizona, as revival glory

begins to rise over our state.

Over

the past century, numerous prophets and prophetic ministries have been

conceived in Arizona, but either fell into moral or doctrinal sin, died

prematurely, or relocated to another state to fulfill their purpose. Those days

are over. Indeed, prophets will no longer stand alone in Arizona but will be

betrothed to a mighty band of intercessors engaged in continual spiritual

warfare over the destiny of America.

Indeed,

the Lord has called Arizona to not only be an *oracle* to this nation, but also to “take the point” in prayer

for our nation. Answering Arizona’s call to prayer, a 24/7 prayer movement has

emerged over the past three years, lighting the fire of intercession throughout

our state. Indeed, the marriage and cooperative ministry of Arizona’s prophets

and priestly intercessors will one day serve as a model for strategic-level spiritual warfare for America and the nations.

Kay and I encourage all Arizonans to continue praying for the families and friends of those slain in this tragedy in Tucson, as well as for the miraculous recovery of Congresswoman Giffords and the others critically injured in the shooting. However, let us neither cower in fear nor hang our heads in shame over this tragedy—for this is indeed the enemy's intent. Instead, let this tragedy embolden and inspire Arizonans to arise, unite, and courageously pursue the fulfillment of our divine destiny as a state of refuge, revival and prophetic vision for America.

About the author: Rob Winters is president and co-founder of Prepare the Way International, an itinerant prophetic ministry based in Phoenix. Prepare the Way's mission is to ignite a spiritual revolution and reformation in America through preaching repentance, prophesying restoration and promoting revival. Material in today's *Prophetic Insight* was adapted from Prepare the Way's prophetic bulletin, *The Messenger*. The newsletter is available on the ministry's website, .