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meets scientific skepticism.





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Angela Merkel's Historic Holocaust Speech (But Does the Pope Agree?)

THROUGHOUT ITS HISTORY, THE HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE has been dominated *mainly* by Germany and the Vatican. Its most popular political leader was Charlemagne, who was crowned emperor in A.D. 800. Today, some European leaders believe it will take *another* Charlemagne for the European Union to finally take off as a world power.

Europe is moving *very fast* toward crowning this new Charlemagne—yet this trend is not getting the headlines it deserves.

Angela Merkel's Brave Speech

German Chancellor Angela Merkel's Knesset address on March 18 was, I believe, the most significant speech made by any German leader since World War II. In speaking about the German atrocities committed against the Jews during the war, she made a statement that some people have been waiting to hear for over 60 years. In an apology to her Israeli audience, Merkel said, "The mass murder of 6 million Jews, carried out in the name of Germany, has brought indescribable suffering to the Jewish people, Europe and the entire world." She said Germans were "filled with shame" over the Nazi Holocaust.

While in Israel, Merkel also visited Yad Vashem—Israel's Holocaust museum. As it happens, I visited the same museum a month earlier. It was a stirring, emotionally draining experience.

The day after the German chancellor's speech in the Knesset, Manfred Gerstenfeld wrote a column for the *Jerusalem Post* titled, "What Angela Merkel Couldn't Say Out Loud." He wrote, "Few in Israel realize that a MAJORITY OF GERMANS PROBABLY DISAGREE with several key statements she made here about her country's past—including the mention of shame and guilt ..." (emphasis mine throughout).

He brings up a good point. It's one thing for Merkel to repent on behalf of the German people for their sins during World War II, but are the German people truly sorry?

It was courageous for Angela Merkel to even make such a statement—even more so when it disagrees with most of her own people! The apology could greatly damage her political career. But isn't that a hallmark of great leadership—leading your people the right way regardless of the political consequences?

THIS SPEECH WILL HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON HER POLITICAL CAREER AND SIGNALS A DANGEROUS TURNING POINT IN THE HISTORY OF GERMANY.

And you need to understand why!

Considering Germany's Nazi past, ANGELA MERKEL'S SPEECH SHOULD HAVE GRABBED WORLD HEADLINES! I personally have never heard such a repentant statement from a powerful world leader

in my life!

Some historians fear that Germany could start another world war. Chancellor Merkel knows that and is working feverishly to avoid such an unparalleled calamity.

Shamefully, her history-making speech hardly made a ripple in world news.



GERALD FLURRY
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The Vatican's Stance

Angela Merkel's speech was full of statements we might expect from a *religious* leader. Why, then, has the German Pope Benedict refused to issue a similar apology? If you have been following the pope's speeches and interviews, you will know that his best-known comments are those that have criticized other groups—especially religions.

In September 2006, the pope quoted a Byzantine emperor who said that anything new Mohammed had contributed was evil and inhumane. He said the Islamic movement had converted people to its faith by the sword. Both comments triggered an outcry of protest from the world of Islam.

The pope has also been openly critical of Protestants, wondering how they could even have the title of "church" attributed to them.

He has removed restrictions on the use of an old form of the Latin mass that includes a call for the Jews to be converted to Catholicism. In February, he revised the "Good Friday Prayer for the Jews" to read: "Let us also pray for the Jews: That our God and Lord may illuminate their hearts, that they acknowledge that Jesus Christ is the Savior of all men." These alterations have angered many Jews.

Notice what Jason Burke wrote in the *Observer* last year: "THE POPE ... SPARKED BEWILDERMENT when he made no mention of anti-Semitism, or the fact that the Nazis killed millions of people because they were Jewish, in a speech last year at Auschwitz. He also failed to acknowledge that there might be some degree of collective responsibility of the German people" (July 8, 2007).

It's astounding to me that a German pope—speaking at *Auschwitz, of all places*—could not come up with something similar to the comments made by Angela Merkel. I believe he steered clear of the subject because, like many Germans, Pope Benedict XVI disagrees with many of the key statements Merkel made—including the mention of shame and guilt.

Gerstenfeld continued in his *Jerusalem Post* column, "In contemporary Germany there are significant expressions of anti-Semitism and racism. ... At the same time, there are efforts in Germany to rewrite the past. Books by historian Jörg Friedrich,

who compares the Allied actions to his nation's atrocities during the war, are bestsellers."

That message—that the Allies were just as guilty as Germany was—is popular among Germans! Gerstenfeld continued, "They promote Holocaust equivalence by using Nazi semantics to describe the Allied bombings of Germany during World War II."

Rewriting history in order to glorify, or at least excuse, Nazi atrocities is obscene and deadly dangerous reasoning!

Margaret Thatcher, the former prime minister of Britain, once said that the problem with Europe today is that it has been anchored to Germany, instead of the other way around. Germany is already leading the European superpower economically. Soon the Germans will lead them militarily. So we can surely see how the German people think is supremely critical!

REMEMBER, GERMANY HAS STARTED TWO WORLD WARS—60 MILLION PEOPLE WERE KILLED!

Now we have a famous historian, Jörg Friedrich, helping to revive the same Nazi spirit of World War II. He says America and Britain were just as evil as the Germans were in World War II—as we defended ourselves from Nazi extermination!

The Nazi spirit is very much alive in Germany. It's time we woke up. **OUR LEADERS ARE ASLEEP AND VIRTUALLY UNAWARE OF THE DEADLIEST DANGER IN THIS WORLD!**

How concerned should we be about what's going on in Europe? As I said, I think Angela Merkel's address in the Knesset was a moment of greatness for her. *But her view will not prevail in Europe.* I know that because of Bible prophecy. (To understand more, request your free copy of *Germany and the Holy Roman Empire*.) God says a much different view will prevail.

It will culminate in Europe's new Charlemagne.

The Pope's Standoff With Islam

Another recent development in the Vatican highlights the escalating tension between Catholicism and Islam. At his Easter vigil service on March 22, Pope Benedict baptized Magdi Allam, a former Muslim. Allam is a deputy editor of one of Italy's most powerful newspapers, and he's also a bestselling author.

Stratfor wrote this about the much-publicized baptism: "Allam is an Egyptian-born convert from Islam to Christianity, and is a prominent outspoken critic of radical Islamism" (March 24). The timing of the baptism was especially significant, as Stratfor went on to point out: "Only days before, on March 19, an Internet posting of an audio message purporting to be from al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden accused the pope specifically of fomenting a 'new crusade' against Islam."

In fact, a new crusade *will* happen.

Stratfor wrote, "The papacy is a unique geopolitical entity. It was once literally a kingmaker, crowning the rulers of the Holy Roman Empire." And it's going to crown another one, who will be the *last* one.

Soon after that, Jesus Christ will return and establish God's government over all the Earth. God will save mankind from itself, but He will do it His way and according to His timetable. Today, your Bible says, the whole world is deceived (Revelation 12:9). But when Christ returns, He will remove that veil of deception and lead the world in the right way to live.

Before that, however, God prophesies in Daniel 11:40 of a great end-time clash between the king of the north (the EU dominated by Germany and the Vatican) and the king of the south (radical Islam). Even now, we are seeing this spectacular clash in its preliminary stages. (For more on this, request our free booklet *The King of the South*.) Prophecy is being fulfilled. You can know where all of these events are leading!

Stratfor continued, "In attempting to galvanize and energize 1 billion Catholics, Benedict might also further alienate 1 billion Muslims." A superpower is rising in Europe. It will soon impact this world and shed blood as no church-state combine ever has. "[I]t could very well move the Vatican onto center stage in radical Islamism's conflict with the West. And that can have profound geopolitical implications" (ibid.). Yes, indeed!

Now to prophecy. Revelation 17:10 says, "And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and *the other is not yet come*; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space." The "one is" emerged during World War II as the Hitler-led Axis power. God says one more resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire is coming.

It will be led by the new Charlemagne.

After that, the Messiah will return! Jesus Christ *has* to return. He said in Matthew 24 that if He didn't, there would be no flesh saved alive! He *must* return to save us from ourselves! In this evil world, we love to exterminate people, it seems. God will put a stop to that forever.

The events we see today in Europe are tied *directly* to the return of Jesus Christ. This new Charlemagne will come on the scene and this will ultimately lead to the most wonderful, exciting, thrilling event that has ever happened on Earth! ■

POPE BENEDETTO XVI



**FORESHADOW**

The paper for many Zimbabwe bills is worth more than the bill itself.

Zimbabwe-Style Inflation in America?

BY ROBERT MORLEY

IN ZIMBABWE, INFLATION IS MEASURED by the hour, not month-over-month as in America and the rest of the developed world.

Zimbabwe's few remaining merchants update their price tags four, five or more times a day—that is, when shipments haven't been hijacked. For many people, life is a struggle just to get their paycheck to the store quickly enough so that it doesn't lose value before it can be spent. Life is even harder for the millions who no longer have jobs at all—destroyed by an economy in meltdown.

Official statistics put monthly inflation at over 100,000 percent; independent observers believe the true figures are even higher. A single cigarette costs more than z\$500,000. Many bill denominations are literally not worth the paper they are printed on—single-ply squares of toilet paper are often worth more. For most Zimbabweans, paper money, at least Zimbabwe dollars, is out of vogue. All that really matters anymore is the ability to find something to barter for food.

Although President Robert Mugabe blames foreigners and Western plotting for his country's economic problems, the basic reason the inflation rate has zoomed out of control is quite simple.

You can't print your way to prosperity.

When Mugabe inherited Rhodesia from former Prime Minister Ian Smith, the country was one of the most prosper-

ous in all Africa. The Rhodesian dollar was worth more than the U.S. dollar.

Then Mugabe embarked on his program of confiscating white-owned farms in the name of land redistribution. Zimbabwe, once the breadbasket of Africa, saw farm production wither away as the new, untrained and unfinanced landowners failed to produce crops. Next he began to confiscate white-owned businesses, with similarly disastrous results. The upshot was massive unemployment and skyrocketing national debt levels.

To deal with his economic problems, Mugabe decided to crank up the printing presses and create the money needed to pay the bills. As his economy collapsed, the massive money-printing scheme only helped to speed the descent. When you print money by the boatload and dump it willy-nilly into

the economy, there is only one probable result: hyperinflation. All existing money in circulation rapidly became worthless. People's life savings were destroyed, the cost of bananas and toothpaste soared into the thousands, and businesses could no longer function. Zimbabwe, once the crown jewel of Africa, became a basket case.

The lesson for America is that we are traveling a similarly precarious course.

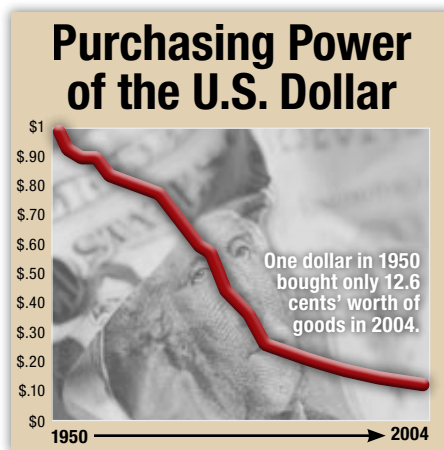
America also has skyrocketing national debt levels. The same goes for state and municipal debt, and corporate debt too has ballooned due to leveraged corporate takeovers. Personal debt on credit cards, car loans and mortgages is near record levels. Meanwhile, Americans continue with life as if it is business as usual.

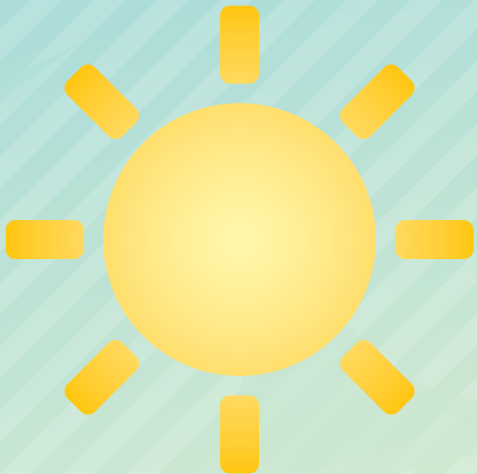
But business is not as usual. Look at the inflationary program the current U.S. administration has embarked on to "stimulate" the economy. Handing out \$600 in crisp, freshly minted paper dollars to each taxpayer in the country is certainly inflationary, as is the Federal Reserve Bank's decision to drastically slash interest rates and loan hundreds of billions of dollars to troubled banks at below-market rates. Then there is the government's decision to allow government-sponsored housing agencies like Freddie Mac, Fannie Mae and others to expand their mortgage portfolios by providing loans to below-prime borrowers and take risky mortgages off the banking industries' books.

"A word to the wise: You can't really make people wealthy by resorting to 'Zimbabwe economics,'" says *Daily Reckoning* analyst and bestselling author Bill Bonner. "A society grows rich by producing things ... and saving money. There is no other way. Cheaper credit won't do it. More consumption won't help. Printing money—and dumping it from helicopters—is a losing proposition" (January 29).

But America has already embarked on a money-printing scheme of historic proportions. U.S. money supply, as measured by M3, is expanding at a yearly rate of almost 18 percent. That is a rate probably not seen since the war years.

America's economy is in a tough spot. But instead of dealing with the underlying causes, America has chosen to try and cheat the market by printing its way out of its economic problems. Creating money out of thin air may temporarily stimulate an economy, but as history clearly shows, the medicine is eventually worse than the disease. The end is always the same: a worthless currency, a destroyed economy and a bankrupt nation.





PROBLEMS LINKED TO FOREIGN OIL dependence are real and frightening. With oil prices north of \$100 per barrel, constrictive environmental regulations proliferating, and incidents of pollution-related illness piling up, research into alternative energy sources is all the rage.

As common as these efforts are becoming, it seems they still fall short of addressing the enormity of the crisis.

Rather than fixate on the problems, however, let's take a moment to look at a real-world example in an unexpected corner of the globe that just might have a few solutions to offer.

Eleven hundred years ago, the Vikings used wind power to sail to the tiny North Atlantic country of Iceland. Today, their descendants are using other readily available and clean energy sources to "go green." In fact, Iceland, in its effort to reduce dependence on imported oil and clean up its environment at the same time, is trying to become the world's first petroleum-free economy.

"An Eternal Machine Created by the Almighty"

Necessity is the mother of invention—and for Iceland, it certainly is a motivating factor. The island nation has no coal, no petroleum reserves, and no trees (the Vikings used up all the timber centuries ago—quite the environmental faux pas of their own). Rather than freeze in the dark, Icelanders decided to

innovate.

During the 1970s, around the time of the Arab oil crisis, the need for cheap energy became critical. With oil rationing occurring around the world, Icelandic scientists analyzed their options and realized they had harnessed only a fraction of Iceland's potential energy sources.

In a 2003 interview, President Olafur Ragnar Grimsson described his nation's situation this way: "We have this eternal machine in this country created by the Almighty consisting of the fire below under the ground and the glaciers and the water that comes from the sky, and it goes on and on, year after year, century after century, creating this fascinating source of energy" (ABC, *Foreign Correspondent*, Oct. 1, 2003).

So Iceland set out on an ambitious and risky program to develop its existing resources. Rather than import every joule of their energy, Icelanders drilled wells to tap hot underground water and built a grid of pipes throughout the entire city of Reykjavik to circulate the water to heat the city's homes and offices. Soon, Icelanders were also using their volcanoes and many rivers to generate copious amounts of geothermal and hydroelectric energy.

"Most of the geothermal development for the last 10 years has been in Iceland," said Asgeir Margeirsson, head of geothermal company Geysir Green Energy. "There has been a lot of development here whereas there has been some sort of stagnation in the other countries, and not too much development, like the U.S., New Zealand or Italy. Until recently," he said (National Public Radio, Dec. 3, 2007).

The World's

An overlooked nook on our planet that may offer some smart lessons on how to cultivate the energy we need. **BY ROBERT MORLEY**

In the 1960s, virtually every single home had a heating oil tank in the backyard. Diesel-burning oil trucks constantly trundled back and forth, filling and refilling. Back then, geothermal power cost much the same as oil to heat homes.

Today, Iceland's grand gambit is paying off. Iceland no longer imports any coal or oil for heat, and energy from Iceland's hot rocks warms 95 percent of Iceland's homes. Seventy percent of the island's energy is renewable, and geothermal heat costs five times less than heat generated from oil.

But Iceland isn't stopping there. The modern Vikings want to do away with gasoline and diesel reliance as well. For that, they are turning to hydrogen.

An Ideal Energy Source?

In January, Iceland announced the creation of the world's first hydrogen-equipped commercial vessel. The 155-passenger Elding (which means *lightning*) is considered the first step toward converting Iceland's entire fishing fleet—a lofty goal, since Iceland's fleet is one of the largest in the world.

To some scientists, hydrogen has the potential to be an ideal energy source. Visionaries since Jules Verne have sought ways to turn water to fuel; after all, 70 percent of the Earth's surface is water. Now, the visionaries' technology exists, and hydrogen gas can be made from plain old water. Electricity from another source (in Iceland's case, hydroelectric or geothermal) breaks the hydrogen molecules off the water molecule. Oxygen is released, and captured hydrogen can then be used as fuel.

But the best part is that when you're running on hydrogen, only water vapor comes out the exhaust pipe. Electricity and H₂O are its only products—no pollutants. No stinky, noxious exhaust.

Imagine running on clean technology. No more ripping the Earth apart to mine oil sands; no more ocean oil spills. Imagine a society with cool, fresh, sweet air and clean, crystal-clear water. Imagine being

able to see the Pasadena hills from downtown Los Angeles again. No more haze; no more smog-related respiratory problems.

There is only one catch—and it's big. Using current technology, it takes more energy to break the hydrogen from the water molecule than can be gained in burning the hydrogen. That is why no self-sustaining water-powered cars have been built to this point. If you want the hydrogen power, you need to use additional energy from somewhere else to get it.

For many countries, that would be a huge problem, but Iceland doesn't sweat it because almost all of the nation's domestic power generation is clean and cheap. It doesn't need to use dirty natural gas or coal to produce hydrogen; it has excess "green" power to spare—plenty to provide for its hydrogen vehicle needs. And, as it turns out, at a price lower than conventional gasoline.

The hope is that as technology advances, the energy required to break hydrogen from water will decrease, and using hydrogen will become more economical for all countries. In the meantime, green energy is already paying off for Iceland.

Hydrogen-powered ships are just the beginning. The whole country is undergoing a clean energy revolution. Already Daimler Chrysler and Toyota have hydrogen-powered cars running there. Hertz offers hydrogen-powered autos for hire. Jon Bjorn Skulason, head of Icelandic New Energy, believes that by 2035, most of Iceland's gasoline vehicles will have been phased out in favor of the new clean technology.

President Grimsson said he wanted to "show the rest of the world that it is indeed possible to have an entire society or a city comprehensively based on a new type of energy, energy that doesn't threaten the life on Earth ... and is friendly to the future of mankind" (op. cit.).

Could the Iceland model pay off on a larger scale? The possibilities are exciting to contemplate.

An Exciting Prophecy

The United States, for example, does not have the exact geologi-

cal advantages Iceland does, but it certainly has more than it is using. Much of America's western seaboard is volcanically active. California is already utilizing some geothermal power. A 2006 report by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology estimated that the extractable geothermal energy in the U.S. is a whopping 2,000 times the primary energy the nation consumed in 2005. Factoring in reasonable technology improvements in the future, the report said the economically extractable amount of useful energy could increase by more than a factor of 10, thus making geothermal generation sustainable for centuries.

All that clean energy is available, just waiting to be harnessed—and that is just *one type* of nonpolluting power.

What other aspects of the creation are just waiting to be unlocked to provide sustenance for society? What else do we still not understand about the laws of chemistry and physics that might open up whole new power-generating avenues, taking us in completely unexpected directions?

Clean, inexpensive energy is something America and the whole world craves.

Did you know that your Bible talks about a time in the near future when abundant clean energy will be the norm?

The same God who created this Earth and the universe has promised to establish a world unencumbered by the energy and pollution problems facing us today. That same God holds the keys to the physical laws governing that universe.

Looking at a society that is already taking steps toward a cleaner environment, it is exciting to think of what might be possible in the future.

For insights into what that technologically advanced future holds, request your free copy of *The Wonderful World Tomorrow—What It Will Be Like*. This booklet describes the bountiful agricultural production, clean air, pure water, abundant mineral resources and healthy economies that will prevail in this idyllic future world—and it's no fiction!

First Oil-Free Economy!



A **Really** Inconvenient Truth

The most inconvenient truth for climate alarmists is the swelling ranks of influential scientists with dissenting opinions on global warming.

BY BRAD MACDONALD

AL GORE SAYS GLOBAL WARMING is an inconvenient truth. “Inconvenient” adds a clever twist to the name of the would-be president’s popular documentary and book. But far worthier of scrutiny is the other word in the title: “Truth.”

Man-made global warming, says the former politician and a rising sea of climate alarmists, is not just inconvenient, it’s an unequivocal, undeniable *truth*. In fact, the truth about global warming is so convincing that “debate in the scientific community is over.”

Says who? Well, the United Nations for starters. On February 2 last year, the United Nations issued a press release highlighting its latest report, which apparently proved “changes in the atmosphere, the oceans and glaciers and ice caps now show *unequivocally* that the world is warming due to human activities” (emphasis mine throughout). According to Achim Steiner, executive director of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), Feb. 2, 2007, will perhaps one day be remembered as the day “where the question mark was removed behind the debate on whether climate change has anything to do with human activity on this planet.”

Then in December, at the UN’s circus-like climate conference in Bali, an updated version of the report, produced by the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), was embraced by scientists and world leaders alike. Since then, the report—which is riddled with qualifying statements that corrode the report’s fundamental premise (that global warming is a man-made crisis)—has been touted by the mainstream press as conclusive proof of man-made climate change.

To climate activists, the case is closed on man-made global warming. But is it?

The Test of Truth

Flinging the word *truth* around is easy. Convicted criminals claim that the truth is they’re innocent; car salesmen say the truth is they can’t afford to drop the price further; a child with brownie mix smeared all over his face argues that he’s telling the truth when he denies running his tongue round the mixing bowl.

The real test of truth is whether or not it conforms with reality and is backed by verified, indisputable facts.

For climate alarmists, the really inconvenient truth is that a burgeoning number of scientists, climate experts and even politicians around the world are discussing facts that clash with the so-called

truth that the globe is warming because of human activities.

The real *truth* is that the theory of man-made global warming—despite being virtually canonized in the UN and the minds of a slew of politicians and celebrities, and naturally in the mainstream media—remains one of the most contentious issues in science.

That contention was on full display in New York City March 2-4. Those who depend solely on the mainstream newsmedia to keep them informed might have missed the headlines about the 2008 International Conference on Climate Change, sponsored by the Heartland Institute and featuring nearly 100 speakers and 500 attendees skeptical of man-made global warming. The three-day conference occurred in the wake of reports of global *cooling* and the release of a blockbuster U.S. Senate mi-

Transforming a lie into truth before an unwitting public is made easier by silencing dissenting opinions.

nority report featuring over 400 prominent scientists disputing the theory of man-made global warming.

The conference testified to one towering truth in the world of science: Debate within the scientific community over global warming is far from dead.

The high-water mark of the conference was the presentation of a report produced by the Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change (NIPCC) claiming *nature*, not human activity, was the cause of climate change. The NIPCC is comprised of international scientists and was formed as a counterforce to the UN’s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

International scientists, climate experts and policymakers at the event listened to lectures and panel discussions exposing the fraud of the global warming “truth,” perused studies and reports showing stark division in the scientific community over global warming, and swapped stories about how they’d been “denied tenure, shut out of scientific conferences and rejected by academic journals because no matter how scrupulous their research,” their conclusions contradicted the truth espoused by the climate change pharisees (*National Post*, March 10). Many attendees spoke of colleagues too afraid to attend the conference for fear of losing their jobs.

The U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works outlined the staggering scale of the global warming scam in its article “Climate Skeptics Re-

veal ‘Horror Stories’ of Scientific Repression” (March 6). Take funding for global warming research, for example. Over the past decade, research intended to prove the veracity of man-made global warming has been funded to the tune of \$50 *billion*, while global warming skeptic research has received a comparatively measly \$19 *million*. That’s over 260,000 percent more funding for the alarmists!

During the conference, the Business and Media Institute (BMI), a division of the Media Research Center (America’s largest and most respected watchdog group), also released its comprehensive study on how the mainstream media reports on global warming. BMI’s analysis of 205 network stories between July 1 and December 31 last year exposed the mainstream media as the largest propaganda vehicle for global warming crusaders: “Global warm-

ing proponents overwhelmingly outnumbered those with dissenting opinions. *On average, for every skeptic there were nearly 13 proponents featured.* ABC did a slightly better job with a 7-to-1 ratio, while CBS’s ratio was abysmal at nearly 38-to-1. ...

“Of the three networks (ABC, NBC and CBS), 80 percent of stories (167 out of 205) didn’t mention skepticism or anyone at all who dissented from global warming. CBS did the absolute worst job. Ninety-seven percent of its stories ignored other opinions” (“Global Warming Censored”).

The lesson: Transforming a lie into truth before an unwitting public is made easier by silencing dissenting opinions. *Eighty percent* of news stories omitted the opposing view altogether. How fair and objective is that?

In an article on New York’s climate conference in the *Washington Post*, Juliet Eilperin wrote: “Sponsored by the Heartland Institute, the 2½-day session *poses a stark contrast to the near-unanimous chorus of concern* expressed by top U.S. politicians and most of the scientific mainstream” (March 4).

Near-unanimous chorus of concern?

Might the perceived “near-unanimous” concern about man-made global warming be a result of the gag order imposed on thousands of scientists and hundreds of reporters from around the world espousing a dissenting opinion? Any person who watches CBS News or reads the *Washington Post* would be forgiven for joining the ranks

of those who believe global warming is a man-made crisis. Why? Because unanimity is easy when dissenting voices are ignored.

Despite Al Gore and the UN's claim that the case is closed on global warming, there *are* dissenting voices. Besides the conference in New York, besides the 400 skeptical scientists that signed the U.S. Senate minority report released a few months ago, countless other studies show dissent in the scientific community over

The collective embrace of this theory is a giant distraction from the real cause of natural catastrophes.

man's role in global warming. The results of a Canadian survey of 51,000 earth scientists and engineers by the Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists of Alberta, released March 6, showed that 68 percent *disagreed* with the statement "the debate on the scientific causes of recent climate change is settled."

Near-unanimous?

Sliding Standards of Credibility

Later in the *Post* piece, Eilperin compared the UN-sponsored IPCC report with the NIPCC report, pointing out that some of the authors of the NIPCC report "were not scientists." The clear implication is that the NIPCC report lacks scientific credibility, which is patently untrue.

But let's address scientific credibility. According to the BMI study mentioned above, just 15 percent of global warming proponents shown on network television are scientists, while the remaining 85 percent are politicians, celebrities and ordinary men and women (whose viewpoints are often shaped by the mainstream press). Clearly, scientific credibility is not a primary concern of the global warming propaganda machine.

Eilperin concluded her piece with a series of quotes from climate alarmists taking potshots at the so-called quacks who attended the New York conference. Because the media and many politicians are now ignoring the climate skeptics, said Princeton University geosciences professor Michael Oppenheimer, "They have to get together to talk to each other, because nobody else is talking to them."

Oppenheimer's remark makes for a tidy soundbite. But in truth, that conference illustrated the rising tide of scientists proving themselves willing to come out and declare man-made global warming to be a giant fraud. The U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works reported: "In

such nations as Germany, Brazil, the Netherlands, Russia, Argentina, New Zealand, Portugal and France, groups of scientists have recently spoken out to oppose and debunk man-made climate fears. ...

"In January 2008, environmental scientist professor Delgado Domingos of Portugal, the founder and director of the Numerical Weather Forecast group, announced publicly that he considered CO₂-related climate fears to be 'dangerous nonsense.'

"In addition, at least one scientist publicly pondered reconsidering his view of man-made climate fears after the Senate report of 400 scientists was released in December. 'It (the Senate 400 scientists report) got me thinking: I'm an environmental scientist, but I've never had time to review the "evidence" for the anthropogenic causes of global warming,' wrote environmental scientist professor Rami Zurayk of the American University in Beirut on Dec. 27, 2007. 'When I said, in my opening

DiCaprio, or Bono? How many have proven scientifically that global warming has been induced by man?

Global Red Herring

The collective embrace of man-made global warming as the cause of the growing number of environmental and climate disasters is a globe-encompassing red herring, a giant distraction from the *real* cause of these natural catastrophes.

There is no doubt natural disasters are becoming more common. What continent on Earth is not affected by floods, droughts, fires, polluted groundwater, soil erosion, acid rain and other such problems? But blaming these catastrophes on an unproven theory based on rickety facts and the biased testimony of Hollywood stars is shallow reasoning.

The theory of man-made global warming has been pushed into the mainstream by mulish academics, politicians and cultural icons in the same manner the anti-God theory of evolution was pushed into the mainstream beginning with the Scientific Revolution of the 17th century. And in the same way evolution blinds people to God's existence, the global warming theory prevents people from seeing that the same God is using environmental and climate disasters as a means of warning mankind!

A major cause of global environmental disasters lies in mankind's flagrant rejection of the physical laws God established at creation in order to govern environmental and agricultural management. Added to this, the weather and environmental curses besieging our globe are a result of mankind's widespread disobedience to God's spiritual law (read Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28).

The Bible tells us that today's environmental and climate disasters are penalties of broken law, both physical and spiritual. God implemented these penalties *not* so He could watch joyfully as mankind suffers, but as a means of waking us up to our infractions against His law. These catastrophes are a result of our sins, but they are also evidence of God's love and His desire for a relationship with mankind!

The most gut-wrenching truth about the theory of man-made global warming is that it prevents men from realizing the presence of their Creator. This theory blinds men to God's presence in world affairs and His will for our lives! Those who fall prey to this scam—and who fail to consider God's role in environmental and climate disasters—are missing out on the greatest knowledge any human could ever know!



speech for the launch of UNEP's (United Nations Environment Program) Global Environment Outlook-4 in Beirut: "There is now irrevocable evidence that climate change is taking place ..." *I was reading from a statement prepared by UNEP.* Faith-based science it may be, but who has time to review all the evidence? I'll continue to act on the basis of anthropogenic climate change, but I really need to put some more time into this,' Zurayk wrote" (op. cit.).

Professor Zurayk's stark admission raises an interesting question: How many scientists on the man-is-the-cause-of-global-warming bandwagon are there simply because they have followed their colleagues, the UN, Al Gore, Leonardo

An Ally Slips Away

BY JOEL HILLIKER

PERVEZ MUSHARRAF HASN'T exactly been America's most dependable ally. But in a region seething with anti-Americanism and hostility against the "war on terror," the Pakistani president's open support for Washington has been pretty remarkable. Facing intense public disapproval in the world's second-most-populous Muslim country, he has allowed the United States to conduct military operations and air strikes against terrorist targets in Pakistan and provided intelligence and operational assistance. For his efforts, the U.S. looked past his warts—and awarded his country with billions of dollars.

But as of right about now, *this alliance is in serious jeopardy.*

For the U.S.—and all those not interested in the Taliban taking back control of Afghanistan—this is bad, bad news. For

anyone not excited to see nuclear weapons in the hands of Muslim extremists, it rings a warning alarm.

Pakistanis, on the other hand, are ecstatic. In elections on February 18, they dealt a deadly blow to Musharraf by empowering a collection of opposition parties—parties that have since formed a coalition government which promises to restore Pakistan to being a parliamentary democracy. Musharraf's political opponents are in charge now.

Musharraf himself is calling this the start of a "real democratic era" in his country. Being as how the alliance with Washington only existed because of an autocratic military leader's willingness to defy the public, this means one thing: America's need for an ally in Pakistan has smacked headlong into a brick wall of hostile Pakistanis.

Officials are vocally expressing their right to make judgments independent of Washington. In April, Pakistan's foreign minister made clear that *no* foreign forces will be permitted to operate on Pakistani soil. U.S. officials, fully aware of the dangers fomenting within Pakistan's borders, are on the knife's edge, watching for how Islamabad will confront these dangers. They have good cause to be nervous.

Many observers are noting the far greater complexity that will accompany this "real democratic era." Musharraf alone ruled everything. By contrast, the new prime minister, Yousuf Raza Gilani, will have to balance competing elements within his coalition against Musharraf (who will remain president) and the Pakistani Army—all while paying heed to the wishes of his people and, to whatever degree he chooses, to those of the U.S. That is quite the tangled political snarl. The White House used to be able to make its requests known with a single phone call to a sympathetic and powerful ear. No longer.

This loss of U.S. influence in volatile Pakistan makes the new prime minister's strategies for securing his nation incredibly important.

Early indications are, those strategies give

further cause for concern.

Gilani, while acknowledging the seriousness of the threat of Islamist extremism in his country, advocates addressing it through non-violent means. He proposes to combat radicals primarily through political and economic changes in tribal areas, including better education and more financial aid. He seeks peace with the Taliban. "We are ready to talk to all those people who give up arms and are ready to embrace peace," he has said. He shouldn't hold his breath.

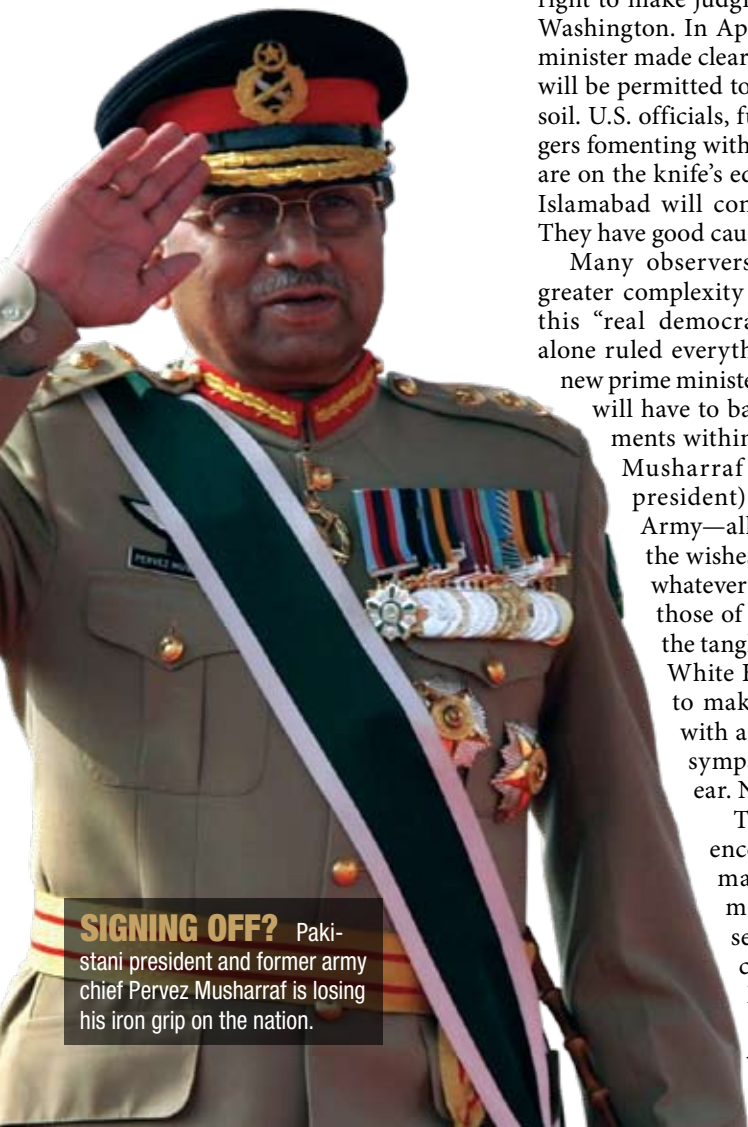
The Pakistani Taliban praised Gilani's gesture, but then laid out its own condition for a dialogue: that the prime minister sever ties with Washington. *Our jihad is with America*, the Taliban commander, Maulvi Faqir, said, *but we'll fight this government too as long as it remains an ally of the U.S.* Chances are, this ultimatum won't dissuade Gilani from trying to sweet-talk the Taliban into giving up its weapons.

One coalition leader announced that the government will pull out of a district in Pakistan's North-West Frontier Province where the military has been battling Islamic warriors since November. The *New York Times* reported that it wants "sustained dialogue that, it hopes, will answer many grievances with the government that have pushed ethnic groups toward the militants" (March 26). *What pushes people toward the militants? Grievances with the government? In truth, what pushes people toward the militants is the militants*—who aggressively promote their violent anti-Western ideals through every possible means.

Pakistan is a world-renowned incubator of Islamism. Huge swaths of the country are ruled independently by Islamists. The more fragmented, disunited and gridlocked the government becomes, the stronger the Islamists grow.

This change in government could seriously cripple efforts in the "war on terror." First, there is the prospect of Pakistan's status as a haven for terrorism to grow. Also, the success of allied efforts in Afghanistan depends in large measure on the ability to seal that nation's border with Pakistan; that will be far more difficult now.

But beyond these implications is the most dangerous trump card of all. As editor in chief Gerald Flurry wrote in our January issue, "Pakistan also has the nuclear bomb and could be taken over by radical Islam, with plenty of help from Iran. That means it could become a proxy of the Iranian mullahs. This would be the worst possible disaster!" ■



SIGNING OFF? Pakistani president and former army chief Pervez Musharraf is losing his iron grip on the nation.

“HE HAS A RIGHT to express his views,” Al Sharpton said last year in response to a racially charged remark by radio shock jock Don Imus. “This is ridiculous,” he said of the public outcry over the remark. “I think Don Imus has been totally distorted.”

Actually, that wasn’t Sharpton’s response. In truth, Sharpton was one who successfully lobbied for Imus to be *fired* for his racial slur. The quotes above were made by Sharpton in March in defense of Barack Obama’s spiritual adviser for 20 years—the Reverend Jeremiah Wright. Sharpton maintains that the media’s treatment of Wright’s bigoted diatribes was “grossly unfair.”

On March 18, Barack Obama, who also lobbied for Imus’s firing, attempted to distance himself from his spiritual mentor. But he too maintains, albeit with more tact and eloquence than Sharpton, that Dr. Wright has been misunderstood and unfairly characterized. He said the fact that so many people are “surprised” by Jeremiah Wright’s anger reveals how segregated whites and blacks are during the church hour on Sunday mornings. “[T]he anger is real—it is powerful,” he said. “And to simply wish it away, to condemn it *without understanding its roots*, only serves to widen the chasm of misunderstanding that exists between the races” (emphasis mine).

That anger, of course, is rooted in slavery—the cause of many disparities and inequalities within the African-American community, Obama said. In other words, the legacy of slavery justifies Wright’s racist rants.

But as Orlando Patterson noted in his 1982 book *Slavery and Social Death*, “Slavery has existed from the dawn of human history right down to the 20th century, in the most primitive of human societies and in the most civilized. There is no region

The Audacity of Hate

Blaming whites for black problems offers little hope for a better tomorrow. **BY STEPHEN FLURRY**



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on Earth that has not at some time harbored the institutions.”

The roots of slavery run deep. And the *fruits* of it to this day go FAR BEYOND any lingering discriminatory injustices—whether real or perceived—in *American* society. In his 1999 book *Disposable People*, Kevin Bales estimated the world’s slave population to be 27 million. As E. Benjamin Skinner points out in his new release, *A Crime So Monstrous*, there are more slaves in the world today than at *any point* in human history. In the first chapter of his book, Skinner described in shockingly vivid detail how easy and inexpensive it was for him, working as an undercover investigative reporter, to purchase a teen-aged sex slave in Haiti.

From New York, Skinner explained, it’s about a three-hour flight to Port-au-Prince. The unemployment rate in Haiti runs at around 70 percent. About the only industry that’s booming is the slave trade. In 1998, approximately *one in ten* Haitian children—some 300,000—had been sold into slavery. A few years ago, that figure had ballooned to 400,000. “These are the children who won’t look you in the eyes,” Skinner notes.

These are also children who have infinitely more reasons to be angry than Jeremiah Wright, who is living a life of wealth and privilege in an upper-middle-class suburb of Chicago.

Slavery—never mind what the most vocal leaders in the black community say—is *not* distinctly American, or even Western. What is distinctly Western, as Dinesh D’Souza pointed out in *The End of Racism*, is the ABOLITION OF SLAVERY. “The American founders articulated principles of equality and consent which formed the basis for emancipation and the civil rights movement,” D’Souza wrote. Of course, abolition came with a heavy price. Over 500,000 whites were killed during the Civil War—about one for every six blacks who were emancipated. “In all the literature condemning Western slavery,” D’Souza wrote, “few scholars have asked why a practice sanctioned by virtually all people for thousands of years should be questioned, and eventually halted, by only one. ...

“[F]or Lincoln as for [Frederick] Douglass, the greatest white and black statesmen of the time, the triumph of the union and the emancipation of the slaves represented not the victory of might over right, but the reverse; justice had won over that of expediency and the principles of the American founding had at long last prevailed.”

As endemic as slave trading still is in our modern world, imagine how much worse it would be *in America* had the South won. This point was not lost on leading voices of black America soon after emancipation. Booker T. Washington, who began his life as a slave, later became one of the most prominent black educators of his day. He said at the beginning of the 20th century, “Think about it: We went into slavery pagans; we came out Christians. We went into slavery pieces of property; we came out American citizens. We went into slavery with chains clanking about our wrists; we came out with the American ballot in our hands. ... Notwithstanding the cruelty and moral wrong of slavery, we are in a stronger and more hopeful condition, materially, intellectually, morally and religiously, than is true of an equal number of black people in any other portion of the globe.”

It’s hard to imagine any American leaders today—white or black—express-

ing that kind of gratitude for the many blessings God has bestowed on the United States of America. We have taken these superabundant blessings for granted in a way that Booker T. Washington and Abraham Lincoln *never* would have. The average American has never visited war-torn, disease-infested, poverty-stricken, slave-trading regions in Southeast Asia, Central and South America or black Africa. Most Americans have never observed firsthand the filth and squalor that most people in this world live in—even in places like Haiti, a short plane flight away.

In Third World Haiti, the average family barely survives on a few dollars per month. By Haitian standards, even the poorest Americans live like kings.

Yet, without question, the blessings that black and white Americans have come to take for granted are now rapidly beginning to disappear. And social hardships have been especially brutal within the black community—where nearly three

fourths of all children are born out of wedlock and the unemployment rate is almost double that of the rest of the nation.

And for these people, the message coming from leaders in the community like Jeremiah Wright is undeniably clear: Blame the white man. In 2006, Dr. Wright summed up our nation’s core values this way: “We believe in white supremacy and black inferiority, and believe it more than we believe in God.”

In truth, the belief that the United States is a racist nation is more fundamental to the church’s body of beliefs than God Himself.

Divided We Fall

Frederick Douglass, many years before Abraham Lincoln emancipated blacks, acknowledged, “It is evident that white and black must fall or flourish together.” Douglass understood, like Lincoln, that for the nation to survive, it had to be unified. A house divided against itself cannot

THE OBAMA-WRIGHT TRAGEDY

It’s Much Bigger Than Race

BY GERALD FLURRY

I THINK MOST PEOPLE WHO LISTEN TO Barack Obama believe he is sincere. But even sincere people can make serious mistakes.

Barack was deserted by his father at the age of 2, when the family lived in Hawaii. It was 1963 when Barack’s father left his wife and son to attend Harvard. His education was more important to him than his family. It should not have been.

It was a sad turn in Barack’s young life. Barack’s mother soon remarried. She and her son followed her husband, Lolo Soetoro, to Indonesia. But the second marriage also failed. Barack’s mom “always felt that marriage as an institution was not particularly essential or important,” according to her close friend Nina Nayar.

Marriage and family were “*not* particularly essential or important” to either of Barack’s biological parents—or to his stepfather. That is the curse of all curses in this world! How much must we suffer before we understand and correct the problem?

“By 1974, Ms. Soetoro was back in Honolulu, a graduate student and raising Barack and Maya, nine years younger,” Janny Scott wrote in the *New York Times*. “Barack was on scholarship at



BARACK OBAMA AND JEREMIAH WRIGHT

a prestigious prep school, Punahou. When Ms. Soetoro decided to return to Indonesia three years later for her field work, Barack chose not to go” (March 14).

Barack’s mom, an anthropologist, decided that she had to return to Indonesia as a part of her work. Barack chose to stay with his white grandparents in Hawaii during his four years of high school. His mom chose her work over him. So in essence, he was deserted again. Any child would be scarred by such parental treatment.

Barack chose to stay in the United States, the most blessed country on Earth. Barack and his wife have received outstanding educational opportunities in the U.S. and prospered extremely well. You have to admire their ambition.

But why would they be “*like family*” to such a “hate America” pastor as Jeremiah Wright?

Mr. Obama never had a strong father figure to look up to for any length of time. And his mother had a distorted view of marital

and family love. So it was natural for him to seek out a strong father figure in Pastor Wright—whom he has said was “*like family*.”

Here is what Glenn Beck said on his CNN broadcast, March 19: “In the talking points page of the Trinity Church’s website, Reverend Wright, in his own words, states that the foundation of

stand, Jesus said (Matthew 12:25). Douglass, though he had criticized the Constitution early on, said later in life, “Abolish slavery tomorrow, and not a sentence or syllable of the Constitution need be altered.”

Far from upholding the Constitution today, many leaders in the black community see America’s foundational law as fundamentally racist. And instead of urging Americans to unite as one so that we might “flourish together,” many black leaders are actively inciting hatred and division.

When asked for his reaction to Wright’s incendiary remarks, black activist Jesse Jackson said he was “not going to address any of that now.” *He had no comment.* Al Sharpton believes Wright has been treated unfairly and that his reputation has been “totally distorted.” And Barack Obama, while he condemns the “controversial” statements of Wright, still considers him part of his own family. “He strengthened my faith, officiated my wedding, and baptized my children,” Obama said. “I can

no more disown him than I can disown the black community.” Obama’s wife, as was widely reported, said it wasn’t until her husband’s presidential campaign that she finally became proud to be an American.

Every once in a while, a voice of hope will emerge from the black community, like when Bill Cosby urged his fellow blacks in 2004 to stop blaming the “white man” for their problems and to look at themselves. But those voices are quickly silenced by the cacophony of race merchants and their many accomplices in academia and the liberal media.

Their audacious message of hate may empower and enrich the black leadership, but it does little in the way of helping the black community—and it further divides our nation.

Meanwhile, *beyond* our borders, the hateful animosity aimed at Americans of *every* color has never been so intense. Enemies who despise us are circling like

vultures, observing our internal strife while planning for our demise. They are intent on taking our peoples captive as *real* slaves!

Does it seem far-fetched? Do we think that such a colossal collapse could never happen to such a great power as the United States? Do we somehow reason that the GREAT GOD who GAVE US such unprecedented power and wealth is not able to take it all away?

Blaming other races or genders or political groups for our ever-intensifying evils and curses will not solve any of our many problems. “The future of great nations rests on the promises the Eternal Creator made to Abraham,” Herbert W. Armstrong wrote in *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*. “The only hope of life after death for anyone—regardless of race, color or creed—is dependent on the spiritual phase of these promises to Abraham—the promise of grace through the ‘one seed’—Christ the Messiah!” ■

his beliefs are in systemized black liberation theology and praises James Cone’s book, *Black Power and Black Theology*. This is what James Cone, the man who Obama’s senior spiritual adviser looks up to and whose ideas he preaches, states as black liberation theology. Listen carefully and please follow along.

“Quote, ‘Black theology refuses to accept a God who is not identified totally with the goals of the black community. If God is not for us and against white people, then he is a murderer, and we had better kill him. The task of black theology is to kill gods who do not belong to the black community. Black theology will accept only the love of God which participates in the destruction of the white enemy. What we need is the divine love as expressed in black power which is the power of black people to destroy their oppressors here and now by any means at their disposal. Unless God is participating in this holy activity, we must reject his love.’”

This is one of the most anti-God, anti-Bible statements I have ever read! The God of the Bible is not about loving black people and hating white people. Christ died for the sins of all humanity. Any Christian should know that. And all humanity is going to be a part of God’s Family, in God’s time frame. Of course, those people who reject that Family will be excluded forever.

The foundational crisis in America and Britain today is broken families. *Family* is the institution most under attack. That is because the biblical gospel, or good news, is about the coming Family of God. The human family is the most sacred institution there is to *prepare* us for that almost unfathomable honor. (Request our free book *The Missing Dimension in Sex*. It’s a book every person on Earth should read.)

Here is what we need to be deeply concerned about. Roughly 70 percent of blacks are born out of wedlock. (That is true of

about 48 percent of Hispanics and 25 percent of whites.) These are tragic fruits. Broken families produce more broken families. Usually these parents were deserted as babies by at least one of their own parents.

Who is going to educate those young people? And what will that education be like? It is a ticking time bomb about ready to explode—especially in American race relations!

Barack Obama has shown us that precious young people can be educated by the wrong people—they often are. What these young people need are strong families with a deep love for all humanity.

Everything in the Bible revolves around God’s loving Family. That is what the God Family is all about. Over a hundred prophecies in your Bible say we are going to see that God Family ruling in less than a generation. But who believes God in this evil generation? He is our only hope. And His Family is more real than all the racial hatred you see in this world.

There is no question that America committed a great sin against the black race by breaking up the black family. But at least America also abolished slavery and has shown some repentance. What other nation has ever even come close to doing that?

Much of God’s love is expressed in *forgiveness*. That is at the heart of the biblical message. If we’re not going to obey the Bible, we should at least stop pretending like we’re Christians. Remember, a Christian is one who follows Christ.

But this whole world is deceived (Revelation 12:9). A great fallen angel is the god of this world—that means this world worships him (2 Corinthians 4:4). We still have a lot to learn today, and sadly it will be through some horrendous suffering.

To paraphrase a biblical expression, we have sown the wind and we’re going to reap the whirlwind! ■

Barack Obama has shown us that precious young people can be educated by the wrong people—they often are. What these young people need are strong families with a deep love for all humanity.

1

Communication

Out of the 10,080 minutes in a week, the average American couple spends 17 in conversation. What goes on in your household when it comes to communication? Is all you hear fighting, bickering and arguing? Or maybe there is total silence—not a word spoken. Maybe all you can hear is the television blasting in the background.

Communication is a *vital* ingredient to developing a happy home. If we are to bring happiness to our household, we need to know what goes on in our family.

Mealtimes are a wonderful opportunity for communication, but it needs to extend beyond that. We need to communicate often and without fear.

Family should be an environment where children will come and talk to us simply because something is on their mind—a concern, an achievement, whatever it may be. Will you take the time to listen? Realize that communication is a two-way process. We talk, but we need to listen with genuine interest to what each family member has to say.

A special way of communicating with family members is by instructing them. In Genesis, God holds the patriarch Abraham up as an example: “Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? For I know him, *that he will command his children and his household after him*, and they shall keep the way of the Lord to do justice and judgment . . .” (Genesis 18:18-19). God commended Abraham for instructing his household—for communicating His way of life to his family. Proverbs 29:15 shows the need for parental direction and correction.

Paul instructed Titus to teach the Church of God about family relationships (Titus 2:1-5). If this kind of instruction is lacking in an individual family, it is guaranteed not to be a happy home. God specifically instructs us to help our children, to answer their questions and to take time to teach them about the benefits of God’s way of life.

Blueprint for

Commitment

Commitment means you’re in the family for the long haul. It means valuing each other above our own needs and desires. There is tremendous power in commitment. It holds a family together during the difficult times. Every family experiences difficult times. Every happy home needs security, even in time of testing and trial. Those trials pull strong families together but weak families apart.

When God instituted marriage, He instructed the man to *cleave* to his wife (Genesis 2:24). God hates divorce (Malachi 2:16; Luke 16:18). He intended marriage to be a lifetime commitment.

Proverbs 31 teaches us that a happy home starts with a happy marriage. The virtuous woman of that chapter is motivated by a strong ongoing concern for her family. In Romans 12:9-10, the

Apostle Paul wrote, “Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor” (Revised Standard Version).

Be committed to your family. Children need to know that they’re not just individual beings growing up, being instructed, disciplined and taught, but that they’re part of something bigger—part of a family. Family is greater than the sum of its individuals.

2

Time Together

Take time out to do things together as a family. Families grow close if they are involved in projects. Design your own family projects. Involve the whole family in day-to-day tasks such as keeping up the yard, raking leaves, maintaining and keeping up the home, washing the cars, and planning family goals.

Plan time to be together, and plan time in both quality and quantity—because these things don’t just happen. You must give thought to ensure it happens.

Having a weekly routine can help. What about a weekly family walk, or a regular, scheduled family game night?

3

Qualities to build within your family

BY WIK HEERMA

IN A WORLD RIFE WITH FAMILY breakdown, you need tools. Tools for building a marriage. Tools for making relationships with your children work.

The Bible is an invaluable guide to a family that wants to do things right. It offers a wealth of instruction on how to govern our families—how parents should conduct themselves and how children should respond. It gives you a practical blueprint for *how to build a happy home*.

God wants your family to be happy. He wants you to have full

a Happy Home



4

Individuality

Someone once defined a weed as *any plant in an unwanted place*. The most gorgeous rosebush, in a location you don't want it, is a weed. In our families, we don't want any weeds. Make sure each member is wanted and has room to grow and develop individually.

See what God did with the family of mankind. After creating Adam, God brought the animals before him to name them (Genesis 2:18-19). God allowed him to administer rule in order to facilitate his growth and creativity. God wants each of us to develop our own personality.

Giving family members room to develop brings out their individual qualities and teaches them decision-making within their realm of delegated authority. It teaches responsibility and accountability. After giving instruction on how something should be done, provide your family space to move. If it doesn't turn out right, *then* step in and *teach* why things didn't work out. If you squash every opportunity, people will never develop. As more responsibility can be entrusted, more character can be developed as well.

joy—the abundant life—right now! (John 10:10). “Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for [family] to dwell together in unity!” (Psalm 133:1). He supplies the instructions on how to achieve that within our families. All we need do is follow them.

Building a happy family is a hugely important project, because the rewards extend well beyond the happiness we can experience in the short term. God created family life to teach us about life in His eternal Family! If we point our family and children to God the Father, it leads to life for evermore! (verse 3).

Here are some Bible-based qualities we can build in our families to make them truly happy. ■

Appreciation

All of us need appreciation. We need to learn to express and receive appreciation. When was the last time you told your wife what a wonderful meal she cooked? When was the last time you thanked your husband for taking out the trash without you having to ask him? When was the last time you showed appreciation to your son for putting away his shoes, or to your daughter for expressing her love to you when she comes to give you a big hug?

Too often we get focused on the negative and fail to see things that are worthy of praise. Our families should not be an environment of negativity for our children. Be aware of the danger of constant, hard criticism; of arguing and belittling. Talk positively about each other, both inside and outside of family settings. Don't tear each other down.

Be equal in your attention. If you have more than one child, make sure there are no favorites. Give each child the attention he or she needs without having any “respect of persons.”

“Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others” (Philippians 2:2-4). Does this occur in our families? Do we notice things other family members do? Do your family members feel wanted?

5

6

Spiritual Well-Being

This point is the most important. Spiritual disease makes the whole family suffer. A family will only be happy if there is spiritual well-being.

Before ancient Israel inherited the Promised Land, Moses reminded the people of God's statutes and judgments (Deuteronomy 4:1), and then instructed them, “Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments Keep therefore and do them [T]each them thy sons, and thy sons' sons” (verses 5-9). God likewise expects us to provide our children (and grandchildren) with religious instruction—because it leads to incredible blessings. God tells us to impart His knowledge to our children because it brings happiness, joy and pleasure to our families!

“[T]he fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance” (Galatians 5:22-23). How accurately does that describe your family? If it's close, your family is on the right track. If not, there's work to do.

Love is an essential part of any human being's life. An unloved baby, one who receives no affection, is unlikely to develop into a healthy adult. He or she will suffer psychological, physical and spiritual scars. A child learns to love by being loved. Spiritually it is the same: “We love him [God], because he first loved us” (1 John 4:19). John 3:16 explains this as well: “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son”

That love must flow into our lives from God, and out of our lives through our actions toward God and other people, including our beloved family members.

WORLDWATCH

EUROPE

SINCE **Kosovo** DECLARED independence from **Serbia** on February 17, the Balkans have remained in the limelight. Serbia's government fell on March 8 as **Prime Minister Vojislav Kostunica** resigned. The coalition cannot hold power without him and his party. Elections are scheduled for May 11.

The issue of Kosovar independence is far from being resolved. The northernmost part of Kosovo contains a majority of Serbs, and they want to remain part of Serbia. **Several Serbs barricaded themselves inside a court building in the Kosovar town of Mitrovica, demanding it be returned to Serbian control. UN police raided on March 17** and put approximately 50 Serbs in custody—with unnecessary force, some claim. Hundreds of Serbs took to the streets, attacking the UN convoy with rocks, Molotov cocktails and small arms, freeing many of the prisoners. Agriculture and mining from the Mitrovican region are Kosovo's only sources of income, apart from foreign aid. If the region returns to Serbia, it would cripple Kosovo's economy. Serbia and Russia want Mitrovica to be part of Serbia; the European Union and NATO want it part of Kosovo.

Europe has its own plans for the region. **Croatia** and **Albania** were formally invited to join NATO during the April 2-4 summit. European Commission President José Manuel Barroso said that Croatia should also complete EU membership talks next year. As Stratfor wrote, "NATO, in



league with the European Union, is now in the process of digesting the Balkans—no mean feat in itself—and simply admitting Croatia will be one giant step in that direction."

Ukraine and **Georgia**, though, will not be put on course to join the alliance. Western Europe, led by Germany, blocked NATO from giving Membership Action Plans (MAPs) to these two former Soviet republics. **France** and **Germany** do not want to further hurt their already bruised relations with **Russia**. There is a strategy at work here. Germany and Russia need to define the border between an eastward-expanding EU and a resurgent, imperialist Russia. Russia needs

Ukraine and Georgia onside in order to secure its western and southern flanks. With Russian and Western interests conflicting in so many areas, a clash is brewing. Germany and the EU, however, are

not yet ready for a clash with Russia. As with the last time Germany and Russia fought, watch for Germany to forge a deal with Russia so it can postpone the conflict until it is better prepared.

The Vatican is also getting more involved in the Balkans conflict. The Roman Catholic bishop of Kosovo said he believes Kosovo's Muslims need a "cultural baptism." As Europe annexes the Balkans, the Catholic Church will work to give areas like Kosovo their European ID card: Roman Catholicism.

Conflict between the Vatican and Islam is heating up. In March, al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden launched a verbal attack against Europe, threatening revenge in a video for the "insulting drawings" of Mohammed that some European papers published. The video also accused the pope of beginning a "new crusade" against Islam. As if to confirm the accusation, a few days after bin Laden's message was released Benedict XVI baptized Magdi Cristiano Allam, a prominent former Muslim. The pope is getting more con-

frontational in dealing with Islam.

MID-EAST

VIOLENCE EXPLODED in **Iraq** in late March: The Iraqi military targeted Muqtada al-Sadr's Mahdi Army and other Shiite militias in the southern port city of Basra in an effort to gain control of the vital Iraqi oil hub. In response, Shiite violence erupted in Baghdad and across southern Iraq, killing hundreds. The fighting was dialed back after a shaky Iranian-sponsored cease-fire in Basra whereby al-Sadr ordered his Mahdi Army off the streets.

Ironically, the Iraqi government's crackdown on the Mahdi Army may actually strengthen al-Sadr. U.S. Sen. Joseph Biden, chairman of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee, compared the situation to Israel's offensive against Hezbollah in the Lebanon War, where Hezbollah grew in strength as a consequence just



U.S.A.

Venezuela

Argentina



of surviving. Not only has the Mahdi Army kept its weapons, but, according to an official in the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad, al-Sadr gained political strength as a result of the military crackdown.

Next door in **Iran**, the March 14 parliamentary elections reinforced a trend in the Islamic Republic: the political empowerment of the Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC). The initial vote tally showed the IRGC gaining a possible 70 percent of Iran’s parliamentary seats. It appears Iran’s Islamic leaders, in an attempt to strengthen the regime, are handing over legislative power to the military—which will mean an Iran that is less receptive to international economic pressure than ever.

At the beginning of March, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad made the first visit to Iraq by an Iranian leader since 1979. “This visit will open a new chapter in the two countries’ bilateral relations,” he said. He and Iraqi President Jalal Talabani discussed economic, political, oil, security, and other issues.

Iran has also continued to

push its agenda in the Middle East by giving **Syria** \$1 billion to upgrade its army and providing Hezbollah with rockets that have an increased range.

Israeli security officials report that Iran has set up sophisticated listening stations in Syria over recent months to intercept Israeli military communications. In the West Bank, Iran-sponsored Hezbollah has been giving millions of dollars to militant groups for attacks against Israel since 2000, according to Israeli and Palestinian security officials.

On February 27, an Israeli civilian was killed by a rocket fired from Gaza, the first such casualty since last May. Israel’s five-day operation in the Gaza Strip ending March 3, aimed at stopping the relentless rocket attacks on southern Israeli towns, was not enough to deter its terrorist enemies. Hamas



declared “victory,” and the rocket fire continued. Rockets from Gaza have also begun falling on the city of Ashkelon, indicating that Hamas’s border breach with **Egypt** earlier this year has enabled terrorists in the Gaza Strip to upgrade their missile arsenal.

A deadly terrorist attack in Jerusalem on March 6 killed eight Jewish religious students. Palestinians filled the streets to celebrate the massacre. A survey of Palestinians indicated that 84 percent supported the school shooting.

On March 17, German cabinet members met with their Israeli counterparts for their first-ever joint cabinet ses-

sion. In addition to signing a bilateral agreement for tighter military, cultural, political and economic cooperation between the two countries, the German ministers agreed to continue joint cabinet sessions on an annual basis. Bible prophecy reveals that Israel’s blossoming relationship with Germany will result in a deadly double-cross.

Yousaf Raza Gilani was sworn in as Pakistan’s new prime minister on March 25. His government is reviewing its counterterrorism policy and its involvement in the U.S.-led “war on terror.” The U.S. will likely be forced to accommodate its unstable ally more in its counterterrorism operations (see page 9).

ASIA

China SAVAGELY SUPPRESSED separatist protesters in Tibet in March following anti-government demonstrations led by Buddhist monks. The protests, which started in the Tibetan capital of Lhasa, spread to other areas, with Chinese police forces detaining hundreds. Beijing says 20 people were killed in the unrest, but protesters put the number at more than 150. China has come under intense international criticism over the crackdown.

European Parliament President Hans-Gert Pöttering called for the EU to boycott the Olympic Games scheduled to be held in Beijing this August if a Sino-Tibetan compromise is not reached. On March 30, German Chancellor Angela Merkel became the first world leader to officially announce that she would not attend the Olympics opening ceremony. Several other European leaders followed Merkel's lead. One can view this stand as an effort to negate the threat of China's growing power. As German-Foreign-Policy.com wrote, "Supporting

to be an important base for expanding its influence toward China. ... Fearing its future power, Berlin is seeking to weaken its ascending East Asian rival."

China's crackdown in Tibet is being supported by its Asian allies, however, including **Vietnam, Pakistan, India, Belarus** and Russia. Thus, Asia is presenting a united front against the European Union's stance.

The same is true in its support of Russia over the issue of Kosovo.

On March 4, **Chinese President Hu Jintao** stated Taiwanese secessionist activity was the gravest threat to China. The possibility of **Taiwan** declaring independence from the mainland, however, became less likely than any other time in history with the election on March 22 of Ma Ying-jeou as the nation's president. In light of a fracturing alliance between Taiwan and America, Ma has purposed to increase ties with China in a last-ditch effort to avoid invasion (see page 23).



successor, Medvedev promises to be essentially a democratic front for Putin's continued authoritarian regime.

Within hours of Medvedev's election, gas supplies to **Ukraine** were cut by 25 percent over a payment dispute between the Ukrainian government and Russian state-owned gas monopoly Gazprom. After a day, Gazprom cut the supplies by another quarter. Ukrainian state gas company Naftogaz warned that it can only guarantee the uninterrupted flow of gas from Russia through Ukraine to Europe if the security of the Ukrainian energy sector

remains unthreatened. Why the cuts? Ukraine's leadership had been moving the country away from Russia and closer to membership in NATO and the EU. This gas cut—which lasted only a couple of days—was Putin and Medvedev's way of reminding Ukrainian and European officials that Russia remains a force to be reckoned with. How Europe reacts to this growing Russian threat will prove to be one of the more important events of the 21st century.

from Africa, plans to increase this figure to 35 or 40, according to Zhiming Zhao, executive president of China Petroleum and Petro-Chemical Industry Association. While many Western firms are trying to extricate themselves from Africa and its political problems, China has invested \$30 billion in Africa's energy sector and plans to build beyond that. The desire to exploit African resources continues to motivate many nations to invest even in unstable areas, with China and the EU topping the list.

On March 9, Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe announced approval of a new law that gives "indigenous," meaning black, Zimbabweans majority ownership of all businesses. This legislation brings back memories of the tragic land reforms of the past decade that have decimated the Zimbabwean economy.

Also, with presidential election results still up in the air as of this writing, **Zimbabwe** is on the verge of crisis. Zimbabwean police arrested two foreign journalists for covering the election "without accreditation," and also ransacked offices used by the opposition party. Riot police have been deployed in the capital. It appears the despot of Zimbabwe won't be going quietly, if at all.



extensive autonomy rights for Tibet and even its secession is in line with the traditional German East Asia policy. Already in the 1930s and 1940s, Berlin considered this region

On the other side of Asia, in Moscow, Dmitry Medvedev became Russia's president-elect in a March 2 election that was distinguished by corruption and rigging. As Putin's chosen

AFRICA

IRAN AND **Sudan** SIGNED AN accord that includes cooperation in technology, education, science and industry, an exchange of expert delegations, and the establishment of a defense cooperation commission, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported March 7. Iran has made establishing relations with African and Islamic nations a top priority, according to Iranian Defense Minister Brig. Gen. Mostafa Mohammad-Najjar.

China, which currently receives 24 percent of its crude oil

LATIN AMERICA

IN **Argentina**, farmers began a strike in March to protest the government's 10 percent tax increase on agricultural products—which has now hit a shocking 75 percent. In response, President Cristina Kirchner, just three months into her term, announced there would be no negotiation until the strikes stop. Farmers blockaded more than 400 roads, depriving groceries of



meat, cereals and milk.

On the 25th anniversary of the Falklands War, Kirchner called her country's claim to the Falkland Islands "inalienable." The *Trumpet* predicted eight years ago that Britain will eventually give up the Falklands to Argentina; to understand why, read "Will Britain Lose the Falklands?" in the February 2006 *Trumpet* on theTrumpet.com.

Colombian troops killed a leader of the rebel movement FARC during a raid in Ecuador in March. This threw the region into crisis, as Ecuador and Venezuela cut off diplomatic relations with Bogota, and Venezuelan President Chávez amassed troops on the border of Colombia. Colombian officials claim a laptop obtained during the raid shows that **Venezuela** paid \$300 million to FARC (see page 21).

ANGLO-AMERICA

THE **Great Britain** OF 1908 would hardly recognize the Britain of 2008. That is a safe inference, judging by a Royal United Services Institute Report, which states, "The United Kingdom presents itself as a target, as a fragmenting, post-Christian society, increasingly divided about interpretations of its

history, about its national aims, its values and its political identity." Though strongly criticized by government officials, this finding reveals the effects of Britain's abdication of morality, obsession with multiculturalism and shunning of its British identity.

Britain's marriages and families, upon which the nation's cultural, financial and security future rely, are crumbling even faster than the economy. The current marriage rate is at an all-time low, 45 percent of new marriages end in divorce, two in five British babies are born out of wedlock and 70 percent of Brits see nothing wrong with premarital sex.

Britain's next generation is already suffering from its families' breakdown. Violent crime among teenagers in the country has increased 37 percent over just three years, and a March report on materialism by the Good Childhood Inquiry found that a culture that defines people by what they consume is taking its toll on children. Despite incomes there having doubled over the last 50 years, Britain dropped to 21st out of 25 European states in terms of childhood well-being.

The United Kingdom's banking sector is roiling in the worst financial crisis in living memory. In mid-March, the pound sterling took its longest fall in 16 years. Invest-

ors panicked, and although the Bank of England rushed an emergency injection of £5 billion into the markets, the UK's most prestigious banks watched large percentages of their value disappear: £51 billion all at once. Since last June, Britain's top 100 companies have lost *one fifth* of their value. One London broker said, "I don't think anybody alive has ever seen events of this seriousness and magnitude affecting the financial markets."

Over at Wall Street, Britain's American cousin keeps getting dumped on. Call it the cost of materialism: The **United States** dollar continues to tumble to new lows against the euro (which now costs more than \$1.50), the Canadian dollar and the yen, among others. It takes more and more dollars to buy staples such as wheat and corn, and commodities like oil. Administration officials, who have sugarcoated recession-trending news and played down the nation's economic malfunctions, are cautiously back-pedaling. President Bush admitted the economy was going through a "rough patch," and Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke admitted the economy was clearly in a period of very slow growth and that "there might be a slight contraction."

In mid-March, Investment bank Bear Stearns, the respected Great Depression veteran

and fifth-largest investment bank in the country, said it was comfortable it would meet earnings expectations and had a \$17 billion cushion against trouble. Shortly thereafter, Bear announced its cash position "had significantly deteriorated in the last 24 hours." Stock, worth \$150 a share a year ago, went from \$56 to \$2. J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. is buying what is left of the company, but only thanks to an unprecedented and, Bernanke says, one-off bailout by the Fed.

The directors of national intelligence and the defense intelligence agency have, for the first time, publicly raised the issue of cyberwarfare. The U.S. is one of the most electronically connected—and dependent—nations on the planet. As the *Trumpet* reported more than a decade ago, "computer dependence is the Western world's Achilles heel."

A less subtle and even more dangerous threat is what senior government officials and terrorism experts discussed with the Senate in early April, testifying of a "growing" risk of a nuclear attack on a major U.S. city. Models show that such an attack would leave hundreds of thousands dead, \$1 trillion in damage and nationwide panic.

Surely Americans would enjoy a more stable society if their families were less unhinged. Even in a society accustomed to bad news about teenage sex, a new study on sexually transmitted diseases comes as a sad shock. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that one in four American girls has an STD. More than 3 million girls 14 to 19 had human papillomavirus, chlamydia, genital herpes or trichomoniasis, and that figure does not even include less-common afflictions such as HIV/AIDS, syphilis and gonorrhea. The national study, the first of its kind, found that half of teen girls are sexually active.

The Governor Spitzer Disease

It poses a greater threat to humanity than the hydrogen bomb. BY GERALD FLURRY



FAMILIAR INFAMY Eliot Spitzer admits to the sins that crippled him, standing alongside his wife and the American stars and stripes.

NEW YORK GOVERNOR ELIOT Spitzer resigned in the aftermath of a widely publicized prostitution scandal in early March. He reportedly had unprotected sex on multiple occasions with a 22-year-old prostitute who, for her own part, was dangerously promiscuous. Spitzer put his whole family at risk for illicit sex. In an all-too-familiar scene, the disgraced former governor publicly apologized at a press conference with his wife standing beside him. It appeared as if she had aged 10 to 15 years within hours!

God created sex to bind a husband and wife together and to bring exceeding joy into marriage and family. (Request our free book *The Missing Dimension in Sex* to understand much more about this all-important subject.) Yet deadly sexual addictions—now rampant in American society—are ripping marriages apart and destroying our young people. Americans are grossly addicted to sexual perversion. It's a disease raging in our society, from the highest levels to the lowest. The pain caused by sexual perversion is now almost unbearable.

Still, few of our leaders are sounding the alarm.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently released this *stunning* statistic: "At least one in four teenage girls nationwide has a sexually transmitted disease, or more than 3 million teens, according to the first study of its kind in this age group" (Associated Press, March 11).

Twenty-six percent of teen girls in the U.S. have *at least one* sexually transmitted disease! The most common STD among the girls tested was the human papillomavirus, which medical authorities say is linked to

cervical cancer. This report doesn't account for all of the emotional damage that has been done to these young women (and the young men who are also involved).

Dr. John Douglas, director of the CDC's division of STD prevention, said, "High STD rates among young women, particularly African-American young women, are clear signs that we must continue developing ways to reach those most at risk" (*ibid.*).

There is a *cause* for the sex problems we see in America. And until we root out this deep-seated evil, we will never be free of sexual perversion and all the bitter fruits it produces.

Here is another shameful statistic: Pornography in the U.S. generates \$14 billion per year—\$2.5 billion from the Internet. Fourteen billion dollars is more money than professional baseball, football and basketball generate *combined*—all of these *hugely* profitable sport franchises. Think about how many massive corporations there are in the United States that do not even come close to \$14 billion in revenue.

Approximately 40 million people in the United States are sexually involved with the Internet! In addition, America is the number-one supplier of pornography to the world! Pornography is America's top "entertainment" export. HOW SEXUALLY SICK CAN WE GET? And how sick are we making the rest of the world?

Ted Bundy's Final Warning

Ted Bundy was one of the biggest sex perverts and criminals of our time. He was executed on Jan. 24, 1989, for the brutal rape and murder of many women in several states. He talked to Dr. James Dobson

only hours before his execution. This is what he said: "I wasn't some guy hanging out in bars, or a bum. I wasn't a pervert in the sense that people look at somebody and say, 'I know there's something wrong with him.' I was a normal person. I had good friends. I had a normal life except for this one, small but very potent and destructive segment [pornography] I kept very secret and close to myself."

Eighty-six percent of rapists admit to regular use of porn, and 57 percent admit to imitating porn scenes in committing their sex crimes. An FBI report found that 81 percent of serial sex murderers admitted to using pornography (www.resourcefoundation.org). Eighty-one percent! Ted Bundy said he didn't know a violent sexual deviant in jail who wasn't addicted to porn. In fact, in that same interview shortly before his execution, he said, "You are going to kill me, and that will protect society from me, but OUT THERE ARE MANY, MANY MORE PEOPLE WHO ARE ADDICTED TO PORNOGRAPHY, AND YOU ARE DOING NOTHING ABOUT THAT" (emphasis mine throughout).

Is that true? It's so true it's *painful*; and yet, we hide from it. The sex plague rages on, and we do nothing to stop it! *How much responsibility should we take for that because we allow it to happen?*

ABC News reported, "Cyberporn is not just breaking up marriages. It can have another, *even more insidious effect: keeping young people from even forming relationships*" (Aug. 27, 2004). That is a frightening statement! What it means is that YOUNG PEOPLE BY THE MILLIONS GET HOOKED ON PORN BEFORE THEY EVEN KNOW ANYTHING

See **SPITZER** page 34 ►

Is Chávez Helping Terrorists Go Nuclear?

Venezuela is known to be a gateway for illegals entering America. Now it's becoming a hub for nuclear terrorism. BY BRAD MACDONALD

HUGO CHÁVEZ HAS TRANSFORMED Venezuela into a thriving hideout, breeding ground and launching pad for terrorism and the black market nuclear trade. Few see it, but this South American state is a large and most underreported threat to America's national security.

On March 26, Colombian officials seized 66 pounds of uranium from the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) terrorist group. The uranium was buried along a road in the countryside south of Bogota. Information leading to the discovery came from the laptop computer of Raúl Reyes, a top FARC leader killed by Colombian authorities March 1.

Reports said the uranium was "impoverished," or depleted, meaning it lacked the concentrated radioactive material needed for a dirty bomb. Authorities also gave assurances that FARC lacks the tech-

nology and resources to actually construct a nuclear bomb.

The Western media heard those facts and breathed a sigh of relief, perceiving the discovery of FARC's uranium cache to be an event of minor consequence. This view couldn't be more wrong!

The Most Dangerous Black Market

That seizure marked the first time radioactive material has been linked to FARC. It raises some critical questions: Why is FARC in the major league of black-market uranium trade? Where did it get the uranium? And what was it planning on doing with it? So far, the most plausible explanation is that FARC planned to sell the uranium to raise money, since joint American-Colombian eradication efforts against FARC's cocaine crops and operations are eating into its cash flow. That's reasonable, though in reality the material was nearly worthless.

But *who* would be interested in purchasing uranium, and how deep do FARC's connections with that entity run?

Matthew Bunn, senior research associate with Harvard's Project on Managing the Atom, said he found it interesting that "a very professional terrorist organization like FARC, with a good deal of experience in smuggling, apparently was interested in getting involved in buying and selling nuclear material for money. That suggests that someone who had *serious nuclear material* (unlike this material) and needed to move it from one country to another *might have been able to make use of the FARC's capabilities*" (*Foreign Policy*, March 28; emphasis mine throughout).

Black-market activities are inherently dangerous, but few are more so than the illegal trade of nuclear materials and technology. The nature of the underground trade in uranium, particularly when it involves covert enrichment and construction of a nuclear weapon (the ultimate weapon of mass destruction), requires above all a rare willingness to risk everything for the cause, as well as expansive expertise and vast resources. The point is, 66 pounds of uranium didn't accidentally fall into FARC's lap. FARC is clearly—although we don't know to what extent—involved in the international black-market trade of nuclear material.

That's alarming when you consider the known members of the black-market nuclear trade!

Clearly, this seizure raises more questions than it answers. While many find assurance in the lack of answers, this is a naive approach. The truth is, these questions are extremely disconcerting—*especially when considered against the growth of the South American terrorist network.*

Mountains of evidence have arisen in recent years showing that South America is a hideout and breeding ground for the world's most dangerous terrorist organizations, including al Qaeda, Hezbollah and Hamas. Pockets of South America—including areas in Venezuela, Bolivia and Ecuador, all of which have governments hostile to the U.S.—have become launching pads from which the world's most venomous anti-American entities, *particularly radical Islam*, could strike the United States.

Now we learn that uranium is being illegally traded in the region. Even the weakest imagination ought to be able to conjure images of what the consequences for America could be!

Foreign Policy said Reyes's laptop was the gift that just keeps giving. Tyler Bridges from the *Miami Herald* explained why:



COMMON VALUES Hugo Chávez (right) has been tightening ties with Iran, its radical president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad (left), and extreme Islamist groups, turning Venezuela into a haven for terrorists.

“Anti-FARC operations—especially a deadly military raid in a rebel camp in Ecuador after which Colombian authorities obtained computer documents belonging to slain guerrilla leader Raúl Reyes—*indicate that the FARC had established links in Venezuela, Ecuador, Costa Rica and Mexico*” (March 31).

Why aren't America's leaders and the mainstream media ringing alarm bells about the nuclear storm brewing in South America? The terrorists are circling and our leaders are sleeping, just as the Bible said they would be.

Enter Chávez

Hugo Chávez is one of FARC's strongest allies. The Venezuelan president has successfully negotiated the release of prisoners held by FARC, financed the terrorist organization to the tune of \$300 million, allowed FARC guerrillas to take refuge from Colombian troops at camps in Venezuelan territory and, more recently, made public statements supporting FARC's terrorist activities and lamenting the death of Raúl Reyes.

Word on the street is that FARC received the uranium from suppliers in Venezuela. That's entirely possible. There have been whispers over the past two years that Venezuela is mining uranium *with the help of Iran*. Those claims were substantiated in September 2006 when Colombia's former Defense Minister Camilo Ospina said that Caracas was secretly operating two uranium mines deep inside Venezuela. Ospina's remarks were quickly disavowed by the Colombian government.

A growing pile of circumstantial evidence suggests that Venezuela, with Iran's assistance, could be operating two covert uranium mines. Confirming it is difficult because Venezuelan officials have warned that any unauthorized aircraft flights in the vicinity of the mine locations will be subject to deadly force.

What is certain, and widely reported, however, is that Hugo Chávez has developed alarmingly close connections with Tehran and has transformed his nation into one of the Southern Hemisphere's largest terrorist havens. According to Latin American current affairs analyst Vladimir Torres, Chávez has helped both Iran and radical Islam strengthen their presence in Venezuela and across the region. “Since March 2, 2007, Iran's national

airline, Iran Air, is flying on a weekly basis to Venezuela. The commercial Tehran-Caracas flight, with a stop in Damascus, Syria, allows for easy movement of passengers, given Venezuela's lax immigration controls, the absence of visa requirements, and the reported ‘unofficial’ instruction to Venezuelan custom officers not to ask ques-

tions regarding whom and what comes and goes in the flight” (Sept. 26, 2007).

So despite the intense efforts and hundreds of millions of dollars spent by Western nations to implement national security measures designed to curb the travel of Islamic terrorists, these hate-filled individuals are traveling between Iran and Venezuela with frightening ease!



ULTIMATE BLACK MARKET TV footage shows Colombian experts uncovering part of a load of uranium found in Cajica.

Plenty of evidence further proves the strengthening Iran-Venezuela relationship. Torres continued: “The Iranian embassies in some [South American] countries have increased their number of accredited diplomats to figures that seem out of proportion with their needs. The presence of more than 30 diplomats in Managua alone has already triggered suspicions regarding their mandate. *There are substantiated reports of Hezbollah cells operating in Venezuela*—particularly in Margarita Island, where real-estate businesses provide the cover for alleged drug-money laundering and fund-raising for the terrorist organization” (ibid.).

When it comes to terrorist organizations and states seeking the destruction of

the U.S., Venezuela is no respecter of persons. Hugo Chávez supports FARC, he supports Iran, he supports Iranian-sponsored groups like Hezbollah, and he supports al Qaeda. Did FARC's uranium originate in Venezuelan mines jointly operated by Iran and Venezuela? Did it receive it from Iran, via Venezuela? More importantly, how many other caches of uranium, perhaps *enriched uranium*, are circulating in this South American terrorist network?

No one knows the answers to these questions. But the mountain of circumstantial evidence demands serious investigation!

Enter al Qaeda

Now let's turn our attention to Syrian-born al Qaeda leader Mustafa Setmariam Nasar. Prior to being indicted in Spain for providing assistance to the plotters of the 9/11 attacks, Nasar went on a brief jaunt to Venezuela. Kenneth Rijock, a financial crime consultant for World-Check,

tracked Nasar's movements in Caracas. “Nasar lived openly in Venezuela for several months, traveling at all times with his *Venezuelan government bodyguard*, all the while wanted by Interpol for Spain, visiting Caracas' most important mosque, and *holding meetings with Hezbollah, ETA, FARC, ELN and Cuban G-2 members, amongst others*, in support of their criminal and political activities in Latin America” (March 29).

During his visit, Nasar was also reported to have conducted meetings with notorious Venezuelan terrorist Carlos Rafael Lanz Rodríguez. What do Nasar and

Lanz have in common? “Lanz is presently the president of Venezuela's state-owned aluminum company, Alcasa, which has been accused by former Venezuela government mining engineers of *covertly mining uranium for export to Iran, under the cover of aluminum production*” (ibid.).

So let's get this straight. Carlos Rafael Lanz Rodríguez, a well-known terrorist in charge of Venezuela's alleged covert uranium mines, conducted meetings with notorious al Qaeda operative Mustafa Setmariam Nasar, a man who traveled with a bodyguard supplied by Hugo Chávez and conducted meetings in Caracas with Hezbollah, ETA (the Basque terrorist organization) and—surprise, surprise—FARC!

See **CHÁVEZ** page 25 ►

Taiwan's New Direction

Will appeasing China mean Taiwan gets annexed?

BY ANDREW MILLER



DECLARATION OF DEPENDENCE
Ma Ying-jeou leads Taiwan's new administration.

THE TAIWANESE MINDSET IS CHANGING. Nowhere is this clearer than in the drastic realignment of the nation's political leadership.

On March 22, the Taiwanese people elected Kuomintang party candidate Ma Ying-jeou as their next president. Ma has promised to take Taiwan in a new direction—a direction radically different from that of outgoing Taiwanese President Chen Shui-bian.

Chen's position was that Taiwan was a sovereign and independent nation that should have its own seat in the United Nations. "Taiwan is one country and the other side [mainland China] is another country and neither side exercises jurisdiction over the other," Chen said in a 2004 BBC interview following his reelection. "I think this important consensus has been reached during this election and it represents and signifies that the 23 million people of Taiwan ... all refuse the one-country/two-systems formula."

If the consensus in 2004 was that Taiwan should move toward independence, the consensus has since changed.

Ma's position is that Taiwan and mainland China are one country governed under two systems. Back in 2006, he said in an interview that if his party gained power, "We would not pursue de jure independence," but would follow a "one China, different interpretations" model.

Ma seeks to dramatically improve

Taiwan's relationship with the mainland. In addition to resuming negotiations on Taiwan's status, he intends to expand economic ties with the mainland by establishing direct airline transportation routes; lifting restrictions on Taiwanese businessmen operating in China; opening the economy up to Chinese investors; and allowing Chinese tourists into Taiwan. Ma has also broached the idea of establishing confidence-building measures with the mainland designed to scale back the armaments buildup along the Taiwan Strait.

This radical change goes beyond Taiwan's new leader; it is rooted in the mindset of the populace.

The core of the issue is that Taiwan's relationship with America has deteriorated to the point where the Taiwanese people no longer feel safe from China. In a 2005 interview with *Newsweek*, Ma said, "[If] Taiwan makes a provocative move, [mainland China] would be left with no choice but to use force. So the most important thing for Taiwan is to maintain the status quo, not to provoke the mainland, but increase trade and investment and to relax cross-strait relations." With no friends to rely on for protection, the Taiwanese people are trying to patch up their differences with China in an effort to avoid invasion.

It must be remembered that the current government of Taiwan is the last remnant of the Chinese Kuomintang regime, which was overrun by Communist rebels under

Ma Zedong in 1949. These forces established the People's Republic of China on the Chinese mainland, forcing the Kuomintang regime to become a government in exile on the island of Formosa (now called Taiwan). Taiwan has at no time in its history been controlled by Communist China.

The U.S. originally supported Taiwan in an effort to oppose communism and champion democracy. It was this support that kept mainland China from overrunning the island long ago. Both the 1954 Mutual Defense Treaty and the 1979 Taiwan Relations Act promise U.S. defense of the island.

Recent years, however, have revealed cracks in this alliance. Presidents Bill Clinton and George W. Bush have both publicly opposed Taiwanese independence, preferring that the situation remain in its current state of limbo.

America is afraid to stand too strongly at Taiwan's side for fear of upsetting China. And the Taiwanese are beginning to realize it. Without American support, they feel they must cultivate closer ties with China if they are to survive. That is why they are turning to Ma Ying-jeou, a man who told *Newsweek* that his ultimate goal—once conditions are right—is reunification with the mainland (Oct. 16, 2007).

Ma's vision for Taiwan-China relations will not protect Taiwan's freedom, however. Beijing remains committed to establishing its dominance over the Taiwanese people. It will be happy enough to let Ma move Taiwan closer to China, but once he does that, the Taiwanese will never be allowed to move further away again.

Herbert W. Armstrong, the late founder and editor in chief of the *Trumpet's* predecessor, the *Plain Truth*, predicted Taiwan's fate almost 50 years ago. In a Sept. 19, 1958, letter, he wrote, "Will Red China invade and capture [Taiwan]? In all probability, yes The Red Chinese will 'save face,' and the United States, with many American troops now on Taiwan, will again lose face!" (To learn about the biblical prophecies on which Mr. Armstrong based that forecast, request our free publications *Russia and China in Prophecy* and *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*.)

Ma's commitment to increase ties with China will only hasten Taiwan's loss of freedom, and America's loss of face.

As editor in chief Gerald Flurry wrote in August 1998, "These 21 million [Taiwanese] people are going to be forced into the Chinese mold; and it is going to happen for one reason: because of a pitifully weak-willed America." ■

Shooting Ourselves in the Foot

Dangerous thinking: free-market ideology replacing national self-sufficiency **BY ROBERT MORLEY**

IN A STUNNING DECISION, THE U.S. Air Force awarded its biggest-ever military order to a foreign supplier at the end of February. The \$40 billion deal, conferred to a partnership led by the European Aeronautic Defense and Space Co. (EADS), was a blow to U.S.-based rival Boeing, which was the odds-on favorite to win. More importantly, this contract to supply the military with new airborne refueling tankers confirms what analysts have called a “major shift” in U.S. procurement policy.

The contract, currently one of the largest at the Pentagon, has the potential to ratchet up to a massive \$100 billion. It breaks a multi-decade relationship with Boeing, the company that built the bulk of America’s existing fleet. The 179 planes on order will be based on the European Airbus 330 design, and although the final assembly of the craft will take place in Alabama, components will be engineered and manufactured around the globe.

“This isn’t an upset,” Loren Thompson, a military analyst at Washington’s Lexington

Institute, said. “It’s an earthquake” (*International Herald Tribune*, March 1).

In fact, the earthquake victory for EADS caught just about everybody by surprise. Since Boeing is an American company, many erroneously assumed that Boeing would be awarded the contract. In a sense, Boeing itself could be forgiven for thinking it was the shoo-in recipient of the contract. Until the past few years, U.S. national policy has been to promote and foster development of domestic industries supporting a self-sustaining military complex. Awarding military contracts to domestic producers not only facilitates development of U.S.-based manufacturing and technology, but also keeps the money, the jobs and the future parts supply chain in the United States as well. Now, although EADS is partnering with Los Angeles-based Northrop Grumman and jobs will be created in the U.S., approximately 40 percent of the new tankers will be manufactured overseas, supporting foreign competitors to U.S. industry.

But perhaps Boeing shouldn’t have been all that surprised. In an effort to reduce

costs, Boeing itself has become much less “American” in recent years. Boeing, along with a whole host of other “American manufacturers,” now relies on international sources for a large proportion of the components used in military product lines.

National policy, it seems, is changing. Now “free market” economics—awarding contracts based primarily on who offers the product at the cheapest price—overrides ensuring the viability of domestic industry.

According to the *Financial Times*, “Such a landmark victory for EADS would have been almost inconceivable three years ago, but U.S. relations with Paris and Berlin have sharply improved since the election of the more pro-U.S. Nicolas Sarkozy as president of France and Angela Merkel as German chancellor” (March 2). The fact remains, however, that relying on other nations for military needs is dangerous, even if those nations are currently friends of the U.S.

As the *Financial Times* pointed

America’s Graying Air Force

THE United States Air Force’s F-15 fighters are the nation’s most sophisticated front-line fighters, playing a critical role protecting the continental U.S. and flying combat missions in the Iraq and Afghanistan theaters.

But on Nov. 2, 2007, a Missouri Air National Guard F-15 C fighter broke apart during a regular training exercise. The crash led to the grounding of America’s entire F-15 fleet. The crash, however, was not isolated. There has been a spate of crashes and groundings over the past couple of years.

Unfortunately, the string of crashes and breakdowns is likely to intensify: America’s Air Force is getting old.

Today’s air force is the oldest in USAF history. The average age of the planes in the fleet is more than 23 years. Many transport and refueling tankers are over 40 years old. By 2013, the average fleet age is expected to rise to 29 years. Contrast those numbers with the air fleet’s average age of only 8.5 years in 1967.

Lt. Gen. David Deptula, a former fighter pilot who now serves as the head of intelligence for the Air Force, says that his son now flies the exact same F-15 he flew back in the late 1970s. Deptula warns that the graying Air Force may be facing a “crisis” (*Los Angeles Times*, Nov. 6, 2007).

The Air Force’s 688 F-15s

were supposed to last until 2025, but after 17 years of almost continuous use in the First Gulf War, Yugoslavia, and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, wear and tear is taking its toll. Much of the rest of America’s aircraft, like the F-15, is also simply getting old and wearing out. The 1,280 F-16s, also after heavy use, are approaching the limits of their life expectancy, and the aged U.S. transport and refueling tankers are earning reputations as flying rust-buckets.

Most people don’t drive vehicles, let alone operate computers, that are 17 years old. Yet that is the average age of the sophisticated equipment expected to protect us.

Air Force Secretary Michael Wynne says that when you add

up the rate at which the fleet is aging, the rising maintenance costs, personnel cutbacks and the prices of new equipment, it means one thing: Air Force America in its current form is “going out of business. It is simply a matter of time” (*Airforce Magazine Online*, Sept. 21, 2007).

Hosea, talking to ancient Israel, warned that Ephraim’s military and economic might had largely faded, though the tribe was ignorant of it. “[Y]ea, gray hairs are here and there upon him, yet he knoweth not.”

Today, gray hairs are also on America. Her age as a superpower is nearly over—America’s waning air superiority is just one example. **ROBERT MORLEY**

out, just three years ago there would have been no way the U.S. would have bought the planes from Europe. Yet free-market proponents argue that by opening up military contracts to foreign suppliers, the military can take advantage of greater foreign efficiencies and avoid wasting resources supporting domestic industries that otherwise might not be profitable. By purchasing certain slightly cheaper and/or arguably sometimes superior foreign-made military equipment—the theory goes—the Air Force gets more bang for its buck; thus, it can spend more on other military needs, actually making the militarily stronger.

almost a year to produce that armor plate (*American Chronicle*, Feb. 9, 2006).

Has America forgotten the War of Independence? In that war, the United States learned the costly lesson of depending on foreign nations. Then, because of a lack of manufacturing power, the U.S. had to rely on other nations to supply all sorts of military equipment, and Britain routinely cut America's supply lines. To correct this weakness, America's founders implemented a national strategy promoting industrial and military *self-sufficiency* in order to enhance the nation's security.

This latest military contract with EADS and the humvee armor debacle are part of

Keeping up with these details is challenging. Perhaps that's why so few media outlets take the time to investigate the story. But the point is, Hugo Chávez has transformed Venezuela into a thriving hub for international terrorist organizations of all shapes and sizes, their state sponsors, and participants in the black-market trade of nuclear materials and technology.

Americans in particular ought to be in an uproar by this news. "Venezuela is known as a *major transit hub* [into America]," wrote Fred Burton from Stratfor, "and an entire industry has developed in Venezuela around the practice of illegal alien smuggling. There is an 'underground railroad' of sorts that begins in Caracas and stretches along various air, land and sea routes used to move migrants into the United States. This network consists of facilitators, document vendors, pilots, bus and truck drivers, sea captains, small hotels, money exchanges, restaurants and stores that all cater to illegal immigrants" (Dec. 13, 2006).

So Venezuela is not only a hub and staging ground for international terrorist organizations and the nuclear black market, it is also a key pit stop for illegals entering the U.S.!

Why aren't America's leaders and the mainstream media ringing alarm bells about the nuclear storm brewing in South America? The terrorists are circling and our leaders are sleeping, just as the Bible said they would be.

Notice what the Prophet Isaiah wrote more than 2,500 years ago: "All ye beasts of the field, come to devour, yea, all ye beasts in the forest. *His watchmen are blind: they are all ignorant, they are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark; sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber*" (Isaiah 56:9-10). Ferocious beasts—some possibly armed with crude nuclear weapons—have taken root in America's underbelly, and our leaders are sleeping when they should be barking!

For the *Trumpet* staff, the shameful silence of our leaders is *motivating*. We witness this deafening silence and are moved to *act*, to *warn*, to *blow the trumpet* and to support and amplify the voice of God's watchman.

If, when you learn about the nuclear storm brewing in Venezuela or the other catastrophes building, you feel an urge to act, then you need to learn more about the work of the Philadelphia Church of God. Begin by requesting a free copy of *Mystery of the Ages*. Then, if you are still keen, request a visit from one of our ministers.



GRAYING EAGLE F-15s are mission-critical to American air superiority; most of them are older than your car and computer put together—and they're wearing out fast.

This short-term thinking is a dangerous trap. Paying less now could mean paying with our lives later.

Promoting military equipment purchases based on free-market cost analysis alone, or on political convenience (another factor likely in this case), while sacrificing national self-sufficiency in matters of defense, neglects far greater long-term dangers associated with relying on offshore producers to supply the essential needs of the nation in times of crisis. It could easily open up the nation to geopolitical blackmail.

For example, there is now only one company left in the U.S. that manufactures roller cutters for heavy steel or armored plate. Because of this limited domestic manufacturing capability, when the urgent call came in for more armor for American humvees in Iraq at the end of 2004, it took

a broad trend: the return of U.S. dependence on foreign nations.

Even the president's helicopter is foreign-made.

America's leaders have allowed the nation's manufacturing base to erode. Many manufacturers—including several that are strategically important for the military—have gone bankrupt or been bought out; others have moved overseas where manufacturing costs are cheaper.

The full consequences of this short-term, free-market-inspired thinking may not be felt in times of peace and prosperity, but inevitably, when crises arise—and they always do—such neglect may prove fatal. The failure to learn from history is sapping America's self-sufficiency and draining the country's industrial lifeblood. Eventually, it will threaten America itself. ■

The Kingbreaker

The Roman Catholic Church shows just how much power it really has. BY RICHARD PALMER

THE VATICAN HAS BROUGHT DOWN the government of Italy.

In medieval Europe, it was well-known that the head of state was under the pope. Under the feudal system that reigned throughout the continent, all the lords were responsible to the king, and the king to God. Of course, the king had to go to God through the one called the “vicar of Christ”: the pope.

But this system of papal control ended hundreds of years ago. Or did it?

How Prodi Got Pushed Out

On January 24, Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi was forced to resign after he lost a vote of confidence in the Senate. The government fell, and legislative elections were scheduled for mid-April.

The fiasco started when Clemente Mastella, the Catholic leader of Italy’s Udeur Christian Democrat Party, resigned as justice minister January 17 after being implicated in a cash-for-favors scandal. The Udeur Christian Democrat Party

coalition opposed the legislation, it was dropped, Prodi won a confidence motion, and the crisis dissipated.

Mastella is merely a “loudspeaker” for the Vatican, according to Franco Giordano, a Communist member of parliament. The *Guardian* reported that he is “one of the Vatican’s most prominent political ‘trustees.’” He was in contact with the Catholic Church in the days leading up to his withdrawal of support for the Italian government. Several newspapers reported that Catholic Cardinal Angelo Bagnasco was among the first people Mastella informed about his decision to rebel against Prodi.

In short, before talking to the Vatican, Mastella supported Prodi. Afterward, he didn’t.

Though the Vatican officially denies involvement in Prodi’s downfall, Catholic leaders do not shy away from taking credit for it. “What has happened is a result of a lack of dialogue with Catholics, which has penalized Catholic values in particular. Without this dialogue, the country

Though the Vatican officially denies involvement in Romano Prodi’s downfall, Catholic leaders do not shy away from taking credit for it.

was a member of Prodi’s coalition. It is a small party, having only three seats in the Senate—but when the ruling coalition has a majority of just two, the small parties make all the difference.

Initially Mastella said his party would continue to support the coalition government. Over the next weekend, he changed his mind. Prodi lost his majority in the Senate and was forced out of office. Why?

According to the Italian newspaper *La Stampa*, the Vatican changed Mastella’s mind for him. “Prodi’s government dared to challenge the ecclesiastical hierarchy for the second time and this time it has had its hands burned,” it wrote. The paper was referring to the incident last year where the Vatican almost caused the collapse of the Italian government over Prodi’s support of a same-sex unions bill (see our May 2007 issue). After some Catholics in the ruling

cannot go forward,” said Cardinal Jose Saraiva Martins.

Cardinal Angelo Bagnasco, archbishop of Genoa and president of the Italian Bishops’ Conference, made several anti-Prodi comments the same day Mastella announced his decision. “The country is in pieces,” he said. “There is lazy administration and a shirking of responsibility.”

The next day, an interview with Bagnasco was published in the papal newspaper, *L’Osservatore Romano*. “Catholics must bring the contribution of spiritual and ethical values into the public square,” said Bagnasco. “The presence (in the public square) must be assumed by Catholics with greater persuasiveness and a greater capacity to respectfully explain our convictions, knowing that they come both from the gospel and from a common understanding of the value of life. ...

“There is no real politics without high moral and spiritual values. Politics, in fact, has justice as its goal, and justice is a moral virtue. It therefore requires from all those involved in politics a high sense of the human person, the right to life and the family.”

In essence, what the cardinal was saying is that Catholics need to get more involved in politics, especially when it comes to protecting the family. In February last year, the Vatican forced Prodi to toe its line on same-sex unions. Now, it seems, it’s had enough of him entirely.

The Anti-Abortion Campaign

That just leaves the question of motive. What triggered the Vatican to remove Prodi now?

Prodi has always been unpopular with the Catholic Church with his anti-family stance on many issues. This may have simply been an opportune time to oust the prime minister and bring in a government more agreeable to the Vatican, nothing more.

However, the church may have had more on its mind than merely intervening to stop something it didn’t want. It may have intervened to push forward its own anti-abortion agenda.

Most members of Prodi’s cabinet would oppose a new campaign, supported by the Vatican, to increase Italy’s restrictions on abortion. Polls, however, have indicated that former Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi would defeat Prodi in an election. Berlusconi leads Forza Italia, a Christian Democratic party. Historically, especially in the early post-war period, several of Italy’s Christian Democratic parties have been the unofficial parties of the Vatican.

Berlusconi has made abortion a key issue in his election campaign. On February 11, he called for a United Nations moratorium on pregnancy terminations, similar to its nonbinding resolution on the death penalty. “I think that recognizing the right to life from conception to natural death is a principle that the UN could make its own, just as it did with the moratorium on the death penalty,” said Berlusconi. The phrase “right to life from conception to natural death” is exactly the same terminology the Vatican uses when discussing abortion.

According to his spokesperson on family issues, Sen. Maria Burani Procaccini, if Berlusconi’s center-right coalition wins the election, he will present a new bill on abortion. “The new law will allow abortion only in really justified cases and within the timeframe already envisaged,” said Procaccini.



WAYWARD SON Romano Prodi ran afoul of the Vatican one too many times, and it ended his political career in Italy.

It is possible that Berlusconi agreed to toughen the laws on abortion if the Vatican would clear his path to power. If Berlusconi does win the election, and follows through with these promises, the Vatican will have successfully changed Italian law in its favor.

Truly, abortion is a travesty. The fact that Italy's law would forbid it is good. But what makes this sequence of events so remarkable, particularly when viewed in light of history, is how successful the *Vatican* is becoming in forcing its will upon the political landscape.

Political Agenda

All over the world, particularly in Europe, the Catholic Church is becoming increas-

ingly active in politics. In the tight run-up to Spain's March general elections, for example, the Vatican sought to undermine the Socialist Prime Minister José Luis Zapatero. In December, Catholic bishops organized a rally that brought nearly 2 million pro-family demonstrators to Madrid. Catholic leaders' criticism of Zapatero's policies soon turned the rally into an anti-government demonstration. In January, the Spanish Bishops Conference released a paper effectively directing Spaniards to vote against the government and in favor of the conservative People's Party. Zapatero has clashed with the church on abortion, same-sex unions, and religious instruction in schools. The Catholic Church badly wanted to oust him. This

time, it failed. Spain is 94 percent Catholic. The fact that the Vatican failed to sway a large percentage of Catholic voters is certain to spur its efforts to take more firm control of the hearts and minds of believers.

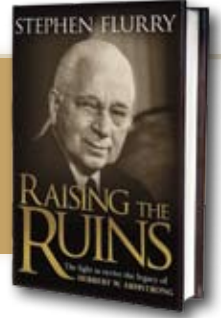
Watch for the Vatican to become far more aggressive in its political agenda. As the *Trumpet* wrote the last time the Vatican attacked Prodi, "Ever since becoming pope, Benedict has used politics as one of his tools to instill Christianity back into the heart of Europe. Just a couple of months into his reign, for example, the Vatican called for a boycott of a referendum to change Italy's strict fertility laws. The boycott was successful in voiding the referendum. Most recently, Benedict XVI told politicians in a papal document released March 13 [2007] they must not vote for laws that go against the Catholic Church's position. Catholic legislators must strenuously defend the church's 'non-negotiable values,' the pope stated. He said Catholic politicians must not vote for bills endorsing such issues as abortion and homosexual marriage, and also 'called for Sunday to remain a day of rest' (ANSA, March 13). It is lawmakers' social responsibility to give 'public testimony to their faith,' the pope stated" (May 2007).

This is about more than just blocking laws that promote immorality. The Catholic Church is seeking to unite Europe under the power of religion—the Catholic religion, and Catholic laws. It may appear to some that the Catholic Church's activities are a good thing for all Italian and even all European Christians. Do not be fooled.

No longer does the Vatican have the overt power to make and unmake kings, to alter laws and dictate policy. The church lost almost all of its old feudal powers during the Reformation. It has wanted them back ever since. Soon the Vatican's efforts will not be limited to a pro-family agenda. Watch for it to apply political pressure in other areas. Soon it will attempt to impose its beliefs in areas such as Sunday worship on the whole European continent.

The pope has demonstrated his political clout in Italy. Watch for it to extend across Europe. ■

In his book *Raising the Ruins*, now available in bookstores, *Trumpet* executive editor Stephen Flurry exposes the reality of what happened to the Worldwide Church of God. Here is the 17th chapter.



S T E P H E N F L U R R Y

Battle Lines Drawn

“We feel it is our Christian duty to keep this book out of print ... because we believe Mr. Armstrong’s doctrinal errors are better left out of circulation.”

— Joseph Tkach Jr., *Transformed by Truth*

ON FEB. 10, 1997, AS MY WIFE AND I FLEW across the Atlantic to Europe for our honeymoon, WCG attorneys, including in-house lawyer Ralph Helge, crossed the street in downtown Los Angeles to file papers against the PCG in a federal court. Three weeks earlier, on January 21, Mr. Helge penned this letter to my father demanding that the PCG stop distribution of *Mystery of the Ages*. “We would appreciate your advising us by what authority you are, without the permission of the church, copying and publishing said book?”

“Please advise us promptly as to your intentions in this matter. If we do not hear from you promptly we shall assume that you are violating the church’s copyright in said regard and that it is your intention to continue to do so. In such case, we will take appropriate action without further notice.”

My father was already prepared for the consequences of his actions. If that meant going to court to fight for “said book,” then so be it. He decided not to respond to Helge’s letter. The battle lines were clearly drawn.

In its February 10 complaint, the WCG suggested that since the PCG might receive public donations for its free distribution of the book, these donations would *deprive* the WCG of the “benefits” of *Mystery of the Ages*. We were robbing them of income! They also claimed that because of our action, the relationship between them and their members had been injured. According to the brief, the WCG had already suffered “irreparable damage.”

Our offices didn’t find out about the court filing until the next day, on February 11, when we received a letter from WCG attorney Benjamin Scheibe of the law offices of Browne & Woods in Beverly Hills. He informed us that on February 12, they would file an Ex Parte Application, asking the judge for a temporary restraining order that would immediately stop us from distribution. (An ex parte order is a legal instrument made by or in the interest of only one party to an action, in the absence of the other party.)

To that point, our experience with law firms was minimal—limited to wills and trusts mostly. Now we found our-

selves brawling with a church more than 10 times our size and represented by the same law firm that stood down the state of California when it attacked the WCG in 1979! Dennis Leap, who *became* the PCG legal department the day we found out about the lawsuit, called Terry Moyer in South Carolina. Married to our television agent, Mr. Moyer was one of the few lawyers we knew personally. Terry agreed to represent us for a few days until he could track down a reputable law firm in Southern California.

Moyer responded to Scheibe’s letter the next day: “Please be advised that the Philadelphia Church of God strongly objects to any ex parte proceedings and intends to fully and vigorously contest any and all claims asserted against it” Two days later, on February 14, we found out that the ex parte hearing had been set for the following week, on February 18.

■ LITIGATION BEGINS

On Monday, February 17, on the advice of Terry Moyer, we hired the services of the Los Angeles law firm Munger, Tolles & Olson. Mark Helm, who had been appointed lead attorney for the case, had *one day* to prepare for the hearing. Terry quickly brought him up to speed on the most relevant details of this unusual case, via phone and fax. That night, Mark spoke with Dennis Leap over the phone for about an hour.

The next day, Mark Helm stood before Judge Spencer Letts in a Los Angeles courtroom without anyone from the PCG at his side. He was on his own, having had one day to prepare for this case. The judge had read the WCG’s brief and wondered why there was nothing filed by the PCG. Mr. Helm explained to the court that he had only come on board with the PCG “recently” and didn’t yet know all the facts. We simply did not have enough time to file a response. He was, however, able to offer this succinct explanation to Judge Letts: “This is not a case where the Worldwide Church of God is exploiting the copyright in order to disseminate and earn profits from *Mystery of the Ages*; this is a case where they are trying to suppress and not disseminate Mr. Armstrong’s books; that’s our understanding.”

To which Judge Letts responded, “*That’s mine as well.*” Our attorney was stunned by this response. *With only the wCG’s brief to go on*, Judge Letts clearly and quickly established that in his view, the wCG had no right to suppress Mr. Armstrong’s works! Later in the hearing, the judge turned to the wCG’s attorney and said, “You’re not going to be dealing with a closed mind, but what I know about this case, but for what Mr. Helm [just] said, is what you’ve told me, and it raises, in my judgment, very serious questions and *very serious irreparable harm on the other side as well.*”

The way he saw it, they were guilty of what they accused us of doing! They caused us “irreparable harm” by attempting to suppress Mr. Armstrong’s works.

In response to the judge’s suggestion that the wCG would lose based on the merits of the case, wCG attorney Benjamin Scheibe exclaimed, “I’m somewhat at a loss with the Court’s suggestion, [that] there’s not a probability of success on the merits here.” That became the wCG’s typical response early on in the litigation—they reacted incredulously to anyone who viewed this case as anything other than a simple, garden-variety copyright infringement. *They owned the copyright, therefore we couldn’t print the book.* It was as simple as that—to them.

But not us, nor to Judge Letts, nor, as would soon become clear, to many others in the legal world. This was an unusual lawsuit. It was a case where a religious entity was *using* its copyright to SUPPRESS a work it no longer agreed with. Here is how Judge Letts assessed the dispute in that first hearing: “The copyright seems to me to have two primary purposes, neither of which [is] at issue here. One is to keep there from being confusion about who is the person publishing the work; the second is to keep strangers from profiting from the work. Neither of those is at issue with somebody who wants to suppress the work entirely. ... It wasn’t a question of whether there would be two publishers, or three, but rather whether there will be one or none.”

Scheibe’s persistence would not change the judge’s mind. “I don’t think you are going to prevail on the merits,” the judge told him. “I understand your position,” he later said, “but I don’t agree with it.” Mr. Armstrong, Judge Letts said, “didn’t dream that by giving this copyright to the corporation, which was his corporation that reflected his religion, that those who would come after him would use their corporate power to suppress his religion or to keep any prior practitioners of his religion ... from making that book available on a continuous, freshly printed basis, I don’t believe the founder dreamed that.”

Scheibe argued that the wCG hadn’t suppressed or abandoned the work because they still had *archival* copies. Plus, there were some copies in libraries! Scheibe said, “[A]bandonment requires overt acts such as destroying the last copies of a work”—which, of course, is precisely what the wCG did with the 120,000 surplus copies it had in early 1988.

We bounced off the walls that day at our headquarters complex after receiving word that Judge Letts denied their request for a temporary restraining order. That first hearing emboldened my father—God had backed his leap of faith. He knew we might be in for a lengthy and bitter dispute. But after such an overwhelming victory that early in the case, he was all the more convinced that God would support our actions—as long as they pleased Him and we walked by faith.

Judge Letts set the preliminary injunction hearing for March 10.

■ MEETING THE ATTORNEYS

Two days after the ex parte hearing, Dennis Leap, my father and I flew to Los Angeles to meet our lawyers for the first time. Before entering their firm the afternoon of February 20, the three of us met to discuss how we might best explain our strategy to the attorneys. We also considered the immediate steps our church might take now that Judge Letts denied the wCG’s request for a temporary restraining order. For one, my father wondered if we should immediately start offering *Mystery of the Ages* on our television program. My dad also directed me to begin work on an ad campaign in Southern California newspapers. “Now that we have absorbed their initial blow,” he said, “we have to strike back.” He believed newspaper ads in their own backyard would help to expose their hypocrisy and lies.

After lunch, we met with Mark Helm and Ruth Fisher at the Los Angeles offices of Munger, Tolles & Olson. Kelly Klaus, in the San Francisco office, listened in over the phone. That afternoon, and the following day, the three of us explained the history of our work and its intimate association with the teachings of Mr. Armstrong. We told them about how the Tkaches had gotten control of the wCG and repudiated Mr. Armstrong’s teachings and disfellowshipped many of those who adhered to the founder’s body of beliefs.

The attorneys, in turn, familiarized us with a litigation road map. While the judge’s denial of the restraining order was indeed a victory, the war had only just begun. The stakes would be much higher at the March 10 hearing. Preliminary injunction hearings can go a long way toward deciding the outcome of a case, we learned.

After our meetings concluded on February 21, Mr. Helm contacted Scheibe to request discovery, a pre-trial procedure by which one side gains information held by the other. Within their complaint, the wCG claimed to own the copyright to *Mystery of the Ages* because at the time it was written, Mr. Armstrong was “an officer and employee of the wCG.” We intended to challenge that assertion by arguing that Mr. Armstrong was the one who *raised up* and ESTABLISHED the church. Saying he was a wCG “employee” implied that some higher authority in the wCG “hired” him.

■ CHURCH GOVERNANCE

The “employee” issue was a critical point early on in the case because of how often we repeated Mr. Armstrong’s final instructions regarding *Mystery of the Ages*—to distribute it to the “largest audience possible.” In response to this, the wCG tried to show that what Mr. Armstrong said was irrelevant, *legally* speaking, because he was under the *church’s* control.

The wCG had always believed that the living, *invisible*, Jesus Christ headed the church. But we also believed that Christ works *through* physical men. And His human representative, prior to Jan. 16, 1986, was Herbert W. Armstrong. If *anyone* understood that, it would have been Ralph Helge, since he was the one who helped Mr. Armstrong draw up the church’s bylaws and articles of association. Mr. Helge testified that the unincorporated association—the *spiritual* organism, keep in mind—basically didn’t have any temporal responsibilities. Regarding the corporate entity, he indicated that Mr. Armstrong did *not* have “absolute right to tell the board of directors to do this or that.”

We then referred him to the church's articles of association, which state that the "Church Authority" has control over the "ecclesiastical" and "temporal" affairs of the church. And what did it mean by "Church Authority"? Article 2.1 says it means the "power and authority *vested in Herbert W. Armstrong and his duly authorized delegates,*" which included the Advisory Council of Elders. Later, in article 5.2, it says, "The authority and power of Herbert W. Armstrong to unilaterally exercise all the powers of the church over the ecclesiastical and temporal affairs of the church shall be absolute and unqualified."

That we were trying to convince Mr. Armstrong's own legal adviser that the WCG's government structure was hierarchical seemed absurd. *Everyone* in the WCG knew that! After reading the church's articles of association during his deposition, Mr. Helge said, "I don't think it's proper to look at it and interpret it that he ran things like a despot." Of course, that's the *exact opposite* of what we were trying to say. Mr. Armstrong governed the church like a loving father—always seeking a multitude of counsel. But he did have final say—and since some of his last instructions to the church had to do with distributing *Mystery of the Ages* widely, his authority in the church was of special significance.

Ironically, Joseph Tkach Jr., Mr. Helge's own boss at the time of his deposition, is the one who interpreted the church's governance doctrine to mean that Mr. Armstrong was a despot. In his book, Tkach Jr. said Mr. Armstrong "was most definitely and absolutely in charge of our church"—so much so, he had earned the reputation from critics outside the church as being a "theological despot." It is even more ironic that the "absolute authority" Tkach Jr. freely condemns in his book is the very means by which Tkach Sr. landed in the office of pastor general in 1986, not to mention Tkach Jr. in 1995. (The all-powerful "board" had no say in either appointment.) It's also the means by which the Tkaches excommunicated *thousands* of WCG members who simply desired to adhere to the same teachings they had always been taught by Mr. Armstrong.

Early on in the court case, Ralph Helge portrayed Mr. Armstrong as just another church employee—hired or fired by THE BOARD. It then followed that the church—OR THE BOARD—had final say on this legal matter regarding *Mystery of the Ages*.

Outside of court, however, Tkach Jr. portrayed Mr. Armstrong as a corrupt, theological despot who wielded absolute power within the WCG.

Witnessing this duplicity up close in the early stages of the court case brought back painful memories of how the Tkaches forced their changes on the church back in the late 1980s. It didn't take long before we realized we were going to have to live through much of that late 1980s history all over again.

■ FORUM SHOPPING

In their discovery request, the WCG asked us for an accurate count of how many books had been distributed as well as the amount of donations the PCG received as a result of distribution. We wanted to complete this initial exchange of discovery by the end of the day on Monday, Feb. 24, 1997, so we could meet our February 27 deadline for filing our opposition to their complaint.

The following week, on Tuesday, we had not yet received any documents from the other side. Mark again contacted them to remind them that our opposition was due in only a couple days. Scheibe said the WCG was having problems gathering the docu-

ments because much of it was tucked away in storage.

On Wednesday, the day before our opposition was due, we still hadn't received documents from the WCG. Mr. Scheibe said they needed more time to locate the documents and asked if we would be amenable to delaying the briefing and hearing by one week, assuming it was fine with the judge. We agreed and later the judge pushed the hearing back to March 17, which also gave us another week to prepare our opposition brief. Scheibe said he would have discovery responses to us by the end of the week.

Two days later, toward the end of the day on Friday, Scheibe left Mark a voice mail that knocked our socks off. He said the WCG had filed a motion to dismiss the lawsuit. Just *18 days* into the litigation, they had already given up! And we hadn't even received *any* items of discovery—nor had we filed one single opposition brief in court.

The next day, at our weekly church service, PCG members applauded the news.

The following Monday, March 3, Mark Helm called the WCG's attorney to make sure he understood Friday's voice mail correctly. Scheibe confirmed that the California action had indeed been dismissed.

Later that day, at our headquarters offices in Edmond, Oklahoma, we were served papers by courier. The WCG filed a new complaint in *Oklahoma*. It was a stunning blow—although we weren't necessarily shocked that the WCG would resort to manipulating the system.

In its new complaint, the WCG said it dismissed the action in California because it learned that the Philadelphia Church intended to contest the case on the basis that it should not have been filed there—a blatant fabrication. In actuality, at the February 18 hearing, Mark Helm only reserved *the right* to dispute personal jurisdiction. He had only been hired the day before, remember, and he hadn't yet assembled all the facts of the case.

The WCG turned our reservation of rights into an attempt on our part to challenge jurisdiction.

■ THE AD CAMPAIGN

Shifting venues enabled the WCG to beef up its argument since Judge Letts had made it clear that their case was weak. In the California filing, they said nothing about the WCG's repudiation of Mr. Armstrong's teachings. Their main thrust was that they owned the copyright and *that*, in itself, should prevent us from printing and distributing the book.

In the Oklahoma action, however, they were much more forthright about their turn away from Mr. Armstrong's teachings. They admitted the church had "intentionally not reprinted the book" due to a modification in doctrine, but felt obligated to "protect" its copyright. They said that while the PCG is free to believe the book's teachings, we could not go so far as to publish it. To do that, we would have to come up with our "own original expression of the ideas." Furthermore, the Oklahoma complaint said, "Because of this change in belief, Worldwide Church suffers irreparable injury by Philadelphia Church's unlawful reproduction and distribution of *Mystery of the Ages* because it does so with the purpose of perpetuating beliefs no longer followed by Worldwide Church."

Ah yes! The real truth emerges. They told Judge Letts they suffered "irreparable damage" because we had "profited" from

distributing the work (the donation “profit” was actually *theirs*, in other words) and because they had been “forced to incur attorneys’ fees.” Now their suffering stemmed from the fact that we were perpetuating beliefs and teachings *they no longer agreed with!* It was the closest they ever got in court to saying they wanted to suppress Mr. Armstrong’s teachings.

Taking that as our cue, we quickly went to work producing newspaper ads while our attorneys began working with an Oklahoma lawyer to answer the WCG’s latest complaint. On March 5, in a meeting with Dennis Leap and me, my father said he wanted us to look upon this second attack from the WCG as a “tremendous opportunity.” We have to regain the advantage by taking the offensive, he said. He explained that he felt the WCG’s biggest weakness was being exposed before the general public. It was before that audience that the WCG had bragged about the “unprecedented” transformation their church had undergone since Mr. Armstrong’s death. Our job, my dad said, was to show how this was actually one of the biggest *betrayals* in the history of religion. He felt like newspaper ads would be the easiest and quickest way to get the true story out there. He advised us to come up with a provocative sounding headline—something like, “Why are they desperately trying to keep you from reading *Mystery of the Ages*?”

My dad put pen to paper and worked up a rough draft of the copy while I started working on the ad design. Mr. Leap and I helped with some of the research for the ad. After we polished it off, we consulted our attorneys about the wording. It had to be just right.

Then, on Tuesday, March 18, our first newspaper ad appeared on page 14 of the front section of the *Los Angeles Times* under the headline, “Worldwide Church of God says: You can’t read this book!” Next to the headline was a picture of *Mystery of the Ages*. In the days that followed, the ad also appeared in several smaller papers in Southern California, as well as the *Washington Post* and *Denver Post*.

Using less than 1,000 words, we summarized the history of Tkach’s rejection of Mr. Armstrong’s teachings and how more than half of the WCG membership had been driven out of that church—many of them excommunicated. We also discussed the most significant details of the lawsuit. “Although Mr. Armstrong’s successors have seized his church and betrayed his ideals,” the ad read, “they should not be allowed to silence his voice.” It continued, “If the Worldwide Church of God no longer has any use for *Mystery of the Ages*, it should not be allowed to keep the book from those who do.”

We wanted to expose their religious censorship in public, within their own community, and plug Mr. Armstrong’s wonderful book at the same time. As my dad told Mr. Leap and me in February, “An ad campaign will help us achieve our goal.” *And did it ever.* Several thousand people responded to our campaign by requesting *Mystery of the Ages*. In the weeks that followed, we produced two follow-up ads. Together, all three ads appeared in over a dozen newspapers.

But much more important than that, at least with respect

to the litigation, is how the WCG *reacted* to the campaign. Our ads got right under their skin and put them on the defensive, as my father predicted they would. Mr. Helge contacted the newspapers we used in the Los Angeles basin, demanding retractions and even threatening litigation.

■ THEIR CHRISTIAN DUTY

At about the time our first ad appeared in the *Los Angeles Times*, Joe Tkach Jr. was putting the finishing touches on his new book, *Transformed by Truth*, to be released later that summer. Our March 18 ad prompted him to add this footnote on page 203 of his book: “In February 1997 we filed suit against the Philadelphia Church of God—one of our splinter groups headquartered in Edmund [sic], Oklahoma—to block the republication of *Mystery of the Ages*. The Worldwide Church of God still holds the copyright to this book, and we contend that no one else has the right to publish it. We feel it is OUR CHRISTIAN DUTY TO KEEP THIS BOOK OUT OF PRINT, not because we recognize ‘the power and clarity of Mr. Armstrong’s vision’ or because our church ‘lacks confidence in the appeal of its own muddled and compromised approach,’

as an advertisement for the Philadelphia Church claims, but because we believe Mr. Armstrong’s doctrinal errors are better left out of circulation.”

That one footnote was perhaps the WCG’s biggest blunder during the six-year lawsuit. In the Oklahoma complaint, remember, they said we caused them irreparable injury for perpetuating beliefs they no longer followed. Now we had a much stronger statement, *and direct from their own pastor general*, saying they had a “CHRISTIAN DUTY” to suppress Mr. Armstrong’s written works! Our *Los Angeles Times* ad was just too nettlesome for Tkach Jr. to ignore.

The “Christian duty” statement put the WCG in a nearly indefensible position from the outset. How would they convince any judge or jury that they weren’t really using their copyright to suppress Mr. Armstrong’s writings when, in fact, their own leader said it was his “Christian duty” to keep the works out of print?

And it was all brought to the surface by one single newspaper ad. That is what provoked Tkach Jr. to spontaneously (and publicly) reveal his true motive for filing the lawsuit from the beginning. It wasn’t to *protect what they considered to be a valuable asset*, as we would hear later. Nor was it because *they had big plans for Mystery of the Ages down the road—perhaps distributing the work again in some kind of annotated form*. And it wasn’t because *they were intent on making all of Mr. Armstrong’s works available through e-publishing for historical purposes and to accommodate the spiritual needs of our PCG membership*.

Those were all LIES that would resuscitate their case from time to time in the years that followed. But what *killed* their case from the beginning is when Tkach Jr., in a brief, angry reaction to a newspaper ad, sat in front of his computer and actually typed *the truth*. As ABSOLUTE RULER in the WCG, he admitted he had a “Christian duty” to destroy Mr. Armstrong’s written works. ■

Now we had a much stronger statement, and direct from their own pastor general, saying they had a “Christian duty” to suppress Mr. Armstrong’s written works! Our *Los Angeles Times* ad was just too nettlesome for Tkach Jr. to ignore.



Nightmare in the D

HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE Republic of Lakota? According to a group of Sioux Indians, it is a sovereign nation—*within the territorial United States*, including parts of Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming and Nebraska. They have appealed to foreign nations to recognize their independence from the U.S. So far, they're out of luck.

Most of us haven't even heard of the Lakota nation. If we had to quantify our level of concern that we'll ever see the Republic of Lakota on a future National Geographic map, it would probably fall somewhere between "insignificant" and "punch line."

But let's think about this. After all, last September, the United Nations adopted a non-binding declaration on the rights of indigenous people that some believe bolsters the Lakotas' legal case. For that matter, Kosovo, a chunk of Serbia, declared independence in February—and it managed to get several nations, including the U.S., to accept the idea.

So let's just briefly imagine a similar scenario playing out in America. It's a stretch, but stay with me. There's a point to this.

IMAGINE THE UN PASSING SEVERAL DECLARATIONS establishing the Lakotas' historical and legal claim to their own nation. Indians nationwide immigrate there to take it over demographically. Many whites move out, and soon the Lakota nation becomes something of a *de facto* state of its own.

Under heavy international pressure, the U.S. government decides that, in the interest of keeping peace, it is best to relinquish control of the area. It encourages whites to leave—and finally undertakes to forcibly remove those who insist on staying.

Most Americans are upset by this turn of events, but then the situation turns seriously dangerous. Reports of terrorists smuggling weapons into the Lakota nation are confirmed when rockets begin to descend on U.S. cities—Omaha, then Sioux Falls, then Denver. The government responds with a degree of force—and is roundly condemned by other nations for doing so—but the rockets keep coming.

Imagine further if immigrants, both legal and illegal, begin to demand that the U.S. give up an enormous chunk of the Southwest—the entirety of California, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas—to form a new independent nation. We'll call it Mexifornia, to use Victor Davis Hanson's term. Imagine non-whites, most of whom don't speak English, becoming the heavy majority. They form their own schools, and the curriculum includes virulent anti-white propaganda. A small but growing percentage of the immigrants begin to grow violent, staging increasingly brutal riots in U.S. cities bordering the Mexifornia region.

Imagine, over time, civil unrest and terrorist attacks becoming somewhat common all across America. Tussles in the streets—a bombing on a subway, in a deli, at a dance club. Local police forces are overwhelmed. A general, growing sense of dread and hopelessness spreads.

In order to address the growing security threat, the U.S. decides to reinstitute the draft, obligating everyone 17 years old and up—both men and women—to serve. The military swells to almost 10 times its present size: 8 million active troops and 19 million reservists—27 million total. Imagine going to town and regularly seeing U.S. soldiers openly carrying automatic rifles. Imagine seeing a private security guard outside

nearly every restaurant. Imagine security checkpoints everywhere—when you're parking at a school, when you're entering a hospital, when you're going to church.

And still, imagine the news continuing to report ongoing rocket attacks on U.S. cities. Virtually everyone in the country has been personally affected: a family member or acquaintance has experienced a missile attack or personally participated in a military strike against the secessionists.

Imagine if every time Washington takes action to protect Americans by retaliating against the terrorist perpetrators, it is accused by the UN and the international press of escalating the violence and destroying any chance of peace.

Imagine, then, the Mexican president saying he intends to wipe the U.S. off the map. Meanwhile he is robustly pursuing a nuclear program—a program that could easily produce nuclear weapons that would enable him to fulfill his pledge.

And so on. You get the picture.

This scenario is improbable to the point of being ridiculous. Except that, as you've surely realized by now, we're not really talking about the Republic of Lakota, or the United States.

We're talking about the Jewish state of Israel.

In that nation, something very close to what we've just imagined *is reality*.

ISRAEL IS, IN MANY WAYS, THE UN'S top enemy, the subject of almost continuous reprimand and censure. International pressure on Israel to turn the other cheek to terrorist violence and to relinquish territory it won in fundamentally defensive wars against Arab aggression is immense. Not long after Israel

re akotas

A look at a nation so familiar with danger, it can't even see it. BY JOEL HILLIKER

withdrew from the Gaza Strip, the terrorist group Hamas took over and has since launched thousands of rocket attacks at Israeli civilian population centers. The loss of the West Bank to Israel would be comparable to the loss of our fictional, five-state Mexifornia to the U.S.—yet it too is on the table for discussion.

Our scenario above didn't even address the fact that Israel faces the Iranian-backed terrorist group Hezbollah on its border with Lebanon, Syria on its northern border, and an increasingly radical Egypt on its southern border—in addition to Iran itself, whose president has vowed to wipe it off the map, not far to its east.

The Jewish state is on a permanent war footing, with a mandatory draft and an enormous military (proportionally speaking, just as I described above in U.S. terms). The rifle-toting soldiers are everywhere, as are the security guards by the restaurants.

To Israelis, most of these things are practically invisible. For this American writer, however, walking the streets of Jerusalem for a week revealed a myriad of signs of the edginess—and in some cases, the weariness—of a people under attack. The nation's parting sentiments were the layers of security I had to pass through just to get on the plane home: I counted nine of them, including a detailed 28-minute interrogation.

The perils Israel faces are very real and very serious. If comparable crises prevailed in the United States, the effect on the nation would be devastating.

For the Jewish state, however, war has been a way of life since it was born nearly 60 years ago. The Jews don't fear confrontation. In many ways they seem to embrace it.

Their familiarity with danger, however, has a major downside.

THE JEWS HAVE SURVIVED SO MANY LIFE-threatening situations—and not just in the wars Israel has endured as a state, but throughout the history of this oft-maligned and downtrodden people—that there seems to be a sense of inevitability about their surviving whatever the future may bring as well.

Yes, there is the war-weariness, infamously articulated by Ehud Olmert in his “We are tired of fighting, we are tired of winning” comment. But coupled with that is the assumption that even if the Jews give away land, cave in to international pressure, negotiate with terrorists, botch a war, carve off chunks of their capital city, wildly alter their strategy against the enemy from week to week or even day to day—somehow they will still come out okay in the end.

And when evidence to the contrary mounts, that just means they need to think harder. Surely the solution is within reach.

Many of Israel's best thinkers are at work on the problem, and proposed solutions are proliferating. Annex the West Bank to Jordan. Encourage Jewish emigration. Improve Israel's international PR. Quadruple the size of Jerusalem. Build an airport and a highway loop to attract businessmen. Drive electric cars to reduce dependency on Muslim oil exporters. Promote women's rights in Muslim countries. Throw the prime minister in jail. Do this or do that, and we'll be fine.

At a February conference in Jerusalem pondering these possibilities, Shlomo Amar, the chief Sephardi rabbi of Israel, made a telling comment. He asked, “Where is the joy in Jerusalem the City of God?” Today, truly, it is a city existing under a black pall of crises, a city of friction, of anger, of fear.

It is a marked contrast to the prophecy in the book of Zechariah—perhaps Rabbi Amar was alluding to it—of a time when Jerusalem will be a picture of joy, its streets full of boys and girls playing, with old men and women looking on contentedly.

Jerusalem, the rabbi said, “is the core, the spring, the fountain of our lives. From there we derive our strength.” He then spoke of the Jews having been driven out of Jerusalem and scattered among the nations for millennia. But, he said, “Two thousand years of exile and murder could not erase Jerusalem from the hearts of the Jews. Jerusalem has never ceased to be the first thing in our prayers, our expectations, our hopes. It was always our highest wish.”

Such steadfastness is a wonderful quality. But that is not the most important point to draw from the history of which Rabbi Amar spoke.

That history begs some penetrating questions. *Why* were the Jews exiled? *Why* were they driven out, never to return until 1948? *Why* did God allow the very City of God to be trampled and the Jews to be decimated and scattered? It wasn't because of a lack of ingenuity. And it is utterly naive to think that such a disaster couldn't happen again.

The signs are everywhere that it will, and soon. ■

FREE BOOKLET OFFER

Read online or request at theTrumpet.com

For more about Jerusalem's immediate future—and the time beyond it, when Zechariah's beautiful depiction will become reality—request a free copy of *Jerusalem in Prophecy*.



ABOUT DATING OR MARRIAGE AND HAVING A FAMILY—THE MOST SACRED INSTITUTION ON EARTH. They never learn anything about God’s view of sex. They’re *perverted* before they even get to be adults and never learn about God’s awesome purpose for marriage and family life. If that isn’t a tragedy, I don’t know what tragedy is.

Does this staggering sickness have to destroy us before we understand what is happening?

Protect Yourself!

Why would a public official risk *everything* to get involved in illicit sex or pornography? Why do people in high places *fall* because of this? The main problem is *addiction*—they get *addicted* to it. It’s like heroin, and it’s so *difficult* to ever overcome.

People don’t grasp just how *dangerous* it is. The widespread use of porn is deadlier than an exploding nuclear bomb!

America exports its pornography to the rest of the world and calls it “free expression.” In truth, it’s the worst *slavery* you can imagine! Those who call it free expression *don’t know what they’re talking about*. It has nothing to do with freedom! It’s all about slavery. Millions of people are getting hooked on pornography and destroyed by it. Marriages and families are being destroyed—and if you destroy the family, you destroy the nation.

You’ll never understand the magnitude of the evil of pornography until you understand God’s master plan—the gospel—of the coming Family of God. Marriage is a type of the coming marriage to Christ. Family is a type of the God Family. As we have a marriage and as we have a family, we should try to pattern it after the marriage to Christ and after the God Family, to become perfect as our Father in heaven is perfect (Matthew 5:48). Marriage and family are God-plane relationships.

Nothing will solve the pornography problem except understanding our God Family potential. Pornography strikes at the *very heart* of God’s family plan. The Bible reveals that God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah as an **EXAMPLE** for us in the *last time* (Jude 7). The main cause of that catastrophe was *sexual addiction*.

How many people believe the Bible? The absolute truth is that we’re going to suffer until we believe God’s Word—and start living by it. ■



UNITED STATES

Nationwide satellite Galaxy 3 Trans. 21 11:30 am ET, Tue/Thu; Galaxy 5 Trans. 7 8:00 am ET, Sun
Direct TV DBS WGN Chan. 307 8:00 am ET, Sun
Direct TV DBS ION Ch. 305 6:00 am ET, Fri
Dish Network ION Ch. 181 6:00 am ET, Fri
Dish Network DBS WGN Chan. 239 8:00 am ET, Sun
Nationwide cable WGN 8:00 am ET, Sun
Alabama, Birmingham WPXH 5:00 am, Fri
Alabama, Dothan WBDO 8:30, Sun
Alabama, Montgomery WBMY 8:30, Sun
Alaska, Anchorage KWBX 8:30 am, Sun
Alaska, Fairbanks KWFA 8:30 am, Sun
Alaska, Juneau KWJA 8:30 am, Sun
Arizona Cox Channel 7, 10:00 am
Arizona, Phoenix KPPX 5:00 am, Fri
Arizona, Yuma KWVB 9:30 am, Sun
Arkansas, Fayetteville KWFT 8:30, Sun
Arkansas, Fort Smith KWFT 8:30, Sun
Arkansas, Jonesboro KFOS 8:30 am, Sun
Arkansas, Rogers KWFT 8:30, Sun
Arkansas, Springdale KWFT 8:30, Sun
California, Bakersfield KWFB 9:30 am, Sun
California, Chico KIWB 9:30 am, Sun
California, El Centro KWUB 9:30 am, Sun
California, Eureka KWBT 9:30 am, Sun
California, Los Angeles KPXN 6:00 am, Fri
California, Monterey KMWB 9:30 am, Sun
California, Palm Springs KCWB 9:30 am, Sun
California, Redding KIWB 9:30 am, Sun
California, Sacramento KSPX 6:00 am, Fri
California, Salinas KMWB 9:30 am, Sun
California, San Francisco KKPX 6:00 am, Fri
California, Santa Barbara KWCA 9:30 am, Sun
Colorado, Denver KPXC 5:00 am, Fri
Colorado, Grand Junction KWGJ 10:30 am, Sun
Colorado, Montrose KWGJ 10:30 am, Sun
Connecticut, Hartford WHPX 6:00 am, Fri
Delaware, Dover WBD 9:30 am, Sun
Florida, Gainesville WBFL 9:30 am, Sun
Florida, Jacksonville WPXC 6:00 am, Fri
Florida, Miami WPXM 6:00 am, Fri
Florida, Orlando WOPX 6:00 am, Fri
Florida, Panama City WBPC 9:30 am, Sun
Florida, Tallahassee-Thomasville WBXT 9:30 am, Sun; WTXL 7:30 am, Sun
Florida, Tampa WXPX 6:00 am, Fri; WTTA 8:30 am, Sun
Florida, West Palm Beach WPXP 6:00 am, Fri
Georgia, Albany WBSK 9:30 am, Sun
Georgia, Augusta WBAN 9:30 am, Sun
Georgia, Brunswick WPXC 6:00 am, Fri
Georgia, Columbus WBG 9:30 am, Sun
Georgia, Macon WBMN 9:30 am, Sun

Georgia, Savannah WBVH 9:30 am, Sun
Hawaii, Hawaii Na Leo Chan. 54 6:30 am, Sun; 8:30 am, Wed
Hawaii, Kauai Ho’Ike Chan. 52 9:30 am, Tue
Hawaii, Maui/Lanai/Molokai/Niihau/Akaku Chan. 52 6:30 pm, Sun; 3:30 am, Mon
Idaho, Boise KWOB 10:30 am, Sun
Idaho, Idaho Falls KWIB 10:30 am, Sun
Idaho, Pocatello KWIB 10:30 am, Sun
Idaho, Twin Falls KWTE 10:30 am, Sun
Illinois, Bloomington WBPE 8:30 am, Sun
Illinois, Chicago WCUI 9:30 am, Sun; WCPX 5:00 am, Fri
Illinois, Peoria WBPE 8:30 am, Sun
Illinois, Rockford WBR 8:30 am, Sun
Indiana, Fort Wayne WBFW 8:30 am, Sun
Indiana, Indianapolis WIPX 6:00 am, Fri
Indiana, Lafayette WBFY 8:30 am, Sun
Indiana, Terre Haute WBI 8:30 am, Sun
Iowa, Cedar Rapids KPXR 5:00 am, Fri
Iowa, Des Moines KFPP 5:00 am, Fri
Iowa, Keokuk WEWB 8:30 am, Sun
Iowa, Kirksville KWOT 8:30 am, Sun
Iowa, Mason City KWBR 8:30 am, Sun
Iowa, Ottumwa KWOT 8:30 am, Sun
Iowa, Rochester KWBR 8:30 am, Sun
Iowa, Sioux City KXWB 8:30 am, Sun
Kansas, Joplin-Pittsburg K SXF 8:30 am, Sun
Kansas, Lincoln KWBL 8:30 am, Sun
Kansas, Topeka WBKS 8:30 am, Sun
Kentucky, Bowling Green WBWG 8:30 am, Sun
Kentucky, Lexington WUPX 6:00 am, Fri
Louisiana, Alexandria KAXN 8:30 am, Sun
Louisiana, El Dorado-Monroe KWMB 8:30 am, Sun
Louisiana, Lafayette KLWB 8:30 am, Sun
Louisiana, Lake Charles WBLC 8:30 am, Sun
Louisiana, New Orleans WPXL 5:00 am, Fri
Maine, Bangor WBAN 9:30 am, Sun
Maine, Presque Isle WBPQ 9:30 am, Sun
Maryland, Salisbury WBD 9:30 am, Sun
Massachusetts, Boston WBPX 6:00 am, Fri; WZMY 8:00 am, Sun
Massachusetts, Holyoke WBQT 9:30 am, Sun
Massachusetts, Springfield WBQT 9:30 am, Sun
Michigan, Alpena WBAE 9:30 am, Sun
Michigan, Cadillac WBVC 9:30 am, Sun
Michigan, Detroit WPXD 6:00 am, Fri; WADL 10:00 am, Sun
Michigan, Grand Rapids WZPX 5:00 am, Fri
Michigan, Lansing WBL 9:30 am, Sun
Michigan, Marquette WBMK 9:30 am, Sun
Michigan, Traverse City WBVC 9:30 am, Sun



North Dakota, Dickinson KWMK 10:30 am, Sun
North Dakota, Fargo WBFQ 8:30 am, Sun
North Dakota, Minot KWMK 10:30 am, Sun
North Dakota, Valley City WBFQ 8:30 am, Sun
Ohio, Cleveland WVPX 6:00 am, Fri
Ohio, Cincinnati WSTR 8:30 am, Sun
Ohio, Lima WBOH 9:30 am, Sun
Ohio, Steubenville WBWO 9:30 am, Sun
Ohio, Zanesville WBZV 9:30 am, Sun
Oklahoma, Ada KSHD 8:30 am, Sun
Oklahoma, Lawton KWB 8:30 am, Sun
Oklahoma, Oklahoma City KOPX 5:00 am, Fri
Oklahoma, Tulsa KTPX 5:00 am, Fri
Oregon, Bend KWBO 9:30 am, Sun
Oregon, Eugene KZWB 9:30 am, Sun; KEVU 10:00 am, Sun
Oregon, Klamath Falls KMFD 9:30 am, Sun
Oregon, Medford KMFD 9:30 am, Sun
Oregon, Portland KPXG 6:00 am, Fri
Pennsylvania, Erie WBEP 9:30 am, Sun
Pennsylvania, Philadelphia WPPX 6:00 am, Fri
Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh WPCW 9:00 am, Sun
Pennsylvania, Wilkes Barre WQPX 6:00 am, Fri
Rhode Island, Providence WPXQ 6:00 am, Fri
South Carolina, Charleston WBLN 9:30 am, Sun
South Carolina, Florence WFVB 9:30 am, Sun
South Carolina, Myrtle Beach WFVB 9:30 am, Sun
South Dakota, Mitchell KWSD 8:30 am, Sun
South Dakota, Rapid City KWBH 10:30 am, Sun
South Dakota, Sioux Falls KWSD 8:30 am, Sun
Tennessee, Jackson WBJK 8:30 am, Sun
Tennessee, Knoxville WPXK 6:00 am, Fri
Tennessee, Memphis WPX 5:00 am, Fri
Tennessee, Nashville WNPX 5:00 am, Fri
Texas, Abilene KQAW 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Amarillo KDBA 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Beaumont KWBB 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Brownsville KMHB 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Corpus Christi KWDB 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Harlingen KMHB 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Houston KPXB 5:00 am, Fri
Texas, Laredo KTXW 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Longview KWTL 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Lubbock KWBB 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Midland KWWT 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Odessa KQW 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Port Arthur KWBB 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, San Angelo KWSA 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, San Antonio KPXL 5:00 am, Fri
Texas, Sherman KSHD 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Sweetwater KQAW 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Tyler KWTL 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Victoria KWVB 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Weslaco KMHB 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Wichita Falls KWB 8:30 am, Sun
Utah, Salt Lake City KUPX 5:00 am, Fri
Virginia, Charlottesville WBC 9:30 am, Sun
Virginia, Harrisonburg WBHA 9:30 am, Sun
Virginia, Norfolk WPXV 6:00 am, Fri
Virginia, Roanoke WPXR 6:00 am, Fri
Washington D.C. WDCW 8:00 am, Sun; WJAL 12:00 pm, Sun; WPXW 6:00 am, Fri
Washington, Kennewick KWYP 9:30 am, Sun
Washington, Pasco KWYP 9:30 am, Sun
Washington, Richland KWYP 9:30 am, Sun
Washington, Seattle KWYP 6:00 am, Fri; KVOS 8:30 am, Sun
Washington, Spokane KGPX 6:00 am, Fri
Washington, Yakima KWYP 9:30 am, Sun
West Virginia, Beckley WBB 9:30 am, Sun
West Virginia, Bluefield WBB 9:30 am, Sun
West Virginia, Charleston WLPX 6:00 am, Fri
West Virginia, Clarksburg WVVB 9:30 am, Sun
West Virginia, Oak Hill WBB 9:30 am, Sun
West Virginia, Parkersburg WBPB 9:30 am, Sun
West Virginia, Weston WVVB 9:30 am, Sun
West Virginia, Wheeling WBWO 9:30 am, Sun

Wisconsin, Eau Claire WBCZ 8:30 am, Sun
Wisconsin, La Crosse WBCZ 8:30 am, Sun
Wisconsin, Milwaukee WPXE 5:00 am, Fri
Wisconsin, Rhinelander WBWA 8:30 am, Sun
Wisconsin, Wausau WBWA 8:30 am, Sun
Wyoming, Casper KWWY 10:30 am, Sun
Wyoming, Cheyenne KCHW 10:30 am, Sun
Wyoming, Riverton KWWY 10:30 am, Sun
Wyoming, Scottsbluff KCHW 10:30 am, Sun

CANADA

Nationwide satellite Galaxy 3 Trans. 21 11:30 am ET, Tue/Thu; Galaxy 5 Trans. 7 8:00 am ET, Sun
Nationwide cable WGN 8:00 am ET, Sun; Vision TV 4:30 pm ET, Sun; The Christian Channel 11:00 am ET, Sun.
Alberta, Calgary CICT 12:30 am, Mon
Alberta, Edmonton CITV 12:30 am, Mon
British Columbia, Vancouver KVOS 8:30 am, Sun
Manitoba, Winnipeg CKND 12:30 am, Mon
Maritimes CIHF 12:30 am, Mon
Ontario CIII 12:30 am, Mon
Quebec, Montreal CKMI 12:30 am, Mon
Saskatchewan, Regina CFRE 12:30 am, Mon
Saskatchewan, Saskatoon CFSK 12:30 am, Mon

LATIN AMERICA

Regional satellite Galaxy 3 Trans. 21 11:30 am ET, Tue/Thu
Colombia WGN 7:00 am, Sun; Buenas Noticias TV 47 11:00 am, Fri
El Salvador WGN 6:00 am, Sun
Guatemala WGN 6:00 am, Sun
Honduras WGN 6:00 am, Sun
Mexico WGN 7:00 am, Sun
Panama WGN 7:00 am, Sun

CARIBBEAN

Regional satellite Galaxy 3 Trans. 21 11:30 am ET, Tue/Thu; Galaxy 5 Trans. 7 8:00 am ET, Sun
Aruba WGN 8:00 am, Sun
Bahamas WGN 8:00 am, Sun
Barbados CBC Chan. 8 10:30 am, Sun
Belize WGN 7:00 am, Sun
Cuba WGN 8:00 am, Sun
Dominican Republic WGN 8:00 am, Sun
Haiti WGN 7:00 am, Sun
Jamaica WGN 9:00 am, Sun
Puerto Rico WGN 8:00 am, Sun
Trinidad and Tobago WGN 8:00 am, Sun

EUROPE

Malta Smash TV 4:30 pm, Sat; 6:00 pm, Tue

AUSTRALIA

Southern New South Wales WIN 5:30 am, Sun
New South Wales, Griffith WIN 5:30 am, Sun
Regional Queensland WIN 5:30 am, Sun
Tasmania WIN 5:30 am, Sun
Regional Victoria WIN 5:30 am, Sun
Victoria, Mildura WIN 5:30 am, Sun
Regional Western Australia WIN 5:30 am, Sun

Minnesota, Duluth-Superior KWBD 8:30 am, Sun
Minnesota, Mankato KWEY 8:30 am, Sun
Minnesota, Minneapolis KPXM 5:00 am, Fri
Mississippi, Biloxi WBGP 8:30 am, Sun
Mississippi, Columbus WBSP 8:30 am, Sun
Mississippi, Greenville WBWD 8:30 am, Sun
Mississippi, Greenwood WBWD 8:30 am, Sun
Mississippi, Gulfport WBGP 8:30 am, Sun
Mississippi, Hattiesburg WBHA 8:30 am, Sun
Mississippi, Laurel WBHA 8:30 am, Sun
Mississippi, Meridian WBMM 8:30 am, Sun
Mississippi, Tupelo WBSP 8:30 am, Sun
Mississippi, West Point WBSP 8:30 am, Sun
Missouri, Columbia KJWB 8:30 am, Sun
Missouri, Hannibal WEWB 8:30 am, Sun
Missouri, Jefferson City KJWB 8:30 am, Sun
Missouri, Kansas City KPXE 5:00 am, Fri
Missouri, Quincy WEWB 8:30 am, Sun
Missouri, St. Joseph WBJO 8:30 am, Sun
Montana, Billings KWBM 10:30 am, Sun
Montana, Bozeman-Butte KWXB 10:30 am, Sun
Montana, Glendive KWZB 10:30 am, Sun
Montana, Great Falls KWGF 10:30 am, Sun
Montana, Helena KWHa 10:30 am, Sun
Montana, Missoula KIDW 10:30 am, Sun
Nebraska, Hastings KWBL 8:30 am, Sun
Nebraska, Kearney KWBL 8:30 am, Sun
Nebraska, North Platte KWPL 8:30 am, Sun
Nevada, Reno KWVB 9:30 am, Sun
New York, Albany WYPX 6:00 am, Fri
New York, Binghamton WBXI 9:30 am, Sun
New York, Buffalo WPXJ 6:00 am, Fri
New York, Elmira WBE 9:30 am, Sun
New York, New York City WPXN 6:00 am, Fri; WLNY 10:00 am Sun
New York, Syracuse WSPX 6:00 am, Fri
New York, Utica WBU 9:30 am, Sun
New York, Watertown WBWT 9:30 am, Sun
North Carolina, Charlotte WLMY 8:30 am, Sun
North Carolina, Durham WRPX 6:00 am, Fri; 9:00 am, Sun
North Carolina, Fayetteville WFPX 6:00 am, Fri
North Carolina, Greensboro WGXP 6:00 am, Fri
North Carolina, Greenville WEPX 6:00 am, Fri; WGWB 9:30 am, Sun
North Carolina, Lumber Bridge WFPX 6:00 am, Fri
North Carolina, New Bern WGWB 9:30 am, Sun
North Carolina, Raleigh WRPX 6:00 am, Fri; 9:00 am, Sun
North Carolina, Washington WGWB 9:30 am, Sun
North Carolina, Wilmington WBW 9:30 am, Sun
North Dakota, Bismarck KWMK 10:30 am, Sun

New stations are added often.

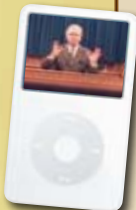
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On the March

MARTIN LEE, REFERRING TO THE BALKAN war (1991-94) in his book *The Beast Re-awakens*, writes: "Whatever assistance Croatia may have gotten from foreign mercenaries was a pittance compared with the political and military support provided by the German government." As the *Trumpet* pointed out ("On the March," April), Croatia's president during the war, Franjo Tudjman, was a fanatical Nazi apologist and devotee of Ante Pavelic, Croatia's World War II Nazi leader and staunch ally of Hitler. Thanks for the recent research on what's going on with the German Army and Klaus Nauman (who is talked about a lot in Lee's book—it would be shocking stuff had not Herbert W. Armstrong, in the *Plain Truth*, predicted it).

James Brady—NEW JERSEY



Funding the Enemy

THE PROBLEM WITH THE ABILITY TO print more dollars to buy more oil, petrodollar recycling, is that the system eventually fails ("Funding the Enemy," April). ... Notice the dramatic drop in value of the U.S. dollar since the euro was introduced in 2002. The U.S. Treasury has been able to print money that the world accepts because up until recently, it was the world's sole reserve currency—the unit of wealth people around the world prefer to use for safeguarding their wealth. Today the euro now accounts for 30 percent of world currency reserves. ... The Arabs are not ignorantly accepting U.S. dollars for their precious oil; in fact, OPEC recently held a meeting regarding the dollar. Many of the Persian Gulf countries also have massive sovereign wealth funds and are using their massive U.S. dollar reserves to diversify into other investments. The printing machine is allowing foreign entities to hold considerable amounts of our currency—this allows these powers to influence the value and viability of our dollar. Even China recently threatened to destroy the value of the dollar if the U.S. started rais-

Correction

In "The Resurrection Was Not on Sunday" (March 2008), John 14:31 is quoted as saying "For that Sabbath day was an high day." Actually it is John 19:31 that says this. The *Trumpet* regrets the error.

ing trade barriers. So the U.S. today is not as mighty as it was in the past.

Mark Petersen—MICHIGAN

Crumbling Bedrock

YOUR ARTICLE IS A VERY GOOD indictment of the neglect of the mineral industry in the United States ("Minerals: Crumbling Bedrock of U.S. Security," April). I am amazed that no one gets it! Especially the people in the financial services industry who should be assisting companies to scour the planet and explore and develop properties that contain these resources. I am the CEO/president of one such company. ... I was born in India, immigrated to Canada when I was 7 years old with my family. I travel to India and China regularly, three times last year alone. Have been to Africa at least 30 times in the last four years. Our company has had absolutely no luck getting any funding or traction among the investment community in the U.S. But, guess what ... we recently signed an MOU [memorandum of understanding] with three Chinese institutions, two mining institutes, and the China Development Bank (which is a policy bank). The Chinese are sending a contingent of 12 people to Tanzania in April. They will conduct their due diligence, and if they like what they see, I think we will have partners with very deep pockets. How is it that the Chinese see the opportunity, but the Americans do not? *Harp*

YOU DID NOT MENTION THAT AT ONE time we had a strategic stockpile of most of those minerals you mention. In fact, we had tens, hundreds, and thousands of tons of everything you mentioned and more. All of that was sold off over the years. You can thank former President Jimmy Carter for declaring that the stockpile was no longer strategic, and Congress gets credit for going along so they would have more money to spend. We will rue the day that strategic stockpile was sold off as well as the closing of the many rare metal and mineral mines. *Daniel H. Nielsen*

Kosovo and the EU

MAY I ADD A LITTLE TO THIS ARTICLE from an unofficial British point of view? ("Misreporting Kosovo," March). The remarkable thing was that all the EU countries, having been firmly opposed to recognizing Slovenia and Croatia, suddenly did an "about face" and all broke

their commitments under the Helsinki Accords by doing so. This arose from Britain's entrapment (the French call it *engrenage*) in the mechanism of EU treaties. The Maastricht Treaty (which brought the euro currency into being) was being negotiated at the time and Britain was committed "in principle" to joining it by the fine print of the earlier Single European Act (1986). Mr. Major, the Conservative prime minister, knew he could never sell the euro either to his party or to the country and needed an opt out. Diplomatic recognition of the seceding Yugoslav states was Germany's price. The German foreign minister remarked, "By this, Germany has regained diplomatically everything lost in Eastern Europe as the result of two world wars." I have had the facts of this trade-off confirmed by two senior British parliamentarians (one of former cabinet rank) and by Dr. Miroslav Polreich, who was Czechoslovakian ambassador to the OSCE in Vienna at the time. With regard to Germany's predominance in Eastern Europe, albeit under an EU cloak, one German minister made a thinly veiled threat in 1994 on the anniversary of the Nazi attack on Poland. "If integration (i.e. EU expansion) in Eastern Europe were not to proceed, a future German government might be called upon or compelled by its own security considerations to solve the problems of the area on its own and in the traditional manner." America, beware the EU! Britain is trapped in it, as all the main parties agree on our membership in spite of widespread public opposition. Uncle Sam spent a great deal of money through the CIA in support of the European movement to get us in. It did both the U.S. and Britain a bad turn.

Edward Spalton—DERBYSHIRE, UK

South Africa's Decline

LET THIS BE A LESSON TO THE REST OF the world as to what happens when political correctness becomes more cherished and protected than truth and reality ("Don't Expect Jacob Zuma to Fix South Africa," March). Africa is a huge problem the rest of the world is going to have to deal with *Brian*—NEBRASKA

Comments?

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Here's to the Heroes

Remember the true heritage of today's English-speaking peoples. **BY RON FRASER**

WINSTON CHURCHILL FAMOUSLY STATED, "THE FARTHER BACKWARD YOU CAN LOOK, THE FARTHER FORWARD YOU ARE LIKELY TO SEE." Few these days are encouraged to study the ancient history of the British and their colonial sons and learn of their unbreakable link to biblical heritage. That heritage links the fighting forces of these peoples today 3,000 years back to, believe it or not, King David of ancient Israel!

Benjamin Disraeli, twice prime minister during the British Empire's time of greatness (the year 1868 and 1874-1880) observed, "The most popular poet in England is the Sweet Singer of Israel. Since the days of the *heritage*, there never was a race who sang so often the odes of David as the people of Great Britain. It was the 'sword of the Lord and of Gideon' that won the boasted liberties of England; and the Scots upon their hillsides achieved their religious freedom chanting the same canticles that cheered the heart of Judah amid their glens" (*Tancred*).

Heritage—that's what once made Britain great! That's what moved these peoples to carve great nations out of the continental extension of North America, of southern Africa, Australia and New Zealand. It was a heritage acknowledged by Victoria, Queen of the British Empire at its peak. It was known to the Anzacs of old, who joined the fight to free the world from the tyrant in World War I.

One of Australia's great sons, Anzac soldier Ion Idriess, was inspired by the biblical setting of the desert war of 1914-18. Of Davidic Welsh stock, Idriess enlisted as a trooper in the Australian Imperial Force. He was attached to the 5th Light Horse Regiment. Wounded twice, once at Gallipoli and again at Gaza, Idriess witnessed the famous Anzac mounted infantry charge at Beersheba that led to the taking of Jerusalem by British Imperial forces. Amid the heat and sand, the fire and the blood of desert warfare, his writings made between marches and skirmishes reflected the deep emotion of a soldier conscious of Palestine's link between the Old and New Testaments of the Bible. At Rafah, en route to Gaza, he pondered, "Britain has brought along the 20th century into a land that was ancient when Christ was a child" (*The Desert Column*). Conscious of the seemingly overwhelming combined superiority in arms of the Turks, Austrians and Germans that awaited in the Sinai desert, Idriess mused, "The story of David and Goliath is not repeated in modern warfare when it is a handful against many men and many machines." He was later to eat those words as he witnessed the Australian Light Horse charge the cannon, bullets and cold steel of the enemy, by whom they were vastly outnumbered, and capture the ancient city of water wells, Beersheba, opening the way for victory over

the Turk at Jerusalem.

Of the great warrior psalmist, we read in a few words in the biblical book of Samuel a summation: "David the son of Jesse ... *the man* who was raised up on high, the anointed of the God of Jacob, and the sweet psalmist of Israel" (2 Samuel 23:1). "THE MAN"! That term in this verse is translated from the Hebrew *Ha-Gever*, meaning mighty, he-man, *HERO!*

Recently, while attending a performance of the Australian group the Ten Tenors, I was inspired to think on the power that the true heroes of the English-speaking nations have demonstrated in securing the freedoms that those nations presently enjoy. While listening to the Ten Tenors' rousing rendition of lyricist Don Black's "Here's to the Heroes," my mind filled with the images of the clash of steel, the fire of cannon, the pounding of hooves and the shouts of men in the bloody heat of battle as portrayed by Idriess at Gallipoli and on the desert sands of Sinai. As those 10 young Australians sang out lustily the words, "*Here's to the heroes who change our lives. // Thanks to the heroes, freedom survives,*" in my mind's eye I saw the frenzied gallop of the Australian Light Horse, vastly outnumbered by the entrenched enemy, swoop down in the face of ravaging fire to take ancient Beersheba of Abrahamaic tradition. I visualized General Allenby dismounting in respect to the ancient heritage of the Holy City, marching through the Jaffa

Gate to secure the City of Peace under British martial law.

Australia was founded on the blood and sweat of its pioneers, and gained maturity as a nation in the face of fire and steel in the desert of the Middle East and in the mud of the Western Front in World War I. Its military record is foremost a history of gallantry, of self-sacrifice in the best traditions of the human spirit that, in the words of the Savior of mankind, bespeaks this reality: "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13). That's the true Anzac spirit.

Do today's Australians still reflect that spirit? Where are the true heroes today who are willing to fight for the preservation of the heritage of King David, the psalmist hero?

You need to prove the link that binds the English-speaking nations profoundly to their biblical past, to a singular heritage, alone, upon which true greatness can be built. You need to study our book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy* (request a free copy). This eye-opening book will enable you to view current events in a far different and more spectacular—even hope-filled—light than you ever have before! It's the only book you will read that gives the plain, unadulterated revelation of the true heritage of the English-speaking peoples!

■



REMEMBER Visitors gather at London's Australian War Memorial to recognize the Australian and New Zealand soldiers who fought in both world wars.

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