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# **The Real Solution to Mass Shootings and Violence**

You aren't hearing about it—and that is at the root of the problem.

ASS SHOOTINGS NEVER SEEM FAR FROM OUR HEADLINES. Recent shootings in El Paso, Texas, and Dayton, Ohio, that killed over 30 people caused great concern among the American people. But these were only the most recent, and most prominent, in a continual dirge of brutality. America is continually plagued by bloody, violent crimes.



**GERALD FLURRY** 

People keep asking for solutions, but nobody seems to have one. This gigantic problem threatens to tear our society

This article discusses the only REAL solution to the epidemic of violence.

When our government fails to provide a solution, people begin to take matters into their own hands. More and more

people are buying guns. Many people feel a personal gun is their only real defense.

After a mass shooting there is renewed calls for stricter gun control. More gun-control laws might make it more difficult to obtain a gun, but the laws don't affect the hundreds of million of guns that Americans already own.

America has lost the WAR on crime! And the consequences are going to be staggering. You can't lose a WAR without devastating results!

In many places in America, our law enforcement is simply too overtaxed to adequately address crimes that occur. In some cities, the majority of murders are going unpunished! That means the killers are winning!

Within our present governmental system we cannot solve THE TERRIFYING PROBLEM OF VIOLENCE! WE ARE HAVING TROU-BLE EVEN DETERRING IT!

There is good news though. God is about to implement a new system of government.

# Violence Prophesied

Many people don't know it, but America's problem with gun violence and crime was prophesied to occur in our day.

The book of Ezekiel contains many prophecies that are addressed specifically at America and Britain in the end time. Anciently, the kingdom of Israel had been in captivity more than 100 years when Ezekiel was delivering his warning message. This shows that Ezekiel's message is primarily for the end-time descendants of Israel; America is the most prominent of these descendants. (Request our book Ezekiel: The End-Time Prophet for more explanation on this crucial point. All of our literature is free.) This means that Ezekiel's message will have mostly been in vain unless we proclaim it today!

The subject is the END TIME (Ezekiel 7:1-2)—the end of the age of man, the time right before the return of Jesus Christ. This is a message for today! Several other indications in Ezekiel's prophecy show this to be true.

"Make a chain: for the land is full of bloody crimes, and the city is full of violence" (verse 23). Think about what this is saying, then look at the headlines. Our land is so saturated with bloody crimes that one crime follows another like links in a chain— JUST THE WAY GOD PROPHESIED IT WOULD BE!

God is very wrathful about this serious problem. Many prophecies explain what He will do to address it. Here it is in summary: "Wherefore I will bring the worst of the heathen, and they shall possess their houses: I will also make the pomp of the strong to cease; and their holy places shall be defiled" (verse 24). You can put this together with many other prophecies to see that God, in order to correct us, is going to SEND GERMANY. Many people scoff at such a warning. But soon they will not be scoffing. Just look at the history of World War II, and you will gain insight into how dangerous Germany can be. Biblical prophecy says what they do in World War III will be even worse. (Request our booklet Germany and the Holy Roman *Empire*, and read Chapter 5, "Germany in Prophecy.")

Why would God correct us so harshly? If you know God, you know that He would not punish so severely unless the magnitude of our sin demanded it! What is our great sin?

# Cause and Effect

Ezekiel's prophecy continues: "Mischief shall come upon mischief, and rumour shall be upon rumour; then shall they seek a vision of the prophet; but the LAW shall perish from the priest, and counsel from the ancients" (Ezekiel 7:26). The LAW, or the Ten Commandments, was prophesied to "perish" from the priests, or ministers. The word *perish* can also mean to loosen the reins.

How many religions teach that God's law was done away with today? Almost all of them! Worldly religions are transgressing God's law more brazenly than they ever have before, though they have never really kept it in this end time.

At the same time, even God's own Church, to whom He gave His law in this end time, has become spiritually lukewarm and has cast away the law (Revelation 3:14-19). This is why God said "the law shall perish from the priest." God's own people are rejecting the very law that would eliminate these VIOLENT AND BLOODY CRIMES IN OUR SOCIETY!

There is *cause* and *effect*. There is a cause for every problem. The cause of our violent and bloody crimes is that as a society we have rejected God's LAW!

That law is a law of LOVE. It teaches you how to love God and love your fellow man (Matthew 22:36-40). It forbids hatred and murder. It prohibits lust and coveting, which lead to violence (James 4:1-3). That law would bring peace and abundance to our society in every way. The more we transgress it, the worse our bloody crimes become.

God is revealing that even *His own people* are involved in rebellion. "My face will I turn also from them, and they shall pollute my secret place: for the robbers shall enter into it, and defile it" (Ezekiel 7:22). Where is the place in the temple anciently that God called His secret place? It was the holy of holies, where God dwelled and only the high priest entered once a year on the Day of Atonement (Leviticus 16). Today, God is referring to the holiest place on Earth—His own Church. Tragically, this holy of holies has been polluted!

Then God discusses our bloody crimes in the next verse (Ezekiel 7:23). Is there a connection? Indeed there is! The only solution to America's crime problem is God's truth. And that truth is in only one Church today—God's Church. However, most of God's people have become lukewarm. Only God's Philadelphia Church has retained God's law in this end time, and the government that is based on that law.

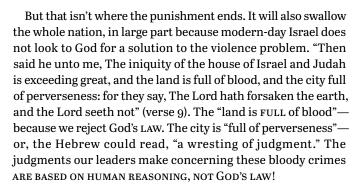
What a disaster when people reject the very law that would solve our colossal crime problems! Only God can solve these problems of violence and crime. And we must start with His law.

# 'Sigh and Cry'

In Ezekiel 9:2, God addresses the "brasen altar." This was inside God's temple anciently, which is a symbol of God's Church today. "And the Lord said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof" (Ezekiel 9:4). Jerusalem is a type of all the modern nations that descended from ancient Israel, most prominently America and Britain (read The United States and Britain in Prophecy). God puts a mark on His people who sigh and cry about these abominations—like mass shootings and crime. God's true Church expresses that "sigh" and "cry" by warning the modern nations of Israel about their problems and then showing God's solution. The mark is on them to demonstrate that God is going to save them from Israel's destruction. They will be taken to a place of safety (Revelation 12:14).

But when the nations of modern Israel collapse and go into captivity, God's *lukewarm* people will be left unprotected!

"Slay utterly old and young, both maids, and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom is the mark; and begin at my sanctuary..." (Ezekiel 9:6). The punishing will begin at God's "sanctuary." God starts the punishment with His own Laodicean people who have not repented!



What a terrible penalty we are receiving for this error in judgment. "And as for me also, mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity, but I will recompense their way upon their head" (verse 10). God is going to punish without pity because Israel has rebelled against His law. He will "recompense their way upon their head." That means the fruits of their own wrong judgments will come crashing down on their heads. Our society is unraveling because of our evil way of life!

"Woe to the rebellious children, saith the Lord, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit, that they may add sin to sin" (Isaiah 30:1). Woe of the worst kind is coming upon the rebellious children of Israel. Why? Because they "take counsel, but not of me [God]." Do we really seek God's counsel about our problems? Not even close! Just listen to the national discussion after these most recent mass shootings. The "solutions" being proposed are mostly actions meant to score political points—it seems the greatest preoccupation is not to solve problems at all, but to use those tragedies to smear political opponents!

And sadly, God's lukewarm saints are so blind that they don't even proclaim the solution to Israel!

"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" (verse 8). The expression "time to come" in the Hebrew means "the latter day." God wrote these prophecies in a BOOK for the latter day—or the end time. The only reason these prophecies are in a book is for our time now! "That this is a rebellious people, lying children, children that will not hear the law of the Lord" (verse 9). God says Israel and the Laodiceans are "lying children" who "will not hear the law of God."

"Which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophesy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits" (verse 10). Because God's lukewarm saints are rebelling against God's law, they say "prophesy not." They used to prophesy, when they had strong leadership under Herbert W. Armstrong, but after he died, they stopped. They refuse to prophesy the mind-numbing prophecies, such as our problems of violence and crime. Instead they say, "Get you out of the way, turn aside out of the path, cause the Holy One of Israel to cease from before us" (verse 11). God was with them, but they caused Him to cease from among them! This is the greatest crime of all. That leaves only the Philadelphia Church to proclaim the truth of God! We must not fail God.



# TO PROVE THE BIBLICAL IDENTITY OF THE U.S.,

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On July 24, Boris Johnson officially became the United Kingdom's new prime minister after being voted leader of the ruling Conservative Party.

Johnson's landslide 66 percent of the vote among Conservative Party members shocked the nation's chattering classes. "Now we know what it's like to live in a dictatorship," tweeted one journalist. "This was the first stage in a right-wing coup," tweeted another. One bestselling author declared Johnson's supporters to be "just racist." Even journalists in the United States were shocked: One New York Times headline read, "Boris Johnson Is How Britain Ends."

But for others, this was a moment of tremendous hope. "Now bring us sunshine!" proclaimed the Daily Mail's front page. "New PM promises a 'golden age," declared the Sun, its front page depicting a shining yellow Boris "Johnsun."

For some, this is the end. For others, it's a new birth of freedom—a chance to lift Britain out of the Brexit quagmire. Who is right?

This is not the only important question about the events of this summer. Another important question is: Why are Britain's politics so similar to America's?

Boris Johnson is no clone of U.S. President Donald Trump; there are stark differences. Yet the parallels between the two are remarkable. Both have unorthodox political styles. Both drive their opponents crazy. Both appeal to part of their own party while being hated by others of the same party. Even President Trump pointed out that people call Mr. Johnson "Britain-Trump."

Why are Britain and America treading the same path—and where is that path leading? The Bible contains a prophecy that makes sense of this remarkable trend.

# **The Critical Background**

The prophecy was written by the Prophet Amos, who forecast an idyllic world with so much abundance that "the plowman shall overtake the reaper" (Amos 9:13). This clearly hasn't happened yet. It is a prophecy yet future.

Amos also spoke about a King Jeroboam. Historically he was referring to Jeroboam II, who ruled the kingdom of Israel at the time. The focus of Amos's book is on the end time, and his

descriptions of Jeroboam II are also prophetic. Amos was forecasting a future leader who would have accomplishments similar to Jeroboam II. This is one reason God ensured that Amos's book would be preserved for nearly 3,000 years.

The history of Jeroboam II's reign is recorded in 2 Kings 14. "For the Lord saw the affliction of Israel, that it was very bitter: for there was not any shut up, nor any left, nor any helper for Israel. And the Lord said not that he would blot out the name of Israel from under heaven: but he saved them by the hand of Jeroboam the son of Joash" (verses 26-27).

"Israel was nearing collapse!" wrote Trumpet editor in chief Gerald Flurry. But God intervened to save the nation. "God was merciful, and used Jeroboam" to oversee one last age of prosperity" ("Can President Trump Get Control of His Own Divided Government?", August 2019, the Trumpet.com/20876).

The modern descendants of the kingdom of Israel include the Americans. Since the 2016 election, radical leaders

"I make no excuse for being against Brexit from the start," Clinton said during a speech to Queen's University Belfast in 2018. "[I]t may well go down as one of the greatest and most unnecessary self-inflicted wounds of modern history."

In 2017, she told the Sunday Times that Brexit supporters "voted against modern Britain and the EU, believing that somehow this would be good for their small village. It made no sense."

She said this after 17.4 million British voters (52 percent) voted to leave the European Union. She made it clear that if you forced her to choose between the EU and Britain, she would choose the EU.

While receiving an honorary degree at Swansea University in Wales in October 2017, Clinton reiterated her solidarity with the EU: "I personally continue to believe in the value of the European Union, and more broadly of a Europe that is whole, free and at peace."

Before 2016, this sentiment belonged not just to a failed presidential candidate but also to the most powerful leader in

# For some, this is the end. For others, it's a new birth of freedom a chance to end the Brexit quagmire. Who is right?

have tried to regain their control of the government and the nation. "Those people were getting control of the government," wrote Mr. Flurry. "Justice in the land was destroyed. Rule of law was twisted and perverted. People were losing faith in the government. If this trend had continued, it would have meant the end of our republic!

"But God was not ready for that. He was going to save America—along with Britain and the Jewish nation" (ibid).

God used Donald Trump to save America from that fate. Did He use Donald Trump to save Britain at the same time?

## What If Hillary Clinton Had Won?

Perhaps no American election in history has meant so much for Britain, with the possible exception of Franklin D. Roosevelt's election in 1940, prior to America entering World War II. Consider where Brexit would be right now if Hillary Clinton had won.

the world: President Barack Obama. Speaking to the press at 10 Downing Street in London with then Prime Minister David Cameron in April 2016, Obama told the world that his top priority would be a trade deal with the EU and that if Britain chose to leave, he would put it "in the back of the queue."

This was after eight years of the Obama presidency putting an infamously frosty chill on America's relationship with the United Kingdom. He removed a bust of Winston Churchill from the White House. He said, "[W]e don't have a stronger friend and stronger ally" than France. He said German Chancellor Angela Merkel was his "closest international partner." And Britain? A congressional think tank unveiled a secret memo that said, "The UK may not be viewed as centrally relevant to the United States in all of the issues and relations considered a priority on the U.S. agenda" (emphasis added).

American leftists love the EU. They



love its system of rule by experts, power centralized in one super-bureaucracy, and minimal interference by actual voters. That is what they want to impose in the U.S. If they could, they would probably bring the U.S. into the EU.

Rule by experts, centralized bureaucratic power and minimal power for citizens is exactly the model Brexit voters rejected. It was clear before the referendum and after it that a Democratic administration in the U.S. would never side with Britain over the EU.

Right now, "President" Hillary Clinton would not be promising lucrative deals to Prime Minister Johnson. She would be publicly putting Britain at "the back of the queue" and teaming up with Europe to force Britain into a deal that made it a humiliated, all-but conquered supplicant to the EU, and an example of punishment to warn others not to prioritize democracy over bureaucracy.

Contrast that with President Trump's

approach to Brexit.

Mr. Trump loved Brexit even before he became president. When the Leave vote won, he remarked, "I love to see people take their country back." He has consistently promised to fast-track Britain to the front of the queue for trade deals. With his election, the world's most powerful and prosperous nation suddenly switched from enemy to ally regarding Brexit.

Ideally, Mr. Johnson would like to leave the EU with some kind of deal. He wants to make Britain its own proper sovereign nation again, and also find a way to keep trade flowing smoothly with the EU, to benefit both. President Trump's offer of a trade deal helps him enormously. Without it, the British would appear (and probably be) desperate, with no good trading options except to go back to the undemocratic bureaucracy from which they are trying to extricate themselves. Europe would

have bet that Britain would pay a high price—even surrendering sovereignty in trade negotiations with Brussels.

The Europeans may still gamble, but this is now looking much less likely. A Britain with other options is a Britain in a far more powerful position.

For that matter, without President Trump, would Boris Johnson even be prime minister? Imagine if, when Prime Minister Theresa May presented her humiliating withdrawal agreement to Parliament at the start of the year, she had been congratulated by "President" Clinton. Members of Parliament barely voted Mrs. May's deal down with Donald Trump encouraging them to do so and promising a trade deal. Would they have instead voted for Mrs. May's humiliating deal if they were feeling pressure from the U.S.? Would Britain already be subjugated to Brussels by now?

So is Donald Trump saving Britain? No. But when you look at this prophecy, and compare it with the facts on the ground, could God be using President Trump to save Britain?

It certainly looks like it.

# **A Resurging Britain**

Mr. Johnson has been in office for mere weeks, but he has brought a new sense of purpose and optimism to the government.

Minutes after he was announced as leader of Britain's Conservative Party on July 23, he said, "[W]e are once again going to believe in ourselves and what we can achieve. And like some slumbering giant, we are going to rise and ping off the guy ropes of self-doubt and negativity."

In his first speech as prime minister the next day, he said, "[D]o not underestimate this country."

"No one in the last few centuries has succeeded in betting against the pluck and nerve and ambition of this country," he said. "They will not succeed today."

In his first speech before Parliament in his new role, he told the house that he would be "making this country the greatest place on Earth" and painted a utopian picture of Britain in the Year 2050.

On his first day in the job, Mr. Johnson conducted one of the most sweeping changes in governmental personnel in recent history. Out went the center-left conservatives-in-name-only from the cabinet of his predecessor. In came a

whole cadre of actually conservative, pro-Brexit ministers.

Allister Heath wrote in the *Telegraph*, "[T]he early signs are that there is at least a chance that something extraordinary might happen. ... His appointments so far have been exceptional—as good as they could have been from a free market and euroskeptic perspective" (July 24).

Perhaps most remarkable is his choice of Dominic Cummings as a senior adviser. Cummings was the icon of the Vote Leave campaign (and the Left's Brexit villain). He's driven, unorthodox and unafraid of confrontation. By now he is surely driving the pro-EU establishment in Whitehall crazy. By bringing him in, Mr. Johnson made a powerful statement about what type of government he is leading.

Almost every cabinet appointee began his or her job with a commonsense approach that has been sorely missing from previous governments. New Home Secretary Priti Patel said that criminals should "feel terror"—a clear turn away from the soft approach to policing under Mrs. May. New Chancellor of the Exchequer Sajid Javid wants to cut regulation and has a picture of former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on his wall. New International Trade Secretary Liz Truss is already working on a trade deal with the U.S.—one her predecessor shied away from.

Regarding the turn away from radical leftist globalist socialism in the U.S., Mr. Flurry wrote, "It is refreshing to see America regaining some sense of sanity ..." (op cit). It's similarly refreshing to see a corresponding turnaround in Britain. But as he wrote, "[T]he national resurgence brought about by this end-time Jeroboam is *only temporary*. Prophecy is clear that America's ultimate fate is just as devastating, and even far worse, than the kingdom of Israel's was anciently!"

Jeroboam II was the last stable king of Israel. Because circumstances turned favorable, the people of Israel continued in their sins and refused to repent toward God. Within months of Jeroboam's death, the nation was tearing itself apart in civil war.

God prophesied that there would be a resurgence in end-time Israel. There has been. He warned that it would be temporary. It will be. Our nations are being brought down by sin. Is Prime Minister Johnson or President Trump going to fix—or even confront—our nations' problems with family breakdown? President Trump has not followed President Abraham Lincoln's example in addressing the nation's sins and calling on God. Mr. Johnson has been a strong supporter of the lesbian-gay-bisexual-transgender movement. He is not married to his live-in girlfriend—a fact that is not remarkable to anyone in the United Kingdom anymore.

Without solving our nations' family problems, we will not solve the resulting crises. We won't solve our spiraling crime, our drugs disaster, or the tragic rise of self-harm and suicide among our young people. We may be able to throw some money at the effects, but without getting to the cause, we are only applying sticking plasters.

And we will only be able to throw money at these problems for so long. Both nations—though committed to spend, spend, spend—have massive debts that must come due eventually.

Boris Johnson may be promising utopia for 2050, but he's not the one who will bring about Amos's prophecies of superabundance and peace.

It is natural to rejoice when you see your country resurgent. But we must not place our hope in these human politicians. Instead, there is an even more powerful source for hope and optimism.

Sin always brings penalties. These leaders may address some of our nations' problems, but they will not address our nations' sins. But here is the hope: *God will.* God has a plan to correct our

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nations. He will confront the real root cause of everything dragging down Britain and America. He will show us the terrible consequences of our sins, and humble us. Then we will finally turn to Him, and our nations will experience blessings and abundance as never before. That is when the utopian prophecies in Amos, including the one about the reaper struggling to bring in all the abundance even as the plowman begins planting more, will finally be fulfilled.

God's plan does not stop there; in fact, that barely begins it. He has a plan for the whole world—a carefully planned strategy for offering all mankind a glorious, eternal future.

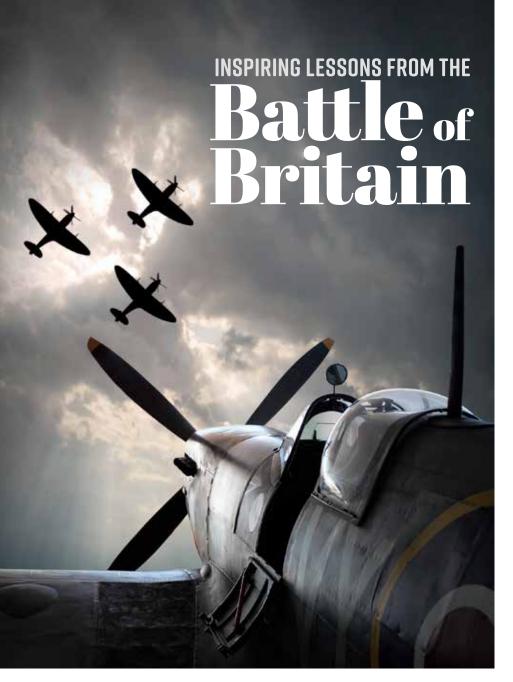
If you invest your optimism in Mr. Johnson or Mr. Trump, sooner or later that investment will crash. But placing your trust in the true God is the best investment you could ever make.

Why has this temporary resurgence come about in the first place? Why not go straight to the punishment our nations need, and the repentance and abundance that will follow? Mr. Flurry answered this question in a May 2018 *Key of David* program, saying that it is because "there is a message that has to go out one more time."

This resurgence is a massive opportunity—not only for the work of the *Trumpet* in publishing God's message of warning and hope, but also for you personally. It is an opportunity to support this awesome message. It is an opportunity to do a lot of good for a lot of people by giving the true hope they need in the time ahead. It is an opportunity to help people repent, turn to God, and receive bountiful blessings.

Who knows how long this opportunity will last? In Britain, things look better—for now. But the Bible tells us that at the end of the day, the EU will come out on top. That "end of the day" is likely to come very quickly.

The good news in Britain and America is that prophecy is clearly being fulfilled—proof of an Almighty God with a plan for mankind. That is a fantastic reason to be optimistic. Base that optimism not on men but on the sure foundation of God's vision for man's future. Then use that energy to take advantage of this temporary resurgence by helping publicize this message of hope to the largest audience possible.



'The Few' who fought to save Britain and the world teach us lessons for fighting more subtle but more dire threats today. BY JOEL HILLIKER

ODAY, BRITAIN IS ENGAGED IN A political fight for its sovereignty. Seventy-nine summers ago, it was in a struggle for its survival.

In the summer of 1940, Western civilization was under threat. At stake was the fate of Britain and, in some ways, the fate of the world. The outcome depended on the courage, sacrifice and success of about a thousand menwhose average age was just 20 years old.

British Prime Minister Winston Churchill put it this way on June 18, 1940, before Parliament: "[T]he Battle of France is over. I expect that the Battle of Britain is about to begin. Upon this battle depends the survival of Christian civilization. Upon it depends our own British life, and the long continuity of our institutions and our Empire."

The Battle of Britain was the only World War II battle fought entirely in the air. It is a dramatic, inspiring chapter in Britain's history. And it teaches important lessons for us.

Today Britain is sparring with the European Union over political and economic questions. But it does not realize that even more is at stake. Bible prophecy shows that the world is on the brink of fighting another world war—this time with weapons of mass destruction.

God has not only prophesied this war, He has commissioned His people to awaken the world to this threat. Those with the courage to fight this spiritual war must think and act like fighters. They must do battle on three fronts: against Satan, against society and against the evil human nature within themselves.

In many ways, the fate of the world depends on just a few thousand, many of whom are young and carry great responsibility. God's people—those who fight the spiritual war and support His work-are "The Few."

## A Nation Without a Cause

In the early 1900s, Britain saw the Germans unleash world war, and it had spent a generation of its young men to defeat them. Britain had forbidden Germany from rearming and especially from developing the latest technology: warplanes. And in the 1920s and 1930s, an exhausted Britain relaxed. Society became soft.

The Germans did not. They rapidly rebuilt. They trained military pilots in civil aviation schools and at a secret school in Russia. They designed commercial aircraft that could be easily converted into bombers. By the time Adolf Hitler formally announced the Luftwaffe in 1935, he had an air force of 20,000 men. He immediately broke the Versailles Treaty and ordered Germany's aircraft industry to start military production. Within a year, they were producing 160 warplanes per month.

Meanwhile, Britain was disarming. Its air force fielded fewer than 500 planes, most of which were obsolete, made of wood and canvas.

## **Outnumbered**

Churchill fought for years simply to convince the nation to brace for war. Finally, in July 1934, Parliament voted to expand the Royal Air Force. It was now a manufacturing race between the fearful, hesitant, indecisive, democracy of Britain and the early-rising, aggressive, vigorous dictatorship of Germany.

On Sept. 1, 1939, World War II began. Britain had about 660 fighter planes and few bombers. Germany's Luftwaffe had



more than 3,600 bombers and fighters, and recent combat experience in the Spanish Civil War.

Britain was especially vulnerable to air warfare. Churchill called London "the greatest target in the world, a kind of tremendous fat cow ... tied up to attract the beasts of prey." Bombers from mainland Europe could reach large parts of England within 20 minutes—while British fighters required 10 minutes or more to take off and reach operational altitude.

Germany quickly conquered Poland. Great Britain and France responded by declaring war on Germany. But still, many Brits were apathetic. The next spring, Neville Chamberlain resigned as prime minister, and Churchill took over. That same day, Germany attacked the Netherlands, Belgium and France in a fierce blitzkrieg and quickly overwhelmed all three nations.

At that point, Britain stood alone.

"The Battle of France is over," Churchill told Parliament on June 18, 1940. "I expect that the Battle of Britain is about to begin. ... The whole fury and might of the enemy must very soon be turned on us. Hitler knows that he will have to break us in this island or lose the war. If we can stand up to him, all Europe may be free, and the life of the world may move

forward into broad, sunlit uplands. But if we fail, then the whole world, ... including all that we have known and cared for, will sink into the abyss of a new Dark Age .... Let us therefore brace ourselves to our duties, and so bear ourselves that, if the British Empire and its Commonwealth last for a thousand years, men will still say, 'This was their finest hour.'"

We need such courage in our spiritual war. When young David approached Goliath on an ancient battlefield, he spoke boldly: "Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. ... And all this assembly shall know that the Lord saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the Lord's, and he will give you into our hands" (1 Samuel 17:45, 47).

"Do you see how we can impact the world today with this kind of faith in the living God?" *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry writes. "David was motivated to fight Goliath so that all the Earth may know there is a God in Israel!" (*The Former Prophets: How to Become α King*).

# **Bracing for War**

Britain scrambled to make up for lost time. It formed a citizen army called the

Home Guard. Hundreds of thousands rushed to join—but only 1 in 3 had even a rifle. The rest had shotguns, sporting rifles, axes, golf clubs and other improvised weapons. If and when they landed, German paratroopers would be using submachine guns and grenades.

Britain's regular army had sustained heavy losses of men and matériel in its doomed effort to reinforce the French. It had only about 100 tanks and three underequipped divisions. The Germans had 45 highly trained divisions and were ready to supply 65 more. Had Hitler invaded at that point, the ratio of German superiority of men and arms against the British was an incredible 32 to 1. Britain needed time to build up its defenses.

It had to stop Germany in the air.

However, the Royal Air Force (RAF) too had been devastated in France. The head of Fighter Command said that Britain needed at least 52 fighter squadrons at home to defend Britain. They had only 37.

Miraculously, Hitler delayed attacking Britain for several weeks.

"Weeks of hectic activity followed as Britain steeled itself against invasion," wrote Ira Peck. "War production began to climb steadily. In the factories, men worked long hours until, exhausted, they fell asleep at their machines. In homes, middle-aged women held 'filing parties' after tea to smooth down the rough edges of machine parts. In school workshops, boys helped rim the edges of airplane seats with hammers that were too big for some of them to hold" (*The Battle of Britain*).

But the fate of the nation depended on those who would strap themselves into those seats, the fighter pilots. These young men came from every background, most of them from civilian work.

God is looking for spiritual warriors who are eager to fight. When the Israelites faced a battle against the Midianites, God instructed their leader, Gideon, to say to the army, "Whosoever is fearful and afraid, let him return and depart" (Judges 7:3). And out of 32,000 soldiers, 22,000 left the ranks. He also eliminated many more by cutting those who set down their weapons to drink water. He retained *only those few* who remained vigilant as they refreshed themselves. These were the men most eager to do battle. But there were only 300 of them! Often only "The Few" are eager to fight.

But in the fight for the right cause, God will use every last eager soldier!

## **Face Down Fear**

On June 5, 1940, Germany started air raids on England. Outnumbered RAF pilots launched themselves into the sky.

Here is how one British Spitfire pilot described how he felt when he saw the enemy: "On sighting an overwhelmingly large enemy formation, there was a sort of hysterical humor at the hopelessness of the task—erased almost immediately by the onset of quick, stabbing shafts of fear as the armada of aircraft drew closer—and finally, before joining combat, a consciousness of a thudding and moist brow accompanied by a breathless, panicky fear."

These men had to face down their fear. "Someone can *look* like a warrior, but it takes real faith to stand up to giants and other problems," Mr. Flurry writes in *The Former Prophets.* "Trials reveal who the real warriors are. We cannot fake this. When the big battle comes, who will stand up like David and fight for the living God?"

Proverbs 28:1 says, "[T]he righteous are bold as a lion." The key to being bold spiritual soldiers is to be *righteous*. If

you believe and obey God in the little decisions you make each day, you will have boldness when you need it.

In *Malachi's Message*, Mr. Flurry writes, "[S]piritual courage may be the greatest need. Without it, the other virtues are of little value! God's people can't cower in fear and still grow in God's love." Spiritually, we must be like those British pilots were physically: They had to *love their country* and their countrymen MORE than they *feared the enemy*.

"Now it has come to us to stand alone in the breach and face the worst that the tyrant's might and enmity can do," Churchill broadcast on the radio. "Bearing ourselves humbly before God, but conscious that we serve an unfolding purpose, we are ready to defend our native land against the invasion by which it is threatened. We are fighting by ourselves alone, but we are not fighting for ourselves alone. Here in this strong city of refuge which enshrines the title-deeds of human progress and is

The Luftwaffe switched from striking factories and infrastructure to heavy bombing raids against British airfields. On August 15, it went for the knockout, flying 1,786 sorties in a single day. But when the fighting was over, the Luftwaffe had lost 76 planes, and Britain's Fighter Command had lost less than half that.

Motivated to defend their homeland, RAF pilots hurled themselves at the swarms of German bombers and fighters. They emptied their ammunition and fuel in twisting, twirling aerial combat. They bailed out or crash-landed their shot-up planes, or landed on damaged runways, steering around the bomb craters. Then they went back up.

And the Germans kept coming. They were destroying airfields, planes and pilots faster than the British could replace them. Between August 24 and September 6, 295 British fighter planes were destroyed and 171 were badly damaged; 103 pilots were killed or missing, and 128 more were wounded.

# Had Hitler invaded at that point, the ratio of German superiority of men and arms against the British was an incredible 32 to 1. Britain needed time to build up its defenses.

of deep consequence to Christian civilization, here, girt about by the seas and oceans where the navy reigns, shielded from above by the prowess and devotion of our airmen, we await undismayed the impending assault" (July 14, 1940).

To do our job, we must see the bigger cause. It is too easy to underestimate the difference your individual contribution makes. But we are not fighting for ourselves alone.

# **War Directive No. 17**

The Germans prepared their ground invasion. They would attack British shipping, pulverize coastal towns, then land their forces. They were confident they could do this in two to four weeks. But they rightly understood that first they had to draw more British fighters into the sky.

On Aug. 1, 1940, Hitler issued War Directive No. 17: "The German Air Forces must with all means in their power and as quickly as possible destroy the English Air Force." "British replacement pilots were often easy prey for the more experienced Luftwaffe pilots," wrote Peck. "As for the experienced Fighter Command pilots, the strain of flying seven or eight sorties a day was producing a terrible weariness in them. ... Fighter Command was slowly but surely being bled to death. Only a miracle could save it from destruction" (op cit).

Some British commanders thought Fighter Command could last for maybe another week.

## The Blitz

Meanwhile, the Germans had been bombing the outskirts of London, mainly to demoralize the British. Hitler had forbidden bombing London itself. He was saving that as his trump card. However, on August 24, one German pilot bombed the center of London, probably in error. Churchill responded by ordering the shelling of Berlin the next night and for several nights afterward.

BATTLE OF BRITAIN PAGE 30 ▶



# The Obama Media Empire Strikes Back

Expelled from government office, Obama administration officials are still fundamentally transforming America. BY ANDREW MILLER

ARACK OBAMA HAS changed his retirement plans. When the former president thought his successor would be fellow Democrat Hillary Clinton, he joked with retired talk-show host David Letterman about playing dominoes. In 2015, he told a crowd of students that he planned to eventually return to the work of advancing his agenda in local communities. But after Donald Trump's upset victory, Obama chose a different profession: the media.

The former president is not the only one from his administration who is now in media. A surprising number of highlevel officials, including top spies, now work for technology, media and news firms. Yet looking back, this shouldn't be surprising. During Obama's eight years in office, his administration's intelligence community became entwined with the national media to an extent that should shock anyone who believes in free speech and fact-based reporting.

Now Obama and his spies are working for Netflix, CNN, NBC, Google, Facebook and other media outlets. These "deep state" officials are advancing the same agenda they advanced when in government: Take down Donald Trump and, as Obama said during his election campaign, "fundamentally change America."

The Bible foretold that truth would be cast down "to the ground" in the end time by an organized host of people empowered by a dark spiritual force. The work of the Obama administration continues as left-wing radicals attack the Trump administration, the U.S. Constitution and the moral laws of the Bible—using the power of technology and the press. You need to understand the powerful, unseen spirit empowering this network!

# **Television Spies**

One of the most shockingly illegal examples of the extremes to which the Obama administration went to undermine the rule of law while President Obama was still in office was the Clinton-Steele dossier. *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry exposed the details of this treasonous activity in "Saving America From the Radical Left—Temporarily" (the Trumpet .com/17092).

In summary, the Obama Justice Department used an unverified dossier of propaganda, paid for by the Hillary Clinton presidential campaign, to obtain a warrant to spy on the Trump campaign. On Jan. 5, 2017, Obama gathered his top national security chiefs together at the White House to discuss how they could undermine the Trump administration after Mr. Trump took office. Present were President Obama, Vice President Joe Biden, Director of National Intelligence James Clapper, National Security Agency director Michael Rogers, CIA director John Brennan, FBI director James Comey, National Security Adviser Susan Rice and Deputy Attorney General Sally Yates.

These politicians, security officials and spies were literally strategizing how to continue using false accusations to investigate their new boss-which is treason. A big part of the strategy they concocted was targeted leaks of false information to the media. Comey informed Mr. Trump that CNN had a dossier of salacious rumors about him, but not that the FBI, of which Comey was the director, was investigating him. Clapper discussed the dossier with CNN's Jake Tapper around the same time Comey was briefing Trump on the same topic. After this discussion, CNN reported that Comey had briefed Trump on Jan. 6, 2017, and Buzzfeed published the entire 35-page Clinton-Steele dossier.

Once the media had published the dossier, Clapper resigned as director of National Intelligence on Jan. 20, 2017the day Donald Trump took office. Eight months later, CNN hired Clapper as a national security analyst, giving at least the unsightly appearance that the news network was paying a former director of National Intelligence for information he leaked to them.

And Clapper is far from the only former Obama administration official now working in the media.

Barack and Michelle Obama have signed a deal with the online video giant Netflix. They will be producing political documentaries, including an adaptation of Michael Lewis's book, The Fifth Risk: Undoing Democracy, about Mr. Trump's failure to appoint qualified people to government positions. "With Higher Ground Productions, we hope to bring people together around common values and

uncommon stories," Obama announced in February. But his real agenda is to undermine his successor by becoming the first former president to produce a movie about a sitting president.

Susan Rice also works for Netflix as a member of its board of directors. She recently criticized President Trump on MSNBC for suggesting he might accept information on opponents from foreign governments—despite her role in the Obama administration's use of Russian gossip to undermine Mr. Trump's presidency.

James Clapper still works as a CNN national security analyst. He condemns Trump for declassifying documents related to the surveillance of his campaign during the 2016 election, and is spreading the rumor that Trump is encouraging Russia to interfere in the 2020 elections.

CNN has also hired former CIA director Michael Hayden, former CIA agent Steven Hall, former FBI agent Asha Rangappa, former FBI agent James Gagliano, former Deputy National Security Adviser Tony Blinken and forbecome some of the best-known faces in a new, hybrid industry where "deep state" spies are rebranded as journalists.

The major media hiring spies and agents from the Obama administration is concerning. Since President Trump took office, his Justice Department has more than tripled the number of investigations into government leaks to media outlets. Many Obama-era intelligence officials are now working for the very news agencies that publish these leaks.

A truly free press prioritizes evidence-based reporting to inform people about the world. Few things are worse for democracy than journalists colluding with political operatives and spies to misinform the public. Now the same spies who tried to rig the 2016 presidential election with lies, innuendo and conspiracy theories work in mainstream media!

# **Silicon Valley**

During his time in office, Obama was known as "Silicon Valley's president." Big tech companies like Amazon, Apple, Facebook, Microsoft and Google had a shockingly close relationship with his

# Now the same spies who tried to rig the 2016 presidential election with lies, innuendo and conspiracy theories work in mainstream media.

mer National Security Council adviser Samantha Vinograd.

Meanwhile, NBC has hired former CIA director John Brennan as a national security analyst. Like Clapper, Brennan has been accused of leaking to the press classified information claiming Russia had meddled in the 2016 election. His goal is to defame President Trump—an agenda he can continue pursuing in his new job.

NBC has also hired Chuck Rosenberg, former chief of staff for fbi director James Comey; Frank Figliuzzi, former chief of FBI counterintelligence; Juan Zarate, former deputy national security adviser; and Ken Dilanian, the Los Angeles Times reporter who was caught sending drafts of his articles to Obama's CIA for approval before publishing.

These former CIA agents, FBI officials and national security bureaucrats have

administration. Data from the Campaign on Accountability shows that Google representatives attended White House meetings more than once a week during Obama's presidency. Almost 250 people left the Obama administration to work for Google or vice versa during this time.

Eric Schmidt, executive chairman of Google's parent company, supported both of Obama's presidential campaigns. And it was Obama's Federal Trade Commission that ruled that Google was not an Internet monopoly that needed to be split into smaller companies. It is hard to tell how much of the alignment of purpose between Silicon Valley and the Democratic Party is coincidental since they are both run by leftists, and how much is due to actual collusion with "deep state" agencies.

In 2013, former government contractor Edward Snowden provided proof

of PRISM, a spying program in which nine major tech companies (Apple, AOL, Dropbox, Facebook, Google, Microsoft, PalTalk, Skype, Yahoo and YouTube) provided Obama's NSA and FBI access to their users' e-mails, audio, video, photographs, documents and location data. What did the Obama administration need all this data on U.S. citizens for? An increasing amount of evidence suggests that this data was and is being used to manipulate elections.

"Since Edward Snowden's revelations about the extent and depth of surveillance by the NSA, it has become evident that Silicon Valley is a vital node of the deep state," writes former congressional aide Mike Lofgren in The Deep State.

Congress has since passed a bill that reins back the NSA's mass surveillance programs, but Google and Facebook continue to collect vast troves of personal data on American citizens. And these companies continue to enjoy a cozy relationship with former President Obama and Obama-era security officials.

# **Censoring Conservatives**

Google employees used a variety of means to boost Hillary Clinton and damage Donald Trump in the 2016 presidential election. A study presented at the 97th annual meeting of the Western Psychological Association found that pro-Clinton search results were "more than twice" as common on Google as on Yahoo. A study by Leo Goldstein found that Google searches suppressed conservative sites like Drudge Report, PJ Media and American Thinker.

In late May, undercover investigators working for Project Veritas secretly recorded a conversation with Jen Gennai, the head of responsible innovation at Google, a department established to manage artificial intelligence "fairness" and "ethics." Gennai said Google is specifically engineering its algorithms to prevent a repeat of the 2016 U.S. presidential election. An anonymous Google insider told Project Veritas that Google is using something it calls "machine-learning fairness" to promote

manipulative search-engine techniques. Dr. Epstein, a liberal who has conducted extensive research on search-engine bias, further warned that 15 million votes are in jeopardy in the 2020 election.

"Google algorithms are having a dramatic impact on the thinking, behaviors, attitudes, beliefs, purchases and voting preferences of 2½ billion people, right now," Epstein told Breitbart News after his Senate hearing. "That's the power they have. That's the power they're exercising. This is what a totalitarian regime does. This is not a monopoly. A monopoly fixes prices. That's not what



# **Big Tech companies like Facebook and Google** are considered part of the private sector, but their extensive ties with former **Obama administration officials and** intelligence agents blurs the line.

Two months after he left office, Obama privately met with leaders from several tech companies at the Fairmont Hotel in San Jose, California. The Obama administration's director for cybersecurity policy, Nathaniel Gleicher, is now head of cybersecurity policy at Facebook. Former Department of Homeland Security analyst Jason Ally now works as a search quality analyst at Google. Former NSA analyst Andrew Honig now works as a software engineering manager at Google.

Big Tech companies like Facebook and Google are considered part of the private sector, but their extensive ties with former Obama administration officials and intelligence agents blurs the line. And like the Obama-era spies that are now spreading false information on cable television, left-wing activists in Silicon Valley are working to manipulate public opinion.

its political agenda. Leaked documents show that this tool uses "artificial intelligence" to accomplish a very human goal: promote a liberal agenda. When you search for something using Google, the company's leadership and "responsible innovation" team have engineered your search results to promote liberalism and suppress conservatism.

This is deeply concerning, as Google is the most popular search engine in the world. More than 90 percent of all online searches worldwide are conducted through Google or its subsidiary You-Tube. Now Google engineers are deciding what information should be available to American citizens by filtering conservative websites from their platform.

At a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on July 17, Dr. Robert Epstein testified that Google influenced millions of votes in the 2016 elections through its

this is. This is way beyond that. This is a repressive government. This is a totalitarian, authoritarian government that at this point rules much of the world."

Even though the radical left has lost control of the presidency, the Senate and the Supreme Court, it still controls Silicon Valley and the mainstream media-which means it has tremendous power over people's minds.

YouTube has shut down entire conservative video channels for ideological reasons. YouTube censors shut down the channels of Legal Insurrection and Pamela Geller after they posted videos supporting Israel. The censors have also placed more than 100 PragerU videos from conservative educator Dennis Prager on "restricted mode." This mode was meant to censor inappropriate sexual content from children, not to prevent them from watching educational

videos with titles like: "If You Live in Freedom, Thank the British Empire," "Why Isn't Communism as Hated as Nazism?" "Make Men Masculine Again," and "The Ten Commandments: What You Should Know."

This type of Big Tech censorship is ideologically driven to limit free speech and "to fundamentally change America."

Project Veritas caught nine current and former Twitter employees on hidden camera admitting that Twitter algorithms purposely hide tweets if they use words like "God" or "America." Twitter also restricts advertisements



from pro-life organizations while allowing pro-abortion ads from Planned Parenthood.

Former Obama administration officials and their allies in Silicon Valley and the major media are at war with conservatives and the Trump administration. President Trump has warned that continuing censorship of American citizens on social media platforms is a threat to their constitutionally guaranteed freedom of speech. Yet the danger posed by this type of censorship goes beyond an attempt to undermine a certain president or party. It is actually a weapon used by radical socialists to attack both "God" and "America."

## **Truth Cast Down**

President Trump is leading a populist revolt against the technocratic establishment (aka the "deep state") that the Obama administration built up, and he is working to restore the rule of law in America. But Obama and his top brass are fighting back using the extensive media connections they have developed.

Bible prophecy has a lot to say about an evil ruler who casts the truth to the ground in the end time.

"Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host, and by him the daily sacrifice was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down. And an host was given him against the daily sacrifice by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practised, and prospered" (Daniel 8:11-12). Anciently, Seleucid **Emperor Antiochus Epiphanes fulfilled** this prophecy when he desecrated the temple in Jerusalem with an idol bearing his likeness. But the book of Daniel is primarily for this end time (Daniel 12:4). So this prophecy about Antiochus has a dual fulfillment, and is prophecy for today.

*Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry explains in his booklet *America Under* Attack that there is more than one Antiochus figure on the scene today. There is a spiritual Antiochus who "cast down the truth to the ground" inside God's Church. But there is also a political figure that comes in the spirit of Antiochus to "cast down the truth to the ground" in the United States. As the most biblically hostile U.S. president in history, Barack Obama fulfilled the role of America's political Antiochus. He is out of office now, but his administration is still at work in the mainstream media. This is a major reason why the truths of the Bible are under attack in America today as never before.

Netflix, CNN, NBC, Google, Facebook and a few other major media outlets are monopolizing the marketplace of ideas and acting—in the words of Dr. Epstein—like a totalitarian state. The same lawless spirit being who controlled the mind of

the ancient king Antiochus Epiphanes is suppressing the truth today.

Our people don't understand their Bibles as they once did, but many scriptures reveal this spirit as Satan the devil.

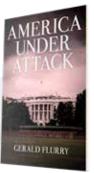
"If you look at the whole story in biblical prophecy, you see that Satan has a three-pronged attack," Mr. Flurry writes in *America Under Attack*. "First he attacks God's Church. Second, he tears down the values within the nations of Israel. Finally, he will bring the Holy Roman Empire to destroy those nations in the Great Tribulation." That is Satan's master plan for destroying spiritual and physical Israel!

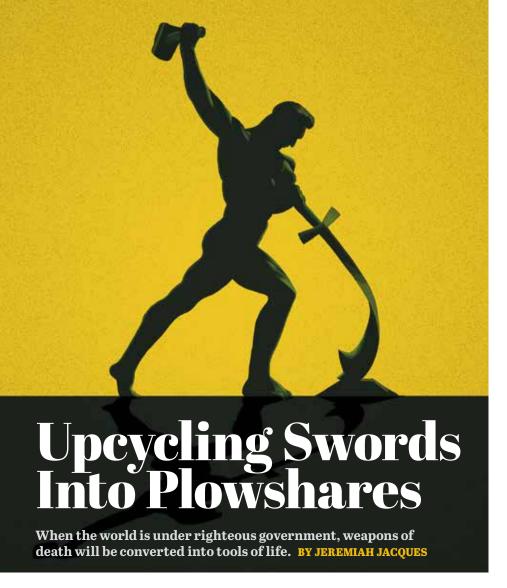
There is still a major undercurrent against the rule of law and biblical morality today. The deep state, built up by President Obama, continues to oppose President Trump with any means it can find—legal or illegal. Even though Obama is no longer in office, this spirit of lawlessness persists. And a new deep state—media hybrid is blinding many of our people to reality.

A haze of deception enshrouds the world. When people do not sincerely love the truth, they come to believe lies (2 Thessalonians 2:9-12). Antiochus and his "host" of supporters are able to "cast down the truth to the ground" by "reason of transgression." The devil is empowering this "host" to exploit America's lawlessness and lack of faith. Society has rejected most of the biblical truths it once understood and is not receptive to learning biblical truths it does not understand. The one and only way to defeat the devil, defend the truth, and solve our problems is to stop transgressing God's law and fervently pray for more faith. The sad truth is that America will have to endure a time of intense suffering due to its own rebellion. But the wonderful truth is that this time of suffering will bring the nation to a point where it is willing to love and accept God's truth when Jesus Christ returns!

# Do you know the spiritual forces at work in America?

What's behind the 'deep state' in America? Why is this nation suffering so much division? To learn the unseen answer, request Gerald Flurry's free booklet *America Under Attack*.





HAT COULDN'T THE F-4 Phantom do?" So headlined Air & Space Magazine in a tribute to the fighter jet that featured heavily in the United States' fight against Communist forces during the Vietnam War. F-4s at that time, it says, "were the hottest fighter on Earth."

One feature adding to the heat was not as game-changing as its J79 engines or its Westinghouse radar, but it enabled the F-4 to fly longer missions. It was an extra fuel tank: An aluminum, 600-gallon, centerline tank, with the front coming to an aerodynamic point. And since it was "extra," after being emptied—or if a pilot suddenly needed increased maneuverability—the missile-shaped tank would be jettisoned and the aircraft would fly on.

From the first F-4 sortie in 1964 to the war's end in 1975, the Aviationist says, "several thousand drop tanks were jettisoned." In another country, these

tanks might have been left to corrode in the jungles where they had crashlanded. But Vietnamese fishermen saw an opportunity in them.

Some tanks were too crumpled from the drop to be of use, but those that remained intact, the fishermen would haul to their villages. They would slice each one lengthwise, bend the remaining section further open and insert wooden thwarts to hold the shape. They would then add a small engine on the back, and viola: a fully functional, remarkably lightweight and durable fishing canoe.

In some Vietnamese river systems today, there are hundreds and hundreds of these fishing canoes still in use. In the mornings, fishermen load into what was designed as part of a weapon to annihilate people, and they return in the afternoon with a catch to feed to their families and sell in local markets. They turned "swords" of the sky into "plowshares" of the river.

# Tanks for the Help

Following the collapse of the Soviet Union in the early 1990s, farmers in Ternopillya, Ukraine, were suddenly free from the Communist yoke and eager to boost agricultural productivity of their farms. But they had limited funds available for new machinery.

Meanwhile, since the Cold War had suddenly ended, the government found itself with a surplus of tanks on its hands. And it was willing to sell them at bargain bin rates. It didn't take long for the Ukrainians to see that each of these two problems could solve the other.

The BBC reported that the first Soviet tank was sold to farmers "for a third the price of a tractor." They then set to work converting it from a weapon of war into a tool of the field. They removed the tank's barrel and welded a massive bulldozer blade in its place. They then attached a large plow to the back. The result was a versatile and powerful tractor. Ukraine's Novyy Kanal discussed the vehicle's yearround usefulness, writing: "In spring, the tank tills the soil, in autumn it plows, and in winter it clears away the snow."

Following the success of that first tank-turned-tractor, other Ternopillyan farmers followed suit. The BBC writes that "about 50 tanks"—designed to kill people—were converted for "agricultural use"—into tools used to feed people.

# **From Artillery to Cutlery**

During the Second Taiwan Strait Crisis of 1958, Communist China fired some 450,000 shells at Taiwan. After a monthlong conflict, the Chinese realized that they were unlikely to conquer the Taiwanese with just military force. So they tried a new tactic. They began removing the high explosive from each shell and replacing it with a propaganda leaflet. When these shells landed on Taiwan, instead of exploding into tiny fragments, they remained mostly intact. The Chinese hoped the Taiwanese would find and read the messages inside and then be convinced of the superiority of the Communist system and willing to submit to China.

In the end, the propaganda bombardment did not give the Taiwanese confidence in the Communist system. But it did give them something else. "Bombing of the island," the Taipei Times wrote, "provided quality steel that literally dropped from the sky."

A company called Maestro Wu built a world-class business around collecting these large shells, placing them in forges until red-hot, and then hammering them into useful tools. The company originally used the steel to build plows and other farming equipment, but has more recently focused on making high-end cutlery.

From a single Chinese artillery shell, Maestro Wu can make about 60 cooking and eating utensils. Their cutlery has found its way into top hotels and restaurants in Taiwan and around the world, where it is used daily to prepare, serve and eat delicious food.

# An Eyedropper on a Forest Fire

These initiatives are intriguing, but they are small, isolated and have made no discernible dent in the world's immense stockpiles of weapons. Around the globe today are an estimated 875 million firearms, 90,000 tanks and 14,485 of the most devastating weapons man has ever built: nuclear warheads.

A report published in April by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute shows that global military spending rose last year to \$1.8 trillion. That's the highest level in real terms since dependable record-keeping started in 1988. In an analysis of this report, the *Economist* wrote: "The world is arming itself to the teeth."

# **A Twisted Concept**

Having been born into a world armed "to the teeth," we might feel unmoved by the near ubiquity of weapons. But these devices are built to tear human flesh in order to maim or kill. If you consider that reality from a higher perspective, it emerges as a profoundly perverse concept.

The Bible shows that our Creator wishes for people to help and love each other as much as we love ourselves. This is made clear in Luke 10:25-37, 1 John 4 and 1 Corinthians 13. In Matthew 7:12, Jesus Christ says teaching people to love one another is among the Bible's most fundamental purposes.

Instead, mankind devotes vast amounts of money, time and resources to build weapons meant to do the opposite. And the Scriptures show that in the near future, these vast stockpiles—including our nuclear weapons—will be used. Matthew 24:21-22 quote Christ saying mankind will soon suffer a time of "greater anguish than at any time since the world began," and so great that unless it is shortened, "not a single person will survive" (New Living Translation).

This could only be describing a worldwide nuclear war with enough detonations to create nuclear winter. It will threaten to end every human life.

A disturbing prophecy in Joel 3:9-10 shows that even the staggering number of weapons in the world today *will not be enough* for the people on whom this

Jesus Christ won't stop with just ending the carnage. He will go on to build a world of true peace.

mortifying Third World War falls. As the violence spreads, directly touching the life of every person, survivors will hastily convert their agricultural tools into weaponry. This will be history's darkest instance of total war.

But the prophecies do not end with war wiping out all human life. Continuing the passage in Matthew 24, just after Christ said the war will be so devastating that it *could* end all human life, He added an important detail: "But it will be shortened" (NLT).

Nuclear World War III will be cut short! Before the nations use their weapons to obliterate mankind, Jesus Christ will return and interrupt the violence. And He won't stop with just ending the carnage. He will go on to build a world of true peace. The late educator Herbert W. Armstrong famously called this future age the "World Tomorrow."

## A Worldwide Initiative

In his booklet *The Wonderful World Tomorrow—What It Will Be Like*, Mr. Armstrong proved that during this future era, Christ will use the Holy Spirit and God's law and government to convert the peoples of the world from war-mongering to peace-loving. And He will also orchestrate a parallel worldwide project to convert weapons into peaceful tools.

Notice this breathtaking passage in Isaiah 2:2-4: "[A]ll nations ... shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks ...."

Under God's righteous rule, the peoples of the world will not just destroy all the killing devices or bury them somewhere. Instead they will be upcycled! Beating a sword into a plowshare means taking a weapon designed to slice people open, and converting it into a tool to slice the earth open—so the soil can be planted and harvested, and yield food that boosts people's well-being.

The twisted transmutation of tools into weapons described in Joel 3 will be reversed. And other weapons will likewise be transformed into tools that give people more abundant lives. It will no longer happen just in a few small and isolated instances, such as those in Vietnam, Ukraine and Taiwan. Instead this swords-to-plowshares project will be a globe-girdling enterprise. Isaiah 2:4 continues: "[N]ation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

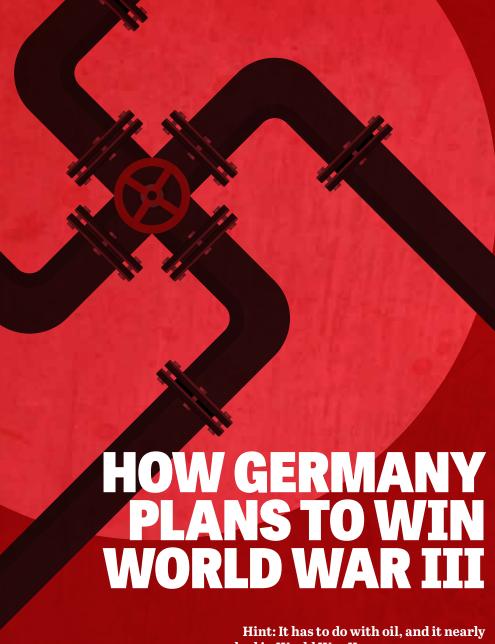
Mr. Armstrong concluded his booklet about this soon-coming age of harmony with these hope-saturated words: "People will start living God's way—the way of outgoing concern for others—the way of the true values—the way

of peace, of happiness, of well-being, of joy. ... What a fabulous picture!"



# Utopia is real—and it is coming.

Peace, happiness and abundance are prophesied to fill the Earth. Study what the Bible says is coming soon by requesting Herbert W. Armstrong's free booklet **The Wonderful World Tomorrow—What It Will Be Like**.



worked in World War II. BY ANDREW MILLER

MAGINE LIVING UNDER A TOTALItarian political party. It surveils and controls every aspect of society: the courts, the media, your finances, your healthcare, your beliefs. Parents are afraid their children will report them to the secret police for conversations held around the dinner table. People who are merely suspected of disagreeing with the party have suddenly disappeared. People are reeducated, enslaved, sterilized and even killed for belonging to a race or ethnic group that the party has declared inferior.

You would be living in this world if Germany won World War II.

This almost happened!

Germany's original strategy for the conflict was to conquer and subjugate Western Europe, then betray and defeat the Soviet Union. It would then create a United States of Europe under German domination that would occupy at least half of the Soviet Union before declaring an armistice. The Nazis had plans to enslave every able-bodied British man between the ages of 17 and 45 and ship them to slave labor camps in continental Europe. They planned to use the postwar period to build wealth and power, in large part by colonizing Africa.

But as Europe, Germany and the Nazis grew increasingly powerful from their subjected and enslaved victims, they would prepare for more war. Adolf

Hitler publicly declared that an invasion of the United States would be "as fantastic as an invasion of the moon"-but Hitler declared a lot of things. His scientists actually designed a long-range bomber called the *Amerikabomber* to conquer New York City. Weapons like this would have rapidly become reality, flying over multiplying numbers of German-controlled soldiers, tanks, ballistic missiles, U-boats, aircraft carriers and other warships. Across the Atlantic, the last great democratic power would be desperately trying to forestall its destruction.

According to historian Gerhard L. Weinberg's book Visions of Victory, Germany planned to eventually conquer its Axis ally, the Japanese empire, after the U.S. was conquered. The Germans would have mastered the world.

In World War II. Germany was an awesome war machine. But it made strategic mistakes. And God performed miracles to foil Germany and hand victory instead to the Allies.

Bible prophecy indicates that the Germans have learned from their mistakes and have devised a strategy to win the next world war. And this time, America and Britain should not expect God to hand them victory.

# Hitler's Dilemma

Despite being one of the world's most powerful industrial powers, Germany has no significant oil reserves. This geopolitical reality quickly turned World War II into a fight over petroleum.

The deadliest war in history began on Sept. 1, 1939, when Nazi Germany invaded Poland. Two days later, Britain and France declared war on Germany, but they were unable to stop Hitler's juggernaut. The Nazis quickly conquered Poland and then France. With every nation in Western Europe except Britain under his influence, Hitler sent a Nazi force to North Africa under the command of Field Marshall Erwin Rommel.

Four months later, he launched a surprise attack on the Soviet Union!

Up to this point, the Soviet Union was an official ally of Nazi Germany. Hitler's foreign minister, Joachim von Ribbentrop, had signed a nonaggression pact with the Soviets before the war broke out—a pact that divided Poland between the two dictatorships. So why did Hitler

invade North Africa and the Soviet Union before he conquered Britain? This surprise decision transformed Germany's war from a one-front conflict against a weakened Britain into a three-front fight against Britain, the Soviet Union and France's North African colonies.

One of the primary reasons for this seemingly irrational decision: Germany needed oil.

Field Marshall Erwin Rommel was trying to capture the Suez Canal, which would have opened a route to the oil field of the Middle East. Meanwhile, Field Marshall Wilhelm List was trying to conquer the Soviet oil field in the Caucasus Mountains. Yet British troops halted Rommel's advance at the Second Battle of El Alamein and Russian troops halted List's advance at the Battle of Stalingrad.

These two German defeats seriously hurt Hitler's Third Reich. "By June 1944, German access to oil had been seriously impaired—and the results were devastating," wrote Gregory Brew in "How Oil Defeated the Nazis." "The Luftwaffe, Germany's mighty air force, was grounded. Panzer divisions couldn't maneuver for fear of using up precious oil. German Army units lacked mobility and couldn't respond quickly when the Allied armies arrived on the shores of Normandy. Lack of fuel crippled the German Army" (OilPrice.com).

Field Marshall Rommel lamented his defeat in a note to himself to be used for his postwar memoirs: "We could have defeated and destroyed the British Field Army, and that would have opened the road to the Suez Canal. ... With the entire Mediterranean coastline in our hands, supplies could have been shipped to North Africa unmolested. It would then have been possible to thrust forward into Persia and Iraq in order to cut off the Russians from Basra [which became a major source of Russian oil after Hitler invaded], take possession of the oil fields, and create a base for an attack on southern Russia."

In summary: Rommel believed Germany would have won World War II—if it had invaded the Middle East first. Many historians and military analysts agree with this assessment. They believe Hitler could have won World War II if he had directed Germany's forces south instead

of east. With a nonaggression pact with the Soviet Union already in place, and most of Western Europe under his control, Hitler could have sent German ships, planes and troops swarming across the Mediterranean on a campaign to seize all the oil in the Middle East.

This alternate history never happened: The Nazis lost the war and Hitler committed suicide on April 30, 1945, after his armies crumbled from a lack of men, equipment and fuel. But the Bible reveals that German strategists will adopt a very similar strategy to the one Rommel described in the next world war.

# **Whirlwind Strategy**

The day after Nazi Germany surrendered to the Allies, the late Herbert W. Armstrong warned *World Tomorrow* radio listeners that Germany was planning a comeback.

"We don't understand German thoroughness," he proclaimed. "From the very start of World War II, they have

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considered the possibility of losing this second round, as they did the first—and they have carefully, methodically planned, in such eventuality, the third round—World War III! Hitler has lost. This round of war, in Europe, is over. And the Nazis have now gone underground. ... Now a Nazi underground is methodically planned. They plan to come back and to win on the third try."

Now, almost 75 years later, Germany is once again a major military power. It is the world's fourth-largest weapons exporter. Last year, German arms manufacturers sold \$5 billion worth of weapons to other nations. Leopard 2 battle tanks and high-tech German armaments are an especially hot

commodity among Arab monarchs, North African autocrats and Latin American presidents.

Like most nations that sell weapons, Germany is after more than profit. It is building military alliances. In particular, Germany is arming Arab nations in a long-term strategy to undermine the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Iran controls 15 percent of the world's oil, and has influence with other Middle Eastern oil producers. If Germany wants to become a self-sustaining military power—independent of the U.S. and Russia—it needs this oil. The geopolitical realities Germany faces today are similar to the ones it faced during World War II, and many German elites are thinking about Middle Eastern oil like Field Marshall Rommel did.

Few people realize this, but *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry reported on this trend back in July 2013. By arming Iran's Arab rivals, Germany is encircling Iran in preparation for a future war.

"The Iranians are so focused on conquering their own objectives that they don't see what the Germans are doing," Mr. Flurry wrote in "The Whirlwind Prophecy." "They don't recognize how Germany is planning for the bigger war to come! No one but the Trumpet recognizes it! But the facts are visible for anyone to see. Germany has expected to clash with Iran, and it has been working on a strategy for a decade or more. That strategy is almost complete. Germany has surrounded Iran" (Trumpet, July 2013).

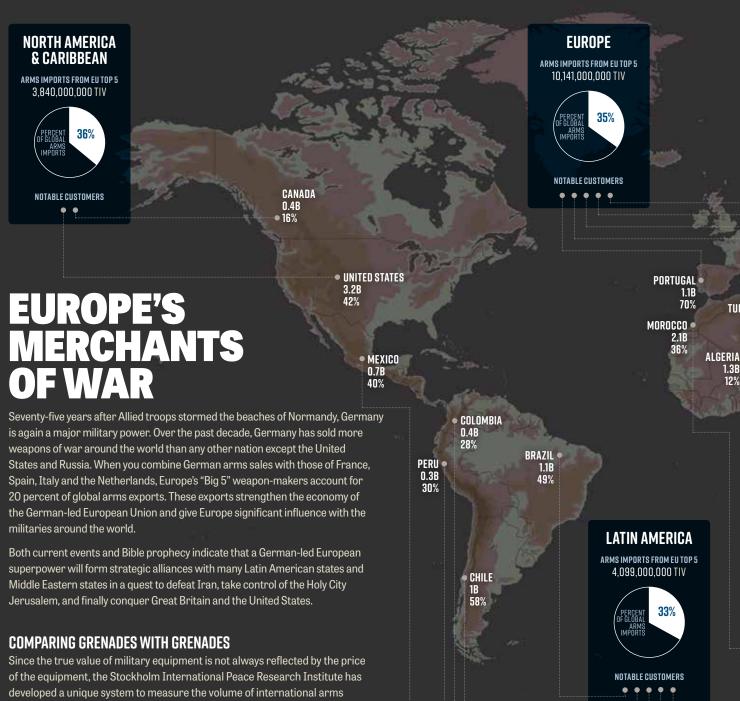
The *Trumpet* recognizes this secret strategy because our news analysis is based on Bible prophecy!

# **World War III**

The real reason the Allies won World War II is because God performed many miracles on their behalf. At Dunkirk, God miraculously saved the British Expeditionary Force by sending a dense fog to hide their evacuation back to England. At El Alamein, God miraculously protected the Suez Canal by granting Britain victory. And at Peenemuende, God miraculously guided Allied planes to destroy Germany's secret nuclear weapons research center.

But the Bible prophesies that if America and Britain forget God and turn away

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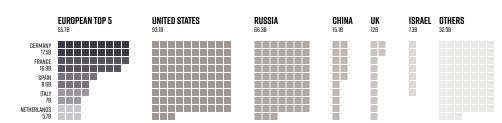


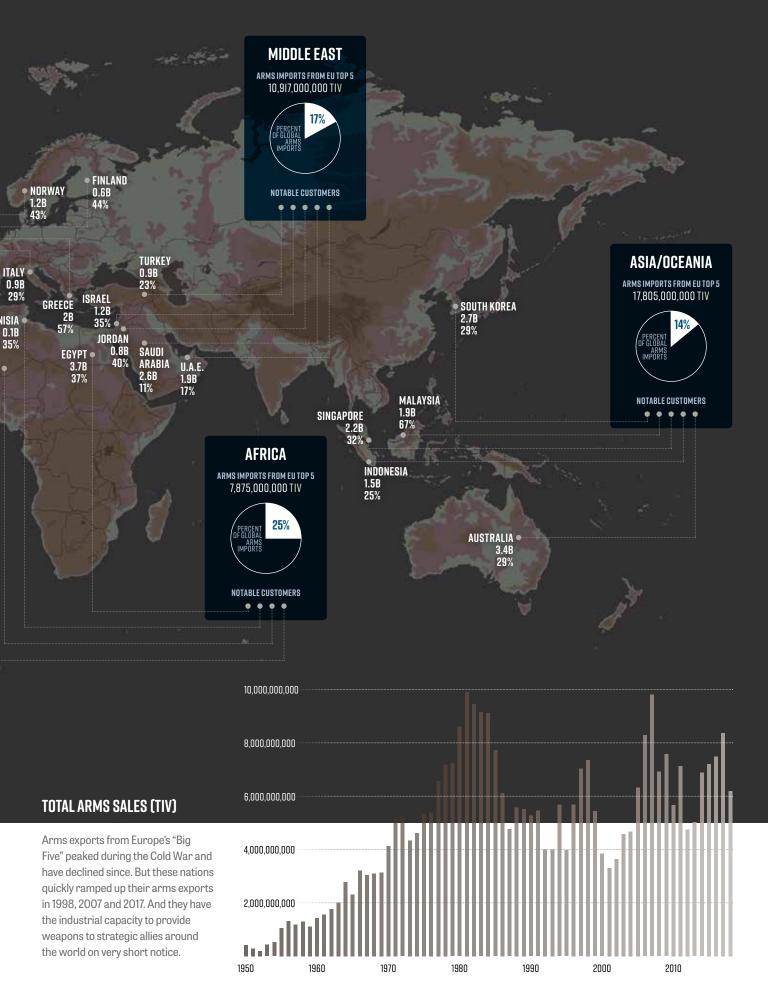
Since the true value of military equipment is not always reflected by the price of the equipment, the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute has developed a unique system to measure the volume of international arms transfers using a common unit called the Trend-Indicator Value (TIV). This value is based on the known unit production costs of a core set of weapons, and is intended to provide an apples-to-apples comparison of arms exports based on weapon size, speed, range, payload, etc.

# THE WORLD'S BIGGEST ARMS DEALERS

From 2009 to 2019, Europe's "Big Five" have exported almost 56 billion TIV worth of weapons around the world. These exports make Germany (and the European Union) the world's third-largest weapons exporter.

■ = 1 BILLION TIV







Studies, surveys and history give us a glimpse into why Germany will prosper in the wonderful World Tomorrow. BY JOSUÉ MICHELS

UNDAMENTALLY, NATIONS ARE families grown large. In a real sense, a nation is as human as a family or an individual. It has its passions and vices, hopes and ambitions, strengths and weaknesses.

The father of the German people was likely a man of industry and precision who could perform painstaking work, who cleaned his tools and put each one in its place, and who would follow orders to a tee, especially on the battlefield.

That man had children, those children had children, and the line continued and multiplied, from family to clan to tribe to nation. As the Bible records this related group of people grew and retained the name of its forefather: Asshur.

The descendants of Asshur became known as the Assyrians. When they used their familial traits to successfully conquer the peoples around them, they became known as the Assyrian Empire. And as with other peoples, they possessed strengths and weaknesses.

Through the histories of the Germans, the Franks, the Carolingians, the Teutons and others, similar traits can be found. One of these is the application of precision, discipline, obedience-and cruelty—in warfare.

The Germans and their ancestors have a long history carrying out the ambitions of their rulers, including evil dictators. They followed kings and emperors into countless wars, crusades and tyrannies. In the 20th century, they followed authoritarian rulers into two world wars. After World War II, the reinstitution of democracy was forced by the Allies. Despite all that horrible history, Germans tend toward authoritarian rule.

*Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry explained in "Germany—A New King Is Imminent" (January 2019; the Trumpet. com/17943) that Germans' yearning for this kind of leadership will again be exploited by an evil dictator who will lead the nation into war (Daniel 8:23-25).

But the Bible also shows us something else. The traits of the German people will be used for good, and not just to fuel an exemplary economy. Germans will overcome the evil of their warlike history for good. They will understand the terrible consequences of allowing a man to manipulate their desire for more authoritarian rule, and will learn how to submit to a righteous, perfect government: God's government.

# **Groaning for Leadership**

German journalist Heribert Prantl, in a 2011 article titled "The Longing for the Messiah," noted two components of the German national character: incompatibility with democracy and the longing for a messianic leader.

A 2018 University of Leipzig survey found that 8 percent of Germans agreed with the statement, "It is in the national interest that a dictatorship is under certain circumstances the better form of government." To "We should have a leader who rules Germany for the benefit of all with a strong hand," 11 percent agreed. And to "What Germany needs now is a single strong party that represents the national community as a whole," almost 20 percent agreed. Considering the nation's authoritarian history, even these seemingly low figures are shockingly high. Other surveys show that desire for authoritarian rule is growing especially among Germany's youth.

Germany's oldest citizens still remember the consequences of Adolf Hitler's dictatorship. Those in Eastern Germany can recall Soviet rule from 1949 to 1989. Yet still, many Germans crave strong government. A 2018 Otto Brenner Foundation study found that more than 60 percent of 18-to-29-year-olds believe that they "have no control over what the government does." Many question the principles of democracy. In Eastern Germany, 19 percent of youth disagree that "Democracy is the best form of government" (in Western Germany, 12 percent disagree). Twenty-six percent of young adults in Eastern Germany and 23 percent in Western Germany want "a strong leader who does not have to worry about parliaments and elections." Fewer than half "totally disagree" with this statement.

One fifth of East Germans 18 to 29 vears old so desire authoritarian rule that they are willing to give up democracy. Schools and most of the nation's media teach that dictatorships are bad—yet young Germans who never experienced it yearn for a strong leader. They believe real progress must be led from the top.

The University of Leipzig study concluded: "Around 40 percent of Germans display authoritarian characteristics, while only 30 percent are explicitly democratic."

In the Otto Brenner Foundation study, 86 percent agreed or partially agreed that "Troublemakers should clearly feel that they are undesired in society." To "Proven practices should not be questioned," 71 percent agreed or partially agreed. "People should leave important decisions in society to leaders"—57 percent agreed or partially agreed.

Germans hate stagnation even more than they want the freedom to vote. "There is a strong demand for a new leader in Germany," Mr. Flurry noted. "People can't agree on what his policies should be—but they want someone DIFFERENT FROM MERKEL, and someone with VISION" (op cit).

In the past, millions of Germans left their fate in the hands of one man and even followed him into horrifying evils. Hitler ordered the destruction of millions of Jews. His orders were followed, from the highest officers down to the guards who locked the doors of the gas chambers. Few questioned the decisions; even fewer rebelled. This blind obedience had devastating consequences.

But Germans do realize something most other nations don't. They realize that the people themselves often don't know what is best for them. Democracy has prevented some horrifying evils, but it brings evils of its own.

The Bible makes this point plain: "O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps" (Jeremiah 10:23). The Bible also shows that you cannot trust men to lead you: "Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord" (Jeremiah 17:5). This is exactly what has plagued the German people for centuries: They trust in men—even when doing so produces enormous suffering.

But if the solution lies neither in the democracy of *men* nor the dictatorship of a *man*, where is it to be found?

# **The Only Nation That Ever Repented**

The German people trace their roots to ancient Assyria (read "The Remarkable Identity of the German People," the Trumpet.com/7490). Assyrian kings led their people to do some of history's most horrifying deeds. King Sennacherib bragged about spilling so much blood that his horses had to wade through it as through a river. The Assyrian people were feared for their brutality, both in warfare and in torture of captives.

But the Bible records a time when the nation experienced a dramatic turnaround. "The Prophet Jonah warned the Assyrian city of Nineveh to repent. It is the only biblical example of a city or nation ever repenting," Mr. Flurry writes in Nahum—An End-Time Prophecy for Germany. How could the bloodiest city of the time accept God's message?

After the Prophet Jonah delivered God's message, the king repented and proclaimed a fast throughout the land. He wrote, "[L]et man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily unto God: yea, let them turn every one from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands" (Jonah 3:6-8).

The people obeyed. They had followed an evil leader into wickedness—now they followed a repentant leader into a more righteous way of life. Thus, God spared the city from destruction.

Sadly, in this end time, Germans will have to *suffer* before God can lead them to repentance. But soon they will again experience a similar turnaround. They will come to realize that they have been deceived by evil leaders and by "the god of this world," Satan the devil (2 Corinthians 4:4; Revelation 12:9). They will recognize and repent of their hostility toward God (Romans 8:7).

The Bible indicates that they will then gladly accept God's rule. Jesus Christ will return to rule this world as King of kings and Lord of lords. He will put down all rebellion and establish God's law. Thus, Germans' craving for leadership will be filled by God's government on Earth (Daniel 2:44). Their desire for guidelines will be filled as they learn to live by every word of God (Matthew 4:4).

Their desire for law and order will be filled as Christ will rule with a "rod of iron" (Revelation 2:27).

Other nations must be forced to accept this happy fate. Ezekiel 38-39 prophesy that Asiatic nations will rebel against Christ's rule. Zechariah 14:16-19 indicate that the nation of Egypt and other Gentile nations may disobey God's order to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

But there is no prophecy that Germany will again disobey as a nation. Instead, Isaiah mentions Assyria as a leading nation in this coming wonderful World Tomorrow (Isaiah 11:16; 19:23-24). Germany along with Israel and a few other nation will lead the whole world into prosperity. God wants prosperity for every individual, for every family and for every nation. But to achieve such prosperity, mankind must learn to follow Him rather than their own ways.

That doesn't mean the Germans will blindly obey God's orders like robots. God created humans with a free will to choose His way of life or reject it. But Germany's past suggests that its people will come to quickly see that God's way of life works best.

God's laws are more than just a list of do's and don'ts. Christ condemned the Pharisees for merely keeping the letter of the law (Matthew 23). He referred people to the "weightier matters of the law" such as judgment, mercy and faith—God's love. The *principle* of God's law as love toward God and love toward neighbor (Matthew 22:35-40). It is not merely taking orders: It requires individual decision-making based on the principle of love.

This will be Germany's challenge in the near future. But when Christ returns and demands obedience, Germans on the whole will accept that challenge.

There is a wonderful world ahead for everyone who learns to submit to God's loving government. God promises freedom from human dictators, freedom from Satan's influences, freedom from the vices of democracy, our peers and

ourselves, and freedom from sin and death itself.

Request your free copy of Jonah: A Strong Warning to God's Church by Gerald Flurry to learn how the nations will come to love God's government.



A recent discovery unearths vital history with much to teach. BY GERALD FLURRY

SRAELI ARCHAEOLOGIST DR. EILAT MAZAR HAS EXCAVATED some amazing artifacts. Two of her greatest discoveries were the personal seal impressions of King Hezekiah and Isaiah the prophet. These tiny bullae were used to seal important documents and bear the authority of these men.

We were honored to showcase those two seal impressions in a world premiere exhibit at Armstrong Auditorium for nearly a year. Many people visited from around the world. (You can request a free copy of the exhibit brochure, Seals of Isaiah and King Hezekiah Discovered.)

Together these two artifacts tell a powerful story about a king of Judah working with a prophet of God. Discovered in the same

strata of soil only 10 feet apart, these bullae offer some strong evidence of how closely these two men worked together. That is a unique and rare situation. Kings often killed the prophets because they hated their message. But Hezekiah and Isaiah forged perhaps the strongest king-prophet relationship in history, and it resulted in a tremendous miracle!

This is one of the Bible's strongest examples of the right kind of faith. It is found in the book of Kings, which is one of the former prophets, a section of the Old Testament that is prophecy,

primarily for this end time. (To learn more, request my free book The Former Prophets: How to Become a King.) During their partnership, Isaiah wrote his biblical book, which also contains prophecies specifically for our time today (Isaiah 30:8).

Ninety percent of Bible prophecy is for this end time. If you understand what is happening in the world, you can see that prophecy is being fulfilled by the week. Humanly, what is taking place can be frightening; the world can appear hopeless. Yet there are examples in the Bible that offer tremendous hope.

The Bible account of Isaiah and Hezekiah is buttressed not only by archaeology but also by secular history. Prove this, and it will strengthen your faith in God's Word. I can guarantee that if you do, remarkable miracles will occur in your life.

The kind of faith we need is faith that believes God and His

Bible, and then moves forward and ACTS on that faith. Any faith short of that is a dead faith. Despite the abundance of proof, almost nobody has faith in God and His Word today.

Dr. Mazar often says "let the stones speak" and tell you their history. The history of the Isaiah and Hezekiah seals is history we need to take special note of. It contains an incredible lesson about how you as an individual, or even whole nations, can be saved from physical and spiritual destruction!

## **A Vain Alliance**

Ruling in the late eighth century B.C., King Hezekiah was one of the most righteous kings in Judah's history. He worked hard to reform the nation. "And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, according to all that David his father had done" (2 Chronicles 29:2). Hezekiah cleansed the temple Solomon had built and restored the priesthood. Under his leadership, most of the nation began departing from idolatry and turning toward God.

Yet like all humans, Hezekiah had his weaknesses. Judah was facing destruction at the hand of the Assyrian Empire. To protect his nation, Hezekiah looked to Egypt for help. Isaiah had warned the king that allying with Egypt would be a serious mistake (Isaiah 30 and 31). But Hezekiah proceeded.

God saw that for Hezekiah to be a great king, he had to build more faith. And for Judah to be a great nation, the people also needed more faith. Hezekiah and the nation had declined to look to God for protection, and God used the Assyrian army to punish them!

Isaiah 36:1 shows that the Assyrian king, Sennacherib, "came up against all the defenced cities of Judah, and took them." Sennacherib's invasion was akin to blitzkrieg warfare: His army

> conquered 46 well-defensed cities within a year! He recorded his conquests on an artifact known today as the Taylor Prism. It reads, "As for Hezekiah, the Judahite who did not submit to my yoke, 46 of his strong-walled cities, as well as the small towns in their area which were without number, I besieged and took them by leveling with battering rams." This Assyrian document parallels the Bible record. It also records some of the cruelty the conquering Assyrians inflicted on the Jews.

> God was practically forcing the Jews to look to Him and not Egypt! Trusting

in a physical alliance is a terrible mistake for a nation. God says to look to Him first and foremost, all the time. Then He promises to perform miracles and to save us from catastrophe.

I know this promise is absolutely trustworthy because I know a group of people who trust God and believe in His Word—and I see miracles fulfilled in their lives all the time! This is a truth that each person can prove to himself, yet few actually do.



After all those conquests, the only great city remaining in Judah was Jerusalem. If its capital city fell, all of Judah would be conquered and controlled by Assyria.

Hezekiah then made a second desperate attempt to save Judah. He went to the most beautiful structure on Earth, God's



temple, and stripped it of gold, silver and other valuables to give to Sennacherib as tribute (2 Kings 18:14-16). He was trying to *buy protection* from the Gentile king who was threatening Judah.

Sennacherib recorded receiving this tribute on his Winged-Bull inscription, an ancient document that also proves the Bible's veracity.

This second faithless attempt also failed. The payment only emboldened Sennacherib. He set his sights on Jerusalem. He sent his top general, Rabshakeh, to deliver a dire message to its leaders and inhabitants. "Let not Hezekiah deceive you," he said, "for he shall not be able to deliver you out of [Sennacherib's] hand. Neither let Hezekiah make you trust in the Lord …" (verses 29-30). This Assyrian general told the people not to trust God! God took this personally.

Sennacherib later sent a letter to Hezekiah, mocking God and saying He was unable to protect Judah.

At this point, Hezekiah finally learned his lesson. After his physical attempts to deal with Assyria failed, Hezekiah realized there was only one source he could truly rely on. He brought Sennacherib's letter to the temple, spread it before God (2 Kings 19:14), and cried out in earnest prayer!

God answered through Isaiah the prophet: "Therefore thus saith the Lord concerning the king of Assyria, He shall not come into this city, nor shoot an arrow there, nor come before it with shield, nor cast a bank against it. By the way that he came, by the same shall he return, and shall not come into this city, saith the Lord. For I will defend this city, to save it, for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake" (verses 32-34). God heard the king's prayer and made a promise: Not a single soldier or arrow would enter Jerusalem!

## The Result of Faith

Determined to conquer, Sennacherib and his 185,000-man army marched on Jerusalem. They encamped outside its walls and prepared to attack.

The Taylor Prism records, "As for Hezekiah, I shut him up like a caged bird in his royal city of Jerusalem." No one could go into the city, and no one could go out. Sennacherib's army appeared to have the battle essentially won already. Nevertheless, God had made a promise to a man who prayed in faith for protection!

This siege of Jerusalem has many historians perplexed. No historical document records Sennacherib ever entering Jerusalem. Many wonder why. The truth is, Sennacherib was utterly ashamed to record what happened! But it is recorded in the Bible.

"And it came to pass that night, that the angel of the Lord went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an hundred fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses" (verse 35). The strongest army on Earth was annihilated overnight! God had saved Jerusalem and Judah!

Few historical records survive, but in the third century B.C., Babylonian historian Berossus wrote that Sennacherib found his generals and army "destroyed" by the hand of God outside Jerusalem.

In 1815, Lord Byron, one of world's greatest poets, wrote this in a poem about the defeat:

And there lay the rider distorted and pale,
With the dew on his brow, and the rust on his mail:
And the tents were all silent, the banners alone,
The lances unlifted, the trumpet unblown.
And the widows of Ashur are loud in their wail,
And the idols are broke in the temple of Baal;
And the might of the Gentile, unsmote by the sword,
Hath melted like snow in the glance of the Lord!

This poet believed what the Bible says that God did for Judah. Most historians and secular authors push the biblical account aside, rejecting the truth that God performs miracles. But this history of King Hezekiah proves that He absolutely does!

Hezekiah learned an important lesson the hard way: He learned to put his trust in God.

Remember, the former prophets are prophecy for our day. Assyria factors heavily into end-time biblical event. You can prove the identity of modern-day Assyria from your Bible. (To prove which nation is Assyria today, request our reprint article, "The Remarkable Identity of the German People.") God is going to use the modern-day Assyrians to punish His people just as He did Judah anciently.

## **An Iron-Clad Promise**

God commands us to live by His every word (Deuteronomy 8:3). Almost no one does. Yet I know a little group that does, and God blesses them mightily. God blesses anyone who will live by His every word and strive to obey Him. And when they see that they make mistakes, as Hezekiah did, they repent and turn to Him and His Bible and His prophecies. That is how we build faith. If we do that, then God will answer our questions and help us in spite of our weaknesses.

Faith comes by reading, studying and knowing the Bible, and then applying what it says. That is how you build your faith.

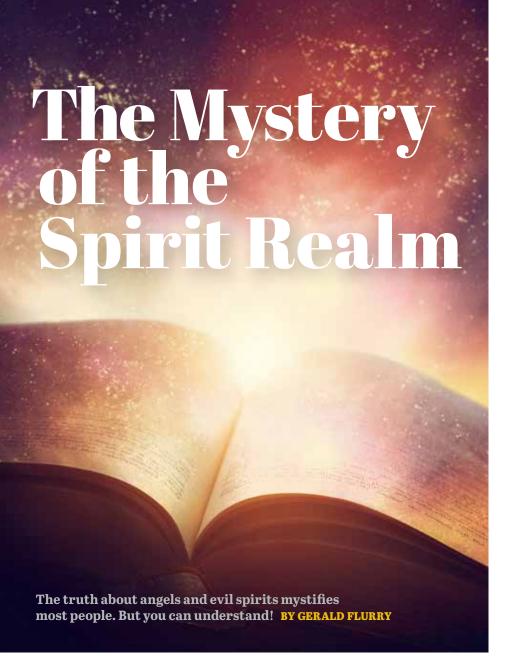
God created you. He created your mind. And He wants you to trust Him, to put your faith in His Word, and to live by its every word! The Bible is the majestic, royal Word of God. I can guarantee that if you walk by your faith and act on that faith,

God will bless you and will fill your life with miracles and blessings. That is an iron-clad promise from God!

# UNEARTH THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROOF.

King David, Solomon, Isaiah—these are just a few of the biblical heroes that archaeology is bringing to life. Request our two brochures Seals of Isaiah and King Hezekiah Discovered and Seals of Jeremiah's Captors Discovered to dig up the history.





OST PEOPLE DO NOT realize that the Earth was not the first thing God created, nor was the expansive universe, with all the other planets, stars and galaxies. The first thing God created were the angels.

Despite the Bible being filled with verses about angels, mankind is almost totally mystified about the spirit realm.

Because the spirit world is invisible, it is a mystery. There is a lot we don't understand about electricity and other things we can't see, but the reality of it is there. The same is true of God and the rest of the spirit realm. We simply need to open our minds to the truth of God.

The Bible implies that God created, individually, perhaps billions of angels. These spirit beings have a mind of greater capacity and ability than any human being. Even when Jesus Christ came to Earth, He was made "a little lower than the angels" (Hebrews 2:7). These are mighty, powerful beings!

Angels do not reproduce like human beings do. The reason for that, revealed in the Bible, is spectacularly inspiring. It shows that as brilliant as these beings are, your potential is far greater!

## Lucifer's Fall

The greatest spirit being God ever created was named Lucifer, meaning "shining star of the dawn," or "bringer of light." God made this awesome being to help bring more light to the universe! He wanted and still wants to bring light to this dark world. But this being ended up turning away from God and toward darkness.

Lucifer challenged God and persuaded one third of the other angels to rebel with him. Those fallen angels are known as demons. They rebelled against their Maker and left "their first estate" (Jude 6).

The Prophet Isaiah wrote this about Lucifer's rebellion: "How art thou fallen from heaven. O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!" (Isaiah 14:12). The Revised Standard Version says that Lucifer "laid the nations low!" He has gotten control of political and military leaders. That is what he has done throughout mankind's 6,000-year history, especially in the Gentile nations.

"For thou [Lucifer] hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High" (verses 13-14). He was filled with vanity! Lucifer had to make a choice—as humans do today—to either follow God or resist and turn against Him. God tells each one of us today to choose life! (Deuteronomy 30:19). Don't follow after rebellion and disobedience.

One third of the angels—millions, or even billions—were persuaded by the devil to turn away from God, at which point this world became violent. God the Father and the Son have lived peacefully for all eternity. Everything in the universe was in perfect harmony, and there had never been any violence—until sin was found in Lucifer (Ezekiel 28:15).

Can you see the result of this evil in the world today? It is everywhere, especially in the nations of Israel—predominately the United States, Britain and the Jewish nation in the Middle East. (Request Herbert W. Armstrong's The United States and Britain in Prophecy for proof of Israel's modern identity.)

Ephesians 6 tells us that our contentions and strivings are not with other people, but rather "against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness [or evil spirits] in

high places" (verse 12). These evil spirits rule this world! They are in the high places of the Earth. Satan has deceived this whole world (Revelation 12:9).

"Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience" (Ephesians 2:2). Satan broadcasts through the air, just like television or radio signals. He fills the air with his hostile spirit, reaching people through moods, attitudes, feelings. He has been able to really work on people today! Many of them are full of hostility, hatred and bitterness. Satan can really get to a person like that, persuading them in ways you can't imagine. That is plainly revealed in your Bible.

# A Second Attempt

The Bible often uses the principle of duality-events have a former and a latter-day fulfillment. That principle applies to this angelic rebellion: They tried to overthrow God before the creation of Adam, and they did so again in this end time, just before the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. Isaiah 14 is history—but it is also a prophecy of what will happen in this end time. The book of Isaiah was specifically written for the time we are living in today (Isaiah 30:8).

Here is what Herbert W. Armstrong wrote in Mystery of the Ages: "Isaiah 14:12-14 applies to a time prior to the creation of the first human, Adam. But in Revelation 12:7 and in Daniel 12:1 Satan, at the end of the 6,000 years allotted to his rule on Earth's throne, tries once again to seize God's throne in heaven." Satan is so mad in his reasoning that he thinks he can take over the throne of his Creator! That is the height of insanity.

"And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him" (Revelation 12:7-9). In this end time, Satan tried to conquer God again. This happened recently, and we can prove it to you.

This attempt took place on Jan. 16, 1986. If you study my book Malachi's *Message*, you will see that that happened. My son's book *Raising the Ruins* further explains how it all happened. (Both of these books are free upon request.)

What does it mean that Satan has been cast down? Verse 12 explains: "Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabit-ERS OF THE EARTH and of the sea! for THE DEVIL IS COME DOWN UNTO YOU, HAVING GREAT WRATH, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time."

Think seriously about the implications of this passage. God says woe to us on Earth. The devil is here, and he is very angry. So what is he doing? RETURN OF JESUS CHRIST! Christ will have to personally destroy them!

And notice: "[H]e hath but a short time." Satan's time is almost up! God is about to remove him and imprison him, and there will be no more attempts to take over God's throne.

Satan knows his time is short. That is why he is full of wrath. You can see that wrath on Earth today. Most people would never attribute this world's problems to Satan—but he is the cause, because this world unwittingly worships him (2 Corinthians 4:4). Despite his clearly possessing incredibly destructive power, most of humanity today scoffs at the idea of the devil.

Can you believe what your Bible says?

# Can you see the result of this evil in the world today? It is everywhere, especially in the nations of Israel.

The passage continues, "And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child" (verse 13). The woman in this verse is a type of God's Church. In this end time, Satan attempted to take over the throne of God! He couldn't conquer God, so he set out to conquer God's Church.

Right after he was cast down, the devil attacked the true Church of God and DESTROYED IT. He turned 95 percent of God's people away from their Creator!

Then, following that attack, he launched an offensive against the nations of Israel. He has caused frightful destruction in America and other nations. The evidence is everywhere

Satan assaulted the nations of Israel, but this attack is going to affect the whole world. "Woe to the inhabiters of THE EARTH," God says. It's not just about Israel. God is giving the devil space to punish the nations of Israel first, but the rest of the world will be punished as well. Events right now are building toward that worldwide event!

Some of the leaders you see on the SCENE TODAY WILL BE LEADING AT THE

# **Angelic Protection**

When Satan attacked God's Church, he caused 95 percent of God's people to turn away. Thankfully, 5 percent remained loyal. This small group conducts God's Work, and is protected by the righteous angels led by the archangel Michael. This mighty angelic being would defend the nations of Israel too, if they would let him! But they are in rebellion.

The Prophet Daniel foretold this: "And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book" (Daniel 12:1). God is going to deliver His faithful people through the turbulent times ahead. God will accept anybody who turns and repents and gives themselves to Him. If they become converted, He will give them protection and blessings.

Daniel then says those people will shine like the stars forever and ever (verse 3). Do you really believe that? How many people really believe what

SPIRIT REALM PAGE 32 ▶



he European Union is drafting a new law that would further regulate Internet content. the German-language news website Netzpolitik reported on July 16. Called the Digital

Services Act, it aims to replace the outdated commerce directive of 20 years ago with an updated, legally binding law. The Financial Times said it would be the "first of its kind globally" to cover such a broad range of digital platforms, and it would "target all parts of the tech sector."

The new rules would allow unelected EU officials to censor illegal content on platforms like Google and Facebook, as well as cloud computing services, data storage services and Internet service providers.

EU nations would lose control of the Internet laws their own governments have created. becoming subservient instead to a centralized EU committee.

The law would require large social media sites to remove within an hour anything the EU committee wants censored. It outlaws and punishes "hate speech," which can be broadly defined, and adds restrictions to any advertising deemed "political." Removing illegal

content, hate speech and extremism sounds good. But the EU wants to use these sweeping categories to subjectively enforce its political agenda.

Trumpet editor in chief Gerald Flurry wrote in the July 2019 issue, "The EU is waging a campaign of technological imperialism, and most people don't even know it! ...

"We must put this issue in the context of Bible prophecy and history. The German-led EU is behaving the way the Holy Roman Empire has always behaved. Germany is once again seeking to impose its will on the world." To get the biblical and historical context of these events, read Mr. Flurry's article "Germany Is Taking Control of the Internet" (theTrumpet.com/20695).

# 'My aim is the United States of Europe'

rsula von der Leyen was voted president of the European Commission on July 16. The vote was a triumph for European unity, a disaster of bickering and disagreement, and a preview of

how a stronger European leader will soon emerge.

The former German defense minister's own words best explain her goals. "My aim is the United States of

Europe, on the model of federal states such as Switzerland, Germany or the United States," she told German magazine Der Spiegel in 2011. She told Die Ziet in 2016, "I imagine the Europe of my children or grandchildren not as a loose union of states trapped by national interests."

She has pledged to introduce institutions, including a complete

banking union, EU-wide minimum wage, and EU-wide taxes on tech companies. "[I]f by the end of 2020 there is still no global solution for a fair digital tax," she stated, "the EU should act alone."

Such terms as "defense union" and "army of Europeans" are her catchphrases for her vision of

> Europe's military force. She has called for "further bold steps in the next five vears towards a genuine European Defense Union." She believes

Europe needs "an integrated and comprehensive approach" to security and "a stronger and more united voice in the world."

Nigel Farage, British member of the European Parliament, described von der Leyen as "a fanatic for building a European army." He is skeptical of an EU army, because "what is there for defense can also be used for attack."



ope Francis issued some startling criticism of United States President Donald Trump in an interview with the Italian newspaper La Stampa published August 9, implying that America's leader is like Adolf Hitler.

"I am concerned because we hear speeches that resemble those of Hitler in 1934. 'Us first, We ... We ...'—these are frightening thoughts."

America Magazine wrote, "Pope Francis's remarks were read by observers in Rome as also alluding to the politics of U.S. President Donald Trump and his 'America first' policies."

The pope is joined by several senior Catholics who are becoming increasingly critical of President Trump. The most outspoken of these has been Archbishop of San Antonio Gustavo Garcia-Siller, who told

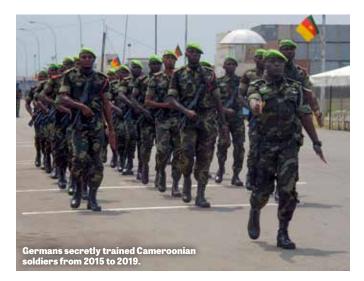


the president, "[S]top hate and racism, starting with yourself."

Such statements are shocking enough coming from an opposing presidential candidate. If a democratic politician had called the president a racist five or 10 years ago, it would have been big news. But now a supposedly nonpolitical Catholic leader is doing this.

The Catholic Church is helping to stoke hatred for President Trump and the United States worldwide. To understand why, read Trumpet editor in chief Gerald Flurry's article "Why Is the Pope Meddling in American Politics?" (theTrumpet .com/13725).

a number of EU-level financial



# Germany's secret mission in Cameroon

ermany has had a secret four-year military mission in Cameroon which only became public in July when it announced the conclusion of the clandestine operation.

The supposedly strictly noncombat mission was intended to train local security forces in anti-terrorism operations. But soon after German forces arrived, clashes erupted and German-trained government forces cracked down.

According to the German constitution. German troops should have then aborted the training mission or received a parliamentary mandate to continue, said German Free Democratic Party legislator Christoph Hoffmann. But they didn't.

Left Party legislator Stefan

Liebich said, "[I]f it hadn't been for the public debate and the discussion in parliament, the [Cameroon] mission would probably be ongoing."

And it probably would be secretive still.

German troops are publicly known to be deployed in Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Jordan, Mali. Niger and Tunisia. There could be other secret deployments.

Germany's deployments, public and secret, reveal that Islamist terrorists are drawing the nation further into North African countries. Trumpet editor in chief Gerald Flurry wrote in 2013 that most of these are influenced by Iran. But Germany is willingly involving itself in Africa as part of a strategy, prophesied by the Bible, to encircle Iran and its proxies (Daniel 11:40).

# Hamas agrees to pincer strategy against Israel

ccording to a July 31 report, the Jewish state may yet again face a coordinated Arab attack that could overwhelm its defenses. Israeli defense officials say they believe Hamas and Iran have come to an agreement: If war breaks out in Israel's north. Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad will open a southern front to divide Israeli forces.

The Times of Israel reported that Iran has expressed willingness to increase its funding to Hamas from an estimated \$8.3 million to \$30 million a month.

Dr. Yossi Mansharof. an Iran expert at the Jerusalem Institute for Strategy and Security,

said, "[T]he connections between Iran and PIJ [Palestinian Islamic Jihad] are very tight, since the leader of the group, Ziad Nakhaleh, is very close to [Iranian Gen. Oasseml Suleimani, So. it can be assumed that the group would also get an increase in funding."

Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad have an estimated stockpile of between 10,000 and 20,000 short- and mid-range rockets, which can pose a serious threat to Israel's south. Israel's chief threat in the north,

Hezbollah, is suspected to have around 130,000 rockets.

Hamas Deputy Chief Saleh al-Arouri was quoted in July as saying, "We are on the same path as the Islamic Republic—the path of battling the Zionist entity and the arrogant ones."

Bible prophecy proves that words like these are not empty threats.

Israel's merciful God savs in Hosea 8:14. "For Israel hath forgotten his Maker ... and Judah



hath multiplied fenced cities: but I will send a fire upon his cities, and it shall devour the palaces thereof." Israel trusts in its military defenses, vet those defenses could be overwhelmed with a barrage of rockets from the north and from the south.

"O Israel." God assures in Hosea 13:9. "thou hast destroyed thyself; but in me is thine help." To learn more, request your free copy of Trumpet editor in chief Gerald Flurry's booklet Jerusalem in Prophecy.

# Israel strikes Iranian missiles in Iraq

n two occasions in July, Israeli F-35 fighter jets struck Iranian missile depots north of Baghdad, Iraq. This marked Israel's first air strikes in Iraq since Operation Opera in 1981, when it bombed an Iraqi nuclear reactor.

The first attack targeted a Shiite militia base just after a shipment of Iranian-made short- and

medium-range ballistic missiles was offloaded from a truck, that was supposedly transporting refrigerated food. A senior commander of Iran's

Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps Ouds Force was killed. The second strike hit Camp Ashraf, another suspected Iranian rocket



depot just 50 miles from the Iranian border.

Since September 2018, Iran has been supplying missiles to its proxies in Iraq, placing both Israel and Saudi Arabia within striking distance. American intelligence agencies estimate that Iran has the largest ballistic missile inventory in the Middle East.

Based on Bible prophecy, the Trumpet has warned for more than two decades that Iran will gain control of Iraq. Its missile bases in Iraq confirm the veracity of these prophecies.



# China admits Belt and Road includes global military ambitions

fter years of China insisting that its Belt and Road Initiative is purely for peaceful economic purposes, the nation's top defense official acknowledged on July 8 that the project includes military ambitions.

Speaking in Beijing to defense officials from Latin American, Caribbean and South Pacific countries, Chinese Defense Minister Wei Fenghe said the globe-spanning infrastructure project will build a "framework" for military cooperation between China and other nations.

The Belt and Road Initiative is an effort to build transportation, energy, data and regulatory infrastructure in more than

60 countries to facilitate trade across Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Europe and even Latin America, the Caribbean and the South Pacific. Since it began in 2013. Chinese leaders have frequently asserted that it is strictly a peaceful economic endeavor, but its military potential has been obvious.

A prophecy in Isaiah 23 describes a "mart of nations," a modern economic behemoth, led by Chittim, an ancient name for modern China, and by Tyre, a city signifying the commerce of modern Europe. Trumpet editor in chief Gerald Flurry explains the details of this economic "mart" in his free booklet Isajah's End-Time Vision.

# **China bullying** Malaysia, Vietnam in South China Sea

hinese vessels have hindered oil and gas drilling operations in Malaysian and Vietnamese waters since May, raising the risk of a collision and escalating regional tensions.

The Asia Maritime Transparency Initiative said on July 16 that throughout most of May, a Chinese vessel "heavily patroll[ed]" waters on the Malaysian continental shelf and that a Chinese Coast Guard vessel "circled provocatively close" to ships servicing a drilling rig, "coming to within 80 meters."

China has been using the same tactics in Vietnamese waters since mid-June. Near one Vietnamese drilling rig, a Chinese ship maneuvered between Vietnamese supply vessels at

"high speed," the Transparency Initiative said, "passing within 100 meters of each ship and less than half a nautical mile from the rig." Chinese and Vietnamese coast guard ships have been engaged in a standoff in the area ever since.

In both cases, China's harassment occurred within the internationally recognized exclusive economic zones of Malaysia and Vietnam. But China does not recognize these zones and claims nearly the entire South China Sea.

In July 2016, Trumpet editor in chief Gerald Flurry wrote that China's bullying of less powerful nations in the South China Sea and elsewhere in the region "is steering the world toward war." Mr. Flurry's comprehension of the South China Sea dynamic and what it will lead to is founded on Bible prophecy. To learn more, request Ezekiel: The End-Time **Prophet**, by Gerald Flurry.



# India-Russia defense collaboration surges

ussia and India are collaborating on an increasing number of major defense deals, despite the threat of United States sanctions. Among these are an agreement for Moscow to build guided-missile frigates for India, a plan for the two to jointly develop new attack submarines, and a deal for Russia to sell India its advanced S-400 air defense systems.

One expert called the S-400 deal a "catch-22," saying India was walking a "diplomatic

tightrope between a trusted but waning partner [Russia] and a growing yet temperamental partner [U.S.]." By taking the risk and signing the deal, India has shown the world that its relationship with Russia trumps



its relationship with the U.S. In a changing world order, India has refused to abandon one of its oldest allies and has reassured Russia that it is still a valued defense and strategic partner.

This matches Bible prophecy. Revelation 9:16 prophesies an Asian military conglomerate that

> will field an army of 200 million soldiers. This Asian conglomerate is also discussed in Ezekiel 38 and 39. and will be led by Russia (signified by the names Gog, Meshech,

Tubal and Rosh in Ezekiel 38:2). China, referred to by the name Magog in verse 2, will also be a leading power. Verse 5 mentions "Ethiopia and Libya," which should be rendered "Cush" and "Phut," referring to the progenitors of peoples in Africa, but also in India and perhaps Pakistan.

India will be yet another powerful nation contributing to the prophesied Asian power bloc that will fight in World War III. To understand how these prophecies will affect your life, order Mr. Flurry's free booklet The Prophesied 'Prince of Russia.'



merican border officials will likely encounter at least 1.1 million illegal migrants crossing the southern border by the end of the 2018-2019 fiscal year, said Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee chairman Ross Johnson on July 30. The number of illegal immigrants apprehended so far this year exceeds records from 2014 and the 1990s. The number of migrants who elude border agents is unknowable.

By the end of June this year, U.S. Customs and Border

Protection had encountered 905,926 migrants, according to the Washington Examiner. Of those, 694,229 were illegal, more than double the 2017 figure of 310,000.

The Bible prophesies in Deuteronomy 28 that if Israel turns away from God, then its "high and fenced walls" will come down, and foreigners will "get up above thee very high." This is being fulfilled in the modern descendants of ancient Israel, as wave upon wave of illegal immigrants surge across the border.

# U.S. gun sales surge

fter mass shootings at a Walmart in El Paso. Texas, and a downtown entertainment district in Dayton, Ohio, on August 3-4, more Americans are buying guns. Many of these buyers are firsttime buyers seeking concealed weapon licenses, handguns and concealed carry training classes.

The National Instant Criminal **Background Check System** shows that the Federal Bureau of Investigation conducted nearly 16 million background checks from January 1 to July 31. This means that 2019 is on track to be the biggest year for U.S. gun sales since 2016, when prospective gun owners feared that gun-control advocate Hillary Clinton would be elected president.

Meanwhile, America's racial tensions are being inflamed by the blame placed on "white supremacy" for mass shootings. People are afraid, tensions are palpable, and an outbreak of violence seems near.

The threats that gun buyers are concerned about are real, but Bible prophecy shows

that proliferation of guns and weapons will actually exacerbate violence. "A third part of thee shall die with the pestilence, and with famine shall they be consumed in the midst of thee ..." (Ezekiel 5:12). The word translated *pestilence* means destruction or death.



With the calls for tighter gun laws being driven partly by the perceived problem of white supremacist shooters, we could be on the precipice of seeing these two volatile issues-guns and race-converge dangerously. The 300 million guns currently owned by private U.S. citizens will cause a lot of death when civilized society unravels.

# Poll: American patriotism at 18-year low

ccording to a Gallup poll released on July 2, fewer Americans than ever are extremely proud of their country. Fewer than half of American adults were "extremely proud" to be American, an 18-year low, and 3 percent are not proud at all. Only 22 percent of those who support the Democratic Party said they were very proud to be American.

In the introduction to his booklet Great Again. Trumpet editor in chief Gerald Flurry writes: "Do you believe the United States of America has been mainly a positive force in



the world for most of its history? Do you have a favorable view of the Founding Fathers, the Constitution, separation of powers, rule of law, Manifest Destiny, freedom of religion, freedom of speech, free-market economy and America's role in World Wars I and II? If you do, then surely you are deeply alarmed by the state of America today. ... Even the nation's leaders see them as shameful. On many foundational issues, they share the views of America's worst enemies!"

# Pedophiliac problems in the Boy Scouts

n August 5, attorneys filed a lawsuit in Pennsylvania, accusing the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) of "a continuing and serious conspiracy to conceal and cover up" sexual assaults against children. The attorneys have identified 350 alleged abusers, and nearly 800 alleged victims. Their lawsuit accuses the organization of failing to adequately protect its members.

Some of these sex abuse accusations go back to the 1940s. but the moral leadership of BSA has plummeted dramatically over just the past decade. In 2013, the national executive board of the BSA voted to allow boys openly

involved in homosexual activity into the organization. Two years later, the executive board voted to end a ban on homosexual scout leaders. Two years later, the executive board voted to allow transgender boys into the program.

The first edition of the Boy Scout Handbook, printed in 1911, contained a special scout oath: "On my honor, I will do my best: to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight." Now Boy Scouts of America is succumbing to the dishonorable, godless, unpatriotic and morally evil society around it.

#### ► BATTLE OF BRITAIN FROM PAGE 9

Infuriated, Hitler made an emotional decision: He ordered London bombed. All the firepower that was successfully destroying Fighter Command was now diverted to attack London.

On September 7, the Germans dropped more than 300 tons of high-explosive bombs and thousands of incendiaries. London was on fire for miles. That night, as firemen and other citizens tried to douse the fires, the Germans returned. Using the fires as beacons to guide them, they bombed for seven more hours. Britain had practically no defenses for night raids.

"Hitler still nurtured the dream that bombing would terrorize the British people and make them sue for peace," wrote Peck. And the almost nightly bombing continued for two months, killing almost 20,000 people, injuring many more, and reducing huge parts of the city to rubble.

Yet the British took "the Blitz" amazingly well. There was a lot of tragedy, "Yet there was another side," Peck wrote. "The people of London, of all classes, became much friendlier than ever before or, perhaps, ever since. ... People were thrown together with their neighbors, and even perfect strangers, in numerous situations—in air raid shelters, first-aid stations, fire-fighting groups, and groups to repair each other's homes. ... People showed their friendship in other ways, too. They looked after each other's children, shared their stoves with less fortunate neighbors, and lent each other all kinds of necessities. There was kindness, there was sympathy, and there was understanding. ...

"While Hitler hoped for 'mass hysteria,' and the British government feared it, the people themselves remained remarkably calm and cheerful. During the Blitz, the number of Londoners with mental disorders actually declined. There were fewer suicides, much less drunkenness, and less disorderly conduct."

The Apostle Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 4:8-9, "We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed." We must have high morale in this warfare—even in very difficult circumstances. The British people set a marvelous example in this respect.

These bombings "failed to break their spirit and end their will to fight."

A second remarkable thing about the Blitz was that it essentially saved the Royal Air Force. It spared air bases and vital command posts from further damage and gave the British time to patch up their airfields and communication lines. In what proved to be a catastrophic blunder, Hitler had effectively surrendered his advantage, and England regained air superiority over Britain.

It was a miracle, not from Hitler, but from God. That same God can give us the miracles we need to prevail in our spiritual warfare and in doing His work.

# Seeking God's Help

The day after that first terrible air raid on London, perceiving an imminent invasion, King George vi called for a national day of prayer.

Churchill spoke to the nation over radio three days later. After reminding listeners of Britain's historic successes of Nelson and Drake, he said: "We have read about all this in the history books; but what is happening now is on a far greater scale and of far more consequence to the life and future of the world and its civilization than these brave old days of the past. Every man and woman will therefore prepare himself to do his duty whatever it may be, with special pride and care. ... It is with devout but sure confidence that I say, 'Let God defend the right."

These godly oriented leaders motivated a nation to mass prayer to God for deliverance.

Exactly a week later, the Battle of Britain entered its worse crisis.

Hitler chose September 15 to be the day for the Luftwaffe to overwhelm Fighter Command with wave after wave and formation after formation of fighters and bombers. The British threw every fighter they had into the air. All day long, people on the ground watched the great battle unfold in the skies over southeast England.

At the height of battle, Churchill visited Group HQ of the No. 11 group, commanded by Keith Park. "I became conscious of the anxiety of the commander," he later wrote. "I had watched in silence. I now asked, 'What other reserves have we?' 'There are none,' said

Air Vice Marshall Park. In an account which he wrote about it afterward, he said that at this I 'looked grave.' Well I might. What losses should we not suffer if our refueling planes were caught on the ground by further raids of '40 plus' or '50 plus.' The odds were great; our margins small; the stakes infinite."

Britain's very survival hinged on the efforts of a handful of college-age boys who were willing to hurl themselves into the jaws of death.

The same is true of those supporting God's work today. There are so few of us. But we have God with us. 1 Chronicles 12:8 describes the people God needs: "men of might, and men of war fit for



the battle, that could handle shield and buckler, whose faces were like the faces of lions, and were as swift as the roes upon the mountains." "That is what we need to be today," Mr. Flurry writes. "God has called us to be spiritual soldiers. We are here to take on the worst Goliath of all time: Satan the devil in his worst wrath. We must be fit for this spiritual battle" (*The Former Prophets*).

On that fateful day, those British pilots lost 26 planes. But they had downed 60 German planes, in addition to the 140 knocked out the previous week.

This was "a stunning blow to the Germans," wrote Peck. "Even the Luftwaffe could not afford to lose planes at such a rate. Furthermore, Fighter Command had shown conclusively that it was not about to be driven from the air. The Luftwaffe commanders, once supremely confident, were now shaken. The German Navy, never keen on invading England, was now even less keen. The Army, confident earlier that it could do its part once the Luftwaffe had won air supremacy, was now having doubts of its own" (op cit).

"At the end of the battle one had the feeling that there had been some special divine intervention to alter some sequence of events which would otherwise have occurred," said RAF Air Chief Marshall Hugh Dowding. "I see that this intervention was no last-minute happening ... it was all part of the mighty plan .... I say with absolute conviction that I can trace the intervention of God.



not only in the battle itself, but in the events which led up to it; and that if it had not been for this intervention, the battle would have been joined in conditions which, humanly speaking, would

After that day's defeat, Hitler postponed invading England indefinitely.

commanding officer of RAF No. 242 Squadron, summarized this historic turning point: "15 September was the day that the battle was won. Britain had been saved chiefly by about 1,000 boys and young men who flew for Fighter Command."

Churchill engraved their accomplishment poetically: "Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few."

# The Few

"Oddly enough, at the time of this epic ... battle, the men who fought it had little idea of its importance," Peck wrote. "It is very unlikely that any Royal Air Force fighter pilot ever said, or even thought, 'I am fighting the Battle of Britain and on its outcome depends the fate of the world.' ... The fact is, the average fighter pilot at the time just thought he was doing his everyday job."

One squadron leader remarked, "At the time, we didn't know that it was a vital battle. We thought that that was the way a war was fought. You know—it was fighting every day and you just carried on. We didn't know we were quite so close to defeat, either. Because down at the squadron level, pilot level, we didn't know how short we were of aircraft and of pilot replacements. ... [W]e were just young boys. I was 23, and I was one of the experienced ones."

It's easy to underestimate how much our daily battles impact God's work overall. But the tougher each of us is individually, the greater this work will be.

David's example of faith in God in defeating Goliath and throughout his life inspired the men under him, listed in 2 Samuel 21:18-21: "And it came to pass after this, that there was again a battle with the Philistines at Gob: then Sibbechai the Hushathite slew Saph, which was of the sons of the giant. And there was again a battle in Gob with the Philistines, where Elhanan the son of Jaareoregim, a Bethlehemite, slew the brother of Goliath the Gittite, the staff of whose spear was like a weaver's beam. And there was yet a battle in Gath, where was a man of great stature, that had on every hand six fingers, and on every foot six toes, four and twenty in number; and he also was born to the giant. And when

he defied Israel, Jonathan the son of Shimea the brother of David slew him."

"Why did Israel become so great under David? These men wanted to do all they could to help their king. They killed giants just as David did! This faithful attitude came from David right on down through his generals," Mr. Flurry writes. "This is how we can become the greatest possible Church! ... Follow the faith of the man God is using to lead spiritual Israel. ... We all need to be giant-killers! God makes that possible for every one of us. That is how the Body of Christ will become powerful and accomplish amazing things! ... It is not enough that David be great. Everybody under him must be great! That is what is required if we are to have a great Church. There can be no breakdown in any link. ... This towering lesson in government is what will help us finish the work with real strength!" (The Former Prophets).

"Not enough can be said for 'The Few'the pilots of Fighter Command who never considered defeat and who outdid themselves in combat, knowing all along that theirs was a just cause" (Peck, op cit).

Anne Turley George was the wife of a former fighter pilot. She said this about the Battle of Britain: "We lay in ditches and watched the dogfights and cheered on our warriors and laughed and danced and sang with them in the evenings, and saw them off the next day with the tight fist of fear knotted deep in our insides-and more and more fell .... They held our lives, our happiness, and our heritage in their young strong hands—and they never flinched. I wish I could write music-I would create one great triumphant shout of a hymn—praising and honoring them and telling of our love and gratitude to them for ever and ever. Amen."

God wants us to take the victory. We are fighting so that all Britain, all Europe, all nations and peoples around the world may be free, and the life of the world may move into broad, sunlit uplands.

And what love and gratitude they will have when we take the victory. For eternity, we will enjoy praise and honor because of the warfare we wage today. Let us therefore brace ourselves to our duties, and so bear ourselves that, when this Empire lasts for a thousand years and beyond, men will say, "This was their finest hour!"



**OVERCOMER** 

# Embrace your spiritual fight.

Need help winning spiritual battles? Get your field manual: Request Gerald Flurry's free booklet How to Be an Overcomer.

#### ► SPIRIT REALM FROM PAGE 25

God says? Mankind scoffs at this transcendent potential! They won't simply believe His inspired Bible. That is the reason for all of humanity's problems.

The Bible mentions three angels of the extremely high rank of cherub: Lucifer, Michael and Gabriel. But since Lucifer's rebellion, only Michael and Gabriel remain.

Christ is—and that human beings can be! "For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son? ... But to which of the angels said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool? Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of

He created our physical capacity to reproduce and have families to prepare us for that future. Physical family is a God-plane relationship; it's a type of the God Family. Marriage is a Godplane relationship; it's a type of our marriage to Jesus Christ (Ephesians 5:22-33). Those whom God calls who will come out of the world and serve Him before the Second Coming are going to become the Bride of Jesus Christ! That is the most wonderful truth you could imagine. You can comprehend that if you choose to. God will see to it that you do.

Angels have worked throughout the Bible and throughout history; some have even appeared to men like Abraham, Moses, Gideon and other servants of God. Many have served God faithfully for millennia. And God still has a wonderful future prepared for those angels who have remained loyal to Him.

These are wonderful truths that we need to understand. All this information is in your Bible and in *Mystery* of the Ages. This book will give you all the scriptures that you need to study regarding the history of angels.

Mystery of the Ages is a book like no other you'll read. You need this book. It is a synopsis of the entire Bible. There is no book on Earth, except the Bible, that is more important. That is my view; it was Mr. Armstrong's view—and I think once you truly understand it, it will be your view. It will be taught to this whole world very shortly. God is preparing teachers now who can disseminate the truth of God to the world. Most people who have ever lived never truly knew God. But that is about to change. They will be resur-

rected and taught the truth.

# God makes us choose so we can build character. If we don't build character, then we have no future with God—it's that simple.

God gave angels free moral agency. But He wasn't building character in the angels the way He is doing with mankind. It is a different process.

God makes us choose so we can build character. If we don't build character. then we have no future with God-it's that simple. Too many people in this world have no character to speak of! They don't want God's character. They don't want to become perfect as their Father in heaven is perfect (Matthew 5:48).

## **Our Marvelous Potential**

Hebrews 1 contrasts God's plan for the angels with His much greater plan for humankind. This passage says the righteous angels are secret messengers of God to serve His faithful saints who have repented and given their lives to God and His work.

This passage is clear that the angels are not family to God the way that Jesus

salvation?" (verses 5, 13-14). The angels are here to serve us and help us receive salvation—upon which we will become far superior to what they are today!

This is a truth that ought to overwhelm us! Even when the angels saw God create the universe and Earth, they shouted for joy! (Job 38:4-7). They knew God was offering them a part in beautifying that creation.

God put one third of them on Earth to see if they could rule the Earth and universe. But that group failed. At that point, God knew that only He could be trusted to rule the universe.

Therefore, God decided to re-create Himself in man. The angels failed in taking care of the Earth, so now God is going to use humans to fulfill the transcendent potential to beautify the universe that was wrecked by Satan's rebellion.

Now He is creating sons who are to be born in the very Family of God!

# Did God create a devil?

Why is there suffering and why does God allow it? Perhaps this question more than any is why mankind refuses to believe in God. To learn the answer to this most important question, request Herbert W. Armstrong's free book Mystery of the Ages.





# What Is Sin?

The answer to this vital, yet little-considered question is plain.

ODAY, SIN IS TREATED DISMISSIVELY, EVEN AS A JOKE, EVEN many Christians are ambivalent about it. They believe that because Jesus died for our sins, sin is irrelevant once you accept His sacrifice. But what does the Bible say?

God's inspired definition is this: "[S]in is the transgression of the law" (1 John 3:4).

The Apostle Paul would not have known what sin is, except



JOEL HILLIKER

by the law. Which law? The law that says, "Thou shalt not covet" (Romans 7:7): the Ten Commandments. Paul described this law as being "holy, and just, and good" (verse 12). King David called it perfect, sure, right and pure, more valuable than fine gold (Psalm 19:7-11).

God's law codifies the way God thinks and acts. It is an expression of His

character and nature. God is love (1 John 4:8), and His law can be summed up in that one word: LOVE. Jesus said the law is further defined in two great commandments: love to God and love to neighbor (Matthew 22:36-40). The same law is further divided into 10 points by the Ten Commandments, the first four of which tell us how to love God, the last six of which tell us how to love neighbor (Exodus 20).

God's law of love is the perfect way of life. All suffering, unhappiness, misery and death have come solely from breaking it.

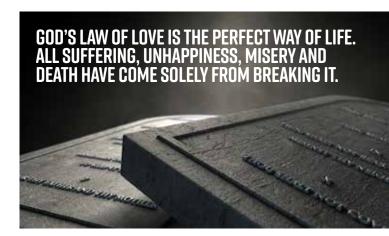
"If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well" (James 2:8). Love is the fulfilling of the law (Romans 13:8, 10)—not our humanlevel love, but "the love of God [which] is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy [Spirit]" (Romans 5:5).

If we fulfill this royal law, we do well—but if not, we commit sin (James 2:9). If we keep the whole law (the principle of love to neighbor) yet break one point of it, we are guilty of all (verses 10-11). (Notice: The points of the law James describes are, do not *commit adultery, do not kill*—the Ten Commandments.)

Jesus Christ was the ultimate example of perfect obedience to the law. Most Christians believe that Jesus came to Earth to abolish the Ten Commandments. Yet He clearly stated, "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil" (Matthew 5:17). Jesus came to "magnify the law, and make it honourable" (Isaiah 42:21). When we put a spiritual "magnifying glass" on the Ten Commandments, they are enlarged in spirit and principle into many more points. And in the larger view, the ENTIRE BIBLE is a magnification of God's law. The law is the basis of all Scripture. It defines a way of life: God's way to happiness, joy and eternal life.

Truly fulfilling the Ten Commandments requires keeping not just the letter of the law, but also the spirit. Christ gave two examples illustrating this point. First: "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment: But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment ..." (Matthew 5:21-22). He quoted the Sixth Commandment, which forbids murder (Exodus 20:13). He affirmed that maliciously ending a human life is sin. Then He magnified that law, showing that the spirit of murder, including hatred, is also sin.

Second: Christ addressed the Seventh Commandment, saying, "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart" (Matthew 5:27-28). Christ upheld God's law forbidding adultery, which includes premarital sexual activity as well as infidelity within marriage. Then He magnified it, showing that even a lustful gaze breaks the spirit of that commandment. These examples show that sin against God's spiritual law begins in the mind and must be stopped immediately (James 1:14-15).



In principle, sin is anything other than God's outflowing law of love. At the root of all sin is VANITY—loving *self* more than loving God or fellow man. Its author is Lucifer, whose heart was lifted up because of his beauty (Ezekiel 28:17). It is manifest in attitudes of self-centeredness, self-exaltation, desire to be beautiful, coveting, desire to get and take, jealousy and envy, competition, resentment and rebellion against authority, violence and war. These are the principles of spiritual sin.

To repent of sin means to turn from sin—to QUIT SINNING. And the way to do so is to begin keeping God's commandments—ALL OF THEM, for if you break only one, you incur the penalty of sin, which is not eternal life in hell, but death (Romans 6:23)—eternal death.

Thankfully, the sacrifice of Jesus Christ pays that death penalty (Romans 5:6-10). Once someone repents, he or she is no longer doomed to eternal death. However, God still expects those He forgives to keep the Ten Commandments. "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?" (Romans 6:1-2). It is now our responsibility to choose to slay sin—to choose not death, but LIFE (Deuteronomy 30:19).

# I really love the *Trumpet*, but I especially appreciate the infographic in the middle of the Trumpet. I appreciate all the accurate information that it provides and all the effort that is put into making it. It is a wonderful learning tool.

W Rossi FOND DU LAC. WISCONSIN

There are not enough words of gratitude for you and the staff of the *Trumpet* that I can express for the joy and truth that you bring to the world and our lives. I was a co-worker receiving the Plain Truth under the guidance of Herbert Armstrong, who, in my mind, was a prophet of the new era. I will be 84 in January and will never stop learning the truth from the Trumpet magazine.

Antonio Zappala SOUTH AFRICA

Congratulations to the Trumpet and especially to Brad Macdonald for his excellent article ("A Prophesied Resurgence in Israel," September, theTrumpet.com/21036). I am shocked by the anti-Trump and anti-Netanyahu rhetoric coming from Israel's main news source, Haaretz. They have gone so far as to call both of these men neo-Nazis and racists. Haaretz appears to hate anyone who loves Israel. Sadly, many American Jews also appear to hate both Trump and Israel! It doesn't add up!

Taiwan will be next ("Hong Kong—The End of Freedom Begins," September, the Trumpet

.com/21036). World conditions race on, and we see the great plan of the Eternal reaching its dawn. Thank you for keeping strong in these end times and giving us a reason to look at ourselves in true light.

Jerry Betancur NEW MEXICO

Thank you for your newsmagazine. It is helping me to see and understand the Bible and what is really taking place in this world.

Christopher Hibbert FLORIDA

Your infographic "The Downfall of American Agriculture" (August, the Trumpet.com/20883) helped me in a recent move. I based much of my decision on where to move off the information in the Trumpet.

Stan Nebis MICHIGAN

Very well-written article ("Is the World 'Rigged' Against Women?", theTrumpet .com/21119). I believe that "children are our oppressors" and that "women rule over us" in this day. On the wall at the Library of Congress is this quote: "The foundation of every state is the education of its youth."



Herein lies our problem: We have allowed our children's education to be handled by supposed "intellectuals" whose focus is on the earthly, not the spiritual and divine.

# **Dick Algire**

I found this article well timed. I've been looking around at different jobs and have noticed that a lot of companies are making a point to show how diverse they are by aiming the jobs they have available at women and minorities. It feels like there could be discrimination at certain companies I could apply at, not because of my work history, qualifications or experience, but because I'm a white male.

#### Don Hoehn II

Thank you for your magazine. It helps me understand the Bible better. You give an honest report of what's taking place in the world today and what it means for us.

John Muttiah ONTARIO, CANADA

# THETRUMPET.COM HIGHLIGHTS

Ray Fulford BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA



TOP ARTICLE

Germany on the Verge of Economic Crisis theTrumpet.com/21088





TOP VIDEO Let the Stones Speak theTrumpet.com/21007





TOP PODCAST **Open Borders and America's Demise** theTrumpet.com/20975

# **Which Threats Are Real—and** Which Are Fake?

If you can't tell, you'll be fighting for the wrong causes. BY JOEL HILLIKER

OST PEOPLE AGREE THAT OUR WORLD FACES MAJOR threats, but they wildly disagree on what those threats are.

After two mass shootings in America on August 3-4, leftist journalists and politicians immediately zeroed in on the "real" underlying threat of such atrocities: lack of gun control and white nationalism.

They hyped this threat using not only contorted logic but also fake facts. The 21-year-old El Paso murderer is not a conservative

or even a Trump acolyte. The manifesto he appears to have posted views Hispanic immigrants as a threat to the United States, not because they are racially inferior but because their numbers will jeopardize free universal health care, universal basic income and the environment. Yet journalists and politicians turned this deranged, big-government, socialist eco-terrorist into a "white nationalist," and pontificated and preached as though mass shootings and hate in general would cease if only the president would stop encouraging white supremacy.

All mass shootings are tragic, regardless of motive. But from 1989 to 2014, all mass shootings accounted for 0.13 percent of the shooting deaths in America, most of which cannot be even remotely linked to white nationalism. But one third of the 33,000 gun deaths each year in the U.S. are homicides—an outsized portion of which are black men killing other black men. The other two thirds are suicides. For each mass shooting death, there are over 500 shooting suicides. And that is to say nothing of the *one million abortions* 

Mathematically, these are real threats. But leftists aren't weeping and ranting and swearing about those like they are about "white nationalism."

performed each year on average in America over that period.

Meanwhile, illegal immigration is another real threat. Huge numbers of immigrants, including desperate adults, vulnerable children, drug smugglers, terrorists and other criminals are crossing the border. It is mathematically impossible for millions of impoverished people pouring into the country not to strain the economies they are entering. It's impossible for

them not to change society and, if Democrats succeed in giving them voting rights, the government.

These are objectively serious threats. But if you even mention them, liberals say you are a white nationalist. If you want to deal with shootings or immigration by enforcing the law, then you are a racist. The actual threat posed by white nationalists is barely a blip on the radar compared to the threat of open borders. Some on the left are screaming about racism and the danger of another Holocaust—while insisting that the solution is to eliminate the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and offer these "undocumented asylum seekers" free health care.

You may have a termite problem affecting, let's say, less than 1 percent of your house. But if your house is on fire, you deal with THE FIRE! You don't turn your back on the flames and begin ripping off drywall to address the termites.

Leftists in America, in truth, are trying to solve the termite problem by setting the house on fire.

The El Paso shooter supports free health care and universal basic income. These happen to be two of the "solutions" being promoted by Democratic presidential candidates to solve the crisis of economic inequality. Their other proposals include wealth tax, minimum wage increases, free college, free cash handouts, even slavery reparations. Meanwhile, America's national debt is \$22 trillion and rising fast. This is an existential threat not only to our economy but to our national security.

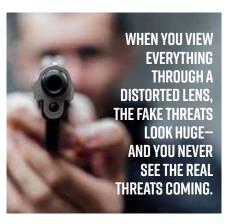
> Examples of ignoring real threats abound. What about the godless, devastated families producing these mass shooters, gang members and other criminals? What about dangerous turmoil in China, Russia, Korea, Turkey, India and Pakistan? What about the corrosion of European democracy? Or Brexit? Or how any number of these volatile situations might affect markets and national economies? It's all background noise compared to the threats of white nationalism, police shootings, toxic masculinity, carbon emissions, Confederate statues, abortion restrictions, LGBTQ dis-

advantages and "misgendering" a man who says he's a woman.

When you view everything through a distorted lens, the fake threats look huge—and you never see the real threats coming.

If you hear a lie often enough, you will eventually believe it—unless you constantly fight it off and have clear, solid truth to compare it to. God tells you to prove all things and hold fast to what is good (1 Thessalonians 5:21).

Here is how to assess the actual threat level on any given subject: Look at what Bible prophecy says. It will help you distinguish actual crises from fake ones. A practical way to do this is to read "But What Do I Watch For?" (the Trumpet.com/64). Another is to look at our Trends page (the Trumpet.com/trends). This breaks down the news into the four main areas that Bible prophecy addresses. These are the real threats, based not on ideology or rhetoric, but on Bible prophecy revealed by God. This will help you keep your perspective, help you stay clear from being deceived and sucked into fighting fake threats and keep you grounded in the truth.



#### ► **GERMANY** FROM PAGE17

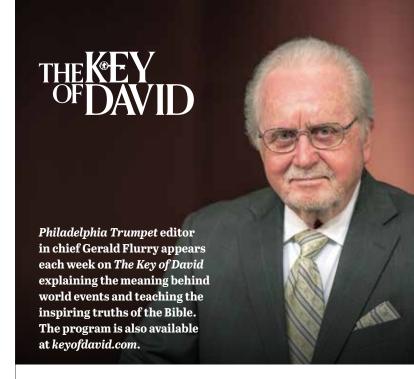
from His laws, then God will raise up Germany once again to punish the Anglo-Saxon people for their sins. The book of Isaiah calls America and Britain by their ancient name, Israel, and Germany by its ancient name, Assyria. (Request our FREE book The United States and Britain in Prophecy, by Herbert W. Armstrong, for proof of these national identities.) Specifically, Isaiah says God will use Assyria as "the rod of [his] anger" against Israel (Isaiah 10:5).

The book of Daniel refers to Germany as "the king of the north," and says that this king will conquer "the king of the south" and many other nations. "And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over. ... He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape. But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps. But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many" (Daniel 11:40, 42-44).

Since the 1990s, Mr. Flurry has forecast that radical Islam, led by Iran, will fulfill the role of this biblical king of the south. And he has forecast that oil could be one of the motivating factors in Germany's secret strategy to conquer the Middle East. In Chapter 5 of Germany and the Holy Roman Empire, Mr. Flurry writes, "Germany, which has virtually no oil, is waiting for an opportunity to take control of the Middle East. It has planned this for years. The need for oil was the trigger that caused Japan to attack Pearl Harbor and start World War II in the Pacific. That same trigger could be the main reason for the clash between the king of the north and the king of the south."

So Daniel 11:40-44 reveal the order in which Germany will conquer its enemies. First, German leaders will conquer Iran, Egypt, Libya and Ethiopia. Once these nations are under Germany's dominion, it will control the vast oil resources of the Middle East and the strategic maritime choke points of Hormuz, Bab el-Mandeb and the Suez Canal. But then, "tidings out of the east and out of the north" will prompt Germany to "go forth with great fury" and destroy many nations-including the U.S., Great Britain and the State of Israel. Finally, once America, Britain and Israel are wiped out, the king of the north will launch a preemptive strike against Russia and its Asian allies (Revelation 9:1-11).

The Bible records that mankind will face extinction in a devastating nuclear war between Europe and Asia, unless Jesus Christ Himself intervenes in world affairs (Matthew 24:22). Fortunately, the Bible records a definitive promise from God that Jesus Christ will intervene to end this madness. After accumulating 6,000 years of evil and suffering, the human race will finally be ready to listen to God and be taught His way of life!



ALL TIMES ARE A.M. LOCAL TIME UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

#### **UNITED STATES**

Nationwide Satellite

Galaxy 3 Trans. 17 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu Direct TV

CW Plus, Chan. 34, 9:30 ET/PT, Sun ION, Chan. 305, 6:00 ET, Fri

Dish Network

ION, Chan. 216, 6:00 ET, Fri

Nationwide Cable

CW Plus, 9:30 ET/PT, 8:30 CT/MT, Sun ION, 6:00 ET/PT, Fri

Alabama, Birmingham WPXH 5:00, Fri;

WVUA 8:30. Sun Dothan WRGX 8:00, Sun; WTVY-DT 8:30, Sun

Montgomery-Salem WBMM-DT/WNCF-DT

8:30, Sun Opelika WLTZ-DT 9:30, Sun

Alaska, Anchorage KYUR-DT 8:30, Sun Fairbanks KATN-DT 8:30, Sun

Juneau KJUD-DT 8:30, Sun Arizona, Phoenix KPPX 5:00, Fri; KASW 8:00, Sun

Yuma KECY-DT 8:30. Sun

Arkansas, El Dorado KNOE-DT 8:30. Sun Fayetteville KFTA 9:30, Sun; KHBS-DT/ KH0G-DT 8:30, Sun

Fort Smith KFTA 9:30, Sun; KHBS-DT/ KHOG-DT 8:30, Sun

Jonesboro KAIT3-HD 9:30. Sun: KJOS/ WLMT 8:30. Sun

Rogers KFTA 9:30, Sun; KHBS-DT/KHOG-DT 8:30, Sun

Springdale KFTA 9:30, Sun; KHBS-DT/ KHOG-DT 8:30, Sun

California, Bakersfield KGET-DT 9:30. Sun Chico KHSL-DT 9:30, Sun; KRCR 9:00, Sun El Centro KECY-DT 8:30, Sun Eureka KECA-LD/KVIQ-DT 9:30, Sun

Fresno-Visalia KFRE Channel 59 7:30, Sun Los Angeles KPXN 6:00, Fri; KTTV 6:00, Sun

Monterey KION 9:30, Sun Palm Springs KCWQ/KESQ-DT 9:30, Sun Redding KHSL-DT 9:30, Sun; KRCR 9:00, Sun Sacramento KSPX 6:00, Fri;

Salinas KION 9:30, Sun San Francisco KKPX 6:00, Fri Santa Barbara-Santa Maria KSBY-DT

Colorado, Denver KPXC 5:00, Fri

Grand Junction KJCT-DT 8:30, Sun Montrose KJCT-DT 8:30, Sun Connecticut, Hartford WHPX 6:00, Fri Florida, Gainesville WCJB-DT 9:30, Sun Jacksonville WPXC/WPXJ-LP 6:00, Fri Miami WPXM 6:00. Fri Orlando WOPX 6:00, Fri Panama City WJHG-DT 8:30, Sun Tallahassee WTXL 7:30, Sun; WTLF/ WTLH-DT 9:30, Sun Tampa WXPX 6:00, Fri

West Palm Beach WPXP 6:00, Fri Georgia, Albany WSWG-DT 9:30, Sun Atlanta WPXA 6:00, Fri Augusta-Aiken WAGT-DT 9:30, Sun

Brunswick WPXC 6:00, Fri Columbus WLTZ-DT 9:30, Sun Macon WMAZ-DT 9:30, Sun Savannah WSAV-DT 9:30. Sun Thomasville WTLF/WTLH-DT 9:30, Sun

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

Honolulu KPX0 5:00. Fri Kaui Ho' Ike Chan. 529:30, Tue Maui/Lanaii/Molokai/Niihau/Akaku Chan. 52 6:30 pm, Sun; 3:30, Mon

Oahu Focus Chan. 497:00, Sat Idaho, Boise KYUU-LP/KB0I-DT 8:30, Sun Idaho Falls KIFI-DT 8:30. Sun Pocatello KIFI-DT 8:30, Sun Twin Falls KMVT-DT 8:30, Sun

Illinois, Bloomington WEEK-DT 8:30, Sun Chicago WCIU 9:30, Sun; WCPX 5:00, Fri Peoria WEEK-DT 8:30, Sun Rockford WREX 10:00, Sun; WREX-DT

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

Indiana, Fort Wayne WISE-DT 9:30, Sun Indianapolis WIPX 6:00, Fri Lafayette WLFI-DT 9:30, Sun South Bend ESBT/WSBT 7:30, Sun Terre Haute WTHI-DT 9:30, Sun Iowa, Cedar Rapids KPXR 5:00, Fri Des Moines KFPX 5:00, Fri

Keokuk WGEM-DT8:30, Sun Mason City KTTC-DT 8:30, Sun Ottumwa KWOT/KYOU-DT2 8:30, Sun Sioux City KTIV-DT 8:30, Sun

Kansas, Pittsburg CWPL 8:30, Sun; KSXF 9:30, Sun

Topeka KTKA-DT 8:30. Sun

Kentucky, Bowling Green WBKO-DT8:30, Sun Lexington WUPX 6:00, Fri Louisiana, Alexandria KALB-DT 8:30, Sun Lafayette KATC-DT 8:30, Sun; KLAF 6:30, Sun Lake Charles KPLC-DT 8:30, Sun Monroe KN0E-DT 8:30, Sun New Orleans WPXL 5:00, Fri Maine, Bangor WABI-DT 9:30, Sun Portland WIPL 6:00, Fri Presque Isle WAGM-DT3/WBPQ 9:30, Sun Maryland, Salisbury WMDT-DT 9:30, Sun Massachusetts, Holyoke WWLP-DT 9:30, Sun Springfield WWLP-DT 9:30, Sun Michigan, Alpena WBAE 9:30, Sun Cadillac WFQX-DT9:30, Sun Detroit WPXD 6:00, Fri; WADL 10:00, Sun Grand Rapids WZPX 5:00, Fri Lansing WLAJ-DT 9:30, Sun Marquette WBKP-DT/WBUP-DT 9:30, Sun Traverse City WFQX-DT 9:30, Sun Minnesota, Duluth KDLH-DT 8:30, Sun Mankato KWYE 8:30, Sun Minneapolis KPXM 5:00, Fri Rochester KTTC-DC 8:30, Sun Mississippi, Biloxi WXXV-DT 8:30, Sun Columbus WCBI-DT 8:30, Sun Greenville WBWD 8:30, Sun Greenwood WBWD 8:30, Sun Gulfport WXXV-DT 8:30, Sun Hattiesburg WHLT-DT 8:30, Sun Laurel WHLT-DT 8:30, Sun Meridian WTOK-DT 8:30, Sun Tupelo WCBI-DT 8:30, Sun Missouri, Columbia KOMU-DT 8:30, Sun Hannibal WGEM-DT 8:30. Sun Jefferson City KOMU-DT 8:30, Sun Joplin CWPL 8:30, Sun; KSXF 9:30, Sun Kansas City KPXE 5:00, Fri Kirksville KW0T/KY0U-DT28:30, Sun St. Joseph KNPG-LD 8:30, Sun Montana, Billings KTVQ-DT 8:30, Sun Bozeman KBZK-DT/KXLF-DT 8:30, Sun Butte KBZK-DT/KXLF-DT 8:30, Sun Glendive KWZB 8:30, Sun Great Falls KRTV-DT 8:30, Sun Helena KTVH-DT 8:30, Sun Missoula KPAX-DT 8:30, Sun Nebraska, Hastings KWBL/KCWH-LD 8:30, Sun Kearney KWBL/KCWH-LD 8:30, Sun Lincoln KWBL/KCWH-LD 8:30, Sun North Platte KIIT-LD2/KWPL 8:30, Sun Scottsbluff KGWN-DT 8:30, Sun Nevada, Reno KRNS-CA 6:30, Sun; KOLO3/ KREN-DT 9:30, Sun New York, Albany WYPX 6:00, Fri Binghamton WBNG-DT 9:30, Sun Buffalo WPXJ 6:00, Fri; WUTV 10:30, Sun Elmira (Corning) WENY-DT 9:30, Sun New York City WPXN 6:00, Fri; WWOR, 8:00. Sun Plattsburgh WPTZ-DT 9:30, Sun Syracuse WSPX 6:00, Fri Utica WKTV-DT 9:30, Sun Watertown WWTI-DT9:30, Sun North Carolina, Asheville WYCW 9:00, Sun Charlotte WAXN 10:00, Sun Durham WRPX 6:00, Fri

Fayetteville WFPX 6:00, Fri

Greensboro WGPX 6:00, Fri

Lumber Bridge WFPX 6:00, Fri New Bern WNCT-DT 9:30, Sun

Raleigh WRPX 6:00, Fri Washington WNCT-DT 9:30, Sun

Wilmington WWAY-DT 9:30, Sun

Bismarck KXMD/KXMC-DT28:30, Sun

Dickinson KXMD/KXMC-DT28:30, Sun

Minot KXMD/KXMC-DT28:30, Sun

9:30, Sun

North Dakota

Fargo KXJB 8:30, Sun

Valley City KXJB 8:30, Sun

Greenville WEPX 6:00, Fri; WNCT-DT

Ohio, Cincinnati WSTR 8:30, Sun Cleveland WVPX 6:00, Fri Lima WB0H9:30, Sun Steubenville WBW0 9:30, Sun Youngstown WYTV 11:30, Sun Zanesville WBZV 9:30, Sun Oklahoma, Ada KTEN-DT 8:30, Sun Lawton KAUZ-DT8:30, Sun Oklahoma City KOPX 5:00, Fri Tulsa KTPX 5:00, Fri; KQCW 9:30, Sun Oregon, Bend KTVZ-DT 9:30, Sun Eugene KMTR-DT 9:30, Sun Medford-Klamath Falls KTVL-DT 9:30. Sun Portland KPXG 6:00, Fri Pennsylvania, Erie WSEE-DT/WICU-DT 9:30, Sun Philadelphia WACP 9:00, Sun WPPX 6:00, Fri Wilkes Barre WQPX 6:00, Fri Rhode Island, Providence WPXQ 6:00, Fri South Carolina, Anderson WYCW 9:00, Sun Charleston WCBD-DT 9:30, Sun Florence WWMB-DT 9:30, Sun Greenville WYCW 9:00, Sun Myrtle Beach WWMB-DT 9:30, Sun Spartanburg WYCW 9:00, Sun South Dakota, Rapid City KLCO-DT 8:30, Sun Sioux Falls (Mitchell) KSFY-DT 8:30, Sun Tennessee, Chattanooga WFLI 10:30, Sun Jackson WNBJ 8:30, Sun Knoxville WPXK 6:00, Fri Memphis WPXX 5:00, Fri Nashville WNPX 5:00, Fri; WZTV 6:30 Texas, Abilene KTXS-DT 8:30, Sun Amarillo KVII-DT/KVIH-DT 8:30, Sun Beaumont KFDM-DT 8:30, Sun Brownsville KCWT/KNVO-DT 8:30, Sun Corpus Christi KRIS-DT 8:30, Sun Dallas KDAF7:00, Sun Harlingen KCWT/KNVO-DT8:30, Sun Houston KPXB 5:00, Fri Laredo KYLX 8:30, Sun Longview KYTX-DT 8:30, Sun Lubbock KJTV 8:00, Sun KLCW-DT 8:30, Sun Midland KWAB-DT/KWES-DT 8:30, Sun Odessa KWAB-DT/KWES-DT 8:30, Sun Port Arthur KFDM 8:30, Sun San Angelo KTXE 8:30, Sun San Antonio KPXL 5:00, Fri Sherman KTEN-DT 8:30, Sun Sweetwater KTXS-DT 8:30, Sun Tyler KYTX-DT 8:30, Sun Victoria KVCT-DT3/KWVB8:30, Sun Weslaco KCWT/KNVO-DT 8:30, Sun Wichita Falls KAUZ-DT 8:30, Sun Utah, Salt Lake City KUPX 5:00, Fri Vermont, Burlington WVNY 10:30, Sun; WPTZ-DT 9:30 Virginia, Charlottesville WVIR-DT9:30, Sun Harrisonburg WVIR-DT 9:30, Sun Norfolk WPXV 6:00, Fri

Roanoke WPXR 6:00, Fri Washington D.C. WPXW 6:00, Fri Washington, Pasco KIMA-DT/KEPR-DT 9:30, Sun Richland KIMA-DT/KEPR-DT 9:30, Sun Seattle-Tacoma KWPX 6:00, Fri Seattle KCPQ7:00, Sun Spokane KGPX 6:00, Fri; KAYU 7:30, Sun Yakima KIMA-DT/KEPR-DT 9:30, Sun West Virginia, Beckley WVVA-DT 9:30, Sun Bluefield WVVA-DT 9:30, Sun

Charleston WLPX 6:00, Fri

Clarksburg WVFX-DT 9:30, Sun Oak Hill WVVA-DT 9:30. Sun Parkersburg WCWP/WOVA-LD29:30,

Weston WVFX-DT 9:30. Sun Wheeling WBW0 9:30, Sun Wisconsin, Eau Claire WXOW-DT/WQOW-

DT 8:30. Sun

La Crosse WXOW-DT/WQOW-DT 8:30, Sun Milwaukee WPXE 5:00. Fri Rhinelander WAOW/WYOW 8:30, Sun Superior KDLH-DT8:30. Sun

Wausau WAOW-DT/WYOW-DT 8:30. Sun Wyoming, Casper KCWY-DT 8:30, Sun Cheyenne KGWN-DT 8:30, Sun Riverton KCWY-DT 8:30, Sun

#### CANADA

#### Nationwide satellite

Galaxy 3 Trans. 17, 21 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu

### Nationwide cable

Vision TV 4:30 pm ET, Sun CHCH 11:30 ET, Sun

#### Atlantic Provinces

CTV Atlantic 11:00 AT, Sun

Alberta, Red Deer KAYU 8:30, Sun

Calgary KAYU 8:30, Sun Edmonton KAYU 8:30, Sun Medicine Hat KAYU 8:30, Sun Lethbridge KAYU 8:30, Sun

British Columbia,

Vancouver CHEK 9:00, Sun; CHNU 5:30 pm, Sun; KCPQ 7:00, Sun

Victoria CHNU 5:30 pm, Sun

Manitoba, Winnipeg CTV Winnipeg 9:30, Sun; CIIT Joy TV 11:00, Sun

New Brunswick, Moncton CKCW-DT 11, Sun Saint John CKLT-DT 11, Sun

Nova Scotia, Halifax CJCH-DT 11, Sun Svdnev CJCB-TV 11. Sun

Ontario, Ottawa CJOH/CTV 8:30, Sun Toronto WADL 10:00 Sun;

WUTV 10:30, Sun; CHNU 8:30 pm, Sun

P.E.I., Charlottetown CKCW-DT 11, Sun Quebec, Montreal WVNY 10:30, Sun Saskatchewan, Saskatoon CFQC 5:30, Sun;

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Galaxy 3 Trans. 17 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu Bahamas FOX W Chan. 216, 10:30, Sun

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Regional satellite

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# Australia

Nationwide BOLD 7:30, Sun Adelaide TV4411:30, Sun; 5:00, Wed

Melbourne C3111:30, Fri Perth WTV 11:30, Sun/Sat New Zealand TVNZ1, 5:30, Sun Philippines CNN PH 5:30, Fri

# **CBS United Kingdom**

Station	Day	Time	sky	<b>*</b>	Freeview	freesat
<b>CBS</b> Justice	Saturday	8:30 am	Ch. 148	Ch. 192	Ch. 39	Ch. 137
CBS Drama	Sunday	7:30 am	Ch. 147	Ch. 197	Ch. 71	Ch. 134
<b>CBS</b> Reality	Sunday	8:00 am	Ch. 146	Ch. 148	Ch. 66	Ch. 135

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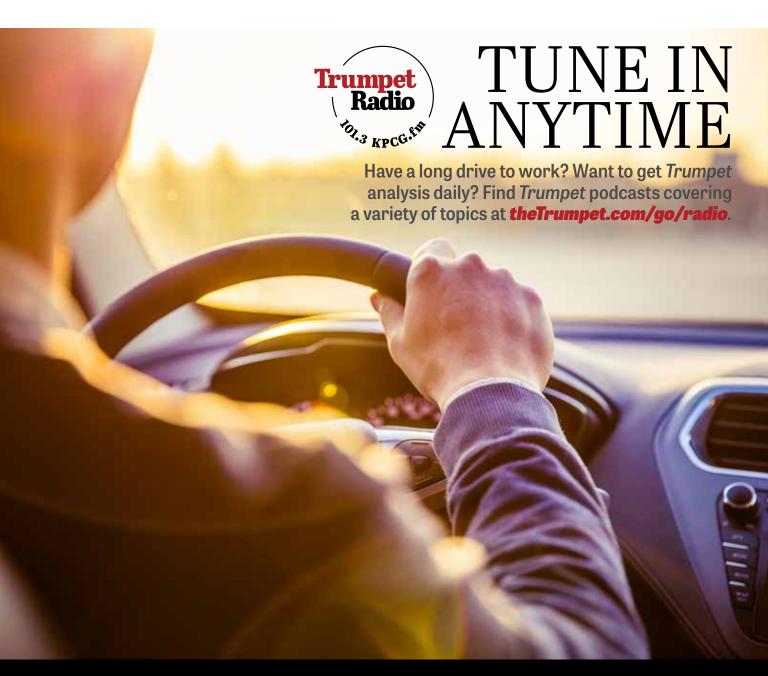
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