

The response to the global pandemic has given us an opportunity to see how technology may be used to implement a world government system. The church's unquestioning acceptance of technology risks it's playing a role in the coming deception.

The Unknowing Box Jumper:

How the church can avoid playing a role in the future deception

By Daniel Richter

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DANIEL RICHTER

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Preface

“Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. But you must continue in the things which you have learned and have been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.” (NKJV, 2 Timothy 3:12-15)

I have always wanted to write a book. Here it is. Why this book, and why this book now? There are two verses in the Holy Bible that stop me in my tracks: ice bath sober, breath taken away. Every time I read them or hear them, I sit and dwell on them. In Matthew 7:21-23, very early in His ministry, Jesus says,

“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast our demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ And “then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you;

depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!" (NKJV. Matthew 7:21-23).

Near the end of His ministry, when asked about the End of the Age, He states:

"Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many" (NKJV. Matthew 24:11)" For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect." (NKJV. Matthew 24:24).

Keep these verses in mind while reading this book. It is a sobering thought that even the elect will be deceived, and can even deceive ourselves with what we buy into outside of the Word of God, and how if we fail to seek His Wisdom and discernment, we will be on the outside looking in; or pounding on the door of the bridegroom to let us in.

I do not think that I am unique when I say that the pandemic that was thrust upon the world in 2019 forever changed my life in several ways. Ultimately, I was forced to retire from my career as a first responder, my dream job, and what I believed was a calling in this life. This is not all negative because it allows me to see where God was at work in my earlier life and career to get me to the point to have to make one of the most complex life decisions to date. The decision was not "easy" in the way

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that it was considered, or executed, lightly without any earnest consideration. Leaving what is recognized as the greatest department in the world, working in the busiest company in that department as the Senior Firefighter was a painful decision that I was forced to make in consideration of my deeply held beliefs. For much of my life, I was able to somehow have it both ways. Many times, we are told, “You cannot have it both ways. You cannot do A *and* B.” However, I was blessed to have the ability to do both most of the time. I could play hockey during the day and go to work in the afternoon. I was able to be off for the big moments in life, maybe not all of the time, but a lot of the time, because I was assigned to what I considered to be the greatest firehouse, in the greatest department in the world. We were a tight-knit family who covered each other and knew that there were moments in life that could not be missed. I am sure that when the brothers at the firehouse stepped up so that I could be with my kids, they were putting aside plans that they had made, because I know that I did the same when needed. That is an unusual sacrifice these days. The brothers that I worked with were the most motivated, “step-up” people that I had ever been around, and we were a true family who would help each other with family schedules, side-work schedules, relationship advice, unwanted advice; anything. However, on October 20, 2021, when the City of New York mandated that every employee was required

to receive the COVID-19 Vaccine¹, I could no longer have it both ways. I could not keep the career that I loved, and keep my religious beliefs, especially after my request for a Religious Exemption from this mandate was denied, along with hundreds, if not thousands of other City employees. I had decided that Caesar could have my money, but he could not have my body; that belongs to God.

This book is not about that fight, which is still not over thanks to the complicated legal landscape of New York City. However, a lot of this book is about the many factors that led to that decision and what I had been seeing when looking at the world through the worldview of a Christ follower who has tried to be aware of his geopolitical surroundings and the political landscape, which affects social and cultural terrain. This is constantly shifting like the sandbars at the mouth of the Columbia River. To assume that the situation will remain constant and stable, thus basing decisions on those conditions, is a precarious assumption. In the fire department we are constantly “sizing up” the situation that confronts us. This takes into consideration a variety of inputs, some of which are long-term, and some of which are immediately short term. For instance, you may not be responding to a fire on your way to work, first thing in the morning, but you are taking into consideration what the weather is like. That input may come into play later in the day when the fire does come.

¹ [Mayor de Blasio Announces Vaccine Mandate for New York City Workforce | City of New York \(nyc.gov\)](#)

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Is it windy, or calm? Oppressively hot, or shivering cold? Decisions are then made based on these inputs, which may change throughout the course of an operation. When this decision about my career needed to be made, it was not done so solely on whether to get a shot, which I had done countless times for the fire department, or to serve in the mission field abroad. That would have been a decision based on an assumed constant. But, what if the shot, and the Pandemic itself, was part of something larger, in a geopolitical context that was rapidly changing?

As someone who has always had a heart for the persecuted church around the world, I was constantly assessing the climate in the United States for when it would be our turn to face persecution from the world's system. I grew up with books like "The Late Great Planet Earth" by Hal Lindsey, and other books that detailed the possibilities of the "End Times." I lived through the second coming predictions from people such as Harold Camping and would sit in church on Sunday and hear different pastors talk about the Book of Revelation filtered through a whole host of varying interpretations. I am well aware that according to Christian belief, this world as we know it, will come to an end. The how and when, and who is involved is open for lively debate among believers of all stripes and colors. However, we all agree that it will happen, we just are not sure about the order in which it will happen, the timing around all the events mentioned in Scripture, and who will still be here to be part of it. While we can fall on one side of the argument, it remains a

debated topic among believers and scholars...needless to say, I have always been fascinated by this period of Biblical history. In a similar way that the prophets of the Old Testament looked forward to the coming of the Messiah, I look forward to the Second Coming of the Messiah. With that in mind I know that there is a whole lot that needs to happen before the world gets to see that day. But this has been my worldview. The thing that I have watched for most intently is the development of the system that would usher in the Antichrist. Like any other governmental, administrative system, there would be a need for technology to advance to the point of facilitating the establishment and operation of this system. Therefore, I have always looked for that possibility in government and science where it can go very dark, and very wrong. Technology is not always our ally. Government does not always have the best interests of all its citizens in mind. I learned this when I watched the Branch Davidian compound burn when I was in High School, on Spring Break. Having followed it on CNN from the outset of the standoff, I could not believe that it had come to that moment, on live TV, seeing a wooden structure where men, women, and children were burning to death as tanks and helicopters whizzed all around the property. How did it come to this on American soil, against our own citizens? I know that David Koresh was not innocent, and neither were many of his followers who aided him at that time. I have no dog in that fight. Given the circumstances; this was new. Today, I do not think this

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image, and these events, would be very shocking to us after decades of desensitization. However, we got there, people who practiced a particular belief were now dead, in part for the way that they practiced that belief. Something had gone wrong; terribly wrong and who is to blame has been a subject of debate since the day it happened. But, as a high schooler trying to figure the world out, I knew that we had turned a corner as a nation. Once that beachhead is established, and endorsed by the media, the flag is raised and the machine marches on, having gained ground.

As a young believer, I was always trying to do my best to look at the world through the lens of what I was learning in church, and this was difficult to reconcile. We were only given one side of this story; what would become known as “the narrative.” Via news conferences, our government had justified, if not directly being responsible for those lives, creating the conditions for these events to take place. Government authority needed to grow, and that process was in need of a catalyst to push it forward. These words are hard to deny because that was the result. If that was not the intention, then the actions and steps that followed did not need to happen. However, if not overtly stated, categories of its own citizens were now seen as a threat that needed to be addressed. I may not have been a scholar, but even early in my faith, having read Revelation, I knew that some major forces would one day rise and target believers. In the wake of the September 11th attacks, the Patriot Act was sold as a

necessary step to ensure that similar attacks would never occur again. The landscape of freedom had changed overnight through FISA court warrants that allowed blanket data collection on US Citizens. (This legislation was renewed in April of 2024. It seems that the Congress CAN come together and reach across the aisle when it comes to warrantless surveillance of Americans.) Never to let a good crisis go to waste, the political powers in Washington D.C. were exchanging freedoms and liberties for presumed safety, and the exchange rate was as one-sided as a payday loan. As time marched on, the dominoes were falling in line, and I just saw the Church cozy up to the growing monster at every turn. Politics, especially hawkish, conservative politics were weaving themselves into the fabric of the Church, and it always made me feel, well, not exactly clean. It just felt strange, and at many times, uncomfortable. The overwhelming majority of politicians will say anything to shape their words based on the audience in front of them. Very few speak Truth, and those who do usually do not stay in the politics game extraordinarily long. I have worked in the world of Washington politics, and it is dirty, regardless of how clean you try to stay. As some keen observers have said, it is like trying to eat a ketchup popsicle with white gloves. I remember the Christian Right fawning over George W. Bush when he said that his favorite philosopher was Jesus Christ, and he went on to explain to the audience in Iowa that Jesus had changed his heart. In the election cycle it became known as his “Christ

moment". (Rosin, A14) Only a few, short years later, Bush would lead the charge into an invasion of Iraq based on some questionable intelligence about finding weapons of mass destruction. Millions of lives were irreversibly destroyed on both sides while his political benefactors made an insane amount of money. This was a blatant, almost flaunting, display of political proximity to the various industries and the revolving door from boardrooms to elected officials, to bureaucratic lobbyists. It was clear who the real power brokers and decision makers in government were. It is very hard to reconcile these things. This book is not about debating wars, Just War theory, or anything like that. However, it is meant to make you a bit uncomfortable. Critical thinking is fading like a vanishing phantom from the landscape of church life. I want to challenge the way we view the world, and the way that we view the church's involvement in it. Do we have the right to bestow the endorsement of the Bride of Christ on a politician, hoping to "further our agenda" like any other K Street lobbying firm? That is a tall order. Government has grown into such a behemoth that votes are no longer held around single issues, and if your "thing" is in that gigantic bill, regardless of other "things," you are just concerned about your piece of the pie and how it will help you get reelected.

It is all extremely complicated, as life is. It is not simple. That is why, with so many inputs, involving so many people, powers, and governments, it is easy to miss major events, or pieces of legislation drafted by global bodies of

lobbyists and administrators. There are unelected bodies of bureaucratic power that are deciding what our lives will look like in the near, and distant, future. Decisions are being made based on the Covid-19 Pandemic when no one in power has given us a clear answer on its origin; 5 years later! After World War 2, an event that altered world history, the Allies conducted the Nuremberg trials to understand the events that led us to allow a world power to rise to the level of committing systematic genocide. The trial system was not perfect, and it did not answer many of the questions that endure, however, it at least made it look like there was an attempt to reconcile how this had all happened. We are nowhere near that day coming regarding the Pandemic, and the response to it. Yet, the world governments are marching on, full steam ahead, making decisions based on those events without even looking back at what they were and really meant. The revisionist history is ignoring the lives destroyed by lockdowns and the years of education lost forever when schools closed and went remote. Those decisions also involved us, the Church. If it is even a possibility that these events were used to usher in a new future, in combination with advancing technology, it means that we are facing an enemy that is stronger and bolder, and better equipped than ever before. We are at war, Church, we always have been. So, as you read this book, please consider a few things: 1.) There is a real battle that has been raging between Good and Evil, since before our Creation. 2.) As followers of Christ, made in God's image, we have a

responsibility and a role to play in this war. 3.) Technology may make things easier, but it is not our friend. It is more like an ally that can turn on us at any second. 4.) The systems of the world have been lying to us for a long time, and we need to stop thinking that they are here to help us. 5.) The Church needs to reclaim its territory and reestablish Christ as Our King and Commander. It needs to assess the ongoing threats to its members and look at Scripture for the answers that are there, along with the battle plan.

The Roman Colosseum may lie in ruins, but it served its purpose at the time. The world has become the Colosseum. Back then they took us out of the cages before the fight began and our brothers and sisters faced unimaginable forms of torture and torment. Instead of direct frontal assault, they sell it to us now in slick packaging that we are convinced will help us navigate the world easier. All the while, they are disarming us and conditioning us to become blind and numb to their schemes. An adversary that does not fight back when attacked is no adversary at all, especially when they do not even know that they are at war. Stick your head above the trench and take a stand for your Faith. I guarantee you will start to “take fire” immediately because unfortunately, the Church has worked its way into No Man’s Land, between the lines of Light and Dark. Please read this book objectively, even if only to disagree with it and know that this opinion exists. Try to put emotions aside, especially when it comes to things like the Pandemic and the “jab.”

These are very personal topics, but we do not serve ourselves, or our calling, if we put up defensive walls when we discuss these things. The only way for the Church to serve Christ is if we have a dialogue about what is going on in the world. As Protestants, we may need to reach across the aisle to our Roman Catholic brothers and sisters who are truly seeking Christ, only to be turned away by a Papal system that is constantly giving into the world's systems. The common ground should be Christ, and His Kingdom. These topics may be the bridge to open that dialogue.

Introduction: Box Jumper?

“Box Jumper, a nickname ascribed to a magician’s assistant, typically a beautiful female, and historically, an icon of glamour whose principal function on stage frequently involved - among other classic roles such as handling props, levitating or vanishing - misdirecting the audience.”
(Waters)

You may be disappointed to find that this book is not about functional training, or working out, to include, among other exercises, box jumping. I am not sure what shelf it will end up on, but I can safely say that it will not be that of Sports Physiology. In the wake of the COVID-19 Pandemic, society at large is at a crossroads wondering which way to turn in order to move on. It is not a fork in the road where one choice may seem, or actually be, better than the other and one can see where the road may lead for a while, or maybe an ultimate destination is on the horizon, like the road to Oz. There is even deception in the choice of routes. We are dealing with fast-moving (faster-than-lightning-fast) algorithms that we must be prepared to figure out in our minds to make decisions. We can look behind us, and reminisce about days gone by, however, those days are gone. As much

as we may want to go back, we cannot; that option does not exist. But, upon closer inspection the rose-colored view of the good old days shows that the cracks were there and starting to show. Our guard has been down for an exceedingly long time, and that is one of the main reasons that we ended up at this point: complacency. Is there any help that we can get to make this decision, like “phone a friend”, or “poll the audience”? Some may question, “can’t we just use computers, apps, etc.?” Despite all the technological advances that we have made, the bad news answer is “no”, because we are playing against the computers at this point, and I have a pretty good idea who their programmer/s is/are. (Those are not attempts at pronouns, by the way).

The Church finds itself in the middle of this for a host of reasons. It is like a crowd where you may be trying to figure out which way the momentum is moving, and once you determine that, your next step is to decide if it is easier to go with the crowd, or to fight against it. Sometimes going with the flow of the crowd purposefully so that you can reasonably find a safe exit point is a sound strategy, sort of like when you fall into a fast-moving body of water, or riptide. You can fight and fight, only to exhaust yourself, or go with the current until you find a branch or a point of calm where you can then find a way out of the hazardous situation. I think this has been the Church’s strategy for a long time, however, there are no points of calm, and the

branches that stick out are either covered in thorns, or like us, breakable and already broken.

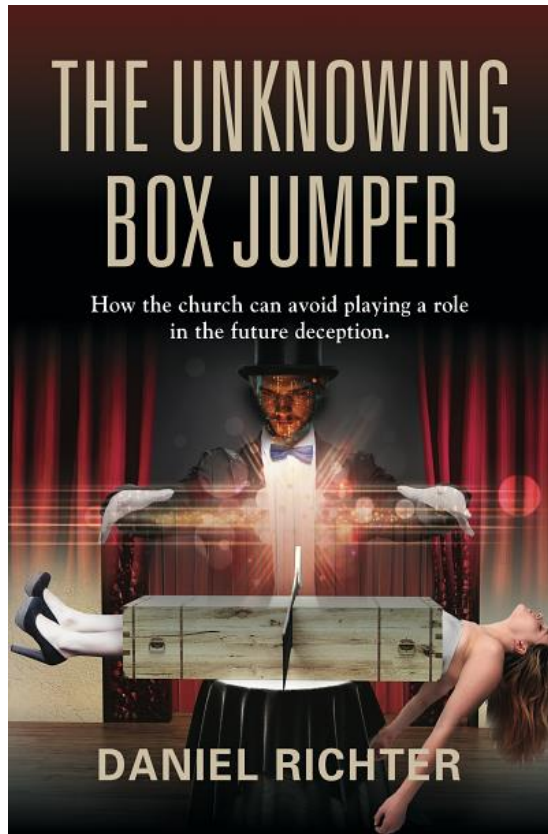
At this point you can turn your objectiveness off and turn your conditioning on to call this a conspiratorial piece. You may sense that there is criticism in the rapids ahead, and accusatory language being packed into the cannon. Your conditioned response is to cancel and avoid this course for the more comfortable one. The overwhelming sense that some type of ownership or self-reflection is in store feels unsettling. That is the crowd moving faster, the current of the river has taken away your sure footing, and the Church has been lifted off its feet. Maybe going with flow and choosing the path of least resistance has not been the right course. The Church has employed the tools provided by the world to navigate this foreign land. For example, it has embraced social media (yes, but it gets our message out). Yes, it does. Yet do we even pause to consider what Social Media Apps are designed to do? It also gets people to pick up their device to check your social media, email, church app. Why stop there? They keep going. That is what the device has been designed to do. Your targeting cookies are putting other emails in your box to make you read the church email, but when you close out, to move on to the next, and the next, and the next, until you look up and 40 minutes have gone by. Poof, never to return. Since you are on there, let's check social media.... tempting. It has been deliberately programmed to pull you away. None of this is from a place of

accusation, it is from a place of someone who has fallen victim to this system, the World's system, for too long. Is your church on Instagram? So, you share the same space as a corporation that has set up an algorithm to make it EASIER to find and connect child predators with its victims. "Yeah, but...." But what? Here is where you have the chance to tell people WHY you are not on social media. "But it will be so hard to get the word out or spread the Gospel." Jesus and John Calvin had their social media accounts shut down a long time ago for being too judgmental and divisive. But, hey, if ya can't beat 'em; join 'em...right? The voices in your head are telling you that you don't need this. You don't need to listen to another voice telling you what's wrong with the world, and how you may actually have a hand in it. "Out damn spot!" Keep trying to wash, it will not help.

There is something coming, and the virus, and the response to the virus, was a massive test run. Yes, run away from the crazy man with the "End is Near" placard around his neck. This is a warning to the Church. Heed it or not, this is what it is. There are many dots here that connect, but when we gaze at the stars, we look for constellations: Orion, Capricorn, Cancer, etc. Yes, they are out there, and we make those connections when we search the night sky, but there are other stars and those are the ones that I am concerned with, the asterisms. I am looking at the stars that connect and overlap into other constellations, because this whole thing is connected, and

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if the Church continues to just look at the constellations and not how they connect, it will fall prey to the greatest deception yet to come. These technologies and advancements do not exist on their own; isolated. They are part of larger platforms, or networks. Interoperability and interconnectivity are the names of the game. Look at the big dipper.... It is not alone. It is part of Ursa Major, the Greater Bear. They connect. That is an asterism. COVID and the ensuing response was its own constellation, or so it appears. However, if you adjust your viewfinder a bit, or even step away from the viewfinder to just look at the sky you may begin to see that it is part of something else; something greater and more complex. I think your attention has been gained now.



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