

Newsbytes

The First Watch

No. 919

April 17, 2019

Since 2001

Newzbytes is a ministry of Calvary Chapel of Appleton

www.ccapleton.org

“Let us be alert to the season in which we are living. It is the season of the Blessed Hope, calling for us to cut our ties with the world and build ourselves on this One who will soon appear. He is our hope—a Blessed Hope enabling us to rise above our times and fix our gaze upon Him.” Tozer

Are You Sleeping?

Nathele Graham April 14, 2019

When Jesus walked this earth, there was a group of people who followed Him. From that group He chose twelve men to walk closely with Him and learn the lessons He had to teach. These men were Jewish and knew what the Law required of them, but weren't scholars who knew the Law inside and out. As they followed Jesus, they saw Him heal the sick, raise the dead, and miraculously feed thousands of hungry people with a small amount of food. Every year they went to Jerusalem to celebrate Passover. This was a very important feast, and a man was required to celebrate in Jerusalem if at all possible.

On one such occasion in approximately 32 A.D., they had finished their meal, and Jesus led them to Gethsemane where He would pray.

“And he taketh with him Peter and James and John, and began to be sore amazed, and to be very heavy; and saith unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful unto death; tarry ye here, and watch” (Mark 14:33-34).

Prophecy would be fulfilled that night, and Jesus was about to face the most horrendous torture imaginable. His request was that His friends stay there and give Him support. He would soon become the Sacrificial Lamb and shed His blood on the cross. He would die for our salvation.

His disciples were unaware of the importance of what was happening. They had shared an enjoyable meal, but were troubled by Jesus' words as they ate. One of the twelve would betray Him that night.

“The Son of man indeed goeth, as it is written of him: but woe to that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! good were it for that man if he had never been born” (Mark 14:21).

Judas would betray Him for 30 pieces of silver just as Zechariah prophesied. Jesus had spoken of His own death, and Peter had assured Him that no matter what, he would never deny Jesus. Brave words from the man who would deny knowing Jesus three times that night. Prophecy was being fulfilled all around them, but these men were unaware. When Jesus asked Peter, James, and John to stay there and watch, they didn't understand how important it was to Jesus that they were there. Whether they slept or were awake, prophecy would be fulfilled, but Jesus wanted them to be awake.

“And He said, Abba, Father, all things are possible unto thee; take away this cup from me: nevertheless not what I will, but what thou wilt. And he cometh, and findeth them sleeping, and saith unto Peter, Simon, sleepest thou? couldest not thou watch one hour?” (Mark 14:36-37).

His closest friends fell asleep when they should have been alert. Prophecy was being fulfilled, and His followers slept.

Passover was established by God many centuries before the days when Jesus walked the shores of Galilee. Famine had struck the land, and Jacob and his family moved to Egypt where they found food. When the famine was over, they stayed in Egypt; over time the small group of people had grown in number, and Pharaoh enslaved them. Still, the Israelites flourished. The slavery was cruel, and the time came when God stepped in to free them.

He called Moses to go to the Pharaoh to demand that Israel be set free. After turning the Nile River to blood, sending a plague of frogs, and many other plagues, there was one more plague to come. Death of the firstborn of every household. It wouldn't matter if the household was Jewish or if it was Egyptian, death would come. God never leaves anyone without hope, and He had a plan to protect all who would obey.

“Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers, a lamb for an house” (Exodus 12:3).

The month they were to do this was Nissan. The lamb they chose had to be without blemish. It was chosen on the tenth of Nissan, and they were to keep it until the fourteenth. On that day, the chosen lamb of each household would be killed.

“And they shall take of the blood, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it” (Exodus 12:7).

The blood of the lamb was their protection from certain death.

They were then directed to make a quick meal and eat the lamb, but they were to be ready to leave in a hurry. “And thus shall ye eat it with your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and ye shall eat it in haste: it is the LORD'S passover” (Exodus 12:11).

God knew that Pharaoh wouldn't have the blood of the lamb on his door, and his firstborn would die.

“For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD. and the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you when I smite the land of Egypt” (Exodus 12:12-13).

It happened just as the Lord said. Death came to the house of anyone who didn't have the blood of the lamb, including Pharaoh's. This final plague caused him to give the Israelites their freedom. The Lord directed that they were to remember that day.

“And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the LORD throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance forever” (Exodus 12:14).

Little did those people know that the lamb they sacrificed was a foreshadowing of the perfect Lamb of God whose blood would take away sin and death when applied to the heart of a believer.

After the Israelites were set free, they left quickly. When they came to Mount Sinai, Moses went up on the mountain and God gave him the Law.

“In the fourteenth day of the first month at even is the LORD'S passover. And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the feast of unleavened bread unto the LORD: seven days ye must eat unleavened bread”

(Leviticus 23:5-6).

God established these feasts, and others, and they all foreshadowed Christ. Those who took part in the first Passover didn't know it was a "picture" of the future Messiah, nor did the people who followed Jesus. They went to Jerusalem each year to celebrate the Spring feasts, but didn't recognize that these feasts would be fulfilled by Jesus Christ. Peter, James, John, and the others were living at a time in history when prophecy was being fulfilled, but were unaware of what was happening.

Many prophecies were on record regarding the birth of the Messiah which Jesus had fulfilled. The Messiah would be born of a virgin in the town of Bethlehem, and so He was.

A prophecy by Daniel told the exact day that Jesus would enter Jerusalem and be hailed as Messiah by the people. Had the disciples paid attention, they would have known that the prophecy in Zechariah was fulfilled when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a colt and the people lined the streets shouting "Hosanna"!

Zechariah also prophesied that He would be betrayed for 30 pieces of silver. Had they paid attention, they would have known that Judas had fulfilled this prophecy when he left the dinner party to betray Jesus.

Had the disciples understood Isaiah chapter 53 they would have known what was about to happen. They didn't believe prophecy was being fulfilled, and so they slept.

Just as prophecy had said, Jesus was arrested, beaten beyond recognition, and crucified. He fulfilled Passover on the dates established by God when the Israelites were set free and confirmed in the Law given to Moses. Then He fulfilled another Jewish Law:

"Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest: and he shall wave the sheaf before the LORD, to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the sabbath the priest shall wave it" (Leviticus 23:10-11).

Firstfruits takes place on the first day of the week after Passover. That's the day Christ arose from the dead.

"And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him. And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun" (Mark 16:1-2).

They came prepared to tend to the body of Jesus, but what they found was an empty tomb. Jesus Christ had risen from the dead! Hallelujah, Christ arose!

"But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead" (1 Corinthians 15:20-21).

Prophecy given by God is always fulfilled exactly as He says. Jesus is our Passover Lamb who shed His own blood to take away our sin. That sacrifice must be accepted by each person individually. By placing your faith in His death, burial, and resurrection you have applied His blood to the doorpost of your heart, and you have gained eternal life.

The prophecies that Jesus fulfilled at His first coming are statistically impossible for one man to fulfill by coincidence. When that man is God incarnate, then the impossible is possible. Even though His disciples should have been aware of the prophecies that were being fulfilled before their very eyes, they slept. Sadly, many of His followers today are sleeping.

End-time prophecy is being fulfilled today; and for those who are awake, we know that the end of time is approaching quickly.

“The burden of Damascus. Behold, Damascus is taken away from being a city, and it shall be a ruinous heap” (Isaiah 17:1).

Have you seen pictures of Damascus lately?

“Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people round about, when they shall be in the siege both against Judah and against Jerusalem. And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it” (Zechariah 12:2-3).

If you can't see this happening today, then you're asleep. God's wrath is coming, and it's all been written in prophecy. Christians have the assurance that we will not see God's wrath but will be taken in the Rapture prior to that final week of earth's history, which Daniel prophesied. Only the blood of Jesus will give you protection from God's judgment.

Are you sleeping? Are you like the disciples and sleeping when you should be alert? The fact that we are nearing the end of time should wake up every Christian with the urgency to share the Gospel before it's too late. If you're sleeping, it's time to wake up.

God bless you all

Detroit To Become America's Second Chinese-Style Surveillance City

needtoknownews.com

The push to turn America's cities into Chinese-style surveillance networks has found a new partner in Detroit, Michigan.

The only difference between what is happening in San Diego and what is happening in Detroit is, they are not using the same smart street lights to spy on everyone. Detroit uses Intellistreets a company known to have strong ties to Homeland Security.

What started out as a 'voluntary' police-cam share program in Saginaw, Michigan has morphed into a massive 1000 surveillance camera network which includes 500 businesses in Detroit.

Detroit's Project Green Light, spies on people in real-time at gas stations, retail stores and public housing.

A map of Project Green Light's surveillance cameras, shows the true extent of police spying in Detroit and it looks an awful lot like the map of San Diego's IQ street lights.

What makes Detroit's spying so disturbing, is that the city wants the public to help fund their program.

The Detroit Free Press said, Mayor Mike Duggan sent out a 'citizen petition drive' soliciting money from home owners and businesses to help pay for a new multi-million dollar surveillance program.

"In order to continue making Detroit a safe place to live, work, and play, we are asking you to gather signatures from your neighbors pledging support for the Neighborhood Real-Time Intelligence Program."

Motorola Solution's hand in helping turn our cities into Chinese-style surveillance centers is deplorable.

Motorola and the Detroit Police Department have worked together to create their own "Neighborhood Real-Time Intelligence Program" (NRTIP) which spies on residents 24 hours a day. (To learn more about Motorola and Project Green Light click [here](#).)

An article in the [Neighborhoods.org](#) revealed that police departments are creating their own 'real-time intelligence centers'.

Detroit Police Department Lieutenant Sonia Russell said, "the difference between us and a fusion center is that we're not on the state level. All the products that we have here are on the same level as being a fusion center with counter-terrorism, with the statistical data, with the crime patterns and trends, with the camera footage," she said. "That's what's unique about us, we got everything right here, and a lot of real time crime centers don't have that. We're able to do all the things that a fusion center can do."

I am torn between calling Detroit, America's second Chinese-style surveillance city or New Orleans which has the dishonor of being "America's largest spying network."

The true extent of police spying is much worse than what is being reported, especially if you include Ring doorbells and Nest cameras which turn entire neighborhoods into mini-surveillance networks.

I think what puts Detroit in second place, is law enforcement's social media spying.

Local police mimic China by spying on everyone's social media

The 'Neighborhoods' article also revealed that Detroit's NRTIP spies on everyone's social media and receives secret hot lists from Project Green Light.

"Project Green Light is a considerable portion of how they track crime in the city, using their hot list – the area around a recent crime – as a way to prioritize where they should be monitoring and focusing their efforts. The screens on the front wall are feeds from Project Green Light locations and dumping cameras. One analyst scrolled through Twitter and other social media to check for any threats or mentions of crime."

Big Brother's justification for turning our cities into mirror images of China is summed up by Crime Analyst Breanna Lingo who said, "If you were a victim of crime one day, there could be an extra eye watching to really help." Does it make you feel safer knowing that law enforcement is using the same tactics that China uses? Do we really need police spying on everyone in real-time to make us feel safer?

Muslims Try to Plant Another Mosque on Temple Mount

Tsvi Sadan Israel News

The Jerusalem Magistrate's Court has ordered the state to immediately shut the Bab el-Rahma structure that is facing the Golden Gate, or Gate of Mercy. A month ago, the Islamic Trust (Waqf) that oversees the Temple Mount decided to reopen the structure and turn it into yet another mosque, the fifth atop Judaism's holiest site.

To recap, until 1967, there was only one active mosque, Al-Aqsa, on the Temple Mount. During the 1970s, the regular Friday prayers started to be conducted at the Dome of the Rock, until then only a sacred shrine. In 1996, the underground Solomon's Stables at the southwestern corner of the Temple Mount were turned into a third mosque, Al Marwani. The fourth was built also in the late 1990s, directly under the Al Aqsa Mosque, where Huldah Gate is located. And now, the fifth, Bab el Rahma, established in a building

closed by court order 16 years ago after it became a center of Hamas activity.

This latest attempt to establish yet another mosque opposite the Golden Gate is a response by the Jordanians and Palestinians to allegations that Israel is trying to alter the status quo at the Temple Mount. Since liberating the sacred plateau in 1967, Israel has committed itself to refraining from religious expressions at the site. This agreement was made by then-Defense Minister Moshe Dayan, who believed that for Jews, the Temple Mount was now nothing more than "a historical site," and that as such, "Arab customs as they are now [1967] practiced should not be disturbed and Muslim's right to control the place should be recognized." The practical outcome is that while Jews are allowed to visit, they must not pray at their own religion's most holy site.

This status quo became part of the 1994 peace treaty between Israel and Jordan. But, perhaps not surprisingly, that's when things started to change.

For many Jews, Dayan's status quo meant Islam controls the Temple Mount, which is why there are those willing to constantly challenge it, primarily through sporadic attempts to pray at the site and to increase the number of Jewish visitors. Those Israelis who care about the Temple Mount, and there are sadly very few, insist that it's the Muslims who are violating the status quo by establishing new mosques.

Jordan and the Palestinians claim the opposite. They say that Israel violates the status quo by sending "settlers" to visit the Temple Mount. They also claim that Israel is seriously planning to build the Third Temple there.

It is obvious to those who don't buy the Islamist propaganda that the Muslim Waqf, now actively supported by Turkey, has changed the status quo to its favor, with Israel doing nothing about it. The new mosques on the Mount, it must be noted, came into being during Benjamin Netanyahu's time as prime minister. Now Israelis are waiting to see if Netanyahu is going to keep his word to maintain the status quo, or will he again capitulate to Muslim demands?

Canadian Tribunal Fines Man \$55,000 For Misgendering

<http://www.prophecynewswatch.com>

We told you this was coming. We warned you it would happen. We were not crying wolf. We were telling you the truth. And now it is here, as a headline announces: "Canadian tribunal fines Bill Whatcott \$55,000 for expressing Christian views on 'transgenderism.'"

In other words, Whatcott called a biological male (who identifies as a female) a "biological male." That was his crime.

What a miscarriage of justice. What an assault of freedom of speech and expression.

John Carpay, president of the Justice Center for Constitutional Freedom, defended Whatcott, noting in protest that, "The Supreme Court of Canada has long held that freedom of expression is the lifeblood of democracy." But not when it crosses the lines of transgender activism. Freedom halts there.

Carpay added, "Society is full of people with diverse views and the Tribunal's decision undermines the foundational principles of the free society and jeopardizes the health of Canada's democracy."

Silencing Opposition

Precisely so. But, as I have stated often, this was always the end-goal of radical LGBT activism: the

opposition must be silenced. (And until it is legally silenced, it must be socially shamed.)

Last month, a Catholic journalist in England was interrogated by police at her house after she "misgendered" a child with whom she had appeared on TV. How dare she identify the child based on its biological sex.

Now, in Canada, a Christian activist has been fined \$55,000 for the "hateful" act of misgendering an adult male. How soon before this reaches America?

Mass Resistance notes, "Whatcott's 'offence' is still considered perfectly legal in the United States. But for how long? (We are already seeing private censorship regarding transgenderism on Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, and Vimeo!) Passage of the pending federal 'Equality Act' (H.R. 5) will insert 'gender identity protections' throughout federal law."

It's Already Here

In reality, some of these laws are already on the books in America, with New York City calling for fines up to \$250,000 for "misgendering" someone in the workplace. (This was put in place in 2015.) And in 2016, "A transgender schoolteacher in Oregon won a \$60,000 settlement from a school district after co-workers allegedly failed to address the teacher by the proper gender pronouns."

Is the water hot enough for the frog to take notice?

When bill C-16 (the Trans Rights Bill) was being debated in Canada, Prof. Jordan Peterson opined that, under this new law, he could go to jail for refusing to follow transgender speech guidelines. For making such claims, he was ridiculed. As expressed in an article on Vice, "No, the Trans Rights Bill Doesn't Criminalize Free Speech. U[niv] of T[oronto] Prof Jordan Peterson has made C-16 a rallying point for free speech advocates. But experts say he has it all wrong."

Tell that to Bill Whatcott.

Reporting the Truth

As Mass Resistance explains, "During the British Columbia elections in the spring of 2017, Christian activist Bill Whatcott passed out hundreds of flyers notifying people that one of the local candidates for Parliament, Morgane Oger -- who claimed to be a woman and dressed as a woman -- was actually a man named Ronan Oger. (In fact, up until five years ago, Oger lived relatively normally as a father with his wife and two children.)"

That was it. He simply reported the truth: Morgane was a biological male.

For that he was arrested, held in jail, and ultimately fined for committing a hate crime.

It is absolutely true that Whatcott's flyer also spoke out against homosexuality and transvestitism. And it is certain that many found his flyer to be offensive.

So be it. People say offensive things day and night in countless public settings, and those freedoms are protected by the law.

You might even say, "As a Christian activist, Whatcott should simply preach Jesus and not warn voters that Oger is a not a female but a male."

You're entitled to that opinion.

What is not debatable -- meaning, it should not be debatable -- is that Whatcott has the legal right to tell the truth about Oger.

Coming to a City Near You

Not according to the Canadian tribunal, which issued a 104-page ruling, concluding that: 1) "Mr. Whatcott's conduct was discrimination contrary to the Code" and that he must cease and desist from such action in the future; 2) he must "pay Ms. Oger \$35,000 as compensation for injury to her dignity, feelings, and self respect; 3) he must "pay Ms. Oger \$20,000 as costs for improper conduct"; and 4) he must pay Oger interest due. (The Code in question is the Human Rights Code, to my knowledge, related to but not identical to Bill C-16.)

So, this is not the prediction from a "sky is falling" pessimist. This is a factual report from a biblically based realist.

Expect this in a city near you in the coming days, unless you stand up and speak out today.

As followers of Jesus, we can tell trans-identified people that we love them and wish them no harm without agreeing with their perceptions or affirming their choices.

You have been forewarned. Again.