

## Where Are We Headed? Part 1

By Wayne Vasilenko

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Every day as I listen to the news I ask myself the question, "Where Are We Headed" not just as individuals but collectively as a society? I have been on this planet for over 66 years so I guess you could say I've been around long enough to see some evolution of our society. What I have witnessed is disheartening to say the least. Rather than seeing humanity becoming more civilized with time I see the opposite. Rather than seeing people with differing opinions or beliefs coming together with compromise, as you would expect in a "civil society" I instead see society being pulled apart! I see people refusing to even listen to one another in an attempt to reconcile their differences. People are resorting to violence when they don't get their way! People are saying that they hate other people that they don't even know - people of whom they know nothing about - complete strangers! What is happening to us? What is driving a wedge between people and even the entire country? Actually, what is happening in the world is nothing new; read what God's Word has to say about it:

### **Ecclesiastes 1:9-10 (Amplified Bible)**

<sup>9</sup> The thing that has been—it is what will be again, and that which has been done is that which will be done again; and there is nothing new under the sun. <sup>10</sup> Is there a thing of which it may be said, See, this is new? It has already been, in the vast ages of time [recorded or unrecorded] which were before us.

If this is true and there really isn't anything going on that hasn't happened before, why do I as many others, sense there is something different about the times we are living in? Is there something different about the times we live in compared to a thousand years ago or even fifty years ago; In my opinion yes, there is something very different. It is not a matter of the events themselves but rather it is a matter of the lack of sense and the intensity of the events whatever they may be. The results of hatred and intolerance (a word we hear a lot these days) goes back to the beginning of the Bible with the story of Cain and Abel starting in Genesis 4:1. While tolerance is something people of our modern society preaches; it seems for many to be falling on deaf ears. Remarkably, this seems to be the case at least with the one segment of society, which happens to be the main driving force behind the call for tolerance, the one doing the majority of the preaching! It is ironic that the people calling for tolerance are the most intolerant among us. So again I ask, "What is going on here?" Why is it that the people calling for tolerance are the most intolerant; why do they seem to be so confused, why are they so blind to their own hypocrisy? Once again this is nothing new, there have always been hypocrites and there will always be hypocrites. I have even been known to be somewhat of a hypocrite myself from time to time... so have you. There is however in my opinion, (not God's) a difference between hypocrisy and blatant hypocrisy.

### **Matthew 24:6-10 (New King James Version)**

<sup>6</sup> And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all *these things* must come to pass, but the end is not yet. <sup>7</sup> For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. <sup>8</sup> All these *are* the beginning of sorrows. <sup>9</sup> Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake. <sup>10</sup> And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another.

The passage above was spoken by Jesus to his disciples when they asked him about signs of the "End Times." The verse that jumps out at me is verse <sup>10</sup> **And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another.** Today's date is August 25th 2017. Anyone watching or listening to the news over the past few weeks has been exposed to growing hatred among people in our society.

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The strange part is that most of the people spewing hatred and violence don't even know why they are doing it! I believe that people are being manipulated by satanic forces to go against truth and logic. They have been blinded to all that is good and true and go so far as to actually call what was traditionally considered good evil, and what was considered evil good. We hear a lot of talk about people being "offended" by this or that. While some people can justify saying they are offended I cannot see how so many people have been offended to a point that justifies the hatred and violence we see today. When President Obama was elected many people felt that it was the end of the racial divide in the United States. After all, how could a black person go on saying that by being black in America is going to keep you from succeeding when the president himself was a black man! Not only that, but it took more white people voting for him than black people to get him elected! We thought the race war was over but not so. The Obama administration kept fanning the flames of racism every time someone disagreed with him; they knew that keeping the race war going was to their advantage. This tactic is the same one that Satan uses to manipulate people. He uses it in their relationships with each other and with God. I have covered this in previous writings. As long as Satan can keep people divided in their marriages, he wins. As long as he keeps people in the churches divided, he wins. To me it is obvious what is going on here, and I hope you will begin to realize it as well if you don't already. In this series I will relate current events to where we are headed and where we could be headed. Visit us again for Part 2 of this series.