Are You Seeing What I Am Seeing? By Wayne Vasilenko

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We are well into August in the year 2020; since the month of May, the whole world has not been the same. What is really happening? Have you taken the time just to sit quietly and analyze what is going on in the world around us? At the time of this writing I am 69 years old, so I have seen many things during my lifetime, many changes... politically, socially, as well as changes in Christianity. Many of the things we take for granted now, were "Science Fiction" when I was a child! Just a few weeks ago, I was in my daughter's office and I heard a phone ringing. She put her wrist to her mouth and answered a call! This was something I remembered from a "Dick Tracy" comic strip when I was a kid! Dick Tracy was a fictional police detective, and one of the futuristic devices he used was his famous "Wrist Radio;" it was used strictly for police work in the comic strip, but now my daughter had a device on her wrist that she could use to communicate with anyone in the world! Ironically, if I were to mention Dick Tracy to a young adult today, they would not have a clue as to what I am talking about! Unfortunately, if one were to mention to the same young adults, the names of many historic figures relating to the history of our country, or relating to the Bible, once again, they would not have a clue as to whom it was referring! To the "Older Folks" reading this: How about you... what things or changes have you observed in your lifetime? Now for the big question... were the changes for the good or to the detriment of society in general?

While one can list all of the positives modern technology brings to our lives, many people seem to ignore the potential dangers inherent within the same technology. While my daughter's wrist device serves as a telephone, which is rather impressive not to mention covenant, what people wearing these devices overlook is that these same devices are taking away their privacy and opening them up to civil, governmental, and religious control as never seen before. This was in a sense prophesied about in *not so fictional novels* such as the book "1984" that mentioned technology that really pales in comparison to what we have today! The device my daughter wears not only tells her how many steps she takes every day in her quest to stay healthy, but it also keeps a record of where she's been, how long she stayed, and it also has the capability of recording every conversation she has. I was listening to someone who has done an extensive study on such technology and he told of someone having a conversation about purchasing a new mattress with a friend and within a short period, they began getting texts and e-mails containing advertising for mattresses! Do things like this

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happen? Do a search on your device for anything and see what happens! Remember you can talk to Google on your phone and get an almost instant answer... This says to me that your phone or device connected to your home network is always listening. Please do not be fooled into believing you control these things by your voice or key words... there are "Back Doors" built into any device you may have. If you do not believe that, you are very naive.

There was a movie years ago about a woman, that had her entire existence erased via technology, the same technology all of us use every day! Her bank accounts - erased... her records of employment - erased; even the record of her birth - erased! In essence, she never existed! Is this scenario possible... absolutely! Here is something else to think about... many Christians take advantage of technology (myself included.) Most Christians have an electronic Bible on their "Smart Phone" or computer. There is nothing wrong with that. However, as most people do not have a real paper version of the Bible what would happen if an E.M.P. device were used rendering all of our electronic devices useless? No device – No Bible, in the blink of an eye! In the past, evil governments and evil leaders burned Bibles; however, Bibles are easily hidden. However, in our world of technology, they can simply be turned off or people can be denied access. A case in point is that years ago people purchased stand-alone computer programs... today they purchase "Access" to computer programs!

Everything today is "Internet Based," therefore people do not really have control over their Bible Study programs or their financial program... someone else does! Just the other day, a program I had on all of my devices suddenly, without apparent reason, disappeared from one device. Just a few years ago, I would have reloaded the program from a disk and I would be "back in business!" However, this program is now Internet Based and I am having trouble accessing it for other unknown reasons. I mention this simply to show that although technology offers much, it also makes us vulnerable in so many ways. This all has a profound effect on all of our lives and so many people do not realize how easy it is to control our lives via technology. A case in point is "Social Media" and the censorship that is affecting all aspects of our lives. The so-called "Big Tech" companies have total control of what people hear and see relating to general news, religious opinion, and political opinion. We only see and hear what they determine to be valid, truth, and what is acceptable in society. Do you see any danger in this?

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The goal of this article is to get people to wake up and see the dangers we face in our world of technology. We are allowing ourselves to be controlled to a point where we will soon no longer have any control of our lives, not even in the way we think. Think of how it will be when you could face serious repercussions to the point of physical harm or even death just for expressing how you feel about something. The bad new is that for some, this is already reality. It is time to consider as to whether us relinquishing control to powers unseen, is a good thing or a bad thing. I submit that the only one we should relinquish control to is God and His Holy Spirit... What say you? **Selah!**

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