

# THE PHILADELPHIA Trumpet



**The EU's dark history**  
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**Seniors: Stay strong**  
**Are we in the 'end time'?**  
**How Anthony Kennedy**  
**corrupted America**

# GERMANY & RUSSIA'S

# SECRET WAR

# AGAINST AMERICA



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**COLLUSION**  
**Vladimir Putin (left) and Gerhard Schröder are working to tie their countries together.**

THE KEY  
OF DAVID

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# Germany and Russia's Secret War Against America

History shows that the deepening cooperation between Germany and Russia is a sure sign of future conflict.

**W**E NEED TO CAREFULLY WATCH WHAT IS HAPPENING right now between Germany and Russia.

United States President Donald Trump publicly rebuked German Chancellor Angela Merkel on July 11 for Germany's decision to buy a massive amount of gas from Russia. "I think it's very sad," he said, "when Germany makes a massive oil and gas deal with Russia, where you're supposed to be guarding against Russia, and Germany goes out and pays billions and billions of dollars a year to Russia."



**GERALD FLURRY**

This oil and gas deal is in the form of a pipeline project called Nord Stream 2. This is a pair of parallel pipelines that will transport huge quantities of Russian natural gas under the Baltic Sea for almost 800 miles and into Germany. When it opens in 2019, it will double the capacity of the first Nord Stream project, which was completed in 2012.

For years, Germany has been criticized for the Nord Stream projects, but it pays no attention and presses ahead. This shows Germany is uninterested in relying on NATO anymore. President Trump exposed this in public and criticized Merkel.

"Germany is totally controlled by Russia," he later said, "because they will be getting from 60 to 70 percent of their energy from Russia and a new pipeline. And you tell me if that's appropriate, because I think it's not, and I think it's a very bad thing for NATO and I don't think it should have happened."

There are several reasons why this is an alarming development we need to closely watch.

## Wrecking NATO

When the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) was started back in 1949, its basic purpose was to protect disarmed Germany and other European countries from the Russian-led Soviet Union. To accomplish this, the treaty established "collective defense" for member nations: If an aggressor attacked one of them, it would have war with all of them.

Nord Stream 2 binds Russia and Germany together in a way that undermines NATO. In fact, though Russia and Germany will not say so, THIS PIPELINE PROJECT IS CLEARLY INTENDED TO WRECK NATO.

Why would these nations want to do that? Well, it is easy to see why Russia would. Russian President Vladimir Putin views NATO as a force that restricts Russia's rise and slows down his quest to rebuild the old Soviet Empire. He has made

no secret of his loathing for this U.S.-led organization. So his reason for wanting to unravel it is plain.

What is not as obvious is the fact that GERMANY ALSO WANTS TO ELIMINATE NATO.

Why?

America spent billions raising Germany from the rubble of World War II and billions more keeping the peace in Europe. Germany would not be where it is today without the vast amount of help America supplied. President Trump mentioned this in his remarks on July 11: "[W]e're protecting Germany, we're protecting France, we're protecting all of these countries, and then numerous of the countries go out and make a pipeline deal with Russia where they're paying billions of dollars into the coffers of Russia."

Why would Germany be spurning that history? Many elite Germans feel their nation has now gotten all it can from the U.S. and they are ready to move on. Some powerful Germans today are thinking more and more about the Holy Roman Empire, and they want modern Germany to assume more power of its own in the spirit of that empire. They want to establish Europe as a mighty, German-led superpower.

**Nord Stream 2 binds Russia and Germany together in a way that undermines NATO. In fact, it is clearly intended to wreck NATO.**

These Germans know that NATO is an obstacle to their goal. Back when NATO was first founded, its first secretary general, Hastings Ismay, explained its main purpose: "Keep the Russians out, the Americans in, and the Germans down." The notion of keeping "the Germans down" directly contradicts the imperialistic ambitions that are growing more intense among many elite Germans today.

Germany's antipathy toward NATO is also clear in the fact that the country only spends about *half* the minimum amount the organization requires member states to spend toward defense. Why won't Germany pay its full share when it has perhaps the strongest currency in the world? Partly because it doesn't really believe in the alliance, and partly because the U.S. has let it get away with it. Now President Trump has called Germany out on its failure to meet that requirement, and I think rightfully so.



But Bible prophecies about the next resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire show that GERMANY WILL SOON BE SPENDING SUBSTANTIALLY MORE ON ITS MILITARY—and not within any kind of U.S.-led framework. (Request a copy of our free booklet *The Holy Roman Empire in Prophecy*, in which we explain those Bible prophecies in detail.)

### Revitalizing Russia's Weak Economy

Can you imagine how much the new Nord Stream 2 agreement will expand Russia's economy? At present, its economy is smaller than some individual states in America. But if billions upon billions of dollars pour into Russia for this gas, that will strengthen Putin's power.

President Trump would like to see the Germans buy gas from America, which recently became a net exporter of natural gas. But instead, they will be buying it from Putin—the scourge of this world in many ways.

Remember that Putin's internal campaigns have killed more than 150,000 Russians in Chechnya. Russia's actions in the Middle East have let the brutal civilian-killing Syrian regime hold onto its power, and enabled Iran, the world's number one terrorist-sponsoring nation, to keep pursuing

## President Trump would like the Germans to buy gas from America. Instead, they buy it from Putin, the scourge of this world in many ways.

nuclear weapons. Remember that Putin is flagrantly poisoning former agents of Russia on foreign soil. And with his KGB-style methods, he has transformed Russia's media into a personal propaganda machine. Evidence suggests that as part of this drive, he has had more than 130 journalists murdered.

Modern Germany professes to care deeply about human rights. If it really did, would it build a tight relationship with somebody who acts as ruthlessly as Putin does?

President Trump said Germany will end up being “totally controlled” by Russia as a result of this gas pipeline deal. And Germany is taking a risk with a dangerous dictator. But this deal will boost more than just Russia's power and leverage. IT WILL ALSO BOOST GERMANY'S. Germany has much to gain from this. And it will happen in a way that hurts many other nations!

### Schröder and Nord Stream

Gerhard Schröder, Chancellor Merkel's predecessor, was a vocal advocate of the Nord Stream pipeline project. In 2005, just after he had been voted out of office *but before he had officially left the post*, Schröder hastily signed the Nord Stream agreement.

That is an ugly thing for a politician to do. He knew the people had already voted him out, yet he decided to set this project in motion. This indicates what is happening with this German-led European power: It is being HIJACKED by leaders who don't always act in their people's interests!

These leaders don't like America and want to befriend Russia. Apparently they respect the authoritarian way Russia accomplishes its goals.

Just weeks after Schröder left office, Russia's massive state-run gas company Gazprom nominated him to become chairman of the board of the consortium that is building the pipeline—and he accepted. So he was personally overseeing Nord Stream's implementation.

More recently, Schröder became a senior executive of Nord Stream 2 and also chairman of Rosneft, Russia's largest oil firm. Aren't these highly unusual jobs for a former German chancellor?

Schröder and Putin have forged a close friendship. Putin biographer Boris Reitschuster wrote that early in Putin's presidency, the two men would speak with each other in German, and they became fast friends. In 2004, Schröder was broadly condemned for calling Putin a “flawless democrat.” In April 2014, Schröder came under fire again for celebrating his birthday in Russia with Putin just *one month after Putin had annexed Ukraine's Crimea Peninsula*. Ukrainian Foreign Minister Pavlo Klimkin told Germany's *Bild* magazine in March that, at present, “GERHARD SCHRÖDER IS THE MOST IMPORTANT LOBBYIST FOR PUTIN WORLDWIDE” (emphasis mine throughout).

So Schröder is Putin's friend, and he is playing a key role in the pipeline project. Think about that. The fact that these two are working so closely together strongly indicates that THEY AGREE ON A PLAN TO DESTROY NATO.

Many even in Germany are concerned about the pipeline. On July 11, Rick Noack wrote in the *Washington Post* that some Germans have been apprehensive of Schröder's close camaraderie with Putin and his work with Nord Stream. “SCHRÖDER'S POST-CHANCELLORSHIP BUSINESS DEALINGS HAVE LONG RAISED SUSPICIONS AMONG GERMANS OVER HIS POLITICAL LEGACY,” he wrote, “but many are still willing to defend [Nord Stream 2,] his now most controversial project.” Germans are *right* to be suspicious of what this man is doing with Vladimir Putin!

Germany is head-and-shoulders above any other nation in Europe, and it is bullying many of these nations and peoples. For Germany, with all its power, to be forming this kind of relationship with Russia is deeply troubling!

This deal gives insight into the way Germany operates, and into Europe's future. *The European Union is going to be hijacked by some very elite people, particularly in Germany.*

You need to closely watch how this situation develops. The history of Germany shows that when a powerful man takes control, the German people end up going along with him and unleashing terrible destruction on the world. That is the history of the Holy Roman Empire and we ought to be profoundly concerned about this!

### Endorsing an Anti-Semitic Leader

Gerhard Schröder turned up at another significant event that is quite revealing. He was present on July 9 when Turkey's Recep Tayyip Erdoğan was sworn in for his second tenure as president, with sweeping new powers.

People around the world are alarmed by the dictatorial powers Erdoğan has been taking on. Now, he can rule Turkey by decree! This dictator commands one of the world's most powerful militaries with no checks on his power.

Erdoğan is not just an authoritarian; he is an anti-Semite. Years ago, when he was mayor of Istanbul, he famously said:

“Today, the image of the Jews is no different from that of the Nazis.” His views haven’t changed. Last year, he blamed “the Jew” for Kurdistan’s independence referendum. In May, he called Israel a “terrorist state” that commits “genocide.”

The idea of anti-Semitism immediately conjures up memories of World War II when Hitler killed 6 million Jews and was determined to annihilate every Jew in Europe and the world! That was his satanic plan!

Why would Germany want to be officially represented at the inauguration of an anti-Semitic dictator by sending former Chancellor Schröder there to shake his hand? Incidentally, Russia was also represented at the ceremony, by Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev.

Schröder’s attendance at the ceremony gives us another chilling glimpse under the surface of Germany’s ruling class today.

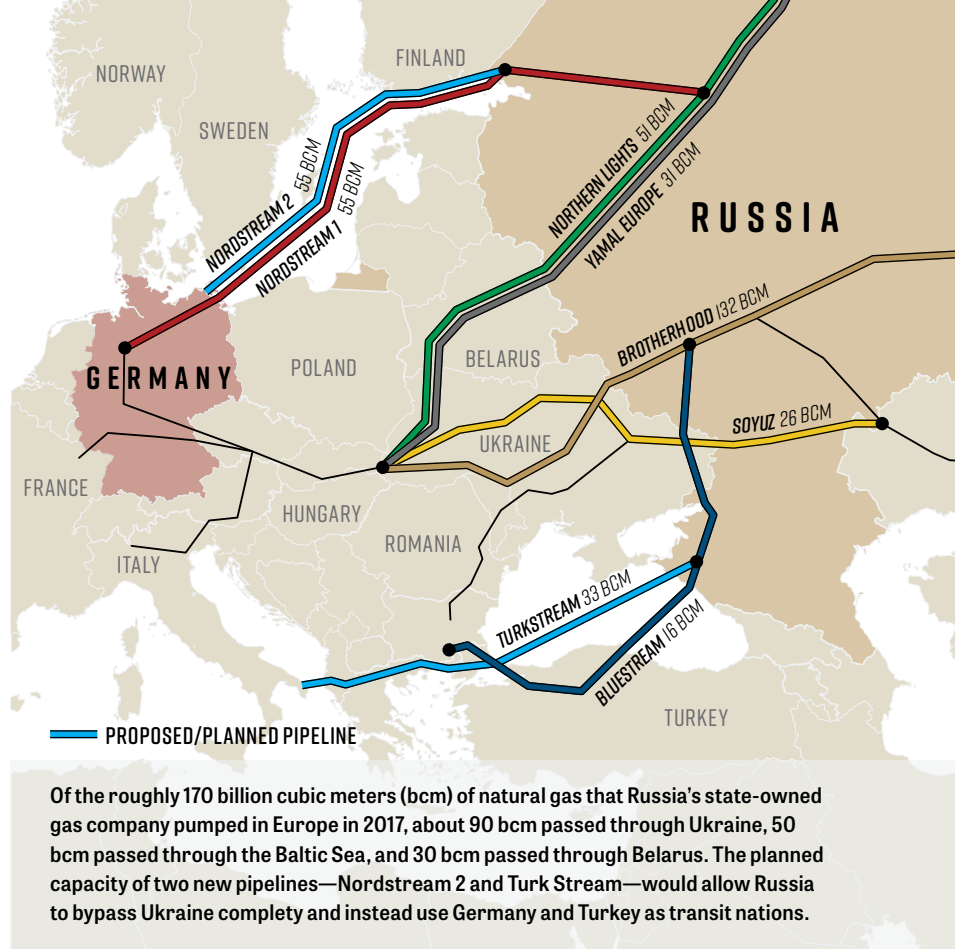
### Schröder and Mercosur

You can also recognize Germany’s effort to undermine America in the way that it is working in Latin America. This is a totally overlooked story that we have followed for many years, back to the time that Gerhard Schröder was German chancellor.

Early in Schröder’s chancellorship, from January to June 1999, Germany assumed the six-month rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union. One of his final accomplishments at the helm of the EU was to lead the first summit between the European Union and its trade partners in Latin America and the Caribbean. The summit took place in June 1999 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The BBC reported, “Speaking at the final news conference, the German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder said the creation of a new trans-Atlantic partnership would be to everybody’s benefit and was not an aggressive measure directed against other regions” (June 29, 1999). However, the facts of this alliance showed otherwise, and the BBC itself could recognize it. The article said, “This was, after all, the first meeting of its kind between two regions strongly linked, both by history and by a common desire not to allow the United States to sustain or achieve a position of total global dominance.”

We put this development into context in our booklet *He Was Right*, which shows the accuracy of Herbert W. Armstrong’s forecasts of world news. Mr. Armstrong wrote quite a lot about Germany’s inroads into Latin America—even back to the days after World War II—and said that it would use this leverage to undermine America economically. “By developing this relationship, which it calls a ‘strategic alliance,’ Europe is directly challenging Washington’s bygone hopes of creating a Pan-American free-trade area,” we write in *He Was Right*. We also quote the May 1962 *Plain Truth*, which declared that “the



United States is going to be left out in the cold as two gigantic trade blocs, Europe and Latin America, mesh together and begin calling the shots in world commerce.” (You can read this chapter, “Europe’s Inroads Into Latin America,” at [theTrumpet.com/go/hwr](http://theTrumpet.com/go/hwr).)

The same spirit behind this trend is animating the Nord Stream projects between Germany and Russia.

### Weaponizing Energy

In recent years, as gas reserves in the North Sea have declined, European nations have grown more and more dependent on Russia for their gas supplies.

Russia has taken advantage of this situation several times by “weaponizing” its energy, cutting gas supplies when it wants to pressure European states for political or economic reasons.

Before the Nord Stream pipeline, this was a somewhat dull weapon because if Russia wanted to cut gas to Ukraine, for example, it also had to cut shipments to nations downstream from Ukraine, which it may not have wanted to do.

NORD STREAM AND NORD STREAM 2 ARE KEY COMPONENTS OF PUTIN’S PLAN TO TIGHTEN HIS GRIP ON NATIONS IN EASTERN EUROPE THAT USED TO BE PART OF THE SOVIET EMPIRE. Since these pipelines travel directly from Russia to Germany, they enable Putin to shut off gas supplies to nations in Eastern Europe—Ukraine, Poland—and the Baltic nations while keeping supplies flowing to Germany.

This places a sharp edge on Putin’s energy weapon! To the former Soviet nations that he is determined to bring back



ENERGY WEAPON German Chancellor Angela Merkel joins then Russian President Dmitry Medvedev at the wheel to launch the Nord Stream pipeline in 2011.



RELEVANT HISTORY German and Russian leaders sign the 1939 Molotov-Ribbentrop pact.

under Russia's power, he can say: *Either obey Russia, or suffer cold winters with no gas to heat your homes.*

THIS IS WHY EASTERN EUROPE TRIED TO PREVENT RUSSIA AND GERMANY FROM BUILDING THE FIRST NORD STREAM PIPELINE. THEY KNEW IT WOULD GIVE RUSSIA MORE LEVERAGE AGAINST THEM. But Moscow and Berlin built it anyway. Now this second phase will boost that leverage considerably!

What does Germany stand to gain? Well, once Russian gas flows through the Baltic Sea pipeline and into Germany, much of it can be shipped to France, the Netherlands, Belgium and other West European nations. This puts Germany in a position of power relative to Western Europe very similar to that of Russia with Eastern Europe!

Germany already DOMINEERS Europe. That is clear by the construction of the pipeline despite objections from other European countries. Now it will be in a position to dictate policy for the Continent even more powerfully.

THIS KIND OF GERMAN DOMINEERING IS A BIG PART OF THE REASON BRITAIN WANTED OUT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION! The late Margaret Thatcher, Britain's prime minister from 1979 to 1990, warned in 1995 about Germany's ambitions with the EU, saying: "You have not anchored Germany to Europe. You have anchored Europe to a newly dominant, unified Germany. In the end, my friends, you'll find it will not work." British economist Bernard Connolly called the EU a "CLOAK FOR GERMAN AMBITIONS." Thatcher and Connolly were exactly right! We see more evidence of German ambition all the time. The Nord Stream pipelines are just the latest example.

The *Trumpet* and our predecessor magazine the *Plain Truth* have been proclaiming for 80 years that Germany will spearhead a final, terribly violent resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire. We now see the stage being set for that!

### A Dark History of Cooperation

History shows that in between wars, Germany and Russia often work together. Most infamously, just before World War II, the two made a deal in which Adolf Hitler's Germany basically said to Joseph Stalin's Russia: *Stay out of it, Russia,*

*and we will take over Europe. Then the two of us can split up Poland and other countries between ourselves.*

Around the time that deal was made, Stalin thought he and Hitler were close comrades who could trust each other. But after Hitler realized he wouldn't be able to conquer Britain, he decided to break the deal and *attack Russia*. This shattered Stalin's worldview! Stalin didn't expect it. But if he had read what Hitler had written in *Mein Kampf* long before they made the deal, he would have known Hitler had plans to conquer Russia as well.

That infamous agreement, called the Molotov-Ribbentrop pact, set the stage for the most devastating war mankind has ever suffered!

In 2008, Russia shocked the world by invading the former Soviet nation of Georgia and bringing two of its regions under Moscow's control—where they remain to this day. *Germany said little about that, and did nothing.* I wrote at the time that GERMANY'S SILENCE PROBABLY MEANT THESE TWO NATIONS HAD WORKED OUT A MODERN "MOLOTOV-RIBBENTROP"-TYPE DEAL.

## What else might these two nations have agreed to that they have not yet acted on?

In our November-December 2008 issue, I wrote: "[D]id you know that Germany and Russia have probably already dealt with their most urgent differences? ... I believe that Germany's leaders may have

already agreed to a deal with Russia, a modern Hitler-Stalin pact where Germany and Russia divide countries and assets between themselves. This agreement would allow each to turn its sights on other targets. Any such deal that may have been struck between Germany and Russia is a precursor to war!"

Then in 2014, Putin struck again! Russia annexed the Crimea from Ukraine and asserted control over the eastern part of the country. Germany once again said little and did nothing! This was especially suspicious given the fact that just before the incursion, Ukraine had been on track to join the EU. You would think Germany would have been extremely angry at Russia! But not if it had previously agreed that Russia could have control of Ukraine, or part of it.

Could it be that Germany agreed to let Russia make those expansionist moves in exchange for Russia not interfering with Germany's conquest of the Balkans back in the 1990s?





What else might these two have agreed to that they have not yet acted on?

The fact that Russia and Germany are charging ahead with Nord Stream 2 today despite objections from other European nations and the United States is even more reason to believe that these two may already have worked out a modern Molotov-Ribbentrop deal.

History shows that Germany and Russia are not actually partners. When

they enter into peace deals and economic partnerships, IT IS A SIGNAL THAT EITHER OR BOTH ARE PREPARING FOR SOME KIND OF IMPERIALISTIC EXPLOIT.

This makes the Nord Stream 2 deal extremely concerning.

### A Seething Pot

The biblical book of Jeremiah is full of prophecy that is focused on *the end time*. You can see this plainly in Jeremiah 30. Historically, Jeremiah gave his warning message directly to the nation of Judah only. Yet so many of the prophecies in his book are directed to *Israel*, which was already in captivity at the time. That is because these prophecies were aimed mainly at the *modern descendants* of Israel, which, we can prove to you, are America and Britain today. (Request my free booklet *Jeremiah and the Greatest Vision in the Bible* for a full explanation.)

Today these nations are deeply divided. Their peoples are divided among themselves, their leaders are splintered by bitter disagreement and political warfare—and these two former allies are even alienated from one another! Divided Britain! Divided America!

Don't you think Russian and German leaders are going to exploit this division? They will do what they have almost always done throughout history when they have power over weak, divided enemies and take full advantage of the situation.

Jeremiah 1:13 records God showing the prophet a vision of “a seething pot; and the face thereof is toward the north.” This symbolic language is describing *modern Germany*. Beneath the surface, that nation is full of simmering dissatisfaction with the current world order. Germans are angry at the U.S., and especially furious with President Trump. The imperialistic ambition that prompted Germany to start both world wars is alive and well. It is “seething”!

Verses 14-15 continue: “Then the Lord said unto me, Out of the north an evil shall break forth upon all the inhabitants of the land. For, lo, I will call all the families of the kingdoms of the north, saith the Lord; and they shall come, and they shall set every one his throne at the entering of the gates of Jerusalem, and against all the walls thereof round about, and against all the cities of Judah.”

America, Britain, the Jewish nation (biblical “Judah”) and others should be alarmed by what is happening in

Europe. Cooperation between Germany and Russia is setting the scene for a huge “seething pot” to spill over onto these nations! This boiling cauldron will scald everybody in America and Britain! This is prophesied to be the worst suffering EVER KNOWN TO MAN! And it will occur by God's hand because of His extreme wrath over the sins of these peoples.

Repeatedly God asked Jeremiah, “What do you see?” God is asking people today: *What do you SEE?* He doesn't say, *What do you read about this?* Or, *What do you hear about this?* God says, *WHAT DO YOU SEE ABOUT THIS BOILING CAULDRON?*

Do you really SEE what is happening in Europe? Do you see the stage being set for a world war like never before? Do you understand it?

God spells it out for us, and we can see events lining up with His prophecies. And anyone who *sees it*—and heeds the warning and obeys God—can be protected and lead a happy, stable and fulfilled life!

### Great Cause for Hope

On the surface, this news about Germany and Russia may seem depressing. But if you view it through the lens of Bible prophecy, you clearly see that it is closely tied to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ!

Jesus Christ said in Matthew 24:21-22 that if He didn't return, “there should no flesh be saved [alive]!” That is what Christ Himself said when He was on this Earth! It is written in red letters in your Bible. He knew what was coming.

Do you really think men can solve all of these problems you see multiplying in this world today, many of which revolve around nuclear-armed nations?

Russia and America possess 90 percent of the world's nuclear weapons. France and Britain have nuclear bombs, too, and other nations of Europe have American nuclear bombs deployed on their territory. Germany could become a great nuclear power very rapidly if it wanted to—practically overnight!

There is no way mankind is going to solve these problems. As Isaiah 59:8 says, “THE WAY OF PEACE THEY KNOW NOT.”

Men are going to continue in their futile attempts at forging peace. They will have to suffer until Jesus Christ returns. The suffering will get far more intense just before He returns. BUT HIS RETURN IS TIED TO THIS GERMAN RISING POWER AND THIS RUSSIAN RISING POWER. He says He will return before war has ended all human life! (Matthew 24:22). The rising military powers in Russia and Europe are a big part of what will make it *necessary* for Christ to return.

God wants us to respond to Him. He says He will help us in any way we need if we will just obey Him. “[W]hy will you die, O Israel?” God asks in Ezekiel 18:31. He doesn't want any of us to have to suffer! He is eager to spare us from the coming cataclysmic violence and to bless us.

We NEED to understand these Bible prophecies. They are preparing the way for the Second Coming of Jesus Christ to this Earth. That means all the bad news is about to end. He is going to bring peace, joy and happiness to this world FOREVER. ■

To learn more of the accurate forecasting of Herbert W. Armstrong, request a free copy of *He Was Right*.





# THE DARK HISTORY OF THE EUROPEAN UNION





## EU leaders would prefer you to forget it, but this history reveals the Union's true danger to the world. BY RICHARD PALMER

LOOK UP THE EUROPEAN Union in any textbook and it will say that its origins stem from the European Coal and Steel Community in 1951.

That is correct but limited. The roots of the European Union are far deeper.

The EU's true origins include centuries-old history that connects the dreams of kaisers, the ambitions of Adolf Hitler, and a vision for Europe that refuses to die.

The history also explains everything you need to know about the EU today.

One of the biggest questions about modern Europe is *why does Germany dominate?* They have come close to conquering the Continent. Even Germany's *Der Spiegel* wrote, in 2015, that "the word 'reich,' or empire, may not be entirely out of place" when describing modern Germany. It concluded that "an empire is in play, at least in the economic realm."

It may sound crass, but Hitler or Kaiser Wilhelm, if they could see the position Germany is in today, would be thrilled. But how did Germany manage it?

Germany leads this European empire because it knows how empires are built. It recently had to build its own empire. At the end of the Napoleonic Wars, in 1814, there was not a nation called Germany. There were 39 German-speaking states. Prussia, one of the largest and most powerful of these states, forged these competing regions into the German Empire—the Second Reich. This method of empire-building set a pattern that Germany tried to follow in both world wars. It is a pattern that has been followed by the European Union. This history proves that the EU is no mere trading agreement. It is a path to a new German empire.

### A History of Empire Building

Prussia copied its empire-building from one of the world's most famous conquerors, Napoleon Bonaparte. But this strategy was not a military one; it was economic.

During the late 18th century, the Holy Roman Empire, located mostly in Germany, consisted of 1,800 customs areas. Transporting goods from the Prussian city of Königsberg (now Kaliningrad) to Cologne in western Germany meant stopping for inspections and tariffs 18 times. This was a massive barrier to trade.

Napoleon smashed this empire and set up a sort of puppet state in the west German states called the Confederation of the Rhine. This confederation reduced tariff barriers within its territory.

After Napoleon fell, many German states tried to form their own customs unions. In 1834, these merged into the Zollverein, a single customs union that included Prussia. It helped Prussia kill two birds with one stone: It unified German states under its leadership and boosted its economy.

The Zollverein harmonized tariffs and it standardized currency based on Prussia's currency. This made trade across Germany easier, allowed railways to flourish, and unified Germany in an important, everyday, practical way.

The Zollverein did not complete the task of uniting Germany. It took Otto von Bismarck and his masterfully planned wars with outside powers to do that. He finally unified all German-speaking states, besides Austria, by provoking France to invade in 1870. The German states were forced to unite to fight off the French. But the Prussians never forgot the role of the Zollverein in unifying Germany under Prussia.

The Prussian king became the German emperor. The Prussian chancellor, Otto von Bismarck, became the German chancellor. The Prussian capital, Berlin, became the German capital, even though it had not been one of Germany's historic centers of power. In general, the Prussian ruling class became the German ruling class.

Already, this history—an effort to create a larger state using an economic union—should sound familiar.

Convincing other people to come under your political control is hard. Convincing them to join your economic union is easier. Brand it as a "customs union" or a "tariff reduction zone," and it sounds much less threatening than "empire." You can promise prosperity and, in Germany's case, you can deliver it. *But it also paves the road to political dominance.* Seven years after the Zollverein formed, German economist Friedrich List wrote, "Economic unity and political unity are twins: One cannot be born without the other following."

It's a recipe for empire. Get the divided territories trading freely with each other, block out your rivals, throw in some external threats, and soon you can have a united bloc—under your dominion.

### The First Attempt at a European Union

As soon as this newly united Germany tried to take over Europe, it used the recipe again. "We must create a *central European economic association* through common customs treaties, to include France, Belgium, Holland, Denmark, Austria-Hungary, Poland and perhaps Italy, Sweden and Norway. This association will not have any common constitutional supreme authority, and all its members will be formally equal ..." (emphasis added throughout).

This quote is not from a modern EU summit. It is from 1914, when German Chancellor Theobald von Bethmann-Hollweg laid out his goals for World War I.

They wanted to create a kind of European Union. Before the war, Kaiser Wilhelm II himself called for



a European economic union—which could become a “United States of Europe against America.”

Historian Niall Ferguson wrote that if Germany had won World War I, Europe would “have been transformed into something not wholly unlike the European Union we know today.”

Germany’s war planners believed that if they could force Europe to depend on Germany economically, they would dominate the Continent for generations.



The idea of unifying Europe through an economic union was common among German nationalist academics at the time. For example, in 1890, influential German academic Gustav von Schmoller called for “a central European customs federation” as the only way to save “Europe’s higher, ancient culture” from competition from the United States, Russia and other world powers. This idea became known as *Mitteleuropa*. Politicians, academics and industrialists regularly held conferences on the subject.

German historian Fritz Fischer documented Germany’s path to war in his seminal work *Germany’s Aims in the First World War*. He wrote that, prior to the war, Germans had grand aims to defeat Russia, push back the Slavs (whom they saw as racially inferior), and expand the German empire in Central Europe. Once war broke out in August 1914, Germany had to turn those broad ambitions into detailed war aims. Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg did this the month after the war began. His plans were known as

the September Program. Creating *Mitteleuropa*—a long-standing goal encouraged by the German government—now became official policy.

But here is the rest of the quote from Bethmann-Hollweg’s September Program: “[A]ll its members will be formally equal *but, in practice, will be under German leadership and must stabilize Germany’s economic dominance over Mitteleuropa.*”

Beyond Central Europe, German leaders believed Scandinavia, Italy and the Balkans would join *Mitteleuropa* under some form of associate membership.

The map of their proposed economic union is very similar to what the EU looks like today.

They were trying to create a new Zollverein, this time covering all of Central Europe. They had already proved that the largest and most powerful unit within an economic bloc would dominate. Prussia had dominated Germany. Now Germany could dominate Europe.

### Another Attempt—by Hitler

That attempt at a European Union died, like so many soldiers on Flanders Fields. But soon another attempt began.

As Germany was rising to power once again in the late 1930s and early 1940s, prominent Nazis spoke of a “European family of nations,” or a “European community,” which would experience “rapidly increasing prosperity once national economic barriers are removed.” The term *Großraumwirtschaft* (large economic area) became a common theme of Nazi propaganda. In 1936, Adolf Hitler told the Reichstag, “The European people represent a family in this world. ... It is not very intelligent to imagine that in such a cramped house like that of Europe, a community of people can maintain different legal systems and different concepts of law for very long.”

The Nazis’ vision of the future was actually not a glorified German nation-state but something bigger.

In the summer of 1940, top Nazi Hermann Göring began assembling plans for the “large-scale economic unification of Europe.” The Nazi official steering these plans was former “public enlightenment and propaganda” state secretary Walther Funk, who had become economics minister and president of the

German central bank. (He was later tried for war crimes and labeled “the banker of gold teeth” for confiscating gold of all types from Jewish Holocaust victims and melting it down for bullion.) Funk developed Göring’s plan, calling it the “European Economic Community” and outlining its characteristics in a series of papers in 1941. Not even two decades later, in 1957, the EEC became the name of what is now the EU.

“That blueprint bore a quite startling resemblance to the EEC of the Treaty of Rome, as modified by the Single European Act and the Treaty of Maastricht, foreshadowing the agricultural, industrial and regional policies and trans-European networks advocated by the more fervent Eurocrats,” former EU civil servant Bernard Connolly writes in his 1995 book *The Rotten Heart of Europe*.

The Nazis also called for a “European currency system” that would operate with fixed exchange rates among certain currencies—until a single currency could be gradually introduced. This is exactly what has happened in the EU.

In 1942, government ministers and leading industrialists attended a conference titled “The European Economic Community.” The same year the German Foreign Ministry created a “European committee.” By the next year, they had drafted formal plans for a European confederation. German Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop called for it to be set up as soon as the Reich had secured a significant military victory.

That victory never came. And so Nazi plans for an EEC never materialized.

The fact that the Nazis planned to form a union of European nations is well established. This summary just scratches the surface. In his book *The Tainted Source—the Undemocratic Origins of the European Idea*, John Laughland exposes the economic planners, fascist intellectuals and senior politicians who planned this union.

The Nazis, just like earlier generations of German leaders, saw the merits of using economics to help create an empire. In 1940, German Ambassador to France Otto Abetz wrote to Hitler recommending that Germany “usurp the European idea” to try to control Europe in the same way that Hitler had “usurped the idea of peace” before the



war. Laughland notes in his book that “a supranational organization could increase—rather than mitigate—the power of its most powerful member.”

### A Nazi European Union?

Does this mean that the current European Union is a Nazi plot whose founding fathers are all closet Nazis? No. Many were sincere in their beliefs. Many were motivated by the idea that creating a European Union was the best

business positions, is now well documented (see our article “[Cleansing the German Conscience?](#)” at [theTrumpet.com/9279](#)). Many of these individuals continued to support a European Union.

Other EU figures had sympathies toward the Nazis before the war, such as Paul-Henri Spaak, one of the EU’s founding fathers. As a member of the Belgian Workers’ Party before the war, he praised “some of Hitler’s magnificent achievements.” In 1937, he said that

themselves having *achieved* their war aims. The situation, as it stands, is stunningly similar to what Germany planned in World War I and II. Germany is the most populous and powerful nation in Europe, and the Continent is bound to it through an increasingly tighter economic and political union.

### Earlier Roots

There is another important reason the Prussians, Nazis and founders of the EU produced such similar proposals. They shared a dream. They went about it in very different ways, but they wanted to resurrect a European empire—a *new Roman Empire*.

Italian Prime Minister Benito Mussolini portrayed himself as a new Caesar, ruling a new Roman Empire. Hitler based his infamous führer salute on the Roman one.

He also reached back to Charlemagne, the Frankish leader who was crowned Roman emperor by Pope Leo III in A.D. 800. He tried to revive the Roman Empire in Western Europe, uniting all Europe under one power.

Hitler built his famous Eagle’s Nest next to the mountain where, according to legend, Charlemagne is sleeping and will someday rise again. He revered the “crown of Charlemagne,” the symbol of his empire-building.

Napoleon had the same vision, and so did the founders of the European Union. Otto von Habsburg, one of the EU’s founding fathers, said, “We do possess a European symbol which belongs to all nations equally. This is the crown of the Holy Roman Empire, which embodies the tradition of Charlemagne.” When French and German leaders met to hammer out the details of a common currency, they did so in Aachen, Germany, Charlemagne’s capital. They visited Charlemagne’s throne and held a special service in the cathedral where he was buried.

This vision drove the economic plans of both the Nazis and the EU’s founding fathers. “[T]he old medieval dream of a universal empire has never quite left the Germans’ fantasy,” Laughland writes. “This

**“The old medieval dream of a universal empire has never quite left the Germans’ fantasy. This is why modern euro-federalists evoke Charlemagne: The Holy Roman Empire was the very archetype of universal monarchy.”**

JOHN LAUGHLAND



DREAMS OF GRANDEUR  
An 1892 painting depicts Europeans saluting “Saint Charlemagne.”

way to stop another European war. They saw that an economic union was the way to build a superstate in Europe. But they also believed that a superstate would bring peace and contain Germany.

When the modern EU began, Germany was defeated and divided. France believed it would be the most powerful nation, and hence the leader, in a European bloc. So European unification pushed forward.

This project, however, did attract some ex-Nazis because it was so similar to their own idea. After the war, the infamous Oswald Mosley, leader of the British Union of Fascists, became an ardent pro-European. Reich Credit Co. head Dr. Bernhard Benning, who spoke at the 1942 Nazi EEC conference on the “European Currency Question,” went on to become a senior figure in the Bundesbank.

The fact that many Nazis went “underground,” remaining in their government or

“the hour of Belgian national socialism has come.” He urged Belgium to remain neutral rather than join France in a war with Germany.

Some French nationalists hoped that France could now play the role of Prussia in a European superstate. But France’s European leadership role did not last. While the French economy stagnated, Germany reunited, reindustrialized and became the world’s top exporter.

After losing both world wars, the Germans today, remarkably, find



# Are We in the End Time?

## This Pivotal End-Time Prophecy Says Yes

A sign of Jesus Christ's return you must not ignore **BY JOEL HILLIKER**

**M**ANY PEOPLE TODAY ARE CONCERNED about dramatic world events. They are even wondering if these developments are the same ones that the Bible states will happen in the “end time.” More people are becoming interested in biblical prophecy.

The trouble is, Bible prophecy can be misinterpreted. In fact, it almost always *is* misinterpreted. Many people have made false predictions about the end of the world based on their misunderstanding of prophecy.

When He was here in the flesh, Jesus Christ Himself prophesied. And He also gave a number of signs to look for so that true Christians could *know* when these prophecies, these end-time prophecies, would occur.

Here we will look at **ONE REMARKABLE BIBLE PROPHECY** that will show you where we are in end-time events.

It is a plain, bold promise, directly from Jesus Himself.

### A Vision of Christ's Return

During His earthly ministry, Jesus took three disciples—Peter, James and John—up a high mountain. There, something extraordinary happened: He was “transfigured before them”: His face shone like the sun and His clothes became as white as light! (Matthew 17:1-2).

With Jesus appeared Moses and Elijah—two spiritual giants of the Old Testament who will be resurrected into the Kingdom of God when Christ returns. Then a bright cloud appeared overhead, out of which a voice said, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!” The experience was so vivid, the disciples fell on their faces in fear! Jesus told them not to fear, and when they looked up, Moses and Elijah were gone, and everything had returned to normal (verses 3-8; New King James Version).

This was a vision of the Second Coming—the greatest event in the history of the universe, the culmination of all

end-time prophecy! The Bible describes this event as marking the *end* of this age of man and the beginning of the rule of God on Earth.

After the disciples saw this vision, what was the first thing they asked Jesus? They asked about a prophecy in the Old Testament book of Malachi.

“And His disciples asked Him, saying, ‘Why then do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?’” (verse 10; NKJV).

### Preparing for Christ's Return

Malachi 4:5 reads, “Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord.”

This is what the disciples thought of after seeing a vision of Christ's Second Coming. This prophecy forecast a specific event that would occur just before “the great and dreadful day of the Lord,” speaking of the cataclysmic end-time events that will occur immediately before Christ returns. God prophesied that, *before these events, He would send “Elijah the prophet.”*

Once this “Elijah” sent by God comes, the Day of the Lord is imminent—and then comes the return of Jesus Christ!

This is a very specific, important and powerful prophecy!

It is connected to another prophecy in Malachi: “Behold, I will send *my messenger*, and he shall *prepare the way before me ...*” (Malachi 3:1). This too is talking about a man whom God would use to prepare for Christ. In fact, it is the *same man* described in Malachi 4:5.

Seeing a glorious vision of the Second Coming brought *this prophecy* in Malachi to the disciples' minds. They knew that it said a man like Elijah would come first, immediately before the Day of the Lord and Christ's return.

How did Jesus Christ answer their question? “[Elijah] **TRULY SHALL** first come, and **RESTORE ALL THINGS**” (Matthew 17:11).

He confirmed Malachi's prophecy and *added to it!* Yes, a man like Elijah

*would definitely* come to prepare the way for Christ's Second Coming. And exactly *how* would he prepare the way? He would “restore all things”!

What does “restore all things” mean?

The Apostle Peter explained that when Christ returns, *He* will “restore all things”: “Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the *times of refreshing* shall come from the presence of the Lord; And **HE SHALL SEND JESUS CHRIST**, which before was preached unto you: Whom the heaven must receive **UNTIL THE TIMES OF RESTITUTION OF ALL THINGS**, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began” (Acts 3:19-21).

Jesus Christ will restore all things to *everyone on Earth*: billions of people steeped in false religions or no religion who have not known the true doctrines of the true God. How, then, could this end-time Elijah “restore all things”? He comes before Christ, and he restores all things—**NOT** to the entire world, but to *the true Church of God*.

God has been preparing for a long time for Jesus Christ's return and the restoration of all things to the whole world. He has laid groundwork, orchestrated details, and called specific individuals to fulfill specific roles. Christ Himself did much of the preparation for this restoration at His first coming. At that time, He founded the Church of God, a group of people He would call out of this world to support the work of proclaiming His gospel.

One of God's *final* acts of preparation would be sending Elijah to restore all the basic truths of God to His true Church. This would be a major step toward the truths of God being restored to the *whole world*.

This prophecy, directly from Jesus Christ, is a **PIVOTAL END-TIME PROPHECY**. In fact, *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry calls it “the *most* pivotal end-time prophecy.” He writes, “That



vision given to Peter, John and James tied right in with the arrival of an Elijah in the end time, just before Christ returns! ... THIS IS A SIGN TO THE WORLD THAT JESUS CHRIST'S RETURN IS IMMINENT. When 'all things' are restored, that is the beginning of the end!" (*The Epistles of Peter—A Living Hope*).

WHAT AN INVALUABLE SIGN. The whole world should be watching for the arrival of this end-time Elijah! When you recognize him, you will know that there is precious little time left before the dreadful Day of the Lord and the glorious return of Jesus Christ!

### A First-Century Type

Matthew 17 contains another important detail. Christ then said, "But I say to you that *Elijah has come already*, and they did not know him but did to him whatever they wished. Likewise the Son of Man is also about to suffer at their hands.' Then the disciples understood that He spoke to them of John the Baptist" (verses 12-13; NKJV).

So Christ confirmed what Malachi prophesied and the scribes and the disciples believed: A man like Elijah would prepare the way for the coming of the glorified Jesus Christ. But what they didn't realize was that a man like Elijah had already come in their lifetimes, prior to Jesus's ministry.

Before John's birth, an angel revealed that he would come "in the spirit and power of Elijah" (Luke 1:13-17; NKJV).

The Prophet Elijah lived over 800 years before Christ. He reproved the nation of Israel for its paganism and pointed people to the true God. Elijah's name means "my God is God." Later, in the first century, God used John the Baptist in a way that He compared to how He had used Elijah. John exposed the falseness of the religions of his day in *preparation* for the first coming of Jesus Christ, God in the flesh.

But Jesus promised, and prophecy repeatedly confirms, that He would *come again*—the second time IN POWER.

And in this conversation with His disciples, Christ was saying that another man like Elijah "truly SHALL first come" before His *Second* Coming. What John the Baptist did in preparing for Christ's *first* coming was only a *type* of the work to be done by the

*end-time* Elijah in preparing for His *Second* Coming.

Herbert W. Armstrong spoke about this prophecy in a landmark sermon on Dec. 17, 1983. "As John the Baptist was the physical messenger in the physical wilderness of Jordan, so there would be a messenger with a message—with a voice crying out in the spiritual wilderness of the modern 20th century," he said, "preparing the way for ... Jesus to come to His spiritual temple [speaking of the Church] ... this time to set up the Kingdom of God and to rule."

Christ said this Elijah would "RESTORE ALL THINGS." Mr. Armstrong then noted, "Now John the Baptist didn't restore anything. They already knew about the law, and he called them to repentance; but he didn't have to give them sermons about what all the law is. They knew that. He just called them to repent and turn to another way, and baptized them."

The "RESTORE ALL THINGS" part of Christ's statement is at the heart of what makes this a pivotal *end-time* prophecy.

There are MANY end-time prophecies, and people naturally tend to focus on

Obviously this is an extraordinary claim to make. *But you can look into it and prove it for yourself.*

When Christ founded His Church at His first coming, He promised that the gates of the grave would never prevail against it (Matthew 16:18). God has kept that promise: His Church has survived through the 2,000 years since, though it has always been, as Christ said, not a large and powerful organization, but a "little flock" (Luke 12:32). However, after the first century, fierce opposition hindered the Church from preaching the true gospel to the world. A counterfeit "Christian" church arose and grew in power and in hostility toward the true Church. Over time, hounded and weakened by persecution, God's Church *lost* many points of truth and doctrine.

Revelation 2 and 3 prophesy of the New Testament Church passing through *seven eras* over the 2,000 years between its founding and the present day. God called Mr. Armstrong at the end of the fifth era, called the Sardis era (Revelation 3:1-6). This Church had lost much of the truth. Christ said of it: "Be watchful, and

## ***This is an extraordinary claim. But you can look into it and prove it for yourself.***

the ones about wars and rumors of wars, earthquakes and supernatural disasters. Some people focus on things like blood moons.

But *this prophecy* is what *Jesus Christ* focused on.

This prophecy is directly connected with His *Second* Coming: He said this man would restore all truth within the Church just before the Day of the Lord. This is a *sign* of the nearness of Christ's return that you must not ignore!

And what makes this even more important is that THIS PROPHECY HAS ALREADY BEEN FULFILLED!

### **Already Fulfilled**

There *was* a man who fulfilled this preparatory role in the end time—a man who did "restore all things."

That man was Herbert W. Armstrong.

Mr. Armstrong restored *all* the fundamental doctrines of God's truth to the true Church of God over the course of his 57-year ministry.

strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die .... [H]old fast, and repent."

In his Dec. 17, 1983, sermon, Mr. Armstrong noted that true Christians in the Sardis era obeyed God's Ten Commandments, including the seventh-day Sabbath, and they followed the truth of first tithe. "God's true Church has believed those three things through most of the time," he said. "But MANY OF THESE OTHER THINGS HAD TO BE RESTORED TO THE CHURCH, WHICH HAD BEEN LOST." Which biblical doctrines was he referring to?

In the fall of 1926, Mr. Armstrong's wife, Loma, challenged her husband by telling him that the Bible commanded keeping the Sabbath on the seventh day of the week, which sounded like fanaticism to him. At the same time, his sister-in-law confronted him regarding the theory of evolution, saying he was ignorant if he didn't believe it. These challenges provoked Mr. Armstrong to undertake an intensive study to try to prove them both wrong.

This study lasted six months, and it led to an outcome Mr. Armstrong did not expect. Here is how he explained it: “The important thing is that in this study Jesus Christ, through His written Word, opened my mind to the PRIME BASIC TRUTHS He wanted me to have in starting me out as His servant” (*Good News*, April 1980). During this period, God revealed to Mr. Armstrong not only the truth about the Sabbath and evolution, but also many other pillar biblical truths.

These “prime basic truths” were the foundation of what would become the next prophesied era of God’s Church described in Revelation 3:7-13: the Philadelphia era. And they were, Mr. Armstrong later realized, truths that God revealed specifically to fulfill Christ’s prophecy of an end-time Elijah restoring all things in preparation for His Second Coming!

What are the truths the end-time Elijah restored?

### Restored Truths

In His famous Olivet prophecy, Jesus Christ gave more specific signs of His Second Coming. One was this: “And this

gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come” (Matthew 24:14). Consider carefully: Christ said that preaching the true gospel around the world would be a sign of the end time. That means this message *was not broadly preached* for the 2,000 years since Christ spoke these words!

This tells you that, even as “Christianity” flourished in various ways throughout those centuries, *it was not publicizing* “the gospel of the kingdom” that Christ preached. There have been many *counterfeit* gospels preached. But the true gospel message of Christ has been *suppressed* for most of that time.

However, in the 20th century, God did reveal the full truth about the true gospel so it *could* be preached in this end time, in fulfillment of Christ’s prophecy! The true gospel is the first and perhaps most important of the “restored truths” that Mr. Armstrong taught. He broadcast that gospel worldwide on the *World Tomorrow* television program, he published it in the *Plain Truth* magazine, he wrote books and booklets read by millions of people, and he made personal visits to leaders of countries all over the world. That gospel of the Kingdom was preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations. *This sign of the end has been fulfilled.*

You can prove from your own Bible what that gospel is. Mr. Armstrong wrote an entire book about it, called *The Incredible Human Potential*, and we will gladly send you a free copy.

Other important biblical truths Mr. Armstrong restored include understanding about the nature of God, God’s purpose for human beings, His inspiring plan for non-Christians, the meaning behind holy day observances, the key to understanding biblical prophecy, the resurrection, and many, many others. These were truths the first Church era, founded by Jesus Christ, had—truths God inspired to be recorded in the Bible. Some are traceable through the subsequent eras of the Church before they were lost. But God used Mr. Armstrong to restore *all* of them.

These truths, as explained from the Bible, *simply were not being taught*. Most Christian churches don’t even *consider*, for example, God’s master plan

for redeeming most of humanity, as Scripture plainly states is His purpose (1 Timothy 2:4; 2 Peter 3:9). Many people think billions of souls are damned to hell; others think salvation can be had irrespective of religious belief. The full, inspiring scriptural *truth* on this point was restored by Mr. Armstrong; you can read it in his book *Mystery of the Ages*. Before Mr. Armstrong, a person could not find an explanation of the true spiritual meaning of the holy days and how they illuminate God’s plan and purpose. This truth was restored and is revealed in his booklet *Pagan Holidays—or God’s Holy Days—Which?* The same is true of doctrine after doctrine.

This man restored “ALL THINGS”—ALL THE PILLAR DOCTRINES OF THE BIBLE. You can prove *from your own Bible* that Jesus taught every one of these truths. They represent extraordinary understanding and spiritual wealth. And there is still a group of people faithfully living by and proclaiming these truths.

“THIS MATTHEW 17 PROPHECY IS THE SINGLE-MOST PIVOTAL PROPHECY IN THIS END TIME. IT IS THE MAJOR SIGN TO THE WORLD that the Second Coming is almost here,” Mr. Flurry writes. “Christ wants that sign visible. He sent an important personality at a critical juncture in history—a man to restore all things. *If you want to get ready for my Second Coming, Christ is saying, learn about those truths and go to where they are being taught and disseminated*” (op cit).

God is preparing in a detailed way for Christ’s return, the greatest event in history. And the *most pivotal act of preparation* is the restoration of truth within the true Church of God.

If you want more explanation of Christ’s prophecy and a more complete list of these restored truths, with scriptures and resources for further study to prove them, then read online or pre-order a free copy of our new booklet *A Pivotal Sign of the End Time* ([theTrumpet.com/go/sign](http://theTrumpet.com/go/sign)).

Study into this subject. Understand this MOST PIVOTAL END-TIME PROPHECY. *Prove beyond doubt* that we are indeed living in the end time. A man like Elijah has come. He has restored all things to the Church. The dreadful Day of the Lord is near. And the glorified Jesus Christ is about to return!

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG



**We are in the end time—and you can prove it!**

Pre-order our free booklet ***A Pivotal Sign of the End Time***.



**M**USCLE STRENGTH IS ONE OF THE keys to healthy aging. But after we achieve peak muscle mass in our early 30s, it's a slow march downhill from there. If we are sedentary as we age, we become frail, we start to hurt, we lose independence, and our lives become less satisfying.

But old age is not necessarily analogous to weakness, physical decline and lack of vigor. There is a solution to the seemingly inevitable problems of frailty as we age. In fact, contrary to modern thought, it is possible to age well, remaining independent and healthy with few disabilities. You can sidestep or even reverse frailty by beginning a well-rounded fitness program.

### Frailty Leads to Functional Decline

FLOF in medical jargon means "found lying on the floor." The British Geriatrics Society says it's a common expression for ambulance attendants or care staff who find seniors crumpled up on the ground after they have fallen and suffered a head injury or a broken hip. For frail elderly people, it's an accident waiting to happen that leaves them under the unforgiving lights of the local hospital.

Frailty due to muscle loss (sarcopenia) is becoming increasingly common. Roughly 15 percent of Americans age 65 and older suffer from the condition, and 45 percent are considered pre-frail. Chronically feeble seniors cannot lift even a 10-pound bag of groceries or walk a quarter mile. As age increases, rates of frailty also increase—to 1 in 4 for those older than 84 (HopkinsMedicine.org).

According to the Administration on Aging, there will be a frailty explosion by 2020, with more than 6 million Americans over age 85 and 55 million over age 65. By 2030, these numbers will have more than doubled in a 30-year period.

Many seniors face a perfect storm of falls, incident disability, hospitalization and death. Loss of muscle affects balance and tensile bone strength; it can also mean falls causing hip and back fractures. Frailty can cause everyday activities, such as getting out of a chair, to be painful or even impossible, leading to dependency on others, social isolation and depression (aginginmotion.org).



## SENIORS: STAY STRONG

Increasing age does not have to mean rapidly decreasing health.

BY JORG MARDIAN

### Strength Training: Natural Medicine

From the time you are born to around the time you turn 30, your muscles grow larger and stronger. The National Academy of Sports Medicine says that this trend starts to reverse after about age 35, as we lose 5 percent to 10 percent of our muscle mass each decade unless we engage in regular physical activity to prevent it.

This point is critical because muscle matters in all we do: Less muscle means less strength and mobility.

The best prevention is exercise. While cardiovascular training is important in a balanced fitness plan, the primary treatment for muscle loss is resistance training or strength training.

The more muscle is retained, the more obvious the benefits. *The Journal of Aging and Health* revealed that seniors who strength trained at least twice per week increased overall strength by 113 percent, significantly improving gait velocity and stair-climbing ability after just 16 weeks. Strength training also acts as a natural antidote to many detrimental conditions. Long-term benefits include an astounding

41 percent lower odds of cardiac death and 19 percent lower odds of dying from cancer. More importantly, it decreases odds of dying early from any cause by 46 percent (Futurity.org).

It's an uncomplicated formula that helps the body to thrive, but many seniors do not take advantage of it and suffer unnecessary consequences. About 28 percent of Americans (31 million adults) age 50 and over not only fail to exercise but move no more than necessary to get by in life, according to the *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*.

### Exercise: The Frailty Antidote

How much exercise do you need to benefit a frail body? The American College of Sports Medicine recommends three to four exercise sessions per week, each lasting 20 to 30 minutes.

Functional fitness is the best way for seniors to stay fit and active as it focuses on multi-joint activity and can be tailored for your specific condition. Eldergym.com provides excellent free online resources, such as strengthening and stretching exercises, including pictures and videos, for seniors.

If you have wear and tear on your body or are experiencing joint pain, you may benefit from additional help with a personal trainer to create a safe exercise regimen based on your fitness level.

Even older people suffering from osteoporosis can strengthen themselves: Resistance training is considered the gold standard for this situation. Brad Schoenfeld, an assistant professor of exercise science at New York City's Lehman College, says the "load" this form of training puts on bones, muscles, tendons and ligaments actually counteracts bone loss by stimulating the development of cells that strengthen bones (Time.com). The long-term benefits of resistance training are a seminal part of general health and well-being for seniors, improving almost every health condition.

Of course, there's a catch: You need to get moving and keep moving. If you don't yet lift weights, start now. Weight-bearing exercise, along with an adequate amount of healthy food, will go a long way toward preventing a rapid physical decline as you age. Growing old may be inevitable, but growing frail is not. ■

# The Selfish People



Getting can seem good, but what if everyone only took and no one ever gave? **BY DWIGHT FALK**

**I**MAGINE A SOCIETY WHERE NO ONE gave and everyone sought only to get. What kind of a life would that be? Anthropologist Colin M. Turnbull experienced it firsthand.

Turnbull lived among the Ik tribe in northern Uganda from 1964 to 1967. He dedicated his 1972 book on the experience, *The Mountain People*, this way: “For the Ik, whom I learned not to hate ....”

What Turnbull witnessed in his time with the Ik stirred his emotions to hatred, finally fading to empty indifference. He experienced a society of about 2,000 members that had forgotten how to be human. They had lost the ability to love, hope and help. They had abandoned any semblance of living the give way.

In the Ik, Turnbull believed he saw the end result of what was happening in Western societies. He wrote that the Ik “had cultivated individualism to its apex.” Their only concern was working to fill their own stomachs and to keep everyone else’s empty. While they existed in a group in terms of proximity, each member lived in total emotional isolation. They lived a life of utter selfishness.

This example truly serves as a chilling warning to society today.

## What Is ‘Good’?

As Turnbull observed the Ik’s culture, he sought to understand their motivations. He asked members of the tribe what their native word for “good” was. The word translated basically as “food.” And he learned that a “good man” was a man with food—in his own stomach. The younger Ik literally stole food out of the mouths of the elderly, waiting until they had chewed it. Young men hoarded excess food for themselves while their fathers died of starvation a few feet away.

Not much is known about the tribe, but apparently they had not always been this way. Most believe they were hunters and gatherers for many years but were forced to adopt a more agrarian lifestyle. At one time, it appears they held together in families, but eventually they abandoned this. Turnbull witnessed many disturbing examples of what happened when family structure is absent.

In one instance, he witnessed the Ik having to quickly move a village. The young left the old, stepping over them without concern. “[T]here was a sudden exodus from the village, distant shouts of laughter,” he wrote. “[I] went to see what the excitement was about. It was someone else whom I had never seen before, dead Lolim’s widow. She too had been abandoned and had tried to make her way down the mountainside. But

she was totally blind and had tripped and rolled to the bottom ... and there she lay on her back, her legs and arms thrashing feebly, while a little crowd standing on the edge above looked down at her and laughed at the spectacle.”

No one cared to help this old widow. Turnbull intervened, giving her food and medicine. He hoped the extra food would motivate her family to allow her into the new village.

“So we gave her more food and made her eat and drink all she could, put her stick in her hand and pointed her the way she wanted to be pointed, and suddenly she cried,” he wrote. “Thinking she was afraid or wanted us to go with her, I asked, and she said no; she was crying, she said, because all of a sudden we had reminded her that there had been a time when people had helped each other, when people had been kind and good.”

The Ik, in a matter of about two generations, had forgotten how to give, how to care, how to love.

They were in a vicious cycle. The Ik would kick their children out of their homes when they turned 3. The children would band together, not in friendship, but for survival. The leader of the pack, who was the oldest and largest child, could eventually be pushed off a cliff by one seeking to replace him. The spirit of competition was rampant.

After a childhood without being loved or cared for, the Ik children grew to adulthood and returned the favor by beating and starving the elderly. In Ik culture, children were not good for anything and neither were the elderly. The only value was in the strong, who could get for themselves.

In the case of the old widow trying to enter her new village, the Ik became angry at Turnbull for wasting food and medicine on her. In their thinking, the old die, so let them die and don’t squander time or resources on them.

## A Mother’s Unlove

In most societies, one of the deepest bonds of love is between a mother and her newborn. But even this bond was completely severed in the Ik tribe.

In one numbing example, a woman was carrying her baby in a sling while she gathered food in the forest. Uninterested in the child’s well-being, she

dropped the sling to the ground with her baby in it. While she wandered off to search for food, a leopard came and ate the child! *The mother was delighted:* She no longer had to be burdened with the child, and the leopard would be sleeping after its meal.

Later, the tribe found and killed the leopard. They ate it—and the baby inside of it. The mother felt she had won on two accounts: She no longer had to look after the baby, and she got a meal. This made perfect sense to perfectly selfish thinking.

In two of the years that Turnbull was with the Ik, they experienced a great drought, so food was scarce. It would be easy to assume that their despicable behavior was simply an effort to survive the famine. But what the Ik did with what they received speaks volumes about how their way of get became deeply ingrained in their thinking. Because even when they had plenty, they persisted in their selfish practices.

The government provided aid rations for the Ik during the drought years. The rations had to be collected from a central location and distributed to each tribe member. The younger members of the tribe who were the strongest went to collect the aid. Partway back to the village, they stopped and gorged themselves on the food, so much so that they vomited. They brought nothing back for the starving elderly and children in their village. After all, a “good man” was one with food in his own belly, even if it was more than the belly could hold.

In the third year that Turnbull returned to visit the Ik, the rains had come to Uganda. There was a bumper crop, and the fields overflowed with food. Yet in the midst of abundance the Ik continued to live as they were accustomed. They decided they could get more food with less effort from the government, so they left their crops to rot in the fields.

“There was so much food they could never eat it all,” Turnbull noted. “The main trouble was that there was too much, and although each person had all he could eat, he was still unwilling to see others eat what he could not. Certainly nobody thought of saving for any future day, let alone next year’s sowing.”

Seeing how the Ik had surrendered completely to their basest self-desires,

Turnbull wondered about the sexual relationships within the Ik tribe. Here too he found complete selfishness.

“Lolim and others of the older people told me, for instance, of how in the old days adultery had rated equal to incest as a crime .... But when I mentioned [his daughter’s] flirtatious life to him and asked if he was not afraid for her, he laughed and said that the Ik had dropped all that kind of thing, now anyone could sleep with anyone .... [T]his was yet another indication of how completely family values had broken down.”



### A Warning for Us

Turnbull wrote that the Ik had created a monstrous society that was a “passionless ... feelingless association of individuals that would spread like a fungus, contaminating all it touched.”

In his conclusion, Turnbull made this startling statement: “[T]he symptoms of change in our society indicate that we are heading in precisely the same direction.”

Looking at daily headlines makes Turnbull’s warning eerily relevant. Consider recent news stories of parents abusing and selling their own children, leaving them in hot cars while they shop or do drugs, caging them in rooms while they party. One recent report told of three young women who worked at a nursing home; while an elderly patient behind them died of a stroke, they made a video of themselves smoking drugs and making lewd comments. They posted the video under the title “The End.”

How much is “advanced” Western society, having cast off moral restraint, losing its humanity and approaching the Ik way of life? As Ik society showed, the descent can happen alarmingly fast.

God foretold the characteristics of

mankind just before the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. The list in 2 Timothy 3 reads like a character description of the Ik tribe that Turnbull witnessed: lovers of their own selves, covetous, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, fierce, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God.

Does not this abbreviated list also sound like a description of today’s American and British cultures?

Turnbull saw a spiritual truth, though he didn’t recognize it as such. “The Ik teach us that our much-vaunted human values are not inherent in humanity at all,” he wrote. This perfectly corroborates what is revealed in Jeremiah 17:9: The human heart is not inherently good; it is “deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked.”

The Ik are an example of what the *get way of life* looks like in full bloom—or, rather, total rot. Their history illustrates what the world would be like without *giving*—and it is the worst kind of horror show!

What made Colin Turnbull so disillusioned after his time with the Ik was the realization of how evil man can become. But he didn’t know the solution to the problem.

### The Solution

God’s Word gives the solution.

Acts 20:35 records that Christ said it is more blessed to give than to receive. God created family so we can practice the give way in our own homes. God’s law shows us how to give. It is a “law of liberty” (James 1:25; 2:12), one that frees us from the terrible prison of the *get way of life*. God’s law commands that children love and honor their parents and that parents love, provide for and teach their children. All are taught to honor the elderly, and the elderly are to instruct the young.

The beauty of God’s plan is that it includes every person who has ever lived, including the Ik. Through a resurrection, even they will have the opportunity to learn God’s way of give.

As we look back on the Ik culture and see our modern societies becoming more selfish, we should be all the more motivated to live God’s give way and diligently teach it to our own children. ■



# MEXICO'S NEW REV



Mexican voters just elected a socialist strongman. This is bad news for the United States. **BY ANDREW MILLER**

**M**EXICO IS VITAL TO UNITED STATES security. Since the U.S. is protected by the Pacific Ocean in the west and the Atlantic Ocean in the east, its southern border represents the most vulnerable part of its perimeter. Preventing Mexico and the islands of the Caribbean from allying with foreign enemies has always been vital to U.S. strategy.

This is why recent elections south of the Rio Grande are so concerning.

Andrés Manuel López Obrador was elected president of Mexico on July 1 in a landslide victory. He received 53 percent of the vote, the first time a presidential candidate has received an absolute majority since 1988. He will be sworn into office for a six-year term in December.

López Obrador's coalition includes his Movement for National Regeneration, the far-left Labor Party and the evangelical Social Encounter Party.

These three parties won 307 out of 500 seats in the Chamber of Deputies and 69 out of 128 seats in the Senate, close to the two-thirds majority needed to pass changes to the Constitution of Mexico. Thus, López Obrador may become Mexico's strongest leader in decades.

Mexican historian Enrique Krauze has hailed López Obrador as a "tropical messiah" whose charisma can save Mexico. Others are less optimistic. They see the left-wing president as a socialist strongman akin to late Cuban President Fidel Castro and late Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez. Like these leaders, López Obrador came to power in an electoral campaign full of *anti-American* rhetoric.

Where will López Obrador lead Mexico? Many analysts say his policies on economics, criminal justice and immigration stand to pit his nation against the United States and set it on a path toward a Venezuela-style meltdown. And the Bible strongly indicates that such a scenario will occur in the near future.

## Anti-American Coalition

In the U.S., López Obrador is called the Bernie Sanders of Mexico. The 64-year-old former mayor of Mexico City campaigns against what he calls the "mafia of the powerful" on behalf of "good and honest people." What are his policies? In the past, he has called for Mexican oil businesses to be taken over by the government and for the country to withdraw from the North American Free Trade Agreement. In recent months, however, he has backed away from these proposals and instead called for money for youth programs, pensions for the elderly, and an overhaul of the nation's infrastructure. He also wants to double the *minimum wage* in the Mexico-U.S. border area without raising taxes.

Yet, while López Obrador presents himself as a center-left politician railing against political corruption, key officials within his Movement for National Regeneration (MORENA) are far-left revolutionaries.

Yeidckol Polevnsky Gurwitz, the general secretary of MORENA, speaks openly of her admiration for Fidel Castro and Hugo Chávez. She acknowledges that her party seeks to incorporate Mexico in the Bolivarian Revolution, a political revolution in Venezuela that seeks to build an anti-American coalition of nations based on *nationalism* and *socialism*.

Héctor Díaz Polanco, president of the MORENA Commission of Honesty and Justice, is another official enamored with Venezuela's revolution. "Let's say it straight: The integration of Mexico in the Bolivarian Revolution would, in my opinion, make a big difference in the situation we have now," he said last October in a video broadcast by Cadena Telesur. "We need to expand that revolution."

The largest political party in Mexico is openly endorsing Venezuela's socialist dictatorship. This means that López Obrador's administration will likely forge alliances with anti-American

# OLUTION

regimes in Bolivia, Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela. Such an alliance would mandate distant relations with the United States and closer relationships with U.S. rivals, such as China, Russia and the European Union.

For decades, the *Trumpet* and its parent magazine, the *Plain Truth*, have forecast that the deterioration of trade relations between the U.S. and Mexico, its third-largest trading partner after the European Union and China. The May 1962 *Plain Truth* warned that “the United States is going to be left out in the cold as two gigantic trade blocs, Europe and Latin America, mesh together and begin calling the shots in world commerce.”

Dozens of biblical verses promise blessings to Israel for obedience to God’s law and warn of curses for disobedience. *Plain Truth* editor in chief Herbert W. Armstrong explained in his book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy* (free upon request) that these verses apply primarily to the end-time descendants of the ancient nation of Israel, and these primarily include the U.S. and Britain.

In one prophecy, God likens the U.S. to a hedged vineyard, protected on all sides. It has been hedged—north, south, east and west—by nonthreatening nations and the two largest oceans on Earth. But, because of the sins of the people, God warns that He will tear down this hedge.

“I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard: I will take away the hedge thereof, and it shall be eaten up; and break down the wall thereof, and it shall be trodden down” (Isaiah 5:5).

In another prophecy, God says the United States will be besieged by foreign enemies: “The Lord shall bring a nation against thee from far, from the end of the earth, as swift as the eagle flieth; a nation whose tongue thou shalt not understand. ... And he shall besiege thee in all thy gates, until thy high and fenced walls come down, wherein thou trustedst,

throughout all thy land: and he shall besiege thee in all thy gates throughout all thy land, which the Lord thy God hath given thee” (Deuteronomy 28:49, 52).

The first breach in America’s hedge occurred in 1959 when Communist revolutionaries led by Fidel Castro overran Cuba. Now, a new government in Mexico wants to follow Castro’s and Chávez’s examples. The hedge on America’s border is being destroyed, and its “high and fenced walls” are coming down.

No foreign power can besiege the U.S. without economic and military superiority in Latin America. This is why America’s historic rivals, from French Emperor Napoleon III to German Kaiser Wilhelm II to Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev, have sought to pit Mexico against

on track to pass 30,000 homicides this year, which would surpass last year’s record high of 29,168 murders. Cartel operatives are even killing government officials: 97 political officials and 48 political candidates have been murdered just since last September.

President-elect López Obrador has promised to tackle cartel violence by rewriting the rules of the drug war and granting amnesty to drug traffickers. His strategy is nicknamed “Hugs Not Bullets.”

“We are going to change this rotten, corrupt regime of injustices and privileges, and we are going to promote development,” he said at a rally last April. “I can summarize it in one sentence: work, good salaries and hugs, not

## LÓPEZ OBRADOR HAS PROMISED TO REWRITE THE RULES OF THE DRUG WAR AND GRANT AMNESTY TO DRUG TRAFFICKERS: “HUGS NOT BULLETS.”

the U.S. Over 40 percent of all goods imported into the U.S. pass through the Gulf of Mexico, and Mexico would be the best staging ground from which foreign enemies could invade. Efforts to align Mexico with anti-American nations will weaken the U.S. and hasten a time when it is besieged by foreign powers.

### Drug Cartel Violence

International drug-trafficking networks known as cartels employ half a million people in Mexico. These dangerous cartels rake in between \$20 billion and \$30 billion annually, making them wealthy enough to field their own armies. Roughly 15,000 trained fighters work for the cartels, which are equipped with drones, grenades, land mines, machine guns and even armored vehicles and submarines.

Over 200,000 people have been murdered in Mexico since former President Felipe Calderón declared war on the cartels in 2006. Cartel violence is directly responsible for roughly 40 percent of these homicides, and the situation is growing worse. Mexico is

bullets. The people of Sinaloa are not bad by nature. It is that many have been forced to take the path of antisocial behavior; many have lost their future—especially the young.”

The president-elect has also indicated that he will consider legalizing drugs. “All topics should be analyzed,” he said at a campaign event in May. “Health is affected more by alcohol and tobacco than other drugs, and prohibiting these drugs creates more violence. Why not talk about it?”

In addition to amnesty and legalization, López Obrador wants to negotiate with cartel bosses. “We’ll invite Pope Francis, the secretary general of the United Nations, Antonio Guterres, representatives of international organizations ... so that, with local experts and with the victims and families of the victims, we elaborate a joint plan to attain peace in this country,” he said at the same event.

This “Hugs Not Bullets” strategy represents a ceasefire at best.

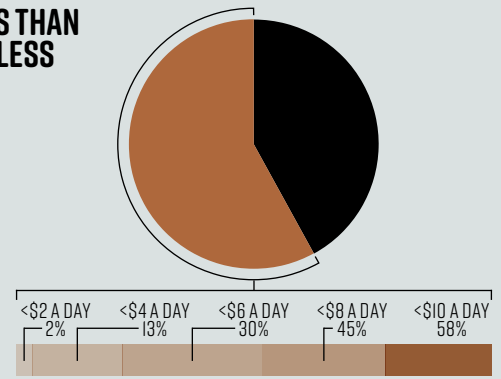
Mexico’s homicide rate may come down if the government stops fighting

# WHY MEXICANS WANT A REVOLUTION

The republic of Mexico is on the verge of becoming a failed state. Half the country's population lives in poverty, while a corrupt elite grows rich on bribes. Violent drug cartels have murdered over 100,000 people in the past decade, and conquered 45 percent of the nation. Almost 12 million native-born Mexicans have already fled to the United States. Amid this chaos, some 30 million Mexican voters have turned to a socialist strongman promising to save Mexico by increasing government spending and negotiating with drug traffickers.

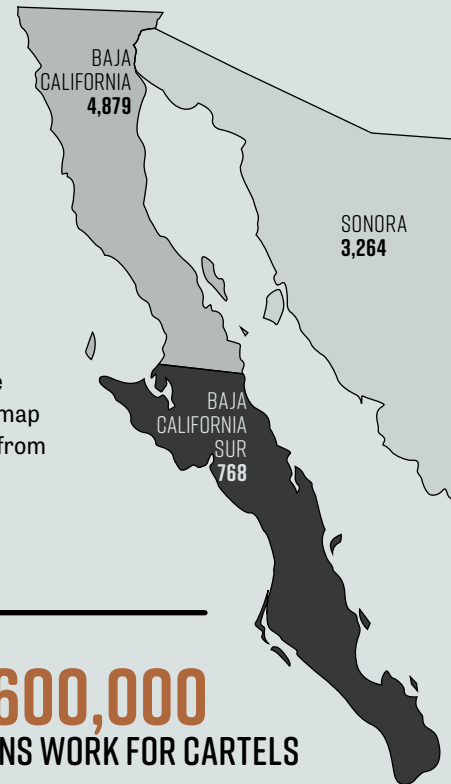
## 58% OF MEXICANS EARN LESS THAN \$10 A DAY—AND MANY MAKE LESS

Mexico has the second-highest rate of income inequality among developed nations, with the richest 1 percent owning almost half of the country's wealth and the poorest 55 percent unable to satisfy basic nutritional needs.



## THE DRUG WAR HAS ACCUMULATED A MASSIVE DEATH TOLL

Mexico is one of the deadliest conflict zones in the world. Of the 237,580 people murdered in Mexico since Jan. 1, 2007, roughly 44 percent were killed in drug cartel-related violence. The nation suffered its highest ever murder rate last year when 29,168 people were slaughtered. According to the *Milenio* newspaper, 12,532 of these murders were linked to organized crime networks. This map shows the total cartel-related homicides from 2007 to 2017 for each state.



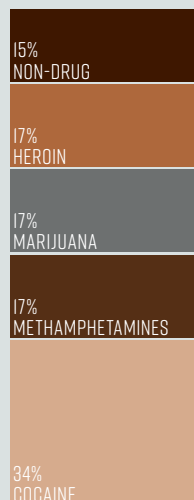
**27,100,000**  
AMERICANS USE DRUGS

**4,500,000**  
MEXICANS USE DRUGS

**600,000**  
MEXICANS WORK FOR CARTELS

## CARTELS HAVE PLENTY OF MONEY FROM AMERICA'S DRUG HABIT

Mexico's drug cartels make an estimated \$19 to \$29 billion a year on drug sales in the United States. According to Stanford University psychiatry professor Keith Humphreys, cocaine makes up the cartel's biggest revenue source, followed by methamphetamines, marijuana and heroin.



## MEXICO'S BIGGEST EXPORTS ARE ILLICIT DRUGS

Officially, Mexico's top exports are cars, vehicle parts, delivery trucks and computers. In reality, Mexico's top exports are illicit drugs. Former Mexican Public Safety Secretary Genaro Garcia Luna estimates that the cartels send \$64 billion worth of drugs into the U.S. every year. In 2016, U.S. Border Control seized 835 tons of drugs at the border.





## CORRUPT OFFICIALS DIRECTLY DECREASE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR MANY MEXICANS

Mexico is the 40th most corrupt nation out of 175 countries, according to the 2017 Corruption Perceptions Index reported by Transparency International.

**44 PERCENT** OF MEXICAN FIRMS PAY BRIBES

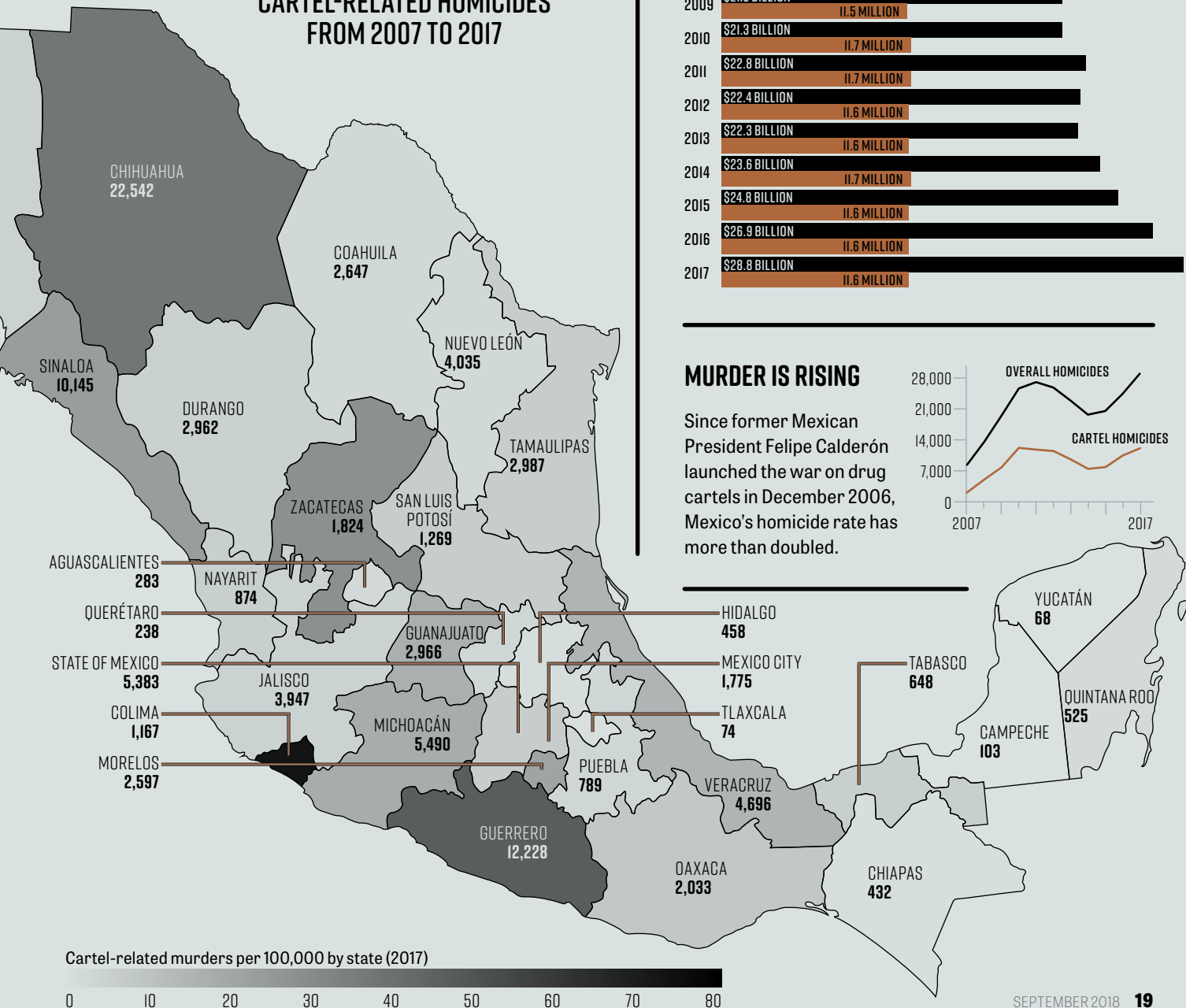
**200 MILLION** CASES OF CORRUPTION HAPPEN IN MEXICO EVERY YEAR

**\$1.8 BILLION** IS PAID IN BRIBES IN MEXICO EVERY YEAR

**14 PERCENT** OF MEXICANS' INCOME IS SPENT ON BRIBES

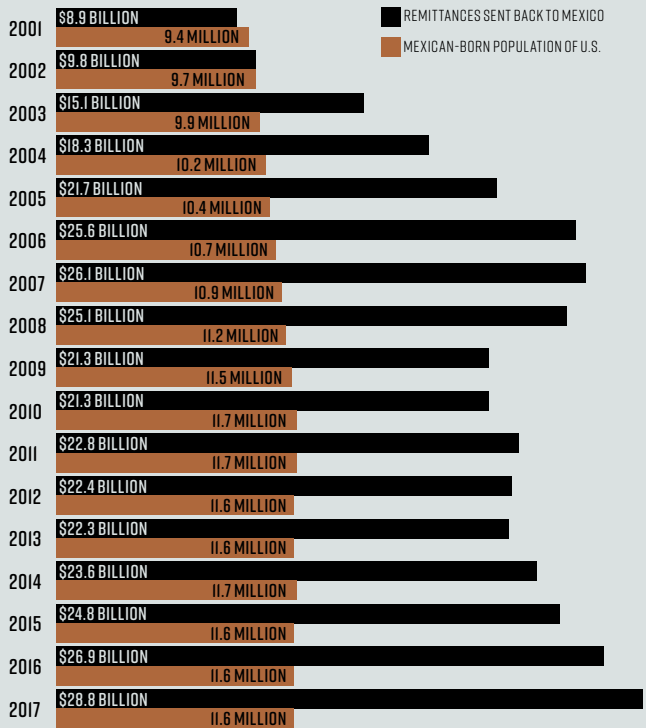
**78 PERCENT** OF MEXICANS BELIEVE THAT POLICE ARE CORRUPT

## 104,096 CARTEL-RELATED HOMICIDES FROM 2007 TO 2017



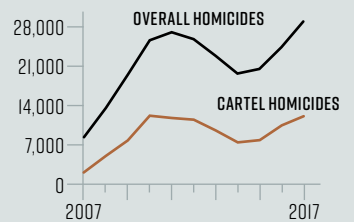
## MEXICO'S MAIN SOURCE OF FOREIGN INCOME IS REMITTANCES FROM MEXICANS IN AMERICA

In 2015, Mexico's central bank reported that the money being sent back to Mexico from Mexicans living in the U.S. had overtaken oil exports as the country's largest official source of foreign revenue.



## MURDER IS RISING

Since former Mexican President Felipe Calderón launched the war on drug cartels in December 2006, Mexico's homicide rate has more than doubled.





CONQUERERS  
A Chinese Navy fleet in  
the South China Sea

# Is This the 'Peace in Our Time' of World War III?

Should the world surrender the South China Sea to China? History teaches that appeasing expansionist powers does not bring lasting peace. Prophecy shows that this time will be no different. **BY JEREMIAH JACQUES**

**“WE CANNOT WIN THAT BACK,”** said Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte in late 2016. He was referring to the Scarborough Shoal, a sizable coral atoll with a reef-rimmed lagoon. The fish-rich shoal lies a short 120 nautical miles from the Philippines coast, placing it well within the country’s internationally recognized territory. In 2012, China illegally seized the atoll from the Philippines, but not for the fishing. The Chinese wanted Scarborough as part of its “strategic triangle” plan to assert control over the South China Sea.

The triangle’s two other points are the Spratly Archipelago and the Paracel Islands. The year after China occupied Scarborough, it started building artificial islands in the Spratly chain. In 2016, it deployed missile batteries to one of the Paracels.

The eyes of Asia looked to the United States. How would America respond? Its military has kept the vital trade routes through the South China Sea open since the end of World War II. China’s aggressive takeovers were in areas claimed by U.S. partners such as the Philippines and Vietnam. Its objective was to control crucial shipping lanes, and a 2016 international tribunal had invalidated China’s claims.

But the Obama administration did little more than wag its finger. Conflict with China was unthinkable. So the U.S. let it continue taking over the South China Sea.

America’s partners and allies took note of its inaction and grew fearful. “Even if we get angry, we’ll just be putting on airs. We can’t beat [China],” Duterte said. The best the Philippines could hope for now, he said, was to cooperate with China as it extracted resources near Scarborough and other areas that rightfully belong to the Philippines.

Meanwhile, China was emboldened by U.S. inaction. It accelerated its illegal island building and quietly continued to militarize more territory.

Today it is clear that China’s assault on the freedom of the sea was effective.

In the Paracels, China now has a significant military base with missiles, radar, an airstrip, and aircraft including fighters and nuclear-capable bombers. In the Spratlys, China has now created more than 3,000 acres of land on seven reefs that were previously wholly or partly submerged. On these new islands, China has deployed anti-ship cruise missiles, surface-to-air missiles and airstrips accommodating fighters, bombers and cargo planes. And twice in the last year, in a clear demonstration of China’s power over the sea, it successfully coerced Vietnam into halting major oil-drilling projects in waters that international law says are Vietnamese.

Scarborough Shoal is the last part of the puzzle.

So far, China has not converted the atoll into a militarized island. But China maintains tight control over it and could rapidly transform it into a base

if it decides to. This would complete the “strategic triangle” and give China monitoring, policing and strike capacity across the 1.4 million-square-mile South China Sea, almost all of which China claims as its own. Such capacity could allow China to establish an air defense identification zone over the sea, requiring foreign aircraft to obtain Chinese permission to fly through the region.

## The World’s ‘Most Valuable Artery’

The South China Sea contains immense natural resources, including an estimated 11 billion barrels of oil, 190 trillion cubic feet of natural gas, and 10 percent of global fisheries. Because



of its abundance of hydrocarbons, some experts call it “the second Persian Gulf.”

Even more important is the fact that trillions of dollars in goods sail through the South China Sea each year on the way to and from some of the most populous regions on the globe. Almost 60 percent of Japan’s and Taiwan’s energy deliveries, 60 percent of South Korea’s energy, and 80 percent of China’s crude oil imports transit this waterway.

Altogether, around 21 percent of all global trade passes through the sea.

“The South China Sea functions as the throat of the Western Pacific and Indian oceans,” writes Stratfor’s Robert D. Kaplan in his book *Asia’s Cauldron*. It is “the mass of connective economic tissue where global sea routes coalesce” and the “region that will dominate the future of geopolitical conflict.”

The *Sydney Morning Herald* recently called the South China Sea “the world’s most valuable commercial artery.”

### ‘Just Let China Have It’

To understand how alarming it will be for authoritarian China to close its grip over “the world’s most valuable artery,” one needs look no further than to Xinjiang. There the Chinese government uses Orwellian surveillance, an unaccountable state security apparatus, a near total media blackout and “thought control camps” reminiscent of the Moaist era to assert tight control over people who would prefer to be a separate nation.

But Duterte is not the only voice saying the wisest course of action is to let China have its way. Many in the West, who are far removed from the South China Sea, are essentially saying, in the words of Ely Ratner of the Center for a New American Security’s Asia-Pacific Security Program, “[A]ccommodation is preferable to risking war over ‘a bunch of rocks.’”

James Laurenceson, deputy director of the Australia–China Relations Institute of the University of Technology, seems to agree with this logic: “[I]f China were able to block the South China Sea, the impact on economic growth in other countries is likely to be small,” he wrote on June 4, 2017.

Since trade can be rerouted, Laurenceson said, countries in the region generally do not stand up to China’s actions in the South China Sea. Japan, for example, could bypass the South China Sea entirely and instead receive energy shipments through the Lombok Strait, between the Indonesian islands of Bali and Lombok—although doing so does come at a cost: “[E]xclusively taking the Lombok route would have increased Japan’s oil import costs by \$US300 million annually,” he wrote. “This equates to just 0.2 per cent of Japan’s oil import bill that year.”

This myopic rationalizing sounds extreme. But it may not be far removed from the reasoning that prevented the Obama administration from acting against China’s grab of Scarborough or its militarization of the Spratly Archipelago and the Paracels. However, by failing to confront these illegal behaviors early and decisively, America showed that it was willing to potentially sacrifice “a bunch of rocks” in order to avoid conflict with China. It showed that the South China Sea was a price the war-weary U.S. was willing to pay to keep the peace.

History rebukes such reasoning. Yielding territory to expansionist powers does not bring peace.

### Failure of Appeasement

“An appeaser is one who feeds a crocodile, hoping it will eat him last,” Winston S. Churchill famously said. Before Churchill became prime minister of Great Britain, he had witnessed political leaders attempt to secure peace by appeasing an expansionist nation.

On Sept. 30, 1938, leaders of Britain and France signed an agreement allowing Nazi Germany to annex the Sudetenland. This region of Czechoslovakia was of vital strategic importance to the nation, since the bulk of its border defenses and industrial centers were situated there. Czechoslovakia was an ally of France and Britain, but Hitler had threatened to take the Sudetenland by force. British and French leaders sought to avoid a repeat of World War I at all costs. They thought that by giving the Sudetenland to Germany willingly, the provocative Nazi regime would be placated and conflict could be avoided.

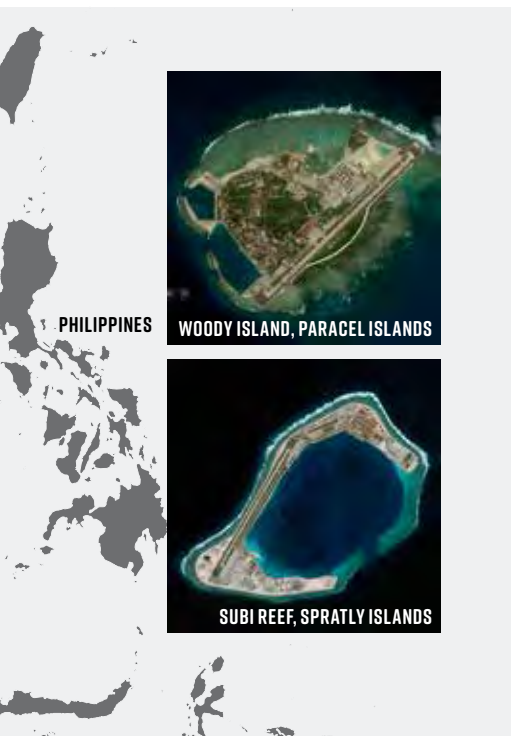
After returning home from the historic signing ceremony, British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain proclaimed: “I believe it is peace for our time,” and told the crowd at the airfield and those listening to the broadcast, “Go home and sleep quietly in your beds.” The U.S. administration



of Franklin D. Roosevelt supported the agreement, and Gallup polls in the U.S., Britain and France found that the majority of people in all three nations supported it, too.

But the deal was a sham. In the spring of 1939, the Nazis took the rest of Czechoslovakia. In September they invaded Poland, and Britain and France had no choice but to declare war. World War II had begun. By the time it was over, more than 60 million lives had been lost in the deadliest conflict in human history.

*Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry writes about the appeasement in his booklet *Winston S. Churchill: The Watchman*: “The U.S. was even more pacifist than Britain. How could so many of our leaders in the United States





and Britain—almost all of them—have been so weak in dealing with Hitler?”

Mr. Flurry answers: The leaders “lacked the courage to face the brutal truth” about Adolf Hitler’s dark ambitions. “Most leaders in the U.S. and UK lived in a weak world of illusion,” he writes.

Subsequent generations of Americans and Britons have not learned from history. “We simply lack the will to deal with tyrants and finish the job,” Mr. Flurry writes. “We have a pathetic lack of will in a very dangerous world. We can’t afford the pacifist attitude we had before World War II and survive nationally. Yet our pacifist attitude today is far worse than it was then.”

### **A Modern Sudetenland?**

The Sudetenland situation before World War II differs from the South China Sea controversy today. But in both cases, the United States and other world powers are allowing an expansionist power to grab strategically valuable territory in hopes of keeping peace.

Duterte’s predecessor, Benigno Aquino III, compared the Sudetenland to the South China Sea during his presidency in 2014. Speaking to the *New York Times* about China’s activities in the South China Sea, he said: “At what point do you say, ‘Enough is enough’? Well, the world has to say it. Remember that the Sudetenland was given in an attempt to appease Hitler to prevent World War II.”

Dan Eberhart of the Los Angeles World Affairs Council also says it is a fair comparison. “The Obama [administration] failed to forcefully confront China as it expanded its territorial claims in the South China Sea, dutifully playing the role of Neville Chamberlain as China intimidated our allies,” he wrote. “[I]n the absence of American power, China’s appetite for expanding its influence and territorial claims in the South China Sea went largely unchecked.”

He says the result has been “an emboldened China that has militarized

its position in the region through land reclamation activities and been openly aggressive in its encounters with American vessels.” He adds that if China’s territorial expansion is left unchecked, it will “expose the whole of Southeast Asia to China’s nationalist goals.”

Peter Beinart, a professor of journalism and political science at the City University of New York, also sees the South China Sea as a modern Sudetenland. “[C]hina today—like Germany in the 1930s—is a country converting its tremendous economic vitality into military might,” he wrote. “It’s a country with a strong sense of historical grievance that wants to assert what it considers its natural role as the dominant power in its region. And it’s a country whose leaders are increasingly confident that the distant, status-quo powers that once held it in check can no longer do so.”

It is true that U.S. President Donald Trump has begun to take a somewhat firmer stance against China’s expansionism. He has increased the tempo of U.S. military patrols in the South China Sea, including a recent operation that sailed a guided-missile cruiser and a destroyer past the Paracels. But like Obama, President Trump has declined to confirm that America’s mutual defense treaty with the Philippines includes its territories in the South China Sea.

Bible prophecy shows that America’s measures to stand up to China are too little, too late. It forecasts that American resolve will not last, and that China will keep tightening its grip on this vital sea to the detriment of global peace.

### **‘Steering the World Toward War’**

In the *Trumpet’s* July 2016 issue, Mr. Flurry said Beijing’s tightening grip on this area is “steering the world toward war.” China is challenging “seven decades of American naval dominance in the Pacific Rim,” he wrote. This belligerent behavior “should alarm the world!”

Mr. Flurry continued, “Since Japan’s defeat in World War II, America has

protected this vital trade route and brought peace to this part of the world.” But since the U.S. is now retreating from the region, “other great powers are coming in to fill the vacuum,” he continued. “China is intimidating the nations of Southeast Asia into submission to its will. It is forcing these countries to do what it wants. Everything is headed in the direction of war.”

Mr. Flurry’s understanding of the South China Sea dynamic is founded on the sure word of Bible prophecy.

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

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

America’s failure to confront China as it tightens its grip on the South China Sea is leading to the fulfillment of this prophecy. This points to some dark days in the near term.

But Mr. Flurry explained that there is great cause for hope in these trends because this approaching besiegement and war is tied to good news: “All this prophesied destruction is what it will take for God to reach this world!” he wrote. “After this, people will be ashamed—and they will get to know God! Ezekiel repeatedly talked about that inspiring conclusion (e.g. Ezekiel 6:7; 7:4; 11:10; 12:20; 13:9; 23:48-49; etc). Yes, there is a lot of bad news when you consider what it takes to get people to the point of knowing God. But ultimately, the outcome is spectacularly good news!”



### **War is brewing—here is how to find hope.**

There is a purpose and a plan to China’s rise. To find the inspiring hope connected to these troubling headlines, request Gerald Flurry’s free book ***Ezekiel: The End-Time Prophet***.

► **EUROPEAN UNION** FROM PAGE 9

is why modern euro-federalists evoke Charlemagne: The Holy Roman Empire was the very archetype of universal monarchy” (op cit).

The EU’s founding fathers were very different from the Nazis. But they both shared the same dream, which is why their plans are so similar.

**European Union in Bible Prophecy**

The Bible also describes a vision of a European empire that is repeatedly

When the seventh empire finally falls, “the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her” because they “were made rich by her” (Revelation 18:11, 15).

The Old Testament often refers to this empire as “Tyre.” This was the greatest trading center of the Middle East at the time that these Bible prophecies were written. Some of the prophecies about Tyre have not yet been fulfilled, because they refer not to this ancient city—but to a *future* economic empire.

But it is not all economics. The Zollverein was not the only factor in uniting Germany. Nationalism was another key force. The Germans felt that even though they were divided into different kingdoms, they were still one people and should form one nation.

Europe lacks the motivation to unify. This is why economic union has only taken it so far. But the Bible informs us of the institution that will provide the sense of common purpose and identity to Europe, performing the role that German nationalism played in the 19th century: It will be the Catholic Church, pictured by the *woman* in Revelation 17.

In fact, the Catholic Church has helped power all of the past six resurrections of the European dream. This is why the Holy Roman Empire is called “holy.”

And just as Germany needed a crisis to lock in its national union, so too will Europe use a crisis to lock in its empire.

When Prussia united Germany, it changed the world. Suddenly, it had a power that could outcompete Britain economically. It was militarily superior to every nation in Europe. It used its power, it destabilized the world, and it ultimately instigated two world wars.

This history shows that today’s Europe shares the same goal of ultimate unity. This achievement would destabilize the world far more severely than Prussia did. It would create a major competitor to the United States, and to Russia and China.

The Bible confirms this forecast. It prophesies that this will be both an economic and military superpower. And it adds one more crucial detail—one that is truly inspiring when you understand it.

Prophecy shows that this will be the *last* of these empires to rise in Europe. The Holy Roman Empire has risen repeatedly because God has allowed it to. But He has said that the seventh resurrection will be the last. After this economic, political, military and religious European power rises one last time, it will be destroyed—forever. Europe’s history has unfolded according to a specific plan outlined in your Bible. And God makes clear that this plan has a definite, hope-filled ending—one that is nearly here. He will lead Europe into the prosperity and peace that has eluded it so far.

**This history is critical. The empires in Europe are all connected. By learning about the ones that have come before, we can learn about the empire that is coming next.**



resurrected. Revelation 17 describes a “beast,” a biblical symbol for a powerful empire. This beast, it says, would be led by “seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come” (verse 10). This means that these kings rule consecutively. At the time this prophecy was revealed, five were gone, one was on the scene, and one more was to come.

The start of Revelation 17 makes clear this beast is led by a woman, which is the biblical symbol for a church.

This prophecy perfectly matches the history of Europe. Europe has seen a succession of empires, all sharing the same vision and all led by a church. Hitler led the sixth of these. The seventh will rise out of the European Union.

This is why this history is critical. These empires in Europe are all connected. By learning about the ones that have come before, we can learn about the empire that is coming next.

The Bible also makes clear that economics plays a huge role in the union.

Isaiah 23 describes this modern Tyre forming a “mart of nations” with powers in the East: China and Japan (referred to by their ancient names of *Chittim* and *Tarshish*). God calls this modern Tyre “a merchant of the people for many isles” and describes it as doing business with merchants around the world (Ezekiel 27).



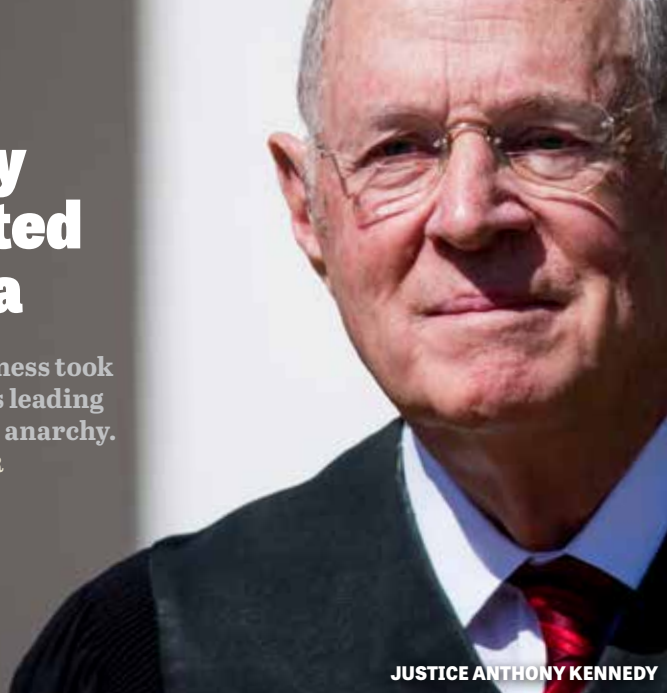
**One more time**

To find out more what the Bible says about the last European empire, request your free copy of ***The Holy Roman Empire in Prophecy***.

# How Kennedy Corrupted America

A spirit of lawlessness took root in 1987 that is leading the nation toward anarchy.

BY ANDREW MILLER



JUSTICE ANTHONY KENNEDY

**T**HE UNITED STATES IS ON A DANGEROUS *path* toward *lawlessness*. For decades, progressive activists have striven to fundamentally transform American society by emphasizing ends over means. If a progressive policy lacks enough support to be passed by the lawmaking branch of government, then radicals call for the president to enact it via executive order, or for the Supreme Court to enact it via judicial activism, or for protesters to take to the streets.

This ends-over-means strategy has given birth to a “LIVING CONSTITUTION”—a doctrine that says the U.S. Constitution no longer means what it meant when written. It says America’s founding legal charter is an *evolving* document that can mean whatever progressives want it to mean at any given moment.

In 1987, the “living Constitution” doctrine gained ascendancy in American society. When the Senate refused to confirm Judge Robert Bork to the Supreme Court, President Ronald Reagan nominated Judge Anthony Kennedy to fill the empty seat. Instead of interpreting the law as written, Justice Kennedy consulted his personal feelings on issues and discovered “constitutional” rights that no one had ever seen before.

Kennedy has cast the tie-breaking vote in several controversial cases, earning himself a reputation as “the most important voter in America” and “King Kennedy.” He has played a huge role in liberalizing American society.

But now he has retired, announcing on June 27 that he would step down at the end of July. Some are optimistic that Kennedy’s replacement will be able to reverse some of his lawless decisions. But the societal transformation that he enabled will not be easily undone. About half of the American public now says justices should rule based on what the Constitution “means in current times,” which is a precursor to ignoring it outright. And a sizable minority is willing to protest against any justice willing to defend the *RULE OF LAW* from the “living Constitution.”

King Kennedy is gone, but his legacy lives on.

To understand this lawless trend, you need to know what happened to America 31 years ago.

## An Attack on Law

On July 1, 1987, President Reagan nominated Robert Bork, a highly respected judge, to the Supreme Court. Within 45 minutes of the nomination, Massachusetts Senator Ted Kennedy began demonizing the nominee in a shocking way. Why? Judge Bork was an unusually strong, articulate defender of the Constitution. Senator Kennedy and his associates considered this to be ghastly.

Ted Kennedy (no relation to Anthony Kennedy) argued that Bork’s originalism would lead to a “Bork’s America” of back-alley abortions, segregation, censorship and midnight police raids.

None of these accusations was true, but the attack worked. The Senate defeated Judge Bork’s nomination by a vote of 58-42, the largest margin ever.

*Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry recounts this attack on law in his booklet *America Under Attack*. “Judge Bork was known for one thing more than anything else: BELIEVING IN THE CONSTITUTION,” he writes. “He was one of the most brilliant constitutional lawyers this land has produced! He was considered ‘a pioneer in constitutional thinking devoted to the text and original meaning of the Constitution,’ as Reuters put it. He was known as a constitutional ‘originalist’ or ‘constructionist’ who believed in judicial restraint. The late Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia released a statement through the Federalist Society calling him one of the most influential legal scholars of the last 50 years. The society’s executive vice president said Bork was ‘one of our country’s fiercest and most articulate defenders of the Constitution as it is written.’ That’s why they hated him! THE CONSTITUTION IS THE SUPREME LAW OF THE LAND—MUCH OF IT BASED ON BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES. THAT MEANS WE ARE DESCENDING INTO DEADLY, ANTI-GOD LAWLESSNESS!”

After the Senate defeated Judge Bork’s nomination, President Reagan nominated Anthony Kennedy as a compromise candidate. The Senate confirmed Kennedy by a unanimous vote. In the decades since, the Supreme Court has acted as a *legislative* body—enacting policies on abortion, affirmative action and homosexuality that the lawmaking branch of government would not approve. As a swing voter during much of his time on the court, Kennedy has contributed substantially to the attack on the Constitution and the trend toward lawlessness that has accelerated since Bork’s demonization.

## Kennedy’s America

Since Kennedy joined the Supreme Court on Feb. 18, 1988, he has authored 276 majority opinions, 165 concurring opinions and 100 dissenting opinions. Unlike his colleagues, he has not made legal decisions according to a consistent ideology. Although he was nominated by a conservative president,



Kennedy has voted with the court's progressive justices as often as he has with its originalist justices.

In 1992, Kennedy joined with two other justices to write the plurality decision in *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*. He confirmed the *Roe v. Wade* decision that a woman's "right to privacy" allows her to murder her unborn child, and helped overturn a requirement that a woman notify her husband before having an abortion.

In 2003, Kennedy wrote the majority opinion in *Lawrence v. Texas*. This case overturned judicial precedent to make homosexual activity legal in every U.S. state and territory. It struck down anti-sodomy laws in Texas and 13 other states. It declared consensual sex a protected liberty under the due process clause of the 14th Amendment.

In 2013, Kennedy authored the majority opinion in *United States v. Windsor*. This case declared the Defense of Marriage Act unconstitutional because it permitted states to refuse recognition to same-sex "marriages" conducted in other states. Kennedy wrote that treating heterosexual marriages as different from homosexual "marriages" demeaned homosexual couples "whose moral and sexual choices the Constitution protects."

In 2015, Kennedy cast the tie-breaking vote and authored the majority opinion in *Obergefell v. Hodges*. This landmark case struck down state bans on same-sex "marriage." It ruled that same-sex couples have a right to marry based on the due process clause and equal protections clause of the 14th Amendment.

In these cases and others, Kennedy usurped power that the Constitution grants to Congress, the states and the people to enact policies on abortion, affirmative action and homosexuality. Instead of living in "Bork's America," over 300 million Americans now live in "Kennedy's America."

"The tide turned in a big way in 1987," Mr. Flurry writes. "Law started to get a lot weaker. And LAWLESSNESS STARTED TO GET MUCH, MUCH STRONGER" (*ibid*).

Kennedy's retirement gives President Donald Trump the opportunity to appoint a justice who will stand up for the Constitution of the United States. But the generation that has

grown up since 1987 does not have the same respect for the rule of law as past generations. Until this changes, the Constitution will continue to be cast aside as *every man* seeks to do what is right in *his own eyes* (Judges 21:25).

### Coming Anarchy

The demonization of Robert Bork was the opening statement of a legal battle on judicial appointments that has lasted more than 30 years. The same plaintiffs who demonized Bork tried to block constitutional originalist Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas in 1991. More recently, proponents of the "living Constitution" have tried to thwart Supreme Court nominees Neil Gorsuch and, most recently, Brett Kavanaugh. After President Trump nominated Judge Kavanaugh on July 9 to fill Kennedy's seat, opposition activists immediately began denouncing him. They said Kavanaugh threatened environmental rights, homosexual rights, minority and especially abortion rights.

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer pledged to block Kavanaugh's confirmation on a basis that he might roll back abortion rights if he joins the Supreme Court. Other leaders, like Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders, are calling for "the American people" to rally "around *Roe v. Wade*" and defend a woman's right to kill her unborn child from constitutional originalists.

If Americans, and especially some of their leaders, are this outraged over the possibility of a potential Supreme Court justice possibly beginning to restrict abortions, what will happen if the Supreme Court actually makes such a decision? A large segment of Americans who have grown up in "Kennedy's America" view Donald Trump as an illegitimate president. They do not care what the Constitution says—they want Trump out.

Democratic National Committee Chairman Tom Perez is tapping into this frustration. Days before Gorsuch's

confirmation, Perez said any Supreme Court nominee named by Mr. Trump would be illegitimate until the Federal Bureau of Investigation rules out potential ties between Trump's campaign and alleged Russian meddling in the 2016 presidential election.

What happens when millions of young Americans believe that their government is illegitimate? Will #NotMyJustice rioters soon be joining the #NotMyPresident rioters?

A spirit of lawlessness has taken root in America. Increasingly, people are trampling on the Constitution, demonizing those who hold to biblical moral values, and rioting when they don't get their way. The Bible reveals that this spirit of lawlessness is leading the nation into a time of anarchy and violent revolution.

"Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the Lord, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward. Why should ye be stricken any more? ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint" (Isaiah 1:4-5).

This passage describes cause and effect. The government is sick. The nation is faint. But why? Because the people are lawless and "laden with iniquity." For the past 30 years, lawless Americans have looked to a progressive Supreme Court to trample on the rule of law by legislating from the bench. Now that a new president is nominating originalist Supreme Court justices to uphold the rule of law, radical progressives are calling for *violent resistance*.

Lawlessness in America today is leading to a conflict so devastating that the whole country will be laid desolate and its cities will burn with fire. Judges like Anthony Kennedy have conditioned people to expect lawless rulings from the nation's courts, but they would have had a limited effect on society if people knew and clung to God's laws. ■

### Why the law matters

What's so important about the Constitution? To learn what the anti-Constitution spirit means for America, request Gerald Flurry's free booklet ***America Under Attack***.



# Ethiopia-Eritrea Accord: Iran's Opportunity?

Bible prophecy indicates Iran could exploit improving ties between these former enemies to sabotage global trade.

BY ANTHONY CHIBARIRWE AND CALLUM WOOD

**E**THIOPIA'S NEW LEADER IS VERY AMBITIOUS. In June, barely two months after attaining office, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed surprised the world by attempting to reconcile with Ethiopia's neighbor and archenemy, Eritrea.

These two African nations have split, unified and split again since Eritrea's declaration of independence in 1993. Their enmity intensified between May 1998 and June 2000 in a bloody conflict that killed about 100,000 people. The war technically ended with the Algiers Agreement, which established the Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission to settle the dispute. The two prime ministers at the time had promised to implement the Algiers Agreement, but never did because they disagreed with the commission's recommendations. Border skirmishes continued. But on June 5, Prime Minister Abiy announced Ethiopia's plans to implement those recommendations, which include ceding the border town of Badme to Eritrea.

Prime Minister Abiy visited Eritrea and confirmed the agreement by signing the Joint Declaration of Peace and Friendship with Eritrean President Isaias Afwerki on July 9. Abiy vowed to "demolish the wall and, with love, build a bridge between the two countries." He said the two nations were "not only intertwined in interests but also in blood."

For the first time in 20 years, Ethiopia traded with Eritrea. Direct commercial flights and road travel between the two nations resumed. Telephone lines opened, and family members cut off for decades have been calling one another. Ethiopia and Eritrea reopened their embassies in each other's countries.

Most importantly, Ethiopia gained access to the strategic Red Sea—access it lost when Eritrea declared independence and took the entire Ethiopian coastline with it.

Amid the smiles of reconciliation lies an important story that must be told. It points to a little-noticed Bible prophecy that may well have just taken a major step forward in fulfillment.

## Battle for the Red Sea

Change is in the air—or rather, on the sea. The Ethiopian Navy, which disbanded in 1993, is being revived.

In March, Ethiopia—Africa's fastest-growing economy—acquired a 19 percent stake in the Port of Berbera, located in the breakaway Somali state of Somaliland. In May, it signed an agreement for a stake in Djibouti's main port. Two days later, it signed a similar agreement for Sudan's largest Red Sea port. In July, Ethiopia and Eritrea agreed on joint development of ports on Eritrea's Red Sea coast.

On June 1, the Fana Broadcasting Corporation quoted Prime Minister Abiy saying, "Following the efforts made to build [the] capacity of our national defense, we built one of the strongest ground and air forces in Africa. We should build our naval force capacity in the future."

The more Ethiopia invests in the Red Sea region, the more effort it will make to rebuild its naval capacity.

The prime real estate in the region, however, is the Bab el-Mandeb, the southern gateway to the Red Sea which squeezes past Eritrea, Yemen and Djibouti. It carries immense geopolitical significance. Some 19,000 vessels each carrying 1.5 billion barrels of Middle Eastern oil pass through the strait each year, making it the fourth-busiest passage in the world, according to the Center for International Maritime Security.

Europe needs this passage to remain secure for the sake of its oil imports. Its next best alternative is the Cape of Good Hope, but because of the extra 10 days of transit time, threat of piracy



and resulting higher risk premiums, using it would heavily damage the economy of Europe and of the whole world.

Controlling the Bab el-Mandeb means wielding a lot of power.

That is power the Ethiopian Empire once wielded, and Prime Minister Abiy clearly wants to reclaim some of it. During a political rally in June, he said, "Ethiopia will get back its lost glory." Achieving this goal requires, among other things, greater sea access via closer ties with its neighbors, especially Eritrea.

This makes the interests of another power in the region leap into perspective: *Iran*.

Unlike his two immediate predecessors, who were Christians ruling a predominantly Christian country, Abiy has a Muslim background: His father is a Muslim and his deceased mother was a Christian. He is from the Muslim Oromo tribe, which, at 36.6 percent of



## What Iran Wants

Iran, the world's top state-sponsor of terror, already has strong influence in Eritrea. Reconciliation between Ethiopia and Eritrea could expand its influence further.

For years, Iran has worked with Eritrea to smuggle weapons to Somalia. According to an Eritrean opposition group, Iran supplied weapons and troops via Eritrea's Port of Assab in 2008 to train Somalian militants. Soon after, the United Nations Security Council imposed sanctions against Eritrea. When Eritrea supported Iran's nuclear program in 2009, Tehran wired \$35 million to the nation.

Eritrea is accused of backing Somalia's Islamist al-Shabaab movement, providing safe haven for Ethiopian Islamists, supporting Islamist groups in Djibouti, Uganda and Sudan, and facilitating Iran's support for Houthi rebels in Yemen.

What does Iran want? And what does it stand to gain if Ethiopia and Eritrea further unite?

"Iran ... strives to have a strong presence in the region," Geopolitical Futures wrote February 21. "Until recently, Iran was a patron of both Sudan and Somalia [Ethiopia's neighbors], but then Saudi Arabia paid each to switch sides, and Iran lost its place. Ethiopia could be a replacement .... Iran is already close to having strategic control of the Bab el-Mandeb strait—the narrow waterway north of the Horn of Africa—through its influence over militant groups in Yemen. That control is what Iran cares most about in the region."

This is precisely the same analysis Mr. Flurry has made over the years.

In an August 2012 *Key of David* television program, "Ethiopia in Prophecy," Mr. Flurry said, "What Iran REALLY wants is control over the Red Sea and the Mediterranean Sea, and [it has] a strategy .... [I]f a nation gets control of that sea lane through there—the Red Sea and the Mediterranean Sea—can you imagine what that is going to add to their military might?"

Consider the Strait of Hormuz in the Persian Gulf, the world's busiest sea passage. Iran's control over this strait has enabled its leaders to threaten to close it. The threat is so powerful, experts call it Iran's "nuclear option."

As recently as July 2, Iran's president threatened the Hormuz "nuclear option" in response to U.S. President Donald Trump's attempt to block Iran's oil exports. That threat was echoed by Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps Maj. Gen. Mohammed Ali Jafari, who said, "We will make the enemy understand that either all can use the Strait of Hormuz or no one."

**ETHIOPIA-ERITREA** PAGE 36 ►



## Ethiopia's 'Lost Glory'

**A**NCIENT ETHIOPIA included Eritrea, northern Sudan, southern Egypt, Djibouti and western Yemen. The extent of its control over the Red Sea empowered and prospered it immensely. But it also made it a target for invasion from foreign entities—entities that Ethiopians largely resisted.

When Ottoman-backed forces from the Adal Sultanate invaded the Ethiopian Empire in 1529, Ethiopians battled them for 14 years, ultimately repelling them. When Egyptians invaded in 1874, Ethiopian forces fought back for two years and again resisted the invaders. In 1896, during Europe's scramble to colonize Africa, Italy attempted to take Ethiopia, but the squabbling Ethiopian factions united and decisively beat the Italian forces back. Ethiopia is the only African country that successfully resisted European colonization.

Italy invaded Ethiopia in 1935, but by 1941, Ethiopians, with help from Allied forces, repelled the invaders once again.

Ethiopia takes pride in resisting foreign influence. But it is obviously not immune from it. Bible prophecy indicates that Ethiopia and its neighbors, thanks primarily to their strategic location, will fall under the influence of a new power—the "king of the south."

the population, is Ethiopia's largest ethnic group.

Abiy's Muslim background might play a significant role in end-time events prophesied about Ethiopia. Based on a passage about the "king of the south" (radical Islam, led by Iran) and Ethiopia in Daniel 11:40-43, *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry warned in April 2011 that *Ethiopia will fall under the control of radical Islam*.

In his booklet *Libya and Ethiopia in Prophecy*, Mr. Flurry wrote, "[Y]ou need to WATCH LIBYA AND ETHIOPIA. THEY ARE ABOUT TO FALL UNDER THE HEAVY INFLUENCE OR CONTROL OF IRAN, THE KING OF THE SOUTH."

That forecast seemed unlikely at the time. It came well before Prime Minister Abiy and well before the protests of the past three years that further highlighted Ethiopia's instability and vulnerability to foreign influence. But the situation is much different now.



SHAKY COALITION  
German Chancellor  
Merkel's government  
is under threat.

## German government wobbles

**G**ermany's coalition government came close to collapse in early July, just 3½ months after it was finally sworn in. The issue was immigration.

Interior Minister Horst Seehofer demanded tighter restrictions against immigration. He wanted to set up checks at the German border and return migrants who had claimed asylum in other European Union countries to those nations.

Seehofer's demand was symbolic. It was Chancellor Angela Merkel's suspension of this rule that had opened the floodgates to 1 million migrants in 2015.

With Seehofer close to open rebellion against her, Merkel resisted his demand. Seehofer threatened to resign. His resignation would have pulled his Christian Social Union (CSU) out of the government, depriving Merkel of her majority and bringing down her coalition government. It would also have caused a major split between the CSU and its sister party, Merkel's Christian Democratic Union (CDU). This would significantly alter Germany's postwar political order.

After hours of negotiations, Merkel and Seehofer agreed on a deal that allows both parties to claim victory. According to

the agreement, Germany will establish "transit zones" on its southern border. Migrants who enter these zones will technically be considered to be on German soil only after they have passed border checks. Those who have already claimed asylum in another EU nation will be detained and deported to that nation. Migrants who have made no previous asylum claims will be allowed to seek refuge in Germany.

Crisis averted—for now. The other EU nations have not agreed to take migrants back, so political conflict inside and outside Germany could break out again soon.

"The dispute illustrated the degree to which many in Merkel's alliance, including a sizable number of Christian Democrats, are unhappy with her leadership," wrote Politico. "While Merkel survived, she suffered another close call, underscoring her vulnerability. What's more, her harshest internal critics will remain" (July 2).

"Increasingly, the chancellor looks a fading beacon of the postwar order, unable to respond strategically to the many challenges facing her and what she stands for—even if tactically she is capable of muddling through," wrote the *Financial Times* on July 3.

Merkel's fragile coalition government has already weathered several storms in its short existence. Each assault on her leadership leaves her position a little weaker. This situation could open the door for a new, stronger leader to take control of Germany.

Prophecy shows that there *will* be a political challenger in Germany, a strongman who will take the lead in Europe and provide the solutions that unhappy Germans are looking for. Request our report [\*A Strong German Leader Is Imminent\*](#) for more information ([theTrumpet.com/12477](http://theTrumpet.com/12477)). ■

## Nine countries unite under European defense system

**N**ine European countries have agreed to join a new military coalition specializing in rapid deployments in times of crisis. France, Germany, Belgium, Denmark, the Netherlands, Estonia, Spain, Portugal and Britain signed a letter of intent on June 25 to get the project started.

The European Intervention Initiative will launch with meetings as early as September. It is open to European Union members and nonmembers. It will operate outside the

framework of the EU and will not be subject to protracted debate and votes within the bloc.

The initiative was first proposed last September when French President Emmanuel Macron spoke of the need for an efficient force capable of deploying last-minute aid to unforeseen emergencies.

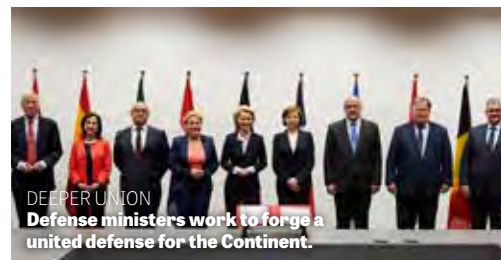
There were complaints from several nations over the EU's lack of action and "inability to make foreign-policy decisions and military intervention" (*Times*, June 26).

"The deadlines and decisions in the EU are still much too long compared to the urgency that can arise from a critical situation in a country where Europeans would consider that there is a strong stake for their security," said French Defense Minister Florence Parly.

This nine-country force demonstrates Europe's desire for fast-acting, united military

power. The European Intervention Initiative is the latest effort to forge this power.

The late Herbert W. Armstrong forecast such a European ambition decades ago. In May 1953, he wrote that "10 powerful European nations will combine their forces." ■



## S. African politician threatens race war

**S**outh African firebrand politician Julius Malema told TRT World in an interview published on June 9, “[W]e’ve not called for the killing of white people, at least for now. I can’t guarantee the future.”

Malema, who leads South Africa’s third-largest political party, made the statement during a discussion on the legality of the South African government sanctioning the seizure of farmland owned by white citizens.

When South Africa ended institutionalized racial segregation in 1994, white farmers owned 85 percent of the nation’s privately held farmland. Over the next 24 years, the government



purchased and redistributed 5 million acres of farmland, and black South Africans purchased more than 12 million acres on the open market. But white South Africans still own an estimated 72 percent of the nation’s farmland.

South African President Cyril Ramaphosa has pledged to accelerate land redistribution by abandoning his government’s “willing buyer, willing seller” principle. Instead, he wants the government to forcibly

confiscate land owned by white people without paying them for it.

A Constitutional Review Committee is still examining whether the governing party’s land seizure policy would be legal. Land redistribution seems to be happening too slowly for Malema. “If things are going the way they are, there will be a revolution in this country,” he said. “There will be an unled revolution, and an unled revolution is the highest form of anarchy.”

An estimated 3,000 farmers have been murdered in South Africa since independence in 1994. The rate of these farm murders, according to an AfriForum study, jumped 92 percent in December 2016, one month after Malema told his supporters to occupy any white-owned farmland they desired.

Inflammatory rhetoric “could prompt citizens to disregard the rule of law,” wrote researchers at South Africa’s Agricultural Business Chamber. “As a result, incidents of illegal land occupation will escalate, coupled with farm invasions, subsequently making the agricultural sector nonfunctional and unproductive.”

Such a chain reaction of bloody violence involving seizing people’s homes and racial conflict is prophesied in the Bible. A prophecy in Ezekiel 7:23-24 that applies to the modern descendants of ancient Israel, including many South Africans, reads: “Make a chain: for the land is full of bloody crimes, and the city is full of violence. Wherefore I will bring the worst of the heathen, and they shall possess their houses ....” ■

## Taliban fighters train in Iran

**I**ran is training and arming the next generation of Taliban fighters on an “unprecedented” scale, according to a July 2 report by the *Times* of London.

One trainee told the *Times* that Iran currently has up to 600 Afghan Taliban recruits at a camp in the Iranian province of Kermanshah. Inside the camp’s gym, rifle range, mess halls, classrooms and mosque, Iranian special forces officers train the Taliban fighters in firearms, bomb-making, leadership, tactics, recruitment and Islamist ideology. After completing their training, the militants receive modern Russian weaponry before heading home to Afghanistan.

Iran offered to train these fighters on two conditions, according to a political adviser to the Taliban who spoke to the *Times*. First, the militant group was required to “put more focus on attacking American and NATO interests in Afghanistan and

devote more forces to attacking [the Islamic State].” The focus on attacking the U.S. is expected to increase as the Trump administration’s economic sanctions hit Iran harder.

“The scale, quality and length of the training is unprecedented and marks not only a shift in the proxy conflict between the [U.S.] and Iran inside Afghanistan, but also a potential change in Iran’s ability and will to affect the outcome of the Afghan war,” the *Times* reported.

The proxy war highlights the prophesied increase in Iranian belligerence and America’s diminishing influence. It also foreshadows another proxy war: between Iran and Europe. Iran is training Taliban fighters to attack the interests of NATO, an alliance of two North American nations and 27 European states. The Afghan war is part of the front line in this brewing conflict prophesied in Daniel 11:40-43 to pit Catholic Europe against an Iranian-led Islamic power. ■



## Europe gets tougher on migrants

**E**uropean leaders at a June 28 summit agreed in principle to set up camps for migrants. Newly arrived migrants will be held in secure camps. Officials will determine if they are genuine asylum seekers and allowed into Europe. If they do not merit asylum, they will be deported.

Much remains to be done before the plan is put into action. EU states will have to volunteer to host camps, for example.

The new agreement also calls for Europe to get much more involved in North Africa. The EU pledged to do more to support

the military and border forces of countries in the region. It also called for “regional disembarkation platforms” to be set up in cooperation with North African countries. This way, migrants rescued at sea would not be taken to Europe, but returned to one of these centers in North Africa.

Though nothing practically has changed, the agreement is a major shift in Europe’s approach to migration. Countries are closing the floodgates, and Europe is moving toward confronting the problem in North Africa. ■



## Erdoğan claims new autocratic powers

**T**urkish strongman Recep Tayyip Erdoğan won his nation's June 24 presidential and parliamentary elections and likely cemented his control over Turkey for the next decade.

Turkey's election authority reported that Erdoğan won an absolute majority, garnering 52.5 percent of the presidential vote. His nearest challenger received only 30.6 percent of the vote—a difference of 13 million Turks. In the parliamentary elections, Erdoğan's Justice and Development Party and its coalition partner won more than half of the seats.

Erdoğan's victory grants him new executive powers, including power over the judiciary, thanks to a change in the Turkish constitution that Erdoğan advocated last year. He will be

able to run for two more terms, likely extending his rule to 2029.

The victory culminated a 15-year transformation of Turkish politics, overseen and largely orchestrated by Erdoğan himself.

In the article, "Exiled Journalist: Beware Turkey's Authoritarian Shift," *Trumpet* managing editor Joel Hilliker wrote, "This transformation in Turkey ... is part of a trend that is affecting other major nations. For nearly two centuries, democratic, free societies—led by the British Empire and the United States—have flourished. But modern, sophisticated, wealthy and well-armed nations are now reverting to authoritarianism."

Erdoğan is a major part of a prophetic trend you can read about in "The New Strongman Age" ([theTrumpet.com/16539](http://theTrumpet.com/16539)). ■

## Facing U.S. tariffs, China embraces German business

**G**erman Chancellor Angela Merkel and Chinese Premier Li Keqiang met in Berlin on July 9, where business leaders from both countries signed \$23.5 billion in deals. The efforts to boost German-Chinese trade came as United States President Donald Trump intensified America's trade dispute with China by announcing a 10 percent

tariff on Chinese imports worth \$200 billion annually. To offset this increasing pressure from Washington, Chinese leaders hope that Europe, which is also being subjected to American tariffs, will side with China.

China is already Germany's largest trade partner, exchanging goods worth \$230 billion last year. This volume could grow considerably. During the meeting in Berlin, top German companies including Volkswagen and BMW signed investment contracts

## China's interest in Middle East grows

**C**hinese President Xi Jinping spoke in Beijing on July 10 at the eighth ministerial meeting of the China-Arab States Cooperation Forum. Xi told representatives from 21 Arab nations and the secretary general of the Arab League that "Arab states and China are natural partners" and said China seeks to play a greater role in the affairs of the Middle East.

Xi emphasized the importance of the Belt and Road Initiative, an enormous Chinese infrastructure project that aims to create a modern version of the ancient Silk Road trade route that connected China to Europe. The project spans thousands of miles, including a segment through the Middle East. "Belt and Road cooperation has energized every dimension of Sino-Arab relations and propelled Sino-Arab all-around cooperation into a new phase," Xi said.



XI JINPING

Announcing that a China-Arab cooperation statement will be signed to accelerate progress on the Belt and Road Initiative, Xi said, "This marks a new historical starting point of Sino-Arab friendship and cooperation."

Xi said he will invite hundreds

of Arab scientists and political and religious figures to visit China over the next three years and promised to give \$15 million in direct aid to the Palestinian people and \$20 billion in loans to help Arab states in economic reconstruction. He also said, "China is determined to become the keeper of peace and stability in the Middle East."

China's efforts in the Middle East and beyond are increasing cooperation between China and Europe and several regions in between. These efforts are also fulfilling specific Bible prophecies. Isaiah 23 describes a gigantic "mart of nations" economic partnership including Chittim (an ancient name for modern China) and Tyre (an ancient city representing modern European commerce.) Combined with other Bible passages, this prophecy shows that these economic

powerhouses will work together to control global trade for a brief time, at the expense of the United States and Britain.

To understand these prophecies and the hope that is tied to them, request a free copy of Gerald Flurry's book *Isaiah's End-Time Vision*. ■

with China that include plans to produce electric cars with Chinese companies and move some automobile production facilities from the U.S. to China. PJ Media wrote, "[T]he German-Chinese realignment is a warning that not everything would go America's way if things get nasty" (July 10).

The Prophet Isaiah prophesied of a massive global trade network in the end time, including Germany, China and a number of other important nations. The Bible shows that this



CHOOSING SIDES  
Li Keqiang and Angela Merkel

"mart of nations" will intentionally exclude America and Britain.

*Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry explained in the July 2016 issue: "The United States and Britain ... are going to be literally besieged—economically frozen out of world trade!" ■



## One third of Generation Z not heterosexual

**M**ore than a third of British youth under the age of 22 identify as nonheterosexual, according to an Ipsos MORI report released on July 5. The study found that, in the United Kingdom, only 88 percent of baby boomers claim to be exclusively heterosexual—and this number decreases with each subsequent generation: 85 percent of

Generation X, 71 percent of Generation Y, and 66 percent of Generation Z.

The Ipsos MORI report identifies social media as one of the biggest reasons for this growing acceptance of homosexuality. Generation Z is being exposed to nonheterosexual relationships at a young age. It is stunning evidence of the success that radical sexual activism is having on society. ■

## Democrats want to abolish ICE

**A** large number of Democratic Party members in the United States want to abolish Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), an agency that protects the nation's borders. A YouGov survey conducted from July 1 to 3 found that over half of Democrats support abolishing ICE to some degree, with 34 percent strongly supporting its abolition. Only 12 percent of Republicans support the dissolution of the agency.

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, a 28-year-old self-proclaimed socialist who won a surprise victory in her Democratic Party primary, is campaigning on her promise to disband ICE. New York Mayor Bill de Blasio flatly declared, "we need to abolish

ICE," while Sen. Elizabeth Warren accused President

Donald Trump of using ICE to treat refugees "like terrorists" and "put children in cages."

In the Old Testament, God likened end-time Israel (modern-day America and Britain) to a hedged vineyard, protected on all sides. But because of the sins of the people, He foretold of a time when He "will take away the hedge" and "break down the wall" so the vineyard can "be trodden down" (Isaiah 5:5-7). Now the hedge on America's southern border is being destroyed, from outside and from within. ■



CORTEZ

## Canada welcomes back Islamic State jihadists

**A**round 190 Canadian citizens have left the country to fight for the Islamic State and other Islamic terrorist groups in the Middle East. Canadian government documents reveal that the administration of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau believes these terrorists have a "right to return" to Canada, a May 14 Global News report says.

A brief prepared for Canadian Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale reveals that not only does the Trudeau administration believe these terrorists have a "right to return," but that the government must facilitate their re-assimilation into Canadian society. The brief asserts that, while returnees may have broken laws by participating in international terrorism, they "may now be disillusioned with the cause" and might no longer pose a threat to society.

The administration calls for the creation of a "High Risk

RIGHT TO RETURN  
An Ottawa convert to Islam

Returnee Interdepartmental Task Force" to work with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to "support" and "open up dialogue" with returning terrorists and their families.

The Bible describes the moral condition of modern Canada and other nations that have descended from ancient Israel as "faint of heart." In Leviticus 26, God specifically warns that if the people indulge in rank immorality, *terror* will reign over them as He breaks the pride of their power. Canada—having lost its faith, its obedience, its purpose and its power—now finds itself in this exact situation, seeking to cajole its enemies into loving it. ■

## Polyamorous trio ruled legal parents of child in Canada

**T**wo men in a polyamorous relationship with a mother can legally be a child's second and third parents, according to a Newfoundland and Labrador Supreme Court ruling made public on June 14. While polygamy is still outlawed in Canada, "polyamory" (non-married sexual relationships between more than two people) is legal.

Justice Robert Fowler made this ruling even though the Canadian province's Vital Statistics Act provides for only two parents to be listed on a child's birth certificate.

"Society is continuously changing, and family structures



are changing along with it," he wrote. "This must be recognized as a reality and not as a detriment to the best interests of the child." This is the first case in Canada in which three people in a polyamorous relationship have been recognized as a child's legal parents. It is surely not the last. ■

drug traffickers, but cartel bosses will still control half the country, and will face less resistance, enabling them to expand their power further. And if López Obrador's socialist policies cause an economic collapse like the one that has devastated Venezuela, his ceasefire will leave the cartels basically in charge of the country.

The primary reason these criminal cartels are so wildly successful is that 27 million Americans are addicted to illegal psychiatric drugs. That means U.S. drug users are fueling a multibillion-dollar industry that causes over 21,000 overdose deaths and 12,000 drug-related homicides per year.

In the Old Testament, the Prophet Hosea foretold that the sins of modern-day descendants of ancient Israel (the peoples of America and Britain) would cause their land to be plagued with violence. "Hear the word of the Lord, ye children of Israel: for the Lord hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in

suffering is in Mexico. But if López Obrador's government stops fighting the cartels, drug traffickers will have a free hand to ply their nation-destroying products throughout the Americas.

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### Immigration Crisis

Since Mexican citizens living in the U.S. send about \$30 billion home to Mexico each year, Mexican presidential candidates have a long history of supporting illegal immigration into their neighbor to the north. Yet López Obrador's rhetoric has been more inflammatory than his predecessors.

He published a book in 2016 titled *Listen Up, Trump* that contains snippets from his speeches. In one, he says, "Trump and his advisers speak of the Mexicans the way Hitler and the Nazis referred to the Jews, just before undertaking the infamous persecution and the abominable extermination."

In another campaign speech, López Obrador promised to defend "the migrants of the world who, by necessity, have to leave their villages to seek life

to leave in search of better living conditions. López Obrador's policies on economics, criminal justice and immigration stand to create a perfect storm that could soon transform Mexico into the next Venezuela, and send untold numbers of people FLEEING NORTH into the United States.

In regard to the United States, Isaiah 1:7 prophesies, "Your country is desolate, your cities are burned with fire: your land, strangers devour it in your presence, and it is desolate, as overthrown by strangers."

This is another prophecy about a curse that results because Americans have disobeyed God's law. Illegal immigrants are streaming into the U.S. in droves, and clearly many Mexican officials want it this way. This is leading to a time where America's cities are "overthrown by strangers."

Yet there is hope in this dire situation.

The fact that the Bible foretells these societal conditions is proof that it is divinely inspired. And after prophesying the downfall of the nations of Israel, the Prophet Isaiah foretold of a time when people would repent of their sins and be forgiven. "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land" (Isaiah 1:18-19).

To find the true source of intractable problems, look for intractable *causes*. The serious issues facing the U.S. and Mexico are the result of sins committed in public and in private by individuals. The solution is not populism, socialism and amnesty. These ideas never bring about good governance and prosperity. Only *repentance from wrong living* can begin to turn things around.

This may sound impossible, but it is coming—soon! And the solution *will* be a revolutionary new government, a government that zeroes in on the only solution to people's problems: resisting and overcoming their sins against God's law, which defines the right way to live. This government will offer real forgiveness, real prosperity, real justice, real change and real hope. And the head of that government will be the real Messiah, Jesus Christ. ■

## OFFICIALS IN MEXICO'S NEW GOVERNMENT NO LONGER WANT TO HELP THE UNITED STATES FIGHT DRUG CARTELS AND DEPORT IMMIGRANTS.

the land. By swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery, they break out, and blood toucheth blood. Therefore shall the land mourn, and every one that dwelleth therein shall languish, with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven; yea, the fishes of the sea also shall be taken away" (Hosea 4:1-3).

This passage describes cause and effect. Because there is "no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land," people swear, lie, kill, steal and commit adultery. The resulting immorality rips apart families, leading millions of hopeless youth to turn to sins of their own, including gang warfare and drugs.

The end result is that "blood toucheth blood." Currently, the bloodiest

in the United States; it is a human right that we will defend." And in another, he said he would refuse to do America's "dirty work" by deporting Guatemalan migrants passing through Mexico en route to America.

Such rhetoric is stirring up anti-American sentiments that have lain dormant since the North American Free Trade Agreement came into force on January 1, 1994.

Officials in Mexico's new government no longer want to help the United States fight drug cartels and deport immigrants. Instead, they want to mimic the economic policies of Cuba and Venezuela, even though the latter's failed socialist revolution has created an economic crisis and prompted 10 percent of the country's population

# When You're Wrong, Admit It

Receiving correction is one of the greatest blessings in your life.

**W**HAT IS THE HARDEST THING FOR A HUMAN BEING TO do? Thanks to pernicious human nature, of all the strenuous, formidable, even heartbreaking things you can face, perhaps the most difficult is this: *when you're wrong*, to truly *admit it*. So you can change it.

This truth came to mind during a recent congressional testimony from a top agent in the Federal Bureau of Investigation.



JOEL HILLIKER

This man was involved in investigating Hillary Clinton's e-mail scandal, Russia's involvement in the 2016 U.S. presidential elections, the Trump-Russia dossier, the leak of Democratic National Committee e-mails, former National Security Adviser Michael Flynn, and finally the probe into alleged collusion with Donald Trump's presidential campaign. He was also committing adultery with an FBI colleague. The thousands of text messages he exchanged with her communicated his extreme bias and hostility toward Trump and his supporters.

But then this man's actions were exposed. The world found out about his adultery, his political prejudice, and his obvious motivation to use his power to damage Mr. Trump. He was called before members of Congress to give nationally televised testimony accounting for his actions.

And there this guilty man boldly, consistently and defiantly insisted he was perfectly innocent. The more evidence of his wrongdoing that was laid before him, the more combative and condescending he became. When one congressman questioned his integrity, he called that "insulting" and said, "I take offense." His defiance included a smirk so noticeable that a Congressman called him out on it, saying he wondered how often the man had looked into his wife's eyes and lied about his adultery.

Somehow this individual had managed to rise to a very high position, paid with American tax dollars, within a high-level law enforcement agency. To me that speaks volumes about the current state of America's government.

As unique and egregious as this man's situation is, his spirit of the *self* being *right*—even when shown to be wrong—has become common in America. In fact, it has prevailed throughout human history. *It can easily plague your own life.*

The question is, what happens to those who never admit fault, who never accept correction? "He, that being often reproved hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy" (Proverbs 29:1). Like a plane whose yoke is never turned or pulled, they fly off course—and crash.

The truth is, we are pitiful, blind creatures without God. Yet we naturally take on the mindset of the devil, who won't admit his failures and will still be insisting on his innocence and righteousness when he is finally cast into outer darkness.

This is the fundamental reason why human civilization has a history and an immediate future dominated by misery, injustice, strife and failure: Because man naturally rejects correction. America is a colossal example: This nation is being chastened, corrected and humbled in countless ways, yet this is not arousing in people any spirit of contrition or sense of repentance. People on every side of every issue are only digging in deeper, doubling down on the supposed correctness of their own position. With engines on full throttle and the mountainside coming into view, we still insist *self is right*.

We all *need* correction! There is nothing sweeter than a child who has done something wrong who responds to his parent's correction and turns away from a wrong attitude and toward humble repentance. God is a loving Father, and He will give us loving correction—not just through troubles and curses, but through the pages of His Word and through His servants—if *only we will accept it*.

Here are four points to help us take advantage of God's precious correction.

**There is nothing sweeter than a child who has done something wrong who responds to his parent's correction and turns away from a wrong attitude and toward humble repentance.**



1. *Stop fighting it.* Acknowledge that you have a deep-seated, carnal resistance to being corrected. You must purge that resentment (Proverbs 12:1).

2. *Pray for it.* Regularly pray that God will correct you, in His mercy. You need that persistent contact with God in order to live the way of God-is-right, not self-is-right (Jeremiah 10:23-24).

3. *Accept it.* Correction will come to you in different forms. Don't focus on the means by which it comes; focus on whether it is *true* (Proverbs 27:5-6).

4. *Apply it.* Humbling yourself enough to do the first three points means nothing if you don't follow through (James 1:22).

"My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth" (Hebrews 12:5-6). In a recent public address, *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry spoke about the need to embrace correction and *thank God* for it. He shared some personal experiences with correction he had received in his life, and said that every time he accepted and applied it, it brought growth and blessings.

Like flying a plane, living a good human life requires constant correction, adjustment and improvement. What happens to those who are *correctable* before God is not just a good life, but the achievement of their incredible human potential. ■



**I want to congratulate you for the July 2018 magazine, especially two very important and factual articles: “The U.S. Government Is at War With Itself” and “Is the ‘Deep State’ Real?” These articles provided a very well-organized report and information, and they clarified the very good Christian point of view. I personally knew all the situations reported, but I have never seen them as well organized as in your articles. Congratulations on a job well done. Keep up the good work! May God bless your ministry!**

**Angel Martin** SOUTH CAROLINA

We read the *Trumpet* all the time. We are very interested in your opinions and information, as most of the media doesn't present the truth or it presents a very slanted opinion. Thank you again for providing us with the “real deal.”

**Gary Dudlicek** ILLINOIS

I happened to see your magazine in the “free rack” at our local grocery store the other day, and picked it up out of curiosity. What an amazing magazine you have! The stories in the issue I picked up regarding U.S. elections and backroom politics were fascinating, educational and disturbing all at the same time. I had never heard of the

“deep state” or blockchain before I read about them in the *Trumpet*; you have brought to light some very important information. I was so impressed with your magazine that I have subscribed to the print edition. Your respect for all people makes your magazine shine in my eyes, and is the reason that I would like to continue reading it.

**Marvin Sandomirsky** ONTARIO

I just got your magazine in the mail and see you are following Herbert W. Armstrong. My dad used to listen to him on the radio, and I remember hearing him. That's great that you guys are still going!

**Greg Sinsley** OHIO



Never thought I could get interested in world news, but knowing what's going on in the world and from a biblical outlook, I will not give it up. Please send.

**John Anderson** E-MAIL RESPONSE

The *Trumpet* is very God-driven, the information is phenomenal, it lines up with the Word of God, and it touches on everything as to where we are in this last stage on planet Earth. I really enjoyed the article on the truth about the problem with the breakdown of the family.

**Sharron Scott** FLORIDA

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**THE KEY OF DAVID**

# Science and the 'Nightmares of the Future'

Churchill warned that scientific progress would outpace character growth. **BY BRAD MACDONALD**

**O**NE COMMON SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION THESE DAYS IS THE effect of science and technology on mankind and our future. Do Google and Facebook help or hurt? Will artificial intelligence technology generally benefit or impair society? The list of questions born from this subject is long.

Winston Churchill wrote an article, published in *Strand* in 1931, addressing this subject: "Fifty Years Hence." Don't let its age fool you. In many ways, it could have been written yesterday.

Churchill wrote: "There are nightmares of the future from which a fortunate collision with some wandering star, reducing the Earth to incandescent gas, might be a merciful deliverance."

What were these "nightmares of the future"? The worst nightmare he described was nuclear warfare. These weapons hadn't yet been created, but Churchill knew they were coming. The age is approaching, he predicted, when "explosive forces, energy, materials, machinery will be available upon a scale which can annihilate whole nations."

Churchill recognized, even in 1931, that the terrific forces being unleashed by "science" were transforming civilization. Societies that for millennia had been empowered by "muscular energy" were beginning to rely instead upon "molecular energy." New discoveries produced new technologies and inventions that revolutionized every facet of human existence, from industry to politics to economics to war.

"[I]mmense new sources of power," he wrote, "made possible novel methods of mining and metallurgy, new modes of transport and undreamed-of machinery. These in their turn enable the molecular sources of power to be extended and used more efficiently. ... Each invention acted and reacted on other inventions, and with ever growing rapidity, that vast structure of technical achievement was raised which separates the civilizations of today from all that the past has known."

The problem, Churchill noted, isn't with science and technology *per se* as much as with the *nature and character of humans*.

"Certain it is that while men are gathering knowledge and power with ever increasing and measureless speed, *their virtues and their wisdom have not shown any notable improvement as the centuries have rolled*" (emphasis added throughout).

Science had bestowed unprecedented power and opportunity, he wrote, but the *selfish and cruel nature* of man "remained hitherto practically unchanged."

Churchill worried that mankind's acquisition of the powers of science and technology was rapidly outpacing mankind's acquisition of the character, discipline and "nobility" needed to refrain from using those powers to hurt human civilization.

He worried that the foremost contribution of science would be equipping human beings with the means of destroying culture, society, government and, eventually, the human race.

Churchill warned: "Under sufficient stress—starvation, terror, warlike passion or even *cold, intellectual frenzy*—the modern man we know so well will do the most terrible deeds, and his modern woman will back him." Look at politics and culture today: There is evidence of a "cold, intellectual frenzy," most notably among the radical left.

Churchill was so concerned about the progress of science—*absent the progress in human character, morality and discipline*—that he believed it would be safer for man to "call a halt in material progress and discovery." There are secrets, he wrote, "too mysterious for man in his present state to know, secrets which, once penetrated, *may be fatal to human happiness and glory*."

No one can dismiss Churchill as a man ignorant of the extreme value of science and knowledge. As a historian, he made a living acquiring, distilling and communicating knowledge. As a military and political leader, he encouraged scientific development and was the architect of more than a few inventions.

**"Certain it is that while men are gathering knowledge and power with ever increasing and measureless speed, their virtues and their wisdom have not shown any notable improvement as the centuries have rolled."**



Unlike most intellectuals, however, Churchill recognized many of his limitations—and, more significantly, the *limitations of science*. Despite its splendid virtues, science, he concluded, "DOES NOT MEET ANY OF THE REAL NEEDS OF THE HUMAN RACE"!

What good is scientific development, he asked, if it cannot answer the "simple questions which man has asked since the earliest dawn of reason—'Why are we here? What is the purpose of life? Whither are we going?'"

"Fifty Years Hence" thus concludes by resurrecting questions that have perplexed mankind for thousands of years, questions that even Churchill could not answer.

*Why are we here? What is the purpose of life? Where are we going?* These questions lie at the core of every discussion about science, its impact on mankind, and its role in our lives. But these questions are generally ignored. Why? Because we have no answers. We have ideas, guesses and speculations, but no hard, demonstrable truth.

Aren't you interested in the answers to these questions? Why man was put on this planet—the purpose of life—where human civilization is headed? Wouldn't you like to understand why science—despite its many fantastic contributions to civilization—has brought mankind to the brink of extinction?

You can have the answers explained to you clearly, logically and with plenty of biblical proof. How? Request, then study, *Mystery of the Ages*. Written by the late Herbert W. Armstrong, this book could be your "merciful deliverance" from our nightmarish world. Take the opportunity to obtain a free copy of this, the book Winston Churchill needed most. ■

On Oct. 25, 2016, *Foreign Policy* wrote, “If a coastal foe can menace shipping transiting [the Bab el-Mandeb] seaway, it would disrupt the shortest, most convenient sea route connecting Europe with South and East Asia. Doing so would carry significant economic and military repercussions.”

How much more power would Iran have if it used Sudan, Yemen, Eritrea and Ethiopia to gain a second “nuclear option”: full control of the Bab el-Mandeb?

This is precisely the outcome Bible prophecy suggests.

### What Iran Will Get

“And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over” (Daniel 11:40). Radical Islam, led by Iran, is this “king of the south.” A rising European power will be the “king of the north.” The prophecy adds in verse 43: “[T]he Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps,” indicating an Iranian alliance of sorts with Libya and Ethiopia.

“Whoever heavily influences or controls Ethiopia will undoubtedly also control the small areas of Eritrea and Djibouti on the Red Sea coastline,” Mr. Flurry writes in his booklet *The King of the South*. “These areas only recently became independent of Ethiopia. Also, I believe the Bible view is that these small areas are included as a part of Ethiopia.”

The naval power Ethiopia is currently building could soon effectively become Iran’s.

“The king of the south is going to push at the king of the north, probably from its trade route power,” Mr. Flurry continues. “That push will be a dramatic act of war!” And Daniel 11:40 forecasts the outcome. Europe “will respond with an all-out whirlwind attack—and Iran and radical Islam will fall immediately” (ibid).

Many might celebrate the end of radical Islam, but Bible prophecy does not end there. The clash between the king of the south and the king of the north will trigger *global conflict*. Jesus Christ calls this “great tribulation”—a time of unparalleled suffering (Matthew 24:21).

God warns us to watch and pray that we might be found worthy to escape (Luke 21:36). We must keep our eyes on Ethiopia. God says it will soon shift toward radicalism. Keep this in mind: Any increase in Ethiopian influence over the Red Sea and Bab el-Mandeb, via its growing ties with Eritrea, will soon be Iran’s influence. ■

### What’s in store for the Middle East?

The Bible has much to say about nations like Ethiopia, Eritrea and Iran. To learn what prophecy says will occur, request Gerald Flurry’s free booklet *The King of the South*.



# THE KEY OF DAVID



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

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**Montgomery-Salem** WBMM-DT/WNCF-DT

8:30, Sun

**Opelika** WLTZ-DT 9:30, Sun

**Alaska, Anchorage** KYUR-DT 8:30, Sun

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**Juneau** KJUD-DT 8:30, Sun

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**Yuma** KECY-DT 8:30, Sun

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KHOG-DT 8:30, Sun

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

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KRCR 9:00, Sun

**Sacramento** KSPX 6:00, Fri;

**Salinas** KION 9:30, Sun

**San Francisco** KKPX 6:00, Fri

**Santa Barbara-Santa Maria** KSBY-DT

9:30, Sun

**Colorado, Denver** KPXC 5:00, Fri

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**Montrose** KJCT-DT 8:30, Sun

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

**Jacksonville** WPXC/WPJ-LP 6:00, Fri

**Miami** WPXM 6:00, Fri

**Orlando** WOPX 6:00, Fri

**Panama City** WJHG-DT 8:30, Sun

**Tallahassee** WTXL 7:30, Sun; WTLF/

WTLH-DT 9:30, Sun

**Tampa** WXPX 6:00, Fri

**West Palm Beach** WPXP 6:00, Fri

**Georgia, Albany** WSWG-DT 9:30, Sun

**Atlanta** WPXA 6:00, Fri

**Augusta-Aiken** WAGT-DT 9:30, Sun

**Brunswick** WPXC 6:00, Fri

**Columbus** WLTZ-DT 9:30, Sun

**Macon** WMAZ-DT 9:30, Sun

**Savannah** WSAV-DT 9:30, Sun

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

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

8:30, Wed

**Honolulu** KPXO 5:00, Fri

**Kauai Ho’Ike** Chan. 52 9:30, Tue

**Maui/Lanai/Molokai/Niihau/Akaku**

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

**Oahu Focus** Chan. 49 7:00, Sat

**Idaho, Boise** KYUU-LP/KBOI-DT 8:30, Sun

**Idaho Falls** KIFI-DT 8:30, Sun

**Pocatello** KIFI-DT 8:30, Sun

**Twin Falls** KMVT-DT 8:30, Sun

**Illinois, Bloomington** WEEK-DT 8:30, Sun

**Chicago** WCUU 7:00, Mon-Fri; WCIU 9:30,

Sun; WCPX 5:00, Fri

**Peoria** WEEK-DT 8:30, Sun

**Rockford** WREX-DT 8:30, Sun

**Quincy** WGEM-DT 8:30, Sun

**Indiana, Fort Wayne** WISE-DT 9:30, Sun

**Indianapolis** WIPX 6:00, Fri

**Lafayette** WLFI-DT 9:30, Sun

**Terre Haute** WTHI-DT 9:30, Sun



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**Iowa, Cedar Rapids** KPXR 5:00, Fri  
**Des Moines** KFPX 5:00, Fri  
**Keokuk** WGEN-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Mason City** KTTC-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Ottumwa** KWOT 8:30, Sun  
**Sioux City** KTIV-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Kansas, Pittsburg** KSXF 8:30, Sun  
**Topeka** KTKA-DT 8:30, Sun;  
 KTKA 9:00, Sun  
**Kentucky, Bowling Green** WBKO-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Lexington** WUPX 6:00, Fri  
**Louisiana, Alexandria** KALB-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Lafayette** KADN 6:30, Sun; KATC-DT  
 8:30, Sun; KLAJ 6:30, Sun  
**Lake Charles** KPLC-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Monroe** KNOE-DT 8:30, Sun  
**New Orleans** WPXL 5:00, Fri  
**Maine, Bangor** WABI-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Portland** WIPL 6:00, Fri  
**Presque Isle** WBPQ 9:30, Sun  
**Maryland, Baltimore** WBFF/WUTB 7:30, Sun  
**Salisbury** WMDT-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Massachusetts, Holyoke**  
 WWLP-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Springfield** WWLP-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Michigan, Alpena** WBAE 9:30, Sun  
**Cadillac** WFOQ-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Detroit** WPXD 6:00, Fri; WADL 10:00, Sun  
**Grand Rapids** WZPX 5:00, Fri  
**Lansing** WLAJ-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Marquette** WBKP-DT/WBUP-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Traverse City** WFOQ-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Minnesota, Duluth** KDHL-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Mankato** KWYE 8:30, Sun  
**Minneapolis** KPXM 5:00, Fri  
**Rochester** KTTC-DC 8:30, Sun  
**Mississippi, Biloxi** WXXV-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Columbus** WCBI-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Greenville** WBWD 8:30, Sun  
**Greenwood** WBWD 8:30, Sun  
**Gulfport** WXXV-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Hattiesburg** WHLT-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Jackson** WDBD 8:00, Sun  
**Laurel** WHLT-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Meridian** WTOK-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Tupelo** WCBI-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Missouri, Columbia** KOMU-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Hannibal** WGEN-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Jefferson City** KOMU-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Joplin** KSXF 8:30, Sun  
**Kansas City** KPXE 5:00, Fri  
**Kirksville** KWOT 8:30, Sun  
**Springfield** KRBK 7:30, Sun  
**St. Joseph** KNPG-LD 8:30, Sun  
**Montana, Billings** KTVQ-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Bozeman** KBZK-DT/KXLF-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Butte** KBZK-DT/KXLF-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Glenville** KWZB 8:30, Sun  
**Great Falls** KRTV-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Helena** KTVH-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Missoula** KPAX-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Nebraska, Hastings** KWBL 8:30, Sun  
**Kearney** KWBL 8:30, Sun  
**Lincoln** KWBL 8:30, Sun  
**North Platte** KWPL 8:30, Sun  
**Scottsbluff** KGWN-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Nevada, Reno** KRNS-CA/KREN-DT 9:30, Sun  
**New York, Albany** WYPX 6:00, Fri  
**Binghamton** WBNG-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Buffalo** WPXJ 6:00, Fri; WUTV 10:30, Sun  
**Elmira (Corning)** WENY-DT 9:30, Sun  
**New York City** WPXN 6:00, Fri; WWOR,  
 8:00, Sun  
**Plattsburgh** WPTZ-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Syracuse** WSPX 6:00, Fri  
**Utica** WKTU-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Watertown** WWTI-DT 9:30, Sun  
**North Carolina, Asheville** WYCW 9:00, Sun  
**Charlotte** WAXN 10:00, Sun  
**Durham** WRPX 6:00, Fri  
**Fayetteville** WFPX 6:00, Fri  
**Greensboro** WGPX 6:00, Fri  
**Greenville** WEPX 6:00, Fri; WNCT-DT  
 9:30, Sun  
**Lumber Bridge** WFPX 6:00, Fri  
**New Bern** WNCT-DT 9:30, Sun

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

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

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

**CARIBBEAN**  
**Regional satellite**  
 Galaxy 3 Trans. 17 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu  
**Bahamas** FOX W Chan. 216, 10:30, Sun  
**Puerto Rico** WSJX 8:00, Sun

**LATIN AMERICA**  
**Regional satellite**  
 Galaxy 3 Trans. 17 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu

**AUSTRALASIA**  
**Australia**  
**Nationwide** 9GEM 8:00, Sun  
**Adelaide** TV44 11:30, Sun; 5:00, Wed  
**Perth** WTV 11:30, Sun/Sat  
**New Zealand** TVNZ 1, 5:30, Sun  
**Philippines** TV4 7:30 PHT, Sun

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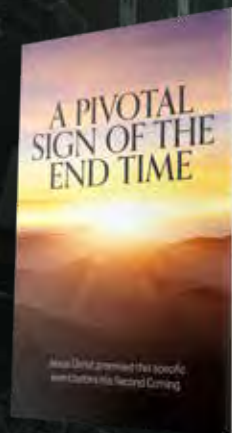
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Station	Day	Time	sky	Freeview	freesat	
CBS Action	Saturday	8:30 am	Ch. 148	Ch. 192	Ch. 64	Ch. 137
CBS Drama	Sunday	7:30 am	Ch. 149	Ch. 197	Ch. 74	Ch. 134
CBS Reality	Sunday	8:00 am	Ch. 146	Ch. 148	Ch. 66	Ch. 135

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