



Prophetic Observer

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Keeping Time On God's Prophetic Clock

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China's Drive to Global Dominance

by Bob Glaze

“And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared” (Rev. 16:12). The kings from the “rising sun” would be aided in their march to the Battle of Armageddon by a supernatural drying up of the river. During the Tribulation period the probability of many oriental nations joining forces to defeat Christ is a great probability, since the restraining ministry of the Holy Spirit will be removed with the Rapture of the saints (2 Thess. 2) and in the seven-year period many of these nations will join forces. China, India, Japan, and the Southeast Asian countries total a sizable percentage of the Earth's population.

Oriental nations have had their impact on the United States especially during the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Only the United States is holding China at bay at this time. However, with the removal of the believers at the Rapture, the United States will no doubt suddenly become a third-world country and China will be free to move on the world during the first half of the seven-year period.

The oriental nations have risen from their state of sleeper nations and have tested the resolve of America to remain a free and independent culture. Twice in the twentieth century Japan rose to challenge the Western world in open combat in search of dominance. Although Japan is under the rules of “unconditional surrender” of the 1945 agreement, it remains a sleeper nation.

North Korea challenged the United States in 1950 with the invasion of South Korea in violation of the United Nations mandate. North Vietnam is another regime that challenged the resolve of the United States in defiance of a democratic South Vietnam in the 1960s. Although Russia is considered to be associated with prophecy dealing with the north, she along with China, sided with North Korea and Vietnam by supplying both nations with arms, training, men, and moral support. According to Pew Research, Russians have a 71

percent favorable view of China, the highest of any country, while Japan says they have a 85 percent unfavorable opinion of China (www.pewresearch.org). Recently, Iran joined the military maneuvers with Russia and China who can be considered an Eastern nation. Iran has on many occasions made their position clear—the utter and complete destruction of Jews and Israel. Persia, the modern-day Iran, is listed among the nations that will attack Israel mentioned in Ezekiel 38-39.

If India were to join this coalition, it would certainly fulfill the requirements for the army mentioned in Revelation 16:12. All of these nations are east of the Euphrates River, which will be dried up to allow their armies to gain access to roads that lead to Israel. According to www.nytimes.com the drying up of the Euphrates and Tigris rivers has already begun: “The shrinking of the Euphrates, a river so crucial to the birth of civilization that the Book of Revelation prophesied its drying up as a sign of the end times, has decimated farms along its banks, has left fishermen impoverished and has depleted riverside towns as farmers flee to the cities looking for work.” Whether natural or supernatural, the drying up of the Euphrates River is important in prophecy because it provides a way for the kings of the East to invade the Middle East with Israel the ultimate goal.

However, today's focus must be on China. China has infiltrated many countries including the United States. Another way to spell China is h-e-g-e-m-o-n-y—complete control and domination of the globe. While Communist China claims to be ruled by the Communist Party, it is actually a huge capitalist society because communism cannot compete in a world of free market, and they mean to capture the business world. China must overtake the United States in its economy and military might in order to dominate. The way to do this is through technology and trade.

In order to compete and then dominate, they have re-instituted an ancient highway called the Silk Road. China

has now reinvented the Silk Road with “The New Silk Road Program” and has given it a modern title of “One Belt, One Road” (OBOR), which extends through most of the world’s continents. The OBOR is a system of roads, rails, and seas which establishes new relations with Europe, central, western and southeast Asia, China, and Africa. The OBOR connects 4.4 billion people, or 63 percent of the world’s population. What countries are involved?

The Silk Road has existed for thousands of years, passing through many different empires, kingdoms, reigns and societies throughout history. At certain times in its long history, traders could travel freely along these routes, whereas at others, travel was difficult or dangerous. The Silk Road enriched the countries it passed through, transporting cultures, religions, languages and of course material goods into societies across Europe, Asia and Africa, and uniting them all with a common thread of cultural heritage and plural identities.

China is projected to triple its global assets to \$20 trillion by 2020. —www.forbes.com

There are over 40 countries today alongside the historic Land and Maritime Silk Roads, all still bearing witness to the impact of these routes in their culture, traditions and customs. The Silk Road Online Platform presents the variety of Silk Road themes to be found in each of these countries, which can be explored whether choosing a country’s name in the list below here or by clicking on the balloons on the map above. —ww.unesco.org

China’s goal is to have all roads lead to Beijing.

The U.S. is trying to catch up with China’s massive Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) with a new project that one expert says will be “a legacy of the administration.” With the creation of a new taxpayer-funded entity called the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC), which some experts hail as “the most important piece of U.S. soft power legislation in more than a decade,” America is on track to counter China’s colossal project known as the New Silk Road.” ... “The problem has been that [U.S. agencies] haven’t really had the means to mobilize resources to compete.” —www.finance.yahoo.com

Much like the original Silk Road, security is a major concern. So what is China doing to protect it? The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), as the New Silk Road is now called, requires new measures of security.

The BRI, formerly known as One Belt One Road (OBOR), is gaining momentum. Launched by Chinese President Xi Jin-

ping in 2013, the BRI aims to promote economic development and exchanges between China and more than 65 countries. The BRI consists of rail and energy transmission corridors from China to the European Union (the “belt”) and a series of deep-water ports in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Europe (the “road”). —www.thediplomat.com

The vastness of the BRI is already causing security concerns. For instance, the \$63 billion China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is going to force Beijing to change its decade-old principle of noninterference. During November of 2015, three Chinese officers from the China Railway in Bamako, Mali, were beheaded by the Islamic State, which did not provoke China into any military intervention. That must change to have future success.

Modern China is now embarking on a path reminiscent of the economic glory found in the times of the Khan. ... This “new era” follows a period where China has continued to extend its influence on the world stage under Xi’s leadership. —www.harvardpolitics.com

China, North Korea, India, Pakistan, and Russia all possess nuclear weapons and a sizable military machine. Quietly, behind the scenes the U.S. Department of Defense states:

... In particular, the People’s Republic of China, under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, seeks to reorder the region to its advantage by leveraging military modernization, influence operations, and predatory economics to coerce other nations. —www.defence.gov

In Rome’s heyday, “all roads led to Rome,” but the Roman road gave the world access to Rome, which led to its demise. Will OBOR be a repeat of Rome, or will it lead to the total capture of the entire economic system. This could give way to the Antichrist to ensure complete control of the world’s economic system with the help of the worldwide web as prophesied in Revelation 13:16–17: “And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: and that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.”

Exactly what China’s role will be during the seven-year Tribulation period is not known at this time and will be of no concern to those believers removed from the earth as a result of the Rapture. However, the system being established not only by China but all of the kings of the East will enhance the Antichrist’s ability to quickly take charge.

Culture of Death—Part I

by Pastor Larry Spargimino, Ph.D.

Death is an enemy, the kind of enemy that only the Lord Jesus Christ can, and will, destroy (1 Cor. 15:26). Yet sadly, our world seems to be viewing this enemy as a “savior,” “a deliverer” who is to be invited into our lives in a variety of ways for our comfort and our deliverance.

Such twisted thinking has led to a number of strange scenarios. A few years ago a physician in the Netherlands euthanized a 26-year-old ballerina because she had developed a bad case of arthritis in her toes. She could no longer pursue her career and requested to be put to death. The doctor complied and said, “One doesn’t enjoy such things, but it was her choice.” A person who is “pro-choice” is not only someone who wants to be free to terminate a pregnancy. It also means someone who wants to be free to terminate their own life.

How far down the foul-smelling back alleyway of the culture of death have we come? Abortion is now seen as rescuing the unborn from a future life of misery, just as euthanasia is seen as rescuing the living from a life of physical and psychological pain. I have a video show titled “From The Front Lines” that can be accessed on our website (www.swrc.com). I remember a response to a show that I did on the sanctity of human life. The viewer was unhappy with what I said. The writer’s basic response was that abortion rescues a lot of people from a life of misery. I had, supposedly, ignored the facts that prove that. What facts? The writer alleged that out of the 60 million aborted babies at least 59 million of them would have been sexually abused, molested, hungry, impoverished, physically abused, emotionally, spiritually and psychologically abused, and 50 percent of them would have come into adulthood with mental disorders and personality disorders. The writer forgot to mention, however, that under her plan to rescue the unborn by abortion from an alleged life of misery her plan would have also killed hundreds of future scientists, school teachers, pastors, and many others whose service and expertise have made life better for multitudes. In our culture of death, the most noble and beneficial thing you can do is either kill yourself, or kill your baby.

Farewell: The Traditional Medical Ethic

In 1970, an editorial in *California Medicine* stated: “The traditional Western ethic has always placed great emphasis on the intrinsic worth and equal value of every human life. The sanctity of life ethic has been the basis for most of our laws and much of our social policy, and it has been the keystone

of Western medicine. This traditional ethic is being eroded at its core and may eventually be abandoned.” Fifty years later, in 2020, this erosion is producing a barren landscape of grief and misery.

The Hippocratic Oath, usually attributed to the Greek physician Hippocrates (460-370 B.C.), is an oath of ethics historically taken by physicians. It is known primarily by the words, “First, do no harm.” These exact words were probably not in the original form, though the sentiment is. It is significant that during the Third Reich the words “First, do no harm” were omitted. Under that devilish regime “doing harm” was the first order of the day.

Today medical organizations have modified and/or departed from the Hippocratic Oath, which is not surprising. However, whatever happens in academia and in the developing psyche of the world, the Christian must abide by the Word of God. Genesis 1:27 tells us, “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.” A ballerina is more than toes—arthritic or otherwise—and her life more valuable than her career as a dancer.

Human thinking bestows a functional value on a person. If a person can function as a ballerina, or a mechanic, or a doctor, or serve in hundreds of other capacities, that person has functional value. In the world’s view, human value is inseparable from the person’s function. Hence, if a person can no longer function, that person has no value. But as we read Scripture we see that human worth is not simply functional, it is also intrinsic. It is not what we do, but who we are that establishes worth and value.

For the Christian, value is determined not simply by *who* we are, but by *whose* we are. In John 10:11, Jesus said: “I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.” First Corinthians 6:19–20 reveals what this means for every Christian: “... ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price.”

Joseph Fletcher, Peter Singer and the Modern Culture of Death

Joseph Fletcher (1905–1991)—philosopher and ethicist who was a lapsed Episcopal priest and also the man who gave the “Culture of Death a degree of “intellectual legitimacy”—insisted that “man is not a worshipper.” The father of “situational ethics” also fathered “the new bioethics,” a godless belief

system ruthlessly redirecting the medical profession. We have left the age of “do-no-harm medicine” and have entered the age of “do-harm medicine.” Fletcher said that morality and human worth is best determined through a “rational analysis” based on secular philosophical precepts rather than revelation and church dogma.

Fletcher was like the proverbial camel with its nose in the tent. Fletcher opened the door for a bigger camel that moved into the tent. That camel is Peter Singer, Princeton University professor of ethics who talks about “post-birth abortion.” Singer teaches that species membership is irrelevant in determining value. Personhood is what’s really important. In this new and radical paradigm, a person is “a creature capable of valuing its own existence.” This would include some people, animals, extraterrestrials, and machines. Notice, it does not include all people. Hence, according to Singer it is not ethically wrong to kill “human nonpersons,” nor is it wrong to fail to save their lives. This kind of thinking goes back to Charles Darwin, Francis Galton, and the eugenics movement, and occurred along with the school of German Higher Criticism which concluded that the Old Testament and all Scripture, was a collection of several late documents recording Hebrew myths. The lesson: Devaluing the Bible leads to trivializing human life.

What Does This Lesson Mean for the Next Presidential Election?

It simply means that if we get a president who doesn’t respect the Bible and who devalues the Bible, you can be sure our beloved country will become more deeply caught up in the culture of death. Both voluntary and involuntary euthanasia will be applied by the federal government. Healthcare will also involve “death squads” for those who are not “fit” to live. No kidding! Those who are vulnerable—either because of psychological pain and depression, or because of serious physical infirmities—will find that they are being pressured to choose death “for the good of the country.” Their so-called right to die will become their duty to die. And the slaughter of untold numbers of infants will increase in number. Personhood, rather than species membership, will determine who lives and who dies.

At the Democratic National Committee meeting in August of 2019, Democrats passed a resolution praising secular humanists and the religiously unaffiliated. The Democratic contenders for the office of president are essentially God-deniers. Though “Mayor Pete” refers to the Bible and claims he is following Christ while President Trump and Vice President Pence are not, Mayor Pete’s Christianity is not of the kind found in Scripture. The “god” of the Democrats is big government and their own imagined infallibility. The DNC resolution

was unanimously passed at the DNC’s August 24 meeting.

Predictably this drew the approval of the Secular Coalition of America (SCA), an organization that lobbies for public policy benefitting agnostics, atheists, and humanists. The SCA’s director of governmental affairs, Sarah Levin, was delighted over the resolution and was glad that secular Americans are being brought into the Democratic fold. As Eric Utter, writing for *American Thinker*, commented, “It’s not hard to bring secular Americans into the fold. All you have to do is eliminate all standards and promise them free stuff.”

In 2012, DNC attendees actually booed the mention of the word “God.” At their 2016 convention, a preacher was heckled while giving the opening prayer. And early in 2019 Democrats introduced the “Equality Act.” Thank God President Trump did not sign on. This anti-God bit of legislation seeks to destroy the First Amendment of the Constitution, destroy the concept of religious liberty, and seeks to force believers to trample their own consciences. In its war on God, it would appear that the DNC is getting its marching orders from the Chinese Communist Party.

At a recent campaign rally in Miami, Florida, President Trump announced that he will take action to restore prayer in public schools. Christian educators who worked in public schools faced incredible oppression and hate during the Obama administration. One school had come under attack after students prayed for a football coach’s ailing daughter. In another, a school teacher had been censured because she had a private conversation about prayer with a colleague. The president said those days are soon going to be over. “In America,” President Trump said at the rally, “we don’t worship government, we worship God.”

The culture of death flourishes in a godless environment. Laws concerning euthanasia have not yet caught up with widespread left-wing, death-dealing abortion laws. However, there are some countries that have legalized euthanasia. Some have even legalized euthanasia for children.

The uninitiated like to talk about the “constitutional separation of church and state.” The Constitution, however, never even hints at such a thing. It is a convenient ploy for those who want to extend the reach of the icy fingers of the culture of death.

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