



It Might Be Today

WHO BARCODES YOU, BABY?

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 most renowned of all end times prophecies is the mark of the beast. It's something - a mark, perhaps a tattoo - *on* or *in* the hand or forehead by which everyone will be identified and transact all their business. During the future Great Tribulation, in the very middle of those seven years, the antichrist utilizes the system of identification and commerce to know who has sworn allegiance to him. All who do not will be subject to his persecution.

If we were in the last days you'd expect to be hearing about and reading about ways this mark could be implemented.

Once a week on BBC.com a global thinker from the worlds of philosophy, science, psychology or the arts is given a minute to put forward a radical, inspiring or controversial idea – no matter how improbable – that they believe would change the world.

On May 22 it was science fiction writer Elizabeth Moon's turn. Here is what she said:¹

... I would insist on every individual having a unique ID permanently attached - a barcode if you will; an implanted chip to provide an easy, fast inexpensive way to identify individuals.

¹ <http://www.bbc.com/future/story/20120522-barcode-everyone-at-birth>

It would be imprinted on everyone at birth. Point the scanner at someone and there it is.

Having such a unique barcode would have many advantages. In war soldiers could easily differentiate legitimate targets in a population from non combatants.

This could prevent mistakes in identity, mistakes that result in the deaths of innocent bystanders. Weapons systems would record the code of the use, identifying how fired which shot and leading to more accountability in the field.

Anonymity would be impossible as would mistaken identity making it easier to place responsibility accurately, not only in war but also in non-combat situations far from the war.

(Moon is a former Marine 1st Lieutenant).

It sounds crazy, but not when you see how we are moving in the direction of tracking and identifying both things and people. Another author, a critic of these invasions of privacy, detailed the following things:²

The idea of RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) has been around for quite some time. The driver's license in your pocket, as well as your passport, are embedded with RFID.

The Wall Street Journal ran an article in 2010 where they detailed Walmart's plan to put RFID tags on all clothing. Although the tags can be removed from the clothing, they can never be turned off.

Similarly, CIA Chief David Patraeus declared in March of this year that the "next generation" of home appliances will be able to track items and persons of interest.

Meanwhile the NSA is building a \$2 Billion, 1 million square-foot data spy center in Utah. One intelligence official involved with the project is quoted as saying "This is more than just a data center... Everybody's a target; **everybody with communication is a target.**"³

The future the apostle John prophesied, in which people could be identified and tracked by a personal identifier on or in them... ***Is here!***

² http://open.salon.com/blog/ghost_writer_1/2012/05/23/bbc_barcode_everyone_at_birth

³ http://www.wired.com/threatlevel/2012/03/ff_nsadatacenter/all/1

I'm not saying these things are, in fact, 'the mark of the beast.' Not at all. I'm only pointing out that the trends in our world were predicted over 2000 years ago on the pages of the Bible.

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.

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