

# NEWSBYTES

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“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

## And There Will Be...Pestilence

By Hal Lindsey

Politicians on all sides assure us that happy days wait just over the horizon — as long as we place them in power or keep them there. Talking heads on television assure us that nothing we face is new — humanity has been here before, and we did just fine. And in a sense, they're right. In Ecclesiastes 1:9 (NASB), wise Solomon said, “There is nothing new under the sun.”

Covid was bad, but not as bad as the black plague. Crime is high, but it has been higher. Present wars don't have nearly the scope of the world wars faced during the previous century. The economy is giving off major danger signals, but we're not in a depression. Violence and debauchery seem to have taken over among the young. But woke educators and entertainers assure us that we are entering a new age of moral enlightenment.

For the public at large, however, such reassurances are less than comforting. Most people understand that we face a staggering set of potential catastrophes, and we face them all at once. Each is magnified by the size of earth's population. At the time of the 1918 flu epidemic, fewer than 2 billion people inhabited the planet. Today that number exceeds 8 billion. We depend on fewer and fewer farmers to feed larger and larger populations. In an increasingly divided world, borders are turning into chasms over which supply lines must run.

While there is nothing new under the sun, the scale and scope of disasters can grow and intensify. There have always been wars, and warriors have always used weapons. But they have not always had access to nuclear weapons. So it is with disease and pestilence. Our ancestors faced biological threats, but those threats were not enhanced or weaponized in pharmaceutical laboratories.

By the late 1940s, penicillin and flu vaccines were just coming into wide use among the civilian population. Optimism ran high. US Secretary of State George Marshall saw the conquest of infectious disease on the horizon. In 1962, Nobel Prize-winning virologist Macfarlane Burnet said, “To write about infectious diseases is almost to write of something that has passed into history.”

Not quite. A May 2017 article in Time Magazine said, “The number of new diseases per decade has increased nearly fourfold over the past 60 years.” Most of the world's 8 billion people live in the petri dishes known as cities. Disease travels with its human hosts. That means infections move around the

globe in hours, not the weeks or months of earlier generations. And the people of our time run to and fro at an unprecedented pace.

It's not surprising that the world was unprepared for Covid. But it is stunning that the situation has not been corrected. For instance, the United States and most of the west still use China as a sort of global pharmacy. But the communists play games. They flex their muscles to prove their strength and our vulnerability. The rest of the world finds itself out on a limb with the Chinese communist party holding the saw. They can slow manufacturing or stop it entirely. They can slow supply lines or cut them off according to their whims. The West's continued dependance on China for vital pharmaceuticals is suicidal. Yet very little is being done to correct the situation.

In Luke 21:11, Jesus warned that in the days leading up to His return, there would be an increase in what the New American Standard Bible translates as "plagues" and the King James translates "pestilences." They mean the same thing — massive outbreaks of disease. Those diseases can be naturally occurring, or lab enhanced. So far, we have only had a taste.

## Draft UN resolution demands end to Israeli settlements

U.S. State Department describes UAE-backed resolution as 'unhelpful' ahead of crucial Ukraine vote.



United Nations headquarters in New York City. Credit: blurAZ/Shutterstock.

**(February 17, 2023 / JNS)** A draft U.N. resolution that the *Associated Press* obtained demands an immediate halt to all Israeli settlement activities, condemning Israeli attempts to annex settlements and outposts and calling for their reversal. The Palestinian-backed resolution could be put to a vote as early as next week.

The new resolution comes as Israel's government reaffirmed its commitment to legalize nine communities in Judea and Samaria in the wake of last week's deadly terrorist attack in Jerusalem. The victims were identified as Yaakov Israel Paley, 6; his brother Asher Menachem, 8; and Alter Shlomo Lederman, 20.

At the same time, Israel's government has announced plans to advance nearly 10,000 housing units in Judea and Samaria following a string of terrorist attacks, which claimed 10 Israeli lives in the past several weeks.

"The introduction of this resolution is unhelpful in supporting the conditions necessary to advance negotiations for a two-state solution," Vedant Patel, deputy U.S. State Department spokesman, told reporters in Washington on Thursday. Patel added that Israel's decision to expand settlements and legalize those communities was also "unhelpful."

Supporters of the resolution want a vote on Monday ahead of the year anniversary of Russia's invasion of Ukraine on Feb. 24, 2022. Starting on Wednesday, this period will be marked by several days of high-level activities.

The resolution was introduced and supported by the United Arab Emirates, which normalized relations with Israel more than two years ago and has taken a tepid stance on opposing Russia's war with Ukraine.

The United States will look to the United Arab Emirates and other council members to vote in favor of a U.N. General Assembly resolution condemning Russia for invading Ukraine and calling for an immediate withdrawal of all Russian forces.

## **Mr. Biden, Balunacy, and Minnesota Madness**

*Published on: February 15, 2023 Terry James*

Can there be any doubt? In every direction we look, Romans 1:28 projects from our TV screens and computer monitors. The proof of reprobate, aberrant thinking reddens the horizon with warnings of dangerous times ahead.

Anti-God forces have put the planet's populations in a position that, like in the time of the antediluvian world of rebels, God's wrath and judgment must again fall. This article will, I hope, point to several examples that typify the reprobate mindset and show how far into upside-down thinking those, particularly within leadership positions, have descended.

Being several months older than the current US president, it gives me no pleasure to point out what everyone knows but few amongst the media and elective government will verbalize. Joe Biden is in obvious cognitive decline. His leadership as a US senator and vice president has been the topic of concern for many years, but lately, the mental decline is manifest anytime he is off the prompter. He answers practically no questions from the press assigned specifically to solicit answers that inform the American public.

A mainstream news media with a collective ideology that views America's founding as being wickedly flawed—even evil from inception—covers up the president's refusal and/or inability to cogently frame thoughts that American presidents have always been demanded to verbalize. I offer as evidence, for those old enough to remember, the way the wolves of the mainstream media tore at Vice President Dan Quayle for simply misspelling "potato." This president makes gaffe after gaffe constantly without a word from the sycophantic press. They consistently prevaricate in their "reporting" in order to make the anti-America-as-founded charges, apparently wanting to move this nation as far ideologically left as most of Europe now is—or even farther left politically.

The most recent cover-up situation by what used to be referred to as "the fourth estate" involves Biden's apparent business partner, China. The balloon sent from that Far-Eastern enemy of the United States floated across the Pacific Ocean, the largest body of water on the planet, then traversed the entire nation at 60,000 feet before finally being shot down in US waters less than 12 miles off our East Coast.

The balloon was technologically directed by China, according to some in the know. It did not just drift accidentally into American air space. The Biden administration allowed the invasion of territory some 60,000 feet above the nation. The excuse so far offered for not shooting it down is a fear that the heavy parts would crash to earth, endangering the American people.

The balloon first attracted public controversy Wednesday as it hovered near multiple military sites in Montana. China has insisted that the balloon was a civilian airship that went off course.

A report on Bloomberg said that US officials were aware of the balloon back on Jan. 28, when it first entered American airspace over the Aleutian Islands. The balloon then drifted into Canada before returning over Idaho on Tuesday...

Despite downing the balloon on Saturday, the Biden administration took withering criticism from E. Casey Wardynski, a former assistant secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs in the Trump administration, according to Fox News...

Wardynski said the lack of action that took place as the balloon drifted across America amounted to "an excuse to do nothing, which is the kind of government we've got—a do-nothing government."

He noted that the balloon was treated differently than almost any other aircraft.

"It's our airspace. They [China] would've shot this thing down long ago if it was an American aircraft," he said.

The Biden administration's blustering "feeds into the overall picture of the Defense Department, which is that it's a crowd that can't shoot straight," he said. ("Breaking Update: Chinese Spy Balloon Shot Down," Jack Davis, Patriot Update, February 4, 2023)

More troubling than not being able to "shoot straight" is the fact that the administration no longer seems able to "think straight." It seems the "reprobate mind" infects Washington, DC.

And it infects governments of lesser status as well. Minnesota state government manifests the Romans 1:28 malady, too, it is more than obvious:

Democrats [who hold a 34–33 majority in the state senate and a 70–64 advantage in the state house] in Minnesota banned coal, oil and gas after passing historic legislation in the state House of Representatives on Thursday...

And the legislation will cause electricity prices to skyrocket.

This comes at the same time that Joe Biden banned mining in the Iron Range, a Democrat-dominant working-class area in north-eastern Minnesota.

The new energy infrastructure in Minnesota will ban mining here at home as Biden struck a deal with African nations that use child labor, and China, where they use slave labor.

All in the name of climate change – the new religion of the left...

This is an unrealistic timeline that could endanger the lives of Minnesotans if it fails while causing their electricity bills to skyrocket, Republicans argued throughout the night.

They unsuccessfully offered several amendments to the bill, including lifting the state's moratorium on new nuclear power plants, allowing for the use of carbon sequestration

technologies, and delaying the standard to consider its impact on child and slave labor in the green energy supply chain.

“Frankly, what this bill will be doing today is making Minnesota reliant on nations around the globe that have no labor standards and no environmental standards. Minnesota in this bill will build a clean grid economy on the backs of child slaves in China and poor environmental regulations in Indonesia and the Congo,” Rep. Spencer Igo, R-Wabana Township, said at a press conference ahead of the debate.

He said the resources to build a clean energy future are right in Minnesota’s backyard, yet the federal government has now banned mining on 250,000 acres of the Iron Range.

“The third-largest deposits of copper, nickel and cobalt that exist in the known world are only 250 miles north of this Capitol. Instead of investing in those resources ... we have decided to export it around the world where carbon emissions will be 20, 25, or 30 times higher than if we were to do it here in Minnesota,” he continued. (“Suicide Pact: Minnesota Democrats Pass Bill to Ban Coal, Oil and Gas in One of Nation’s Coldest States – As Biden Bans Mining in State’s Iron Range,” Jim Hoft, Gateway Pundit, February 3, 2023)

Minnesota, one of the very coldest states of the Union, has as its elected leadership a majority that insists on doing away with affordable ways to keep warm. *Reprobate minds*, to be sure...

I tend to agree with the assessment that says blame for this and most other craziness shouldn’t be placed on this cognitively dysfunctional president. These things are being perpetrated and/or allowed—certainly directed—by the globalists. Mr. Biden is but a useful tool in the hands of those such as Klaus Schwab, George Soros, and others, it seems to me.

This upside-down non-reasoning all means that Christ’s Rapture call to believers in this anti-God age so near the Tribulation can’t be far distant. Christ’s promised return to end the madness is a bright beam of hope piercing the darkening horizon.

“He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus” (Revelation 22:20).



## **13 Numbers That Show How Dramatically We Have Failed America's Children**

The kids are not okay, and it is time for us to face the truth. As long as I have been writing, surveys have shown that the mental health of our young people has been steadily getting worse. But now we are learning that things really took an enormous turn for the worse during the pandemic.

As you will see below, one expert is warning that the number of kids that are dealing with mental health issues "has increased exponentially since the pandemic".

The facts that I am about to share with you are likely to make you very angry. Our system does not work, and millions upon millions of young people are having their lives ruined as a result.

The following are 13 numbers that show how dramatically we have failed America's children...

#1 One recent survey found that 40 percent of U.S. parents "worry their children struggle with anxiety or depression".

#2 During the pandemic, suicide became the second leading cause of death for U.S. children between the ages of 10 and 14.

#3 Suicide is also the second leading cause of death for Americans between the ages of 15 and 24.

#4 According to a recent Pew Research Center poll, 46 percent of U.S. kids between the ages of 13 and 17 have experienced cyberbullying.

#5 40 percent of U.S. high school students "felt so sad or hopeless" in 2021 that "they were unable to do their regular activities".

#6 According to the CDC, "more than 95% of children and adolescents in the U.S. spend much of their daily lives in school".

#7 At 23 schools in Baltimore, not one single student is proficient in math.

#8 At 30 schools in Illinois, not one single student can read at grade level.

#9 At 53 schools in Illinois, not one single student can do math at grade level.

#10 According to the CDC, nearly 20 percent of all adolescent female students experienced sexual violence in 2021.

#11 According to the CDC, nearly 60 percent of all adolescent female students "experienced persistent feelings of sadness or hopelessness" in 2021.

#12 According to the CDC, nearly 25 percent of all adolescent female students "made a suicide plan" in 2021.

#13 The proportion of adolescent female students that actually attempted suicide in 2021 was 60 percent higher than a decade ago.

There is nothing "normal" about these numbers.

The mental health of our young people has been declining for years, and a spokesperson for the American Academy of Pediatrics is telling us that the number of kids and adolescents dealing with mental health issues "has increased exponentially since the pandemic"...

*"I would say over the last 10 years, since I've been practicing as a general pediatrician, I have seen a shift both in the amount of patients and of all ages dealing with anxiety and depression. And their*

*parents being concerned about this is a key issue," said Dr. Katherine Williamson, a pediatrician and spokesperson for the American Academy of Pediatrics. "Even before the pandemic, we were seeing skyrocketing numbers of kids and adolescents dealing with mental health issues, and that has increased exponentially since the pandemic."*

We told our leaders that the incredibly sick and twisted mandates and restrictions that they were forcing upon our young people were going to have very serious mental health consequences.

And that is precisely what has happened.

But of course we must also acknowledge that the mental health of our young people was steadily deteriorating long before the pandemic ever came along.

It has become clear that no matter how much money we pour into our schools, it isn't going to make things any better.

In fact, to me it is quite apparent that our absolutely pathetic system of public education is a big part of the problem.

If you want your teens to hate life, just put them into a public high school.

Having said that, I want to stress that having strong nuclear families is even more important to the mental health of our young people.

Unfortunately, the traditional family unit is under attack like never before, and in many cases it is being replaced by "new arrangements"...

Alysia and Tyler Rogers were already parents to two children, now ages 7 and 8, when they embarked on a romantic relationship with married friends Sean and Taya Hartless.

The two couples, originally from the US, moved in together as a polyamorous foursome in 2020 and the following year, Alysia and Taya delivered babies seven months apart.

Neither woman knows who biologically fathered the kids, with Alysia maintaining they will help the children discover that down the road if they ever want to.

I don't even know what to say about all of that.

Unfortunately, a smaller percentage of U.S. children are being raised in a traditional home with a traditional father and a traditional mother than ever before.

And that has very serious implications for our future.

As we all get older, we are going to need the next generation to take care of us. According to the Washington Post, it is being projected that the number of elderly people in the United States will grow very rapidly in the years ahead...

*That represents 55.7 million people, an increase of 15.2 million (38 percent) of people 65 and above since 2010, compared with just 2 percent growth in the under-65 population. It also reflects a consistent increase in the nation's older population since 1900, when there were 3.1 million Americans 65 and older (4 percent of the population).*

The report projects a climb to roughly 80.8 million residents 65 and older by 2040, more than double the number in 2000. It also predicts a doubling of the number of even older residents by 2040, with the count of those 85 and older expected to grow from 6.7 million in 2020 to 14.4 million by 2040. In 2020, there were nearly 105,000 residents 100 or older.

When we are all old and gray, we will be depending on the next generation to be the leaders of tomorrow.

But thanks to our failures, the next generation is going to be incredibly messed up.

Our society is being "fundamentally transformed" right in front of our eyes, and that is really bad news for all of us.