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December 31, 2009: Predictions for the Next Decade

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Title: Predictions for the Next Decade

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12/31/2009—Happy New Year to all. And how will the world look in 2020? First the easy one. Many more states will be recognizing gay marriage. Next easy one. Many more people will be secular and fewer people will believe in God in any traditional sense. In fact, this may be the secular decade in America and by 2020 secularists may rival believers (actually, that is my prediction for 2030). Economic predictions: the American economy will prove much more resilient than it looks now and the Chinese economy much less so. I still do not believe that long-term economic growth is possible without democracy, the rule of law and individual liberty. Political predictions: a more globalized world including genuine world public opinion for the first time and the beginnings of world governing institutions. Environmental predictions: this will be the decade that global warming skepticism dies. The continuing climb in world temperatures see to that. Religion predictions: the major religions will begin to come to terms with science and gay rights. Conflict predictions: I do not see an end to the Israeli/Palestinian conflict, unfortunately, but I do foresee the decline of militant Islam. The Muslim world will grow tired of it. These are my predictions. Try your own.