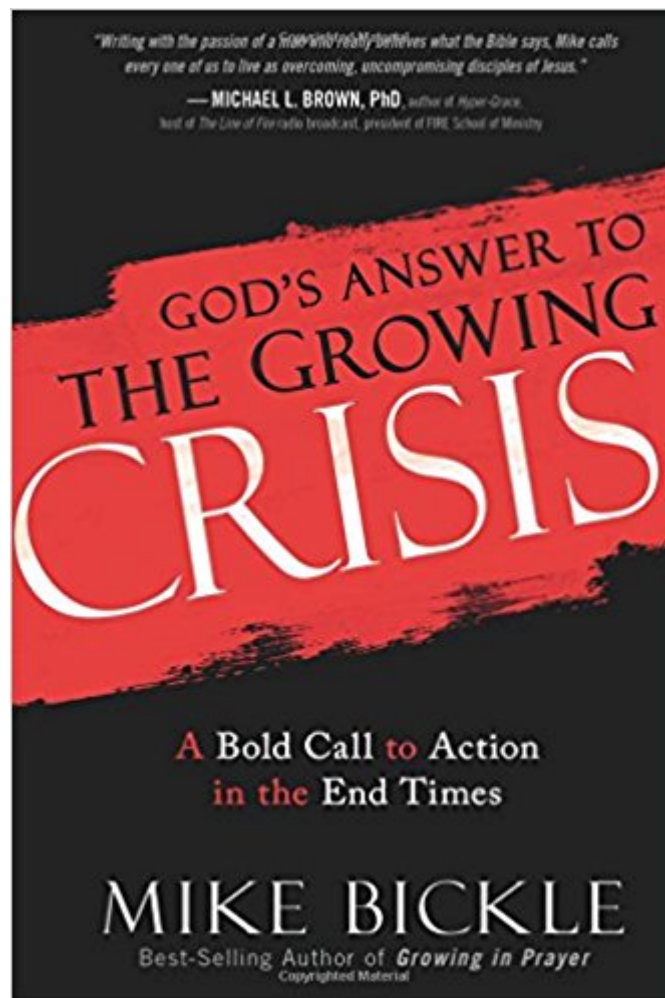




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God's Answer To The Growing Crisis: A Bold Call To Action In The End Times



Synopsis

The dramatic shifts seen over the last few years—from economic to political to moral to beyond—have set the stage for a crisis that will affect every sphere of society. But this crisis isn't just looming in the United States; all of humanity is at a crossroads like never before. Mike Bickle, director of the International House of Prayer of Kansas City, offers God's definitive answer to this approaching global crisis. He provides a fresh biblical perspective on: The agenda to secularize and de-Christianize America What the upsurge of secular humanism looks like The rise of ISIS and Islamic extremists The looming financial crisis Readers will overcome fear and confusion in the last days and learn to pray effectively for this nation and the world.

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Customer Reviews

Mike Bickle is the director of the International House of Prayer of Kansas City, Missouri a 24/7 prayer ministry. He is also chancellor of the International House of Prayer University, which consists of the Forerunner School of Ministry, a full-time Bible school in Kansas City, Missouri, the Forerunner Music Academy, and the Forerunner Media Institute. Bickle is the author of several books, including Passion for Jesus, Growing in the Prophetic, The Pleasures of Loving God, After God's Own Heart, and Growing in Prayer.

The definition of a CRISIS is “a time of intense difficulty, trouble, or

danger. It often includes a time when a difficult or important decision must be made. Today for those of a Biblical world view we are indeed in such a period of time. It is clear that the western world has nearly severed itself from a Judeo-Christian world view, resulting in an ever increasing descent into moral relativism and its resulting societal evils. Acknowledging this fact is one thing but combating this devastating cultural tsunami from the proper Biblical perspective is the challenge of our day. Into this context Mike Bickle's new book: *God's Answer to The Growing Crisis: A Bold Call to Action in the End Times* is a desperately needed playbook for the believer who is unwilling to stand idly by while their family and communities are corrupted by an age old lie. Today there are many books written about the problems in our world and how to combat them but far too often root cause is never addressed. In this book Mr. Bickle identifies the cause at the outset. In the introduction to this book he observes: "This, in a nutshell, is what is now called secular humanism, which elevates humans above God by saying that reason and rationality trump the divine or supernatural. Yet during the Age of Enlightenment these and other thought leaders still wrote with the backdrop of Christian society. That is no longer the case today, Western postmodernism segued first into a post-Christian era and more recently into full-fledged secular humanism. If you look around, you can see evidence of secular humanism in virtually every facet of our modern culture. Although not specifically addressed above, I believe it is important to acknowledge that by this statement Mr. Bickle has identified an age old lie first mentioned in the opening pages of the Bible. You see Satan has not changed his tactics or his religion. Secular humanistic enlightenment comes from Satan's first interaction with Adam and Eve. There in the garden he questioned YHWH's divine word and enticed the first man and woman with the promise of secular humanism. He promised that if they would but eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil they would become Gods by their own efforts. Since that day long ago those who hold this "enlightened" philosophy have often represented their beliefs with the open eye or a point within a circle. For those skeptics out there this story of enlightenment offered by the serpent is even witness in the New Testament. Just take a look at the Greek roots for the words serpent (ophis) and eye (ophthalmos). Both words come from the same Greek root (optanomai) which means "to look at or behold". So you see enlightenment, evolution, secular humanism are all terms for a philosophy espoused long ago by Satan which tells us that we can become our own Gods outside the constraints imposed by our Creator. So within this context using one of the most famous passages of the Bible, Mr. Bickle enjoins

his readers to challenge this ancient religious belief of secular humanism with it. As a Biblical antidote. To better understanding this ancient battle and the how YHWH the living God of the Bible intends deal with it as this age draws to a close, Mr. Bickle uses Psalm 2 as a template. The book is divided into three parts: Part I: The Crisis Part II: The Response Part III: The Call Part III of the book was especially helpful and inspiring to me. Here Mr. Bickle made a compelling case that now is not the time to passively accept the cultural decay which is engulfing our world. But rather to resist it in a Biblical mandated manner. This was definitely a book written for age in which we live.

Speaking of prayer...."It is rare to find believers who are passionate about it and who place it as a priority. Isn't it amazing how quickly we place things above spending time talking with God? We would rather watch another rerun on TV, play another video game, or spend even more time hanging out with friends. Even among more "spiritual" activities we would rather read another Christian book, study another book of the Bible, attend another conference . . . anything but actually pray! If I just hit a nerve for you, don't worry • you are not alone. Many believers today spend more time talking about prayer than actually praying. I have attended more prayer meetings and conferences than I would like to admit in which the leaders talked about how great it is to pray and how privileged we are to be able to pray. Then they spent time teaching on what prayer does and how we can do it. And finally they even mentioned what things we specifically needed to pray for. By the time they were finished, there were mere minutes left for actually praying! "This honest and realistic quote from the book verifies the importance of the book's message. The author understands the situation and speaks to it. The book is worth reading.

This book lays out in very practical terms what every believer must know about the end times. It does not in any way try to predict when that will be, but discusses the responsibility for every believer regardless of the generation in which the Lord returns. Every generation must be prepared as if they will be the last.

Very informative and insightful.

Amazing book every Christian must read !

Great book. Well packaged.

Mike Bickle believes that Psalm 2 points to the growing crisis for the church. But the man of prayer and faith that he is, he points Christians to a powerful response. *God's Answer to the Growing Crisis: A Bold Call to Action in the End Times* uses Psalm 2 as a springboard. The first two verses of Psalm 2 read: "Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together against the Lord and against his anointed." Taking recent reports of persecution against Christians around the world, Bickle sees this escalating so much that all nations join in the persecution, banding together against the Lord and his anointed. "A rage against Jesus and His Word will begin with the public ridicule of people who value God's Word. It will grow to include hate-crime legislation that results in economic penalties for these believers . . . and finally will culminate with violent persecution against them that includes prison and martyrdom." The good news amid growing persecution is that "things will get progressively worse and better at the same time. Opposition to and hatred for Jesus will continually increase. . . . As the darkness grows, so will the light; we as the church must know what the Holy Spirit is saying and how He is guiding us during these times." As we have seen throughout history, persecution fuels the spread of the gospel; Bickle says this will continue to be the case in future persecution. The solution is that "the Psalm 2 crisis requires a Joel 2 response ["Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy hill . . .], resulting in an Acts 2 outpouring of the Spirit." Based on his study of the scripture, as well as on some visions he had, Bickle believes "the Lord is warning us of great trouble coming to America. It will be a time of unrest that most people never thought possible in our land. And the Lord is sounding this alarm to let the church in particular know that turmoil is coming. Yes, revival will come, but so will trouble." I never know how to take apocalyptic warnings. I respect Bickle's ministry and have benefited from his teaching and writing. When it comes to end times talk, I choose to focus on his solutions, which apply to every time, end times or not. Like in every period, God is calling the church to a deeper commitment to prayer, to attention to purity and rejection of immoral cultural trappings, and rejoicing no matter what the circumstances "because the altogether worthy One is our true refuge." If I'm wrong to dismiss or ignore Bickle's warning, I feel like if I heed his call to prayer and turning to God, I'll be in good shape no matter what kinds of persecution comes my way. Thanks to NetGalley and the publisher for the complimentary electronic review copy!

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