

# Westboro Baptist Church

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Religious Opinion & Bible Commentary on Current Events

Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

## NEWS RELEASE

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## Signs of the Times: Shining Bible Light on Current Events

The Lord has wrought many blessed judgments in the world this week which can be seen plainly by any who have been given eyes to see, ears to hear, and a heart to understand by the gracious hand of God. Let's view some of this week's judgments from the proper perspective:

On Sunday, January 26th, NBA star Kobe Bryant and his thirteen-year-old daughter died in a helicopter crash along with seven others when their aircraft slammed into a fog-covered hillside in Calabasas, California. The hagiographies immediately started flowing freely after his death, and anyone who mentioned anything negative about the superstar, such as the 2003 sexual assault accusation against him, was overwhelmed with backlash. Every living soul's first reaction to hearing of an earthly giant (or any person) falling to death should be to inspect themselves and their actions, whether they are rich towards God. **"And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully [...] And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."** (Luke 12:16-21).

On Tuesday, January 28th, President Trump unveiled his Middle East peace plan. Here are some of the highlights of the plan: Israel would officially annex 30% of the West Bank (this includes the Jordan Valley and settlements it has built within the West Bank), the Palestinian territory of Gaza would essentially double, Palestine would fully disarm, Israel would control "holy sites" and nearly all of Jerusalem, and Palestine's capital would be a sliver of East Jerusalem. Palestinian leadership, who was not consulted in the creation of the plan, immediately rejected the plan. The Lord has said Israel will possess the land, but not under current circumstances where Israel still revels in their sin. **"Therefore say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will even gather you from the people, and assemble you out of the countries where ye have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel. And they shall come thither, and they shall take away all the detestable things thereof and all the abominations thereof from thence. And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh: That they may walk in my statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God. But as for them whose heart walketh after the heart of their detestable things and their abominations, I will recompense their way upon their own heads, saith the Lord GOD."** (Ezekiel 11:17-21).

This week, the coronavirus, the virus that causes pneumonia and flu-like symptoms, continued to spread across the world. So far, it has killed at least 259 and infected 12,000 globally. On Friday, January 31st, the U.S. implemented a ban on foreign nationals who have been in China in the last two weeks from coming into the country. Your only true hope is to humble yourselves before God and repent. **"And the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died. Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD, and against thee; pray unto the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us. And Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live."** (Numbers 21:6-8). Look to Christ for physical and spiritual life. **"And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life."** (John 3:14-15).

## Repent or Perish!