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The **Real** Scandal

The Vatican

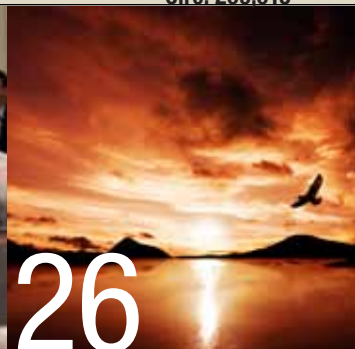




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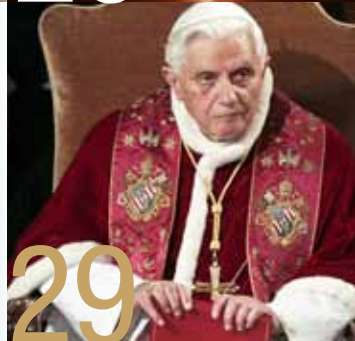
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The *Real* Vatican Scandal

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH IS MIRED IN A PEDOPHILIA scandal in several nations. However, there is a *far worse* scandal in that church that we all should be deeply concerned about. Most of the media is not even exposing it.

Some people believe that we are too critical of the Catholic Church at times. So let me make this very clear: We believe that God is going to save most Catholics and most members of other religions. But God is going to do it in His own time frame. That is easily provable from the Bible.

Here is an oppressively disturbing report by Allan Hall in the Mail Online, March 12: “Germany is fighting to keep files sealed that detail Adolf Eichmann’s life on the run before he was captured by Mossad agents and tried for war crimes in Israel.

“Documents about the Holocaust’s chief logistics organizer’s escape from Europe and 15-year-exile in Argentina are currently bound by a 50-year secrecy order.

“But campaigners challenging the rule say **THE EICHMANN FILES MAY PROVE GERMAN AND VATICAN OFFICIALS COLLUDED IN HIS ESCAPE AND FREEDOM.**

“The secrecy order is being fought in a benchmark court case against the BND, Germany’s domestic intelligence service, which wants the 4,500 pages of documents on Adolf Eichmann to remain out of the public domain.

“They cite that intelligence agencies in our countries will be ‘frightened off’ in future data-sharing if they are revealed.

“**CRITICS BELIEVE THIS IS A SMOKESCREEN DESIGNED TO AVOID OFFICIAL EMBARRASSMENT BOTH IN BERLIN AND THE VATICAN.**

“It is **WELL DOCUMENTED** that German Bishop Alois Hudal in Rome operated postwar ‘ratlines,’ getting passports for wanted Nazis to allow them to escape justice.

Any right-thinking person ought to ask why the very highest officials in the Catholic Church, including the pope, would associate with and even protect Croatian fascists.

“Franz Stangl, commandant of the Treblinka extermination camp, admitted to British Nazi expert Gitta Sereny that Hudal helped him get away after the defeat of Germany in 1945.

“Eichmann also escaped. He was the ultimate ‘desk murderer’ in the Third Reich who, as head of department IVB4 of the SS in Berlin, was responsible for the trains that carried millions to their deaths at extermination centers in Nazi-occupied Poland.

“After the war he was captured but fled from Allied custody. ...

“For 15 years he lived, sometimes under his own name, in Argentina, raising his family while working at a VW car plant.

“In 1960, acting on a tip-off, a Mossad team was dispatched to Buenos Aires with orders to kidnap him and bring him back to Israel for trial.

“He was seized, stood trial, found guilty and hanged on May 31, 1962.

“Now the Federal Administrative Court in Leipzig, Germany, is studying the files about his getaway from Europe and life in

Argentina to decide if they should be made public. ...

“But critics believe what the files will really reveal are the levels of assistance, succor and turning a blind eye to Nazi fugitives from officials in defeated Germany, together with details of Vatican assistance to top war criminals like Eichmann. ...

“*It is well known* that the German Embassy in Buenos Aires issued German passports to Eichmann and his family in their real names when they applied for them.

“The same went for Dr. Josef Mengele, the infamous medic of the Auschwitz extermination camp” (emphasis mine throughout).

If you want to know who Germany, America and Britain are in Bible prophecy, request our book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*. All of our literature is free.

The Ratlines

Trumpet readers are well aware that in December 1991, Germany decided to recognize breakaway Yugoslav republics Slovenia and Croatia despite *strong opposition from the EU, the United States and the United Nations*—and despite the fact that **THE MOVE AGAIN RESURRECTED UNSAVORY MEMORIES OF GERMANY’S FASCIST PAST.**

ONE WEEK LATER, THE VATICAN ALSO RECOGNIZED CROATIA.

The EU eventually recognized the two states a month later. The UN also backed away from a direct confrontation with Germany. And the U.S.—WHICH AT FIRST BLAMED THE GERMANS FOR PROVOKING YUGOSLAVIA’S CIVIL WAR BY THEIR RECOGNITION OF THE

TWO BREAKAWAY STATES—EVENTUALLY FLIP-FLOPPED TO EVEN SUPPORT GERMANY’S DECISION MILITARILY!

In their book *Unholy Trinity*, Mark Aarons and John Loftus give us powerful reasons to fear Germany and the Vatican.

Mark Aarons is an international award-winning investigative reporter and author of several books on intelligence-related issues. Based in Australia, he exposed war criminals in that country and prompted changes to Australian federal law. John Loftus, author of four intelligence-related history books, is the former chief prosecutor of the U.S. Justice Department’s Nazi War Crimes Unit. As such, he once held some of the highest security clearances in the world.

During World War II, many Serbs, according to these well-informed authors, were butchered by the Croats using medieval methods. “Eyes had been gouged out,” they wrote, “limbs severed, intestines and other internal organs ripped from the bodies of the living. Some were slaughtered like beasts, their throats cut from ear to ear with special knives. Others died from blows to their heads with sledgehammers. Many more were simply burned alive.”

Much more alarming, however, is the “special relationship” between the pope and Croatia at a time when Croatian fascists were slaughtering Serbs. Aarons and Loftus say the atrocities were already under way when Pope Pius XII met with Ante Pavelic, Croatia’s leader, in April 1941.



GERALD FLURRY
EDITOR IN CHIEF

THE POPE AGREED TO MEET WITH PAVELIC AGAIN IN MAY 1943, BY WHICH TIME THE NAZI ATROCITIES AGAINST THE SERBS WERE WITHOUT REFUTE. (One Italian journalist interviewed Pavelic in his home and was shocked to find a large bowl of Serbian eyes the fascist had been collecting.) Yet, according to *Unholy Trinity*, "PIUS HIMSELF PROMISED TO GIVE PAVELIC HIS PERSONAL BLESSING AGAIN. BY THIS TIME, THE HOLY SEE POSSESSED ABUNDANT EVIDENCE OF THE ATROCITIES COMMITTED BY HIS REGIME."

Any right-thinking person ought to ask why the very highest officials in the Catholic Church, including the pope, would associate with and even protect Croatian fascists.

The Vatican's connection with this sordid history went beyond a simple blessing from the pope. The Vatican actually helped to smuggle many of the worst criminals of the age! "FOR FUGITIVE NAZIS, ALL ROADS LED TO ROME," Aarons and Loftus wrote.

High-ranking ministers, civil servants, even Ante Pavelic himself, *with help from the Vatican's ratlines*, were able to disappear into thin air, intelligence sources have confirmed. At the time, the Vatican labeled these escapees "refugees." But THEY WERE CROATIAN FASCISTS WHO

The Ratlines

Adolf Eichmann, "the architect of the Holocaust," escaped from Europe after World War II and remained hidden for 15 years before being captured. Germany holds a cache of sealed files detailing this history and is fighting to keep it secret despite critics' objections. Some observers believe the documents would shed embarrassing additional light on German-Vatican collusion on the "ratlines," an already proven postwar operation to protect Nazi leaders.

Following are a few excerpts from the 1992 book *Unholy Trinity*, written by Mark Aarons and John Loftus, describing this important chapter in German-Vatican history.

IT IS ABSURD TO BELIEVE THAT 30,000 fugitive Nazis escaped to South America on the few U-Boats remaining at the end of the war, or that they all made their own travel arrangements. Modern popular culture has presented the escape of the Nazis in an adventurous, almost romantic light. The most popular Nazi smugglers are ODESSA and Die Spinne, although other mysterious groups are also mentioned from time to time. But in the main these stories owe more to the fertile imagination of scriptwriters and novelists than to historical research and accuracy.

The truth is much more ordinary, almost mundane. It is all the more shocking as a result. For whatever successes ODESSA achieved, they were mere amateurs at Nazi-smuggling when compared with the Vatican. Draganovic's Ratline [the name given to the Vatican's smuggling operation] was truly professional, ensuring that many guilty war criminals reached safe havens. Often they did not end up in the remote jungles of South America, but settled instead in Britain, Canada, Australia and the United States. ...

The Vatican has consistently claimed that they were unaware of the identity of those who were undeserving of their humanitarian assistance. But some influential priests not only knew who the Nazis were, they actively sought them out and provided extra-special treatment. ...

In 1948 Franz Stangl wearily trudged along the road to Rome. Three years earlier he had been an important man: Commandant of the Treblinka extermination camp. He was meticulous in his work. When the boxcars crammed full of deported men, women and children arrived ... Stangl insisted on order. The passengers were told to disembark for a routine rest stop and showers. ... It was all so swift, so organized, so deadly. The showers were actually a gas chamber where 900,000 people, mostly Jews, were murdered immediately upon arrival. Unlike Auschwitz, no work was done here. Treblinka existed for one purpose only: mass murder of human beings. Franz Stangl had commanded the Third Reich's most efficient death factory. ...

Stangl said that when he came to Rome he was in fact looking for [Roman Catholic] Bishop Alois Hudal, rector of the Pontificio Santa Maria dell'Anima, one of three seminaries for German priests in Rome. It was Hudal's name that had been whispered throughout the Nazi underground: "The bishop came into the room where I was waiting and he held out both his hands and said, 'You must be Franz Stangl. I was expecting you.'"

Stangl described the power and influence of Hudal's extensive smuggling network for fugitive Nazis. It was Hudal who arranged "quarters in Rome where I was



to stay till my papers came through. And he gave me a bit more money—I had almost nothing left." After several weeks, Hudal "called me in and gave me my new passport—a Red Cross Passport ... [he] got me an entrance visa to Syria and a job in a textile mill in Damascus, and he gave me a ticket for the ship. So I went to Syria." ...

[Monsignor Karl Bayer, Rome director for Catholic relief organization Caritas] admitted, "Perhaps Hudal *did* get batches of passports for these particular people." Finally he conceded that the money Hudal gave Stangl would certainly have come from Vatican funds. "The pope did provide money for this; in dribbles sometimes, but it did come."

Was Stangl an isolated case, a regrettable but unavoidable accident by a legitimate Catholic charity? Or was he one of many who escaped via Hudal's secret church connection? Simon Wiesenthal, who was responsible for Stangl's eventual recapture in Brazil in 1967, believes that a sophisticated Vatican network was involved. ...

Wiesenthal is convinced that Hudal was also responsible for smuggling the most infamous war criminal of them all: Adolf Eichmann, the chief architect of the Holocaust. As head of the SS Department

WERE HELPING HITLER'S REGIME!

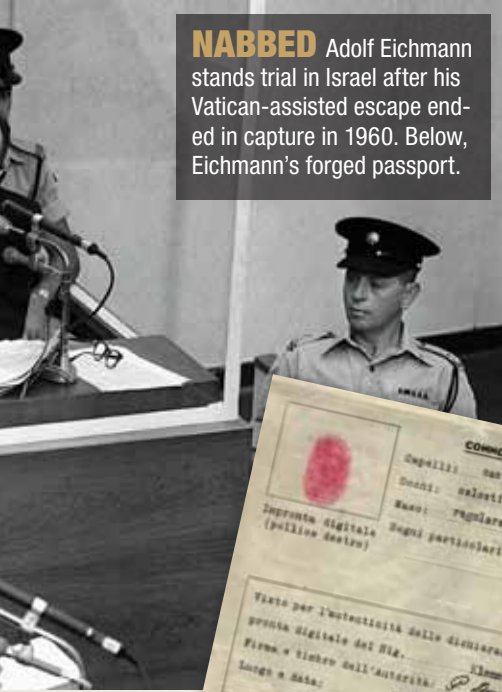
Remember, this all happened at the end of World War II!

DOCUMENTS PROVE THAT POPE PIUS XII WAS BY FAR THE GREATEST NAZI SMUGGLER AT THE END OF WORLD WAR II! *In spite of that despicable history, Pope Pius XII is already headed for canonization by Pope Benedict XVI!* Not exactly an act of repentance! And another man who later became pope, Giovanni Montini, was

also deeply involved in this crime against humanity!

WHAT IF GERMAN TURNS ITS

NABBED Adolf Eichmann stands trial in Israel after his Vatican-assisted escape ended in capture in 1960. Below, Eichmann's forged passport.



been among them.” ...

If Eichmann was a case of unauthorized assistance, he was certainly not the only instance. Hudal seemed to make mistakes with frightening regularity. Wiensenthal recalls, “During my search for Eichmann I found out that many [war criminals] were living in mon-

asteries, equipped by Hudal with false documents,” showing they were refugees. One point is certain: Many war criminals who escaped to South America have gratefully acknowledged that they owed their freedom to the Austrian-born bishop. ...

It is not surprising that Wiensenthal accuses Hudal. The bishop's pro-Nazi views were well known. Even Father Graham concedes the point: “Hudal was rather notorious in Rome for being openly philo-Nazi. He had this idea that it was his divine call to settle relations between the Nazis and the Catholic Church.” By the early 1930s, Hudal openly supported Hitler, traveling widely through Italy and Germany to address large crowds of German-speaking Catholics. From the very beginning of Nazi rule, he warmly embraced the new government as his own. ...

Hudal gave a speech at the Anima in Rome. Among the invited guests were members of the German Diplomatic Corps, as well as local representatives of various Nazi organizations. The bishop [Hudal] told his approving audience that “in this hour of destiny all German Catholics living abroad welcome the new German Reich, whose philosophies accord both with Christian and national values.” ... In 1936 he published a “philosophical” treatise, *The Foundations of National Socialism*.

WRATH TOWARD AMERICA, FIRST OF ALL, THE NEXT TIME AROUND? THAT IS PRECISELY WHAT THE POST-WORLD WAR II NAZI UNDERGROUND HAS PLEDGED TO DO!

They know that the U.S. mass-produced most of the armaments that beat them in World Wars I and II.

We cannot afford to take this lightly.

These shocking facts reveal that the Vatican was deeply involved with the Germans in World War II. There is simply no other explanation. But most people continue to ignore the truth—to their own great peril!

Aarons and Loftus understand the important history between Croatia and the papacy, dating back to A.D. 700. The Catholic

... [T]he book was fulsome in its praise for the ideas, program and actions of the Nazis Hudal was not the only cleric to hold these views. The primate of the Austrian Church, Cardinal Theodore Innitzer, was at that time strongly pro-Nazi. It was natural, therefore, that he gave Hudal's book an “imprimatur,” or official church permission for publication. The cardinal glowingly endorsed it “as a valuable attempt to pacify the German people's religious situation.” ...

Apparently Hudal's high Nazi profile did not harm his Vatican career. Since 1930 he had been a consultant in the Holy Office, a senior Vatican tribunal working “in the most rigorous secrecy,” as U.S. intelligence reported. ... [A]s Hudal's views grew more stridently and publicly pro-Nazi, nothing was done either to discipline or remove him from this powerful post. Instead the Vatican promoted him in June 1933 from priest to titular bishop, an extremely rare honor for a relatively lowly rector of a teaching college. ...

Father Jacob Weinbacher ... has no doubt that “Hudal was very close to [Pope] Pius XII ... they were friends.” ... Far from being just another anonymous cleric on the fringes of the Vatican, “Hudal may well have been the sounding board for the pope in the German-speaking countries.” ...

By early 1944 when the Allies landed in Sicily, even Hudal could see that Hitler's “Thousand Year Reich” was doomed. As long as the Nazi armies were winning, he had proudly driven around Rome with a “Greater Germany” flag on his car

Hudal had nothing but contempt for the American victors who helped him: “... I felt duty bound after 1945 to devote my whole charitable work mainly to former National Socialists and fascists, especially to so called ‘war criminals.’”

Hudal's self-confessed activities are all the more controversial because he operated with the full authority of the Vatican. ■

for “Jewish Affairs,” Eichmann's careful supervision ensured that men like Brunner, Stangl and Wagner ran the machinery of death at peak capacity. Wiensenthal believes that Hudal equipped Eichmann with a new identity as a Croatian refugee called “Richard Klement,” and sent him to Genoa. There Eichmann was apparently hidden in a monastery under Archbishop Siri's charitable control, before finally being smuggled to South America.

Someone so notorious could not be protected forever. Eichmann was eventually tracked down in Argentina by Israeli intelligence, kidnapped, tried and executed in Jerusalem in 1962. What angers Wiensenthal is that a Catholic relief organization, Caritas, “paid all of the traveling expenses for Eichmann” to reach South America.

Official Vatican historian Father Robert Graham admits that Hudal might have helped “a handful, a mere handful of Nazi war criminals to escape”: “When Eichmann was arrested it was alleged he passed through Rome and got some help from Bishop Hudal. Hudal was asked about this and said, ‘I don't know, I helped a lot of people and Eichmann may have

Church has been involved in mass murder since A.D. 554, when the first Holy Roman Empire began. THIS CHURCH HAS MORE TO HIDE—OR REPENT OF—THAN ANY OTHER INSTITUTION IN THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD!

It was primarily Germany and the Vatican that started the war in Yugoslavia. This is the so-called Holy Roman Empire in action! This power should be feared a thousand times more than the Serbs. Still the world races madly toward disaster because men refuse to face the truth.

Why can't we see that Germany and the Vatican are renewing their ties from World War II? That history reaches back to Charlemagne and beyond. No war-making machine has ever spilled more blood.

Why would a church that is supposed to teach God's love again ally itself with Croatia and Germany, considering their heinous Nazi crimes? Wouldn't a repentant church or state do just the opposite? Unless they are planning for a future somewhat akin to the dream of Adolf Hitler!

Margaret Thatcher was the only high-ranking politician in the last generation who would even discuss the "German problem" in modern Europe. Only she had the understanding and courage to do so! It probably cost Mrs. Thatcher her job.

No politician today has yet had the courage to discuss the *Vatican problem*. That weakness can only lead to a bloody disaster.

At the time of Croatia's breaking away, President Franjo Tudjman refused to admit any wrongdoing on Croatia's part in the Nazi slaughter of World War II. Yet Germany and the Vatican still **DEFIED THE WORLD** and started a civil war to recognize that Catholic nation! Does that make either of those entities appear repentant of their World War II sins? And if they are not repentant, what does that portend for our future?

This is just the small beginning of the resurrected Holy Roman Empire with its bloody past and bloodier future. However, it is politically incorrect to criticize the Vatican or Germany for continuing their horrendous past. That requires courage that our politicians and religious leaders today do not have.

ALL THIS INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE VATICAN'S OWN ARCHIVES!

THE RATLINES *PROVE* HOW CLOSELY THE VATICAN WORKED WITH THE NAZIS—PERHAPS THE MOST BARBARIC AND SAVAGELY CRUEL GOVERNMENT EVER ON EARTH!

Still the Catholic Church is forgiven—by men. Not only this time, but also throughout the *bloody* history of the Holy Roman Empire.

The world has seen six heads of that violent and bloody empire, comprised mostly of Germany and the Vatican. Now the seventh and last head is on the scene. The Vatican-Nazi history is A HORRENDOUS PROPHETIC INSIGHT INTO WHAT IS ABOUT TO HAPPEN AGAIN! And very soon! (Request our booklet *Germany and the Holy Roman Empire*.)

The seventh head is going to be the most brutal and cruel empire of them all. It is going to cause the worst suffering ever on Earth—far eclipsing the suffering of World War II.

The real Vatican scandal revolves around the ratlines of the

INNOCENT?

The World War II papacy is being exalted by its current successor.



Documents prove that Pope Pius XII was by far the greatest Nazi smuggler at the end of World War II! In spite of that despicable history, Pope Pius XII is already headed for canonization by Pope Benedict XVI!

sixth head of the Holy Roman Empire—Germany and the Vatican in World War II. These two entities have followed that same brutal philosophy in every head of the Holy Roman Empire. Any good history book will tell you that.

But here is the best possible news you could ever receive: That seventh and *last* head of the Holy Roman Empire is going to usher in the Second Coming of Jesus Christ to bring this world peace and full joy! Many Bible prophecies reveal that truth. When Christ was on this Earth, He prophesied that He would have to return or there would be no flesh saved alive! (Matthew 24:21).

That great event will smash the seventh and *last* head of the Holy Roman Empire forever!

If those *prophesied* seven heads of the Holy Roman Empire have appeared—and they have—then so must the *prophesied* Second Coming of Jesus Christ.

God's Word has never failed. It cannot fail. Knowing this should fill us with real hope.

Obviously God must resurrect most of those billions of people who have lived in the past to teach them this awesome truth. That too is prophesied.

The ultimate shocker today is not about the "ratlines." The most mind-numbing shocker is how gullible people are about Germany and the Vatican!

Americans, the British peoples and the Jewish nation are going to learn the truth by what I am writing or by being victims of the Holy Roman Empire. We have been teaching this message for over 70 years. God's true Church has warned about the Holy Roman Empire for about 1,500 years!

By words or events, God is about to awaken men from their spiritual coma.

To learn more about recent German and Vatican ventures, request a free copy of our booklet *The Rising Beast*.



An Uncomfortable Fact About Oil

Rising prices are just beginning: Demand is up; supplies are level. Things could get ugly. BY ROBERT MORLEY

AMERICA IS MIRED IN RECESSION. Europe is in turmoil. Banks are reducing lending. Families are selling their extra vehicles. All of these factors would tend to push the price of oil down. Yet, the opposite has happened. The price of crude-oil futures jumped more than 70 percent over the past year, and as of mid-April sat near \$86 per barrel.

This strange contradiction is an overlooked warning sign that nations—especially America—would do well to heed.

In the time ahead, it is going to become dramatically more difficult to obtain and secure energy—and sooner than most people realize. This is a truth that American policy makers and politicians are afraid to publicly admit because the implications of an oil-constrained world

affect everything from stock markets and food production to the dollar's status as the world's reserve currency.

In short, over the next several years, global oil dynamics may change the planet forever. And America will not be immune.

Fast Running Out

The United States imports a whopping 56 percent of its daily oil needs—over 10.9 million barrels per day. That is *more than the total daily production of Saudi Arabia*—the world's top oil producer.

But even

this number underestimates America's vulnerability to oil shock. That is because *America imports close to one fifth of the world's available oil.*

And this dependence on foreign oil supplies is set to get worse. America's oil fields are rapidly going dry.

No country has spent more money on oil exploration and production than the U.S. Nor has any country drilled as many holes looking for oil. Yet, despite record dollars spent and unlimited access to the best, most advanced technology available, America's oil production is in relentless decline. It is a decline that has continued for 40 years—despite discoveries in the Gulf of Mexico, the Bakken Formation, the Rocky Mountains, and Alaska.

These are uncontroversial facts grounded in geology.

Here are some more. On March 25 the U.S. Department of Energy revealed that “a chance exists”

that the world could experience a decline of liquid fuels production between 2011 and 2015 “if the investment is not there.”

Although the Department of Energy (DoE) officially dismisses “peak oil” theory, which predicts that new crude oil production will soon be unable to keep up with depletion from the many hundreds of thousands of old wells that have falling production, its own data actually backs up the peak oil theory.

In April 2009, the DoE published figures summarizing global liquid fossil fuel production and revealed some startling facts. A report titled “Meeting the World's Demand for Liquid Fuels” shows that the DoE expects total world fossil fuel production to steadily increase through 2030. But here is where the report borders on ridiculous. The DoE admits it has no idea where the extra oil production will come from.

After tabulating all the known and announced oil discoveries, the DoE found that the cumulative production from *existing and known* oil fields and discoveries will enter a slow decline begin-

% OF GLOBAL OIL PRODUCTION



Used by nations other than the United States

Imported by the U.S.

ning in 2012.

According to the DoE data, “unidentified” additional liquid fuel projects will have to fill a 10 million-barrel-per-day gap between supply and demand *within five years*. Ten million barrels per day is almost the equivalent of the daily oil production of Saudi Arabia.

That much new oil production may be wishful thinking.

Production from the world's 500 giant fields (fields containing more than 500 million barrels of oil) is declining. These fields produce approximately 60 percent of conventional oil. Many of these fields are over 50 years old and few new giant oil fields have been discovered in recent years. These are facts.

So where is the oil going to come from?

Phantom Oil Supplies

Experience shows that once an oil field reaches max production, it goes into decline. New technology has in some cases helped slow the decline rates, but not reverse them. Fields in Texas and the North Sea—from which has come 1 out of every 11 barrels of oil the world has produced—have received massive amounts of money, virtually unlimited access, and the best

technology, yet they are still fractions of their former selves.

Recent research from Oxford University suggests the world's oil reserves may have been "exaggerated by one third" because OPEC countries over-reported their reserves in the 1980s when competing for global market share. According to the report's author, Sir David King, the world could be in for a shock beginning around 2014. He said he was "very concerned" that Western governments were not taking the data showing demand outstripping supply more seriously, especially when China is putting so much effort and money into grabbing as many energy resources as possible.

The world's oil reserves may have been exaggerated by one third because OPEC countries over-reported their reserves in the 1980s when competing for global market share.

These are statistics that America and the world are not ready for.

Even if Exxon Mobil, Chevron, Conoco Phillips and every other U.S. oil company that wanted it was given immediate, unlimited access to America's eastern seaboard and Alaska, it would take a decade for any meaningful quantities of oil to begin flowing—and that is assuming there are meaningful quantities of oil located there in the first place.

It would take similar herculean effort to tap the new preliminary discoveries off the coast of Brazil. Canada's tar sands? They might help a bit, but they too are difficult and costly to mine—not to mention extremely disruptive to the environment.

So where is the oil going to come from?

Eighty-six dollars per barrel is a far cry from oil's highs of around \$147—though it took a global recession to knock it down that far. But the alarming thing is that despite the severe economic downturn and reduced demand, oil is still soaring above the \$10 per barrel it was trading at just over a decade ago.

Sky-high oil prices may soon be an uncomfortable and permanent fact that America and the world will be forced to deal with—and the results will not be pretty. ■



"AFFORDABLE" President Obama signs a bill into law on March 23 estimated to cost more than \$900 billion to implement.

Is There Any Worse Time the Health Care Bill Could Become Law?

America's economic future is on full display in Greece. Adding another massive government entitlement program is a great way to accelerate the timetable. BY ROBERT MORLEY

AMERICA THINKS IT COULD NEVER fall. Could Greece collapse? Yes. But America—not a chance. This is the richest country in the world. And in spite of all the headlines, in spite of all the dire statistics blared by reporters, the American way of life still continues. Gas stations still have gas. Food still sits on grocery shelves. Even if through debt, most Americans are still enjoying life. So surely America can't be in *that* much financial trouble. After all, in March politicians voted in potentially the largest expansion of the welfare state in American history. America must have money to burn.

But here is the reality. It wouldn't take much for the nightmare in Greece to become reality for America. That is the conclusion of a small but growing group of concerned analysts.

"The wolf could be at our door sooner than we think," says Carmen Reinhart,

economics professor at the University of Maryland and author of *This Time Is Different*. Confidence in the dollar "could turn quite abruptly," she says.

All it would take is one failed treasury auction, warns Reinhart, and the dollar's status as a perceived safe haven would vanish—along with its status as the world's reserve currency.

If that were to happen, media commentators wouldn't be comparing California to Greece: They would be comparing the entire nation to something more akin to Zimbabwe or Soviet Russia.

You Can't Reduce a Deficit by Spending

Politicians are far too complacent about America's economic condition. Instead of getting America's financial house in order now—while some analysts think it still has a chance—politicians are doing the exact opposite. Rather than seeing the crisis in

Greece and cutting expenses and leading the country to live within its means, it is as if politicians are doing their level best to make the same thing happen here.

Washington's historic vote to implement national health care is a prime example.

The week before the vote, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) confirmed that President Obama's health care reform bill would *reduce* the deficit by \$138 billion. This affirmation made headlines and is credited with creating much of the momentum that helped pass the bill.

The problem with that is this: That estimate is a total lie.

That estimate is based on double-counting and outright phony accounting. Just ask yourself, *How can a bill that is going to provide health coverage for 32 million more people—without eroding the coverage of everyone else—actually reduce government spending?* The answer is that it can't and it won't.

Even the liberal *New York Times* knows it is a lie. In an article titled "The Real Arithmetic of Health Care Reform," Douglas Holtz-Eakin confirmed that the job of the CBO is just to assert that the bill says what it says it says. In other words, the CBO's job is just to examine the mathematics of the bill (i.e. add up all the columns)—not to examine the assumptions built into it or comment on where the government says the money is going to come from.

For example, one way the government comes up with money to fund the health bill is by stealing from Peter to pay Paul, supposedly commandeering \$53 billion from the Social Security fund. But what it is not telling you is that Social Security is already broke. Politicians have already spent Social Security's money.

To get around this uncomfortable fact, government planners say that Social Security revenues will rise as employers shift from paying for health insurance to paying higher wages. Impossible. How many businesses will automatically increase employee wages out of the goodness of their heart just because they will (theoretically) save money on paying health insurance? Remember, this comes at a time when many companies are struggling just to survive—and some are moving to Asia! Consider, too, how many small businesses (those with 50 or more employees) will now have to begin paying for employee health coverage for the first time. Will these businesses pay higher wages as well? Or is it not more likely, if they employ 55 workers, that they will simply shrink their workforce in order to avoid the legal obligation to buy health

care for their employees?

As Holtz-Eakin said, "Fantasy in, fantasy out" (March 20).

Epic Underestimation

According to Holtz-Eakin, "In reality, if you strip out all the gimmicks and budgetary games and rework the calculus, a wholly different picture emerges: The health care reform legislation would raise, not lower, federal deficits, by \$562 billion."

And if *history* is a guide, then health care reform will probably cost even more.

"When Medicare was first proposed back in 1966, it cost \$3 billion per year, and the projection was for inflation-adjusted annual costs to rise to \$12 billion by 1990," noted economist Peter Schiff. "The actual cost in 1990 was \$107 billion, and the 2009 estimate is a staggering \$408 billion!" (Euro Pacific Capital, June 27, 2009).

Government propaganda economists were only off by 900 percent on their cost estimates. How much will they be off by this time?

Analysts have criticized Greece for lying about its accounting practices, but America does the *exact same things*.

America has been lying about the Social Security money for years. And there is all sorts of creative accounting going on with the now-government-owned Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. The government doesn't account for those two \$6 trillion junk-mortgage cadavers on its balance sheet either. Nor is the Federal Reserve and its trillion-dollar balance sheet consolidated into U.S. Treasury books. And the list of

America is doing its best to emulate the one nation most likely to collapse in the near future.

other "off balance sheet" accounting doesn't end there.

"The Greeks engaged in a variety of creative accounting practices," warned former U.S. comptroller general David Walker. America may not be Greece, "But we could end with the same problems

down the road if we don't get spending under control and start dealing with our structure deficits soon."

How soon? Walker says America might have two years.

Already Shutting Down

From lying about its bookkeeping to adopting national health care, it seems that America is doing its best to emulate the one nation most likely to collapse in the near future.

Can America's leaders not see what is happening?

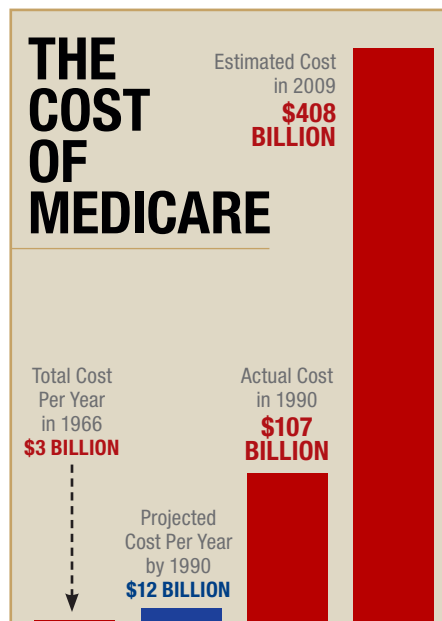
Just a couple of weeks before that historic March congressional vote, Kansas City said it will be forced to shut down *almost half* the city's schools by fall in order to stave off bankruptcy. Smaller cities across the country are in crisis mode. Some have already filed for bankruptcy. Whole states, such as California and Illinois, are on the road to bankruptcy. California may be forced to send out *ious* again instead of paying its bills. Unemployment benefits have been extended for two years in many places. Real unemployment is near 20 percent. There is a second massive wave of residential mortgage resets heading America's way. Home foreclosures are set to soar again. State and municipal pension plans are catastrophically underfunded. Collapsing commercial real estate is beginning to hammer America's small and midsize banks. Round two of America's spectacular banking collapse is looming. Moody's and other debt-rating agencies have already warned that America is on the road to losing its AAA credit rating.

And foreigners? Do you think they are going to continue lending money that, as is becoming increasingly obvious, will never be paid back—just so this administration can push its economically unsustainable agenda?

Ask Greece what happens when they stop.

These are the uncomfortable truths facing the nation.

The wolf is at the door, but instead of slamming it shut, it is as if America is inviting the beast in for dinner. ■



Save Your Marriage!

A beautiful truth that the divorce industry cannot teach you. BY JOEL HILLIKER

DIVORCE IS HARDLY NEW; CELEBRATING it like a wedding is. A small but burgeoning new industry is giving us divorce greeting cards and cakes—even fairs, where new divorcees can connect with life coaches, financial planners and dating service agencies. This is a full-out assault on the stigma of severing a marriage.

“Open a divorce registry, throw a divorce party (why not?), take a vacation or change your look!” says one website for divorcees. Divorce registry? That’s right: Department stores—including one of Britain’s largest retail chains—are encouraging the newly unhitched to register for and solicit gifts just like couples preparing to wed.

All this frippery is an effort to put lipstick on the ugly truth: that *divorce is failure*. Everyone marries with the hope of “till death do us part.” But often, as the realities of life impinge, selfishness intrudes. One or both partners become unwilling to invest the effort required to surmount obstacles and make the relationship stronger. They lose trust; they begin to cordon off territory in their hearts. Usually, each spouse figures the problem is mostly with the other. Often, they begin to believe that marital happiness would be theirs if they could only find someone more compatible.

Little wonder, then, that a growing number of people who split up have open ears to vendors, eager for their business, cheering them on: *Throw a party—you deserve it! Don’t worry—your REAL soul mate is waiting.*

In reality, most marriages fail *not* because of a lack of compatibility—but largely because of *ignorance* about *what marriage really is and how it must function.*

What that means is, these marriages *need not fail.* Ignorance can be remedied through right education and the application of right knowledge.

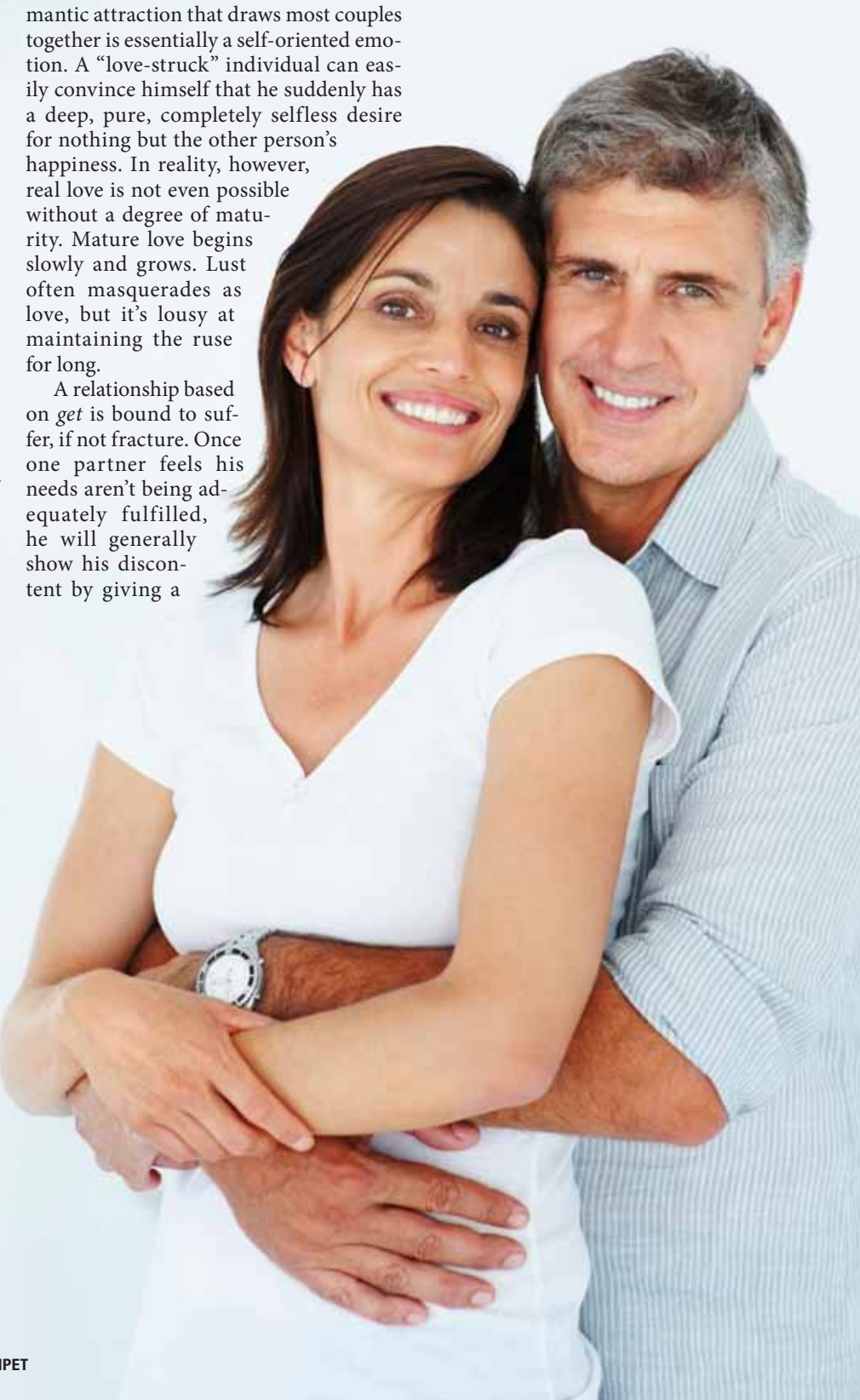
What Are You *Getting* From Your Marriage?

The basic truth that virtually all of us are ignorant of to at least some degree is just how deeply selfish we are. And selfishness is toxic to a marriage.

Human nature tends to focus on what we can *get* from the other person. The ro-

matic attraction that draws most couples together is essentially a self-oriented emotion. A “love-struck” individual can easily convince himself that he suddenly has a deep, pure, completely selfless desire for nothing but the other person’s happiness. In reality, however, real love is not even possible without a degree of maturity. Mature love begins slowly and grows. Lust often masquerades as love, but it’s lousy at maintaining the ruse for long.

A relationship based on *get* is bound to suffer, if not fracture. Once one partner feels his needs aren’t being adequately fulfilled, he will generally show his discontent by giving a



bit less of himself in return. A negative cycle begins.

“[T]here exist, overall, only two basic ways of life—two divergent philosophies,” Herbert W. Armstrong wrote in his book *The Missing Dimension in Sex*. “They travel in opposite directions. I state them very simply: One is the way of give—the other of get.”

Marriage is fundamentally a *giving* relationship. It is successful—even to the point of being spectacular—to the degree that both husband and wife understand their spouse’s needs and then prioritize fulfilling those needs above their own.

Of these two opposing ways of life, Mr. Armstrong continued, “More specifically, the one is the way of love, humility and of outgoing concern for others equal to self-concern. It is the way of cooperation, serving, helping, sharing; of consideration, patience and kindness. More importantly, it is also the way of obedience to, reliance on, and worship solely toward God. It is the God-centered way, of love toward God and love toward neighbor.

“The opposite is the self-centered way of vanity, lust and greed; of competition and strife; of envy, jealousy and unconcern for the welfare of others.” The more that *self-centeredness* occupies a marriage, the more friction, hurt and broken trust will result.

There is a reason for that! As Mr. Armstrong explained, “Few realize this vital fact: The ‘give’ way is actually *an invisible, yet inexorable, spiritual law in active motion*. It is summarized, in principle, by the Ten Commandments.

“It is a law as real, as *inflexibly relentless, as the law of gravity!* It governs and regulates all human relationships!”

Yes—the very God who created the universe and all the physical laws governing matter with precision also set in motion a *spiritual law* governing human relations. Every hint of conflict in a marriage, every particle of discouragement or frustration, every speck of sadness or pain in that relationship, is caused by breaking that spiritual law.

How to Make a Marriage Great

True love is “never selfish” (1 Corinthians 13:5, Moffatt translation). This is a crucial point that distinguishes true love from love that is fundamentally selfish. Selfish “love” makes you hold back when you feel your spouse doesn’t “deserve” it. It means you’re unwilling to overcome irritating habits that you know bother your mate, but that you just don’t feel like changing. It means you allow petty personal interests to consume your time that your

spouse would be *thrilled* to see you devote to the family. There are perhaps hundreds of little and big ways that our *self-love* can manifest itself in our marriage.

Society today tends to exalt self-love as the highest virtue. It tries to convince us we all have a natural-born *right* to put ourselves first. Scripture reveals that this is the *get way*. It is contrary to the spiritual law of God, which is true love. Though we probably don’t want to admit it, self-love does not make us happy—it actually creates tension, offense, hurt and grief within our marriage and within ourselves.

God’s love is *always*, ALWAYS outflowing. It does not wait for the other guy to begin acting unselfishly before reciprocating with unselfishness. Jesus Christ *died* for us while we were yet sinners.

The principle of striving always to put your spouse’s needs above your own is fundamental to making a marriage great. If each of you is looking out for the *other* OVER AND ABOVE yourself, then there is plenty of overlap to ensure both your and your spouse’s needs are amply met. That is true love! It’s not, “I’ll give you this if you give me that.” It is NEVER selfish. It is unconditional.

This is a difficult lesson to learn. That is why the marriage relationship is uniquely suited to teach it. Because it begins with each spouse making a lifelong commitment, a couple must find a way to stick together through whatever trials life may present, and come out stronger on the other side.

A Simple—and Difficult—Command

One of the first biblical commands regarding marriage is found in Genesis 2:24: “Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall CLEAVE unto his wife: and they shall be ONE FLESH.” What does God mean when He commands a husband and wife to *cleave* to one another? The Hebrew word is *dabaq*, which means to cling or adhere, or to catch by pursuit. Elsewhere in the Bible, it is translated *abide fast, follow close, be joined, pursue hard and stick*.

What practical instruction on *how to love!* In the midst of life’s hubbub, actively cleaving to your spouse in love doesn’t happen accidentally. Children, work, friends, chores, errands, bills, diversions, spiritual obligations—so many concerns compete for your attention. The command to *cleave* requires that you structure your priorities so as to regularly, actively pursue one another!

God commands that you become “one flesh”—not just sexually, but in *every way*. He insists that you build *oneness* by shar-

ing your thoughts, attitudes, emotions, bodies and the physical things in life. Why? Because that is how you practice and grow in TRUE GODLY LOVE.

The command to cleave is simple enough—but it takes real *effort* to obey in spirit. You must spend real *time* at it. Share your life! Read together, listen to music together, take walks together, talk together, study the Bible together, do things together. Rekindle the flames of romance that drew you together. Court each other! Get a babysitter for your children and go out for a date, and not too infrequently. Take short trips alone—perhaps two to three days long, two to three times a year.

How is your communication? You should have more to talk about together the longer your marriage lasts. If you are making a vigorous effort to love and to cleave, then your common interests and your ability to relate will grow with time. You will feel close emotionally, and your shared understanding and affection will make your marriage a joy.

For some marriages, a mountain of mutual effort is required to restore the relationship to where it should be. If the idea of loving each other in this way seems overwhelming, that is a good indication you and your mate would benefit from getting some spiritual counsel.

Till Death Do Us Part

God created the marriage institution as the nucleus of family. He had a transcendent reason for that, but in very practical terms the fact is it provides a day-to-day training ground for learning how to apply the spiritual law of give—which is *real love*.

A marriage will be *great* inasmuch as both husband and wife pursue this goal. It will be harmonious and happy, rewarding and rich, to the extent that each mate drives out *self-love* and replaces it with *true love*. And real, mature love grows stronger through trial—and sweeter with age.

That is a lesson that needs the security of a “till death do us part” commitment in order to become manifest. It is instruction that divorce robs us of. Those breaking that commitment and celebrating it truly don’t know what they’re missing. ■

If you want more sound biblical instruction on what marriage is—including the knowledge of God’s transcendent purpose for creating it—as well as how to make it work according to the divinely ordained pattern, request Herbert W. Armstrong’s booklet *Why Marriage! Soon Obsolete?* as well as his masterful book *The Missing Dimension in Sex*. Both are free.

When Familie

BY ROBERT MORLEY

CAN A NATION SURVIVE WITHOUT strong families? You need to know, because strong marriages and families are disappearing.

Take Britain, for example. The marriage rate in England and Wales is at its lowest point since records began in 1862. In 2008, for the first time, fewer than 2 percent of women over the age of 16 got married over the course of the year as the marriage rate for women fell from 20.2 women marrying per 1,000 the previous year to 19.6, the United Kingdom's Office for National Statistics (ONS) has reported.

ONS figures also show that the percentage of Britons getting married for a second time is falling. It's not because marriages are lasting any longer; marriages are still breaking up at record rates. It is just that now fewer people are choosing to remarry following a divorce.

Britain has become a world leader in cohabitation. And now, the new trend is single mothers choosing to live alone on state benefits. New research by sociologist Geoff Dench shows that these premeditated single mothers believe they have *no need for a spouse*, and their children have *no need for a father*.

Of the one in four mothers who currently live without a man in their house, *half* have made the conscious determination to live alone.

Britain's record breakdown of the traditional family coincides with several other dubious distinctions: Britain also leads in rates of obesity, public drunkenness, drug use, and sexually transmitted infections. It is also a leader in illiteracy, crime and teenage pregnancy. Yet despite this list of disturbing accomplishments, many people remain blind to the looming social and national disaster facing the country.

Divorcing in Order to Marry

History shows that once national family life breaks down, societies are on the downhill slide. "[T]he strength of any nation depends on the strength of its families," Gerald Flurry wrote in the March 2009 *Trumpet*. "Family is the rock-solid foundation on

which a country's superstructure is erected. That was the case for both America and Britain." Note the past tense.

Strong families were also the concrete foundation of the Roman Empire during its heyday. "Back then, when people talked about Rome falling, they were scoffed at and scorned," noted Mr. Flurry. "When Seneca, the famous Roman, warned that Rome would fall—even telling people *why* it would fall—the people ignored him. In the words of Seneca, one of the foundational reasons Rome would fall was the fact that '*they divorce in order to remarry. They marry in order to divorce.*'"

Seneca warned that family breakdown would destroy the Roman Empire—and it did! *And it is destroying Britain (and America) today.*

In his masterpiece *History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, Edward Gibbons identified five major causes that contributed to the fall of the Roman Empire. First on the list was breakdown of the family. The other factors included increased taxation, an insatiable craving for pleasure, an unsustainable buildup of armaments, and the decay of religion.

Doesn't Rome before the fall sound like today's United Kingdom? The looming disaster is hard to miss.

"The Best Country in the World"

Some few in Britain acknowledge something is wrong. But the will to act is conspicuously lacking. Even those politicians who publicly support traditional families have shown through decades of inaction that they don't have the will to stop the downhill slide and make the controversial changes necessary to help get families back on track.

Writer Melanie Phillips suggests things are to a state now that the government should give dowries to men who get married for the first time. This would "increase their worth to women" and "send a powerful signal that men are not worthless creeps but are essential to family life" (*Daily Mail*, March 1).

Wow. How the British man has *fallen* since the feminist revolution—to think that state-funded dowries are needed to

show that men are not worthless in *family life*, of all things!

A real man should have his own career and be able to provide for his own—before getting married. And he should be the solid core of that marriage and family for the rest of his life!

Yet according to some, British family life is not in crisis. "[T]his country has never been broken by anyone or anything," said British Prime Minister Gordon Brown in September 2008. "[F]or all the challenges, I don't believe Britain is broken—I think it's the best country in the world. I believe in Britain."

Sounds just like something Seneca's countrymen might have said. All the while, nationwide collapse is thundering closer as the bulkheads snap under the pressure.

Cause and Effect

The evidence is clear. A host of studies have shown that stable families result in children who are less prone to violent crime, better educated, less likely to take drugs, healthier physically, healthier mentally, and less likely to have teenage pregnancies.

Why do we have children today who publicly harass and denigrate their teachers? Why does London have a higher crime rate than Istanbul? Why do government officials feel the need to hand out morning-after pills to 11-year-olds? Why are British girls having up to four abortions by their 18th birthday?

Because there has been a serious breakdown, of one kind or another, in those children's families.

And because nothing is changing, Britain as a nation will—just like its families—fall apart. History provides no examples of societies that remained viable without viable families. Even the mighty Roman Empire fell.

It is cause and effect.

God says that when you break His laws on marriage and family life, He will send curses as correction. Through the Prophet Jeremiah, God says, "For the land is full of adulterers; for because of swearing the land mourneth; the pleasant places of the wilderness are dried up, and their course

s Disappear



is evil, and their force is not right” (Jeremiah 23:10).

In this verse, God says there is a direct connection between marriages and escalating national problems. The phrase “their course is evil” implies aggressively running after evil ways like runners in a race. As Melanie Phillips pointed out, British society is totally geared toward not only promoting single motherhood, but toward denigrating fathers. Britain is steaming full-speed ahead contrary to God’s laws.

Therefore curses are inevitable.

Jeremiah says the land will mourn and the pleasant places will be ruined. Britain is suffering intense natural disasters. Over

the past few years it has suffered devastating crop failures and cattle diseases. Flooding has taken huge tolls. Severe snowstorms have blanketed the nation. Economically, its place as the world’s financial capital is gone, the pound is under attack, and the nation is on the brink of financial collapse.

The phrase “their force is not right” implies a failure in military action. The Hebrew word for “force” means *valor, victory, mastery, might, mighty* (act, power), *power, strength*. It’s a military word. God warns us that national sins destroy military might. Today, British troops are worn down and short on equipment. Troops are

heading home from failures in Iraq and will probably come home from a failure in Afghanistan soon as well. In February, the *Daily Mail* lamented that if Argentina were to take the Falklands, the bitter truth is that Britain doesn’t even have the resources to send a task force to retake the islands. That is a far cry from the nation that once boasted the world’s largest empire backed by its most powerful navy.

But that is the thing with curses; eventually they result in destruction. Family breakdown in Britain is breaking the nation. And worse is yet to come. If you don’t believe it, just ask Rome—or the now largely vanished British Empire. ■

HOW **NOT** TO HAVE A WORLD WITHOUT NUKES



President Obama's nuclear nonproliferation efforts will lead to another global war. BY STEPHEN FLURRY

THE POST-WORLD WAR I disarmament movement, as journalist Walter Lippmann observed in 1943, was “tragically successful in disarming the nations that believed in disarmament” (emphasis mine throughout). Those who *weren't* believers, of course, were responsible for the nightmare of the Second World War.

History is now repeating itself. In April, one year after his pledge in Prague to seek “a world without nuclear weapons,” U.S. President Barack Obama told the *New York Times* that he would not use nuclear weapons against a non-nuclear state, *even if that nation attacked the U.S. with biological or chemical weapons.*

The administration's new position on nuclear weapons was spelled out in the Pentagon's Nuclear Policy Review (NPR), also released in April. One of the report's key conclusions is this statement: “The United States will continue to strengthen

conventional capabilities and *reduce the role of nuclear weapons in deterring non-nuclear attacks*, with the objective of making deterrence of nuclear attack on the United States or our allies and partners the sole purpose of U.S. nuclear weapons.”

It's a striking contrast to the wording used in the 2001 NPR: “Nuclear weapons play a critical role in the defense capabilities of the United States, its allies and friends. They provide credible military options to deter a wide range of threats, *including WMD and large-scale conventional military force.*” Of the seven nations that report identified as the most significant threats to the United States, five of them didn't even have nuclear weapons.

Even in 1997, during the Bill Clinton years, a presidential directive warned that the U.S. wouldn't use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear weapon states *except* “in the case of an invasion or any other attack on the United States.”

In fact, ever since the beginning of the

Cold War, every U.S. administration has at least allowed for the *possibility* of using nuclear power to answer dangerous threats from non-nuclear enemies. The policy has never been spelled out explicitly. It was meant to be ambiguous in order to keep potential adversaries off balance, in hopes that they *wouldn't* attack.

The Obama doctrine effectively removes any ambiguity. It lays America's cards on the table for all to see. It marks the first time any U.S. president has publicly outlined specific circumstances in which America would *not* use nuclear weapons if attacked.

Thus, America's enemies now know they can avoid a devastating nuclear counterstrike *as long as they comply with the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.* As columnist Charles Krauthammer explained, “It's like saying that if a terrorist deliberately uses his car to mow down a hundred people waiting at a bus stop, the decision as to whether he gets (a) hanged or (b) 100



WELCOME TO REALITY
 During World War II, London lies in ruins after an aerial bombardment by German Luftwaffe planes that were not supposed to exist.

hours of community service hinges entirely on whether his car had passed emissions inspections” (April 9).

Leaving aside the immoral absurdity of the above scenario, strategically speaking, it’s dangerously naive and childish. “Does anyone believe that North Korea or Iran will be more persuaded to abjure nuclear weapons because they could then carry out a biological or chemical attack on the U.S. without fear of nuclear retaliation?” Krauthammer asked.

Evidently, the current administration in the White House believes the answer is YES. The Obama administration firmly believes that the dream of a nuclear-weapons-free world won’t happen unless the United States sets the example and dismantles its nuclear arsenal first.

“This approach,” Vice President Joseph Biden wrote in the *Los Angeles Times* on April 7, “provides additional *incentive* for countries to fully COMPLY with non-proliferation norms.”

The opposite is true. This approach actually accelerates proliferation—particularly among rogue states and ascendant powers rushing to fill the power vacuum left by the United States.

Can Russia Be Trusted?

In the same week President Obama pared down the list of conditions for using nuclear weapons, he signed a nuclear disarmament treaty with Russia, agreeing to slash America’s nuclear weapons arsenal by one third and to cut in half the number of missiles, submarines and bombers used to deliver them. This, the president said, will set the stage for further cuts. “It is just one step on a longer journey,” he added.

A majority of Americans, meanwhile, oppose downsizing the U.S. arsenal. Only

31 percent believe Russia will even honor the agreement.

All one has to do to know Moscow’s intentions is look at what it was busy doing in the lead-up to signing this treaty:

Absolutely nothing prevents Russia, China or the European Union—not to mention Iran and North Korea—from continuing the research and development they need to build the next generation of nuclear weapons.

Distributing as many weapons as possible to America’s enemies—and promising nuclear assistance to anti-American Hugo Chávez’s Venezuela.

A week before the treaty, Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, visiting Venezuela for the first time, signed 31 agreements in oil, trade—and nuclear power. The two leaders signed a letter of

intent to build a nuclear power station, which of course Chávez hastily assured the world would not be used to build a nuclear bomb. Upon returning to Moscow, Putin said Russia’s arms exports to

Venezuela may exceed \$5 billion. Already, Venezuela has bought \$4 billion worth of military equipment from Russia in the past five years.

That same week, China took delivery of S-300 anti-aircraft missiles from Russia as part of a contract worth up to \$2.25 billion. Meanwhile, as *American Thinker* reported, “Russia has been conducting quite a business by selling the same S-300 ‘Favorit’ (the world’s most powerful and efficient air defense system) to many countries hostile to the U.S. and Israel: Syria, India, Algeria, Malaysia, Vietnam and Saudi Arabia”—and possibly Iran (April 7).

On the day Russian President Dmitry Medvedev signed the arms reduction treaty with President Obama, he made a point to say there are limits to Russia’s support for sanctions against Iran for its nuclear ambition. According to the *Washington Post*, Medvedev objects to the kind of harsh sanctions “that would create economic hardship for Iran, foment financial chaos or lead to regime change” (April 9). In other words, Russia opposes anything that might conceivably convince Tehran to set aside its nuclear weapons program.

Added to that, within *days* of the April 8 signing, Medvedev was already warning the United States that Russia might withdraw from the disarmament treaty if the U.S. didn’t meet Russian demands regarding U.S. missile defense plans in Europe.

Russia certainly has its own idea of arms control.

But never mind that—President Obama *believes* in unilateral disarmament.

No New Weapons

Besides dismantling nukes and promising not to use the remaining arsenal to retaliate against a chemical or biological attack, President Obama *also* reassured potential enemies that America will **NOT** conduct nuclear testing, *or* pursue new military missions, *or* develop any new nuclear weapons, *or* develop new capabilities for nuclear weapons.

Out with the old—and **OUT WITH THE NEW!** Even the *New York Times* sees America’s Cold War stockpile of weapons as “an aging, oversized, increasingly outmoded nuclear arsenal” (April 6). But don’t count on there being any upgrades—at least not during the present administration.

Meanwhile, absolutely nothing prevents Russia, China or the European Union—not to mention Iran and North Korea—from continuing the research and development they need to build the next generation of nuclear weapons.

And they will **CONTINUE** to build even as America continues its one-man-nuclear-disarmament show. The president firmly believes that America’s national security, as well as that of its allies, “can be increasingly defended by America’s unsurpassed *conventional* military capabilities and strong missile defenses.” The greatest threat facing the U.S. and the rest of the world, President Obama said on April 6, “is *no longer a nuclear exchange between nations*, but nuclear terrorism by violent extremists and nuclear proliferation to an increasing number of states.”

Why focus on nukes when the “greatest threat” now comes from “violent extremists”? Who these violent extremists actually are is an open question, judging by the revisions being made to the official document outlining America’s national security strategy. According to Associated Press, President Obama’s advisers are currently removing terms like *Islamic extremism* and *jihad* in order to “emphasize that the United States does not view Muslim nations through the lens of terror” (April 7).

Thus, the strategic approach to fighting radical Islam is effectively this: *Close your*

Nuclear war is the greatest threat facing the United States! Prophecy says so—which is why America’s quest for a nuke-free world is of special significance. It’s actually accelerating the fulfillment of those end-time prophecies.

WANT A NUCLEAR-FREE WORLD?

Here is how it will come.

PRESIDENT Barack Obama is on a mad scramble to purge the planet of nuclear weapons. Mankind’s dismal history with disarmament is proof enough of the inadequacies of this ambition. For those interested in further proof, the “more sure word” of Bible prophecy also reveals that Mr. Obama’s dreams of nuclear disarmament are just that—dreams.

As Jesus Christ’s earthly ministry came to a close, His disciples asked, “[W]hat shall be the sign of thy [second] coming, and of the end of the world?” Jesus answered that question in what is today commonly referred to as the Olivet prophecy, found in Matthew 24. (If you’re interested in Christ’s entire explanation, and in proving that He was discussing the times we live in today, request a free copy of our Matthew 24 reprint article.)

Notice what Jesus said in verses 21-22: “For then shall be *great tribulation*, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved . . .” Christ tells the disciples that His Second Coming will occur at a time when mankind has the ability to destroy *all living creatures*. It will be a time of tribulation exceedingly

worse than any other in history.

Consider more deeply that last statement: “[E]xcept those days should be shortened, *there should no flesh be saved . . .*” This time of tribulation will be so terrible that, without intervention from a higher power, no flesh would escape death! Mankind has never experienced such a time. Wars have killed tens of millions, famines have wiped out regions, disease epidemics like the Black Death have inflicted catastrophic destruction. But this scripture is speaking of a global catastrophe that threatens *all flesh*, both animal and human!

As Herbert Armstrong explained, the *only* explanation of how mankind could and will reach this point is through the widespread detonation of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction!

“The scale of war Christ prophesied in Matthew 24 and Revelation 6 simply could not have been fulfilled at any other time in man’s history!” our booklet *The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse* states. “*Humanity has never built or designed weapons that it did not eventually use*. Man will find a use for the deadly nuclear weapons and other destructive devices created since World War II” (emphasis mine). Many other accounts in the Bible also tell us that a future nuclear holocaust is coming.

President Obama’s goal of global nuclear disarmament may be noble, but Jesus Christ says it will fail, and nuclear war will erupt.

eyes and hope they go away. And as for the possibility of global nuclear war, the NPR assures us that threat is now “remote.”

It couldn't be more wrong. Nuclear war is the GREATEST THREAT facing America! Prophecy says so (Amos 5:3; Matthew 24:21-22)—which is why America's quest for a nuke-free world is of special significance. It's actually ACCELERATING the fulfillment of those end-time prophecies. Even 20th century *history* teaches this lesson.

“Not Simply to Talk, But to Act”

Following the Nuclear Policy Review and the disarmament treaty with Russia, 47 nations joined forces with President Obama in Washington for the Nuclear Security Summit. “Today is an opportunity,” the president said on April 13, “not simply to talk, but to act. Not simply to make pledges, but to make real progress on the security of our people.”



SYMBOLIC A United Nations statue embodies the hopes of mankind to achieve the biblical prophecy that man will beat swords into plowshares.

If this sounds discouraging, step back and ponder the awe-inspiring event being discussed in these scriptures. Think on the ramifications and hope embedded in the last half of verse 22: “but for the elect's sake *those days shall be shortened.*” Notice that: Jesus Christ promised

Yet, in coming away from the summit, one of the biggest “achievements” was convincing China to at least *talk* about the possibility of sanctions against Iran. According to news reports, President Obama reassured Chinese President Hu Jintao that if Iran responded to sanctions by cutting off its flow of crude into China, the United States would intervene to help China re-stock its oil supply.

As if Iran is somehow holding China over a barrel because of its crude oil supply. It's China that's holding the United States over a barrel! Iran's destabilizing presence in the Middle East is a strategic benefit to China because it counterbalances American dominance in the region.

Surely there must be someone in Washington who understands that.

Not surprisingly, the day after China agreed to talk sanctions, a Chinese Foreign Ministry official in Beijing was quick to clarify. He said, “China supports a dual-track strategy and has always believed that dialogue and negotiations are the optimal channels for resolving the Iranian nuclear issue. *Sanctions and pressure cannot*

fundamentally resolve the issues.”

It was yet another flop that negotiators hardly stumbled over en route to their next diplomatic achievement: the *disarmament of Ukraine*. Then *Canada*. Then *Malaysia* and *Mexico*.

To think—it was the largest gathering of world leaders to assemble on American soil since World War II—and the best they could come up with was the disarmament of Canada. Meanwhile, the most dangerous nuclear threats facing civilization barely entered the discussion, and the prime minister of Israel backed out of the summit for fear of being ambushed by Arab leaders about giving up his own nation's nuclear arsenal.

What a stunning display of national weakness on the part of America. It's nothing short of a step-by-step reenactment of the 1930s. At that time, Britain and France demilitarized, supposing Germany was disarming also. Hitler exploited this spirit of appeasement to actually *re-arm*, with Soviet help. And when he went on the offensive, Britain and France were unprepared to respond.

It will happen again. And it will result in the greatest explosion of violence this world has ever seen.

Only *then*, after yet another painfully sad repetition of history, will the illusion of arms control be horrifically revealed as a tragic success. ■

He will return and intervene to *prevent* mankind becoming extinct by nuclear war!

President Obama cannot prevent nuclear destruction. But Jesus Christ can, and He tells us explicitly that the world will not end this way!

Ultimately, this prophecy in Matthew 24 is about the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. Nothing is more promising, more exciting, more filled with hope!

Particularly given the rush of current events on the nuclear front, we cannot afford to take these prophecies lightly. Study Christ's message in Matthew 24. It is stunning how events described in that prophecy, *written nearly 2,000 years ago*, match events unfolding in the chaotic world around us. The study of world events together with biblical prophecy is one of the most moving studies you could undertake!

But remember, as you read about the horrific events surrounding Christ's return: This event is more of a *beginning* than an end. While Christ's return *will* bring an end to the age of human government and self-rule, it marks the *beginning* of the Kingdom of God being opened to all of mankind.

At this time, after *saving* mankind from extinction, Christ will implement on Earth a comprehensive strategy that will eradicate human nature—thereby guaranteeing global nuclear disarmament forever!

It is imperative that you learn about this new world as you study the end of the one we know today. For the best description of this coming new world, request a free copy of *The Wonderful World Tomorrow—What It Will Be Like*.

BRAD MACDONALD

WORLDWATCH

EUROPE

THE ECONOMIES OF **Greece** and other southern European countries continue to threaten the survival of the euro as a currency. Greece was hit by its worst strike to date when its two main unions reacted to new austerity measures approved March 5. Twenty thousand demonstrators took to the streets of Athens, and around a hundred anarchists confronted police with rocks, Molotov cocktails and brown spray paint. Rioters set fire to trash cans, burned cars and shattered shop windows. International flights and trains were canceled, public transport stopped, and public buildings closed down. UBS Investment Bank's deputy head of global economics, Paul Donovan, warned that "at some point" Greece would default on its bonds. Bond yields rose dramatically on April 8. The yield on a 10-year government bond passed 7 percent—making it very expensive for the Greek government to borrow money (Greece now must pay over 4 percent higher interest than the rate **Germany** gets for its debt). This will make it even harder for Greece to keep its economy afloat.

The Portuguese government could be the next victim of the economic crisis. On March 8, the minority government announced unpopular austerity measures. Opposition parties severely criticized the cuts, and Portuguese unions called for more strikes. Fitch Ratings cut **Portugal's** credit rating to AA- with a negative outlook on March 24, warning that poor performance over the next year or two could lead to another downgrade. All Europe is looking to Germany for



leadership out of this crisis. Watch for Berlin to turn this situation to its advantage.

Strikes are also hitting other European countries as workers protest pay cuts.

Britain has been hit especially hard, with newspapers labeling the bout of strikes the "spring of discontent." Workers are unwilling to take pay cuts that are due to a recession they see as caused by rich bankers, who get to keep all of their winnings. The result is a dangerous mix of businesses that need to cut

costs in order to survive and workers who feel they have a right to their current level of pay. The situation could explode in social unrest.

Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi and his cabinet are no longer at risk of corruption



trials, thanks to a new law approved by the parliament March 10. The law says that cabinet officials may postpone any trial in which they are implicated for six months, as the trial may hamper their capacity to govern. This comes after the Constitutional Court



declared that a law giving senior government members immunity from prosecution was unconstitutional.

The total value of German arms exports has more than doubled since 2005, making Germany the world's third-largest weapons exporter behind the **United States** and **Russia**. German weapons sales make up 11 percent of world arms trade according to the 2009 annual report by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. Most of these exports are armored vehicles, with submarines and warships also making up a large percentage. Germany is once again a major arms producer, with Berlin having implemented policies specifically to build up weapons production.

Belgium moved one step



closer to becoming the first European country to ban full Islamic veils from its streets on March 31. A parliamentary committee unanimously approved a proposal that would outlaw the wearing of face-covering clothing, such as Muslim burkas and veils, in public. The proposal is expected to become law as early as June, after which a woman wearing a veil or burka in public could face a week in prison or a fine on the grounds that an inability to identify people presents a security hazard. Watch for Europe to increasingly confront Islam.

MIDEAST

U.S. PRESIDENT BARACK Obama is pushing for a new set of United Nations sanctions on **Iran**. After months of failed attempts to bring Russia and **China** on board, Washington downgraded the proposal. According to *Haaretz*, the proposed sanctions do not include the

kind of tools that could effect a change in Iranian policy. “Iranian shipping companies will not be blacklisted nor the international assets of Iran frozen, and oil or gas shipments from the Islamic Republic will not be cut, after these proposals were all rejected by Russia or China. It is more accurate to characterize the potential sanctions as a comprehensive warning against doing business with Tehran” (April 4). China has still not approved the new sanctions. Even if it did, Tehran has already demonstrated that such pressure will not induce it to abandon its nuclear goals. Iran has continued with its nuclear program despite three sets of existing sanctions. More sanctions would only lull the international community into a greater false sense of security.

Meanwhile, **Iran announced on March 7 that it has pro-**



duced a new type of cruise missile, while two days earlier, IHS Jane’s, a London-based intelligence service, reported that Iran is building a new rocket launch site with **North Korea’s** assistance. “It is impossible to independently verify the claims Iran makes regarding the new weapons systems it says it is developing,” wrote United Press International, “but it is clearly preparing its military forces to retaliate against an assault” (March 8). Jane’s concluded that U.S.-led sanctions were having little effect on Iran’s weapons program.

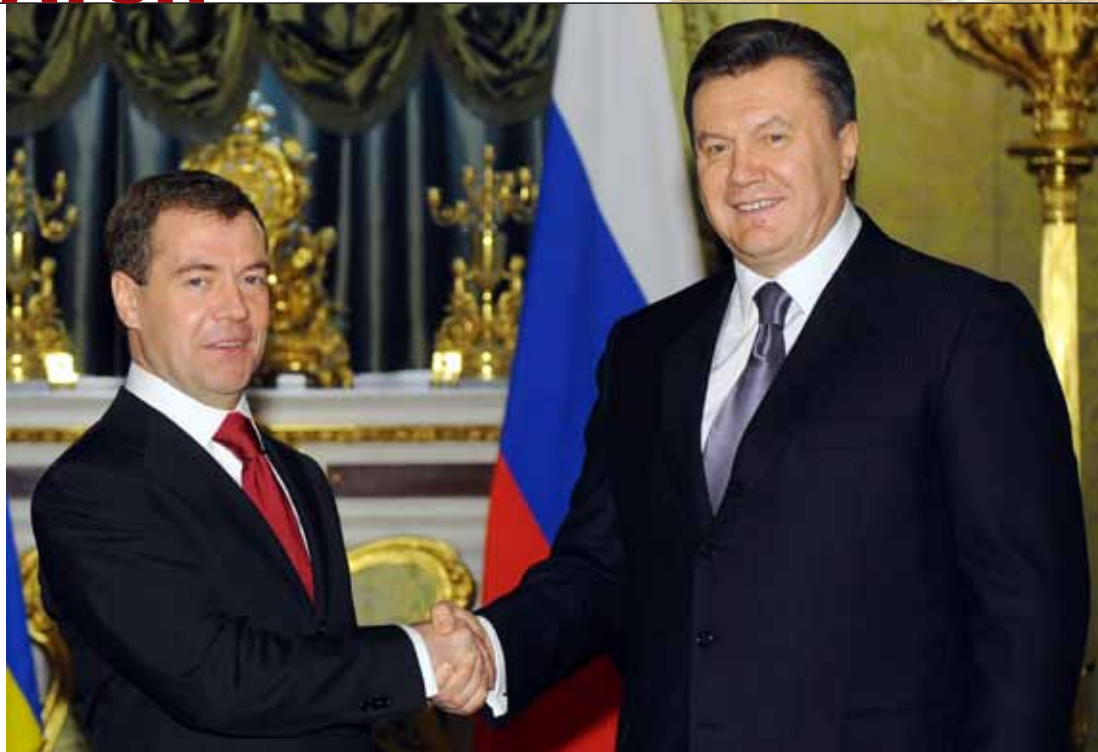
Iran has suffered an increase in violence as political wran-

gling to form a government continues following March 7 parliamentary elections. According to results released March 26, secular Shiite Iyad Allawi’s Iraqiya bloc won 91 seats in the 325-seat Council of Representatives, with Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki’s Iran-friendly Shiite State of Law coalition gaining 89 seats, the pro-Iranian Iraqi National Alliance (INA) 70, and the Kurdistan Alliance 43. With none of the parties winning the majority needed to rule alone, negotiations have been underway between the different parties to form a ruling coalition. Several factors are com-

plicating the process. The Accountability and Justice Commission, created to purge the electoral process of candidates loyal to Saddam Hussein's outlawed Baath Party, announced March 29 that it was contesting the results of the election. If it is successful, Allawi could lose his lead. On March 27, the Iraqi Supreme Federal Court issued a reinterpretation of how parties can form a government, allowing the *coalition of parties* that has the most seats to form the government and select the prime minister—rather than the *party* that won the most votes, as previously understood. This means that Maliki, despite not winning the election, could team up with the INA and gain the numbers to remain prime minister.

Additionally, anti-American radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, who won the most votes within the INA and is seen as the kingmaker, has thus far withheld his support from both of the big winners. He put the choice of who should be the next prime minister to his supporters in a referendum on April 2, in which they chose Shiite politician Ibrahim al-Jaafari. This result—whether Sadr acts on it or not—will only further complicate negotiations.

Throughout this process, Iran is seeking to influence Iraq more extensively, with all of the Shiite and Kurdish coalitions having sent delegations to Iran for talks. Meanwhile, Washington is refusing to endorse any of the candidates. Nabil Said, an independent Sunni politician, said that's the "amazing" point of the story: "Americans are just standing aside and watching, trying to pull out quickly and safely" (National Public Radio, April 5). And that is precisely what neighboring Iran wants to see. Watch for Iran's involvement in Iraq to increase as the U.S. departs.



ASIA

NEWLY INAUGURATED Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich visited Moscow

March 5 and promised Russian officials a "sharp turn" in bilateral relations between the two countries. This shift into a new phase of heightened cooperation is a victory for Moscow. Yanukovich and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev signed a statement saying Russia and **Ukraine** will improve ties in such sectors as aviation, nuclear power and military technology. The top priority, according to the statement, is energy cooperation, particularly in regard to natural gas. For years, the *Trumpet* has pointed to Ukraine as crucial turf in a future pact between Russia and Germany. Control of the strategic area will determine the line at which their individual imperialistic aims will meet.

On March 28, Islamists in Chechnya killed 39 people in bombings in a subway. Just hours earlier, an attack in Dagestan took 12 lives. President Medvedev said the attacks were

related, and the secretary of Russia's national security council suggested that **Georgia** was behind the blasts. The comments raised concerns among Georgian officials that Moscow would use the attacks as a pretext for Russian forces to renew their aggression against Georgia, a former Soviet state.

China refuted Britain's most recent human rights study on March 18, which listed China as one of 22 "countries of concern" in the realm of human rights. A defensive Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang said that China opposed confrontation, double standards on

human rights issues and interference in other nations' internal affairs. China's defiance is a steadily growing trend.

Currency problems are flaring up in China. In March, two People's Bank of China advisers issued statements that supported revaluing the yuan. The move was seen as an effort to reduce tension with America ahead of calls by U.S. members of Congress to label China as a currency manipulator. China stands accused of purposefully keeping its currency undervalued in relation to the dollar, which makes Chinese exports to America



less expensive for Americans. The U.S. Federal Reserve's "quantitative easing" program of creating money out of thin air is also a direct form of currency manipulation—which in this case devalues the dollar.

Venezuela's electricity supply is on the brink of collapse. Water levels at the Guri dam—which supplies power to 70 percent of the nation—are so low that officials may be forced to shut down a large part of the dam any day. A fire at a key thermoelectric plant for northwestern Venezuela on April 4 only made the situation worse. It also suggests that the country's remaining power plants will not be able to pick up the slack if output from the Guri dam is greatly reduced. Venezuela needs a quick fix for this potential crisis, and its only short-term solution seems to be going to **Colombia** for help. Colombia is a major rival, so this electricity would have a high political cost.

April 7 witnessed a revolution in Kyrgyzstan. President Kurmanbek Bakiyev was forced to flee the capital city of Bishkek after mobs of protestors seized government headquarters. Seventy-nine died in violence between police and protesters, and hundreds more were injured. Though Russian Prime Minister Putin denied involvement, much evidence points to Moscow's having kindled the turmoil. Certainly the Kremlin stands to benefit greatly from the upheaval, while Washington has a lot to lose from it. Kyrgyzstan hosts a key U.S. military base through which 50,000 American troops pass each month on their way to and from **Afghanistan**. Since Bakiyev's flight from Bishkek, the fate of the strategic Manas base has been thrown into question. The Kyrgyz opposition that has assumed power has a strong pro-Russia orientation. Alongside Putin's praise for the ousting of "nepotistic" Bakiyev, the change

of government suggests that this is another instance of an emboldened Russia exerting its growing influence in the former Soviet republics.

AFRICA/ LATIN AMERICA

THE YOUTH LEADER OF **South Africa's** ruling party, the African National Congress (ANC), has thoroughly endorsed Robert Mugabe's brutality in **Zimbabwe** and promised that the same policies would soon be adopted in South Africa. "**In SA we are just starting. Here in Zimbabwe you are already very far,**" **Julius Malema** told a cheering crowd of Mugabe's ZANU-PF youth on a visit there on April 3. "The land question has been addressed. We are very happy that today you can account for more than 300,000 new farmers against the 4,000 who used to dominate agriculture. We hear you are now going straight to the mines. That's what we are going to be doing in South Africa." He also praised Mugabe for "standing firm against imperialists." This came only a couple of weeks after Malema incited black South Africans to shoot white farmers by opening a public rally with the song "Shoot the Boer," an apartheid-era anthem. The song was later banned by the High Court, but the ANC is appealing that ruling. According to the *Times*, 3,000 white farmers have been murdered in South Africa since 1994. South Africa is already following in Zimbabwe's footsteps.

The EU naval taskforce is pursuing Somali pirates more aggressively, officials told the Associated Press on March

18. Watch for this trend to continue.

Russian Prime Minister Putin visited Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez in April as 38 Mi-17 Hip helicopters were delivered to Caracas. In addition to signing more than \$4 billion in arms deals, Chávez invited Russian energy companies Gazprom and Rosneft to explore for oil.

The Mexican drug war escalated to new levels beginning in March. Gang members in bulletproof vehicles attacked two army bases with assault rifles and hand grenades on April 1; 18 gang members died in the ensuing conflict. Residents of one town, El Porvenir, fled to



Texas after they were told to "vacate or they're going to start killing them and burning their houses down," according to Hudspeth County Sheriff Arvin West. On March 30, 10 students were killed in a grenade attack on their way to collect college scholarships. The mayor of Pueblo Nuevo, a town in the region of the attack, said he feels powerless to challenge the gangs. On March 19, soldiers and drug traffickers shocked the nation with a gun battle at **Mexico's** most prestigious university, killing two. Drug-related beatings have become routine. More than 18,000 have died in drug-related violence since

President Felipe Calderon took office in December 2006.

ANGLO- AMERICA

IN MARCH, A LEARNING-disabled 64-year-old man died in **Britain** after more than a decade of being targeted and bullied by "yobs" who tormented him night after night in spite of police intervention. David Askew's death at the home he shared with his wheelchair-bound mother encapsulates the sickening state of British youths, and the impossibility of policing an entire nation of families rotting from within.

More than a quarter of Britain's adults are out of work. Official figures for February showed that 10.6 million, or 28 percent, of the country's adults of working age either were considered economically inactive or had lost their jobs.

The *Telegraph* reported in late March that Britain faces an increased threat of nuclear attack by al Qaeda, citing a report that revealed trafficking of radiological materials has recently increased.

In March, the Kansas City school board decided to close half of its schools due to financial crisis. The board said it had to cut 700 of its 3,000 jobs and sell its central office.

In April, California's last auto plant closed down. The shuttering of the New United Motor Manufacturing plant in Fremont, a 25-year-old joint venture between General Motors and Toyota, cost about 4,700 Californians their jobs.

In **Australia**, obesity has ballooned past smoking as the largest cause of premature illness and death. The Public Health Association found that excessive weight has more than doubled as a factor in ill health over the past six years.

Who's Insulting Whom?

The America-Israel alliance has never looked so shaky. **BY STEPHEN FLURRY**

AHISTORIC ALLIANCE IS TAKING some severe punishment. The relationship between America and Israel was rocked by diplomatic crisis in March, and by all indications will never be the same.

It was triggered by an ill-advised announcement about a new housing complex in Jerusalem. In early March, U.S.

Vice President Joe Biden landed in Israel supposedly to reignite peace talks between Palestinians and Jews. As it turned out, the Obama administration used Biden's visit to trigger a diplomatic assault against Benjamin Netanyahu's government.

During the visit, Israel's interior minister announced that plans had been approved for 1,600 housing units to be built in a Jewish neighborhood in Jerusalem. Netanyahu immediately apologized to Biden for the awkward timing of the announcement and Biden graciously accepted the apology. He left Israel on March 11 calling his trip a success.

The next day, however, the White House went ballistic. An enraged President Barack Obama ordered Secretary of State Hillary Clinton to upbraid Netanyahu, which she promptly did during a much-publicized, 43-minute phone call. Later, a Clinton spokesman publicly questioned Israel's seriousness with respect to the peace process. On March 14, senior White House adviser David Axelrod decried the housing announcement as "an affront" and "an insult" aimed at the United States.

The incident illustrated a significant trend we began to forecast in our March/April 2004 issue: America's eventual abandonment of Israel. "For many Arabs, the number-one reason to hate America is its support for Israel," we wrote. "As the U.S. war against terrorism continues to yield high bills, a steady body count and a booming crop of anti-Americanism worldwide, is it possible that Americans will begin to think, *Why are we making ourselves such a target over that little country?*" Prophecy suggests such an eventuality."

No Pictures, Please

After the vicious White House response, Netanyahu apologized again—profusely. He said he knew nothing about the announcement and ordered an investigation into the matter.

The context of the announcement, however, is significant. Even if Israel wanted to embarrass Vice President Biden, perhaps because of America's failure to confront Iran, the housing plan in no way represented a policy change. In all probability, if the construction announcement hadn't come during Biden's visit, it wouldn't have raised an eyebrow. Why? Simply because Israel has never stopped building in Jerusalem. As Netanyahu noted on March 15, "No government of Israel for the last 40 years has agreed to place restrictions on building in Jerusalem." In November, Netanyahu's administration ordered a freeze on construction plans in the West Bank. But that 10-month moratorium specifically excluded Jerusalem. Why, then, would Washington shriek as if Israel is grabbing more territory?

Netanyahu visited the U.S. later in the month to try to mend the diplomatic breach between the two countries. The trip, however, only further highlighted just how strained relations between the U.S. and Israel have become. The Israeli prime minister maintained his stance on the issue of "settlements," getting a cold reception from Washington that included no photograph opportunities and no official statements.

The snub was even worse than the one we reported last November: Then, when



Netanyahu visited the White House, he was brought in under cover of night in an unmarked van, forced to leave through a side exit alone and ordered to keep quiet about what was discussed.

Ramat Shlomo, the northern Jerusalem neighborhood at the center of the recent diplomatic storm, is populated by religious Jews. It's adjacent to other Jewish neighborhoods. But because it happens to be on the wrong side of the 1967 Green Line, *barely*, the Obama administration speaks of this 15-year-old neighborhood as a "settlement" and is treating it as the biggest obstacle to peace in the Middle East.

Never mind the fact that by demanding a freeze on construction in Jewish neighborhoods east of the Green Line, the White House is simultaneously maintaining that for a Palestinian state to ever work, the territory in question must first be ethnically cleansed of Jews.

It's not unlike the vision Palestinian leaders have for a future Palestinian state, except that theirs includes a Jew-free *Israel* as well.

Actual Provocations

Meanwhile, even as Washington condemned Israel's ill-timed *announcement* as being injurious to the peace process, it seemed utterly unconcerned about the Palestinians dedicating a town square to a terrorist who killed more than 30 Israelis—a move that happened right after Biden left the region.

Dalal Mughrabi, a Fatah woman, spearheaded a massacre in 1978 in which 37 Israeli civilians and an American were killed and 71 wounded in a bus hijacking on Israel's Coastal Road. At that time, the attack was carried out for *the very purpose of shutting down peace talks between Israel and Egypt*.

On March 11, a square in el-Bireh was named in honor of Mughrabi, *who is responsible for the deadliest terrorist attack in Israel's history*. While the Palestinian

Authority said the inauguration of the square had been postponed, presumably to avoid offending Vice President Biden, Fatah (the Palestinian faction that the U.S. and Israel actually recognize) went ahead with an official naming ceremony the day of Biden's departure.

Not to stop there, on March 14 the Palestinian Authority launched a four-day seminar named after the notorious terrorist—the "Martyr Dalal Mughrabi Camp"—purportedly to discuss PA legislative and local elections. Being held as it was on the 32nd anniversary of the 1978 terrorist attack, the *Jerusalem Post* said it was "seen more as a rally in honor of Mughrabi than as an academic seminar" (March 15).

If the timing of these undeniably provocative acts by the Palestinian Authority was an "affront" to the peace process, you'd never know it from the angry remarks made by the White House. Those were reserved for America's closest, most dependable ally in the Middle East.

A Prophecy Being Fulfilled

America's treatment of Israel given the circumstances is truly extraordinary.

Israel has been looking for peace, "literally dying for peace," as columnist Charles Krauthammer wrote, since 1947 (March 19). Back then, like today, the Palestinians rejected a two-state solution and opted for war. They rejected Israel's offer for peace in 1967—and again in 1978. They rejected Ehud Barak's Palestinian statehood proposal in 2000—then Ehud Olmert's in 2008.

Last year, Prime Minister Netanyahu reaffirmed Israel's commitment to create an independent Palestinian state. Then, in November, he became the first Israeli prime

minister to temporarily freeze construction in the West Bank.

The Palestinians, who have made no concessions, have flatly rejected Netanyahu's gestures and have refused to join Israel at the negotiating table. Yet, in the minds of White House officials, it's *Israel* that's holding up the peace process.

What an insult to Israel.

And what a fulfillment of Bible prophecy!

"Manasseh shall devour Ephraim," the Prophet Isaiah wrote, "and Ephraim Manasseh; Together [the United States and Britain] they shall be against Judah [Israel]" (Isaiah 9:21, New King James

Netanyahu visited the U.S. to try to mend the diplomatic breach between the two countries. The trip, however, only further highlighted just how strained relations between the U.S. and Israel have become.



Version). The band that once joined these three brothers together has been shredded.

As we wrote in March/April 2004, “In Zechariah 11:14 is a prophecy that God would ‘break the brotherhood between Judah and Israel.’ This may well refer to a future rift between America (biblical Israel)

and the Jewish state (Judah). If America turned its back on the Jews, it would leave little Israel isolated and vulnerable.”

Carefully watch as America’s relationship with Israel continues to deteriorate—and take note of who Israel turns to for help. That, too, is prophesied. ■

Who will step in to fill the void as Israel’s relationship with America continues to deteriorate? Order a free copy of Gerald Flurry’s booklet *Jerusalem in Prophecy* to find out.



Once Again, It's All About Jerusalem

YET again, in the latest storm brewing in the Middle East, *Jerusalem* is at the center.

The conflagration surrounding Israel licensing construction on 1,600 homes in a north Jerusalem neighborhood revealed why Jerusalem is destined to again become a theater of war very soon. Bible prophecy says it



will happen. The *Trumpet* has been warning about it for nearly two decades. The peace process will *always* break down over the Holy City—until that city convulses in violence that provokes world war.

On one side, the way Israel has handled the matter is prophetically significant. Though Benjamin Netanyahu apologized to Washington for the timing of the announcement on construction, he also made clear that he wouldn't stop the building. Jerusalem Mayor Nir Barkat made his own stance clear by quickly unveiling a blueprint for another 50,000 apartments in the city. Netanyahu gave a speech during his visit to the U.S. where he said, “The Jewish people were building Jerusalem 3,000 years ago and the Jewish people are building Jerusalem today. *Jerusalem is not a settlement. It is our capital!*” (emphasis mine throughout). Strong words for a man scheduled the next day to meet the American president who *called* it a settlement. But Netanyahu is determined to preserve Israeli sovereignty over East Jerusalem. And he has his people behind him. This is no trifling issue to the Jews. As pressure grows, they're not backing down—they're digging in.

On the other side of the conflict, the Palestinians eyeing

Washington's hostility toward Netanyahu's government recognize an opportunity. They seek to exploit the rift and hit Israel while it is isolated. Arabs rioted in Jerusalem and elsewhere on a scale unseen in a decade. The Gaza Strip has again become the launching pad for lobbing Kassams into Israel; one rocket strike in March killed

a man. Iran—never far from the action wherever nefarious activity is going on in the region—announced on March 14 its intent to mediate a reconciliation between Hamas and Fatah, the two rival Palestinian factions. “The overall goal is thus to exploit the breach in the U.S.-Israeli relationship to reunify the Palestinian leadership and encourage Israeli military action in the territories that would further undermine Israel's diplomatic efforts in building a coalition against Iran,” Stratfor wrote on March 22.

To think that all this sound and fury is a response to Israel's plan to build 1,600 homes is ludicrous. Anger over “settlements” is just the latest of a string of pretexts the Palestinians have used to try to weaken Israel's position over the years. In the past it has been land purchases (of unused wasteland) or immigration. If settlements were the real problem, then the Gaza Strip—from which Israel removed every last Jewish resident five years ago—would be a picture of neighborliness and peace. The Palestinians' goal is the same as it always was: to eliminate the Jewish state. The Palestinians will *never* negotiate and abide by an agreement to accept Israel's existence as a state. These remarkable events may

remind long-time *Trumpet* readers of a prediction our editor in chief made back in December of 2005, in a letter to *Trumpet* subscribers and in a *Key of David* program he taped about the same time.

Based on a prophecy in Zechariah, which speaks of half of Jerusalem being taken in what looks to be a violent siege, Gerald Flurry speculated about the political climate that could prevail within Israel in the days before that event occurs. We could soon witness the two sides of the Arab-Jew conflict each shift back toward their respective hard-line camps, he said, driving them apart and pushing the possibility of a peace deal out of reach. He suggested that the Palestinians could be taken over by the radical Hamas movement—while the security-conscious Jews vote in a more conservative government.

An Israeli election was scheduled for March 28, 2006. Based on the biblical evidence, Mr. Flurry believed Netanyahu's Likud party, then performing poorly, might bounce back and take the election.

Within a short time after those statements, Hamas scored a startling victory in Palestinian elections, snagging 74 out of the 132 seats in the Palestinian Legislative Council. Then, even more shocking, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon—who had planned more unilateral concessions to the Palestinians similar to the Gaza withdrawal he orchestrated—suffered a massive stroke and was removed from the scene. Suddenly, it looked like Mr. Flurry's prediction had lurched dramatically closer to being fulfilled. “These two events [Hamas's victory and Sharon's departure] will make the conservative position look more attractive for Israelis,” he wrote in

the March 2006 *Trumpet* edition. “Whether or not they elect Netanyahu, it is almost certain the new government will act with more caution toward the Hamas-dominated Palestinian government. *That is going to bring the crisis to a head much more quickly.*”

The prophesied explosion over Jerusalem, he believed, would likely be precipitated by *Arab radicalization*, coupled with *Jewish inflexibility*.

“Zechariah's prophecy implies that there will be an impasse over the Temple Mount—which the Palestinians ‘resolve’ by taking East Jerusalem by force,” he continued. “*That is why I believe the conservatives could regain control in Israel.* They have a stronger will to fight for the land they believe belongs to the Jews.”

As it turned out, that prediction was not fulfilled at that time. The Israelis went on to elect the dovish Ehud Olmert, and the Palestinians became preoccupied with infighting. Tension over the fate of the Holy City gave way to other, more immediate concerns.

Now, however, conditions look to be shaping up *just as Mr. Flurry predicted*. Even Israel's prime ministership is now occupied by the man he believed it could be. The pressure on Israel is enormous—yet the leader is standing firm on the territorial issue that most resonates with his countrymen. This is fueling Arab anger and impatience, which appear to be building toward violence.

And it all centers around Jerusalem. Just as Zechariah said it would.

The most remarkable thing, though, is the sequence of events Zechariah prophesied would be *triggered* by the war over Jerusalem. It is the most exciting news you could hear! **JOEL HILLIKER**



ALL IN A DAY Citizens clash with police in Kyrgyzstan in a coup that ousted the president.

How Russia **Outmaneuvered** America

The fascinating power politics behind an overlooked coup in Central Asia **BY JOEL HILLIKER**

THIS TINY CENTRAL ASIAN STATE had witnessed street protests before. Discontent and restlessness were widespread: The president had promised political freedom, democratic reform and transparency—but he turned out to be even more despotic and corrupt than the man he replaced in a revolution five years earlier. Public demonstrations against his regime, however, had always fizzled.

This time was different. Very different. Within a blur of 24 hours, Kyrgyzstan was transformed. On April 7, the capital erupted in bloody riots, the president fled, the deputy prime minister was taken hostage, the interior minister was killed, and the government fell. A new chief executive assumed power and quickly appointed defense, finance and interior ministers. Within days, it appeared the nation's security services were firmly under the control of the new interim government.

Apart from some 79 deaths, several hundred injuries and some property damage, it was remarkably seamless for a revolution.

In fact, there is little reason to believe it erupted spontaneously. All the evidence points to a well-orchestrated, well-planned

and -executed operation—and much of that evidence points to Russia.

While a stunned United States and Europe were scrambling to formulate a diplomatic response to the coup, Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin enthusiastically became the first world leader to recognize the new government—within hours of it taking power. Russian Federal Security Service agents were reportedly present during the riots. *Asia Times* reported on rumors that emissaries from Russia's foreign and military intelligence “played a significant covert role in neutralizing Bakiyev’s military and security power base by persuading senior Kyrgyz officers to keep most of their forces off the streets” (April 13). Immediately after the takeover, Russia had 150 more paratroopers on the ground, joining the forces it already had on its five military bases in the country. Russian offers of political and financial support soon followed. And Russian agents had apparently persuaded the Kyrgyz High Command to back the new government.

What this means is that, by all appearances, Kyrgyzstan is just Russia's most recent conquest in its near abroad, after having secured Ukraine just months ago

by influencing elections there, and practically taking Georgia by force in 2008.

It also means that America's foothold in strategically crucial Central Asia has been significantly pried loose.

Central Asia is a strategic battleground—particularly for Russia, China, Europe, Iran and America. Its location as a crossroads between Asia and the Middle East—combined with its energy wealth—make it central in the region's balance of power.

While Kyrgyzstan doesn't have the resources that other Central Asian countries do, it is extremely valuable real estate. Russia views it as an important buffer against Islam's northward push. Radical Islamists exploit it as a transit route. China has commercial interests there, and eyes it as posing a potential threat to its own missile sites, situated near the two nations' shared border. NATO considers it pivotal to its designs on expanding its presence into Central Asia. As Stratfor wrote on April 9, “The country lies in a key geographic location nestled against China and Kazakhstan, and surrounds the most critical piece of territory in all of Central Asia: the Fergana Valley. Whoever controls

We Were Wrong— Germany Is Taking Over

Waking up to Berlin's true ambitions

BY RON FRASER AND BRAD MACDONALD

Kyrgyzstan has the ability to pressure a number of states, including Kazakhstan, China, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.”

Kyrgyzstan has also grown in significance because it hosts America's *only remaining military base in Central Asia*. Manas air base, just outside the country's capital, is now the main supply base for U.S. troops in what has become America's chief theater of war, Afghanistan. Each month, 50,000 American troops pass through there.

So crucial is this base, that Washington has gotten its hands filthy in order to hang on to it, propping up and enriching a patently crooked government. Amid the series of “color revolutions” in the former Soviet and Balkan states in the early 2000s, the U.S. encouraged and celebrated the apparent surge in democracy. In Kyrgyzstan, it backed Kurmanbek Bakiyev in ousting the nation's president in the “Tulip Revolution” of 2005. But Bakiyev has proven himself a tyrant—and Kyrgyzstan has suffered terribly for it. In five short years, the nation has gone from relative stability to basket case, a nearly failed state plagued by cronyism and economic mismanagement. A U.S. State Department report last year accused Bakiyev's government of pervasive corruption, judicial abuses, bullying of media, arbitrary arrest and detention, child abuse and child labor, trafficking in persons, killing and torture. Yet Washington—supposed defender of democracy, human rights and the rule of law—stood by him, paying millions (which many say he personally pocketed) to continue leasing Manas. In 2006, Bakiyev threatened to evict the U.S. if Washington didn't pay more rent. The U.S. subsequently upped its annual payment from \$80 million to \$150 million.

Russia has always hated America's presence in its backyard. All the Central Asian countries besides Afghanistan were once a part of the old Soviet Union; for years now, Russia has been on a mission to haul those states and its other Soviet-era satellites back under its umbrella of influence. Along with China, it has worked hard to dislodge America's presence from the region entirely. In 2005, it successfully pressured Uzbekistan to evict the United States from its air base in the country, leaving Kyrgyzstan with Central Asia's last remaining U.S. military base.

“America's presence in Moscow's and Beijing's backyard has gone a long way in keeping these two nations in check—even curbing their efforts to dominate

See **RUSSIA** page 36 ►

FOR MANY YEARS THE *TRUMPET* has informed its readers of the true imperialist agenda of certain elites in Germany. Many, in their ignorance, laughed. Now, however, some of the brightest and best of analysts are waking up to the true nature of the agenda of the current generation of German imperialists.

Our long-time readers will know that one of the sources we often quote is Texas-based think tank Stratfor. We first noticed the astute analysis of Dr. George Friedman, Stratfor's CEO, during the Balkan wars of the 1990s. We even published a cover story featuring an article he wrote exposing the falsehood behind reports of Serbian-instigated genocide.

George Friedman has a mind as sharp as a razor. His grasp of history as it relates to unfolding current world events is profound. His Hungarian heritage probably gives him a natural affinity with European and transatlantic affairs in particular. Yet in many of his analyses, Dr. Friedman has spoken of Europe as being a power in decline. In his most recent bestseller, *The Next Hundred Years*, Friedman sees the U.S. as being the dominant power throughout the current century.

On that point, with due respect to Dr. Friedman, we beg to differ. We differ based on the “more sure word of prophecy,” which foretells a far different outcome.

In fact, the prophecies of your Bible

forecast the *decline* of the Anglo-Saxon peoples and the rise to global dominance, if only briefly, of three distinctly competitive powers—a German-led imperial Europe, Iran and the Sino-Russian bloc.

Interestingly, a recent analysis by another Stratfor analyst shows that current events are forcing them to look again and to reevaluate their position on Europe, and Germany in particular.

Recognizing a German Plan?

It seems Stratfor is coming to have a degree of consensus with the *Trumpet's* view. “The global system is undergoing profound change,” wrote one of Stratfor's most articulate analysts, Peter Zeihan, on March 16. “Three powers—Germany, Iran and China—face challenges forcing them to refashion the way they interact with their regions and the world.” These are essentially the same three powers to which biblical prophecy compels us to devote the majority of our attention.

Zeihan went on to focus on Germany. His analysis of current trends in Germany hints at there having been an underlying agenda to give that nation its current dominance in European affairs. Read what Zeihan wrote about Stratfor's changing view of the EU in light of the current Greek financial fiasco and what it portends for a restructuring of the EU model:

“Despite their shared EU membership, the Western European members

were quite reluctant to bail out their eastern partners. We became even more convinced that such inconsistencies would eventually doom the currency union, and that the euro's eventual dissolution would take the European Union with it. Now, we're not so sure.

"What if, instead of the euro being designed to further contain the Germans, the *Germans crafted the euro to rewire the European Union for their own purposes?*" (emphasis ours throughout).

Our dear long-time readers, where did you first read of Germany perhaps deliberately constructing a monetary system to fail so as to create the very crisis that would lead the German leaders to pose their own corporatist solution on the problem in the interests of meeting their own nationalist, imperialist goals for a Fourth Reich?

Amid the economic bedlam besieging Europe, an undisputed reality is emerging: Germany is exploiting this crisis to forge Europe into a vehicle of Teutonic ambition.

For Stratfor analyst Peter Zeihan, this reality crystallized in the wake of a recent remark by German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schäuble. "We need tighter rules," Schäuble remarked on March 13, in response to Greece's failing economy and the eurozone crisis. "That means in an extreme case, the possibility that a *country that does not get its finances in order at all leaves the euro group.*"

Dramatic though it is, Schäuble's remark is a nugget within a goldmine of evidence exposing Germany's ambition to dominate Europe. Nevertheless, this was the nugget that caught Zeihan's eye and sparked an exceptional piece of analysis. Read on and see just how close Stratfor's thinking is becoming to the reality of what the *Trumpet* has forecast since the euro's creation.

"[W]hat jumped out at us is that someone of Schäuble's gravitas doesn't go about casually making threats," Zeihan noted. "[T]his is not the sort of statement made by a country that is constrained, harnessed, submerged or placated. It is not even the sort of statement made by just any EU member, but rather by the decisive member. *Germany now appears prepared not just to contemplate, but to publicly contemplate, THE REENGINEERING OF EUROPE FOR ITS OWN INTERESTS.* It may not do it, or it may not do it now, but it has now been said, and *that will change Germany's relationship to Europe.*"

Now, read the following statement from Zeihan and *remember*—remember

GERMAN FINANCE MINISTER WOLFGANG SCHÄUBLE



"We need tighter rules. That means in an extreme case, the possibility that a country that does not get its finances in order at all leaves the euro group."

what Herbert Armstrong prophesied for almost 60 years prior to the fall of the Berlin Wall. *Remember* what the *Trumpet* has consistently forecast based on the inerrant prophecies of your Bible. Remember—and *be sobered!*

"[O]ur assessment of the euro is shifting from the belief that it was a straitjacket for Germany to the belief that it is Germany's springboard. ... *Germany is becoming a bit too successful at charting its own destiny.* And as it dawns on one European country after another that there was more to the euro than cheap credit, the ties that bind

are almost certainly going to weaken."

Throughout his article, Zeihan made a multitude of important and grave observations. His conclusion almost sounded as if it had been plucked from the archives of the *Trumpet*: "The paradigm that created the European Union—that Germany would be harnessed and contained—is shifting. Germany now has not only found its voice, *it is beginning to express, and hold to, its own national interest.* A political consensus has emerged in Germany against bailing out Greece. Moreover, a political consensus has emerged in Germany THAT THE RULES OF THE EUROZONE ARE GERMANY'S TO REFASHION. ... [T]his was not the 'union' the rest of Europe signed up for—it is the *Mitteleuropa that the rest of Europe will remember well.*"

This stunning observation will not be lost on those familiar with the history of German ambition for Europe. As Zeihan noted: "If the euro is essentially gutting the European ... economic base, then GERMANY IS ACHIEVING BY STEALTH WHAT IT FAILED TO ACHIEVE IN THE PAST THOUSAND YEARS OF INTRA-EUROPEAN STRUGGLES."

In other words, the country responsible for causing a multitude of conflicts in Europe, including the two most devastating wars in human history, is today—*via its role as Europe's economic savior*—gaining dominion over the Continent.

When sharp analysts at high-profile think tanks such as Stratfor are prepared to publish challenging views such as put forward by Peter Zeihan that so closely match those of biblical prophecy propounded by this magazine, perhaps it is time our critics look more seriously into that "more sure word of prophecy!" ■

For more analysis on how Germany could take advantage of economic difficulties in Europe, read the article "The Greek Crisis Was Planned!" from our April issue.



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Did Christ Abolish the Sabbath?



BY STEPHEN FLURRY

MOST PEOPLE KNOW the Old Testament Sabbath was on the seventh day of the week—Saturday on the Roman calendar. *But that day is for the Jews*, they reason. *Jesus Christ came to change Sabbath observance to Sunday worship.*

Did He?

Early in Christ's ministry, we find that He taught on the Sabbath day (Mark 1:21; 6:2; Luke 4:31; 13:10). In fact, Luke 4:16 says *this was His custom!* Mark 2:27-28

say, "And he said unto them, The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath: Therefore the Son of man is *Lord also of the sabbath.*" Jesus Christ, the Scriptures reveal, is the *Lord of the Sabbath.* He made it for you and me!

The word *Sabbath* or *Sabbaths* is mentioned 172 times throughout the Bible; 60 of these are found in the *New Testament.* If Christ had changed the Sabbath day to Sunday, surely He or the apostles who followed in His steps would have explained the change.

Acts 13:14-15 show that the Apostle Paul was teaching in the synagogue on

the *Sabbath* many years after Christ died. In verse 42, after Paul's Sabbath sermon, many of the Jews who heard him became offended and left. But notice, "the *Gentiles* besought that these words might be preached to them the *next sabbath.*" The *Gentiles*, those who had no prior knowledge of Sabbath observance, asked if Paul could come back the *next Sabbath.*

Notice what happened: "And the next sabbath day came almost the *whole city* together to hear the word of God" (verse 44). Why didn't the Gentiles ask him to come back on the following Sunday? Because Paul, like Christ, kept the Sabbath.

Notice Acts 17:2: “And Paul, as his *man-ner* was, went in unto them, and three *sabbath days* reasoned with them out of the scriptures.” This is now 20 years after Christ died, and we see that it was still Paul’s custom to keep the Sabbath, just as it was Christ’s custom (Luke 4:16).

Over 10 years later, Paul wrote the epistle to the Hebrews. In the first few verses of chapter 4, after discussing the spiritual “rest” this world will enjoy after Jesus Christ returns, Paul then explains how our weekly Sabbath observance *pictures* that millennial rest. “There remaineth therefore a *rest* to the people of God,” Paul wrote (verse 9). The Greek word for *rest* is *sabbatismos*, which simply means “keeping of the Sabbath.” Most Bible margins even point this out.

Had the seventh-day Sabbath been changed to Sunday, wouldn’t Paul have explained this to, of all people, *the Hebrews* in Judea? Instead, Paul reminded them that their weekly Sabbath observance was a very type of the millennial rest to come upon the entire world.

But What About Sunday?

While the seventh-day Sabbath is mentioned 60 times in the New Testament, the first day of the week, Sunday, is mentioned *only eight times!*

In 1 Corinthians 16:1-4, the disciples were told by Paul to take up a “collection for the saints” on the *first* day of the week. Some use this not only to show we should go to church on Sunday, but also that we should take up a collection of money each week. In fact, Romans 15:25-28 explain that this special collection was taken for the *saints in Jerusalem* because they were extremely poor. Furthermore, Paul offered to *help carry* the collection in verse 4. So this collection was primarily food and supplies, not money. And it was for the saints in Jerusalem, not the Church. Furthermore, they were told to *gather* it on Sunday. So, far from being a command to worship God on Sunday, Paul was actually instructing them to gather up food and supplies for the Jerusalem brethren on Sunday, after the Sabbath had ended.

Acts 20:7 has another reference to the first day of the week. In that passage, the disciples assembled together for a meal—to “break bread.” Since God begins and ends each day at sunset (rather than midnight), this dinner actually took place after sunset on Saturday night—the beginning of the first day of the week. Paul preached unto them until midnight, the verse says. At the break of day, on Sunday, Paul left on foot, Scripture says, and sailed

for Assos (verse 13).

Read the entire passage. Nothing in it commands a weekly Sunday observance. Paul was merely taking advantage of his last opportunity to meet with and speak to the brethren at Troas—and it was actually on Saturday night.

Nailed to the Cross?

Many try to make Colossians 2:16-17 say the New Testament Church did away with the Sabbath. It reads, “Let no man therefore *judge* you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the *sabbath days*: Which are a *shadow* of things to come; but the body *is* of Christ.” The word *judge* means “to pro-

Had the seventh-day Sabbath been changed to Sunday, wouldn’t Paul have explained this to, of all people, *the Hebrews* in Judea? Instead, Paul reminded them that their weekly Sabbath observance was a very type of the millennial rest to come upon the entire world.

nounce an opinion concerning right and wrong” (*Thayer’s Lexicon*). Also notice the word “is” at the end of verse 17. It’s in italics, which means it was not in the original Greek text—it was added by translators.

Understand the meaning! “Let no *man* judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the *sabbath days* . . . *but the body of Christ.*” In other words, don’t let a man determine what is right or wrong about which days to observe. These matters should be determined by the Body of Christ—or the Church (see 1 Corinthians 12:27). And the Church establishes doctrine by what is inspired in *the holy Word of God*. The Bible, as we have seen, plainly teaches that we should observe the Sabbath.

And let’s not overlook this additional thought from Colossians 2:17: “Which are a shadow of things to come . . .” You cannot separate the shadow from its object. A shadow from a tree, for example, always leads you right to the tree. If you take away the shadow, there is no tree.

Why would you take away the Sabbath

if it is a shadow of things to come—God’s millennial rest?

Yet, that is exactly what many do. Newer Bible translations, for example, make the shadow sound negative or bad. *All that matters is Christ*, they say. Never mind His example—just believe *in* Him.

One other important point to make regarding this passage is that it was written to the Gentiles at Colosse (see Colossians 2:13). Before coming into God’s Church, the Gentiles had never observed God’s Sabbath command. Yet Paul tells them to not let any man judge them with respect to the Sabbath or holy days.

Why would he write something like that if these people had never kept those days in the first place?

The Sign of Christ’s Messiahship

The first reason most Sunday keepers cite as proof of the Sabbath’s obsolescence is the resurrection of Christ. Let’s again examine the scriptural record. After Christ had been resurrected, Mary Magdalene went to visit His tomb early Sunday morning. All four Gospels discuss this event as occurring on the first day of the week (Matthew 28:1; Mark 16:2, 9; Luke 24:1; John 20:1). And all four accounts specifically say this occurred *after* the Sabbath. (Notice the Bible makes a *clear* distinction between the Sabbath and the first day—even *after* Christ died.)

On Sunday morning, the women came to do the work of a common weekday. They were not observing the Sabbath day of rest. They did this the day before (see Luke 23:56). Then on Sunday, they gathered their spices and headed to Christ’s tomb. In all these passages, there is *not* one command to keep the first day holy!

Neither is there any admonition for us to commemorate Christ’s resurrection. Some claim that John 20:19 is such an example: “Then the same day at evening, being the *first day* of the week, when the *doors were shut* where the disciples were assembled for *fear of the Jews*, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.” Nothing here, however, authorizes Sunday observance. In fact, the disciples weren’t even gathered for a service. They were dwelling together with the doors shut “for fear of the Jews”! They couldn’t have been there to celebrate the resurrection because they didn’t even believe that it had happened (see Mark 16:14; Luke 24:37, 39, 41). This meeting was simply Christ’s first opportunity to meet with His disciples since being resurrected. For 3½ years before this time, Christ had been with them

practically *every day*. The fact that He was *with them* on a Sunday is not unusual.

Besides that, there is no scriptural command to observe the day of Christ's resurrection, whether on Easter Sunday or *any* Sunday. (The Bible commands us to observe the day of *His death*—see 1 Corinthians 5:7; 11:23-26.)

Even if the disciples had gathered on Sunday to supposedly commemorate the resurrection, it would have been the wrong day! When asked for a sign that He was from God, Jesus responded, "For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be *three days* and three nights in the heart of the earth" (Matthew 12:40). Traditional Christianity teaches that this three-day period can be counted from late in the afternoon on Good Friday until early morning Easter Sunday. That's *part* of three days, they insist—*Friday, Saturday* and *Sunday*. But that popular belief plainly allows for only two nights and one day in the grave when Christ specifically said He would be in the earth *three days* and *three nights*, just as Jonah spent the same amount of time in the fish's belly (Jonah 1:17).

Traditional Christianity has never understood the truth on this matter because the sabbath that was drawing near at Christ's crucifixion was not a seventh-day Sabbath—it was an *annual* sabbath—one of God's seven annual holy days (John 19:31). In A.D. 31, the year Christ was crucified, that annual sabbath occurred on a Thursday, meaning Christ died late in the afternoon the day before—on *Wednesday*.

Three full days and nights brings the actual resurrection to late Saturday afternoon, shortly before sunset. By the end of the Sabbath, Jesus was already gone (Matthew 28:1).

Think what this means. The foundational proof that traditional Christianity uses to endorse Sunday observance is that "our Lord was resurrected on that day." But He wasn't! Furthermore, He never commanded Sunday to be observed. Jesus Christ kept the Sabbath!

So Where Did It Begin?

So if the authority for Sunday observance cannot be found in Scripture, where is it? History tells. If we go back far enough, we can see where Sunday advocates clashed head to head with Sabbath keepers. At the Nicean Council of A.D. 325, for example, Emperor Constantine said, "Let us then have *nothing* in common with the Jews." He continued, "Forasmuch, then, as it is no longer possible to bear with your per-

icious errors, we give warning by this present statute that none of you henceforth presume to assemble yourselves together. We have directed, accordingly, that you be deprived of all the houses in which you are accustomed to hold your assemblies: and *forbid* the holding of your superstitious and senseless meetings, not in public merely, but in any private house or place whatsoever. ... Take the far better course of entering the Catholic Church From this day forward none of your unlawful assemblies may presume to appear in any public or private place. Let this edict be made public."

The Roman Catholic Church is responsible for changing the Sabbath to Sunday

The foundational proof that traditional Christianity uses to endorse Sunday observance is that "our Lord was resurrected on that day." But He wasn't!

and enforcing Sunday observance. To assemble together on any other day for a religious observance was considered unlawful. This was confirmed at the Council of Laodicea almost 40 years later in A.D. 363. At that conference, it was decreed, "Christians must not Judaize by resting on the Sabbath, but *must* work on that day, resting rather on Sunday. But, if any be found to be Judaizing, let them be declared anathema [*cursed* and *excommunicated*] from Christ."

Today, even Sunday-observing theologians will sometimes admit the Sabbath was changed by *man*. Notice the question posed to the Catholic Church in the book *Catholic Doctrinal Catechism*: "Have you any other way of proving that the church has power to institute festivals of precept?"

Answer: Had she not such power, she should not have done that in which all modern religionists agree with her—she could not have *substituted* the observance of Sunday, the first day of the week, for the observance of Saturday, the seventh day, *a change for which there is no scriptural authority.*"

Here is a quote from the *Theological Dictionary*, by Charles Buck, a Methodist minister: "*Sabbath* in the Hebrew language signifies rest, and is the seventh day of the week ... and it must be *confessed* that there is *no law* in the New Testament concerning the first day."

Finally, here is what Isaac Williams wrote in *Plain Sermons on the Catechism*: "And where are we told in Scripture that we are to keep the first day at all? We are commanded to keep the seventh; but we are nowhere commanded to keep the first day. ... The reason why we keep the first day of the week instead of the seventh is for the same reason that we observe many other things, not because the Bible, but because the church has enjoined [*or commanded*] it."

Followers of Christ

Scholars will reason around it, but the Bible is clear. There simply is no command endorsing *any kind* of Sunday observance. What God does command is this: "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy" (Exodus 20:8).

The Israelites were commanded to keep the Sabbath. The prophets—described as part of the foundation of God's Church today (Ephesians 2:19-21)—all kept the Sabbath. Jesus Christ came in the flesh and observed the Sabbath (Luke 4:16). All of the apostles, including Paul, observed the seventh-day Sabbath (Acts 17:2). They followed Christ's example. And in 1 Corinthians 11:1, Paul said, "Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ."

Don't let any man decide what's right and wrong with respect to the Sabbath. Just follow Christ's example. ■

Don't assume you know.

Request your own **FREE** copy of Herbert W. Armstrong's comprehensive booklet proving this doctrine from the Bible:
Which Day Is the Christian Sabbath?





Is the Vatican a Bastion of Family Values?

Not nearly as much as millions believe.

BY BRAD MACDONALD

IN AN AGE WHERE MARRIAGE AND family are under vicious and unrelenting assault, the Roman Catholic Church's zealous crusade in defense of these institutions appears impressive and praiseworthy.

On February 1, for example, Pope Benedict XVI tore into liberal politicians in Britain for trying to pass legislation that supposedly would protect homosexuals from discrimination. During a speech before 35 Catholic bishops from England and Wales, Benedict lambasted the immoral legislation and urged the bishops to work together to oppose it with "missionary zeal."

One week later, the pope lectured the Pontifical Council for the Family on the importance of marriage to the wellbeing of children. "The family founded on marriage between a man and a woman is the greatest help that can be given to children," he said. "Supporting the family and promoting its true good, its rights, its unity and stability is the best way to protect the rights and the real needs of children." Four days later, Benedict reiterated this theme during a meeting with bishops visiting from Romania and Moldova. "The blossoming of priestly and religious vocations

depends in good part on the moral and religious health of the Christian family," Benedict stated (emphasis mine throughout).

To the conservative observer living amid an onslaught of moral relativism and liberalism, the Vatican's willingness to tackle issues such as homosexuality, same-sex marriage and abortion is refreshing and reassuring. But there is a problem with this perception. It's misleading.

As the pedophile scandal that has recently engulfed the Catholic Church reveals, this institution simply is *not* the bastion of traditional family values that millions believe it to be.

Leaking Hypocrisy

Pope Benedict XVI conducted two days of meetings with 24 bishops from Ireland in February. The topic of discussion was the sex scandal plaguing the Catholic Church in Ireland, details of which emerged last November with the release of the now infamous Murphy Report. Published by the Irish government, the three-volume report revealed an abominable tale of decades of physical and sexual abuse against children by Catholic clergy—and the *plot to conceal the heinous offenses by a multitude of high-*

ranking Catholic officials.

Of course, this was merely another chapter in a sordid saga. The previous exposure of this problem that has long dogged the church occurred in 2002. At that time, Pope John Paul II was forced to meet with church leaders in the United States after dozens of stories surfaced showing that pedophile priests had been at work for decades in congregations across the country.

As it turned out, the decision to discuss the Irish scandal publicly opened the floodgates for a gush of victims across Europe, and the world, to "open up" about their abuse at the hands of perverted Catholic priests. By April, the scandal had turned into a full-blown crisis that began to engulf the entire church, including Pope Benedict and the Vatican.

In Germany, reports surfaced of hundreds of children being sexually abused by more than 100 priests and Catholic lay members. "After years of suppression," *Spiegel* wrote, "*the wall of silence appears to be crumbling*" (February 8). Even the pope himself became embroiled in the crisis in Germany when it emerged that a priest known to be abusive had worked in a Munich diocese in the 1980s while Benedict was archbishop there. In April, when the Catholic Church initiated a phone hotline in Germany—via which victims could report crimes and seek counseling—it reportedly melted down after being overwhelmed with calls.

As victims emerged from the woodwork in Germany, hundreds of others began coming forward elsewhere in Europe—in Italy, Austria, Switzerland, Denmark and Norway. Soon the church's reputation became a question of fierce international debate as media outlets, religious pundits and ordinary citizens weighed in on the rapidly unraveling scandal. "The child sex-abuse scandal in the Catholic priesthood—and the worldwide cover-up that seems, at least indirectly, to have involved Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger before he was elevated to the papacy—has embarrassed the Catholic Church and angered parishioners," noted *Newsweek* (March 30).

As the crisis exploded and reports continued to surface of abuses being habitually covered up by Catholic authorities, criticism against the church and the Vatican intensified. Some even began to demand Benedict's resignation. In America, the *National Catholic Reporter* demanded the "Holy father ... directly answer questions, in a credible forum, about his role" in the

cover-up of reports of the sexual abuse of children when he was archbishop of the Munich diocese (1977-82) and as prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (1982-2005).

Pope Benedict XVI has reached a crossroads, veteran Vatican journalist Marco Politi told the *New York Times*. "What's extraordinary is that the scandal has reached the heart of the center of the church. Up to now it was far away—in the States, in Canada, in Brazil, in Australia. Then it came to Europe, to Ireland. Then

the victims. But many observers remained unconvinced of the Vatican's repentance. Regarding the talks between Benedict and his Irish cardinals in February, Mike Ion observed in the *Guardian* that they "were at best missed opportunity and at worst a mere public relations exercise" (February 17).

The truth in this assessment is evident if you read the Vatican's official statement released after the meeting. Though the document possessed enough of a tone of grief to speak to the widespread demand that the Vatican voice a stronger opinion

Vatican never explicitly recognized and apologized for *its own culpability*.

Put simply, the Vatican has yet to *show itself truly repentant!*

Slow to Act

As the crisis continues, objective viewers are realizing that few if any sincere and TANGIBLE ACTS OF REPENTANCE are coming from the Vatican. Pope Benedict possesses many of the tools required to purge the sexual deviates from the church's midst. The Vatican has the intelligence infrastructure to lead robust, efficient and transparent investigations into allegations of sex abuse when they arise. Instead of merely condemning perverted priests, or retiring them, or transferring them to another parish, Benedict *could* severely punish them. More importantly, as the ultimate authority in the Catholic Church, Benedict can enact policies that would protect his flock from such ravenous wolves.

YET THE VATICAN HAS BEEN SLOW IN EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THESE ACTIONS!

Supporters of the Vatican argue that Benedict's reach into Catholic congregations in countries like Ireland, America and Germany is limited. We are told that most dioceses are largely independent of the Vatican and operate with little direction and assistance from headquarters. Don't buy it. Since he became pope in 2005, Benedict has proven remarkably adept at tackling national politicians and policies that don't gel with Catholic doctrine or Vatican ambition. Throughout its history, the Vatican has proven itself willing and capable of bringing down governments, shaping national policies, destroying careers, and confronting and undermining competing religions and ideologies.

Moreover, if the Vatican really wanted to protect and nurture children, *it would be acting on this issue energetically and forcefully to ensure such crimes never happen again!*

The Catholic Church might promote itself as the bastion of family values and morality. But that message has been radically undermined by the nearly constant surfacing of sordid sex crimes by Catholic leaders. Moreover, the Vatican's halfhearted approach to these scandals is a sign that despite marketing itself as a defender of marriage and family, this institution is merely another broken religion incapable of curing the evil human heart. ■

Request a free copy of *Germany and the Holy Roman Empire* to learn more of the truth about the Vatican's past—and future.

While it issued words of comfort to the victims of abuse, and even some condemnation of the abusing priests, the Vatican never explicitly recognized and apologized for its own culpability.

it came to [Germany]. Then it came to his diocese, and now it's coming to the heart of the government of the church—and he has to give an answer," he said (March 25).

The Vatican's Answer

Though Catholic leaders delivered the requisite public apologies and statements to the abuse victims, their general reaction has been calculated and stolid.

When Benedict learned of the findings of the Murphy Report in Ireland, he reacted with surprise and disgust. In a press statement last December, he said he shared the "outrage, betrayal and shame felt by so many of the faithful in Ireland." In March, he issued a letter in which he stated to victims in Ireland, "You have suffered grievously and I am truly sorry."

As the pool of victims got deeper, Benedict and the Vatican continued to issue statements and deliver public prayers empathizing with the pain and suffering of

on this issue, it was nothing more than platitudes. The Vatican was careful not to admit an iota of complicity. The self-serving statement was actually written to distance the Vatican from the despicable conduct of its representatives in Dublin.

Take this little bromide: "Together they [Benedict and the Irish bishops] examined the failure of *Irish church authorities* for many years to act effectively in dealing with cases involving the sexual abuse of young people" Of course "Irish church authorities" failed to deal with these heinous crimes—but what about the VATICAN'S FAILURE to investigate the disgusting stories that dripped for years out of Ireland?

As the scandal widened to include victims in Germany and beyond, Benedict and the Vatican reacted in much the same way. While it issued sweet-sounding words of empathy and comfort to the victims of abuse, and even some strong condemnation of the abusing priests, the



Beware! The Vatican Will Retaliate



STILL ON TOP
The pope addresses believers in St. Peter's Square.

History warns us not to misjudge the resilience of the Roman Catholic Church. BY BRAD MACDONALD

READING REPORTS OF THE BALLOONING sex scandal inside the Catholic Church, one can get the distinct impression that the church is imploding.

Apparently, millions of Catholics are dazed and demoralized. Apparently, the Vatican is mired in an impossible battle against fact and truth and is reeling. Apparently, Catholic leaders are quietly, apologetically, retreating. The Catholic Church “now face[s] the largest institutional crisis in centuries, possibly in church history,” said the *National Catholic Reporter* (March 26). The damage inflicted will “last at least a generation,” wrote Peggy Noonan (April 2). Apparently, it will be years, even decades, before faith is restored, trust is replenished and authority is recouped. Apparently, the Vatican’s days as the widely respected and preeminent force guiding Western civilization are over.

Don’t buy it!

Of course, the story of thousands of heinous sex crimes being committed by Catholic priests the world over is important and telling. But the narrative that is emerging of a severely debilitated Catholic Church on bended knee before a disgusted and furious world is *wildly exaggerated*. Pushed largely by the mainstream press in Britain and the United States (including *Catholic* outlets in these countries), this increasingly popular perception overlooks a critical reality: It ignores the Vatican’s remarkable ability to endure and even THRIVE during immense trial and tribulation.

The Roman Catholic Church has a 2,000-year legacy of responding to major crises, with *lethal* and *effective* results.

History guarantees the Vatican will REBOUND—with more force than you could imagine!

What Sparked the Inquisition

Recall the history of the Protestant Reformation.

The Vatican was the defining force in Europe during the Middle Ages. The authority of Catholic leaders on all matters spiritual and moral went unquestioned. Even in issues of war and politics, popes and church leaders often wielded decisive authority. Naturally, this unrivaled power corrupted church leaders on all levels. In Rome and across Europe, Catholic priests habitually abused their position to grow rich and satiate fleshly desires. Over time, resentment and anger festered. In October 1517, the frustration finally burst out when an Augustinian friar named Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses on the door of a seminary in Germany.

Luther’s rebellion set a church-wide maelstrom in motion. Bolstered by Luther’s audacity, the Protestant movement quickly stormed across Europe. Soon, the role and authority of the Catholic Church were being debated everywhere, in vil-

lages and cities, huts and castles, on street corners and in parishes. Rome's power began to suffer, desperately. The church appeared to be imploding.

Remember how Rome responded?

In today's politically correct history books, Rome's reaction to the Protestant Reformation is termed the *Catholic Counter Reformation*. In reality, this Catholic-inspired movement was a vehement, calculated and *often bloody* assault on dissenters!

The church's response to Luther's rebellion and the Protestant Reformation was "VIGOROUS," observes Stanley Chodorow in *The Mainstream of Civilization*. "[T]he church used torture and imprisonment as well as gentler means of persuasion to bring wayward Catholics back to orthodoxy."

The lesson is evident: The Vatican will not keel over when assaulted by criticism and contempt, *no matter how intense or widespread*.

To call the church's response to the Protestant Reformation in the 16th century "vigorous" is somewhat of an understatement. It's true that in some instances reforms occurred peacefully within the church, where some doctrines and practices were altered to appease the dissenters and resolve the anxieties of the faithful. For the most part, however, the Protestant Reformation elicited an *uncompromising, forceful* and often *brutal* response from Rome.

Two Reactions to Watch For

As the Protestant Reformation erupted in the 16th century, Catholic leaders reacted to the violent criticism in two specific ways, both of which are relevant in light of the ongoing sex scandal.

First, Rome considered the crisis an opportunity to *rediscover and reassert its "spiritual" roots* and to *reignite the loyalty of the vast number of Catholics who did not dissent*.

This goal was largely achieved through one of the most important ecumenical meetings in Catholic history, the Council of Trent. Originally called to address the dissenters' demand for church reform, the council—which met in three sessions between 1545 and 1563—effectively became a forum for Catholic authorities to regroup and determine a battle plan. Ultimately, there was little concession or capitulation. Rather than significantly *revamp* Catholic doctrine to assuage dissenters, church

leaders *clarified* and *reinforced* Catholic doctrine. They passed measures that augmented papal authority and streamlined church teachings. In the end, the Council of Trent proved critical to "*revitalizing the Roman Catholic Church in many parts of Europe*" (*Encyclopedia Britannica*).

Not that we expect Pope Benedict XVI to summon a meeting of such magnitude, but the current crisis has already motivated the pope and church leaders to call meetings, launch investigations, review church policy and practices, and issue apologies. As the scandal grows, we will likely see more meetings, more apologies, and perhaps the "reform" of some policies

from the Vatican, promoted the "*revival of a militant church throughout Europe*" (*The Mainstream of Civilization*). Phillip didn't merely prevent Protestant movements taking root in Catholic Spain; he slashed the throats of Protestants on behalf of the Catholic Church as far north as the Netherlands and as far east as the Rhineland.

By the mid-16th century, Catholic leaders had groomed a new army of hard-core militaristic religious orders (including the Theatines, Capuchins and Ursulines) with which to fight back against the Protestants. In 1540, Rome acquired a crude and valuable ally when Pope Paul III sanctioned the militant activities of the Society of Jesus, otherwise known as the Jesuits (the CIA of the Roman Catholic Church). "Through their [Jesuits'] clandestine operations, they strengthened the pope's control over the church; they ran the best schools in Europe; and they reclaimed most of Bohemia, Poland, Hungary and southern Germany from Protestantism" (*ibid.*, emphasis mine).

Perhaps the sex scandal engulfing the church is not on the same level as Luther's rebellion, but in ascertaining how Benedict and the Vatican will react, *the spirit behind the Catholic Counter Reformation* is consistent with Rome's track record of responding to major crises that threaten its reputation and authority. If the Vatican were to concede and capitulate amid the growing criticism, it would be rejecting its 2,000-year history of confronting criticism and tackling opposition head on!

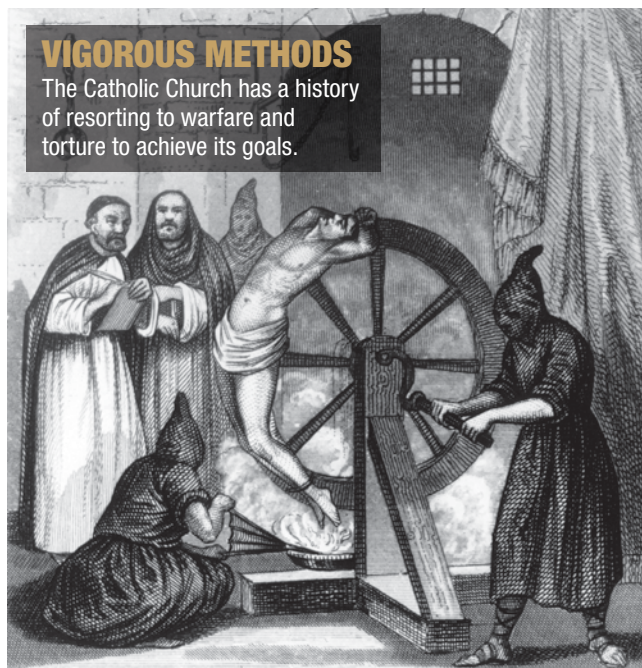
This simply is not going to happen.

What Will Happen?

Informed by Bible prophecy and history, we can tell you what will happen. First, Pope Benedict and the Vatican will ultimately emerge from this crisis victorious, and with more power and influence. Second, while the church could lose members, particularly in Britain and America, its *authority and influence in Europe will expand*. More than likely, Benedict and the Vatican will follow the playbook of their ancestors.

Expect Benedict to treat this crisis as an opportunity for the Vatican to *rediscover and reassert its "spiritual" roots* and to engage in a campaign to *reignite the loyalty of Europe's Catholic population!*

Expect Benedict and the Vatican to exploit this crisis to muster the allegiance



and practices. If this occurs, remember Trent: *It would be foolish to perceive such a response as evidence of capitulation or concession*. Ultimately, the purpose of these "crisis meetings" is to formulate a strong and unified retaliation, which undoubtedly will include *revitalizing* the loyalties of Catholics, *particularly within Europe*.

Second, Catholic leaders reacted to the Protestant rebellion by seeking to reassert and *enlarge* their influence in European society and politics—*especially within the multitude of Europe's royal lines*.

As the 16th century wore on, Catholic kings and queens throughout Europe were not merely embraced by popes and church leaders; *the armies of these monarchs were enlisted in the church's quest to purge the Continent of dissenters and critics*. In Spain, for example, Phillip II emerged as the figurehead of the Catholic Counter Reformation, and with support

of prominent Catholic politicians, social personalities, monarchs, governments and institutions in Europe. (Also, don't be surprised if very soon we see an individual of courage and vision, and of German descent, stand up to defend the pope and the Vatican.) The more the Catholic Church and Vatican are attacked by the media and liberal Catholics (particularly

in America), THE STRONGER THE RELATIONSHIP WILL GROW BETWEEN CATHOLIC EUROPE AND THE VATICAN.

Lastly, discard the overblown reports that the Catholic Church is imploding. Neither Pope Benedict XVI nor the Vatican are dazed and confused, and they're certainly not about

to slink away in guilt and shame. Watch these events closely, and let history and biblical prophecy be your assurance: The Vatican is alert and focused, and is about to respond to this crisis with a level of force that will shock the world! ■

Muslims March, Europeans Chafe

ISLAM and Christianity are incompatible religions. Each is imperialist and universalist in its mission.

These two have been set to collide since the postwar revival of Islam, especially in its most extreme form. The increasing penetration by pan-Islamism into European and Anglo-Saxon society was always destined to end in what Samuel P. Huntington described in his 1996 best-selling book of the same title as *the clash of civilizations*.

The histories of these religions show that, at heart, neither Roman Catholicism—mother of the world's form of Christianity—nor Islam are peaceful religions. Each has a crusading past. Only since the end of World War II has the Roman church appeared benign and, at least on the surface, unaffiliated with any political power bent on global domination. As for Islam, following the end of the Ottoman Empire—the Allies having gained victory over Turkey and Germany in World War I—little was seen of its militant form until the rise of Islamist terror in the 1970s. Its confrontational nature has become clear through the impact of its most extreme forms on Western society since that time.

With minarets increasingly spiking city skylines and the call of the muezzin to prayer rising incessantly across the cities of the West, Western traditionalists are crying out “enough.” From Denmark to France and the Netherlands, electorates are voting in referenda or local elections—or by government

regulation in the case of France and Belgium—to stem the onward march of non-assimilative Islam across their respective cultures. People are awakening to the reality that just as London is the banking house for the support of Islamist extremism and terror, Germany is its training ground in weapons of mass destruction and the human instruments of their delivery.

Two recent cases in Europe— one in the Netherlands, the other in Germany—demonstrate just how extreme the tension between Christian and Muslim is becoming on the Continent.

SWINGING RIGHT

For a decade, Europe's right wing has been growing in force. Signs show this trend is accelerating.

The Netherlands is embracing politics' brashest spokesman against Islam. In regional elections in March, far-right politician Geert Wilders scored major gains that suddenly made him the frontrunner to become the next Dutch prime minister. An election poll just days later showed that Wilders' Freedom Party (PVV) had overtaken the party of Prime Minister Jan Peter in public popularity.

He owes his meteoric popularity to his stance against the spread of Islamic influence in his country. “[He] has called Islam a backward religion, wants a ban on headscarves in public life and has compared the Koran to Hitler's *Mein Kampf*,” reported the *Telegraph* on March 4. It appears the Dutch are expressing their desire



CULTURE CLASH

Protesters in London denounce freedom in favor of Islamic law.

that Islamist impact on their society be curtailed.

The same trend is unfolding in next-door Germany. A recent incident shows how the BND, Germany's secret service, is doubling its efforts to track down extremist Islamist cells that for years have used that nation as a training ground, and Germany's courts are publicizing their intent to place such miscreants behind bars.

A quartet of terrorists from a German Islamist cell was discovered in 2007 to have been plotting to blow up the Ramstein U.S. air base in Germany. This past March, the German court trying the men condemned them for seeking not only to attack Americans, but also to influence a German parliamentary vote regarding the nation's military mission in Afghanistan. The court's stern judgment was clearly intended to send a message to other Islamists taking refuge in Germany. It also came at an opportune time for the German military: just as certain elites are seeking to convince the public to support German troops assuming a more aggressive role in Afghanistan.

That tension would be rising between Germany and radical Islamists is not surprising to students of biblical prophecy, for the prophecies foretell of a moment in history when a “king of the south” will push at a “king

of the north” (Daniel 11:40). We have regularly identified Iran as that king of the south and Germany as the prophesied leader of a rising imperial northern power. Simply put, the conservative stance of Pope Benedict XVI and the increasingly anti-Muslim expressions of the European community—of which Iran perceives Germany as leader—are just too reminiscent of the combined anti-Islam stance of both throughout history, particularly the history of the Crusades of the Holy Roman Empire, led spiritually by the pope and militarily by Germany.

In reality, it is not so much Islamist terrorism the Anglo-Saxon nations should fear. It is the power that is prophesied to blow the Islamist “king of the south” away like a whirlwind—a whirlwind that has its source in the north, the biblical “king of the north”! And that whirlwind is stimulated by Islamic extremism provoking a reaction from this overwhelmingly more powerful “king of the north” by its incessant poking and pushing. **RON FRASER**

The trends in Europe are right on target in terms of fulfilling an overarching plan that was laid out millennia ago and prophesied in your Bible. Our free booklet *The King of the South* explains how in more detail. Request a copy today.

We Don't Know Our Enemy

I GUESS IT IS TOO LATE FOR A NATIONAL day of prayer and fasting? ("Man Does Not Know His Greatest Enemy," April). The U.S. is now so lost one would probably be sued for violating "the rights of the gays and atheists." ... *Jim—KENTUCKY*



MR. FLURRY, HOW CAN YOU assume that Iran would use nuclear weapons? I think the world should be afraid of America. Why? Because America has already dropped two atomic bombs on human mankind before (Japan). ... If Iran gets that bomb, they will become untouchable, i.e., they cannot be bullied by America or Israel any more. ... *Jonathon—ALABAMA*

The War Machine Furnace

THE BOOK OF REVELATION DESCRIBES end-time war machines that cause unbearable pain and suffering on Earth. Machines that spew "sulfur" ... of frightening "locusts" with serpent tails ("Stoking the Furnace of the War Machine," April). One can only wonder in fear what secret weapons are being designed in the secret defense complexes of German-dominated Europe. While the U.S. government cancels vital new technology such as the Raptor fighter program, adversaries such as Iran and North Korea are steaming ahead with destructive weapons programs—what's more, with insane dictators at the helm! Many peace-loving nations in Europe, the Arab world and Asia can sense that the end product of all this military insanity is going to be very unpleasant. But thank God divine intervention is coming. *Peter Thomas—SARAWAK, MALAYSIA*

The Greek Crisis

INCREDIBLY, MORE "CREATIVE ACCOUNTING practices" will probably be used to

Corrections

The article "When Was Christ Crucified and Resurrected?" on page 26 of the March edition said this: "John states the sabbath before Jesus was buried was the HIGH sabbath of the first day of Unleavened Bread." The word "before" should have been "after."

In the article "The Rising Might of Germany" on page 12 of the April edition, the reference to Isaiah 20:23-25 should have read Isaiah 19:23-25.

disguise financial unstableness of catastrophic proportions ("Greece's Mirror Image in America," April). It's like using sin to correct sin or using fire to put out a fire. Neither will work, and this runaway financial train edges closer each passing day to an immovable wall that will do irreparable damage.

M.H.—UNITED STATES

Giving Up Dover

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR your article on the possible sale of the Port of Dover to foreigners ("Surrendering the Lock and Key of the Kingdom," April). I was born in Dover, and live just outside of it. Your points are very true. I find it sad to see Britain going down and ordinary people like myself being unable to help. ... When I read the online comments of the *Daily Mail*, I can see that many British people are deeply concerned about the seemingly inexorable decline of their country. Thank you for being part of the only true hope for Britain—and for all other countries.

Clive Young—KENT, ENGLAND

I'VE UNDERSTOOD FOR YEARS THAT BRITAIN would lose its sea gates, but to learn that it will also lose its land gates is a new revelation for me. How sad it is to see the country of my birth in such rapid and eventual total decline. *Stephen Chapman*

Another Anti-U.S. Alliance

THEY ARE SIMPLY ACTING IN THEIR OWN economic self-interest ("Another Anti-U.S. Alliance Is Born," April). The United States no longer has a dynamic economy. These countries are looking elsewhere for markets and investments. The U.S. does not offer economic growth and they do not want to hitch their wagons to a falling star. This does not surprise me, and frankly, I cannot blame them. Ironically, the U.S. has preached fiscal and monetary discipline to our southern neighbors. Many of them have followed that advice and now have achieved some economic progress. *Mike P.—PENNSYLVANIA*

China Fleeing the Dollar

"NOT WANTING TO GIVE UP THEIR STANDARD of living, Americans too willingly went further into debt, even as American industry and other wealth-producing sectors of the economy were being shut down and shipped overseas" ("Why China Is Fleeing the Dollar," April). This

statement is apt. I remember 10 years ago China warned America that its policies were unsound and will lead towards a disaster. This friendly advice was dismissed, with the current situation occurring. The Chinese are reserved, diligent people We believe that saving for our retirement and family is the correct thing to do, and a borrower loses dignity. The solutions are obvious for America. Tax the rich more, invest more in education and the infrastructure and cut military expenditure. Stop selling bonds. Live in peace and work hard to prosper. It is really quite simple. *Ken Ng—AUSTRALIA*

I AM NOT AT ALL SURPRISED THAT THE U.S. financial system is still in poor condition. The masses still believe the media that business as usual is going to return. From what I see these days, businesses are closing down and everyday middle-class people are finding it harder than ever to make ends meet. The handful of elites are the ones going about the same. I picked up your newsletter in a supermarket nearly five years ago, and found some of the predictions shocking. But even more shocking is how true they are becoming—though I hold out hope that something good will turn out for America, being that I live in this country and want my family to prosper and live in peace. *Mark Davis—USA*

Churchill Needed This Book

THANK YOU FOR THIS VERY INSIGHTFUL article ("The Book Winston Churchill Needed Most," April). Reading and re-reading *Mystery of the Ages* unveils new answers every time, and it truly is a book to treasure next to the Bible. What a powerful statesman he would have been had he read Mr. Armstrong's writings, particularly *Mystery of the Ages*. In the not-so-distant future, this knowledge will be given to Mr. Churchill. How truly blessed our generation is to have access to the answers to man's perpetual existential questions. *Z.M.C.—PHILIPPINES*

I READ *MYSTERY OF THE AGES* WHEN I was 11 years old, and reread it again a few times since then. It's inspiring that the answers to the questions that baffled Winston Churchill are available to us today for free. *D.A.—PHILIPPINES*

Comments?

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Solving the Health Care Crisis

Why the November elections won't do it. **BY STEPHEN FLURRY**

FOR THE AMERICAN EXPERIMENT TO WORK, GEORGE Washington said it needed a foundation set in *religion* and *morality*. Without these indispensable supports, he warned, it was destined to fail.

Other founders expressed similar sentiments. Washington's successor as president, John Adams, said that for the principles of freedom to securely stand, it would rest on religion and morality ALONE. Even the religiously challenged Thomas Jefferson believed America's liberties were firmly based in the reality that *they came from God*.

President James Madison summed it up best: "We have staked the whole future of American civilization, not on the power of government [but] upon the capacity of each and every one of us to govern ourselves according to the Ten Commandments of God."

Governing ourselves according to the Ten Commandments.

Listening to conservative pundits, one would think America has staked its future on the capacity of each and every voter to *punish Democrats* this November so that Republicans might quickly repeal President Obama's health care bill.

The Republican Party now senses opportunity! Its base is energized! *Pledge time, money and your vote to roll back health care reform, the party urges.*

"There is no downside for Republicans," their National Committee chairman candidly remarked in response to the new legislation.

"We're going to try to repeal this," Sen. John McCain promised. "We are going to have a very spirited campaign coming up between *now and November*. And there will be a HEAVY PRICE to pay for it" (emphasis mine throughout).

Sen. Jim DeMint, a Republican from South Carolina, told Newsmax he thinks the *whole* election will be about repealing universal health care. Newsmax believes Republicans are already moving "beyond the legislative arena to position themselves for the upcoming elections" (March 24).

Just what the doctor ordered! A trillion-dollar health care package followed by billions more to fund a political power struggle in Washington.

Amid *all* the problems suffocating life out of the once-mighty American superpower—NOW THIS.

What must God think of America's newest political debate? *Never mind governing ourselves according to the Ten Commandments*. Our survival as a nation now depends on who pays for your next MRI.

This debate, ironically, comes at a time when most Americans have cashed in what little coverage they once had for their overall *spiritual* health. Our most serious crisis, Selwyn Duke wrote at *American Thinker*, is lack of health care—"the *moral variety*." Given our spiritual decay, Duke correctly noted, "socialized medicine was inevitable" (March 24).

Universal health care is not the problem. It's *spiritual* sickness

that's killing us. This is the brutal truth most people will not accept—that the cause of our ever increasing, insoluble problems is not one political party, religious bloc or ethnic group. It's not even universal health care—or lack thereof.

It's universal disobedience to God's spiritual laws. And widespread evil, as we have explained so many times before, causes national sickness that eventually results in death.



Read God's blunt assessment of our overall spiritual health in Isaiah 1:5-6. He likens our society to a disease-ridden body with open flesh wounds and putrefying sores! The *entire body* IS SICK, Isaiah said.

The Prophet Jeremiah identified the root cause of this terminal illness as being the human heart—or mind. "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" (Jeremiah 17:9). As we explain in our booklet about Jeremiah's prophecy, *desperately wicked* actually means "incurably sick" or "sick unto death." This is

why Jesus said we need a "physician"—because the human mind must be healed of its mortal wounds: self-love and vanity, lustful obsessions, greedy gain, competition and strife.

Why would we ever put our trust in the incurably sick mind of man? If 6,000 years of human rule, under the sway of Satan, have proven anything, it is that man is utterly incapable of directing his own steps without God's lead (Jeremiah 10:23-24).

This is why the Founding Fathers believed America's success as a nation depended entirely on the God-fearing morality of its people. They knew that unless religion and morality restricted evil, our democratic "freedoms" would cause sickness and lead to death.

Today, the nation those men founded, *under God*, is lying prostrate on its spiritual deathbed, gasping for its last breath. And the worst part of it is, we *don't even know* we're terminally sick—and that we desperately need intervention from a divine Healer.

This present evil world—even now—is gasping for its last breath before experiencing a sure death. As Herbert W. Armstrong wrote back in March 1982, "You live today in a time *different—utterly different*—from any past time on Earth! You are destined, as no past generation has been, to live in two worlds! Yes, this world is dying—that's the real *meaning* of world chaos today—but there will be a RESURRECTION" (*Good News*).

With God's Word as your guide, you can make sense of this chaotic world. You can alter your course now and turn to God in repentance and love—choosing the way of real abundant living. And you can take heart in the fact that a better world is coming.

Bible prophecy informs us that we are very near to the resurrection of God's world from out of the scorched surface of this present evil world. Very soon now, rising from the ashes of that ruinous, death-filled wasteland, will be an eternally living, messianic King, who, with the help and support of His saints, will establish a 1,000-year utopian rule on Earth! ■

the surrounding regions,” we wrote at the time. “The eviction of America from Central Asia will constitute a severe geopolitical defeat for the U.S. and significant win for Russia and China. ... We can expect Russia and China to succeed in evicting America from Central Asia” (theTrumpet.com, Aug. 8, 2005).

In February of last year, Russia focused on finishing the job. It offered several lollipops including over \$2 billion in aid to President Bakiyev, who—in a display of the shallowness of his loyalty to anything other than himself—promptly announced plans to close Manas. The U.S. responded by offering this scoundrel more than *triple* the original rent, and Bakiyev flip-flopped again, agreeing to keep the air base open. The Kremlin, which had already supplied over \$400 million of its pledge, was furious.

Washington’s policy of trying to secure a place in Central Asia by purchasing a self-interested despot was always flimsy stuff. Now, we see Russia’s cagey, and deadly effective, countermove. Analysts can connect a series of dots showing how the Kremlin stirred up the Kyrgyz public’s agitation with Bakiyev—and prepared pro-Russian, virtual puppet leadership to replace him.

How long do you suppose it will be now before the U.S. gets bounced?

Kyrgyzstan’s new interim leader, Roza Otunbayeva, has said America can stay in Manas, but Russian officials reveal they’re going to urge her to shut the base down; the current lease expires in June. The U.S. says it can find other ways to supply its war effort, but reality is that the alternatives would all depend *even more* on Russia.

Bottom line: Russia successfully schemed to overthrow a U.S.-supported government. Through canny manipulation, it fortified its power position over the U.S. considerably and could now seek to tighten the screws on America’s supply lines to Afghanistan. Washington got badly outmaneuvered. (And, heightening the humiliation, *this* is the nation with which President Obama just signed a new nuclear disarmament treaty that will save the Russians hundreds of billions of dollars.)

Watch. This summer, we may see Russia allow the U.S. to continue using Manas to fight the Taliban (one of its own enemies, after all) in order to extract even-more-precious concessions from a weak-willed White House, such as in Eastern Europe. Whichever way it chooses to do so, expect Moscow to exercise its increased leverage against America to accelerate its former archenemy’s already rapid loss of influence in the world. ■



UNITED STATES

Nationwide satellite Galaxy 3 Trans. 21 11:30 am ET, Tue/Thu; Galaxy 5 Trans. 7 8:00 am ET, Sun

Direct TV DBS WGN Chan. 307 8:00 am ET, Sun

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

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

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

Nationwide cable WGN 8:00 am ET, Sun

Alabama, Birmingham WPXH 5:00 am, Fri

Alabama, Dothan WTVY-DT 8:30, Sun

Alabama, Montgomery WBMM/WBMM-DT 8:30, Sun

Alaska, Anchorage KIMO-DT 8:30 am, Sun

Alaska, Fairbanks KATN-DT 8:30 am, Sun

Alaska, Juneau KJUD-DT 8:30 am, Sun

Arizona, Phoenix KPXX 5:00 am, Fri

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

Arkansas, Fayetteville KWFT 8:30, Sun

Arkansas, Fort Smith KCWA 8:30, Sun

Arkansas, Jonesboro KJOS 8:30 am, Sun

Arkansas, Rogers KWFT 8:30, Sun

Arkansas, Springdale KWFT 8:30 am, Sun

California, Bakersfield KGET-DT 9:30 am, Sun

California, Chico KHSL-DT 9:30 am, Sun

California, El Centro KWUB 9:30 am, Sun

California, Eureka KUVU-DT 9:30 am, Sun

California, Los Angeles KPXX 6:00 am, Fri

California, Monterey KMWB 9:30 am, Sun

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

California, Redding KHSL-DT 9:30 am, Sun

California, Sacramento KSPX 6:00 am, Fri

California, Salinas KION 9:30 am, Sun

California, San Francisco KKPX 6:00 am, Fri

California, Santa Barbara KSBY-DT 9:30 am, Sun

Colorado, Denver KPXC 5:00 am, Fri; KWGN 10:00 am, Sun

Colorado, Grand Junction KKCO-DT 10:30 am, Sun

Colorado, Montrose KKCO-DT 10:30 am, Sun

Connecticut, Hartford WHPX 6:00 am, Fri

Delaware, Dover WBD 9:30 am, Sun

Delaware, Salisbury WMDT-DT 9:30 am, Sun

Florida, Gainesville WCJB-DT 9:30 am, Sun

Florida, Jacksonville WPXC/WPXJ-LP 6:00 am, Fri

Florida, Miami WPXM 6:00 am, Fri

Florida, Orlando WOPX 6:00 am, Fri

Florida, Panama City WJHG-DT 8:30 am, Sun

Florida, Tallahassee WTXL 7:30 am, Sun

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

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

Florida, West Palm Beach WPXP 6:00 am, Fri

Georgia, Albany WBSK 9:30 am, Sun

Georgia, Augusta WAGT-DT 9:30 am, Sun

Georgia, Brunswick WPXC 6:00 am, Fri

Georgia, Columbus WLGA 9:30 am, Sun

Georgia, Macon WBMN 9:30 am, Sun

Georgia, Savannah WGSA/WGCW-LP 9:30 am, Sun

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

Hawaii, Kaula Ho’Ike Chan. 52 9:30 am, Tue

Hawaii, Maui/Lanai/Molokai/Niihau/Akaku Chan. 52 6:30 pm, Sun; 3:30 am, Mon

Idaho, Idaho Falls KPIF/KBEO 10:30 am, Sun

Idaho, Pocatello KPIF 10:30 am, Sun

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

Illinois, Bloomington WHOI-DT 8:30 am, Sun

Illinois, Chicago WCIU 9:30 am, Sun; WCPX 5:00 am, Fri

Illinois, Peoria WHOI-DT 8:30 am, Sun

Illinois, Rockford WREX-DT 8:30 am, Sun

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

Indiana, Indianapolis WIPX 6:00 am, Fri

Indiana, Terre Haute WBI 8:30 am, Sun

Iowa, Austin KTTC-DT 8:30 am, Sun

Iowa, Cedar Rapids KPXR 5:00 am, Fri

Iowa, Des Moines KFPP 5:00 am, Fri

Iowa, Keokuk WEWB 8:30 am, Sun

Iowa, Kirksville KWOT 8:30 am, Sun

Iowa, Mason City KTTC-DT 8:30 am, Sun

Iowa, Ottumwa KWOT 8:30 am, Sun

Iowa, Rochester KTTC-DT 8:30 am, Sun

Iowa, Sioux City KTIV-DT 8:30 am, Sun

Kansas, Topeka KSNT 8:30 am, Sun

Kentucky, Bowling Green WBKO 8:30 am, Sun

Kentucky, Lexington WUPX 6:00 am, Fri

Louisiana, Alexandria KBCA 8:30 am, Sun

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

Louisiana, Lafayette KLWB 8:30 am, Sun

Louisiana, Lake Charles WBLC 8:30 am, Sun

Louisiana, New Orleans WPXL 5:00 am, Fri

Maine, Bangor WABI-DT 9:30 am, Sun

Maine, Presque Isle WBPQ 9:30 am, Sun

Maryland, Hagerstown WJAL 12:00 pm, Sun

Maryland, Salisbury WBD 9:30 am, Sun

Massachusetts, Boston WBXP 6:00 am, Fri; WZMY 8:00 am, Sun

Massachusetts, Holyoke WBQT 9:30 am, Sun

Massachusetts, Springfield WBQT 9:30 am, Sun

Michigan, Alpena WBAE 9:30 am, Sun



Michigan, Cadillac WGTU/WGTQ 9:30 am, Sun
Michigan, Detroit WPXD 6:00 am, Fri; WADL 10:00 am, Sun
Michigan, Grand Rapids WZPX 5:00 am, Fri
Michigan, Lansing WLAJ-DT 9:30 am, Sun
Michigan, Marquette WBKP 9:30 am, Sun
Michigan, Traverse City-Cadillac WGTU-DT/WGTQ-DT 9:30 am, Sun
Minnesota, Duluth-Superior WDLH 8:30 am, Sun
Minnesota, Mankato KWYE 8:30 am, Sun
Minnesota, Minneapolis KPXM 5:00 am, Fri
Mississippi, Biloxi WBGP 8:30 am, Sun
Mississippi, Columbus WCBI-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Mississippi, Greenville WBWD 8:30 am, Sun
Mississippi, Greenwood WBWD 8:30 am, Sun
Mississippi, Gulfport WBGP 8:30 am, Sun
Mississippi, Hattiesburg WBH 8:30 am, Sun
Mississippi, Laurel WBH 8:30 am, Sun
Mississippi, Meridian WTOK-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Mississippi, Tupelo WCBI-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Mississippi, West Point WCBI-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Missouri, Columbia KOMU-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Missouri, Hannibal WGEM-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Missouri, Jefferson City KOMU-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Missouri, Joplin-Pittsburg KSXF 8:30 am, Sun
Missouri, Kansas City KPXE 5:00 am, Fri
Missouri, Quincy-Keokuk WGEM-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Missouri, St. Joseph WBJO 8:30 am, Sun
Montana, Billings KTUV-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Montana, Bozeman-Butte KBZK-DT/KXLF-DT 10:30 am, Sun
Montana, Glendive KWZB 10:30 am, Sun
Montana, Great Falls KRTV-DT 10:30 am, Sun
Montana, Helena KMTF-DT 10:30 am, Sun
Montana, Missoula KPAX-DT 10:30 am, Sun
Nebraska, Lincoln-Hastings KCWL-TV 8:30 am, Sun
Nebraska, Kearney KCWL-TV 8:30 am, Sun
Nebraska, North Platte KWPL 8:30 am, Sun
Nebraska, Scottsbluff KCHW 10:30 am, Sun
Nevada, Reno KREN/KREN-DT 9:30 am, Sun
New York, Albany WYPX 6:00 am, Fri
New York, Binghamton WBXI 9:30 am, Sun
New York, Buffalo WPXJ 6:00 am, Fri; WUTV 10:00 am, Sun
New York, Elmira WBE 9:30 am, Sun
New York, New York City WPXN 6:00 am, Fri; WLNY 10:00 am Sun
New York, Syracuse WSPX 6:00 am, Fri
New York, Utica WBU 9:30 am, Sun
New York, Watertown WWTI-DT 9:30 am, Sun
North Carolina, Charlotte WLMY 8:30 am, Sun
North Carolina, Durham WRPX 6:00 am, Fri; 9:00 am, Sun

North Carolina, Fayetteville WFPX 6:00 am, Fri
North Carolina, Greensboro WGFX 6:00 am, Fri
North Carolina, Greenville WEPX 6:00 am, Fri; WNCT-DT 9:30 am, Sun
North Carolina, Lumber Bridge WFPX 6:00 am, Fri
North Carolina, New Bern WNCT-DT 9:30 am, Sun
North Carolina, Raleigh WRPX 6:00 am, Fri; 9:00 am, Sun
North Carolina, Washington WNCT-DT 9:30 am, Sun
North Carolina, Wilmington WBW 9:30 am, Sun
North Dakota, Bismarck KWMK 10:30 am, Sun
North Dakota, Dickinson KWMK 10:30 am, Sun
North Dakota, Fargo WDAY-DT 8:30 am, Sun
North Dakota, Minot KWMK 10:30 am, Sun
North Dakota, Valley City WDAY-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Ohio, Cleveland WVPX 6:00 am, Fri
Ohio, Cincinnati WSTR 8:30 am, Sun
Ohio, Lima WLIO-DT 9:30 am, Sun
Ohio, Steubenville WBWO 9:30 am, Sun
Ohio, Zanesville WBZV 9:30 am, Sun
Oklahoma, Ada KSHD 8:30 am, Sun
Oklahoma, Lawton KAUZ 8:30 am, Sun
Oklahoma, Oklahoma City KOPX 5:00 am, Fri
Oklahoma, Tulsa KTPX 5:00 am, Fri
Oregon, Bend KTVZ-DT 9:30 am, Sun
Oregon, Eugene KMTR-DT 9:30 am, Sun; KEVU 10:00 am, Sun
Oregon, Klamath Falls KMFD 9:30 am, Sun
Oregon, Medford KMFD 9:30 am, Sun
Oregon, Portland KPXG 6:00 am, Fri
Pennsylvania, Erie WBEP 9:30 am, Sun
Pennsylvania, Philadelphia WPPX 6:00 am, Fri
Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh WPCW 9:00 am, Sun
Pennsylvania, Wilkes Barre WQPX 6:00 am, Fri
Rhode Island, Providence WXPQ 6:00 am, Fri
South Carolina, Charleston WCBD-DT 9:30 am, Sun
South Carolina, Florence WWMB/WWMB-DT 9:30 am, Sun
South Carolina, Myrtle Beach WWMB/WWMB-DT 9:30 am, Sun
South Dakota, Mitchell KWSD 8:30 am, Sun
South Dakota, Rapid City KWBH-LP 10:30 am, Sun
South Dakota, Sioux Falls KWSD 8:30 am, Sun
Tennessee, Jackson WBJK 8:30 am, Sun
Tennessee, Knoxville WPXK 6:00 am, Fri
Tennessee, Memphis WPXX 5:00 am, Fri
Tennessee, Nashville WNPX 5:00 am, Fri
Texas, Abilene KTWS-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Amarillo KVII-DT/KVIH/KVIH-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Beaumont KFDM-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Brownsville KSFE-LP/KTIZ-LP 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Corpus Christi KRIS-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Harlingen KSFE-LP/KTIZ-LP 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Houston KPXB 5:00 am, Fri
Texas, Laredo KTXW 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Longview KCEB 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Lubbock KLCW 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Midland KWWT 8:30 am, Sun; KMID 9:00 am, Sun
Texas, Odessa KWWT 8:30 am, Sun; KMID 9:00 am, Sun
Texas, Port Arthur KFDM 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, San Angelo KWSA 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, San Antonio KPXL 5:00 am, Fri
Texas, Sherman-Ada KTEN-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Sweetwater KTWS-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Tyler KCEB 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Victoria KWVB 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Weslaco KSFE-LP/KTIZ-LP 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Wichita Falls KAUZ-DT 8:30 am, Sun

Utah, Salt Lake City KUPX 5:00 am, Fri
Vermont, Burlington WVNY 10:00 am, Sun
Virginia, Charlottesville WVIR-DT 9:30 am, Sun
Virginia, Harrisonburg WVIR-DT 9:30 am, Sun
Virginia, Norfolk WPXV 6:00 am, Fri
Virginia, Roanoke WPXR 6:00 am, Fri
Washington D.C. WDCW 8:00 am, Sun; WPXW 6:00 am, Fri
Washington, Kennewick KCWK 9:30 am, Sun
Washington, Richland KCWK 9:30 am, Sun
Washington, Seattle-Tacoma KWPX 6:00 am, Fri
Washington, Seattle KVOX 8:30 am, Sun
Washington, Spokane KGPX 6:00 am, Fri
Washington, Yakima-Pasco-Richland-Kennewick KCWK/KCWK-LP 9:30 am, Sun
West Virginia, Beckley KVVA-DT 9:30 am, Sun
West Virginia, Bluefield KVVA-DT 9:30 am, Sun
West Virginia, Charleston WLPX 6:00 am, Fri
West Virginia, Clarksburg WVFX-DT 9:30 am, Sun
West Virginia, Oak Hill KVVA-DT 9:30 am, Sun
West Virginia, Parkersburg WBPB 9:30 am, Sun
West Virginia, Weston WVFX-DT 9:30 am, Sun
West Virginia, Wheeling WBWO 9:30 am, Sun
Wisconsin, Eau Claire WQOW-DT/WXOW-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Wisconsin, La Crosse WQOW/WXOW 8:30 am, Sun
Wisconsin, Milwaukee WPXE 5:00 am, Fri
Wisconsin, Rhinelander WAOW/WYOW 8:30 am, Sun
Wisconsin, Wausau WAOW-DT/WYOW-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Wyoming, Casper 10:30 am, Sun
Wyoming, Cheyenne KCHW 10:30 am, Sun
Wyoming, Riverton 10:30 am, Sun

CANADA

Nationwide satellite Galaxy 3 Trans. 21 11:30 am ET, Tue/Thu; Galaxy 5 Trans. 7 8:00 am ET, Sun
Nationwide cable WGN 8:00 am ET, Sun; Vision TV 4:30 pm ET, Sun; Grace Television Network 11:00 am ET, Sun.
British Columbia, Vancouver KVOX 8:30 am, Sun; CHNU 5:30 pm, Sun
British Columbia, Victoria CHNU 5:30 pm, Sun
Maritime Provinces CIHF 7:30 am, Sun
Ontario, Toronto WADL 10:00 am Sun; CHNU 8:30 pm, Sun; WUTV 10:00 am, Sun
Quebec, Montreal WVNY 10:00 am, Sun

LATIN AMERICA

Regional satellite Galaxy 3 Trans. 21 11:30 am ET, Tue/Thu
El Salvador WGN 6:00 am, Sun
Guatemala WGN 6:00 am, Sun
Honduras WGN 6:00 am, Sun
Mexico WGN 7:00 am, Sun
Panama WGN 7:00 am, Sun

CARIBBEAN

Regional satellite Galaxy 3 Trans. 21 11:30 am ET, Tue/Thu; Galaxy 5 Trans. 7 8:00 am ET, Sun
Arua WGN 8:00 am, Sun
Bahamas WGN 8:00 am, Sun
Belize WGN 7:00 am, Sun
Cuba WGN 8:00 am, Sun
Dominican Republic WGN 8:00 am, Sun
Haiti WGN 7:00 am, Sun
Jamaica WGN 9:00 am, Sun
Puerto Rico WGN 8:00 am, Sun
Trinidad and Tobago WGN 8:00 am, Sun



Can religion bring peace to the Middle East?

Not according to the Bible.

For over 4,000 years, the Middle East has been fraught with cultural, political and religious violence. Much of this history was recorded in the Holy Bible—before it occurred!

Bible prophecy reveals one final terrifying clash soon to occur in the Middle East between the world's great religions. That clash will end in peace, but not one of these religions will survive!

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