

RACE WAR Inciters
don't realize how
dark it's going to get

Where Putin
is leading
Russia

What would the
world be like with-
out video games?

Teach your
teen to
say hello

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**Mexico
Falls to
Cartels**

**Will America
Be Next?**

FRIGHTENING FIREPOWER

Tens of thousands of guns have been captured by Mexican police and soldiers—and hundreds of thousands have not.



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FROM THE EDITOR GERALD FLURRY

Remove the Mystery From Your Bible!

Scripture answers life's most puzzling questions. But who can understand it?

WE ARE FACING A WORLD THAT IS MORE DANGEROUS than it has ever been. Governments are warring against their own people. Entire countries are becoming unstable. Economies are failing. Weather disasters are causing destruction and taking lives. Many Western nations are divided and weak, while others are becoming stronger, growing more belligerent and developing horrific weapons. Meanwhile, our families are shattered, we suffer from racial division, our morals are perverted, we are addicted to drugs, and crime is out of control. This world is *suffering*!

Can we ever solve any of these huge, huge problems? If we're honest, we have to admit that these crises are so bad that *survival* is now the number one problem for the human race!

Is there any hope?

The answer is *yes!* There are solutions, and they are found in your Bible! If we could just follow these solutions, we would be able to fix these major crises and stop the suffering. But the problem is, the Bible is a *mystery*. Education doesn't understand it, science doesn't understand it—*religion* doesn't even understand it! People just *assume* the Bible says this or that, but they don't really know what it actually says.

We need to remove the mystery from the Bible.

But how do we do that? The Bible itself says that when we really understand it, it will fill our lives with joy. But this book doesn't make sense to most people; reading it leaves them confused, and so God is not real to them. So they continue living with all these terrible problems, not understanding the answers that could make such a difference in their lives!

"Did you ever ask yourself, *Who am I? What am I? Why am I?* You are a mystery. The world about you is a mystery. Now you can understand!" That is how Herbert W. Armstrong introduced his book *Mystery of the Ages*. I want to talk to you about this book, because it does something that *no other book does!*

Mysteries You Need to Understand!

Each chapter of *Mystery of the Ages* addresses one of seven mysteries that has bewildered this world for centuries:

Chapter One: "Who and What Is God?" Many people talk about God. Some people think they know God. But if you really press them, you realize that they *just don't know God*—certainly not the God of the Bible! And this is the most important relationship there is, the most important part of life! Proving that there is a God, and knowing who He is will change your life. Yet there is perhaps nothing in the world that is so confusing and maligned and unknown as who and what God is.

Chapter Two: "The Mystery of Angels and Evil Spirits." Are there such things as angels and demons? Do you believe in spiritual beings? The Bible talks a lot about them, but this subject is a complete mystery to people. For example, do you know who the god of this world is? *It's not God!* 2 Corinthians 4:4 says that THE DEVIL is the god of this world! Because we have rejected God,

He has let us go our own way, and evil spirits have quite an influence. Doesn't that explain why human beings can perpetrate such morbid perversity? Ezekiel 28 describes in detail how Lucifer failed and became Satan. Yet to most people, angels and evil spirits seem incomprehensible.

Chapter Three: "The Mystery of Man." What is *our* purpose? Why are we on Earth? Are we here to try to have pleasure—or maybe have a lot of suffering—and then die? *Animals* can have that kind of existence! But we are so much more than animals! Genesis 1:26 describes the creation of man. There God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness . . ." Animals were made after the animal kind. But here God says that man is made after the GOD KIND! It will *astound* you when you fully understand what that means for *your future!*

Chapter Four: "The Mystery of Civilization." Civilization is going haywire in 2012. Almost any way you look at it, human civilization is a catastrophically failed experiment. We don't understand how our civilizations began, or why they have so many deep-rooted problems that just cannot be solved. Yet when you understand when and how mankind rejected God, you realize that the entire tower of human civilization is built on a faulty foundation. This is the secret behind why our world is what it is.

Chapter Five: "The Mystery of Israel." Did you know that the Bible is essentially a book about *Israel*? Do you know why? You can't understand the Bible until you know! We don't know much about Israel today. And yet if you read what the Bible says, you find out that it's *all about* Israel! That was the only nation that knew God. God led the Israelites personally and gave them everything they needed to take God's way to the whole world. So there is great depth to understanding the mystery of this nation.



We also offer another thorough and informative book on this subject, written by Herbert W. Armstrong: ***The United States and Britain in Prophecy.*** Request a free copy today.

Chapter Six: "The Mystery of the Church." Look at all the churches today—many of them fighting each other, all of them confused. Is that what God's Church is supposed to be like? What is the real purpose of the Church, anyway? What is it supposed to do? God says it has the most important job on Earth—what is it? When you look into the Bible, you realize that God's true Church today is *spiritual Israel*. It must take His message to the whole world, showing *what the Bible means*, and giving everyone the answers to the biggest questions they have ever faced. When you really comprehend this mystery, you realize that God intends His message to get out to every man, woman and child on Earth—and you learn *how* He is going to do it!

Chapter Seven: "The Mystery of the Kingdom of God." You may have heard of the Kingdom of God,

but do you know what the Bible says about what it really is? Is it heaven? Is it something in our hearts? Jesus clearly told us what this Kingdom is, but do you know your Bible well enough—and do you believe it for what it says enough—to understand? *Mystery of the Ages* can help you do just that!

This book is *the key to understanding the Bible!* The Bible is actually a *coded* book, and *Mystery of the Ages* decodes it!

It unlocks seven gigantic mysteries that have confused and frustrated mankind for our entire history. Go to any institution, ask anyone out there the answer to these towering mysteries, and they won't be able to answer them! This world *just doesn't know!*

Why not? Even *that* is revealed in the Bible.

You Can Know God!

In Acts 17, Paul spoke to the Athenians, who had a monument for every god you could think of, including one for “the unknown god.” Paul told them, *That is the God I'm talking to you about.* Matthew 13:15 says that the reason for such confusion is that people have CLOSED THEIR MINDS to God. They don't like to retain God in their knowledge (Romans 1:28). Revelation 12:9—perhaps most shocking of all—says that this whole world is *deceived!* Could that be why it's acting like it is? Doesn't that make sense? That is why people don't know God. But you can.

When Jesus Christ Himself came to this Earth, do you know how many people were converted and followed Him? One hundred and twenty! There's a deep truth behind that: God the Father and Jesus Christ are not trying to save the whole world today! In fact, Jesus spoke in parables so that most of the people listening *wouldn't* understand. He has a much deeper plan for

this world than what people usually assume.

Herbert Armstrong wrote *Mystery of the Ages* to prove the Bible, and to help you and me understand it. Every page shows how *the Bible interprets itself* if we will simply believe what it says! He was a voice crying out in this confused world—in fact, the *only* voice opening our eyes to what God says about these important issues that affect all of us, telling us how to stop the suffering. *Mystery of the Ages* is a magnificent summary of his life's work; he published it shortly before he died on Jan. 16, 1986.

There is another twist to the story. After Mr. Armstrong died, his successors betrayed him and his work, and stopped printing this masterpiece. It was a monstrous betrayal that dumbfounded thousands of us who had proven these seven mysteries from our Bibles!

The Philadelphia Church of God fought for *Mystery of the Ages*. We decided to print it ourselves and distribute it for free. Those men sued us in order to keep *Mystery of the Ages* out of print forever, and we battled them for six years in court, spending a huge amount of resources to win the right to print this book and give it away FREE.

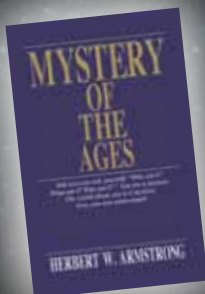
Why would we fight so hard for this book? There's only one way for you to understand: Just ask us for a copy—we'll give it to you at no charge and with no obligation—and then study it alongside your Bible. It will open your eyes to what the Bible means! That is the most exciting thing there is!

This incredible book helps you understand the Bible, which contains the solutions to this world's problems and to problems in your own life! That is how powerful and important *Mystery of the Ages* is. I hope you will choose to request your very own copy—and read it! ■

Answer the big questions

Have you ever asked yourself, “Who am I?”, “What am I?”, “Why am I?” You are a mystery. The world about you is a mystery.

Now, you can understand! ***Mystery of the Ages*** explains these mysteries to you. Request your FREE copy today.





Nickeled and Dimed

America is following in the footsteps of ancient Rome. But the dollar's value is falling far faster than the denarius ever did. **BY ROBERT MORLEY**

THE U.S. MINT IS FACING A BIG problem. It is the same problem faced by the Roman Empire as it headed toward collapse.

It now costs the government more money to mint pennies and nickels than the coins are worth!

Consequently, the Obama administration has asked Congress for permission to debase the coinage. It smacks of Diocletian ordering the silver out of Roman money so the decaying empire could pay its bills and fight its wars for a little longer. But once Rome started devaluing its money, it set off economic effects that doomed it to fail.

Could America Be Nearing Collapse?

Here is the situation: America loses more than \$100 million a year minting pennies and nickels. It costs the Mint 2.4 cents to make a penny and 11.2 cents to make a nickel.

But the metal composition of the penny and nickel has not changed in more than 30 years. So what has happened? The value of America's money is being destroyed.

In 1935, one U.S. dollar would buy 1/20th of an ounce of gold. By 1968, it was down to 1/35th of an ounce. Today, one dollar will buy you only 1/1,650th of an ounce. The same thing happened against silver: In 1968, one dollar would buy an ounce; today it will only buy you 1/32nd of an ounce.

The dollar hasn't plunged just against precious metals. It is also in free fall against copper, nickel and zinc—the metals found in pennies and nickels. In fact, the dollar has plummeted against orange juice, whiskey, beans, bullets, pork bellies, single family houses, automobiles, coal, oil, good suits, health care, tuition, labor costs—and virtually every measurable commodity. If you can name it, it probably costs more today than it did 30, 10 or 5 years ago—even last year.

The Mint reports that if it replaced the copper-coated zinc penny (it took the copper out of the penny in 1982 because it was too expensive) with a steel one, it would still not be profitable. What's cheaper than steel? Tin? Nope—a penny's weight of tin

would cost more than a nickel. A penny's weight of aluminum would cost 2 cents. Lead is little cheaper. Anyone for a plastic penny? Clay? Asbestos?

Calls to just get rid of the penny altogether are growing louder. But that will only hide the danger to the dollar for a little longer.

The Dollar Is in Grave Danger

Millions of people, especially retirees, are seeing their life savings devalued. Each year their money buys less and less. Even if they don't spend a dime, inflation steals it from them.

And since the Federal Reserve is artificially keeping interest rates low (designed to increase big bank profitability, promote consumer borrowing, and thus stimulate the economy), the Fed is driving America's most vulnerable investors into riskier assets (such as the stock market) in an effort to make their retirement money last longer. A crisis is looming.

During his State of the Union address this past January, President Barack Obama barely mentioned America's debt and deficit problems. He hardly touched on the massive, society-changing cuts that would be required to balance the budget—or the massive money-printing binge (and money-debasing spree) the Federal Reserve would have to undertake to finance government spending.

By far, the biggest economic issue threatening America's livelihood is its addiction to debt. This year, America's federal debt exceeded its gross domestic product; confidence in the dollar is dying; people are seeing their life savings wiped out—and still the president gave the issue no more than a rhetorical nod. Instead, he talked about taxing billionaires. The truth is, the government could take 100 percent of billionaires' *assets* (not just income), and America *still* wouldn't be able to pay its bills! That's how big just the nation's *yearly deficit* is—let alone its *debt*.

Rome's Example

When ancient Rome started having

trouble paying its bills, it did essentially the same thing the Federal Reserve is doing today: Progressive governments reduced the silver content of each coin so they could make more coins to pay the bills. And each time, the empire seemed to prosper—for a while.

But each time, once the temporary stimulus wore off, economic conditions worsened. And politicians, rather than adopt the harsh economic reforms needed to stabilize conditions, resorted to further currency debasement. This vicious cycle was made worse by political infighting and greed.

For Rome, the currency collapse occurred over *centuries* before Rome collapsed. Early in the first century, the denarius had been essentially pure silver. By the time of Nero, in A.D. 54, the coin's silver content had slipped to 94 percent; by A.D. 68, it was 81 percent; by A.D. 218, only 43 percent was silver. In A.D. 244, Philip had the silver content reduced to 0.5 percent. At the time of Rome's fall, the silver content of the denarius was 0.02 percent, and pretty much everyone refused to accept it as payment for anything.

For America—in an age of paper money, printing presses and rapid information dissemination—the currency devaluation has been much quicker. The dollar has lost more than 95 percent of its purchasing power since the creation of the Federal Reserve in 1913.

It is a well-charted route to disaster, but central banks and governments are poor students of history.

Abandoning pennies and nickels is only a start. It will get far worse. Dollar bills will soon come to resemble quarters—and quarters, dimes. Eventually wads of bills will resemble worthless newspaper.

When Rome destroyed its money to pay its bills, it destroyed two of the pillars of its existence: its economy and the faith in its political system. These are the exact two things that America seems to be doing its best to destroy today. ■

DEMONIC

The increasingly powerful drug cartels are routinely committing crimes of unspeakable brutality.



Beheading Mexico

Decapitation. Rape.
Murder. Mass corruption.
National chaos and destruction.
If only America's illicit drug users knew
the cost of their love for getting high.

BY BRAD MACDONALD

IMAGINE. YOU'RE SITTING ON A bus, listening to music, staring sleepily out at the Mexican countryside. Suddenly, the bus screeches to a halt, and there follows a lot of shouting and some random gunshots. Seconds later, gun-wielding gangsters board the bus and demand the passengers get off.

The terrified travelers are divided into groups. The elderly are promptly executed, shot in the head in full view of the onlookers. Next, select women are pried from the arms of their children and one another and dragged kicking and screaming behind the bus. Everyone knows their fate. The old are gone, the women and children are dead or paralyzed with shock. Attention turns to the able-bodied males.

The men are herded into a group and surrounded by smirking, laughing cartel members. Each man is given a weapon: a rusty old knife, a machete, a framer's hammer; the unlucky are handed a stick or rock. Now armed, the bewildered men are told to fight. Not the monsters from the cartel—one another.

Their hands tremble with fear. They hesitate to kill an innocent man, someone they were chatting with only minutes earlier. But the men quickly realize that the only way to survive is to kill. Soon these normal men—husbands and fathers, farmers, bricklayers and factory workers—become callous gladiators. Unskilled in the act of murder, their arms flail wildly. Chunks of human flesh fly, the dust turns deep red, and hemorrhaging bodies begin to collapse. Thirty minutes later, all that remains is a handful of blood-soaked, exhausted, hollow-eyed men. The victims are now victors.

The criminals, members of Mexico's deadliest cartel, Los Zetas, whoop and holler and sing Mexican folk songs as they pile the corpses in the ditch beside the road. They're elated. They've grown a little richer, satiated their lusts, and now they've stolen some new recruits. In the coming days, each male captive will be given a mission: infiltrate enemy cartel territory, assassinate rival cartel members, go to war with the Mexican Army, or get saddled with drugs and dispatched across the border into America. No matter the assignment, each will meet the same end: death.

Tierra de Horror

The above scenario is not fictional. It happened, and was recounted to U.S. authorities last year by a drug trafficker. As difficult as it might be to imagine, horrific acts like this are occurring regularly. Not in Afghanistan, or Iraq, or Zimbabwe, but right across America's southern border,

in a nation adored by Americans for its cheap beer and enticing beach resorts. This is Mexico's ugly side: extreme barbarity, kidnappings, rape, torture, deep-rooted corruption, and a total breakdown of civilization.

It's the Mexico most Americans rarely see and seldom think about—even though AMERICA is *causing it!*

Over the past six years, more than 47,000 people have been killed in drug-related violence in Mexico. In 2006, there were 2,119 cartel-related murders. In 2010, it was 15,273. The 2011 total is expected to add up to somewhere around 17,000. Between the cartel-versus-cartel bloodbaths and the cartels-versus-Mexican military battles, Stratfor says, "Some parts of Mexico can credibly be described as a war zone" (March 5).

The violence exists in every corner of Mexico and runs the gamut of sadistic. Murder victims who are shot once or twice and die quickly are considered lucky. Some of the favored forms of murder among the cartels include decapitation (after which the victims' heads are often paraded in public spaces as a warning), disfigurement and dismemberment (including cutting open the victim's chest and ripping out his heart), and burying the victim alive head-first.

Some cartels kill so many victims that they have a department devoted to corpse removal. For the Tijuana Cartel, dealing with dead bodies was the job of Santiago Meza López, until he was arrested in 2009. Known as "The Stewmaker," López was famous for the thoroughness with which he performed his job. He'd fill a 55-gallon drum with water, dump in two sacks of caustic soda, bring it to a boil over an open fire and then dump in dead bodies one after another. Within eight hours the only remains left were teeth and bones. He disposed of hundreds of bodies this way.

Victims of these horror stories include local, state and federal government employees, law enforcement officers, uncooperative businessmen and informants and witnesses—not to mention drug dealers and cartel rivals. Beyond the intentional killings, thousands of innocent Mexicans in towns and cities across the nation have been caught in the crossfire, wounded and killed. The cartels are fearless and have no regard for authority. They start gun battles in broad daylight in downtown areas of cities, or in neighborhoods filled with elderly and children. Drug-related violence is so common, many schools have drills in

which children are taught to dive to the floor in order to dodge flying bullets.

The violence is all the worse because of the cartels' weapons: tons of high-powered AK-47s, AR-15s and .50 caliber rifles. Often-times even the lowliest gangster has access to assault rifles, high-tech telescopes, infrared goggles, grenades, grenade launchers and high-caliber ammunition. According to stats released by both the U.S. and Mexican governments, *80 to 90 percent of the weapons used by Mexico's drug cartels come from the U.S.* Providing cartels with weapons is a multimillion-dollar racket, and U.S. residents are purchasing state-of-the-art weapons and selling them to the cartels, which then smuggle them into Mexico.

Mexico a Failed State

This is a grave situation that is bringing destruction, suffering and death to Mexicans everywhere—and maybe the *nation itself*. By definition, a successful sovereign government must be able to maintain control over its territory, and preserve the general peace in states and towns and cities. In Mexico, enormous chunks of territory are basically controlled by drug

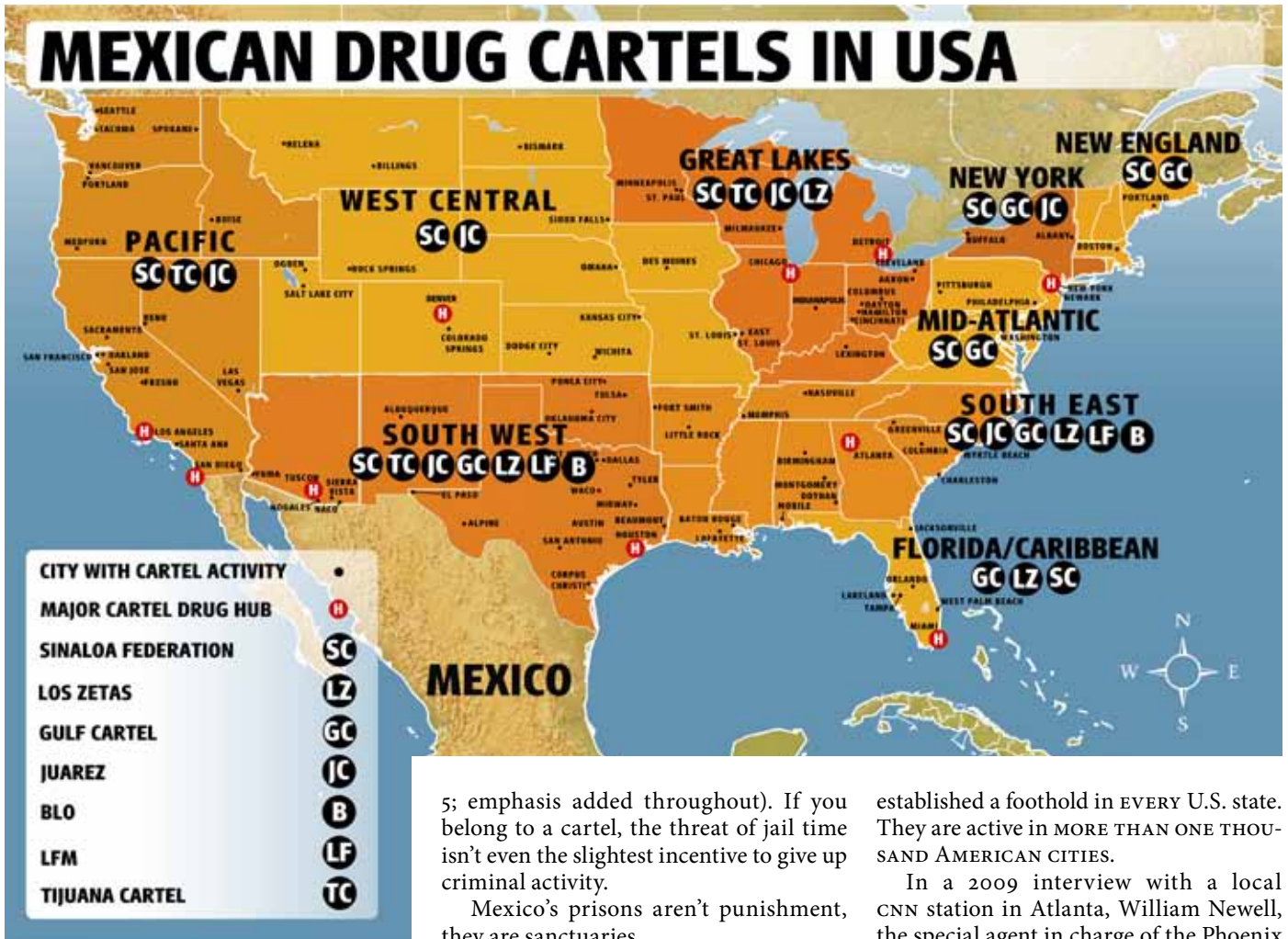
Some cartels kill so many victims that they have a department devoted to corpse removal.

cartels, while countless local and federal government departments have either been infiltrated by cartel members, or are on the payroll of one or more cartels. In some regions and cities, Mexican authorities flat-out lack the loyal manpower, judicial control or simply the courage to administer justice and uphold the rule of law.

Take Mexico's justice system. It is so out of hand that even if a cartel member is actually arrested, brought before a judge not on the payroll of the cartel, sentenced by a judge who doesn't fear reprisal, and put in jail, he still has no reason to stop. Why? Because as Pedro Arellani, an expert on Mexico's prisons, explained, "THE AUTHORITIES NO LONGER CONTROL THE PRISONS—THE DRUG LORDS DO."

Last February, inmates at a state prison in Apodaca rioted and broke free. It turns out the riot was initiated by members of the Los Zetas cartel. During the melee, Zetas inmates killed more than 40 members of a rival cartel before escaping. When authorities investigated the prison break, they found that the prison guards

MEXICAN DRUG CARTELS IN USA



had been bought off by the drug cartel. In a 2009 prison break, security cameras caught 53 prisoners belonging to Los Zetas literally strolling from prison as the guards stood by and watched.

In July 2010, it was discovered that guards at a prison in Durango were allowing cartel members to leave jail temporarily so they could carry out hit jobs commissioned by their employers. After murdering their victim, inmates would return to the sanctuary of their cell. For cartel members, Mexico's prisons are more like hotels than jails. Should they end up in jail, cartel members, especially high-ranking leaders, are allowed to wear designer clothing, given access to cell phones and the Internet, and enjoy perks such as fine food, alcohol, flat-screen televisions, and regular visits from wives, girlfriends and prostitutes.

Ted Galen Carpenter suggests that "Mexico's notoriously corrupt prison system ... is NOW TOTALLY OUT OF CONTROL. Whichever drug cartel is ascendant in any given region appears to exercise far more power than the Mexican government in those institutions" (*National Interest*, March

5; emphasis added throughout). If you belong to a cartel, the threat of jail time isn't even the slightest incentive to give up criminal activity.

Mexico's prisons aren't punishment, they are sanctuaries.

What do you call a nation in which drug cartels have infiltrated the justice system and run the prisons, the very institutions created to suppress criminal activity?

A failed state.

Coming to America

If you live in America, there's a chance you've heard a little about Mexico's drug wars. But what you probably haven't heard much about is the fact that Mexico's cartels—including Los Zetas, which hijacked the busload of innocent Mexicans—are *deeply entrenched* in the United States.

It's not your fault if you don't know. The U.S. government and mainstream media have been astonishingly silent about this issue. This is an angle to this story perhaps *as significant* as the cartel violence and infiltration itself.

In 2008, the U.S. Justice Department warned that "Mexican DTOs [drug trafficking organizations] are the most pervasive organizational threat to the United States. They are active in EVERY region of the country and dominate the illicit drug trade in EVERY area"

That was four years ago.

Today, Mexican drug cartels have

established a foothold in EVERY U.S. state. They are active in MORE THAN ONE THOUSAND AMERICAN CITIES.

In a 2009 interview with a local CNN station in Atlanta, William Newell, the special agent in charge of the Phoenix branch of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), explained the ultimate ambition of the cartels. This warning, from an official stationed on the front lines of the drug war, ought to have deeply alarmed the U.S. government and made prime-time national news. The goal of the cartels, Newell warned, "IS TO COME TO THE UNITED STATES AND TAKE OVER."

Why aren't Americans being told about this by the White House and the media?

The way these cartels take over "is very violent," Newell said. "We're seeing signs of people being tortured and brutally beaten *all across the U.S.*, NOT JUST ALONG THE SOUTHWEST BORDER." In August 2008, five bodies were discovered in an apartment in an affluent neighborhood in Birmingham, Alabama. The victims had been tortured before being murdered by cartel members. Drug Enforcement Administration special agent Gregory Borland worked the case and told reporters the violence was at a "level we've never seen before."

"People make themselves feel better by saying, that's not really a part of my world," Borland said. "[O]ne of my jobs is to say, 'No, IT IS A PART OF YOUR WORLD.'"

The number of cartel-related deaths

inside America isn't high—yet. But this isn't a crisis of numbers—it's about the *presence* of exceptionally violent drug cartels inside America and their goal to “take over.” They aren't hanging people from bridges or decapitating Americans by the hundreds, but *all of Mexico's largest cartels*—the Sinaloa Federation, Los Zetas, La Familia Michoacana, the Gulf Cartel, the Juarez Cartel, the Tijuana Cartel—are operating in America's major cities, from Phoenix to New York City, Boise to Anchorage.

Large cities such as Dallas, Chicago, Denver, Detroit, Miami, New York, El Paso, Houston, Los Angeles, Phoenix, San Antonio and San Diego are drug hubs. Cartels transport bulk loads of cocaine, marijuana and meth to warehouses in these cities where they re-process, re-package and dispatch the drugs to smaller markets. “The same folks who are rolling heads in the streets of Ciudad Juarez are operating in Atlanta,” warned Jack Killorin, the head of the Office of National Drug Control Policy. In America, “they are just better behaved.”

For now.

In *Cartel*, Sylvia Longmire gives an eye-opening glimpse into this crisis: “[F]or [Americans] living in or near a decent-sized metropolitan area, *chances are pretty high that their hometown is infested with drugs being managed by one of the Mexican cartels.*” If you live in a decent-size American city, chances are you're sharing roads and stores and restaurants with Los Zetas and the other cartels!

In many cities, the cartels have teamed up with local gangs and criminal organizations. The gangs provide the cartels with storage and transportation, and the cartels supply the gangs with a wholesale supply of drugs. These are deadly relationships. In an interview with Lou Dobbs, Stratfor intelligence expert Fred Burton warned, “Street violence in Los Angeles, Portland, Chicago, New York City or Washington, D.C., is DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTABLE to the violence that's taking place in Mexico. Meaning, *the cartels are working with criminal gangs inside the United States, AND THEY'RE CARRYING OUT THESE VIOLENT MURDERS AND CRIMES ON THE STREETS OF AMERICA.*”

That's quite a headline: “Mexican Drug Cartels Operating on America's Streets.”

So why haven't we seen it from the White House, or the *New York Times* or Fox News?

So far, cartel-related violence tends to be worse in regions and cities close to the southern border. Some areas of U.S. territory along the border are actually *controlled* by the cartels. In these areas, cartel gunmen are stationed on hills and ridges, monitoring the border with high-tech binoculars

and shooting dead any illegals who dare to cross onto U.S. soil *without* cartel approval.

Is this America's strategy for dealing with illegal immigration—subcontracting border control to the drug cartels?

This also raises the question of *American* sovereignty. Can a nation that cedes control of its border and territory to an outside power really be considered sovereign?

Right now, it's in the best interest of cartels operating in the U.S. to lie low. With so much money at stake, they try to avoid local and federal authorities, resorting to violence only when absolutely necessary. But how long can we expect it to remain like this?

Think about the deadly concoction festering in hundreds of U.S. cities: growing unemployment, especially among the youth; gang violence and organized crime; racial tension; rising food prices; political animosity and ideological division. Now, add to that mix some of the most vicious organizations on the planet.

It's another horrific crisis waiting to explode.

It's likely to be okay as long as the cartels inside the U.S. are left to ply their trade. But what happens when they want to expand, or the gangs get testy, or another cartel pushes in on their territory—or state or federal authorities decide to crack down? In Mexico, the violence began to intensify in 2006, when President Felipe Calderón decided to confront the cartels. Over the past six years, Calderón has employed tens of thousands of soldiers to combat the cartels. But instead of solving the problem, Calderón's commendable attempt at justice has resulted in more chaos, more murders, more kidnappings, and more mass graves.

Imagine the anarchy and violence if the U.S. government decided to take on the cartels.

Then again, imagine the inevitable violence if America continues to cede its southern border, inner cities and leafy neighborhoods to Mexico's drug lords.

Americans Get High, Mexicans Die

Meet Billy. He's an American college student who likes to get together with his buddies and smoke a little weed, or on occasion, snort a little cocaine. Billy doesn't go “overboard.” He never sells drugs, or steals cars, or robs the elderly to support his hobby. In his mind—and the minds of many Americans—his drug use is simple, cheap fun, and mostly harmless.

Truth is, Billy is an ignorant, selfish fool whose actions are killing people. Neither Billy nor the millions of Americans like him give any thought to the poor Mexican farmers forced at gunpoint to grow marijuana

or poppy crops. Or the barbaric cartels that supply him with this dope. Or the wreckage these cartels are causing in Mexico: collapsed businesses, abandoned towns and cities, countless mothers who fear letting their children play in the front yard. Or the tens of thousands who have been killed, kidnapped or wounded in drug-related violence. Or the brave U.S. border agents doing battle with drug cartels.

Obsessed with his own gratification, Billy the American doesn't realize he's the cause of so many of Mexico's dire problems.

This crisis exists because there are *tens of millions* of Billys in the U.S. About 119 million Americans have used an illicit substance at least once. That's 47 percent of Americans over the age of 13. In its 2010 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services discovered that **ROUGHLY 22 MILLION AMERICANS** over the age of 12 were regular drug users, meaning they'd consumed an illicit drug in the previous month.

NEARLY 9 PERCENT OF AMERICANS USE ILLICIT DRUGS REGULARLY.

The study found that 17 million people abuse marijuana, an increase of about 7 percent since 2007. The survey also found that drug use among teens and college-age students is increasing. About 22 percent of 18-to-25-year-olds use drugs, along with 10 percent of 12-to-17-year-olds. Whether it's folks like Billy looking to get high only occasionally or hardcore Skid Row addicts craving their daily fix, America's appetite for drugs like marijuana, cocaine and meth is almost beyond imagination.

For Mexico's drug cartels, this is one colossal opportunity.

In 2006, the National Drug Intelligence Center estimated that the cartels take anywhere from \$8 to \$35 *billion* per year from American customers. With billions of dollars up for grabs, there's *nothing* these cartels won't do: take over prime agricultural regions; import massive armories of high-powered U.S. weapons; battle rival cartels; war against the Mexican army; bribe or murder thousands of Mexican government employees; destroy entire towns and cities; claim parts of an international border; even set up camp right inside every major American city. They're prepared to wreck a sovereign nation of 112 million people.

ALL SO AMERICANS CAN GET HIGH!

Ending the Drug War

It can be easy to look at Mexico's drug trade and its corollary problems and be

utterly overwhelmed and discouraged. Today, many experts generally agree with Sylvia Longmire, an expert on the subject, who believes Mexico's drug war "cannot be won." It "must be viewed as a conflict that can only be *managed*," she writes.

Pragmatic. Understandable. Hopeless.

She and others are advocating a strategy that will only ever deal with the *effects* of the problem, and never address the cause. Granted, solving the cause of Mexico's drug wars—*quenching America's appetite for illicit drugs*—is a Mt. Everest-

no broadly accepted body of laws to govern human conduct. No person or government or Higher Being is thought to have the authority to define right and wrong in human behavior. Modern America is an amoral, government-hating, lawless society.

When it comes to morality, to right and wrong, Americans believe that each individual has the inalienable right to form his own opinion. He can *define* right and wrong. Self-mastery, restraint, moral uprightness, integrity, lawfulness—values that would *prevent drug use*—have

been pushed aside or destroyed. These fundamentally Christian virtues have been replaced with

new-age "values" of permissiveness, tolerance and instant self-gratification.

For most Americans, recreational drug use simply isn't morally or spiritually *wrong*.

America's appetite for drugs is the result of a *SPIRITUAL SICKNESS*. This sickness is detailed in the first chapter of Isaiah, among many other prophecies. God likens Israel (the prophetic term for America) to an ox or donkey. "Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth: for the Lord has spoken. Sons have I reared and brought up, but *THEY HAVE REBELLED AGAINST ME*. The ox knows its owner, and the ass its master's crib; *BUT ISRAEL DOES NOT KNOW, MY PEOPLE DOES NOT UNDERSTAND*" (Isaiah 1:2-3; Revised Standard Version). Modern America is dumber than an ox, which at least knows that it must rely on its master for nourishment and protection.

There was a time America recognized the existence of God and embraced many of the principles and laws outlined in the Bible. As a result, many had purpose and a certain clarity in their lives. Most people didn't need illicit drugs! They had a moral compass that directed them away from such activity.

That time is over. America has rejected God's laws and the morality that once underpinned American culture, families and institutions. The result of this rejection of God and His law is obvious. "Ah sinful nation, *A PEOPLE LADEN WITH INIQUITY*, offspring of evildoers, sons who deal corruptly! They have forsaken the Lord, they have despised the Holy One of Israel, they are utterly estranged. . . . *THE WHOLE HEAD IS SICK*, and the whole heart faint. From the sole of the foot even to the head, *THERE IS NO SOUNDNESS IN IT*, but bruises and sores and bleeding wounds" (verses 4-6; RSV).

America's exile from God has left it morally and spiritually sick!

Lacking guidance and nourishment from a Supreme Authority, modern America is aimlessly seeking happiness by groveling in its vices, including drug use. Because you've left me, God continues in Isaiah, "Your country lies desolate, your cities are burned with fire; *IN YOUR VERY PRESENCE ALIENS DEVOUR YOUR LAND; IT IS DESOLATE, AS OVERTHROWN BY ALIENS*" (verse 7). "Aliens" means strangers, foreigners.

God warned *2,500 years ago* that foreigners—like Mexico's drug cartels—would prey on America if it forsook Him!

As you watch the travesties prophesied in Isaiah 1 unfold, don't forget *why* they are happening. The most important part of Isaiah 1 is verses 2 and 3, which explain why America is sick and suffering these horrible plagues. The reason this nation is morally, spiritually and even physically sick is that it is cut off from God!

To those willing to accept this reality, the cure is simple. God gives it in Joel 2: "Therefore also now, saith the Lord, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil" (verses 12-13).

That's it! That is the solution to America's drug addiction, and to Mexico's drug wars. That is how we can stop Mexico's collapse, how we can eradicate the cartels from American cities, how we can stop the torture, the rape, the beheading, the mass murder. That's how we can ensure busloads of people are no longer terrorized by sadistic thugs.

If we would only turn to God, to His laws and truth, to His pure, wholesome, happy lifestyle—and away from fleeting drug-induced moments of euphoria—then the chaos and anarchy and violence would end. In Mexico, in the United States—and across the world! ■

America's cultural acceptance of illicit drugs is a function of its overall rejection of absolute law and morality.

sized challenge. **BUT IT IS THE ONLY PERMANENT SOLUTION.**

America has tried to cure itself of its addiction to illicit drugs for years. It has tossed billions of dollars at the problem. It has created all sorts of new agencies to discourage drug use. It has trained a small army of doctors, nurses and counselors to specialize in drug abuse. It has produced countless anti-drug ads and handed out millions of pamphlets in schools and universities.

Yet Americans still love their drugs.

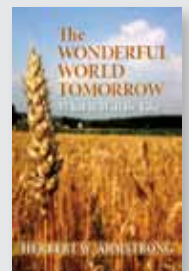
Why? First, every attempt at stopping drug use is undermined by a culture that glamorizes drugs. The government can prattle on all it wants, but the message coming from the true authorities in American life—Hollywood stars, TV personalities, pop music icons—is that recreational drug use is hot and hip. Drug use is rampant in high schools and colleges because many parents and teachers and professors—themselves ex-hippies and recreational drug users—accept and embrace it as a rite of passage for the teenager and college student.

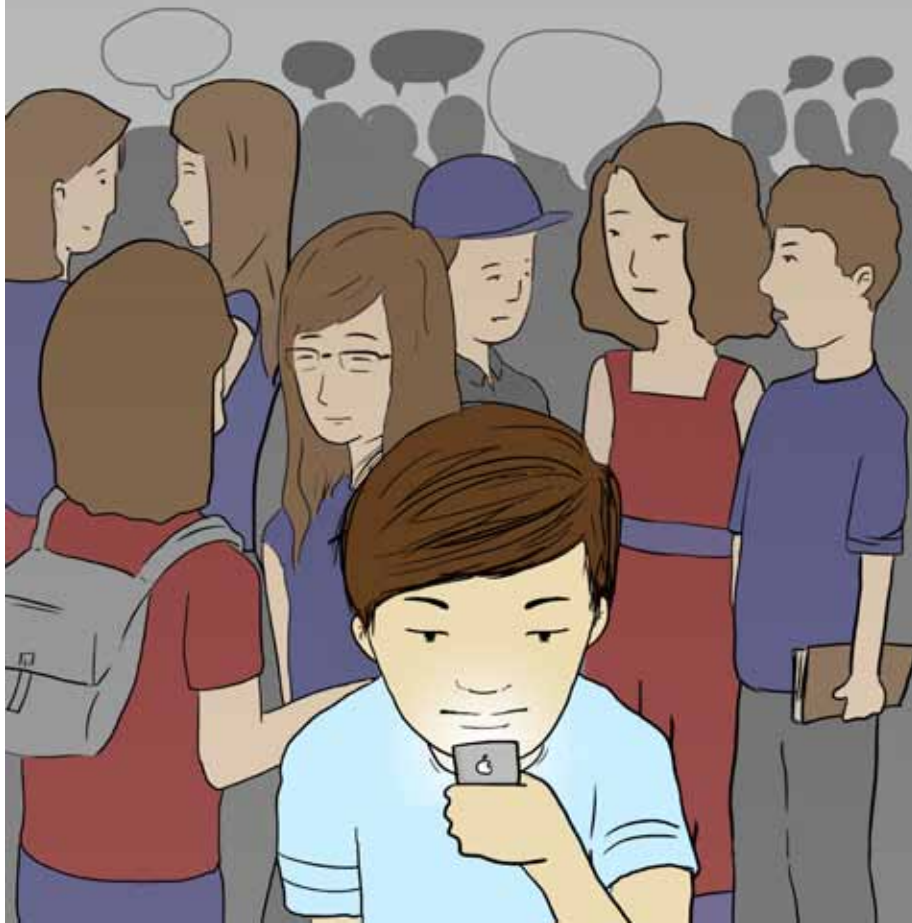
The government can throw trillions of dollars at the problem, but America's desire for drugs will never be quenched as long as its culture considers drug use trendy and sophisticated!

Most importantly, America's cultural acceptance of illicit drugs is a function of its **OVERALL REJECTION OF ABSOLUTE LAW AND MORALITY.**

The laws and values that once formed the foundation of American justice and morality—laws rooted in the Bible and embraced by most Americans—are now considered irrelevant and passé. In modern America, there's no absolute authority on morality,

Scripture reveals that a new world is coming—one without drug use, one where law and morality produce peace and joy! This new world will be ruled by Jesus Christ. To study the prophecies of Scripture about this soon-coming age, request a free copy of our booklet *The Wonderful World Tomorrow—What It Will Be Like*.





Teach Your Teen to Say Hello

Young people need to learn to talk as well as they can text! **BY DENNIS LEAP**

MOST PEOPLE LOVE SOCIAL NETWORKING. The technology of Facebook, MySpace and Twitter is stupendous, keeping us in contact on our computers and our cell phones. Yet, there can be real problems with these technologies—especially for young people. Why? Because it can lure them into a culture of isolation.

Don't let this happen to your son or daughter.

In February, the *Wall Street Journal* reported that young teens have great difficulty talking one-on-one with each other, yet will send more than 300 text messages back and forth every day. Parents should be alarmed!

Texting has become an integral part of life. Just go into a restaurant and notice how many people are texting—and not talking. You may be shocked.

Why is it that so many of our youth do not know how to say hello, or relate one-on-one with others? The answer is simple: They are not being *taught* these important skills. This kind of education must begin early in life, and parents must be the educators.

Here is how to ensure your teen will say *hello!*

Go Against the Flow

Children, tweens (adolescents) and teens need to have a strong relationship with

their parents, founded on emotional warmth, touching and verbal communication. That's far more involved than shoving a cell phone into their hands and saying, "I'll text you later."

In March, *Good Housekeeping* reported that recent medical studies show "the more hours teenagers spend using a computer or watching tv, the weaker their emotional bonds with their parents." Quoting a 2010 study in the *American Journal of Epidemiology*, the article reported that most adolescents average 25 to 30 hours per week watching tv and using computers. Many parents insist they limit screen time, but even their children disagree.

We no longer live in the age when restricting media use means simply turning off the tv in the den. Most tweens and teens have smartphones, laptops, tablets, and iPods with them 24/7. It is growing more difficult to even *measure* the screen time tweens and teens are getting. Adding up the total time young people spend on their electronic devices, experts believe the numbers are staggering. The average American ages 8 to 18 spends over *seven hours a day* looking at some kind of screen, a Kaiser Family Foundation study reports. Five years ago, when that same study was conducted, its coauthor Donald Roberts believed children's screen time couldn't rise any higher. "But it just keeps going up and up," he now says.

Don't let television and gadgets *bring up* your children.

Your children need your love. They need you to be deeply involved in their lives. This is the first and most important step in the social education process: Children learn how to relate to others from parents who spend a lot of time with them.

If you provide all the latest computer gadgets for your child, you will limit valuable companionship time with your child.

Youths Need Activities

Parents should take the responsibility to provide an affordable, exciting and interesting social life for their children. Youth need to be actively involved with other young people and adults. During a child's infant years, his or her social life is very simple: playtime with Dad and Mom. When parents play frequently with their children—having fun, laughing, talking and teaching—children develop a positive outlook, social confidence and competence. Children who experience consistent parental involvement are warm and friendly to other children and adults, making the establishment of future relationships easy.

As a child grows through the adolescent years, parents must widen his social experience. This means getting your child involved with other children. What are some of the

best social activities to provide your child? Team sporting activities top the list. It is becoming uncommon for many children to be out of doors playing, let alone doing team sports. Too many children are indoors playing computer games, texting their friends or watching television. This is one of the major reasons why so many of our young people are unhealthy and overweight—and why their social lives are equally unhealthy.

Of course, if you want your children to be active, you need to be active yourself.

Encourage your child to participate in team sports.

This will open up many practical opportunities for developing social skills. Team sports teach, emphasize and reinforce vital social skills such as cooperation, following directions, leadership, sharing and teamwork, skills that greatly enhance a child's success in life. When learned early, they are even more valuable.

Other group activities will also help your child socially: marching band, orchestra, chess club, scouting—the possibilities are just about endless.

Choose Friends Wisely

Getting your child involved in social activities does not mean that you can step out of the picture. In fact, when your child gets involved with other children, you will need to be even more involved. This becomes most important in the teen years. When your teen interacts with other teens, challenges and difficulties are sure to arise.

There is no one better for your child to talk things over with than you. All youth, especially teenagers, need to know that their parents have a special interest in them. Give your son or daughter ample time to talk with you about what is going on in his or her life. Give constructive guidance on how to get along with others. Be sure to discuss with your child the personal weaknesses he must overcome in himself. Above all, show him his strengths and how he can build on them. When you show this kind of real interest in your teen, you may be surprised how readily he will turn to you when he needs help.

When teens are actively involved with other teens, parents must provide guidance on how to choose friends wisely. This is so much better when your child knows them *in person*: Making new friends on the Internet is really a dangerous activity—especially for children, tweens and

teenagers. Who has not been thoroughly disgusted by news reports of young people being kidnapped, abused and murdered by a sexual predator posing as another child on the Internet? Parents must monitor carefully all online chatting. Insist that your teenager only make friends with those young people you both know.

Fully involved parents not only know their children, they know their children's friends. In fact, involved parents help their children choose their friends.

Besides attending your child's activities, the best way

to get to know your child's friends is to have them into your home for an activity. As you get to know your child's friends, be sure to teach your child to associate only with teens who have high goals and good character. The Apostle Paul wrote, "Do not be deceived: 'Bad company ruins good morals'" (1 Corinthians 15:33; English Standard Version). Another teen's bad character could do significant harm to your teen.

Sponsor Coed Activities

One enjoyable in-home activity you could sponsor is a board-game night. If you plan a game night for your tween or teen, provide a mixture of boys and girls. This will ensure that your child learns how to communicate with, relate to and respect members of the opposite sex.

When choosing a game, look for one that will get all the players actively involved. Find a game that challenges the participants to think, to exchange ideas—in other words, to *talk*. Make sure all cell

Young people must be taught how to be warm and friendly with adults. Many teens today will hardly look at an adult, let alone talk with one.

phones, smartphones, iPods and iPads are turned off and out of sight.

Be sure to give your full attention to any activities involving mixed company. Allowing a group of teenagers to hold activities on their own can lead to real trouble. Drinking, abusing drugs and illicit sex can do far worse than mar an evening—they can ruin an entire life.

During these group activities, take the time to notice how your child relates to his or her peers. Then be sure to talk about the activity when it has ended. If your child was shy, tell her so. If he was domineering, discuss that as well. If your child did not work to get along with everyone present, show how that impacted the other teens. Teach him how to be loving and giving to others. Make it your goal to have your children be respected and liked by their peers—for all the right reasons.

Practice Inside Family

It is important that parents teach their tweens and teens how to greet and converse with adults. Young people must be taught how to be warm and friendly with adults. Many teens today will hardly look at an adult, let alone talk with one.

Your children can practice conversation skills with adults they feel most comfortable with. Sadly, because there is such a criminal element in our society, the safest way to do this is to begin the education process with grandparents, aunts and uncles—adults you know well.

Besides talking about their day with you, your children should be able to discuss the events of their day with other adults. When asked, "How was your day?" your child should be able to respond with more than a one-word sentence. He should be able to engage in small talk, telling what happened to him at school or at a sporting event. He should feel at ease telling another adult what he is excited about. You should encourage your child to talk with other adults often.

Such conversation skills are more valuable than most people realize. They will greatly add to your children's success in their future careers. They will develop their character and help them grow to become contributing members of society. The stability of any culture hinges on the ability of its people to relate to one another in mature, responsible ways.

The best environment for teaching social skills to children is inside the family. Children cannot learn these vital skills on their own. God charges all parents to nurture their children to become successful members of society (Proverbs 22:6). To become successful, your child has to know how to say hello.



"Congratulations. Now say it without the iPad."

A World Without Video Games— What Would It Be Like?

BY ROBERT MORLEY

HARRY POTTER AND *the Deathly Hallows, Part 2* was the best-selling movie in the United States last year. But did you know that *another* fantasy world made *almost twice as much money* in its first month of release, as *Harry Potter* did for the whole year?

It's called *Skyrim*, and it took in \$650 million last November alone. How come many of us have never heard of it?

Skyrim is a video game. It is about a dragon god prophesied to destroy the world. It is the player's job to become a thief, a warrior or a wizard and battle him in an open-ended game with quests and journeys that allow players to "explore richly textured worlds filled with choice" for hours a day, or whole days and weekends at a time, or if they choose—continually (*Christian Science Monitor*, March 18).

One look at *Skyrim's* earnings proves that video games have become a forceful—even dominant—part of American culture. They are America's new national pastime. Yet most of us are probably unaware of how prevalent and influential video games are in society.

A Nation of Addicts

A staggering 183 million Americans play video games at least an hour a day. Virtually all Americans (97 percent) ages 12 to 17 play video games. And almost 5 million Americans play at least 40 hours a week—the equivalent of a full-time job.

The industry rakes in tens of billions of dollars per year. It thrives on hooking and addicting users.

Millions of people live, breathe and play in virtual worlds—and not only young people. Atari hit it big in the early 1970s. Today, one quarter of all gamers are over the age of 50.

Why are so many people, of all ages, enthralled with video games? Speaking as the featured presenter at a conference in Las



Vegas where his product was named the "game of the year," industry legend and *Skyrim* director Todd Howard offered an explanation. "What can games give you that nothing else can?" he asked. The answer: *Pride*. "Pride in something you did," he said.

Are we really so desperate? Are people so lacking in aspirations and accomplishment that this is what it has come to for so many Americans?

Experts in Futility

By the time the average American youth turns 21, he will have spent 10,000 hours playing video games over more than a decade.

183

Millions of Americans who play video games at least an hour a day.

Consider that number. In his book *Outliers*, Malcolm Gladwell wrote about the 10,000-hour rule. To achieve mastery in any field of expertise, he explained, takes about 10,000 hours of practice over the course of about 10 years. Experts become experts because they abide by this rule. "Practice isn't the thing you do once you're good," Gladwell writes. "It's the thing you do that *makes* you good."

Imagine what those 5 million Americans who spend 40 hours a week playing video games could accomplish if they instead devoted that much work to something useful. In just five years, this country would have 5 million more master designers, craftsmen, engineers, pilots, scientists, builders, artists, architects, painters, geologists, farmers, inventors, orators, poets, writers, singers, violinists, gymnasts. Imagine how different America could be if the 183 million Americans who spend at least one hour a day playing video games did the same thing.

And now imagine the world we might live in if all these people took just a portion of that time and spent it with their families, teaching their children how to become experts at productive pursuits.

What a different, more prosperous, more inspiring, more beautiful world we would live in!

Are video games a dominating force in your home? Are you willing to change the course of your child's life?

Real-World Needs

Many people look at America and decry its deficiencies: its collapsing economy, its waning influence, its growing list of enemies, its political fighting, its dysfunctional leadership. They see a house divided, and a people of eroding morals and common decency.

And they wonder, *Why are these things happening, and why doesn't someone stand up and put this nation back on course?*

The book of Isaiah aptly describes society today. "For, behold, the Lord, the Lord of hosts, doth take away from Jerusalem and from Judah ... the mighty man, and the man of war, the judge, and the prophet, and the prudent, and the ancient, The captain of fifty, and the honourable man, and the counsellor, and the cunning artificer, and the eloquent orator. And I will give children to be their princes, and babes shall rule over them" (Isaiah 3:1-3).

More than at any time in America's history, this nation needs strong leadership. It needs masters in all the fields of arts and sciences to rejuvenate its broken economy. It needs skilled orators who inspire people in the right ways. It needs wise experts to offer counsel. It needs Galileos and Thomas Edisons. It needs Rembrandts and Edwin Hubbles. And it needs Churchills and Roosevelts.

It needs a people who can accumulate *real-life* accomplishments—not take pride in fantasy world achievements.

Instead, it has a new national pastime of dubious value, and millions of under-skilled adults, increasingly reliant on government welfare, acting like children. ■

Do you want to break away from such habits and put your life on a more productive path? Order a free copy of our booklet ***The Seven Laws of Success.***

Race to War

Throwing gasoline on the flames of racial division

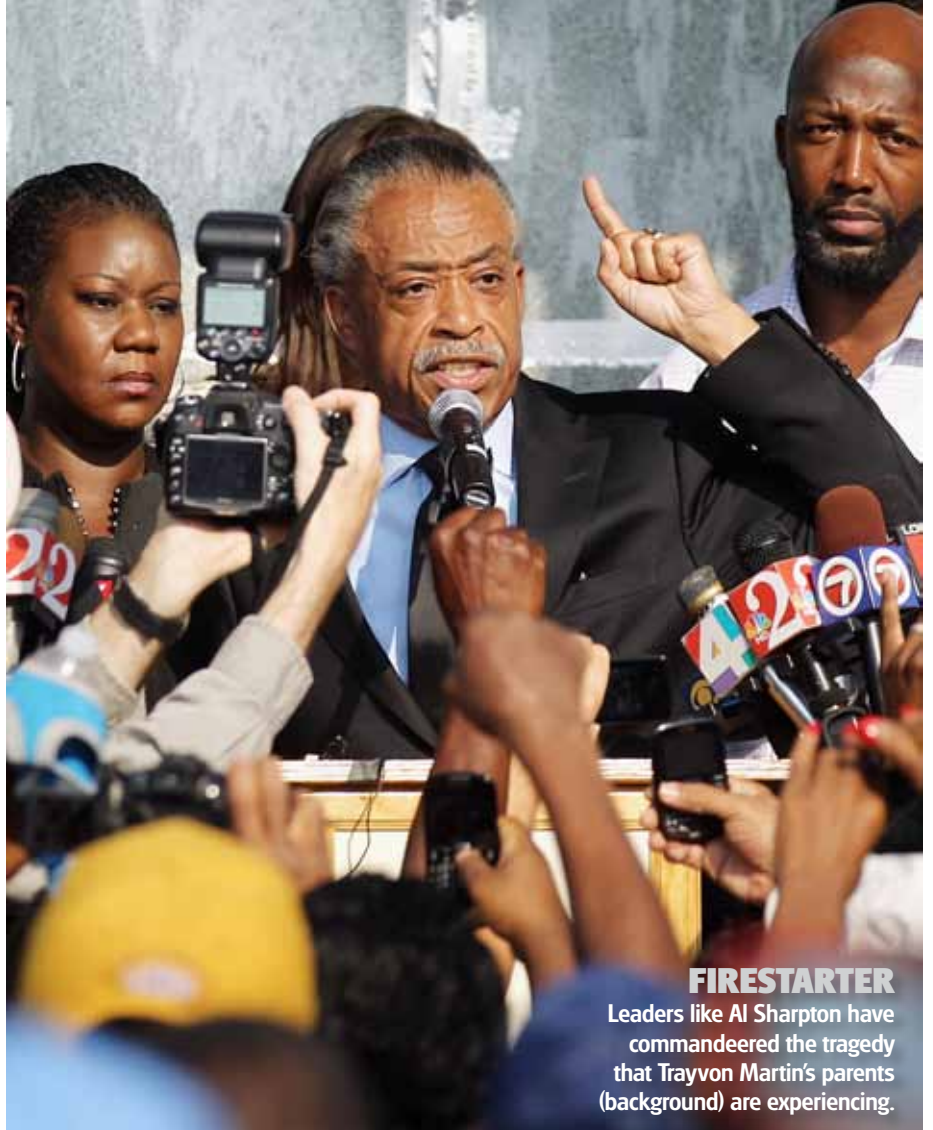
BY STEPHEN FLURRY

EVERYWHERE WE LOOK, WE SEE ETHNIC division and racial hatred accompanied by gruesome acts of violence and war. And it is intensifying! It seems as if we are reminded daily that man's never-ending attempt to solve the problems of this world—apart from God and His immutable laws—has utterly failed! The “solutions” men propose only incite *more* violence and *more* hatred. Soon, these simmering tensions, passions and hatreds will boil over into full-scale race wars!

God has warned about all of this well in advance of it actually happening, which is why the *Trumpet* follows these disturbing trends so closely.

Our March *Trumpet* issue, for example, featured an article on the race bomb recently ignited by Attorney General Eric Holder over the Fast and Furious gun-running scandal. At least 300 Mexicans and one federal agent have been killed with Fast and Furious weapons. But according to Mr. Holder, those searching for facts about the ill-intentioned operation and the disgraceful cover-up that followed are motivated more *by racism* than by getting to the bottom of the scandal. This isn't the first time the Obama administration has used the race card to shield itself against criticism—and it probably won't be the last.

This same race card is also frequently used as a *weapon*. In March, for example, the



FIRESTARTER
Leaders like Al Sharpton have commandeered the tragedy that Trayvon Martin's parents (background) are experiencing.

Department of Justice hopped into the middle of a raging controversy over the fatal shooting of Trayvon Martin, a black teenager, in Sanford, Florida. Even before the facts in the case had been revealed, the left-wing media and race-baiting civil rights groups stepped in front of the microphone and rendered a guilty verdict. *The black victim was unarmed, on his way back from buying candy at a convenience store, when the “white” perpetrator shot him in cold blood—because he was black.*

In fact, the shooter was a Hispanic man named George Zimmerman. He was a “Neighborhood Watch” volunteer patrolling a gated community that had suffered a recent spate of break-ins and robberies. After seeing the black youth, Zimmerman dialed 911 and told the dispatcher that Martin looked suspicious—a call you wouldn't expect a cold-blooded killer to make.

At some point after he telephoned the police, Zimmerman and Martin got into a fistfight, which then led to Zimmerman drawing his gun and firing the fatal shot. The shooter maintains that he fired in self-defense, which, if he is telling

the truth, is lawful according to Florida's “stand your ground” law—a provision that allows people to use deadly force if they are in a life-threatening altercation.

According to the Sanford Chief of Police Bill Lee, who resigned temporarily under heavy pressure from civil rights groups, the attack happened after Zimmerman had lost sight of the youth and was returning to his sport utility vehicle to meet with the police officer who had been dispatched to the scene. Zimmerman's story, the police chief insists, was “supported by physical evidence and testimony.”

None of these details, however, prevented the race-obsessed liberal media, civil rights leaders like Al Sharpton and Jesse Jackson—even *the White House*—from fueling the inferno of racial hatred across the United States.

“If I had a son, he'd look like Trayvon,” President Obama said, stressing the racial component of this controversial case. In fact, in order for the Department of Justice to even prosecute the case, Zimmerman *needs* to be a racist for the death to be considered a hate crime.

"I, personally, really truly believe this is a hate crime," Rep. Maxine Waters said during a television interview on March 28. Her colleague, Illinois Democrat Bobby Rush, caused a chaotic scene on the House floor when, in a despicable show of race-baiting, he removed his suit jacket to reveal a grey hoodie, similar to the one Trayvon wore the night he was shot.

"Too often, this violent act that resulted in the murder of Trayvon Martin is repeated in the streets of our nation," Rush said before pulling the hood over his head and donning sunglasses. He applauded those who were wearing hoodies to make a statement about the *real* hoodlums in society—presumably white people who are hunting down blacks.

"Blacks are under attack," Jesse Jackson told the *Los Angeles Times*. We may have thought we were moving beyond racism when we elected President Obama, Jackson explained. But Obama's victory triggered a tremendous backlash. Targeting, arresting, convicting and even killing blacks is still "big business" in America, he said.

So blacks better fight back. That's the message coming through loud and clear from their leaders and from those who amplify that message for all to hear.

The real significance of the Trayvon Martin case isn't whether the shooting was racially motivated or not—or if the watchman acted in self-defense. The real significance is that media outlets, black activists, celebrities and even leaders in government are collectively using this incident—whether they realize it or not—to incite RACE WARS!

Breakdown in the Black Community

Of course, many young blacks in America *are* being attacked—it's just that their attackers come from the black community, as a few lone voices in the media have courageously pointed out. *Ninety-three percent of black MURDER VICTIMS in America are killed by other blacks.*

"The epidemic is truly black-on-black crime," says C.L. Bryant, former leader of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Bryant said Trayvon Martin's family should be outraged that liberal politicians and black leaders are using the Florida shooting to inflame racial passions.

"The greatest danger to the lives of young black men are young black men," Bryant told *The Daily Caller*. In fact, if you look at murder rates across the board, you find that 53 percent of the homicide suspects are black—according to Eric Holder's Department of Justice. With blacks comprising just 13 percent of America's

population, one would hope media outlets across the nation would be sounding the alarm about the near-total breakdown of the traditional family within black communities. But unless there is a white-on-black angle to the tragedy, the media's coverage is dispassionate at best—assuming it's even covered at all.

Consider the case of Allen Coon, a white youth from the Midwest who was nearly burned to death by two blacks. It happened within days of the Trayvon Martin shooting.

"You get what you deserve, white boy," one of the attackers said to Coon, after dousing him with gasoline and setting him on fire. Coon managed to save his life by smothering his burning head with the shirt he was wearing.

His mother told columnist Selwyn Duke that the vicious attack was just the violent culmination of the incessant racial harassment her son had been subjected to ever since he enrolled in the predominantly black school on the east side of Kansas City.

"Even more damning," Duke wrote, "is that multiple *educators* were complicit in the harassment" (emphasis added throughout).

Outside of Kansas City, the media coverage of this politically *incorrect* hate crime was sparse, to say the least. And aside from a few outspoken voices, local media and law enforcement officials in Kansas City downplayed the obvious racial component to this crime. Some even went so far as to ignore the fact that the perpetrators were black.

During his interview with Coon's mother, Duke got the distinct impression that local law enforcement officials were steering clear of any hate-crime charges for fear of setting off a "powder keg."

But by not applying hate crime laws equally, big media and law enforcement officials are only adding more explosives to the powder keg. Whites will resent the double standard and begin taking matters into their own hands. And blacks, viewing themselves as the only ethnic group in America routinely victimized by racism, will feel justified in lashing out at whites.

Worldwide Epidemic

"This is no light matter to pass over casually," Herbert W. Armstrong wrote way back in October 1963. "Race war is coming! Racial tensions, passions and hatreds are being deliberately stirred by organized planning. It will explode into mass violence that will stagger the imagination! It will be whipped into an accelerating crescendo until human blood runs like rivers!" (*Plain Truth*).

Yes, it is coming. And it's not just a local matter, Mr. Armstrong stressed. It's a worldwide evil!

Look at Afghanistan. Remember the widespread anti-American protests in February after reports of a Koran burning on a U.S. military base? Those protests sparked several incidents of violence that left 30 Afghans and six U.S. servicemen dead. In one case, two U.S. servicemen were shot from behind by a supposed Afghan ally.

A few days later, a U.S. Army staff sergeant left his post in the Kandahar Province and went on a barbaric shooting spree in nearby villages, murdering 17 Afghans, *including 9 children*. This random act of senseless brutality prompted Afghanistan's President Hamid Karzai to call on Afghans to pray for God to deliver his nation from the American "demons."

After more than a decade of fighting alongside Afghans in the war against terrorism, tensions between Americans and Afghans could not be worse.

Then there was the Toulouse massacre in France on March 19. The killer was a jihadist named Mohammed Merah, who wanted to post his genocidal rampage on the Internet. So before attacking a Jewish school in Toulouse, he strapped video equipment around his neck and then proceeded to execute as many Jews as he could find.

The first three victims he gunned down were a rabbi who taught at the school and his two sons—Aryeh, age 6, and Gavriel, who was 3.

After mowing down the father and sons, Mohammed then took off across the school playground, chasing after little Miriam Monsonogo—a blond-headed, 8-year-old girl, screaming for her life. After catching up to the helpless child, he then videotaped himself shooting her in the head three times.

He filmed it all, as Caroline Glick noted, because he "took *pride* in killing Jewish children." And beyond that, "he was certain that millions of people would be heartened by his crime. By watching him shoot the life out of Jewish children, they would be inspired to repeat his actions elsewhere."

Given the popularity of such videos on jihadist websites, it's hard to argue with Glick's conclusion.

After the gruesome attack, Israeli Member of the Knesset Ya'akov Katz called on the 600,000 Jews living in France to leave France. "There is no Jewish future in France," Katz said, adding that Jews should

See **RACE** page 36 ►

Russia's Dark Rider

PUTIN'S PROGRESSION

In living memory, Russia has gone from superpower to basket case to resurgence. Under its latest strongman, it is about to enter the next phase.

The stage is set for Vladimir Putin to take on a new role.

BY JEREMIAH JACQUES

THE FINAL COUNT HAD VLADIMIR Putin crushing all his rivals with 63.6 percent of the March 4 vote for Russia's president. Yes, he rigged the elections a little. After all, it *is* Russia. There, even if a strongman's victory is certain, he still pulls some levers behind the scenes, if only out of political tradition. But monitoring agencies agree that, even without cheating, Putin would still have garnered about 53 percent of the vote—placing him head and shoulders above the second-place contender's 17 percent.

Thus, Mr. Putin has made his rule of Russia official once again, and Russians, by and large, are happy about it. But that doesn't mean that Putin is returning to the Kremlin exactly as he left it.

At his victory rally in Moscow Square, Putin gently wept (his spokesman insisted his tears were the result of wind, not emotion) as he spoke to multitudes of flag-waving citizens. He said their decision to reelect him was "a sign of Russia's growing political maturity." A few days earlier, Dmitry Medvedev—still Russia's official president until May—had said Russian "society is growing up."

Is the Russian bear maturing? Certainly, change *is* under way in Russia.

A 'White Rider' Resurrects a Dead Empire

When Putin took the reins in 2000, Russia had fallen into chaos after the Soviet collapse and resulting financial crisis; the nation was

threatened internally and externally. But the former KGB agent aggressively consolidated the country socially, politically and, above all, economically. During Putin's eight years in the Kremlin, Russia's industry increased by 76 percent and investments grew by 125 percent. Real incomes of Russian citizens grew by over 100 percent, and the average salary increased from \$80 per month to \$640, a *staggering sevenfold*. The middle class swelled from 8 million to more than 55 million, and the percentage of Russians living below the poverty line fell from 30 percent to 14 percent. Moscow's oil exports steadily climbed throughout Putin's presidency, and in 2009, Russia overtook Saudi Arabia to become the world's top energy exporter.

The advancements were stark, and the nation rallied around Putin as Russia's "savior," with many even espousing the belief that he is the heartbeat of Russia.

Constitutional term limits mandated that Putin leave office in 2008, and he officially handed the reins to Medvedev. But he assumed the position of prime minister and remained Russia's de facto ruler throughout Medvedev's term. Though most facets of Russian life continued to improve, dissatisfaction with Moscow's leadership began to emerge in some circles. The dissatisfaction gave way to some dissent, and many pundits have regarded it as evidence that the "savior Putin" days are over.

Is a 'Slavic Spring' Under Way?

The dissent became stark in September of last year when Prime Minister Putin and President Medvedev somewhat casually announced that, come election time, they would swap places, returning the

presidency to Putin. The anti-democratic nature of the announcement soured the mood of some Russians, and the popularity of Putin's United Russia party slid. In the December 2011 parliamentary election, United Russia lost its supermajority in the Duma. The week after the vote, demonstrations against alleged election rigging started stirring and coalesced in a December 24 rally of over 80,000 protesters.

Some nations, especially the United States, strive to paint this uproar as evidence that Putin and the Russian bear are weakening. Western groups have openly supported the anti-Kremlin movements, and Western journalists have rushed to interview Russia's minority of smart, English-speaking, self-confident opposition supporters—while ignoring the less-affluent majority. In one instance revealing the Western media's exaggeration of Russia's protests, Fox News "accidentally" aired video footage of fierce riots in Athens, Greece, while reporting on what was actually a peaceful rally in Moscow.

The truth is that the various anti-Kremlin protest groups have never blended into a unified force that could threaten Putin's reelection. The demonstrators—everything from free-market reformers and radical feminists to unapologetic Communists and far-right ultranationalists—are not at all linked in their ideologies or goals. Despite Western hopes that Russia's protest movements are signs of a "Slavic Spring," the hodgepodge is far less like the effectual Middle Eastern uprisings than it is like the flaccid Occupy Wall Street movement.

The Russians who hate Putin are mostly from among the urban elite in Moscow and St. Petersburg, and they loudly

criticize him from atop their ivory towers. But the average low-income Russians in Omsk, Dagestan and Chechnya and beyond continue to view Putin as Russia's savior. They are the silent majority who made their support inescapably clear during the March elections. These politically silent masses have seen their incomes dramatically increase since 2000, and they can't but attribute their improved standard of living to Putin's leadership.

Russia is still overwhelmingly supportive of the white rider who lifted the nation from the doldrums of the Soviet collapse. But has that white rider now served his purpose?

The Russian Cycle

A look back through the annals of Russian history reveal that the country operates on a four-phase cycle. First comes a national calamity—usually the result of foreign invasion or poor internal planning. Second, from out of the ruins emerges an idealistic “white rider” ushering in an era of the thing Russians crave most: national stability. Third, after the white rider succumbs to political frustration, he hands the reins of rulership to a dark rider—bent on internal control and external aggression. The dark rider ruthlessly quashes domestic opposition and expands Russia's unsecurable borders until the overextended empire collapses into the final phase: stagnation and decline. It declines until finally collapsing into the first phase of calamity once again, and so the cycle goes.

Where is Russia in this cycle now?

In the 1990s, Russia suffered great national calamity with the collapse of the Soviet Union. Then, Putin emerged as the heroic white rider to resuscitate the dying bear. But Russia's changing landscape indicates that the white rider phase is rapidly nearing its end.

Does this mean White Rider Putin is soon to be replaced by another Russian ruler—a dark rider? Or does Mr. Putin have something else in mind?

In 2007, as it became clear that Putin would install a puppet ruler in the Kremlin while he plotted his return to official rule, Stratfor wrote this about the Russian cycle: “Russia's current white horse period is coming to an end. Putin's efforts to stabilize Russia have succeeded, but his

dreams of Westernizing Russia are dead. The darkness is about to set in. ... In particularly gloomy periods in Russia's past (which is saying something) the white rider himself actually has shed his idealism and become the dark rider.”

These were sobering words in 2007, and much more so now that Putin has confirmed all suspicions that his departure from the Kremlin was temporary and largely artificial.

Even during Putin's white rider days, his economic sunshine often cast dark political shadows. He restructured Russia's political architecture to amass his personal power, he created policies whereby the Kremlin can prevent whomever it pleases from participating in politics, and he altered the constitution to expand presidential terms from four years to six—just in time for his next term. Putin is no stranger to corruption, and now the stage is set for him to exchange his white robes for black.

Putin is well aware of Russia's changing political landscape. It may not be “maturing” as he and Medvedev recently said it is, but it is changing, and he will use the change to his advantage.

In February, Stratfor wrote this of the

formulate long-term political and social policies to take into account the shifts in Russia” (February 1).

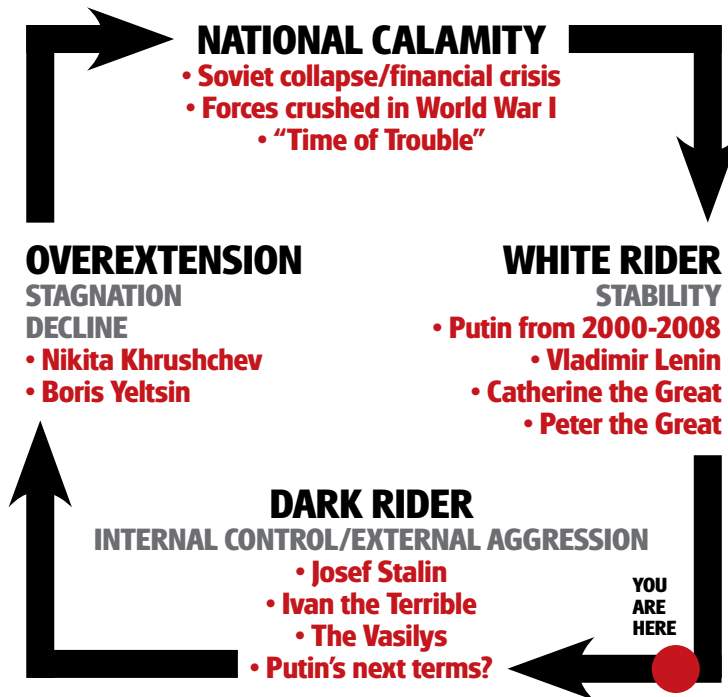
In 2004, *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry explained that the most significant aspect of Russia's resurgence would be its catalytic effect on European unification: “A more dictatorial Russian government is coming fast That power will be able to challenge Europe when nobody else can, including the U.S. ... Russian elections have recently moved President Vladimir Putin much closer to becoming a dictator. This strikes intense fear in Europe. The Europeans still remember how violent Russia was in World War II, and Russia is a close neighbor with massive piles of nuclear weapons. ... The Russian election is triggering a fear that will hasten the uniting of the European Union. The Russian election will cause Germany and other European nations to want a stronger leader. Throughout history, Germany has often sought a strong leader. Bible prophecy says it will do so again—for the last time!” (January 2004).

As Vladimir Putin enters into the Kremlin once again, he does so with more power than any Russian since the collapse of communism. And the stage is set for him to take on a new and much more dictatorial role.

History proves that once a dark rider becomes Russia's ruler, he uses every possible measure to secure the nation: Domestic challengers are crushed, economic life is completely subjugated to Moscow's needs, and Russia's military is built up with the goal of securing and expanding the nation's borders. Putin has long been working to rebuild Russia's influence in its former Soviet periphery, and analysts believe his reelection will intensify these efforts. Such moves in Moscow will frighten Russia's European neighbors and hasten their unification.

Although these trends have sobering implications for the short term, biblical

prophecy makes plain that they immediately precede the most hope-filled event ever to occur: the return of Jesus Christ! To understand how today's headlines about Russia intricately connect to this awesome future, order a free copy of our booklet *Russia and China in Prophecy*. ■



shift under way in Russia: “[M]uch of the generation now coming of age was not raised under the Soviet Union or during the chaotic years immediately following its collapse. An extremist brand of nationalism has also risen across the country, leading more Russians to have no interest in a balanced government. ... Now [Putin] is beginning to form a strategy to deal with the crises in the short term and



Iranians hold portraits of the ayatollah in February as they celebrate the 33rd anniversary of the Islamic overthrow.

1 | IRAN After the election, look out

ARE SANCTIONS AGAINST IRAN WORKING? Will renewed efforts to resume inspections and negotiations deter Iran's nuclear program?

A big *no*, and a bigger *no*—if recent election results are any measure.

Talk about Iran's nuclear capacity has been tough lately. America and Europe cranked up sanctions against the country, and Western leaders expressed hope in signs that the pressure is working.

But then came Iran's March 2 parliamentary elections. The results did *not* signal a people hoping to make peace—but a people bunkering down for war. The power of the hard-liners grew, shifting Iran away from democracy toward full-out totalitarianism.

This was Iran's first vote since the presidential ballot in 2009 that provoked accusations of fraud and massive protests that embarrassed the government. In the time since then, the regime has worked to unify its key institutions and lay the groundwork for cementing its power. And for this election, it left little to chance.

A body of clerics and jurists vetted all candidates for their loyalty to the Islamic establishment before they were allowed to run. Leading reformist groups (those that didn't eliminate themselves by voluntarily boycotting the election) were banned.

But there was more at work here than just a heavy thumb. The fact is, Iran is on the rise. The "Arab Spring" has boosted the country's clout regionally, and its influence is now heavy in Egypt, Libya, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Israel, Yemen, Pakistan, Afghanistan and elsewhere. Among many Iranians, national pride is swelling.

One point of pride is the nation's nuclear program. The regime's defiance against Western pressure to stop it is rallying Iranian support. Some analysts say it is, in fact, *preparing the people for battle*.

Election results seem to bear that analysis out. Voter turnout was impressive: 64 percent—far higher than the 50 percent in the 2009 election—higher even than America's last presidential election.

And whom did Iranian voters empower? "THE STAUNCHEST ANTI-WESTERN POLITICAL CAMP IN THE COUNTRY," reported *Today's Zaman* (March 11). Of the parliament's 290 seats, loyalists of Ayatollah Khamenei took *three fourths*. Several are Revolutionary Guard members. "Iranians have chosen those who would respond in the harshest manner to intimidation by the West," explained Hasan Kanbolat, director of the Center for Middle Eastern Strategic Studies in Ankara.

The reformists are simply no longer an institutional force within the parliament. Conservatives dominate, and though they differ on some points, their support for Khamenei is virtually unconditional. President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, who has been perceived as diverging from the ayatollah, lost considerable leverage within the parliament this election; observers say he will serve out the remainder of his presidency as something of a lame duck.

The ayatollah has always been the ultimate authority, but Iran's political system is actually quite a complicated mixture of democratic and theocratic elements that have constrained him. The latest election marked a big step toward eliminating those constraints. As *Asia Times* put it, it was a "critical milestone" helping the regime to "institutionalize the shift toward maximum regime unity" (March 9).

"More than three decades after its founding, the Islamic Republic appears to be eschewing the populist democratic model for *the classic authoritarian system* marked by minimal popular participation and a dominant state," wrote *Times* analyst Mahan Abedin. "This significant shift will have profound consequences across a wide range of political and economic factors, *in addition to adding greater rigor and robustness to the country's foreign policy*" (emphasis added throughout). As if Iran's foreign policy wasn't rigorous and robust enough.

"The net outcome of the latest elections is simple: IRAN'S THEOCRATIC NATURE WILL BECOME MORE PRONOUNCED," wrote Osama Al Sharif in the *Gulf News*. "Khamenei can now turn Iran into a *full-fledged theocracy* with undisputed clerical powers vested in him" (March 10).

It is a remarkable development. For two decades, the *Trumpet's* editor in chief has forecasted that Iran would take a leadership role within the Middle East. He said that it would be driven by its radical religion, and that its aggressive foreign policy would increasingly provoke other nations. He has maintained that outlook even as Western leaders have placed their faith in the strength of Iran's not-insignificant reformists. He repeatedly drew attention to its terrorist activities. He predicted Iran's infiltration into Iraq even before the U.S. toppled Saddam Hussein. He predicted its rising influence in Egypt years before President Mubarak was pried loose.

The reason for the consistency in his analysis was its basis in biblical prophecy, which he explains in his booklet *The King of the South*. The fact is that GOD, thousands of years ago, *foretold* the role Iran is vaunting itself into today, and *God is bringing that prophecy to pass*.

Now, just look: Iran is stronger than it has been for decades, even centuries. Though the founder of the Iranian Revolution, Ayatollah Khomeini, set the country on its present course, it has been Khamenei who has overseen the biggest surge in power. When he took over after Khomeini's death in 1989, Iran was weak, depleted, beaten down from nearly a decade of warring with Saddam's Iraq. Today, *Iran is the most powerful nation in the region*, and *Khamenei is the most powerful man*.

Sanctions, efforts to resume inspections and negotiations—these have done and will do *nothing* to stop this nation from fulfilling this important prophesied role. What is that role? Study the prophecy: This increasingly authoritarian nation, now certain to assume a foreign policy of greater rigor and robustness, is about to spark a nuclear world war!

2 | ISRAEL

Palestinians forging unity government

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and Hamas leader Khaled Mashaal met in Egypt February 23 to discuss the formation of a new Palestinian government. The two men were in Cairo, where they met with Murad Muafi, the head of Egyptian intelligence. Mashaal approved a unity deal with Abbas, which was originally signed between the two on February 6; it has Abbas heading an interim unity government ahead of general elections for both Palestinian territories. Unity is an important part of a greater Palestinian strategy for the Palestinians to receive international recognition as a sovereign state. Both Hamas and the Palestinian Authority agree that Israel has no right to exist and should be destroyed. If and when the Palestinians cobble together some form of unity government, it will only lead to more conflict and increased bloodshed as they present a stronger opposition to Israel.



Egypt's newly Islamist-dominated parliament

3 | EGYPT

Islamists take parliament

A MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD MEMBER, AHMED FAHMY, WAS elected leader of the Shura Council, the upper chamber of Egypt's parliament, on February 28 as Islamists took control of both houses of parliament. The Brotherhood control 58 percent of the seats on the council, and 47 percent of seats in the lower house. The ultra-conservative Al-Nour has around a quarter of the seats in both houses.

The lower house of parliament was quick to lay out its intended foreign policy. "Revolutionary Egypt will never be a friend, partner or ally of the Zionist entity, which we consider to be the number one enemy of Egypt and the Arab nation," says a motion it approved on March 12. The text also calls for Israel's ambassador to be expelled, gas exports to be stopped, and Egypt to establish its own nuclear program. Parliament doesn't have the power, yet, to enforce this declaration, so it is mostly symbolic. But it does show where Egypt's new leaders want to take the country. Egypt "will deal with that entity as an enemy, and the Egyptian government is hereby called upon to review all its relations and accords with that enemy," says the motion. The declaration was quickly supported by Iran.

"If you want to influence the next government's policy, you need to talk to the Brotherhood, and you need to talk to them in depth."

WESTERN DIPLOMAT IN CAIRO

4 | PAKISTAN Extremist alliance saps government

Thousands of jihadists poured onto Islamabad's streets on February 20 chanting "death to America," demanding holy war against the West, and heaping scorn on Pakistan's government. The gathering was of concern to the U.S. State Department because it represented a coalescing of some 40 anti-American parties—previously at odds with each other—but now unified under a new banner: the Defense of Pakistan Council (DPC). The Islamists at the rally have been central to the success of the Taliban, al Qaeda and other terrorist groups. In the past they've often clashed with each other over how best to wage anti-Western jihad. Now, however, their shared hatred for U.S. involvement in Pakistan, and frustration with Islamabad's Western cooperation, has persuaded them to set aside their grievances with each other and to unite. The Pakistani government is becoming powerless against the rising America-loathing force that is the DPC. The DPC is now planning to field its own candidates in Pakistan's general election expected later this year.



1 | IRAN 3 | EGYPT

An alliance begins to bud

Iranians want to invest in Egypt's industrial and tourism sector, taking advantage of the increasing tensions between America and Egypt, Arabic news channel Al-Arabiya reported February 22. Delegations from Iran and Egypt have met to discuss improving ties. Some in Egypt's Islamist bloc want Egypt to end ties with Israel and instead strengthen them with Iran, Cairo University economics professor Dr. Mustafa al-Nashrati said. He also said Iranian investors are especially interested in Egypt's oil and gas industry. They are struggling to find markets to invest in because of sanctions, and Egypt is the Arab world's biggest market. Investors also foresee an increasing number of tourists traveling from Iran to Egypt. Expect a flourishing trade and diplomatic relationship to develop between Iran and Egypt.



Egypt's antiquities attract millions of tourists each year.

1 | IRAN Israel warns: Missiles will reach Europe, U.S.

Iran is spending billions of dollars developing missiles that could reach the U.S. and Europe, Israeli Finance Minister Yuval Steinitz told CNBC on February 22. "We estimate that in two to three years they will have the first intercontinental ballistic missiles that can reach the east coast of America," said Steinitz. "Their aim is clearly not only to be able [to] threaten Israel and the Middle East, but to put a direct nuclear ballistic threat to Europe and to the U.S." This program shows that Iran is aiming to be more than just a regional power.





Greek Finance Minister Evangelos Venizel (center) speaks about bailouts during a press conference in February.

1 | GREECE

Bailout: Undemocratic, unsustainable

WITH GREECE JUST WEEKS AWAY FROM RUNNING OUT OF cash, eurozone finance ministers agreed on a new €130 billion (US\$170 billion) bailout deal on February 21.

The deal continues to undermine Greece's sovereignty. It gives the European Union and the International Monetary Fund an "enhanced and permanent" position in Greece. Greece's repayments must be deposited into an escrow account until Greece rewrites its constitution to make debt repayments the first priority for government spending.

Still, the bailout cannot possibly be sustainable. A "strictly confidential" report on Greece's economy obtained by the *Financial Times* warned that Greece will need €50 billion more before 2020. The bailout simply buys the EU more time to prepare a grand plan before Greece is forced out of the euro entirely. The crisis was designed as a vehicle to give more power to Germany. It has already forced Greece, Portugal and Ireland to surrender major powers to the EU. It has pushed European leaders to begin consolidating the divided nations of the eurozone into a superstate.

The fine print of the new treaty gives the EU power to seize Greece's gold reserves. The modifications being forced into the Greek constitution give Greece's creditors, mainly European banks and the European Central Bank, the authority to take gold from the Bank of Greece. The blog ZeroHedge noted: "While many market participants would expect that Greece's gold reserves would be on the table in the debt agreement, it is the somewhat covert and untransparent way that this is being done that is of concern to Greeks and to people who believe in the rule of law" (February 23). Greece has around 111.6 tons of gold, worth roughly \$6.3 billion. But other PIIGS nations (Portugal, Ireland, Italy, Greece and Spain) have much more: 3,234 tons among them—just less than Germany, owner of the world's second-largest gold reserves. Gold is instrumental in backing currencies. Greece's gold is one of few assets it still has that could give a new drachma any value. Perhaps the EU is readying plans to create a gold-backed currency of its own.



2 | IRELAND

Yea or nay, EU will proceed

Ireland will hold a referendum on the treaty on fiscal union agreed by 25 out of 27 EU nations in January, Irish Prime Minister Enda Kenny announced February 28. The referendum won't stop the new treaty—it goes into force once 12 nations have approved it. Though Ireland won't stop the EU moving forward, a *no* vote could spark more division within the Union. If EU nations have to leave Ireland behind, they'll be further down the road to the 10-nation superstate that the *Trumpet* has long predicted based on Bible prophecy.



Europe's exclusive new club

The "Berlin Club," a new group of 10 EU nations dedicated to closer integration, was formed March 20 after German Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle invited his counterparts from the 10 most pro-European nations to Berlin. Westerwelle aims to "create a kind of 'club' committed to developing formulas that, in these times of crisis, will revive the ideal of a united Europe," according to Spanish newspaper *ABC*. The foreign ministers of Poland, Belgium, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Austria, Luxemburg and Spain were present; their counterparts from Denmark and France were invited but couldn't make it. The group will meet at least four more times and publish its conclusions after these meetings. The *Trumpet* has long forecast that a closely integrated group of 10 nations would emerge out of the EU. The Berlin Club isn't necessarily this group, but it is yet more proof that European elites see that the only way to integrate more closely is to create a small group of around 10 nations—and Germany is taking the lead.

Thou must keep Sunday

Trade unions across Europe held small protests on March 4 calling for governments to force companies and shops to shut on Sunday, with Catholic preachers supporting the campaign from the pulpit. Religious groups and trade unions, organized under the banner of the European Sunday Alliance, helped organize protests in 12 EU countries. Much of the activity took place in Italy, where a law allowing businesses to choose their own opening hours was only passed in December. The newspaper of the Italian bishops' conference, *Avvenire*, hailed a new "holy alliance" between the Catholic community and trade unions. Watch for the Catholic Church to eventually force Sunday observance on all in Europe.

"Workers are stressed out by unworkable shifts and the unimaginable difficulties of spending time with their families and taking Sundays not just as a day of rest but of personal reflection."

AVVENIRE
NEWSPAPER OF THE
ITALIAN BISHOPS'
CONFERENCE

3 | **RUSSIA** Putin's promise: A powerful military

As he campaigned to return to the Russian presidency, Vladimir Putin pledged on February 20 that Russia will obtain over 400 new modern intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs). The announcement was partly a response to concerns by some Russian officials that the nation's ICBM arsenal could be slashed by more than half by 2020, as 400 of them pass their maximum service life around that time. But Putin's pledge went beyond just assuaging those worries. "Within the next decade, the armed forces will receive more than 400 [ICBMs], eight ballistic missile submarines, about 20 general-purpose attack submarines, over 50 surface ships and some 100 military-purpose spacecraft ... 600 modern aircraft, including fifth-generation fighters, more than a thousand helicopters, 28 regimental sets of S-400 surface-to-air missile systems, 38 division sets of Vityaz air defense systems, 10 brigade sets of Iskander-M tactical missile systems, more than 2,300 modern tanks, some 2,000 self-propelled artillery systems and guns, as well as more than 17,000 military vehicles," he said.

Meanwhile, reports emerged in February saying American President Barack Obama is considering hacking the U.S. nuclear arsenal from 8,500 ready-to-use warheads down to as few as 300. This radical reduction would leave the U.S. with fewer nuclear missiles overall than Russia plans to build in the next 10 years.

3 | **RUSSIA** 4 | **CHINA** U.S. satellites are in their sights

China is working on an anti-satellite space weapon program and Russia is also developing technologies to disable U.S. satellites, the director of the U.S. Defense Intelligence Agency told a Senate committee on February 26. Army Lt. Gen. Ronald Burgess presented the DIA's report, which cautioned that China has already successfully tested a direct ascent anti-satellite weapon missile, destroying one of its own satellites. The report said as few as two dozen anti-satellite missile attacks could seriously damage U.S. military operations.



China's official military spending is second only to the U.S.

Asia military spending to pass Europe

MILITARY SPENDING IN ASIA WILL overtake that of Europe for the first time this year, a London-based think tank said March 7. The warning by the International Institute for Strategic Studies is based in part on unprecedented increases in military spending announced by Russia and China, both of which plan to double their defense budgets by 2015.

Beijing's official defense spending will increase by 11.2 percent in 2012, pushing it above \$100 billion for the first time, the government announced on March 4. Over the last 20 years, China's defense budget has risen by an average of 16 percent each year to become the world's second-biggest, behind the that of U.S. China's military, the People's Liberation Army, is the world's largest, boasting over 2 million personnel. A decade ago China and Japan spent around the same amount on defense, but now Beijing spends more

than three times as much as Tokyo. Analysts also believe Beijing's actual military spending is two to three times larger than the figures China officially reports. China accounts for around 30 percent of Asia's military spending.

India's military spending is growing by an average of 10 percent each year. India has overtaken China to become the world's biggest importer of weapons, according to a report published March 21. Between 2007 and 2011, India accounted for 10 percent of demand in global arms markets, more than any other nation, according to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute.

Japan, which has the most modern armed forces in the region, is boosting its spending to maintain its qualitative edge. The shifting scales of continental military spending will force European leaders to ramp up their own defense budgets in the months ahead.

3 | **RUSSIA** 4 | **CHINA** 5 | **TAJIKISTAN** 6 | **KAZAKHSTAN** Us vs. world

Military officials from China, Russia, Tajikistan and Kazakhstan met in Astana on February 29 to discuss cutting the number of troops and amount of weaponry deployed along the borders they share. The delegates also discussed the development of an information communication network between the four Asian nations. The four countries, all members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, are becoming less concerned about the threat each poses to the others, and more focused on cooperating with each other. A reduction of arms along their shared borders would free up military resources for these nations to position elsewhere.



Tajik soldiers rehearse for independence day.

NUMBERS

100

Percent that Russia's and China's defense budgets will grow by 2015

30

China's percentage of Asia's military spending, according to official (likely low) figures

7

Number of the world's top 10 largest armies located in Asia

1 | MEXICO The pope vote

POPE BENEDICT XVI MADE HIS FIRST state visit to Mexico in March, meeting with Mexican President Felipe Calderón. The Vatican described it as a courtesy visit amid a pastoral trip to Mexico and Cuba. Many political observers had been arguing, however, that the pope's real purpose was to bolster President Calderón's pro-Catholic National Action Party (PAN) just as Mexico's political campaign season was kicking into gear. "The party closest to the Vatican, the pope and Catholic religion, is the PAN," political analyst Gabriel Guerrain told the *New York Times*. "They would have the most to benefit." The Vatican clashed with an anti-clerical Mexican government for most of the past century, until the PAN came to power in 2000. PAN presidential candidate Josefina Vázquez Mota comes from a highly conservative, private-sector guild and has the support of an important coalition of ultra-rightist forces. This coalition is rumored to include El Yunque, a secret society allegedly wanting to "defend the Catholic religion and fight against the forces of Satan,

even through violence," and to "establish the kingdom of God on Earth." Regardless of which candidate wins in July, expect the pope and his Vatican hierarchy to keep meddling in the politics of not just Mexico, but all of Latin America.



The pope favors President Calderón's National Action Party.

Orders from on high

The Vatican ordered a Catholic university in Peru in February to immediately bring its regulations in line with church directives or risk losing its endorsement. The Pontifical Catholic University of Peru roused the Vatican's ire by denying the archbishop of Lima a seat on its board of directors. The archbishop is a member of the highly secretive and conservative Opus Dei organization. The university is often torn between progressive and conservative currents, and so did not want an Opus Dei member wielding influence in the organization. Expect Pope Benedict and his Vatican hierarchy to continue pushing their views on institutions across both Europe and Latin America.



2 | SUDAN Christians on the run

An estimated 700,000 Sudanese, most of them Christian, must leave the country for South Sudan under a law passed by the north after South Sudan voted to secede. The law states that any deemed ethnically South Sudanese must leave the north or apply for "alien residency." This is despite the fact that many—some studies even say most—of them have lived their whole lives in north Sudan. This is just one example of persecution of Christians by Sudan's Islamic government. Back in 2010, Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir warned: "If South Sudan secedes, we will change the constitution Sharia and Islam will be the main source for the constitution, Islam the official religion and Arabic the official language." Across the Middle East and North Africa, Christians are under attack. Expect this kind of persecution to lead to a violent clash between radical Islam and Roman Catholicism.

"Sudanese government officials ... are reading these laws to mean that anyone living in Sudan with even one great-grandparent born in South Sudan will lose their Sudanese citizenship, irrespective of whether they have acquired—or want to acquire—South Sudanese citizenship."

HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH

5 | SOUTH AFRICA A ticking time bomb

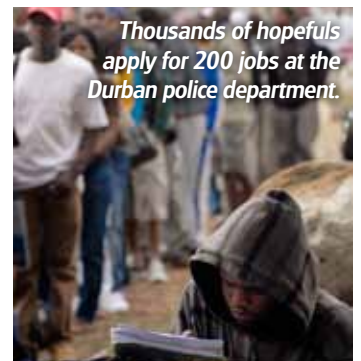
New statistics show there are 2.8 million unemployed young people in South Africa. The country's unemployment is now above 40 percent if you count working-age people who have given up on finding work, making it the only country in the world that has fewer employed workers than people on welfare, according to economist Mike Schüssler. Such worrying figures have fueled speculation that the country faces the possibility of greater social upheaval in the near future. "This is a crisis. We call it a ticking bomb," Cosatu's general secretary, Zwelinzima Vavi, warned in February. "We think that one day there may be an explosion." Bible prophecy predicts that rioting and chaos will soon erupt in South Africa and across the Anglo-Saxon world.

3 | ETHIOPIA 4 | ERITREA Arch-rivals again at war

Ethiopian military forces entered Eritrea on March 15 and attacked Eritrean military posts. Ethiopian government spokesman Shimeles Kemal said Ethiopia waged the assault because Eritrea was training "subversive groups" that have carried out attacks inside Ethiopia. Analysts believe these unnamed groups are radical Islamist terrorist outfits, and say Ethiopia's decision to strike at them suggests that the threat they pose is serious. Last year, as the West was endorsing the "democratic" uprisings sweeping through North Africa and the Middle East, *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry warned that Iran and radical Islam would emerge the victors. In April, he predicted that Libya and Ethiopia would become victims of radical Islam. "Why would Iran be so interested in getting some measure of control over Libya and Ethiopia?" he wrote. "They are on the two seas that comprise the most important trade route in the world! ... Watch Libya and Ethiopia. They are about to fall under the heavy influence or control of Iran, the king of the south." Ethiopia's decision to attack Eritrea's terrorist training posts shows that, despite UN sanctions, the Islamist problem in Eritrea is growing. Expect the pressure on Ethiopia to intensify until the nation falls under the influence or control of radical Islam.



Shimeles Kemal announces an attack on an Eritrean base.



Thousands of hopefuls apply for 200 jobs at the Durban police department.

How to win an election in London

Trying to pull ahead in a tight race to become mayor of Britain's capital city, former mayor Ken Livingstone adopted a surprising tactic: appealing to Islam. Speaking at the Finsbury Park Mosque on March 16, Mr. Livingstone promised that if elected, he would "make sure that every non-Muslim in London knows and understands the words and message" of Mohammed's last sermon. "That will help to cement our city as a beacon that demonstrates the meaning of the words of the prophet," he said. Until 2003, Finsbury Park Mosque was run by radical cleric Abu Hamza, who promoted jihad and praised the September 11 suicide bombers, and is now run by an association set up by Muslim Brotherhood activists. In 2002, Britain's *Guardian* reported that 1 million of London's 7 million inhabitants were Muslim. It shows how powerful Islam is becoming in the UK that a candidate appeals to Muslim radicals to boost his political fortunes.



This imam in London is now wanted for his connections to al-Qaeda.

British criminals hate history?

Around 70,000 protected historical buildings in England have been physically harmed by crime, according to a report commissioned by English Heritage published March 19. Of these, 30,000 suffered substantial damage. Nearly 19 percent of all listed buildings have been hit by crime, with 53 percent targeted by metal thieves. Last November, the War Memorials Trust estimated that one monument was vandalized each week. The report sheds more light on Britain's high crime rate. As the *Trumpet* has long warned, Britain's disregard for its history is one of the causes of its decline. Now, because of that decline, that history is being destroyed.

ANGLO-AMERICA

U.S. to slash 4 in 5 nukes?

Military officials are in discussion with the White House over potentially sharp new cuts to America's nuclear force. According to the Associated Press, the administration is closely considering reducing the number of America's deployed weapons by 80 percent. If such cuts are adopted, America would have fewer deployed weapons than China. There are several probable reasons the administration is considering such drastic action, one of which is that economic constraints may be finally forcing the government to take more drastic measures to control the deficit.



Gasoline prices seen in Los Angeles on March 5.

Pain at the pump

GAS PRICES HIT A NEW RECORD AT THE BEGINNING OF March, with the average cost of a gallon of gas being \$3.73. February's record-high gas prices followed the records set in January. In total, Americans use about 334 million gallons per day—an amount that has plummeted since the 2008 peak of 398 million. Current gasoline usage is dropping to levels not seen in 12 years—even with 31 million more vehicles on the road now than in 2000. Why are prices soaring as demand is dropping? First, U.S. consumers no longer set the price of fuel: Gasoline is traded in the global marketplace, and Americans are competing directly with consumers in Asia and Europe. Second, and more ominously, global credit is expanding and the dollar is losing value. To stave off another economic collapse, the Federal Reserve is printing and lending money at record rates, trying to increase demand and thus get consumers and businesses spending again. Yet all the money printing and debt expansion is driving up prices of all kinds of commodities—including gasoline—because it is eroding confidence in the dollar, decreasing its purchasing power.



An empty rain gauge overlooks a dry Texan pasture.

Dry, drier, driest

Texan farmers are anticipating small yields this year due to an ongoing severe drought, the Associated Press reported March 13. The drought began in October 2010, parching hundreds of thousands of acres and causing the worst one-year dry spell in Texan history. Since then, at one time or another, more than 75 percent of the state has experienced "exceptional" drought—the most severe classification. Agricultural losses are estimated at more than \$5 billion so far, with this year's crop damage yet to be tabulated.

As if relations with Pakistan weren't bad enough

A U.S. soldier murdered 16 Afghan villagers on March 11. President Obama called Afghan President Hamid Karzai to express his condolences, and NATO officials apologized for the shootings. The relationship between the United States and Afghanistan was already shaky. In February, six U.S. soldiers were murdered by Afghan soldiers who were supposedly their allies. The killings were apparently carried out in retaliation for Americans burning copies of the Koran at Bagram Air Field. America's international image is being damaged, and this will likely hasten an early U.S. withdrawal in 2013.



U.S. soldiers in Afghanistan after the shooting.

What If America's Founders Had Settled in Russia?

Contemplate this overlooked factor in the United States' greatness. **BY JEREMIAH JACQUES**



AMERICA IS AN EXCEPTIONAL country. The first transatlantic flight, the first man on the moon, construction of the Hoover Dam and the Panama Canal, and the defeat of the World War II Axis powers all testify of American mettle and ingenuity. The people of the U.S. make up 4.5 percent of the world population, yet they constitute one fifth of global economic output. Americans also enjoy one of the highest standards of living in the world, and by far the highest for a populous nation. A handful of small countries like Luxembourg and Qatar have higher per person GDPs, but they house just a fraction of a percent of the population. America simply has an incomparable economic output.

The U.S. also consistently ranks among or at the top of the world's most creative and innovative countries. It is the most generous nation on the globe, and the most potent in cultural power. America has the highest

degree of technological innovation of any country, and it has shined as a beacon of freedom for over two centuries.

Yes, America has myriad deep-rooted problems that are worsening all the time, but, despite them, it is an unmatched paragon of prosperity, providing opportunity and wealth for great numbers of people.

Do you know *why* the United States became so exceptional? Pundits debating this question point to things like America's laissez-faire economic system, values, politics, societal mobility, freedom of religion and speech, and its prioritization of equality.

But there is another, often overlooked answer. In many ways this unnoticed factor is the foundation that has made other aspects of America's success possible. It is a deeply inspiring facet of the United States that takes us all the way back to the mists of the very earliest history.

This overlooked aspect of America's greatness is the country's *geography*.

Land of the Temperate

When Abraham Lincoln came to understand the exceptional geographic circumstances the American people had been placed in, he said, "We find ourselves in the peaceful possession of the fairest portion of the Earth, as regards extent of territory, fertility of soil, and salubrity of climate." His emphasis on climate was astute because the U.S.'s most valuable geographic characteristic is not its immense amount of land, but its amount of *usable* land.

Russia, Canada and China all have far more square mileage than America, but harsh climates render the bulk of their territory unusable for habitation, agriculture or development. Various austere climates also reign over Australia and most nations of the Middle East, North Africa, Latin America and Asia.

In the United States, though, the climate is mostly temperate. Precipitation and temperature interact in rare harmony to yield the most resilient soils in

the world. Compliments of the Midwest, America has the largest contiguous mass of arable land on the globe—and this mass is bookended by huge tracts of fertile terrain on both coasts.

These climatic conditions make possible an astonishing agricultural output: America's 4.5 percent of the world's population produces 13 percent of the world's wheat, 40 percent of corn, 50 percent of soybeans, and 80 percent of sorghum—all after almost a century of significant decline in the U.S. agricultural sector. Thanks overwhelmingly to the nation's geography, the U.S. exports more food than any other country, even though agriculture is only 2 percent of its economy.

A River on Every Page

While most countries' terrain is pleasantly interrupted by at least a few rivers, no other nation has a maritime transport system as luxurious as that of the United States. AmericanRivers.org says the U.S. has over 250,000 rivers, totaling over 3.5 million miles of flowing water! A person could fly to the moon and back seven times and still not have crossed that many miles.

Perhaps more valuable than the number of rivers is the fact that the majority of them connect to at least one other river, creating vast networks of waterways. Chief among these is the Mississippi River's connection to the Ohio, Red, Tennessee and Missouri rivers, which form the largest interconnected network of navigable rivers on the planet.

Besides this incomparable transport system, the U.S. is also home to all three of the world's largest and best natural harbors: San Francisco Bay, Chesapeake Bay and New York Bay. It has dozens of other excellent natural harbors, too. The rivers connect to the ocean harbors and, from there, goods can be shipped around the globe. Meanwhile, U.S. coastal shipping is shielded in an extraordinary way by the series of barrier islands off the East Coast and the Gulf of Mexico. These island groups form an Intracoastal Waterway that safeguards watercraft and ports from all but the very foulest weather.

The value of America's maritime network can best be understood by comparing it to that of other nations. Russia, for example, has several long rivers, but they seldom connect to each other, and not one leads to a convenient port. All three of Russia's largest rivers flow obstinately north, emptying into the arctic sludge of the North Sea, and since they're frozen for most of the year, they are not navigable. The south-flowing Volga River drains into the Caspian Sea, but the Caspian is

landlocked, so it can only transport Russia's vodka to a few Middle Eastern and Central Asian countries. The Volga and the Caspian also freeze over for several months of each year, paralyzing these shipment lines. And Russia has zero warm water ports.

As bad off as Russia is, many nations are in even poorer maritime transport situations. America's exceptional waterway system is truly miles above that of any other country, and by no virtue of the American people.

Recognition of this incredible blessing prompted journalist Charles Kuralt to famously write: "America is a great story and there is a river on every page."

Turkey and Stuffing

Far more astonishing than America's superlative agricultural capacity or its awe-inspiring natural maritime system is the way the two go together.

Rather than slicing arbitrarily through the country, dozens of America's largest rivers intersect the nation's agricultural hotspots with nearly perfect proportion and precision. Even without digging canals, boats can sail to almost any region of the Midwest from almost any region along the East or Gulf coasts. Food that isn't needed locally can easily be floated down a river to a harbor, then exported overseas.

Ordinarily, agricultural zones as vast as the American Midwest are underutilized because the expense of transporting their yield elsewhere slashes into the economics of cultivation. To return to the Russian comparison, even in modern times, Russian crops sometimes spoil before crossing the Eurasian Steppe to reach market. Russia has to maintain colossal man-made transportation networks in order for its land to reach its potential.

But in the Greater Mississippi Basin, the lion's share of agricultural turf lies within 120 miles of a navigable river.

The economic implications of this overlap cannot be overstated. The geography of most nations requires their governments to scrape together heaps of capital to lay endless rail and asphalt—just to form transport capacity, the groundwork of an economy. But geography provided America with an almost flawless system at no expense. The U.S.'s intrinsic transport capacity freed the nation's resources for other economic pursuits, and virtually guaranteed that America would be capital-rich.

With this free capital, America was able to complete its first transcontinental railroad in 1869, and its first coast-to-coast roadway in 1913. Russia only completed its first transcontinental railroad in 1916, and

its first cross-country highway in 2008!

America's agricultural capacity and its maritime system are the turkey and stuffing of its geography—they go together perfectly.

A Tenable Tower

U.S. geography also ensured that the country would have virtually no continental competition. To the east and west, the nation is buffered from other countries by thousands of miles of shining sea.

To the south is Mexico, with terrain mostly too mountainous, too tropical or too arid for anything but sustenance agriculture. Mexico also has no significant maritime transport system, and is separated from the U.S. for the most part by a desert border. For much of recent history, Mexico has not presented a significant threat to the United States—though this is beginning to change due to the aggressive incursion of increasingly powerful drug cartels.

Finally, to the north is Canada, far more mountainous and far colder than America. Canada's only traversable waterway system, the St. Lawrence Seaway and Great Lakes, belongs as much to the U.S. as to Canada. Additionally, the bulk of Canada's farmable land lies just along the American border, making it economically wiser for provinces to integrate with the States for exporting than to work with neighboring provinces.

So, while geography hinders Mexico and Canada, it empowers the United States, leaving it unthreatened on all sides. The result is that the U.S. does not need to maintain a large standing military presence on any of its borders. And if a threat does flare up, the U.S. transport network allows it to quickly move forces around. A glance at Russia reveals an opposite situation once again: Thousands of miles of vulnerable borders, added to the lack of internal transport networks to quickly move soldiers, means the Russian bear must keep sizable standing armies along all its borders. This is an economic drain that has contributed to several Russian collapses throughout history.

Chance or Design?

So exceptional is America's geographic situation that Stratfor calls the United States "the inevitable empire." When considering the combination of "the robust natural transport network overlaying vast tracts of excellent farmland, sharing a continent with two much smaller and weaker powers—it is inevitable that whoever controls the middle third of North America will be

AMERICA'S EXCEPTIONAL GEOGRAPHY



a great power” (Aug. 24, 2011).

If the people who inhabit this exceptional real estate were geographically guaranteed to become great, then it’s worth considering how the American people came to possess it.

The Bible makes clear that God, and not men, determined the geographic locations and national borders of the Earth’s various peoples. The Apostle Paul explained in Acts 17:26 that God “hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bound of their habitation” (see also Deuteronomy 32:8; 2 Samuel 7:10).

Long before Paul explained that truth, God inspired the Old Testament patriarch Jacob to utter a landmark blessing upon his two grandsons: Ephraim and Manasseh. He placed his left hand on the head of Manasseh, the older of the two boys, and blessed him, saying he would become

a great single nation (Genesis 48:14-22; 49:22-24). God fulfilled this promise to Manasseh spectacularly in the 19th and 20th centuries, when the United States of America attained towering cultural dominance, unparalleled military might, and mind-boggling economic power.

But before the 20th century, before the 19th century, even long before Ephraim and Manasseh were born, God foreordained America’s greatness with geography.

All the way back when He was re-creating the Earth as recorded in Genesis 1—sculpting its surface, separating dry land from sea, and carving out the continents, God was thinking of Manasseh and of His future promise to make of him the single greatest nation on Earth. Toward this end, God designated a massive and exceptional chunk of real estate for Manasseh’s descendants, the American people.

Geography also motivates the U.S. government to take a more hands-off

economic approach than most nations have employed. Laissez-faire capitalism has flaws, but it contributed to America becoming a bastion of freedom. A deeper look into America’s geography reveals that God set Manasseh in a position where economic and religious freedom would reign, and where His end-time work could be carried out free of the persecution that would have plagued it in most any other nation.

How inspiring to consider that the Creator reserved the bulk of American land for some 5,500 years of mankind’s history, keeping it isolated and relatively unpeopled until Manasseh was ready to inhabit it and receive these astounding blessings! In a sense, God kept the land that would become America reserved for the majority of man’s history—as He waited to fulfill His promise to Manasseh. God “determined the bound” of U.S. borders, and He used geography to foreordain America’s prosperity! ■

A Young Man's Glory

A valuable, and often underused, asset.

BY JOEL HILLIKER

WHAT IS THE GREATEST THING about being a young man? What defining quality sets young men apart from everyone else—young women, children, older men—and makes them special?

Proverbs 20:29 tells us: “The glory of young men is their *strength*.”

The word *strength* means firmness, vigor and force. It's referring to a young man's physical capacity and ability, the might and power of his young body. God gave young men a potential for unmatched physical strength—and for an important reason.

Though this is generally less true today than in the past, life often demands hard physical effort. It can be helpful to have a strong young man around to get things done.

One book I read recently said masculinity is “the collection of all those characteristics which flow from delighting in sacrificing bodily strength for goodness.” That is an incomplete definition, but it contains an important kernel of truth. God built men to bear life's heavy burdens. A young man with strength, who delights in sacrificing that strength for goodness—lugging that load so women don't have to—is internalizing important lessons in manliness.

Many boys seem predisposed to want to demonstrate strength. My son, 4 years old, loves to wrestle me in a way my daughters never did. He glories in using his little muscles.

Of course, God gives young men the *potential* for useful, glorious physical strength—but that strength doesn't develop automatically. It requires hard work. Lots of it. Those young men who put in the work are rewarded for it: With their God-given capacity, they see faster gains in strength and stamina, and recover faster, than anyone.

God says strength is their glory. But our world today has a lot of young men you could not say that about. Poor diets, sedentary lives, too much screen time, not enough vigorous exercise and work—all have conspired to produce hordes of young men who are soft and weak. Many are self-indulgent in every way, and do not delight in sacrificing anything for anything.

We must encourage our sons to *build* their strength. God wants them to be strong. He wants their strength to be their glory! He has given them that *capacity*—but they must develop it. We can help them.

Work!

First, our sons should be accustomed to *hard work*.

“It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth” (Lamentations 3:27). A young man needs to be taught to embrace physical challenges, to exert himself rigorously to get a job done.

I remember working with my dad each summer growing up doing yard work, landscaping and home repairs, and his example

made a huge impression on me. He would give me a task—perhaps digging or removing roof shingles—and I would start into it. He would watch for a moment, then step in and demonstrate with forceful, even violent effort. I instantly got the picture that sometimes work required real muscle.

It is good for young men to work outside, digging and hauling, using and building brawn. We fathers should

work with them around the house and yard; include them in doing jobs for widows or other needy folks. When our sons are old enough to get a job, we should encourage them to consider something that will challenge them physically over something easy.

We have to be conscientious to ensure our sons learn how to work. “He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich. He that gathereth in summer is a wise son: but he that sleepeth in harvest is a son that causeth shame” (Proverbs 10:4-5).

Exercise!

A second way a young man can build strength is through *exercise*. Running and sports are important for conditioning, but building *strength* generally requires specific exercises.

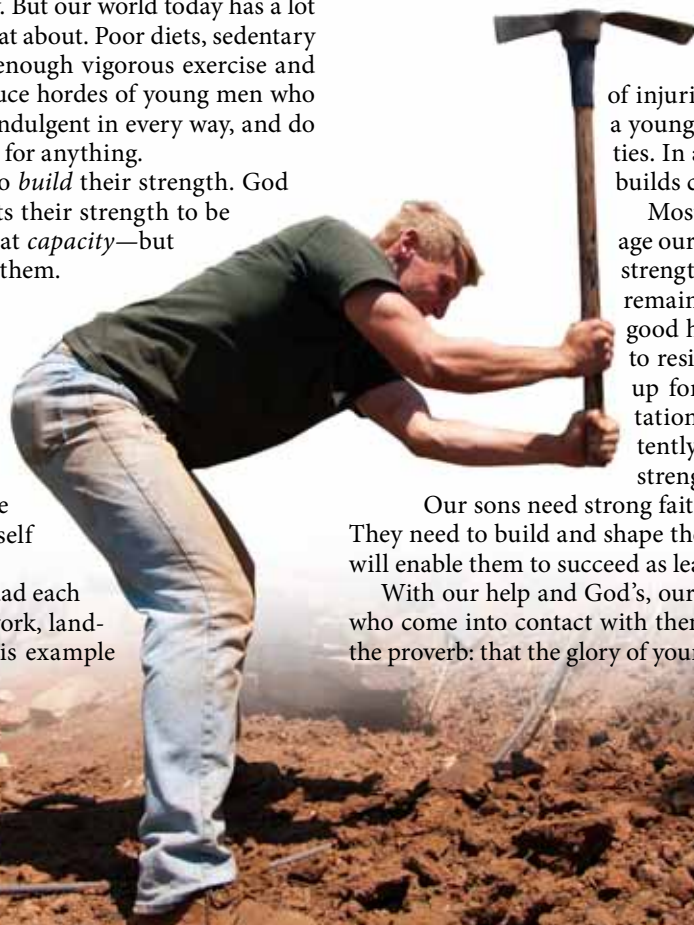
Pushups require no gear. Pull-ups are excellent, and you can find a pull-up bar to mount in a doorframe for \$25. Certain gymnastics movements build extraordinary strength and require no special equipment. Weightlifting is great for strength-building, and a used set of weights can be quite inexpensive. (It is important to get instruction on how to do exercises like deadlifts, squats and presses correctly and safely.)

Building strength through such exercise has many benefits, including reducing the risk of injuries and dramatically increasing a young man's capacity in other activities. In addition, it clears the mind and builds confidence.

Most importantly, we must encourage our young men to develop *spiritual* strength. That means teaching them to remain clean from the world, to build good habits, to master their passions, to resist negative pressures and stand up for what's right, to earn a reputation for dependability, to consistently make the little decisions that strengthen character.

Our sons need strong faith, strong character, strong will. They need to build and shape the bold, masculine qualities that will enable them to succeed as leaders.

With our help and God's, our sons will grow to inspire those who come into contact with them to agree, in admiration, with the proverb: that the glory of young men truly is their *strength*. ■



The Way of Peace Momentarily Restored



VISIONARY
In 1974 Herbert W. Armstrong (left) met the most courageous Middle Eastern leader in recent history, Egyptian President Anwar Sadat.

A powerful, genuine example of peace was given to this world for a tiny period. When you see how people reacted, you can understand why this world has no real peace. Nevertheless, we are about to have world peace in spite of man and his human nature. **BY GERALD FLURRY**

LOOK AT THE LIST OF WORLD LEADERS Herbert W. Armstrong came into contact with, and who responded warmly to him. They called him AN AMBASSADOR FOR WORLD PEACE. That is a miraculous understanding, when you realize that he had that kind of an impact on the leaders of this evil world.

Mr. Armstrong did restore THE WAY OF PEACE to God's Church. He also, momentarily, restored that to the whole world as well, I believe. He was part of a project that, if fully understood, showed the world how to have peace!

One of the most dramatic examples of Mr. Armstrong's efforts to promote peace in this world revolved around the construction of a world peace center. What truly made this extraordinary was the fact that it was promoted by perhaps some of the most

unlikely individuals—and at probably the most significant, profound location it could possibly inhabit on Earth.

An Incredible Peace Offer

Mr. Armstrong wrote about this peace effort in *Quest/81*. "For too long, leaders have dealt with effects, ignoring the causes of our problems," he wrote. "It is imperative that they come to a knowledge of the way that will produce peace. President Anwar L. Sadat of Egypt may be pointing to that way" (May 1981).

In this article, Mr. Armstrong listed several significant events that converged in this historic peace initiative. Among them was Sadat's visit to Jerusalem, which Mr. Armstrong called *the most incredible peace overture of modern times*. "After four bitter wars against Israel in 30 years, President Anwar el-Sadat did an

unheard-of thing! On Nov. 20, 1977, he DECLARED PEACE, not war!"

What a sacrifice this man made! Virtually the entire Arab world harbored intense hatred for the Jews. Yet Sadat traveled right to the heart of the Jewish state and spoke to the Knesset in Jerusalem. These nations were at each other's throats. Then suddenly, this courageous man had a change of heart. President Sadat extended an offer to the Israeli prime minister, Menachem Begin, who accepted. Sadat came before the Knesset and said, "You would like to live with us in this region of the world, and I tell you in all honesty that we welcome you among us."

Perhaps he didn't fully realize how much hostility that move would create, but from that point forward he was a marked man. He had an ambulance following everywhere he drove because he knew a lot

of people wanted to kill him. His trip to Jerusalem even triggered assassinations of other Egyptian dignitaries.

Is that not a sacrifice for peace? This man was most unusual. Anwar Sadat became one of a few great leaders in this world. He sacrificed his life for true peace. That is the sign of a great leader!

How many such men do you see in this world?

Mr. Armstrong called that a “genuine peace offer”! That was what launched the peace process. But nothing we have seen since has even come close to the sincerity and praiseworthiness of that initial effort.

In the past, I have criticized Israel for accepting that offer from Sadat. But after studying into it more—and particularly after looking at how Mr. Armstrong responded to it—I am convinced that this really was a valiant and laudable peace effort, and I even believe that, to some degree, God’s hand was in it.

Sadat went to Jerusalem to declare PEACE. And it worked quite well, right up to very recently, as far as Egypt and the Jews are concerned.

A World Peace Center

In this *Quest/81* article, Mr. Armstrong wrote about a specific idea that Sadat had: “He plans to build at the base of Mount Sinai a WORLD PEACE CENTER, emblematic of PEACE AMONG ALL NATIONS AND RELIGIONS” (emphasis added throughout). The magazine included an artist’s drawing of the proposed edifice, and it had a church building, a mosque and a synagogue.

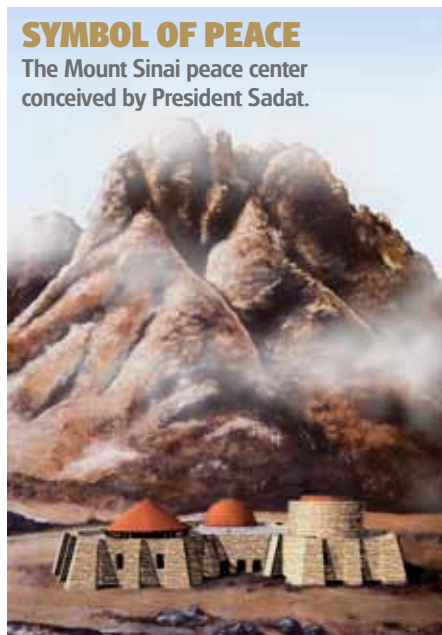
“The concept is unique! A total departure from any previous peace undertaking,” Mr. Armstrong wrote. This effort showed these two nations’ “extreme willingness to give extraordinary sacrifice in the start toward peace in their region.”

When Mr. Armstrong heard of Sadat’s proposal, HE IMMEDIATELY DONATED A HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS, AS DOWN PAYMENT ON A TOTAL PLEDGE OF ONE MILLION DOLLARS. Obviously Mr. Armstrong knew they weren’t going to solve the problems and have peace in the world. He knew the prophecies—that this world will end violently, and true peace can only be achieved once the Prince of Peace returns. Still, he did all he could to represent peace and to promote peace in this world, and he demonstrated his strong desire that all men work toward that end today.

GOD’S APOSTLE SAW REAL VISION IN THIS PROJECT, AND SAW WHAT IT COULD DO TO POINT PEOPLE IN THIS WORLD

TOWARD REAL PEACE.

President Sadat’s thoughts on the peace center are quite inspiring. “It will be a living symbol of the brotherhood of man, a lighthouse that will rekindle the spirit of coexistence and tolerance among nations,” he said when he announced the project. “As we look at the world today, we realize the great need for a reminder of the oneness of human destiny and the continuation of the divine mission, which is in essence, a great act of mercy. THIS MONU-



MENT MUST LIGHT THE PATH OF THE GENERATIONS YET TO COME.”

What a noble plan in this ignoble world!

I believe this project was special because God’s apostle was a part of it. What other peace agreement have you ever heard about that is comparable to this? Mr. Armstrong saw that, and he wanted to encourage President Sadat in these efforts. He was called the ambassador for world peace without portfolio. He really was A MAN OF PEACE! He knew how to have peace! And HE KNEW THAT SADAT WAS ON TO SOMETHING REALLY BIG IN THIS WORLD. I believe Mr. Armstrong’s involvement was God’s way of saying, *This is an act of peace by a true peacemaker. You need to support him and help him and be a part of this. Leave that at least as an example.* And what an example Anwar Sadat was to the world, and Mr. Armstrong as well.

During the Millennium, God is going to force the Egyptians to come up to Jerusalem (Zechariah 14:17-19). At that time, they’re going to recognize what Mr. Armstrong saw: that Anwar Sadat was a great man.

This world is about to explode into World War III, and here was a man, Anwar Sadat, who made a peace effort in a grandiose way, and made himself a target in doing so. AT A TIME WHEN THE NUMBER ONE PROBLEM WAS AND STILL IS HUMAN SURVIVAL, YOU WOULD THINK PEOPLE WOULD BE SCURRYING TO FIND ANY PEACE PLAN THAT MIGHT AVERT THAT GREATEST OF ALL TRAGEDIES, THE SNUFFING OUT OF ALL HUMAN LIFE. That is what Christ said would happen if He didn’t return (Matthew 24:22).

This small slice of history left us a vision of imminent peace in this world. We are about to have peace fill this Earth, which has a bloody history of warfare.

The Sadat-Begin-Armstrong peace project left us a message of soaring hope in a hopeless world!

‘Them That Make Peace’

On Oct. 6, 1981, Anwar Sadat was assassinated by his enemies—including members of the Muslim Brotherhood, the very organization getting control of Egypt today. God allowed Sadat to be killed and that peace center to die. If nothing else, this gave the world a condemning example of how it hates the way of peace even on a letter-of-the-law level. What a witness against it!

People need the Holy Spirit of God to heal their minds—and soon God is going to give it to them. Jesus Christ DIED so they might have the Holy Spirit to cleanse their thinking and truly forgive people for what Satan did to them.

Don’t the nations today NEED PEACE? We are in a period of time just before “the great and dreadful day of the Lord.” God is about to give us peace forever, but it is preceded by the worst suffering ever on this planet. God wants us to remember and escape the Tribulation and the Day of the Lord. However, most people just scorn God’s warning message.

I truly believe that, for a moment, Mr. Armstrong really did restore the way of peace to this Earth! He knew the way of peace, and he knew and taught about the God of Mount Sinai. If you bring this God into your life, you WILL have peace! If you have all parties looking to this God, how could you not have unity and joy?

Mr. Armstrong taught the world the way of peace, and it was *and still is* a prelude to WORLD PEACE! Not just peace for one church or one state or one nation—God is about to bring world peace! What a beautiful thing that is!





INCREASE YOUR BIBLE IQ

Does Satan Really Exist?

The Philadelphia Trumpet, in conjunction with the Herbert W. Armstrong College Bible Correspondence Course, presents this brief excursion into the fascinating study of the Bible. Simply turn to and read in your Bible each verse given in answer to the questions. You will be amazed at the new understanding gained from this short study!

SATAN THE DEVIL IS MAKING HEADLINES. Recently, a 2008 speech by presidential candidate Rick Santorum resurfaced and instantly became the epicenter of a major controversy. Why? Because it mentioned *Satan*.

“This is not a political war at all. This is not a cultural war at all. This is a spiritual war,” Mr. Santorum told an audience of students at a Catholic university in Florida. “And the father of lies has his sights on what you would think the father of lies, Satan, would have his sights on: a good, decent, powerful, influential country—the United States of America. If you were Satan, who would you attack in this day and age? There is no one else to go after, other than the United States.”

Mr. Santorum also said that the devil heavily influences American academia, religion, culture and politics.

A presidential candidate talking about *Satan*? Not a metaphor, but a real, living being who actually affects us and the world we live in? In the orthodoxy of political correctness, this is heresy. Liberals and even some conservatives are branding Santorum as reactionary, zany, prehistoric—“a religious nut.” Even many Christians are distancing themselves from such an idea, and almost everyone is wagging his head about what this means for the candidate’s “electability.”

But that’s not really the main point. The point is this: *He said there is a devil*. So—*is there*?

Who’s in Charge Here?

1. Who is the god of this world? 2 Corinthians 4:4.

Comment: Most Americans believe there is a God; as does about one out of every two people on Earth, according to an Ipsos Social Research Institute global survey last year. So, ask someone, particularly one of the world’s 2 billion Christians—or yourself—that question: *Who is in charge of this world?* If you think it’s God, then you’re at odds with the Apostle Paul, who says this world’s god is someone who has “blinded the minds of them which believe not.”

2. So, again, who exerts power over the whole world? Revelation 12:9.

Comment: Let that sink in! This is talking about someone fighting God and getting thrown out of heaven, down to Earth. It says that this being, like the one in the previous verse, “deceives the whole world ...” Why? Because it’s actually *the same being*: “the dragon ... that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan”! How *explicit*. Your Bible says the devil is very active, very evil—very *real*!

How exposed is a country whose leaders, shepherds

and critics scoff at even the suggestion of his existence? Answer: The Prophet Isaiah said this great fallen archangel “DIDST WEAKEN THE NATIONS!” (Isaiah 14:12).

3. When did Satan get control? Genesis 3:1-11.

Comment: This is the story of the world’s founding father and mother. God had given Adam and Eve a command. Then He allowed the devil to come along, in the form of a serpent, and test their obedience. The serpent enticed Eve to step away from God, out on her own. She observed the situation, used her own reasoning, decided for herself what was right and wrong, and then experimented, breaking the command (verse 6).

Does that sound familiar? Do you know someone who believes it is his inalienable right to decide for himself what is right and wrong? Do *you* believe that? It’s not just you or your friends, it’s *everyone in the world*: smart, simple, rich, poor, religious, agnostic, atheist. This is one of humankind’s most universal beliefs: *We* decide what is good and evil. But think back. Who was it that sparked this idea? *That old serpent!* (verse 1).

4. What did Jesus Christ believe about the devil? Matthew 4:1-11.

Comment: Did you know that Satan the devil is mentioned more than 30 times in the Gospels? These four books are biographies of the life of Jesus, and they record that He taught about, described, warned against, and even spoke to Satan! Matthew 4 reports an epic showdown between Jesus Christ and Satan the devil. What was this faceoff about? Satan was trying to get Jesus to do *the same thing* every other human has done: observe the situation, use His own reasoning, decide for Himself what was right and wrong, and *experiment* (verses 1-7). What does this ultimately amount to? *Worshipping Satan!* (verse 9).

Don’t overlook verse 8. Who was the one to offer his enemy “all the kingdoms of the world”? *Satan*, not Jesus. *He* was the god of this world, and Jesus did not deny that. In John 12:31 and 14:30, Jesus actually calls the devil “the prince of this world.”

However, unlike Adam and Eve, Christ *defeated* Satan in that harrowing battle. How? By submitting to God and obeying His commandments (Matthew 4:4, 7 and 10). Don’t try to tell Jesus Christ that the devil is a metaphor!

Why Do We Do What We Do?

1. How come we don’t *feel* like we are being influenced by Satan? Ephesians 2:2.

Comment: It’s very easy to associate Satan with a little caricature standing on one shoulder, or as an influence that is obviously insidious and easy to detect

because it is so dark and evil. But Satan is actually much more subtle—and much more effective—than that. “The prince of the power of the air” transmits his influence much like radio waves or cell phone signals, except he broadcasts *attitudes, moods* and *emotions*: pride, competition, strife, envy, vanity and, most of all, selfishness.

2. What does the prince of the power of the air influence humans to do? John 8:44.

Comment: We want to believe that human nature is basically good. But *look* at this world—all of it! *Think* about what happened to the busload of people described in the cover story of this issue (page 4). Think of the violence choking Syria right now, or even within the inner cities of many urban areas in the West. Think of the many millions who are suffering severe deprivation and abuse because of corrupt government. Think of gang warfare and tribal conflict. The evidence is everywhere that the god of this world is “a murderer from the beginning”!

Consider too the many other, more subtle ways that man manifests his evil nature. We are ignoring each other, taking advantage of each other, stealing from each other, lying to each other, abusing each other, torturing each other. “The father of lies” guides us—sometimes very subtly—to be greedy, to be arrogant, to be thankless, to be self-righteous and selfish. We can see Satan’s influence when we look at the world and see hateful partisans, unjust judges, corrupt lawmakers, bloody warlords, horrifying criminals, and so much more heartbreaking wickedness. But do we realize that this is the same selfish evil that is *inside each of us*?

Never forget, we are living under a reign of terror: the administration of the god of this world. Everyone has absorbed his attitude of “self is right.” With that terrible wedge hammered hard in between us and God, we are left prone to all of Satan’s other hurtful influences, many too heartbreaking to mention. This suffering world is proof.

Know Thine Enemy

1. How does Satan feel about us? 1 Peter 5:8.

Comment: The verse compares the devil to a roaring lion searching for victims to devour. It also tells who Satan is: “your adversary.” In every way, on every level, this wicked being is our enemy! He wants to destroy our relationships with God and to murder us spiritually and physically. The Bible warns us: “Be sober, be vigilant.” See also Luke 22:31.

2. What does Satan look like? 2 Corinthians 11:13-14.



CONTROVERSIAL COMMENT

Presidential candidate Rick Santorum faced a nasty backlash—for saying that Satan the devil exists.

Comment: Caricatures of the devil based on Dante’s *Inferno* conjure images of a grotesque red creature with fangs, horns and a pointy tail. Even if you don’t imagine Satan that way—if you believe in the Satan of the Bible at all—you probably imagine someone who is visibly and obviously evil incarnate. But this passage says that he transforms himself into “an angel of light.”

Satan’s influence can seem innocent, *even good* sometimes—especially to people who rely on themselves to discern what is right and wrong. Revelation 2:9 says that you can even think you’re worshiping the true God—and actually be worshiping Satan! The only way to defend against this powerful enemy is to trust and obey someone more powerful: God.

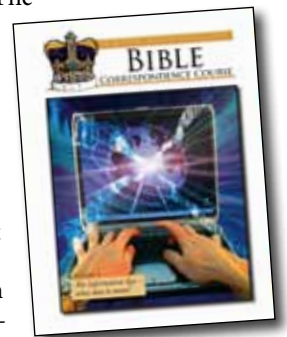
3. Is there any way to fight Satan’s influence? 2 Corinthians 2:11.

Satan has tools he has used over and over. He takes advantage of our weaknesses, especially our vanity! When we self-righteously refuse to admit that we don’t know right and wrong of ourselves—when we fail to *submit to God* in order to seek both His wisdom and His protection—we make ourselves extremely vulnerable!

But we don’t *have* to be blind to what the god of this world is doing. There is a way to remove our ignorance of Satan’s devices. There is a way to understand the truth. The first and most important step is to pierce through the deceit Satan relies on more than any other: the LIE that he *doesn’t exist*.

God’s Word—and our world—is full of the proof. Satan does exist! That is the truth of your Bible!

You need to know more about “your adversary the devil.” Can you prove he is real? How pervasive is his influence? Did God create a devil? To receive satisfying, thorough scriptural answers to these fundamental questions, request a free copy of Herbert W. Armstrong’s book *Mystery of the Ages* and study Chapter Two, “Mystery of Angels and Evil Spirits.” ■



This short study is a sample of the method employed in each lesson of the free **Herbert W. Armstrong College Bible Correspondence Course**. Over 50,000 people have enrolled in this exciting, dynamic course. Ordering information is on the back cover of this magazine.



You can read previous articles in this series online at trmpt.co/BibleIQ.

Cleansing the German Conscience?

The nation's elites are going all-out to admit Germany's past guilt—why?

BY RON FRASER



SOME DENIED IT. MANY KNEW IT, but for decades it was still too taboo to talk about. Now, the German government has acknowledged it outright: After the Nazis lost World War II, the new government of Germany was filled with—Nazis. Government officials with ties to the Nazi Party “were the rule rather than the exception,” Deutsche Welle reported on March 3.

Students of this subject have known for years that the postwar Adenauer government was riddled with Nazis. Since 1961, when T.H. Tetens published *The New Germany and the Old Nazis*, it has been common knowledge that “Hitler’s own” managed to return to power in almost every walk of life: industry, banking, education, foreign office, police, the courts and especially Germany’s postwar secret service. All *after* the Nazi scourge was defeated and

supposedly eliminated by the Allies.

Now this is becoming more and more well documented and well known. And German leaders are reacting. But not the way you might think. Berlin is undertaking a thorough investigation of this dark chapter in its history and is *publicly airing* the details. Why? And, after waiting almost 60 years to mount such an investigation, *why now?*

Cover-Up

The fact that masses of Nazis penetrated Germany’s postwar government was well known to the U.S. government. However, after the war, Russia emerged as an overt hegemonic power intent on global domination, and America’s foreign policy quickly became stridently anti-ussr. That Nazi element within Germany was viewed as being powerfully resistant to the encroachment of Soviet communism during the Cold War.

Thus, the *Allies*, of all people, actually went to great effort to *cover up* these Nazi roots of Germany’s postwar administration.

The upshot was this: Nazi war criminals were released en masse from Allied-controlled prisons, their sentences commuted. Unrepentant Nazi-oriented persons carefully merged back into German society.

Less than 15 years after the Allies defeated the Nazis, Kurt Tauber observed in the *New York Times Magazine* that Chancellor Konrad Adenauer’s leadership oversaw “the return to social, economic and political power of precisely those commercial and industrial elites who supported a megalomaniac imperialism under the [Hitler] empire” (Dec. 27, 1959).

Getting rid of Hitler did not get rid of the German aristocratic elite, nor did it terminate their pursuit of a new Holy

Roman Empire of the German Nation. After the war, these elites were quickly returned to positions of power and influence in German society. Though they failed to resurrect their old imperialist vision with Hitler, they would try again—this time in the guise of a European union.

We have seen this vision playing out in the headlines ever since. Europe is now undeniably led by a politically, industrially and economically resurgent Germany. The signs are it will soon add military dominance to that power.

As Tauber correctly observed of these imperialist German elites and their lust for power, “They do not much care whether they hold it under a monarchy, share it with a petty bourgeois dictatorship or wield it in a conservative republic.” They remain “what they always were: fiercely anti-socialist, largely anti-democratic, authoritarian in their social views and habits of thought, opposed to what they call the excesses of party democracy. ... They tend to be anti-Semitic in a generalized way and they are intensely patriotic” (ibid). He could also have added the fact

“For West Germany, the federal government’s commission noted that after the war’s end, ‘continuities in personnel among civil servants was relatively high.’ Experts estimate that on average 70 percent of the personnel were able to continue their work without problems after 1945 despite having been employed in ministries and agencies during Nazi rule.”

DEUTSCHE WELLE

that, overwhelmingly, their religious loyalty is to Rome.

One significant finding in Germany’s recent investigations is the nature of its secret service. From the outset, with the connivance of senior American bureaucrats, ex-Nazi SS officers were recruited into the ranks of the new spy corps (today known as the BND—Germany’s CIA). This intelligence entity was originally headed by Reinhard Gehlen, a general in Adolf Hitler’s army, who recruited other high-ranking Nazis into the fledgling BND.

The German government commission investigating the Nazi penetration of Germany’s postwar administration has found that, for West Germany, “after the war’s end, ‘continuities in personnel among civil servants were relatively high.’ Experts estimate that on average 70 percent of the personnel were able to continue their work without problems after 1945 despite having

been employed in ministries and agencies during Nazi rule. Some even suggest that figure could be closer to 90 percent” (emphasis added throughout).

Spiegel reported on March 6 that “No ministry in West Germany was spared the army of surviving accomplices, helpers and accessories.” Even “parts of the government that were seemingly above suspicion began recalling their own problems.”

The *Spiegel* article quoted Karl Jaspers, the philosopher of West Germany’s formative years, saying in 1966, “This continued activity of the old National Socialists is a fundamental affliction of the inner constitution of the Federal Republic.”

Purging the Blot

This flurry of belated investigative activity into the Nazi penetration of Germany’s postwar government was ostensibly triggered by a series of racially motivated murders committed by a neo-Nazi terror cell. “Critics allege that security agencies like the police and particularly the Office for the Protection of the Constitution had failed completely—and that they had possibly even turned a blind eye to the neo-Nazi terrorists,” Deutsche Welle reported. “The question that worries many is whether neo-Nazi sympathizers may still occupy high German offices” (op. cit.).

The same source went public on the fact that “The better part of the Nazis’ bureaucratic apparatus and personnel was simply reinstated after 1945, and silence about officials’ own past shaped the intellectual climate in government

institutions. ... *But it is significant that systematic investigations into continuities within the government’s personnel came so late after the end of the war.*” Significant, yes—and most convenient. For when questions were finally raised, the damage was already done. A whole generation of government administrators and bureaucrats had been schooled in the imperialist mindset of the German elites. Many of the bureaucrats later moved on to Brussels to help mold the EU into the Teutonic enterprise it has become.

Deutsche Welle further observed, “There is still much research to do when it comes to uncovering how careers in German bureaucracy continued before and after 1945. The German Foreign Ministry led the way in 2005, when then Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer commissioned several historians to investigate the ministry’s past. The result was published in

2010, under the title *Das Amt und die Vergangenheit (The Office and the Past).*”

This information was suppressed for decades. Then the Left Party demanded full disclosure, and the lid was lifted off the can of worms. But remember, *those German elites are entrenched deeply in Berlin.* So why would they allow such a confession?

Given the control these powerful elites have over the German government, any exposure of the facts would have to be suppressed until the timing fit their agenda.

That time is *now*. And that agenda is to mold public opinion to support a newly moralistic regime—a regime that has “come clean” and is thereby seemingly divorced from its Nazi past and free to pursue a future freed of that dark legacy.

These elites do have to contend with public opinion, both at home and abroad. To this end they know that in order to have the newly dominant German nation treated with respect domestically and internationally, it needs to achieve two goals. The first has to do with the revival of pride in the postwar achievements of Germany as a nation, especially its rise to power since reunification in 1990. The second has to do with its legitimate acceptance as a world power on the international stage.

One huge blot continues to inhibit both of these goals. It is the most brutally horrific page in Germany’s war-stained history—the legacy of the Nazi era, culminating in the Holocaust.

This is why German elites are now pushing to salve the national conscience and soothe other countries’ concerns of a return to that ghastly past. These elites are, for the first time, going public in admitting that the Adenauer government collaborated with certain underground Nazi elements—and certain sympathetic Allied leaders—to free condemned Nazi criminals and weave them tightly into the new political, economic and social fabric of postwar Germany.

This is a masterful stroke of Nietzsche-like psychology. Its timing perfectly coordinates with the rise to power of a newly assertive Germany. It is a great public relations stunt that no doubt will convince many to believe what they want to believe: that Germany’s full confession of guilt will finally bury the last vestiges of any attachment that today’s Germany has with its dark Nazi past.

Yet to believe this is to be blind to the inevitable cycle of history—let alone to biblical prophecy for our times.



EDIFICE OF EVIDENCE

A new “documentation center” in Munich (above) seeks to separate Germany’s future from the Brown House and its Nazi past (left).

A Symbolic Building

Not far from the center of Munich, there is a construction site. There, a building is being erected on the old site of the Brown House—formerly Nazi Party headquarters.

This new building, rising from a hugely symbolic site in the very city that Hitler called the capital of his regime, will be Munich’s Documentation Center for the History of National Socialism. “The center will give a detailed history of the Nazi regime, from the very place where the crimes and terror were once organized,” *Deutsche Welle* reported on March 10. “An impressive working group of experts, historians and architects have been working on the design of the new center.” The basic design seeks to incorporate the remaining aspects of the original building into the presentation. One of the project’s managers said, “It’s hoped a link between past and present Munich can be achieved.”

The link between past and present will be hard to miss. As *Deutsche Welle* reported, “The foundation stone of the new building was laid March 9—directly next to the Munich University of Music and Theater, also a building from the Nazi era” (*ibid*). In fact, that building was constructed as Hitler’s headquarters. His office on the second floor is now used as a rehearsal room for young musicians.

“Nearby are a number of buildings with historical relevance as well,” this report continued. “There are the neo-classical museums of Königsplatz—it was on this square that the Nazis burned outlawed books in 1933—and the city’s Ludwig Maximilian University, where Hans and Sophie Scholl and others from the ‘White Rose’ student protest group distributed anti-Nazism flyers.

“The new documentation center will look very different to the surrounding buildings. It’s designed as a cube with large windows that allows passers-by to look deep into history. It will be modern, simple and not too ostentatious—a building very different to the ‘Brown House’ that once stood here.”

Just how the public will perceive these reminders of history will be interesting to observe. Rather than distance itself from memories of the Third Reich by seeking a building site for its Nazi archive in Munich in a city zone free from much of the city’s past Nazi activity, German elites have placed their museum right at the very heart of where so many infamous deeds of Hitler’s regime were perpetrated.

It’s an interesting psychological angle—very Nietzsche-like in its warped mentality.

Some think that this museum will contain findings from the current government’s investigation into its Nazi past—facts that past governments went to great pains to hide. If so, German elites will then rest in the hope that, in their minds, the demons of Germany’s Nazi past are purged. A fresh new chapter for the nation’s newly dominant role in Europe and in the global arena will then be open.

Allegiance to Rome

What will that new chapter bring? This regime will replace memories of the Nazi swastika with the crusading cross. Germany’s old moral arbiter, the religion of Rome, will rise to prominence. Rome is even now launching a new crusade to evangelize Europe and revive Catholicism to its dominant position, especially in the homeland of Bavarian Pope Benedict xvi.

The vision of German elites—both today and in the Nazi-saturated postwar years—is about to be realized. How? By the reassertion of Rome’s religion over the rising Fourth Reich. Such a short time on

from when Allied leaders had vowed that an industrialized, militarized Germany would never be permitted to rise again to wreak havoc on the globe, the Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation will be a fact once again.

But this time, that old empire in its seventh and final prophesied resurrection, though it be terribly destructive—first on old Persia and its allies, but most especially on the Anglo-Saxon nations—will be brief. Within 2½ years of its seizing power, it will become the victim of another great imperialist force, led by Russia and China.

How can we know with such specificity and certainty? This is all prophesied in detail *in your Bible*.

The scenario now building before your eyes in Europe, the Middle East and the Far East is creating a great global disorder that will culminate with the greatest war man has ever witnessed. That devastation will finally end in the grand-smash climax: the armies of the world attacking a force they will find impossible to overcome—the armies of the King of kings!

These events, which we have broadcast and published for over 70 years, are unbelievably close!

How do we know? Because we have been tracking world events and lived through their detailed fulfillment of absolutely inerrant Bible prophecies—forecast, in some instances, over 3,000 years in advance!

Time is now so crucial to the fulfillment of the last remaining prophecies that lead to the coming of the King of kings, who will rule over all mankind, put down all rebellion and end all wars. You need to prove these things and prove them now! Without delay, request and study our booklet *Daniel Unlocks Revelation* to get the big picture about the world you are living in and just how you can survive and even thrive within these rapidly moving prophesied world events. ■



Commencement— Only the Beginning

Sage advice from
a master educator



COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES FILLED WITH RELIEVED graduates, proud parents and tired faculty are occurring on campuses across the nation. Distinguished speakers are imparting wisdom to departing students. Education is being celebrated. But how many really know what true education is?

The late Herbert W. Armstrong was a master educator. He was an accomplished writer and speaker. Early in his life, Mr. Armstrong learned that education is not something you go out and GET. He learned that *true education* is a WAY OF LIFE.

A proper education is difficult to acquire. The following seven points distill Mr. Armstrong's experience and knowledge of true education. Consider these points to becoming properly educated:

1) Build a solid spiritual foundation. We were put on Earth to become educated in spiritual and material knowledge. Unless proper spiritual knowledge is our foundation in life, everything will be established on the wrong premise.

In Matthew 7:24, Christ gave His disciples knowledge, but then He admonished them to GO OUT AND APPLY IT. Those who do He likens to a man who built a house on a solid-rock foundation—immovable during a severe storm. Those who don't He likens to a man who built on a foundation of sand. The consequences of building on a wrong foundation are deadly.

To be a real success, our pursuit after material knowledge must be based on the right, immovable spiritual foundation.

2) Capture the vision of the kind of person you would like to become. Without vision, people perish (Proverbs 29:18). Proverbs 23:7 says, "For as he *thinketh* in his heart, so is he." Seeking first God's Kingdom is the ultimate *vision*. But lesser goals can also be attained through right priorities and hard work. Understanding your role as a man or woman should be foremost in your mind, since the strength of a nation depends on solid individual families. For the man, determining your life's vocation or profession is critical to being the kind of provider God intends you to be.

3) Prepare and work to meet your goals. It's been said that opportunity favors the prepared man. Proverbs 24:27 says, "First work your farm, and till the soil—*then* marry and set up house" (Moffatt). Notice the priorities. Some men have set out with every passion to find that special someone, spending little effort to secure a good job or to better themselves educationally. Heed the proverb!

Mr. Armstrong wrote in *The Missing Dimension in Sex*, "The years between ages 16 and 25 are the *vitally important* years of adult PREPARATION for life's work. These are the *crucial* years of *preparation*. During these years the mind is capable of *acquiring* faster than at any other stage of life the *advanced knowledge* needed *before beginning* one's adult career—whether it be *business, profession, occupation or marriage*."

4) Learn to be humble like God. The God of this universe wants you to be happy, healthy and prosperous (Matthew 6:33; John 10:10; 3 John 2). We should want this all-powerful Being on our side! Notice how we can do that: "For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the Lord: but TO THIS

MAN WILL I LOOK, even to him that is *poor and of a contrite spirit*, and trembleth at my word" (Isaiah 66:2). In Isaiah 57:15, God says He dwells "with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit."

To listen to and heed the wise counsel of older, wiser individuals takes humility. Diligently obeying God's laws concerning success in business and family requires even greater humility. One fundamental problem with modern education is VANITY. Humility, on the other hand, will pave the way for a right, God-centered education.

5) Whatever career you pursue, strive to become an expert. Your job is a career. Your marriage is a career. Preparing for God's Kingdom is, or at least should be, a career.

Ecclesiastes 9:10 says, "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest." We only have limited time during this physical life to become educated. Our time is brief to really learn to work hard in our profession. Simplify your life enough so you can devote quality time and hard work toward what's important: God, family, work, the community, an educational hobby. Then, whatever you do, work hard! God expects excellence from His children. He gave us minds for that purpose: to be developed and trained to operate effectively and efficiently.

6) Continually add new and exciting challenges to your life. Always observe, think and learn. Seek a better, more productive way of doing things. You have the *mind* to do it. That is what makes life interesting. And unless we try to go beyond what we have already mastered, we will never grow. A life full of obstacles and challenges is a blessing. Don't seek the life of ease that so many desire. Happiness comes from working hard at what you do and doing it well.

7) Realize that true education never stops. "School" is not a four-year institution. It's a lifelong project. Focus on developing the whole person. Never stop in your studies of great men and women. Always seek counsel before making big decisions. Continue to develop communication and social skills. Build new friendships. Look for and take advantage of new opportunities to serve. Acquire educational hobbies. Seize every opportunity to travel. Take part in an enjoyable sport. Get regular exercise.

Education is a way of life. It's learning how to live, not just how to make a living. Education is building character. It's doing what is right, not what is pleasurable, or what you feel like doing.

Most of all, it is following God. If we do, we'll receive not only an eternal reward, but also much more even now (Luke 18:28-30). If we seek first the Kingdom, "all these [material] things" will be added (Matthew 6:33). There is a definite correlation between physical and spiritual prosperity.

God wants you to lead a happy, successful, exciting life. Begin now by submitting to God in all humility. Then seek His Kingdom with all of your might. Beyond that, if you make God the center of your life in every goal you have, prepare for a life of happiness and abundant blessings. God's laws work. See for yourself. Put it to the test. If you do, what an education life will be!

A liberating truth

What can I or anyone else say? This article (“What Is True Freedom?” April) is full of power and it makes so much sense. No one wants to be told that they are evil or that the human heart is “deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked.” To me, this is a liberating truth. It forces us (if we are willing) to acknowledge that the ways of the Almighty God are right. And man’s ways apart from God’s law, no matter how good the intentions, only lead to bondage and ultimately our demise. Thank you for this insight.

W.D. Bullock—VIRGINIA

A deep truth in simple terms

Thank you for giving us such a beautiful picture of how God plans, prepares and delivers His GOAL (“Your Spiritual Due Date,” April). His thoughts are so deep that they have to be illustrated in such simple terms. The simpler the better for His children—a reminder of the simplicity (yet implicit awesomeness) of the task ahead.

N. Merza—N.S.W., AUSTRALIA

What a wonderful way to explain spiritual urgency! The comparisons between the sense of urgency in preparation for childbirth and the urgency right up to the day of our spiritual birth are such relatable ways to fully grasp how alike that sense of urgency is! ... In calculating the birth date, people tend to rely on unreliable sources—old wives’ tales and man-made formulas—when we just don’t know the exact answer ... like the hooey due date formula or thinking that Christ won’t come in our generation because of not SEEING the signs of His coming. Part of wisdom is being prepared and watching for the signs Christ gave in Matthew 24. To do otherwise is dangerous! Thank God we have His sure Word! And thank you for this warm, humorous and yet very serious explanation ... urgency and preparation have been frequent, strong keywords lately.

Christi—TEXAS

Germany to intervene in Syria?

Great article! (“Lessons From the Blood-bath in Syria,” April). I wholeheartedly concur with your “assumption” that Germany will step in and exert its influence in Syria. That said, as German Foreign Policy



stated in its article “Iran’s Achilles Heel” (February 6), Germany’s interests, while cloaked in the guise of humanitarianism, are nothing more than PR and motivated by self-interest as it plays both sides of the field. If indeed Iran is sending in 15,000 of its troops, Germany will have to act and act soon. We see the back-and-forth push of the Daniel 11 kings. How much longer does this sorry world have? Taking it all into consideration, I would say not long! God speed the day of, as the Apostle Peter states, “the end of all things”!

James—BRITISH COLUMBIA

Always adding to the problem

It seems that the majority of U.S. politicians think they have a bottomless money source at their disposal (“An Awesome Secret About America’s National Debt,” April). We hear a lot about how they will save the economy by tackling this serious problem, especially around election time, but all they seem to do is continually add to it. The whole system is based on Satan’s way of get, i.e. politicians want to get elected, so they continually make promises the country can’t afford to deliver, and the voters want to get the promises the politicians are making. We are most definitely heading for ruin

Ioannis—AUSTRALIA

Americans seems to have their heads sunk in the sand and can’t see where they are going. It’s sad that no one seems to notice, much less care. Maybe it’s because deep down they don’t know what to do and it’s better just to ignore the financial tsunami headed our way and hope it will all pass soon and things will be better in the morning, but this time that won’t happen.

Bridget Johnson—TENNESSEE

The universal problem of debt boils down to just one thing: greed. A common disease around the world is the “I have more than you” syndrome. People would go to insane lengths of borrowing just to buy things that they do not really need—all because they want to show off to their friends and neighbors. Humility is associated with stupidity in this sinful world. Entire nations have this attitude. Some impoverished nations are burning billions of dollars developing nuclear weapons just to show off. The Bible has warned that in the end times the weak will say they are

strong. This toxic attitude contributes greatly to the debt problem globally.

Peter Thomas—SARAWAK, MALAYSIA

No emotional control = misery

What a great article—thanks! (“Is There a Dictator in Your Mind?” April). Was a good reminder for me to reevaluate my life and take a look at whether I’m controlling my emotions or whether they are controlling me. I had a colleague who was almost completely controlled by her emotions. She didn’t seem to place any guard on them—when she was angry or upset, everyone knew about it. She would shout, slam phones and office equipment and in general make life miserable for the rest of us. She has since resigned, and it’s amazing how much more pleasant the work atmosphere is. I couldn’t help feeling sorry for her though, as she was probably never taught to control those emotions and so didn’t know any better. I have noticed that there is a tendency to let the emotions take over when one is inconvenienced or things don’t turn out quite the way you would like. It’s scary how often the “petulant child” will want to take over if I don’t stop myself.

Christine van der Leeuw—SOUTH AFRICA

How to become a creator

I was very overwhelmed when I got my first copy of the *Trumpet* this month (March). Praise God for your goodness, perseverance and patience. The articles are really interesting and inspiring—especially “Unleash Your Inner Da Vinci.” It gives me an idea on how to become a creator out of nothing, always creating for the glory of God. Thank you very much and may God give you power and the strength to produce more writings.

Ronald Yusores

So happy to find theTrumpet.com

I am so happy that a friend of mine told me of your website. I have the correspondence course and I am really enjoying it. I am also reading the booklet *Haggai*. It has opened my eyes. I am afraid, not for me, for my children and grandchildren. I pray every night that the world can find peace. Thank you so much for all you do.

Lois Klotz—PENNSYLVANIA

There isn’t another source anywhere in the world that will boldly carry today’s news into a clear understanding of the future of it, except the *Trumpet.com* and its sister published monthly magazine. None dare! They can’t! It takes believing what the great God has said over 3,000 years ago.

David Nunn—INDIANA

Britain and the U.S. Will Lead the World Again

It's going to get worse before it gets better, but these former superpowers have another day in the sun coming.



DARKNESS IS DESCENDING ON THE LONG, HISTORICALLY EXTRAORDINARY Anglo-American age. Britain, once a globe-girding empire, is now being bullied by a growing European superstate. America, once the greatest superpower on Earth, is economically battered and is losing its global influence.

History teaches that world orders don't last. They come and they go. This present one is giving way to something very different—and it truly will be the world's loss.

However, Britain and America's brightest days are *not* history. Glowing within their remarkable past is the promise of a far more luminous *future*.

The British and the Americans have long believed they were duty-bound, even destined, to lead the world. "The glory of the British Empire was its service to a cause that transcended Britain, that transcended history, that transcended time itself," wrote Kirk Emmert in *Winston S. Churchill on Empire*. That cause was "to lift human life away from barbarism and savagery towards civilization and human excellence." Churchill passionately devoted himself to promoting that empire and considered "the fostering of civilization" as its highest purpose. "Empire civilizes both the ruled and their rulers," he wrote.

The United States' founders sought to establish a lasting beacon of liberty and democracy to the nations. Lyman Beecher said the nation was "destined to lead the way in the moral and political emancipation of the world." Lincoln said America must ensure "that government of the people, by the people, and for the people shall not perish from the Earth." Since its entry into World War II, the United States has essentially served as the guarantor of peace in the world.

All such human efforts are imperfect. But until recently, the fruits of the Anglo-American effort to benefit mankind have been more sweet than bitter.

Bible prophecy reveals that there is an awesome reason for this—one that points back to ancient history, and yet illuminates an inspiring future. You can read about it in Herbert W. Armstrong's book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy* (request a free copy). The reason is this: These nations are the modern descendants of ancient Israel!

The Bible shows that Israel was given a great responsibility. God chose this nation to *represent Him*, and to set an example for the rest of the world! Biblical history and prophecy show that God *still* intends for Israel's descendants to fulfill this glorious purpose.

There is an outstanding example of this in Jeremiah, which was written for the "end time." Chapter 13, verse 11, describes God *wearing* the nation of Israel, like a man wearing a waistcloth or belt as a handsome ornament. "Here is the big overview. God created the tribes (later nations) of Israel for an incredible purpose," *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry writes. "They were created

to be 'a praise, and a glory' to God. THE NATIONS OF ISRAEL WERE TO CAUSE THE WHOLE WORLD TO PRAISE AND GLORIFY GOD!" (*Jeremiah and the Greatest Vision in the Bible*; request a free copy). This waistband was *linen*, just like the garments of Israel's priests, which were made "for glory and for beauty" (Exodus 28:2). The nation of Israel had a *priestly* calling (Exodus 19:5-6), which means a responsibility to serve other nations and point them to God. Israel was like a **PRIESTLY GARMENT WORN BY GOD HIMSELF!**

Yet look at what God was illustrating here. God told Jeremiah *not to wash* the waistbelt (verse 1), and to even stick it into a rock beside the river for a time until it was ruined and unusable. God was vividly depicting how Israel *failed* in its beautiful calling.

Yet notice: Verses 9-10 also apply to Israel's *modern* descendants, nations God condemns for arrogance, evil, disobedience, self-will and idolatry. They became *worthless* to God, and God says He will dispose of these rebellious nations like a rotten girdle.

When John Winthrop spoke of America as a "city on a hill" in 1630, he issued a warning based on prophecies such as this:

Britain and America's brightest days are not history. Glowing within their remarkable past is the promise of a far more luminous future.

"We must consider that we will be as a city upon a hill. The eyes of all people are upon us, so that if we deal falsely with our God in this work we have undertaken and so cause Him to withdraw His present help from us, we shall be made a story and a byword throughout the world."

This is where Britain and America find themselves today—and it is going to get worse. The sun is setting on Anglo-American dominance. And when these nations fall, the world will plunge back into the blackness of barbarism and savagery.

However, the Bible that prophesied this fall also prophesies that Britain and America's brightest days are *yet to come*. Jeremiah 33 depicts a time yet future, after America and Britain have endured a nightmarish tribulation intended to correct them for their sins. It contains God's promises to *restore* to them fantastic prosperity—and make them a positive example. They will become "a praise and an honour before all the nations of the earth" (verse 9).

God is promising not only to restore these nations to fantastic prosperity—but *also to help them become the positive example they have always struggled and failed to be*. But it won't be Pax Americana or the British Empire these peoples will be promoting—but the peace of God, and the Kingdom of God. The King of kings will lift *all* human life toward civilization and excellence, and Britain and America, *finally*, will submit to Him—and become the beautiful, godly ornaments they were always intended to be.

not trust their fate to “Sarkozy, Obama or other world leaders.”

This, keep in mind, is not some gruesome tale from the Dark Ages or some backward Third World nation. Jews in France—IN THE 21ST CENTURY—are being encouraged to flee the country because racial hatred and violence is intensifying!

After the school shooting, by the way, French authorities quickly connected the attack to one that happened a few days earlier—another shooting that left three black French paratroopers dead.

Media coverage of this appalling incident also followed a predictably shameful pattern. Since the victims were Jews and blacks, the initial reporting suggested the perpetrator must have been a right-wing Caucasian. After we learned that the perpetrator was an Islamic jihadist—one with links to al Qaeda—Western media outlets rushed to the defense of Islam by parroting the deranged propaganda we hear daily on Arab networks like Al Jazeera: *that Israel deliberately targets Palestinian children too!*

And so the terrorist named Mohammed was somewhat justified when he took aim at those three little children. At least that’s what we’re told by the ignorant apologists who control the flow of misinformation coming out of most news organizations.

This diabolical discourse is accelerating the cancerous spread of racial hatred. The Bible says it will ultimately lead to the virtual annihilation of *entire peoples*. Study Ezekiel 5:1-12, Jeremiah 25:30-33, Isaiah 24:1-6, Matthew 24:21-22 and Revelation 16 and 18.

We are living in a tinderbox loaded with a lethal mixture of hatred, violence and every imaginable evil—and it’s about to explode in our faces!

This is why God must intervene *supernaturally* in the affairs of mankind—a prophesied reality that most people, even in the religious world, simply refuse to believe. But it is true—and it *will* happen.

Jesus Christ will soon intervene in world affairs and stop mankind from committing suicide! Isn’t it about time you learned much more about why this world is the way it is—and how God intends to forcefully establish law-abiding order in this chaotic, hate-filled world? If you want answers to life’s most important questions—answers retrieved from the pages of your own Bible—then request your free copy of Herbert W. Armstrong’s eye-opening work *Mystery of the Ages*. ■

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Direct TV DBS ION Ch. 305 6:00 ET, Fri

Dish Network ION Ch. 216 6:00 ET, Fri

Dish Network DBS WGN Chan. 239 8:00 ET, Sun

Nationwide cable WGN 8:00 ET, Sun

Alabama, Birmingham WPXH 5:00, Fri

Dothan WTVY-DT 8:30, Sun

Montgomery WBMM/WBMM-DT 8:30, Sun

Alaska, Anchorage KIMO-DT 8:30, Sun

Fairbanks KATN-DT 8:30, Sun

Juneau KJUD-DT 8:30, Sun

Arizona, Phoenix KPPX 5:00, Fri

Yuma-El Centro KSWT-DT 9:30, Sun

Arkansas, Fayetteville KWFT 8:30, Sun

Fort Smith KCWA 8:30, Sun

Jonesboro KJOS 8:30, Sun

Rogers KWFT 8:30, Sun

Springdale KWFT 8:30, Sun

California, Bakersfield KGET-DT 9:30, Sun

Chico KHSL-DT 9:30, Sun

El Centro KWUB 9:30, Sun

Eureka KJUV-DT 9:30, Sun

Los Angeles KPXN 6:00, Fri

Monterey KMWB 9:30, Sun

Palm Springs KESQ/KCWQ-DT 9:30, Sun

Redding KHSL-DT 9:30, Sun

Sacramento KSPX 6:00, Fri

Salinas KION 9:30, Sun

San Francisco KKPX 6:00, Fri

Santa Barbara KSBY-DT 9:30, Sun

Colorado, Denver KPXC 5:00, Fri

Grand Junction KQJ 8:30, Sun

Montrose KKCO-DT 10:30, Sun

Connecticut, Hartford WHPX 6:00, Fri

Delaware, Dover WBD 9:30, Sun

Salisbury WMDV-DT 9:30, Sun

Florida, Gainesville WCJB-DT 9:30, Sun

Jacksonville WPXC/WPXJ-LP 6:00, Fri

Miami WPXM 6:00, Fri

Orlando WOPX 6:00, Fri

Panama City WJHG-DT 8:30, Sun

Tallahassee WTXL 7:30, Sun

Tallahassee-Thomasville WTLF-DT/WTLH-DT 9:30, Sun

Tampa WXPX 6:00, Fri; WTTA 8:30 am, Sun

West Palm Beach WPXP 6:00, Fri

Georgia, Albany WBSK 9:30, Sun

Augusta WAGT-DT 9:30, Sun

Brunswick WPXC 6:00, Fri

Columbus WLGA 9:30, Sun

Macon WBMM 9:30, Sun

Savannah WGSB/WGCW-LP 9:30, Sun

Hawaii, Hawaii Na Leo Chan. 54 6:30, Sun; 8:30, Wed

Kauai Ho’Ike Chan. 52 9:30, Tue

Maui/Lanai/Molokai/Niihau/Akaku

Chan. 52 6:30 pm, Sun; 3:30, Mon

Idaho, Idaho Falls KPFI/KBEQ 10:30, Sun

Pocatello KPIF 10:30, Sun

Twin Falls KMVT-DT/KTWT-LP 10:30, Sun

Illinois, Bloomington WHOI-DT 8:30, Sun

Chicago WCJU 7:00, Mon-Fri; WCJU 9:30, Sun;
WCPX 5:00, Fri

Peoria WHOI-DT 8:30, Sun

Rockford WREX-DT 8:30, Sun

Indiana, Fort Wayne WPTA-DT 21.2 9:30, Sun

Indianapolis WIPX 6:00, Fri

Terre Haute WBI 8:30, Sun

Iowa, Austin KTTC-DT 8:30, Sun

Cedar Rapids KPXR 5:00, Fri

Des Moines KFPX 5:00, Fri

Keokuk WEWB 8:30, Sun

Kirksville KWOT 8:30, Sun

Mason City KTTC-DT 8:30, Sun

Ottumwa KWOT 8:30, Sun

Mason City KTTC-DT 8:30, Sun

Sioux City KTIV-DT 8:30, Sun

Kansas, Topeka KSNT 8:30, Sun

Kentucky, Bowling Green WBKO 8:30, Sun

Lexington WUPX 6:00, Fri

Louisiana, Alexandria KBCA 8:30, Sun

El Dorado-Monroe KNOE-DT 8:30, Sun

Lafayette KLWB 8:30, Sun

Lake Charles WBLC 8:30, Sun

New Orleans WPXL 5:00, Fri

Maine, Bangor WABI-DT 9:30, Sun

Presque Isle WBPO 9:30, Sun

Maryland, Salisbury WBD 9:30, Sun

Massachusetts, Holyoke WBQT 9:30, Sun

Springfield WBQT 9:30, Sun

Michigan, Alpena WBAE 9:30, Sun

Cadillac WGTU/WGTQ 9:30, Sun

Detroit WPXD 6:00, Fri; WADL 10:00, Sun

Grand Rapids WZPX 5:00, Fri

Lansing WLAI-DT 9:30, Sun

Marquette WBKP 9:30, Sun

Traverse City-Cadillac WGTU-DT/WGTQ-DT 9:30, Sun

Minnesota, Duluth-Superior WDLH 8:30, Sun

Mankato KWYE 8:30, Sun

Minneapolis KPXM 5:00, Fri

Rochester-Austin KTTC-DC 8:30, Sun

Sioux Fall (Mitchell) KWSD/KSWD-DT 8:30, Sun

Mississippi, Biloxi WMBP 8:30, Sun

Columbus WCBI-DT 8:30, Sun

Greenville WBWD 8:30, Sun

Greenwood WBWD 8:30, Sun

Gulfport WBGH 8:30, Sun

Hattiesburg WBH 8:30, Sun

Laurel WBH 8:30, Sun

Meridian WTOK-DT 8:30, Sun

Tupelo WCBI-DT 8:30, Sun

West Point WCBI-DT 8:30, Sun

Missouri, Columbia KOMU-DT 8:30, Sun

Hannibal WGEM-DT 8:30, Sun

Jefferson City KOMU-DT 8:30, Sun

Joplin-Pittsburg KSXF 8:30, Sun

Kansas City KPXE 5:00, Fri

Quincy-Keokuk WGEM-DT 8:30, Sun

St. Joseph WBJO 8:30, Sun

Montana, Billings KTVQ-DT 8:30, Sun

Bozeman-Butte KBZK-DT/KXLF-DT 10:30, Sun

Glendive KWZB 10:30, Sun

Great Falls KRTV-DT 10:30, Sun

Helena KMTF-DT 10:30, Sun

Missoula KPAX-DT 10:30, Sun

Nebraska, Lincoln-Hastings

KCWL-TV 8:30, Sun

Kearney KCWL-TV 8:30, Sun

North Platte KWPL 8:30, Sun

Philadelphia Trumpet editor in chief Gerald Flurry appears each week on *The Key of David* explaining the meaning behind world events and teaching the inspiring truths of the Bible. The program is also available at keyofdavid.com.

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Buffalo WPXI 6:00, Fri; WUTV 10:00, Sun
Elmira WBE 9:30, Sun
New York City WPNX 6:00, Fri
Rochester WUHF 8:30, Sun
Syracuse WSPX 6:00, Fri
Utica WBU 9:30, Sun
Watertown WWTI-DT 9:30, Sun
North Carolina, Durham WRPX 6:00, Fri; 9:00 am, Sun
Fayetteville WFPX 6:00, Fri
Greensboro WGFX 6:00, Fri
Greenville WEPX 6:00, Fri; WNCT-DT 9:30, Sun
Lumber Bridge WFPX 6:00, Fri
New Bern WNCT-DT 9:30, Sun
Raleigh WRPX 6:00, Fri; 9:00 am, Sun
Washington WNCT-DT 9:30, Sun
Wilmington WBW 9:30, Sun
North Dakota, Bismarck KWMK 10:30, Sun
Dickinson KWMK 10:30, Sun
Fargo WDAY-DT 8:30, Sun
Minot KWMK 10:30, Sun
Valley City WDAY-DT 8:30, Sun
Ohio, Cleveland WVPX 6:00, Fri
Cincinnati WSTR 8:30, Sun
Lima WLIO-DT 9:30, Sun
Steubenville WBWO 9:30, Sun
Zanesville WBZV 9:30, Sun
Oklahoma, Ada KSHD 8:30, Sun
Lawton KAUZ 8:30, Sun
Oklahoma City KOPX 5:00, Fri
Tulsa KTPX 5:00, Fri
Oregon, Bend KTVZ-DT 9:30, Sun
Klamath Falls KMFD 9:30, Sun
Medford KMFD 9:30, Sun
Portland KPXG 6:00, Fri
Pennsylvania, Erie WBEP 9:30, Sun
Philadelphia WPPX 6:00, Fri
Wilkes Barre WQPX 6:00, Fri
Rhode Island, Providence WPXQ 6:00, Fri
South Carolina, Charleston WCB-DT 9:30, Sun
Florence WWMB/WWMB-DT 9:30, Sun
Myrtle Beach WWMB/WWMB-DT 9:30, Sun
South Dakota, Mitchell KWSB 8:30, Sun

Rapid City KWBH-LP 10:30, Sun
Sioux Falls KWSB 8:30, Sun
Tennessee, Jackson WBJK 8:30, Sun
Knoxville WPXK 6:00, Fri
Memphis WPXX 5:00, Fri
Nashville WNPX 5:00, Fri
Texas, Abilene KTWS-DT 8:30, Sun
Amarillo KVII-DT/KVIH/KVII-DT 8:30, Sun
Beaumont KFDM-DT 8:30, Sun
Brownsville KSFE-LP/KTIZ-LP 8:30, Sun
Corpus Christi KRIS-DT 8:30, Sun
Harlingen KSFE-LP/KTIZ-LP 8:30, Sun
Houston KPXB 5:00, Fri
Laredo KTXW 8:30, Sun
Longview KCEB 8:30, Sun
Lubbock KLCW 8:30, Sun
Midland KQWT 8:30, Sun
Odessa KQWT 8:30, Sun
Port Arthur KFDM 8:30, Sun
San Angelo KWSA 8:30, Sun
San Antonio KPXL 5:00, Fri
Sherman-Ada KTEN-DT 8:30, Sun
Sweetwater KTWS-DT 8:30, Sun
Tyler KCEB 8:30, Sun
Victoria KWVB 8:30, Sun
Weslaco KSFE-LP/KTIZ-LP 8:30, Sun
Wichita Falls KAUZ-DT 8:30, Sun
Utah, Salt Lake City KUPX 5:00, Fri
Vermont, Burlington WVNY 10:00, Sun
Virginia, Charlottesville WVIR-DT 9:30, Sun
Harrisonburg WVIR-DT 9:30, Sun
Norfolk WPXV 6:00, Fri
Roanoke WPXR 6:00, Fri
Washington D.C. WDCW 8:00, Sun; WPXW 6:00, Fri
Washington, Kennewick KCWK 9:30, Sun; KIMA-DT2 9:30, Sun
Pasco KEPR 6:30, Sun; KIMA-DT2 9:30, Sun
Richland KCWK 9:30, Sun; KIMA-DT2 9:30, Sun
Seattle-Tacoma KWPX 6:00, Fri
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Yakima KIMA-DT2 9:30, Sun
West Virginia, Beckley KVVA-DT 9:30, Sun
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Clarksburg WVFX-DT 9:30, Sun
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Parkersburg WBPB 9:30, Sun

Weston WVFX-DT 9:30, Sun
Wheeling WBWO 9:30, Sun
Wisconsin, Eau Claire WQOW-DT/WXOW-DT 8:30, Sun
La Crosse WQOW/WXOW 8:30, Sun
Milwaukee WPXE 5:00, Fri
Rhineland WAOW/WYOW 8:30, Sun
Wausau WAOW-DT/WYOW-DT 8:30, Sun
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Victoria CHNU 5:30 pm, Sun
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Nova Scotia, Halifax WUHF 8:30, Sun
Sydney WUHF 8:30, Sun
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Mexico WGN 7:00, Sun
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Bahamas WGN 8:00, Sun
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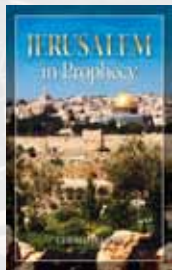
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