

***Salt & Light: Fulfilling God's Mission for America in These Last Days.*** By Bob Fraley. Scottsdale, AZ: Christian Life Outreach, 2007. 281 pages. Paperback, \$14.95.

Author Bob Fraley gives every indication of being a conservative, evangelical Christian; a man intent on living his faith, evangelizing the masses, and making disciples just as Jesus commanded in Matt. 28:18-20. He wants to facilitate the restoration of America's culture to its pre-World War II morality and God-fearing status, for which he can be commended. Fraley's pronouncements regarding the moral decline of America cannot be denied. But he should have halted here and not proceeded into an eschatological treatise attempting to correlate the attack on Pearl Harbor and events since World War II with Bible prophecy.

His exposition of Revelation 13 is feeble at best and alarming at worst. He concludes that the Antichrist/Beast is not a man but a nation, indeed, one which is a "superpower," and that the "superpower" is the United States of America, the beast from the sea, also known as the Antichrist (p. 259 and earlier). He further explains that the power of American society is the second beast, the one from the land, acting as the prophet for the sea beast (p. 259). He also conjectures that the mark of the beast is somehow related to every UPC code, since, says Fraley, every UPC code contains at least three unidentified marks that correspond to the number 666 (p. 266), and that the fatal wound administered to the Antichrist/Beast was the Japanese attack on the United States' naval fleet docked at Pearl Harbor in 1941 (p. 230).

There is a Christian lovability to Fraley; and I enjoyed the historical survey of the events of Pearl Harbor, many of which are now common knowledge due to the plethora of documentaries. But the wonderful historical overview fails to link, exegetically, the events of Pearl Harbor with the fatal wound of the Antichrist. Further, Fraley's exegesis is not rooted in sound biblical hermeneutics, as is evident in his lack of skill in Greek, nor are his exposition and writing supported with citations of sources for many of his assertions. Sadly, Fraley goes far beyond Hal Lindsey's *The Late Great Planet Earth* speculative eschatology to the point of standing biblical exegesis on its head.

If you want to read someone lamenting the moral decline of America, read this book. But if you are expecting to gain serious exegetical and expositional insights into the mysteries of The Books of Revelation and 2 Thessalonians, you must look elsewhere.

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