

# THE PHILADELPHIA Trumpet

# 30 YEAR ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

WHY GOVERNMENTS  
FAIL THE AGE OF

# PROTEST

HOW A CHRISTIAN SHOULD  
RESPOND TO  
GOVERNMENT

MIDDLE EAST  
THEOCRAT OR THE TRIBE

BRITAIN THE PER-  
ENNIAL

HOPE of POPULISM  
AMERICA A

REPUBLIC  
IF YOU CAN KEEP IT

A FORM OF  
GOVERNMENT

THAT WORKS

MAN  
RUINER  
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THE CLIMAX of  
THE FAILURE OF MODERN DEMOCRACY

EUROPE RIPE FOR  
RISING  
DEMAGOGUES

LATIN AMERICA WHERE  
DEMOCRACY GOES  
TO DIE

CHINA THE  
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The  
DANGER of  
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RIDDLE of  
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**THE KEY  
OF DAVID**

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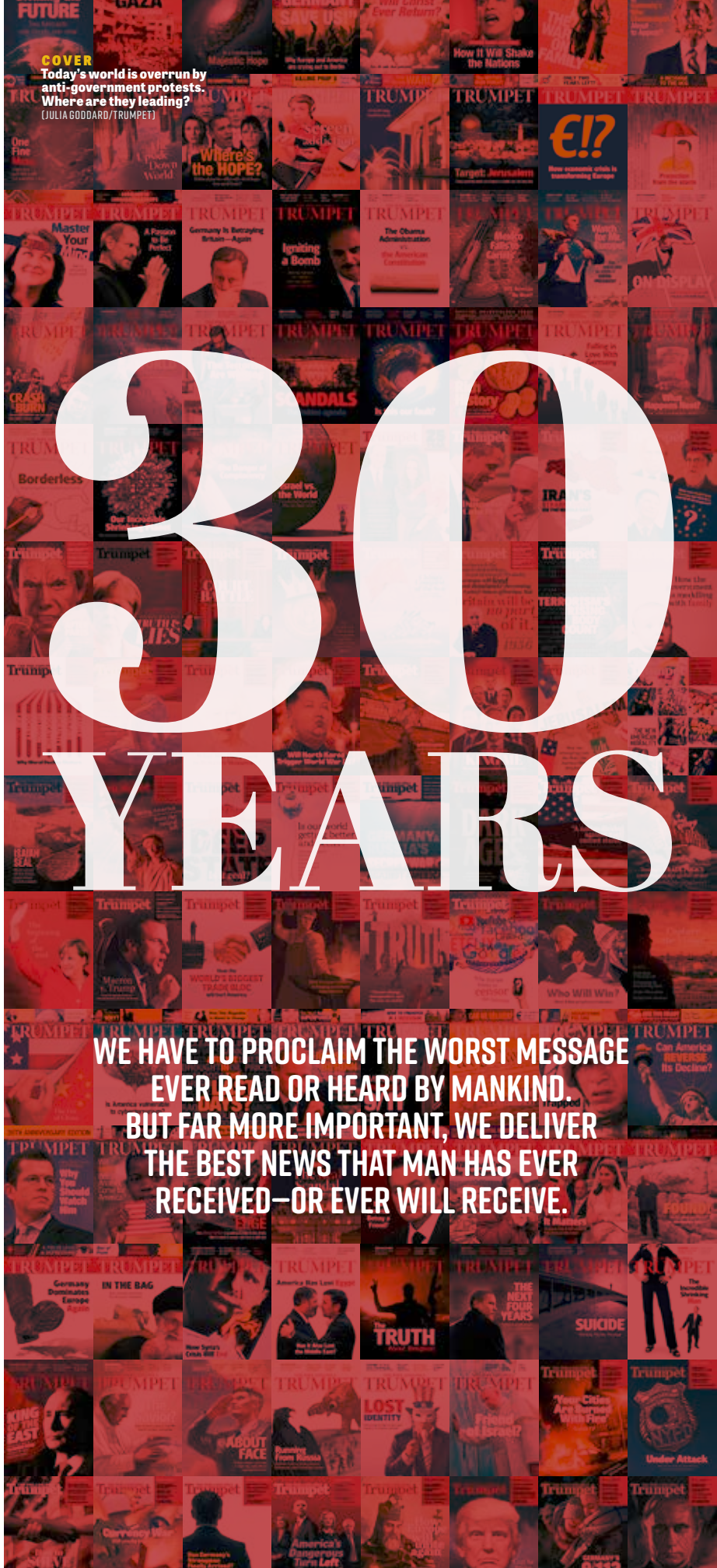
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**COVER**  
Today's world is overrun by  
anti-government protests.  
Where are they leading?  
(JULIA GOODARD/TRUMPET)

**30  
YEARS**

**WE HAVE TO PROCLAIM THE WORST MESSAGE  
EVER READ OR HEARD BY MANKIND.  
BUT FAR MORE IMPORTANT, WE DELIVER  
THE BEST NEWS THAT MAN HAS EVER  
RECEIVED—OR EVER WILL RECEIVE.**

# 30 Years of the *Trumpet*

A look at the work behind this unique newsmagazine

**T**HE PHILADELPHIA *TRUMPET* STARTED IN FEBRUARY 1990. This issue marks our 30th anniversary. Our publisher, the Philadelphia Church of God, has also just completed its third decade.

The *Trumpet* is unlike any other newsmagazine. You know that if you have been reading us for any time, and you will especially note it in this special anniversary issue. We look at the protests and clashes over government taking place in nations around the world, and use this trend to provide a biblically prophetic perspective on the larger questions of human government—a perspective you will find nowhere else.



This magazine is unique. You need to understand *why*.

Our *Trumpet* is “the voice crying out in the wilderness.” That means there are many voices in a wilderness of mass confusion. That is one of the drawbacks of living in the Information Age: There is too much information. You hear a multitude of “voices,” but all have a false hope. But there is one voice—and only one voice—that offers an awesome hope—a real solution to all of our frightening problems.

And you don’t have to guess about where that voice is. You can prove this message true, every step of the way.

We deliver a trumpet message—an impact unlike that of a soothing violin. We have to proclaim the worst message ever read or heard by mankind. But far more important, WE DELIVER THE BEST NEWS THAT MAN HAS EVER RECEIVED—OR EVER WILL RECEIVE!

One newsmagazine wrote that mankind needs “a strong hand from someplace” to solve our problems. That is what the *Trumpet*’s message is all about. We are declaring that a “strong hand from someplace” is about to come. And it comes at a time when human survival depends on it!

There is an old adage that says “It is darkest just before the dawn.” That is so true today. You need to hear about the *darkness* and the *dawn*. This issue of the *Trumpet* gives you both. But there is more emphasis on the bad news. That is so you can respond in a way that will eliminate most of the bad news in your life now!

Bible prophecy shows that we are on the verge of a world full of hope, peace and an abundant life of endless joy. You have the unparalleled honor of helping to usher it in!

To help you better understand that, I want to tell you about the larger work we have been doing these past 30 years.

As I do, think about this one point. In the decades after Jesus Christ died and was resurrected, the true Church of God was a small and persecuted group of believers, but it was spreading God’s message. Some Jewish religious leaders imprisoned the

apostles, but that failed to stop the message. So this religious council debated whether to begin executing them. One wise Pharisee gave this recommendation: “And now I say to you, keep away from these men and let them alone; for if this plan or this work is of men, it will come to nothing; but if it is of God, you cannot overthrow it—lest you even be found to fight against God” (Acts 5:38-39; New King James Version).

This is excellent advice we can apply to almost any venture. When it comes to religion, this is how we discern between “him that serves God and him that serves Him not”: Wait and watch and LOOK AT THE RESULTS. As Jesus Christ said, “By their fruits shall ye know them.”

We have been around for 30 years. That is plenty of time to show a lot of fruits. I want to ask you to evaluate the fruits of our work—and whether it is of men or whether it is something much more.

## Herbert Armstrong

The beginning of our work actually goes back much further than 30 years. It goes back to 1934 and another small beginning: one man and his wife. The work at this time had no resources to speak of. It was just one man’s efforts to study the Bible, submit to God, and deliver a unique, Bible-based, authoritative message from God.

Herbert W. Armstrong sacrificed everything to preach this unique Bible message in rural western Oregon, first to a group of scattered churchgoers, then to a radio audience of several hundred on a low-power local station and a couple hundred subscribers through a rudimentary bulletin, or magazine.

One day, as Mr. Armstrong was walking along a gravel road from one tiny congregation to the next, a man came up to him and told him,



Herbert W. Armstrong speaks to his radio audience. The first issue of the *Plain Truth* magazine in 1934.

“You’re preaching the straight truth of the Bible. That offends people. ... You won’t get far.” This man recognized the truth in Mr. Armstrong’s biblical message, but he said it would “come to nothing.”

Yet Mr. Armstrong continued preaching, addressing important Bible questions. Is the Bible God’s Word? Which weekly day should Christians keep? Should we observe the Bible’s annual holy days, and why? Can Christians divorce? What is baptism? Is evolution biblical? Does Satan exist? Why did Jesus Christ come? What was His message? Did He abolish the law? Does prophecy apply to the modern world? Why has Christianity lost its power? Why so many churches? What happens when we die? Mr. Armstrong asked these questions, and he answered them, from the Bible.

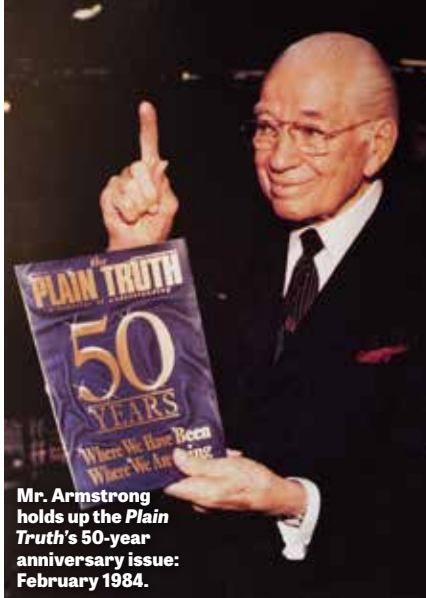
The audience grew. The Church grew. It gained more radio stations, more subscribers, more members, more prayers, more financial support.

The message itself expanded. New teachings from the Bible were added to the old, answering questions, deepening understanding and adding to the excitement. What is God like? What is the human mind? What is human nature? Why does marriage exist? Why does family exist? What is God’s form of government? Should Christians obey civil authority? Where did civilization originate? Where did America come from? What is ahead for America? What is ahead for mankind? How should I live my life? What is my purpose?

The teachings were authoritative and bold and straight out of the Bible. The message was unlike any other. It turned to Bible verses that were overlooked or avoided by other preachers and by Christianity in general.

Over the decades, the work that preached this message continued to grow! It added new magazines, a Bible correspondence course, a liberal arts college, a second college campus, then a third, a weekly television program, an auditorium, a concert series, a message. The Church spread around the world.

I became a member of this Church in 1961. Those of us who were part of the Worldwide Church of God under Mr. Armstrong understood that we were part of something great. In the 1980s, we were sending out 8 million copies of the *Plain Truth* in seven languages, we had enrolled 2 million Bible correspondence course students, and we were broadcasting on 382 television stations around the world. Millions of letters and telephone calls were coming in. Mr. Armstrong visited and built personal relationships with hundreds of leaders worldwide, including dozens of heads of state, heads of government, legislators and other leaders whom he shared his message with. The Ambassador International Cultural Foundation operated in countries around the globe, providing humanitarian aid, funding schools and educational programs, supporting biblical archaeological discoveries in Jerusalem. It also sponsored a concert series at Church headquarters in Pasadena, California, in Ambassador Auditorium, hosting world-class performances by artists who were household names in America and beyond.



By the time Mr. Armstrong died in January 1986, Church membership was more than 130,000. Our children were part of fantastic youth programs. We were learning inspiring, life-changing truth about how to be fathers and mothers and sons and daughters, why those roles even exist, and what they are preparing us for. We watched the news and understood what we were seeing, and even what to expect based on Bible prophecy.

Under Mr. Armstrong, the Church of God practiced the way of give—of godly character, generosity, cultural enrichment, true education—of beautifying the environment and caring for fellow man. Mr. Armstrong never deviated from his God-given commission to

preach the gospel, and the work prospered! His work acknowledged God’s desire to have all men saved and brought to the knowledge of His truth (1 Timothy 2:3-6). It was an inspiring display of God’s love for all mankind.

The message of the Bible was going out with greater and greater power, and *the message itself* was becoming greater and greater, and more and more powerful! It was amazing to be part of.

### If It Be of God

Many of our readers still remember what life was like in the Church under Mr. Armstrong. If you were applying the Bible and family-based teachings, you personally experienced something life-changing in that Church.

Now, did Mr. Armstrong do all that? He certainly worked hard and dedicated his life to that work. But was the Worldwide Church of God in the 1980s a product of his intellect or speaking style?

No—THE GREAT GOD DID THAT!

It doesn’t take great spiritual discernment to recognize that GOD was behind that work, GOD was blessing it, empowering and multiplying it. Mr. Armstrong was the man He had called to lead it, and because he submitted to Him, GOD miraculously made it happen!

No *man* could have ever built such a marvelous and wondrous work in this satanic world. IT WAS BUILT AND SUSTAINED BY THE MIRACLES OF THE LIVING GOD!

What distinguished Mr. Armstrong’s accomplishments was that they were all built on the foundation of God’s truth. God flooded Mr. Armstrong with biblical understanding, restoring *all foundational true doctrine* to His Church through that man (Matthew 17:10-11). We learned and lived by the wonderful truths of God, and our lives were richer as a result.

That Church was a work of miracles.

But on Jan. 16, 1986, Mr. Armstrong died. And what happened to the Church after that was as astonishing as its rise. The leaders who succeeded him closed down programs, canceled and even destroyed literature, intimidated and excommunicated members. Why? Because they were changing the *teachings*. They rejected what Mr. Armstrong taught and promoted “new”

doctrines, literature, programs, plans and ideas—which were similar or identical to the unbiblical mainstream Christianity that many Church members had left.

The results were disastrous. Soon, Church projects were closing, income was dropping, and membership was declining. But far worse were the spiritual fruits. The precious truths God had restored through Mr. Armstrong, recorded in books and other literature, were being diminished, disparaged and attacked. Many important books stopped being printed and distributed. The faith of thousands of people was being destroyed! The Church was dying!

But did the source of the power behind Mr. Armstrong die? Did God die? ABSOLUTELY NOT.

WHERE IS THE GREAT ALMIGHTY GOD WHO WAS BEHIND THE POWERFUL WORK OF HERBERT ARMSTRONG—TODAY?

Thirty years ago, in an office in Pasadena, the WCG leaders who replaced Mr. Armstrong fired me and my assistant for holding fast to the message Mr. Armstrong taught. They knew better than him. They said his teachings were “riddled with error” and that he was a terrible leader. They planned to take the organization God had built through him in a new direction. Suddenly I was a fired minister with no congregation, no salary or anything else—except those Bible truths that I believed with all my being.

Now, 30 years later, what are the fruits? Which counsel or work is of men? You can tell a lot by judging the fruits.

The Worldwide Church of God continued to decline, fracture, splinter and further decline. It closed down *all* of its major projects, sold off its assets, completely rejected everything Mr. Armstrong taught. It even changed its name.

The Philadelphia Church of God has far fewer people than the Worldwide Church of God had when Mr. Armstrong died in 1986. But I encourage you to examine the miraculous work God is doing with this few!

The PCG produces the *Trumpet*, with a circulation of more than 240,000, the *Key of David* television program, which broadcasts to a potential audience of over 400 million worldwide, the *Trumpet.com*, which receives more than 2.5 million visitors a year, *Royal Vision* Christian-living magazine, *Watch Jerusalem* magazine, *True Education* youth magazine, and an updated version of Mr. Armstrong’s Bible correspondence course with more than 100,000 enrollees. We have conducted more than 50 Personal Appearance Campaigns like those Mr. Armstrong held; we have regional offices in Australia, Canada, England and the Philippines; we have a 170-acre headquarters campus in Edmond, Oklahoma, which includes the majestic Armstrong Auditorium, where we host world-class concerts.

We have a cultural foundation sponsoring concerts in the auditorium and biblical archaeology in Jerusalem. We have even exhibited some of the most biblically important artifacts ever

found: clay seals that once belonged to princes who persecuted the Prophet Jeremiah, and that once belonged to King Hezekiah and the Prophet Isaiah. Since 2001, our college, Herbert W. Armstrong College, has graduated over 280 students, of whom over 80 have been employed full-time or part-time in the work. We have a 22-acre campus just north of Stratford Upon Avon, England, and a corporate jet that expedites our growing work.

But most importantly, *we have the truth of God!* Our understanding and message are what really make us unique—not the material possessions we have (which other churches have more than us).

For 30 years now, the *Trumpet* has been explaining world events in light of Bible prophecy, and we have a proven record of accuracy! Based on the Bible, we prophesied the emergence of Iran, the rise of Russia and China, the failures of American foreign policy, the separation of Britain from the European Union, and many other specific events and trends. This record proves we have the truth.

We have the same truth God gave Mr. Armstrong, and, just as with him, that truth has grown, deepened, widened, multiplied.

God has continued to bless us, as He did Mr. Armstrong, with new revelation. THE LIVING GOD DID NOT STOP SPEAKING TO HIS PEOPLE WHEN MR. ARMSTRONG DIED. He continued to give His people “present truth” (2 Peter 1:12) that builds on the foundation of the truth He restored through Mr. Armstrong. The PCG produces over 100 books and booklets, the majority of which contain new biblical understanding from the great God.

Our possession of God’s truth is the single greatest proof that the God who inspired Mr. Armstrong is behind this work! This message is what most excites our people and many of our readers.

We hope you can clearly identify the same miracles and blessings that built Mr. Armstrong’s work.

Our time in this age of man is fast running out. God is growing much more urgent in trying to reach His sons who have turned away from Him, because eternal life hangs in the balance. We urge you to respond to Him!

If you recognize something unique and powerful in the *Trumpet*, then know that the *Trumpet* is only the tip of the iceberg of the Philadelphia Church of God work. There is so *much more* for you to learn about and benefit from beyond revealing insight into world events. There is an entire way of life and an awesome future ahead. It is available to you—if you will not only read, but make a decision: Is this the work of men, or is this the work of God? ■

To learn more about the Philadelphia Church of God, request your free copy of **Raising the Ruins**.



We can't live without it,  
and we can't live with it.  
Why is governing ourselves  
always a lose-lose quandary?

BY JOEL HILLIKER

**W**HO SHOULD RULE? This has been the question of the year, and not just for the bicycle-helmeted, bloodied street protester in Hong Kong. It is the question raging among Algerians, Argentines, Bolivians, Chileans, Czechs, Ecuadorans, Egyptians, Georgians, Hondurans, Iranians, Iraqis, Lebanese, Romanians, Serbs, Slovaks, Sudanese and others. Even Americans, French, Germans and Russians are challenging their own leaders and foundational institutions.

The modern world thought it had that question mostly answered. We did not realize that this is actually one of the most intractable quandaries of human existence.

And it is boiling over, all at once, across the globe. People are conspiring to overthrow elected leaders. People are smashing government

offices. People are getting killed. They are trying not only to throw out governing individuals and groups, but to dismantle entire institutions of government.

The *Washington Post* described it as “a global explosion of people power” and wrote, “this year is exceptional for the sheer breadth and diversity of the unrest” (Oct. 27, 2019).

Let's take a whirlwind trip: In Hong Kong, massive protests have been occurring since June, with people demanding greater autonomy, democracy and freedoms. In Lebanon, people are protesting a government that is subjecting them to cutbacks and austerity measures even



# The RIDDLE of GOV ERN MENT

while corrupt officials are rewarded for perpetuating the regime. In Iraq, masses are protesting government corruption that impoverishes many, and public services and infrastructure that are falling into ruin while leaders bicker and squander the nation's oil wealth. In India, protests have raged countrywide over an immigration law; some are angry it discriminates against Muslims, others fear it incentivizes illegal immigration. In Spain, the Catalan separatist movement turned violent over the imprisonment of separatist leaders, and new activist leaders called for civil disobedience against the democratically elected government. In Ecuador, the government ended fuel subsidies, sparking protests that killed eight people and injured 1,340 before the government reinstated the subsidies. In Chile, protests over an increase in subway fares and economic inequalities swelled to an estimated 1.2 million Chileans filling the capital of Santiago, some of whom burned dozens of subway stations and clashed with police.

The nations we consider to be more developed are not immune. In America, Britain and Israel, the unrest is roiling within our government buildings. Examples: Britain's somewhat recently established Supreme Court handled the Brexit issue by establishing itself as superior to the government and even the Queen. American Democrats are trying to abolish a crucial constitutional safeguard, the electoral college, or to abolish the entire document. All three countries face battles between popularly elected leaders and establishment officials trying to thwart their agenda and even remove them from office. Voters are returning to the polls over and over as governments succumb to scandal, face votes of no confidence, and call snap elections. Politicians everywhere are resorting to extreme measures, political "nuclear options," destroying long-standing traditions, rules, institutions and constitutional provisions for short-term political gain.

These are not normal times. Governments are being investigated and exposed,

protested and challenged, opposed and attacked, overturned and smashed. Populations are rising up not only against dictatorships but even against elected officials in free countries. "[T]he demonstrations are fueled by local grievances," Associated Press wrote on October 26, "but reflect worldwide frustration at growing inequality, corrupt elites and broken promises. [These] latest demonstrations are rattling elected governments. The unrest on three continents, coupled with the toxic dysfunction in Washington and London, raises fresh concerns over *whether the liberal international order, with free elections and free markets, can still deliver on its promises*" (emphasis added throughout). Even the precept that people should rule themselves through representatives is being seriously questioned, even discarded.

How is it that our developed, sophisticated, technological, 21st-century world still does not have the answer to the question, *who should rule?*

Should it be the one, the few or the many? How much power should they have over the lives of the people? How much command should the people have over their own lives? Should the rulers be accountable to the ruled? Is the state more important than the individual, or the individual than the state?

### The Origin of Civilization

The key to understanding these riddles lies in an unlikely place. "To understand the world you live in, you must go back to the beginning," *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry wrote last month ("The Mystery of Civilization," [theTrumpet.com/21560](http://theTrumpet.com/21560)). "You can find

that in the book of Genesis, the first book of the Holy Bible."

Genesis is a record of the literal beginning of human civilization within the first human marriage. God offered Adam and Eve a choice between two ways of life, symbolized by two trees. The tree of life represented the way of God's revelation and law. "The tree of the knowledge of good and evil represented mankind taking to himself the ability to produce knowledge of what is good and evil, what is right and wrong," Mr. Flurry wrote. "God told them plainly that this was the way that would lead to death! It represented the cause of all the unhappiness, suffering, contention, violence and death in our world! Nevertheless, Adam and Eve both took of that tree. Sure enough, soon their lives were plagued with violence and death.

"That act was the foundation of the world as we know it today! That is where our civilization started: with that seminal act of rebellion against God." Yes, what many people consider the "story" of Adam and Eve is the literal genesis of modern civilization.

Obviously God had wanted Adam and Eve to choose the tree of life—yet Genesis 3:24 records the stunning truth that in response to their rebellion, *He barred their access to it*. Why? The answer to that mystery is deeply illuminating, and is vividly explained in Herbert W. Armstrong's book *Mystery of the Ages* (which we will gladly give you upon request). Nevertheless the reality is clear: God gave humans free choice, and they made their choice—to reject Him and rely on themselves. And they and all humanity would have to live with the consequences.

By banishing Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden and from access to the tree of life, "God said, in effect, 'You have made the decision for yourself and the world that shall spring from you,'" Mr. Armstrong wrote in *Mystery of the Ages*. "[Y]ou have rebelled against my command and my government—you have chosen the 'GETTING,' 'TAKING' way of Satan. ... Go, therefore, Adam, and all your progeny that shall form the world, produce your own fund of knowledge. ... Produce your own educational systems and means of disseminating knowledge, as your god Satan shall mislead you. Form ... your own religions, YOUR OWN GOVERNMENTS, your own ... forms of society and civilization."

Adam and Eve refused God's revelation regarding right and wrong, good and evil, instead believing Satan's lie that we could determine these absolutes through observation, experimentation and reason. For 6,000 years since, mankind has pursued the same course, wrestling with the resulting tangle of disputes and conundrums involved in forming our own societies, our own civilizations, our own governments. We have done it without God's help because *we didn't want God's help*. In generation after generation, to this very day, people fight and even die

for however *they* think they should be ruled—rather than submit to God’s rule.

In the Garden, man chose the tree representing a mixture of good and evil knowledge that leads to death. That tree perfectly typifies our history in puzzling over the government riddle: It has been an epic story of greatness and corruption, a combination that inevitably leads—sometimes slowly, other times with the speed of an assassin’s bullet—to ruin.

### The Age-Old Argument

When you read history, you find questions surrounding government at the heart of the story all the way through. You read of the rise and fall of rulers, kings, kingdoms, empires. You read of brilliant men searching desperately for principles on how to make society function successfully.

In the 400s B.C., the historian Herodotus depicted a group of Persians discussing relative merits of democracy, oligarchy and monarchy.

**OUR HISTORY** in puzzling over the government riddle has been an **EPIC STORY** of **GREATNESS** and **CORRUPTION**, a combination that inevitably **LEADS TO RUIN**.

A first man says, “To me, it seems advisable that we should no longer have a single man to rule over us.” How can monarchy be good, “when it allows a man to do as he likes without being answerable? [G]ive a person this power, and straightway his manifold good things puff him up with pride, while envy is so natural to humankind that it cannot but arise in him ... both of them leading on to deeds of savage violence.” He goes on to describe the problems with kings, adding, “[T]he worst of all is, that he sets aside the laws of the land, puts men to death without trial, and subjects women to violence.” The solution, he says, is “the rule of the many.” “I vote, therefore, that we do away with monarchy, and raise the people to power.”

The second man agrees that the vices of monarchy mean it should be put down, but he says giving power to the people is a bad idea. “For there is

nothing so void of understanding, nothing so full of wantonness, as the unwieldy rabble. [T]he tyrant, in all his doings, at least knows what he is about, but a mob is altogether devoid of knowledge ... It rushes wildly into state affairs with all the fury of a stream swollen in the winter, and confuses everything. Let the enemies of the Persians be ruled by democracies; but let us choose out from the citizens a certain number of the worthiest, and put the government into their hands.” He therefore advocates oligarchy, the rule of a few.

The third man agrees that elevating the best men is the best way to govern. But, he says, “[w]hat government can possibly be better than that of the very best man in the whole state? [I]n oligarchies ... fierce enmities are apt to arise between man and man, each wishing to be leader, and to carry his own measures; whence violent quarrels come, which lead to open strife, often ending in bloodshed. Then monarchy is sure to follow; and this too shows how far that rule surpasses all others.” He laments how, in a democracy, groups form to advocate policies that hurt other people. This factionalism worsens until someone stands up to stop it! “Straightway the author of so great a service is admired by all, and from being admired soon comes to be appointed king; so that here too it is plain that monarchy is the best government.”

Such are the arguments that have been circling round and round for 6,000 years. These arguments have brought to birth countless versions of each of these

types of government in infinite varieties. As each experiment has encountered trouble, man has continued to search and argue and postulate and tinker.

Yet despite incessant failure, these efforts have endured. Somehow mankind cherishes the hope that, if he can implement the right system, or oust the current regime, or install the right leader, or pass the right regulation or ordinance or law, then all will be well. Yet time after time throughout history, these hopes have been forgotten, tarnished, buffeted or crushed.

### The Need for Government

Mankind generally recognizes that, however often our efforts fail, *we do need government*.

People want the benefits of coming together to converse and trade and otherwise interact. But this combining of human beings into a society brings with it a growing need for proper government. *Who should rule?* and related questions become more pressing. Authority is required to resolve disputes, enforce laws, deter and punish criminals, provide protection from threats, and so on. The alternative is anarchy, in which the person in charge is whoever has a weapon, and the law of the land is whatever he decides at the moment.

In their marvelous survey of man’s past *The Lessons of History*, Will and Ariel Durant say that “only a fool would dispute over forms of government. History has a good word to say for all of them, and for government in general. Since men love freedom, and the freedoms of individuals in society requires some regulation of conduct, the first condition of freedom is its limitation; make it absolute, and it dies in chaos.”

As Charles Krauthammer wrote in *Things That Matter*, government “is the moat, the walls, beyond which lie the barbarians. Fail to keep them at bay, and everything burns.”

Beyond that basic need, however, the quality of a government has far-reaching effects on the quality of life for the governed. This is true within a family, a clan, a classroom, a courtroom, a company, a county, a country. Imperfect government is generally better than no government—but bad government can be a horror, good government a magnificent blessing.

The bitter reality is that *mankind has devised all his governments under the influence of the devil rather than with the direction of God*. That influence expresses itself in HUMAN NATURE, the toxin that corrupts even the noblest of governors and governments. For millennia, kings and princes and emperors and caesars and sultans and czars and kaisers have paraded and strutted around, abusing their power; populations have suffered under corruption and deceit and fraud and nepotism and greed and wickedness and injustice. Mankind has witnessed dictatorship, despotism, tyranny, oppression, persecution, genocide, unrest, uprising, coup,



assassination, mutiny, revolt, rebellion, revolution, government after government, generation after generation.

*Human nature* is the fundamental reason mankind has proven himself unable to devise a system that maintains enduring justice, prosperity and peace. This is the recurrent and predominant lesson that resounds like the cyclical gong of a clock on every continent and nation, through every age and era.

Untold human effort has been expended on devising the right system to ensure good governance. But the fundamental flaw is not the system; it is the contaminating presence of *human nature*—and that, Scripture reveals, is an expression of man's influence by Satan the devil. (To learn more about this, request our free booklet *Human Nature: What Is It?*).

### Autocracy

Of all the forms of government men have tried, the most common has been monarchy. "Monarchy seems to be the most natural kind of government, since it applies to the group, the authority of the father in a family or of the chieftain in a warrior band," write the Durants. "If we were to judge forms of government from their prevalence and duration in history we should have to give the palm to monarchy; democracies, by contrast, have been hectic interludes."

However, when authority is concentrated in the hands of one man, the fate of the nation tends to follow the quality of that leader, for good or ill. Under a decent king, a people can thrive and prosper. Singularity of command enables the ruler to act swiftly and decisively for

RIDDLE PAGE 22 ►

# BRITAIN

## THE PERENNIAL HOPE OF POPULISM

An election landslide has Conservatives euphoric. But we need to put it in context. **BY STEPHEN FLURRY**



**Y**OU CAN'T HELP BUT NOTICE HOW closely linked America, Britain and Israel have been recently—in turmoil. In all three countries, the political left has been fighting the will of the people: in America against Donald Trump, in Israel against Benjamin Netanyahu, and in Britain against Brexit. The resulting division and deadlock has been appalling.

But suddenly in Britain, it seems the deadlock was broken. In an election in December, the British people handed Prime Minister Boris Johnson's Conservative Party a landslide victory—the party's biggest win since Margaret Thatcher's astounding victory in 1987. Much to the political establishment's dismay, Mr. Johnson now has more than enough power to deliver on his signature promise: Get Brexit done.

Before the election, Britain's liberal media claimed the polls were tight; it was too close to call; the nation was headed for a hung Parliament, or possibly a government led by Jew-hating, Communist-loving Jeremy Corbyn. All wrong: Mr. Corbyn led the Labour Party to its worst election drubbing since World War II, and he will no longer even lead his own party.

Suddenly the forecasts of a British demise have been forgotten, and Conservatives are euphoric. They represent the perennial hope that comes with such elections: *Now* we can start fixing things.

Is the hope justified? One thing is certain: This dramatic election accelerated the fulfillment of key end-time biblical prophecies.

### Resurgence

Even before World War II ended, Herbert W. Armstrong forecast that Germany would rise again and lead a union of 10 European nations in a seventh and final resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire. He based this

forecast on Bible prophecy (see Revelation 17:12). "Probably Germany will lead and dominate the coming United States of Europe," Mr. Armstrong wrote more than 60 years ago. "BUT BRITAIN WILL BE NO PART OF IT!" Thanks to Britain's stunning election, that prophecy will soon be FULFILLED.

Mr. Johnson also promises to implement a much more conservative agenda. Melanie Phillips called this a seismic shift that might have "redrawn the British political landscape forever." The *Telegraph's* Allison Pearson considers this "the start of something that could be extraordinary for Britain."

This too is momentous prophetically. After the election of Donald Trump as United States president in November 2016, *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry indicated that this would help temporarily improve conditions in America and strengthen the nation abroad. Furthermore, he said, since the Bible prophesies that Britain will leave the EU, we would see Britain carry out its June 2016 Brexit referendum, separate from Europe, and follow President Trump's lead, especially on trade.

While establishment media and prognosticators keep getting it wrong, the *Trumpet's* forecast has proved spot on.

This is an Anglo-American RESURGENCE. And it is prophesied in your Bible! In the eighth century B.C., God intervened to save the kingdom of Israel "by the hand of Jeroboam" (2 Kings 14:26-27). The modern descendants of ancient Israel are principally the U.S. and Britain. God is now using a type of King Jeroboam II to lead our nations through one final period of prosperity and relative peace. It's not because we deserve it. It's because of God's overflowing mercy and love. He is giving us one final opportunity to humble ourselves and turn from our wicked ways (2 Chronicles 7:14).

While Britain's Conservatives are rejoicing, they are overlooking this sobering truth. Amos 7:8 adds that, after this modern counterpart of ancient Israel's temporary resurgence, God "will not again pass by" His people Israel anymore. In other words, this is the last warning. Time is almost up for our nations! We only have one brief period of prosperity left.

The reality is that soon, Conservative jubilation in Britain will, for one reason or another, give way to frustration, disappointment and dismay. Conservative promises will ultimately prove illusory, the nation's rebound fleeting. Then will come the same fate that befell Israel anciently.

### A Common Fate

The kingdom of Israel declined and was conquered by the Assyrian Empire in 718 B.C. The kingdom of Judah, however, was *not* conquered at that time; it fell 130 years later. But look carefully at Hosea 5:5: "And the pride of Israel doth testify to his face: therefore shall Israel and Ephraim fall in their iniquity; Judah also shall fall with them."

Clearly, this too is *prophecy*. In the end time, the modern nations that descended from the ancient tribes of Ephraim (modern-day Britain), Manasseh (here called "Israel"—the superpower America) and Judah (the prophetic name for the Jewish state of Israel) will collapse together—SUDDENLY!

Why is God so angry with these three nations? "Because they received the most blessings of all—they are the birthright nations and the scepter nation—yet are mired in deep sin," my father wrote on Nov. 23, 2016, just after Mr. Trump's election. "In addition, all three of them rejected God's message from Mr. Armstrong and from His work today. These three nations have a HISTORY with God ...."

The news from the nations continually befuddles the mainstream media. Now, conservative sources are giddily headlining this resurgence. But the only way to understand its context is to know Bible prophecy. Then you can not only know where they are leading, you can see the great God behind them. ■



What if you could know where Britain is headed by just reading one book? Wouldn't it be worth your time? Request your free copy of Herbert W. Armstrong's book ***The United States and Britain in Prophecy***.



A tour of European nations shows democracy on its deathbed. **BY RICHARD PALMER**

**A**T FIRST GLANCE, EUROPE LOOKS LIKE ONE OF democracy's great success stories. For most of its history, Europe has been dominated by empires. Through the 19th century and after World War I, these were replaced by democracies.

These democracies began to fall in the 1930s. They were almost wiped out in the '40s.

But then democracy made a comeback. After World War II, Britain and America brought democracy to Western Europe. The last hold-outs, Spain and Portugal, transitioned to democracy in the 1970s. Just over a decade later, the Berlin Wall toppled and democracy conquered the rest of Europe. Many countries once behind the Iron Curtain are now firmly in the club. It's *democracy über alles*.

But take a closer look and things don't seem so great. In fact, in country after country, democracy faces some grave problems.

## SPAIN

**I**n the last four years, Spain has held four inconclusive elections. Opposing parties have managed to form unity coalitions, but none has lasted.

Spain held elections in April this year after yet another coalition collapsed. No one managed to form a government, so in November they again held fresh elections. As this magazine goes to press, the nation has still failed to form a government.

It is difficult to see how Spain can ever return to having a functioning democratic government. It is divided between left and right, but with the added complication of separatism. Regions like Catalonia have strong independence movements. Some political parties want to clamp down hard on any separatism; others believe it best to allow the different regions considerable local autonomy. Any faction will struggle to rally a majority.

The only clear victor in Spain is the far right—in the form of a party called Vox. In the April election, Vox entered Spain's parliament for the first time in the nation's democratic history, with 10 percent of the vote. In November, it catapulted into third place, winning 15 percent and more than doubling its number of seats in Spain's congress.

# PE FOR SING LES

## FRANCE

In France, the extremist National Rally party has become one of the country's most popular parties. Having shed its old name (the National Front) to distance its association with anti-Semitism and the far right, it came in first place in France's European Parliament elections. In France's presidential elections in 2017, the National Rally leader, Marine Le Pen, came second in the opening stage of voting, and made it to the final round. Ultimately, enough voters were put off by the party's extremism that it did not win.

Still, France is clearly unhappy. In December the nation was engulfed in massive protests that cut off electricity and shut down schools, as masses of people demonstrated against unpopular pension changes. The nation's "yellow vest" movement has been making headlines for well over a year as hundreds of thousands vent their dissatisfaction with the government.

## BELGIUM

In 2010 and 2011, Belgium set a new world record for the longest period any developed country has been without a government: 589 days.

If Spain is vying to take this prize, It appears Belgium is unwilling to let it go. The nation's last elections were on May 26, and as of this writing it still does not have a governing coalition. Like Spain, it is divided both between left and right and between separatists and unionists. The result is deadlock.

## THE NETHERLANDS

Dutch populist Thierry Baudet and his Forum for Democracy party stunned the Netherlands in the country's most recent elections on March 14. His party—established in 2016—won more seats than any other. *Foreign Policy* called "one of the greatest political upsets in Dutch political history."

For established political parties, the entire March 20 election was an upset: Various Euroskeptic and Green parties made notable gains, weakening Prime Minister Mark Rutte's hold on the upper house of the Dutch parliament.

Baudet has adopted some of the policies of the far right but rejected their more divisive language. His rapid rise in popularity shows that the Dutch are keen on his new approach to politics.

## GERMANY

The Germans fell short of Belgium's record for coalition negotiations after the last elections, but they did set a personal best. Their four months sorting out a government was the nation's longest since World War II.

The result is an unstable coalition that could collapse at any time. The reason it took so long to form is that voters have abandoned both the mainstream right and mainstream left for more extreme parties. In the most recent local elections, in Thuringia on October 27, extreme parties gained *most* of the vote. Die Linke (the Left)—successor of East Germany's brutal Communist regime—came in *first place* with 31 percent. The Alternative für Deutschland, the new far-right party, came in second place, with 23.4 percent. One of these two must be included in any coalition to have a majority in the state parliament.

## ITALY

The European Central Bank effectively forced then Prime Minister Silvo Berlusconi out of office in 2011, replacing him with a government of experts. In hindsight, it is clear this was not healthy for Italian democracy. Two upstart parties won their last national elections.

The party receiving the most votes was the Five Star Movement. This was founded in 2009 by comedian Beppe Grillo. It wants to oust the elites and introduce a new political system. It has championed using online polls to make major decisions based on the will of its membership.

The other big winner was Lega (the League). Originally Lega Nord (the Northern League), it was a fringe right-wing party campaigning for autonomy and even independence for northern Italy. But for this election, it dropped the "Northern" and campaigned for anti-EU, anti-migrant policies—calling for mass deportations and so on. Lega is now Italy's largest right-wing party. Its leader, Matteo Salvini, has consciously modeled himself on Italy's former dictator Benito Mussolini.

These two surprising parties governed in coalition until this year. But the Lega's skyrocketing popularity led the party into a bid to break up the coalition and hold fresh elections. It failed to hold those elections and is now out of office, but the coalition that took its place is unstable, and the party could soon be back.

## SWEDEN

Sweden's left-wing government embraced those migrating into Europe in 2015. It has since paid for that at the ballot box. In 2018, the Social Democrats, Sweden's established center-left party, experienced its worst result since 1911. All the established parties did so badly in that election, it took four months for them to forge a coalition.

According to some polls, the Far-Right Sweden Democrats have become the nation's most popular political party. Meanwhile, residents in some of Sweden's more ethnically diverse regions have to beware of improvised explosive devices if they move around their cities at night.

## CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

Eastern Europe is on a different path. There, a number of political strongmen are enjoying robust mandates from their voters. Some have called this "illiberal democracy." With the left heavily influencing the judiciary, financial institutions and media in these countries, these strongmen have broken the traditional rules of Western politics and begun involving themselves in these institutions.

The left has used its control of these institutions to wage guerrilla warfare on its political opponents. But the way the right is fighting back also has some worrying aspects. It has created governments that "not only keep a firm grip on the legislative and executive branches," says the *Journal of Democracy*, "but also dominate virtually all spheres of social life, including commerce, education, the arts, churches, and even sports."

Does this trend in Eastern Europe indicate the direction that those in Western Europe will take? It certainly looks like it. In Austria, Sebastian Kurtz has reversed the decline of his right-wing party by embracing the same kind of personality-driven, Christian-identity politics of the east. Many in the west are paying attention.

### Wanted: A Strong Leader!

It is clear that Europe's democracy is far from healthy. In fact, it is terminally sick. Governments are ceasing to function. Nation-threatening problems are not being solved. And across Europe, people are worried.

Such an environment threatens to produce a frightening outcome.

"Meet the Medieval German Warlord With a Message for Modern Politicians," writes *The Local De*, a German-focused, English-language website. The quip reads, "In an age of uncertainty and upheaval, it pays to have strong leaders. Perhaps Germany could draw from history for inspiration." The article argues that Germany needs a strong leader, someone like Henry the Lion, a medieval warlord who practiced military conquest and supported the Holy Roman Empire.

Such thinking is growing remarkably common. Twenty-six percent of young adults in Eastern Germany and 23 percent in Western Germany want "a strong leader who does not have to worry about parliaments and elections." Fewer than half "totally disagree" with this statement.

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

This is exactly the trend that *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry warned about in his January 2019 cover article, "Germany—A New King is Imminent." "Germany today is crying out for a stronger leader, and the European Union wants stronger leadership and direction from Germany," he wrote. "There is a strong demand for a new leader in Germany. People can't agree on what his policies should be—but they want someone different from Merkel, and someone with vision."

The Bible describes this imminent change in Europe. Revelation 17 talks about 10 kings who will rule over Europe, all under one overall king.

"This soon-coming ruler could literally be called a *king*," wrote Mr. Flurry. "Even if he is not, the Bible gives him that title. When the Bible talks about a king, in most cases it is not referring to a democratic government. Even if this man doesn't have the title of 'king,' he will lead like an absolute monarch, like an authoritarian king right out of the Middle Ages."

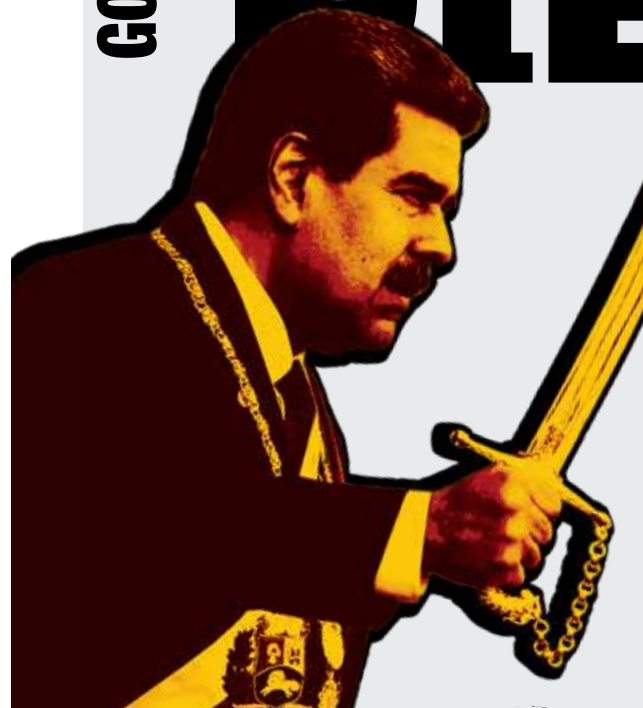
Bible prophecy shows that Europe is about to revert to the monarchy it has been familiar with for most of its history. The conquest and expansion which also form that history will soon follow. ■

## BIBLE PROPHECY SAYS ANOTHER HITLER IS COMING!

History is becoming prophecy and it's all according to God's plan. To understand that plan, request Gerald Flurry's *A Strong German Leader Is Imminent*.



# LATIN AMERICA GOES WHERE DEMOCRACY GOES TO DIE



Dissatisfied with liberal democracy, a continent yearns for strongmen.

BY ANDREW MILLER



**I**MAGINE LIVING WHERE WEALTHY 1-percenters control the economy. You lack the education necessary for a good job, and you are too poor to further your education. Gangs rule poor neighborhoods like yours. One leader after another empathizes with your plight, promises change, holds rallies, wins an election that may or may not have been rigged, becomes immersed in corruption scandals, fails to improve your situation, and gives way to the next candidate promising change.

This is not an imaginary scenario for many people in Latin America and the Caribbean.



These regions have some of the highest levels of income inequality in the world. In Brazil, 1 percent of the population controls half the land. In some areas, people still pay property taxes to former Portuguese royals and nobles in addition to paying taxes to their local governments. More than 40 percent of Brazilian children live in poverty, and fewer than half the nation's adults have a high school education. In August 2019, the government cut education spending, which provoked thousands to protest.

And this is one of the most stable nations in the region.

In Chile, people started rioting in October 2019, when the government announced plans to increase subway fares from \$1.12 to \$1.16. The same thing happened in Ecuador when the government announced an end to fuel subsidies for bus, taxi and truck drivers. And the same thing happened in Haiti when the government announced tax increases on gasoline, diesel and kerosene.

Meanwhile, violent drug cartels rule large areas of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico. The ongoing trial of infamous drug lord Joaquín “El Chapo” Guzmán continues to reveal that nearly every level of the Mexican government has been corrupted by bribes from his Sinaloa cartel: airport officials, tax assessors, police officers, military personnel, prosecutors and prison guards.

The Organization of American States has charged both Bolivia and Venezuela with

election rigging. President Evo Morales enjoyed so little confidence that thousands of Bolivians marched through the capital protesting disputed election results, and the military forced him from office. President Nicolas Maduro has only clung to power in Venezuela by hiring Cuban agents to spy on his own military officers to keep them from turning on him.

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development reports that 3 out of 4 people in Latin America have little or no confidence in their national governments. It is easy to understand why. And it is easy to understand how they desire political strongmen to sort out this mess. The Bible reveals that the political shift now underway in Latin America will affect an entire continent, and the whole world.

### Authoritarian Past

Cuba joined the Holy Roman Empire in 1520, when Emperor Charles v inherited the island from his maternal grandparents, King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain. The next year, Spanish conquistador Hernán Cortés conquered the Aztec Empire on behalf of the Holy Roman Empire. Twelve years later, Spanish conquistador Francisco Pizarro conquered the Inca Empire on behalf of the Holy Roman Empire. By the end of his reign, Charles v ruled most of Latin America aside from Brazil, which was ruled by Charles's brother-in-law King John III of Portugal.

The Spanish and Portuguese converted the peoples of Latin America to Catholicism. They implemented a caste system where the Spanish and Portuguese ruled over the American Indians and the Africans they brought as slaves. This system of colonial rule lasted three centuries until Spanish aristocrats in Latin America began working toward independence after French Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte invaded Spain.

By 1830, Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela had become republics dominated by Spanish aristocrats. Meanwhile, King Dom Pedro IV of Portugal fled across the Atlantic, joined the Brazilian secessionist movement and became Emperor Pedro I of Brazil. Even after Latin American nations gained independence from Europe, the aristocrats were still the wealthiest people in the region. They owned vast plantations that employed or subjugated the lower castes.

In 1888, Brazil became the last country in the Western world to abolish slavery. Brazilian Emperor Pedro II was deposed in a military coup d'état a year later, and the nation became the Republic of the United States of Brazil.

As the 20th century dawned, Brazil and other Latin American nations were now constitutional republics where citizens voted for their representatives. Yet their ethnic and class divisions remained, weakening their national unity. The power vacuum left by the Holy Roman Empire led to ethnic and class uprisings and rebellions. This in turn led to the caudillos, military dictators such as Juan Perón of Argentina, Fulgencio Batista of Cuba, Jorge Rafael Videla of Argentina, Humberto Castello of Brazil, Juan Velasco of Peru, and Augusto Pinochet of Chile.

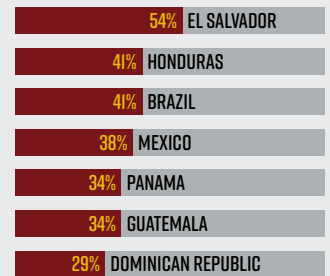
By 1977, only two of the 19 nations that were former Spanish and Portuguese colonies could be classified as democracies (Costa Rica and Venezuela). Colombia was in the midst of a democratic transition, while the other 16 nations were ruled by dictatorships. Between 1968 and 1989, military juntas in

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay killed roughly 50,000 people and imprisoned 400,000 others. Yet many of these dictatorships halted the spread of communism and used military-style law enforcement during a chaotic time.

### Democratic Present

It has only been since 1977 that most Latin American nations have become democracies. Yet many are already tired of them. Citizens enjoy a reduced threat of being arrested and imprisoned without trial, and the gap between rich and poor has narrowed over the past 20 years (unless you are Cuban or Venezuelan). But crime

Percent of people who say having a democratic government makes no difference:



is spiraling out of control. Homicide rates in the Americas have nearly doubled in the last two decades, mainly because of rising crime in Brazil, Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Venezuela.

Only 8 percent of the world's people live in Latin America, but the region accounts for 33 percent of the world's murder victims: 400 every day. Much of this carnage is perpetrated by drug cartels. In many places, these cartels have corrupted democracy by bribing government officials, threatening politicians, and even running their own candidates.

Faith in democratic institutions is weak. According to the polling service Latinobarómetro, only 48 percent of Latin Americans polled favor democracy over authoritarianism, while 28 percent said democracy is not necessarily preferable to authoritarianism. That is the highest percentage skeptical of democracy since the service began tracking the trend in 1995. The skepticism is highest where cartel violence is worst.

One of Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro's sons suggested that in order to control street protests, his father's government might have to adopt dictatorship-era tactics, such as suspending some of the rights of opposition lawmakers and suspending parts of the Constitution. Brazil's Getulio Vargas Foundation published research indicating that 55 percent of Brazilians would not mind a non-democratic form of government, as long as it solved society's problems. The same foundation found that only 6 percent of Brazilians trust the federal government, but 53 percent trust the Catholic Church, and 56 percent trust the military.

Roughly 11 percent of Brazilians would like to see the monarchy restored. Prince Luiz of Orléans-Braganza, a royal descendant of both Holy Roman Emperor Francis II and Brazilian Emperor Pedro II, advises Bolsonaro on foreign policy. Luiz's uncle, Prince Bertrand of Orléans-Braganza, actually claims that Bolsonaro's election is the first step toward restoring the Brazilian monarchy and moving the country back to Roman Catholic values.

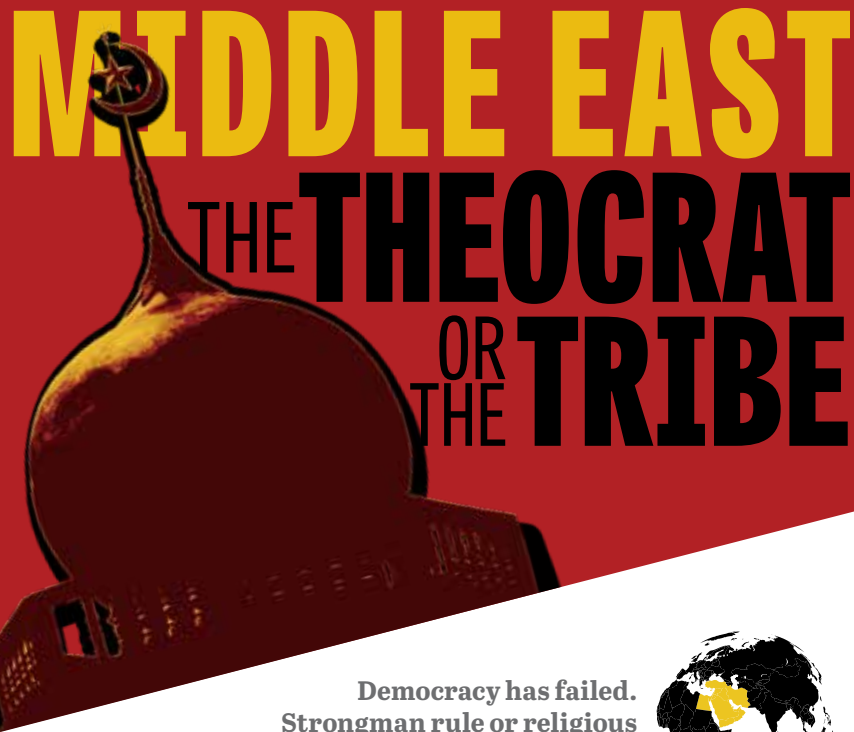
Such a move would bring Latin Americans full circle back to the form of government their ancestors rebelled against two centuries ago. To many, the option seems preferable to ongoing anarchy and crime in a "free" society. Whether people are yearning for a Catholic monarch, a socialist dictator or a military junta, they agree the current system is not working. They want protection from violent drug lords and corrupt politicians. But how do you find such protection without turning to an authoritarian government run by violent, corrupt people?

The Prophet Jeremiah pondered similar questions, and prayed: "O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps" (Jeremiah 10:23).

Humanity has *cried* and *bled* its way through 6,000 years of failed governments, and is learning the lesson that effective government requires a level of perfect, righteous character that human beings do not naturally possess. ■

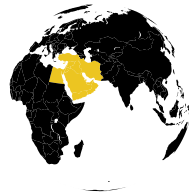
## Character matters

To learn more about the type of character required to lead nations, request a free copy of ***Just What Do You Mean ... Conversion?*** by Herbert W. Armstrong.



Democracy has failed. Strongman rule or religious tribalism appear to be the only options.

BY BRENT NAGTEGAAL



**D**URING THE 2011 ARAB SPRING, THERE WAS HOPE DEMOCRACY would take root in the Middle East. Starting in Tunisia, spreading to Libya and Egypt and then jumping across to Syria and Yemen, mass movements of people wanting their voices heard rose up against longtime dictators. It was thought that the Middle East and North Africa were undergoing a fundamental change of government.

Now, almost a decade later, it's clear that hope was naive. All attempts to bring democracy to the Middle East have failed, and will likely fail in the future.

What happened in Egypt provides a compelling case study of why.

### Egypt's Flirtation With Democracy

In 2011, massive social upheaval in Egypt, combined with a mounting international campaign of pressure led by American President Barack Obama, forced the aging autocrat Hosni Mubarak to step down. At last, the Egyptian people would have their collective say.

Understand: If democracy could be effectively introduced into the region, its greatest chance of success would be in Egypt. Compared to the diverse ethnicities that make up many other states, Egypt has a largely homogeneous populace. In theory, this would make democratic rule easier to administer.

Soon after Mubarak's departure, Egyptians got their vote in what many considered to be Egypt's only free election in its 5,000-year history. The result: the rise of the Muslim Brotherhood, an almost 100-year-old institution that believes in the supremacy of Islam. Several times in Egypt's history, this group has been suppressed or outlawed by autocratic rulers fearing the dangers of Islamic rule. Nevertheless, when democracy had its chance in Egypt, it was to this Islamist party that the people turned.

Soon after becoming Egypt's president, Muslim Brotherhood leader Mohamed Morsi made moves toward a new Islamist

constitution and government. Understandably, relations with the theocracy in Iran warmed, presaging what was ahead for Egypt.

Just one year into Morsi's term, protests against his power grabs erupted. The military, the bastion of a secular Egypt, ejected him from the presidency. Before long, the nation was back to strongman autocratic rule. For most Egyptians, this brought with it the suppression of freedoms taken for granted in the West. But it also prevented the rise of another fundamentalist Islamic power.

### The Role of Islam

One cannot discuss Middle East governance without understanding the central role of Islam. In no other region of the world is religion so fundamental to everyday life and governance. As the late Middle East expert Bernard Lewis elucidated for decades, the separation of church and state is impossible. "If, then, we are to understand anything about what is happening in the Muslim world ... there are two essential points which need to be grasped," he wrote in 1976. "One is the universality of religion as a factor in the lives of Muslim peoples, and the other is its centrality" ("The Return of Islam").

There are other factors contributing to the failures of Middle Eastern governments, such as corruption

and nepotism. But the truth, unpopular as it may be to say today, is that these governments only experience peace, however limited, to the degree that they can separate Islam from politics.

Jordan exhibits a show of democratic rule, but the ultimate power rests with the king, who, to mollify the disgruntled population, regularly sacks the parliament. The Gulf monarchies have the appearance of stability, but only because vast oil wealth keeps their people from the streets. In the failing states of Lebanon and Iraq, years of unchecked Iranian Islamist infiltration are motivating massive riots and protests.

When the people actually receive Islamic rule, such as in Iran, freedoms are curtailed. Inevitably, the people revolt.

### Hungry for Change

The Middle East is famous for its instability. While it has become fashionable to blame that on the artificial national boundaries imposed on the region after the First World War, history shows that cruel and ineffective governance that curtails individual freedoms and prosperity did not begin then.

No region has suffered more bloodshed and more internecine fighting over the previous hundreds of years. In fact, considering the region's history, there's likely not a family there today for which the incessant violence has not cost the life of a loved one, or worse.

Considering the protests filling the streets in Iran and so many other nations throughout the region, it is clear there is an appetite for change. These people deserve far better than what they have had to suffer. In the end, given the hundreds of years of failed governance they have experienced, perhaps those in the Middle East will be far more receptive to the government of God when it soon arrives. ■

## THEOCRACY IN THE 21ST CENTURY?

Could the Middle East follow Iran's lead? The Bible has the answer. To learn what it is, request Gerald Flurry's free booklet *The King of the South*.



# CHINA THE DICTATOR'S FANTASY



What happens when one man attains absolute power over hundreds of millions?

BY JEREMIAH JACQUES



"I BEGGED THEM TO KILL ME," SAID Mihrigul Tursun. "Each time I was electrocuted, my whole body would shake violently, and I could feel the pain in my veins."

Tursun was describing the torture she suffered while being held for months with 60 other women in an internment camp. Their cell was small and suffocating. They slept in turns, with most standing to make floor space for the few whose turn it was to lie down. They were routinely beaten, electrocuted, and forced to take unknown medications, including capsules that caused them to blackout and a liquid that caused bleeding in some and cessation of menstruation in others. During Tursun's final three months, nine women from her cell died. All the while, in an Orwellian twist, the women were made to sing songs praising their captors.

And here is an important detail: Tursun's nightmare did not happen decades ago in some long-shuttered concentration camp. It happened in an internment network run by her own national government, and it is still operating *right now*.

### **'The Great Family of Chinese National Territory'**

Mihrigul Tursun is an ethnic Uyghur from Xinjiang. This region, south of Kazakhstan and Mongolia, was long contested by the Mongols, the Chinese and several Turkic groups until the Qing Dynasty brought it under China's control in the 18th century. Ever since, Xinjiang has been an intermittent flash point for tensions between the Uyghurs, who are mostly Turkic-speaking Muslims, and the Han Chinese, Mandarin-speaking atheists who comprise more than 90 percent of China's total population.

The anxieties intensified throughout the 1990s: The Kazakhs, Kyrgyzians and other Turkic-speaking, Muslim, Communist neighbors seceded from the Soviet Union and formed independent nations bearing their names. Many Uyghurs sought to make Xinjiang a sovereign nation as well: Uyghuristan. But Chinese leaders were bent on keeping Xinjiang locked into what they call "the great family of Chinese national territory."

The tensions exploded in 2008 when Uyghurs protested Chinese oppression with terrorist bus bombings and attacks on police facilities. Chinese authorities said the violence killed hundreds of people, mainly Han Chinese, and deployed large numbers of People's Liberation Army soldiers to Xinjiang's largest city, Ürümqi. The violent outbursts continued throughout the next few years, but the Chinese Communist Party kept tightening its grip on Xinjiang.

Then a new man was appointed leader of China. He would tighten the Communist Party's grip to a choke hold.

### **'Nets Above and Snares Below'**

When Xi Jinping became general secretary of the Communist Party in late 2012, he was a relatively obscure personality in Chinese politics. Most experts believed he would lead the nation in the tradition of his most recent predecessors, maintaining the status quo.

But Xi began almost immediately to confound those forecasts.

Rather than keeping the "first among equals" brand of leadership followed by his recent predecessors, he embraced a strongman approach. He bypassed State Council authorities by creating policymaking party groups, many of which he personally chairs. He took direct control of writing policy on everything from China's economy and international relations to its Internet regulations. Xi waged an anti-corruption campaign resulting in the arrest or imprisonment of a breathtaking 1.4 million Communist Party members. He disappeared dissidents and hundreds of human rights lawyers in waves of arrests. He also implemented profound military reforms that made him the unchallenged head of China's vast army.

**"THE ORGANS OF DICTATORSHIP"**  
must be used to subdue Xinjiang.

**"SHOW ABSOLUTELY NO MERCY.**  
The weapons of the people's **DEMOCRATIC DICTATORSHIP**  
must be wielded without  
any hesitation or wavering."



**—PRESIDENT XI JINPING**  
to Communist Party leaders

"[H]e not only controls the military," Shanghai-based military expert Ni Lexiong told the Associated Press, "but also does it in an absolute manner. [H]e is ready to command personally."

In April 2014, just weeks after knife-wielding Uyghur terrorists killed 31 people and injured 141, Xi made an official visit to Xinjiang. Hours after his departure, a Uyghur bomb tore through an Ürümqi train station, killing three and injuring 79.

Xi seemed to take the attacks as a direct challenge to his authority and to China's overall stability. "Build steel walls and iron fortresses," he said later that year while announcing a "People's War on Terrorism." He told party leaders in Xinjiang: "Set up nets above and snares below. Cracking down severely on violent terrorist activities must be the focus of our current struggle."

Xi's government lost no time making his vision a reality. And the campaign quickly began to extend far beyond a crackdown just on "violent terrorist activities."

### **Cultural Genocide**

By May 2015, when Mihrigul Tursun was first detained, Xinjiang was being transformed into a state of

inescapable surveillance and "predictive policing." There were ubiquitous cameras, thousands of police checkpoints, and hundreds of what the Chinese government euphemistically calls "reeducation" or "vocational training" schools. It was in these facilities that Tursun was tortured for months on end.

She was detained upon returning to China from Egypt, where her husband lived. Since the Chinese Communist Party views Egypt as a potential radicalization zone, party officials snatched her and abused her until they were convinced that she posed no threat to societal stability. Vast numbers of other Xinjiang residents have suffered similarly for far less.

Various sources put the total number of Uyghurs and other Xinjiang Muslims detained in the camps in 2019 between 1.1 million and 3 million. This is of a total population of just 10 million Uyghurs, which grows to 12 million when the count includes non-Uyghur Muslims, some of whom have also been detained.

Xi's government says the purpose of holding these individuals is to educate religious extremism out of their thinking and to teach them Mandarin and job skills. But evidence from survivors such as Tursun and from two caches of highly classified Communist Party documents reveal the true goal: Xi Jinping is using his dictatorial powers to perpetrate cultural genocide.

### **'The Organs of Dictatorship'**

Before Xi, the Communist Party portrayed China as a multiethnic society that believed in cultural pluralism. In this spirit, it permitted various minority



populations certain government-sanctioned expressions of distinction. But Xi has changed that. He has shown himself determined to “Sinicize” Xinjiang and to subdue and assimilate Uyghurs into a monolithic Han culture.

“The organs of dictatorship” must be used to subdue the region, Xi told Communist Party leaders during a 2014 speech that was transcribed among the documents leaked in 2019. “Show absolutely no mercy,” he said. “The weapons of the people’s democratic dictatorship must be wielded without any hesitation or wavering.”

Inside Xinjiang’s camps and prisons, Chinese agents are implementing these orders. They are forcing detainees to consume alcohol and pork and forbidding them to pray or speak their language. They are subjecting those who resist to torture, sexual abuse, forced abortions, sterilization and transplanting their organs against their will. The organs of dictatorship.

Outside of the camps, Xinjiang has been transformed into the world’s most technologically advanced and obtrusive police state. Arabic script and Islamic imagery is being eradicated from businesses and homes, often replaced by pictures of Xi and Communist China’s founder, Mao Zedong. Mosques and Muslim graveyards are being systematically destroyed.

The Communist Party is not only detaining Uyghurs, but they are often replacing them, *in their own households and in their own beds next to their wives* with Han Chinese men. The party is literally breeding Uyghur genes out of Xinjiang: genocide by father replacement.

This and more was confirmed to the world when the party’s internal documents were leaked. Yet the leak and the international condemnation that followed does not seem to have shaken Xi. He has claimed that the personal testimonies and leaked papers are “fabrication and fake news.” The *Global Times*, which his party controls, recently praised Xi’s “training centers” in Xinjiang for their success in turning potential extremists into “normal people.”

While he used the “organs of dictatorship” to commit cultural genocide, including cutting organs

out of unwilling victims, Xi was also successful in early 2018 in removing the constitutional term limits on his rule. His organs of dictatorship can now continue for the rest of his life.

It is clear that this self-justifying and unfathomably powerful Chinese dictator will keep on asserting his will upon the Uyghurs and all of China’s 1.4 billion people. And this will result in profound suffering for millions far beyond “the great family of Chinese national territory.”

### **The Ends Justify the Means**

In the modern age, Xi’s immense and almost entirely unchecked powers seem somewhat anomalous. But history is filled with dictators like him. Such men

and Adolf Hitler: All used the organs of dictatorship to gruesome effect. Xi’s fellow champions of communism are notorious for it: Mongolia’s Khorloogiin Choibalsan killed tens of thousands of his people; Cambodia’s Pol Pot killed almost 2 million of his own people. But they were merely bullies on a playground compared to the Soviet Union’s Joseph Stalin, who slaughtered 20 million to 60 million. Then there was Mao Zedong, Xi’s recent predecessor, under whose despotic reign 65 to 75 million Chinese people were starved, tortured, bullied to suicide or executed as traitors. “Every Communist must grasp this truth,” Mao said. “Political power grows out of the barrel of a gun.”

Over and over again, when a human government is given great amounts of unchecked power, genocide, politicide, democide, repression and egregious human rights violations are inevitable. This is often because the leaders feel violence is justified to build a better

Over and over again, when a **HUMAN GOVERNMENT** is given great amounts of **UNCHECKED POWER, genocide, politicide, democide, repression and egregious human rights violations are INEVITABLE.**

have almost always produced broad-scale abuses of human beings like those now underway in Xinjiang.

Give government enough power, and this is what happens.

Qin Shi Huang, Ghengis Khan, Vlad the Impaler, Ivan the Terrible, King Leopold II

world, and they succeed in selling their vision to supporters. In many cases, it is a matter of leftist, utopianist tyrants who believe the ends justify the means. *My vision is noble, and my ideals are virtuous. I must use absolute force to quash dissent so my ideals can become reality. I must wield my power pitilessly today to create a beautiful world for tomorrow.*

When an authoritarian is driven by such thinking, the throat of liberty is slit. Human rights are blindfolded and shot in the street. And rule of law is publicly guillotined. These are all necessary casualties in the pursuit of the larger goal. They are the blood sacrifices that must be offered up to the “greater good.”

Bible prophecy reveals that Xinjiang is just the beginning—such authoritarian governments and policies will soon dominate the world. ■



## **WHAT ARE THE ‘TIMES OF THE GENTILES’?**

Bloody, violent and enslaving—the Bible speaks of a terrible time coming. When is it coming and how can you avoid it? Request our free booklet *Russia and China in Prophecy* to find out.

The very foundation of America's constitutional system of government is under attack. **BY STEPHEN FLURRY**



**U**NITED STATES Attorney General William Barr gave a stunning speech at the University of Notre Dame in October, a speech that should move people to take note of the seriousness of the times. He warned that the Judeo-Christian moral foundation that America was founded upon is under attack by academics, activists, actors, educators, journalists, media moguls, politicians and secularists of all stripes.

This attack threatens the very foundation of America's constitutional system of government.

Mr. Barr loves the U.S. Constitution and understands this noble document as few men do. My father, *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry, has stated that God surely had a hand in Mr. Barr's appointment as attorney general. He was attorney

general under President George H.W. Bush in the early 1990s, and it is remarkable that he decided to take the job again. He seemed to come out of nowhere, and the timing of his nomination, hearings and confirmation is significant.

The attorney general's speech is a message that God wants America to hear. In His mercy, God is exposing the corruption in American politics and giving people one last chance to repent before the nation plunges into a time of unparalleled calamity.

### **No Freedom Without Law**

The attorney general began his speech by describing mankind's capacity for self-government. He said that no society can endure that does not restrain individual greed and selfishness. But who is ultimately responsible for ensuring that people do not oppress their neighbors?

"By and large, the founding generation's view of human nature was drawn from the classical Christian tradition," Mr. Barr said. "These practical statesmen understood that individuals, while having the potential for great good, also had the capacity for great evil. Men

are subject to powerful passions and appetites, and, if unrestrained, are capable of ruthlessly riding roughshod over their neighbors and the community at large. No society can exist without some means of restraining individual rapacity. But if you rely on the coercive power of the government to impose those restraints, the framers believed, this would inevitably lead to a government that is too controlling, and you will end up with no liberty, just tyranny" (ibid).

America's founders faced the same dilemma that all civilizations face: How do you restrain selfish, lawless people without turning to an authoritarian government—which will inevitably be ruled by selfish, lawless people? The conclusion that George Washington, John Adams, Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson and James Madison came to was that the individuals had to learn to restrain their own selfish and lawless human nature. This obviously required religion and morality.

"[T]he founders decided to take a gamble, and they called it a great experiment," Mr. Barr continued. "They would leave the people broad liberty. They would limit the coercive power of the government and they would place their trust in the self-discipline and virtue of the American people. In the words of Madison, 'We have staked our future on the ability of each of us to govern ourselves.'"

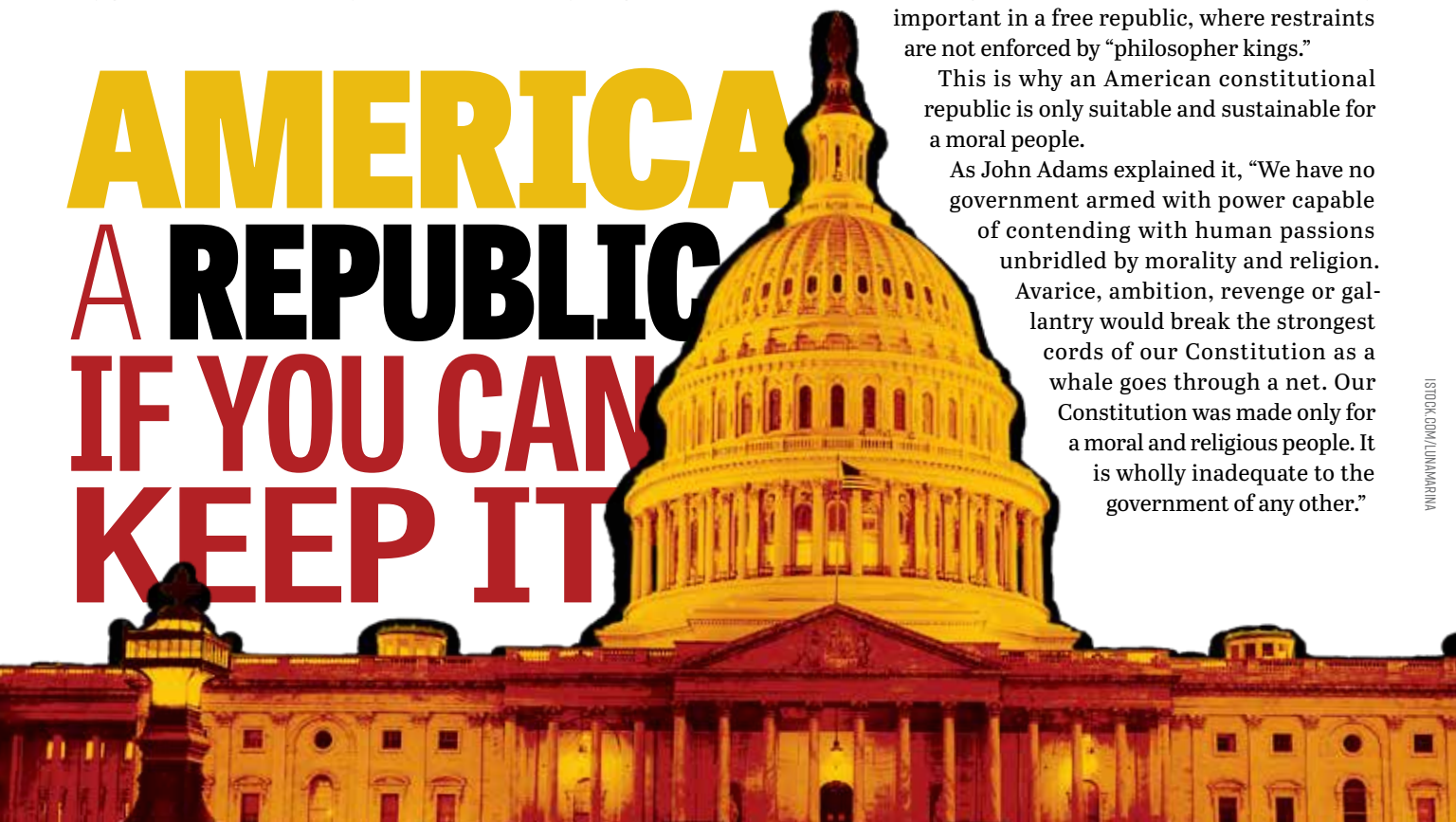
When the founders spoke about "self-government," Mr. Barr said, they were not primarily referring to governmental structures that put power in the hands of the majority. They were referring to each individual's capacity to restrain his own human nature and govern himself. They were referring to moral character, which is especially important in a free republic, where restraints are not enforced by "philosopher kings."

This is why an American constitutional republic is only suitable and sustainable for a moral people.

As John Adams explained it, "We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion.

Avarice, ambition, revenge or galantry would break the strongest cords of our Constitution as a whale goes through a net. Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

# AMERICA A REPUBLIC IF YOU CAN KEEP IT



As long as most Americans voluntarily submit to God's Ten Commandments, the U.S. Constitution is a relatively effective governing framework that prevents tyrants from rising to power and guarantees a large amount of liberty to the people. But if people refuse to submit to the law of God, the same form of government will yield anarchy, until an authoritarian leader rises up to restore order.

"As far as human government goes, the United States started about as right as any government man has ever produced," my father writes in *Character in Crisis*. "Critics today can say what they will about *why* it started right. But the Founding Fathers all seemed to be in perfect agreement on the issue. The country began in *fertile ground* because it was founded upon *religion and morality*."

In the summer of 1787, Elizabeth Powel approached Benjamin Franklin as he exited the Constitutional Convention. The account goes that she asked, "Well, doctor, what have we got, a republic or a monarchy?" Franklin's reply: "A republic, madam, *if you can keep it*." Like America's other founders, Franklin knew that *if we* fail to establish and maintain the rule of law, our *republic is doomed!*

### Character in Crisis

Over the past century, society has abandoned even basic tenets of biblical morality. "[M]odern secularists dismissed this idea of morality as sort of otherworldly superstition imposed by a killjoy clergy," Mr. Barr continued. "But in fact, Judeo-Christian moral standards are the ultimate utilitarian rules for human conduct. They reflect the rules that are best for man, not in the by and by, but in the here and now. They are like God's instruction manual for the best running of man and the best operation of human society, and by the same token, violations of these moral laws have bad, real-world consequences for man and for society. We may not pay the price immediately, but over time, the harm is real."

Militant secularists no longer have a "live and let live" attitude toward biblical moral codes, he said. They are no longer content to live a lawless lifestyle and leave others to practice their faith. In fact, he said, many government officials in the Obama administration seemed to "take delight" in compelling people to violate both the moral codes of the Bible and their conscience by forcing religious employers to fund contraceptive and abortifacient coverage in their health plans. Secularists in many state governments take the same delight in forcing Christian bakers to

cater homosexual weddings.

Progressive activists think they are moral and upright, and that circumstances in America are improving as they go about destroying religion, morality and the institution of family. But this view is deranged. Just look at the social wreckage that family breakdown has caused. As Mr. Barr pointed out, we see record levels of depression and mental illness. We are witnessing soaring suicide rates and a deadly drug epidemic that is killing more than 70,000 people a year. We see swelling numbers of angry and alienated young males rioting in the cities and committing mass shootings.

Where is the progress? Look around and you see immense suffering, wreckage and misery!

"This is not decay, this is organized destruction," Mr. Barr warned. "Secularists and their allies have marshaled all the forces of mass communication—popular culture, the entertainment industry and academia—in an unremitting assault on religion and traditional values."

Americans are not keeping their republic. It is in grave danger of descending into anarchy and war. And the reason is that people abandoned "God's instruction manual" and indulged their own selfish, lawless human nature.

### America Under Attack

Attorney General Barr is describing America under attack. He does not discuss Satan the devil, nor does he grasp the depth of Satan's

role in this attack. But the Bible reveals that Satan is "the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience" (Ephesians 2:2). It also prophesied that Satan would be cast to Earth in the end time (Revelation 12:9). The devil is full of wrath (verse 12), and he has gotten control of society, particularly the radical left.

Abraham Lincoln once stated, "All the armies of Europe, Asia and Africa combined, with all the treasure of the earth (our own excepted) in their military chest, with a Bonaparte for a commander, could not by force take a drink from the Ohio or make a track on the Blue Ridge in a trial of a thousand years. ... If destruction be our lot, we must ourselves be its author and finisher. As a nation of freemen, we must live through all time or die by suicide."

The devil understands this fact well, which is why he is attacking America from the inside.

"Many people *scoff* about there even *being* a devil—while he's tearing them apart!" my father writes in his booklet *America Under Attack*. "They don't understand anything about God, nor do they know the devil. Until they do, the problems will only intensify." The only solution to our massive problems is repentance toward God (Ezekiel 33:11). "Satan's growing wrath against [America, Britain and Israel] as his time grows shorter will climax in the worst suffering in human history—what the Bible calls the Great Tribulation" (ibid; request your free copy).

Attorney General Barr does not specifically mention Satan, but he is unmasking the devil's work. It is very likely that God did have a hand in Mr. Barr's appointment as attorney general so he could help expose the lawless spirit that has taken over academia, politics, entertainment and the news media.

*God's great desire* is to bless America and all other nations with peace and prosperity. But He is not a tyrant who will force people to follow His laws against their will. So He is allowing people to learn from their mistakes as part of a plan to develop character in individuals—the character required to willingly submit to God's government and overcome selfish, lawless human nature. ■



# WHY GOVERNMENTS FAIL

Mankind's governments can be classified into the few (oligarchy), and the rule of the many its own pitfalls, because all human beings nat

## 1 THE RULE OF ONE



CZAR IVAN THE TERRIBLE

## 2 THE RULE OF THE FEW



ROMAN REPUBLIC

### TYRANNY

If an autocrat is abusive, no one has authority to overrule him. Selfish, greedy and cruel rulers can imprison, enslave and slaughter people.



EXAMPLES *Genghis Khan, Emperor Qin Shi Huang, Emperor Caligula, Czar Ivan the Terrible, Adolf Hitler, Mao Zedong, Joseph Stalin*

### INEQUALITY

Oligarchs often use their power to exclude others from the ruling class. Oligarchies often end up with a formal or informal caste system. This can cause a populist revolution when masses feel they cannot join the upper class.



EXAMPLES *Modern-day Ukraine, Roman Republic, First Brazilian Republic*

### SUCCESSION

Autocrats are succeeded by a relative or handpicked successor, who is not always qualified to lead the nation. Cruel or incompetent leaders often end up taking power after the death of a decent king.



EXAMPLES *King Edward VIII, King Manasseh, Emperor Commodus*

### INFIGHTING

Since final decisions are not made by a single leader, or by popular mandate, oligarchies are often undermined by infighting and power struggles between oligarchs.



EXAMPLES *Thailand National Council for Peace and Order, The Four Hundred of Athens*

“But what is government itself, but the greatest of all reflections on human nature? If men were angels, no government necessary. In framing a government which is to be administered by men over men, the great difficulty lies in this: You must fir

to three categories: the rule of one (autocracy), the rule of many (oligarchy), and the rule of the many (democracy). Yet each of these three systems comes with its own set of problems. All three systems naturally have the same selfish, corruptible human nature.

# 3

## THE RULE OF THE MANY

FRENCH REVOLUTION

### DEBT

The average person often lacks the education and discipline to run a country. Once voters start giving themselves generous benefits from the public treasury, democracies start amassing huge debts that destabilize society.



EXAMPLES *Modern-day Greece, Italy, Portugal and Spain*

### MOB RULE

Pure democracies encourage mob rule when the majority always wins. Oppression of minorities can be worse in a democracy where the government has a popular mandate than in an autocracy with an unpopular leader.



EXAMPLES *Bolivarian Revolution, French Revolution*

## NOTABLE TRANSITIONS

Throughout history, societies have switched between autocracy (1), oligarchy (2) and democracy (3). Yet each of these revolutions has presented new problems.



**CHINA**  
20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

**1-2-1**

After the dictatorship of Mao Zedong, China amended its constitution and became an oligarchy. Today it is recentralizing power in the hands of President Xi Jinping.



**FRANCE**  
18<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

**1-3-1**

After France's monarchy was executed during the French Revolution, the country became a democracy until Napoleon Bonaparte established himself as emperor.



**GREECE**  
5<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY B.C.

**3-2-3**

During the Peloponnesian War, Athens' democracy was overthrown by an oligarchy known as *The Four Hundred*. Infighting among the oligarchs led to the restoration of democracy.



**BRAZIL**  
19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

**1-2-3**

After Brazil abolished slavery, the monarchy was overthrown in a *coup d'etat*. An oligarchy of coffee plantation owners dominated Brazil until a revolution established a democracy.



**GERMANY**  
20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

**1-3-1**

After Germany's monarchy was deposed after World War I, the country became a democracy until Adolf Hitler was effectively elected dictator via the Enabling Act of 1933.

ment would be necessary. If angels were to govern men, neither external nor internal controls on government would be able to control the government; and in the next place oblige it to control itself." —JAMES MADISON



# The CLIMAX of MAN'S RULE OVER MAN

**One of Jesus Christ's major prophecies reveals how brutal mankind's attempts at governing itself will soon become.**

**BY GERALD FLURRY**

**T**HE GOVERNMENTS OF MAN have created untold misery over the millennia. But not until the final days of human history, just ahead of us, will the world witness the fullest extent of how grievous human rule can be.

Jesus Christ prophesied of a time that would take place shortly before His return to Earth—a time of the greatest suffering in human history.

Do you believe these words of Jesus?

“And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh. ... For these be *the days of vengeance*, that all things which are written may be fulfilled” (Luke 21:20, 22). The Bible is *full* of prophecies of this horrific era, and Christ said *all of them* will be fulfilled within a short span of time. If you follow the signs He gave us, you know that time is almost here.

“And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled” (verse 24).

These “times of the Gentiles” are yet to be fully realized. However, we are in the outer edges of this catastrophic storm. Events taking place in Xinjiang and Hong Kong, China, in Russia and its periphery, in Europe and Latin America and in the Middle East, have everything to do with this prophecy.

This is part of the core of biblical prophecy—right out of your Bible! Yet we don't hear much about the times of the Gentiles today. Why not?

## **Who Are the Gentiles?**

In this prophecy, Christ said Jerusalem would be surrounded by armies bent on its desolation. **THIS CRISIS IS BUILDING AROUND JERUSALEM TODAY.** The Jews have many enemies—not only Iran, but *many* other nations. Almost all Gentile nations are hostile and hateful toward the Jews. However, they are hostile to more than just the Jews.

The name *Israel* refers to a lot more than just the little nation in the Middle East. The biblical nation of Israel was composed of 12 tribes, and Judah—from which the Jews are descended—was only one of those tribes. The other tribes of Israel are scattered across the Earth. For a thorough and illuminating explanation, order your free copy of *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*, by Herbert W. Armstrong.

Once you understand who Israel is, then you can see how the Gentiles—the non-Israelite peoples—have started to take charge of the world *already*.

While there are many Gentile nations around today, when this prophecy is completely fulfilled there will be two *major* powers—one revolving around Russia and China, and the other around Germany. Each will have strong allies, making the clash between these Gentiles the worst ever on Earth.

Some history will help you recognize how we are entering the times of the Gentiles today.

## **Successive Gentile Powers**

Over 2,500 years ago, the powerful Babylonian Empire was ruled by King Nebuchadnezzar. This great Gentile king came into contact with the Prophet Daniel, who wrote the book of Daniel in the Bible.

Daniel gave Nebuchadnezzar a warning directly from God, but the king would not submit. Therefore God dethroned Nebuchadnezzar and sent him out to the field, making him eat grass like an animal. Seven years passed before Nebuchadnezzar finally acknowledged that *God rules in the kingdom of men* (Daniel 5:21). This is a lesson *all mankind* will learn one day soon.

Daniel 2 records how God revealed a powerful dream to Nebuchadnezzar. The great image featured in the dream prophesied of successive world-ruling powers. They were the Babylonians, the Persians, the Greeks and, lastly, the Romans, an empire prophesied elsewhere to be resurrected 10 separate times. This one image provides an incredible overview of world history under these Gentile powers.

Daniel 7 is a companion prophecy. It describes these same four kingdoms—but pictures them as “four great beasts” (verse 3). And in these prophecies,

the *kingdom* and the *king* are used interchangeably.

There is a reason God uses this terminology: Every leader of these Gentile kingdoms was under the sway of an evil spiritual influence—and came to have the mind of a wild, fierce *beast!* When such men attain power, they become cunning, ferocious beasts. Throughout history they have routinely thought like wild animals, wanting to conquer, pillage, burn and destroy.

As the U.S. falls in power, it is being replaced by leaders who act like wild, raging beasts!

God calls these leaders *beasts* for a reason! Yet people don't believe God. Somehow, the leaders of Israel think our modern world has evolved beyond that evil nature. In reality, we haven't even seen the most savage of these beasts! The worst times of the Gentiles are yet ahead of us!

Think about Adolf Hitler, one of those beast-like leaders. Before World War II, British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain tried to make peace with this man. His diplomacy almost guaranteed defeat for Britain and Europe in World War II. You cannot reason with a wild, ferocious beast! We keep thinking diplomacy will solve all our problems. However, diplomacy solves nothing if it isn't backed up with real power.

CAN A GOOD DIPLOMAT WIN OVER THE MIND OF A VICIOUS, WILD BEAST?

### America's Disappearing Will

The big reason these powers are rising today traces back to the power vacuum created by America's weakness—and the *disappearance of America's will.*

Gentiles have contempt for the weak.

In recent decades, America has demonstrated its lack of will to decisively use its power in several international arenas. Right now there is a temporary resurgence taking place under President Donald Trump, but it is not enough to reverse this trend—certainly not in the long term.

Recognizing this weakness, China has been asserting its power in the South China Sea and tightening its control over the people of Hong Kong and Xinjiang. Russia is claiming more and more power over former Soviet nations, including Georgia, Ukraine and Belarus. It is also

pushing its weight around in the Middle East. Iran is also becoming more belligerent. America's broken will is a big part of what is motivating these actions.

Throughout history, China has often taken on an expansionist policy to conquer, destroy, subdue and enslave people. In recent years, the United States has acted like China has changed, but that same policy is materializing again, stronger than ever.

Russia and China are also defying the U.S. by supporting North Korea, upgrading Kim Jong-un's ability to attack South Korea, Japan and even the U.S. with nuclear weapons! If China and Russia were concerned about the general welfare of mankind, would they do that? If they still respected the United States, would they act so brazenly against American interests?

Russia's and China's actions prove that Gentiles are rising to power before our eyes! And these are just two of *many* Gentile nations growing more aggressive on the world scene.

U.S. weakness is putting its allies on dangerous ground. Many nations are realizing they cannot trust America for protection anymore. They have to make peace with China, Russia and these other nations if they are to survive in the new global order that is taking shape.

Again, under the Trump administration, America is showing more spine to the world's aggressors than previous recent administrations. But Bible prophecy shows that this is only a temporary resurgence in America's foreign policy. IT WILL NOT LAST LONGER THAN ONE MORE U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION!

Is that an urgent crisis??

While many will rejoice at the United States' demise, this trend is building to catastrophe like never before seen! As the U.S. falls in power, it will be replaced by leaders who act like wild, raging *beasts!*

Here are some other prophecies that describe the unparalleled adversity of this coming "times of the Gentiles." Daniel called it "a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation" (Daniel 12:1). The Prophet Jeremiah said, "Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's [another name for Israel] trouble ..."

(Jeremiah 30:7). Jesus Christ Himself prophesied, "For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be" (Matthew 24:21).

Look at the intense trouble and tribulation throughout history! *Imagine* a time worse than any before!

Many other Bible prophecies show that the nuclear, chemical and biological weapons mankind has invented ARE GOING TO BE USED ON A MASS SCALE. (Request my free booklet *Nuclear Armageddon Is 'At the Door.'*) Christ went on to say, "And except those days should

**While many will REJOICE at the UNITED STATES' DEMISE, this trend is BUILDING TO CATASTROPHE like NEVER BEFORE SEEN.**

be shortened, there should NO FLESH BE SAVED ALIVE"! (verse 22; Moffatt translation).

This is the ghastly culmination of 6,000 years of man's rule over man! This is the nightmare awaiting mankind just ahead.

### 'By His Servants'

Anciently, God sent Daniel to warn Nebuchadnezzar and his successors of what would befall their empires. God actually *spoke* through this man.

Notice this point from later in Daniel's book: "Neither have we [Israel] obeyed *the voice of the Lord our God*, to walk in his laws, which he set before us *by his servants the prophets*" (Daniel 9:10). Daniel discusses the *voice of God*. However, God didn't speak in person; He worked *through Daniel*. Believe it or not, He works through one man today—a man who must follow Daniel's example.

"[W]hy will ye die, O house of Israel?" (Ezekiel 33:11). Will Israel repent? I see no such signs. But there is mind-staggering hope in spite of what Israel does.

Daniel also wrote that God set His voice before His people "by his servants the prophets." This shows there is to be a Daniel-type prophecy going out in the end time about the times of the Gentiles!

Who in this modern day is proclaiming that we are facing the times of the Gentiles? THAT HORRIFYING TIME IS ALMOST UPON US!

“Yea, all Israel have transgressed thy law, even by departing, that they might not obey thy voice; therefore *the curse* is poured upon us, and the oath that is written in the law of Moses the servant of God, because we have sinned against him” (Daniel 9:11).

All the way back in the law of Moses—which is the first five books of the Bible—God prophesied what would happen to Israel in this end time. For example, in Leviticus 26:19, God said, *I will break the pride of your power. You will have lots of power but will lack the courage to use it.* This has happened to the modern-day nations of Israel—specifically to America and Britain.

Daniel wrote about “*the curse*” on Israel. When you break God’s commands, He has no choice but to turn against you and punish you for your sins. That is *the curse*!

Daniel continued, “As it is written in the law of Moses, all this evil is come upon us: yet made we not our prayer before the Lord our God, that we might *turn from our iniquities*, and understand thy truth” (Daniel 9:13). Daniel is saying, *We need to pray to God and turn from our evil ways. You must turn your life around if God is to help you.*

He is talking to *all* Israel! You *must* know who Israel is in order to understand this!

“Therefore hath the Lord watched upon the evil, and brought it upon us: for the Lord our God is righteous in all his works which he doeth: for we obeyed not his voice” (verse 14). Do you believe in a God who brings destruction upon His own people because of their evil ways? That is what Scripture describes!

## The Conclusion

God even brings destruction upon *His own Church* because of its sins! “And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar [a symbol of the ministry], and them that worship therein. But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for *it is given unto the Gentiles*: and the holy city shall

they tread under foot forty and two months” (Revelation 11:1-2).

*It is given to the Gentiles*, God says—another reference to the *times of the Gentiles*! In this end time, 95 percent of *God’s own people* will have to be plunged into the greatest suffering *ever*—in an effort to motivate them to repent!

This scripture also talks about the small portion of God’s people in the *inner court* who are faithful in proclaiming the message for God. The majority are in the outer court, where God does not dwell. God promises to take His inner court people to a place of protection shortly before the Second Coming (e.g. Revelation 12:14). But those outside will have to experience the wrath of these Gentile leaders who have minds like ferocious, wild, ravaging *beasts*! How much mercy are those leaders going to show?

God’s own people who have rebelled against Him will have to go through all this misery and suffering to save even half of them. The other half will lose their eternal lives! (e.g. Matthew 25:1-13; Jeremiah 24).

Look at history—and even parts of the world in the modern day—and you see what savagery mankind is capable of. You also realize humanity is degenerating: The *last* empire described in Daniel 2 and Daniel 7 is far more brutal, savage and uncivilized than the first. Man is not evolving and getting better and better—he is getting worse and worse! Look at the desolation mankind wreaked in World War II—then think of the horrific devastation prophesied to come in the near future. This is the complete opposite of getting better and better.

This is terrifying news. Luke’s record of Christ’s prophecy says it will be a time of “[m]en’s hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken” (Luke 21:26).

THIS is the ultimate consequence of man’s rule over other men! Six thousand years of human rule are going to culminate in a nuclear world war that would actually ANNIHILATE ALL MANKIND if Jesus Christ didn’t intervene to stop it! How sick is the human mind! How desperately we need God!

Thankfully, Christ WILL intervene. Notice the very next verse! “And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory” (verse 27). These times of the Gentiles lead directly to the return of Jesus Christ! He will finally put down the beast-like rulers so they are no longer able to tear apart mankind! Now *that* is good news! ■

## ► RIDDLE FROM PAGE 7

their benefit, unencumbered by bureaucratic constraints or the politics of committee. History has many examples of such competent rulers.

Yet when one individual possesses such vast power, a bad king is a disaster. He can be unconcerned about his people, viciously self-serving. His perverse example can encourage the spread of vice and can lead others into terrible wickedness. In many cases, the intoxicating effect of power has transformed otherwise impotent men into tyrants. Every country with a history of absolute rule has experienced its being savagely abused.

Among the worst autocrats in history have been those motivated by erroneous ideology, who believe they bear the sacred secrets, the blueprints to utopia, for which any action is justified. These include the religiously driven Holy Roman emperors, who slew millions with the sword they purportedly wielded on God’s behalf. Adolf Hitler sought to found a thousand-year, racially pure paradise—and his perverse vision drove him to unspeakable evil. Then there are atheistic dictators, unaccountable to any higher power. Joseph Stalin, for example, was so convinced of the secular holiness of communism that he murdered somewhere between 20 million and 60 million people to enforce it.

This planet is soaked with the blood of millions accused of somehow hindering these leaders’ glorious visions. As U.S. President John Adams said, “Power always thinks it has a great soul and vast views beyond the comprehension of the weak and that it is doing God’s service when it is violating all His laws.”



These examples also show how power often combines with overconfidence—and not just in autocracies. Leaders believe themselves expertly and uniquely qualified to regulate, dictate and control virtually every detail in others' lives. This is amply evident in the technocracy of the European Union and in the imperious impulses of America's political left.

One-man rule has the additional problem of succession. Sooner or later, that one man dies. If succession automatically passes to his next of kin, at some point it almost inevitably ends up in the hands of someone unqualified, whether through youth, weakness, wickedness or incompetence. At other times, there is no clear successor. Thus, all long-term systems of autocratic rule also have histories of civil war. In the Roman Empire, especially,

they never solved the succession puzzle; the result was nearly a century (the third century B.C.) of unrelenting warfare as one leader after the next tried to seize power, weakening the state and inviting outside attack.

The solution, some say, is democracy. Yet the record here is also troubling.

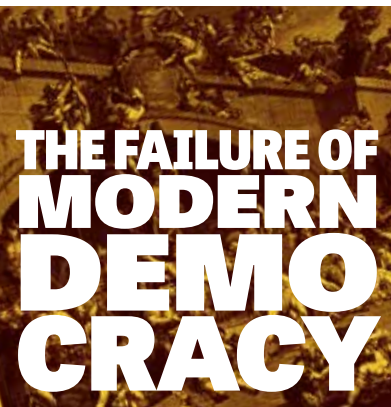
### Democracy

Democracy has a short, spotty history. Prior to modern times, only two

significant states (which left much record) came close: the Greek city states, and the Roman Republic. Yet neither was a democracy by modern standards. In Greece, only a handful of citizens could vote. Rome also disenfranchised many; the votes of the poor were worth less than those of the rich, and high birth carried enormous privilege. (Even in early America, only 10 to 20 percent of the adult population were eligible to vote.)

Nevertheless, the lesson is clear: In both Greece and Rome, the democracies were spectacular failures.

In the Greek civil wars between Athens and Sparta, the Athenians' democracy



Before long, those who were left of France's leading citizens realized that if they did not destroy the Committee of Public Safety, it would soon destroy them. In 1794, there was a coup. Another constitution followed. Having just received a terrible lesson on the perils of unchecked power, France swung to the other extreme. The new constitution was full of checks and balances constraining the government, making it impotent in the face of hyperinflation, food shortages and military defeat. And because the constitution was nearly impossible to amend, the problems were insoluble. Another coup followed in 1797. Then another in 1798. Then another in June 1799. With government paralysis embedded in an unchangeable constitution, a coup was practically the only way to get anything done.

This constitution was finally destroyed in November 1799. Democracy had repeatedly failed to take hold. Thus, a popular young military officer decided to take charge: Napoleon Bonaparte. As in Rome, the democratic government had

already failed—it was just a case of who would pick up the pieces.

Very few democracies founded in the decades after this time survived. In the 19th century, around 25 countries became independent. Of these, only three have survived until the present day without enduring some kind of coup or dictatorship. Canada gained independence (as a British dominion) in 1867 through negotiation. Its government followed the British pattern; to this day, the queen of Canada is Queen Elizabeth II. Liberia became independent from the United States in 1847; it patterned its constitution after America's. Belgium became independent from the Netherlands in 1830 as a constitutional monarchy. It was occupied by Germany but suffered no self-inflicted wounds. The other 20-plus nations either never achieved democracy in that century or destroyed their own democracy.

That's not to say a faulty constitution caused the failures of the rest. In most cases, that wasn't even a factor; the great majority of these newly independent nations began in

a much weaker position than the infancy of the United States. Instead, it shows how few examples we have of long-lived democracies. Failure is the *norm*. When you consider that most of Europe did not become democratic until the 20th century—in many cases not until after World War II—it becomes clear that there are few proven ways of organizing a democracy to survive the test of time.

Francis Fukuyama proclaims that the end of the Cold War signaled "The End of History," as he titled his book. "What we may be witnessing is ... the end point of mankind's ideological evolution and the universalization of Western liberal democracy as the final form of human government," he writes.

Few have stated this so explicitly, but this has been the general worldview: *We have this figured out; democracy is the way to go.* But the reality is, this view of democracy as the ultimate end point of human history is simply ahistorical. Instead, democracy has proved fragile and generally short-lived.

**RICHARD PALMER**

**T**HE FRENCH REVOLUTION began in 1789 (depending on how you count it). The first constitution, in 1791, created a constitutional monarchy. But the king and the revolutionaries were too divided to work together. A year later, France declared itself a republic. In 1793, it created a new constitution. This helped empower Maximilien Robespierre and the Committee of Public Safety. The Committee soon gained the power to kill anyone it wanted, which it did with gusto. The ensuing Reign of Terror imprisoned 300,000 and executed an estimated 40,000—a precursor to the Communist purges of the 20th century. To describe it, a new term entered the English language: "terrorism."

made an utter muddle of its war efforts. Top military leaders were continually put on trial by their own people. Some fled or defected to avoid punishment. It was a war run incompetently by a committee of hundreds, ending in defeat by the authoritarian Spartans.

And this was hardly Athenian democracy's only failure. It ultimately turned society into "a chaos of class violence, cultural decadence and moral degeneration," the Durants write. It was "corroded with slavery, venality [bribery and corruption], and war. [D]emocracy is the most difficult of all forms of government, since it requires the widest spread of intelligence."

The Roman Republic succeeded where Athenian democracy failed: in the crucible of war. But in 133 B.C., it began to fall apart. Infighting among politicians resulted in the deaths of several prominent leaders. The republic descended into civil violence. Assassinations became common, then rebellions and uprisings. Around 60 B.C., Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus (better known as Pompey), Marcus Licinius Crassus and Julius Caesar formed a private agreement to control the political process. This, according

**As inventive as America's founders were in working to BRIDLE HUMAN NATURE, human nature has proved itself FAR MORE INVENTIVE.**

to Mary Beard, "for the first time effectively took public decisions into private hands. Through a series of behind-the-scenes arrangements, bribes and threats, they ensured that consulships and military commands went where they chose and that key decisions went their way" (*SPQR: A History of Ancient Rome*). The three men famously fell out, and civil war erupted. This time, the conflict would determine who would effectively become Rome's first emperor: Caesar or Pompey. Democracy was already dead.

### Modern Democracies

The founders of America did a remarkable thing: They pondered all history's examples and sought to devise a government that would avoid the traps and troubles that have shipwrecked nations and empires. Most presciently, because of their education in the Bible they recognized that the real enemy of good governance and national longevity is human nature. Thus they sought above all to constrain this evil. They created a government with very limited powers, one that would afford the people an unmatched level of individual freedom and responsibility. They devised a system that harnessed the strength of a monarchy (in the president), elements of oligarchy (with state and national legislatures made up of representatives), and limited elements of democracy.

America's founders were cautious in applying democratic elements. Only certain leaders were chosen by vote, at certain intervals. The extreme tendencies of the masses were filtered through an electoral college. Voting was restricted to men who were considered responsible and able to rightly exercise that power. Yet still, by historical standards it was a remarkably universal democracy. This form of government has safeguarded unparalleled freedom and has released an outpouring of productivity and creativity. The founding principle of freedom was applied to trade as well, and the free market has helped to lift more people out of poverty than any other single force in history. This democratic experiment has proved especially long-lived and successful.

And yet, as inventive as the founders were in working to bridle human nature, human nature has proved itself far more inventive. The separation of powers, the checks and balances they established to limit the problems caused by a bad king—though they made America remarkably resilient despite some bad leaders—are increasingly being wielded as weapons for nakedly political purposes. Right now a shocking level of entrenched corruption within governing bodies is being exposed, and the government is at absolute war within itself.

Beyond that, ultimately, democracy is subject to the same peril that monarchy is: An incompetent ruler can make life unlivable. In a democracy, the "ruler" is the people. The more wicked the people become, the more rapidly governmental and social stability turns to dust.

And the more democratic a government, the more volatile.

As Herodotus said, "The mob is altogether devoid of knowledge." Winston Churchill admitted that "the best argument against democracy is a five-minute conversation with the average voter." People can be very foolish. They can vote for politicians who promise benefits at the expense of the national good. Besides racking up massive debts, this can mean neglecting areas of spending that don't give immediate returns, like defense. This weakness almost saw democracy wiped out in World War II. The dictatorships of Hitler and Stalin attacked the surrounding democracies without warning. Too many had not properly prepared for the fight, and even those who were well armed lacked the stomach for one. After declaring war on Germany in 1939, France and Britain merely waited meekly for the Nazi juggernaut to turn on them.

Enjoying broad freedom also gives human nature more room to stretch out. Far too often people descend into excesses and evils. America's founders knew that preserving freedom depended on the religion and morality of the people (see "A Republic, If You Can Keep It," page 16). Today's Americans have largely dismantled these pillars of society. We broadly celebrate perversions and sins that were barely imagined in previous generations.

Democracy may in fact be, as Churchill said, "the worst form of government, except for all those other forms that have been tried from time to time." This is supposedly the peak of human achievement in government, and it is a wreck! Few look at the political muddle in Washington today and see a system worth emulating. Many nations are surrendering freedom in favor of a stronger single leader—a 21st-century king. Even more and more Americans are being seduced by European-style socialism or populism, and want to change or trash the Constitution. Democratic presidential candidates in particular are calling for some of the most egregious power grabs by a government imaginable.

For 6,000 years man has been writing these lessons in government, mostly through suffering and oppression—and by showing WHAT DOES NOT WORK.

## The Solution to the Riddle

Some years ago, *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry wrote a booklet titled *God's Family Government*. This is how that booklet begins: "In man's entire history, we have not found one government that will truly serve the people. This whole world is in a crisis, and the major problem is government."

This lesson is screaming at us—through the pages of history and across the nations today, where millions of people are crying out for changes in government. Yet how exceedingly *few* recognize the real cause of the problems and the real solution. Man is blind! No matter how bad conditions get, he will not turn to God.

But the Bible is clear that this era that flowed from Adam's decision will last only 6,000 years. God said, in effect, to Adam, "After the world of your descendants has written the lesson in 6,000 years of human suffering, anguish, frustration, defeat and death," Mr. Armstrong wrote, "I will supernaturally intervene. By supernatural divine power I shall then take over the government of the whole world."

That is the real solution—the **ONLY** solution to the government riddle. **GOD HIMSELF** will intervene and **TAKE OVER THE GOVERNMENT OF THE WORLD!**

In the first century, just months after Jesus Christ had been crucified, the Apostle Peter told a crowd gathered at the temple in Jerusalem, "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached

unto you: Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began" (Acts 3:19-21).

All the prophets have spoken of this since the world began. "God's prophets have known from the beginning that something was dangerously and fundamentally wrong on this Earth," Mr. Flurry writes. "Throughout most of recorded history, these prophets have warned this world it was going in the wrong direction. But if we go back far enough, we see that the Earth was full of joy, peace and abundance. Then disaster struck! We must receive 'the restitution of all things' to solve mankind's problems. ... [T]his world is upside-down and must be put right-side up. What does this involve? **A FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE IN GOVERNMENT!**" (op cit).

## The King of Kings

Revelation 11:15 records this extraordinary prophecy: "And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, **THE KINGDOMS OF THIS WORLD ARE BECOME THE KINGDOMS OF OUR LORD, AND OF HIS CHRIST;** and he shall reign for ever and ever."

When Jesus Christ returns, the governments of this world will be replaced by the government of God! The Communist Party of China under paramount leader Xi Jinping, the Islamist clerical regime of Ayatollah Ali Khamenei in Iran, the reigns of Kim Jong-un in North Korea, of Recep Tayyip Erdoğan in Turkey, of Nicolás Maduro in Venezuela, of Vladimir Putin in Russia, of Bashar Assad in Syria, of the people of Britain and the United States will become "the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ"!

"And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God, Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because *thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast REIGNED*" (verses 16-17).

God will strip man of all the power he has assumed and reign in his stead. He will show the **TRUE ANSWERS** to all the questions of government. He will stop the abuses, correct the injustices, and show man what good government looks like!

Occasionally you see a dictator of this world removed from power and humbled. It is sobering to see the fate of a Saddam Hussein, a Muammar Qadhafi, a Robert Mugabe. This will be happening

## WHO SHOULD RULE WHOM?

The ultimate question has a final answer. Request your free copy of Gerald Flurry's *God's Family Government* to see how the problem is finally solved.



with ALL "the kingdoms of this world"—except that God still has a plan to reach those disgraced dictators and discredited leaders.

*Who should rule?* The reason we haven't found the answer to this crucial question, even after millennia of trying, is that *only God should rule*. Human beings simply never have had the capacity to rule other human beings properly. That is the reason for the quandary, and that is the answer—the only answer.

When Christ returns, when Satan is removed, when eyes are opened, people will begin to grasp the most important lessons of these past 6,000 years. Here is what Jeremiah prophesied about this time: "O Lord, my strength, and my fortress, and my refuge in the day of affliction, the Gentiles shall come unto thee from the ends of the earth, and shall say, *Surely our fathers have inherited lies, vanity, and things wherein there is no profit*" (Jeremiah 16:19). People the world over will realize that they have been taught lies. They have trusted men and put their faith in schemes and charlatans. They will be ready for a change. They will recognize fully just how much we need the government of God.

"Shall a man make gods unto himself, and they are no gods? Therefore, behold, I will this once cause them to know, *I will cause them to know mine hand and my might;* and **THEY SHALL KNOW THAT MY NAME IS THE LORD**" (verses 20-21). People will finally come to know the true God! He is going to show Himself and bring them under His rule.

Proverbs 29:2 states, "When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn." When the righteous King of kings rules, He will turn a lot of mourning into rejoicing! Human nature will be eradicated. Questions of succession will be moot. God will govern with perfect love, judgment and justice—forever! You can read more about the kind of government God will establish in "A Form of Government That Works!" (page 26).

This whole world coming under God's government will be a beautiful revolution. God truly does have the blueprint for utopia. And that time is almost here—the transition from the failed governments of men to the perfect government of God!

**P**EOPLE THROUGHOUT HISTORY HAVE REALIZED that society needs government—otherwise, it's every man for himself. The strong prey on the weak; the evil take advantage of others. Society descends into chaos. But the trouble is, human governments bring *their own* problems.

The major reason this world's systems of government fail is that they are concocted and administered by human beings under the sway of Satan the devil, an evil being who passionately hates God—and hates the *government* of God. Not only has Satan subjected humanity to oppressive, inept, selfish governments for millennia, he is deceiving us into hating and rejecting *all* forms of authority—*especially* God's government. Look around: Satan's society unceasingly broadcasts brazenly anti-government messages: In media, the husband and father is portrayed as an immature wimp; at work, the boss as an idiot; in government, officials are savagely ridiculed. We must realize just *how* ANTI-GOD all these ideas about government really are!

It is also important we realize just how different God's government is from any other. God has a perfect system of governance, revealed in Scripture. And very soon, it will be *the* authority all over the Earth.

### **The Author of Government**

In his book *Mystery of the Ages*, Herbert W. Armstrong called God the “Author of government.” God is the supreme and only perfect Lawgiver (James 4:12), and “The very fact of law presupposes GOVERNMENT,” Mr. Armstrong wrote. “Government is the administration and enforcement of law by one in authority. This necessitates authoritative leadership—one in command” (*Mystery of the Ages*). Even between God the Father and Jesus Christ, the Son clearly spoke of how the Father holds higher authority (e.g. John 14:28).

Government is simply an organized system of administering and enforcing law. The law tells you how to live; the government administers and enforces that law. Men's governments administer man's laws; God's government administers God's law. A government that is not enforcing God's law is not God's government.

“The government of God is of necessity government from the top down,” Mr. Armstrong continued. “It cannot be ‘government by the consent of the governed.’ Its laws originate and are handed down from God—never legislated by the people—never dictated by the governed how the government over them shall rule them. ...

“[T]he government of God is based on the LAW of God, which is the way of life of outflowing LOVE, cooperation, concern for the good of the governed. And this law of God produces peace, happiness, cooperation through obedience.” The Bible reveals that that law can be summarized by the one word LOVE—subdivided into love toward God and love toward neighbor (Matthew 22:36-40). “Jesus magnified this law by showing how its principle expands to cover virtually every possible human infraction. [I]t is so perfect that, by applying its principle, it is a complete law” (ibid).

When Jesus Christ returns to this Earth in supreme power and glory, that law will be taught and enforced worldwide (Isaiah 2:2-4). The results will be a world with strong and happy families, a world without murder and hatred, a world of honesty

# A Form Govern That

Based on a perfect law,

and truth, of giving and contentment, of prosperity and harmony, a world united in knowing and worshipping the one true God.

“The *contrast* between the beautiful results of God's government and the wretched results of the governments of Satan's world could not be more stark!” *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry wrote in a recent issue of our companion magazine, *Royal Vision*. “Yet human nature, under Satan's influence, rebels against and rejects God's rule. Thankfully, this will change when Christ returns. The devil will be imprisoned, and his anti-God broadcasting will cease (Revelation 20:1-3). Men's eyes will be opened to the glorious benefits of being ruled by God, and they will embrace it.” He then referred to the prophecy in Acts 3:20-21 about that time being called “the restitution of all things.” “GOD YEARNS TO RESTORE HIS GOVERNMENT TO EARTH,” he wrote. “That is the *most important* aspect of this coming ‘restitution of all things.’”

We will look at more of the results this “restitution of all things” will achieve later in the article. But first, let's study some of the specifics the Bible teaches us about God's form of government. God's law not only shows how to love God and neighbor, it also includes many provisions that explain how to administer and enforce that law properly. It tells leaders how to lead in a godly way. It also tells followers how to follow excellently. When God's eternal spiritual law is obeyed, it produces a beautiful, harmonious relationship between leader and follower, government and governed.

### **Godly Leadership**

The principle of God's government is based on the fact that *God*

A person with a backpack stands on the peak of a jagged, rocky mountain. The scene is illuminated by the warm, golden light of a sunset or sunrise, with the sky transitioning from a deep blue to a bright orange near the horizon. The person is silhouetted against the bright sky. The overall mood is one of achievement and contemplation.

# of ment Works!

administered by leaders of perfect character

BY JOEL HILLIKER

is at the top. It is government *for* the people, but it is not *by* the people. The authority emanates from God, and He delegates it to whom He chooses in order to administer and enforce His law.

In Deuteronomy's first four chapters, Moses delivered a sermon to the Israelites about their history. Deuteronomy 1:9-10 show how Moses was acting as God's sole representative, administering His government, but the job was too big for him. God's solution was to create an organized system of leaders working under Moses in a pyramidal structure (verses 13-15). This is the pattern for God's government throughout the Bible. It is government from the top down, with God at the top, working through one man, and people filling various offices under that man. The pyramidal government structure *alone* doesn't make it God's government—plenty of worldly organizations use that. What makes it God's government is that it has *God* at the *top*!

In a May 2, 1974, member letter, Mr. Armstrong talked about this administration of godly government: "Here is government FROM THE TOP (GOD) on down. ... Under the Eternal God in authority was Moses. Under Moses a number of rulers, each over *thousands* (it could have been several thousands under each ruler). Under each ruler of a thousand, rulers over hundreds. Under each ruler of a hundred, rulers of fifties, and under each of them rulers of tens. It was *rule from the top down*—that is, FROM GOD—it was the government of God!"

To implement that government, each individual in office must be a righteous person who exhibits godly character. Many people have come to believe that the character of a leader doesn't matter—what matters is that he or she knows how to lead. To God, this notion is ludicrous.

Throughout the Bible, God concerns Himself with *character most of all*—not talent, not charisma, not ambition, not some magical "ability to lead." Study, for example, the qualifications for the ministry the Apostle Paul discusses in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9. What good are other leadership qualities if the leader draws people astray with a corrupt personal example?

The solution to all mankind's failed, Satan-influenced governments is the Kingdom of God. That godly government will consist of God beings with perfect character who are submitted to God. *Nothing else will work!* Human governments often act in their own interests. That is why they tend to get bigger and bigger, demanding more and more of the people's resources. God's government is different: It doesn't act in its own interest because God is at the top, and *God is love!* God has OUTGOING CONCERN for the benefit of those under His authority.

When Jesus Christ was training His disciples for government positions, on at least one occasion they began to bicker politically about who should have a higher office. Jesus took the opportunity to show them how utterly different, and entirely *unselfish*, God's government is. He said, "In this world the kings and great men lord it over their people, yet they are called 'friends of the people.' But among you it will be different. Those who are the greatest among you should take the lowest rank, and the leader should be like a servant. Who is more important, the one who sits at the table or the one who serves? The one who sits at the table, of course. But not here! For I am among you as one who serves" (Luke 22:24-27; New Living Translation). Godly leadership is *service*. Those who implement it live and

President Trump has had significant success in reshaping America's judiciary.

## PRESIDENT TRUMP FLIPS ANOTHER U.S. CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS

The United States Senate confirmed President Donald Trump's appointment of Judge Robert Luck to the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals on November 19, which gives Republican appointees an 11-to-9 majority over Democrat appointees. Before President Trump took office in 2017, the court had a Democratic majority. His appointments have also "flipped" the Second Circuit and Third Circuit Courts of Appeals.

Even the historically Democrat-leaning Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals has been affected. When President Trump took office, 18 of its 29 full-time judges were Democrat appointees, with only seven Republican-appointed judges and four open judgeships. The president's appointments have brought the number of Republican-appointed judges to 13.

In recent decades, the Democratic Party has increasingly

resorted to using judicial activism to advance its agenda. Mostly Democrat-appointed federal judges have ruled against the Trump administration 63 times, hindering him on immigration, gun control and the environment. Yet, these rulings were based on a judicial philosophy that states that the Constitution evolves and changes over time, and can therefore mean whatever judges decide it means in a particular case. Most Democrat-appointed federal judges reject the Constitution as the unchanging Supreme law of the land.

President Trump's appointments of more than 150 federal judges, including 46 appellate judges and two Supreme Court justices, is a counterattack against anti-Constitutional radical leftism in the Democratic Party that has increasingly resorted to judicial activism to bypass the law and advance its agenda.

*Trumpet* editor-in-chief Gerald Flurry has written that President Trump fulfills the prophetic role of an end-time leader who will lead a resurgence of the United States that will temporarily save it from the radical left. To learn more about the prophetic role being fulfilled by President Trump, read Mr. Flurry's booklet *Great Again*.



## GERMAN WEAPONS EXPORTS APPROACHING NEW RECORD

Germany is the world's fourth-largest exporter of armaments, and its arms industry is on track to possibly set another record in 2019. The German Press Agency reported that in the first 10 months of 2019, the German government approved arms exports valued at \$8.2 billion to Algeria, Australia, Egypt, Hungary, Norway, Qatar, South Korea, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States. It is likely that German exports for 2019 broke its previous \$8.9 billion record from 2015.

The Economic Ministry states on its website that arms exports are not resources for economic policies but for building strategic partnerships and alliances, helping maintain Germany's arms industry and thus its national security.

Germany is not yet fully asserting itself against other nations, but it is using one of its strengths, exports, to ensure that when that time comes, it and its allies will be exceptionally well armed.

## POPE FRANCIS TARGETS AMERICAN NUKES

On a Nov. 23-25 visit to Japan to memorialize the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Pope Francis declared not only the use but the mere possession of nuclear weapons "immoral" and "to be condemned." He is the first pope to do so. And on his flight home, he announced that his declaration against nuclear weapons will be added to the catechism, *Vatican News* reported.

Nuclear weapons are obviously some of mankind's most hideous

inventions, but the pope is not just making a philosophical point. He is applying pressure on the United States specifically, since U.S. bombs destroyed the two cities and the U.S. is one of the two foremost nuclear-armed nations on the planet.

On his flight, Pope Francis also stated that "international



organizations don't succeed" at containing conflicts because certain nations have veto power. The U.S. is one of the most prominent users of that power.

Pope Francis has an agenda. In 2015, he facilitated a revival of U.S.-Cuba relations. In 2016, an American election year, he staged a photo-op at the U.S.-Mexico border. Asked about presidential candidate Donald Trump's plan for a border wall, he replied that "a person who thinks only about building walls, wherever they may be, and not building bridges, is not Christian." Watch for the pope to continue using his unique power to criticize, pressure and weaken the United States, using his office to help drive an anti-American European policy.

An Israeli F-16 fighter jet at the Blue Flag exercise



## GERMAN AND ISRAELI PILOTS FLY TOGETHER

**A**irmen from Israel, the United States, Greece, Germany and Italy participated in the Blue Flag 2019 fighter exercise in Israel November 3-14. The exercise included 1,000 participants and 70 aircraft from the five countries.

Germany and Italy combined sent 12 aircraft, the same

number contributed by the United States. Germany's Spangdahlem Air Base contributed around 250 airmen, and Israel held its "most advanced air drill" with Germany. An Israeli pilot flew in a Eurofighter, and a German pilot flew an Israeli Air Force F-16. "It was kind of emotional," German Air Force

Germany and Italy once joined forces to kill all Jews. Now Israel is trusting these two nations for protection, even as anti-Semitism is again resurging in Europe, rather than trusting in God. The Bible prophesies that God will use Germany to punish Israel in a historic and deadly betrayal.

Lt. Col. Manuel Last said; "it was a great experience."

When asked what the name of the German air force, "Luftwaffe," means to him, one Israeli pilot said, "Every cooperation with Germany and Israel is very emotional. ... We cannot erase the past. But we are looking ahead. And the relationship between our air forces is based on trust."



## LEAKED: IRAN'S PARTNERSHIP WITH MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD

**O**n Nov. 18, 2019, the *New York Times* and Intercept reported on leaked files from Iran's Ministry of Intelligence and Security. Hundreds of pages of documents reveal a secret 2014 meeting between Iran's Quds Force and the Muslim Brotherhood at a hotel in Turkey.

Though the Shiite Iranians and the Sunni Muslim Brotherhood have a deep religious rivalry, Muslim Brotherhood leaders said that the two sides should "focus on joint grounds for cooperation," join forces in Yemen against Saudi Arabia, their "common enemy," and "defuse" the Sunni-Shiite conflict in Iraq.

In its home country of Egypt, however, the Muslim Brotherhood fears that accepting Iran's support against the government will discredit the movement. But this could change.

Iran and the Muslim Brotherhood share the goals of destroying Israel and strengthening political Islam. "Iran sees the Brotherhood as a bridge for improving relations with the Sunni Muslim world," including several "Sunni Islamist groups hostile towards Iran," the Carnegie Middle East Center wrote.

With the primarily Sunni nations of Algeria, Egypt and Libya in political upheaval, Iran could partner with the Brotherhood to boost its radical Islamist influence across North Africa. Prophecies in Daniel 11:40-43 show it will succeed. In the meantime, as the leaked Iran-Muslim Brotherhood documents reveal, the radicals are waiting for "the right political context to reemerge as a force in Egypt."

## U.S.: ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS ARE LEGAL

**U**nited States Secretary of State Mike Pompeo announced on Nov. 18, 2019, that the U.S. no longer regards Israeli settlements in the West Bank as illegal. "After carefully studying all sides of the legal debate, this administration agrees with President Reagan," he said. "The establishment of Israeli civilian settlements in the West Bank is not per se inconsistent with international law."

The announcement rejects European diplomatic dogma and even American policy under previous presidents, including the Obama administration's policy that these settlements were a "flagrant violation under international law."

"Monday will long be remembered as a turning point in Middle East history," Israeli journalist Caroline Glick wrote,



Givat Zeev, an Israeli settlement in the West Bank

calling the announcement "the most significant shift in U.S. Middle East policy in the past generation" (Nov. 22, 2019).

A *Jerusalem Post* opinion article stated, "For both Jews and evangelical Christians, Trump has completed a fulfillment of prophecy" (Nov. 19, 2019).

In "Saving America From the Radical Left—Temporarily," *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry revealed from Bible prophecy that God is using

the Trump administration to bring a resurgence to America. "What we are seeing is actually a modern-day fulfillment of what happened in ancient Israel under Jeroboam II. ... Yet like anciently, this is only a temporary resurgence" (*Trumpet*, May-June 2018).

This resurgence benefits Israel, but when it ends, Israelis will turn to Germany for help (Hosea 5:13), a mistake that will prove fatal.



The Chayanda oil field serves the Power of Siberia pipeline.

## NOW ONLINE: RUSSIA AND CHINA'S 'POWER OF SIBERIA'

**R**ussian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping supervised the opening on Dec. 2, 2019, of a 1,865-mile-long "Power of Siberia" pipeline, which carries gas from the Kovytko and Chayandinskoye fields in eastern Siberia to Heilongjiang, Jilin and Liaoning, China. Once it reaches full capacity, it will pump 1.3 trillion cubic feet of Russian

gas into China each year, almost 10 percent of China's entire gas supply. The 30-year, \$400 billion contract is Russia's most important since the fall of the Soviet Union.

"This is a genuinely historical event, not only for the global energy market but above all for us, for Russia and China," said Putin, who oversaw the launch via video link from Sochi, Russia.

## SOVIET REUNION: RUSSIA AND BELARUS

**B**elarus and Russia are preparing to establish a single government over both nations in preparation for creating a "Union State of Russia and Belarus" by 2021. Belarussian ambassador to Russia Vladimir Syamashka said in an interview with Tut.by on Nov. 29, 2019, that Russian President Vladimir Putin and Belarussian President Alexander Lukashenko are working toward "the creation of a single parliament and government with executive authority."

According to Russia's constitution, Putin's presidential term will end in 2024. When his first two terms ended in 2008, he retained power by arranging for a surrogate to take the



Belarussian President Lukashenko visits Russian President Putin.

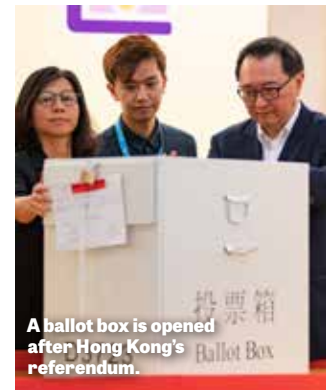
presidency while he became prime minister. This time, he could become head of the Union State of Russia and Belarus and make the office more powerful than whoever would succeed him as Russian president.

Putin famously called the collapse of the Soviet Union the "greatest geopolitical catastrophe of the [20th] century," and has worked to rebuild Russian power over former Soviet nations like Georgia, parts of

Ukraine and Belarus. Overseeing the launch from Beijing, Xi called the project a "landmark" and a "paradigm of the deep convergence of both countries' interests."

Xi and Putin first signed the Power of Siberia deal in May 2014, just two months after Russia illegally annexed Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula. The United States and most of the Western world tried to punish Putin with economic isolation, but China took the opportunity to increase its links with Russia. Exhibit A was the Power of Siberia deal.

Editor in chief Gerald Flurry wrote in the May-June 2014 *Trumpet* issue, "When these Asian nations—extremely powerful nuclear-armed countries—begin to show solidarity with each other regarding moves like that, what does that portend for the world? I tell you it is woe to the world." To understand the Bible prophecies behind Mr. Flurry's analysis of Asian geopolitics, order your free copy of *Russia and China in Prophecy* ([theTrumpet.com/go/rcp](http://theTrumpet.com/go/rcp)). ■



A ballot box is opened after Hong Kong's referendum.

## DO HONG KONG VOTERS MATTER?

**A** record number of voters cast ballots in Hong Kong district council elections on Nov. 24, 2019. With nearly 3 million voters casting ballots, pro-democracy candidates won 389 of the 452 available seats, up from 124. Pro-China candidates fell dramatically from 300 to 58 seats.

Hong Kong has been filled with turmoil since mid-March 2019, with street protesters clashing in the streets and demanding freedom from the Chinese Communist Party, which governs the mainland. Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi asserted that despite the vote, Hong Kong will remain part of China "no matter what happens."

So far, the Communist Party has not used its overwhelming power to crush the protests. But it values the peninsula and its islands as crucial for controlling trade routes through the South China Sea, so expect China to get control. *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry wrote in July 2016: "[T]he American military is retreating, and other great powers are coming in to fill the vacuum. ... Whoever controls these vital sea gates controls one third of the world's maritime commerce."

To learn more about China and its role in end-time prophecy, read Mr. Flurry's article "China Is Steering the World Toward War" ([theTrumpet.com/13880](http://theTrumpet.com/13880)). ■



## PRINCE FURTHER DAMAGES ROYAL FAMILY

**A** November interview with Britain's Prince Andrew has worsened a crisis within Britain's royal family. The BBC asked Prince Andrew, the brother of heir-apparent Prince Charles, about his previous friendship with notorious sex offender Jeffrey Epstein, who was accused of committing and facilitating pedophilia.

One of Epstein's alleged victims has claimed that she was told to have sex with Prince Andrew when she was 17 years old. The prince repeatedly said he had no recollection of meeting the girl, and when asked about an infamous photo of him with his arm around her declined to say whether it was faked and repeatedly said that he had no recollection of it being taken. When asked, "Do you regret the whole friendship with Epstein?"

Prince Andrew responded: "Now, still not, for the reason being is that the people that I met and the opportunities that I was given to learn either by him or because of him were actually very useful."

The accusations, and the interview, ignited a media firestorm. The Queen has removed the prince from public duties, but the damage to the royal family's reputation is ongoing.

The history of the royal family's throne traces back to King David of Israel (request your free copy of *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*.) But its members long ago forgot the God of David and are mired in sin, along with their people. For more on why the scandals involving the royal family are so much more than just a "celebrity scandal," read Gerald Flurry's free book *The New Throne of David*. ■

## EVEN MORE UNMARRIED COUPLES ARE LIVING TOGETHER

**A** Pew Research report published Nov. 6, 2019, found that since 1993, the share of American adults living with a romantic partner who is not their spouse has more than doubled. The survey shows that 7 percent of American adults are currently living with an unmarried partner, and that 59 percent of American adults ages 18 to 44 have lived with an unmarried partner, while only 50 percent have ever been married.

Between 1995 and 2018, the proportion of married adults fell from 58 to 53 percent, while the share of cohabiting adults rose from 3 to 7 percent. Of those surveyed, 85 percent said it is acceptable for unmarried couples to live together.

The Seventh Commandment (Exodus 20:14) protects the most vital human relationship, marriage, not only for the sake of husband, wife and children, but also for the sake of the nation and the sake of human beings' incredible purpose and potential. To learn more, request your free copy of Herbert W. Armstrong's booklet *Why Marriage—Soon Obsolete?* ([theTrumpet.com/go/wms0](http://theTrumpet.com/go/wms0)). ■



## GLAAD: ONE IN FIVE TV CHARACTERS MUST BE LGBTQ

**T**he Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) released its annual "Where We Are on TV" report on Nov. 7, 2019, and advocated for "20 percent of series regular characters on primetime scripted broadcast series" to be lesbian, homosexual, bisexual, transgender or queer by 2025. Over the last two years, broadcast television has already included this percentage, but the group now wants it to also apply to cable and streaming services.

GLAAD CEO Sarah Kate Ellis said this should be done so that "entertainment reflects the world in which it is created and the audience who consume it." The group's report cites a Harris Poll survey claiming that 20 percent of Americans age 18 to 34 and 12 percent of the total population are lesbian, homosexual, bisexual, transgender or queer. Yet a Gallup survey found that only 8.2 percent of young adults and 4.5 percent of the total population identifies this way. The Harris Poll sample size was 2,037 people; The Gallup Poll sample size was 340,604.

In three Gallup polls in 2011, 2015 and 2019, the average respondent estimated that the population of sexual deviants was between 23.2 and 24.6 percent. Only 8 percent guessed, correctly, that the actual figure is below 5 percent. GLAAD activists do not want entertainment to reflect society: They want it to change society. ■

## MINORITY OF EVANGELICALS ARE PRO-LIFE

**O**nly 47 percent of self-identified Evangelical Christians in the United States identify as "pro-life," according to a poll published Nov. 14, 2019, by Save the Storks, an anti-abortion organization. This poll was based on online interviews with 1,000 adults nationwide ages 18 to 69. It found that 78 percent of Evangelical Christians polled believe life begins at or before a

fetus's first heartbeat, but only 25 percent believed abortion should be illegal in all cases. Willing to identify as pro-life were 47 percent of evangelical Christians, 33 percent of mainline Protestants and 27 percent of Catholics.

The Sixth Commandment prohibits murder (Exodus 20:13), and the Bible shows that God considers the murder of an unborn baby equal to the murder



of an adult (Exodus 21:22-23). More than 60 million babies have been murdered in the U.S. since 1973, and many Christians seem to think that many of these deaths were acceptable. ■

govern according to God's law of love. If they prioritize their own interests, they are breaking that law (Matthew 22:36-40).

In Deuteronomy 17:14-20, God gave some laws for Israel's monarchy. Verse 15 shows that the king was to be *God's choice*. God didn't institute anything like democracy—it was still GOD'S GOVERNMENT. This verse also shows that God doesn't want Israelites ruled by non-Israelites. In verse 16, God commands the king not to trust in his military. America has violated both of these laws in recent times.

Verse 17 underscores God's concern with the *character* of the ruler. He wanted the king to turn his heart to Him—He didn't want him led astray by a lust for women or riches. This again points to the New Testament counterpart where God demands that a minister be “the husband of one wife ... not greedy of filthy lucre” (1 Timothy 3:2-3). A leader who is greedy for money is susceptible to corruption, liable to abuse his position at the people's expense. Such weakness disqualifies an individual to lead, in God's eyes.

In verses 18-20, God commanded that the king must be a diligent student of His law. This makes perfect sense when you remember that God's government is a system of administering and enforcing God's law. This is true wherever that government

***God's government is so simple. It teaches the law, and it administers and enforces the law. That is why God's entire government can operate on such a limited budget.***

is administered, whether within a family, church or nation. Soon it will be true all over the Earth.

This is essentially the extent of what God's government will be doing in the World Tomorrow: 1) educating people in God's law; teaching people how to lead happy lives and to prosper and be blessed—individually, in their families, with their neighbors and in their nations; and 2) administering and enforcing God's law, ensuring justice among the people by judging according to that law. (This involves bringing criminals to judgment and protecting the people from outside aggressors. Within God's nation, this ultimately includes destroying any foreign aggressors.) Within a church or nation, God's government also operates a centralized system of worship.

The purpose of God's government is extraordinary for its beautiful *simplicity*. We need to realize just how revolutionary it is compared to all the flavors of government in Satan's world.

### **What God's Government Does Not Do**

Anciently, when the Israelites demanded a king, God gave Samuel important insights into the pitfalls of human governments, which Samuel relayed to the people (1 Samuel 8:10-18). God warned that a human-led government would be oppressive. It would introduce burdensome taxes, becoming bloated and

centralized. This is what human-led governments tend to do: They get bigger as they amass power, property and wealth—wealth that should remain in the hands of citizens.

God's government is far more generous, far less intrusive, and far more interested in the prosperity and happiness of the people. Consider some things God's government *does not do*—things that become very problematic when governments do them.

God's government does not manage people's money—neither for health care nor retirement. (Those programs are bringing America and many other Western nations down. The socialistic mindset—that government will provide for you—contravenes God's law. That is why it fails.) God's government does not own or run businesses that compete with businesses run by private industry. God's government facilitates wealth creation rather than interfering with it.

God's government does not legislate new laws. God only has about 600 laws. Man's governments, by contrast, constantly create new laws. In God's system of administration, there is no legislature. In ancient Israel, if Moses needed guidance in a matter he could not discern from the existing law, he appealed to God, who gave him judgments in accordance with the existing law. That's the way it was in ancient Israel—that's how it will be in the World Tomorrow! James 4:12 says there is one Lawgiver: God. Governmental positions under the Lawgiver are administrative—administering the law of God that already exists.

God's government is so simple. It teaches the law, and it administers and enforces the law. That is why God's entire government—whether over a church or a nation, or the entire world—can operate on such a limited budget. It stays out of people's business as they strive to keep the law. In the Millennium, people will tithe and give offerings the same as God's people do in God's Church today. Wealth is going to grow. Justice, equity and peace will spread!

As God's government teaches, administers and enforces God's law—His way of life—the whole world will be able to enjoy the affection and love, the cooperation, the harmony, the serving and helping way of life—the way that God and the Word have enjoyed forever!

### **The Beautiful Fruits**

Jesus Christ is about to return and take His place as King of kings, governing all the Earth. You can read about this in the wonderful prophecy in Isaiah 9:6: “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and THE GOVERNMENT SHALL BE UPON HIS SHOULDER: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting father, The Prince of Peace.” What wonderful titles! What a wonderful picture of the blessing this government will be.

“Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this” (verse 7). God is *zealous* about this! Mr. Armstrong said the “restoration of God's government is the one great purpose uppermost in God's mind.”

The Bible is full of beautiful prophecies describing conditions that will result when this government is restored. Mr. Armstrong

# Your Attitude Toward Government

If human governments are bad, how should you act—and think—toward them?

**T**HE BIBLE REVEALS THAT HUMAN GOVERNMENTS ARE CUT off from God, heavily influenced by Satan and terminally flawed. Does this mean you should resist and rebel against them? What should be your *individual attitude* toward government? The Bible is clear on God's answer to true Christians.

When human authorities order you to break God's law, you must "obey God rather than men" (Acts 4:19; 5:29), even to the point of facing execution, as did Daniel, Zechariah, John the Baptist, Stephen, most of the apostles, and, of course, Jesus Christ. God obviously does not command you to condone the sins of those human authorities. But these are only two aspects of your overall approach toward human government. Following the rest of what the Bible commands on this subject will change your actions and even your thoughts toward human government, and toward God.

"You shall not revile God, nor curse a ruler of your people" (Exodus 22:28; Revised Standard Version). "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers ..." (Romans 13:1). "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's ..." (Mark 12:17). "Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour" (Romans 13:7). "Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; Or unto governors ..." (1 Peter 2:13-14). "[B]e submissive to rulers and authorities ..." (Titus 3:1; RSV). Pray to God "[f]or kings, and for all that are in authority" (1 Timothy 2:1-2). Do not "despise government" or "speak evil of dignities" (2 Peter 2:10). Accept that it is God who "removeth kings, and setteth up kings" and that "the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men" (Daniel 2:21; 4:17). "... For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God" (Romans 13:1).

Such thinking is decidedly unpopular in today's world, but these scriptures are clear. Moreover, it is clear that this attitude toward government should extend into your workplace, even your family. The Bible commands servants (employees and other subordinates) to show obedience toward their supervisors and bosses, "not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward," on account of their positions (Ephesians 6:5-7; Colossians 3:22-25; 1 Timothy 6:1; Titus 2:9; 1 Peter 2:18). It

commands children to obey their parents (Exodus 20:12; Ephesians 6:1; Colossians 3:20), wives to obey their husbands (Ephesians 5:22-24; 1 Peter 3:1; 1 Corinthians 11:3; Colossians 3:18). It specifies that obedience to these offices applies whether the officeholder is a true Christian or, as in most cases, not.

Why does the Bible command us to obey human authorities?

One reason is that disobedience brings punishment, whether it is a fine for speeding, imprisonment for tax evasion, or execution for treason. But there is so much more to this command.

Another reason we must obey parents, husbands, teachers, bosses, law enforcement, civil executives and other human authorities is to protect and enhance God's reputation, to "glorify God," and to "adorn the doctrine of God our Savior" "that the name of God and his doctrine be not blasphemed." This can even win over people who are not true Christians (see Titus 2:9-10; 1 Timothy 6:1; 1 Peter 2:12-21; 3:1).

But there is even more to this command. This is a command about obeying human authorities not only in your words and actions but in your *mind*. "[B]e subject, not only for wrath [civil punishment], but also for conscience sake" (Romans 13:5). "Curse not the king, no not in thy thought ..." (Ecclesiastes 10:20). Obey "not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God" (Colossians 3:22; also Ephesians 6:5-7).

Submitting to your flawed human superior, even in your conscience, your heart and your thoughts, is actually about learning to submit to God!

God created the universe, and He actively rules it through His government. He established a throne over the Earth and placed on that throne the archangel Lucifer. Lucifer's fundamental act was to put his will above God's will. He became Satan through *rebellion against government!* As god of this world, he spreads his attitude of disobedience to authority (2 Corinthians 4:4; Ephesians 2:2). Have you noticed that in private conversation, speeches, history books,

news programs, social media, sitcoms, children's movies and almost everywhere else in modern society, one of the most dominant themes is *defiance toward authority*?

Government is ordained by God. He is the ultimate authority, and His loving, spiritual, God Family government is His most important priority: It is the method through which He creates, maintains, preserves, defends, gives, forgives, saves and loves us! God's loving government is actually the theme of the entire Bible! God commands you to reject Satan's attitude of rebellion and submit to Jesus Christ's attitude of obedience. Why? So that He can draw close to you, you can draw close to Him, and the horrific vices of Satan and the human societies he influences can actually, finally be solved by *God's Family government*.

Fear God. Honor the king. ■

To learn more, request a free copy of Gerald Flurry's booklet **God's Family Government**. You may also be interested in our free e-book **The Administration of the Spirit**, which explains how that government is administered in God's Church (read online at [theTrumpet.com/go/adm](http://theTrumpet.com/go/adm)).



**I had many questions, but when I started reading this, my questions got answered. I am now reading *Mystery of the Ages*, and I can't believe it! I ask myself, "Where have I been?"**

**Beatrice Thames** MARYLAND

I cannot express enough my gratitude and appreciation for the *Trumpet* magazine and, of course, the Philadelphia Church of God. About five years ago, my life changed forever when I answered an advertisement in the *Daily Express* newspaper. Today, I regularly see Bible prophecy being fulfilled exactly as Herbert W. Armstrong predicted, or as predicted by Gerald Flurry. You give me a reason to hope.

**Steve Allen**

Excellent article ("The Unseen Consequence of Climate Change," January, [theTrumpet.com/21556](http://theTrumpet.com/21556)). I figured that there was something fishy with the 11,000 scientists. The crazy thing is that the world does not see the real "climate change." They will have both "global warming" and "global cooling." From what I remember, nuclear weapons release tens of millions of degrees Fahrenheit; therefore, global warming will be achieved. The billions of tons of ashes and debris spewed into the atmosphere will result in the light from the sun, stars and moon

being blocked out; therefore, global cooling will be achieved. It will be caused by humans who are greatly influenced by Satan the devil. The world really should have mass protests against *sin*, and while they are at it, they should protest the Satan 2 and Poseidon weapons. I guess we will just have to be patient and watch and pray for the return of Jesus Christ.

FLORIDA

So pleased you brought this to my attention ("The Left's Talent for Mainstreaming Immorality," January, [theTrumpet.com/21565](http://theTrumpet.com/21565)). I went to investigate YouTube and was further pleased to see that the majority of videos relating to Desmond were unsupportive of the degenerate ethos. Thank you, and all at the PCG and the *Trumpet*, you have put a smile on my face.

In answer to your question, "Are you hearing the Trumpet message?" I think I can safely say, "Yes." I realize on the one hand that I am a sinner in need of Christ's salvation. On the other

hand, unlike the majority of the Western world, I am prepared to swim against the current of immorality and debauchery. I do not support abortion; that is murder. I believe Saturday, not Sunday, is the Sabbath, and I no longer accept that Christ was born on Christmas nor crucified on Easter. To me, those are pagan festivals and should be treated as such, per Deuteronomy 12:26-32.

**Donald Whittaker** UNITED KINGDOM

I downloaded the new booklet about Hebrews (*The Book of Hebrews: What Jesus Christ Is Doing Today*). It is a great booklet with fascinating information.

**Karran Cooler**

I disapprove of the e-mail you wrote about Donald Trump, trying to tear him down when he needs more support these days than ever. (Trumpet Brief: "Donald Trump: From merchant playboy to conspicuous Christian," [theTrumpet.com/21607](http://theTrumpet.com/21607)). Therefore, I am canceling my *Trumpet* subscription, having lost



faith in its word by your spewing words against my president. I don't have to enumerate all the pluses that have happened under his leadership, like the booming economy, less unemployment, the IRS giving individual deductions of \$10,300 off singles' income tax, more blacks employed than ever, etc. Had Hillary been elected, the U.S.A. would have gone down the drain!

**Murlene Johnston**

**What you say is true. Our intent is certainly not to tear down the president. But we have a responsibility to show how his actions fulfill biblical prophecy. Where this requires exposing sin, we do so (Isaiah 58:1).**

Thank you. I find your information on Europe imperative for those of us who understand Bible prophecy. Sadly, so many are concerned only about personal issues.

**Colleen Oranmore-Brown** S.AFRICA

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# The Revolutions of Revolutions

Demand for change is as old and as universal as humanity itself.



**T**HE DAY A BUDDHIST MONK KNEELED IN THE MIDDLE OF THE street, set himself afire and burned to death, everything changed. I recently saw a documentary showing how, after this suicide in South Vietnam in 1963, protests against President Ngo Dinh Diem escalated quickly. A coup quickly followed, and military leaders put a bullet in Diem's head.

The initial act reminded me of the self-immolation that incited the Arab Spring in Tunisia in 2011. The jubilation that filled South Vietnam at news of the autocrat's demise brought to mind the mass protests filling streets right now in Hong Kong and Cairo, Santiago and St. Petersburg, Bratislava, Barcelona and Beirut—in Asia, in Europe, in South America, in the Caribbean, in the Middle East. Different mob, but the same exasperation, rage, and passion for change—and the same conviction that eliminating a leader will offer a fresh start and a bright new age.

The protests now surging over the world evoke a mix of emotions. Many of these people are courageously risking their lives to defy genuine tyranny. Others have baser motives. But there are warning signs that most of these demonstrations won't have happy endings, and may actually unleash powerfully destructive forces on the world.

Several factors indicate we are entering a period of political upheaval certain to create far more disruption, on a wider scale, than any before. One is the instability of the global economic order that is throwing nations into stagnation, recession, forced austerity and volatility. Another is a generation of mobilizing youth, composing a growing percentage of the population, ignorant of history, tenuously bound by convention and religion, connected and world-aware thanks to the Internet and social media, and susceptible to intoxication by the spirit of revolution. Rising expectations mean that even people who are by historical comparisons quite well off are dissatisfied and angry.

How many of these protests will end well? The question crossed my mind as I saw what became of South Vietnam in 1963. The euphoria that followed President Diem's overthrow ended quickly. His murder created a void that no one else could fill. Over the next two tumultuous years, the nation agonized as it cycled through *six* different inept governments.

History is littered with examples of peoples rising up and defying the injustice of the existing order, peoples seeking to destroy the status quo. But in case after case, the swell of jubilation and hope that comes with toppling a dictator or overthrowing a government soon gives way to despair, sometimes even worse than before. Though revolutionaries may correctly identify troubles,

errors and mistakes, they usually fail at *solutions*. Rebels know what angers them, but are often oblivious to the challenges of implementing genuine improvements. "The reformer is always right about what is wrong," G.K. Chesterton said, "he is also usually wrong about what is right." Mobs and mass movements can destroy. Few prove capable of successfully *building*.

There are real problems in the world—after all, this is *Satan's* world. He literally rules it and influences it (2 Corinthians 4:4; Revelation 12:9). Many of these protesters have legitimate grievances. But they are misguided to *assume* that whatever fills the void will be an improvement. And they are mistaken to think the violence of resistance is universally virtuous. The rage of the mob is often fertile soil for the devil to nurture division, toxic emotion and nation-shattering rage.

In historical example after example, upheavals such as those we see today actually lead to greater tyranny. Where governments can, they squash them. Where they cannot, disorder gives rise to new tyrants. Anarchy is insufferable, and people get their fill of it quickly. Soon someone steps in to reestablish order, often at even higher cost and greater suffering.

*Revolution* can mean a sudden political change, but it can also refer to the cyclical orbiting of a body around an axis, a movement that occurs repetitively, predictably. The correlation is fitting. For 6,000 years of human history, suffering under poor governance has inflamed desire for change, which has sparked hope in a new regime. The promise of progress has motivated almost every election, putsch, coup and revolution in history, whether it's the French in 1789, the Bolsheviks in 1917, the Iranian hardliners in 1979, the Nazis in 1933 or the Islamic State in 2016. No leader ever sets out to create a legacy of same-old, status-quo *failure*. Yet with frustrating consistency, that is precisely what they achieve—or worse. And the suffering resumes, and the cycle repeats.

Thankfully, these revolutions of revolutions are about to end.

For 6,000 years, mankind has been writing crucial lessons, if only we will learn them. We have proven our inability to govern in a way that brings broad peace, sweeping prosperity, long-lasting justice and freedom. We have repeatedly confirmed the intractable evil of human nature. Biblical prophecy powerfully underscores these lessons: It plainly describes the conditions that will grow out of today's disruptions: a time of tribulation worse than any in human history! (Matthew 24:21; Daniel 12:1; Jeremiah 30:7). The instability rolling through country after country today augurs far more serious troubles to come. But they will culminate in the *final* revolution: the coronation of the King of kings, who will reign unchallenged, eternally.

This is the overarching lesson we are recording: This world desperately needs perfect governance, established by the only Source of genuine solutions to its injustices and problems. Thankfully, it is almost here. ■

▶ **GOVERNMENT THAT WORKS** FROM PAGE 32

describes these in inspiring detail in *The Wonderful World Tomorrow—What It Will Be Like* (free upon request).

“Now notice just how the new world government will function!” he wrote in Chapter 4, “The New World Government.” “All officials will be appointed—and by the divine Christ, who reads and knows men’s hearts, their inner character, and abilities or lack of ability. You’ll find a description of Christ’s supernatural insight into the very character of others in Isaiah 11:2-5. ... Think of it—no money wasted on political campaigns. No splits in political parties with quarreling and hatreds. No political parties!”

Christ and His governing Family will bring about this utopia through two basic courses of action, Mr. Armstrong continued: “1) All crime and organized rebellion will be put down by force—divine supernatural force. 2) Christ will then set His hand to reeducate and to save, or spiritually convert, the world.”

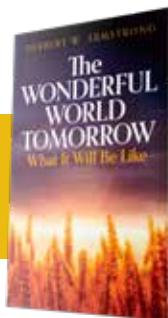
On the first point, the most important step Christ will take is to depose and imprison Satan the devil, “the god of this [present] world,” whose evil influence manifests itself in human nature in all of mankind’s interactions (2 Corinthians 4:4; Revelation 20:1-2). The end of his malevolent broadcasting will immediately change the course of the world. But whatever of man’s stubbornness and unteachability remains, Christ will confront by ruling with a “rod of iron” (Revelation 19:15).

As for the second action, once human nature is eliminated God will be able to put His law into people’s minds and write it on their hearts (Jeremiah 31:33; Hebrews 8:10; 10:16). “When God’s laws are in our hearts—when we love God’s ways, and in our hearts want to live by them, human nature will be put under subjection—people will want to live the way that is the cause of peace, happiness, abundance, joyful well-being!” Mr. Armstrong continued.

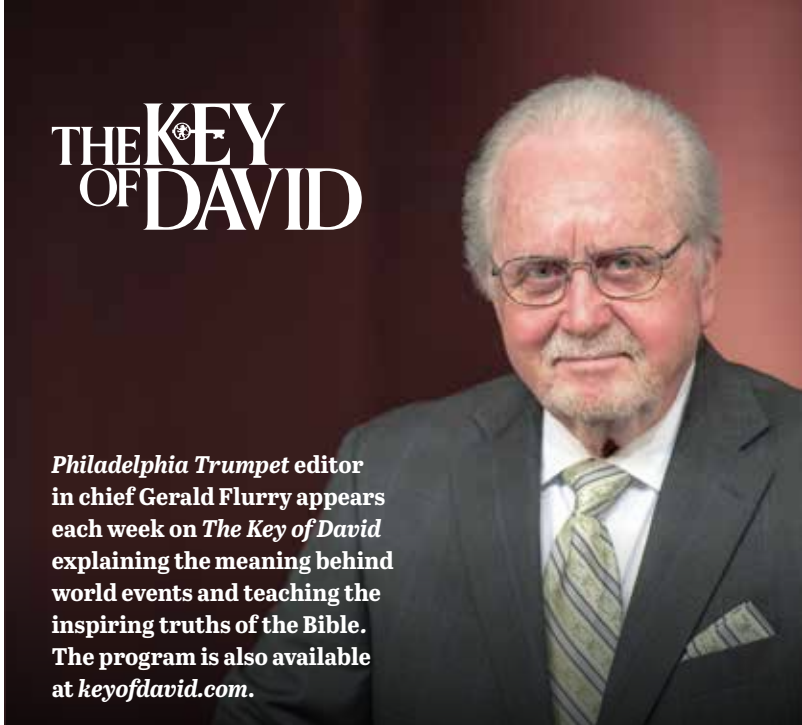
With the Prince of Peace overseeing a government of righteous, incorruptible leaders administering a perfect law of love, with satanic broadcasts stopped and true education universal (Habakkuk 2:14), with all individuals worldwide developing a loving, personal relationship with the one and only true God, a truly utopian world will result! Scripture amply describes life brimming over with pure water, nutritious food, favorable weather, fertile deserts, agricultural abundance, robust health, satisfying work, efficient economies, universal literacy, elegant cities, spectacular architecture, clean energy, happy families and harmonious communities. God’s government will produce all these conditions and lead all human beings to fully realizing their incredible God-given potential! ■

**CAN YOU PICTURE A PERFECT GOVERNMENT?**

It’s real and it’s coming. To get an inspiring look at it, request Herbert W. Armstrong’s free booklet *The Wonderful World Tomorrow—What It Will Be Like*.



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

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ION, Chan. 216, 6:00 ET, Fri
- Nationwide Cable**  
CW Plus, 5:30, 9:30 ET/PT, 4:30, 8:30 CT/  
MT, Sun  
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WVUA 8:30, Sun
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8:30, Sun
- Opelika** WLTZ-DT 9:30, Sun
- Alaska, Anchorage** KYUR-DT 8:30, Sun
- Fairbanks** KATN-DT 8:30, Sun
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- Yuma** KEYC-DT 8:30, Sun
- Arkansas, El Dorado** KNOE-DT 8:30, Sun
- Fayetteville** KFTA 9:30, Sun; KHBS-DT/  
KHOG-DT 8:30, Sun
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KHOG-DT 8:30, Sun
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WLMT 8:30, Sun
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DT 8:30, Sun
- Springdale** KFTA 9:30, Sun; KHBS-DT/  
KHOG-DT 8:30, Sun
- California, Bakersfield** KGET-DT 9:30, Sun
- Chico** KHSL-DT 9:30, Sun; KRCR 9:00, Sun
- El Centro** KEYC-DT 8:30, Sun
- Eureka** KECA-LD/KVIQ-DT 9:30, Sun
- Fresno-Visalia** KFRE Channel 59 7:30, Sun
- Los Angeles** KPXN 6:00, Fri; KTTV 6:00,  
Sun
- Monterey** KION 9:30, Sun
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- Redding** KHSL-DT 9:30, Sun;  
KRCR 9:00, Sun
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- Salinas** KION 9:30, Sun
- San Francisco** KKPX 6:00, Fri
- Santa Barbara-Santa Maria** KSBY-DT  
9:30, Sun
- Colorado, Colorado Springs** KXTU 10:30, Sun
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8:30, Wed
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- Maui/Lanai/Molokai/Niihau/Akaku**  
Chan. 52 6:30 pm, Sun; 3:30, Mon
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- Idaho, Boise** KYUU-LP/KBOI-DT 8:30, Sun
- Idaho Falls** KIFI-DT 8:30, Sun
- Pocatello** KIFI-DT 8:30, Sun
- Twin Falls** KMVT-DT 8:30, Sun
- Illinois, Bloomington** WEEK-DT 8:30, Sun
- Chicago** WCUI 9:30, Sun; WCPX 5:00, Fri
- Peoria** WEEK-DT 8:30, Sun
- Rockford** WREX 10:00, Sun; WREX-DT  
8:30, Sun
- Quincy** WGEM-DT 8:30, Sun
- Indiana, Fort Wayne** WISE-DT 9:30, Sun
- Indianapolis** WIPX 6:00, Fri
- Lafayette** WLFI-DT 9:30, Sun
- South Bend** ESBT/WSBT 7:30, Sun
- Terre Haute** WTHI-DT 9:30, Sun
- Iowa, Cedar Rapids** KPXR 5:00, Fri
- Des Moines** KFPX 5:00, Fri
- Keokuk** WGEM-DT 8:30, Sun
- Mason City** KTTC-DT 8:30, Sun
- Ottumwa** KWOT/KYOU-DT 8:30, Sun
- Sioux City** KTIV-DT 8:30, Sun
- Kansas, Pittsburg** CWPL 8:30, Sun; KSXF  
9:30, Sun

**Topeka** KTKA-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Kentucky, Bowling Green** WBKO-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Lexington** WUPX 6:00, Fri  
**Louisiana, Alexandria** KALB-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Lafayette** KATC-DT 8:30, Sun;  
 KLAf 6:30, Sun  
**Lake Charles** KPLC-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Monroe** KNOE-DT 8:30, Sun  
**New Orleans** WPXL 5:00, Fri  
**Maine, Bangor** WABI-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Portland** WIPL 6:00, Fri  
**Presque Isle** WAGM-DT3/WBPQ 9:30,  
 Sun  
**Maryland, Salisbury** WMDT-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Massachusetts, Holyoke**  
 WWLP-DT 9:30, Sun  
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**Grand Rapids** WZPX 5:00, Fri  
**Lansing** WLAJ-DT 9:30, Sun; WSYM,  
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**Traverse City** WFOX-DT 9:30, Sun  
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**Meridian** WTOK-DT 8:30, Sun  
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**Missouri, Columbia** KOMU-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Hannibal** WGEM-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Jefferson City** KOMU-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Joplin** CWPL 8:30, Sun; KSXF/  
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**Kansas City** KPXE 5:00, Fri  
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**St. Joseph** KNPB-LD 8:30, Sun  
**Montana, Billings** KTVQ-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Bozeman** KBZK-DT/KXLF-DT 8:30, Sun  
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**Glendive** KWZB 8:30, Sun  
**Great Falls** KRTV-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Helena** KTVH-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Missoula** KPAX-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Nebraska, Hastings** KWBL/KCWH-LD  
 8:30, Sun  
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**Lincoln** KWBL/KCWH-LD 8:30, Sun  
**North Platte** KIIT-LD2/KWPL 8:30, Sun  
**Scottsbluff** KGWN-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Nevada, Reno** KRNS-CA 6:30, Sun; KOLO3/  
 KREN-DT 9:30, Sun  
**New York, Albany** WYPX 6:00, Fri  
**Binghamton** WBNG-DT 9:30, Sun  
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**Elmira (Corning)** WENY-DT 9:30, Sun  
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 8:00, Sun  
**Plattsburgh** WPTZ-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Syracuse** WSPX 6:00, Fri  
**Utica** WKTV-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Watertown** WWTI-DT 9:30, Sun  
**North Carolina, Asheville** WYCW 9:00, Sun  
**Charlotte** WAXN 10:00, Sun  
**Durham** WRPX 6:00, Fri  
**Fayetteville** WFPX 6:00, Fri  
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**Greenville** WEPX 6:00, Fri; WNCT-DT  
 9:30, Sun  
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**North Dakota**  
**Bismarck** KXMD/KXMC-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Dickinson** KXMD/KXMC-DT 8:30, Sun

**Fargo** KXJB 8:30, Sun  
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**Valley City** KXJB 8:30, Sun  
**Ohio, Cincinnati** WSTR 8:30, Sun  
**Cleveland** WVPX 6:00, Fri  
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**Steubenville** WBWO 9:30, Sun  
**Youngstown** WYTV 11:30, Sun  
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**Pennsylvania, Erie** WSEE-DT/WICU-DT  
 9:30, Sun  
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**Wilkes Barre** WQPX 6:00, Fri  
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 WPXQ 6:00, Fri  
**South Carolina, Anderson** WYCW 9:00, Sun  
**Charleston** WCBD-DT 9:30, Sun  
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**Lubbock** KLCW-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Midland** KWAB-DT/KWES-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Odessa** KWAB-DT/KWES-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Port Arthur** KFDM 8:30, Sun  
**San Angelo** KTXE 8:30, Sun  
**San Antonio** KPXL 5:00, Fri  
**Sherman** K TEN-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Sweetwater** KTXS-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Tyler** KYTX-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Victoria** KVCT-DT3/KWVB 8:30, Sun  
**Wichita** KCWT/KNVO-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Wichita Falls** KAUZ-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Utah, Salt Lake City** KUPX 5:00, Fri  
**Vermont, Burlington** WVVN 10:30, Sun;  
 WPTZ-DT 9:30  
**Virginia, Charlottesville** WVIR-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Harrisonburg** WVIR-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Norfolk** WPXV 6:00, Fri  
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**Washington D.C.** WPXW 6:00, Fri  
**Washington, Pasco** KIMA-DT/KEPR-DT  
 9:30, Sun  
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 Sun  
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 DT 8:30, Sun  
**La Crosse** WXOW-DT/WQOW-DT 8:30, Sun  
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**Medicine Hat** KAYU 8:30, Sun  
**Lethbridge** KAYU 8:30, Sun  
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 CHNU 5:30 pm, Sun; KCPQ 7:00, Sun  
**Victoria** CHNU 5:30 pm, Sun  
**Manitoba, Winnipeg** CTV Winnipeg 9:30,  
 Sun; CIIT Joy TV 11:00, Sun  
**New Brunswick, Moncton** CKCW-DT 11, Sun  
**Saint John** CKLT-DT 11, Sun  
**Nova Scotia, Halifax** CJCH-DT 11, Sun  
**Sydney** CJCB-TV 11, Sun  
**Ontario, Ottawa** CJOH/CTV 8:30, Sun  
**Toronto** WADL 10:00 Sun;  
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**P.E.I., Charlottetown** CKCW-DT 11, Sun  
**Quebec, Montreal** WVVN 10:30, Sun  
**Saskatchewan, Saskatoon** CFQC 5:30, Sun;

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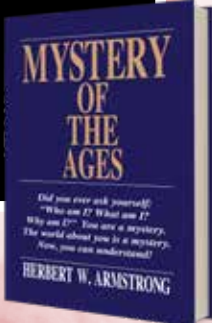
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CBS Drama	Sunday	7:30 am	Ch. 147	Ch. 197	Ch. 71	Ch. 134
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