

THE HARBINGER: FACT OR FICTION?

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All italics within quoted sections from *The Harbinger*  
have been added for emphasis by David James

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# FOREWORD

FOR THE TIME WILL COME  
WHEN THEY WILL NOT ENDURE SOUND DOCTRINE...

*II Timothy 4:3*

ONE OF THE MOST grievous experiences in my 35 years of ministry has been the ongoing observation of evangelicals being weaned off the Word of God. What has contributed to that tragic development for the last three decades is a myriad of programs, practices, methods, and books that have, to one degree or another, displaced the authority and sufficiency of the Scriptures. In my association with Dave Hunt over that period of time, we have addressed most of those trends and teachings in books such as *The Seduction of Christianity*, and for the last twenty years have documented our concerns in *The Berean Call* newsletters.

Although the church historically has always had to deal with false teachings and practices, the exponential rate of their influence in our day is the result of what has been referred to as the Church Growth Movement and its dependence upon marketing to bring the lost into the church. The outcome of this very popular movement was disastrous for Bible-believing churches that succumbed to a marketing mentality and process. Bible teaching was relegated to Wednesday evening so as not to put off the lost who showed up on Sunday. More often than not, such evening “Bible studies” featured the popular Christian books of the day rather than the inspired Books of God’s Word. In accordance with the key principle of marketing, the lost as well as believers who were drawn to the church (because of the attractive new programs)

were viewed as consumers who were not to be offended because that might prevent them from coming back. After all, customer relationship rules in the “seeker-sensitive, seeker-friendly” approach to church growth.

This development, perhaps more than any other in our day, created a drift and then a swift current, pulling evangelicals away from the Scriptures. Again, the results were and continue to be disastrous. How so? The ongoing process of weaning those who profess to be Bible-believing Christians away from God’s Word has left them terribly vulnerable to false doctrine. To the degree that a believer has drifted from Scripture, to that degree he or she has lost the ability to discern God’s truth from “a way that seems right to a man” and to that degree will be subject to spiritual deception (Proverbs 14:12, 16:25).

Jesus characterized the days prior to His return by telling His disciples: “Take heed that no man deceive you” (Matthew 24:4), and followed that by warning that the deceptions of the last days would be so overwhelming that “if possible, they shall deceive the very elect” (Matthew 24:24). What is the antidote for believers? It’s quite simple. They must be disciplined in their reading and living out the instructions of God’s Word. They must have a love for the Truth. They must become like the Bereans of Acts 17:10-11, who were commended for searching the Scriptures daily as they evaluated the preaching and teaching of the Apostle Paul. They must be willing, by the grace of God and the enablement of the Holy Spirit, to submit to the Lord in all things.

To that end, David James has written an excellent book that will encourage every believer who reads it to grow in discernment at a time when that is greatly lacking among those who profess to be biblical Christians. If anyone thinks this is simply a critique of a popular book that has reached the top of the New York Times best-seller list, he will miss the true value of what James has written. It’s a short but very full course on biblical discernment that is a lesson to all of us on how we should evaluate everything we read that claims to teach about the things of God. James underscores Isaiah’s admonition regarding discernment: “To the law and the testimony: if they speak not according to [God’s] word, it is because there is no light in them” (Isaiah 8:20).

Not only is this an exceptional volume that covers how we are to implement Jude’s exhortation to “earnestly contend for the faith which

## FOREWORD

was once delivered unto the saints” (Jude 3), but James continually demonstrates throughout this book the Apostle Paul’s instruction to Timothy of how we are to go about correcting error as servants of the Lord: “And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will” (2 Timothy 2:24-26).

It is our prayer that you will be greatly edified by what David James has written.

For the Berean Call,

*T. A. McMahon*  
*Executive Director*

# PREFACE

*THE HARBINGER* is unquestionably a publishing phenomenon of 2012. Perhaps no other book since Hal Lindsey's *The Late Great Planet Earth* has gained so much national attention while challenging its readers with the need to be spiritually prepared for the coming judgment of God. As of this writing, it has been on Amazon.com's top-100 list for more than five months and is rated at number 21 in sales rank of all books of 2012.

As I read the book I was impressed with Cahn's passion for seeing America turn to the Lord, both as a nation and as individuals. Much of the book deals with a number of major events and issues of national and international consequence, including the economy, politics, security, public policy, and the increasing hostility toward God and the Bible. At the same time, the author is careful to emphasize that none of the much-needed change in America can take place apart from spiritual change in individual hearts. On this important matter Cahn gets it exactly right.

Along this line, there have been many reports of those who have dedicated or rededicated their lives and those who have come to faith in the Lord. I am thankful for all who have been moved to consider their relationship with the Lord and to make important spiritual decisions as a result of reading *The Harbinger*. In this regard, Cahn has achieved exactly what he set out to do, and I commend him for that without reservation.

As of this writing, the author and I have not met, but we have corresponded on several occasions. On April 4, 2012, I also had the privilege of engaging in a personal discussion with him by phone that was moderated by Jimmy DeYoung (and is available for listening on [ProphecyToday.com](http://ProphecyToday.com)). I deeply appreciated Rabbi Cahn's kind and thoughtful interaction, even when discussing certain points of genuine concern. One listener, a long-time pastor and good theologian, commented to me afterward that our

discussion was a great example of the way brothers in Christ should handle difficult subjects and areas of disagreement, especially in a public forum. I was very thankful to hear this because that was our desire going into the conversation, and afterward I, too, felt that we had succeeded.

Although I have serious concerns about many things in *The Harbinger*, this critique is not about the author's character, integrity, motives, or sincerity. And even though Jonathan Cahn and I clearly have some well-defined differences on a variety of points, this is not personal in any way.

The purpose of this book is to bring attention to the fact that there is a better way to understand the biblical and historical evidence that Cahn has presented to support his views. My desire is to provide additional information and another perspective so that the reader will be able to more accurately discern the validity of the author's interpretation of the Bible, his views concerning ancient and recent historical events, and his conclusions about the relationship between the two.

### HOW THIS BOOK CAME TO BE WRITTEN

On January 6, 2012, I received an email from Jimmy DeYoung (Prophecy Today), which contained a link to a segment of the January 3, 2012, *700 Club* program in which Pat Robertson interviewed messianic rabbi, Jonathan Cahn, about his new book *The Harbinger*, which had been released that day. Based on the interview, Jimmy sensed that there might be cause for concern about the way the author was handling certain Bible passages and connecting biblical prophecy to current events.

I quickly read the book through once so that Jimmy and I could discuss it on his weekly radio program. After reading just the first few pages I began to see why Jimmy was concerned, and the more I read, the more concerned I became. I asked two other trusted men if they would also read the book and give me their impressions (but did not discuss my concerns). After reading *The Harbinger*, their observations and concerns were virtually identical to mine.

Initially I planned to write only a brief four- to six-page review of *The Harbinger*. However, the more I studied and interacted with the book, the longer the review became due to the extent of the problems I was encountering, all of which I have documented extensively.

*The Harbinger: Fact or Fiction?* is not a book that I set out to write, but it has become clear that it is a book that needed to be written. The importance of responding to *The Harbinger* has been underscored by the fact that after more than five months it continues to ride high on various best-seller lists, including Amazon.com, where it consistently has ranked at or near the top of both the “Christian Fiction” and “Christian Theology” categories. A companion two-hour documentary featuring Jonathan Cahn has also been produced, which has been a top-selling video in its category as well.

The vast majority of reviews across the Internet are overwhelmingly positive. They reflect consistent agreement with Cahn’s conclusions, including that it would be impossible for coincidence to explain the number of exact matches between Isaiah 9:10 and events of the last decade in America. Because of these, most also accept the author’s interpretation of Isaiah 9:10 as necessarily being correct as well.

Interestingly, a surprising number of conservative evangelical voices have also enthusiastically embraced and promoted *The Harbinger*. I was not expecting to encounter such great differences between other conservative evangelicals and myself, since that very rarely if ever happens. In fact, prior to *The Harbinger* issue, I think we very likely would have all mutually supported one another’s views on the vast majority of theological and practical matters.

A troubling development is that Mormon researchers and historians have begun to refer to *The Harbinger* as support for their view that America is in a covenant relationship with God—being the Promised Land and a New Israel. This view, known as Anglo-Israelism, is very much on the fringes if not outside of historical Christianity to the degree that it has been one of the defining characteristics of some cultic groups.

Concerning the significant number of amazingly precise corresponding events proposed by Cahn: If they really *had* occurred in both ancient Israel and in America, it would be rather difficult to dismiss them and provide a reasonable alternative explanation. However, closer examination reveals that in reality the proposed precise matches do not actually exist.

Perhaps the best illustration of what is happening is an optical illusion. Optical illusions cause people to think they are seeing something that doesn’t correspond to reality—and such illusions can be very convincing. Straight lines appear to be curved, stationary objects appear to

rotate, circles appear to be spirals, objects appear to be larger than they are, and so on.

Optical illusions are created by manipulating the visual context to influence the way things are perceived. With the addition of certain elements, reality can be hidden, obscured, or distorted. The illusion remains convincing until the misleading elements are removed or hidden themselves. Until this is done, it can be difficult to convince people that they are not seeing what they think they are.

I'm not suggesting that Cahn has intentionally mishandled the biblical text or manipulated the evidence in order to deceive or mislead. Although there has been some strong reaction to what little criticism *The Harbinger* and its author have received, this book is not intended to be an attack against another brother in Christ in any way. This is not a personal matter. I have no reason to challenge or question Jonathan Cahn's character, his motives, or his sincerity.

I hope this critique will not be perceived as “majoring on the minors,” focusing on insignificant minutiae, and missing the forest for the trees. I fully understand and very much appreciate the overall message of *The Harbinger*, which is that America is on a path of destruction unless there is widespread repentance and a radical turn toward God. The United States may very well already be under God's judgment—and if not, such judgment may not be far away. The situation is serious, and such warnings must be given with passion and clarity.

I do hope that my book will be helpful for a broad spectrum of readers—including those who have enthusiastically supported *The Harbinger*, those who have recognized that there are some significant problems, and those who have not yet decided for sure what they think about the book.

—David James (AUGUST, 2012)



THE FIRST ONE TO PLEAD HIS CAUSE SEEMS RIGHT,  
UNTIL HIS NEIGHBOR COMES AND EXAMINES HIM.

—*Proverbs 18:17*

## CHAPTER 1

# INTRODUCTION

*THE HARBINGER*, by Jonathan Cahn,<sup>1</sup> focuses on a set of nine small clay discs, identified as seals, which are said to date from the eighth century B.C. and are connected with a prophecy of judgment against Israel in the book of Isaiah (Isaiah 9:10-11). In the story, the original purpose of the seals was to authenticate that Isaiah's message was genuinely from God. Their purpose in the present, however, is to reveal an ancient mystery hidden in the Isaiah passage and to confirm that this revelation also comes from God.

The nine seals are given individually over a period of time to journalist Nouriel Kaplan by a mysterious figure identified only as "The Prophet."<sup>2</sup> Kaplan and The Prophet are the primary characters in the book. Ana Goren, a Manhattan publishing executive to whom Kaplan tells the story of his encounters with The Prophet, also plays a role.

Although Cahn uses a fictional narrative as a framework, the book is based on what he believes are undeniable facts from the biblical text, the corresponding history of eighth century B.C. Israel, and current events of the last decade in America. As Cahn states at the beginning of the book, "What you are about to read is presented in the form of a story, but what is contained within the story is real."<sup>3</sup>

What is real about the story is that the author believes he has discovered nine signs, or omens ("harbingers"), and an ancient mystery in the Isaiah passage that "explains everything from 9/11 to the collapse of the global economy."<sup>4</sup> Furthermore, he believes that these same nine harbingers have appeared once again in America<sup>5</sup> beginning with the 2001 terrorist attacks. Based on Cahn's arguments and massive amount of "evidence," the reader is to conclude that it would be impossible for all of this to have happened

## INTRODUCTION

by mere coincidence—and therefore the only reasonable explanation is that God must have orchestrated everything.

The overall purpose of *The Harbinger* is to explain that an ancient mystery revealed by these harbingers is a call to America to repent for rejecting God and abandoning the foundations upon which the country was built. The mystery therefore also warns of the imminent danger of God's judgment if this call is ignored.

Make no mistake—calling America back to God is a valid message and one that needs to be proclaimed. America is clearly in trouble in many ways. Cahn rightly points out that “Judgment isn't ultimately about nations—but people. . . . And no one is exempt. Each must stand before Him.”<sup>6</sup> He thus challenges his readers to understand that what is even more important than a nation facing *temporal* judgment is that those who do not turn to Christ are facing *eternal* judgment. Jonathan Cahn is to be commended for his passion and commitment to sharing this message with as wide an audience as possible.

However, because of serious flaws throughout the book, its potential dangers may outweigh the benefits. The errors may well overshadow the truth. Many of the views and ideas presented in *The Harbinger* have both significant exegetical and theological problems. The book may leave many of its readers with serious misunderstandings about how to appropriately interpret and apply the Word of God. Another concern is that in trying to support his conclusions Cahn appears to overstate his case, sees prophetic fulfillment where none exists, and presses details to draw parallels between historical events beyond what the facts reasonably support.

*The Harbinger* not only fails to reveal a mystery in Isaiah 9:10, as it purports to do, but its argument rests on faulty theology, poor methods of interpretation, and inaccurate handling of historical facts. In some cases the book is actually misleading. When studied closely, each of the proposed parallels between the events proves to be very tenuous at best and in most cases nonexistent. The “overwhelming evidence” that so many seem to have uncritically accepted simply evaporates upon closer inspection.

In total, the evidence is like a mirage that is deceptively inviting from a distance but disappears the closer one gets. Therefore, in spite of the much-needed call to repentance, the combination of all the serious problems in the book presents a very real danger to believers and unbelievers alike.

### A RUNAWAY SUCCESS

Released on January 3, 2012, *The Harbinger* has already established its place as one of the best-selling books of 2012. According to *CharismaNews*, on January 22 *The Harbinger* debuted at number 10 on the *New York Times* best-seller list in the “print paperback” category and at number 28 in the “combined print hardcover and paperback” category. In just 10 days, it had already been printed four times.

As of June 2, months after its debut on Amazon.com, *The Harbinger* was still ranked at number 1 in the “Christian Fiction” category, at number 1 in “Christian Mystery,” and at number 2 in the “Christian Theology” category. *The Harbinger* was also ranked at number 28 for all books, up from number 50 just over a month earlier. On the same date, a total of 438 reader reviews had been entered on Amazon.com—with 349 reviewers giving it a five-star rating and less than 10 percent giving it one star.<sup>7</sup>

The founder of *WorldNetDaily* (now *WND*), Joseph Farah, has produced a two-hour documentary featuring Jonathan Cahn called *The Isaiah 9:10 Judgment*. On April 24, an email alert from *WND* had the following announcement concerning the documentary:

It was just a few days ago that the epic movie *The Ten Commandments*, starring Charlton Heston as Moses, was ranked as the No. 1 best-selling faith movie at Amazon.

In fact, it [*The Harbinger*] has eclipsed *The Ten Commandments* multiple times since it was released last month to nationwide acclaim. And it’s back up as the No. 1 faith video or TV show at Amazon and the No. 5 documentary of any kind.

Nor was this video losing any ground as of June 2. On Amazon.com, the *The Isaiah 9:10 Judgment* DVD set was ranked at number 6 in “Movies & TV/DVD/Documentary” and number 1 in the “Movies & TV/DVD/Faith & Spirituality” category.

On the day of the book's release, Jonathan Cahn was interviewed by Pat Robertson on *The 700 Club*, who said of the book, "This is one great book. . . . This is the read you need to make. . . . It is a prophetic word."<sup>8</sup> When he appeared on *The Jim Bakker Show*, Bakker said, "I believe with all my heart this is the most important message I have ever brought in my fifty years of broadcasting to a worldwide audience."

In addition to *The 700 Club* and *The Jim Bakker Show*, Cahn has been featured on a number of other programs, including TBN's *Praise the Lord*, Sid Roth's *It's Supernatural*, and Daystar's *Celebration*, giving the book and his ideas exposure to potentially millions of viewers.

Because of the book's astounding success and Cahn's far-reaching influence on so many people already, there is a need for a closer look at *The Harbinger*. One might wonder why such a detailed analysis and critique is necessary for a fictional work. As Jonathan Cahn has noted, however, *The Harbinger* is much more than just fiction. He wrote, "what is contained within the story is real." Therefore, its claims need to be carefully examined.

### A CAUTION CONCERNING COINCIDENCES

One of the critical premises of *The Harbinger* is that because of the overwhelming number of coinciding events, they cannot be *coincidences*, with the only alternative explanation being that these things *must* have been orchestrated by God. This is probably the single most-repeated argument this author has read on the internet by those commenting on book reviews and articles about the book. Not only is Cahn's explanation viewed as the best plausible one—many, if not most proponents of the book argue that his explanation is the only one that is even possible.

As will be shown in the pages to follow, almost none of the events even coincide, let alone show evidence of being coordinated directly by the hand of God. However, if only for the sake of argument it were accepted that these events do coincide, does that necessarily mean that God's direct intervention is the only possible solution? The following two sets of coincidences demonstrate that Cahn's explanation is not necessarily the only plausible one—because truly amazing coincidences can and do happen.

*Lincoln and Kennedy assassinations*

This one is an old story, but worth recounting because it is so unusual. It revolves around an unusual number of coincidences that occurred between Presidents Kennedy and Lincoln in regards to their assassination.

For example, both men were elected 100 years apart (Lincoln in 1860, Kennedy in 1960); they were both succeeded by Southerners named Johnson, and the two Johnsons were born 100 years apart (Andrew in 1808, Lyndon in 1908). Both assassins were born 100 years apart (Booth in 1839 and Oswald in 1939) and both died before they could be brought to trial. Lincoln was shot in a theater and his assassin was cornered in a warehouse, while Kennedy was shot from a warehouse and his assassin was captured in a theater. Finally, Lincoln was shot in Ford's theater, while Kennedy was shot while riding in a Ford Lincoln, and to top it all off, Kennedy had a secretary named Lincoln (Evelyn Lincoln) while Lincoln had a secretary named Kennedy.<sup>9</sup>

*The Titanic and the Titan*

In what has to be considered one of the truly spooky coincidences of all time, in 1898, author Morgan Robertson (1861-1915) wrote a novella entitled *Futility*, or *The Wreck of the Titan*, in which he outlined the voyage of a British luxury liner, HMS *Titan*, that hits an iceberg while crossing the northern Atlantic and sinks with a large loss of life—in part, due to the lack of sufficient lifeboats onboard.

The similarities between the fictional story and the real-life loss of the luxury liner with very nearly the same name 14 years later was extraordinary: both the fictional *Titan* and the real *Titanic* were triple-screw luxury ships about 800 feet long that hit an iceberg in the month of April while traveling at around 25 knots, resulting in the death of some 2,500 souls. Though not identical in every detail (in Robertson's story, the *Titan* capsizes and sinks quickly, while the *Titanic* remained upright and sank slowly over the course of a couple of hours), the similarities are nothing if not amazing.<sup>10</sup>

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These are just two of dozens of such stories to be found on many different websites. Does this prove that God didn't orchestrate the events since 9/11 as outlined in *The Harbinger*? No, not at all. But they do represent a cautionary tale that does suggest that believers need to be careful about assigning God's actions to specific events with absolute certainty apart from special revelation from Him.

This is not at all to suggest that believers should not specifically pray for the Lord to intervene in specific circumstances and through specific events. Neither does it mean that His people should not give thanks and praise to Him when he answers those prayers. All should—continually. It is also completely appropriate (because it is biblical) to acknowledge His sovereignty and recognize His providential care in every situation because of His absolute power and immeasurable loving-kindness.

He is not a God who is far away. Rather, He is intimately involved in the affairs of this world.

# ENDORSEMENTS

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## JIMMY DEYOUNG

PRESIDENT & FOUNDER, PROPHECY TODAY

"David James has done an excellent job in this book, a review of the book, *The Harbinger*, being very careful not to bring personality into focus but instead to take a crucial look at the biblical aspects of the book. Having read the book a number of times, David studied the hermeneutic used in the book to examine the use of a single passage of scripture taken out of context to understand what the author had done to develop a fictional book while at the same time telling the reader that everything in the book was real.

"I believe that David did the research required to give a fair look at Jonathan Cahn's work and, at the same time, apply the age-old truths of Bible interpretation to help any potential reader of *The Harbinger* to be aware of the problems in this work. I know that David spent much time in prayer and consultation before he approached the writing of his review, and his only desire is to hold up the truth that we don't get doctrine, or our understanding of Bible prophecy, from a fictional novel but from the Word of God, the Bible."

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## BRANNON HOWSE

PRESIDENT & FOUNDER, WORLDVIEW WEEKEND

"All across America hundreds of thousands of people have purchased Jonathan Cahn's book, *The Harbinger*. By far, the majority have given it rave reviews as well as promoted it, defended it, and recommended it to everyone they know. Unfortunately, this represents a pervasive lack of biblical knowledge and discernment in the church and is why many of us have written and broadcast our deep concerns about the book. I believe David James has used true discernment, extensive research, and biblical hermeneutics to reveal the dangerous message of *The Harbinger*. James's research also defends the authority of Scripture against the increasing trend of experience, extra-biblical revelation, and mysticism."

[continued next page]

# PAUL BARRECA

TEACHING PASTOR, FAITH BIBLE CHURCH  
VINELAND, NEW JERSEY

"Whether or not you've read *The Harbinger*, you must read David James's thorough and thoughtful response in *The Harbinger: Fact or Fiction?* The popularity of Cahn's book has many Christians wondering if the Bible contains a secret message for America enveloped in the details of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. I recognized a dangerous hermeneutic at work in Jonathan Cahn's fast-paced novel but was daunted by the challenge of providing a response for my congregation. David James provides such a response. This book gives the reader a detailed, point-by-point analysis challenging Cahn's barrage of data and 'connect the dot' attempts. David James does this with clear biblical methodology while avoiding personal attacks against Cahn. This book is an example of the way that Christian dialogue should be conducted."

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# ROY B. ZUCK

SENIOR PROFESSOR EMERITUS OF BIBLE EXPOSITION  
EDITOR, *BIBLIOTHECA SACRA*  
DALLAS THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

"Jonathan Cahn's book *The Harbinger* has been a bestseller for many months. A messianic Jew, Cahn is the senior pastor of the Jerusalem/Beth Israel Worship Center in Wayne, New Jersey. *The Harbinger* presents the view that Isaiah 9:10-11 refers to the United States, and in particular to the catastrophe of 9/11 and the States' subsequent economic problems. James masterfully demolishes Cahn's efforts to relate this passage to the States, pointing up numerous hermeneutical and interpretive fallacies in Cahn's approach. Anyone interested in *The Harbinger* needs to note the numerous errors in Cahn's thinking, as presented in James's excellent analysis."

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# GARY E. GILLEY

SENIOR PASTOR, SOUTHERN VIEW CHAPEL, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS  
DIRECTOR, THINK ON THESE THINGS MINISTRIES

"Jonathan Cahn's *The Harbinger* is a warning to America that God's judgment is imminent unless the country repents and turns to the Lord, and that very soon. If the book is read merely as a novel warning our country to wake up spiritually, it has value, but the author makes immediately clear that 'what is contained within the story is real' (p. 7). In other words, Cahn believes that God pronounced exacting judgment on America, and that judgment is found in Scripture, specifically Isaiah 9:10-11.

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"Cahn determines that this text in Isaiah contains a mysterious prophecy directed not to ancient Israel but to modern America. At this point the author massages Scripture, American history, and current events in an attempt to prove that God's judgment on the United States has been hiding in these verses but has now been unlocked by the careful investigation of Cahn. Once someone decides they can cherry-pick verses at will, change the meaning of these texts to fit one's theories, and use random hermeneutical methods, anything can be "proven." However, very few people will recognize what Cahn has done, and fewer still will do the hard work of investigating his interpretations.

"Here is where David James has greatly benefitted the body of Christ. He has carefully, graciously and thoroughly analyzed the claims found in *The Harbinger* and found many of them lacking biblical support and historical accuracy. James has written this book not merely to expose error but to keep God's people from being led astray by false teachings and improper hermeneutical approaches to Scripture. I believe he has accomplished these goals in *The Harbinger: Fact or Fiction?*"

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## **TOMMY ICE**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PRE-TRIB RESEARCH CENTER  
PASTOR/TEACHER AND CHURCH PLANTER,  
COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH, OMAHA, NEBRASKA

"Just because something is popular within today's evangelical community does not mean that it is biblical. *The Harbinger* is a popular book for many within evangelicalism that claims to provide a message from God, but it is not built upon a true biblical foundation. Dave James provides a fair biblical analysis for anyone wanting scrutiny of *The Harbinger*. I commend James's book, *The Harbinger: Fact or Fiction?*, for those seeking the truth rather than popularity."

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## **LARRY DEBRUYN**

GUARDING HIS FLOCK MINISTRIES

"In a fair and balanced way, Dave James exposes the eccentric biblical interpretations upon which *The Harbinger* is premised. He demonstrates biblical and theological inaccuracies contained in the story created by Jonathan Cahn, one which the author claims to be partially real. James connects the dots between multiple biblical, historical, and factual problems, which gives the reader the sense that *The Harbinger* has undertones of Anglo-Israelism and Christian Dominionism. Though perhaps not intended by the author, these concepts form an underlying philosophical framework upon which the theoretical 'secret' of America's future appears to be based. For readers possessing a heart to discern truth from error, *The Harbinger: Fact or Fiction?* frames fundamental issues related to an accurate understanding of Bible prophecy in our modern world. Highly recommended."

[continued next page]

# LARRY J. WATERS

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF BIBLE EXPOSITION

DALLAS THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

"One of the most asked questions in biblical prophecy today is, 'Where does the United States fit into eschatology?' Jonathan Cahn's *The Harbinger* tries to answer that question—however, he attempts to do so with many unfounded hermeneutical 'jumps' that cannot be sustained. Dave James goes to great lengths to debunk Cahn's theories and offers a balanced look at end-time prophecy and the USA. Where Scripture is silent, it is best not to impose one's own presumptions on the text. For those interested in this subject, James offers extensive objections to Cahn's presumptions."

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