

IT MIGHT BE TODAY

"Facing the Future"

If these are the last days, and if Bible prophecy is to be taken literally, then we ought to be able to look at the news and the trends in the world and see corroboration of the prophecies that are still awaiting fulfillment.

In the final chapter of the Book of Daniel there is a prophecy that in the last days knowledge will be growing at an exponential rate.

We live in the time of the exponential growth of knowledge. Until 1900 human knowledge doubled approximately every century. According to IBM, [soon] the doubling of knowledge [will occur] every 12 hours.

<http://www.industrytap.com/knowledge-doubling-every-12-months-soon-to-be-every-12-hours/3950>

One area of knowledge we are particularly interested in is technology, because we read in the Revelation of Jesus Christ that, in the last days, there will be some system by which everyone on earth will be identified and tracked by a mark of some kind, either *in* or *on* their body, and we suspect it will involve microchipping or some such technology.

Not only will this identify and track them - everyone will need this mark in order to conduct daily business.

This mark will eventually be utilized by the coming world leader the Bible identifies as the antichrist. In the middle of the future 7-year Great Tribulation he will demand everyone swear allegiance to him. Anyone who does not swear their allegiance will not be able to buy or sell anything; they will be cut-off from normal life altogether.

The technology that the antichrist utilizes is *not* "the mark of the beast" you read about in the Bible. The "mark of the beast" is his demand that a person swears allegiance to him. No one will take the mark without making a willful decision.

Since these are the last days, you'd expect technology to be advancing rapidly in the area of personal identifiers that track us and that allow us to conduct business. Here are just a couple of things I read about this week.

A February 26 article posted on prophecynewswatch.com was titled, *Smart Traffic Systems Will Track You Everywhere You Drive*.

Excerpts:

Welcome to the new 'Internet of Things' world where smart cars are coordinated using smart traffic systems in a new vibrant industry. Connecting roads or license plate readers to the Internet is going to be big business... Or so thinks Tech giant Cisco. fastcompany.com has reported that Cisco has in its latest installment of the ongoing expansion into the 'Internet of Things,' recently announced an agreement with Swiss security firm AGT International to develop smart traffic systems for cities around the world.

All these systems should ultimately improve traffic efficiency, improve road safety, help apprehend criminals and help to enforce adherence to traffic rules, with valuable intelligence being automatically relayed to the relevant authorities for review and action.

The system incorporates sensors embedded in pavements, license plate-reading systems, social media feeds, and video cameras to “identify, respond to, and resolve” traffic incidents in real time.

The article concludes with this comment: "The ‘Internet of Things’ seems to be evolving into yet another key part of the global surveillance and monitoring systems that are growing in leaps and bounds."

<http://www.prophecynewswatch.com/2014/February26/263.html#1AqWxdU4RjhqqlhI.99>

Another article was titled, *Mobile Payments Speeding Up The Death Of Cash.*

Excerpts:

In the U.S, cash is becoming increasingly less relevant and valuable for transactions. Some stores are even entirely “cashless” in America and around the world. Nearly 1-in-5 consumers do not carry any cash on them. In total, more than 60 percent of consumers carry \$20 or less in cash.

Surprisingly, about 1-in-20 people say they don't use cash and refuse to go to places that accept only physical currency. (This is according to a survey by Walker Sands, a Chicago-based public relations firm, conducted over the last year among 1,046 consumers across the United States).

What about plastic credit cards? "The future of money has arrived, and it's called Coin. It looks like a credit card. It's the size of a credit card. It swipes in credit card machines. But it holds the information of up to eight of your debit, credit, rewards, or gift cards. And you can switch between cards by simply pressing a button."

<http://www.prophecynewswatch.com/2014/February26/264.html#tAM06zRHmo3dqsmC.99>

Meanwhile, in New York, "to enter Building B at Knickerbocker Village, you don't need your key card. Your face will do just fine courtesy of a new biometric security system called FST21."

A camera takes 5 pictures of each resident's face. One is selected then it and other info about the resident are stored in the system database. Once a tenant tries to get through their building's security door, a high-tech scanner reads their face. If the system recognizes the face, the door is unlocked in a matter of seconds.

<http://www.myfoxny.com/story/24835029/face-recognition-system-unlocks-doors-at-manhattan-complex#ixzz2uYLYbLQo>

It's pretty obvious that we are already heading in to the time when each of us will utilize a personal identifier *in* us or *on* us. It is laying the groundwork for the future system that will be active and in place when the antichrist comes to power.

We trust the prophecies and the promises of God. One of those is that Jesus will return imminently to resurrect the dead believers of the church age, and that when He does He will also rapture living believers off of the earth. We will be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, and be transported to Heaven.

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