



# *Last Days Beacon*

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## AMERICA IS FORECAST IN BIBLE PROPHECY

**PART ONE** - This article provides the historical context to the Bible prophecies of America - which will be presented in the next (November) issue of Last Day's Beacon.

(C) Paul Warren Dinger  
Founding editor, the Boston Review of the arts



*"The concept of history held by almost all Protestants in the 16<sup>th</sup> century . . . was greatly influenced by the notion that the entire course of man's career on earth was symbolically foretold in the books of Daniel and Revelation."*

p.viii-ix, preface, "Millennia and Utopia," Ernest Tuveson

*"The new land was certainly a part, perhaps the climax, of redemptive history; America was divine prophecy fulfilled."*

- Famed historian Arthur Schlesinger Jr. from a bicentennial  
speech to the 1976 American Historical Association

*End times prophecy beliefs were "basic to the formation of American revolutionary ideology."*

- p. 75 "When Time Shall Be No More," Peter Boyer quoting  
historian Ruth Bloch from her book, "Visionary Republic."

*"America is - as everyone knows - a creation of the Bible, particularly the Old Testament."*

- Rabbi Solomon Schechter at the 1903 opening of  
the Jewish Theological Seminary of America

At 242 years old, America seems to have acquired the old age disease of amnesia.

Prominent evangelical leaders have been denying a primary American belief and a big historical reality for most of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. From colonization well into the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Americans believed their land is forecast in Bible prophecy - in particular, America's founders. Strangely, over the last decade, major evangelical broadcasters have been telling tens of millions of Christians that America is "not in the Bible."

David Jeremiah, Chuck Swindoll, Tony Evans and Michael Rydelnik, to name just a few highly respected leaders, have publicly announced to their audiences that God did not predict America in His Word. These men represent the broadcast gold standard of evangelical doctrine, the last word on God's Word. They are men I respect.

## AMERICA-IS-NOT-IN-THE-BIBLE DOESN'T MAKE SENSE

On the face of it, the idea that America has no footprint in the Bible is unreasonable. For a very long time, evangelical scholars and leaders have been teaching that many modern nations are pre-viewed in the Bible's Last Days Prophecies. Bible prophecy experts and evangelical leaders have long maintained that Russia, Egypt, the newly formed European Union, and even minor nations like Libya and Ethiopia are predicted in End Times Bible prophecy. At the same time - and they are emphatic on this - History's Great Nation, the greatest Christian nation in the modern world, is nowhere to be found in God's Word.

Why would God hide the vanguard of Christianity in the modern world, history's greatest missionary nation? Wasn't America instrumental in the resurrection and preservation of Israel? Doesn't America's Great Seal and Israel's flag have the same symbol - the *Mogen David*? Who says America and Israel have nothing to do with each other?

Celebrated prophecy expert Mark Hitchcock published two books denying America is in the Bible. The first, "*Is America in Bible Prophecy?*" published nine months after 9/11 (2002) and "*The Late Great United States: What Bible Prophecy Reveals About America's Last Days*" seven years later. These after-9/11 books are addressed to an anxious America, troubled by the apocalyptic scenario of September 11, 2001. And both are a disappointment to those expecting to find where America is in Bible prophecy.

This article and next month's article are intended to supply the rebuttal case to the "America-isn't-in-the-Bible" argument in the Court of Public Opinion.

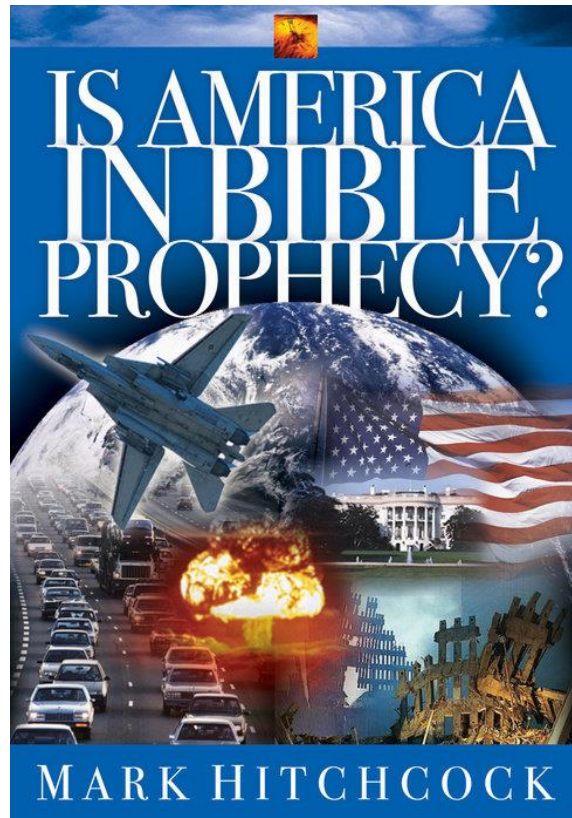
## AMERICA IS EVIL BABYLON?

Strangely, while denying America is prophesied in the Bible, many evangelical leaders have, at the same time, been calling America "Babylon." This refutes a primary doctrine of the Reformation, colonial America - and America's founding fathers. Throughout the colonial period, up to and beyond the Revolution, American Protestants viewed the Roman Papacy as the prophetic manifestation of the anti-Christ Babylon of *Revelation*. This idea goes back to Luther and the Reformers in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. King James (of the King James Bible) in the 17<sup>th</sup> century strongly endorsed the Rome-is-

Babylon belief, and American colonials believed this up through the American Revolution and the Civil War.

We should remember that, long before this, the apostle Peter, who Rome claimed as its first pope <sup>1</sup> and Rome's great theologian, St. Augustine <sup>2</sup> both agreed Rome is Babylon.

Still - there is no denying America today looks eerily like the description of Babylon in *Revelation*. On the other hand, Christ tells us the "tares" look like "wheat" - but they're not. Speaking of tares, what reasonable Christian can dispute that 21<sup>st</sup> century American Christianity is to a large degree a wobbly lukewarm affair saturated with a worldly odor, liberalism and Bible illiteracy? Has no one noticed how today's evangelicalism is to a large degree prophecy-phobic and anti-America?



*The Late Great United States* proclaimed America-isn't-in-the-Bible just in time (2009) to provide the background chorus to President Obama's entrance into the Oval Office and one of his early presidential doctrines - America isn't a Christian nation. *It's a Muslim nation*. America-isn't-in-the-Bible was like the Siamese Twin of America-isn't-a-Christian-country. <sup>3</sup> These nonsense brothers went well with another evangelical teaching - America isn't History's Great Nation. It is merely an "exceptional" nation, like France, Britain and China. As a group, this doctrinal trinity worked hand-in-glove to

<sup>1</sup> 1 Peter 5:13 – Peter's reference to "Babylon" was an old nickname for Rome. In Peter's day, Christian, Jewish and Roman writers called Rome "Babylon."

<sup>2</sup> Four centuries later, Rome's great theologian, Augustine of Hippo, wrote, ". . . the city of Rome was founded to be a kind of second Babylon, the daughter, as it were, of the former Babylon. It was God's design to conquer the world through her, to unite the world into the single community of the Roman commonwealth and the Roman laws, and so to impose peace throughout its length and breadth." P. 787, book XVIII, Chapter 22, *City of God*, Augustine of Hippo, Penguin Books, London, England, 1972.

<sup>3</sup> Don't most Americans claim to be Christian in polls? Aren't most American holidays Christian? Doesn't the world believe America is a Christian nation? Hasn't every American president, save one, claimed to be Christian – including the son-of-a-Muslim Barack Hussein Obama? Didn't the Supreme Court rule in 1892 that America was a Christian country according to its history and state documents? Which Muslim leader is buying the America-is-not-a-Christian nation?

support President Obama's anti-America program and empower the anti-America-anti-Christian spirit in the most atheistic generations in American history - the "Gen-Xers" and the "Millennials."

Also ironic in its timing, the beloved and respected Dr. Jeremiah issued a second America-is-not-in-the-Bible proclamation a week before the celebration of America's birthday in 2013. This was the first July 4<sup>th</sup> of the second term of America-isn't-a-Christian-nation president - Barack Obama.

## THE IDEA AMERICA IS PREDICTED IN THE BIBLE BEGAN WITH THE COLONIZATION OF AMERICA

The idea America is forecast in the Bible has a genealogy going back to the discoverer of the New World, Christopher Columbus. He was the first to say this gigantic landmass he uncovered that was hidden from the civilized world for millennia, was predicted in Bible prophecy. By the time England was colonizing the northeast coast of North America a century later a whisper arose in its great universities that the colonies' location might be in Bible prophecy.

As we will see, by the time John Winthrop was organizing his Puritan colonial brethren, this idea that the place Britain was colonizing might be forecast in the Bible was percolating. What became "America" was, after all, the westernmost land on earth. And from God's call to Abraham to go west to Canaan 4000 - some years ago up to England's peopling of America, God's plan has moved westward.

As we will see next month, after Columbus' discovery, the European focus on the last of the five empires Daniel prophesied (Daniel, chapter 2) came front and center in the European mind. Spain was the first to believe it had become this God-elect kingdom that would complete Christ's assignment to evangelize the ends of the earth and thus trigger His Return. But over the next century, in God's providential oversight of history, Daniel's "Stone Mountain" (Daniel 2:34-35) prophecy moved northward to England and then, as we will see next month, westward to America.



Columbus Discovers the New World

**OCTOBER CELEBRATES THE  
FIRST MAN TO SAY “AMERICA” IS  
IN THE BIBLE**

***THAT IS THE REASON COLUMBUS IS AMERICA’S FIRST AND ENDURING  
CELEBRITY.***

Did you know October’s “Columbus Day” is a celebration and remembrance of the man who jump-started the idea that God predicted America in Bible prophecy? Columbus sowed the seeds of the belief that has secretly driven the modern era - the idea that his discovery was not merely the fulfillment of Bible prophecy - but the beginning of the Last Days before Christ’s Second Coming. Columbus was a zealous student of the Bible and Bible prophecies. When he returned to his financiers in Spain, King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella didn’t regard his vision as the silly ramblings of a man who spent too much time alone at sea.

On the contrary, they wholeheartedly accepted his notion that his discovery was a sign of the Last Days before Christ’s Return. Clarifying Columbus’ idea, Spain believed it had been chosen as that final great empire that would end the shelf life of this fallen world - Daniel’s Fifth Empire (Daniel 2: 34-25). This belief then spread across Europe and the idea of a Last Great Nation drove international politics to the degree that the great powers, Portugal, France, Sweden, the Netherlands and even Russia began colonizing the Americas, the west “end of the earth.”

The back-to-back earthshaking events in Spain - (1) the final eviction of anti-Christian Islam from Spain and (2) the discovery of “the ends of the earth” months apart in the same year (1492) convinced Spain’s leaders that God was intervening and end times prophecy fulfillment had begun.

As one expert in European history put it - “The people of Spain . . . had received the gift of ‘election,’ an act of divine favor that endowed them with a special destiny in . . . the latter days of the world. The expanding Spanish kingdom promised to be nothing less than Daniel’s fifth monarchy, the final world order that presaged the return of the savior.”<sup>4</sup>

The idea Columbus spearheaded, namely, God’s prophecy of America, electrified America’s colonial leaders up to, during and after the American Revolution. Columbus was regarded as the first prophet of America and “Columbia” became a nickname for the new nation (e.g., the poem “Hail Columbia”).<sup>5</sup> While America’s first president was in office and the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Columbus’ discovery was approaching (1792), a movement arose to name America “The United States of Columbia.” The compromise was to name America’s capitol, after America’s two great heroes - “Washington, The District of Columbia” (now known as D.C.).

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<sup>4</sup> p.71, Chapter 3: “The Last World Empire and its Competitors,” in *Apocalypse Then: Prophecy and the Making of the Modern World*. Arthur Williamson. “Praeger Series on the Early Modern World,” 2008, London.

<sup>5</sup> Columbia University, Columbia, North Carolina and Ohio, Boston’s Columbus Avenue and CBS (the Columbia Broadcasting Network) are just a few memorial reminders of the magnitude of Columbus’ former eminence. Spain did name a country after Columbus – Columbia.

## COLUMBUS IS AN UNLIKELY AMERICAN HERO

We must wonder why Columbus, who (1) never saw - much less set foot on - what is now “America” was made the country’s first giant celebrity? (2) Why would the ultra-Protestant founders elect a Catholic as America’s first and enduring hero at a time when Protestant America still regarded Roman Catholicism and the Pope as the “Anti-Christ” system prophesied in the book of Revelation? (3) The American Revolution was a rebellion against Europe’s state theocracy, both in England and Roman Catholic Europe. (4) And wasn’t Columbus the agent of America’s southern enemy, Roman Catholic Spain?

So, the reason Columbus was chosen as a primary hero of America on a par with American Revolution hero, Washington, is not because he discovered South America. It is because he was the man who started the idea that this westernmost land on earth was the fulfillment of end times Bible prophecy.

### ENGLAND, AMERICA’S PARENT, BECAME THE AVANT-GARDE OF BIBLE PROPHECY ANALYSIS

The horrific events of the first half of the second millennium - the wholesale swallowing of East Christendom and the seven churches Christ addressed in the book of Revelation - terrified Europe. So, Columbus’ idea that Last Days’ prophecies were being fulfilled explained to Europe the power and significance of anti-Christ Islam. The Anti-Christ was a prominent figure in *Revelation*. A type of geopolitical *superbowl* to determine who would wear the mantle of Daniel’s Fifth Monarchy centered largely in the “New World” Columbus discovered. There was even an English cult of “Fifth Monarchy men” and a Portuguese “Fifth Monarchy” hero. But by the time King James was occupying the throne, England believed it was wearing the “Stone Mountain” crown. <sup>6</sup>

With the 1588 collapse of the Spanish Armada’s attempt to drag Protestant England back into the Roman Church, Spain began losing its grip on the Fifth Empire scepter. The Armada defeat providentially transferred the baton of Last Great Empire to England. The King James Bible memorializes for us the time when England had become the leading edge of the Bible-focused Reformation. The King James Bible and Britain’s double-cross Union Jack flag were together presented as symbol of England’s status as Daniel’s Fifth Empire. England saw itself as the opponent of Rome’s holy war crusade to crush Protest-ant Christianity, i.e., Bible-centered Christianity. <sup>7</sup>

England’s vast colonial holdings from the Far East to the Far West (America) inspired its nickname, “the-empire-on-which-the-sun-never-sets.” Although this name was first uttered about Spain, this metaphor comes out of Daniel’s Fifth Monarchy prophecy that the “Stone Mountain” empire will overspread the earth.

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<sup>6</sup> The European political belief in the “Fifth Monarchy” of Daniel’s prophecy is chronicled from a secular perspective in Chapter 3, “The Last World Empire and Its Competitors” in *Apocalypse Then*, by historian Arthur Williamson.

<sup>7</sup> By the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> century (1590) half of Europe was Protestant. A half century later, Rome’s holy war against Protestantism cut that figure in half.

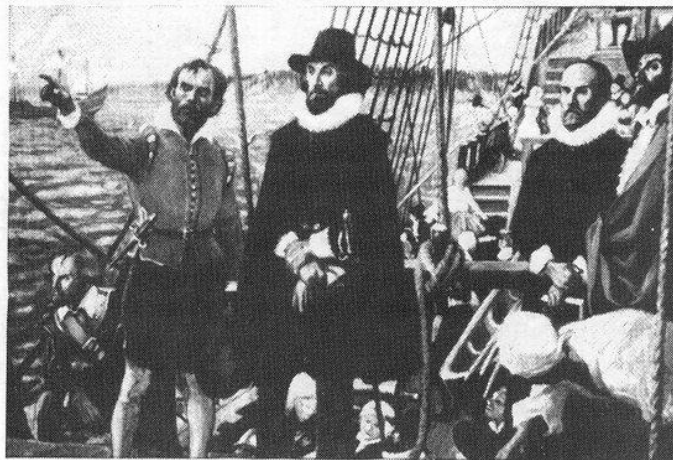
## AMERICA-IS-IN-BIBLE-PROPHECY IS A FOREIGN EXPORT

America-IS-in-Bible-prophecy is viewed by 21<sup>st</sup> century generations as the old-fashioned fantasy of backwoods fundamentalists. But the truth is, this idea is a foreign import. It emigrated from England to America with the Puritans. And rather than the inebriated daydream of Bible thumping evangelicals, the idea that God's Word pre-viewed America was originally the product of the upper echelon of English intellectuals. It began as a whisper in the air in England's "Harvard" - Cambridge University. <sup>8</sup>

John Winthrop, leader of the Puritans, was, like a number of others in the group, a Cambridge graduate. Historians have called the Puritans the best-educated colonists in history. The Puritan mission was not - as is falsely told in the standard Media-Education Complex story - for the purpose of "religious freedom." Its goal was to plant authentic biblical Christianity in the wilderness and create the perfect "city on a hill" that Christ forecast in the Beatitudes. It was, in part, inspired by the English Thomas More's 1516 novel, "Utopia," which described a perfect society off the coast of America. This novel was based on the growing expectation of Christ's coming Millennium.

The Puritans were the most advanced students of Bible prophecy and in many ways were at the top of England's intellectual totem pole. They were, for example, disproportionately represented among the pioneers of modern science. As they planned their mission to the New World, the actual "ends of the earth," they were at the leading edge of English thinking - the quest for Christ's True Church, the "city on a hill," i.e., the Millennium.

So, when Puritan leader, John Winthrop applied Christ's words, "a city on a hill" (Matthew 5:14) to the "howling wilderness" the Puritans were approaching, it was not so much Winthrop's idea as it was the transporting of an English idea. As we will see next month, this English idea about America as the fulfillment of Bible prophecy grew stronger over the next century until it flowered in a famous poem by one of Britain's greatest minds - a Church of England bishop.



*Governor Winthrop desired to make New England "as a city upon a hill."*

"A city on a hill" was an idea that had legs in the American mind. It became a nickname for the United States. Let's not forget that it was Christ who first spoke the words, "a city on a hill" in the Beatitudes.

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<sup>8</sup> The Puritans first named what became "Harvard" - "Cambridge," envisioning it as America's Cambridge. It is why Harvard's hometown is named, "Cambridge."

His Words took root in America, becoming its metaphorical title lasting 350 years, up to the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Two of America's most celebrated presidents, John F. Kennedy and Ronald Reagan, used the nickname repeatedly in famous speeches 20 years apart. Reagan used "a city on a hill" in his inaugural speech. <sup>9</sup> (Who says America isn't in the Bible?)

Does anyone remember that the American Revolution began in America's original Bible Belt - prophecy-focused Puritan Massachusetts? America's Revolt was not - as presented in the pubescent narrative of today - righteous teenagers rebelling against their parent's (Britain) old rules to inaugurate their own teenage utopia of free-form freedom.

For most of their history, Americans understood their country was God's creation. It is evident in the Declaration of Independence's dependence on God's judgement and intervention. It concluded with a prayer ("appealing to"). The Declaration shows the founders' expectation that the Creator would judge whether the Revolution was His idea or just another colonial rebellion that Britain usually crushed. The motto of the American Revolution was "No King But King Jesus," which was borrowed from England's previous Puritan Revolution.

America's second motto, "In God We Trust," was legalized after World War II, but it was first proposed as America's motto in the 1814 *Star Spangled Banner*, after big military victories that astonished the world. Who remembers that "In God We Trust" is a paraphrase of the central verse in the Bible - Psalm 118:8 - "It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man." This is the psalm the disciples likely sung at the Last Supper.

The fact that Christ's words, "a city on a hill" lasted nearly four centuries suggests Americans regarded it as a Christ-prophecy of America. Let's not forget that America is the bright flower of the Christian Church, the leader of modern Bible-and-Bible-prophecy-focused Christianity. When the many layers of false history reporting are cleared away, the plain fact is that, for most of American history, most Protestants have thought their country is forecast in the Bible - even if they weren't sure where.

## **THE BELIEF THAT AMERICA IS THE FRUIT OF BIBLE PROPHECY PACKED U.S. CAPITOL IN 1857**

For most of American history, from the Puritan colonization of New England well into the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the idea that America was God's Country in the modern world, the fulfillment of prophecy was a major political doctrine. It was on full display in the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Let's go back to the 1857 George Washington Birthday celebration in America's government center. Southern minister, Reverend Fountain Pitts held an all-day seminar in the United States capitol building on America's place and destiny in the Bible.<sup>10</sup> No one was complaining about this nervy violation of the sacred doctrine of separation of church and state. And neither were Bible scholars protesting that the Bible is silent on America.

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<sup>9</sup> Why didn't the ACLU sue these presidents for violating the Supreme Court's "separation of church and state" ruling? What was the point of JFK and Reagan climbing over that high wall separating church and state and bringing this noxious Bible-obsessed "fundamentalism" into the public political sphere? Isn't that a serious crime?

<sup>10</sup> pp 84 – 86, "When Time Shall Be No More," Peter Boyer, Belknap Press, Harvard, Boston



It was a packed-house-out-the-doors event of America's political ruling class in the place where they made laws. Rev. Pitts invoked the most defining Bible prophecy of the United States of America. It was the fulfillment of the last of the five empires God had given Daniel the prophet. America was the beginning of the "Stone Mountain" that would crush all the ancient theocracies from Babylon to Rome (Daniel 2:34-35).

The American understanding of the USA as Daniel's "Stone Mountain" authorized early 19th century Democrat political ideas - the Monroe Doctrine and "Manifest Destiny". Daniel says this empire will overspread the earth, and both of these Democrat doctrines claimed the divine right to dominate not just America, but the Americas. Without the widespread understanding of America as the outworking of the "Stone Mountain" prophecy, both these Democrat political doctrines look like sheer arrogance and imperialism. We shouldn't forget that the American "imperialism" and "colonialism" Marxists denounce is also based on Daniel's prediction that the "Stone Mountain" empire will cover the earth.

The idea that America is forecast in Bible prophecy that was prevalent for most of American history sounds patently ridiculous in 21<sup>st</sup> century Laodicean Christianity, the dysfunctional phase of the Church Age prophesied by Christ. Because America is now largely Bible-and-history-illiterate it has lapsed into a soft, increasing apostasy.



President William McKinley

## **FIRST 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN THEME - AMERICA IS DANIEL'S FIFTH EMPIRE**

The belief that America was forecast in Bible prophecy that began in the colonial era grew into a lasting political doctrine that - believe it or not - was on display in the first presidential race of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The American political-prophetic belief that was the spiritual platform of the American Revolution and Reverend Pitts declared in the US Capitol in the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century was the theme of President William McKinley's 1900 re-election campaign.

At the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, most Americans expected the 20<sup>th</sup> century to become the golden age of the millennium, and perhaps the time when Christ would actually return. So, the theme of McKinley's campaign, standing on Daniel's "Stone Mountain" prophecy of America - that his presidency would be

God's instrument to fulfill God's will for America fit perfectly with this end-of-the-19<sup>th</sup>-century belief that the very best age of America was coming in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Americans in 1900 may have lost their understanding of America-as-the-fulfillment-of-Daniel's-Fifth-Empire, but they did suspect that America was the staging area to Christ's return and the full outpouring of the coming Millennium. Americans today won't believe that a little over a century ago, the Bible, and Bible prophecy were the gravitational center of the 1900 presidential campaign.

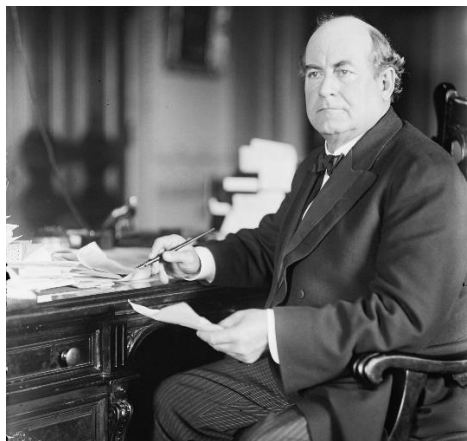
On one hand, President McKinley's enormous popularity (he won the election in a landslide) was based on his image as a Bible-reading Christian - i.e., a model American politician. His Democrat opponent, William Jennings Bryan, was similarly viewed as a solid Bible-believing Christian. It was the second election in a row the Democrat Party ran what the Democrats would today viciously attack as a Bible-thumper. To get an idea of how "right wing" the Democrat Bryan was, he later became what newspapers presented as the "fundamentalist fool" in the 1925 Scopes Trial.

One example of how enormously powerful this idea of Christ's coming Millennium has invisibly remained in American politics since it began 350 years ago is the anti-Bible media's naming the most atheistic generation in American history - "the millennials." Isn't this another brazen violation of that constitutional high wall of separation of church and state?

## **BIBLE PROPHECIES OF AMERICA WILL BE DOCUMENTED IN NEXT MONTH'S (NOVEMBER) ISSUE OF LAST DAYS BEACON**

The majority opinion of America a century ago is today seen as roll-your-eyes lunacy. The authentic history that has been chronicled in this article is drawn exclusively from secular academic historians who are not evangelicals and who are uncomfortable with the Rapture-Tribulation crowd. And yet they give us a shocking picture of the past that shows how Bible-and-prophecy-knowledgeable Americans were before the Scopes Trial. This, the first shot of the 20<sup>th</sup> century culture war, made the majority opinion of America from the American Revolution into the second decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, look old fashioned and out-of-step with the modern world.

Nonetheless, as we will see next month, every day, you see the two symbols of the founding belief that America is Daniel's "Stone Mountain" empire.



*Who can imagine that America was so Bible-literate-focused a century ago that the Democrat party ran the arch-fundamentalist William Jennings Bryan for president twice in a row (1896 and 1900)?*

Editor's Note: *Paul Dinger is a diligent student of American history and a descendent of a Revolutionary War soldier.*

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