

It Might Be Today

More Biometrics

We like every week to bring what we call a Prophecy Update. We show how news and trends in the world are corroborating centuries-old prophecies found in the Bible.

I want to again talk about the latest advances in personal identification technology.

When the apostle John wrote the Revelation of Jesus Christ in the first century it was hard to understand how a mark on your hand or forehead could be the personal identifier by which you would conduct all your business.

Not anymore! Everywhere you look, the governments of the world are beginning to utilize personal identification technology on a large scale. Even the secular news media refers to it as invasive and they use the phrase 'the mark of the beast.'

The technology to id a person, and even having a personal identifier, is **not** the mark. In the Revelation it's clear that the mark of the beast is a personal decision to swear allegiance to, and to worship, the antichrist.

But in order for that to occur the technology must exist, and must be being utilized on a national and global scale. Thus news and trends towards that are of interest to us as students of Bible prophecy.

On October 6 RFID Journal posted a story titled, *Germany Gets Set to Issue RFID ID Cards and Readers to Its Citizens.*¹

Excerpts:

¹ <http://www.rfidjournal.com/article/view/7927/1>

In an ambitious project designed to provide citizens with a more secure form of identification, as well as a secure method for conducting business via the Internet, Germany will begin issuing RFID-based national identity cards on Nov. 1, 2010. With the rollout of the new ID cards, Germany will become the first country to outfit its national ID cards with the same technological features of a passport - such as biometric photos, RFID chips and optional digital fingerprints.

By installing an RFID card reader on their home computer, citizens can use the card to positively identify themselves online, via a USB connection.

In another report the headline reads, *Fiji mulling national ID cards*.² That article states,

Plastic ID cards deployed nationwide are increasingly becoming a part of security plans in countries throughout the world. In Fiji, the defense ministry has proposed a new national ID card to [its] Prime Minister... Fiji's proposed biometric smartcard would be imbued with a chip containing fingerprints, passport details and other personal data. With this information, every citizen would have a clear form of identification, providing some sense of connection to the government and economy.

Reportlinker.com has published a research report, "*Global Biometric Report to 2012*," and found that biometric identification is expected to grow by 22 percent between 2011 and 2013.

The primary reason for this growth is security. Individuals want protection from identity theft, businesses want to protect their assets and governments want to be able to better know their populations for security and legal purposes.

North America is currently the region using biometrics in the greatest quantity, but rapid growth is expected in Asia, the Middle East and Africa.³

On October 13 (and I quote), "Datacard Group unveiled a portfolio of secure identity solutions designed specifically for government applications today at the 2010 Integraf Conference and Exhibition in Barcelona. The company is demonstrating solutions for passport, national ID, voter ID, taxpayer ID, driver's license, healthcare and entitlement programs."⁴

² <http://www.idsuperstore.ca/idnews/government-id-news/fiji-mulling-national-id-cards-800128758/>

³ <http://www.idsuperstore.ca/idnews/government-id-news/biometrics-growing-internationally-19936638/>

⁴ <http://www.kansascity.com/2010/10/13/2309028/datacard-debuts-new-identity-technologies.html>

United Arab Emirates residents must possess a National ID card by 2010 in order to be able to perform transactions with government and certain private sector entities.⁵

One more. Marketwatch.com posted a story titled, *LaserCard Receives \$2.2 Million Order for Secure ID Credentials for Saudi Arabia National ID Card Program*.⁶

All around the globe nations are moving rapidly towards a mandatory system of personal identification utilizing the latest advances in technology. This is exactly the kind of news you'd expect if we were trending towards the fulfillment of Bible prophecy.

I remind you that although we follow the fulfillment of Bible prophecy, we are not waiting for any prophecy to be fulfilled. Jesus promised to return to resurrect and rapture the church as an imminent event. By that we mean the certainty that He may come at any moment and the fact that no prophesied event stands between the believer and that hour.

Nothing needs to be fulfilled before the Lord can return for us. We are only waiting for Him - and His coming is always imminent.

Are you rapture-ready? If not, get ready, stay ready, and keep looking up.
Ready or not, Jesus is coming!

⁵ <http://gulfnews.com/news/gulf/uae/government/q-a-know-your-id-1.682792>

⁶ http://www.marketwatch.com/story/lasercard-receives-22-million-order-for-secure-id-credentials-for-saudi-arabia-national-id-card-program-2010-09-30?reflink=MW_news_stmp