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*Gerald Flury*



## Kings and Women

**K**ing Lemuel's righteous mother taught him a vital lesson about leadership. "The words of king Lemuel, the prophecy that his mother taught him. What, my son? and what, the son of my womb? and what, the son of my vows? Give not thy strength unto women, nor thy ways to that which destroyeth kings" (Prov. 31:1-3).

We can certainly see by today's news headlines how dangerous it can be for a king or president to give his strength to women. A lack of character in this area DESTROYS KINGS!

It is interesting that King Lemuel's MOTHER taught him this lesson. Perhaps a woman can see more clearly how another woman (or women) can destroy a great leader.

There is a deeper lesson here, if we are willing to see it. If we can't control our sexual lusts, it destroys families, which leads to a deadly problem for the nation.

Many people argue that character in these areas doesn't really matter. But they have not bothered to seek God's view. CHARACTER IS EVERYTHING—in a president or a people! The life or death of America is at stake concerning this issue!

Even the Chinese leaders understand that a strong nation is built around strong families.

It seems that most Americans are evaluating the White House scandal. So is the whole world. But I have not read one report that deeply understands what it means. And few subjects could be more critical for us to understand.

Newsweek magazine (Aug. 24) reported that more than half of our people didn't expect our President to tell the truth about the Monica Lewinsky affair. They also don't think he should be punished for it. Fifty-five percent say they don't think he has the honesty and integrity they expect in a president. But they still want

him to continue in office.

We can see that sexual immorality leads to lying, which leads to breaking more of God's Commandments. This is how society breaks down.

The people, through votes, ultimately JUDGE the President and our leaders. If our people don't really care about character sins, then it simply reveals how evil we have become and how dangerously far we are from God's thinking and way of life.

Many people in other nations are deeply concerned about our rapid moral decline. In the present crisis, those nations dependent upon our protective power are worried. The world needs a powerful

America and a strong President. We are the leaders of the free world.

Political commentator Max Soliven, of the Philippine Star, said this of the White House scandal: "This phenomenon, probably, uncovers a far more serious malaise—the decline and approaching meltdown of American society itself."

All we need do is remove the word "probably" from that quote. THERE IS ABSOLUTELY A "MELTDOWN OF AMERICAN SOCIETY"! That is what our people refuse to see.

We don't know the extent of the White House scandal. Still, the American people don't truly care, as long as the economy is good. That is because they are so deeply immoral themselves! Other nations can see our sins much better than we can.

But how about God? Is He going to hold us accountable like the Bible says He will?

Sexual immorality reveals a breakdown of the family, the foundation of any healthy and strong society. If we had enough healthy families, the immoral

(continued on page 28)

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**"Give not thy strength unto women, nor thy ways to that which destroyeth kings."**

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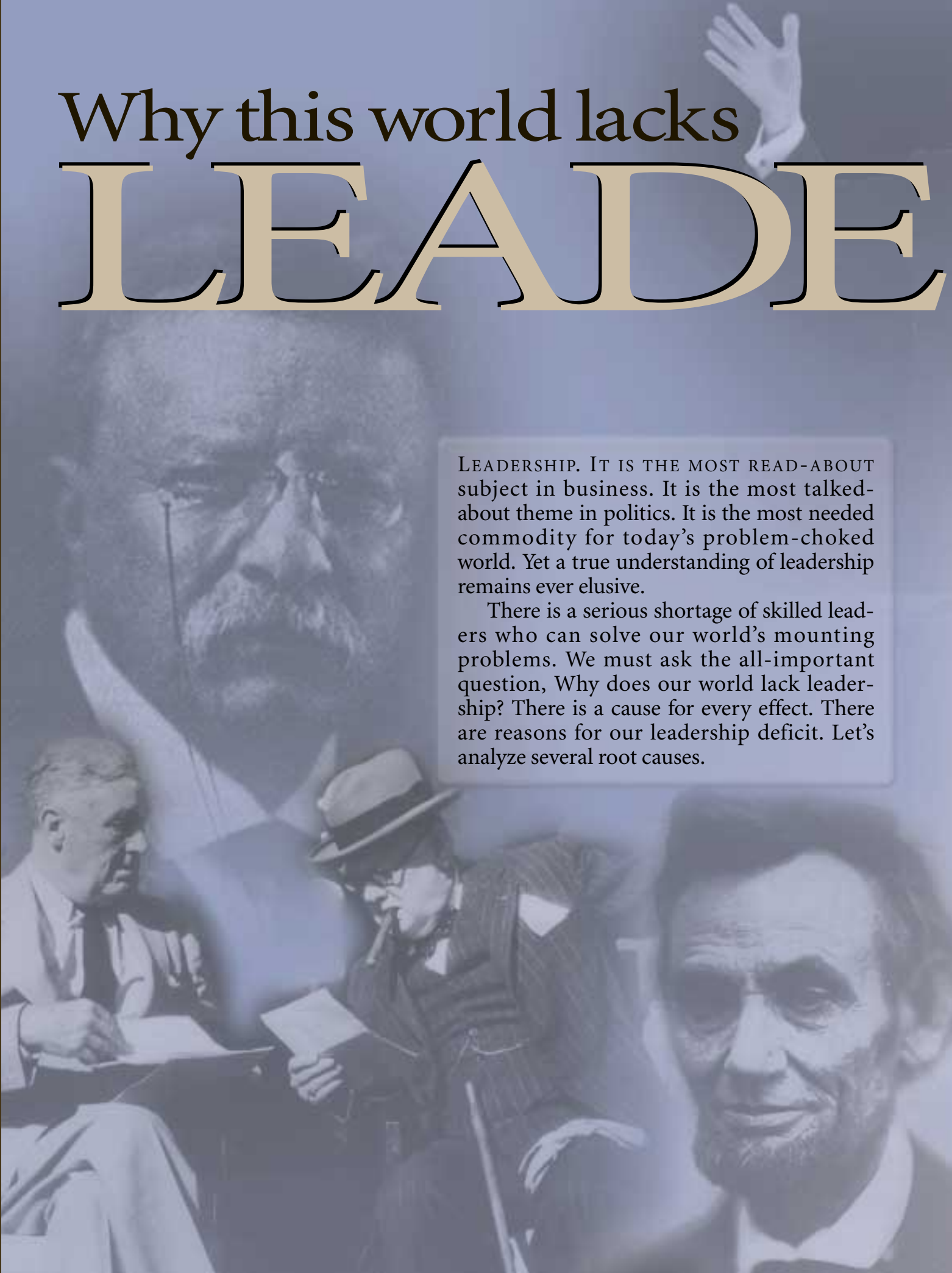
—Proverbs 31:3

# Why this world lacks

# LEADERS

LEADERSHIP. IT IS THE MOST READ-ABOUT subject in business. It is the most talked-about theme in politics. It is the most needed commodity for today's problem-choked world. Yet a true understanding of leadership remains ever elusive.

There is a serious shortage of skilled leaders who can solve our world's mounting problems. We must ask the all-important question, Why does our world lack leadership? There is a cause for every effect. There are reasons for our leadership deficit. Let's analyze several root causes.





# LEADERSHIP

“One of the most universal cravings of our time is a hunger for compelling and creative leadership....”

—Pulitzer prize-winner James MacGregor Burns, *Leadership*, 1978

BY DENNIS LEAP

OURS IS A VERY DIFFERENT world from that of our predecessors. We live in a rapid-paced, quickly changing world. Technology, brought on by the knowledge explosion of the '60s, has revolutionized our world from what it once was. Scientists, businessmen, educators and politicians all agree that, given sufficient time, knowledge and resources, mankind could solve all problems. Yet, with all our advancements, we now have increased evils. We have genocide in Africa and war in eastern Europe. The Middle East is a tinderbox. Recent bomb tests in India and Pakistan demonstrate the threat of a nuclear holocaust still exists. Failing Asian economies threaten the stability of the world's economy. In the United States, racial tensions are ready to explode. In our Western world, morals have rapidly degenerated. Is anyone solving these problems?

## Broken Families

Our once-stable society is now fracturing around us. Why? During our age of scientific progression, the institution of family has been systematically pulled apart. The first cousin of knowledge production is experimentation. The 1960s brought us the “new” morality (a palatable term for sexual immorality) which was simply an experiment with the family. The result? Skyrocketing divorce rates are now the norm throughout the Western world. Recent statistics show that for every ten

new marriages, six will end in divorce. This is a shocking statistic. But our high divorce rate reflects a trend that has been developing for some time.

These divorces have produced a high number of single-parent families. This means many homes are being led by single mothers who must work to support the family. We must face a stark reality: Too many of our '90s homes are fatherless. In 1995, census statistics showed that over 23 million American children do not live with their biological fathers. The simple truth is, children need fathers to help them grow up mentally and emotionally healthy. To become leaders, boys need a strong father as a model. Fathers should teach their sons how to lead their families and other institutions. Our current leadership crisis is really a family crisis. Broken families produce flawed leaders.

Who is to blame for our broken, fatherless homes? There are several key factors to consider. We must be honest: A great share of the blame for our broken homes lies with men. The sexual revolution of the '60s taught men to throw off the older generation's values. Men were encouraged to do “whatever makes you happy.” For many, that meant shirking their God-given responsibility to lead. Generally, being “happy” also meant escape from a troubled marriage. Instead of solving marriage problems, many men simply moved on. Family breakdown became commonplace. Selfishness and self-centeredness replaced sacrifice and

support. Setting the male example of being a hard-working, wise, loving and firm family guide became passé.

Now we have a new generation of non-fathered men who do not understand what it means to be a male. Many of today's men are moving through life without direction. Frustration runs high. Never before has our society been so confused about being male. No wonder we have such a lack of leadership.

## Attack on Males

We must also recognize the impact of the feminist movement on leadership. Male leadership, especially the role of the father, has been under attack for decades. The feminist movement has led the charge.

In his article “The Crisis of Manliness,” Waller R. Newell writes, “The last 30 years have witnessed a prolonged effort at social engineering throughout our public and educational institutions. Its purpose is to eradicate any psychological and emotional differences between men and women, on the grounds that any concept of manliness inevitably leads to arrogance and violence towards women.... This experiment was meant to reduce violence and tensions between the sexes. And yet, during this same period, ‘macho’ violence and stress between men and women may well have increased. Recent crime statistics suggest as much in the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom—the countries where the feminist social experiment stigmatizing manliness has had the greatest latitude to prove itself” (The Weekly

Standard, Aug. 3). Wanting to eliminate male authority and replace it with female supremacy, the women's movement has ridiculed and maligned the male role in the family.

All male energy, decisiveness and action is considered wrongful aggression by feminists. It is true that male authority can be abused; however, positive male energy, decisiveness and action solves problems—society's problems. Desiring a genderless society, feminists have taught young boys that their natural tendency to take the lead, to be strong and energetic, is wrong. Yes, boys will be impetuous. All boys must be taught how to discipline and channel their energies. Yet, our schools today are dosing out Ritalin instead of teaching character and values.

The problems in schools are growing worse. Mr. Newell states that the feminist movement's put-down of men has helped produce a new generation of violent youths angered into aggression. Surely 1998's school shooting headlines show us that something is terribly wrong with our youth.

Our modern media has given much assistance to feminism. TV shows, movies and even comic strips picture women as bright, energetic and strong, while men are portrayed as lifeless, weak, bumbling idiots. The feminist movement has been a major contributor to our modern male identity crisis. The message has been clear: Women are good—men are bad. It is not difficult to understand why so many young men today do not take the lead in society. They have been taught that it is wrong and oppressive to do so! But energy must be released, so frustrated young men are turning their male energy to destructive purposes.

The feminist movement is trying to build a society without men. What is the impact? Wade F. Horn, director of the National Fatherhood Initiative, clearly explains, "Over the last three decades we have engaged in a great social experiment to determine what will happen if large numbers of children are reared without their fathers. And the conclusion is children suffer greatly" (Men's Health, Sept. 1995). The father's role in the family has been greatly de-emphasized. Now, many experts recognize that children (male and female) suffer terribly without a father living in



UPI/CORBIS-BETTMAN

## A Father's Example

EXPERTS AGREE THAT A TRUE LEADER IS TRAINED FROM EARLY CHILDHOOD. Strong families—with an active father at the helm—build strong leaders. Let's look at an example of the kind of male leadership we are referring to.

Lee Iacocca, former CEO for Chrysler, wrote this about his father. "Whenever times were tough in our family, it was my father who kept our spirits up. No matter what happened, he was always there for us. He was a philosopher, full of little sayings and homilies about the ways of the world. His favorite theme was that life has its ups and downs and that each person has to come to terms with his own share of misery. 'You've got to accept a little sorrow in life,' he'd tell me when I was upset about a bad grade in school or some other disappointment. 'You'll never really know what happiness is unless you have something to compare it to.'

"At the same time, he hated to see any of us unhappy and would always try to cheer us up. Whenever I was worried about anything, he'd say: 'Tell me, Lido, what were you so upset about last month? Or last year? See—you don't even remember! So maybe whatever you are worried about today isn't really all that bad. Forget it, and move on to tomorrow.'

"During hard times, he was always the optimist. 'Just wait,' he'd tell me whenever things looked bleak, 'the sun's gonna come out. It always does.' Many years later, when I was trying to save Chrysler from bankruptcy, I missed my father's comforting words. I'd say, 'Hey, Pop, where's the sun, where's the sun!' He never let any of us surrender to despair, and I confess there was more than one moment in 1981 when I felt ready to throw in the towel. I kept my sanity in those days by recalling his favorite saying: 'It looks bad right now, but remember, this too shall pass'" (Iacocca: An Autobiography, p. 10). This is the kind of father-leadership our families need today. Unfortunately, the majority do not have it.

the home. Our modern homes need the firm, wise, loving, encouraging, uplifting guidance that only a father can give. Effective fathers train effective leaders.

When male authority is lacking from home life, tragic results often follow. Law officials and other youth experts know that the declining role of fathers in our society has led to an increase in crime, welfare dependency and drug use. Let's admit it! The FATHERLESS FAMILY is one of the root causes for this world's lack of leadership.

### Not Taught in School

True leadership is not taught in colleges or universities. We have busi-

ness schools, law schools and medical schools. Name one leadership school. I challenge you to find a major university that offers even one course on leadership. Isn't it fair to ask why the youth of today are not being trained to properly steer our modern governments and combat the huge problems facing mankind?

The first half of this century brought us leadership giants. Men like Winston Churchill, Harry Truman, Charles De Gaulle and Konrad Adenauer motivated their respective nations and influenced the world to overcome great obstacles. No one questions that these men were leaders—great leaders.

## Our modern homes need the firm, wise, loving, encouraging and uplifting guidance that only a father can give. Effective fathers train effective leaders.

Scholars, historians, political scientists, sociologists and psychologists study the lives of these men, yet they still cannot define or summarize the basic qualities that make up effective leadership. Maybe you don't agree with that statement. But think about it. If we know so much about leadership, where are all the Churchills and De Gaulles today?

Many people confuse power and leadership. Go to the business section of any bookstore. Numerous books about leadership have the word power in the title. Some would consider Hitler, Mussolini, Lenin and Stalin leaders. These men wielded considerable power. But were they true leaders? As heads of their nations, these men inflicted enormous pain and suffering upon millions. Experts study these men and make observations about the use and abuse of power. We must ask, can we learn leadership from power-mad tyrants? Power is not leadership. Effective leaders use power to serve and assist others. Having power does not mean problems get solved. Adolf Hitler proved that power can make serious problems much worse.

This last half-century has brought us some leaders of prominence. There was Dwight Eisenhower, Anwar Sadat, Margaret Thatcher, Ronald Reagan. As we near the coming millennium, however, many would agree that there are not many impressive leaders out there, providing effective ways to deal with international conflicts, racial tensions, urban and rural violence, failing global and national economies, poverty, famine, growing disease epidemics and unexpected natural disasters.

Honest observers recognize that this world is on a collision course with these problems. Who is being prepared to provide solutions, make plans, and carry out decisions? We must conclude that our modern crisis of leadership is really a crisis of education.

Mr. Burns writes, "The crisis of leadership today is the mediocrity or irresponsibility of so many of the men and women in power, but leadership

rarely rises to the full need for it.... If we know all too much about our leaders, we know far too little about leadership. We fail to grasp the essence of leadership that is relevant to the modern age, and hence we cannot agree on the standards by which to measure, recruit and reject it" (op. cit., p. 2). This quote reveals that we just do not understand leadership. So then how could we properly teach it?

### Culture of Personality

Why don't we understand leadership? Could our lack of understanding reflect a lack of moral character? Let's be blunt. Do the people of this world truly desire effective leadership? If Winston Churchill came on the scene today, would anybody listen, and then do what he recommended? The answer is a sad no.

Leadership reflects a relationship. A leader must have followers. When a leader leads, followers must follow. All people of this world—both East and West—have had considerable problems with their leadership. Even with all Churchill did for the free world, he was loathed by many. John Kennedy, Anwar Sadat and Indira Gandhi were brutally assassinated. We hate and kill our leaders. Here is another reason we lack leadership today: Followers all too often reject the leaders best

sued to lead.

Today, we prefer our leaders to be more like celebrities than people of substance. This is probably most true in the Western world, especially in the United States. Some of our elected officials are former actors or athletes. In our modern culture, we look up to people who look good. We vote for the most handsome or most physically appealing. These are the kind of people we want to imitate and follow. Ugly people with right answers are categorically ignored!

Read some about our leaders in the latest magazines and newspapers. You will find articles that peep into our leaders' private lives, revealing trivial things from sleep habits, sexual practices, clothing and favorite foods, to the pedigrees of dogs and cats. Why are these meaningless subjects given so much press? Editors know what sells magazines. They print what people want to read. The articles about our leaders in today's magazines are a reflection of ourselves.

Our high-tech society has become so shallow. We are living in a culture that focuses on personality. We are trend-seekers. We desire ease and pleasure. Who wants hard solutions to real problems? We want leaders to tell us there are no problems. We desire "IN" leaders who tell us everything is getting better and better. How far do we think a leader would get if he stated emphatically that to solve our nation's debt problems everyone should cut up their credit cards?

King Saul of ancient Israel was the people's choice. The people had rejected Samuel as their leader. He was old and gray-headed (I Sam. 8:5). The

## Can we learn leadership from power-mad tyrants? Power is not leadership. Effective leaders use power to serve others.



STALIN; MUSSOLINI; SAM SHAW; HITLER; NSDAP

people wanted a king like the nations around them. Saul was a tall and handsome man (I Sam. 10:23-24). He had personality and charisma—the kind of leader the people could be proud of. Yet, he led his nation into one disaster after another.

Many leaders in our '90s generation have come to power more as a result of their personality and appearance than their ability or skill. Political critics recognize that the individual who effectively presents a charismatic TV and media image can gain power easily. Analysts agree that many of our modern leaders in the U.S. and UK have come to office through their manipulation of the media. Had King Saul been alive today, he would have successfully manipulated the media too.

Unfortunately, receiving a nation's vote is nothing better than winning the "people's choice" award for great drama. To have effective leadership we must learn this lesson from history—the people's choice is often not what a nation needs. Our Western nations are teetering on the brink of disaster!

#### Lessons From History

Students of history recognize that there is a cyclic nature to leadership. Quoting George Santayana, Winston Churchill often said, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." As a whole, the British and American people have lost their sense of history. Unless we regain a sense of our heritage, we are doomed to repeat a very tragic past. Our leadership is failing us by not learning from and reminding us of vital historic events.

Churchill also said, "No one can

## The history that our modern Western leaders need most is found in the Bible. Prophecy tells us who we were, who we are and where we are going.

History shows us that eras of energetic and effective leadership by reasonable and just-minded men are generally followed by periods of decline and crisis under feeble or confused successors. Do we realize that THE GREAT LEADERS OF OUR TIME ARE DEAD? And many of today's current events parallel those which led up to World War II. The continuing crisis in the Balkans, along with the racial and economic tension inside Germany, proves this point. Similar events in these troubled countries directly led to that war. Which national leaders today are speaking to these issues and warning our world about the coming trouble? Name them. Your list will be very small.

The history that our modern Western leaders need most is found in the pages of a best-seller that few read—the Bible. Prophecy tells us who we were, who we are and where we are going. Herbert Armstrong, one of the truly great leaders of our time, now dead, understood Bible prophecy like no other man. He explained Bible history and the destiny of the English-speaking world in his book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*. Write for a free copy if you don't already have one. This important book, if read (and believed) by today's Western leaders, would make a vital difference in the ef-

Britain are named Israel in Bible prophecy. Modern Germany is called Assyria. Other significant nations are mentioned as well. Mr. Armstrong wrote, "We know Bible prophecies definitely refer to the Russia, Germany, Italy, Turkey, Ethiopia, Libya, Egypt, of today. Could they then ignore modern kingdoms like Britain and America? Is it reasonable?"

"Assuredly it is not. Nor are we ignored. The fact is we are mentioned more often than any other race. Yet our prophetic identity has remained hidden to the many. Modern nations are not spoken of by their modern names, except in a few cases. Usually they are referred to by the names of the ancient ancestors from which they sprang. Thus Turkey is referred to in prophecy as Esau or Edom, because the Turks are the descendants of Esau. In like manner, the Arabs are spoken of as Ishmael, the Russians are Magog.

"The Bible story of our ancestry and our modern prophetic identity is the most amazing—yes, astounding—the most fascinating and interesting story ever told. It is really the story-thread of the Bible itself, from Genesis to Revelation" (p. 10).

The significance of this book is shocking. Charting a map through Bible prophecy, it shows that our mod-

## History shows us that eras of energetic and effective leadership by reasonable and just-minded men are generally followed by periods of decline and crisis under feeble or confused successors.

understand history without continually relating the long periods of which are constantly mentioned to the experience of our brief lives. Five years is a lot. Twenty years is the horizon.... Fifty years is antiquity." How quickly we have forgotten the incredible human drama and trauma of World War II. That global crisis gave us fantastic leadership. In fact, World War II taught us that the true test of leadership is meeting and overcoming crises.

fectiveness of their leadership. It would guide their decisions—show them the way out of the major problems they face today.

#### Leadership Taken Away

The United States and Britain in Prophecy shows who our modern nations are in prophecy. It reveals that our English-speaking nations comprise the descendants of the lost ten tribes of Israel. In fact the United States and

ern Western nations are in grave peril, especially the United States and Great Britain. Mr. Armstrong clearly explained that the Old Testament prophecies written down in ancient Israel actually apply to us, right now!

Why do we lack capable leadership today? Prophecy shows that God has removed competent leadership from American and Britain—modern Israel. The prophet Isaiah wrote, "For, behold, the Lord, the Lord of hosts, doth take





VIG BRUNS

### A righteous leader:

Herbert Armstrong understood and taught Bible prophecy like no other man this century.

away from Jerusalem and from Judah the stay and the staff, the whole stay of bread, and the whole stay of water. The mighty man, and the man of war, the judge, and the prophet, and the prudent, and the ancient, The captain of fifty, and the honourable man, and the counsellor, and the cunning artificer, and the eloquent orator. And I will give children to be their princes, and babes shall rule over them. And the people shall be oppressed, every one by another, and every one by his neighbour: the child shall behave himself proudly against the ancient, and the base against the honourable” (Isa. 3:1-5). These

scriptures are an apt description of our leadership crisis and our society. God states emphatically that He has taken away competent leadership from us at all levels. He has removed it in our military (man of war), in our legal system (judge), in religion (prophet), in education (prudent), in our families (ancient), in business (artificer) and in our governments (orator). What is the result? People are oppressed. Our high-tech society has become a burdensome one. The more we advance, the more we decline.

Why has God removed leadership? Isaiah also wrote, “For Jerusalem is ru-

ined, and Judah is fallen: because their tongue and their doings are against the Lord, to provoke the eyes of his glory” (v. 8). We have provoked God with our many sins. We have become a sin-filled society. Since we want sin, God is giving us leaders who will allow us to keep sinning to our own destruction. Isaiah continues, “The show of their countenance doth witness against them; and they declare their sin as Sodom, they hide it not. Woe unto their soul! for they have rewarded evil unto themselves” (v. 9). As a people, we flaunt our sin—as do some of our leaders. Unless our nations repent soon, we and our leaders are going to receive severe punishment.

### Effective Leadership Is Returning

Historians also recognize that in a period of decline, rule is often obtained by default. Many a nation has been ruined because of leadership by default. Unfortunately, those truly qualified to lead and govern today do not want the job. This too was prophesied. Isaiah states of America and Britain, “When a man shall take hold of his brother of the house of his father, saying, Thou hast clothing, be thou our ruler, and let this ruin be under thy hand: In that day shall he swear, saying, I will not be an healer; for in my house is neither bread nor clothing; make me not a ruler of the people” (vv. 6-7). Isaiah reveals the ill effects of our leadership crisis. Our society is sick and gasping for breath. These verses show that things are going to get worse. When competent men refuse to rule, unscrupulous tyrants generally seize control of governments. The Bible does prophesy that a final, Great Tribulation is coming on our world (Matt. 24:21). Power-mad men will inflict the worst time of suffering on an unsuspecting humanity one final, short time.

But there is hope. Jesus Christ, the most competent and effective leader ever trained, will return and stop men from misruling other men (Rev. 11:15). He will establish a new world government with capable leaders. After He returns, never again will this world suffer a crisis of leadership. The entire earth will have rulers capable of solving problems. At Christ’s return, a new age of peace, health and success will break forth. May God hasten the day. ♦

## Where Are the Leaders?

“For, behold, the Lord, the Lord of hosts, doth take away from Jerusalem and from Judah the stay and the staff, the whole stay of bread, and the whole stay of water. The mighty man, and the man of war, the judge, and the prophet, and the prudent, and the ancient, The captain of fifty, and the honourable man, and the counsellor, and the cunning artificer, and the eloquent orator” (Isaiah 3:1-3).



# WINSTON S. CHURCHILL

## THE WATCHMAN

BY GERALD FLURRY

**I**N 1932, THERE WERE 2 million members in the Nazi party. 400,000 men belonged to Hitler's semi-military "storm troopers."

Three of the Nazis' most strident demands were: 1) They wanted an end to the Versailles Treaty. (This was a treaty to make the Germans pay for the damage they caused by starting World War I!) 2) They wanted to rearm. (They were not allowed to do so after what they did in World War I.) 3) They demanded that German Jews be removed from all walks of German life.

This last demand should have alerted the world to where Germany's rearmament would lead! Actually, there was really only one prominent leader who was alarmed by what was happening in Germany. He spoke out publicly against it. That man was Winston Churchill. He wanted to see Britain strengthen its weak military. Yet Britain's foreign secretary, Sir John Simon, was working feverishly to get the British government to rapidly and comprehensively disarm! His appeal gained strong and enthusiastic support.

Other members of Parliament were also working to achieve that goal.

Winston Churchill was a voice crying in the wilderness.

How could so many of our leaders in the U.S. and Britain—almost all of them—have been so weak in dealing with Hitler? Why was the British Parliament thinking of disarming as Germany rapidly rearmed?

Across the Atlantic, America was assuming a similarly passive posture. We might have remained that way throughout World War II if Japan hadn't directly provoked us at Pearl Harbor. As Edward R. Murrow said, "America didn't enter into the war, they were bombed into it."

Our leaders lacked the watchman quality of a strong leader like Churchill. He faced reality and spoke the truth in a dangerous world. Most leaders in the U.S. and UK lived in a weak world of illusion.

Martin Gilbert wrote the greatest biography ever of this great leader, Winston S. Churchill. In Volume V, *The Prophet of Truth*, he wrote (emphasis mine throughout), "Into Europe's 'highly complicated and electrical situations,' Churchill declared, 'our well-meaning but thoughtless and RECKLESS PACIFISTS expect us to plunge with sweeping gestures, ENCOURAGED BY LONG-DISTANCE HALLOOS FROM THE UNITED STATES'" (p. 449).

The U.S. was even more pacifist than Britain. Both nations made horrendous misjudgments about Hitler. We should be embarrassed even today by our shameful weakness against one of the worst tyrants ever.

The big question is, Did we learn anything from this towering mistake that almost cost us our freedom? Did Mr. Churchill's example teach us why we made such colossal misjudgments?

Those who fail to learn from history are destined to repeat its catastrophes! Today a nuclear first strike is apt to win the next major war. So our margin for error is much smaller. That means we must stop a Hitler-type movement before it gains power.

We can't afford the pacifist attitude we had before World War II and survive nationally. Yet our pacifist attitude is far worse today than it was then.

**On the watch:** Churchill surveys a German bomber attack in Southern England with his daughter Mary.

### "Smooth Things"

On November 17, 1932, Churchill wrote in the *Daily Mail*, "Do not delude yourselves. Do not let His Majesty's Government believe—I am sure they do believe—that all that Germany is asking for is equal status. I believe the refined term now is equal qualitative status by indefinitely deferred stages. That is not what Germany is seeking. All these bands of sturdy Teutonic youths, marching through the streets and roads of Germany, with the light of desire in the eyes to suffer for their Fatherland, are not looking for status. They are looking for weapons, and, when they have the weapons, believe me they will then ask for the return of lost territories and lost colonies, and when that demand is made it cannot fail to shake and possibly shatter to their foundations every one of the countries I have mentioned, and some other countries I have not mentioned...."

"The dangers were too acute to be hidden behind bland platitudes. 'I cannot recall at any time,' Churchill said, 'When the gap between the kind of words which statesmen used and what was actually happening in many countries was so great as it is now. The habit of saying SMOOTH THINGS and uttering pious platitudes and sentiments to gain applause, without relation to the underlying facts, is more pronounced now than it has ever been in my experience'" (ibid.).

Mr. Churchill pleaded for leaders to speak the truth and not "smooth

things" to the people.

He was using a Bible expression to get their attention. "Now go, write it before them in a table, and note it in a book, that it may be for the time to come for ever and ever" (Isa. 30:8). The expression "time to come" in Hebrew is "the latter day." So these prophecies were written in a book for the time we are living in now.

"That this is a rebellious people, lying children, children that will not hear the law of the Lord: Which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophecy not unto us right things, SPEAK UNTO US SMOOTH THINGS, PROPHECY DECEITS" (vv. 9-10). This was addressed to God's spiritual and national leaders today. First it is to God's own people. They wanted "deceits" to make it easy to rebel against God's law. They knew God's truth and prophecy. Then they rejected true prophecy and wanted "smooth things" from their leaders. They didn't want a true watchman to warn them or the world.

Leaders like Winston Churchill and Isaiah refused to "prophecy deceits." That is the mark of a great leader! They always tell the truth, no matter how hard it is to accept!

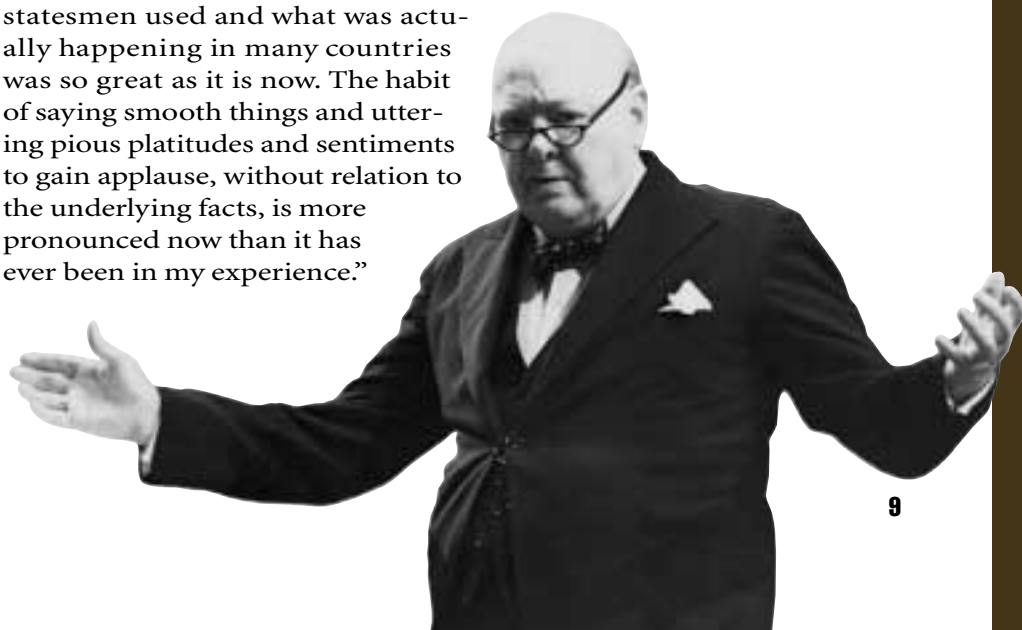
Yet Churchill had to battle against pacifist statesmen from every quarter. And Isaiah prophesied that we would get even worse leadership today than what Churchill battled against!

We were entering into "the latter days" even when Churchill was on the scene. He was fighting against Israel's end-time attitude of wanting to hear "smooth things."

“ I CANNOT RECALL AT ANY TIME WHEN THE GAP between the kind of words which statesmen used and what was actually happening in many countries was so great as it is now. The habit of saying smooth things and uttering pious platitudes and sentiments to gain applause, without relation to the underlying facts, is more pronounced now than it has ever been in my experience.”



HULTON-DEUTSCH/CORBIS



We have been proving and teaching for over 50 years that Israel is primarily America and Britain. Mr. Churchill was fighting against this condition that was prophesied. And it's going to get even worse!

So expect physical and spiritual Israel to clamor for "smooth things" as we head for destruction!

Do we believe God? Do we have the courage to face the truth? Can we rise above our own weakness, or must we drown in it?

God says most will say, "Get you out of the way, turn aside out of the path, CAUSE THE HOLY ONE OF ISRAEL TO CEASE FROM BEFORE US" (v. 11). This prophecy also reveals that there was a spiritual leader who followed God, the Holy One of Israel. He came on the world scene about the same time Winston Churchill did.

His name was Herbert W. Armstrong. He continued and did the greatest work ever for God in terms of people reached. He preached the true gospel around the world (Matt. 24:14). He restored all things—all of God's major doctrines (Matt. 17:10-11).

But now God's people are turning away from the "HOLY ONE OF ISRAEL." That means physical and spiritual. (If you want to know what nations comprise Israel today, write for our free booklet *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*.) Israel is the only people who have a history with the Holy One of Israel!

This prophecy is being fulfilled even as I write. It would behoove each one of you to drop everything and prove what I am telling you today!

Isaiah 30:11 ought to shock any person who believes the Bible. Here is a group of people among whom the Holy One of Israel dwelled. And now they want God to stop leading them. They knew the great God and then rejected Him! THIS IS THE GREATEST POSSIBLE CATASTROPHE!

What does this tell us about human nature? These scriptures refer to God's Spirit-begotten people. If they rebel, it is very revealing. It is hard to overestimate the deceit and wickedness of the human mind. Our greatest challenge is to accept the truth. Can you? Can I?

That same God prepared Winston Churchill to help save the nations of America and Britain in World War II (as well as other nations).

**A tarnished presidency:** Newspapers around the world headlined Clinton's confession last month. Here is a sampling from London.



God is not sending a national savior like Churchill for the nations of Israel this time. God is only sending a warning from a tiny remnant of His Church, who don't want "smooth things"—like the majority of God's own people do today!

#### The U.S. Presidency

Look at how the U.S. presidency is being wrecked—the office of the world's number one superpower. Mr. Clinton's second term has been severely damaged. The power of that office to do good at home and in the world will never be the same.

Never have our people been so politically polarized and divided. The truth is being dangerously cast aside as one group wars with another.

Carl Bernstein, the famous Watergate reporter, thinks we are lost in a kind of scandal madness. He said much of the press coverage has become entertainment. IT'S AS IF AMERICANS ARE ENTERTAINED BY WATCHING THEIR OWN PRESIDENCY COLLAPSE! We should be horrified!

We must understand that the presidency has been greatly damaged—a terrible, terrible event for our nation!

The bond of trust between our

President and the people has been shattered. Without that bond, we have only the weakest kind of leadership.

And the greatest damage is not even seen by most of our people: the colossal damage done to the FAMILY. The family unit has degenerated so much that we can't even see what we are doing to ourselves.

Some countries, like China, still realize that the family is the real strength of the nation. As the family goes, so goes the nation!

Our people are virtually unconcerned about the family morals of our leaders because they are so immoral themselves.

All America needs is one great world crisis to expose our weakened presidency and deeply divided people. A house or family divided against itself cannot stand! (Matt. 12:25).

Do we grasp how serious this problem really is?

Where is the leader who can unite us? Where is the leader who our people would trust and follow, and for whom they would make great sacrifices?

Our people are not apt to listen to a strong watchman warning from any president.

Never did the world need a strong

**WE ARE LOST IN A KIND OF SCANDAL madness. It's as if Americans are entertained by watching their own presidency collapse! We should be horrified!**

U.S. more than today. The Middle East peace process is falling apart. The Asian financial disaster threatens to bring America down. Russia is in financial collapse. China is pushing the West around. Germany is asserting itself again on the world scene. Kosovo and Ireland are ready to explode.

Terrorists are blatantly bombing American embassies. Our leaders make a routine speech about justice being done. But JUSTICE IS RARELY DONE. Just ask the victims' families. We are getting weaker by the month!

Our President and presidency has been so compromised that we can't even lead our own people—much less the world.

We are heading into the worst crisis ever in this world, with chemical, biological and nuclear weapons. Only those people drowning in illusion can fail to see the great dangers.

The fact that there is no Winston Churchill on the world scene is in itself a frightful warning! That means Israel is

too evil for God to even save! “Wherefore thus saith the Holy One of Israel, Because ye despise this word, and trust in oppression and perverseness, and stay thereon: Therefore this iniquity shall be to you as a breach ready to fall, swelling out in a high wall, whose breaking cometh SUDDENLY at an instant” (vv. 12-13). It is time for Britain and America to awaken. Their destruction is about to come “SUDDENLY”! Our only hope is in God and repentance.

These prophecies are for this end time! Do you really believe God?

#### A Leader's Responsibility

Churchill said, “The responsibility of ministers to guarantee the safety of the country from day to day and from hour to hour is direct and inalienable.” Often a leader forgets his responsibility. His job is to do all he can to save his church or nation. Ultimately, this can only be done by God. But leaders also have their role to play.

A physical or spiritual leader must

**Swelling ranks:** Churchill warned for years as the German army grew, brazenly violating the terms of WWI's Versailles Treaty.

not forget WHY he is the leader. He has a duty to tell the truth in good and in bad times, and then do all he can to protect his flock!

Churchill refused to soften or change his views for the people or the party leadership. Where is such a leader today?

#### Hostile Educators

On January 30, 1933, Adolf Hitler became Germany's chancellor. On February 17 Churchill spoke at the 25th anniversary meeting of the Anti-Socialist and Anti-Communist Union. Commenting on the recent debate in the Oxford Union, at which a majority of the undergraduates present had approved the motion “That this House refuses in any circumstances to fight for King and Country,” Churchill declared: “That abject, squalid, shameless avowal was made last week by 275 votes to 153 in the debating society of our most famous university. We are told we ought not to treat it seriously. The Times talks of the Children's Hour. I disagree. It is a very disquieting and disgusting symptom,” and he went on to explain why it troubled him.

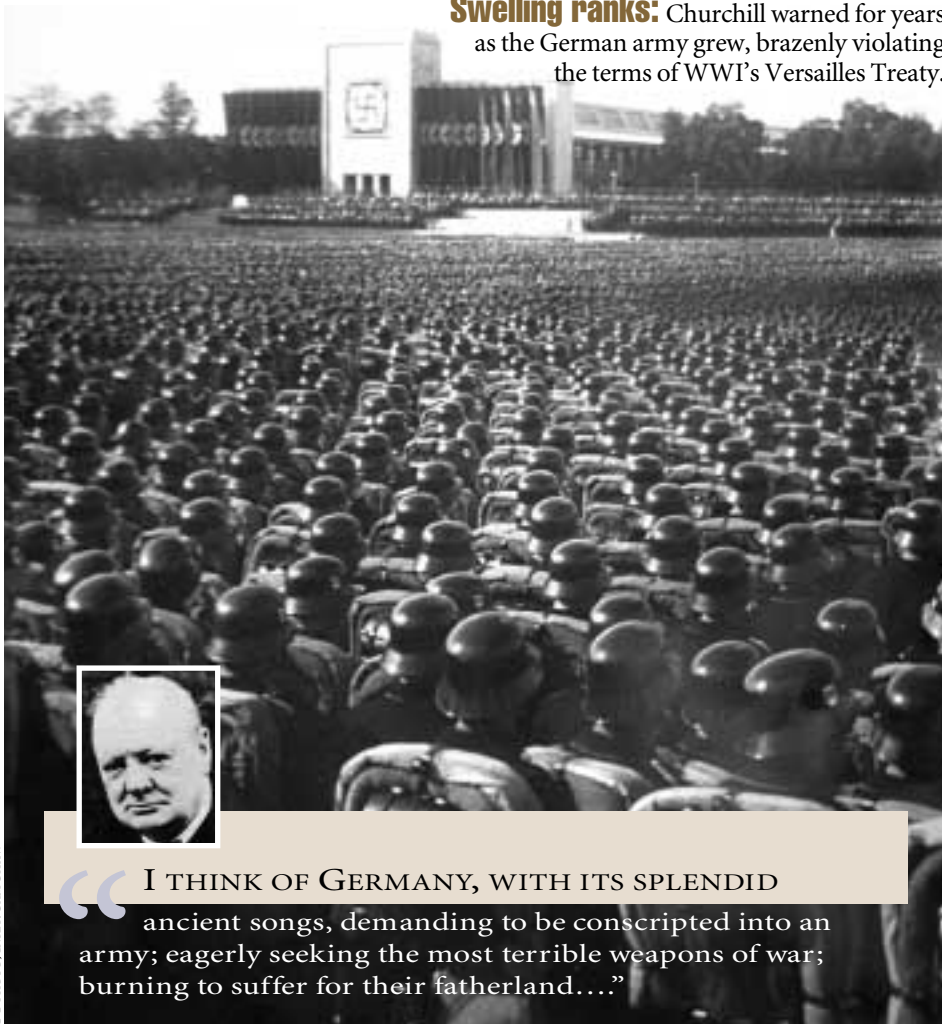
“My mind turns across the narrow waters of Channel and the North Sea, where great nations stand determined to defend their national glories or national existence with their lives. I think of Germany, with its splendid ancient songs, DEMANDING TO BE CONSCRIPTED INTO AN ARMY; eagerly seeking the most terrible weapons of war; BURNING TO SUFFER AND DIE FOR THEIR FATHERLAND. I think of Italy, with her ardent Fascisti, her renowned Chief, and stern sense of national duty....

“One can almost feel the curl of contempt upon the lips of the manhood of all these peoples when they read this message sent out by Oxford University in the name of young England” (ibid.).

That was the pathetic view of Britain's future leaders. Churchill's views were met with almost total hostility at Oxford. But he wasn't crushed by his opponents. He only grew stronger!

Oxford was the leader of the pacifists. Other colleges and universities thought the same way in America and Britain. Have our educational institutions learned a lesson from the Hitler experience? No they have not! Neither have our political leaders, nor the press.

As Churchill said, mankind is



“ I THINK OF GERMANY, WITH ITS SPLENDID ancient songs, demanding to be conscripted into an army; eagerly seeking the most terrible weapons of war; burning to suffer for their fatherland....”

PT PHOTO; INSET: SAM SHAW

unteachable. They refuse to learn. History keeps repeating itself in endless catastrophes! Being so wrong about one of the worst crimes and criminals in history is no small error.

Something is terribly wrong with the human mind. "Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be" (Rom. 8:7). How many universities teach that our natural minds hate God and His truth?

"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" (Jer. 17:9). How many universities teach that the human mind is "deceitful above all things and desperately wicked"?

God commands us to conquer our natural rebellion toward His Ten Commandments—not surrender to our human nature. We build godly character by conquering our evil human nature.

Our number one problem today is human survival, and still we think men can solve our problems!

The human mind is deeply flawed and must be changed. Man's only hope is to turn to God. That includes religion. And we have very little time to do so, if we are to save our physical lives.

### Hostile Parliament

Here is how Anthony Eden (who later became Prime Minister) rebuked Churchill in Parliament: "As for Germany, they did not wish to double her army, but to change the system 'which was imposed on her at Versailles,' replacing a small long-service army by a larger, but short-service militia.

"The house of Commons cheered Eden's rebukes. On the following morning the Press were strongly censorious. 'The House was enraged in an ugly mood—towards Mr. Churchill,' declared the Daily Dispatch; and the Northern Echo called Churchill's speech 'vitriolic,' 'a furious onslaught' and 'one of the most audacious he has delivered'" (ibid., p. 461).

That didn't deter Churchill from his warning. On July 9 he wrote in the Daily Mail: "I look with wonder upon our thoughtless crowds disporting themselves in the summer sunshine, and upon this unheeding House of Commons which seems to have no higher function than to cheer a Minister"—and all the while, across the

North Sea, "A TERRIBLE PROCESS IS ASTIR. GERMANY IS ARMING!" (ibid., p. 550).

Hitler continued to grow in power during 1934. On June 30 most of his Nazi Party rivals were killed. It was a night of bloody butchery. Still, most of the people in America and Britain continued to praise Hitler or refuse to fight against him. It was a very shameful time in our history.

More and more the Germans were building a strong military as they violated the Versailles Treaty. Churchill said (emphasis mine), "Germany's ILLEGAL air force was rapidly approaching equality with our own." He continued, "So far I have dealt with what I believe is the known, but beyond the known there is also the unknown. We hear from all sides of an air development in Germany far in excess of anything which I have stated today. As to that all I would say is, 'BEWARE!' GERMANY IS A COUNTRY FERTILE IN MILITARY SURPRISES" (ibid., p. 575).

Still, the critics in Parliament discussed Churchill's "scaremongering speech" or his "mad policy" proposals toward Germany.

Today we consider Germany one of our closest allies. The Bible prophecies about our "lovers" who will turn against us.

Our leaders see little danger today in this nuclear age—where surprise attack wins all!

“NEVER MUST WE DESPAIR, NEVER MUST WE GIVE IN, but we must face facts and draw true conclusions from them.” Retrieve “the woeful miscalculations of which we are present the dupes, and of which, unless we take warning in time, we may some day be the victims.”

As before World War II, this generation has to grapple with living for many years in unreality. OUR BIG BATTLE IN FOREIGN POLICY IS TO NOT GIVE IN TO ROCK-HARD TYRANTS. But routinely we do.

Winston Churchill asked some hard questions. It was not just a concern about foreign policy. He discussed issues upon which their whole existence depended. We ought to be asking some hard questions today.

On April 11 Churchill wrote to his wife: "My statements about the air last November are being proved true, and Baldwin's contradictions are completely falsified. There is no doubt that the

Germans are already substantially superior to us in the air, and that they are manufacturing at such a rate that we cannot catch them up. How discreditable for the Government to have been misled, and to have misled Parliament upon a matter involving the safety of the country."

In a letter to her two days later he said, "It is a shocking thing when a Government openly commits itself to statements on a matter affecting the public safety which are bound to be flagrantly disproved by events...."

"On the whole since you have been away the only great thing that has happened has been that Germany is now the greatest armed power in Europe. But I think the allies are all banking up against her and then I hope she will be kept in her place and not attempt to plunge into a terrible contest.

"Rothermere rings me up every day. His anxiety is pitiful. He thinks the Germans are all-powerful and that the French are corrupt and useless, and the English hopeless and doomed. HE PROPOSES TO MEET THIS SITUATION BY GROVELLING TO GERMANY. 'DEAR GERMANY, DO DESTROY US LAST!' I ENDEAVOR TO INCULCATE A MORE ROBUST ATTITUDE" (ibid.).

As the danger worsened, the leaders and Parliament kept reassuring the public with false statements. They were self-deceived and they deceived the

people. The leaders were too weak to face the hard truth.

And so are our leaders today.

### Unteachable Mankind

Winston Churchill was always highly conscious and urgent about time. They could not afford to waste any time.

Here are more of Churchill's profound words (emphasis mine): "When the situation was manageable it was neglected, and now that it is thoroughly out of hand we apply too late the remedies which then might have effected a cure.

"There is nothing new in the story.

It is as old as the sibylline books. It falls into that long, dismal catalogue of the fruitlessness of experience and the CONFIRMED UNTEACHABILITY OF MANKIND. Want of foresight, unwillingness to act when action would be simple and effective, lack of clear thinking, confusion of counsel until the emergency comes, until self-preservation strikes its jarring gong—THESE ARE THE FEATURES WHICH CONSTITUTE THE ENDLESS REPETITION OF HISTORY” (ibid., p. 644).

What an utterly condemning statement! We haven’t learned from history—even recent history of Churchill and World War II!

If mankind is unteachable, it’s not just ignorance. THEY REFUSE TO FACE THE TRUTH. Man just naturally hates and rebels against God’s law, and even his own laws much of the time. Human nature is the first enemy that we must conquer.

Then we can be taught. That is what the Bible is all about. But who OBEYS the Bible?

We didn’t denazify Germany after World War II, and they are back on the world scene. The ugly factions are about to get control again. Already they are throwing their weight around—after the world has seen their grisly past in living color! What gall! That should be enough to teach those who learn from history that we are going to have to deal with yet another militant Germany.

They have already caused two world wars. And according to Bible prophecy, they are destined to start a third! (Write for our booklet *The History and Prophecy of Germany*.) As Churchill said, it is “the endless repetition of history.”

“Is there a Member of the Government who will get up now and say that in November next we shall still have a 50 percent superiority over Germany? Is there a member of the Government who will still assert that in March last, six weeks ago, we

had a substantial superiority, or that we have a superiority today? No, Sir. The whole of these assertions, made in the most sweeping manner and on the highest authority, are now admitted to be entirely wrong” (ibid.).

There was still a possibility, Churchill believed, of preserving peace. “NEVER MUST WE DESPAIR,” he said, “NEVER MUST WE GIVE IN, BUT WE MUST FACE FACTS AND DRAW TRUE CONCLUSIONS FROM THEM.” It was now essential for Britain to retrieve “the woeful miscalculations of which we are at present the DUPES, and of which, unless we take warning in time, we may some day be the VICTIMS” (ibid., p. 645).

Can America and Britain face facts today and draw true conclusions from them? The very survival of our nations depends on it. And time is once again a very urgent factor.

Churchill reiterated his worries two days later when he wrote to Colonel Pakenham-Walsh: “I AM ASTOUNDED AT THE INDIFFERENCE WITH WHICH THE PRESS AND PUBLIC SEEM TO VIEW THE FACT THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAVE BEEN UTTERLY WRONG ABOUT THE GERMAN AIR STRENGTH, and that we are now substantially outnumbered and must continue to fall further and further  
b e -

hind for at least two years, in fact we can never catch up unless they wish it” (ibid., p. 646).

IT’S AS IF OUR PRESS AND POLITICIANS TODAY HAVE NO MEMORY. They virtually forced an ally, the Shah of Iran, out of office. Then Iran became the number one terrorist nation in the world. They forced a white government and strong ally from South Africa rule. They helped usher in Nelson Mandela, who is now a close friend of Iran and Syria, the greatest terrorist nations in the world. The same story is being played out in Israel.

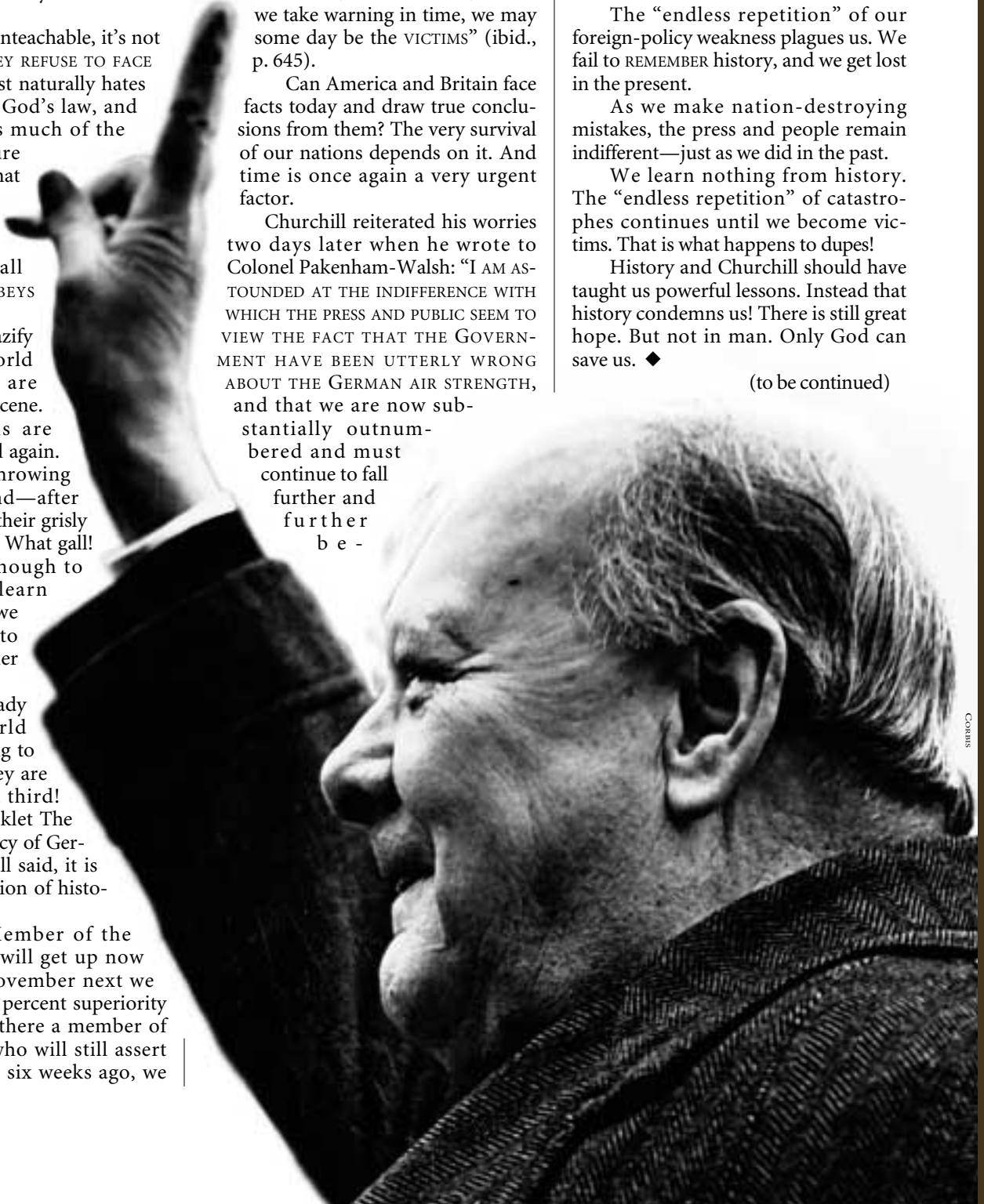
The “endless repetition” of our foreign-policy weakness plagues us. We fail to REMEMBER history, and we get lost in the present.

As we make nation-destroying mistakes, the press and people remain indifferent—just as we did in the past.

We learn nothing from history. The “endless repetition” of catastrophes continues until we become victims. That is what happens to dupes!

History and Churchill should have taught us powerful lessons. Instead that history condemns us! There is still great hope. But not in man. Only God can save us. ♦

(to be continued)



◆ ECONOMY

# Russia, Venezuela unravel financially

The Russian ruble and Venezuelan bolivar are currencies which have become the new battlefields in the volatile and spreading financial turmoil gripping the entire globe.

In spite of billions of dollars spent attempting to prop up Russia's economy and financial markets, the bottom finally fell out on August 13. Despite furious denials and promises to the contrary by Russian President Boris Yeltsin, the ruble has now been devalued by 34 percent, and Russia has stopped paying a huge section of its foreign debt which will likely never be repaid.

In an abrupt and drastic maneuver, Yeltsin has fired his newly-appointed 36-year-old prime minister, Sergei Kiriyenko, and his entire team of reformers after 100 days on the job. He was replaced by 60-year-old Viktor Chernomyrdin whom Mr. Yeltsin had dismissed in March, and who is the man most responsible for the current desperate state of Russia's economy. International investors now fear they may lose a large portion, if not all, of their investments in Russia. Economic gloom and doom are settling like a dark and foreboding cloud over the Russian bear.

Equally shocking from the other side of the world, Latin American markets have begun unraveling in the face of continuing onslaughts of plunging global currencies and disemboweled commodity prices. Venezuela is fighting devaluation of its bolivar in a valiant but seemingly futile effort with few options and even fewer hopes of succeeding. Even the Venezuelans themselves are abandoning their own currency as

quickly as they can buy U.S. dollars, sensing that the edge of the precipice is near for the bolivar.

Venezuela is one of the world's major exporters of oil to America. The first half of 1998 has seen oil prices and other commodity values come crashing to earth, leaving countries like Venezuela with greatly diminished oil revenues to stave off the economic wolves.

Other global markets like Mexico and Brazil, and even far-away Australia and Canada, are also now suffering tremendously because of the scent of blood in the nostrils of currency speculators,

the piranhas of the worldwide monetary system.

Russia and Venezuela desperately need foreign capital, and a lot of it, but many foreign investors have already pulled their money out of Russian and Venezuelan stocks and bonds. International credit is nowhere to be found, not even from the IMF, which had recently put together a \$22.6 billion bailout for Russia. In an obvious panic mode, interest rates are now rising dramatically to attract foreign capital, but Venezuelan rates have already exceeded 60 percent and Russian yields on domestic government treasury



Russian trader sees ruble turns to rubble

bonds have soared to nearly 150 percent. Such severe inflation may well now finish the kill.

Next month in The Trumpet, look for an article about how America's exposure to the devastating effects of foreign capital flight, like in Russia and Venezuela, implodes an economy, leaving nothing but a skeleton and vultures picking the meat off the bones. ◆

◆ YOUTH

## Generation SEX

A Time magazine article, "Where'd You Learn That?", (June 15) quoted a teacher who was asked by an 8- and a 10-year-old to define certain perverted sex acts. Two older kids, still only 14, went to a teen-center nurse for advice on heightening their arousal during sex. The nurse gave the nearly pubescent couple several books (not to educate, but to bring them "closer in bed") and "a billion condoms." Middle schools in Denver have had to institute sexual-harassment policies because of increasing incidents of "lewd language, groping, pinching and bra-snapping."

The facts show that kids are desensitized to and nonchalant about sex. One Denver middle school student pinned the blame on role models. Time stated, as another cause, the blatant sexual content in popular music. Another cause is the absence of parents from the home. One girl said, "Parents haven't set boundaries, but they are expecting them."

Fear to educate, fear that "they're going to do it anyway," along with all the media's enticing promotions, are all symptoms of the greater cause: our failure to respect real, absolute law.

God gave human beings a perfect law consisting of ten basic commands. These are not old-fashioned, harsh codes of conduct,



Young and in lust

but moral standards based on love and give, existing to give us joy. When these laws are broken, the result is unhappiness. The two commandments that ensure happiness in the

realm of family and sex are the seventh and tenth. "Thou shalt not commit adultery" and "Thou shalt not covet." These are absolute laws. So why the confusion?

Parents have lost sight of these laws and formulas for happiness. Now, according to Time, "They aren't quite sure how they feel about teenage sex."

Neither Time nor most parents realize this basic cause and solution, because they are even leery to call it a problem. In fact, Time has actually found a silver lining in this ominous, foreboding cloud: An increased use among teens of birth control has yielded a decrease in teenage pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.

Children, although they may circumvent the physical penalties of a law, have not found a way around the emotional, mental and psychological consequences.

This young generation of sex experts is a tragic reflection on our lack of moral standards. Unless we return to true absolutes, we will truly and absolutely fall. ◆



◆ BRITAIN

## Will Britain join NAFTA?

A hot debate is warming up in Britain over whether the United Kingdom should continue with the Prime Minister Blair's policy of seeking closer ties with the European Union.

In a recently publicized speech entitled "Britain's Final Choice: Europe or

appears legitimate when trade and investment figures are reviewed. The British economy seems driven ever closer toward the United States rather than Europe. This was underlined recently with the largest industrial merger in history, when British Petroleum announced on August 11 an agreement to purchase the U.S. oil company Amoco for \$47.9 billion in stock.

Although numerous arguments against Britain's involvement in closer European integration have been put forward by eminent commentators, none has demonstrated the ability to marshal majority support at the political level. But public opinion is resistant to EU integration, and hostile to adopting the euro in place of the British pound sterling.

The fact is, as Conrad Black currently asserts, there exists "no credible version of Euro-integration that does not involve a massive transfer of authority from Westminster... to the institutions of Brussels and Strasbourg, which are, by Anglo-American standards, rather undemocratic and unaccountable."

With Britain accounting for two-thirds of total European investment in the U.S., Mr. Black's call for hitching the British economy to NAFTA would appear to have significant economic and political benefits to both the U.S. and Britain. Not only does the bookkeeping suggest the UK would be better off, additional support has come from U.S. House Speaker Newt Gingrich, who suggested in April that Britain could

America?", Conrad Black, owner of the British conservative daily newspaper *The Telegraph*, stated that the debate was over whether or not the UK should opt for membership in the North American Free Trade Alliance (NAFTA) and gracefully withdraw from its current membership of the EU.

Addressing the Center for Policy Studies in London, the Canadian media tycoon declared, "None of the continental European countries has a particular affinity with the United States and Canada or anything slightly comparable to Britain's dramatic modern historical intimacy with North America." He believes that by forging closer links with the EU, Britain will be forced to give up its sovereignty and to curtail its ties with the U.S.

The speech sparked a fresh wave of controversy between Euro-skeptics and Euro-enthusiasts, adding fresh fuel to the fire of the skeptics' campaign against Britain joining the single European currency.

Black's proposed shift from the EU to NAFTA ap-



◆ WEATHER

## Beware La Niña

What could possibly be worse than our most recent clash with El Niño? Experts warn La Niña could bring more devastation to this world than her brother. The most costly natural disaster in United States history was the category 4 hurricane Andrew which struck Miami in 1992. Leaving in its wake over \$30 billion in damage and 160,000 people homeless, Andrew could be a mere foretaste of what is just ahead.

Some computer models predicted severe changes with La Niña, but no one expected the precipitous drop in sea-surface temperatures that occurred in June. In one month, equatorial waters in the Pacific cooled over 15 degrees Fahrenheit—five times the normal rate of cooling. Climatologists have never seen anything like this before. If the cooling trend continues at its current rate, we can expect a prolonged hurricane season in the Atlantic Ocean.

Hurricanes feed off the warm tropical ocean water and the blustery equatorial atmosphere. Easterly trade winds push the storms from the west coast of Africa across the Atlantic and slam them into the eastern U.S.

La Niña creates conditions ideal for hurricane development by essentially blocking the strong sub-tropical jet-stream. This allows Atlantic storms to build into the atmosphere to heights of 50,000 to 60,000 feet. The enormous storms gain strength as they glide through the balmy equatorial waters toward the United States.

By the end of August, Hurricane Bonnie careened into the U.S., causing widespread damage.

The real strength of the hurricane season begins in August and can last through November. As worldwide climate patterns fluctuate, we had better prepare for phenomena the likes of which we have never seen before! ◆



Hurricane Bonnie

become an "associate" in NAFTA. Additionally, Eurostat (the statistical arm of the EU) reported that the U.S. invested nearly twice as much in Britain as it did in the rest of the EU.

Will Britain, the silly dove of Hosea 7:11, turn in her pro-European flight to her old ally across the Atlantic? Watch for such a prospect as rising anti-Anglo-Saxon sen-

timents continue to be aired by an increasingly polarized European Union.

All of this controversy sets the stage for next year's referendum on whether Britain should join the single European currency. Eleven of the 15 member states are poised to adopt the single currency in January 1999. Britain will not be one of them. ◆

# The Making of a Hero

◆ For a contrast to the leadership of today, we need look no further than 100 years ago, when a man who would be President inspired deep loyalty in a regiment of soldiers by virtue of his personal integrity, heart and courage. Here is a story of Teddy Roosevelt, on the 100-year anniversary of the last days of his Rough Riders.



BY STEPHEN FLURRY

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO THIS month (Sept. 13), a 900-man regiment known as the Rough Riders gathered at Camp Wikoff in Long Island, New York. A month earlier, the Rough Riders had returned from Cuba to a hero's welcome. But on this day, the regiment was to disband. Their work was finished. The glory had come to an end.

While making the final arrangements for demobilization, the regiment's beloved Colonel was inside his tent, writing in his journal, not expecting departure for another hour or two. But suddenly, outside his tent, the chattering of soldiers and the clanking of packing supplies quieted. A group of troopers ducked into the Colonel's tent and requested his attendance for a brief, makeshift ceremony.

Outside his tent, Colonel Roosevelt saw all 900 men standing erect, in full salute, and arranged in a perfect square, as if lined up around a gymnasium. In the middle of their square was a table. On top of the table was a mysterious, lumpy object, covered with a blanket.

Theodore Roosevelt first looked at the table in the middle, then at the saluting men. He noticed a lot of tears. By now, his own eyes were beginning to well up.

Private Murphy stepped forward to speak on behalf of the entire regiment. He said the First Volunteer Cavalry of the United States Army

wished to present their commanding officer with "a very slight token of admiration, love and esteem."

Murphy struggled to recount some of the wonderful memories they had had with their Colonel over the past 133 days. He choked up a bit as he heard crying in the background.

Then, regathering his composure, he said, "In conclusion, allow me to say that one and all, from the highest to the lowest... will carry back to their hearths a pleasant remembrance of all your acts, for they have always been of the kindest."

Behind Private Murphy, a soldier yanked the blanket away to reveal a bronze statue of a Bronco rider, in remembrance of Roosevelt leading the charge up San Juan hill atop his horse, waving his sombrero.

ONE YEAR EARLIER, Roosevelt, a life-long politician, was appointed by President McKinley as Assistant Secretary of the Navy. Relations between the U.S. and Spain soured because of Spain's occupation of Cuba.

After the Spanish blew up the Maine, a U.S. warship stationed in Havana harbor, America declared war. Roosevelt

used his political clout to procure a position in the Army, even though the President, his friends, and America at large did not want the up-and-coming statesman to join. But Roosevelt had insisted his entire life that as soon as the U.S. declared war on anyone, he would be the first to enlist. Now, at the age of 39, was the moment of truth. "I have always intended to act up to my preachings if occasion arose," he said. "Now the occasion has arisen, and I ought to meet it."

The President offered him command of a cavalry regiment, which TR turned down. He felt it would take at least a month to be adequately trained as a colonel. That month, Roosevelt reasoned, could be the difference between fighting at the front or missing the war altogether. He accepted an offer to instead serve under Colonel Leonard Wood as lieutenant colonel.

When 1000 volunteers showed up for boot camp in San Antonio on May 15, 1898, Roosevelt led the troops in training while the colonel contemplated battle strategies in the tent. When they left by train for Florida two weeks later, Roosevelt sat in coach with the troops, instead of the posh Pullman cars, reserved for officers. By this time, TR knew most of the soldiers by name.

When they reached Florida on June 1, there were so many volunteers to fight, the general in charge had to turn down half the men in Roosevelt's regiment. There wasn't enough room for them on the ships to get to Cuba.

There wasn't enough room for their horses either. Roosevelt was able to take his horse, since he was officer. But when the troops landed on the shores of Cuba and the cavalry-turned-infantry had to walk seven miles to Siboney, Roosevelt chose to walk with the troops, alongside his horse.

On June 24, American forces were ready to attack, hoping to drive the Spaniards out of their heavily entrenched mountain strongholds. While heading up a mountain pass, Roosevelt and the regiment confronted a barrage of Mauser bullets.



Roosevelt, a life-long politician, was accused of being all talk. He silenced his critics.

Roosevelt was seen jumping up and down with excitement. Colonel Wood told TR to take half the regiment over a barbed-wire fence and into the jungle.

One reporter on the scene gave this account: "Perhaps a dozen of Roosevelt's men had passed into the thicket before he did. Then he stepped across the wire himself, and, from that instant, became the most magnificent soldier I have ever seen. It was as if the barbed-wire strand had formed a dividing line in his life, and that when he stepped across it he left behind him in the bridle path all those unadmirable and conspicuous traits which have so often caused him to be justly criticized in civic life, and found on the other side of it, in that Cuban thicket, the coolness, the calm judgment, the towering heroism, which made him, perhaps, the most admired and best beloved of all Americans in Cuba."

July 1 was the day that made Roosevelt one of America's most beloved military heroes. TR called it the "great day of my life." By this time, because of sickness and injury, Roosevelt had been promoted to colonel. His task was to lead his regiment, later known as the Rough Riders, in a charge across a large open field and up Kettle Hill where Spanish forces were well fortified.

Their charge across the field was very un-chargelike; more like a crawl. The entire regiment was hunkered down on all fours, hiding in the waist-high grass while bullets whizzed by and overhead. Roosevelt chose this occasion to mount up and lead his men from atop his horse. He rode high above the grass, waving his sombrero as if signaling to the Spanish for target practice. He yelled at his men behind him in the grass, "Are you afraid to stand up when I am on horseback?!"

**R**OOSEVELT SURVIVED THAT BLOODY day, even though his Rough Riders suffered the most casualties of any American regiment. They captured Kettle Hill and then joined the rest of the American forces in their sweep up the San Juan Heights, the last Spanish stronghold.

America won the war.

The Rough Riders returned home as heroes.

And on September 13, at Camp Wikoff, the regiment wanted to give their beloved colonel a fitting send-off.

**Crossing a threshold:** Until his life was on the line, Roosevelt never emerged as a full-blown leader.



Upon seeing the glistening bronze statue, Roosevelt uttered this perfectly-worded impromptu: "Officers and men, I really do not know what to say. Nothing could possibly happen that would touch and please me as this has.... I would have been most deeply touched if the officers had given me this testimonial, but coming from you, my men, I appreciate it tenfold."

Roosevelt then had all 900 men pass by him single file. As they passed,

many of them sobbing, he bid farewell each of them with a complement, a quip—some form of recognition for a job well done.

And after the last one, Roosevelt sighed and said, "So all things pass away. But they were beautiful days."

Three years later, Roosevelt became President of these great States he valiantly fought for in Cuba. He was arguably the finest American President this century. ♦

# Crisis Point of Western Leadership

Two of the most frequent phrases used by observers to describe Kosovo in the Balkans are “the tinderbox of Europe” and “the powder keg of Europe.” Kosovo could yet provide the tinder to spark the flames of the greatest war man will ever know.

BY RON FRASER

**K**OSOVO IS BEING RIPPED APART. “They wonder if the world has simply shut its eyes to their fate,” decried a WTN journalist. By August, almost a quarter of a million refugees had left Kosovo, threatening a humanitarian catastrophe as observers anticipated starvation and loss of life in the event of the sudden arrival of the cruel Balkan winter.

Why is Kosovo a region of current conflict? Why has the world stood by and watched repeated inhumane policies of ethnic cleansing? How does this continuing running sore of Balkan conflict bear on the future of Europe and, indeed, the world?

## History of Trouble

As Noel Malcolm observes in his excellent, recently released book on the subject, “The Yugoslav crisis began in Kosovo and it will end in Kosovo.... [This is] one of the few things on which

all parties to the conflicts of the 1990s seem to agree” (Kosovo—A Short History, p. xxvii).

Malcolm goes to the heart and core of the matter. He slices through the multiplicity of views touted by the media, almost all of which have assumed the causes of the Balkan problems to be “ethnic conflicts.” Malcolm quite rightly argues that this is far from the truth. The real cause of the continuing Balkan crisis has been the aggressively pursued political policies of Balkan leaders, primarily Serbian Slobodan Milosevic and Croatian leader Franjo Tudjman. They have deliberately created conflict via military initiatives for political and territorial gain.

As to the depth of history attached to conflict in Kosovo, we can begin in 1389. (See also sidebar, below; for more information on the Balkan region, request a free copy of the May 1997 edition of *The Trumpet*.) The great 1389 Battle of Kosovo, between the Serbian

Empire and the Ottoman Turks, is the focal point of all Balkan history. It is the subject of myth, poetry, song, dramatic play and many versions of documented history. In fact, it is hard to separate the myth from the reality of this crucial turning point in Serbian history: their “glorious defeat” at the hands of the Ottoman armies. Thus commenced 400 years of rule by Turkey over Serbia.

## Early Ethnic Cleansing

During the early 1800s, the Ottomans introduced certain ambitious reforms designed to westernize their empire and turn it into a modern state. In 1830 they granted full autonomy to the Serbian principality.

By 1912, war ripped through the Balkans as Serbia, joining with other Balkan states, fought to drive the Ottoman Empire out of Europe. With this war won, Serbia re-acquired Kosovo, and Austria forced Serbia to join with Montenegro in yielding up part of their newly conquered territory to create an independent Albania. It was during the period between the First and Second World Wars that the Serbians attempted to consolidate their hold on Kosovo by means of the process commonly referred to in modern parlance as ethnic cleansing. Muslims, Albanians and Turks were expelled from their land and their property given over to Serb colonists.

The intensity of Serbian aggression against Albanians in Kosovo increased to the point where between 1912 and 1913 gross atrocities were committed by combined Serbian/Montenegrin forces in campaigns which sacked Albanian villages, whole village populations being massacred in the process. This was followed by a policy of forced conversions of Muslims and Catholics to orthodoxy, the penalty for refusal

## Kosovo Before the Turks

**P**RIOR TO 1389, THE MEDIEVAL SERBIAN STATE HAD DEVELOPED from an agglomeration of Slavic peoples descended from the Slavs who settled in the Balkans following their westward migrations from the northern and northeastern areas of the Black Sea.

By the fifth century A.D., Slavic tribes, of which the Serbs and Croats were two in particular, occupied areas north of the Danube in Central Europe. The Croats had migrated to

the area of modern Croatia and Western Bosnia by the early seventh century. The Serbs had settled by this time in Rascia to the northwest of Kosovo and in the region of Montenegro (see map). The Albanians, who comprise the majority of Kosovo’s population, appear to be of Illyrian descent. Settling in the mountainous area along the Adriatic, opposite the heel of the Italian “boot,” Albanians seem to have, through the proof of numerous versions of history and the longevity of the Albanian language in the region, a significant presence in Kosovo which predates that of the Serbs.

From the ninth to the early eleventh centuries A.D., a succession of Bulgarian Khans ruled Kosovo. With the rise of the Byzantine empire, Byzantine emperors ruled the region from



being torture or death. Peculiarly, the Montenegrans enforced this policy more stringently than did the Serbians. The combined initiatives of “ethnic cleansing” and forced conversion were designed to change the population statistics of conquered areas to ease their assimilation by the Montenegrans and Serbian governments. The Serbian king

placed Kosovo under military rule, disarming all Albanians. This Serb hegemony was, however, to be short-lived. The Austro/Hungarian Empire declared war on Serbia on July 28, 1914.

On August 3, Germany mobilized, declaring war on Russia and France in quick succession, and quickly invading neutral Luxemburg and Belgium. Britain entered the conflict on August 5. The lighting of the Balkan tinderbox had thus resulted in the First World War.

Four months later, the Serbs were routed, Austria occupying Kosovo to the north with Bulgaria taking the south. By 1918, however, with the Austro-Hungarians facing defeat, the Serbs once again occupied Kosovo. Regarded as an integral part of the Serbian kingdom, following the armistice, Kosovo remained under Serb rule within the newly declared Yugoslav state.

In 1941 the Balkans suffered invasion by Germany and the Axis powers. Yugoslavia was split into Nazi puppet states. By 1945, with the Germans driven out of Yugoslavia, 10,000 Albanians fought 40,000 Yugoslav troops for control of Kosovo. The Albanians were beaten, suffering heavy casualties. Ethnic cleansing re-commenced via the deportation of thousands of Albanian Muslims to Turkey, with dozens simply murdered in multiple incidents in the 1950s. Uprisings occurred in Kosovo among ethnic Albanian students. In 1974, Kosovo was granted autonomy, but not independence.

Further student uprisings occurred in Kosovo in 1981, inspired by the Albanian separatist movements resulting in the imposition of martial law.

In 1989, the watershed year when the Berlin Wall cracked, Slobodan Milosevic revoked Kosovo’s autonomy. 1991 saw the Bosnian war erupt, and



JOE HILKINER

the eleventh century until the closing decades of the twelfth.

It was in the 1160s A.D. that Serbian domination in Kosovo commenced, under the aggressive territorial gains of Stefan Nemanji, leader of a new Rascian-ruling dynasty that held sway in the region for 200 years.

Taking advantage of the Balkan instability resulting from the shock seizure of Constantinople in the Fourth Crusade,

reached the peak of its power, with both church and state combining to strengthen its dominance in the Balkans, from 1219 to the 1380s.

It is thus that we arrive at the crucial turning point in Serbian history and in the history of strife-torn Kosovo, the famous Battle of Kosovo of 1389, which marked the beginning of over 400 years rule of the region by the Turks. ♦



**Albanian sympathizers:** Outside London's Lancaster House, where Cook met with Albright after the bloody crackdown on ethnic Albanians in Kosovo.

Slovenia and Croatia, formally seceding from Yugoslavia, gained instant recognition by the Vatican and the German government. Continuing unrest plagued Kosovo as the "National Movement of the Liberation of Kosovo" sought to assert itself against Serbian rule.

In January of this year, multiple thousands of Albanians protested in the streets of Pristina, capital of Kosovo. Serbian state police and military personnel surrounded and attacked the village of Prekaz. This resulted in the Albanian separatist movement, the KLA, mounting multiple insurgencies. By August, the Serbian police and troops had routed the KLA and closed the escape routes for 230,000 refugees scattered throughout the hills, forests and alpine country en route to the Albanian border. The UN warns that Kosovo teeters on the brink of a massive humanitarian disaster.

#### Inept Leadership

The American President had promised that his government would not permit a repetition of the Bosnian tragedy. Meanwhile, the British Prime minister declared, "This is Milosevic's final warning"; Robin Cook, foreign minister for Britain, warned Milosevic that he should take the threats of retribution from the West most seriously. The UN warned Milosevic; Madeleine

Albright, U.S. Secretary of State, repeated President Clinton's warning; NATO rattled its sabers in pitiful war games in Albania; and world leaders and shuttle diplomats talk in huddled meetings of air strikes.

Talk, talk, talk—threats, but no action! The Serbian leader has the world's greatest powers checkmated!

No one is game to move! World leaders, their advisors and spin doctors all fear the consequences of lighting the touch tape attached to the Balkan powder keg. Why?

#### The Domino Effect

Richard Holbrooke, shuttle-diplomat who brokered the false peace of the Balkans (the Dayton Accords), summed it up. "If Kosovo goes independent, then Albania will say 'Well, it [Kosovo] is part of greater Albania.' Then the Albanians in Macedonia will say, 'Hey, we want to join greater Albania, we want to get out from under these Macedonians.' So then all the borders down there will be up for grabs. The Greeks will say, 'Hey, why should we respect this border? There are 300,000 Greeks living in southern Albania.' ... [Then] Bulgaria might decide to grab off a piece [of Macedonia] since the Bulgarians claim that Bulgarians and Macedonians are indistinguishable in the east" (Intelligence Digest, June 5).

The stalemated Western leaders are in a bind. The German foreign minister, Klaus Kinkel, declared that no military intervention is possible without UN backing, and that this will not happen because of Russian opposition. Meanwhile, the greatest military power of all, the United States, is caught up in a domestic affair which reaches right to the top of its lame-duck presidency. The world fiddles while Kosovo burns.

#### Just One More War?

Will Kosovo trigger just one more war in the litany of life-taking that has wearied this world in the hot peace that has followed the close of the Cold War? Just one more war—or the trigger that could blow that whole world sky-high? These are the questions on Western leaders' minds.

Over 100 million people have died in twentieth century warfare. Since the end of World War II, most killing has resulted from tribal, ethnic and religious conflicts.

As John Keegan, British military historian, stated in the TV series *War and Civilization*, "War can take two paths from this point onwards...it may revert to the pattern of mass warfare that we saw in the first half of the century, in which there will inevitably be a resort to nuclear weapons and the end of civilization. Or it may persist on the track that's perceptible since the end of the Cold War."

The former alternative is suicidal. The latter yields little immediate hope, for "In spite of their victories in the Cold War and, more recently, in the Gulf War, the United States and its allies, the states with the greatest interest in peace and the greatest power to preserve it, appear to be faltering in their willingness to pay the price in money and the risk of lives" (Donald Kagan, *On the Origins of War and the Preservation of Peace*, p. 572).

#### The Missing Dimension

Clearly, something is missing in the makeup of humankind. A missing ingredient—a missing dimension. Six thousand years of the documented history of man reveal his inability to live at peace with neighboring nations.

The most recent “success” in ending a war was the conclusion of the Dayton Accords, facilitated between the Bosnian, Serbian and Croatian leaders by U.S. emissary Richard Holbrooke in 1995. Yet, studying Holbrooke’s analysis of events leading to the conclusion of this peace accord, one is struck by the dramatic nature of the mood swings of the Balkan leaders with whom he negotiated. Here were men whose moods could swing most dramatically from red-hot anger to dramatic calmness in a flash. Here were men either unable to exert proper control over their emotions or who were just great deceivers, deliberately and manipulatively using the impression of dramatic mood swings to rattle the opposition and influence outcomes in their own favor. Either way, here were men, leaders of governments, who were missing a vital ingredient to enable them to deal honestly and with true integrity with each other.

It is the same missing ingredient which is absent from the minds of all world leaders and of most of humankind whom they govern. This missing ingredient gives the capability for human minds to gain the missing dimension in their relations with each other—the ability to relate in peace, harmony and unity—doing unto others as we would have them do unto us!

Jesus Christ called this missing ingredient the “Comforter.” He promised it to His disciples. He promised that its possession would lead them into all truth (John 16:7-13). It is only through people who freely possess this most precious of gifts, this “Comforter,” this “spirit of truth,” that true peace is possible.

### Little Hope in Humanity

The results of weak and inept human leadership attempting to force self-centered, carnal human will through negotiation in the Balkans are clear for all to see in the Bosnian debacle—250,000 dead, 2 million refugees! To gain what? A threadbare peace which enables a dictator to thumb his nose at the world and pursue his deadly game of ethnic cleansing in ancient, war-weary, strife-torn Kosovo. Richard Holbrooke was able to promise little more than this. At the conclusion to his recent book describing the Dayton process, he declares, “There will be other Bosnias in our lives, different in

every detail but similar in one overriding manner: They will originate in distant and ill-understood places, explode with little warning, and present the rest of the world with difficult choices—choices between risky involvement and potentially costly neglect.... Today America and its allies often seem too willing to ignore problems outside their heartland. **THERE WILL BE OTHER BOSNIAS IN OUR LIVES**” (To End a War, pp. 368-369, emphasis mine).

There is little hope of peace in this statement by one of this world’s top



**Little hope:** Diplomatic efforts at calming the Kosovo crisis have failed. Here Albright addresses the media after an ideas meeting with Robin Cook.

peace negotiators. Yet Holbrooke underlines a powerful truth which explains in some way the unseen dimension that leads the minds of men to war. “The killers were driven by ethnic prejudice rekindled by ultra-nationalists and demagogues. How could adults do such things to their neighbors and former classmates? After a while, the search for explanations failed. One simply had to recognize that there was true evil in the world” (ibid., p. 367).

There is indeed true evil in this world. That evil is centered in a powerful mind, far superior to man, which literally broadcasts evil, murderous, corrupt thoughts into the minds of men, motivating and stimulating the slaughter of millions of human beings in great

international conflicts. This truly evil mind deceives the whole world (Rev. 12:9). It is the mind of the mighty fallen archangel, Lucifer (Isa. 14:12). He has the power to destroy the environment, weaken nations, to shake kingdoms loose, to destroy whole cities and imprison multitudes (vv. 16-17). He does it by empowering man with his destructive thoughts, moods and attitudes, broadcast by the power of his own satanic spirit. (For full explanation, request your free copy of *Mystery of the Ages*.)

### Superior Power

Only one superior power exists which can override this negative force of Satan’s spirit—the mind of God! And you can freely possess that power, IF you are led to submit to the will of God, and yield to His government over your life (Phil. 2:5). That’s the sole power that will bring peace to this world. That’s the power that will, alone, guarantee no more Bosnias, no more Kosovos—forever! It is possessed by the ultimate leader, the ultimate general, the ultimate governor—Jesus Christ. This world awaits His promised return (John 14:3).

This world needs Christ’s return—and soon! Yet, before He returns to put down all dictators, all other rulers of men (Isa. 9:6-7; I Cor. 15:24-5) and imposes God’s own loving, caring, merciful yet supremely authoritative government of peace on this earth, this world must be made to feel and to recognize the need for the Comforter!

God will shortly permit great tribulation on this earth such as will stop the hearts of men and threaten the existence of all civilization (Luke 21:26 and Matt. 24:21-22). Whether or not it is sparked in Kosovo, it will occur—it is declared by the more sure word of prophecy, guaranteed by the unbreakable word of God.

This God, this beneficent and supreme Father of all mankind, repudiated, blasphemed, ignored, made as it were dead in the minds of weak, professional, academic, “intellectual” men, will arise with great power to literally impose by His sheer perfect will such a time of punishment on all mankind that will beat man down to the point where he will recognize the only way to peace—submission to the government of Almighty God through obedience to His perfect law. ♦



*Dry, then wet: Killer heat and drought in Texas dried the ground so much it couldn't soak up August rains, ironically creating ideal flood conditions which followed (right).*

What can we expect for the future? Are we simply living through a weather anomaly, or is there more to this than a simple deviation from the norm?

### Expect No Let-Up

The '80s and early '90s marked a time of heightened environmental awareness. New expressions such as "greenhouse gas" and "global warming" became part of our working vocabulary. Experts say escalating global

AP (2)



# Hot, dry, windy, wet...

Chaotic weather just won't let up.

BY ANDREW LOCHER

**N**EVER BEFORE HAS THERE BEEN SO much talk about the weather. For the last year, catastrophic "natural" weather calamities have impacted lives around the world. Since the beginning of 1997, weather-related disasters have killed 16,000 people and caused \$50 billion worth of damage.

It seems we simply pass from one disaster to another. "In the U.S. it started early last year when the Truckee River invaded Reno, Nev., silencing Harrah's slots. A few months later, more than 30 people died as rivers in the Ohio Valley burst their banks. The Red River swallowed Grand Forks, N. Dak., displacing 50,000. Not long after that, the rogue Pacific current known as El Niño began wreaking havoc around the world. Indonesia's jungles burned while Chile's Atacama Desert got a foot of rain. Snow fell in Guadalajara for the first time since 1881. Canada suffered its worst-ever ice storm. Floods killed thousands in Africa. In Peru, endless downpours created a 2,300-square-mile lake on which President Alberto Fujimori jet skied to promote tourism" (Life, Aug. 1998). But that's not all. Unseasonably warm temperatures in the northern U.S. caused flowers and fruit trees to blossom three months early. Meanwhile, the deadliest tornado season since 1974 tore across the lower

tier of the States.

What next? "Thunderstorms with hurricane-force winds trashed Moscow. The rain-swollen Yangtze River killed more than 400 [now over 2,000] as it cut a swath through central China. One weekend, six rafters were killed on California rivers that were running at least 50 percent higher and faster than normal..." (ibid.). The tale goes on. Over a half-million acres were scorched in Florida, consuming nearly to \$250 million. Soon after, a high-pressure cell stationed itself over the breadbasket, cutting off the water supplies to Texas, Oklahoma and Louisiana. Over \$5 billion later, there is still no relief for the drought-stricken land. "The crops have been lost, the livestock has been liquidated, and there's really no relief in sight," said the state agriculture commissioner, Rick Perry. "I am starting to hear reports that this is the worst ever."

In mid-August, NASA announced they were commissioning a new fleet of aircraft specifically designed to better study hurricanes. Why now? Because many forecasters predict the La Niña-influenced hurricane season of 1998 to be one of the worst ever.

The environment is changing radically. Records are falling everywhere. July 1998 was officially declared the hottest July on record! No living person has ever experienced such heat.

mean temperature (caused by an increase of "greenhouse" atmospheric gases) could end life as we know it unless the trend is reversed.

The earth's atmosphere is a delicate balance of various gases, primarily nitrogen (78 percent) and oxygen (21 percent). The remaining 1 percent would seem insignificant, but it's not. Less than one tenth of 1 percent are mostly greenhouse gases: carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and water vapor. The increase in these gases is causing concern because it is man causing the increase!

Fossil-fuel consumption and deforestation have dramatically changed our environment. The natural cycle has been upset by our lifestyle. Our actions are changing the environment at a radical pace.

The effects of climate change are still debated because we don't have sufficient history to draw from to see where we're headed. Some predict a shift in regional rainfall patterns which will cause drought and flooding. Others forecast a northward migration of agricultural zones from the mid-latitudes closer to the poles (meaning the U.S.



“breadbasket” could advance into Canada). The once-bountiful farmland of the U.S. would then suffer prolonged drought and severe heat. Still others expect a rise in sea level due to runoff from melting polar ice caps and thermal expansion of the already existent ocean waters. This would flood the coasts and pollute fresh water supplies inland.

Drastic? Doomsday predictions? Perhaps, but all experts agree on one thing—something must be done, and done quickly!

#### Current Conditions

The sweltering heat in the southwestern U.S. has led to numerous deaths. “It’s not religion that’s packing them in at the Catholic Charities center near downtown, it’s the air-conditioning,” reported the Macon Telegraph about conditions in Dallas. A typical Dallas July averages 96 degrees. This year, it was nearly 102! In Georgia, cotton-farmers predicted their worst year ever. Damage to the cotton industry will total near \$2 billion and most likely affect clothing costs. In Oklahoma, Governor

Frank Keating called on churchgoers to pray for rain—as his state expected to suffer over \$2 billion in crop losses.

Heat advisories have become commonplace in U.S. urban centers. Hundreds have died from heat-related causes. “The sweltering heat that has proved deadly elsewhere in the country descended on the Washington [D.C.] area yesterday, with temperatures nearing 100 degrees straining the resources of local governments and creating a health emergency as thousands of residents spend most of the day without electricity” (Washington Post, July 23, 1998). Electrical power was knocked out to the Washington, D.C. area by a severe storm the preceding day. But in other states, power failures were caused by enormous drains on the electrical grid by air conditioning.

The heat is not the only problem. El Niño is now blamed for the explosion in bug and other pest populations. In mid-July, Texan cities of Fort

Worth, Arlington, Bedford and Azel all reported grasshoppers descending upon their communities in biblical proportions. “Like tourists hitting some of Fort Worth’s must-see attractions, the yellow-and-black-spotted insects huddled along sidewalks in Sundance Square, roamed around the Cultural District and dropped in on the Botanic Garden” (Star-Telegram, July 13). The grasshoppers devoured vegetation as they moved northward. Entomologists were consulted on methods to kill the grasshoppers, but they warned, “Several insecticides... can be used, but the results will be limited.... It’s true they don’t kill grasshoppers fast enough to do any damage. The problem with grasshoppers is they keep moving.”

El Niño killed thousands. But dominant weather patterns since El Niño’s dissipation have killed even more.

Unusually heavy summer rains have killed over 2,000 Chinese along

the flood-swollen Yangtze River. The tropical storms which move inland have relentlessly dumped flooding rains in the upper regions which rush downhill. Difficult decisions were made daily about which villages to purposely flood by breaking artificial levees in an attempt to preserve more densely populated cities. The flood has affected the lives of over 250 million Chinese. The International Herald Tribune called them “fierce floods fed by the heaviest rain in a century.”

Eastern Europe also sweltered under an intense heat wave which lasted several weeks, the worst in at least 50 years. Hospitals reported they were incapable of treating all the patients with heat-related illnesses. On August 3, Belgrade broke a record with the hottest day in 111 years (102 degrees in the shade). The summers are typically mild in Ukraine; but this summer, they are setting new records with temperatures sustained over 104 degrees. In



**Mighty struggle:** Exhausted soldiers worked for days in northeast China to combat the region’s worse flooding in decades. Here they reinforce a dike.

## The Bible is full of stories of dramatic environmental calamities.

Turkey, 26 people drowned in rivers and the Mediterranean Sea while attempting to cool off. forty-five others died in the heat.

Are the climatologists' predictions proving to be true? Some say this is just a drastic peak along an extensive cycle of "normal" climate activity. But is it normal to have such widespread disaster? The records being broken were previously held for hundreds of years; in many cases these disasters are the worst ever.

### What Can We Do?

This is a problem that won't go away if we ignore it. "Scientists said the first seven months of 1998 are the hottest ever recorded worldwide—dating back 120 years. It's a trend that has many scientists concerned and politicians calling for action" (NBC News, July 15). "The general warming trend is making the effects of El Niño worse. Unless we act, we can expect more extreme weather in the years ahead," according to U.S. Vice President Al Gore.

But what action can we take? As scientists and politicians search for answers, conditions get worse. More people are dying and more property is lost. Even with increased understanding about the environment, better early-warning systems and improved planning, as a whole, when the climate changes, humans are at nature's mercy.

### God Behind the Weather?

Is it possible that the Creator of the vast universe is behind the disasters? The governors of Texas and Oklahoma recently pleaded for prayers beseeching God to end the drought. Victims, farmers, relief workers and other officials need hope as they move from one disaster to the next.

The Bible records 6,000 years of man's history. It yields insight into the cause of our problems. And did you know that it is full of stories of dramatic environmental calamities? There is a God in heaven who not only created the weather (Gen. 1), but actively controls it (Job 38). God caused a flood which wiped out all but a handful of people from the face of the earth (Gen. 6:17). God used Joseph to prepare the

Middle East for seven years of drought and famine which followed seven years of bounty. It was through this knowledge that God preserved Abraham's lineage. In the days of Egypt's glory under the pharaohs, when the Israelites were held as slaves, God used weather to prove His superiority (Ex. 7-14). The prophet Elijah proved he represented God by prophesying rain, and God sent rain.

God controls the weather precisely: "And also I have withholden the rain from you, when there were yet three months to the harvest: and I caused it to rain upon one city, and caused it not to rain upon another city: one piece was rained upon, and the piece whereupon it rained not withered" (Amos 4:7). This sounds all too familiar. Heavy rainfall in the upper Midwest caused flooding, while at the same time, severe drought gripped the southern states. Rainfall flooded Moscow as the Ukraine baked in the heat.

God promises to bless us with rain and favorable weather conditions if we are obedient. "If ye walk in my statutes, and keep my commandments, and do them; Then I will give you rain in due season, and the land shall yield her increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit. And your threshing shall reach unto the vintage, and the vintage shall reach unto the sowing time: and ye shall eat your bread to the full, and dwell in your land safely" (Lev. 26:3-5).

But we will experience curses for disobedience. Notice, "But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee" (Deut. 28:15).

God goes on to list the curses: "The Lord shall make the pestilence cleave unto thee, until he have consumed thee from off the land.... And thy heaven that is over thy head shall be brass, and the earth that is under thee shall be



iron. The Lord shall make the rain of thy land powder and dust: from heaven shall it come down upon thee, until thou be destroyed.... Thou shalt carry much seed out into the field, and shalt gather but little in; for the locust shall consume it" (vv. 17, 21, 23-24, 38).

Why? "Moreover all these curses shall come upon thee, and shall pursue thee, and overtake thee, till thou be destroyed; because thou hearkenedst not unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS and his statutes which he commanded thee: And they shall be upon thee for a sign and for a wonder, and upon thy seed for ever. Because thou servedst not the Lord thy God with joyfulness, and with gladness of heart, for the abundance of all things" (vv. 45-47).

The choice is ours, as God says: "I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore CHOOSE LIFE, that both thou and thy seed may live: That thou mayest love the Lord thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the Lord sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them" (Deut. 30:19-20). God promised our ancestors a land flowing with milk and honey—a land richly blessed and protected from disaster. But it was conditional upon obedience.

### Turn Away From Self

Why such extremes in our present-day climate? Quite simply, because God said He would plague us with weather and other "natural" disasters to punish



## God promises to give us bounty for an eternity if we submit to His laws.

ting as much for the self as possible. The environmental causes of the '80s and '90s were noble efforts to eradicate greed and destruction among industrialized nations, but futile.

God gets our attention through weather disasters. But He has also promised, "Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the

prophets" (Amos 3:7). God is warning this world through the Philadelphia Church of God.

We must turn to God if we desire relief from environmental disaster. That is our only source of assistance. The answer is simple—and purposely overlooked by many because they reject God. But God will get the attention of all mankind through horrendous plagues yet to come.

The book of Revelation describes the methods God will use. Chapters 6, 8 and 15 prophesy indescribable suffering. Most of the punishment is dealt in the form of environmental destruction. Life will be lost as never before until mankind finally comes to understand that he has been fighting against God.

Jesus Christ rebuked the leaders of His day for their lack of spiritual perception. "The Pharisees also with the Sadducees came, and tempting desired him that he would shew them a sign from heaven. He answered and said unto them, When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather: for the sky is red. And in the morning, It will be foul weather to day: for the sky is red and lowring. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?" (Matt. 16:1-3). What about us today? We have mastered incredible technology to better understand the storms that thrash our lives—yet at the same time we have done nothing to prevent them. The secret lies not in science or emergency preparedness but in spiritual discernment and obedience to God.

### Future Devastation

We have suffered through a record-setting year of destruction.

Never before have we suffered as we are today—but it is all going to get worse until mankind wakes up. We have two choices: believe our Bibles and repent, thus enjoying protection from God, or choose man's way, refusing to believe. "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Prov. 14:12).

From the beginning of human life, God has followed a deliberate plan. We have been recording history proving that "it is not in man to guide his steps." Only when we surrender to the loving administration of God's government will we live in harmony with the environment and prosper. The time has just about expired for man to solve his problems his way—which has never worked. Environmental degradation is yet one more in a vast list of reasons why this world is in desperate need of the return of Jesus Christ. The good news is, that time is now just ahead of us.

God expects us to do our part and change our lifestyles to come in line with His law. We must start on the individual level. God wants to see us make the choice to live His way. By choosing that way of life now, God promises to protect us from the devastation which must precede the return of Christ.

You can't afford not to act upon this invitation from God to escape. If you think the weather problems this world has recently suffered through are extreme, bear in mind that Jesus Christ said "these are the beginning of sorrows." These words, and other prophetic warnings about climatic disaster, are recorded in Matthew 24. Read it yourself. There is an awful time just ahead of us. But once it passes, we will begin to enjoy the blessings God has always desired to pour upon obedient mankind.

Soon the only talk about the weather will be focused on how it compliments our efforts and yields tremendous blessings. No longer will we recount stories of devastation and suffering. God promises to give rain in due season and bounty for an eternity—only if we are willing to submit to His laws! ♦

our disobedience. Around 520 B.C., after a difficult captivity, the Israelites were taught this same vital lesson. Haggai, a prophet of God, was sent to a small remnant of Israelites who were permitted to return to Jerusalem to rebuild God's temple. God wanted them to understand that they must put Him first in their lives. When they returned to Jerusalem, their focus was upon themselves. They rebuilt their lives and community, but neglected God and the temple—His house.

Two times in the first chapter, God used Haggai to present the following statement: "Consider your ways" (vv. 5, 7). In other words, God was calling into question their motivation and priorities. God commands us not to have other gods (desires, objects or pursuits) before Him (Ex. 20:3). But this remnant group did, so God sent drought and heat waves upon them. He also sent His prophet to explain WHY they were being punished. "Ye looked for much, and, lo, it came to little; and when ye brought it home, I did blow upon it. Why? saith the Lord of hosts. Because of mine house that is waste, and ye run every man unto his own house. Therefore the heaven over you is stayed from dew, and the earth is stayed from her fruit. And I called for a drought upon the land, and upon the mountains, and upon the corn, and upon the new wine, and upon the oil, and upon that which the ground bringeth forth, and upon men, and upon cattle, and upon all the labour of the hands" (Hag. 1:9-11). God caused the severe conditions to remind His people who provided their sustenance.

History is repeating itself.

Our societies are caught up in get-

# What Does it Mean to Be “Born Again”?

The truth about Christ’s teaching on being “born again” is even more inspiring, more spectacular than what most today make it out to be.

BY RYAN MALONE



IT WAS UTTERLY DUMFOUNDING! This teacher was telling him that one must be born a second time! But how could that be? he wondered.

Ever since Nicodemus’ mind-boggling conversation with Jesus Christ, many have been just as confused as he was concerning the TRUTH about what it means to be born again.

Why couldn’t he understand this concept? Why don’t many understand it today? It actually stems from most people’s misunderstanding of Christ’s gospel. If you don’t understand that, you can’t comprehend what it means to be truly born again.

The word gospel means “good news.” What was that good news? Mark 1:14 defines it: “Jesus came into Galilee, PREACHING the gospel of the kingdom of God.” It was not a gospel about Him, but about a coming Kingdom—a coming government to rule this earth.

Christ’s message raised curiosities among the religious of His day. Nicodemus was one of them. “The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him” (John 3:2).

Christ, being a teacher from God, taught Nicodemus the message behind the miracles. “Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God” (v. 3). Christ told Nicodemus, the ONLY WAY he could be a part of this Kingdom—part of the fulfillment of Christ’s message—was to be born again! Years later, many professing Christians read this and frantically run to get themselves “born again” so they can be a part of this kingdom.

But Christ said, “My kingdom is

not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews” (John 18:36).

Not understanding the timing of the Kingdom, Nicodemus obviously did not understand this “born again” concept: “How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother’s womb, and be

*Many say they are born again, but Christ said those born again are like the wind: invisible!*

born?” (John 3:4). Physically, this is impossible.

Christ answered, “Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God” (v. 5). Being born of water is baptism. Here, Christ meant that we cannot be born of the Spirit, or “born again,” unless we are first baptized.

And being born of the Spirit was the main focus of Christ’s teaching. He defines it in verse 6: “That which is born of flesh is flesh; and that which is born of Spirit is spirit.” Christ’s words are so plain. That which is born of the flesh is flesh: in a physical birth, we are physical beings. But that which is born of the Spirit is spirit: in a spiritual birth, we are SPIRITUAL BEINGS!

So unless born again, BORN OF THE SPIRIT, one cannot enter the Kingdom of God (v. 5). He or she cannot even see the Kingdom (v. 3). “The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the

sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit” (v. 8). And yet so many professing Christians will argue that they are born again, when the Son of God clearly states that if you are born again (born of the Spirit), you are like the wind—NO ONE CAN SEE YOU!

“Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption” (I Cor. 15:50). Flesh and blood are visible. So if you are still flesh and blood, you have NOT inherited the Kingdom and therefore are NOT born again.

Now, we must define the word kingdom. A kingdom has four parts: 1) a king or ruler, in this case Jesus Christ (Rev. 19:16); 2) an area of land which the king will rule, in this case the Kingdom of God will rule the earth for 1000 years (Rev. 20:4); 3) subjects to rule, in this case submissive human beings striving to live according to God’s way; and 4) a law by which to rule these subjects, in this case the perfect law of God—the Ten Commandments (Rev. 22:14).

So where do those born again (born of the Spirit) fit into the Kingdom? “And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God...and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years” (Rev. 20:4). They are the ones RULING with Christ. These saints have died and now live! They are Spirit (invisible) and will reign with Christ. In other words, they have entered the Kingdom of God. They are BORN AGAIN!

NOTICE! Being born again means being part of God’s Kingdom—which is, in other biblical passages, referred to as the family of God. In this world,

kingdoms and nations are merely families grown large. So those “born again” are actually born into God’s SPIRITUAL FAMILY. Why would Christ use the word “born” if it didn’t compare to physical birth?

So many have misunderstood this fabulous truth. Why the confusion?

The New Testament Greek does not have two words to differentiate between being merely begotten and actually being born. The Greek word in all cases, *gennao*, actually includes the entire process from begetting to the birth. Strong’s Concordance defines it as follows: “to procreate (properly of the father, but by extension of the mother); figurative to regenerate:—bear, beget, be born, bring forth, conceive, be delivered of, gender, make, spring.” English has two separate, distinct words for this



process. The King James Version of the Bible bears this out, at times translating *gennao* as “begotten” and other times “birth.”

It is the context that must determine what the Greek word actually denotes. (Translators were not always right.) If it refers to us receiving God’s Spirit now, while in the flesh, we know this refers to begetting, since the Kingdom is not yet here and no fleshly human is spirit and sinless! But if it refers to us being like God, not able to sin or living forever, we know that is the true, spiritual birth!

Now, understand this. Before a human being can be physically born, the baby must be begotten. Romans 8:16 shows how this relates spiritually as well. “The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the

children of God.” Notice, humans have a spirit. Job 32:8 states, “But there is a spirit in man....” Spiritual begetting, which makes us God’s children, is when the Spirit of God combines with this human spirit—just like the male sperm combines with the female ovum to create a child.

So how and when is one spiritually begotten? When does this Spirit of God enter the mind? Peter said, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy [Spirit]” (Acts 2:38).

This is why Christ, in John 3, mentioned being born of water first. This is the spiritual begetting, when man is forgiven of his past sins and receives the gift of the Holy Spirit. Upon receipt of this Spirit, man becomes a member of God’s spiritual family in embryo!

“And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness...” (Gen. 1:26). Man looks like God in physical form—he has His likeness. This is proven in the sense that the Word became flesh and looked like the Father (John 14:9). But in order to be a member of God’s family, man had to gain the image of God! He needed the character of God, the mind of God. He needed to think like God.

Physically, the purpose of conception is to make another human being similar to the parents—with two eyes, two ears, a nose, a mouth, two arms, two legs, etc. BUT AT THE MOMENT OF CONCEPTION, THE BEGOTTEN DOES NOT LOOK LIKE A HUMAN BEING. It looks like a cell! It actually takes over nine months to come to the complete “image” of a human being. Over the months, little by little, the embryo takes on the features of a human. Soon, an independent heart, a toe here, a finger there, and so on. The same applies spiritually. When man is begotten of God, he actually seems to have none of God’s image—he may not act like or think like God. But over time, he begins to take on the features, the character of God. The equivalent of an arm might develop, or a leg, until he is fully ready to be born as a spirit being into the family of God.

“But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you” (Rom. 8:11). The Spirit of God in a

human being is what quickens his or her body to be changed into spirit composition. It happened first to Christ. That is why He is called the “firstborn among many brethren” (Rom. 8:29). To this point, He is the only one born again, because He is the only one who was flesh and is now a Spirit member in the God family. And how did it happen to Him? By the resurrection. “For the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be RAISED incorruptible, and we shall be changed” (I Cor. 15:52). Those dead at the return of Jesus Christ, when He comes to establish His KINGDOM on earth, will be resurrected incorruptible, spirit children in the image of God.

This is the most fundamental truth to God’s plan for humanity—the very reason life exists on this planet! God is making a family. He intends that every single willing human being be born again into His family. It starts at the

***This is the most  
fundamental truth  
to God’s plan for  
man—the reason  
for human life.***

birth of water (being baptized and forgiven of our past sins) and the receipt of God’s Spirit, and then growing as a baby would in gestation until the embryo has formed the image of God—when the human, by the guidance of God’s Spirit, learns to think and act like God. Finally, he or she will be changed to a spirit member of God’s family—unable to sin and able to live that way forever. He or she will be, as Christ said, like the invisible wind and a part of an invisible Kingdom, or family. The parallels are astonishing!

And what is more astonishing is that the Kingdom of God will be set up on this earth imminently! Christ will soon return to rule this earth with those born-again members in His family, to teach the rest of the world how to live God’s way, how to be more like God and, in the end, how to be born spiritually into the eternal, glorious family of God. ♦



## The Year 2000 Bug

“I take pen in hand to thank you for the 2000 bug commentary. I read it at lunch today and spent a large part of the rest of the day thinking about it.”

Ron Barrett—Fort Worth, Tex.

I RECENTLY READ “HOORAY FOR THE 2000 Bug.” Were it not for electricity and technology, thousands of people would die each day; that means millions each year. It helps our daily lives in countless ways. Technology is powerful, but it is not evil.

Malissa Smith  
Milan, Mich.

ABOUT “HOORAY FOR THE 2000 BUG”: IN my opinion, you hit the nail on the head. I’ve received *The Trumpet* for years, and always look forward to its arrival. Recently I read *Mystery of the Ages*, and it was so interesting I almost read the whole thing in one sitting. I found it very understandable—so simple anyone could understand it. It all made perfect sense to me and answered a whole lot of questions I’ve never heard explained to my satisfaction.

Nona B. Schulz  
Sulphur Springs, Tex.

## The True Gospel

I WAS HAPPY TO READ “HAVE YOU Heard the True Gospel?,” and I realized this was an important message for true Christians out there. May God continue to reveal His word to you.

Richard Adelman  
Monmouth Junction, N.J.

PLEASE SEND ME A FREE COPY OF *MYSTERY of the Ages*. A friend of mine told me how good it is. Judging from what I have read about Mr. Armstrong in *The Trumpet*, he was a great man.

R.B. Bastien  
West Yorkshire, England

I BORROWED A *TRUMPET* FROM A FRIEND, and I was deeply interested in every article in that magazine. It became impossible for me to put it down once I started to read. It gives a vivid picture for me about the reality of present-day

worldwide trends in the political, economic and religious sphere, in relation with what is written in the Bible. I have found this the most interesting scholarly magazine I’ve ever read.

Binyam Worku  
Ethiopia

## From the July Issue...

THE ARTICLE “TERROR TRIUMPHANT” was extremely good. It appears that we are seeing a national re-run of the situation which developed in the former Worldwide Church of God—deception and persecution from within and from the top. As you are aware, our Prime Minister is a Catholic, and therefore acknowledges the Pope as supreme—not the lawful sovereign (the Queen). So Ephraim is being sold for less than a bowl of pottage.

Pembrokeshire, Wales

I RECENTLY RECEIVED YOUR JULY ISSUE along with *The History and Prophecy of Germany*. I enjoyed them to the uttermost part of my soul. They have enlightened me to where I understand what I’ve been studying in the Bible. I feel as if a cover of blindness has lifted from my spiritual eyes. Things are so much clearer now.

Annie Whitley  
Detroit, Mich.

### The Philadelphia **Trumpet**

**Letters to the Editor** must include the writer’s name and address, and should be sent to *The Trumpet*, P.O. Box 1099, Edmond, OK 73083, or faxed to 405-359-6280 or e-mailed to [letters@pcog.org](mailto:letters@pcog.org). Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

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## Personal *(From page 1)*

conduct of our leaders would shock us into taking corrective action.

“As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths” (Isa. 3:12). This is an end-time prophecy about our people—America and Britain. (Write for our free booklet *The U.S. and Britain in Prophecy* for proof.) The family is upside down, with women ruling. God says it will “destroy” our society!

“The Lord standeth up to plead, and standeth to judge the people” (v. 13). First, God pleads through the message you are reading now. Then He punishes nationally if we don’t respond. Whether we believe God or not, this is still going to happen!

Generally, we have weak leaders because of family breakdown. God punishes severely for such sins. “For, behold, the Lord, the Lord of hosts, doth take away from Jerusalem and from Judah the stay and the staff, the whole stay of bread, and the whole stay of water, The mighty man, and the man of war, the judge, and the prophet, and the prudent, and the ancient, The captain of fifty, and the honourable man, and the counsellor, and the cunning artificer, and the eloquent orator. And I WILL GIVE CHILDREN TO BE THEIR PRINCES, AND BABES SHALL RULE OVER THEM” (vv. 1-4). This passage is in the context of upside-down families. God said He would give us “children” to rule over us—men who fail to mature and take on family responsibility.

Boys need a strong father example to become real men, who keep the Commandments of God—according to King David (I Kings 2:1-4).

David committed adultery. God punished him in several ways. The baby conceived from that sinful act died.

David deeply repented of this sin and never committed it again. God and the people of Israel forgave him. He conquered his sexual lust and became a great king.

But his son Solomon lusted for women who turned him away from God. That started the downfall of the nation of Israel.

Nations fall without family character. And if our people don’t care about this issue, the collapse is very near! ♦

STEPHEN FLURRY

# Dead or Alive?

## Cast your ballot



U.S. SENATOR DON NICKLES (R, OKLA.) might have some stiff competition when the November elections roll around. Jacquelyn Ledgerwood forced a runoff with contractor Dan Carroll in the August primaries for

Democratic nomination. Ledgerwood raked in nearly 21 percent of the vote. Not bad, considering the fact that she's dead. That's right. She died one day after the deadline for withdrawing from the race.

Oklahoma law prohibits removing names from the ballot in "partisan races," even if the candidate is dead—if you can believe that.

Now I've been hearing about all the polls lately which say America does not care about the character or the private life of the President, but I don't think it really sunk in until reading about the success of a dead candidate.

But after considering it further, maybe Oklahoma voters are on to something. What if it were possible for dead candidates to run for President of the United States? That would give us some candidates with real qualifications.

George Washington could run. His campaign would undoubtedly center around his sterling credentials as one of America's best and most experienced generals, leading the U.S. to victorious independence from the redcoats of Britain. Washington fought just as fiercely for an upstanding moral code. As our first President, during his Inaugural Address, he said, "The foundation of our national policy will be laid in the pure and immutable principles of private morality." To Washington, private morality was an indispensable prerequisite to our national policy. To him, private life was very much a public, or national, matter.

John Adams' campaign slogan today would probably be FAMILY VALUES. He and his lovely wife Abigail were famous for their unusually happy and strong marriage. Adams believed family stability was the bedrock of a strong NATION. Sustained moral virtue, in his estimation, was the only way to preserve lasting peace and freedom. "Our Constitution," he said, "was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other." Without an individual, strict moral code, Adams believed, excess freedom would result in hedonism and anarchy. "Human passions," he said, "unbridled by morality and religion... would break the strongest cords of our Constitution as a whale goes through a net."

Benjamin Franklin never ran for President. Probably because he was too old. But he wouldn't be too old today! His would be a campaign of virtue: temperance, silence, order, resolution, frugality, industry, sincerity, justice, moderation, cleanliness, tranquillity, chastity and humility. This was the campaign he left behind in his autobiography. For the last virtue, humility, he explained simply, "Imitate Jesus." Pretty good campaign slogan, in my opinion.



JOEL HALLISER

Abraham Lincoln's campaign manager would underscore Lincoln's honesty, unselfishness and resolute will to do what's right. "Stand with anybody that stands right," Lincoln said. "Stand with him while he is right and part with him when he goes wrong. To desert such ground because of any company is to be less than a man, less than an American." When America's worst crisis threatened to destroy the national unity which so many had died for in Washington's

day, it was Lincoln who abandoned any inclination to selfishness, or dishonest political tactics, and instead did what was right for the nation. He accepted war—a disgustingly bloody war—rather than let the nation perish. America survived on his firm, unyielding resolve. Even his detractors knew Lincoln was a good man—honest, sincere, determined. His campaigners today would no doubt plaster "Honest Abe" posters and pins everywhere. Television ads would recount the many promises Lincoln actually kept throughout his long and distinguished career. They would end with this appeal: "Vote for Abraham Lincoln—a man you can trust."

Theodore Roosevelt's campaign slogan would be, "Walk softly, and carry a big stick." Diplomacy, Roosevelt reasoned, is only as strong as the U.S. Navy. Indeed, when Roosevelt grew tired of waiting for the sultan of Morocco to find an American citizen who had been kidnapped in Morocco, he sent the U.S. Navy as a "prod" and the hostage was quickly released. Roosevelt's motto was to translate thought into action. One observer said of TR, "He was pure act." "National unselfishness and self-sacrifice, national self-mastery, and the development of national power, can never be achieved by words alone," Roosevelt said. His philosophy for a powerful America was to make sure we were as strong as or stronger than any other enemy, tyrant or terrorist and then have the will to use that power. In Roosevelt's view, the only way to oppose wrong backed by might was to overpower it with RIGHT BACKED BY MIGHT. "Those who preach sloth and cowardice under the high-sounding name of 'peace,' he said, "give people a word with which to cloak, even to themselves, their failure to perform unpleasant duty. For a man to stand up for his own rights, or especially for the rights of somebody else, means that he must have virile qualities: courage, foresight, willingness to face risk and undergo effort. It is much easier to be timid and lazy." And to fulfill our obligation to this world, like many of the other dead politicians mentioned in this piece, Roosevelt preached strictness in morality. Unless we are good Americans first, he argued, we can do little or nothing for the good of the world.

Wow! What a difference someone like George Washington, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Abraham Lincoln or Theodore Roosevelt would make if they were leading America today.

I wonder if they would even be voted in.

# THE KEY OF DAVID

## TELEVISION LOG



**BACK ON WWOR  
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### United States

**KTLA**—8:00 am PT, Sunday (Nationwide cable) \*\*  
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Alabama, Montgomery—WFOA 7:00 am CT, Sunday  
 Arizona, Phoenix—KSAZ 6:30 am MT, Sunday  
 Arkansas, Little Rock—KASN 8:00 am CT, Saturday  
 California, Concord—KTNC 10:00 am PT, Sunday  
 California, Fort Bragg—KFWU 10:00 am PT, Sunday  
 California, Fresno—KNSO 8:00 am PT, Sunday; 9:00 am PT, Monday  
 California, Los Angeles—KTLA 8:00 am PT, Sunday \*\*  
 California, San Diego—KGTV 7:30 am PT, Sunday  
 California, San Francisco—KTNC 10:00 am PT, Sunday \*\*  
 California, San Francisco—KOFY 8:00 am PT, Sunday \*\*  
 California, San Jose—KTNC 10:00 am PT, Sunday \*\*  
 California, Sacramento—KTNC 10:00 am PT, Sunday  
 Colorado, Alamosa—KOFB 8:30 am MT, Sunday  
 Florida, Jacksonville—WTEV 6:30 am ET, Saturday  
 Florida, Orlando—WRBW 7:00 am ET, Saturday  
 Florida, Tallahassee—WTLH 8:30 am ET, Sunday  
 Florida, Tampa—WTSP 7:00 am ET, Sunday  
 Georgia, Atlanta—WGNX 6:30 am ET, Saturday  
 Illinois, Chicago—WCIU 6:30 am CT, Saturday  
 Illinois, Chicago—WGN 6:30 am ET, Sunday  
 Illinois, Decatur—WAND 7:00 am CT, Sunday  
 Indiana, Indianapolis—WNDY 6:30 am ET, Sunday  
 Kansas, Topeka—WIBW 6:30 am CT, Sunday  
 Kansas, Wichita—KSAS 10:00 am CT, Sunday  
 Kentucky, Louisville—WBNA 10:00 pm ET, Saturday  
 Kentucky, Paducah—WDKA 7:30 am CT, Sunday \*\*  
 Louisiana, Shreveport—KMSS 8:00 am CT, Sunday  
 Maine, Portland/Bangor—WPXT 7:30 am ET, Sunday\*\*  
 Maryland, Baltimore—WUTB 7:00 am ET, Sunday  
 Massachusetts, Boston—WFXT 8:00 am ET, Sunday  
 Michigan, Detroit—WADL 9:00 am ET, Sunday  
 Minnesota, Minneapolis/St. Paul—WFTC 6:30 am CT, Sunday  
 Minnesota, Rochester—WFTC 6:30 am CT, Sunday  
 Missouri, Cape Girardeau—WDKA 7:30 am CT, Sunday \*\*  
 Missouri, Kansas City—KCWB 6:30 am CT, Saturday  
 Missouri, St. Louis—KPLR 6:00 am CT, Sunday  
 Montana, Billings—KHMT 7:00 am MT, Sunday \*\*  
 New Jersey—WPHL 6:30 am ET, Sunday  
 New Mexico, Albuquerque—KOB 8:30 am MT, Sunday  
 New Mexico, Farmington—KOB 8:30 am CT, Sunday  
 New York, Buffalo—WIVB 6:30 am ET, Sunday  
 New York, New York City—WWOR 7:00 am ET, Saturday \*\*  
 North Carolina, Asheville—WHNS 7:00 am ET, Sunday  
 North Carolina, Charlotte—WAXN 8:00 am ET, Sunday  
 North Carolina, Kannapolis—WAXN 8:00 am ET, Sunday  
 Ohio, Cincinnati—WKRC 5:30 am ET, Sunday  
 Ohio, Cincinnati—WXIX 7:30 am ET, Sunday \*\*  
 Ohio, Cleveland/Akron—WVPX 8:00 am ET, Sunday  
 Oklahoma, Oklahoma City—KOCO 6:30 am CT, Sunday  
 Oklahoma, Tulsa—KOKI 9:00 am CT, Sunday  
 Oregon, Eugene—KLSR 7:00 am PT, Sunday  
 Oregon, Portland—KPDX 7:30 am PT, Sunday  
 Pennsylvania, Philadelphia—WPHL 6:30 am ET, Sunday  
 Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh—WPGH 7:30 am ET, Sunday  
 Pennsylvania, Red Lion—WGCB 8:30 am ET, Sunday  
 South Carolina, Columbia—WOLO 8:00 am ET, Sunday  
 South Carolina, Greenville/Spartanburg—WHNS 7:00 am ET, Sunday  
 South Dakota, Sioux Falls—KDLT 6:30 am CT, Sunday

Tennessee, Chattanooga—WFLI 7:00 am ET, Sunday \*\*  
 Tennessee, Memphis—WLMT 9:00 am ET, Sunday  
 Texas, Amarillo—KAMR 7:00 am CT, Sunday \*\*  
 Texas, Dallas—KDFI 8:30 am CT, Sunday  
 Texas, San Antonio—KSAT 6:30 am CT, Sunday  
 Texas, Tyler—KLTV 10:30 am CT, Sunday  
 Texas, Wichita Falls—KAUZ 9:00 am CT, Sunday \*\*  
 Virginia, Richmond—WRIC 7:30 am ET, Sunday  
 Washington, Seattle—KONG 7:30 am PT, Sunday \*\*  
 Washington, Spokane—KXLY 6:00 am PT, Sunday  
 Washington D.C.—WDCA 6:30 am ET, Saturday \*\*  
 Wisconsin, Green Bay—WACY 8:00 am CT, Sunday\*\*

### Australia

**Network 10**—4:30 am, Sunday  
 —Channel 10, Melb., Syd., Brisb., Perth, Adelaide  
 —NRTV, North New South Wales  
 —Capital TV, South New South Wales  
 —Southern Cross TV, Victoria  
 —QTV, Queensland

### Canada

**VISION Network**—9:30 am ET, Sunday (Nationwide Canadian cable)  
 Alberta/Calgary—KXLY 7:00 am MT, Sunday  
 Alberta/Edmonton—KXLY 7:00 am MT, Sunday  
 Alberta/Red Deer—KXLY 7:00 am MT, Sunday  
 British Columbia, Prince George—CKPG 8:30 am PT, Sunday  
 British Columbia, Vancouver—CHEK 9:00 am PT, Sunday  
 New Brunswick—CIHF 7:00 am, Sunday  
 Nova Scotia—CIHF 7:00 am, Sunday  
 Prince Edward Island—CIHF 7:00 am, Sunday  
 Quebec, Montreal—CKMI 11:00 am Sunday

### Fiji

**FIJI TV**—11:30 am, Sunday \*\*

### New Zealand

**TV3**—6:00 am, Friday

### Philippines

**IBC TV**—7:00 am, Sunday

### Sri Lanka

**Dynavision TV 28**—11:00 am, Sunday

### Trinidad/Tobago

**CCN TV 6**—7:30 am, Sunday \*\*

\*\* Indicates a new station or time change

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