

THE HARBINGER: FACT, FICTION, CONFUSION, & REALITY – ANSWERING THE CONTROVERSY

**(Or Everything You Wanted To Know About The Harbinger But Didn't Know Who To Ask!)*

The Harbinger has become a phenomenon in the Christian world and more and more in the secular realm as well. The first week of its release it hit the New York Times Best Seller list and has been a national best seller ever since. Its companion DVD Album, *The Isaiah 9:10 Judgment* has become the Number #1 Faith video in America.

When anything of this nature attains the massive proportions The Harbinger has attained, it becomes a lightning rod for everything from praise and adulation to criticism and attack. Thus, this was prepared to address the issues, to separate truth from fiction, and to clarify and clear up any misconceptions. This piece is not copyrighted so feel free to send, copy to as many people as you want or who may need.

What is The Harbinger all about? The Harbinger is the revealing of an ancient mystery that goes back 2,700 years and that lies behind everything from 9/11 to the collapse of the American economy. The mystery is so specific that it reveals things such as the exact dates of the greatest economic collapses in American history (from 3000 year old oracles), the actions and words of American leaders before they do or say them, etc. The Harbinger is an urgent alarm and call to America – a warning of judgment that most are calling “stunning.”

What are the ‘Nine Harbingers’? In the last days of ancient Israel, before its judgment and destruction as a nation, nine harbingers of judgment, nine prophetic signs identifying a nation in danger of destruction, appeared in the land – each one, a warning of things to come. Those same nine harbingers are now reappearing on American soil – some involving the highest leaders of the land – even the president of the United States.

When did the Nine Harbingers first begin to appear in America? They began on September 11, 2001 – but they didn’t end there - but have continued to affect and even determine the course of America, even affecting the bank account of every American, and the future.

What is the key behind the harbingers? The harbingers begin with a breach in a nation’s security and a vow of defiance that brought destruction to ancient Israel (Isaiah 9:10)

Is The Harbinger fiction or nonfiction, a story or real? The essence of The Harbinger is real and nonfiction. In fact, it was originally written purely as nonfiction. But Jonathan Cahn decided to frame, relay it, through a narrative involving a prophet and nine seals. So the narrative or story part is simply the framing or the *delivery system* to deliver the message, the mysteries, the revelations, which are real.

How do you distinguish what is nonfiction and real from the narrative? The characters, Nouriel, the prophet, Ana, their encounters, etc. are part of the story, the narrative framing – but all that the prophet reveals is real concerning the ancient mysteries and America is real.

Does The Harbinger say that Isaiah was prophesying of America? No. The idea is an error that comes from a fundamental confusion. The Harbinger never says that Isaiah was prophesying of America – but rather of ancient Israel. What it does say is something very different: That the biblical template and warnings of national judgment that took place in the last days of ancient Israel and recorded by Isaiah, are now manifesting and replaying in America, precisely, eerily, and uncannily.

What does this have to do with ‘hermeneutics’? Really nothing. Hermeneutics concerns the interpretation of a given text. The Harbinger affirms that the text of Isaiah’s prophecy is about ancient Israel – thus, there is no hermeneutical issue. The foundation is very simple: God judges nations, God warns of judgment, and God acts consistently. So for God to send warning to America through a consistent biblical template of national judgment rests squarely within sound scriptural parameters. The use of such a biblical template as in Isaiah to give warning in no way alters or even touches the original meaning, context, or interpretation (or hermeneutics) of the template or verse used. In fact, some of the most conservative and revered of classic Bible commentaries speaks of Isaiah 9:10 and the surrounding verses as exactly this, a template and pattern of warning and judgment applicable well beyond the borders and times of ancient Israel.

Does The Harbinger say that God has made a covenant with America and that America has somehow replaced Israel or advocates some form of Replacement Theology? No. The Harbinger notes that American civilization was founded by the Puritans who envisioned it after the pattern of ancient Israel, who dedicated it to God, and who believed that they were in covenant with God – an historical fact. The fact is noted only as it forms a striking background to America’s now following the same pattern of Israel’s apostasy from God and witnessing the same pattern of its judgment. But none of the mysteries revealed in The Harbinger are dependent on this background. And none of this has any bearing on Israel’s calling as God’s covenant nation – In fact, Jonathan Cahn, the author of The Harbinger, is Jewish!

Who is Jonathan Cahn? Jonathan Cahn is a Jewish believer in Jesus, born again, and evangelical, and upholding the Bible as the Word of God. He is the Senior Pastor and Messianic Rabbi of the Jerusalem Center/ Beth Israel in Wayne, New Jersey, and the president of Hope of the World Ministries, an outreach of the Gospel and compassion projects for the needy. He is well-respected throughout the Christian world for being solid, balanced, and profound in his teachings and is a widely sought after speaker.

People are calling Jonathan Cahn a prophet. Does he call himself a prophet? No. He refers to himself as a watchman.

Some have said that for Jonathan Cahn to be interviewed by a Christian with whom the critics differ means that Jonathan is agreeing with or endorsing all the views and positions of the interviewer. Is this true? To appear on an interview show does not mean and has never meant that one necessarily agrees with anything the interview says or believes. One appears on an interview show to be interviewed, to share. Jonathan’s charge is to get the message of warning and the call to repentance out to as many people as he can. If that means being interviewed by an atheist, a Hindu, a Communist, etc. to reach atheists, Hindus, and Communists, he will do that – just as the apostle Paul appeared in the very pagan platform of Mars Hill that he might reach as many Gentiles and pagans as possible.

There have been some extreme charges hurled at The Harbinger – everything from being connected to freemasonry, Mormonism, dominionism, gnosticism, post-millennialism, kabbalaism, anglo-Israelism, etc. Is there any truth to any of this or any connection to The Harbinger? The answer, in a nutshell, is - NO – not in any way shape or form. Such things have come from a relatively small group of people who are largely devoted to attacking other ministries in the kingdom, sometimes rightly and sometimes wrongly. Such charges have no reality or any relationship to The Harbinger. Jonathan Cahn would reject and preach against all the *isms* mentioned above – and has. The bizarre nature of such charges only shows the impact of The Harbinger (and The Isaiah 9:10 Judgment) and the degree in which it has become a lightning rod. The charges also show how contradictory the attacks on The Harbinger are, as one “ism” contradicts the other “ism.” One internet blogger put it best with this observation: The strangeness of the attacks against The Harbinger have to make you wonder what the devil has against it.”

Has The Harbinger been endorsed by prominent Christian leaders? Absolutely – from everyone from Pat Boone to Pat Robertson, from Joseph Farah to Ray Comfort, from Baptist leaders and pastors to Charismatic, from Bible teachers, seminary professors, etc. It has been widely praised and endorsed throughout the Christian world.

Is The Harbinger written for believers or nonbelievers? Both. The thrust of the book and the movie lead nonbelievers to salvation, and believers toward repentance, and revival.

Does The Harbinger lift up Jesus as the answer, or contain anything that would lead someone to salvation? The entire book of The Harbinger and The Isaiah 9:10 Judgment movie lead directly to repentance and salvation. First comes the reality and warning of judgment, and then the answer. In fact the book has an entire chapter devoted to salvation called “*Eternity*.” Some have called it among the most powerful presentations of salvation they’ve ever read.

Can what happened in ancient Israel be applied to America? In Romans 15:4, it is written that “Everything that was written in the past was written for our instruction...” If that which took place in ancient Israel was not applicable to us today, then most preaching would have to end.

What about those who say that the modern harbingers contain variations or difference from what happened in ancient Israel and Scripture and so are not literal or exact fulfillments of Isaiah? The problem is the book never claims that the modern appearances of the harbingers are fulfillments of the ancient prophecy, but are biblical *signs* manifestations of warning. This is the same line of argument and strategy that is used by those who oppose the Gospel, by seeking to deconstruct each of Jesus’ fulfillments of Messianic prophecy by focusing on any difference or varying detail they can find. By doing so, they ignore the overwhelming whole picture and weight of evidence, in order to invalidate his claim as Messiah.

If we went by such arguments, one could only accept the harbingers if New York City were invaded by spear-throwing Assyrians attacking buildings made of clay bricks and if American leaders spoke in perfect ancient Hebrew dialects. As *signs* of warning they correspond to the ancient case, but speak to a modern nation just as the ancient harbingers did to an ancient nation. For example, it was a middle-eastern version of the sycamore that was a harbinger to a middle

eastern nation (Israel), but a western version of the sycamore would correspond to a western nation (America) - And this is exactly what manifests at the corner of Ground Zero. On the other hand, and for example, they will argue that the seventh harbinger was a spruce and not a cedar as in Isaiah. But neither Isaiah nor the ancient Israelites used the word 'cedar.' The actual word is the Hebrew 'erez' which, in fact, can refer to the English cedar but also includes the spruce, the very tree planted at Ground Zero.

What about the 'Mystery of the Shemitah' – some claim you can use any statistic to say anything? One critic sought to minimize the phenomenon by saying that the modern crashes of Wall Street don't compare to that of the Great Depression in *relative terms*. Of course, had it been reversed, they would say that in *absolute terms*, the crashes of the Depression don't compare to the colossal numbers and magnitude of the modern collapses. The truth is, no one could have made up what happened concerning the Mystery of the Shemitah – involving such phenomena that the two greatest crashes in American history up to September of 2008 each took place on the *same exact biblical day*, the day *appointed to wipe away the financial accounts* of a nation. One observer did a conservative statistical analysis of just two of the factors involved in this one equation and ended up with an astronomical number.

Could the appearance of the harbingers just be coincidental? The problem is coincidences are not consistent – but the harbingers are. Every one of the nine harbingers of Israel's judgment have, in one form or another, appeared in America, each of them linked to 9/11, most being actual symbols of 9/11. This even includes the fact that Israel's ancient vow of defiance and judgment, the vow of the nine harbingers, was actually proclaimed, word for word, by an American leader, on the very day after 9/11 - from Capitol Hill. Anyone can seek to explain anything and blind oneself to the reality. The truth is, the manifestation of all nine harbingers in a consistent progression has never happened before in American history, or human history, except one other time – in the last days of ancient Israel, before its judgment.

What has the reaction been to The Harbinger and The Isaiah 9:10 Judgment DVD. The first reaction is that each has become national bestsellers - hundreds of thousands of people have either read the book or seen the documentary. Most who hear the message describe it as "stunning" and "mind-blowing." Many have called it the best book they've ever read after the Bible. Pastors are showing the video at their services. Unbelievers are coming to belief in Jesus. Believers are coming to repentance. Prayer movements are forming to intercede for America. People are even getting the book and DVD to their leaders. For example: In Oklahoma, the governor and every member of the legislature were given a copy of The Harbinger.

Why do you think The Harbinger and The Isaiah 9:10 Judgment DVD have become so successful? The Harbinger reveals in stunning clarity what most believers have felt in their heart – that America is in danger of judgment, and that God has already been sending warning to the nation. The Harbinger reveals that this isn't just a feeling, but is an exact biblical phenomenon that lies behind everything from 9/11 to the collapse of the American economy, taking place literally before our eyes, and holding the secret of the nation's future. Thus, they believe that The Harbinger is the urgent sounding of an alarm, a biblical revelation, and a prophetic warning appointed for such a time as this.