

THE PHILADELPHIA **Trumpet**

**Russia investigation: an
unseen threat to America**

**Surveillance state:
a preview of your future?**

China's fisherman navy

Why study history

Expression suppression



THE ISAIAH SEAL

More proof
of the Bible
unearthed
in Jerusalem

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Trumpet editor in chief Gerald Flurry's weekly television program theTrumpet.com/keyofdavid

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Unearthed: Another Inspiring Biblical Artifact

JERUSALEM ARCHAEOLOGIST DR. EILAT MAZAR HAS MADE many discoveries from the First and Second Temple periods, including David's palace, Solomon's wall, Nehemiah's wall, a gold medallion with a menorah imprinted on it, and two clay seal impressions of a pair of Jewish princes who tried to have the Prophet Jeremiah killed. Before she uncovered David's palace and Nehemiah's wall, virtually *nothing* from these periods had been found in Jerusalem.



GERALD FLURRY

Students from Herbert W. Armstrong College, in association with the *Trumpet*, have assisted Dr. Mazar in seven archaeological excavations over the last 12 years, including a three-month dig on the Ophel taking place right now. Our 11 students and graduates make up about half of the excavation team. Over the years, Armstrong College students

have been on the scene when many of these earthshaking artifacts were uncovered—and some of our students have been directly responsible for digging them out of the ground.

These finds are extremely important. David's palace is the site where King David's throne began. Biblical prophecy shows that the Messiah will rule from that throne forever when He returns to Earth soon. Solomon's wall—a massive 70-meter-long, 6-meter-high structure hewn from the largest stones ever found from the First Temple period—disproves the argument that the Davidic monarchy was a greatly exaggerated group of nomadic shepherders.

The seals of Jewish princes Jehucal and Gedaliah recall the harsh persecution that Jeremiah faced—persecution reflecting the Jews' hostility to God's warning message, which got them sent into captivity. Nehemiah's wall was built in the sixth century B.C. after the Jews returned from enslavement in Babylon.

It appears Dr. Mazar has found yet another staggering biblical artifact: A CLAY SEAL BEARING THE NAME OF THE PROPHET ISAIAH.

Believing the Bible

Dr. Mazar is unique in her field because she relies on the Bible as a history textbook. When she examined this bulla, she immediately thought it could be referring to the Prophet Isaiah, even though the left side is damaged and a letter or two seem to be missing. I met with her in Jerusalem last October, and she explained the details of this exciting discovery to me.

The bulla was unearthed back in 2009, along with 33 other clay seals—one belonging to King Hezekiah, which she

announced in 2015. The Isaiah bulla and the Hezekiah bulla were nestled in the earth *mere feet apart*. (For an extensive report on the Isaiah bulla, see page 2, "Has Eilat Mazar Discovered Archaeological Evidence of Isaiah the Prophet?")

Skeptics will surely try to deny this latest discovery, but that is nothing new to Dr. Mazar. She has been persecuted all her life simply for *believing the history recorded in the Old Testament*. Here is how the Israeli newspaper *Haaretz* described her and her work in an article last year titled "Is the Bible a True Story?": "Someone who believes she did find the glorious Jerusalem of David is Dr. Eilat Mazar, the furthest to the right in the biblical camp. ... In archaeological circles, Mazar is practically a one-woman camp of her own. ... Sometimes, she says, however convinced you are of your truth, you can't budge a soul" (Nov. 1, 2017).

WHAT A SHAME! Due to their miraculous history with God, the Jews ought to be the most faith-filled people in the world. Instead, the elites cause them to doubt the accuracy of the Bible!

Skeptics will surely try to deny this latest discovery, but that is nothing new to Dr. Mazar. She has been persecuted all her life simply for believing the history recorded in the Old Testament.

Hezekiah and Isaiah are one of the Bible's greatest king-prophet teams. Read my February article, "How King Hezekiah Saved Jerusalem Anciently" (theTrumpet.com/16701). You can see how Hezekiah relied on the Prophet Isaiah to receive God's protection. Because of Hezekiah's deference to God's man, God saved Judah from certain defeat by *supernaturally wiping out 185,000 Assyrian soldiers overnight!* (Isaiah 37). Rather than scoffing, the modern Jews should seriously consider this history as they face the constant threat of NATIONAL EXTINCTION from a growing list of mortal foes.

I believe God preserved this tangible evidence of the lives of both Hezekiah and Isaiah because He wanted it to be discovered. It brings so much inspiring and relevant history to life! So many lessons are wrapped up in the Isaiah bulla! *Every human being on the planet* would do well to look into this exhilarating history—and take heed!

Has Eilat Mazar Discovered Archaeological Evidence of Isaiah the Prophet?

The sensational story behind the unearthing of a tiny artifact that proves the existence of one of the Bible's greatest prophets

BY BRAD MACDONALD

KING HEZEKIAH WAS concerned, but not distraught. The Assyrian army, notorious for its brutality, was cutting a path through Judah. King Sennacherib had conquered Judah's fortified cities, including the supposedly impregnable city of Lachish, and the path was now open for his army to fall upon Jerusalem, the crown jewel of the Judean kingdom.

Judah's king knew what he needed to do. According to the biblical narrative, he immediately "rent his clothes, and covered himself with sackcloth, and went into the house of the Lord" to pray (2 Kings 19:1). King Hezekiah knew he needed to connect with God. But he also knew that to do so, he had to connect with God's prophet. The king summoned Eliakim, his chief of staff.

He commanded his servant to dress in sackcloth and to seek the counsel of "Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz" (verse 2).

This story encapsulates the remarkable life and accomplishments of ancient Judah's greatest king since David. During his 29-year reign, King Hezekiah purged the nation of idolatry, restored obedience to God's law, and reoriented Judah around the temple, the seat of righteous worship. 2 Kings 18:5 gives this commendation: Hezekiah "trusted in the Lord God of Israel; so that after him was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor any that were before him."

But King Hezekiah did not accomplish all this single-handedly. The biblical books of Kings, Chronicles and Isaiah show that the *key* to Hezekiah's success was his extraordinary

relationship with Isaiah the prophet. Isaiah was as much the protagonist in Hezekiah's story as the king himself, and the remarkable renaissance the kingdom of Judah enjoyed during the eighth century B.C. was a direct result of this special king-prophet alliance.

In December 2015, archaeologist Eilat Mazar announced that she had discovered proof of King Hezekiah. The evidence came in the form of a clay seal impression, or bulla. This sensational discovery generated a lot of international attention, and rightly so.

To this point, however, there has been no known archaeological evidence proving the existence of King Hezekiah's chief counselor and the unsung hero of ancient Judah's eighth-century B.C. rebirth, Isaiah the prophet.

The Hezekiah Bulla

The Hezekiah bulla was unearthed in 2009, during a small excavation on the Ophel. The Ophel is situated adjacent to and south of the southern wall of the Temple Mount and has been the location of multiple archaeological excavations since 1968 (see map).

The dig occurred in an area adjoining the ruins of what archaeological evidence suggests was once King Solomon's royal bakery (see diagram). Discovered in 1986 and dated to the First Temple period, the ancient ruins contained pottery, including multiple enormous clay jars (*pithoi*) inscribed with Hebrew text showing they belonged to the royal bakery.

Imagine a baker or palace worker 3,000 years ago tossing litter out the bakery window. Dr. Mazar's 2009 excavation occurred at the foot of the



HEZEKIAH BULLA
Discovered in 2009, this bulla's significance wasn't realized until 2015.

southeast wall of the bakery, in the area where the debris would have landed. The excavation was small, but it furnished a treasure trove of ancient artifacts, including pottery fragments, ivory inlays, figurines, and LMLK seal impressions on jar handles. (In ancient Hebrew, LMLK means “belonging to the king.”) Mazar and her team also unearthed 34 bullae—small clay seal impressions stamped with the name of their owner. Thirty of these bullae bore Hebrew names.

In 2014, as Eilat Mazar and archaeologist Reut Livyatan Ben-Arie were preparing the final report of the 2009 excavation, they felt one bulla warranted extra study. More than 12 months later, Dr. Mazar revealed the meaning of the inscription. It reads, “Belonging to Hezekiah, [son of] Ahaz, King of Judah.”

This was the seal impression of Judah’s greatest king after David.

The Hezekiah bulla was a historic and extraordinary discovery. Dr. Mazar called it the most important individual discovery of her career, which is quite a statement, considering she has also uncovered King David’s palace, Solomon’s royal complex, Nehemiah’s wall, and a golden medallion featuring a menorah from the seventh century A.D. The discovery of the Hezekiah bulla was the first time ever that the name of a Judean king had been unearthed in controlled scientific excavations.

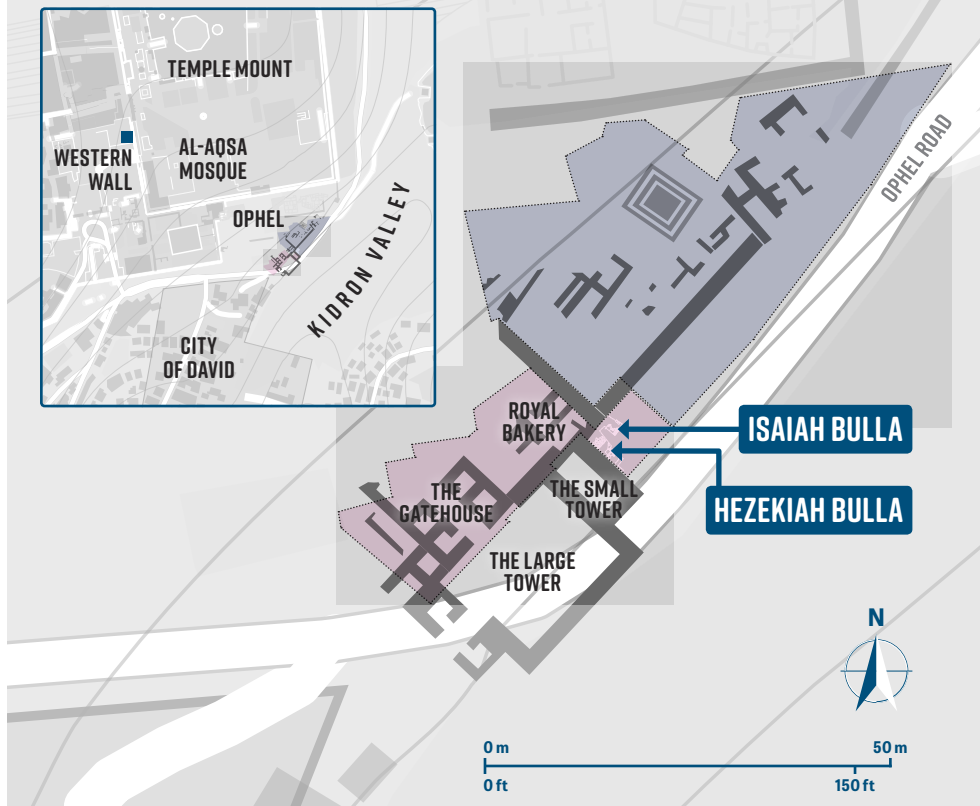
Dr. Mazar didn’t know it at the time, but lingering among the other 33 bullae, awaiting its turn under her microscope, was another extraordinary discovery.

Meet Isaiah

Among the remaining seal impressions, one bears the Hebrew inscription: “Yeshā’yah[u] Nvy[?]”

When Dr. Mazar first read this inscription in 2014, she was instantly intrigued. *Yeshā’yahu* is the ancient Hebrew name for *Isaiah*. Naturally, this caused her to wonder: Was this the seal impression of Isaiah the prophet? As electrifying as this thought was, Dr. Mazar suspended judgment. Speak with Eilat about archaeology even for a few minutes, and there’s a good chance you will hear her say something like, “We must let the stones speak.” Dr. Mazar is a scientist, and like every

OPHEL EXCAVATION



great scientist, she believes it is her job to follow the facts.

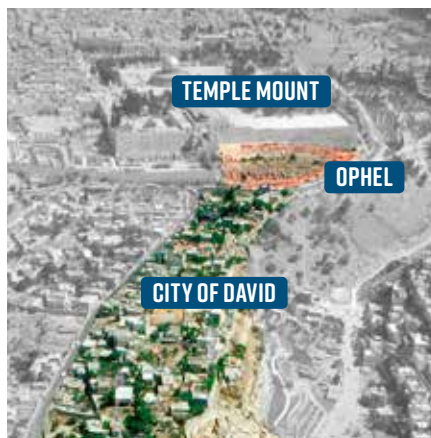
Dr. Mazar studied the bulla extensively. She showed it to colleagues, including Prof. Schmuël Ahituv and Dr. Haggai Misgav, two distinguished epigraphists and experts at decrypting ancient Hebrew inscriptions.

Even though it is tiny (roughly 1 centimeter wide), this bulla is chock-full of history. It can be divided into three zones, or lines. A significant part of the upper zone (first line) is missing, and the bottom left side is damaged. The

damage was caused by a finger crushing the soft clay when the seal was fashioned almost 2,700 years ago. (You can actually see the fingerprints.) The fact that part of the bulla is damaged makes decoding it a challenge. Despite the damage, however, the text that remains is in excellent condition and easy to read.

It is important to note that the missing section of the bulla (top zone) does not contain text. Instead, this zone is inscribed with an image, or motif. It was common for ancient seals to contain symbols and images. (The Hezekiah bulla, for example, features the imprint of the sun with downturned wings.) Dr. Mazar believes the motif on this seal is a grazing doe, which symbolizes prosperity. (Interestingly, this kind of imagery is found in the book of Isaiah—for example, in Isaiah 11:6; 13:14 and 35:6.)

The most interesting part of the bulla—the text identifying its owner—is inscribed on the second and third lines. The text on the second line is easy to read and clearly states, *Yeshā’yah[?]*. Although one letter is missing on the left side (Hebrew is written from right to left), there is only one viable



option for its identity. In order for it to be a name, it must be a “u” (Hebrew *vav*). With the necessary “u,” this is incontestably the Hebrew name *Yasha’yah[u]*—or *Isaiah*.

The critical question is: Is this *Isaiah the prophet*?

More Missing Text

The Bible mentions seven individuals named *Isaiah*, and other men named *Isaiah* undoubtedly lived in ancient Judah. Although this name was common, it was rare for an individual to have his own seal. Generally, *only* important figures—royalty, high officials, priests and prophets—had their own unique seal impression. So whoever this *Isaiah* was, he was unquestionably an important figure.

A lot of the mystery with this bulla ultimately revolves around its damaged left side, and specifically the inscription on the third line. It is impossible to know for certain whether the word on the third line is complete or missing a letter. Dr. Mazar believes it is missing text and is therefore incomplete.

There is clearly a border around the outer edge of the bulla. The text and motif are positioned *inside* this border. But notice, there is no border on the left side of the bulla, due to the damage sustained when it was created. If we imagine the existing border continuing around the entire outside edge, we can visualize where the border *would be* had the left side not been spoiled. On the left side of the bulla, between the last letter and the imaginary border-line, there would be ample space on the second line for at least two more letters, and ample space on the third line for at least one letter.

Finally, imagine there was *no text* (or at least a symbol or motif) filling the vacant space on both the second and third lines. Without a letter or symbol in this space, the seal would look asymmetrical, unbalanced and incomplete. It would look odd.

We know the missing letter on the second line is “u” and that with this letter we have the Hebrew name for *Isaiah*. But there is ample space for a second letter. In fact, if the spacing between the letters on the second line was equal (as one would expect), then

it is highly likely that another letter is missing. Perhaps this was “*heh*,” the Hebrew word for “*the*.”

But what about the missing text on the third line? Can we know what letters might have existed in this space?

First, consider the three Hebrew letters that are present and can be easily deciphered. These are the Hebrew letters *nun*, *vet* and *yod*; together these form *nyv*. This word is not found in the Bible or in the Hebrew language. Of course, this does not mean the term did not exist. Prof. Shmuel Ahituv has studied the seal and suggests that *nyv* could be a surname, or may refer to a resident of the ancient Judean region or city of *Nov* (“*Nob*” in English). Dr. Mazar



believes the more likely explanation is that the inscription is missing letters and is incomplete.

If the second word is a name or surname (perhaps with an added letter), as Professor Ahituv suggests, the inscription does not identify the owner’s occupation, title or place of origin. This would be unusual. Dr. Mazar suggests the most likely and natural option for the missing letter is an *aleph* (‘). The addition of an *aleph* on the bottom line would create *NYV’*—the Hebrew word for *PROPHET*.

To the Hebrew ear, the word *nyv*—even without the *aleph* (which is silent)—naturally sounds like *prophet*. Imagine hearing a friend read an ancient coin that said “*Kin Richard*.” Most people would naturally hear “*king*” and conclude that the coin was referring to *King Richard* even if the *g* in *king* was missing. It’s the same in Hebrew with *Yasha’yah[u nyv]*, the term inscribed on this bulla. When you read (and say) *nyv*, you *naturally* hear “*prophet*” even though *nyv* is missing the *aleph*.

This is why *nyv’* is the *most natural* explanation for the incomplete word on the *Isaiah* bulla.

If the missing letter on the third line was an *aleph*, the inscription on the bulla would clearly read, “*ISAIAH, PROPHET*.” If the Hebrew word “*heh*” was inscribed on the second line, the bulla would read, “*ISAIAH THE PROPHET*.” Other bullae discovered from the same archaeological period show that there is precedent for the inscription existing either *with or without* the specific article “*the*.”

Archaeological Context

In archaeology, *context* matters. When examining an artifact, the material *surrounding* the item plays a crucial role in determining and verifying its proper identity. For example, if the surrounding material dates to a particular period, then it is likely the artifact can also be dated to that period.

The ruins and artifacts *surrounding* the *Isaiah* bulla have been conclusively dated to the First Temple period (in archaeological terms, Iron Age II). We can know with certainty that the *Isaiah* who owned this seal lived in Jerusalem between the ninth and seventh

centuries B.C. The Prophet Isaiah lived in Jerusalem in the eighth century B.C.

But in this instance we have even more archaeological context. The Isaiah seal was uncovered at the *same time* (2009) and in the *same assemblage* (collection of bullae and other artifacts) as the Hezekiah seal. It was discovered just a few feet from the Hezekiah bulla, and in exactly the same strata of soil.

Dr. Mazar, in her article for *Biblical Archaeology Review*, noted the discovery of the Isaiah bulla just a few feet from the Hezekiah bulla and asked how likely it is that this bulla could belong to an Isaiah other than Isaiah *the prophet*. To me, she wrote, this is a “SURREAL SCENARIO” (emphasis added throughout).

When you consider the various explanations and the *probability* of each, it is hard to imagine this seal belonging to anyone other than Isaiah the prophet. The “chances of it belonging to any other but the known Prophet Isaiah are EXTREMELY SLIM,” wrote Dr. Mazar.

When studying the archaeological context of an artifact, it is also important to consider the overarching storyline or narrative of the artifacts or ruins around it. If the assemblage is reasonably homogeneous, meaning the artifacts all date to the same period, then together they will often tell a story. Depending on what is uncovered, the assemblage can provide a glimpse into the political, cultural or religious environment of the time. If the archaeological context in which an artifact is uncovered has a distinct theme, then it is likely that the artifact was part of that history.

What is the archaeological context of the Isaiah bulla? Does it have a theme? Can this theme provide insight into Isaiah’s identity?

Remembering King Hezekiah

The Isaiah bulla was uncovered within a collection of artifacts (bullae, figurines, LMLK seal impressions) that dated to the First Temple period. Of these, the most dramatic and enlightening discovery was undoubtedly the Hezekiah bulla, and this seal provides valuable insight into the identity of the Isaiah bulla.

The Old Testament record provides a thorough account of Judah’s history following the death of King Solomon in the latter half of the 10th century B.C. This

history is marked by political instability and failure, social and cultural degradation, and religious confusion and rebellion. Ancient Judah’s downward spiral was led by Judah’s kings, many of whom rejected God and lived idolatrous lives. Many, but not all.

King Hezekiah was among the handful of exceptions. In fact, he was the opposite of Judah’s rebellious monarchs. Hezekiah inherited the throne of Judah when he was 25 years old and ruled for 29 years. The Bible recounts that he set about reforming Judah the day he took office: within a remarkably short period he had rid the kingdom of paganism, reestablished God’s law as the supreme law of the land, and raised the ruins of King Solomon’s temple.

King Hezekiah’s dramatic actions produced that famed renaissance in

The Isaiah seal provides all humanity with a rare and wonderful opportunity. It brings to life some of the most extraordinary and inspiring history in Scripture.

Judah: The kingdom thrived politically, financially and culturally in a way it hadn’t experienced since King Solomon.

You can read this history in 2 Kings 18-20, 2 Chronicles 29-32, and the book of Isaiah. 2 Kings 18:5 says King Hezekiah “trusted in the Lord God of Israel; so that after him was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor any that were before him.” The Hezekiah seal invokes the life and work of the greatest king since David.

This historical context is important because the biblical passages documenting King Hezekiah’s life and work show that Isaiah the prophet was instrumental to his success. Other than King Hezekiah himself, the Prophet Isaiah was the most important and influential figure in the national revival. In fact, on those occasions when Hezekiah relied on Isaiah’s counsel, the prophet was *the most* influential figure in the nation.

There are 15 occasions in the Old Testament where the names Hezekiah and Isaiah are mentioned in the same verse, or, as Dr. Mazar put it, “in the same breath.”

In 2 Kings 19, King Hezekiah responds to the threat of Assyrian invasion by praying earnestly and then dispatching servants to seek the counsel of “Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz.” 2 Kings 20 records that King Hezekiah was struck with a fatal illness and that the prophet communed with the king in his private chambers. Later in this same chapter, Isaiah visits Hezekiah again, this time with a message of correction.

Hezekiah and Isaiah were more than just contemporaries. Outside of King David and the Prophet Samuel, this is the most influential and productive king-prophet relationship in the Bible. Whenever Hezekiah faced crisis or needed counsel, he turned to Isaiah. And the prophet, inspired by God, guided King Hezekiah—and all of Judah—through the crisis.

Consider this history and ask yourself: How likely is it that a bulla discovered within a few feet of King Hezekiah’s bulla and inscribed with the name Isaiah belonged to a man other than ISAIAH THE PROPHET?

Like the Hezekiah bulla, the Isaiah seal provides all humanity with a rare and wonderful opportunity. It brings to life some of the most extraordinary and inspiring history in Scripture. The history of King Hezekiah and the Prophet Isaiah is a story of ancient Judah’s repentance, redemption and national salvation. It is the story of how God, through a remarkable king-prophet alliance, saved a city and its people from terrorism, war and conquest.

And for some—sadly, too few—it is a story replete with lessons for today. ■

To learn more about the value of archaeology, request Gerald Flurry’s reprint article “**Archaeology Thunders: ‘Behold Your God!’**”



THE KING OF DEBT

America has embraced reckless spending and no longer even pretends it will repay what it owes. What could go wrong?

BY STEPHEN FLURRY

THE UNITED STATES IS EXPLODING its debt in a way never seen in its history. The nation has amassed large debts before, in times of war or recession. But generally it has paid much of its debt back after the nation has recovered.

Right now, the nation is recovering, according to most economic indicators. During recoveries under the Coolidge, Truman and Eisenhower administrations, America paid down much of its debt. But during the “recovery” of the early 21st century, the nation has continued borrowing on a massive scale.

America has reached a new level of debt addiction.

On February 9, President Donald Trump signed into law the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018. On February 12, he unveiled his own budget proposal for the financial year ending in 2019. According to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), these proposals will see the U.S. borrow \$833 billion in 2018, equivalent to 4.2 percent of America’s gross domestic product. It forecasts that America’s debt will near \$21.5 trillion by the end of the year.

America is going into debt at an unprecedented rate, but what is even more alarming is that its leadership does not acknowledge that this is even a problem!

It was hard to wrap our minds around borrowing a trillion dollars to stave off the 2008 financial crisis. But now the Treasury forecasts that the United States will be borrowing nearly a trillion dollars every year from now on! That is astronomical.

‘The King of Debt’

America’s attitude on debt has shifted. Everyone once agreed it was a bad thing, even though no one took any action.



“The deep, dark secret is Republicans like to spend money just as much as Democrats. They just want to spend it on something different.” —CALIFORNIA DEMOCRAT REP. JIM COSTA

In 2008, then Sen. Barack Obama vocally criticized President George W. Bush as “irresponsible” and “unpatriotic” to take the U.S. from \$5 trillion to \$10 trillion in debt. At least he and other politicians voiced rhetoric criticizing that massive liability.

Then Mr. Obama was elected president, and he himself added \$10 trillion to the debt in just eight years. By the time he left office, the debt had doubled from \$10 trillion to \$20 TRILLION! That means America no longer owes \$30,000 for every man, woman and child but more than \$60,000. Is that irresponsible and unpatriotic?

Now there is not even much rhetoric against debt. When Donald Trump was campaigning for the presidency in 2016, he *bragged* about how much he was able to “prosper” because of DEBT!

Speaking about his personal businesses, he told CNN on May 4, 2016, “I’m the king of debt. I love debt.” The next day, Mr. Trump told CNBC that if he became president, he would borrow knowing that “if the economy crashed, you could make a deal. And if the economy was good, it was good. So, therefore, you can’t lose.” On June 22, 2016, he reiterated to *CBS This Morning*: “I’m the king of debt. I’m great with debt; nobody knows debt better than me. I’ve made a fortune by using debt, and if things don’t work out, I renegotiate the debt. I mean, that’s a smart thing, not a stupid thing.”

It is NOT a smart thing to accumulate debt! At some point we are going to see the bubble burst, and we are already seeing some disturbing signs.

When asked what renegotiating the debt meant, Trump responded, “You go back and you say, ‘Hey, guess what? The economy just crashed. I’m gonna give you back half.’”

In other words, if the economy crashes, President Trump says that America will just pay back less than what the nation actually owes. This is dangerous thinking! It’s never wise to accumulate debt and assume that if things don’t work out you can always renegotiate. How will creditors like China react when America says, “*I’m gonna give you back half*”?

Mr. Trump told CNBC on Aug. 11, 2016: “[T]his is a time to borrow, and to borrow long term, so that we can have money to rebuild our infrastructure.”

It’s clear that the president is now putting those beliefs into practice. In his State of the Union Address on January 30, he called on Congress to produce a bill that includes an additional \$1.5 TRILLION in infrastructure spending. “We will build gleaming new roads, bridges, highways, railways and waterways all across our land,” he said. According to U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, infrastructure will take top priority this year.

Mr. Trump believes that he knows how to use debt to rebuild America.

Everyone Loves Debt

The U.S. president cannot raise debt alone. He must have the support of Congress.

On February 8, Kentucky Republican Sen. Rand Paul delayed the votes for Mr. Trump’s proposed budget for a couple of hours by delivering a speech on the floor of the Senate. In his speech, he asked, “How come you were against President Obama’s deficits and then how come you’re for Republican deficits? ... Isn’t that the very definition of hypocrisy?” He warned that “this new stimulus of deficit spending will be as big as President Obama’s stimulus.”

Despite Paul voicing his concerns and initiating a short government shutdown, the Senate passed the bill (71-28), and the House followed suit (240-186).

“The deep, dark secret is Republicans like to spend money just as much as Democrats,” said California Democrat Rep. Jim Costa. “They just want to spend it on something different.”

In December, when Mr. Trump introduced a new \$1.5 trillion tax cut, the Democrats protested, saying it would swell the national debt. But as the *New York Times* pointed out in an article titled, “As Deficit Soars Toward \$1 Trillion, Congress Shrugs and Keeps Spending”: “[D]emocrats are pressing to secure a sizable boost in spending on domestic programs, including billions of dollars to address the opioid crisis. And lawmakers from both parties are looking to approve at least about \$80 billion in additional aid in response to last year’s hurricanes and wildfires” (January 30).

When it is politically expedient, Democrats will condemn runaway spending. But when it comes to *their* programs, they always want to spend *more*. Sadly, the same can be said of Republicans. Both parties claim they want to be fiscally responsible, but both keep spending and adding more debt.

The government’s new spending plan will hit the oft-revised debt ceiling, which is currently at \$20.5 trillion, by mid-March. Rather than raising the debt limit, the new budget deal signed into law on February 9 completely removes the cap on borrowing until March 1, 2019. This means the national debt will be allowed to grow unchecked for *an entire year*. When the suspension ends, it will automatically be increased to reflect the borrowing that occurred in the interim. The Committee for a Responsible Federal

The average American citizen loves to accumulate debt just as much as his government does. We are addicted to it at every level of society.

Budget estimates that when it resets, it could easily be set as high as \$22 trillion.

AMERICA IS ADDICTED TO DEBT. We are hooked on it like we are hooked on drugs, and no one is serious about conquering this nation-destroying addiction.

Debt Is Getting More Expensive

At the same time that America's borrowing is exploding, many are warning that the nation could soon find it harder to borrow money.

Harvard economist and former Reagan adviser Martin Feldstein told Bloomberg, "It is terrible. Those deficits and the debt that keeps rising [are] a *serious problem*, not only in the long run, BUT RIGHT NOW" (January 31; emphasis added throughout).

America's debt is so high that investors are getting worried. "The belief in Washington and on Wall Street has long been that the U.S. government could just keep issuing debt because people around the world are eager to buy up this safe-haven asset," wrote the *Washington Post's* Heather Long. "But there may be a limit to how much the market wants, especially if inflation starts rising and investors prefer to ditch bonds for higher-returning stocks" (February 3).

The flash crash of February, when the stock market suffered its biggest one-day loss in history, was partially caused by higher interest rates on U.S. debt. The government must pay high levels of interest to attract investors, which, in turn, increases borrowing costs for companies. Investors feared these high rates would hurt U.S. companies—companies that are also addicted to debt.

There is another force ready to push up America's borrowing costs. The Federal Reserve has been buying America's debt since the financial crisis. The nation avoided economic ruin by

applying Band-Aids like printing vast amounts of money and borrowing from nations like China. But now the Federal Reserve is getting ready to cut back on its debt purchasing. What happens if China and other nations also decide to purchase less of America's debt?

"Some of my Wall Street clients are starting to talk recession in 2019 because of these issues. Fiscal policy is just out of control," former Congress tax economist Peter Davis told Long (*ibid*).

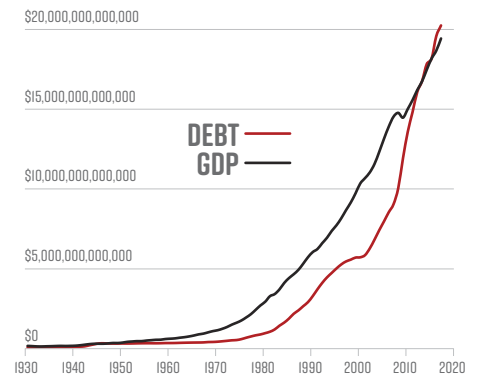
Some analysts are sounding the warning because high borrowing costs can quickly spiral out of control. The OMB forecasts that America will spend \$310 billion in the next year just on interest payments for its debt. Right now, the interest rate is near its all-time low. If it starts creeping up, the problem will spiral out of control FAST. A higher interest rate means the government must borrow more money to pay the interest. The higher borrowing rate will worry investors. They will be less likely to buy debt, which will push interest rates still higher. And the cycle continues.

Historian and senior fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution Niall Ferguson has warned that empires fall when the interest on their debt equals what they spend on defense. According to the OMB, this will happen around 2024. If interest rates increase, it could come much sooner.

Besides a few conservative economists, who is concerned about this state of affairs? Which party is concerned about reckless spending and the effect it will have on the future of our children and the nation?

Warnings From History

In the 1800s, Lord Randolph Churchill said, "The first and most vital interest

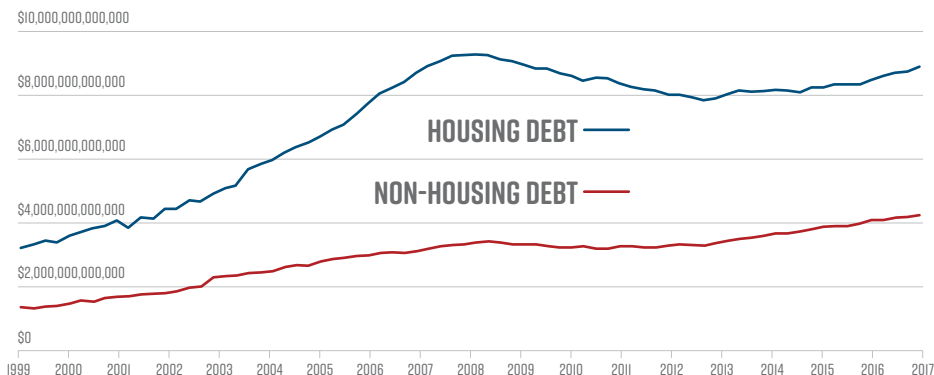
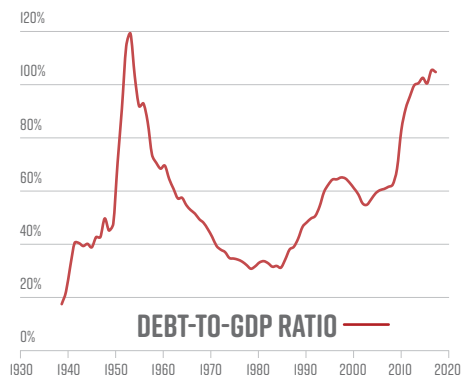


of the nation IS FINANCE! Upon finance *everything* connected with government hinges. Good finance ensures good government and national prosperity; bad finance is the cause of inefficient government and national depression."

One could make a strong case that a nation's first and most vital interest is the morality of its people, or the strength of its families, or the rule of law—all matters that America is unconcerned about losing today. Nevertheless, Churchill's point should not be ignored. How sad that you have to go back several generations to get such sound advice and counsel!

George Washington was concerned about the direction America would take after he left office. In his 1796 Farewell Address, he warned his fellow Americans as a "parting friend." He wrote a lot about how the country needed to be unified—but today the only thing America seems to agree on is that we need to spend more money! Republicans and Democrats may disagree about *what* to spend it on, but everyone agrees that we need to keep spending.

Notice what Washington said on the eve of his retirement: "As a very important source of strength and security, cherish public credit. One method of preserving it is to *use it as sparingly as possible*, avoiding occasions of expense by cultivating peace, but remembering also that timely disbursements to prepare for danger frequently prevent much greater disbursements to repel it, *avoiding likewise the accumulation of debt, not only by shunning occasions of expense, but by vigorous exertion in time of peace to discharge the debts* which unavoidable wars may have occasioned, not ungenerously throwing upon posterity the burden which we ourselves ought to bear."



Washington specifically warned America to avoid accumulating debt. This is the exact *opposite* of what our leaders are doing today. When was the last time the United States paid down its debt? You have to go back 60 years to the administration of Dwight Eisenhower!

Debt Is a Moral Issue

Deficit spending is not limited to America's government. The average American citizen loves to accumulate debt just as much as his government does! We are addicted to it at every level of society.

In November, the Federal Reserve reported that revolving credit among Americans, mostly from credit cards, increased to \$1.023 trillion! That's an all-time high, even surpassing the 2008 credit bubble burst. Non-revolving debt—which includes student, auto and similar loans—also increased, by \$16.8 billion to \$2.8 trillion in November.

We are a nation focused on instant gratification, selfishness and greed. This explains why the wealthiest nation in history is still borrowing astronomical amounts of money. If you want something you can't afford, you charge it on your credit card. If you want government benefits the nation can't afford, you vote for the politician who promises to borrow money to give you what you want. President Washington was deeply concerned about imposing a financial burden on the next generation. But who even considers what kind of burden we are placing on our future generations?

Living according to the spiritual principle of *giving* produces prosperity. Borrowing is about getting for self, regardless of the consequences. God says in Acts 20:35 that it is more blessed to give than receive. If you are *giving*, God says you will be blessed. If you are

living within your means, saving, managing and preparing for the future and thinking about your children, then you will be blessed!

Psalm 37:21 says, "The wicked borrows, and cannot pay back, but the righteous is generous and gives" (Revised Standard Version).

As a nation, we have dug ourselves into a pit from which we will not escape, purely because of selfishness and greed.

Herbert W. Armstrong explained in a May 1983 *Plain Truth* article, "Prepare to Greatly Reduce Your Standard of Living," that God "is about to PUNISH our nations, in order finally to bring us to HIM!" He warned that Britain had already lost its empire and that the United States was also about to lose its prominence.

"[A]lready the noose is around our necks, and is almost daily tightening!" he wrote. "Economic ills are starting GREATLY to reduce our standard of living!"

He was far ahead of his time, forecasting about a financial collapse that is now about to happen! People may have dismissed this back in the 1980s, but it is clear that those blessings are quickly being withdrawn today, just as he warned.

Here is a truth of which most people are ignorant, but it can be proved: All the national prosperity and wealth that the American and British peoples have is a result of God fulfilling His promises to Abraham. (We encourage you to request a free copy of Herbert W. Armstrong's book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy* for proof. We will gladly send you one.) The reason we have had

unprecedented wealth in the first place was because God promised to bless Abraham's descendants, not only to honor this righteous man, but also in hopes of creating a nation that would serve as a positive example to the world. But instead of being thankful, or even being content to live in the richest nations of all time, we have become corrupt, dishonest, selfish and insatiable. Rather than using our prosperity to give, we have turned inward and continue to seek to get.

After God fulfilled His promises (beginning around the year 1800), they became conditional upon our people's obedience. In Deuteronomy 28, God warned the Israelites that if they disobeyed His instructions, they would fall into debt and become servant to the lender (verse 44). This warning applies to us today, and we are now experiencing these curses of indebtedness.

Sins have consequences. Mr. Armstrong believed that a worldwide financial crisis would accelerate many dire end-time prophecies. He wrote that a major banking crisis in America "could suddenly result in triggering European nations to unite as a new world power, larger than either the Soviet Union or the U.S." (co-worker letter, July 22, 1984).

Just as Mr. Armstrong predicted, we are fast moving toward the collapse of the Western world's financial system, which will help cause the 10 European kings of Revelation 17 and Daniel 2 to unite into what is called the Holy Roman Empire.

America's greed, its debt and its soon-coming financial crisis will have global ramifications. ■

If you would like to learn more about where America's banking crisis is leading and how it will affect you personally, read "How the Global Financial Crisis Will Produce Europe's 10 Kings" from the October 2015 *Trumpet* (theTrumpet.com/13072).



SURVEILLANCE STATE: A Preview of Your Future?

It's not 1984 yet, but it's getting awfully close. Is this leading to the 'mark of the beast'? **BY RICHARD PALMER**

AS YOU STEP OUT OF YOUR APARTMENT in the morning, the camera at the entrance records your departure. Cameras track you as you drive your car to work. As you walk down the street from the car park to your office, cameras track your movements. Monitoring software follows you from one camera to the next. You walk past a police officer. He wears sunglasses, not because it's bright outside, but because the glasses contain cameras connected to facial recognition software.

Once at the office, a camera outside the building alerts both the government and your employer that you've arrived.

As you log on to your computer, the government records your web browsing. The information forms a "citizen

score." Your score suffers when you visit sites that criticize the government, when you leave comments that are insufficiently supportive of government leaders and policies, or if you buy the wrong thing online.

This dystopian total surveillance state sounds far-fetched, like an idea for a fictional Hollywood movie. But it's not.

Each of these surveillance tactics are being tested in pilot schemes in China right now. And the Chinese aren't the only ones under surveillance.

Sharp Eyes

It may be hard to take the idea of such centralized control seriously; after all, we've heard warnings about it for years. George Orwell described "Big Brother,"

the all-seeing government, way back in 1949. His book is titled *1984*, but in 2018, Big Brother is still not here.

Those who lived behind the Iron Curtain, however, had a different experience. In East Germany, 2.5 percent of the population spied on the rest. Germans had to watch what they said in public, and even in private, in case the Stasi was listening. Say the wrong thing or hang out with the wrong people, and you could find yourself the victim of a government-sponsored harassment campaign. Or worse, in jail.

Now, however, we have reached a new era where technology has made mass surveillance easier than ever before.

A 1984-style surveillance state requires the linkage of millions of

cameras and the transmission and storage of masses of data. Fiber-optic networks send data at light speed, and petabytes of information are stored with ease. Facial recognition software and machine learning means that one person can track thousands.

And China is leading the way.

“Surveillance technologies are giving the government a sense that it can finally achieve the level of control over people’s lives that it aspires to,” said Adrian Zenz, a German academic who writes about China.

“Sharp Eyes” is the Chinese government’s most ambitious initiative. It aims to link up the millions of security cameras already present in China into a single nationwide surveillance platform. This includes the government cameras already on streets and shops, as well as private cameras. Official documents state that they aim for an “omnipresent, fully networked, always working and fully controllable” surveillance system by 2020.

China is running a pilot scheme for this “omnipresent” system in Chongqing. There, housing complexes unlock with a facial scan. The resident doesn’t have to fumble with his keys, but this means the government is tracking who goes in and out. Policemen at computer screens follow citizens as they walk through the streets, using cameras and facial recognition software. They track criminals—and anyone who associates with them.

“Police Cloud” is a related project that aims to collect citizens’ online information and government data, and link it to their ID cards and their faces. An individual’s shopping receipts, browsing history, medical and criminal records, and social media comments are all collated and linked to his or her face.

According to Chinese government documents, these surveillance tactics will be used to monitor criminals, which include those who undermine Chinese stability or have “extreme thoughts.”

Another pilot scheme ties a lot of this data into a “citizen score.” A high score could result in better government services and more travel opportunities. And who determines the threshold below which the government may begin taking punitive measures?

The face-recognizing sunglasses are real, too. Railway police are testing them in Zhengzhou.

The *Washington Post* wrote in January that “the Chinese government is working hand-in-glove with the country’s tech industry, from established giants to plucky start-ups staffed by graduates from top American universities and former employees of companies like Google and Microsoft, who seem cheerfully oblivious to concerns they might be empowering a modern surveillance state.

“China seeks to achieve several interlocking goals: to dominate the global artificial-intelligence industry, to apply big data to tighten its grip on

centers”—behind barbed wire, concrete walls and watchtowers.

A Danger to the West

When a government possesses this kind of power, it is certain to abuse it. Orwell described his dystopian future as “a boot stamping on a human face—forever.” The increasing use of surveillance technology in China is curtailing freedoms, and indications are the trend will continue. How can there be real freedom of thought or association when the government tracks what you say and who you associate with, and punishes you if it does not approve?

But surely such a thing could never happen in the West?

According to Chinese government documents, these surveillance tactics will monitor criminals, which include those who undermine Chinese stability or have “extreme thoughts.”

every aspect of society, and to maintain surveillance of its population more effectively than ever before” (January 7).

In December, China demonstrated this technology to the BBC. In the city of Guiyang, police have the face of every resident on record. The police found and mock-arrested the BBC’s reporter: It took them only seven minutes.

This surveillance reaches its most extreme form in the Muslim-majority province of Xinjiang. Here the Chinese government struggles with some dissent. Xinjiang authorities have not implemented some of these measures, but they have cameras everywhere. In the provincial capital of Ürümqi, security checkpoints and ID scanners guard the roads and train station. Cameras track citizens’ movements everywhere. Police carry devices to access residents’ smartphones and search them for dissenting content or banned chat apps. To fill up with gas, you must swipe your ID card and look into a camera. To buy a knife, your identification information must first be stamped into the blade in the form of a QR code.

Fall afoul of the authorities and you could be barred from traveling or sent to one of the “study and training

China is and always has been different from the West in fundamental ways. Its 20th-century embrace of communism has given the government of the world’s most populous nation enormous powers over the populace. Freedom of speech, popular sovereignty and individual rights are not a part of Red China’s mode of operation. Because of this, the government directly or indirectly runs most of the nation’s big businesses.

China claims to have facial recognition software far more sophisticated than that used by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. According to the *Washington Post*, experts believe this is probably true. “More than anything else, experts say, deep learning technologies need huge amounts of data to come up with accurate algorithms,” it wrote. “China has more data than anywhere else in the world and fewer constraints about mining it from its citizens.”

But in terms of surveillance hardware, the West is *ahead* of China. America has more CCTV cameras per head than China does. The United Kingdom stores 30 million to 40 million images of vehicle license plates every day, tracking the movements of most of the country’s population.

The biggest difference in the U.S. and UK is that surveillance is not used in the same heavy-handed way China does, even though your government may already be spying on you through your webcam, running facial recognition, and tracking your car far more than you realize (see Robert Morley's article "Is the Government Reading Your E-mail?" at theTrumpet.com/11527).

Throughout history, governments have wanted to control their citizens—and have used every possible tool to do so.

As far back as ancient Rome, Cicero complained about the government reading his mail. Caligula and Nero both used surveillance as part of their reigns of terror over the Roman aristocracy. It's easy to imagine either of these tyrants becoming a Joseph Stalin if he had Stalin's highly organized state and the technology at his disposal.

"[G]overnment tyranny is routine in human history," writes *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry in his booklet *America Under Attack*. "Let's not be naive and think something like that could never happen here. Our forefathers weren't stupid. They wanted to guarantee Americans' freedom. They really knew that God is a God of freedom; He wants us to be free. That's a gift from God, and they understood that!"

Man has never invented a weapon he has not used. And man has never invented a surveillance technique that governments have not used.

America's Founders designed a Constitution that limited government power. They knew that the human heart is naturally evil, and that those who hold the most power over other people's lives would quickly turn this power into tyranny if they are not held in check by law.

But most of that constraint has eroded. The philosophical, political and technological

potential for a surveillance state exists in nations throughout the West.

'The Mark of the Beast'

History and an understanding of human nature tell us that these techniques could be used anywhere. But biblical prophecy gives a more specific warning.

It tells of a time coming when no man can "buy or sell" without the approval of a central government (Revelation 13:17).

The Bible calls this stamp of approval "the mark of the beast." It is a mark of *religious observance*—compliance with the state-approved religion.

It is easy to see how a China-style surveillance state could enforce such a policy. Refuse this mark, and you appear on the list of people not per-

mitted to hold a job and unable to buy goods or food at the shops.

it had a powerful surveillance network to match" (Nov. 1, 2013).

Nothing brings out a government's passion to control what people say and think like religion does.

In *A History of Christianity*, Paul Johnson describes the Catholic Church's dogged pursuit of "thought crimes"—another term popularized by Orwell. In this pursuit, the church violated "town charters, written and customary laws, and virtually every aspect of established jurisprudence," he writes.

What would such an organization do with modern surveillance technology?

Mr. Armstrong proved in his booklet *Who or What Is the Prophetic Beast?* that this "mark" refers to *Sunday observance*. The religious power in Europe

Man has never invented a surveillance technique that governments have not used.

mitted to hold a job and unable to buy goods or food at the shops.

Herbert W. Armstrong wrote, "In this scriptural usage, the expression 'buy or sell' more literally indicates *being able* to buy—not that stores or those from whom one might make purchases of the necessities of life would refuse to accept the money, but that the one refusing the 'mark' would not be able to buy, would not be able to earn a living, to earn a wage or salary, or to engage himself in business" (*Who or What Is the Prophetic Beast?*). So this prophecy could be fulfilled without a surveillance state. But mass surveillance would make it much easier. And when you see how European powers have acted throughout history, a surveillance state is likely.

History is full of religions using surveillance to enforce their beliefs. The BBC even noted in its history of government spying, "In the Middle Ages, the Roman Catholic Church was more powerful than most governments—and

will require everyone to keep Sunday.

Imagine, then, this scenario. Cameras outside of churches record all who attend. Miss a service and you can expect to explain yourself to the authorities. The government monitors mobile phone signals: Too many in an office could mean that some are breaking the law and working on Sunday. Dashcams automatically record anyone spotted working outside.

Get caught, and your bank account is nullified. You lose your job. You cannot buy or sell. Try to get around this and the police will track you down. With cameras everywhere, there is nowhere to hide.

Phone signals are monitored every other day of the week. At large gatherings, the police can remotely turn on the microphone and listen to all that is said. If it's an illegal religious service, the police are there within minutes.

Does all this sound like a dystopian nightmare? Again, today's technology makes all of this possible already. ■



The mark of the prophetic beast—fully explained.

To learn about this beast and its mark, request our free booklet *Who or What Is the Prophetic Beast?* It will help you see what this beast is and how its mark has been enforced historically. But Revelation 13 is not the only scripture that warns of a new tyranny rising in Europe. Our free book *The Holy Roman Empire in Prophecy* will take you through the other prophecies warning of this rising power.



China's Fisherman Navy

Don't mistake Chinese fishermen as a ragtag band acting on its own. **BY JEREMIAH JACQUES**

“WHEN OUR COUNTRY NEEDS US, we will go without a second thought to defend our rights,” said Chen Yuguo in an interview with the *Washington Post* (April 12, 2016).

If Chen were a sailor in China's People's Liberation Army Navy, or perhaps an officer of the Chinese Coast Guard, his pledge to use force for his country would not be particularly noteworthy.

But Mr. Chen is a fisherman.

Chen is one of China's 6 million-plus fishermen. He captains a trawler from the port of Tanmen, one of the country's 2,600 distant-water fishing ships.

And many of these vessels do more than just fish. China indeed “needs” them, as Chen said, but not to “defend China's rights.” Instead, the Chinese government uses its huge fishing fleets to take control of territory that does not rightfully belong to Beijing.

‘Fish, Protect, Occupy and Control’

Analysts commonly acknowledge that, in terms of number of ships, China has both the largest navy in the world and also the largest coast guard. Less frequently acknowledged is that these two

official maritime forces are reinforced by the world's largest fishing fleet.

This fleet is more consequential than it might seem.

“This is in no way a collection of innocent, random, patriotic fishermen,” said Andrew Erickson, a professor of strategy in the United States Naval War College's China Maritime Studies Institute. “China likes to have that camouflage and likes to mis-portray it in that way,” he said, “but it is not the case at all.”

Erickson said much of China's fishing fleet functions as a “maritime militia.” They are “trained, equipped and organized directly by the PLA's [People's Liberation Army's] local military commands,” Erickson said. “[I]t answers to the very top of China's centralized bureaucracy: Commander in Chief Xi Jinping himself.”

Christopher Rawley, a U.S. Navy Reserve captain and a member of the board of directors of the Center for International Maritime Security, agrees. The U.S. Naval Institute paraphrased him as saying, “When you look at the thousands and thousands of fishing boats operating out of China, you really

should consider them a third arm of Beijing's naval presence” (Aug. 17, 2016).

Beijing uses this “third arm” as the advance guard to fight its expansionist battles in the South China Sea and beyond. And the fishing fleet's involvement in China's battles is not rare. “Local fishermen have assisted more than 250 law enforcement operations at sea over the past three years,” the state-run *China Daily* reported in 2016. Since then, such instances have become even more frequent.

The fishermen are happy to play their role despite inherent dangers: Besides catching more fish in the contested waters than they would in the depleted areas off China's coast, the fishermen also feel they are fulfilling their patriotic obligation: “It is our water,” Chen said, referring to almost the entire South China Sea. “But if we don't fish there, how can we claim it is our territory?”

The basic strategy, according to international security expert Alan Dupont, happens in this sequence: First, fishing boats enter disputed waters and confront other nations' vessels; then the Chinese Coast Guard steps in; next come land reclamation projects; and it ends with militarization and domination. Dupont calls the process “fish, protect, occupy and control.”

Evidence shows the strategy is working.

Securing Scarborough Shoal

Scarborough Shoal lies 120 nautical miles from the Philippines, well within its “Exclusive Economic Zone,” according to international law. The United Nations Convention on the Law of Sea recognizes that each nation has exclusive rights to the waters up to 200 nautical miles from its coastline. Yet if a Filipino fisherman today wants to fish in Scarborough, he must gain the permission of Chinese authorities.

This has not always been the situation. In 2012, the Philippine Navy caught a group of Chinese fishing ships anchored at Scarborough Shoal, some 550 miles from the closest Chinese land. Philippine authorities boarded the vessels and found considerable quantities of endangered marine species. But before they could make any arrests, two Chinese Coast Guard ships arrived

and worked with the fishing vessels to cordon off the mouth of the lagoon.

A 10-week-long standoff ensued. Throughout the period, vessels from the PLA Navy floated on the horizon, sending the Philippines a silent signal of the force Beijing was willing to use. Finally, the U.S. brokered what it believed was a deal for both sides to withdraw and return to the status quo ante.

As stipulated by the agreement, the Philippines pulled out. But China did not honor its end of the bargain. Instead, it kept its vessels at Scarborough Shoal, and they remain there to this day on patrol.

“[T]here was no question that Beijing had scored a tactical victory at Manila’s expense by successfully seizing and occupying the disputed area,” wrote Ely Ratner, deputy director of the Center for a New American Security’s Asia-Pacific Security Program (National Interest, Nov. 21, 2013). Ratner and other analysts agree that if China had captured Scarborough with overt military or coast guard vessels, it would have likely prompted a weightier response from the U.S. and considerable international backlash. But since Beijing used non-military vessels as the front line, the skirmish remained in a gray zone.

And the gray zone, where nations conflict without breaking into conventional warfare, is precisely where China wants such territorial clashes to take place.

Thanks largely to its fishing fleet, Beijing won this gray-zone conflict. Scarborough Shoal now effectively belongs to China.

After China’s victory was clear, state media lauded the fishermen as an “advanced militia unit.” President Xi personally praised them and advised the fisherman fleet to more actively back China’s “island and reef” development projects.

The Oil Rig Standoff

On May 2, 2014, China positioned its HYSY 981 offshore oil rig in waters near the Paracel Islands, about 120 miles from Vietnam’s coast. Vietnam decried

the move as a clear infringement of its sovereignty and sent 29 ships to the area to challenge it.

But China’s PLA Navy, Coast Guard and fishing fleet formed a 10-nautical-mile cordon of 80 vessels around the oil rig, forcibly repulsing the Vietnamese. “All three of China’s sea forces were there,” Erickson said, adding that “they were all communicating and coordinating and they were acting together in a relatively effective manner.”

Over the next few weeks, a standoff took place and each side reported being rammed and water-cannoned by the other nation’s vessels. On May 26, a large, steel-hulled Chinese fishing boat was caught on video ramming and sinking a smaller Vietnamese fishing boat. Eight crewmen were thrown into the sea; two had to swim out of the cabin through a window that had broken during the attack.

The incident marked a dramatic escalation in the standoff. If China had sunk the Vietnamese vessel with a PLA Navy or Coast Guard ship, the matter would almost certainly have provoked a meaningful response from the U.S. or

other nations. But since Beijing was able to claim that the fishermen who sunk the ship were acting independently and only in self-defense, there was

little kickback. China was able to leave the rig in the region, harvesting Vietnam’s oil, as long as it chose to.

The *Diplomat* said the HYSY 981 standoff allowed China to achieve its “primary goals of broadcasting to its neighbors that a rising Vietnam alone could not stop it and the U.S. would not intervene” (Aug. 30, 2014). Another victory for Beijing thanks in large part to its fishing fleet.

A Page From Putin’s Playbook

Two months before the HYSY 981 standoff, Russian President Vladimir Putin pried the Crimean Peninsula away from Ukraine and grafted it into Russia. Putin did not accomplish this illegal land grab with an overt military invasion. Instead, he sent Russian

soldiers into Ukraine with the insignia removed from their uniforms and the signage taken off their vehicles.

By not deploying regular troops, the Russian government had a degree of deniability, which hindered potential challenges. “Were they mercenaries? Could it be Crimean vigilantes? Or was this some unsanctioned adventure by a local commander?” asked Russian security affairs specialist Mark Galeotti. “[T]he lack of insignia on these ‘little green men’ and Moscow’s flat denial that they were Russian troops was enough to inject a moment’s uncertainty into the calculations in both Kiev and NATO. [A]nd Russia was able to seize Crimea without a single fatal casualty.”

By the time of the Crimean annexation, China had already been using the “little blue men” of its fishing fleet as the advance guard to assert its expansionist territorial claims. But Putin’s success in Crimea may well have spurred the Chinese leadership to increase such hybrid warfare tactics.

Using “little blue men” not only gives China deniability, but the quasi-civilian status of the fishermen complicates the rules of engagement for U.S. naval vessels, for coast guard personnel from the Philippines, Vietnam and South Korea, and for any other official government entity trying to combat the illegal behavior.

These shadowy, hybrid war tactics have helped China and Russia to successfully expand their domination; both nations will likely continue using them.

‘Steering the World Toward War’

Many analysts are not overly alarmed by China’s increasing assertiveness in the South China Sea and elsewhere. As Ratner said, “From their vantage point, accommodation is preferable to risking war over ‘a bunch of rocks’” (op cit).

But *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry has said that China’s takeover in this region is “steering the world toward war.” In our July 2016 issue, he wrote about the Spratly Islands, which are claimed by China, the Philippines, Malaysia, Taiwan and Vietnam. These islands are the main location where Chen Yuguo and numerous other fishermen currently focus on asserting Chinese dominance.



NUNES MEMO EXPOSES UNSEEN THREAT TO AMERICA

AMERICANS SHOULD BE DEEPLY ALARMED BY REVELATIONS OF CORRUPTION AND LAWLESSNESS WITHIN THE NATION'S TOP LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES. IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO CUT THROUGH THE NOISE AND POLITICS TO UNDERSTAND THE TRUTH.
BY GERALD FLURRY

ON FEBRUARY 2, THE HOUSE INTELLIGENCE Committee released a document known as the Nunes memo, named after chairman Devin Nunes. This memo exposes loads of corruption inside the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Department of Justice. America's law enforcement agencies have been compromised and politicized. The radical-left Democrats fought against the memo being released and never admitted wrongdoing.

We live in a dangerous time in world history. Events are particularly dangerous in America, Britain and the Jewish state in the Middle East. The reality exposed by this memo is much more dangerous than most people realize. YET EVEN THOSE WITH INSIDE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEMO DON'T UNDERSTAND THE FULL DANGER.

An electrifying statement in Revelation 12:12 explains what is really going on. We must understand this truth. That verse reads, "Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! *for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.*"

Most people will heedlessly dismiss this warning. They do not consider the *spiritual dimension* to world events. This is why they fail to grasp their real significance.

Revelation 12:12 speaks of a time when Satan is *wrathful* because his time is short. We are in that time right

now! The Nunes memo is evidence of just how active the devil is, particularly in his efforts to destroy America.

America Under Attack

Before digging into the Nunes memo, let's review some background I wrote about in my booklet *America Under Attack*. You can request this booklet and we will send you a copy at no charge.



Other biblical prophecies show the *time frame* of the prophecy in Revelation 12:12 (*America Under Attack* explains this). Also, other prophecies show that America is about to experience a period of trouble like never before in history! Men inspired by the devil are going to cause unparalleled destruction.

America Under Attack provides evidence for why we believe the period prophesied in Revelation 12:12 began in 1986. Look at what has happened to America and the world since that time, and you see the impact that Satan and the demons have had since being cast down! *They can seize control of human minds.* This is the environment we live in now, due to millions of demons being confined to the Earth. There has never been another time like it.

As I recounted in that booklet, reporter Michael Hastings published a book titled *Panic 2012: The Sublime and Terrifying Inside Story of Obama's Final Campaign*. It described how journalists covering Barack Obama *swooned* over

him. As Hastings said in an interview with MSNBC, "When they're near him, they **LOSE THEIR MINDS** sometimes. **THEY START BEHAVING** in ways that are juvenile, and amateurish, and they swoon" (emphasis mine throughout). Hastings even admitted to doing this himself, and laughed about it.

But this is far from being a laughing matter. Abundant *fruits* from Obama's eight-year presidency prove what Hastings said about Obama.

This is not normal conduct for professional journalists! What is *wrong* with our media? This is aberrant behavior, to say the least. What causes that?

The way these people are being swayed and driven by their emotions is a strong sign of the devil's influence. As *America Under Attack* brings out, they were somewhat *spellbound* by this politician who did unprecedented damage to America. They were deceived, and it led them into some terrible, disturbing reasoning. They actually contributed to the deadly damage of America's constitutional republic! Their actions are illogical and impossible to explain purely on a physical level.

Daniel 8:9 is a prophecy about "a little horn"—a man who would do great damage. This was fulfilled by Antiochus Epiphanes, who ruled Palestine in the second century B.C. He murdered the Jewish high priest, slaughtered the people, defiled the temple and erected a statue of Jupiter Olympus in the holy of holies.

Anciently, Satan used that man to destroy the faith of the Jews. He has used the same strategy at other times—including in this country. America recently was ruled by a *political* “Antiochus” type. (Read *America Under Attack* to learn more about this.) Satan used this man to undermine the greatest superpower in world history!

This isn’t the first time that Satan has influenced the leader of Israel. King Saul repeatedly tried to kill David. We must know how Satan works, or we will become his victims (2 Corinthians 2:11).

While in office, Barack Obama said many times, “You know I tell the truth.” Yet he lied repeatedly and was never vetted by the media before his election. Media members didn’t report, for example, that he attended an anti-America, anti-white church for 20 years.

No constitutional republic can survive without the media vetting its presidential candidates. So the mainstream media were complicit in this treasonous crime.

How can you explain President Obama’s many lies, and the willingness of the American people to accept them?

Not many observers of the Obama presidency recognized what was really happening. The reality is that President Obama hated and wanted to destroy the foundation of Western civilization: Judeo-Christian religion and morality! His administration provided plenty of proof of SATAN IN ACTION.

This happened under the previous presidential administration—and the Nunes memo shows that it is *still* happening under high-ranking FBI and Justice Department officials—planted there by Barack Obama during his presidency.

I am NOT looking at this through the lens of politics. I look at what is happening from God’s perspective. When you do that, you can discern when the devil is at work.

The Memo

The Nunes memo shows that federal law enforcement agencies used a *Russian propaganda dossier* to obtain a warrant to spy on a Trump campaign official. Top officials knew this document was “salacious and unverified,” as former FBI director James Comey put it, but they still presented it to the Foreign



Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) court as if it were proof of a legitimate foreign threat to America.

Compiled by a British former MI-6 intelligence agent named Christopher Steele, this perverted, fictional document alleges in part that Mr. Trump engaged in revolting acts with a group of prostitutes in Moscow, and that Russian President Vladimir Putin threatened to use this secret information to blackmail Mr. Trump once he became president.

Steele created the dossier as opposition research for Hillary Clinton’s presidential campaign. He was paid by the Democratic National Committee through a law firm called Perkins Coie and the D.C.-based research firm Fusion GPS.

Opposition research seeks to dig up dirt on a political opponent. It is often full of inaccuracies, and sometimes it is all an *outright lie*. That is certainly true in this case; in fact, the information was deliberately concocted by Russians aiming to sow seeds of discord.

In September 2016, Steele confessed to a senior Justice Department official that he “was desperate that Donald Trump not get elected and was passionate about him not being president.” *This* was the man Democrats hired to find condemning information about Mr. Trump. Would a biased source like him have any motivation to *lie*?

Still, the FBI and the Department of Justice *used the Steele dossier* as the basis for their FISA request to surveil volunteer Trump campaign adviser Carter Page. On Oct. 21, 2016, they obtained a warrant to do so, and they renewed that warrant three times. Each time, these agencies had to convince the FISA court that America faced a dangerous threat from abroad, such as a terrorist attack. They had no actual evidence, so they relied on the Steele dossier. They conveniently neglected to

disclose to the FISA court Steele’s close ties to the Clinton campaign.

According to the Nunes memo, former FBI deputy director Andrew McCabe—who resigned just four days before the Nunes memo was released—admitted that **THERE WOULD BE NO RUSSIA INVESTIGATION** if not for this dossier! Steele’s uncorroborated dossier allowed Robert Mueller, the special counsel for the Justice Department, to commence the Russia investigation.

Over a year into the Trump presidency, there is still not one shred of evidence that he colluded with the Russians to win the election. Yet now, the Mueller team is focused on indicting Trump advisers and appointees for obstruction of justice, perjury and other “crimes” regarding an investigation that shouldn’t even exist.

Exposing a Conspiracy

The warrant authorized electronic surveillance of Page, which may seem insignificant since he was a relative nobody in the Trump campaign. But such a warrant can be used to track all of the target’s communications, including any he may have had with then Republican candidate Trump.

So this memo exposes a *conspiracy* within these government agencies to undermine candidate Donald Trump’s presidential campaign. Now he is the president of the United States, and is *still* a suspect in a criminal investigation without any evidence to justify it.

Steele admitted in a British court that he had leaked information from his dossier to the press in September 2016—a month before the FISA warrant based on his dossier was approved. He lied to the FBI that he was keeping the dossier confidential, showing himself to be an unreliable source. **THE FBI ENDED THE RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM RIGHT AFTER OBTAINING THE WARRANT, BUT IT CONTINUED TO RELY ON HIS DOSSIER FOR THE THREE WARRANT RENEWALS!**

A Sept. 23, 2016, Yahoo News article about Carter Page’s July 2016 trip to Moscow relied extensively on the Steele dossier. The writer received this information from Steele directly, so his article does not serve as evidence of the dossier’s veracity. Still, the FBI and DOJ included this article in its request for the FISA warrant.

Think about that: A law-enforcement source fed information to the media, and then the law-enforcement agencies used the media's stories as proof of its claims! The media wrote stories about these claims, which law enforcement agencies used as even more proof to renew the warrant. Law enforcement and the media formed an *echo chamber*.

So the mainstream media has been complicit in this lawless plot. They continually give credibility to this nonsense.

Lawless, Constitution-hating people now lead our federal law enforcement agencies. They act as if they are superior to Congress, but Congress provides oversight to hold them accountable to the American people. The Nunes memo does just that.

The *New York Times* illegally released the confidential Pentagon Papers in 1971. But this newspaper and the *Washington Post* lobbied hard to prevent the release of the Nunes memo, which is completely legal. *Why the double standard?*

These agencies are supposed to uphold and enforce the law. But this plot proves that they are willing to *trample* on the law to do whatever they want.

IF THESE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES CAN ILLEGALLY SURVEIL THE PRESIDENT, WHAT CAN THEY DO TO YOU?

Will Worship

Where would America be right now if the radical left had won the last election? Hillary Clinton's stated goal was to continue the legacy of Barack Obama. And if she had become president, none of this corruption would have come to light.

Watergate is *trivial* compared to the LAWLESSNESS of today's radical left.

While serving as secretary of state, Hillary Clinton illegally sent, received and deleted 33,000 e-mails from an illicit server. Any hacker could access them. Many of these messages were top secret. FBI agent Peter Strzok played a leading role in the bureau's investigation of Clinton. He also led the investigation into alleged Russian interference in the 2016 U.S. elections. In a lengthy text exchange uncovered last year, he and a woman he committed adultery with expressed hatred for Mr. Trump. This man is extremely biased!

The radical left has attempted to use the Russia investigation to cripple

the Trump presidency. THEY DON'T JUST WANT TO WREST CONTROL FROM MR. TRUMP—THEY ARE TRYING TO TAKE CONTROL OF THE GOVERNMENT *FOREVER*. They are working hard to smash the last remaining obstacles preventing them from accumulating so much power over the country that no one can do a thing about it.

The radical left is LAWLESS! *They are satanically sick*. These people no longer deal in logic because they have been OVERWHELMED BY THE DEVIL!

Hitler said, "What you tell people in the mass in a receptive state of fanatic devotion will remain. Words received under a hypnotic influence are radical and impervious to every reasonable explanation." Does that quote accurately describe the radical left? They worship the will (Colossians 2:18)—which means they worship the devil! *Out-of-control emotion* has replaced *logic*. That is the American political scene today.


We live in a dangerous time! Satan is cast down—and THE NUNES MEMO IS PROOF OF THAT. Satan and his demons are trampling on America.

Why would God allow this to happen? Look again at the prophecy in Daniel 8. Verse 12 reveals that it is "by reason of transgression"—meaning revolt, rebellion and lawlessness—that the truth is being cast down to the ground. In America today everyone wants to blame our increasing problems on others—a certain politician, or political party, or one race or another, or one economic class or another. But the truth is that these problems would not be overtaking us if *the people* were not sinning! This plague on America is what happens when our people forsake God!

Woe to Those on Earth!

Through the Russia investigation, Satan is working to overthrow a constitutional republic and turn America into a police state like Cuba, Venezuela, Russia or China! Satan hates law. He is stoking a REVOLUTION in our land.

"And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. ... Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants



THE RADICAL LEFT ARE WORKING HARD TO SMASH THE LAST REMAINING OBSTACLES PREVENTING THEM FROM ACCUMULATING SO MUCH POWER OVER THE COUNTRY THAT NO ONE CAN DO A THING ABOUT IT.

of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time" (Revelation 12:9, 12).

Satan and the demons tried and failed to kick God off His throne. Today, *millions of evil spirits swarm the planet*. They are no longer free to roam the universe. This is a cause of great rejoicing among the righteous angels elsewhere in the universe—but this is very bad news for those of us on Earth!

However, remember WHY the devil is so wrathful today: It is because "he knoweth that he hath but a short time." It is just a *short time* before Jesus Christ returns to Earth, to lay hold on him and bind him for a thousand years (Revelation 20:1-2).

The severity of the problems plaguing us today are a sign of just *how short* Satan's remaining time is.

There is a lot of bad news in the immediate future. America will not last much longer. But God is allowing all of this to happen for an important and inspiring purpose. The punishment God is bringing on America today is *correction* intended to set us right again.

America has a history with God that stretches back before the formation of our nation—all the way back to biblical times. You can read about this in our free book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*. And the Bible reveals that our people have a hope-filled *future* with God as well, in a plan that includes all nations and people on Earth! Once Christ replaces Satan on the throne of the Earth, He will establish a just government, a **LAWFUL** and **TRUTHFUL** government, that will never end! ■



THE STORY BEHIND THE NUNES MEMO

HOW DID AN UNVERIFIED PROPAGANDA DOSSIER BECOME THE DRIVING FORCE IN A CONSPIRACY TO UNDERMINE THE TRUMP PRESIDENCY?

SCANDAL #1

Clinton campaign and Democratic National Committee fund anti-Trump dossier.

APRIL 2016

■ Marc Elias, a lawyer representing the Hillary Clinton presidential campaign and the Democratic National Committee (DNC), hires the firm Fusion GPS to collect compromising information on Donald Trump.

MAY 2016

■ Through Fusion GPS, the DNC and Clinton campaign pay former British spy Christopher Steele \$168,000 to produce a dossier of compromising information on Trump. The Federal Bureau of Investigation pays some of Steele's expenses.

■ The DNC allegedly breaks campaign finance laws by failing to disclose money spent on Steele dossier to Federal Election Commission.

JUNE 2016

■ Steele colludes with anonymous Russian sources to produce a series of unverified reports alleging that Donald Trump had engaged in certain acts with Russian prostitutes and that the Russian government had evidence of this and could blackmail him. He also alleges that Russia "had been feeding Trump and his team valuable intelligence on his opponents" for "several years."

JULY 2016

■ Steele begins sharing his reports with the FBI.

SEPTEMBER 2016

■ Steele tells Bruce Ohr, an associate deputy attorney general at the Department of Justice, that he was "desperate that Donald Trump not get elected and was passionate about him not being president." Ohr's wife works for Fusion GPS.

SCANDAL #2

Steele leaks to the press.

SEPTEMBER 2016

■ Fusion GPS instructs Christopher Steele to begin leaking information to the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *New Yorker*, CNN and Yahoo News.

OCTOBER 2016

■ The FBI suspends its relationship with Steele because of his "unauthorized disclosure of information to the press."

SCANDAL #3

FBI relies on Steele dossier to wiretap Trump campaign.

OCTOBER 2016

■ The FBI applies to a secret federal court for permission to spy on former Trump campaign adviser Carter Page. The FBI presents a Yahoo News article as independent corroboration of the information in the Steele dossier, even though it knows the article originated from Steele.

■ FBI Director James Comey signs the first of four Foreign Intelligence

Surveillance Act (FISA) applications authorizing spying on Page. Comey would later sign two renewals, while Deputy Director Andrew McCabe signed one renewal. (A FISA application to spy on an American citizen must be renewed every 90 days, and each renewal requires proof of probable cause.)

■ The FBI wiretaps Page and finds nothing incriminating to justify the tap.

Scandals and lies—the new normal.

WHAT'S BEHIND THE POISONED POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT IN THE U.S.? TO LEARN THE HIDDEN SOURCE, REQUEST GERALD



SCANDAL #4

Major media outlets use Steele dossier to stir up "impeach Trump" campaign.

OCTOBER 2016

■ Donald Trump declines to comment on whether or not he would accept the election results if he felt they were rigged.
 ■ The Clinton campaign, *New York Times* and mainstream media outlets project that Hillary Clinton will win the election and assert that it cannot be rigged.

NOVEMBER 2016

■ Trump wins the United States presidential election.

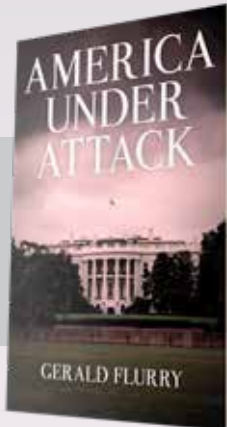
■ Democrats and mainstream media begin to claim that Russia rigged the election as indicated in the Steele dossier.

JANUARY 2017

■ The Steele dossier is about to be made public by the media. FBI Director Comey briefs President Trump about "salacious and unverified material" in the dossier.
 ■ BuzzFeed publishes the 35-page Steele dossier.

MAY 2017

■ President Trump fires FBI Director Comey.
 ■ At the Department of Justice, Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein appoints former FBI Director Robert Mueller as special counsel to investigate the accusations that Trump colluded with Russians.



FLURRY'S FREE BOOKLET *AMERICA UNDER ATTACK*.

SCANDAL #5

Democratic party officials try to prevent Nunes memo release.

JULY 2017

■ Democratic Congressman Brad Sherman formally introduces in the House of Representatives an Article of Impeachment, accusing President Trump of obstructing an investigation regarding Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election.

DECEMBER 2017

■ FBI Deputy Director Andrew McCabe tells the House Intelligence Committee that no surveillance of Carter Page would have been sought without the Steele dossier.

JANUARY 2018

■ The FBI and the

Department of Justice fight to prevent Congressman Devin Nunes, chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, from releasing his memo detailing their fraudulent use of the Steele dossier. They only produce documents to the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence after Nunes "threatened to move forward with contempt of Congress citations."
 ■ Democratic Sen. Cory Booker claims releasing the Nunes memo would be "treasonous." He claims its release would reveal government "sources and methods" and endanger the lives of

"fellow Americans in the intelligence community."
 ■ Congressman Nunes releases his memo detailing fraudulent use of the Steele dossier by the FBI and the Department of Justice.
FEBRUARY 2018
 ■ President Trump declassifies the Nunes memo, making it accessible to the public.
 ■ Democratic Party officials and major media sources switch from claiming that the Nunes memo is full of "classified information" that might get intelligence agents killed to insisting that the Nunes memo is a dud that doesn't matter.



WHY STUDY HISTORY

The subject is often undervalued today, but we cannot afford to ignore it—or take a negative approach to our study. BY STEPHEN FLURRY

“IF A NATION EXPECTS TO BE ignorant and free, in a state of civilization,” Thomas Jefferson wrote, “it expects what never was and never will be.” The American founders understood the importance of studying history.

Fast-forward a couple hundred years. What would the Founding Fathers think about the American people’s attitude toward history today? History is undervalued, deemphasized, rewritten or ignored across the board. Today, 10 percent of Americans think Judge Judy is a Supreme Court justice, 43 percent don’t know which amendment grants them freedom of speech, and more than 50 percent are unable to name the three branches of their own government.

Today, you can graduate from GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY—*with a history degree*—without ever having taken a single college-level United States history class.

That is shocking and ironic. But George Washington University isn’t the only one. Many top-notch U.S. colleges

no longer require any U.S. history courses to acquire history degrees. In July 2016, the American Council of Trustees and Alumni reported that less than *a third* of what are considered the best U.S. colleges and universities require *history majors* to take a single U.S. history course.

Is it any wonder, then, that America has become one of the least historically aware nations in the world?

Avoiding Uncomfortable Truths

In a Jan. 22, 2017, *New York Post* article, author Karol Markowicz wrote, “A 2014 report by the National Assessment of Educational Progress showed that an abysmal 18 PERCENT OF AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL KIDS WERE PROFICIENT IN U.S. HISTORY. When colleges such as Stanford decline to require Western Civilization classes or high schools propose changing their curriculum so that history is taught only from 1877 onward (this happened in North Carolina), it’s merely a blip in our news cycle” (emphasis added throughout).

This article cited a 2012 study which found that 88 PERCENT of elementary schoolteachers consider teaching history a low priority. Many of these teachers are afraid to teach U.S. history, the article argued, because they don’t want to offend any of their students—or their students’ parents.

“As colleges around the country see protests to remove Thomas Jefferson’s statues from their campuses, *it’s becoming the norm to ERASE the parts of history that we find uncomfortable*. It’s not difficult to teach children that the pilgrims or Thomas Jefferson were imperfect yet still responsible for so much that is good in America” (ibid).

This explains *why* 82 percent of U.S. high school students aren’t proficient in U.S. history.

It doesn’t change when students get into college, either. In a *New York Times* article, author Diane Ravitch wrote, “If knowledge of the past is in fact relevant to our ability to understand the present and to exercise freedom of mind—as totalitarian societies, both real and fictional, acknowledge by stringently controlling what may be studied or published—then there is cause for

concern about many Americans' sense of history. The threat to our knowledge of the past comes, however, not from government censorship but from INDIFFERENCE and IGNORANCE. The erosion of historical understanding seems especially pronounced among the generation under 35”

Ravitch quoted an American history teacher from a Brooklyn community college as saying, “My students are not stupid, but *they have an abysmal background in American, or any other kind of, history.* They never heard of Daniel Webster; don’t understand the Constitution; don’t know the difference between the Republican and Democratic parties.” The history department chairman at another New York college agreed: “My students have *no historical knowledge* on which to draw when they enter college. They have no point of reference for understanding World War I, the Treaty of Versailles or the Holocaust.”

But the problem isn’t just that the students are ignorant about history: They *don’t even care* about it. “They think that everything is *subjective*,” this professor said. “*They have plenty of attitudes and opinions, but they lack the knowledge to analyze a problem.*” She believes that “WE ARE IN DANGER OF BRINGING UP A GENERATION WITHOUT HISTORICAL MEMORY. THIS IS A DANGEROUS SITUATION.”

Ravitch concluded that “the study of history is in jeopardy” and that “a society without a sense of history is like an individual without memory.” A generation without historical memory—that is a pretty accurate description of the world we see today.

But here’s the interesting part: *This article was written in 1985.*

How much worse is the situation TODAY, when U.S. history is no longer a required course even for college *history* degrees? Ravitch highlighted an attitude of indifference and ignorance toward history in her time—and that was more than 30 years ago! The people who were indifferent to history then are the ones who are setting college curricula in our universities today. Little wonder that history is not being taught anymore!

And When It Is Taught ...

Markowicz wrote, “First grade might seem young, but it’s my daughter’s third

year in the New York City public school system after pre-K and kindergarten. She goes to one of the finest public schools in the city, yet knows about George Washington exclusively from the soundtrack of the Broadway show *Hamilton*. She wouldn’t be able to tell you who discovered America” (op cit).

Ah yes, *Hamilton*. A Broadway show that recounts the story of an American founding father through hip-hop music. *Hamilton* exploded onto the Broadway scene in 2015, almost immediately becoming one of the most successful musicals in decades. Lin-Manuel Miranda, the creator of *Hamilton*, said he was inspired to write the musical after reading Ron Chernow’s biography on Alexander Hamilton, statesman, congressional delegate, treasury secretary, senior officer of the United States Army, advocate of the Constitution. Miranda said Hamilton’s life reminded him of modern-day rappers like Tupac Shakur and Biggie Smalls.

The success of this production underscores Americans’ inability to digest history taught in a traditional way. Apparently, the only way to make history palatable is to set it to hip-hop music and dramatize it to the point of introducing numerous historical inaccuracies. Although the Broadway show did make Americans more historically aware of one founding father, part of

“We are in danger of bringing up a generation without historical memory. This is a dangerous situation.”

—NAOMI MILLER, Hunter College History Department Chair, 1985

why critics acclaimed it was because of the music and its novel casting of minorities as the Founding Fathers and other historical figures.

Even the more traditional forms of historical storytelling often include blatant falsehoods. The recent film *Darkest Hour*, for example, portrays Britain’s Winston Churchill as a hesitant leader plagued with self-doubt. Modern historians, after all—even the “conservative” ones—have to humanize the hero. *He’s just like you and me, warts and all.* But Winston Churchill was not like everyone else. He was RIGHT when

everyone else was WRONG!

At the end of *Darkest Hour*, there’s a wholly fictitious scene in which Churchill rides the London Tube in order to draw inspiration from ordinary Londoners about whether or not he should confront Adolf Hitler. As if *the people* inspired Winston Churchill to fight against Nazism! On this point, the filmmakers got it exactly backward. It was WINSTON CHURCHILL who aroused a fighting spirit in the people of Britain. Had Churchill listened to ordinary Londoners or members of Parliament, he would have undoubtedly negotiated some kind of “peaceful” surrender to Herr Hitler.

“I have thought carefully in these last days whether it was part of my duty to consider entering into negotiations with That Man,” Churchill told his cabinet in 1940, refusing to mention the German monster by name! Then he said, “If this long island story of ours is to end at last, let it end only when each one of us lies choking in his own blood upon the ground.”

His cabinet was so moved by the speech, they shouted and cheered in support. The people of Britain rallied around their watchman.

As the *American Spectator* noted, “It was precisely because Churchill, through the force of his own personality as a leader, supplied his country with the

fighting spirit which had been lacking up until that point that we now remember him as a great man” (February 8).

Judging by Modern ‘Standards’

In the last few years, history *has* experienced a bit of a pseudo-renaissance in the United States, but rarely in a positive light.

Take the recent campaign to tear down U.S. monuments, for example. After the riots in Charlottesville, Virginia, the nation blew up into a controversy over celebrating historical figures. It wasn’t just a battle about a

few statues. Instead, it was essentially a battle about which history is worth remembering and which history should be erased or rewritten. Because of the riots, the whole nation suddenly began paying attention to who these men were and what they did, especially the negative things. It started with a statue of Confederate General Robert E. Lee, but spread to monuments for men like George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln.

If you can't celebrate George Washington or Abraham Lincoln for their positive contributions to their country, THEN WHO CAN YOU CELEBRATE? Yes, many Founding Fathers were slave owners. Yes, slavery was a widespread and abominable practice in much of the world in the early modern era. Yes, these men were human and made mistakes. But today, their flaws are the only things getting attention!

What about their towering accomplishments? George Washington led the Continental Army to victory in the Revolutionary War, securing the very freedoms most Americans today take for granted. After serving two terms as president, Washington voluntarily stepped down, establishing a precedent that has continued to this day. Many people in Washington's day actually wanted to crown him king. Without Washington's selfless leadership and

The whole approach to history is wrong! *What a deadly combination.* On the one hand, most people don't care enough about history to even look into it. And those who do often politicize it for their radical agenda! *They make it so negative!*

God's Positive View of History

What does God think about history? History is actually one of the most effective ways to learn about the present and the future. As Herbert W. Armstrong said, history provides the vital *background* that we need to understand the present. Without proper context, we can never truly understand the significance of events in the world around us! As the saying goes, those who do not learn history are doomed to repeat it. A society that does not study its history is certain to repeat the same mistakes its ancestors made. Studying history shows us how to learn from past mistakes so we *don't have to repeat them.*

Some of the reasons why people want to tear down monuments of great Americans are based on an uninformed view of history. Without the historical background, people tend to accept what they are told, especially if it backs up their particular narrative. *Ignorance fuels the movement!*

History is actually one of our best *teachers.* It is not a subject that should

happenstance. It is a *law of history.* If we break that law, the law breaks us!"

Yes, there are valuable lessons that we can learn from history, if we approach it with a positive mindset and an open mind, like the Bereans in Acts 17.

In 1 Corinthians 10, Paul emphasized the lessons we can learn from ancient Israel's example. It made a lot of mistakes, but we can learn from those mistakes so we don't have to repeat the same sins and reap the same punishment. Of course, ancient Israel did terrible things, but as a whole, God wants us to LEARN FROM THE BAD HISTORY AND THEN EMPHASIZE THE GOOD. And we shouldn't judge those of the past by their own flawed standards or by the flawed standards of the present, but by the one true standard: the unchanging standard of the Bible.

"Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea" (1 Corinthians 10:1). Notice that: He's talking about Israel's history, and he says, *Don't be ignorant about this! You should know this history.* God doesn't want us to be ignorant of or indifferent to history. He wants us to study it! We are to live by every word of God (Matthew 4:4), and a substantial amount of the written word of God in the Bible is RECORDED HISTORY. God would not have recorded and miraculously preserved that history for thousands of years unless He wanted us to study it.

In 1 Corinthians 10:6, Paul said, "Now these things were OUR EXAMPLES, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted." Verse 11 repeats the same idea: "Now all these things happened unto them for *ensamples*: and they are written for *our* admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come."

The ancient Israelites didn't even grasp the point of their own experiences. What they went through was written down as lessons for us! That's why the Old Testament has been preserved.

In *The Book of Chronicles*, my father writes about how Ezra emphasized the positive in his book, instead of the negative. There were a lot of negative events and actions he could have emphasized when covering the history of Israel's kings—but Ezra had a different focus.

God would not have recorded and preserved that history for thousands of years unless He wanted us to study it.

foundational example, Americans might well be living under an authoritarian regime right now.

In *Visions of Glory*, William Manchester said that Winston Churchill was one of those authors who believe "that the past should *not* be judged by the standards of the present." Manchester took that same approach in his biography on Churchill, which is one reason why it is so good.

With most modern-day historians, however, it's becoming more and more difficult to get to the facts of the past without them being tainted by the political agenda of the present.

be skipped over, ignored or viewed negatively.

My father writes in his book *The Former Prophets*: "MANY AUTHORITIES CALL HISTORY OUR MOST EFFECTIVE TEACHER. ... Bible history is the greatest history of all because it's God's history. ...

"These books show that if we live the same lifestyles our forefathers did, we will attain virtually the same results—good or bad. HISTORY BECOMES PROPHECY. Not all prophecy is history, but a lot of history becomes prophecy. *History prophesies the fate of nations*—whether they will thrive or collapse! This is 'a law of history.' ... It's not about luck or

The Age of Expression Suppression



The PC police are coming! **BY DENNIS LEAP**

MANY AMERICANS ARE CONCERNED about the direction our nation is headed. And many are weary of the excoriating national conversations broadcast on the nightly news and printed in newspapers and magazines. This increasingly nasty divide is extremely serious—and it is going to affect you!

The liberal left has gained full control of the powerful national media and is using it to intimidate and professionally ruin thinkers, businessmen and leaders who are conservative and support the United States Constitution. Why? Liberal leftists do not want to debate what is good for the nation—they believe that their way is the *only way*. If you are not in lockstep agreement with liberal-left talking points on what it considers hot issues, you will be labeled a racist, misogynist, white supremacist, homophobic, or a Nazi.

Where did this liberal-left agenda come from? Why is it so *strong*?

Turning off your television set and canceling your newspaper and magazine subscriptions will not make it all go away. Many deep-thinking, concerned people in this country are beginning to recognize the left's intimidation machine is digging its way into their personal lives.

The *Federalist's* Mary Katharine Ham and Fox News contributor Guy Benson state in their book *End of Discussion*:

“A growing number of Americans are beginning to sense an insidious strain of self-censorship in themselves, either explicitly or subconsciously. You find yourself keeping your mouth shut about controversial issues like gay marriage or so-called women’s issues because you would rather not suffer the social costs of being cast as the enemy by the increasingly aggressive thought police.”

Have you sensed this in your life? Because I don’t agree with the liberal-left mass media’s interpretation of current social issues, I have lost friends and family members. Maybe you have as well.

“They have enforcers everywhere—at the office, at dinner parties, and all over the media,” they continue, referring to the *thought police*. “This silencing impulse isn’t born out of normal or healthy self-reflection and restraint; it arises out of fear.” America’s free society has flourished through the process of open discussion. Harmful ideas and government policies have often been discarded thanks to open debate. Those days are gone. “Instead, outrage mongers turn this process on its head, disqualifying ideas *without* debate instead of after debate,” Benson and Ham summarize.

How has America gotten to this state?

It All Began ...

The roots of this sweeping left-generated social revolution are found in the majority of America’s elite colleges and

universities, such as Harvard, Princeton, Williams and Yale. William Deresiewicz, former professor at Yale, discussed this shift in Americans and other people in the Western world in an article titled “On Political Correctness” in the Spring 2017 issue of the *American Scholar*. In his article, he described how the driving force behind political correctness has negatively affected bright and creative minds of college and university students.

“I recently spent a semester at Scripps, a selective women’s college in Southern California,” wrote Mr. Deresiewicz. “I had one student, from a Chinese-American family, who informed me that the first thing she learned when she got to college was to keep quiet about her Christian faith and her non-feminist views about marriage.” He chronicles similar complaints from a list of students. “I had another student, a self-described ‘strong feminist,’ who told me that she tends to keep quiet about everything, because she never knows when she might say something you’re not supposed to.” Deresiewicz also discussed the frustrations of an adjunct professor who was careful “to avoid saying anything, or teaching anything, that might conceivably lead to trouble.”

Deresiewicz also discussed what he learned about the guardians of correctness—also commonly known as the PC police. “I also heard that the director of the writing center, a specialist in

disability studies, was informing people that they couldn't use expressions like 'that's a crazy idea' because they stigmatize the mentally ill," he wrote. Deresiewicz discussed a situation he had with another writing director over a student who, because of religious reasons, felt obligated to not participate in class discussion over sexually explicit literature. He was sympathetic to the student—the writing director was not. "I was naive enough to think that the director would be sympathetic to the student's situation," he wrote. "Instead, she snorted with contempt."

He shows that guardians of correctness are not only school officials. Some students gladly carry PC police badges.

"I heard a young woman tell me that she had been criticized by a fellow student for wearing moccasins—an act, she was informed, of cultural appropriation." —WILLIAM DERESIEWICZ

"I heard a young woman tell me that she had been criticized by a fellow student for wearing moccasins—an act, she was informed, of cultural appropriation." Wow! Political correctness has invaded the world of fashion on college campuses. Unless you are Native American, you cannot wear moccasins.

Deresiewicz has frequently toured and spoken on college campuses throughout the United States. Here is his conclusion: "Above all, I heard my students tell me that while they generally identified with the sentiments and norms that travel under the name of political correctness, they thought it had simply gone too far—way too far. Everybody felt oppressed, as they put it, by the 'PC police'—everybody, that is except for those whom everybody else regarded as members of the PC police."

Expression Oppression

Similar situations exist, to some degree or another, across the board in U.S. colleges and universities—even in top college-prep U.S. high schools. In discussing this issue with some of my own college students, they told me they felt the same kind of oppression in high schools they attended: not being able to freely express beliefs, ideas or opinions.

This is vastly different from what was taking place when I attended the University of Pittsburgh in the '70s. We were encouraged to freely express our ideas, opinions and beliefs. If people didn't agree, we were encouraged to debate and defend our ideas. And if proved wrong, we accepted the fact and moved on to the next discussion. At that time, this was considered the hallmark of a liberal arts education. By the way, many students wore moccasins then—without fear of reprisal. How our 21st-century colleges have radically changed!

How do you understand political correctness? Here is how Deresiewicz defines its new and virulent form: "By political correctness, I do not mean the

term as it has come to be employed on the right—that is, the expectation of adherence to the norms of basic decency, like refraining from derogatory epithets. I mean its older intramural denotation: the persistent attempt to suppress the expression of unwelcome beliefs and ideas." Good social breeding naturally tells us to not make derogatory comments or racial slurs. Yet today's political correctness has morphed into a wicked process of thought control. In his famous dystopian novel *1984*, George Orwell accurately predicted what is taking place today. Big Brother is definitely watching us and trying to regulate even our thoughts.

New College 'Dogma'

Studying this problem carefully, William Deresiewicz has come to a unique understanding. He believes America's select private colleges and universities have developed into "religious" schools. Yet the religion is not Catholicism, Lutheranism or Methodism "but an extreme version of the belief system of the liberal elite: the liberal professional, managerial and creative classes, which provide a large majority of students enrolled at such places and an even larger majority of faculty and

administrators who work at them."

He means that a vast majority of college students entering some of the best schools are slowly and stealthily being indoctrinated into a system of beliefs—a faith—not about a god, but rather how to be successful in a liberal-left-dominated world.

According to Deresiewicz, the majority of our secular, higher-education institutions "possess a dogma, unwritten but understood by all: a set of 'correct' opinions and beliefs, or at best, a narrow range within which disagreement is permitted. There is a right way to think and a right way to talk, and also a right set of things to talk about."

What are those "right" things college students are to think about? Here's the list according to Deresiewicz: "Secularism is taken for granted. Environmentalism is a sacred cause. Issues of identity—principally the holy trinity of race, gender and sexuality—occupy the center of concern. The presiding presence is Michel Foucault [a French philosopher who died in 1984], with his theories of power, discourse and the social construction of the self, who plays the same role on the left as Marx once did." Remember, this dogma is unwritten. Parents cannot find any course description about such dogma in a college handbook—yet the powerful, mind-altering movement exists.

Where does this leave a student who is highly inquisitive about many different subjects? "The fundamental questions that a college education ought to raise—questions of individual and collective virtue, of what it means to be a good person and a good community—are understood to have been settled," wrote Deresiewicz. This is a chilling statement. "The assumption, on elite college campuses, is that we are already in full possession of the moral truth," he continued. "This is a religious attitude. It is certainly not a scholarly or intellectual attitude."

Amazingly, few if any college students see the need to "go against the flow" of liberal-left indoctrination. Deresiewicz explained why he thinks this is happening and why it is a problem. "Dogma, and the enforcement of dogma, makes for ideological consensus," he wrote. "Students seldom disagree with one

another anymore in class, I've been told about school after school. The reason, at least at Whitman [College], said one of the students I talked to there, is mainly that they really don't have any disagreements. Another added that when they take up an issue in class, it isn't let's talk about issue X, but rather, let's talk about why such and such position is the correct one to have on issue X."

The majority of the elite schools today would consider themselves diverse in their education. Deresiewicz disagrees. "But of course, Scripps and its ilk are only diverse in terms of identity. In terms of ideology, they are all but homogeneous. You don't have 'different voices' on campus, as these institutions like to boast; you have different bodies, speaking with the same voice."

Silence of the Heretics

The freedom to express and challenge different points of view, to have an honest exchange of disagreement, or to debate has all but vanished from a majority of classrooms in high schools, colleges and universities. "That, by the way, is why liberal students (and liberals in general) are so bad at defending their own positions. They never have to, so they never learn to," stated Deresiewicz.

Living suppressed for four years in undergraduate studies—or six to eight years if doing graduate work—can indoctrinate a student to go along with the norm and say nothing about anything. When you consider the numbers of college students who have attended these colleges and universities in recent years, it is not hard to see why Americans are becoming more silent about beliefs, ideas and opinions.

Can you see the dangerous shift toward ideological, mental and even political censorship? Since there is an unwritten liberal-left dogma promoted on elite college campuses, what happens to the nonbelievers? There have to be some students who don't follow the doctrine. How are they looked upon? "Unlike the campus protesters of the 1960s, today's student activists are not expressing countercultural views," wrote Deresiewicz. "They are expressing the exact views of the culture in which they find themselves

EXPRESSION PAGE 32 ▶

HISTORY FROM PAGE 22

1 Chronicles 10-29 are about David's reign. It includes a lot of history, but the main purpose of the book is a positive spiritual message: the key of David (Revelation 3:7). What makes this section on King David so unique is that it's so *positive*. Ezra left out almost all the problems David had!

God saw fit to record many of David's mistakes and sins elsewhere in the Bible. He doesn't erase the bad and discuss only the good. *But His focus is on the positive!*

Ezra wanted to get people's minds on a positive vision. They had just come back from captivity in Babylon, and it was a terrible time, much like the time we live in today. For this reason, Ezra emphasized the "good" and "virtuous" things (Philippians 4:8). The biblical book of Chronicles was written long after all the history it records had happened. Looking back, Ezra could see the whole picture, and he knew what was needed most of all. Ezra had a truly *positive* view of history! My father writes, "We need to know about the problems and the difficulties—but we need our *emphasis* on the *positive!*" (*The Book of Chronicles*).

David did many mighty works for God. His faith in God led him to defeat a giant when he was a young man. His fighting spirit inspired fierce loyalty in his soldiers. He wholeheartedly followed God's instructions. He worked hard to prepare for the building of the temple, even though he wasn't allowed to build it himself. He organized the priests and Levites into courses and established musicians to praise God continually.

David also had plenty of sins, and God had them recorded so that people would know about and learn from them forever. God could have written

David off, like people do today with the Founding Fathers. After all, David

committed adultery and murder! But God conveys such a **POSITIVE VIEW** of David throughout 1 Chronicles because David himself had such a positive view of God and His work—even a positive view of godly correction within God's overall purpose for man!

David knew how to repent—and once he had repented of his sins, God removed them as far as east is from west. We can't write off David's history just because David was a sinful human. God said, "I have found David the son of Jesse, A MAN AFTER MINE OWN HEART, *which shall fulfil all my will*" (Acts 13:22). David made his share of mistakes, but he also mastered repentance! And in the end, God said, *He has a heart like mine!* God established an everlasting kingly line through David—a throne from which Jesus Christ will rule the world!

Churchill said that the farther back you look, the farther into the future you can see. You must learn from history in order to have **VISION**. Churchill had such clear vision that people said he was like a prophet. Where did he get that vision? *From his understanding of history.*

"You need vision in your family; I need vision, we all need vision, or we're not going to succeed in life—we're going to be brought to desolation, to ruin, we can't stand," my father said in a March 2004 *Key of David* program. "That's just an absolute law of history."

If we don't know our history, then we will have no context for the present—or the future.

History today is often rewritten or ignored. But God wants us to have a *positive* view of history and learn its valuable lessons. If we do, we will have the necessary context to understand the world around us, and the uplifting vision of the future to inspire us to move forward even through depressing times. If we have God's *positive view of history*, we will never be discouraged, because we will clearly see the amazing future that is just ahead of us. ■



God's history class is now in session.

The history in the Bible is exciting and inspiring, filled with heroes fighting evil. To learn the valuable lessons recorded in the Bible, request Gerald Flurry's free booklet ***The Book of Chronicles***.



Europeans Prepare for Total War

Russian military aggression in Eastern Europe is leading to a prophesied clash of civilizations. **BY JACK WOOD**

WAR TRAINING
Russian Airborne Troops hold military exercises in western Russia.

FEAR OF RUSSIA IS DRIVING EASTERN Europeans to prepare for war. From Scandinavia to the Black Sea, people worry that they will be the next victims of a Russian attack.

Dormant in the 1990s after the collapse of the Soviet Union, Russia has made a tremendous economic and military comeback over the past two decades.

Russian ships and spy planes have probed the borders of nations as near as Sweden and as far as the United Kingdom. Russian jets have entered the airspace of Estonia, Finland and Lithuania.

As *Newsweek* wrote, Russia's annexation of Crimea gives former Soviet countries such as Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia a right to be concerned about Russia's expansionist plans. "[T]he increased air force presence during a time of tense relations and high Russian military reinforcement has repeatedly unnerved NATO's Baltic allies who have argued it makes it all the easier for Russia to mask any potential assault," it wrote (Sept. 19, 2017).

In Georgia (2008), in Crimea (2014) and in eastern Ukraine (ongoing), Russia has steamrolled parts of its former satellite states and expanded its influence, its power and its literal borders.

Last November, Russian President Vladimir Putin commanded his country's top military manufacturers to prepare to increase weapons production in the event of a sudden declaration of war. He also spoke about Russia's need to catch up and overtake the West militarily. "Our army and navy need to

have the very best equipment—better than foreign equivalents," he told a conference of military leaders on Nov. 21, 2017. "If we want to win, we have to be better."

Russian political and military aggression is real, and Europeans in the line of fire have a lot to be fearful of.

In the last conflict between major world powers, Russia was violent and dangerous. In the early years of World War II, Russia invaded Poland and then coerced Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania into mutual assistance treaties. Russia's soldiers committed numerous atrocities against soldiers and civilians.

During the Cold War, Russia built a vast stockpile of nuclear warheads and launch systems. It still maintains many of those weapons and by some counts has more nuclear bombs than the United States. If another conflict between major powers erupted, Russia could detonate those weapons over European cities.

Thus, in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Sweden and Ukraine, people are bracing for possible invasion.

A Jane's Defense Budget Report released on Dec. 18, 2017, states that worldwide military spending will reach \$1.67 trillion in 2018 and that much of this spending is taking place in Eastern Europe.

"The region with the fastest-growing defense expenditures, not surprisingly, is the Baltics region in Eastern Europe," the report said. "Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania are facing increased pressure from Russia as Moscow looks to

expand its influence westward."

Other countries in Russia's ever expanding sights—such as Belarus, Ukraine and Georgia—are following suit. Reports say that the pace of spending is reaching that of *Cold War* levels.

Scandinavia

Sweden has revived conscription and funneled an extra \$780 million into its national defense budget for 2016–2020. This spring, government pamphlets will be distributed to 4.7 million Swedish homes. According to CNN, these pamphlets urge Swedish citizens to prepare not only for "crisis and catastrophes in peacetime, but also for different kinds of attacks on society and Sweden." They provide information on how to behave in an air-raid shelter, how to secure food and water in wartime, and how to pack practical clothing and gas masks if distributed in an emergency.

The last time materials of this sort were disseminated to the Swedish public, World War II was raging.

The Baltics

Motivated by fears over border security, thousands of Lithuanians are forming civilian militia groups. With a population of less than 3 million and a standing army of only 16,000, Lithuania is vulnerable to invasion. The *Mirror* reports that over 10,000 people have signed up for the militia outfit known as the Rifleman's Union. The members of this militia are training with military-grade weapons and survival gear.

Groups such as the Rifleman's Union are attracting many young members into their ranks. According to the *Atlantic*, about half of the volunteers are under age 18 (Nov. 26, 2017).

The Estonian Defense League and the Latvian Youth Guard have both experienced increases in membership and are likewise composed of youths, bikers, ex-soldiers and hunters. The *Atlantic* wrote, "Each group has its own division dedicated to training young men and women in military tactics and patriotism ..." (ibid).

Ukraine

Ukrainian government forces continue to fight back against pro-Russian troops in the eastern part of the country. These troops are supported by Russia, and it is considered an open secret that unmarked Russian officers and troops are actually in Ukraine, fighting against Ukrainian forces. It's no secret at all that pro-Russian forces in eastern Ukraine are using Russian-made armored vehicles.

The idea that Russia is committed to peace in the region is laughable considering the strong moves its military has made in attacking Georgia and annexing Crimea.

Each time the U.S. and NATO fail to resist Russian expansion, East European countries' faith in their Western allies withers. Their reaction is an increase in military armament.

A Fragile Relationship

Under the Trump presidency, U.S. reliability is being called into question even more than it was during the Obama administration. After a NATO summit in May 2017, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, one of the most influential world leaders, said that Europe could no longer depend on America.

In an event hosted by the *National Interest* on April 27, 2016, presidential candidate Donald Trump made the following comments on foreign policy: "Our allies must contribute toward the financial, political and human costs of our tremendous security burden. But many of them are simply not doing so. ... We have spent trillions of dollars over time on planes, missiles, ships, equipment—building up our military to

provide a strong defense for Europe and Asia. The countries we are defending must pay for the cost of this defense—and, if not, the U.S. must be prepared to let these countries defend themselves."

Such comments have led European leaders to reevaluate their defense strategy. "The times in which we could rely fully on others—they are somewhat over," Ms. Merkel said, speaking of Europe's relationship with America. "We have to know that we must fight for our future on our own, for our destiny as Europeans."

Preparation, Aggression Prophesied

The *Trumpet* has been watching this growing trend for over a decade.

In his 2004 article "Russia Frightens Europe and Fulfills Bible Prophecy," *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry discussed the biblical significance of Russia's rise and its effects on Europe. At the time, Mr. Flurry focused on the Russian elections and the consolidation of Putin's grip on power.

After years of Russian economic and military growth, that warning is now more urgent than ever.

The consequences of Russia's rise to power are dire, not only for Europe but for the entire world. God foretold a

coming clash of civilizations to occur in the time of the end. Daniel 11:40-43 warn of an end-time "king of the north," a united Europe led by Germany. (For proof, request our free book *The Holy Roman Empire in Prophecy*.)

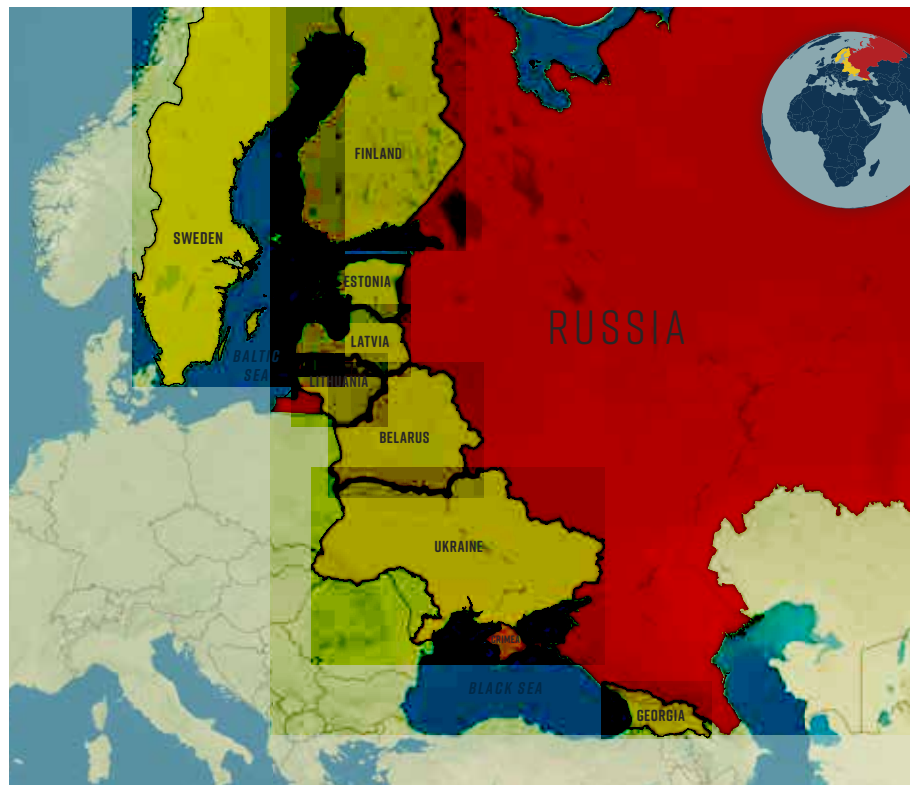
Verse 44 states: "But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him [the king of the north]" This passage declares that in the end time, the very time we find ourselves in now, news from the northeast will cause Europe great alarm and anxiety. Looming to the northeast is one major power: Russia.

But notice what is prophesied to happen next: "[T]herefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many" (verse 44).

There is a great war coming. Every additional anxious preparation for war that Europe makes brings the world a step closer to this prophesied clash of powers.

Watch events in Europe with this prophecy in mind. Continue to watch for increasing anxiety in Europe to push its nations to rise to meet the threat of Russia. ■

To learn more, request our free booklet *The Prophesied 'Prince of Russia,'* by Gerald Flurry.



STRATEGIC ALLIANCE
**Angela Merkel
 welcomes Algerian
 Prime Minister
 Abdelmalek Sellal.**

Germany arming Africa, Mideast

During the legislative period between 2014 and 2017, Germany exported more weapons than any prior German government, Germany's public broadcaster ARD reported on January 23.

"Germany is the world's third-biggest arms exporter, but weapons sales remain a domestically sensitive issue given the country's World War II history," Reuters reported on January 23. Yet over the last four years, Berlin has approved a record

\$30.9 billion in weapons sales, according to the Economics Ministry. Exports to nations outside the European Union and NATO jumped 47 percent compared to sales approved by the 2010–2013 government.

Algeria imported the most German weapons (\$1.7 billion), followed by Egypt (\$867 million). Germany wants close cooperation with these two nations because of their strategic location in Africa. Algeria's long coastline makes it a crucial partner in

monitoring the Mediterranean Sea, so Germany sold Algeria two frigates in 2017. Egypt has control over both the Red Sea and the Suez Canal, the gateway for European imports from and exports to Africa and the Middle East.

In addition to weapons, Germany is also exporting weapons expertise. A former board member of Düsseldorf Rheinmetall Group's armaments division is now the CEO of Saudi Arabian Military Industries (SAMI), which seeks to become a major weapons producer.

Turkey relies on Germany as its second-largest source of weapons after the U.S. and as a source of expertise for expanding its own weapons industry. It currently produces small arms, speedboats, mine-sweepers, frigates and submarines under German license. Turkish forces rely heavily on German-supplied tanks, and German manufacturer Rheinmetall is helping Turkey construct its own tank factory.

Jordan received \$22 million in military equipment from Germany on January 14,

including two training aircraft, 70 trucks and 56 vans for border security. Germany also has stationed 280 soldiers in Jordan to help fight the Islamic State.

Germany is after more than profit: It is strategically influencing foreign policy and building alliances that can stand up to Iran. This "Merkel Doctrine" seeks to counterbalance Iran's power by arming Sunni Arab nations and Israel. At the same time, Berlin is justifying a more robust use of its military.

Psalm 83 describes an alliance between Arab nations and Germany that will turn against Iran (Daniel 11:40). Psalm 83 mentions Assur (Germany), Edom/Amalek (Turkey), Ishmaelites (Saudi Arabia and neighboring nations) and Moab/Ammon (Jordan). For more information, request our booklet *The King of the South*. ■

Turkey befriends Germany

While the war in Syria has, to a great extent, worsened Turkey's relationship with the U.S. and, to a lesser extent, degraded its relationship with Russia, the Syrian crisis has fostered "a Turkish-German bromance," Politico wrote on January 11. That's primarily because the Turkish military heavily relies on German-made Leopard 2 tanks in its operations in Syria. Germany has expressed interest in helping Turkey in this way, and, as a Spiegel Online Turkey correspondent wrote on January 23, "Germany Is Becoming an Indirect War Party" in Syria.

These developments indicate that the war in Syria could help fulfill a prophecy in Psalm 83, which reveals that modern-day Turkey will be powerful enough to form a major political and military alliance with Germany and select Arab nations. ■

Turkey's military operation in Syria

Turkey launched a military operation in northwest Syria on January 20 as part of its ongoing effort to solve the Syrian crisis and to combat what it calls terrorists.

Turkey says its Operation Olive Branch in the Afrin region aims to push an estimated 10,000 Kurdish militants out of the area and create a 20-mile-deep security buffer. The Kurdish rebels in the region are affiliated with the People's Protection Units (YPG) and the Kurdistan Workers' Party. The Turkish government considers them terrorists.

Six days before the incursion began, the United States had announced plans to support a 30,000-strong "border force"

of Kurdish fighters in Syria. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan had angrily reacted to the announcement, saying, "A country we call an ally is insisting on forming a terror army on our borders. What can that terror army target but Turkey? ... Our mission is to strangle it before it's even born."

The *New York Times* reported on January 22: "The Turkish offensive, carried out over the protests of the United States but with the apparent assent of Russia, marks a perilous new phase in relations between two NATO allies—bringing their interests into direct conflict on the battlefield. It lays bare how



OLIVE BRANCH
 Turkish soldiers park tanks near the Syrian border in January.

much leverage the United States has lost in Syria, where its single-minded focus has been on vanquishing Islamist militants."

Some analysts say Russia acquiesced to Turkey's invasion because it wanted to undermine the U.S. According to Sergei Markov, a former Russian politician, "Russia does not publicly support such a military operation, but it opened the gate for this operation because it basically starts a proxy war between Turkey and the U.S. [through the YPG]." ■

Iran detains at least 8,000 protesters

According to independent reports from Iran, the government has detained at least 8,000 people since protests swept the nation in December and January. Most of them are between ages 16 and 24.

The National Council of Resistance of Iran reported on January 16 that at least 50 people were killed during the government's crackdown on protesters and that five of these were tortured to death.

Some of the alleged methods of abuse include battery, food and sleep deprivation, and poisoning. One activist told Fox News on January 9: "People inside [Iran's Evin prison] are being tortured, maybe tortured to death."

James Phillips, senior research fellow for Middle Eastern affairs at the Heritage Foundation,

noted: "While [United States] President Trump has been very vocal on the plight of Iranian protesters, many other Western leaders have turned a blind eye to the protests, fearful of alienating an Iranian regime that they hope to appease. ... Many European and Asian allies seek to preserve the nuclear deal with Iran in order to maintain a business-as-usual relationship with the Islamist dictatorship in Tehran. They are fearful that if they admit that the regime represses its own people, then they will be asked to do something about it that could diminish trade with Iran."

In his booklet *The King of the South* (available at theTrumpet.com/go/kos), *Trumpet* editor in



chief Gerald Flurry writes about just how hardened the Iranian regime is. "Being spellbound by peace treaties has kept the Western world from fully seeing and recognizing Iran's massive plot to control the Middle East," he writes. "That will never be stopped by a peace treaty! Only a superior power could ever stop this extreme Islamic movement!" *The King of the South* identifies that superior power as a German-led Europe, under leadership much different from today's. ■

Iran's Mediterranean presence alarms Israel

Israel's next proxy war with Iran "could see a focus on the [Mediterranean] Sea," according to Israeli Adm. Shaul Chorev (Ret.).

The *Jerusalem Post* quoted the retired naval officer on January 28 warning that the strategy of Iran's Lebanese proxy, Hezbollah, proves that "they will target Israeli strategic assets" with land-to-sea missiles or suicide vessels. Iran "is on the verge of reaching the Mediterranean, including the use of Syrian ports by the Iranian Navy," Chorev said. "Iranian ports in the eastern Mediterranean are a real risk for Israel."

On January 25, Israeli ambassador to the United Nations Danny Danon took the extraordinary step of disclosing classified intelligence at a United Nations Security Council meeting to warn that "the Shiite crescent has reached [Israel's] doorstep [and that] the Shiite crescent is alive and well; do not let Iran turn

it into a Shiite horizon."

Danon said that Iran controls 82,000 troops in Syria and has spent \$35 billion on weapons factories there. "[I]f we turn a blind eye in Syria," he warned, "the Iranian threat will only grow."

Access to the Mediterranean is important to Iran's pursuit of regional hegemony. This "explains why Iranian and Persian strategy has always focused on developing proxies or strategic relationships with countries amenable to its designs," *Geopolitical Futures* wrote on January 3.

Iran has aggressively exploited the conflict in Iraq, the civil war in Syria, and the political strife in Lebanon to extend itself deeper into its western neighbors and thus create an 800-mile "land bridge" connecting Iran to the Mediterranean Sea.

Ambassador Danon criticized Europe for appeasing and



empowering Iran through the Iran nuclear deal and for doubling Iran's trade with the Continent. "The money the regime earns from your economic deals will be spent on ballistic missile testing, nuclear development and promoting worldwide terror," he said. "[W]hile you are making a profit, Iran is building an empire. ... Iran starts with Israel; it is you who are next."

For more than 20 years, *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry has used Bible prophecy to warn that Iran will pose a real and immediate threat to Israel, as well as to Europe. The Mediterranean Sea is an essential part of Iran's dangerous strategy. ■

Doomsday Clock moves to midnight

The minute hand of the symbolic Doomsday Clock moved forward 30 seconds on January 25, bringing the time to just two minutes to "midnight"—the symbolic hour of global nuclear destruction. This is the closest the countdown has come to "doomsday" in 65 years.

"[T]he world is not only more dangerous now than it was a year ago; it is as threatening as it has been since World War II," wrote the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists that runs the clock.

Created in 1947, the Doomsday Clock is a symbolic measurement of the likelihood that mankind will begin nuclear war, with midnight representing global destruction. The farthest from midnight the clock has ever been was 17 minutes to midnight, when the Cold War era ended in 1991. The closest was two minutes to midnight when the U.S. and the Soviet Union tested thermonuclear devices in 1953.

The Bulletin said the primary nation that has intensified the nuclear threat is North Korea, whose weapons development saw "remarkable progress during 2017" and "reflects new resolve to acquire sophisticated nuclear weapons."

In 2002, when the clock was moved from nine to seven minutes to midnight, Gerald Flurry noted, "The world should have jolted out of sleep at the news. Headlines should have splashed across all the media. But no real alarm was sounded. ... [M]any still slumber on as the world heads toward self-destruction" (May 2002).

Nearly 2,000 years ago, Jesus Christ prophesied of a time when human survival would be in jeopardy if not for divine intervention (Matthew 24:21-22). To learn more, read Mr. Flurry's booklet *Nuclear Armageddon Is 'At the Door.'* ■



U.S. satellites vulnerable to attack

Russia and China are developing weaponry that can destroy vital American satellites, according to a new report by the Pentagon's Joint Staff intelligence directorate. The *Washington Free Beacon* quoted officials familiar with the report on January 30 as saying, "China and Russia will be capable of severely disrupting

or destroying U.S. satellites in low-Earth orbit" by 2020.

In May 2017, Director of National Intelligence Dan Coats said in a testimony to Congress that Russia and China "are increasingly considering attacks against satellite systems as part of their future warfare doctrine. Both will continue to pursue a full range of anti-satellite weapons

Photos show Chinese militarization in South China Sea

Newly published photographs reveal that China has nearly completed its dramatic transformation of seven disputed reefs in the Spratly Archipelago into "island fortresses," as part of its push to control the South China Sea.

The high-resolution aerial photographs, taken in the last half of 2017, were obtained by the *Philippine Daily Inquirer* and published on February 5.

The photos show seven reefs—Fiery Cross, Subi, Hughes, Johnson South, Mischief, Cuarteron and Gaven—equipped

with completed or nearly completed naval docks, barracks, radar systems, airfields, fortified hangars, communication towers, ammunition storage depots, lighthouses, shelters for anti-ship cruise missiles, and defensive structures.

"[T]hey showed the reefs that had been transformed into artificial islands in the final stages of development as air and naval bases," the *Inquirer* said.

Five years ago, all seven of these locations were partly or wholly submerged coral reefs. China used fleets of dredgers to pump huge amounts of sand from the seafloor onto the reefs, then paved over the sand with concrete.

The South China Sea is among

as a means to reduce U.S. military effectiveness."

More than 800 satellites currently operate in low-Earth orbit, including many used by the United States military and by the Orbcomm, Iridium and Globalstar systems. All of these will soon be vulnerable to Russian or Chinese weaponry.

Our booklet *Russia and China in Prophecy* discusses the increasing military power of Moscow and Beijing, and the threat it poses the United States, saying, "It is evident that both Russian and Chinese officials are working to form a new alliance and counter American dominance of world affairs."

The booklet examines numerous Bible scriptures showing that the rise of Russia and China now underway was prophesied thousands of years ago. The Bible shows that the expanding military power of these countries is setting the stage for a nuclear World War III.

To understand these Bible prophecies and how they are being fulfilled in today's headlines, order your free copy of *Russia and China in Prophecy*. ■

China pressures Taiwan

China has increased pressure on Taiwan in recent weeks in its ongoing efforts to regain sovereignty over the democratic island nation just off its coast. In January, China illegally launched new civilian airline routes near Taiwanese airspace, increased bomber, fighter and surveillance flights inside Taiwan's air defense identification zone, and breached the zone by sailing its aircraft carrier through the Taiwan Strait. Taiwan's president called the provocations threats that destabilize the region.

China's former government founded Taiwan in 1949 after fleeing the communist takeover of the Chinese mainland. The communist government continues to claim sovereignty over the Taiwanese, but has never invaded due to Taiwan's alliance with the United States. Its recent provocations indicate that it is growing bolder in testing U.S. resolve to defend the Taiwanese in the event of an actual invasion. ■



TERRITORIAL
The Chinese Navy performs military drills in the South China Sea.

the most valuable and important areas of ocean on the globe. It is immensely wealthy in natural resources, containing an estimated 11 billion barrels of oil, 190 trillion cubic feet of natural gas, and 10 percent of global fisheries. Even more importantly, this seaway is used for more than 30 percent of total global shipping.

Trumpet editor in chief Gerald Flurry has said that China's

takeover in this strategic region is "steering the world toward war." In our July 2016 issue, he said that China's island building and militarization in the Spratly area shows that it "is being aggressive and provocative," challenging "seven decades of American naval dominance in the Pacific Rim," and displaying aggressive behavior that "should alarm the world!" ■

NOT-SO-GOLDEN STATE
A homeless man sits on
a downtown sidewalk in
Los Angeles.

California: America's poverty capital

California has a poverty crisis. Between 2014 and 2016, 1 in 5 Californians lived in poverty, according to the Census Bureau's Supplemental Poverty Measure, published last September. This statistic adjusts for the fact that food, clothing, shelter and utilities are more expensive in California than in many other states and shows that real poverty is 5.9 percent higher than the state's official poverty rate. This means that California has almost 8 million people living below the poverty line and has the highest poverty rate of all 50 states.

The state has 12 percent of the U.S. population, yet it accounts for roughly 30 percent of the nation's welfare recipients. This does not

factor in illegal immigrants, many of whom are also in poverty.

To fight this crisis, California spent \$44 billion on welfare programs in 2017—twice the national average. Yet this spending seems to have made California's poverty worse. The state government gives away a disproportionately large share of its welfare money in no-strings-attached cash payments.

The Bible tells us that “if any would not work, neither should he eat” (2 Thessalonians 3:10). By giving cash handouts to those below a certain income level, California's government is giving able-bodied people an incentive to eat without working, which is against God's law. ■

China infiltrating American classrooms

China's policymakers are infiltrating American colleges with Communist propaganda through the Confucius Institute.

“[T]he Confucius Institute's goals are a little less wholesome and edifying than they sound—and this is by the Chinese government's own account,” wrote Politico. “A 2011 speech by a standing member of the politburo in Beijing laid out the case: ‘The Confucius

Institute is an appealing brand for expanding our culture abroad,’ Li Changchun said. ‘It has made an important contribution toward improving our soft power. The ‘Confucius’ brand has a natural attractiveness. Using the excuse of teaching Chinese language, everything looks reasonable and logical” (January 16).

There are now more than 100 Confucius Institute programs on college campuses across the United States. The Communist

U.S. will borrow nearly \$1 trillion in 2018

On January 31, the United States Treasury Department released its budget projections for 2018, outlining a plan to borrow an astonishing \$955 billion to cover the costs of its programs. This represents the largest deficit in six years, and equates to an 84 percent increase over 2017, when the deficit was \$519 billion.

As the *Trumpet* has repeatedly pointed out, \$20 trillion in national debt is a threat to

American national security. U.S. debt now exceeds its annual economic output, which equated to \$19.4 trillion last year.

America now owes more than it makes in a year, but it still plans to run up the debt even more. By the end of the decade, the U.S. could owe nearly \$800 billion a year in interest payments alone.

Deuteronomy 28 states that the nation that breaks God's laws will find itself a debtor nation rather than a lender. ■

Young people delay adulthood

Scientists may be in the process of redefining the word “adulthood.” Why? Because children aren't growing up. Traditional definitions of adulthood have begun at age 19, but the *Telegraph* reported on January 19 that some scientists have concluded that “[a]dulthood does not begin until 24 ... because young people are continuing their education for longer and delaying marriage and parenthood.”

The American Psychiatric Association has gone as far as defining adolescence as a period extending from puberty up to age 34. In other words, adolescence today is three times



longer than it was just a few generations ago.

The Bible tells us to put away childish things when we come of age. “When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things” (1 Corinthians 13:11). More than ever, society needs men and women who are emotionally, mentally and spiritually mature. ■



Party of China is attempting to use these institutes to influence a new generation of U.S. policymakers toward a more pro-China direction. In addition to teaching about Confucianism and communism, these institutes also teach oncoming

generations of American leaders to be more accommodating of China's human rights abuses.

The Prophet Isaiah specifically corrected the nation of Israel for forsaking God's law and running after Eastern philosophies: “O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of the Lord. Therefore thou hast forsaken thy people the house of Jacob, because *they be replenished from the east*, and are soothsayers like the Philistines, and they please themselves in the children of strangers” (Isaiah 2:5-6). ■

► **EXPRESSION** FROM PAGE 25

(a reason that administrators prove so ready to accede to their demands). If you want to find the counterculture on today's elite college campuses, you need to look for the conservative students." The nonbelievers of the liberal-left dogma are considered to be members of the counterculture.

Even more, they're branded heretics! "Which brings us to another thing that comes with dogma: heresy," wrote Deresiewicz. "Heresy means those beliefs that undermine the orthodox consensus, so it must be eradicated: by education, by reeducation—if necessary, by censorship. It makes a perfect dreary sense that there are speech codes, or the desire for speech codes, at selective private colleges." This means that any student who does not accept the commonly believed positions on secularism, environmentalism, issues of identity, such as race, gender and sexuality, or the radical ideas of Michel Foucault are socially doomed!

According to the guardians of the doctrine, these students must be educated, reeducated or censored. How? "[T]he most effective form of censorship, of course, is self-censorship—which, in the intimate environment of a residential college, young adults are very quick to learn," wrote Deresiewicz. Students who attend an elite college in New York told Deresiewicz "that any challenge to the hegemony of identity politics will get you branded as a racist (as in, 'Don't talk to that guy, he is a racist')." Students on some of today's best college campuses are being silenced. Faculty, administrators and students of the dogma do not want to hear opposing beliefs or ideas. So these students are keeping their mouths shut.

Deresiewicz and concerned faculty spread across the colleges see a real danger on college campuses. However, it is not the conservative students they worry most about. It is the indoctrinated students.

"[T]he reason to listen to people who disagree

with you is not so you can learn to refute them. The reason is that you may be wrong," wrote Deresiewicz. "In fact, you are wrong: about some things and probably about a lot of things. There is zero percent chance that any of us is 100 percent correct. That, in turn, is why freedom of expression includes the right to hear as well as speak, and why disinviting campus speakers abridges the speech rights of students as well as the speakers themselves." This is a statement we should think about deeply. Deresiewicz exposed the greatest weakness in elite leftist thinking: They refuse to hear opinions, ideas or beliefs that could expose them as wrong!

It's Here: A Famine of Truth

Americans must face the reality that a majority of our journalists and news reporters have been trained at elite colleges and universities, which are sophisticated at indoctrinating young minds to the left's mind-numbing dogma. The students who have been fully converted to the cause have been hired for the most-coveted mass media, government and business jobs in town. This means that our top newspapers, nightly news and special reports are and will continue to be dispensation outlets for the left's extremely powerful dogma indoctrination campaign.

"Washington is where the oddities of campus oversensitivity and leftist outrage come to get weaponized—something to freak out about, something to obsess over, and most important, something to bash political enemies and fellow countrymen," continue Benson and Ham in their book. We are all targets. It is only the tough-minded, thinking readers and watchers, those willing to investigate the evidence, who will not be taken captive.

In September 2016, Gallup reported that Americans' trust in mass media had sunk to a new low. Only 32 percent of Americans said they had "a great deal" or "a fair amount of trust" in the media. This is actually a good thing. But the mass media and the left elites point

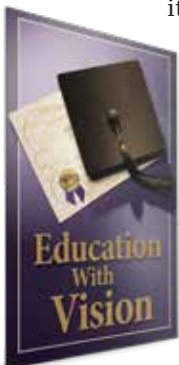
their finger at conservatives, the Republicans and, should we forget, the current president as the cause of the mistrust.

If we are as honest as Deresiewicz, we should recognize both sides have error in thinking—both sides are wrong about "some things." Instead of having honest discussion and debate, we see evisceration and personal character assassination rage on major media. We must consider this point: Not just one side has liars.

Many Americans suspect they are being lied to. The Americans who follow the evidence to the truth *know* they are being lied to. Truths on climate change, gender identity, the nuclear family and racial tension, for example, are being overwhelmed by lies that are tearing down families, economies and nations.

"For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables," wrote the Apostle Paul to his assistant Timothy (2 Timothy 4:3-4). The time of which he was prophesying is here. While Paul is talking for the most part spiritually, the application for secular society is a perfect fit. This is a precise description of what the liberal left and its version of political correctness is bringing about in America, Britain, Israel and across our Western society.

Yet there is hope; you do not have to succumb to insidious indoctrination and the deceitful news broadcast from today's mass media. You need not starve for the truth. Our website theTrumpet.com offers you a steady stream of articles, booklets, radio and TV programs, and informative videos to keep you current with the truth about the major problems and trends happening in our world. We are not afraid to speak out on vital issues. We are not silent. And we speak the truth with genuine concern, soberness and love (Ephesians 4:15). Our website and all of our literature is provided to you at no cost or obligation. ■



WHAT'S WRONG WITH EDUCATION TODAY? Today's education system limits, silences and divides society. To learn about a new system that expands, frees and unifies the world, request our free booklet **Education With Vision**.

Give, and Your Heart Will Follow

A law that can change your relationships

WHY DO YOU GIVE GIFTS? WHY DO YOU GIVE TO YOUR children, your spouse, your family, your friends, or someone in need? You give, hopefully, not to try to get something in return, but simply for the pleasure of giving. It is, after all, more blessed to give than to receive (Acts 20:35). Living the give way just makes you happy.



JOEL HILLIKER

But giving also does something else to us—something more specific. That’s because when we obey God’s law, a remarkable dynamic is set in motion.

Jesus Christ instructed us to lay up treasures not on Earth, but in heaven. Why? “For *where your treasure is,*” He said, “*there will your heart be also*” (Matthew 6:19-21).

This is an amazing truth. Your *heart* follows your treasure. When you give your time, your energy, your money or something else, you are also giving something more precious: a little piece of yourself.

We see this rule in action with tithing. In the Bible, God commands you to give 10 percent of your income to Him (e.g. Leviticus 27:30; Malachi 3:8-10; Matthew 23:23). God doesn’t need our money; He could provide for His work any number of miraculous ways. But He instructs you to commit your *treasure* to that work. This instills in you a habit of generosity that develops your character and makes you more like the great Giver (James 1:17). But it also draws *your heart* into His work. You take on a more committed mindset toward God’s plans and ambitions, His activities today, and how they are preparing for the future.

If you think about it, that act of *giving* helps you *love God more*. That is what God desires most of all.

In ancient Israel, God wanted to lay claim to the hearts of His people the same way. He commanded the Israelites to give regular offerings—daily, weekly, monthly, annually. Obviously, God had no practical need or use for the animals sacrificed and food and drink offered to Him by fire. His goal in having the Israelites give these things was to *turn their hearts* toward Himself.

There is a clue to this truth even in the word *sacrifice*. In Hebrew, one word for *sacrifice* is *korban*. The root of that word is *karab*, which means to *approach* or to *bring near* or to *close*. What a lovely word, referring to a sacrifice for God! The similar word *karob* refers to a personal relationship or kinship.

When an Israelite brought an offering to God, surely God was pleased, but that was not the primary reason He commanded it. Presenting *korban* to God made the *giver* feel closer to his Creator more than the other way around. He was committing his *treasure* to God, so his *heart* followed.

Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. If you invest your money, time and energy into your family, your heart will follow. If you give to and sacrifice for your marriage—even if you don’t “feel like it”—this physical act will actually *lead your heart* into a deeper love. Your obedience to the *way of give* will set in motion the wheels of love.

By the same principle, if you constantly make sacrifices for your employer, that doesn’t make him feel closer to you nearly as much as it makes *you* feel closer to *him*. Your heart follows your treasure. Over time, you may then find yourself making greater and greater sacrifices for your work. This may or may not be a good thing.

So consider this practical wisdom. If you want to make your love toward someone grow a little, *give that person a gift*. If you want to make your love grow *a lot*, sacrifice for him or her.

WHEN YOU GIVE
YOUR TIME,
YOUR ENERGY,
YOUR MONEY OR
SOMETHING ELSE,
YOU ARE ALSO
GIVING SOMETHING
MORE PRECIOUS:
A LITTLE PIECE
OF YOURSELF.



Maybe there is someone you must have regular contact with whom you have a hard time relating to. Perhaps one of your co-workers really gets under your skin. Try it out: *Give* him something. Make a sacrifice for him. Not to turn his heart to you, but to turn yours to him. Give, and see if it doesn’t draw you nearer to him. It may not solve the problem completely, but you can be sure it will improve your attitude, which will improve the relationship.

If you had an argument with your spouse in the morning and you feel resentful, do the counterintuitive thing: Pick up a bouquet of flowers on your way home from work. The next time you see her, rather than giving her the lecture you’ve been rehearsing all day, give her a gift she may actually appreciate. Whether or not she does, you’ll find that your sacrifice has done a lot to dissolve your own hostility. Now you are in a far better position to restore harmony to your marriage than you otherwise would have been.

Commit your treasure, and your heart will follow. Don’t wait until you “feel love” before you give or sacrifice. *Sacrifice first, and your love will grow. Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.*

Just taking the time to thank you for sending the *Trumpet Brief* to me as well as the *Philadelphia Trumpet*. This material provides me a sense of future, yes, even at a near 75 years of age. To me, the Bible is a history book as well as giving me a sense, as I said, of the future. Current goings-on seem to be accelerating. With these readings, I find it exciting to see the future unfolding.

John Tyner

I follow you via the magazine that I got from a friend, the Internet and downloads from your pages. Thanks for all the news events you give us, which are sometimes also correlated with biblical prophecies. Sometimes I get shocked or surprised. I really loved the January 2017 issue (that's when I first heard of you), especially the foundation of leadership; it is indeed a personal lesson and has helped me a lot about developing self-control. I enjoy your infographic illustrations too.

Ermias Mekonnen ERITREA

I received the booklet *The Holy Roman Empire in Prophecy* written by Brad Macdonald, and I am grateful for you showing me the truths about how Simon Sorcerer Magus was able to corrupt and

transform the Roman Catholic Church into a universal counterfeit church using the name of Jesus Christ to advance his evil motives. Macdonald's arguments, supported by biblical teachings, were very convincing and replete with proofs from historical sources and comments from prestigious historians.

Socrates C. Punay CALIFORNIA

This magazine is very good, and well informed about everything; I read it right through. I talk to people and they ask where I get the information from, and I tell them.

Michael Rykola NEVADA

Since the very first time I wrote you, my life has changed for the better. Our Father God in heaven is working in my life in a major way since I came to a true repentance. Every









sin that I was a slave to, God removed from me all at once. And I haven't turned back. God is the only true happiness, joy and love. Now each time I study any of the booklets or magazines, I feel joy I can't explain. And when I read some other booklets, I feel sad for the ones who don't realize what's going on.

Jovian Lanus MCRAE-HELENA, GEORGIA

I was a baptized pastor, but I tell you what, this is the most amazing magazine that I have ever read in my life. I never get tired of reading this magazine.

John Thompson MINNESOTA

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Stealing at Self-Checkout

Don't make up your own morals:
Be a moron like me. **BY JOEL HILLIKER**

WHEN YOU GO GROCERY SHOPPING, DO YOU HAVE TO fight urges to steal? What holds you back from just walking out of the store without paying for your foodstuffs? I don't recall ever feeling those urges, but at least one of my fellow shoppers says this makes me a "moron."

Apparently many shoppers are paying for their groceries only because someone is *making* them do so. How do we know? Because now that self-checkout lanes are becoming common, more people are shoplifting.

A recent University of Leicester study audited 1 million self-checkout transactions over a full year and found that out of \$21 million in sales, people shoplifted almost \$850,000 worth of goods. In one survey, nearly *1 in 5 people* admitted that they use the self-checkout lane to steal stuff.

These facts come from "The Banana Trick and Other Acts of Self-Checkout Thievery" in the *Atlantic*, an eye-opening look at the shenanigans that are now commonplace, such as ringing up pricey cuts of meat with codes for cheap ones, and stuffing banana bunches with unpaid-for extras. Some of these scams require real ingenuity and effort; others, apparently, aren't terribly difficult to execute.

Some people suggest that stores actually *encourage* theft by making it so easy. The *Atlantic* wrote, "In their zeal to cut labor costs, the [Leicester] study said, supermarkets could be seen as having created 'a crime-generating environment' that promotes profit 'above social responsibility'" (March 2018). So apparently these thefts aren't the fault of the thieves, but of the *store owners!*

Some people have come to view theft at self-checkout as some kind of *right*. The *Atlantic* quoted one shopper commenting online: "Anyone who pays for more than half of their stuff in self-checkout is a total moron. There is NO MORAL ISSUE with stealing from a store that forces you to use self-checkout, period. THEY ARE CHARGING YOU TO WORK AT THEIR STORE" (emphasis his). This individual reasons that he is *entitled* to steal at least half of the items in his cart because of the 2½ minutes he spends at self-checkout.

This is where "who's to say what's right or wrong?" leads. Isn't moral relativism grand? What a nice world it is when people can make up their own rules and feel justified in exacting whatever they deem "fair wages" for the labor they perform for greedy store owners.

The thief in the self-checkout line, the flash mobs at the convenience stores, the people rioting and looting stores apparently soothe their consciences by thinking, *These stores*

are owned by rich people who oppress poor people. That practically makes me Robin Hood. I am an executor of social justice.

Lawlessness always has a price, in this case literally. The more people steal, the more stores have to raise their prices. All the law-keeping "morons" pay for the moral-relativist thieves.

America's founders said the system of freedom they established would work only for a MORAL people. Only if people *governed themselves* by strict moral standards would this society work. French political scientist Alexis de Tocqueville visited America in 1831, and he could not believe how much *freedom* Americans had. He recognized that what made it possible was *religion*. "Liberty regards religion as its companion in all its battles and its triumphs," he wrote. "It considers religion as the safeguard of morality, and morality as the best security of law and the surest pledge of the duration of freedom"

The reality is, once you lose religion, you lose morality—and ultimately, you lose FREEDOM as well.

Amoral people—at self-checkout and beyond—are costing us more and more of our freedoms. (To learn more about the unbreakable link between law-keeping and freedom, read Gerald Flurry's booklet *No Freedom Without Law*.)

Would you rather live in a world of self-justifying law-breakers—or of "moronic" law-keepers? Would you rather live in a world where everyone ignores the Eighth Commandment, "Thou shalt not steal," or where everyone keeps it?

This proves that the laws of God are as real as the laws of physics, and that they have real-world consequences. *The Wonderful World Tomorrow—What It Will Be Like* author



Herbert W. Armstrong wrote, "Can you realize that every unhappiness, every evil that has come to humanity, has been the result of transgressing God's law? If no one ever had any other god before the true God; if all children were reared to honor, respect and obey their parents, and all parents reared their children in God's ways; if no one ever allowed the spirit of murder to enter his heart, if there were no wars, no killing of humans by humans; if all marriages were kept happy and there were no transgressions of chastity before or after marriage; if all had so much concern for the good and welfare of others that no one would steal—and we could throw away all locks, keys and safes; if everyone told the truth—everyone's word were good—everyone were honest; if no one ever coveted what was not rightfully his, but had so much outgoing concern for the welfare of others that he really believed it is more blessed to give than to receive—what a happy world we would have!"

That's the world I want to live in. So I'm going to be the "moron" in line who keeps paying for every item in my cart—just like I wish everyone would.

“China is ignoring these nations’ territorial claims,” Mr. Flurry wrote. “China is being aggressive and provocative,” and thereby challenging “seven decades of American naval dominance in the Pacific Rim.” This aggressive behavior “should alarm the world!” he wrote.

Speaking of the South China Sea, through which a third of the world’s maritime commerce passes each year, Mr. Flurry wrote, “Since Japan’s defeat in World War II, America has protected this vital trade route and brought peace to this part of the world.” But since the U.S. military is now retreating from the region, “other great powers are coming in to fill the vacuum,” he continued. “China is intimidating the nations of Southeast Asia into submission to its will. It is forcing these countries to do what it wants. Everything is headed in the direction of war.”

Mr. Flurry’s assessment of the South China Sea situation is based on the sure word of Bible prophecy.

In the book of Deuteronomy, God issues a solemn warning to the people of Israel, explaining that if they reject Him, He will hand control over the world’s strategic sea gates to their enemies. And He warned that these enemy nations would use that control to besiege the nations of Israel: “And he shall besiege thee in all thy gates, until thy high and fenced walls come down, wherein thou trustest, throughout all thy land ...” (Deuteronomy 28:52).

Mr. Flurry explained that this ancient warning is not just for ancient peoples. “It is a prophecy for the *modern-day descendants* of Israel!” he wrote. “Two nations in particular represent Israel in this end time: America and Britain.” These two countries “are full of terrible sins today, and God is going to CORRECT THEM for that!” he wrote. “This prophecy and several others show that He will send foreign enemies to *punish* America and Britain!”

China’s push against the status quo in the South China Sea and elsewhere on its periphery is moving toward the fulfillment of this prophecy.

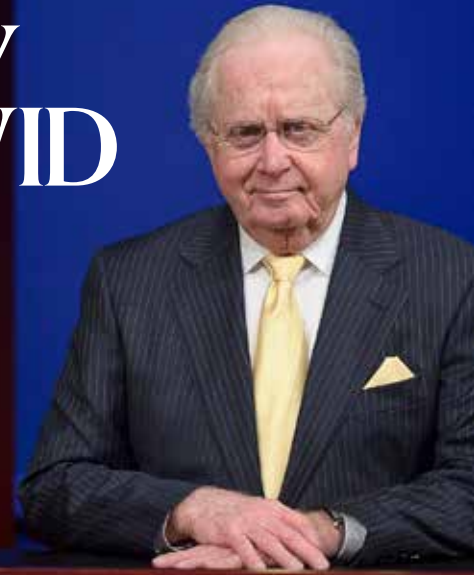
But Mr. Flurry made clear that this approaching siege and war is connected to some astoundingly hope-filled news: “All this prophesied destruction is what it will take for God to reach this world!” he concluded. “After this, people will be ashamed—and THEY WILL GET TO KNOW GOD! Ezekiel repeatedly talked about that inspiring conclusion (e.g. Ezekiel 6:7; 7:4; 11:10; 12:20; 13:9; 23:48-49; etc). Yes, there is a lot of bad news when you consider what it takes to get people to the point of knowing God. But ultimately, the outcome is SPECTACULARLY GOOD NEWS!” ■

China’s rise was prophesied!

Where will this trend lead? You can know! Request our free booklet **Russia and China in Prophecy**.



THE KEY OF DAVID



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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UNITED STATES

Nationwide Satellite
Galaxy 3 Trans. 17 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu
Direct TV
CW Plus, Chan. 34, 9:30 ET/PT, Sun
ION, Chan. 305, 6:00 ET, Fri
Dish Network
ION, Chan. 216, 6:00 ET, Fri
Nationwide Cable
CW Plus, 9:30 ET/PT, Sun
ION, 6:00 ET/PT, Fri
Alabama, Birmingham WPXH 5:00, Fri;
WVUA 8:30, Sun
Dothan WDFX 8:30, Sun
WTYY-DT 8:30, Sun
Montgomery-Salem WBMM-DT/WNCF-DT 8:30, Sun
Alaska, Anchorage KYUR-DT 8:30, Sun
Fairbanks KATN-DT 8:30, Sun
Juneau KJUD-DT 8:30, Sun
Arizona, Phoenix KPPX 5:00, Fri;
KASW 8:00, Sun
Yuma KEYC-DT 8:30, Sun
Arkansas, El Dorado KNOE-DT 8:30, Sun
Fayetteville KHBS-DT/KHOG-DT 8:30, Sun
Fort Smith KHBS-DT/KHOG-DT 8:30, Sun
Jonesboro KJOS 8:30, Sun
Rogers KHBS-DT/KHOG-DT 8:30, Sun
Springdale KHBS-DT/KHOG-DT 8:30, Sun
California, Bakersfield KGET-DT 9:30, Sun
Chico KHSL-DT 9:30, Sun; KRCR 9:00, Sun
El Centro KEYC-DT 8:30, Sun
Eureka KUVU-LP/KVIQ-DT 9:30, Sun
Los Angeles KCAL 6:30, Sun; KPXN 6:00, Fri
Monterey KION 9:30, Sun
Palm Springs KCWQ/KESQ-DT 9:30, Sun
Redding KHSL-DT 9:30, Sun;
KRCR 9:00, Sun
Sacramento KSPX 6:00, Fri;
Salinas KION 9:30, Sun
San Francisco KKPX 6:00, Fri
Santa Barbara-Santa Maria KSBY-DT 9:30, Sun
Colorado, Denver KPXC 5:00, Fri
Grand Junction KJCT-DT 8:30, Sun
Montrose KJCT-DT 8:30, Sun

Connecticut, Hartford WHPX 6:00, Fri
Florida, Gainesville WCJB-DT 9:30, Sun
Jacksonville WPXC/WPJ-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; WTLF/
WTLH-DT 9:30, Sun
Tampa WXPX 6:00, Fri
West Palm Beach WPXP 6:00, Fri
Georgia, Albany WFXX 10:30, Sun
WSWG-DT 9:30, Sun
Atlanta WPXA 6:00, Fri
Augusta-Aiken WAGT-DT 9:30, Sun
Brunswick WPXC 6:00, Fri
Columbus WLTZ-DT 9:30, Sun
Macon WMAZ-DT 9:30, Sun
Savannah WGSA-DT 9:30, Sun
Thomasville WTLF/WTLH-DT 9:30, Sun
Hawaii, Hawaii Na Leo Chan. 54 6:30, Sun;
8:30, Wed
Kauai Ho’Ike Chan. 52 9:30, Tue
Mauai/Lanai/Molokai/Niihau/Akaku
Chan. 52 6:30 pm, Sun; 3:30, Mon
Oahu Focus Chan. 49 7:00 am, Sat
Chan. 27 5:00 am, Fri KPXO
Idaho, Boise KYUU-LP/KBOI-DT 8:30, Sun
Idaho Falls KIFI-DT 8:30, Sun
Pocatello KIFI-DT 8:30, Sun
Twin Falls KMVT-DT 8:30, Sun
Illinois, Bloomington WEEK-DT 8:30, Sun
Chicago WCUI 7:00, Mon-Fri; WCUI 9:30,
Sun; WCPX 5:00, Fri
Peoria WEEK-DT 8:30, Sun
Rockford WREX-DT 8:30, Sun; WREX
10:30, Sun
Quincy WGEM-DT 8:30, Sun
Indiana, Fort Wayne WISE-DT 21.29:30, Sun
Indianapolis WIPX 6:00, Fri
Terre Haute WBI 9:30, Sun
Iowa, Cedar Rapids KPXR 5:00, Fri
Des Moines KFPX 5:00, Fri
Keokuk WGEM-DT 8:30, Sun
Mason City KTTC-DT 8:30, Sun
Ottumwa KWOT 8:30, Sun

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Sioux City KTIV-DT 8:30, Sun
Kansas, Topeka KTKA-DT 8:30, Sun
KTKA 9:00, Sun
Pittsburg KSXF 8:30, Sun
Kentucky, Bowling Green WBKO-DT 8:30, Sun
Lexington WUPX 6:00, Fri
Louisiana, Alexandria KALB-DT 8:30, Sun
Monroe KNOE-DT 8:30, Sun
Lafayette KADN 6:30, Sun; KATC-DT 8:30, Sun; KLAf 6:30
Lake Charles KVHP-DT 8:30, Sun
New Orleans WPXL 5:00, Fri
Maine, Bangor WABI-DT 9:30, Sun
Presque Isle WBPQ 9:30, Sun
Maryland, Salisbury WMDT-DT 9:30, Sun
Baltimore WUTB 7:30, Sun
Massachusetts, Holyoke
WWLP-DT 9:30, Sun
Springfield WWLP-DT 9:30, Sun
Michigan, Alpena WBAE 9:30, Sun
Cadillac WBVC 9:30, Sun
Detroit WPXD 6:00, Fri; WADL 10:00, Sun
Grand Rapids WZPX 5:00, Fri
Lansing WLAJ-DT 9:30, Sun
Marquette WBKP-DT/WBUP-DT 9:30, Sun
Traverse City WBVC 9:30, Sun
Minnesota, Duluth KDHL-DT 8:30, Sun
Mankato KWYE 8:30, Sun
Minneapolis KPXM 5:00, Fri
Rochester-Austin KTTT-DC 8:30, Sun
Sioux Fall (Mitchell) KWSW/KSWD-DT 8:30, Sun
Mississippi, Biloxi WXXV-DT 8:30, Sun
Columbus WCBI-DT 8:30, Sun
Greenville WBWD 8:30, Sun
Greenwood WBWD 8:30, Sun
Gulfport WXXV-DT 8:30, Sun
Hattiesburg WHLT-DT 8:30, Sun
Laurel WHPM-DT 8:30, Sun
Meridian WTOK-DT 8:30, Sun
Tupelo WCBI-DT 8:30, Sun
Missouri, Columbia KOMU-DT 8:30, Sun
Hannibal WGEW-DT 8:30, Sun
Jefferson City KOMU-DT 8:30, Sun
Joplin KSXF 8:30, Sun
Kansas City KPXE 5:00, Fri
Kirksville KWOT 8:30, Sun
Springfield KRBK 7:30, Sun
St. Joseph KBJO/KNPN-DT 8:30, Sun
Montana, Billings KSVI 7:00, S
KTVO-DT 8:30, Sun
Bozeman-Butte KBZK-DT/KXLF-DT 8:30, Sun
Glendive KWZB 8:30, Sun
Great Falls KRTV-DT 8:30, Sun
Helena KTVH-DT 8:30, Sun
Missoula KPAX-DT 8:30, Sun
Nebraska, Lincoln-Hastings
KWBL 8:30, Sun
Kearney KWBL 8:30, Sun
North Platte KWPL 8:30, Sun
Scottsbluff KGWN-DT/KCHW 8:30, Sun
Nevada, Reno KRNS-CA/KREN-DT 9:30, Sun
New York, Albany WYPX 6:00, Fri
Binghamton WBNG-DT 9:30, Sun
Buffalo WPXJ 6:00, Fri; WUTV 10:30, Sun
Elmira (Corning) WENY-DT 9:30, Sun
New York City WPXN 6:00, Fri; WWOR, 8:00, Sun
Plattsburgh WPTZ-DT 9:30, Sun
Syracuse WSPX 6:00, Fri
Utica WKTU-DT 9:30, Sun
Watertown WWTI-DT 9:30, Sun
North Carolina, Asheville WYCW 9:00, Sun
Charlotte WAXN 10:00, Sun
Durham WRPX 6:00, Fri; 9:00, Sun
Fayetteville WFPX 6:00, Fri
Greensboro WGXP 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 WWAY-DT 9:30, Sun

North Dakota
Bismarck KXMC-DT 8:30, Sun
Dickinson KXMC-DT 8:30, Sun
Fargo KXJB 8:30, Sun
Minot KXMC-DT 8:30, Sun
Valley City KXJB 8:30, Sun
Ohio, Cleveland WVPX 6:00, Fri
Cincinnati WSTR 8:30, Sun
Lima WBOH 9:30, Sun
Steubenville WBWO 9:30, Sun
Toledo WMNT 8:00, Sun
Youngstown WYTV 11:30, Sun
Zanesville WBZV 9:30, Sun
Oklahoma, Ada KTEN-DT 8:30, Sun
Lawton KAUZ-DT 8:30, Sun
Oklahoma City KOPX 5:00, Fri
Tulsa KTPX 5:00, Fri; KQCW 9:30 Sun
Oregon, Bend KTVZ-DT 9:30, Sun
Eugene KEVU-TV 10:00, Sun; KMTR-DT 9:30, Sun
Medford-Klamath Falls
KTVL-DT 9:30, Sun
Portland KPXG 6:00, Fri
Pennsylvania, Erie WSEE-DT/WICU-DT 9:30, Sun
Philadelphia WACP 9:00, Sun; WPPX 6:00, Fri
Wilkes Barre WQPX 6:00, Fri
Rhode Island, Providence
WPXQ 6:00, Fri
South Carolina, Anderson WYCW 9:00, Sun
Charleston WCBD-DT 9:30, Sun
Florence WWMB-DT 9:30, Sun
Greenville WYCW 9:00, Sun
Myrtle Beach WWMB-DT 9:30, Sun
Spartanburg WYCW 9:00, Sun
South Dakota, Rapid City KEVN 6:30, Sun
KWBH/KNBN-DT 8:30, Sun
Sioux Falls (Mitchell) KSFY-DT 8:30, Sun
Tennessee, Chattanooga WFLI 10:30, Sun
Jackson WBJK 8:30, Sun
Knoxville WPXK 6:00, Fri
Memphis WPXK 5:00, Fri
Nashville WNPX 5:00, Fri; WZTV 6:30
Texas, Abilene KTXS-DT 8:30, Sun
Amarillo KVII-DT/KVIH-DT 8:30, Sun
Beaumont KFDM-DT 8:30, Sun
Brownsville KCWT/KNVO-DT 8:30, Sun
Corpus Christi KRIS-DT 8:30, Sun
Dallas KDAF 7:00, Sun
Harlingen KCWT/KNVO-DT 8:30, Sun
Houston KPXB 5:00, Fri
Laredo KYLX 8:30, Sun
Longview KYTX-DT 8:30, Sun
Lubbock KJTV 8:00, Sun
KLCW-DT 8:30, Sun
Midland KWES-DT 8:30, Sun
Odessa KWES-DT 8:30, Sun
Port Arthur KFDM 8:30, Sun
San Angelo KDXE 8:30, Sun
San Antonio KPXL 5:00, Fri
Sherman KTEN-DT 8:30, Sun
Sweetwater KTXS-DT 8:30, Sun
Temple-Bryan KYLE 9:00, Sun
Tyler KYTX-DT 8:30, Sun
Victoria KWVB 8:30, Sun
Weslaco KCWT/KNVO-DT 8:30, Sun
Wichita Falls KAUZ-DT 8:30, Sun
Utah, Salt Lake City KUPX 5:00, Fri
Vermont, Burlington WVNY 10:30, Sun; WPTZ-DT 9:30
Virginia, Charlottesville WVIR-DT 9:30, Sun
Harrisonburg WVIR-DT 9:30, Sun
Norfolk WPXV 6:00, Fri
Richmond WUPV 8:00, Sun

Roanoke WPXR 6:00, Fri
Washington D.C. WPXW 6:00, Fri
Washington, Pasco KIMA-DT/KEPR-DT 9:30, Sun
Richland KIMA-DT/KEPR-DT 9:30, Sun
Seattle-Tacoma KWXP 6:00, Fri
Seattle KCPQ 7:00, Sun
Spokane KGXP 6:00, Fri; KAYU 7:30, Sun
Yakima KIMA-DT/KEPR-DT 9:30, Sun
West Virginia, Beckley WVVA-DT 9:30, Sun
Bluefield WVVA-DT 9:30, Sun
Charleston WLPX 6:00, Fri
Clarksburg WVPX-DT 9:30, Sun
Oak Hill WVVA-DT 9:30, Sun
Parkersburg WCWP 9:30, Sun
Weston WVPX-DT 9:30, Sun
Wheeling WBWO 9:30, Sun
Wisconsin, Eau Claire WXOW-DT 8:30, Sun
La Crosse WXOW-DT 8:30, Sun
Madison WREX 10:30, Sun
Milwaukee WPXE 5:00, Fri
Rhineland WAOW/WYOW 8:30, Sun
Superior KDHL-DT 8:30, Sun
Wausau WAOW-DT/WYOW-DT 8:30, Sun
Wyoming, Casper KCWY-DT 8:30, Sun
Cheyenne KGWN-DT/KCHW 8:30, Sun
Riverton KCWY-DT 8:30, Sun

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Galaxy 3 Trans. 17, 21 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu
Nationwide cable
Vision TV 4:30 pm ET, Sun
CHCH 11:30 ET, Sun
Atlantic Provinces
CTV Atlantic 11:00 AT, Sun
Alberta, Red Deer KAYU 8:30, Sun
Calgary KAYU 8:30, Sun
Edmonton KAYU 8:30, Sun
Medicine Hat KAYU 8:30, Sun
Lethbridge KAYU 8:30, Sun
British Columbia,
Vancouver CHEK 9:00, Sun;
CHNU 5:30 pm, Sun; KCPQ 7:00, Sun
Victoria CHNU 5:30 pm, Sun
Manitoba, Winnipeg CIIT Joy TV 11:00, Sun
New Brunswick, Moncton CKCW-DT 11, Sun
Saint John CKLT-DT 11, Sun
Nova Scotia, Halifax CJCH-DT 11, Sun
Sydney CJCB-TV 11, Sun
Ontario, Ottawa CJOH 5:30, Sun
Toronto WADL 10:00 Sun;
WUTV 10:00, Sun;
CHNU 8:30 pm, Sun
P.E.I., Charlottetown CKCW-DT 11, Sun
Quebec, Montreal WVVN 10:30, Sun
Saskatchewan, Saskatoon CFQC 5:30, Sun;

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Galaxy 3 Trans. 17 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu
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Puerto Rico WSJX 8:00, Sun

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AUSTRALASIA

Australia
Nationwide 9GEM 8:00, Sun
Adelaide TV44 11:30, Sun; 5:00, Wed
Perth WTV 11:30, Sun/Sat
New Zealand TVNZ 1, 5:30, Sun
Philippines TV47:30 PHT, Sun

CBS United Kingdom

Station	Day	Time	sky	sky	Freeview	freeSat
CBS Action	Saturday	8:30 am	Ch. 148	Ch. 192	Ch. 64	Ch. 137
CBS Drama	Sunday	7:30 am	Ch. 149	Ch. 197	Ch. 74	Ch. 134
CBS Reality	Sunday	8:00 am	Ch. 146	Ch. 148	Ch. 66	Ch. 135



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