

It Might Be Today

Go Ahead, Swipe My Phone

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.

The mark of the beast was introduced by the apostle John when he wrote the Revelation of Jesus Christ in the first century. It is some sort of mark on the hand or forehead by which people living in the future period of time called the Tribulation will identify themselves and conduct all commerce. They won't be able to buy or sell anything without this mark.

Cutting-edge technologies are paving the way for the introduction on a massive scale of both a personal identifier and a cashless society. Let me give you just two examples from this week's news.

On January 24 [cnnmoney.com](http://money.cnn.com) posted an article titled, *The end of credit cards is coming*.¹

Excerpts:

Credit cards may soon be as outdated as vinyl records. (Remember those?) And this is the year that the slow, steady march to oblivion begins.

You can already use your iPhone, Droid or Blackberry to buy a hotdog at the ballgame, buy your Starbucks latté, or give a friend a few bucks by bumping phones. But by the end of the year you may not even think twice about reaching for your phone to pay at the register instead of fumbling for your credit card.

"Your plastic card hasn't changed since the age of the vinyl records," said Michael Abbott, CEO of Isis, a new mobile payment network. "This is the chance to bring payments forward from the plastic age and the vinyl records age to the digital age."

While companies have been experimenting with contactless mobile payments for years, 2011 is expected to be the year the technology really takes off. That's because millions

¹ http://money.cnn.com/2011/01/24/pf/end_of_credit_cards/index.htm

of phones capable of making contactless payments are expected to be shipped out in 2011.

As a result, this pay-by-phone market is forecast to make up \$22 billion in transactions by 2015, up from "practically none" last year, according to research firm Aite Group.

On January 25 sources revealed that "he Polish government has drawn up plans for the country to become a predominantly cashless society within three years..."²

Meanwhile on the personal identifier front, on January 21 [breitbart.com](http://www.breitbart.com) posted a story titled, *Mexico to pioneer iris technology on ID cards*.³

Excerpts:

Mexico will on Monday become the first country to start using iris scans for identity cards, according to the government, which claims the scheme will be highly secure.

"The legal, technical and financial conditions are ready to start the process of issuing this identity document," Felipe Zamora, responsible for legal affairs at the Mexican Interior Ministry, told journalists Thursday.

The documents, which will include the eye's image as well as fingerprints, a photo and signature, will be 99 percent reliable, Zamora said.

The move will be introduced gradually, with some 28 million minors taking part in a first two-year stage, due to cost 25 million dollars.

The cards are due to start for adults [in] 2013.

The mark of the beast is not simply the acceptance of the technology to identify yourself and conduct cashless transactions. According to the Revelation of Jesus Christ, you'll have a choice to either swear allegiance to the antichrist or face dire consequences.

Still it is chilling to realize that the kind of technology the apostle John saw 2000 years ago is being implemented more-and-more each day. We are either signing-on for it voluntarily, for convenience, or governments are

² <http://www.squidcard.com/corporate/emoneynews/international/polish-government-calls-for-country-to-become-a-cashless-society706.html>

³ http://www.breitbart.com/article.php?id=CNG.8c7c2d37b80a7efbfd66908fa452bb99.241&show_article=1

adopting it with little or no resistance. Even when a government says it's voluntary it's really mandatory if you want to continue to participate as a citizen conducting business.

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, keep looking up.
Ready or not, Jesus is coming!