

**CLOAKED** Society's  
deadly decline has  
a hidden cause

Solar power:  
reason for  
optimism

THE PHILADELPHIA  
**TRUMPET**

MARCH 2013 | THETRUMPET.COM

**The  
Incredible  
Shrinking  
Man**



There is a growing ambition gap between the sexes. Women are increasingly driven to succeed in school, work and life; men seem ever more willing just to occupy a comfy spot on the couch.

PAGE 4

## SOCIETY

- 1 **FROM THE EDITOR** **A Bigger Pastime Than Sports**  
 35 **COMMENTARY** **How to Prevent Another Sandy Hook Massacre**

## WORLD

- 16 **WORLDWATCH** **America's New Best Friend?** • Staying in Afghanistan, eyeballing Syria • Using WMD against rebels? • Filling Central Asia's power vacuum • Slipping from America's grasp • Pope brings church to heel  
 22 **Rise of the Hawks**  
 24 **A Job for Europe's Youth**

## COVER

- 4 **SOCIETY** **The Incredible Shrinking Man**  
 As women thrive, men lag in education, employment, and, it seems, general ambition. Here's a look at some causes—and the solution.  
 6 **Where Have Britain's Good Men Gone?**  
 32 **Why Men and Women?**

## FEATURES

- 11 **WORLD** **Besieged in Thy Gates**  
 A visual look at an astonishing fulfillment of biblical prophecy  
 26 **SOCIETY** **The Hidden Cause of Society's Deadly Decline**  
 World events are moving rapidly toward the end of this age. There is an unseen reason why troubles are intensifying as never before. You cannot understand events without recognizing this truth!

## ENVIRONMENT

- 2 **The 'Someday' of Solar Power**

## BIBLE

- 9 **What a Real Man Looks Like**

## LIVING

- 31 **PRINCIPLES OF LIVING**  
**Righteousness In, Righteousness Out**

## DEPARTMENTS

- 34 **Discussion Board**  
 36 **Television Log**

# A Bigger Pastime Than Sports

It's a booming business, and it is bringing our nation down—one click at a time.

**D**ID YOU KNOW THAT 12 TO 15 PERCENT OF ALL WEBSITES are pornographic? Every second, over 28,000 Internet users are looking at pornography. It is becoming so prevalent you almost can't avoid it.

Thirty years ago, the porn industry in the United States brought in \$75 million in revenue. That in itself is shameful. But it has since grown 17,000 percent! Today, it brings in \$13.3 billion! \$13.3 BILLION! As much as we love our sports, we don't love them as much as we love pornography! Major League Baseball only makes \$7 billion, a little more than *half* of that. The National Football League generates \$9 billion in income. The National Basketball Association generates \$5 billion. Pornography is almost *triple* the NBA, and without any of the prime-time advertising, big-time merchandising or the massive arenas.



FROM THE EDITOR  
GERALD FLURRY

1 Corinthians 6:18 says we are to flee fornication. But we do just the opposite! This is the most massive sin you can imagine if you understand the Bible.

This isn't just affecting adults. It is savaging our young people. The average age that children first see porn is 11. Seventy to 80 percent of 15-to-17-year-olds accidentally see porn on the Internet. One survey I read about recently said *over half* of young people *deceive* their parents about pornography. They are able to get it so easily. Then it preys on their curiosity and pulls them in to a terrible quagmire.

Sex addiction is a lot like heroin addiction. I recently spoke to a minister who was counseling a drug and sex addict. This man was able to kick his addiction to *seven drugs*—but HE COULDN'T KICK THE SEX ADDICTION!

That is how *addictive* this is to *adults*—just imagine what it is doing to teenagers and to children!

This sin is *destroying* families, which are the backbone of every nation. We sin against our children and against our people by allowing it to happen.

Related:  
"The Incredible Shrinking Man,"  
page 4

What is this doing to our nation? It is not difficult to see. Pornography destroys families, which are the strength of any nation, and so it destroys *nations*.

America spews this filth out into the world. The United States is part of the descendants of Israel. Who are some of the other descendants? Britain, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, the Jewish nation—all *leaders* in sins like pornography! Our nations are the only ones that have a history with God. They are supposed to set an example of God's way of life. Instead, they're doing the *opposite*.

*Nobody* eclipses the U.S. in producing pornography. God says in one prophecy that we are even worse than the nations around us.

Those who want to stop this from going on are helpless. What can they do? They're not going to solve it by doing nothing, nor are they going to solve it without God empowering them.

Our people, who say they are Christian, hardly even talk about pornography anymore *because they lost that war years ago*, and they know it. It has taken over! It's in our entertainment—even our mainstream television, movies, music videos, magazines and just about everything else.

And we let it go on—we must have "freedom of speech." What an appalling deceit that is! It has nothing to do with freedom! It's all about *slavery*! Sex addiction is slavery! You can see in the worst cases what it's doing to us! Yet we still refuse to obey God.

This is a gigantic sin we are committing, yet we have the gall to say we're a Christian nation, and to talk about how religious and good we are.

God calls America a "hypocritical nation" (Isaiah 10:6). He is full of *wrath* because of it.

There is a spiritual dimension to this situation. God is going to punish us for our sins. We have rejected His way of love and obedience to His law, the way of honor and morality and chastity and obedience. As a result, He is allowing a spirit of evil to grow in power and influence in our world.

Read my article on page 26 of this magazine. It explains this invisible evil force at work in our world today. This evil spirit is very active, and he is *glutting* us with these horrible influences, entrapping us in sins that *wreck* our families and fill them with hatred and lies and cheating—the *opposite* of the character of God.

Do you realize what is really inspiring all this family-destroying smut? The Bible tells us: It is Satan the devil. We have turned to the devil's way, and we are about to see where that leads us. The Bible prophesies that Satan's violent anger will culminate in the horrific Great Tribulation.

Do you look at this issue the way God does? He wants to free this world from its enslavement to such depravity. He wants to *free you*! When you see the suffering caused by breaking His law, like the suffering caused by pornography, it helps you to realize what a *blessing* His law is, which teaches us to *STAY AWAY* from that kind of lust (Matthew 5:27-28). If you want more instruction about that, request a free copy of our reprint article "Porn Free."

Soon Jesus Christ will return *IN POWER* and put a *stop* to these sins forever. He will *rule*, and He will show us how to have the happiness and joy we should be enjoying today—by keeping His law of love. You can do that individually *today*, if you are willing. ■

Look at this issue  
the way God does.  
He wants to free  
this world from  
its enslavement  
to such depravity.

Is it possible to remain sexually pure in a smutty world? Yes it is! Find out how by requesting our reprint article 'Porn Free.'





# The 'Someday' of SOLAR POWER

Economic constraints and national rivalries discourage our world from using clean energy. But that's about to change. **BY JEREMIAH JACQUES**

**S**OLAR POWER'S TRACK RECORD IN recent years has been far less sunny than innovators and investors had expected. Since 2011, a number of high-profile companies have gone bankrupt, including Evergreen Solar, Solyn-dra, Q-Cells and Abound Solar. A general cloud of pessimism hangs over the surviving firms in the industry.

Why is this field experiencing such a slump?

## A Wonderful, Inefficient Technology

Solar power generation is fascinating technology. After traveling 93 million miles, sunlight strikes a photovoltaic panel. A portion of it is absorbed into the panel's semiconductor material where it converts almost instantly to electricity—with no toxic emissions, no harm to the environment in extracting buried resources, and no radioactive waste. It's almost perfectly

clean. Solar power's immaculate nature gives it the potential to significantly reduce the pollution that commonly results from fueling our lives.

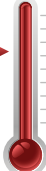
The trouble is that, compared to energy generated by fossil fuels or nuclear power, solar power is terribly inefficient. To produce one kilowatt of solar-generated electricity you need substantially more investment than to yield the same amount from coal, petroleum, natural gas or nuclear fission.

If a nation wants solar power in its grid, its government must either implement heavy subsidies or enact laws requiring a percentage of the country's power to come from it. In economic terms, such measures represent a loss for society. Citizens are forced to either pay higher power bills, or watch policy-makers funnel their tax dollars into subsidies—or both.

But isn't that a price society should be willing to pay for a cleaner environment? Like a person paying a little extra for healthful, organic foods? Unfortunately, it's not that simple because the global economic system is built on a framework of selfish competition.

Think of countries like businesses: They compete against each other economically. If a country makes the decision to pay more for energy, it places itself at a competitive disadvantage

next to rivals. And the goal of these rivals is often to put that nation "out of business." In the case of organic food, a person pays a little extra for his own individual benefit and no one else's. But nations paying higher electricity rates for clean energy are financing environmental benefits enjoyed by every country on the planet. It becomes a form of imposed charity: A country's government forces its



**10,340**  
DEGREES FAHRENHEIT:  
TEMPERATURE OF THE  
SURFACE OF THE SUN

population to sacrifice, partially for the benefit of other countries that don't make those sacrifices. And these other countries may well use this against the benefactor nation.

Political conservatives generally have no trouble acknowledging this reality. They lambast clean-energy subsidies, feed-in tariffs and mandates as wasteful government meddling. They point out that it handicaps domestic industry in the highly competitive global economy. Most on the political right dismiss clean energy as initiatives whose benefits to the global environment are trumped by their economic harm at home.

Meanwhile, environmental activists often fantasize away the economic realities. Many resort to scare tactics built on rickety global-warming science to try to push the green-energy agenda forward. Some posit ludicrous arguments, saying that if Washington leads by example—prioritizing environmental concerns over economic imperatives—then the rest of the world will wake up and follow suit.

The Birkenstock crowd can't be faulted for dreaming of an energy utopia. But their willful blindness to the economic consequences of their cause is naive. For pragmatic governments, the economic argument usually wins out, and the solar industry languishes.

Here's the troubling paradox: While the economic arguments against clean energy involve individual nations, the consequences of pollution are rarely confined within national borders. Air and water pollution in particular represent an environmental fate shared globally. In this economic global model of us-against-them, countries essentially trap each other in a scenario where they inflict mutual harm upon one another. Clean energy is overlooked, and the air and water we all share gets dirtier. While solar power generation isn't a panacea, it is a product of human ingenuity that has great potential to significantly purify the way the world produces energy.

Yet cleaner technology like this continues to lag far behind dirty energy sources because no nation is willing to sacrifice its own prosperity for the sake of the common good. The initiatives a handful of environmentally conscious nations take to promote clean energy aren't enough to bring clean energy into a position of global economic relevance. A real transition to clean energy would require the entire world to get on

board, more or less all at once. But how can we expect human governments, whose primary concern is economic competitiveness, to unanimously and simultaneously scale back on cheap energy in any meaningful way? We won't see that any sooner than we'll see national armies independently voluntarily beat their swords into plowshares. In fact, abandoning economic pragmatism in today's competitive reality would be tantamount to a nation dissolving its military.

Competitive capitalism is much lauded for the astonishing prosperity it has brought to many nations, but the solar energy issue provides a stark example of one glaring flaw in this economic system.

Yet there is great cause for optimism regarding the future of solar power.

### A Bright Future

This utopia will only come about if the spirit of competition that steers the economies of today is replaced—forcibly and completely—by a noble and more compelling source of motivation: sincere outgoing concern for the wellbeing of all mankind.

As unrealistic as it seems today, precisely such a change is on the horizon, and it is not far off! Many Bible scriptures foretell a time when the global economic system will

be totally and utterly revolutionized! For a few examples, see Daniel 2:35, 44-45; Revelation 11:15; Isaiah 11:9; 35:6-8 and Micah 4:1-4.

Imagine a world in which each nation's first priority in selecting power sources isn't gaining a competitive (economic or industrial) advantage over other nations, but assuring the safety, health and prosperity of other countries! Imagine a world where every nation views every other as an extension of its own family—and it values the well-being of another nation's people as much as, or more than its own!

In this rapidly approaching world, harm to the global environment will become unfathomable. Clean energy sources that may include sun, wind, water, fusion and perhaps others not yet imagined will quickly eclipse sources that pollute. All nations will universally embrace whatever sacrifices are required to make the transition to clean energy. The world economy will adapt to clean energy sources, and technology will swiftly advance to boost the efficiency of clean-energy-harnessing technologies. In that wonderful world tomorrow, Earth's entire population will prosper far more than it ever has under the current system of economic rivalry! ■

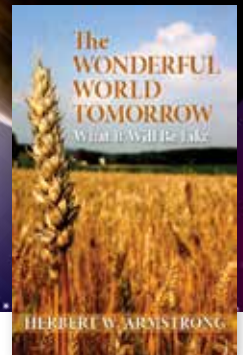


**1,000**  
WATTS OF ENERGY EMITTED  
BY SUN RAYS PER SQUARE  
METER OF EARTH'S SURFACE

## A revolution is on the horizon.

It is of proportions this polluted planet has never even imagined, and it will happen in your lifetime! It's as certain as the rising of tomorrow's sun. For a riveting glimpse into this rapidly approaching future—its economy, culture, education, religion, wildlife, language and more—request a free copy of *The Wonderful World Tomorrow: What It Will Be Like!*

No charge. No shipping fees. No follow-up.  
No strings attached. Call or order online now.







# The Incredible Shrinking Man

What is wrong with men today? As women thrive, men lag in education, employment—and, it seems, just general ambition. Here's a look at some of the causes—and the solution. **BY JOEL HILLIKER**

**T**HIS PAST SUMMER I VISITED a group of teenage boys at a summer camp and gave them some sobering news: If you follow the trend in society, you're going to end up being sloths and under-achievers. And women are going to leave you in their vapor trails.

It's true, and it's unmistakable: Female is the new male.

Girls dominate boys in education, from elementary through graduate school. Women are taking over the workforce. Hundreds of formerly male-dominated careers are becoming feminized. More and more wives outearn their husbands. Fathers are fading away inside their own families, and rising illegitimate births and single-parenthood are pushing them out of the child-rearing picture altogether.

Boys and men are passively watching it happen. Many of them, rather than working to stay ahead of or even keep up with women, are responding by waging something of a sit-down strike. They're playing video games more than 2½ times as much as girls. They're living with their parents at double the rate of their female peers. They're dropping out of the labor pool in record numbers.

The result is effectively a reversal of a male-female dynamic that has existed for virtually all of human history.

Feminists may celebrate, but more and more people are recognizing that this trend has come with some steep costs we're only starting to see. Even women are frustrated with today's breed of spineless, ambitionless manboys. There is a genuine problem here.

### The Ambition Gap

Women's ambition is soaring. The facts are scrupulously spelled out in recent books like Hanna Rosin's *The End of Men: And the Rise of Women* and Liza Mundy's *The Richer Sex: How the New Majority of Female Breadwinners Is Transforming Sex, Love, and Family*. Women are pursuing higher education in far greater numbers than men. They're remaining aloof from serious relationships so as not to derail

their career aspirations (one college senior told Rosin that guys "are the new ball and chain"). Research shows young women expect higher earnings and better professional advancement than young men do.

And that is the flip side of this story. While women are surging with confidence and enjoying greater success, men are shrinking back. There is a growing *ambition gap* between the sexes. Women are increasingly driven to succeed in school, work and life; men seem ever more willing just to occupy a comfy spot on the couch.

"All my top academic students, my really top performers, have heavily been women," Jeanine Mount, associate dean for academic affairs at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Pharmacy, told Rosin. "I don't know why. They are not inherently more intelligent than the men. Maybe they bring a different kind of focus to their work."

Mount calls the men at her school a "lost generation." They tend to be less driven, she says; they don't have the same "hunger."

Not long ago, men had an ample supply of that "hunger." Today it is broadly, demonstrably absent. It's as if the fire in their bellies has been quenched, on a massive scale. Or, perhaps more accurately, it has relocated—into the bosom of women.

Mount notes that virtually all the leaders within her university's various student groups—school

government, service organizations, campus fraternities—are women. Regarding college students, Rosin writes, "Guys high-five one another when they get a C, while girls beat themselves up over a B-minus. Guys play video games in their dorm rooms while girls crowd the library. Girls get their degrees with no drama, while guys seem always in danger of drifting away."

Measurements of men's shriveling ambitions are everywhere. Consider the five milestones that sociologists traditionally use to define the transition to adulthood: finishing school, leaving the parents'

nest, becoming financially independent, getting married and having a child. In 1960, about two thirds of men had passed all five milestones by age 30. By 2000, it had dropped to *half that*. In 1970, four in five 25-to-29-year-old men were married. Now the figure is two in five.

What are these guys doing? Nearly *six in ten* of them—among 18-to-24-year-old males—live with their parents.

Even among 25-to-34-year-olds, it's still almost two in ten.

Lest you think this is simply a sign of today's troubled economy, consider: Those figures are *almost double* the rate among women the same age.

And forget masculine financial independence. Nearly

60 percent of parents are giving money to their grown kids—a *lot* of money. Adults between ages 18 and 34 who enjoy parental subsidies receive a hearty average of \$38,340 a year. It's localized Social Security, flipped upside down, with older workers supporting younger "retirees."

And wouldn't you know it, young men seem perfectly content with—or perhaps complacent about—their dependency. They've grown up in a world that praises them indiscriminately and teaches them never to judge. As a result, research shows, these "failures to launch" actually have ample self-esteem, and they're confident success will come to them (though they're not necessarily motivated to chase it down). They feel plenty good about themselves, living in Mom's basement.

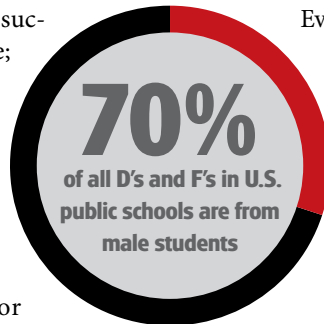
The ladies, on the other hand, aren't impressed.

### Marriage Dream Vs. Single Reality

For young people, the idea of marriage still holds considerable charm. A 2006 poll showed that more than 80 percent of high-school seniors expect to get married, and 90 percent of those assume they'll remain wed to the same person for life. A survey of college students in England found 95 percent want to marry.

As to what that relationship would look like—well, that gets trickier.

The teen boys I spoke with last summer all said they'd like a spouse. Then I asked them an



Able yet  
not working  
men in ...

2012

1950

5%



interesting question: Would you want to marry someone who was better educated or who earned more money than you? They all said no.

Some people may consider their thinking archaic, a byproduct of sexist socialization. Nevertheless, two truths remain: First, despite the fact that the male breadwinner model is actually *seldom taught* anymore—if anything, alternative ideas are far more aggressively promoted—remnants of it remain ingrained in the minds of both men and women. And second, wherever this thinking comes from, *it is increasingly at odds with reality*. As Rosin writes, “The men may cling to traditional ideals about themselves as providers, but

*they are further than ever from being able to embody those ideals”* (emphasis added throughout).

You can see that something has to give. Every year in America, 170,000 more women than men get bachelor’s degrees. And while the average man still earns 10 percent more than the average woman, guess what? Among 20-somethings, *women* now have the edge in the wage gap. Men who hold the advantage in education and earning power are a dying breed.

The numbers of well-educated, financially self-sufficient women are mushrooming beyond the numbers of men who could be so described. In fact, men are trending in the opposite direction. Today,

for example, we see the highest percentage ever recorded of men of prime working age who are *not even working*: about ONE IN FIVE. *ONE FIFTH OF MEN*. Compare that to 1950, when it was one in 20.

“Recent years have seen an explosion of male joblessness and a steep decline in men’s life prospects that have disrupted the ‘romantic market’ in ways that narrow a marriage-minded woman’s options,” wrote Kate Bolick in the *Atlantic*. “[I]ncreasingly, her choice is between deadbeats (whose numbers are rising) and playboys (whose power is growing)” (November 2011).

Who will these women marry? The bar for what they want out of marriage is climbing, while the field is regressing.

## Where Have Britain’s Good Men Gone?

BY RICHARD PALMER



**B** RITAIN was once known around the world not just for bad cooking, but also for reliability and decency, symbolized by one of Britain’s most recognizable icons: the bobby. With his hard blue hat and neat uniform, the British policeman had a reputation for being helpful and incorruptible.

That reputation is swiftly crumbling. A few months ago, the police were caught falsifying evidence on a huge scale. Back in 1989, nearly 100 football fans died as spectators tried to squeeze into a stadium. Now it has emerged that the police altered over a hundred witness statements to deflect blame from themselves. This wasn’t the result of one corrupt officer: It was systemic deceit by a whole regional police force.

In December, they were caught at it again. The police brought down a government minister—the chief whip—with false evidence, a lying policeman and an apparently falsified police log book. One journalist noted, “If they can frame a chief whip, they can frame anyone.”

Sadly, these wrongdoings are typical of scandals that, over the last year or so, have rocked the reputation of a number of British institutions once regarded as respectable and upright. Politicians, journalists, bankers and TV stars have been arrested recently over one sin or another. Reliability and decency are no longer core British traits.

The BBC used to be known the world over as the impartial voice of the news. Now, aside from its long-running problems with left-wing bias, it is in trouble for covering up child sex abuse.

Britain’s press has never had a particularly solid reputation. But that reputation has perhaps never sunk so low as now, after revelations about journalists hacking the phones of bereaved parents.

A trustworthy reputation used to be the most valuable asset of any British bank. Banks designed their branches like Greek temples, with wide columns and solid stone walls projecting an image of sturdy reliability. Now, however, in the wake of the banking collapse and LIBOR scandal, bankers are seen as barely better than bank robbers.

6 And Parliament? No one trusts politicians anymore. In 2009, the Houses of Parliament were shaken by revelations that

ministers had fiddled their expenses, breaking the spirit of the rules if not the letter, to essentially steal thousands of pounds from taxpayers. So far, six have gone to jail; more could follow. Many claim that others got off more lightly than their actions deserved. New rules were put in place to stop fraud from happening again. Several politicians have *already* been accused of questionable practices trying to get around these laws.

Even the National Health Service, which Britain proudly put on display during the Olympics, has withered under the exposure of its inhumane standards of care in some cases.

Has corruption ever spread so far and so deep?

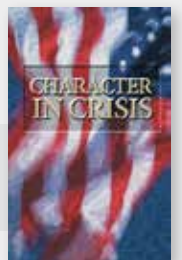
Isaiah 31:3 prophesy that God will remove strong male leadership from Israel and Judah. Today, capable leaders even on smaller scales have disappeared—upright traders, politicians, newspaper editors, police chiefs. *Soncino Bible Commentary* says “honorable man” refers to men who command respect. These are certainly gone today. Is there one institution left that Britain can point to with pride? The honorable man is missing from all walks of life.

This lack of honorable men is the nation’s biggest crisis. Britain could survive almost any catastrophe as long as men are decent, honest and upright. Look how stoically cities like London made it through the Blitz in World War II. But without honorable men, a crisis will cause society to fracture and collapse.

The most headline-grabbing stories today practically all trace back to Britain’s lack of honorable men. How bad would the banking crisis have been if bankers were all looking out for the best interests of their customers? The LIBOR scandal certainly would have been avoided. How much better would the nation’s finances be if everyone claiming welfare benefits put all their effort into finding a job? What if politicians set an example in being above reproach in how they spent the nation’s money?

Britain needs a revolution in character—from top to bottom. The restoration of the nation must prominently feature the restoration of the honorable man. ■

To learn more about the Bible’s prophecies of today’s decline in leadership, request a free copy of our booklet **Character in Crisis**.





Unsurprisingly, more and more of them, rather than “marry down,” are resigning themselves to the idea that their best option is just to skip it.

### All the Single Ladies

Sure, they’d love to marry if the right man showed up. Yet, in their view—frustrating as it may be that Mr. Right isn’t around—marriage is, ultimately, unnecessary. *I can take care of myself—I don’t need a man to support me*, the thinking goes. *He’d just be another person to take care of—another mouth to feed.*

“[A]s women have climbed ever higher, men have been falling behind,” laments Bolick. “We’ve arrived at the top of the staircase, finally ready to start our lives, only to discover a cavernous room at the tail end of a party, most of the men gone already, some having never shown up—and those who remain are leering by the cheese table, or are, you know, the ones you don’t want to go out with.”

The question is on the lips of women everywhere: *What’s wrong with all these guys?*

Most people can agree there is a problem, but far fewer recognize its full scope. When you talk to the women and meet the men, when you read the stories and look at the data, you begin to realize: Bolick is not describing a minor irritant, nor a disappointment that a few women share. She is chronicling the *collapse of a social order*.

Social historian Stephanie Coontz says we’re experiencing nothing less than “a historical revolution every bit as wrenching, far-reaching and irreversible as the Industrial Revolution.” As she told the *Atlantic*, “When it comes to what people actually want and expect from marriage and relationships, and how they organize their sexual and romantic lives, *all the old ways have broken down.*”

It’s a crucial development. And what compounds the problem is that few people understand its true *cause*. As a result, most of these women are unwittingly *participating* in an unhealthy cycle that is doomed only to expand the ranks of under-achieving men and embittered women.

### A Relic

To get to the cause, we have to take a look at “all the old ways” that Coontz says have

broken down. Regrettably, because of political correctness, this is treacherous ground.

What look like *many different changes* in “what people actually want and expect from marriage and relationships, and how they organize their sexual and romantic lives,” at their heart all trace back to one thing: *the decline of the male breadwinner*.

Historically, what largely drove men’s march through the milestones to adulthood was the expectation that they would fulfill the role of provider. A man who is serious about the responsibility of supporting a family approaches life with a special focus. He looks for a profession that will provide financial stability; he pursues his education with that end in mind. For generations, this commonly recognized duty propelled men into the workforce; it often served as a prod to men’s ambition and did much to shape society. Even today, it remains a strong motivation to any young man who accepts it.

However, for two generations now, esteem for this role has been fading—to the point where today it is ignored, if not treated with contempt. Rising standards of living have grown more difficult to sustain on a single paycheck. Two-income families are the norm, and few men expect to

be a family’s sole breadwinner. The notion of devoting one’s life to a job out of a duty to others has grown passé. Today’s premium on individualism, self-fulfillment and self-expression often turns a job search into a long, meandering voyage with unpredictable compensation. Marriage and family are also fading from fashion; to say that pop culture promotes singlehood is an understatement. And though young people still say they want to marry, ubiquitous acceptance of premarital sex definitely removes their urgency to do so. This encourages men to brush breadwinning aside and removes the pressure on them to grow up.

These are just a few of the many factors that have turned the male breadwinner model into a relic. Two additional factors are worth special consideration.

### ‘Build a Bridge and Get Over It’

First is the influence of feminism. The movement for women’s equality is fundamentally opposed to an arrangement where a woman depends on a man’s provision. “A woman needs a man like a fish needs a bicycle” goes the slogan, summarizing the drive to empower women to stand on their own two feet.

Under this banner, women have left their homes and stormed the barricades, filling schools, businesses, offices, clinics, battlefields and nearly everywhere else. And they have proven themselves spectacularly capable as productive workers, entrepreneurs and earners.

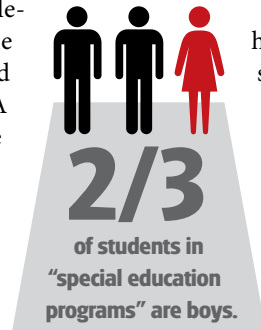
Now, however, a remarkable spinoff of this development has become obvious: Men watching it happen have gotten the clear message that *they’re not needed*.

It’s a proven, demonstrable aftereffect: In areas where they compete, WOMEN’S SUCCESS TENDS TO DISCOURAGE MEN. You can attribute this to chauvinism, sexist indoctrination or whatever you would like, but it is real, and it is powerful. “What happens when women outperform men?” asked Sandy Hingston in *Philadelphia Magazine*. “Men withdraw from the field” (March 2012). Once they see that women are providing for themselves, they lose interest in taking over that job.

“Gender identity, sociologists say, is developed oppositionally,” Hingston wrote. “If boys see girls behaving in a certain way—working hard and excelling in school—they define masculinity in opposite terms: A real man doesn’t work hard at school or get good grades.”

This effect is apparent throughout the workforce. As women enter a profession, men lose interest in it. As Rosin details in her book, men are abandoning more and more jobs while women rush in to fill the void. Women’s options for employment keep expanding as men surrender them.

The upshot of all this, Rosin says, is “the emergence of an American matriarchy, where the *younger men especially are unmoored*, AND CLOSER THAN AT ANY OTHER TIME IN HISTORY TO BEING OBSOLETE—at least by most traditional measures of



social utility. And the women are left picking up the pieces.”

*Unmooored. Obsolete.* These are painfully accurate terms for far too many of today’s aimless, indifferent young men.

What to do? No one suggests that the solution is for women to underachieve so men don’t feel threatened. The standard response is that men simply need to change their thinking.

“Build a bridge and get over it. Don’t just sit and whine and carry on.” That’s the advice of one woman whom Rosin quotes in her book. Hers is a typical story: After her husband supported his family on a manufacturing job for decades, the plant closed. Now he’s struggling, she’s the family’s breadwinner, he’s nostalgic for the old days (“Probably no one has had their wife move up the ladder as far as I’ve moved down,” he says)—and she’s had enough of his brooding.

In cases like this, the man’s sense of duty as a provider is viewed as the source of the problem. He just needs to learn to be comfortable in his diminished role.

But this man is old-school. The young bucks *never had* that sense of duty, and a diminished role is cool with them.

Kay Hymowitz exposes this trend in her book *Manning Up: How the Rise of Women Has Turned Men Into Boys*. She describes how it becomes a self-reinforcing cycle, with men responding to women’s progress by disengaging, which enables women to make even greater strides. When the two sides meet on the dating scene, strong women grow exasperated about childish men, “then in fear and disgust either give up on any idea of a husband and kids or just go to a sperm bank and get the DNA without the troublesome man. But these rational choices on the part of women only serve to legitimize men’s attachment to the sand box. *Why should they grow up? No one needs them anyway.* There’s nothing they have to do. They might as well just have another beer.”

*There’s nothing they have to do.* This is the void that is currently left where that sense of duty to provide used to be.

Feminist social architects would call that *progress*.

### Pig Heaven

Men’s self-destructive tendency to retreat under female pressure has synchronized with a second powerful factor eroding the male breadwinner model: the advent of modern time wasters tailor-made to suck the life out of the male mind.

Today’s media have become a black hole for male ambition and responsibility. As Hymowitz writes, “Relatively affluent, free of family responsibilities, and entertained by an array of media devoted to his every pleasure, the single young man can live in pig heaven—and often does.” This

too is a self-perpetuating cycle: A man with little motivation to become a respectable breadwinner is more liable to devote his hours to senseless pursuits, which renders him *even less* capable of ever fulfilling that role.

Two of the most toxic examples are video games and pornography. Their most voracious consumers are young men, and they are ravaging society’s manhood on an epic scale.

Video game addiction is about four times more common among boys than girls. The average American boy spends 13 hours a week absorbed in video games, compared to five hours for the average girl. Half of college students admit that video games preempt their studies “some” or “a lot.” By the time the average American youth reaches drinking age, he will have devoted 10,000 hours to gaming—enough time to have earned two bachelor’s degrees.

The valuable time and energy being swallowed up by these games is problem enough, but the ghoulish content many of them contain makes their effect far worse. Millions of young people are immersing themselves in realistic games that encourage them to become killers, sadists, mutilators and monsters that use every conceivable weapon for murder, torture, dismemberment, decapitation, impaling, ethnic cleansing and rape.

Pornography has become mainstream, pervasive, socially accepted, and, thanks

to the Internet, devilishly easy to get. It is also intensely addictive. The demand is monstrous: For every two Hollywood movies produced, 45 full-length commercial porn films are. The *average high school boy* watches porn two hours a week. Researchers conducting a study in July 2011 on porn and prostitution had so much difficulty finding non-users that they had to *loosen their definition* in order to muster up a hundred men for a control group.

These perverted images and warped concepts filling men’s minds have devastating effects on men’s relationships and mental health. A Centers for Disease Control and Prevention study found that regular pornography users have higher rates of depression and even *physical health problems* than non-users. “The reason is that porn may start a cycle of isolation,” the report explained. “Porn may become a substitute for healthy face-to-face interactions, social or sexual.” Psychologists say video games also tend to desensitize a user to reality and to real-life interactions with people.

In their book *The Demise of Guys: Why Boys Are Struggling and What We Can Do About It*, psychologists Philip Zimbardo and Nikita Duncan contend that these media influences are actually rewiring men’s brains. “The excessive use of video games and online porn,” they write, “is creating a *generation of risk-averse guys* who are unable (and unwilling) to navigate the complexities and risks inherent to real-life relationships, school and employment.”

*Think on that.* These influences are CRUSHING SOCIETY’S MANHOOD. One specific proof: Academics have uncovered a correlation between porn use and an increase in a man’s willingness to move back in with his parents. Risk-averse men who cannot handle life’s complexities are deeply disadvantaged if not crippled in ever being able to support a family.

It’s impossible to measure precisely, but this media assault has contributed significantly to the development of today’s Incredible Shrinking Man.

### A Curse

Feminists tend to applaud the breakdown of “all the old ways” of male-female relations. But look what has taken their place: academically and financially thriving women with no one to marry, and juvenile



# What a Real Man Looks Like

More than ever, our sons need a masculine example to look to. Here is the best. **BY STEPHEN FLURRY**



**T**WO HUNDRED YEARS AGO, THE father's role was *clearly* defined. He was at the center of family life. He was the head, the primary caregiver, breadwinner, protector, moral educator and law-enforcer.

Today, assuming the father is even present, you would be hard-pressed to find one who fulfills even *two* of those responsibilities. The modern father has relinquished his duties and abdicated his God-given role as the loving head of his home. Today, boys grow up not knowing what role to fulfill, if any. **OUR BOYS ARE IN TROUBLE!**

The only solution is to get back to the wisdom of the Bible.

An excellent definition of godly masculinity is summed up in the way Carl Sandburg described Abraham Lincoln—as a man of *steel* and *velvet*. The 16th president was a powerful and persuasive speaker, a man of valor and strength. He was a mighty man of war who faced down forces of evil and preserved the union of the American nation.

And yet, Lincoln was a man of peace. He was merciful, kind, gentle, thoughtful, friendly, patient and humble. He was neither feminine nor domineering. He was a *real man*—a man of steel and velvet.

## The Perfect Example

One man fulfilled that description far better: Jesus Christ. Artists have portrayed Christ as a skinny, soft-spoken, long-haired, effeminate wimp who died of a broken heart. How deceived this world is!

The Bible says that it is shameful for a man to have long hair and that effeminate men won't even be in God's Kingdom (1 Corinthians 11:14; 6:9).

Jesus was not what you might think. He was a **REAL MAN**. Physically, He was a man of impressive strength and endurance. Before His ministry began at age 30, He worked hard as a carpenter (Mark 6:3) and observed all the physical laws of good health (Hebrews 4:15). During His ministry,

He walked from city to city through mountainous terrain—sometimes traveling many miles in one day. Prior to being tempted of the devil, Jesus went without food and water for 40 days—something no frail weakling could ever endure. Before His crucifixion, Jesus was brutally beaten (John 19:1) and then nailed to a stake with iron spikes. Yet, having led such a robust and healthy lifestyle, He lived through what would have easily killed the average man. He survived until a Roman soldier finally thrust a spear into His side.

Artists who paint portraits of Jesus must not have read John 2, where Jesus confronted moneychangers in the temple. When He saw shady transactions going on inside God's house, Jesus took a handful of ropes and whipped the livestock right out. He kicked over tables and chairs and threw money all over the floor. His deep voice bellowed through the halls: "Get out of God's house, and take all of your belongings!" This was at the very beginning of His ministry, when few even knew who this man was (read verse 18)—yet these Jews were too fearful to challenge this strapping and righteously indignant young man.

Imagine that same scene with the melancholy, wimpy Jesus from the pictures and movies. Hard to do, isn't it? The *real* Jesus was nothing like what most people imagine!

No one knows just what Jesus looked like, but reading the Bible shows that He was a muscular man of perfect health and enduring strength.

Physical fitness is only a fraction of what godly masculinity is all about, though. Jesus was a learned man who took His education seriously as a youngster. When He was a boy, He walked into the temple at Jerusalem and discussed the truth of God with the most educated theologians. Luke 2:47 says that all who heard Him were "*astounded* at his understanding and answers." They were amazed by how much this 12-year-old understood! As Jesus grew up, He *increased* in wisdom and stature (verse 52). His education never ended.

By the time His ministry began, Jesus had developed into perhaps the finest and most persuasive speaker in mankind's history. Those who heard Him were astounded, and those who hadn't heard Him traveled a long way so they could. People who knew Him as a child couldn't believe how eloquently this Jewish



carpenter could speak. When He finished speaking, He often tried to withdraw for a quiet moment, yet throngs of people would sometimes track Him down (Luke 4:42).

Jesus also had a commanding presence. His doctrine astonished the masses, because He “taught them as one having AUTHORITY” (Matthew 7:29). Jewish authorities coveted his popularity. Pilate, who oversaw Christ’s execution, even acknowledged that Jesus was a just man who spoke the truth (Matthew 27:24).

### The Other Side of Manliness

Together with steel-like traits of vibrant health, intelligence, decisive leadership,

the disadvantaged. Christ once left Jericho with a great multitude, and two blind men cried out for Him to have mercy on them. The multitude ridiculed them, but Jesus stopped to help them. “So Jesus had compassion on them, and touched their eyes: and immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed him” (Matthew 20:34).

This genuine compassion for others even caused Christ to weep on occasion. In the case of Lazarus, Jesus cried because of the people’s lack of faith (John 11:32-43).

The gentleness of Jesus is reflected in how He treated children. In Mark 10, after some adults pressed to have Jesus lay hands on their little ones, His own disciples

among you, let him first cast a stone at her” (John 8:7). After everyone left, He told the woman to go and sin no more.

Jesus Christ was the epitome of true masculinity. He wasn’t all steel—lording His authority over people. Neither was He all velvet—weak and effeminate, standing for nothing. He was both steel and velvet: strong, bold, courageous, gentle, patient and meek. This godly form of masculinity drew many men, women and children to Him.

### Boys to Men

The Bible tells us much about what kind of man Jesus was—the kind of man all men should become. Little is recorded about His younger years. Yet there is enough for us to know that, as a boy, Jesus obeyed His parents, Joseph and Mary, and developed an intimate relationship with His spiritual Father in heaven (Luke 2:51-52). The mere fact that Christ began His ministry at the relatively young age of 30 reveals what kind of character He had as a boy, a teenager and a young adult.

Jesus Christ’s spiritual Father and His physical parents taught Him how to be a man.

That might sound hopelessly ideal. But we must understand that it is the only *real solution* to what is happening to our society. This is what is missing from today’s debates over how boys ought to be reared.

Many commentators have their so-called solutions. Some want to soften boys even further and would never tolerate them leading their wives and children as the head of the home. Some think boys ought to be macho, looking down on women, and won’t stand for boys being compassionate, merciful, unselfish and kind. What confusion.

The problems with our boys will *never* improve until we put God back at the center of family life!

Read Deuteronomy 6 and see how serious God is about parents teaching little boys how to be masculine men—and girls, for that matter, how to be feminine women. God says we ought to diligently teach our children all His ways, when we talk with them, sit with them, walk with them, when we wake up in the morning and when we go to bed at night (verse 7). What an effect it would have on our children, even now in this sinful generation, if parents would accept full responsibility for their children’s upbringing and raise them the way God says to! ■



No one knows just what Jesus looked like, but reading the Bible shows that He was a muscular man of perfect health and enduring strength.

righteous indignation and powerful persuasiveness, Jesus also exhibited many velvet qualities. Above all, He was humble. Publicans and Pharisees criticized Him for spending time with sinners, but He knew that the sick are the ones who need the physician (Luke 5:31-32). The Lord and Master of the disciples instituted an ordinance of humility at His final Passover and *washed their feet* (John 13:13). He was their Lord and Master, to be sure—but that just meant He was to serve those under Him *all the more*. He taught that those who serve the most will receive the highest positions in God’s Kingdom. We can see then why Jesus, the most humble servant who ever walked this Earth, qualified to be King in God’s Kingdom.

Jesus was also a compassionate man.

10


No matter how busy He was or how crowded the scene, Christ always seemed to make time for

rebuked the parents. But He rebuked the disciples, saying that we must *all* become as little children to enter God’s Kingdom; then He took these children up in His arms and blessed them.

This same kindness is what drew so many women toward Christ—some even wept at His feet. At Jacob’s well, Jesus asked a Samaritan for water. She was taken aback, since other Jews wouldn’t even speak to Samaritans. Christ discerned that this woman was involved in an adulterous relationship; the way He dealt with her evidently prompted her to repent of that wickedness and to support Christ’s work (John 4:28-30).

This is how quickly Jesus forgave people who showed *fruits of repentance*. Another time, scribes and Pharisees were about to stone a woman caught in the act of adultery. But Jesus intervened to prick everyone’s conscience: “He that is without sin

# BESIEGED IN THY GATES



A visual look at  
an astonishing  
fulfillment of  
biblical prophecy

BY ANDREW MILLER  
AND ROBERT MORLEY

**I**T IS ONE OF THE MOST ASTONISHING success stories in history. At one time, the English-speaking peoples of Britain and America controlled two thirds of the world's agriculturally productive land. And, impressive as their landholdings were, their maritime reach was even more astounding.

These two powers controlled virtually every important oceanic choke point and sea gate on the planet. Oceanic trade and sea communication only existed to the extent that Britain and America allowed it. This domination of global trade turned these two peoples into economic superpowers.

Massive port cities like Hong Kong, Port Said, Quebec City and Calcutta—river gateways to entire countries and continents—all flew the Union Jack. New Orleans flew the other red, white and blue.

From these cities and many others, goods from *almost a quarter of the world's population* traveled to markets around the world. It was British and American ships carrying those goods too.

Control of these ports meant mastery of the world's shipping lanes. British and American guns commanded both ends of the Mediterranean Sea, as well as the Panama Canal, the Strait of Malacca, Cape Horn and the Cape of Good Hope, in addition to the best natural and strategically placed naval harbors in the world.

Never have so few people controlled the destiny of so many.

How did these two nations grow to dominate global trade to such an astounding extent? The book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy* explains why America and Britain rocketed from insignificant nations to global superpowers. As

Herbert W. Armstrong explained in his book, it all began with a promise made to the ancient patriarch Abraham in which God promised to give his descendants control of the "gates" of their enemies (Genesis 22:17). God gave Britain and America these commercial gates, virtually ensuring that they would become economic and military superpowers.

But God also warned that if America and Britain did not obey Him, then not only would those sea gates be taken away, but *they would be used against these nations* (Deuteronomy 28:52).

The maps on the following pages depict the amazing extent of British and American power at one time—and then show how much of it has been lost. The fulfillment of this latter prophecy is a telling indicator of where the U.S. and Britain are heading.

## MALTA

### MEDITERRANEAN SEA

#### HISTORY

Britain annexed Malta in 1814 as part of the Treaty of Paris, ending the Napoleonic Wars. After annexation, Malta served as the headquarters of Britain's Mediterranean fleet. The island was vital to British success in the Mediterranean during World War II—King George VI even awarded the George Cross to the Maltese people collectively. Britain granted Malta political independence in 1964. The last remaining British troops withdrew in 1979.

#### STATUS :: [LOST]

Malta is now a member of the European Union and the eurozone. Germany is dominating the EU, and Malta is swiftly becoming a German vassal state.

## GIBRALTAR

### SPAIN

#### HISTORY

After the Rock of Gibraltar was ceded to Britain in 1713 as part of the peace terms ending the War of the Spanish Succession, Britain erected a formidable military garrison for the strait's defense. The garrison played a strategic role in the Napoleonic Wars, the Crimean War, World War I and World War II. Spain has tried to claim Gibraltar more than once, but the people of the province voted to remain under British rule in 1967 and 2002.

#### STATUS

Since the Spanish government is still pushing for full control of this sea gate, it seems unlikely Britain will be able to keep it much longer.

**10**

Percent of global trade passing through Gibraltar each year

**106,000**

Ships passing through the strait annually, including 5,000 oil tankers

## GULF OF GUINEA

### NIGERIA

#### HISTORY

British influence in the Niger region increased over the course of the 19th century until Nigeria became an official British colony in 1900. The colony in Nigeria allowed Britain to suppress radical Islamist movements in West Africa and to keep the Gulf of Guinea free from pirates. After Nigerian independence in 1960, however, Britain's global power began to decline, and the United States had to start taking on more maritime policing responsibilities.

#### STATUS

The U.S. Navy's failure to keep the waterways safe has allowed pirates to threaten the region, a fact not lost on the leaders of China or Germany, which are developing military ties with Nigeria.

**2 Million**

Barrels of petroleum exported from Nigeria through the gulf every day

## CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

### SOUTH AFRICA

#### HISTORY

The Union of South Africa brought the cape under the executive power of a governor-general representing the British Crown in 1909. The Cape Town Naval Base became significant during World War II, when South African Prime Minister Jan Smuts went about fortifying South Africa against a possible German invasion.

#### STATUS :: [LOST]

The surrender of South Africa to the Communist-influenced African National Congress ended much of Britain's control over the Cape of Good Hope in 1994.

**32**

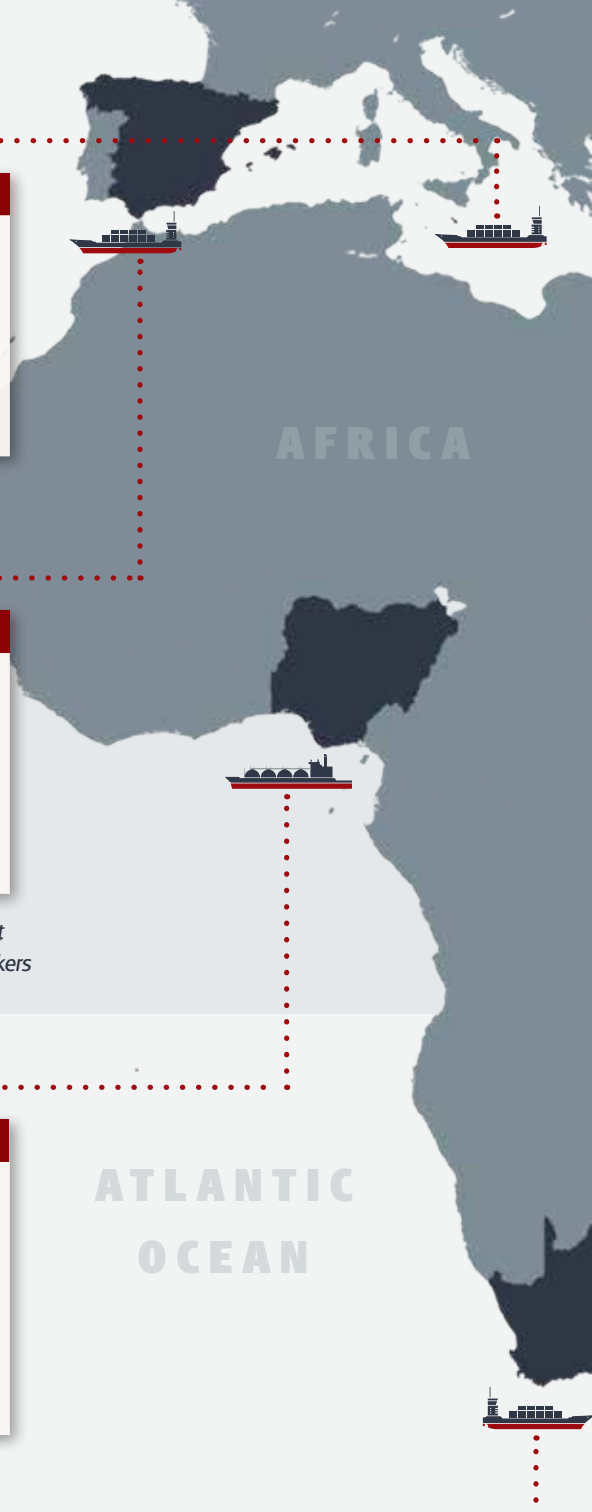
Percent of West African oil that transits past Cape Town to Western markets

**24**

Percent of Middle Eastern oil that passes the cape on the way to Western markets

**3,400**

Ships that come into the Port of Cape Town each year, laden with 4 million tons of cargo





**"And he shall besiege thee in all thy gates, until thy high and fenced walls come down, wherein thou trustedst, throughout all thy land: and he shall besiege thee in all thy gates throughout all thy land, which the Lord thy God hath given thee."**

Deuteronomy 28:52

MIDDLE EAST

## STRAIT OF HORMUZ

IRAN

### HISTORY

Although this strait has never been under direct British or American control, the British Empire was able to project naval power into this area when Pakistan was part of British India. After Pakistani independence in 1947, Britain and America had to rely solely on their relationship with Arabic states to secure this sea lane.

### STATUS

Now that Iran is rising as a dominant power in the Middle East, the security of Hormuz is being called ever more into question.

**35**

Percent of global seaborne-traded oil passing through Hormuz

**26**

Number of crude oil tankers that pass eastbound through the strait each day, moving 17 million barrels of oil

INDIAN OCEAN

## BAB EL-MANDEB

SOMALIA

### HISTORY

From 1888 to 1960, this strategic sea gate, along with the entire Gulf of Aden, was protected by the British Navy operating for the British Somaliland protectorate. Control of this gate was vital to Britain's struggle against the radical Islamist leader Sayyid Mohammed Abdullah Hassan in 1913. British Somaliland was granted independence in 1960. Since then, British Somaliland has joined the Somali Republic and become an Islamic state.

### STATUS

For the past decade, the coast of Somalia has been plagued by pirates while the mainland struggles against the Iranian-backed al-Shabaab terrorist militia. Iran's military strategy includes gaining control over this gate.

**30**

Percent of hydrocarbon trade that passes through the strait

**18**

Miles separating Yemen from Djibouti at the strait's narrowest point

**8**

Percent of overall seaborne trade that passes through the strait

## SUEZ CANAL

EGYPT

### HISTORY

The Canal Zone was declared a neutral zone under the protection of the British at the Convention of Constantinople in 1888. British control of the Suez Canal gave the Allied powers a strategic advantage in World Wars I and II. British troops guarded the Canal Zone up until 1956, when Egyptian strongman Gamul Abdul Nasser nationalized the area.

### STATUS

Today, the Suez Canal is under the power of a Muslim-Brotherhood-dominated Egyptian coalition. This coalition's growing alliance with Iran means that the canal could soon be closed in an attack on the West.

**35**

Thousands of ships that transit the canal each year, including 3,500 oil tankers

**8**

Percent of overall seaborne trade that transits the canal annually

**6**

Thousands of extra miles needed to go around Africa's southern tip

# ASIA

## VICTORIA HARBOR

### HONG KONG

#### HISTORY

Under the terms of the Convention for the Extension of Hong Kong Territory, Britain obtained a 99-year lease of Lantau Island and the adjacent northern lands from mainland China in 1898. Even though the government of China was displaced in a Communist coup in 1949, Britain still gifted this South China Sea prize to the People's Republic of China in 1997.

#### STATUS :: [LOST]

Beijing now fully controls the \$380 million Hong Kong naval base built by the British.

**456,000**

*Vessels that moor in the harbor every year*

**243 Million**

*Tons of cargo the Port of Hong Kong handles annually*

# INDIAN OCEAN

# PACIFIC OCEAN

**80**

*Percent of seaborne hydrocarbon trade that transits through Indian Ocean choke points*

## PORT OF TRINCOMALEE

### SRI LANKA

#### HISTORY

Great Britain seized control of Trincomalee from the Netherlands in 1795, fearing that its alliance with France would give the French Empire control of Indian Ocean trade routes. During World War II, the port harbored the British Seventh Fleet and proved to be an invaluable asset after London lost the Singapore Naval Base to Japan in 1942. This strategic gateway was completely lost to Britain after London relinquished control of the Port of Trincomalee to a newly independent Sri Lanka in 1957.

#### STATUS :: [LOST]

The Sri Lankan government is now being courted by Chinese leaders who would like to see the island as a strategic asset in their "String of Pearls" strategy to control the Indian Ocean.

## STRAIT OF MALACCA

### SINGAPORE

#### HISTORY

Thomas Raffles signed a treaty with Sultan Hussein Shah on behalf of the East India Company in 1819, which allowed Singapore to be developed as a British trading post. The British voluntarily gave up this most strategic sea gate in 1965 when Singapore withdrew from the British-backed Malaysian Federation to declare independence.

#### STATUS :: [LOST]

China is now reaching out to Singapore in an effort to cement control of the Strait. Singapore now maintains first position among ASEAN countries as a Chinese trade partner.

**35**

*Percent of all seaborne goods that pass through the strait*

**50**

*Percent of the world's merchant fleet (60,000 ships) that sails through Malacca*

**50**

*Percent of all petroleum goods that pass through Malacca*

# AUSTRALIA

## SUBIC BAY

PHILIPPINES

### HISTORY

Along with Clark Air Base, Subic Bay Naval Base once represented the largest overseas military installation of the United States Armed Forces. It fulfilled a vital role in World War II and the Vietnam War. The Filipino government ordered the U.S. to withdraw from the area in 1992. The withdrawal ended a vast American military presence in the Philippines that began when the U.S. captured the islands from Spain during the Spanish-American War in 1898.

### STATUS

Now that U.S. military presence in the area has been drastically reduced, China is claiming the entire South China Sea for its own.

## PANAMA CANAL

PANAMA

### HISTORY

The 10-mile-wide Panama Canal Zone has been called the "birth canal" of American greatness. Its construction in 1914 allowed the United States to become a global power. Control of the Panama Canal Zone gave the Allies an advantage in World War II when Nazi Germany sent U-boats to the Caribbean to cut off American oil supplies. When U.S. President Bill Clinton surrendered the canal back to the government of Panama, an era of American greatness came to an end.

### STATUS :: [LOST]

A Chinese company now runs both ports on each end of the Panama Canal Zone. Germany is courting Panama itself as a potential user of the euro currency.

5

Percent of global seaborne trade that passes through the canal

15,000

Ships that use the canal each year, taking an 8,000-mile shortcut

## STRAIT OF MAGELLAN

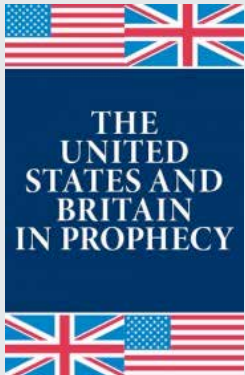
FALKLAND ISLANDS

### HISTORY

British Captain John Byron explored and claimed Saunders Island in 1765. The British Empire did not establish a permanent naval presence in the Falklands until 1834. This naval base proved vital to British interests in World War I when the Royal Navy fought to keep Germany's East Asia Squadron from passing Cape Horn.

### STATUS

Argentina is ramping up pressure on Britain to relinquish the islands and recently passed a law that prohibits British ships from docking in any ports located in the Buenos Aires province.



**PROPHECY FULFILLED** Why did Britain and the United States come to control all these sea gates? And why are they now losing all those possessions? *It was prophesied!* Most people don't realize it, but the Bible contains *specific prophecies* about all of these world events. But the fate of these geopolitical assets is only a tiny part of the story. The Bible reveals so much more about America and Britain, their biblical identity, their troubling future, and the hope that lies beyond. You need to learn more about what the Bible forecast for the world you're living in today! Request Herbert W. Armstrong's incredible **FREE** book—and prove it from the pages of your own Bible:

***The United States and Britain in Prophecy***

NORTH AMERICA

ATLANTIC OCEAN

SOUTH AMERICA

PACIFIC OCEAN





Barack Obama (right) courts José Manuel Barroso and Europe as the United Kingdom's economy tanks.



## America's new best friend?

**B** RITISH EUROSKEPTICS HAVE LONG dreamed of leaving the European Union and forming a new relationship with the Commonwealth and the United States. Unlike the EU, this alliance would benefit all involved, and would share Britain's fundamental values: Their laws flow from the same tradition.

The problem is, America is not interested. It is more pro-European than most of Europe is.

America's response to Britain's Euro-skepticism shows that it views Britain as a bridge to Europe, rather than an important ally in its own right. If Britain leaves the EU, its usefulness to America is over.

U.S. President Barack Obama himself is reportedly lobbying Prime Minister David Cameron to keep Britain in the EU. A State Department official, Philip H. Gordon, traveled to London on January 8 to tell Britain's leaders that America values "a strong UK voice in a strong European Union." America wants "an outward-looking EU with Britain in it," he said.

The sheer hypocrisy of a nation formed because it didn't want foreign control over its affairs telling Britain it must subordinate itself to Brussels has offended many Britons. But America's

shift in priorities has some logic: Britain doesn't have the clout that it used to, so America is looking for an ally that does.

Washington-based foreign affairs correspondent Nile Gardiner detailed America's growing anti-British track record in the *Telegraph*. In January 2011, America's ambassador to the UK, Louis Susman, said, "I want to stress that the UK needs to remain in the EU," and, "[L]et's be clear: All key issues must run through Europe." In 2010, U.S. Vice President Joe Biden said Brussels could claim the title of "capital of the free world" and said a strong EU is "absolutely essential to American prosperity and long-term security."

Now, America's support for Europe could move beyond rhetoric. Many commentators expect a new U.S.-EU trade initiative to be announced this year. Both sides see a transatlantic free-trade deal as a cost-free way to boost the economy.

European Commissioner for Trade Karel De Gucht recently said, "Perhaps not a marriage, but certainly a closer [EU-U.S.] partnership" was in order. De Gucht is still discussing the feasibility of such a plan with U.S. authorities, but said, "I am confident we will be able to deliver it very soon." The idea also has strong

support in the U.S. President Obama, European Commission President José Manuel Barroso and European Council President Herman Van Rompuy called for "a bold initiative to expand trade and investment" in a joint statement last year.

"2013 presents the best moment for a serious U.S. trade initiative since Mr. Obama was first elected," wrote Edward Luce. "Most European governments, including the French and particularly the Germans and British, are also enthusiastic" (*Financial Times*, Dec. 23, 2012). Such a free-trade deal would not be easy; it would require many compromises that Brussels may not be willing to make. But America is strongly signaling its keenness to pursue a transatlantic free-trade partnership.

Even America's so-called Asian pivot is pushing it toward this alliance. If America wants to focus more attention on Asia, it needs a strong, reliable partner across the Atlantic. This is why it is trying to persuade EU countries to increase defense spending rather than relying on the U.S. It seems it would even favor a strong military union in Europe.

It's still a bit of an exaggeration to say the EU is now America's new best friend; it's the direction relations are heading, not a destination already reached. But they will get there. Two important trends the *Trumpet* has watched for years are the breakdown in relations between Britain, America and Israel, and America's growing love for Europe—especially Europe's leader, Germany.

America can see that its global power is diminishing. But rather than addressing the cause of it, it is trying to build up a new power in Europe. The loss of America's power ultimately gets back to individual morality and a refusal to trust God for deliverance. It isn't causing the U.S. to turn back to God in repentance; instead America is turning to its new European ally.

Bible prophecy reveals that this trust will be betrayed in a frightening and horrible way, but it will teach America a vital lesson. The American people will ultimately learn to trust *God*, not other nations, for protection.

### NUMBERS

16

**11.8** Unemployment rate in the eurozone in November 2012

**26.6** Unemployment in Spain, same month

**5.4** Unemployment in Germany, same month



## 1 | FRANCE Intervening in Mali

French forces hurriedly swept into Mali January 11 after the acting government in Mali came under a surprise attack by a coalition of radical Islamist rebels the day before. The rebels already controlled the greater part of Mali, and their attack prompted interim President Dioncounda Traore to call for emergency intervention. France had favored swift intervention in Mali because of its deep economic interests there. Islamic radicals are now entrenched in a part of Mali almost twice the size of Germany. France has taken the lead in Mali, but Germany is not opposing the mission as it did in Libya. It promised to provide logistical support for France, as well as medical and humanitarian aid. It also said it would speed up creating a training program for Mali's army. German troops in Mali would be controversial at home and abroad, but Germany is doing all it can short of sending in ground troops. It's certainly worried about Mali, but it doesn't want to expend the political capital necessary for an invasion right now.



An Afghan policeman trains with German soldiers.

## 2 | GERMANY

### Staying in Afghanistan, eyeballing Syria

GERMANY HAS PLEDGED TO CONTINUE intervening in Afghanistan and Syria.

In a meeting in Kabul in December, German President Joachim Gauck told Afghan President Hamid Karzai that Germany would continue to play a major role in Afghanistan after it withdraws its combat troops in 2014. Berlin says it will provide training for Afghan security forces, and that it will also help the Afghan people with development and reconstruction.

Also in December, the Bundestag voted 461 to 86 to deploy Patriot missiles to Turkey's border with Syria. The two

missile batteries, along with 400 German soldiers, are part of a NATO deployment that went operational in January and is scheduled to last for one year.

Bible prophecy indicates that Germany will become much more involved in both Afghanistan and Syria. In both places, Berlin is looking to contain Iran's growing influence. The Bible says tension between Germany and Iran will ultimately lead to another crusade that will pit Catholic Europe against Iran and radical Islam. To learn more, request our free booklets *Germany and the Holy Roman Empire* and *The King of the South*.

## 1 | FRANCE New year, new Muslim problem

Youths in France burned 1,193 cars on the last night of 2012 in what has become a New Year's Eve tradition. Most of the arson took place in France's poor Muslim districts. Although the main-stream media refuses



Burnt cars in Strasbourg after Muslim New Year's Eve riots

to cover it, the French are bitterly divided over the presence and expansion of Islam. Muslim violence is exacerbating this discord. Watch: These problems will continue to build until Europe rallies to Catholicism and finally confronts Islam.

## 2 | GERMANY An anti-Iran alliance

Germany has approved in principle the sale of up to 100 Dingo 2 armored vehicles to Saudi Arabia, *Bild am Sonntag* reported in December. The Dingos are mine-resistant and designed to defend their occupants against nuclear radiation, as well as biological or chemical attacks. *Bild* reported that Saudi Arabia plans to buy 30 vehicles for around €100 million (over US\$130 million) and 70 more over the long term. This is another example of Germany's new policy of using strategic military hardware sales to build alliances. Its weapons exports to Saudi Arabia could grow large. German media reports say Saudi Arabia wants to buy 600 to 800 German Leopard II tanks. Germany is making a concerted effort to ally with and arm opponents of Iran, as prophesied in the Bible.



German Dingo



Syrian rebels take cover from government rocket fire.

**1 | SYRIA**

## Using WMD against rebels?

**S**YRIAN REBELS CLAIM THEY WERE ATTACKED WITH POISON gas on Dec. 23, 2012. Six rebels died after breathing white smoke from shells in the city of Homs, according to doctors based in Turkey who sympathize with the uprising. The Syrian American Medical Society stated that use of the gas, most likely Agent-15, was “probable.” It was not the first time the rebels claimed they had been gassed. The possibility of biological warfare is much likelier to spur international intervention against Bashar Assad’s regime. Several news outlets have reported that Syria has begun preparing its chemical weapons, including sarin gas, for use. Whether these reports are being fabricated and spread by activists eager for international intervention in Syria, or Assad did in fact use a less-effective chemical agent to test the waters, this incident could have significant repercussions. The *Trumpet* has long forecast that Syria would emerge from this crisis an ally of Europe, not Iran. Reports of chemical weapons could provide Western forces the pretext they need to intervene.

**2 | IRAN 3 | ISRAEL 4 | ERITREA** **Vying for influence**

Eritrea, a small, economically and politically vulnerable country in East Africa, is shaping into another battleground between Israel and Iran. Eritrea has accommodated each of the rivals in different ways. Cooperating with U.S.-allied Israel helps the isolated country grow as a nation and deters aggression from neighbor Ethiopia. Meanwhile, Israel benefits from intelligence-gathering operations in Eritrea that help it monitor the Red Sea and Iran. However, Eritrea also courts Iran for military, industrial

and financial support. Stratfor noted that Israel does not want to jeopardize the good relationships it has with both Eritrea and Ethiopia, so it is “less interested in expanding its presence in Eritrea than Iran. ... As Israel has expanded its security cooperation with South Sudan and Kenya in recent years, Eritrea has responded by strengthening its ties with Iran.” Bible prophecy indicates that both Eritrea and Ethiopia will ultimately fall under the influence of Iran.



## Hezbollah partners with drug cartels

Hezbollah may be partnering with Mexican drug cartels and raising funds for attacks in the United States. The terrorist group’s main sponsor, Iran, has been sanctioned because of its nuclear program, and it has apparently curtailed funding to its terrorist prox-



Hezbollah

ies, including Hezbollah, according to the Israeli military. U.S. authorities say Hezbollah operatives in Mexico are working with murderous drug cartels like Los Zetas in the northern regions along the U.S. border. Cooperating with cartels could help them reduce their dependency on Iranian funding. Hezbollah is helping the cartels produce weapons and explosives, and is training drug lords in how to build elaborate tunnels under the border to smuggle drugs, weapons and people. Hezbollah could use the tunnels to launch terrorist assaults inside the U.S.



**5 | EGYPT** **Gifts for Brotherhood**

Despite Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi’s Muslim Brotherhood ties and recent dictatorial actions, U.S. President Barack Obama is ensuring that America’s annual \$1.3 billion in military aid to Egypt continues. The aid is sent in the form of money and state-of-the-art weaponry. The current shipment is to include 200 M1-A1 Main battle tanks and a squadron of F-16s. Egypt already has the fourth-largest fleet of F-16s in the world, and is only about 100 fighter jets behind Israel. Egypt has 4,000 total tanks—almost double the number Israel has. Israel (but apparently not the U.S.) is deeply anxious about Egypt’s increasing radicalism. Should war erupt, Washington would be guilty of supplying arms to Israel’s attackers.



F-16

**5 | EGYPT** **Bishops’ Conference stands up to Morsi**

While most of the West dithered over President Morsi’s power grab in November, one institution inside Egypt spoke out forcefully: its Catholic Bishop’s Conference. Spokesman Rafik Greiche made it clear that the Catholic Church firmly opposes Morsi, his treatment of protesters and the constitution he forced through. In December he told a Catholic charity, “The European Union must make it clear to President Morsi and his government that they have to observe human rights.” Greiche also made it clear that he opposes not just Morsi or the Muslim Brotherhood, but any form of “politicized” Islam. These candid statements are a sign of conflicts to come between radical Islam and a Catholic superpower.



**6 | RUSSIA**  
**7 | KAZAKHSTAN**  
**8 | BELARUS**  
**Deeper integration**

The presidents of Russia, Kazakhstan and Belarus met in Moscow on December 19, where they ordered their governments to draft a treaty on a Eurasian Economic Union. Since establishing its authority in the region in 2008's Russo-Georgian War, Moscow has helped depose the governments in Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan and Georgia, which had been swept into power in color revolutions. At the same time, Russia has integrated more deeply with Belarus and Kazakhstan through the establishment of the Customs Union, the power of which December's meeting in Moscow is bolstering. The treaty the leaders ordered is to be implemented on Jan. 1, 2015, shortly after Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan are set to enter the union. Expect President Vladimir Putin to continue rallying former Soviet nations behind Moscow as he reestablishes influence in Russia's former Soviet periphery.



Kyrgyzstan wants U.S. soldiers off Manas Air Base by 2014.

**6 | RUSSIA 9 | CHINA**

## Filling Central Asia's power vacuum

**“W**ESTERN INFLUENCE IN CENTRAL ASIA IS ON THE verge of a major decline,” the Lignet intelligence group wrote on December 31. And who will fill the power vacuum that Western powers will leave as the NATO-led International Security and Assistance Force withdraws from Afghanistan? Russia and China are aiming to.

The United States has experienced volatile relations with a string of Central Asian countries. In 2005, American troops were evicted from the Karshi-Khanabad Air Base in Uzbekistan. In 2011, Russia joined Belarus, Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan in agreeing that no future foreign military bases could be opened in any of their nations without the agreement from *all of those countries*. Then in December 2012, Kyrgyzstan said the U.S. could not use the country's Manas base after 2014 and said U.S. troops must leave the country by then. Regional powers are gearing up to take America's place. “Russia... is preparing to fill a Central Asian power vacuum that looks set to emerge in 2014,” the Lignet report said. Moscow has already signed a series of military assistance packages with Central Asian nations, including a \$1.1 billion deal with Kyrgyzstan in November. Russia is expected to take many more such initiatives to boost its presence in the region.

China is also bolstering its influence in the area with key energy and resource projects. In the year ahead, Central Asia's tip away from Washington and toward Moscow and Beijing will accelerate.

**6 | RUSSIA**

## New silent nuclear submarine

The Russian Navy launched a powerful and nearly noiseless nuclear submarine on Dec. 29, 2012. The Vladimir Monomakh belongs to a class of ballistic missile submarine cruisers equipped with new-generation nuclear reactors. The sub is armed with 16 to 20 intercontinental ballistic missiles, and, according to the *Russia Times*, “can overcome any prospective missile defense system.” The Kremlin plans to build seven more submarines by 2020. Under the reign of President Vladimir Putin, Moscow is laboring to reestablish Russian influence and to recreate the Soviet Union, the fall of which Putin has called “the greatest geopolitical catastrophe of the century.” December's landmark submarine launch is a part of this expansionist strategy.

**6 | RUSSIA 10 | INDIA**

## \$3 billion weapons agreement

India agreed on December 24 to buy \$2.9 billion worth of Russian military equipment. The agreement says India will buy kits to assemble 42 Sukhoi-30 fighter jets for \$1.6 billion, and 71 Mi-17 military helicopters for \$1.3 billion. Russia custom designed the jets specifically for India, and they are engineered to become the backbone of the nation's air force. Russia and India also recently collaborated on a supersonic missile for the Sukhoi-30s, and India is rumored to be equipping this jet to deliver its nuclear weapons.

The military cooperation between Moscow and New Delhi starkly contrasts with the pattern of earlier years, when India sought to Westernize its military assets after several setbacks with Russian arms deals. New Delhi's return to Moscow for weapons is a big economic loss for Western nations that had enjoyed India's business.

China and Russia are the regional behemoths driving the biblically prophesied cooperation of Eastern powers, which the *Trumpet* has been reporting on for decades. India will likely play a role in this group. To understand more, request a free copy of *Russia and China in Prophecy*.

1 | CARIBBEAN

# Slipping from America's grasp

**T**HE DYNAMICS of world trade are changing. A consortium of European companies is deepening and expanding the Panama Canal in a project that may trigger a once-in-a-century shake-up of maritime commerce. Once this expansion is



A cargo ship passes through the Panama Canal.

complete, the canal will have a third lane capable of accommodating megaships nearly three times larger than any vessel that has thus far transited the isthmus. Transoceanic freighters from China will have enhanced access to the coalfields of Colombia, the soy plantations of Brazil and the ports of the American East Coast. Transoceanic freighters from Europe will have enhanced access to the copper mines of Chile, the ports of the American West Coast and even consumers in the Orient.

While these developments sound good for world trade, the disconcerting part for Americans is that the United States is absent. A European consortium of companies is expanding the Panama Canal. A Chinese company is operating the ports on both ends of the canal. Chinese investment is expanding the Cuban merchant fleet. On top of all that, the overall percentage of trade between the largest Latin American economies—Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, Brazil and Argentina—and the United States has decreased dramatically in the past decade.

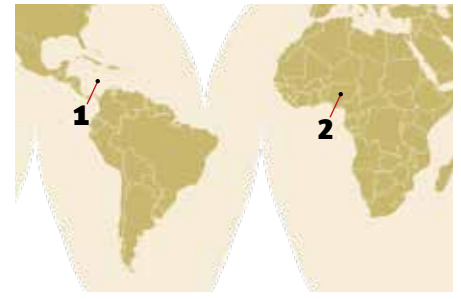
According to Stratfor analyst Robert Kaplan, U.S. leadership has largely ignored Latin America, while leaders in Europe, China and other parts of the world have made big inroads. Such negligence may prove to be one of America's great strategic blunders.

One of the lesser known battles of the Second World War was the Battle of the Caribbean.

During this 1942 naval campaign, German U-boats and Italian submarines attacked coastal targets in the Antilles Islands and sank Allied ships in the Caribbean Sea. The strategy was to blockade the Panama Canal and cut off the flow of oil from Venezuela to the U.S. If Hitler could wrest control of these strategic sea gates away from Washington, a nazified Europe hoped to besiege the U.S. into a forced armistice. After months of fighting, Allied naval forces were able to drive the Axis powers from the Caribbean, but a strategic weakness was spotlighted: The U.S. economy could have been severely crippled if American ships had been denied passage through the Panama Canal Zone.

In the almost seven decades since, American influence in the Caribbean Sea has dramatically fallen. After the U.S. relinquished control of the Panama Canal Zone in 1999, one of America's most strategic assets was left wide open to foreign control.

Germany and the EU are now dramatically increasing their involvement with Panama. Visiting Europe last October, Panamanian President Ricardo Martinelli told German Chancellor Angela Merkel that his country wants to introduce the euro as legal tender alongside the U.S. dollar. Considering the influx of trade that Panama is likely to receive as the result of an expanded Panama Canal, this is a massive vote of confidence in the German-dominated economic system.



2 | NIGERIA Foreigners step in

Nigeria is becoming the new Somalia. Like the Somali al-Shabaab terrorist militia, Nigerian Boko Haram insurgents are unleashing a wave of religiously motivated violence across the country. Like the Somali pirates in the Gulf of Aden, West African pirates are now terrorizing ships across the Gulf of Guinea.

Pirate attacks have increased in frequency and severity in the last three years. Analysts say this is a result of the decline in British and American power, which has handled maritime policing of the area since the 19th century; now the Nigerian coast is largely unregulated and without an adequate maritime police force. This has prompted other world powers to increase their military presence in the region.

Last August, the Chinese military had discussions with the Nigerian government to upgrade the Nigerian Navy. China has already helped Nigeria set up an ammunition assembly line, and says it wants to train and equip the Nigerian Navy to secure the Gulf of Guinea. The German military is also very involved, though Berlin has focused more on combating land-based Islamic extremists. Last August, Angela Merkel offered Nigeria's president military training to Nigerian soldiers combating Boko Haram Islamic insurgents in order to help safeguard the passage of Nigerian oil to European and Oriental markets.

As America fades, China and Germany grow their military presence in an African nation vital to global seaborne trade.



Gulf of Guinea



**Vanishing dads**

In every state in America, the proportion of families where children have both a father and a mother has dropped drastically over the past decade. Almost one in three American children now live without a father; effects include poverty, crime, drugs and other problems. Vincent DiCaro, vice president of the National Fatherhood Initiative, stated: “Deal with absent fathers and the rest follows.”

**Guess who’s dumping stocks?**

Despite the mild stock market rally in recent months, a handful of billionaires are swiftly and quietly dumping their American stocks. Warren Buffett, who has been a cheerleader for U.S. stocks for quite some time, is dumping shares at an alarming rate. Buffett’s holding company Berkshire Hathaway recently sold roughly 19 million shares of Johnson & Johnson, and reduced his overall stake in consumer product stocks by 21 percent. Fellow billionaire John Paulson is following suit and recently dumped 14 million shares of JPMorgan Chase. George Soros recently sold nearly all of his bank stocks, including shares of JPMorgan Chase, Citigroup and Goldman Sachs. With the Federal Reserve Quantitative Easing program unleashing inflationary forces, it is only a matter of time until U.S. treasury bonds are practically worthless. Once inflation hits 10 percent, 10-year treasury bonds lose about half their value. Investors and billionaires recognize this reality and are putting their money elsewhere.

**Sales rising for bulletproof children’s clothing**

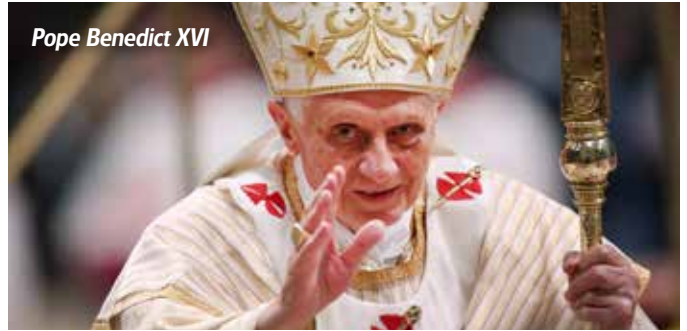
Bulletproof clothing sales are soaring in the United States. Since 20 children and six school employees were gunned down at a school in Connecticut on December 14, parents are going to extreme lengths to protect their children.



Miguel Caballero, who manufactures protective gear for high-risk situations, is gaining a lot of attention for his bulletproof vests that are attached to bulletproof backpacks. At his factory in Colombia, he demonstrates his product by blasting it with pistols and machine guns. Caballero said that since the mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary in December, interest in his products has soared.

Despite the bloody conflict that has been raging in Colombia for 50 years, Caballero says the product was “created with the American market in mind, not for the Latino market. All the designs and colors, everything, is thought out with them in mind.”

It is an amazing sign of the times when Colombia is manufacturing body armor for American children. America and other modern Israelite nations have become an example of how lawlessness can destroy even the most prosperous nations.



Pope Benedict XVI

**Pope brings church to heel**

IT’S HARD TO THINK OF A MORE COMPLETE VICTORY IN THE Vatican’s long-running battle with the English Catholic Church.

Catholic officials in Rome have long been frustrated by England’s liberal Catholic bishops. One of the biggest reasons for this is the liberals’ refusal to follow Rome’s strict line on homosexuality. Archbishop of Westminster Vincent Nichols, the senior Catholic leader in England, has consistently given the impression that the Catholic Church supported homosexuals forming marriage-like unions in the form of civil partnerships. In approving homosexual partnerships, Nichols has been accused of defying Vatican guidelines.

Perhaps more brazenly, Nichols has consistently supported the Soho Masses, which specifically cater to homosexual Catholics. The *Catholic Herald* called this “the most potentially inflammatory source of division between Rome and Westminster.” Last year, Gerhard Ludwig Müller was appointed prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, the Vatican’s enforcer. One of Müller’s top goals was, reportedly, to end the Soho Masses.

The other big point of friction between the Vatican and the English bishops has been the bishops’ unenthusiastic welcome for Anglicans defecting to Rome. Pope Benedict XVI personally orchestrated the creation of an ordinariate to allow defecting Anglicans to retain their traditions. He even donated a quarter of a million dollars to it. But the English bishops have refused to support it. They’ve given the ordinariate no buildings to hold its church services in. The last thing English Catholics want is for the Church of England’s most conservative members and priests to cross over into the Catholic Church.

With all that in mind, you can appreciate the magnitude of the English church’s January 2 announcement: The Soho Masses will be shut down, and the building they were held in will be given to the Anglican ordinariate.

The Vatican suddenly got its way on the two issues that have frustrated it for years. The Soho Masses are gone, and, for the first time, Anglicans returning to Rome will be able to worship in their own church building—all with one stroke. It’s hard to think of a bigger sign that the Vatican is now getting its way in England.

And just a few days earlier, in his Christmas Eve message, Nichols strongly condemned the government’s plan to introduce same-sex “marriage”—thereby bringing himself back in line with the Vatican.

If this shift translates into a more welcoming attitude toward the ex-Anglican Catholics, many more may cross over into the Catholic Church.





# Rise of the Hawks

China's ascendancy is making the neighbors nervous—and spawning a resurgence of nationalism throughout Northeast Asia. **BY JEREMIAH JACQUES**

**B**EIJING'S MULTIPLYING POWER and intensifying belligerency are driving a surge of nationalism in Northeast Asia. Concerns among China's neighbor nations range from the commercial—over issues like Beijing's rapacious drive for resources—to the geopolitical—including matters like China's aggressive offshore territorial claims and the unveiling of its first aircraft carrier.

"The sense of unhappiness with China among ordinary people in some countries has been getting more acute by the day," said Guo Jiguang, an expert on Southeast Asian politics at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. As this unhappiness spreads over the continent, it is opening the way for new leaders to rise to power—leaders acutely aware of the dangers China's rise presents, and who appear prepared to take measures to counter it.

Most notable among the Asian states swinging toward nationalism and militarism is Japan. But the Koreans are also part of the resurgence, with both the North and South now being ruled by descendants of Cold War dictators. China itself is now ruled by

the son of a Communist Chinese revolutionary hero, a close comrade of Chairman Mao.

These are sobering trends, and they fall perfectly in line with forecasts the *Trumpet* has been making for decades.

## Japan's LDP Returns

On Dec. 16, 2012, three years after being ousted from power, Japan's conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) scored a landmark electoral comeback. The militarism and nationalism that saturated the election campaign showed the growing concern among Japan's ruling class over China's belligerency. It also demonstrated Tokyo's resolve to reassert Japan's interests by every method, including military action.

LDP leader Shinzo Abe, who became Japan's premier on December 26, embodies the party's hawkish agenda. The premier has vowed repeatedly to challenge Japan's pacifist constitution and to increase its defense spending. His grandfather, Nobusuke Kishi, helped run Japanese-occupied Manchuria and was later imprisoned for war crimes under the U.S. postwar

occupation. In 1957, Kishi became Japan's prime minister and tried to abolish the pacifist clause from the nation's constitution. Like his grandfather, Abe seeks constitutional revisions to "normalize" and strengthen Japan's military. He wishes to bring an end to what he has called "Japan's self-torturing history"—the handwringing over Tokyo's egregious war crimes. Abe now holds a supermajority power that allows him to override any upper house vetoes of his legislation.

Japan has long been moving toward a quiet "normalization" of its military, but is now likely to make the change official and deeper. "In many ways, the Japanese have been making that change anyway," Stratfor's North Asia analyst Rodger Baker said. "The Japanese military has advanced weapons systems, it's got advanced training, it's got better interoperability. In many ways, [changing the constitution is] really just removing that last little fiction, rather than a fundamental alteration of Japanese military capabilities" (Dec. 21, 2012).

Under Abe, Tokyo has already made changes that transcend symbolism. In the second week of January, Japan's Defense Ministry announced an increase of more than ¥100 billion (US\$1.1 billion) to its military budget and announced plans to request an additional ¥180.5 billion (US\$2.1 billion) from a government stimulus package.

The United States welcomes Japan's military expansion because it wants to contain China's mushrooming influence without expending too much of its own resources. For this reason, the Obama administration has encouraged Japan to expand its military and to take a sturdier stance against Beijing. This tougher stance against China will accelerate under Abe.

Though Abe's nationalistic notions are saluted by Washington, they worry Japan's neighbors, who vividly remember Tokyo's savage rampage across Asia 70 years ago. When Abe announced that he wants to expand Japan's military power, the *China Daily* called him a "warmonger with dangerous designs."

Today's Japan looks eerily like 1930s Japan, when the country was walloped by a steep decrease in world trade and stumbled into political and economic malaise. The militaristic regime in power tried to remedy the crisis by waging wars for raw materials and markets. Japan's 1931 invasion of

Manchuria, and later of China as a whole, was a part of this attempt. Japan employed shockingly brutal methods to conduct its occupation of other nations.

The world has changed considerably since the Pacific War ended in 1945 when the U.S. dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Among the most significant changes has been China's ascendance on the global stage.

### China's Task

"China's... projection of newfound power is putting pressure on all the other countries in the region," said Barbara Demick, the Beijing bureau chief of the *Los Angeles Times*. This gets to the heart of why Japan is marching toward militarism. It is possible Abe may not stay in power for long, but the tide of Japanese nationalism and militarism that swept his party to victory is swelling quickly. And the swell is almost entirely because Japan fears China's rise. Explaining why the Japanese military needed the additional funds, the Defense Ministry spokesman gave a thinly veiled answer: "[T]o prepare for the changing security environment surrounding Japan."

In November, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) installed Xi Jinping as general secretary. It is potentially significant that Xi, like the other three new Asian leaders, has nationalist bloodlines. There is an "almost nationalistic drive in all these countries," Baker said. "[W]hether it's through election, through the rejection of the existing parties, or just through the way in which the parties are shaping and organizing themselves."

In 2012, political scandals damaged the party's public image, but the system survived, and the CCP now faces the daunting task of managing the great social and economic change underway throughout China. The change makes Beijing insecure, and its anxiety is evident in the Chinese military's intensifying belligerence over China's claims in the South and East China seas, and Southeast Asia.

The Korean peninsula, stuck between Japan's military normalization and

China's intensifying belligerence, could move toward greater rapprochement, particularly since North Korea would like to gradually reduce its dependence on Beijing's support.

In the meantime, the Philippines and Vietnam—China's most outspoken opponents in Southeast Asia—will keep pushing for increased integration among members of ASEAN, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

### The Failure of Globalization

In his assessment, Baker said Asia's surging nationalism indicates the failure of globalization in the region: "There is a long history with all of these candidates with family lineages that goes back into regional politics. And at a time where people have been focusing for the past few decades



Shinzo Abe, a "war-monger with dangerous designs."  
—*China Daily*

on this concept of globalization and the breaking down of barriers, I think one of the things that we're seeing in Northeast Asia is the reflection that geopolitics matters—that history matters—and that the national interests are very strong in each of these countries. And they're seeing a shift in the way in which they can balance with each other."

For decades, militarism and nationalism were viewed as outmoded and backward ideologies in places like Japan. But with each passing month, China is more hell-bent on dominating Asia and forcibly expanding its territory. U.S. leaders remain largely oblivious to the potential dangers, but Asian policymakers view it as a major shift that demands major adjustments in their foreign policies.

Nationalism is a self-perpetuating ideology, perhaps more so in Asia than any other continent. When one country takes a step in a nationalist direction, its

neighbors rapidly follow suit. Despite an increase in political and economic cooperation, Asian nations tend to view each other as rivals. More and more citizens of the nations around China believe war should be undertaken if that is what is required to stop Beijing. Their increasing concern prompts them to elect governments willing to draw a line in the sand that they won't allow China to cross.

Nationalism and militarism are on the rise throughout Asia. Although the countries' swings to the right are at present designed to protect themselves from other Asian nations, all of the intra-Asian tensions will soon be trumped by concern about a common enemy.

### Future Unity

Daniel 11:40-41 speak of a showdown "at the time of the end" between "the king of the north"—a German-led European empire—and "the king of the south," a radical Islamist empire led by Iran. This prophecy explains that this European entity will enter into "the glorious land"—Israel—and overthrow many countries. But the great military success of this European power will not go unchecked!

The pivotal prophecy continues in verse 44: "... [T]idings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him ...." After destroying the king of the south power, the European empire will be troubled by what is happening to its east and north—that is, in Asia!

The moves toward nationalism underway in Japan, China and throughout Northeast Asia are largely the result of disputes among Asian states, and, above all, because of fear of China's rise. But all of these intra-Asian hostilities will soon be set aside so they can form a bloc to meet this colossal European force.

Asia's swing toward nationalism points to a dark time on the horizon, but the Bible makes plain that the clash between Europe and Asia will be interrupted by the most spectacular event in history: Jesus Christ will return to put an end to the conflict between East and West, and between all other peoples on Earth! He will usher in an era of divine rulership that will bring about peace and prosperity for *all mankind*. ■

To understand more about China's rise and its prophetic connection to this most hope-filled future, request a free copy of *Russia and China in Prophecy*.



# A Job for Europe's Youth

Unemployment is sky-high among young people. The pope sees this as an opportunity.

BY RON FRASER

**T**HE MOST SIGNIFICANT EVENT threatening social cohesion in Europe today is unemployment—in particular, *youth unemployment*.

The most significant growth in the Roman Catholic religion—already apparent in this, the pope's crusading "Year of Faith"—is the return of *youth* to Rome's religion.

These two phenomena are powerfully connected.

High jobless rates among Europe's youth are creating real problems. "[A]s Europe's safety nets strain under the weight of austerity measures, more social and political unrest could arise," Stratfor reported January 11. "Dramatically higher unemployment has been one of the main social consequences of the European crisis . . . . The crisis has had an even greater impact in the eurozone [compared to the EU as a whole], where unemployment reached a record 11.8 percent of the labor force in November 2012, up from 7.6 percent in the third quarter of 2007. All told, more than 26 million people are out of work in the European Union."

This situation tears at the stability and order in European society.

Enter the Catholic Church.

## The Yearnings of Youth

It is not unusual for people to turn to religion as a panacea for ills in times of trouble. Such is the



## OUT-OF-WORK FORCE

Europe's young people are masses to be reckoned with. One political force knows just how.

case in Europe today. Amid the ongoing European crisis, the Vatican has seized the initiative to mount its "Year of Faith" crusade—taking advantage of the euro crisis to rebuild its number of adherents.

As is to be expected, since the social crisis centers on the youth demographic, it's European youth who are responding in droves to the pope's appeals. This is preparing Europe for the fulfillment of certain Bible prophecies for our time.

The traditional religion of Rome held sway in Europe for nearly two millennia. In the 20th century, liberal-socialist academics and the intelligentsia became the prime teachers of youth. However, the failure of communism left a gaping hole in their arguments. Since the late 20th century, up-and-coming youth have increasingly wandered as a largely soulless generation without a moral anchor. Add the current economic crisis to the mix, and the inevitable result is a yearning for something to give life meaning.

This vacuum has particular resonance in Europe. "These high unemployment rates jeopardize Europe's stability," Stratfor rightly observed. "At the national level, persistent unemployment is threatening the survival of the traditional political elites. The pervasiveness of high unemployment provides fertile ground for ideas and parties on both the right and the left that reject the establishment."

Throughout his many writings, homilies and general appeals both to the faithful and to lapsed Catholics, Pope Benedict xvi is threading a message against the traditional establishment of the West—in particular the Anglo-Saxon model. He has called for a new world order—an order based on the Catholic Church's own social chapter.

In his encyclical "Caritas in Veritate," Benedict put forward Rome's social chapter as the solution to global crisis. Many—especially European imperialist elites—are read this as the only way out of the globe's endemic crises.

Such a vision has revolutionary appeal to a youth wandering in the darkness of a moral and social vacuum, seeking to embrace a reason for living. Hence the charge of the youth into mother Rome's arms—only a few months into this Year of Faith.

## Benedict's Experience

Like his predecessor, John Paul II, Pope Benedict particularly appeals to the youth of today. But there is a difference between the two—a profound difference.

Benedict has experienced the religious fervor, the strong social forces that can be released in youth when their young conscience is bestirred by a revolutionary vision put forward by a charismatic personality with a view of imposing a revolutionary new world order on the globe as a former member of the Hitler Youth.



He has experienced the unity of comradeship that is the natural outgrowth of a movement designed to meet the aspirations of young people yearning to make a difference in society—to establish a thousand-year rule of a new world order, a Holy Reich!

Benedict knows from experience that it's a short walk from stirring a religious fervor in youth to launching a crusading spirit of military proportions. After all, as one of Hitler's uniformed youth, he himself manned an anti-aircraft station, designed to shoot down Anglo-Saxon and Allied pilots during World War II.

Later, he aided and abetted the escape of Nazi henchmen from Germany as part of the infamous Vatican ratlines movement.

### Filling Germany's Need

Germany suffers from a unique problem that is increasingly impacting its social makeup: *Its population is declining.*

This is a dangerous position for Europe's most economically powerful nation. No nation, even with Germany's power and influence, can hold that power without a population and military force of sufficient size and technological prowess to protect its status.

Germany has countered the shortfall in its workforce by importing foreign labor in recent decades. But, as the Romans found out, a nation can ill afford to rely on hiring foreigners into its military force to secure its own national wealth. A nation's military force must share the patriotism, the religious zeal—and in Germany's case, the traditional imperialist vision—of its elites. In the European Union sense, any EU combined military force must share the same mindset—the mindset of its leading power, Germany.

What the pope's Year of Faith is steadily delivering is a unified *mindset*—in particular within European youth—that will lead to an outcome that is prophesied in your Bible: “For God has put it into their hearts to fulfill His purpose, *to be of one mind...*” (Revelation 17:17; New King James Version).

With Germany increasingly committing to overseas military missions, with its huge wealth being increasingly looked upon with jealous eyes by many, and with the United States withdrawing from the role of global policeman, the Fatherland cannot escape the reality that it shortly must boost its military strength.

This it will do not only by increasing the extent of its own military forces, but also by adding to it the combined power of a limited number of European states whose leaders will possess the same Roman Catholic, Teutonic, crusading imperial *mindset*. Your Bible prophesies that this will comprise 10 national blocs all yielding up their power to Rome/Berlin: “The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast. *These are of one mind*, and they will give their power and authority to the beast” (verses 12-13; NKJV).

**Such a vision has revolutionary appeal to a youth wandering in the darkness of a moral and social vacuum, seeking to embrace a reason for living. Hence the charge of the youth into mother Rome's arms.**

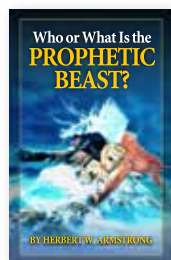
Crucial to any nation's military force is that part of the population that is between the ages of 18 and 25 years. Most “grunts” fall into this age group. It is generally the fittest and most physically able group in any nation's population.

This is precisely the age group most affected by today's *unemployment* in Europe—and also the most susceptible to be influenced by *religious ideology*.

Roman Catholic EU elites know that it is a short haul from ideological commitment to taking action to fill the goals of that ideology. That is what underpinned the Crusades of old. It is what will provide the platform for one more final crusade by the Vatican and German elites—a “holy” Roman imperial crusade destined once more to head for Jerusalem!

### What to Expect

The year 2013 is an important one in the effort of EU elites to further their imperial goals. Two crucial elections will see a confirmation of imperialist leadership in Europe's two leading nations—Italy in February and Germany in September.



Add to that the impact of the pope's crusading Year of Faith,

and what will be a record-breaking rallying of Catholic youth on World Youth Day in Rio in July, and these will be looked back on as catalysts that propelled EU imperialist elites forward to their ultimate goal: the seventh resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire, with the prophesied havoc that this continually resurrecting old empire will once again wreak on an unsuspecting world.

Barely a century ago, a pathological megalomaniac sent German youth to the war front with the motto “God with us” stamped on their belt buckles. Just 25 years

after that debacle, a demoniacal leader of great charisma sent the cream of German youth to death motivated by a religious fervor to conquer the world.

Are our memories so short?

Why do we remain so blind in the circumstances arising in *Mitteleuropa* so similar to the ones that ignited both those wars?

At heart, this is a spiritual phenomenon. What is undetected by commentators is the fact that it all being engineered by *a higher source than man!* Yet its reality, now so close to being consummated, was prophesied three millennia ago in your Bible in the book of Daniel. Its vision was added to in greater and more precise detail through the visions of the Apostle John 2,000 years ago in the book of Revelation.

The great hope that drives the *Trumpet* to continue to warn the world of this impending cataclysm in all that is playing out in Europe today is *what lies beyond it*. It is the fulfillment of a vision so breathtaking it requires the power of God's own mind, His Spirit, to comprehend it.

Put yourself to the test. Request our free booklet *Who or What Is the Prophetic Beast?* and see if God will open your mind to understand these great prophecies and to use that understanding to prepare you for a part in their fulfillment. ■

For a deeper study of this subject, request a free copy of our booklet ***Who or What Is the Prophetic Beast?*** by Herbert W. Armstrong.

# The Hidden Cause of Society's Deadly Decline

We live in a time unlike any other in history. World events are moving rapidly toward the end of this age. There is an unseen reason why troubles are intensifying as never before. You cannot understand events without recognizing this truth! **BY GERALD FLURRY**

**A**N EVENT OCCURRED IN 1986 THAT marked a MAJOR turning point in history. It has radically altered *everything* that has happened since: culture, family, education, religion, science, finance, politics, international relations—EVERYTHING WE DO. It has affected the United States in a MASSIVE way.

Yet what is most remarkable is, *almost no one even knows it happened.*

To understand this world-quaking event, let's first look at some of what occurred *right after* it took place.

## The Demonizing of Robert Bork

On July 1, 1987, President Ronald Reagan nominated a highly respected judge, Robert Bork, to become an associate justice on the U.S. Supreme Court. Within 45 minutes, Massachusetts Democrat Edward Kennedy took to the floor of the Senate and demonized him. "Robert Bork's America," he said, would produce back-alley abortions, segregation, censorship and midnight police raids.

It was a shocking, bald-faced vilification of a man who was obviously qualified and greatly respected, even by many liberals. "There was not a line in that speech that was accurate," Bork said. Many people agreed—but *the attack still worked.* Senator Kennedy and others led the way for abortionists, evolutionists, feminists, civil-rights advocates and other liberals to band together and defame Judge Bork's reputation

in an enormous smear campaign. They even aired television ads denigrating him. "They turned him into an absolute gargoyle, into a beast," one senator said.

Even the liberal *Washington Post* admitted that it was a "lynching." Many other liberals saw what was happening too. The head of the Senate Judiciary Committee was Joe Biden, and he said he didn't believe they could reject a man of Bork's qualifications. But after special interest groups told him to change his tune, he did. The radical left was on a rampage.

Judge Bork's name even became a verb. To "bork" was officially added to the *Oxford English Dictionary* in 2002. It means "to defame or vilify (a person) systematically, especially in the mass media, usually with the aim of preventing his or her appointment to public office."

Why was Robert Bork so demonized? Why was his nomination to the Supreme Court turned into a witch hunt, when it was obvious he was more than qualified? The reason was that the radical left *feared* him.

And for what reason? Judge Bork was known for one thing more than anything else: BELIEVING IN THE CONSTITUTION. He was one of the most brilliant constitutional lawyers this land has produced! He was considered "a pioneer in constitutional thinking devoted to the text and original meaning of the Constitution," as Reuters put it. He was known as a constitutional "originalist" or "constructionist" who believed

in judicial restraint. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia released a statement through the Federalist Society calling him one of the most influential legal scholars of the last 50 years. The society's executive vice-president said Bork was "one of our country's fiercest and most articulate defenders of the Constitution as it is written."

*That's why they hated him!*

Everyone thought that when a popular president nominated a brilliant, well-qualified man who passionately defends what the Constitution actually says, he would be easily confirmed—even by a majority Democrat Senate. But in 1987, radical liberals considered defending the Constitution a very, very *bad* thing! And they had the *power* to get their way.

The Senate defeated Judge Bork's nomination 58-42, the largest margin ever.

Many people at the time recognized that this was a watershed event in American politics. One law professor said it was "the decisive moment in politicizing the process of judicial selection" that "poisoned the atmosphere for judicial confirmations ever since." In fact, it poisoned a lot more than that!

In 2005, Bork said what he thought made a good Supreme Court justice: "A willingness to apply the Constitution according to the principles that are actually in it, rather than what they call the 'evolving' or the 'living' Constitution, which simply means the judges begin to make it up."

The tide turned in a big way in 1987. Law started to get a lot weaker. And LAWLESSNESS STARTED TO GET MUCH, MUCH STRONGER.

This is a significant clue as to what happened in 1986 that made such impact on the state of our world.

### The Architect of Lawlessness

Such a massive lurch toward lawlessness has a *cause*. I want to show you exactly what that cause is. Most people will scoff at what I am about to say—but it is absolutely true, and you can prove it from your Bible.

The most *lawless* being in the universe is a spirit being, Satan the devil. 2 Corinthians 4:4 calls him “the god of this world.” What does that mean? It means that this evil spirit being has FRIGHTENING POWER—power we can hardly imagine! To say that he is the *god* of this world means that he rules—and even more: It means most of the people in this world *worship* him!

One of the Bible’s most remarkable passages to help us understand the extent of the devil’s power is Revelation 12. This chapter prophesies of a WAR in heaven where great angelic beings fought against the devil and his demons, of which there are millions. Here is the outcome of that spiritual war: “the dragon fought and his angels [the *fallen* angels—the demons], And PREVAILED NOT; *neither was their place found any more in heaven*. And THE GREAT DRAGON WAS CAST OUT, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which *deceiveth the whole world*: HE WAS CAST OUT INTO THE EARTH, AND HIS ANGELS WERE CAST OUT WITH HIM” (verses 7-9).

Notice: This verse says Satan *deceives the whole world*. He is sitting on the throne of this Earth, ruling this world. He is stirring up people’s emotions, moods and attitudes. When people get into a negative emotion, a bad attitude or a wrong mood, he *works* on those people. He has power to *influence* those wrong emotions; he has deceived the *world* through them! People don’t understand God’s Word—they don’t have any depth spiritually—so they just follow along emotionally, and Satan just deceives them all. That is amazing, but it’s biblical and you can prove it to yourself, and you certainly *should*.

This verse is *also an end-time prophecy*. It tells us that SATAN WAS CAST TO THIS EARTH. When did this happen? God’s very elect must have this revealed to them, or why would God make the prophecy? You

*must* know if you are to understand what’s going on in your nation and in this world.

The devil and *millions* of demons are now *confined* to this Earth. Their *fruits* and Bible prophecy will tell us *when* and how it all happened and how it continues to unfold. What are they doing? These are evil beings with *awesome* power.

Surely such an event would have *enormous impact* on world affairs. We must be seeing things happen that would indicate the *reality* of this end-time Bible prophecy. How did it affect this world? And how much is it going to impact *your life*? Their dirty work is going on now, but do we see it? Do we understand it? If this is actually true, then there must be a lot of damage. God’s Word stands or falls on whether or not we can prove this. And we certainly can prove it.

This is *earthshaking*—even *universe-shaking* in many ways! It is bad news, and yet, in the bigger picture it’s also very *good* news—the BEST NEWS we could possibly hear. Here is why: “Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! [even of the sea, it’s so bad] for *the devil is come down unto you*, HAVING GREAT WRATH, BECAUSE HE KNOWETH THAT HE HATH BUT A SHORT TIME” (verse 12).

Satan was already being worshiped on this Earth, but now it’s even worse. Now he’s cast down, and he is *full of wrath* for a very definite reason. Satan knows he has a short time—but a short time BEFORE WHAT?

This statement also shows that this is an end-time prophecy. Satan was cast down just a “SHORT TIME” before Jesus Christ returns to this Earth and *kicks Satan off his throne!* (e.g. Revelation 20:1-2, 10). That is the spectacular, joyfully good news.

Christ had to overcome that devil and so do we. By overcoming him, Christ qualified to sit on the throne talked about in Luke 1:30-33. Christ will not return to a nonexistent throne. There is a throne on Earth right now that Jesus Christ is going to come and sit on! That throne is already here. (This is covered in our free book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy* and many other booklets we’ve written.) Everything is set for a new government to be in

place on Earth *very* shortly—almost certainly in less than a decade.

In just a SHORT TIME, Satan will be kicked off his throne at Christ’s return. However, you need to understand what Satan is going to do *before that happens*. It will be the worst time of suffering ever on this planet!

Satan knows he has a short time to DO WHAT? What is he doing that he won’t be doing in a very short time?

## Judge Bork was known for one thing more than anything else: believing in the Constitution.



### When Satan Was Cast Down

Look again at this Revelation 12 prophecy. In verse 12, it warns the inhabitants of the earth and sea because Satan was cast down. Then as *soon* as that happened, what was the very first thing Satan did? Verse 13 shows that He attacked the Church of God and wrecked its work! That is what this “woman” is prophetically.

That specifically dates this prophecy.

We can point to a specific time when God’s true Church was forcibly attacked by the devil. This is spoken of in another prophecy—in 2 Thessalonians 2—that links directly with Revelation 12 in order to establish the time frame.

There the Apostle Paul prophesied, “Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand” (2 Thessalonians 2:1-2). When is Christ coming? How can we know? God tells us what will happen *just* before He returns.

Notice this astounding prophecy: “Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day [the Second Coming of Christ] shall not come, except there come *a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition*” (verse 3). This is a great falling away in God’s Church—exactly what Revelation 12:13 is about. When Satan was cast down he attacked God’s Church, which triggered a GREAT FALLING AWAY because most of God’s people were conquered by the devil!



This prophecy says a “man of sin” would be revealed inside that church. This man is called the “son of destruction”—the same title as Judas Iscariot, who was actually *possessed by the devil* (Luke 22:3; John 13:27). Satan has a lot of power.

This man “opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God” (verse 4). He acts like he’s God, taking the place of God in that temple. That is how *arrogant* Satan is—acting like God. He thinks he’s God—and has rebelled against God and tried to *overthrow* God!



**President Obama “is appointing anti-Israel advisers and cabinet members not despite their anti-Israel positions, but because of them.” —Caroline Glick**

That is why he was CAST DOWN in this end time. He tried to overthrow God once (Isaiah 14:12-14; Ezekiel 28:14-17), and then tried *again* just before Christ is to return (Revelation 12:7-9). This time, he was thrown down to Earth and *confined* there; he is no longer allowed in the rest of the universe.

The prophecy in 2 Thessalonians 2 also includes another important individual. Verse 7 says, “For the *mystery of lawlessness* is already at work. Only HE WHO NOW RESTRAINS it will do so until he is out of the way” (English Standard Version). This “mystery of lawlessness” was working in God’s Church *already*, but somebody (“he who now restrains”) was controlling it and ensuring it didn’t openly manifest itself. As long as he was there, Satan could not take over the Church; the falling away couldn’t occur.

Do you know who this man is? Herbert W. Armstrong was the head of God’s Church for over 50 years, and God used him to keep the Church on track. Then, he was taken “out of the way.” THAT HAPPENED WHEN GOD ALLOWED HIM TO DIE IN 1986.

And notice what happens immediately after that: “And THEN SHALL THAT WICKED [Satan the devil] BE REVEALED, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming” (verse 8).

28 Yes, *after* that man was taken out of the way, SATAN WAS CAST

DOWN! Now everybody can see him because he is full of wrath and wreaking great destruction! God had to raise up another work to get His message out.

THESE PROPHECIES HAVE COME TO PASS. Once Satan was cast down, he used a “man of sin” right at the head of God’s Church to lead in the destruction of that church *from the inside, from right at the top!* You can understand this history in detail if you request our free books *Malachi’s Message* and *Raising the Ruins*.

There is another version of this prophecy in Daniel 8. There it describes Satan’s violence within the Church in a very telling

way. It says he and his “host,” his demon army, “cast down the truth to the ground.” Their primary attack was against God’s *truth* and God’s *law*.

Satan hates God’s Church most of all. As soon as he was cast down, he started destroying within that Church, which the Bible calls *spiritual* Israel. Then he turned his full attention on *physical* Israel—the modern descendants of which are the *nations* of Israel—concentrating on three of these nations in particular: the birthright nations and the scepter nation, or America, Britain and the Jewish nation in the Middle East.

This is what changed in 1986. The devil was cast down to Earth, and he began his *LAWLESS RAMPAGE*, casting truth to the ground. I saw with my own eyes the damage he wreaked on God’s Church. Now, it is becoming ever clearer that HE IS UNLEASHING THE SAME KIND OF DESTRUCTION ON OUR NATIONS!

And he is using the *same tactics to do it*. When he attacked the Church, he got people in at the top that cast all the truth to the ground. Is he going to get people at the top of the nations of Israel to cast the truth to the ground? I believe so. That’s the most efficient way to do it. Then he can use them to wage an *ASSAULT FROM WITHIN ON THE TRUTH AND THE LAW!*

The only difference is this: The destruction in God’s Church was on a spiritual level,

and the three nations are being destroyed on a letter-of-the-law level because they don’t yet have God’s Holy Spirit. This will lead to these nations being conquered from without.

### Lethal Lawlessness

What happened to Robert Bork marked the beginning of a vicious attack on the law of the land. In the two decades since, we have seen a rapid breakdown of law and an increasing amount of poison spreading through America’s political system. Today, because Satan is cast down, America is a different nation!

Melanie Phillips made this observation: “To an astonishing silence by the media on both sides of the pond, the U.S. along with the UK and a number of European governments is LEADING THE WEST INTO AN ABYSS” (Dec. 21, 2012; emphasis mine throughout).

The proof to support her statement is abundant. For example, look at the bankruptcy in America’s foreign policy. Over the past year, the U.S. and others have GIVEN POWER TO ISLAMIST EXTREMISTS WHO ARE HOSTILE TO THE FREE WORLD. We have handed Egypt and Libya to some of our worst enemies! That is the state of American policy today.

There is abundant proof that America is now actively and intentionally supporting Islamist rebels in Syria. American agents are funneling weapons to the rebels, making no attempt to keep them from the Muslim Brotherhood and extreme Salafists.

Don’t our leaders realize that these bloodthirsty Islamists are jeopardizing the Middle East and especially Israel? The astonishing answer is *yes*, they do.

On January 7, President Obama nominated Chuck Hagel to be the United States’ next secretary of defense. This former Nebraska senator has consistently spoken out *against* Israel, and *for* Palestinians, terrorists and Iran. He has voted *against* sanctioning Iran to stop its pursuit of nuclear weapons; he voted *against* labeling Iran’s Revolutionary Guards a terrorist organization; he has declared that a military strike against Iran is not an option; he urged President Bush to establish “direct, unconditional” talks with Iran; he wants to establish diplomatic relations with Tehran; he has said repeatedly that sanctioning Iran will isolate *America*.

Mr. Hagel refused to sign a letter asking the EU to name Hezbollah a terrorist

organization. In fact, during the 2006 Israel-Hezbollah war, he said Washington should “engage Iran and Syria,” the nations that back the Hezbollah terrorists. He accused Israel of “sickening slaughter” and “the systematic destruction of an American friend: the country and people of Lebanon.”

Over and over again through the years, when nearly all of his fellow senators agreed to sign various letters of support for Israel, Hagel has been one of the few—sometimes the only one—to refuse. He supported the “Saudi Peace Initiative,” which calls for Israel to forfeit the Golan Heights, the West Bank and parts of Jerusalem, including the Jewish Quarter.

Why, then, would President Obama want to make this man secretary of defense? Here is Phillips’s answer—and it is profound: “What therefore is the factor that Obama brings to the West’s dismal foreign-policy table as illustrated by these truly appalling choices? *Malice*. Against the West, and ALSO AGAINST THE ANCIENT CIVILIZATION THAT LIES AT THE HEART OF ITS MORAL CODES.”

What is the ancient civilization that lies at the heart of America’s moral codes? She is talking about Judeo-Christian history—and the morality of *the Bible*. She is absolutely right in saying that the current administration of America views that civilization—along with its moral law—with *malice*.

You see that *hatred for law* in everything it does. Its decisions spring from the same LAWLESS MINDSET that was exposed in the Bork nomination process!

Caroline Glick wrote, “Obama wants to hurt Israel. He does not like Israel. He is appointing anti-Israel advisers and cabinet members *not despite* their anti-Israel positions, but *because* of them. . . . Obama wants to fundamentally transform the U.S. relationship with Israel. . . . [T]he most urgent order of business for Israelis is to stop deluding ourselves in thinking that under Obama the U.S. can be trusted” (Dec. 16, 2012).

Israel is facing extermination, and the U.S. is turning its back! It is forcing the Israelis to look for help elsewhere. If you continue to watch, you will see that Israel will turn to Germany for help, along with Britain (Hosea 5:13)—and the Germans will commit an enormous double cross against them. This is prophesied in Scripture, and we can see events leading step by step to that end.

The more time that passes, and the shorter Satan’s time gets, the angrier he

grows. Now he has been revealed so *anybody* ought to be able to see him and the crises he’s causing—especially in those three nations, but also throughout the world!

### **Irrational Foreign Policy**

As a nation, America is TRASHING THE LAW! As a result, it has grown *out of control*. Just look at some of the irrational decisions it is making today.

In December, it was revealed that al Qaeda had established a new base in Libya. America bombed Libya—and then left, just *hoping* good guys would take over! But the good guys never do: It’s always the *worst* of the people that rise to power—especially when they are supported by a powerful Iran, which is the biblically prophesied “king of the south.”

The *Trumpet* said this would happen both in Libya and in Egypt (see our October 2011 cover story, “Egypt and Libya to Join Iran’s Terror Network”). In fact, we said that before *anything* had happened in Libya. How did we know? We looked in the Bible, saw what God had prophesied, and believed Him. And the proof is plainly evident today.

In Syria, reports say that Bashar al Assad has hundreds or even thousands of tons of chemical weapons and the ballistic missiles to deliver them. Intelligence reports say he’s already been mixing these chemicals and has been pouring sarin nerve gas into missiles. Just a single drop of that poison will kill—and each missile holds a much larger amount! Assad is apparently threatening to use it on his own people.

This is the same gas that Saddam Hussein inflicted on the Kurds who were rebelling against him—his own people. Reports spoke of sheep and goats in the field dropping over dead; lifeless birds would fall out of the sky. These are weapons of MASS destruction! They don’t just kill one person with a bullet—they kill thousands, even *millions*, depending on how they are used.

What if the terrorists get control of those chemicals? Do you think they won’t bring them to the U.S.? They hate Americans as much as or more than the Jews! On Dec. 7, 2012, authorities caught two Pakistanis who are American citizens trying to get a WMD. Can you imagine what would have happened on September 11 if, instead of just knocking down buildings, the terrorists had dumped sarin nerve gas all over New York City?

If you understand that Satan has been cast down, and is in a frothing rage because his time is short, you know that we can expect to see these devastating weapons put to use! I think this could have a lot to do with the burning of Israel’s cities prophesied in Isaiah 1:7.

JewishPress.com ran an article titled, “Has Obama Decided to Get Rid of Jordan’s King Abdullah?” on Nov. 22, 2012. It talked about how a State Department spokesman, Mark Toner, stated that there was “thirst for change” in Jordan’s leadership. King Abdullah and his cabinet were greatly disturbed by it. This is probably the most peaceful country in the Middle East, the Arab nation that is friendliest toward America! Why would he say such a thing? A few hundred people demonstrated against the government, and America acts like they want to see King Abdullah removed from power! Just a couple years ago, *tens of thousands* of people demonstrated against the government in Iran, and the Obama administration said *nothing!* What is *wrong* with these people?

This too is an indication of Satan being cast down and exerting his influence at the highest levels. Every decision they are making in foreign policy and just about everything else is *dangerously* wrong. And we need to prepare ourselves for more terrible decisions.

America has done nothing about Syria, with its witch’s brew of WMD. We really have done nothing in Libya—we won’t even go in and fight for our own people. We won’t speak out against what’s happening in Libya. In Egypt, after it had peace with Israel for 30 years, we helped kick Hosni Mubarak off his throne, and now we will not speak out against Mohamed Morsi as he is essentially declared himself pharaoh of Egypt and a bitter enemy of the Jewish nation.

Can you explain these decisions with any logic?

### **Hijacking the Political Process**

These are not normal times. They are not even as stable as they were before 1986. What we are seeing is A NATION AND A GOVERNMENT COMPLETELY TEARING AWAY FROM LAW. They think that is what “freedom” means, but they are dead wrong!

America’s federal government has a law that establishes a limit to the amount of money it can

borrow. The principle behind this law is sound: that you shouldn't spend money you do not have. However, both political parties have voted to raise this debt "ceiling" over and over again. And some people have said we should completely ignore the law and just blow the top off altogether!

2 Corinthians 12:14 says that parents should lay up for their children—yet what have we laid up for our children? More than \$16 trillion in overwhelming debt!

The president spent his first term escalating that debt at a record pace. Yet Americans decided to award him a second term. In 2008 and again in 2012, you saw a president elected with an amazing ability to pull in votes from people who know nothing about politics, much less law or the Constitution. He was especially popular among college students and single women.

What is happening to our political process?

When the president was campaigning for a second term, he said, "You may be frustrated sometimes with the pace of change. I'm frustrated too sometimes. But you know where I stand. You know what I believe. YOU KNOW I TELL THE TRUTH."

Does the president tell the truth? IS ANYONE PAYING ATTENTION?

Here is how Glenn Beck responded to the president's statement: "This is more a

time in our history. Yet news anchor Tom Brokaw admitted that the press never did vet candidate Barack Obama. They never conducted a rigorous evaluation of this man. *Why not?* This man was never vetted, never subjected to scrutiny—and he won the highest office in the land! Twice!

If you recall, many people said a black leader would solve our nation's racial problems. Has it? It has done the opposite!

Mr. Obama had attended an anti-Semitic, anti-white church for 20 years! Barack Obama sat in Jeremiah Wright's church for 20 years hearing him rant about his malicious hate toward this country. And Republicans were—and are—afraid to go after him. Why? Because the by-now very powerful liberal left would accuse them of racism.

Then he ran for president, and a majority of Americans voted for him. He has held power for four years and has been inaugurated for four more. Yet the radical-left bomb-throwers *still* haven't stopped: racist accusations are flying and getting far worse each year!

Every week it seems, mainstream media and radical Democrats are talking about Republicans being *racist*. In almost every case, they're *lying* and they *know* they're lying. That is sick and satanic to the core!

Today we *frequently* hear racist remarks on television and radio. One black TV com-

free booklet *Ezekiel: The End-Time Prophet*.

Do we understand what is happening in America and around this Earth? And do we know why it's this way? A major part of it is because Satan has been cast down, and he's full of *wrath* because he *knows* he has only a short time. He isn't going to be able to operate very long, so he's as enraged as he could possibly be—more than he ever has been.

"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it" (John 8:44). We are seeing the work of this lying murderer at his worst!

### Same-Sex 'Marriage'

Something else Satan is viciously attacking is *family*. God created marriage and family as one of the greatest blessings we could possibly have. In fact, marriage and family resonates with awesome spiritual meaning! The human family, if practiced the right way, is a God-plane relationship. The husband-wife relationship is a prophecy of Christ marrying the Church and expanding the God Family. It pictures the gospel of God, which is about the good news of the coming Family of God!

Satan hates that. He never was offered that opportunity, and he hates God for it. He has waged a concentrated attack on family for years. But since being cast down, he has attacked in a particularly perverse way—and achieved almost unbelievable success—through same-sex "marriage."

Very rapidly, a majority of the American people seems to have come to accept this. But if you know your Bible, you know this is something God is strongly opposed to. Call it what you like, but God says it is absolute depravity. It destroys the true gospel, which is the good news of the coming Family of God!

How do people think about marriage and family after this very sinful sodomy? Does it bring them closer to God? It's going to do just the reverse.

The people who are strongly pushing this issue *demand* that our society become like Sodom and Gomorrah. *If you're not supportive of that, they say, then you don't have any love!* THEY ARE NOT REALLY INTERESTED IN SAME-SEX "MARRIAGE."

See **HIDDEN CAUSE** page 36 ➤



**The people strongly pushing same-sex "marriage" demand that our society become like Sodom and Gomorrah.**

judgment on America and the press. I've never looked back and marveled at how many people will fall for and accept, knowingly accept, a falsehood. I've never seen it before in my life."

That is because times are different! *None of us* has ever seen anything like this before—because something very powerful and absolutely massive happened to this world in 1986. We are now in the advanced stages of the aftermath of that change.

### Racism Everywhere

30

The 2008 election contest was for the most powerful office in America at a critical and dangerous

mentator on NBC said, "This is no country for young black men!" Won't that stir up hatred? That is a very ugly statement.

What will be the outcome of such racist remarks? When you accuse people of racism without any proof—which most of them don't have, they just spout out the words—you're filling your country with hatred and division that leads to civil war and violence! These commentators are either ignorant of what they are doing—OR THEY WANT A RACE WAR. I believe some of them do want a race war.

Isaiah 1:7 prophesies that CITIES IN ISRAEL ARE GOING TO BURN. Do you know what that means? You can prove it from our



# Righteousness In, Righteousness Out

As a man thinks in his heart, so is he. **BY STEPHEN FLURRY**

**I**N THE EARLY DAYS OF COMPUTER PROGRAMMING, THERE was a popular phrase, “Garbage in, garbage out”—meaning, if the programming was lousy, the computer’s output would be useless.

The human mind is a million times more sophisticated and powerful than a computer, but the same principle applies: The quality of our mental output depends on what we put *into* our minds! If we fill our minds with garbage, then that’s what we will return.

“For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he” (Proverbs 23:7). That’s one of the most profound proverbs in the Bible. As we think in our hearts, *so are we!*

Jesus expounded on this truth in Matthew 15:17-19: “Do you not yet understand that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and is eliminated? But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man. For *out of the heart* proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies” (New King James Version). We can’t fill our minds with sin and then turn around and act righteously—even though we think we can. Filling our minds with garbage hurts our character—our mannerisms, our personalities, the ways we react and behave.

Jesus also said that every tree is known by the fruit it produces. “O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things; and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things” (Matthew 12:34-35). What the mouth speaks comes straight from the heart. Evil words and actions spring from an evil heart.

But Jesus also said good things will come from our mouths *if* we take charge of our lives and control what goes in! *Righteousness in, righteousness out*, you might say.

Paul taught this in Philippians 4:8: “Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, *think on these things.*”

People sometimes wonder why they can’t get rid of sinful thoughts. It’s generally because they aren’t diligently working to *replace* those thoughts with God’s thoughts—whatsoever is true, honest, just, pure and lovely! The mind, like nature, abhors a vacuum. We have to **FILL** our minds with what Paul wrote about in Philippians 4. *Then there won’t be room for wrong thoughts.*

In 2 Peter 3:1, Peter admonished God’s people to “stir up” their pure minds by studying his epistle. Actively filling our minds with purity and holiness squeezes out impurity, wickedness and vanity.

Peter continued, “That ye may be *mindful* of the WORDS which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour” (verse 2). To meditate on God and His ways, we must regularly feed on, or study, His

inspired Word (see also John 6). Unless we are filling our minds with God’s Word every day, we can’t possibly be “mindful of the words” that the prophets, the apostles and Jesus Christ wrote!

David meditated on God’s Word “day and night” (Psalm 1:2). He didn’t confine his meditation to a simple 20-minute block of contemplative silence or a weekly stroll through the park. For David, meditating on God’s law was a **CONSTANT** process of *setting* his mind on the things of God. (Note the words “seek” and “set” in Colossians 3:1-2.)

David obeyed God’s instruction in Joshua 1:8: “This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein *day and night.*” As Psalm 119:97 proclaims, “O how love I thy law! It is my meditation all the day.”

In the Bible, *meditate* means to **THINK ABOUT**—to *consider*. Whatever fills our minds is the subject of our meditation.

David meditated on *God’s law*. This didn’t come naturally for King David. He had to work at it. In fact, because it’s so easy to think about the *wrong* things, David asked God for strength and discipline to fill his mind with the right things. “Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer,” he prayed (Psalm 19:14).

“Search me, O God,” he asked, “and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting” (Psalm 139:23-24).



The human mind is a million times more sophisticated and powerful than a computer, but the same principle applies: The quality of our mental output depends on what we put into our minds!

In the spiritual war we wage against Satan and his demon army, the front line of our battlefield is in *the mind*. This is where we engage in a life-and-death struggle to resist the devil’s powerful broadcast, the spirit of disobedience (Ephesians 2:1-2).

2 Corinthians 10:5 adds, “Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity *every* thought to the obedience of Christ.” Are we obedient to God in “all things” (2 Corinthians 2:9)—even in our thoughts? Or are we often taken captive by our own wicked, perverse reasoning?

A true Christian’s struggle against sin starts in the mind (James 1:14-15). We have to constantly guard against carnal reasoning and lustful impulses, not allowing those invading thoughts and temptations to gain a foothold in the mind.

Attack those negative thoughts with the corresponding *right* thoughts, immediately and forcefully! Overcome the evil by replacing it with the good (Romans 12:21). Put righteousness in. Then what comes out will be productive and useful!

► **SHRINKING** from page 8  
men huddling in caves of self-indulgence. Is this what feminists want?

Modern society has *smashed* the ideals it once held about *what makes a man*. In their stead, negative stereotypes and confusion remain. Sadly, men are increasingly living down to the stereotypes. Dr. Zimbardo found that nearly two thirds of men say they lack motivation because of mixed messages from media and society about a

**“For, behold, the Lord ... doth take away from Jerusalem and from Judah ... the mighty man, and the man of war, the judge, and the prophet, and the prudent, and the ancient, the captain of fifty, and the honourable man, and the counsellor, and the cunning artificer, and the eloquent orator.”** —Isaiah 3:1-3

man’s role. We are raising generations of boys who have no idea how to become men. The results of breaking down “all the old ways” have been disastrous.

These failings vividly illustrate some vital truths, plainly evident to anyone willing to look at the situation honestly.

The loss of strong manliness is a *plague* on our society. The loss of breadwinning men in favor of perpetual adolescents has produced a swarm of other problems that

result when men disengage from family and from society. Sure, women are succeeding financially and professionally—but families are fragmenting, and the nation is morally and spiritually disintegrating.

Believe it or not, this calamity was *prophesied*, in your Bible, thousands of years ago. The prophecy is in Isaiah 3:1-3, and it is primarily about the end time, in which we now live. It specifically focuses on “Jerusalem” and “Judah,” biblical lan-

guage for the modern descendants of ancient Israel, including America and Britain. And it describes exactly what we see before our eyes: nations where strong male leadership has almost **DISAPPEARED**.

This prophecy also reveals the true, *but hidden*, **CAUSE**: God has *removed* strong men as a *curse* on our nations—**BECAUSE OF OUR SINS**.

Yes, God considers the loss of masculine men a *terrible curse*.

## Why the Provider Role Is So Crucial

The Bible defines *sin* as the transgression of God’s law (1 John 3:4). His law simply codifies His way of life, which is *love* (Matthew 22:36-40; Romans 13:10; Galatians 5:14; 1 John 5:3). It means outgoing concern, giving and sharing, kindness and courtesy, putting the needs of another above your own. God’s way of life is the way of give.

The prevailing spirit of today’s society—self-indulgence, lust, greed, materialism, excess, deceit, cheating and pride—is the way of *get*, the way of *sin*. It is also the way of our human nature, the way that comes naturally to us (e.g. Mark 7:21-23; Romans 8:7-8). God’s purpose is to help us *overcome* that natural tendency, to develop righteous character, and to live His way of love that produces happiness, joy and peace.

One of the most powerful tools God created in order to teach us that way is *family*. A man learns that noble, wonderful way by absorbing himself in his God-given role within the family (sidebar: “Why Men and Women?”).

The duty of *provider* is in many ways at the heart of a man’s role (e.g. 1 Timothy 5:8). It is fundamentally a giving, sacrificing responsibility. A man must apply his strength, his capabilities and his talents to produce something of value to more than just himself. He earns enough to support

## Why Men and Women?

**I**N DISMANTLING THE TRADITIONAL WAYS OF RELATING TO ONE another as men and women, society lost more than just human traditions: We arrogantly, foolishly trashed *God’s design* in creating men and women.

The Bible clearly states that God created humankind **MALE** and **FEMALE** (Genesis 1:26-27). This was not an arbitrary decision. It was done with definite purpose.

How many understand that purpose—even those who claim to get their religion from the Bible? Can they explain Genesis 1:27? Why did God even **CREATE** the sexes?

The fact is, God is the source of everything that makes men *men* and women *women*. He designed the differences in physique, in emotions, in intellectual and psychological composition. But why?

Piece together all of the observable and scriptural evidence, and you can see unmistakably that God created these differences—physical, mental, emotional—to *establish order, structure and strength*, especially *within the family*. “But I would have you know, that the

head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God” (1 Corinthians 11:3). Non-Bible believers scoff at that scripture. “Christians”

who don’t like it find ways to make it mean something else. But godly men and women see simple logic and beauty in it.

For the sake of order and harmony, God created men to fulfill one role within the family and within society, and He created women to fill a different and beautifully complementary role.

This is the reality that God created and revealed to humankind. It is a vital key to individual, family and societal success! Understanding and wholeheartedly embracing the God-ordained roles for men and women brings satisfaction in your job and fulfillment in all your most important relationships—friends, dating, marriage, family. It brings peace to your home, and success to your dealings with members of the opposite sex.

Everybody wants that kind of life—but because of the intense assault against a reality created by God, few are willing to hear the truth about what causes these effects.



a wife and children, also stabilizing and strengthening society in the process.

Though this job requires a certain discipline and self-denial, the man who fulfills it as God intends receives tremendous satisfaction. He thrives where his strength and skill are put to productive use, where he is needed and respected, where others benefit from his accomplishment. He derives joy from being able to give to his family, to open opportunities for them, to supply their needs and many of their wants. He learns to value these things even above his own desires.

Even in a society that so routinely exalts selfishness, many people, deep down, know this to be true. They see nobility in a man who thinks this way.

### Why Men Are Weak

A man who prioritizes his own selfish cravings above the needs of others grows smaller. He enters a negative cycle that pulls him away from responsibility, away from accomplishment and achievement—away from family. He grows more inward-focused, self-absorbed, myopic, lazy, self-indulgent. His perspective contracts; the size of his world shrinks. He puts his own interests above those of his family; his wife's needs become secondary. His ability to lead suffers. In a word, he becomes less of a man.

The frustrations that so many people have over the weakness of men today all trace back to this powerful spiritual truth: **MEN ARE WEAK BECAUSE OF THEIR SIN.** The self-indulgence, the sex perversion, the focus on self rather than on sacrifice—these are *sins*. If a man succumbs to sin, he becomes weak. God removes His blessings and allows the devil to do his work.

These sins are causing the collapse of manly leadership and male responsibility. They are creating weakness, insecurity and selfishness. They are leading to the disappearance of manhood!

The disappearance of the male breadwinner directly correlates with the disappearance of the manly man. A man who has willingly abdicated the role of provider—who is content to live off the largesse of others rather than marshaling his powers to produce for others—is not a man. He should do all he can to become self-sufficient and a net producer. Only as he does so can his thoughts begin to take on the dignity of godly manhood.

The transition from boyhood to manhood is largely a transition from taking to giving. From being dependent to being a provider. From being someone for whom others make sacrifices to being one who sacrifices for others. A boy who physically grows to look like a man, but has not made that change, is not truly a man.

### The Path to True Manhood

Feminists say they want equality for women. But how many of them actually want weak men? No woman applauds a man for being addicted to video games and pornography. When revelations of a prominent man's infidelity emerge, his stature drops; he becomes a lesser man in our eyes. In our hearts we know that this signifies frailty of character.

What is honorable and worthy of admiration is the man with self-mastery, who refrains from being entrapped by such sins. We yearn for the man with self-control, with temperance, with strong moral character.

A strong man is a blessing to his wife and children. He provides more than money—he provides security, attentive engagement, successful leadership, firm guidance, emotional stability and real love.

Society still appreciates such men, yet it teaches and pressures males to do the opposite. As I told the teen boys I visited this past summer: Follow society, and women are going to pass you by. To grow into real men, you must be strong enough to follow a different way.

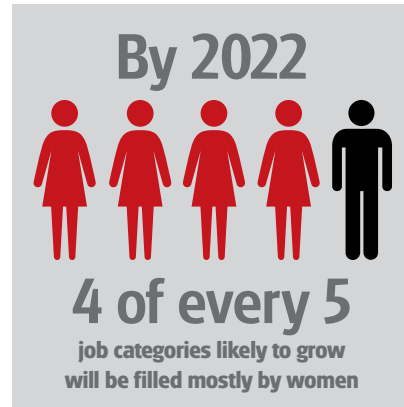
Those boys all wanted to be the leaders in their future families, and they were *also* interested in marrying intelligent, capable women. I told them that there are plenty of those women out there, but they won't want to marry uneducated, lumpish men. If a man wants a high-quality woman, there is only one way to attract her: **HE MUST BECOME A HIGH-QUALITY MAN.**

That means he must devote his full energies to swimming upstream against society. He must make it his unwavering aim to grow—against pressure—in those qualities that will arm him for the rigors of true manhood. He must eschew the pastimes

that weaken men. He must avoid the addictions that eat away at men's minds, blacken their consciences and destroy their confidence. He must stoke the flames of ambition in his life. He must aim high, and equip himself to become an able leader of a strong, capable woman.

We are living the curse of the shrinking man—its effects are everywhere. We must allow God to guide our individual lives along an entirely contrary course. We must not be swayed by the perverse reasoning of this politically correct world. We must dedicate ourselves to a higher purpose. We must allow God to shape us, to forge us into instruments strong enough to lead strong families, to give confidence to women, to give stability to children, to give solidity to society.

This is what God wants. This is how we were created. This is literally what we were born to do. Men: to grow up, achieve, mature and embrace the role that your masculine mind and body were designed for. Women: to grow up, achieve, mature and embrace the role that your feminine mind and body were designed for. This is that elusive solution—hiding in plain sight if your Bible is open—to our manless society. It's not about getting back to the traditions of yesteryear. It's about **EMBRACING HOW WE WERE CREATED.** Discover that, live that, and you will be embarking on a life journey that no feminist, manboy, sociologist or author can even dream of: a life full of growth, challenge, fulfillment, confidence and happiness built on knowing what it really means to be a woman, and what it really means to be a man. ■



### What does it mean to be a real man?

Men are obviously different than women. Less obvious is *why* men are different than women. God made men for a reason and a purpose. Learn that purpose and meaning by requesting our free reprint article "**Manhood 101.**"





## DISCUSSION BOARD

### Never forget the agony

My grandfather committed suicide when I was in high school and I will never forget the agony my father went through looking for answers and never finding any (“The Truth About Suicide,” February). My whole family was in shock and couldn’t understand why this gentle, loving man would end his life. It took years for my father to finally let it go and it affected my whole family for many years. We worried about my father when my mother died many years later; we were afraid he would commit suicide, and we hid pills and other things just to protect him. I agree suicide causes more anguish and leaves behind so many unanswered questions. This was an excellent article.

*T. Johnson—COLORADO*

Knowing the pain and suffering that the act of suicide inflicts on those left behind, especially loved ones, it should make anyone with half a heart stop in their tracks and think about what they’re about to do. Those who might be thinking about suicide should consider deeply the pain they are about to inflict on those left behind. Thank you for reminding us of the hope of imparting life to the billions of lifeless planets in this universe, as Mr. Armstrong spoke about in *The Incredible Human Potential*. How could anyone help God do that if they take their own life?

*Ross Freeman—ARIZONA*

### A plate full of medications

Fear is the overriding theme in today’s ideology in tv, and it leaks into our everyday lives (“You Can Overcome Fear,” February). It seems as though the majority of kids are growing up and taking prescribed drugs to curb the dementia or whatever stigma is inherently attached to the child at birth. The kids of today brag about their disabilities and their plate full of medications. The greater the mental sickness the greater the bragging rights. My generation wasn’t much better in respect to the drugs. Our fathers had a much different attitude growing up. They never



bragged about any kind of weakness or fear. They bragged to each other about their strengths and what they accomplished. Weakness and sickness was something to hide. This is why they were part of the “Greatest Generation.” Their moral compass was on track, or at least facing in a much better direction than the current generation.

*Paul Holshue*

### Frank, factual—no confusion

I love how the article is organized in a frank, factual manner with lots of scriptural references so we know what God’s real view on the issue is (“Do You Know the Truth About the Trinity?” February). I grew up in a Protestant Church that had Sunday school every week. And every time the topic would go to the trinity, it would be so confusing and mysterious. But God isn’t a God of confusion. God speed the day when everyone will be able to live without lies and deception.

*Heidi Rodis—PHILIPPINES*

### Best investment is God

I can attest to a relationship with God being the greatest investment (“Time to Buy Gold?” February). I own a small business. In 2009, I made around \$12,000. That same year I decided to invest my time and priorities into developing a solid relationship with God, *and obeying Him in all things*. In 2010, I made \$65,000, in 2011 I made \$95,000, and this year I made \$120,000 post-tax! Point being, God blesses obedience, and many times that will come in the form of physical blessings. I’ve learned that my best investment isn’t stocks or mutual funds, or even gold—our best investment is God.

*Michael S.*

### Mayans and Nostradamus or the Bible?

This world talks about crazy predictions allegedly made by the Mayans and Nostradamus, but no one is talking about the sure prophecies of the Bible except the Philadelphia Church of God.

*J.V. Morana*

### The escape never lasts

I had a longtime problem with marijuana (“What’s Wrong with Marijuana?” February). Most of what this article attests

to I am a firsthand witness of. I remember the anxiety and the panic attacks. The good times spent with friends while using were overshadowed by the bad. The escape never lasted. You always woke up in the same prison. That’s exactly what it is—imprisonment—and Satan is the jailer. I was able to quit this addictive habit. It wasn’t easy to quit. The first year without was rough. It has been almost 10 years now since I had any of this destructive drug. Every year without, I celebrate a little more. Thank God for this incredible miracle! I actually thought it was impossible to quit. Thank you, Father.

*Joey*

## theTrumpet.com MOST POPULAR FEATURES OF 2012

### The Mighty Mississippi to Run Dry?

If the world’s largest navigable river system goes dry, the economic consequences will be felt around the world.

[thetrumpet.com/go/9694](http://thetrumpet.com/go/9694)



### The ‘German Shepherd’ Shows His Teeth

Silencing dissenting priests, clamping down on errant nuns—Pope Benedict xvi is pointing the way forward for the Roman Catholic Church. [thetrumpet.com/go/9439](http://thetrumpet.com/go/9439)



### Sandy’s Destruction: What Nobody Is Talking About (Video)

[thetrumpet.com/go/10008](http://thetrumpet.com/go/10008)



### LIBOR: The Biggest Con in Financial History

Could a lie destroy the Western world’s financial system? [thetrumpet.com/go/9628](http://thetrumpet.com/go/9628)



### Iran and the ‘End of Days’

There’s infinitely more at stake in the Middle East than oil and geopolitics. [thetrumpet.com/go/9639](http://thetrumpet.com/go/9639)



# How to Prevent Another Sandy Hook Massacre

Gun control is a false dilemma, but there is a real solution. **BY ROBERT MORLEY**

**T**HE UNIMAGINABLE SCENE SCREAMS FOR ANSWERS: TWENTY children and six adults lying murdered in an elementary school.

The National Rifle Association demands one solution: Place an armed guard at every American school. Cost: \$6.7 billion.

A strong liberal movement demands another solution: Out-law assault weapons. Cost: A dramatic expansion in government power.

We've seen it all too often: A massacre takes place; politicians project indignation; they enact new laws—and little really changes. Last year 32,000 Americans died in front of the barrel of a gun. A little more than half were suicides. Tens of thousands more were shot, but lived.

Many Americans shout for more guns. Many Americans shout for fewer. And a lot of us are looking at this and realizing that the problem is so, so much deeper.

There is a real, practical solution to gun violence—to *all* violence—but we *continue to ignore it* while we bicker over this weapons-ban debate.

If America really wants to keep our children—all of them—safe from harm, we need a totally different debate. If we are honest with ourselves, we should realize that the *cause* of violence goes far deeper than whether people should be able to own guns, or what types of guns those should be.

The real debate shouldn't be how many bullets we put into a clip—but what we put into our minds. Has anybody noticed our violent entertainment culture? How is there even a market for horror movies? *Texas Chainsaw Massacre 3D* debuted at number one at the box office in January! It displaced *Django Unchained* and *The Hobbit*—two other incredibly violent movies. Why do millions of us want to experience the horror of a person being savaged by a chainsaw in 3D Technicolor and THX sound? Can we have *that* conversation? Can we talk about the popularity of blood-and-gore-filled video games that millions of children and teenagers play? A youth, or an adult, cannot immerse his mind in this nightmarish filth without being affected. Where is the public outcry and political rage over our violent entertainment industry? Where is that debate?

And why are we ignoring the mental health/psychosis drug debate? So many killers are on prescription drugs. Sandy Hook butcher Adam Lanza was receiving treatment and taking medication for mental health problems. The Aurora, Colorado, killer was seeing a psychiatrist and took Vicodin before he went on his killing spree. Columbine mass-murderer Eric Harris was taking anti-depressant Luvox. The Virginia Tech murderer's personal possessions included prescription medication for the treatment of psychological problems.

More than one in 10 Americans take anti-depressants. Almost 4 percent of adolescents take these medications. Abilify and Seroquel, two powerful antipsychotics, are the fifth and sixth best-selling prescription drugs in the United States. These are horribly high and condemning numbers. Numerous mental health experts believe that mood-altering drugs are likely a significant factor in school shootings and other gun violence, yet America's leaders hardly raise an outcry. Why aren't we discussing whether this drug-injection style of treatment is a failed system? Why aren't we asking why so many people need mental treatment in the first place?

The biggest scandal of all this, though, is America's culture of broken families. According to a 1991 study, more than seven in ten prisoners come from broken families. Many others grew up in dysfunctional homes. Today, 40 percent of all American infants are born to single parents. America's violent cities contain far higher single parenthood rates. In Detroit, 70 percent of all births are to single parents. More Americans were killed in Detroit last year than in Afghanistan.

Do we *truly* want to do *everything we can* to give all children of this country the chance

they deserve to live out their lives in happiness and with purpose? Then instead of putting an armed guard in every school, let's work toward ensuring there's a strong father in every home. Instead of accepting occasional massacres as the price we pay for the luxury of easy divorces and other "freedoms," let's demand selfless fathers and mothers as the price for lasting families and safe schools. Instead of focusing on the aftermaths, let's confront the CAUSES.

The real issue we need to address isn't gun control, it is *character control*. The truth is that we need to fix our depraved culture—and there is only one way to do that. America needs to turn to God in deep repentance, and that *repentance requires actual change!*

But don't expect any politician to tell you that. Instead, America will keep doing what it is doing, and keep getting what it is getting: more political task forces on gun violence, another political gunfight, and sadly, more school shootings.

If we really want to keep our children safe from harm, America needs to take a long look in the mirror. It needs to end its collective fetish of constantly making new laws and regulations, and instead actually start keeping the *higher laws that mankind was given from the beginning*. If we are *really* honest with ourselves, if we *really* care about stopping the next Sandy Hook, we have to admit that this is the *only way* guaranteed to prevent more school shootings. And it is the only way to bring real, lasting, hope-filled change to America. ■



➤ **HIDDEN CAUSE** from page 30

THEY WANT TO UNDERMINE FAMILY AS GOD CREATED IT! They would *destroy* any right family that will teach a little girl or boy about God! They hate that! They *hate* what God is doing.

Who is really behind that? Satan knows he has but a short time, so he is going all out, in every way he can, to throttle anybody who would dare do things the lawful way. If you don't believe that, you don't understand Revelation 12:12. Satan cast the truth to the ground in God's Church, and he's casting the truth about family—what truth Israel has left—to the ground.

What are "Christians"—those who are supposed to follow Christ—doing about it? Very little. Many of them are actually supporting Sodom and Gomorrah!

**Revelation 12**

What is happening to America's leadership, its domestic and foreign policy is not just a quirk of history. The fact that Americans have cast the Constitution to the ground and are encouraging lawlessness in their marriages, in their government and in their policy toward other nations has a very definite CAUSE. Most of it traces back to *Satan having been cast down*.

Now all those millions of demons and Satan the devil are confined to this Earth. That is making an *astounding, dumbfounding* difference in what's happening on Earth. If we *believe* God and know this is true, what is happening as a result of it? We saw what happened to God's Church, and we're seeing what's happening to three nations of Israel in particular, three of those 12 stars (Revelation 12:1).

All of mankind must become a part of Israel to be saved.

God will abase the nations of Israel until they wake up and see their own sins and what is happening to them and how vulnerable they are to Satan the devil.

Many people *scoff* about there even *being* a devil—while he's tearing them apart! They don't understand anything about God, nor do they know the devil. Until they do, the problems will only intensify and get worse and worse.

Satan's growing wrath against the nations of Israel as his time grows shorter will climax in the worst suffering in human history—what the Bible calls the Great Tribulation. After 2½ years will begin the Day of the Lord, a full year of God's punishment on the nations. Then at last will come the Second Coming of Jesus Christ to solve *all* these problems *forever!* Once He banishes the devil and takes His rightful place on the throne over the Earth, we will have joy and happiness and peace for the rest of eternity!

Thank God for that!

**What Satan doesn't want you to know**

Most people scoff at the idea of a devil. The truth is that is exactly how Satan wants the world to think. Satan is a mystery to the world, and that is how he likes it. But he doesn't have to be a mystery to you. This is one of the seven great mysteries of life revealed in our free book *Mystery of the Ages*. Request a copy and find out what the Bible has to say about Satan the devil. In addition, request or download our free reprint article "Satan Cast Down." [www.thetrumpet.com/literature/543/satan-cast-down](http://www.thetrumpet.com/literature/543/satan-cast-down)



# THE KEY OF DAVID

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

**UNITED STATES**

**Nationwide Satellite**

Galaxy 3 Trans. 21 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu  
Galaxy 5 Trans. 7 8:00 ET

**Direct TV**

CW Plus, Chan. 34, 9:30 ET/PT, Sun  
Discovery, Chan. 278, 6:30 ET/PT, Sun  
ION, Chan. 305, 6:00 ET, Fri  
WGN, Chan. 307, 8:00 ET, Sun

**Dish Network**

Discovery, Chan. 182, 6:30 ET/PT, Sun  
ION, Chan. 216, 6:00 ET, Fri  
WGN, Chan. 239, 8:00 ET, Sun

**Nationwide Cable**

CW Plus, 9:30 ET/PT, Sun  
Discovery, 6:30 ET/PT, Sun  
ION, 6:00 ET, Fri  
WGN, 8:00 ET, Sun

**Alabama, Birmingham** WPMX 5:00, Fri

**Dothan** WTVY-DT 8:30, Sun

**Montgomery** WBMM/WBMM-DT 8:30, Sun

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

**Fairbanks** KATN-DT 8:30, Sun

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

**Arizona, Phoenix** KPPX 5:00, Fri

**Yuma-El Centro** KSWT-DT 9:30, Sun

**Arkansas, Fayetteville** KWFT 8:30, Sun

**Fort Smith** KCWA 8:30, Sun

**Jonesboro** KJOS 8:30, Sun

**Rogers** KWFT 8:30, Sun

**Springdale** KWFT 8:30, Sun

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

**Chico** KHSL-DT 9:30, Sun; KRCR 9:00, Sun

**El Centro** KWUB 9:30, Sun

**Eureka** KUVU-DT 9:30, Sun

**Los Angeles** KPXN 6:00, Fri; TVCLT-Bilingual, 7:30 Sun

**Monterey** KMWB 9:30, Sun

**Palm Springs** KESQ/KCWQ-DT 9:30, Sun

**Redding** KHSL-DT 9:30, Sun; KRCR 9:00, Sun

**Sacramento** KSPX 6:00, Fri; TVCLT-Bilingual, 7:30 Sun

**Salinas** KION 9:30, Sun

**San Diego** TVCLT-Bilingual, 7:30 Sun

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

**Santa Barbara** KSBY-DT 9:30, Sun

**Sun City/Menifee** TVCLT-Bilingual, 7:30 Sun

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

**Grand Junction** KCJT 8:30, Sun

**Montrose** KKCO-DT 10:30, Sun

**Connecticut, Hartford** WHPX 6:00, Fri

**Delaware, Dover** WBD 9:30, Sun

**Salisbury** WMDT-DT 9:30, Sun

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

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

**Miami** WPXM 6:00, Fri

**Orlando** WOPX 6:00, Fri

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

**Tallahassee** WTXL 7:30, Sun

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

**Tampa** WXPX 6:00, Fri; WTTA 8:30 am, Sun

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

**Georgia, Albany** WBSK 9:30, Sun

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

**Brunswick** WPXC 6:00, Fri

**Columbus** WLGA 9:30, Sun

**Macon** WBMN 9:30, Sun

**Savannah** WGSA/WGCW-LP 9:30, Sun

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

Sun; 8:30, Wed

**Kauai Ho'ike** Chan. 52 9:30, Tue

**Maui/Lanai/Molokai/Niihau/Akaka**

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

**Oahu** Focus Chan. 49 7:00 am Sat (Olelo)

Chan. 27 5:00 am, Fri KPXO

Chan. 333 3:30 am, Sun The Discovery Channel

**Idaho, Idaho Falls** KPFI/KBEO 10:30, Sun

**Pocatello** KPFI 10:30, Sun

**Twin Falls** KMVT-DT/KTWT-LP 10:30, Sun

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

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

9:30, Sun; WCPX 5:00, Fri

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

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

**Indiana, Fort Wayne** WPTA-DT 12.1

9:30, Sun

**Indianaapolis** WIPX 6:00, Fri

**Terre Haute** WBI 8:30, Sun

**Iowa, Austin** KTTC-DT 8:30, Sun

**Cedar Rapids** KPXR 5:00, Fri

**Des Moines** KPFX 5:00, Fri

**Keokuk** WEWB 8:30, Sun

**Kirkville** KWOT 8:30, Sun

**Mason City** KTTC-DT 8:30, Sun

**Ottumwa** KWOT 8:30, Sun

**Sioux City** KTIV-DT 8:30, Sun

**Kansas, Topeka** KSNT 8:30, Sun

**Kentucky, Bowling Green** WBKO 8:30, Sun

**Lexington** WUPX 6:00, Fri

**Louisiana, Alexandria** KBCA 8:30, Sun

**El Dorado-Monroe** KNOE-DT 8:30, Sun

**Lafayette** KLWB 8:30, Sun

**Lake Charles** WBLC 8:30, Sun

**New Orleans** WPXL 5:00, Fri

**Maine, Bangor** WABI-DT 9:30, Sun

**Presque Isle** WBPO 9:30, Sun

**Maryland, Salisbury** WBD 9:30, Sun

**Massachusetts, Holyoke** WBOT 9:30, Sun

**Springfield** WBQT 9:30, Sun

**Michigan, Alpena** WBAE 9:30, Sun

**Cadillac** WGTU/WGTQ 9:30, Sun

**Detroit** WPXD 6:00, Fri; WADL 10:00, Sun

**Grand Rapids** WZPX 5:00, Fri

**Lansing** WLAJ-DT 9:30, Sun

**Marquette** WBKP 9:30, Sun

**Traverse City-Cadillac** WGTU-DT/

WGTQ-DT 9:30, Sun

**Minnesota, Duluth-Superior** WDLH

8:30, Sun

**Mankato** KWYE 8:30, Sun

**Minneapolis** KPXM 5:00, Fri

**Rochester-Austin** KTTC-DC 8:30, Sun

**Sioux Fall (Mitchell)** KWSW/KSWD-DT

8:30, Sun

**Mississippi, Biloxi** WBGP 8:30, Sun

**Columbus** WCBI-DT 8:30, Sun

**Greenville** WBWD 8:30, Sun

**Greenwood** WBWD 8:30, Sun

**Gulfport** WBGP 8:30, Sun

**Hattiesburg** WBH 8:30, Sun

**Laurel** WBH 8:30, Sun

**Meridian** WTOK-DT 8:30, Sun

**Tupelo** WCBI-DT 8:30, Sun

**West Point** WCBI-DT 8:30, Sun

**Missouri, Columbia** KOMU-DT 8:30, Sun

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

**Jefferson City** KOMU-DT 8:30, Sun

**Joplin-Pittsburg** KSXF 8:30, Sun



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



**Kansas City** KPXE 5:00, Fri  
**Quincy-Keokuk** WGEM-DT 8:30, Sun  
**St. Joseph** WBJO 8:30, Sun  
**Montana, Billings** KTVO-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Bozeman-Butte** KBZK-DT/KXLF-DT 10:30, Sun  
**Glendive** KWZB 10:30, Sun  
**Great Falls** KRTV-DT 10:30, Sun  
**Helena** KMTF-DT 10:30, Sun  
**Missoula** KPAX-DT 10:30, Sun  
**Nebraska, Lincoln-Hastings** KCWL-TV 8:30, Sun  
**Kearney** KCWL-TV 8:30, Sun  
**North Platte** KWPL 8:30, Sun  
**Scottsbluff** KCHW 10:30, Sun  
**Nevada, Reno** KREN/KREN-DT 9:30, Sun  
**New York, Albany** WYPX 6:00, Fri  
**Binghamton** WBXI 9:30, Sun  
**Buffalo** WPXI 6:00, Fri; WUTV 10:00, Sun  
**Elmira** WBE 9:30, Sun  
**New York City** TVCLT-Bilingual, 10:30 Sun WPXN 6:00, Fri  
**Rochester** WUHF 8:30, Sun  
**Syracuse** WSPX 6:00, Fri  
**Utica** WBU 9:30, Sun  
**Watertown** WWTI-DT 9:30, Sun  
**North Carolina, Durham** WRPX 6:00, Fri; 9:00 am, Sun  
**Fayetteville** WFPX 6:00, Fri  
**Greensboro** WGPX 6:00, Fri  
**Greenville** WEPX 6:00, Fri; WNCT-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Lumber Bridge** WFPX 6:00, Fri  
**New Bern** WNCT-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Raleigh** WRPX 6:00, Fri; 9:00 am, Sun  
**Washington** WNCT-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Wilmington** WBW 9:30, Sun  
**North Dakota, Bismarck** KWMK 10:30, Sun  
**Dickinson** KWMK 10:30, Sun  
**Fargo** WDAY-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Minot** KWMK 10:30, Sun  
**Valley City** WDAY-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Ohio, Cleveland** WWPX 6:00, Fri  
**Cincinnati** WSTR 8:30, Sun  
**Lima** WLIO-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Stuebenville** WBWO 9:30, Sun  
**Zanesville** WBZV 9:30, Sun  
**Oklahoma, Ada** KSHD 8:30, Sun  
**Lawton** KAUZ 8:30, Sun  
**Oklahoma City** KOPX 5:00, Fri  
**Tulsa** KTPX 5:00, Fri  
**Oregon, Bend** KTVZ-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Klamath Falls** KMFD 9:30, Sun  
**Medford** KMFD 9:30, Sun  
**Portland** KPXG 6:00, Fri

**Pennsylvania, Erie** WBEP 9:30, Sun  
**Philadelphia** WPPX 6:00, Fri  
**Wilkes Barre** WQPX 6:00, Fri  
**Rhode Island, Providence** WPXQ 6:00, Fri  
**South Carolina, Charleston** WCBD-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Florence** WWMB/WWMB-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Myrtle Beach** WWMB/WWMB-DT 9:30, Sun  
**South Dakota, Mitchell** KWSD 8:30, Sun  
**Rapid City** KWBH-LP 10:30, Sun  
**Sioux Falls** KWSD 8:30, Sun  
**Tennessee, Jackson** WBJK 8:30, Sun  
**Knoxville** WPXK 6:00, Fri  
**Memphis** WPXX 5:00, Fri  
**Nashville** WNPX 5:00, Fri  
**Texas, Abilene** KTWS-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Amarillo** KVII-DT/KVIH/KVII-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Beaumont** KFDM-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Brownsville** KSFE-LP/KTIZ-LP 8:30, Sun  
**Corpus Christi** KRIS-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Dallas** TVCLT-Bilingual, 9:30 Sun  
**Harlingen** KSFE-LP/KTIZ-LP 8:30, Sun  
**Houston** KPXB 5:00, Fri  
**Laredo** KTXW 8:30, Sun  
**Longview** KCEB 8:30, Sun  
**Lubbock** KLCW 8:30, Sun  
**Midland** KWWT 8:30, Sun  
**Odessa** KWWT 8:30, Sun  
**Port Arthur** KFDM 8:30, Sun  
**San Angelo** KWSA 8:30, Sun  
**San Antonio** KPXL 5:00, Fri  
**Sherman-Ada** KTEN-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Sweetwater** KTWS-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Tyler** KCEB 8:30, Sun  
**Victoria** KWVB 8:30, Sun  
**Weslaco** KSFE-LP/KTIZ-LP 8:30, Sun  
**Wichita Falls** KAUZ-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Utah, Salt Lake City** KUPX 5:00, Fri  
**Vermont, Burlington** WVNY 10:00, Sun  
**Virginia, Charlottesville** WVIR-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Harrisonburg** WVIR-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Norfolk** WPXV 6:00, Fri  
**Roanoke** WPXR 6:00, Fri  
**Washington D.C.** WDCW 8:00, Sun; WPXW 6:00, Fri  
**Washington, Kennewick** KCWK 9:30, Sun; KIMA-DT2 9:30, Sun  
**Pasco** KEPR 6:30, Sun; KIMA-DT2 9:30, Sun  
**Richland** KCWK 9:30, Sun; KIMA-DT2 9:30, Sun  
**Seattle-Tacoma** KWPX 6:00, Fri  
**Seattle** KCQO 7:00, Sun  
**Spokane** KGPX 6:00, Fri; KAYU 7:30, Sun  
**Yakima** KIMA-DT2 9:30, Sun

**West Virginia, Beckley** KVVA-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Bluefield** KVVA-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Charleston** WLPX 6:00, Fri  
**Clarksburg** WVPX-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Oak Hill** KVVA-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Parkersburg** WBPB 9:30, Sun  
**Weston** WVPX-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Wheeling** WBWO 9:30, Sun  
**Wisconsin, Eau Claire** WQOW-DT/WXOW-DT 8:30, Sun  
**La Crosse** WQOW/WXOW 8:30, Sun  
**Milwaukee** WPXE 5:00, Fri  
**Rhineland** WAOW/WYOW 8:30, Sun  
**Wausau** WAOW-DT/WYOW-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Wyoming, Casper** 10:30, Sun  
**Cheyenne** KCHW 10:30, Sun  
**Riverton** 10:30, Sun

## CANADA

**Nationwide satellite**  
 Galaxy 3 Trans. 21 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu  
 Galaxy 5 Trans. 7:00 ET, Sun  
**Nationwide cable**  
 WGN 8:00 ET, Sun  
 Vision TV 4:30 pm ET, Sun  
 CHCH 11:30 ET, Sun  
 Grace Television Network 11:00 ET, Sun  
**Alberta, Red Deer** KAYU 8:30, Sun  
**Calgary** KAYU 8:30, Sun  
**Edmonton** KAYU 8:30, Sun  
**Medicine Hat** KAYU 8:30, Sun  
**Lethbridge** KAYU 8:30, Sun  
**British Columbia, Vancouver**  
 KVOS 8:30, Sun; CHEK 9:00 Sun;  
 CHNU 5:30 pm, Sun  
**Victoria** CHNU 5:30 pm, Sun  
**Maritime Provinces** CIHF 7:30, Sun  
**Manitoba, Winnipeg** WUHF 8:30, Sun;  
 CIIT Joy TV 11:00, Sun  
**Nova Scotia, Halifax** WUHF 8:30, Sun  
**Sydney** WUHF 8:30, Sun  
**Ontario, Toronto**  
 WADL 10:00 Sun; CHNU 8:30 pm, Sun;  
 WUTV 10:00, Sun  
**P.E.I., Charlottetown** WUHF 8:30, Sun  
**Quebec, Montreal** WVNY 10:00, Sun  
**Saskatchewan, Saskatoon** WUHF 8:30, Sun

## CARIBBEAN

**Regional satellite**  
 Galaxy 3 Trans. 21 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu  
 Galaxy 5 Trans. 7:00 ET, Sun  
**Aruba** WGN 8:00, Sun  
**Bahamas** WGN 8:00, Sun

**Belize** WGN 7:00, Sun  
**Cuba** WGN 8:00, Sun  
**Dominican Republic** WGN 8:00, Sun  
**Haiti** WGN 7:00, Sun  
**Jamaica** WGN 9:00, Sun  
**Puerto Rico** WGN 8:00, Sun  
**Trinidad and Tobago** WGN 8:00, Sun

## EUROPE/MIDDLE EAST

**Pan-European satellite** Astra 1L (free to air) 19.2°E transponder 26 11.597V 220000 (DVB); Astra 1KR 19.2°E transponder 50 10.729V (analogue) 11 Central European Time, Sun  
**Belgium** TV Vlaanderen channel 62 11:00, Sun  
**Germany** KDG channel 840 11:00, Sun; TalkTalk TV channel 510 11:00, Sun  
**Ireland** Sky channel 505 10:00, Sun; UPC channel 204; 10:00, Sun  
**Italy** Sky Italia channel 518 11:00, Sun; Tiscali TV channel 518 11:00, Sun  
**Mediterranean**  
 Eurobird 11261 H 232516 E-FTA 11:00 am Central European Time  
**Middle East** Eurobird 11261 H 232516 E-FTA 11:00 Central European Time, Sun  
**Netherlands** Ziggo channel 505 11:00, Sun  
**Poland** Cyfra+ channel 105 11:00, Sun  
**Portugal** ZonTV Cabo channel 210 11:00 Central European Time, Sun  
**Romania** UPC channel 146 12:00 am, Sun  
**Spain** Hispstat 1.092V 11:00, Sun  
**Switzerland** Nakoo channel 63; Cablecom channel 151 11:00, Sun  
**United Kingdom** Sky: Channel 505 10:00, Sun; Freestat channel 210 10:00, Sun; Virgin Media channel 613 10:00, Sun

## LATIN AMERICA

**Regional satellite** Galaxy 3 Trans. 21 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu  
**El Salvador** WGN 6:00, Sun  
**Guatemala** WGN 6:00, Sun  
**Honduras** WGN 6:00, Sun  
**Mexico** TVCLT-Bilingual, 7:30 Sun; WGN 7:00, Sun  
**Panama** WGN 7:00, Sun

## AUSTRALASIA

**Australia, Adelaide** TV44 9:00, 9:30 CST, Sun; 11:30 CST, Mon-Sat; Network 7, 5:30, Sun  
**Philippines** TV4 9:30 PHT, Sun

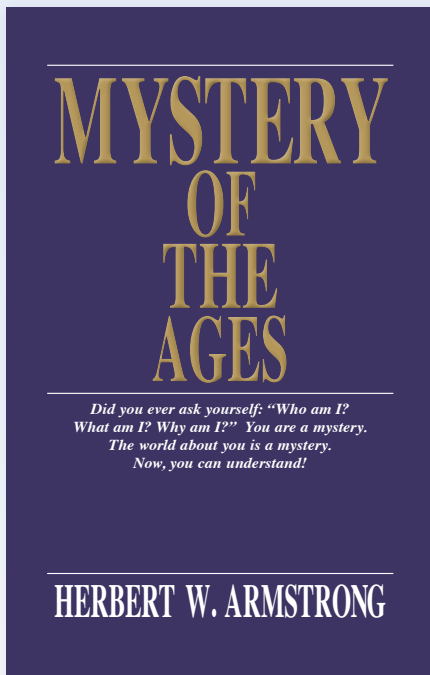
For a free subscription to **The Philadelphia Trumpet** in the U.S. and Canada, call 1-800-772-8577

**STAFF** Publisher and Editor in Chief Gerald Flurry Executive Editor Stephen Flurry News Editor Ron Fraser Managing Editor Joel Hilliker Contributing Editors Brad Macdonald, Dennis Leap, Robert Morley, Jeremiah Jacques Associate Editors Donna Fraser, Philip Nice Designer Steve Hercus Contributors Richard Palmer, David Vejlil Image Researcher Aubrey Mercado Production Assistant Deepika Azariah Circulation Paulette Corey International Editions Wik Heerma French, Italian Deryle Hope German Hans Schmidl Spanish Carlos Heyer

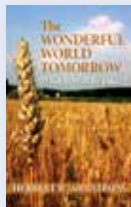
**THE PHILADELPHIA TRUMPET** (ISSN 10706348) is published monthly (except bimonthly May-June and October-November issues) by the Philadelphia Church of God, 14400 S. Bryant Ave, Edmond, OK 73034. Periodicals postage paid at Edmond, OK, and additional mailing offices. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to: THE PHILADELPHIA TRUMPET, P.O. Box 3700, Edmond, OK 73083. ©2013 Philadelphia Church of God. All rights reserved. PRINTED IN THE U.S.A. Unless otherwise noted, scriptures are quoted from the King James Version of the Holy Bible. **U.S. HOW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION HAS BEEN PAID:** The *Trumpet* has no subscription price—it is free. This is made possible by the tithes and offerings of the membership of the Philadelphia Church of God and others. Contributions are welcomed, however, and are tax-deductible in the United States, Canada and New Zealand. Those who wish to voluntarily support this worldwide work of God are gladly welcomed as co-workers.

**CONTACT US** Please notify us of any change in your address; include your old mailing label and the new address. The publishers assume no responsibility for return of unsolicited artwork, photographs or manuscripts. The editor reserves the right to use any letters, in whole or in part, as he deems in the public interest, and to edit any letter for clarity or space. **WEBSITE** [www.theTrumpet.com](http://www.theTrumpet.com) **E-MAIL** [letters@theTrumpet.com](mailto:letters@theTrumpet.com); subscription or literature requests [request@theTrumpet.com](mailto:request@theTrumpet.com) **PHONE** U.S., Canada: 1-800-772-8577; Australia: 1-800-22-333-0; New Zealand: 0-800-500-512. **MAIL** Contributions, letters or requests may be sent to our office nearest you: **United States** P.O. Box 3700, Edmond, OK 73083 **Canada** P.O. Box 400, Campbellville, ON L0P 1B0 **Caribbean** P.O. Box 2237, Chaguuanas, Trinidad, w.i. **Britain, Europe, Middle East** P.O. Box 900, Northampton, NN5 9AL, England **Africa** P.O. Box 2969, Durbanville, 7551, South Africa **Australia, Pacific Isles, India, Sri Lanka** P.O. Box 375, Narellan, NSW 2567, Australia **New Zealand** P.O. Box 6088, Glenview, Hamilton, 3246 **Philippines** P.O. Box 52143, Angeles City Post Office, 2009 Pampanga **Latin America** Attn: Spanish Department, P.O. Box 3700, Edmond, OK 73083, U.S.

# LEARN MORE!



The Hidden Cause of Society's  
Deadly Decline **Page 36**



The 'Someday' of  
Solar Power  
**Page 3**



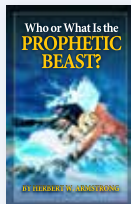
A Bigger Pastime  
Than Sports  
**Page 1**



Besieged in  
Thy Gates  
**Page 15**



The Incredible  
Shrinking Man  
**Page 33**



A Job for  
Europe's Youth  
**Page 25**



Rise of the Hawks  
**Page 23**

**DOWNLOAD**  
YOUR LITERATURE NOW!



[www.theTrumpet.com/library](http://www.theTrumpet.com/library)

**ORDER** YOUR **FREE**  
HARD COPY!



**ONLINE** [www.theTrumpet.com/library](http://www.theTrumpet.com/library)



**E-MAIL** [request@theTrumpet.com](mailto:request@theTrumpet.com)



**CALL** 1-800-772-8577 (toll-free)



**MAIL** THE TRUMPET | P.O. BOX 3700 | EDMOND, OK 73034