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The most shameful phone call in American history

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For President Obama to be chasing after Hasan Rouhani doesn't even make sense.

But it is worse than that:

In diplomatic language it degrades the American president's office and sends a message of disgraceful weakness.

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The Most Shameful Phone Call in American History

America's weak response to crises in Syria and Iran has left the nation's credibility in tatters. We need to understand the real danger of this moment!

HE WAY AMERICA HAS HANDLED RECENT EVENTS IN THE Middle East is deeply revealing—far more than most people realize.

America is becoming a spectacle for the world to see, and not just because of the government shutdown and the political theater over the debt ceiling and Obamacare. The way this nation is managing its responsibilities worldwide is really about the DEATH OF A SUPERPOWER, the *end of an era*, and the dawn of an extremely dangerous time!

Few people recognize the real cause behind the world problems we see today. Even fewer recognize where events are leading and what is about to happen.



FROM THE EDITOR
GERALD FLURRY

America, in particular, is distracted and caught up in other "news." Why are we so into our sports and Hollywood entertainment, when world-shattering crises are exploding in the Middle East and elsewhere?

You need to understand what is going on and why.

The Syria Debacle

The war in Syria has been grinding on for over 2½ years. More than 120,000 Syr-

ians have been killed. This past summer, intelligence sources reported that Bashar Assad used chemical weapons on his own people. Finally President Obama decided it was time to act, and he threatened to attack.

Then something astonishing happened. The president had second thoughts and pulled back. And *Russia's* president, Vladimir Putin, stepped in and presented himself as THE GREAT PEACEMAKER OF OUR TIME.

This man has done more to keep Bashar Assad in power in Syria than any other leader in the world. Russian weapons have probably been the *main factor* preserving Assad's rule! Putin's backing of the Syrian regime is a major reason Assad has been so willing to slaughter his opposition by the tens of thousands. In addition, Putin wants to restrict America's power in the Middle East—and everywhere else—and to strengthen his own.

When it appeared America might attack Syria, Vladimir Putin put the brakes on—by offering up a sham proposal to secure Syria's chemical weapons. He even wrote an article that the oncegreat New York Times shamefully published in its op-ed pages that was full of smooth-sounding hokum: Like it or not, we must uphold international law; we must stop resorting to force; we need civilized diplomatic and political settlement and so on.

What a farce! This is the man who invaded Georgia just five years ago (without UN permission). The man who has ordered the elimination of tens of thousands of Chechens. The man who has openly supported Iran despite its sponsoring terrorism. He used to be an officer of the Soviet secret police. He is a great admirer of Stalin—who killed more of his own people than Adolf Hitler did!

But what did President Obama do? *He accepted Putin's offer.* He played along, pretending like this was the peaceful, negotiated solution he wanted. He even *took credit* for it, saying it was America's pressure that convinced Assad to give in.

Now Putin is conducting the *peace process* of all things! The Obama administration is trusting *this man* to put Assad's weapons of mass destruction under international control and to guarantee Assad can no longer terrorize his people.

Charles Krauthammer called this the WORST FAILURE EVER in U.S. foreign policy. *Commentary* magazine labeled President Obama's flip-flopping on Syria a "debacle," and said it showed "staggering incompetence" by the White House.

The whole spectacle was an embarrassment for the United States on a massive scale. But very few of our people see the deadly consequences.

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What About the Chemical Weapons?

While all this phoniness was going on, what was Assad doing? The *Wall Street Journal* reported on September 12 that a "secretive Syrian military unit at the center of the Assad regime's chemical weapons program has been *moving stocks of poison gases and munitions* to as many as 50 sites" (emphasis mine throughout).

Naturally, with all the talk and the warnings to Syria that inspections were coming, the Assad regime just *moved the weapons* so nobody can find them. Maybe

The evidence is everywhere that America is dealing with an enemy in Russia. But everything the U.S. is doing is playing perfectly into Russia's hands—and Iran's.

the United Nations and the U.S. knew where those chemicals were, but they probably don't know anymore.

Then, the *day after* the *Journal* ran its front-page article about the Syrians shielding their weapons arsenal, Secretary of State John Kerry made the deal with Russia to have Vladimir Putin oversee confiscating Syria's weapons of mass destruction!

This passes for a "solution" in this mad, mad world. Even a child can see the folly! But *grown men* are making these decisions. How can we be so naive?

You can be sure that Iran was watching this whole process very closely.

Iran's Nuclear Program

The same story has been happening with Iran over a period of years. Iran has broken its agreements with the United Nations over nuclear inspections around 20 times. The inspections never achieved anything. Iran just kept deceiving the UN, buying time to continue its nuclear activities—and the UN and the rest of the world played along.

America's threat of force with Syria would have gotten Iran's attention. But when that blew over, Iran's leaders must have had a good laugh over how *incapable* the U.S. actually is of taking action!

Ray Takeyh is a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations and a former senior adviser on Iran at the U.S. State Department. He told the *Jerusalem Post* that America's handling of the Syrian issue probably left "the Iranians feeling Somewhat advantaged." *What an understatement!* "The international community's reticence to use force and its referral of the matter to the cumbersome UN process offer them an opportunity to relax a bit," he said.

Iran feels more than "somewhat advantaged." IT KNOWS THAT THE U.S. IS FINISHED! There is nothing to stop its nuclear ambitions! And it isn't going to *relax*—it is going to proceed full steam ahead!

In case it wasn't obvious enough that the Russian deal on Syria's weapons was a sham, President Putin was even bolder. The *day before* the U.S. agreed to Russia's plan for securing Syria's chemical weapons, Putin met with Iranian President Hasan Rouhani during a summit in Asia. There Putin accepted an invitation to visit Iran—and offered to help Iran build a second nuclear reactor at the Bushehr nuclear plant!

America *says* it wants to prevent Iran from getting nuclear weapons. But Russia openly supports Iran's nuclear program—it even uses its veto on the Security Council to limit the UN's ability to check that program—and Washington does nothing! It pretends like Russia is a perfectly reasonable partner in containing Syria!

After making the deal to contain Syria's chemical weapons, Russia offered to put troops in Syria to "monitor" the disarmament. It is taking full advantage

of America's weakness—essentially chasing America out of the region and cementing its own position there.

The evidence is everywhere that America is dealing with an ENEMY in Russia! But everything the U.S. is doing is playing perfectly into Russia's hands—and Iran's.

Yet its mishandling of these matters got even worse.

The Shameful Phone Call

Much of the international community appears to be deeply impressed with the new Iranian president, Hasan Rouhani. People are *enamored* with his supposed "moderate" inclinations.

That is madness. Anyone who believes Rouhani is moderate has to ignore mountains of evidence to the contrary. Rouhani headed Iran's Security Council from 1989 to 2003. During that time Iran's henchmen murdered opposition leaders in a Berlin restaurant. They murdered 85 people at a Jewish community center in Argentina. They killed 19 American soldiers by blowing up the Khobar Towers in Saudi Arabia. How many Americans know about Iran's nuclear facility at Isfahan? That was one of the nuclear plants being built *while* Hasan Rouhani was making promises to halt Iran's nuclear program in 2006. Today, he *brags* about how he deceived the West.

But Rouhani has recently said some nice things in front of cameras, and that is like a hallucinogenic drug to Western "intellectuals." A Twitter account supposedly representing Rouhani recently began sending tweets (even though Twitter is banned in Iran). One tweet, sent on September 4, said, "As the sun is about to set here in #Tehran I wish all Jews, especially Iranian Jews, a blessed Rosh Hashanah." For the rest of the month, mainstream media gushed over how monumental this moment was for Iran and the world.

Why will these people believe a silly *tweet*—but won't believe this man's ACTIONS over a period of decades?

The real danger here is America's deadly foreign-policy weakness!

The last week of September, Rouhani was scheduled to visit New York to attend the annual summit of the UN General Assembly. President Obama saw this as a *golden opportunity*. In the lead-up to the conference, the White House began signaling that the president wanted a photo-op handshake with Rouhani. *The Iranians refused the offer*. Mr. Obama signaled he would be open to taking a personal call from Rouhani. That was rebuffed too.

Remember, Hasan Rouhani ISN'T EVEN IRAN'S LEADER! The supreme leader is Ayatollah Khamanei—Iran's president is like a *puppet*. For President Obama to be chasing after Rouhani doesn't even make sense. But it is worse than that: In diplomatic language it degrades the American president's office and sends a message of disgraceful weakness!

Still, after the UN conference was over, on September 27, President Obama *picked up the phone* and Personally Called Rouhani. He caught him in his car on his way to the airport leaving New York. They talked for 15 minutes.

This was the first "high-level conversation" between America and Iran in 30 years, and the foolish liberal American press hailed it as a victory for negotiation and peace.

The truth is that President Obama's phone call to Rouhani was the most shameful call ever made by a leader of this land!

One conservative *Washington Post* writer said the phone call revealed Mr. Obama's "undisguised desperation for a deal" (September 29). The failure in Syria put pressure on the president to *make it look like* he's making progress with Iran.

How PATHETIC! But do you think the president is regretting his 15-minute phone call of shame?

The Audacity of Hope

After his call with Rouhani, President Obama said, "I do believe that there is a basis for a resolution [because] Iran's supreme leader has issued a fatwa against the development of nuclear weapons."

That's right—the president knows all about Iran's supreme leader; nothing he agrees to with Rouhani makes a bit of difference if Khamanei doesn't approve. And he is willing to put *full faith* in this supposed fatwa from Khamanei as evidence that Iran doesn't want nukes! He has even more faith in this fatwa than the press has in Rouhani's tweet.

Never mind that there is *no documentation* of this supposed fatwa—that the only evidence it exists is a few Iranian representatives mentioning it in the media. Never mind that even if it does exist, it wouldn't matter. As Patrick Clawson, director of research at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, notes: "[F]atwas can change when the circumstances change. ... It could be entirely appropriate for the supreme leader to say nuclear weapons are not appropriate, they're against our religion—except for if we're threatened by people with nuclear weapons." During the Iran-Iraq war, Ayatollah Khamanei said, "Muslims must have the most advanced weapons that their enemies possess." His predecessor, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, and other religious leaders have said that if it means the preservation of the Islamic republic, they have *religious grounds to violate any principle of Islamic law!*

And never mind all the fatwas Khamenei and Iran's other clerics have issued that authorize terrorism, torture and murder! Never mind the fact that Iran has pursued nuclear technology for decades and repeatedly *lied* about it! Never mind that Iran is building missiles whose *only purpose* is to deliver nuclear bombs! (article, page 4).

America's government is ready to reverse 30 years of foreign policy based on the *assumed existence* of a *non-binding fatwa* from a nation cloaked in DECADES OF DECEPTION over its nuclear program!

It is as if *children* are in charge of America's foreign policy! What a spectacle America has become to the world!

In Leviticus 26:19, God warned that if our peoples descended into sins, He would *break the pride of our power*. And so He has! What a terrible end to a superpower!

What Happens Next?

America's handling of Syria and Iran is a monumental disaster in our foreign policy. It is so bad that journalists are looking for new words to describe it. The nation's enemies shake their fists at us at every turn and we let them get away with it. Our credibility is in tatters.

America is being attacked from within and without. There are failures everywhere: economically, culturally, politically, militarily and morally. Anyone who says there isn't a real problem here needs to open his eyes! We need to see what is happening to our nation.



Russia openly supports Iran's nuclear program—it even uses its veto on the Security Council to limit the UN's ability to check that program—and Washington does nothing. It pretends like Russia is a perfectly reasonable partner in containing Syria.

More importantly, we need to understand *why* it is happening—and why God is allowing it to happen!

The reality is that something deadly dangerous has seized the country—far more than what people realize. There is a *spiritual dimension* to what is happening, and you cannot understand these events unless you recognize that.

Ultimately, this isn't about a man or an administration: It's about an *evil spirit being* that is working to destroy this nation! Request a free copy of my booklet *America Under Attack* for an explanation of this extremely important truth, which you can prove from your Bible.

We live in exceedingly dangerous times. We are talking about nuclear bombs! That makes America's weakness all the more alarming and disgraceful.

Many people—including high-profile academics and intellectuals within the U.S.—*cheer* the thought of America's power coming to an end. But the same biblical prophecies that foretold America's fall *also* reveal the nightmares that will unfold once other world powers take control.

Jesus Christ prophesied about these problems in Matthew 24:21-22. He said "great tribulation" is coming that is *worse* than any in mankind's long, tragic history! He warned that unless these perilous days were *shortened*, NO FLESH WOULD BE SAVED ALIVE!

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NUCLEAR WARFARE IS NEAR! IT IS PROPHESIED OVER 100 TIMES IN BIBLE PROPHECY! And you can prove it. But will you believe God? Or will you wait until it is too late physically to even respond to God? If not for divine intervention, the human race would face extinction! We live in a time of no more delay and are racing toward that prophetic fulfillment!

Meanwhile, Americans pick up the remote and flip channels to see who is playing on ESPN. AS THEY DISTRACT THEMSELVES, THIS WORLD IS ABOUT TO EXPLODE! MAN IS ABOUT TO SET THE WORLD ON FIRE!

Soon, events will arrest the full attention of every person on this Earth. What we are seeing so far is only "the beginning of sorrows" (verse 8). Read the rest of Christ's prophecy to see the other increasingly terrible events He told us to watch out for. But it culminates in the best news of all: "And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of Man COMING IN THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN WITH POWER AND GREAT GLORY" (verse 30).





The Powerful Speech the World Ignored

BY GERALD FLURRY

N OCTOBER 1, ISRAELI PRIME Minister Benjamin Netanyahu delivered what was probably the most powerful speech ever heard in the United Nations. It was a dire warning of the clear and immediate dangers posed by Iran. He said Iran's new president, Hasan Rouhani, is fooling the world with soft words—while fanatically working behind the scenes to obtain the nuclear bomb.

This warning should have left the ears of the world burning. It should have pricked the conscience of the Israeli people, as well as the international community. Shamefully, it did not.

Iranian Double-Speak

Prime Minister Netanyahu urged the world to not be fooled by Rouhani. In his public addresses, Rouhani mentions the "human tragedy in Syria"—but, as

Netanyahu pointed out, Iran is one of the biggest *supporters* of Syrian President Bashar Assad! Rouhani condemned the "violent scourge of terrorism"—yet Iran is the world's CHIEF SPONSOR of terrorism! Rouhani criticized "attempts to change the regional balance through proxies"—but *Iran itself* uses proxies to stir up violence in Lebanon, Gaza, Yemen, Bahrain and several other places.

This is the leader of a country that is about to get nuclear bombs! How can the world afford to believe him when he says Iran doesn't want nuclear weapons?

Netanyahu put forward some tough questions for those who believe that Iran only wants to build nuclear power plants (emphasis mine throughout): "Why would a country that claims to only want peaceful nuclear energy... build hidden underground enrichment facilities? Why would a country with vast natural energy reserves



invest billions in developing nuclear energy? Why would a country intent on merely civilian nuclear programs continue to defy multiple Security Council resolutions and incur the tremendous cost of crippling sanctions on its economy? AND WHY WOULD A COUNTRY WITH A PEACEFUL NUCLEAR PROGRAM DEVELOP INTERCONTINEN-TAL BALLISTIC MIS-SILES, WHOSE SOLE PURPOSE IS TO DELIVER NUCLEAR WARHEADS?"

The facts are clear, and the truth is obvious. The Ira-

nians have lied in the past, and they continue to lie. Yet, incredibly, Western leaders and many of our people simply *believe* the lies.

Those ICBMS Iran is working on are *only* to deliver nukes! Look what Iran is doing *without* nukes and try to imagine what it would do with NUKES. Can you imagine a Middle East with Rouhani in charge? Netanyahu tried to explain it, and a lot of UN representatives *walked out!*

Mr. Netanyahu warned that Iran obtaining the nuclear bomb "would trigger nuclear proliferation throughout the Middle East, turning the most unstable part of the planet into a nuclear tinderbox." Imagine that: a nuclear tinderbox.

Netanyahu exposed Rouhani's strategy: Just *smile*, say soothing things about *peace*, *democracy* and *tolerance*, play the game of negotiating—and NEVER STOP PURSUING NUCLEAR WEAPONS. "Why does Rouhani think he can get away with it?" Netanyahu asked. "Because he's gotten away with it before. Because his strategy of talking a lot and doing little has worked for him in the past."

America and the world went through this same charade with the North Koreans: We made a deal where North Korea promised to dismantle its nuclear program—and one year later, *North Korea had nuclear weapons*. We learned *nothing* from that.

Netanyahu knows this history. And so do the Iranians. They know that if North Korea can get away with it, so can they! That is what American weakness has taught the world!

A Warning for Israel

Judging from the tone of his speech, it appears the prime minister realizes he is losing international support. He said that if Israel had to, it would stand alone against Iran

Netanyahu quoted parts of Amos 9:13-15. He said the prophecy in these verses about vineyards being planted in Judea, and God planting Israel "upon their soil, never to be uprooted again," is fulfilled *today*.

That prophecy is sure, but he is *absolutely wrong* about its TIMING. Amos is talking about a *future time* that is coming—AFTER the worst time of suffering ever on Earth!

In his conclusion, Netanyahu stated, "Ladies and gentlemen, the people of Israel have come home" Who of us would not like to believe that? But is that what biblical prophecy says? No—it says they are facing the most hideous holocaust mankind has ever seen!

Netanyahu didn't mention the *preceding scriptures* in Amos. He overlooked Amos 3:11-12, which mentions two legs and a piece of an ear being taken from the lion's

mouth. That prophecy is not talking about sheep—but about the way that the modern *nations* descended from ancient Israel are going to look after a nuclear attack!

It is a grisly picture, but this is the reality of our world!

People read Amos and the prophecy that the Jews will never be uprooted—but that

won't be fulfilled until after the Captivity, which is mentioned in the same context!

Netanyahu certainly made a scathing attack against Rouhani—yet God has a scathing attack for the people of America, Britain and the Jewish nation. These three nations—which are the modern

descendants of Israel (as explained in our free book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*)—are hypocrites! They don't believe God. They'll quote one verse that has good news while *ignoring* the terrible warning in the surrounding scriptures.

Netanyahu noted that Israel is "from the ancient people Abraham, Isaac and Jacob." But how many Jews are trying to walk by the *faith* of Abraham today? How many policies of that small nation truly stem from the faith exemplified in their biblical forefather? And how many people emulate the *obedience to God* that Abraham is praised for? (Genesis 26:4-5).

Prime Minister Netanyahu even spoke of the Persian King Cyrus, and how the Persians were once good friends with the Jews. But he said nothing about why the Jews were in *captivity* to Cyrus! *That* is where there is a real lesson for America, Britain and the Jewish nation today!

At least Netanyahu can see that Iran is a danger to the world, and he is trying to do something about it. What a stark contrast to the U.S., which half-heartedly addresses the danger with meaningless statements that leave the U.S. frail and its enemies emboldened!

What will it take for people to give up their devotion to trivial pastimes, and focus on the Earth-shattering events around

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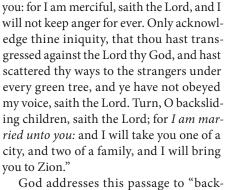
them? Open your eyes, and you know the world around you is falling apart. Time is short. However, there is still time for individuals to escape the coming nuclear destruction, when, as Amos says, there will only be "pieces" of the nations of Israel left.

Also, understand that there is incredible hope

BEYOND the coming horrors of nuclear darkness. Don't lose sight of the vision at the end of Amos. If you can grasp that vision, if you can avoid the distractions of our world and see beyond the terrible times to come. Then you can be sure to

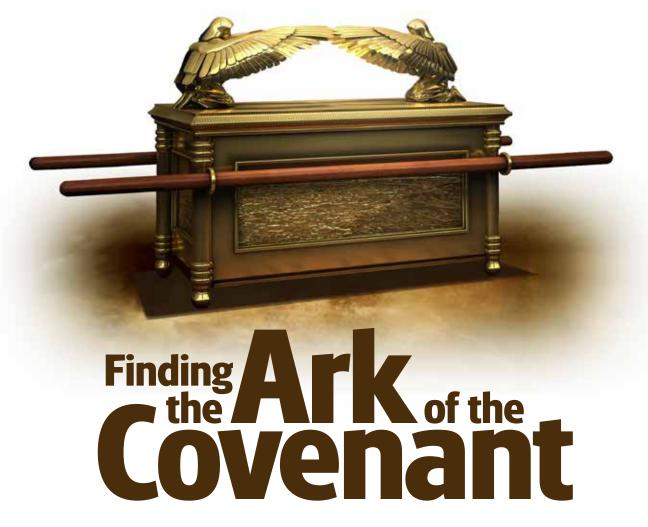
one day participate in the awesome world God has in store!

5



God addresses this passage to "backsliding Israel," to whom He says, "I am married unto you." Numerous Englishspeaking nations have descended from ancient Israel, but this is not talking about

I will not cause mine anger to fall upon



It would be the greatest archaeological discovery of all time.

And Bible prophecy indicates it is about to happen. BY GERALD FLURRY

HE ARK OF THE COVENANT HAS inspired a lot of curiosity over the years. The ark was a holy chest that God instructed the Israelites to build. It represented the throne of God. In the past, it has been the subject of documentaries and movies like *Raiders of the Lost Ark*.

Few people are talking about that artifact today. Yet a fascinating verse in the Bible says that in this modern era, *many* people will be talking about it. The implication is that very soon, *the ark of the covenant is going to be found!*

That verse is found in Jeremiah, a book of prophecy that was written for this end time

(Jeremiah 30:1-9). So this prophecy about the ark is *for us today*.

If the ark were found, it would *electrify* many people around the world!

People don't know where the ark is, but I believe that the Bible—and a certain nation's history—tell us in which country it is located today.

An End-Time Setting

This prophecy about the ark of the covenant is found in Jeremiah 3. To understand it, we need to look at the context.

Verses 12-14 of this chapter give some important details: "Go and proclaim these words toward the north, and say, Return, thou backsliding Israel, saith the Lord; and

those nations. God is only *married* to His Church, which is *spiritual Israel*. In this prophecy, God is talking specifically to His Church, which is His wife (Revelation 19:7).

Jeremiah is talking about a modern crisis in God's Church. God's end-time Church is rebelling against Him and backsliding from its Husband! But God does have a faithful remnant that delivers this message (Revelation 3).

This rebellion in the Church of God has taken place *in our day*. (You can read all about it by ordering a free copy of our book *Raising the Ruins*.) This establishes the time frame of this prophecy: It occurs just before the Great Tribulation, the Day of the Lord and the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. (Request a free copy of *Jeremiah and the Greatest Vision in the Bible* to learn more.)

Jeremiah 3:16-17 move forward in time: "And it shall come to pass, when ye be multiplied and increased in the land, in those days, saith the Lord, they shall say no more, THE ARK OF THE COVENANT of the Lord: neither shall it come to mind: neither shall they remember it; neither shall they visit it; neither shall that be done any more. At that time they shall call Jerusalem the throne of the Lord; and all the nations shall be gathered unto it, to the name of the Lord, to Jerusalem: neither shall they walk any more after the imagination of their evil heart." These verses refer to the time of the World Tomorrow, after Jesus Christ has returned and is ruling the world.

Notice: Once that occurs, people will no longer focus on that physical ark. This implies that they *were* focusing on it before that time.

In ancient Israel, the ark symbolized *God's presence*. Located in the holy of holies inside the tabernacle, it was a symbol of God's *throne* and *rule*. He even *spoke* from that ark (e.g. Exodus 25:22). So it makes sense that once God's reign is actually *established on Earth*, that physical ark will no longer "come to mind." The world will no longer need a *symbol* for God because *He Himself will be here*.

But right now, almost no one is talking about the ark of the covenant anyway.

Visiting the Ark?

Examine Jeremiah 3:16 carefully. It says that once Christ returns, "they shall say *no more*. The ark of the covenant of the

Lord." They won't say it anymore—which means they were saying it at some point. People are not saying it now, but according to this prophecy, there is coming a time when they will be saying it! "[N]either shall it come to mind: neither shall they remember it; NEITHER SHALL THEY VISIT IT; neither shall that be done any more."

Notice that shocking statement: God says people won't *visit* the ark anymore! Do you know any place today where people *visit* the ark? There isn't any such place, but God here describes a time when *people will visit the ark of the covenant.*

Remember, the time frame is during a backsliding of God's Church, leading into the Tribulation and the Second Coming of Christ. These scriptures refer to the time we are living in now. *Just before the Tribulation*, many people will be VISITING THE ARK like a tourist attraction, according to this prophecy. It sounds like it has created a world sensation! I don't see how you can understand this prophecy any other way.

and they discuss the ark of the covenant extensively.

Why should the Bible speak so much about the ark of God? Because of what it symbolized. In the Old Testament, the ark was *everything*. It is called in various places "the ark of God," "the ark of the Eternal," "the ark of the God of Israel," "the ark of the Lord of all the Earth." Everyone in Israel looked to it. It was a type of the throne of God—very much like a *blueprint* of God's throne room in heaven. It was the symbol of God!

1 Chronicles 13:6 talks about God dwelling "between the cherubims." Most Bible dictionaries have a picture of the ark of the covenant, showing those cherubim with their outspread wings covering the throne of God. That depicts how God's actual throne looks in heaven.

1 Chronicles 15 describes the ark's return to Jerusalem after the Philistines had taken it captive so many years before. The Israelites really lamented when

The ark was a type of the throne of God—very much like a blueprint of God's throne room in heaven.

Strong's Concordance defines visit: "to visit, to inspect, to review." A secondary definition is "an overseer, to be set over." That certainly indicates to me that the ark is going to be *found*.

The ark is *rarely* discussed today. You may see an occasional documentary about people looking for it, but they have never found it. That is because it has not been *time* for the ark to be found! But this prophecy indicates that it *will* be found in this end time *just before* the Great Tribulation. That is very soon.

Jesus Christ said we must live by *every* word that proceeds out of the mouth of God (Matthew 4:4). That includes the book of Jeremiah. Do you have the faith to believe *every word* of God?

The Ark Was Everything

The biblical book of Chronicles contains a lot of prophecy for this end time. My booklet *The Book of Chronicles* explains why (request your free copy). Chapters 13-17 of 1 Chronicles are five key prophetic chapters,

they lost it because the glory of God had departed from them. But as they brought it into the city, they celebrated with trumpets and coronets, cymbals and dancing. David wore a robe of linen, and all the singers wore linen, a symbol of righteousness (Revelation 19:8).

1 Chronicles 16:37 describes Asaph and his brothers ministering "before the ark continually, as every day's work required." Christians today are likewise expected to labor before God *daily*. 2 Corinthians 4:16 says the inner man is renewed *day by day*. Every day we must renew that inner man on our knees in prayer, and by studying our Bibles.

1 Chronicles 17:4 contains a very interesting statement. God sends a message to David saying, "Thou shalt not build ME an house to dwell in." He is talking about the temple, which would house the ark. God determined that Solomon would build that temple, not David. But here He

refers to the ark as "me"! In verse 5, He says, "For I have not dwelt

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What that means is, WE have the utter prerogative and freedom to print the truth.

THE PHILADELPHIA **TRUMPET**

in an house since the day that I brought up Israel unto this day; but have gone from tent to tent" Again, God is talk-ING ABOUT THE ARK AND SAYING, I DWELL THERE, BECAUSE THE ARK IS THERE.

Imagine what a spectacular event it would be for the ark that symbolizes God Himself to be discovered today!

But where *is* it? Nobody today really knows. However, I want to show you how the Bible and Irish history reveal what nation it is in. To understand this, we first need to look at some important history.

A Royal Lineage

The ancient nation of Judah fell to the Babylonians in 585 B.C. In the siege, the king of Babylon killed all the sons of Judah's

King Zedekiah. Most people believe that the royal line of King David ended at that point. But if you study 2 Samuel 7:12-16, you see that God had promised to establish David's lineage on that throne forever! If David never had another royal descendant—if the throne of David ceased with Zedekiah—then God's promise would have been broken.

However, as Herbert W. Armstrong proved in his book *The* United States and Britain in Prophecy, that throne did not cease. God kept His promise by keeping a royal descendant

of David-not a son of Zedekiah but a daughter—alive. He preserved her with the help of the Prophet Jeremiah, whom God allowed to escape Babylonian captivity.

"The real ancient history of Ireland is very extensive, though colored with some legend. But with the facts of biblical history and prophecy in mind, one can easily sift out the legend from the true history in studying ancient Irish annals," Mr. Armstrong wrote. "[I]n 569 B.C. (date of Jeremiah's transplanting), an elderly, whitehaired patriarch, sometimes referred to as a 'saint,' came to Ireland. With him was the princess daughter of an eastern king and a companion called 'Simon Brach,' spelled in different histories as Breck, Berech, Brach or Berach." This is Jeremiah's scribe, Baruch. "The princess had a Hebrew name Tephi—a pet name—her full name being Tea-Tephi. ... This royal party included the son of the king of Ireland who

had been in Jerusalem at the time of the siege. There he had become acquainted with Tea-Tephi. He married her shortly after 585—when the city fell. Their young son, now about 12 years of age, accompanied them to Ireland."

As Mr. Armstrong proved in his book, this royal line was thus preserved in the British Isles. It can be traced directly to the British throne today!

This was once common knowledge. The Otago Witness, a prominent newspaper in New Zealand for about 80 years up until 1932, ran an article on Sept. 24, 1902, titled "The King's Pedigree." It mentioned how Frederick Robert Augustus Glover, one of the best Irish historians with knowledge about Jeremiah, researched the history of

the British monarchy and contacted Queen Victoria. "He sent Her Majesty a letter intimating the nature and result of his labors," the paper reported. "In reply, he got what both surprised and delighted him. The Queen's answer was a most gracious letter in which she acknowledged Mr. Glover's [work] and informed him that she was already in possession of the facts of which he had spoken concerning her ancestral line ... and led him to believe that the facts were actually accepted as genuine by the royal family as true and authentic."

Request your free copy of The **United States** and Britain

in Prophecy

by Herbert W.

Armstrong.

Queen Victoria died in 1901, so this is fairly recent history. SHE RECOGNIZED THAT SHE WAS A DESCENDANT OF KING DAVID of ancient Israel—that her sitting on the throne of England was actually A FULFILL-MENT OF GOD'S PROMISE TO KING DAVID!

Oueen Victoria ruled more than 60 years on that throne of David, the same throne that sits in London today. She knew about all the history of her throne. These days, we don't hear much about that history from Britain's throne, but we should. It brings the Bible to life in a deeply inspiring way.

Where Is the Ark?

Irish annals show that when Jeremiah migrated to Ireland, he brought with him more than just the princess of Judah who carried on David's throne. "Besides the royal family, Jeremiah brought with them some remarkable things," Mr. Armstrong

To find the ark, follow the stone.



When you learn the astounding truth of where the stone of destiny traveled after Jerusalem's fall, you'll also find out what happened to the ark of the covenant. Order your free booklet *The Key of David* to learn more about the stone of destiny and its significance.

continued, "including a harp, AN ARK, and a wonderful stone called 'lia-fail,' or 'stone of destiny'" (op. cit., emphasis mine).

The "stone of destiny" is also called "Jacob's pillar stone." It is the stone the patriarch Jacob set up to memorialize the promise God made to him in Genesis 28—that his descendants would become as numerous as "the dust of the earth." This stone remained with the nation of Israel throughout its history. And when Jeremiah fled Jerusalem, he took this stone with him.

We know where this stone is today: It is in Scotland, in Edinburgh Castle. In recent years, faithless critics have tried to discredit the origins of this stone—but for hundreds of years its true origins were widely accepted and understood. Queen Elizabeth was crowned over it, as was Tea-Tephi's royal son anciently.

Notice that along with that stone, Jeremiah brought the *ark of the covenant* on his journey to Ireland!

This knowledge, too, was not uncommon until relatively recently. F. R. A. Glover, who ascertained that the British monarchy was aware of its linkage to King David, wrote extensively about these objects having made their way to Ireland with Jeremiah. His book *England the Remnant of Judah and the Israel of Ephraim* records this history.

Glover stated that the grave of Queen Tea-Tephi lies in the Hill of Tara, the origin of Irish history. In his research, he found that she had been buried with the two stone tablets of the Ten Commandments, along with *the ark of the covenant*.

In Volume I of *The Journal of the British Archeological Association*, published in 1895, an essay called "The Hill of Tara" by R. H. McDonald referred to the work of the Irish archaeologist Dr. Denis Hanan:

"'Tara,' says Dr. Hanan, is almost pure Hebrew for Torah, which means 'law,' and the original tables of the law were in the ark which, curiously enough, Irish history says is buried with Tea."

Note that! *Tara* comes from *torah*—God's law! There is a well-known connection between the famous Tara Hill and the law of God!

This is amazing history. The tablets of the Ten Commandments were written by are about to experience dire consequences.

Prophecy shows that God is going to do some *dramatic* things to warn this world of the Great Tribulation and Day of the Lord just before His Second Coming. The period leading up to Christ's return is going to be the worst suffering in human history. That is the horrifying end result of mankind's vile sins! God wants to warn people in advance to help as many as pos-

Imagine what a spectacular event it would be for the ark that symbolizes God Himself to be discovered today!

the very finger of God! (Exodus 31:18; 34:1, 28). God personally gave them to Moses, and they were placed within the ark of the covenant (Deuteronomy 10:5; 1 Kings 8:9; Hebrews 9:4).

According to these archaeologists and historians, these tablets were buried with Tea-Tephi in Tara Hill! Why don't we hear more about this history? It is clearly recorded in Ireland's history books. This simply cannot be chalked up as a "legend" or "myth" of Irish history!

Don't you think it might *galvanize* a lot of people if the ark were found, and the Ten Commandments on those two tables of stone were inside?

A Warning From God

Why would God cause the ark to be found in this end time—and never before? Why would He want people to visit the ark now—and not before or long after? He could be using this symbol as a warning sign that we have strayed far from the true God—and

sible to repent *before* that time comes so they don't have to experience it.

If the ark were discovered, wouldn't that be a powerful witness to the world? I believe it would be. Proof that the biblical chronicle is accurate could help lead some to repentance. The ark's discovery would even point people to where God's message was being proclaimed, and help them to realize that even though they heard it and didn't act on it, that message was *right* and was *from God*.

Prophecy shows that *many* people—an innumerable multitude—are going to repent *during* the Great Tribulation and will receive God's protection at that time (e.g. Revelation 7:9, 14). Perhaps the discovery of the ark of the covenant will contribute to the size of that number.

Remember the prophecy in Jeremiah 3:16, because God tells us that the ark is going to be found! And Scripture and Irish history even tell us, in general, *where* it will emerge!

We're All Falling In Love With Germany

It's become the most popular nation in the world.

What could go wrong? BY BRAD MACDONALD

countries, *falling* in love is a sure path to tragedy.

To *fall* in love is to enter an intimate relationship casually, blindly. *Falling* into a relationship means failing to take the time to evaluate the character, personality and history of the target of your affections; neglecting to measure compatibility and whether the elements

N RELATIONSHIPS, WHETHER between persons or between

It's important we think about this, because the world is falling in love with Germany.

exist for a healthy, lasting relationship.

It's easy to understand why. I travel to Germany regularly, and the more I visit, the more I appreciate and admire the German psyche: the work ethic; the quality of craftsmanship; the respect for law and order; the frugality, the discipline, individually and collectively, in the face of materialism; the emotional and mental stoicism and toughness; the reliability. There is much to admire and love.

Compared to her suitors—notably Britain and America, two recklessly led countries that are collapsing daily—Germany, with its financial stability, its robust economy, its cautious, calculated politics and

sound-minded global leadership, looks like a supermodel. For a world that craves leadership,

strength and constancy, a world searching for a nation it can depend on, a nation with a bright and hopeful future, Germany seems the ideal choice.

But as we fall for Germany, we need to stop and consider: Are we making a fatal mistake?

Germany, like all peoples, has ugly sides to its personality. Have we deeply considered these? More significantly, although it's politically incorrect to discuss, Germany has a long history with tyranny, with powerful men and regimes amassing power then abusing it with unspeakable cruelty and horror. You would never give your heart to such a person. Yet, here we are, giving our hearts and souls to Germany.

It can only end in tragedy.

Deutschland Über Alles

It's been nearly 70 years since World War II ended, and 24 years since the Berlin Wall fell. Today Germany and the German people are respected, admired, and very often envied by peoples and nations the world over. Much of this is deserved, too.

In May, Germany took *first place* in the BBC's annual poll of the "most popular country in the world." In the survey of 26,000 people from 25 countries, *59 percent said Germany has a "positive influence" in the world.* In the "Nation Brands Index," a large survey conducted by research

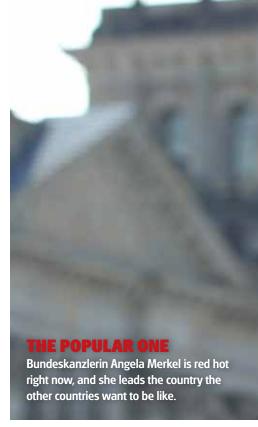
company GfK to measure the global image of various countries, Germany came in second to America.

In May 2012, the German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ), an organization that informs the opinions and policies of the German government, conducted an in-depth study of the perception and reputation of Germany and the Germans. The report revealed a world that is not only agreeable to increased German leadership, but yearning for Berlin to take more control.

"Many countries have high expectations of Germany and see it playing a bigger role in Europe and the world," GIZ reported. Feedback indicated that "almost everyone expects Germany to take on a major role," and that the only thing holding Germany back right now is Germany.

Analysts at GIZ were surprised. "Expectations that Germany will in future take on the role of honest broker more frequently are ASTONISHINGLY HIGH—not just for 'politically safe' areas like energy and climate, but also on highly controversial issues like Iran and Syria" (emphasis added throughout).

Even Germany's contemporaries in Europe, though they might sometimes







balk at German demands, crave German leadership. Chancellor Angela Merkel is often criticized and ridiculed, but when she speaks, Europe listens—and conforms. Europeans know that their fate, financially and politically, rests with Germany.

'Don't Hide Behind Your History'

The global swoon over all things Deutsch goes beyond a love for BMWs and Oktoberfest. Important people on every continent-world leaders, statesmen, finance gurus, journalists—are begging Germany to do more to solve major world problems.

President Obama lavished Chancellor Merkel with praise in 2011 while presenting her with the Presidential Medal of Freedom—the highest honor America can give a civilian, and an award usually given only to American citizens. "Don't hide behind your history, said the president. Act in accordance with your importance," reported the German weekly Die Zeit. "The world today does not fear a strong Germany," Der Tagesspiegel recorded Obama as saying. "It is, rather, disappointed WHEN GERMANY IS TOO RESERVED."

On June 19 this year, in a speech beneath the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin, Mr. Obama again invited Germany to assume more leadership. "[S]ometimes there can be a sense that the great challenges have somehow passed. And that brings with it a temptation to turn inward But I come here today, Berlin, to say complacency is not the character of great nations. ... And I've come here, to this city of hope, because the tests of our time demand the same fighting spirit that defined Berlin a half century ago."

The world's fortunes depend on Germany, and Berlin has the responsibility to lead the world, Mr. Obama explained. "[W]e are not only citizens of America or Germany—we are also citizens of the world. And our fates and fortunes are linked like never before. ... I say all this here, in the heart of Europe, because our shared past shows that none of these challenges can be met unless we see our-SELVES AS PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER THAN OUR OWN EXPERIENCE. Our alliance is the foundation of global security. ... We cannot shrink from our role"

Thirty years ago, that speech would have been delivered in Hyde Park, or outside Buckingham Palace. But today, Britain, like America, is collapsing from the inside; it is a shell of its former self. America's president

has made it clear that he disdains the special, historic relationship—the alliance that secured global security during the 20th century—between Britain and America.

So here he was in Berlin, foolishly declaring America's affections for the nation responsible for some of the greatest suffering in human history.

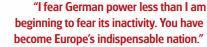
'Germany, Lead Us, We Beg You'

In July, London Mayor Boris Johnson, during a visit to Berlin with his family, wrote a gushing article celebrating Germany's rise and reproving those who view Germany with caution. Johnson recalled his grandfather's distress about a reunited Germany. "Everything tells me that his anxieties were baseless, and that the reunification of Germany has been one of the greatest success stories of modern geopolitics," he wrote (July 21).

Baseless? Aren't the horrors of World War II legitimate justification for some skepticism over Germany's unification and emergence as a leading world power?

"You look at Berliners today," Johnson wrote, "and you ask yourself what the fuss was about, 24 years ago. There were people like my

BARACK OBAMA
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES



RADOSLAW SIKORSKI POLISH FOREIGN MINISTER



grandfather, and Margaret Thatcher, who were instinctively hostile to German unification. ... There were the Euro-federalists, who argued that Germany needed to be 'locked in' to Europe. We needed a single currency to 'contain' Germany, they claimed, to 'tie them in'—as though the Germans were [a] loose cannon rolling about the European quarterdeck, about to crush innocent Slavic nations. What a Load of bunk that turned out to be."

What shallow, shortsighted analysis. To understand "what the fuss was about," and to evaluate whether Germany could pose a threat, we can't just "look at Berliners today." Britain made this mistake during the 1930s, when many influential people, including the Prince of Wales—much like Boris Johnson today—admired and praised what they saw in Berlin. We must consider the facts of the past and present, study the trajectory, and then marshal all these pieces to build a picture of the future.

We ought to be less concerned about what Germany looks like today, and more concerned about what the nation will look like in 2, 5, 10 or 20 years!

Mr. Johnson concluded: "I can understand why my grandfather's generation felt as it did, but it is *emphatically time to forget all that and embrace the new Germany.* ... WE HAVE ABSOLUTELY NOTHING TO FEAR."

What a sweeping endorsement: Forget history, embrace Germany's hegemony, fear nothing! Johnson will live to regret those words.

This sentiment prevails in capitals all over the world—even in nations that not all that long ago were destroyed and occupied by Germany. Poland's foreign minister, Radoslaw Sikorski, stated in November 2011: "I will probably be the first Polish foreign minister in history to say so, but here it is: I FEAR GERMAN POWER LESS THAN I AM BEGINNING TO FEAR GERMAN INACTIVITY. You have become Europe's indispensable nation."

It's difficult to find consensus among nations, but on the subject of Germany and its place in the global order, the world is in harmony: *Germany, we want you, we need you, please do more!*

Again, one can understand the logic. Major world problems are mounting. The West's competitors—Russia, China, Iran and radical Islam—are increasingly belligerent. And the U.S., overwhelmed by domestic crises and led by a foreign-policy introvert, is abandoning the bridge. Meanwhile, Germany has one of the largest and healthiest economies in the world, is responsibly managed both politically and financially, and has the size and military and diplomatic infrastructure to exert leadership. Germany is strong but pacifist, adept but not overtly domineering.

It *looks* like the perfect savior.

The Reluctant Superpower

Berlin has answered the global clamor very shrewdly. Its leaders haven't responded with arrogance, marching about with an "it's about time" look on their faces. Angela Merkel hasn't turned diva, prancing around making outrageous demands or obnoxiously lording it over others. To the contrary, Berlin is handling the attention with caution, reticence and modesty.

Germany reciprocates, but coyly, with a shy smile. Berlin is involved, often centrally, in all the important issues. It gives decisive input, signs agreements and joint statements, and dispatches its diplomats, and even its military, all over the world. It provides leadership—but it does so quietly, gently, and seemingly reservedly, with a hint of regret. Germany, as the *Telegraph* recently put it, appears to be a "reluctant superpower."

This inflames the world's affections and only makes us pine more!

Consider Germany's conduct in Europe's debt crisis. No one doubts that the solution can only come from Berlin. Although EU officials and European leaders participate in most conversations, on a practical level the decisions and policies are approved by Berlin. Germany is leading Europe through this crisis. But it is leading in a way that doesn't overly concern

or frighten Europe. More often, it makes Europe desire more German leadership and intervention.

We see this same strategy in Germany's foreign policy. Consider Libya. When America, Britain and France ran off to war in 2012, Germany sat on the bench alongside Russia and China. The result? First, Germany avoided being blamed for aiding the rise of radical Islam in Libya. But it also showed itself to be *independent* of America and Britain, a lackey to no one. In Libya, Germany was the wise old man that more people ought to have listened to.

It's the same in Syria. Instead of being among the first to sign Barack Obama's statement at the G-20 condemning Bashar Assad's chemical weapons attack, Germany was the last. Think back to the height of the Syria crisis. Can you remember a strong speech from Angela Merkel or Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle? It's not that Germany doesn't have a role in Syria—it does, especially via its arming of Saudi Arabia and Gulf states with military hardware. Germany is involved, but in a cautious and calculated manner, a manner that avoids offense and wins respect among its counterparts on both sides.

This strategy is working, too. Notice what President Assad stated in an October interview with Der Spiegel: "When I think of Europe, I ask myself who is closer to the reality in my region? Every European position is still far from our reality. Germany and Austria have the most objective and closest position to reality. THE GER-MAN POSITION IS THE CLOSEST." Asked if Germany could play the role of mediator, Assad replied: "Of course, I would like to see envoys from Germany come to Syria to see and discuss the reality. Coming here doesn't mean you support the government. But if you come here, you can do, you can talk, you can discuss, you can convince."

Even *Syria* wants more German leadership! Now that's impressive!

The same day the Assad interview was published, Iranian President Hasan Rouhani called on Germany to play a "positive and constructive role" in the following

"I can understand why my grandfather's generation felt as it did, but it is emphatically time to forget all that and embrace the new Germany. ... We have absolutely nothing to fear."

> **BORIS JOHNSON** MAYOR OF LONDON



"Germany and Austria have the most objective and closest position to reality. The German position is the closest."

> **BASHAR ASSAD** PRESIDENT OF SYRIA

week's negotiations between Iran and the P5+1. The P5 is comprised of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council. Guess who the +1 is? Germany. Even Iran, the sworn enemy of the West, seems to recognize Germany's potential as a leader.

This strategy of playing the coy and reluctant superpower is evident in Germany's dealings on every continent. The nation is entrenched politically and militarily, and especially in trade and commerce, in Africa, Latin America, Asia and the Middle East. But its presence in these regions is strong but quiet, influential but not offensive, and smartly calibrated to cause its hosts to crave more German involvement.

Historical Amnesia

Earlier this year during a conversation with a German journalist in Hamburg, I raised the question of Germany's imperialist history and whether it ought to be considered when we discuss Germany's ascension today. His response was cogent and delivered matter of factly, as if the question itself was passé: Listen, you guys are going to have to get past World War II. It has no bearing on the present.

This man was speaking about the few today who factor in history when evaluating contemporary geopolitics. Because as we've seen, the general view is that we must forget Germany's history, and that the German people need to get past it too. "Almost everyone expects Germany to take on a major role," the GIZ survey found. "FEW RESPONDENTS VOICE[D] RESERVATIONS STEMMING FROM THE COUNTRY'S FOR-MER STRIVING FOR HEGEMONY AND NAZI CRIMES." Barack Obama has cautioned Germany against "hiding behind its history." Boris Johnson says we have "absolutely nothing to fear."

Forgetting or ignoring the horrors of Germany's past makes us feel noble, merciful, forgiving. But this view is more selfrighteous than righteous.

We must not forget that only 74 years just one lifetime-ago, Germany started

the most destructive war in human history. Today we're taught that it wasn't the Germans, but just Adolf Hitler and a few friends, that caused the Second World War. We're taught that the war was imposed on the German people as much as it was on the world. This just isn't true. The war was Hitler's brainchild, but it was supported and fought by the German people.

We must not forget that less than a quarter of a century before World War II, Germany instigated World War I, the most destructive war in human history to that time. Today we're commonly led to believe that this war started in the Balkans with the assassination of Austria's Archduke Ferdinand. The truth is, the war started because Germany pushed Austria to declare war on Serbia, thereby thrusting the major powers into conflict.

We must not forget the 19th-century history of Prussian Prince Otto Von Bismarck, the man responsible for consolidating the German states, augmenting Prussian power, and igniting the flame of modern German nationalism. Under Bismarck, the imperialist German empire initiated violent wars with the peoples of eastern and southern Europe, as well as France.

We must not forget the history of the Habsburg Dynasty, which was centered in what today is southern Germany and Austria. This too was an imperialist empire, one that expanded using a well-crafted strategy of violence, politics and romance to encompass most of Europe, the Americas and East Indies.

We must not forget the history of Otto the Great, the 10th-century German emperor, the forefather of German nationalism, and the man who under moral and spiritual cover from the Catholic Church conquered the people of central, southern and eastern Europe and established the German Holy Roman Empire.

Germany is not responsible for all of Europe's history with war and violence. Napoleon was French. So was Charlemagne. The Spanish had their moments. But if you study objectively the past millennium of European history, you'll find that leaders, kingdoms and regimes that were headquartered in southern Germany and Austria instigated the majority of Europe's conflicts.

ONE THOUSAND YEARS of history teaches that when Germany is united and strong, and when it is ruled by a particular type of leader, its natural tendency is to expand and conquer. ONE THOUSAND YEARS of history teaches that the German people have a deeply rooted nationalism that can be exploited and can lead to cruel and violent action. ONE THOUSAND YEARS of history teaches that the German people, for all their wonderful qualities, have a deep weakness for embracing tyrannical leaders.

MESMERIZED BY THE MOMENT, WE REJECT 1,000 YEARS OF HISTORY!

Whenever I read about the history of the 1930s and the rise of Hitler and the Nazi Party, I'm always struck by the behavior of Britain and America. Many people weren't merely naive or ignorant of Hitler and his ambitions. Many actually admired the man, his ambitions, and even Nazism. Shockingly, many British politicians, artists and media personalities visited Germany and fell in love.

Can you imagine? Many British and American leaders were infatuated with Germany—just years before Hitler thrust the world into a nightmare! There's a powerful lesson there for us today. Sure, no German leader is publicly declaring his hatred for Jews the way Hitler did. Germany doesn't appear to be as militaristic. We haven't seen ominous edicts like Hitler's Nuremberg laws. Nevertheless, Germany—in spite of, or perhaps because of, its long history of imperialism—is rapidly gaining dominance.

History demands that we be more careful.

The Mastermind

For more than two decades, Gerald Flurry and the Trumpet have marshaled Bible prophecies and world history to reveal how the now-forming German-led European superpower is in fact the seventh manifestation of the Holy Roman Empire. Employing a host of

Bible passages—including Daniel 7 and 8, Isaiah 10, Habakkuk 1, and Revelation 12, 13 and 17—we have shown that Germany's end-time global dictatorship is prophesied. For some this is hard to see and accept, but time and events are vindicating our message and warning.

The Bible also reveals that there is an unseen hand, a spirit power, that guides the Holy Roman Empire. The Apostle Paul in Ephesians 2 calls this being the "prince of the power of the air," and in 2 Corinthians 4, "the god of this world." Jesus called him Satan. In Revelation 12, in direct relation to the Holy Roman Empire, this being is called the "great red dragon."

Satan masterminded the rise and actions of all six historical resurrections of this church-state combine. Today, in the rise of the seventh and final resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire, we are witnessing the devil at his finest.

Think on it. If you look back on each of the six resurrections of the Holy Roman Empire, it's easy to see each for the incredibly cruel and violent entity that it was. In each case, often long before the regime attained the height of its power, it was evident that it would inflict catastrophic damage. Take Hitler. It wasn't hard to recognize Hitler's capacity for evil long before World War II. He laid out his plans for world dominion in Mein Kampf in 1926! Throughout the 1930s he rejected agreements, built his military, persecuted Jews, and toward the end of the decade even invaded other countries. It was said about Hitler that his eyes shone when he spoke, as if there was another power speaking through him. He delivered speeches with such fervor and emotion that he'd often collapse into a heap afterward. It was as if his body had been used by a foreign power.

The point is, when Satan constructed Nazi Germany, he didn't hide his ambitions. You could see—and some few, like Churchill, did—what the terrifying and disastrous fruits would be long before they arrived.

But Satan is building the final resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire much more deviously! He is being covert.

This being is the master of obfuscation and circumlocution, of smokescreens and sleight of hand. And he's pulling out all

the tricks to deceive us and lull us into a false sense of security. Who considers Angela Merkel a threat? She's the antithesis of Hitler. We don't see German leaders swaggering around openly plotting invasions. The German public, which appears to still be carrying around the guilt of World War II, looks pacifist and disinterested in engaging the world. Compared to others, Germany's military looks small. Germany today appears the exact opposite of an imminent imperialist power. It's the perfect ruse!

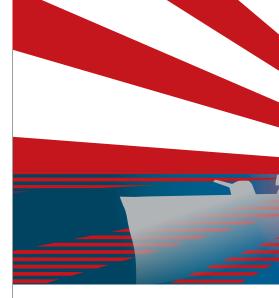
Today we have to look harder and deeper than Churchill ever did. There's no Mein Kampf, no obvious dictator at the moment, no Nazi Party, no goosestepping, no ominous hints of an impending genocide. But look closely, and you will see that Germany possesses all the basic requirements to unite Europe and establish what Bible prophecy says will be a Catholic-inspired, German-led global dictatorship.

First, there is a desperate need for leadership. Germany has the financial supremacy, the reputation and respect regionally and globally, the geopolitical experience and acumen, and the military infrastructure and power. Consider also the geopolitical landscape. Who's around and willing to check Germany's ascendance? France, Britain, America? Forget it. Russia and China? They are its friends,

You can argue that Germany lacks a Hitler, Napoleon or Charlemagne, someone with the personality and will to shape Germany and Europe into a superpower. That's fair. But that can change quickly. Then what happens when such a man comes along, as the Bible says he will? In that moment, he will take all these components and virtually overnight transform Germany into a terrifying superpower.

Beyond all this, there's something the final resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire has that the others lacked something brilliant and remarkable something virtually unprecedented in human history. That is, Germany today has the love of the world—and an OPEN INVITATION to take global leadership!

For more information, request a free copy of Germany and the Holy Roman Empire.



Is Japan's Mi

Tokyo may soon receive Washington's blessing to act like the military giant it is.

BY JEREMIAH JACQUES

FTER JAPAN WREAKED SOME OF the worst brutality in history and then surrendered in World War II, nations were eager to ensure that would never happen again. First came Article 9, the clause America wrote into Japan's postwar constitution that restricts the nation from building a military any larger than it needs for the self-defense of its immediate geographic arena. Then came the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security between the United States and Japan, which, among other things, codified Japan's dependence on the U.S. for its defense.

Now, six decades later, this military cooperation pact is undergoing big changes. As a result, for the first time since World War II, Japan could soon officially have first-strike capabilities against potential threats and be allowed to engage in collective self-defense.

Many U.S. policymakers say it is wise for Washington to encourage Tokyo to take on a more assertive military posture in Asia. After all, North Korea is a loose cannon, China is increasingly belligerent and the war-weary American people are tired of policing every corner of the

But these changes have profound implications, both historically and prophetically.



litary Secret About to Come Out?

What's the Big Deal?

On October 3, U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel and Secretary of State John Kerry met with their Japanese counterparts in Tokyo to discuss their two nations' security pact. While Washington has called all previous meetings about the pact, Japan asked for this one.

During the meeting, Japanese officials deployed plenty of the usual rhetoric about wanting America to keep ensuring security in Asia. Afterward, however, the Japanese said they'll foot a \$3.1 billion bill to help move 9,000 American troops out of Okinawa. Japan wants to break free of the U.S. military; this is just one of many steps it will take toward that end.

Tokyo's true purpose for the conference was to work toward expanding its own military role. A joint statement afterward said Japan is "reexamining the legal basis for its security including exercising its right of collective self-defense, expanding its defense budget, reviewing its National Defense Program Guidelines, strengthening its capability of defending its sovereign territory" and more. The U.S., the statement said, "welcomed" all these efforts.

Before the meeting, an unnamed Pentagon source said the two sides would also "start the process for reviewing" a lift on the ban that outlaws Japan's first-strike capabilities. Although statements released after the meeting made no mention of lifting that, the wheels of this monumental change may well be in motion.

Is there anything wrong with America letting Japan expand its military power so

it can help look after U.S. interests in the region? Isn't Japan a reliable, trustworthy, peaceful nation? For the answer, consider why Article 9 was written again. Many nations, particularly among Japan's neighbors that experienced the war that gave birth to Japan's pacifist constitution, view a rearming Japan with deep anxiety rooted in history ("A Savage History," page 16).

For decades, that history has restrained Japan from being overly bold or open in its military activities. Now, however, three factors make Japan less concerned about appeasing those who fear a revival of its militaristic nationalism: Japan's dwindling faith in America's security promises; its rising tensions with China and the Koreas; and its desire to be viewed as a world power in its own right, complete with the ability to defend its national interests.

These factors have caused Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and other nationalists to intensify efforts to redefine Japan's military as a full-fledged force. "I will do my best for the future and for amending the constitution. That is my historical mission," Abe said in August. The October 3 conference showed that America is ready to help Abe achieve this "historical mission."

But if the restrictions are lifted, would Japan behave responsibly? Are the new generations of leaders and citizens repentant over the nation's past atrocities? Have the Japanese changed?

Massacre? What Massacre?

Tokyo has apologized for instigating aggressive wars, but the apologies have

been regularly undercut by revisionist statements from top politicians.

"The Nanjing Massacre is a lie made up by the Chinese," Japanese Cabinet Minister Shintaro Ishihara said in 1990. "The Nanjing Massacre is a fabrication," Japanese Justice Minister Nagano Shigeto said in 1994. "The Americans brainwashed the postwar Japanese into believing they had committed terrible war crimes," said Tokyo University Prof. Nobukatsu Fujioka in 1997.

In 2007, Mr. Abe wrote a newspaper article saying there is no evidence that the Japanese had kept sex slaves. Last year, the governor of Tokyo said the soldiers' practice of keeping slaves was "necessary," and "a good means of making money" for the women.

This year, Abe proposed scrapping several key government statements that Japan made in the '80s and '90s acknowledging its atrocities

Is this just a handful of extremist politicians? Abe's favorable rating among the Japanese public fluctuates between 60 and 70 percent and has been described as "stratospheric." Domestic media seem unperturbed by his revisionist statements.

Textbooks used in Japan's school system are notorious for glossing over or ignoring the country's wartime barbarism. Some fear that since Japanese students aren't learning this history, the nation is forgetting its past and new generations could be likelier to repeat it. Mr. Abe has

addressed this, saying that he wants to further beautify Japan's

A Savage History

n the 1920s, Japan's economy was stagnating. For inspiration, nationalist leaders dusted off some ancient myths and began teaching the Japanese that they were a nation of gods and that Japan's Imperial Family was the offspring

of the sun goddess Amaterasu. They said Emperor Hirohito was the "Son of Heaven"—an omnipotent god destined to rule the whole world. "The nations of the world will come to look up to our Emperor as the Great Ruler of all nations," the Tanaka Memorial of 1927 said.

The Tanaka Memorial (a document allegedly presented to Hirohito by Premier Baron Gi-ichi Tanaka) essentially became Japan's foreign policy from 1927 until the end of World War II. Although the authenticity of the document is a matter of dispute, history shows that Japan followed the broad strokes of its strategy. It laid out detailed military plans for Japan to conquer the entire world starting with China:



FOREIGN POLICY

A Japanese soldier beheads a Chinese prisoner during what is known as the Rape of Nanjing.

"With China's entire resources at our disposal we shall conquer India, Central Asia and Europe. ... A victorious Japan will place all the white races of the world under the rule of the Son of Heaven. ... In order to conquer the world, we must first conquer China. If we succeed in conquering China, the rest of the Asiatic countries and the South Sea countries will fear us and surrender to us."

A lot hinged on the conquest of China. Japan wanted this to inspire fear throughout Asia. So its invasion was ruthless beyond words.

In the Massacre of Nanjing, for example, Japanese troops murdered over 200,000 Chinese civilians. Mothers with infants, pregnant women, children and old men were tortured, bayonetted, beheaded, burned or buried alive. Many women and girls were gang-raped, mutilated and killed. Others were kept around as "comfort women"—sex slaves forced to serve

Japanese soldiers. Unborn babies were routinely torn out from pregnant women and killed. Soldiers often gouged the eyes out of children and babies in front of their mothers before slaughtering both woman and child.

These weren't soldiers running amok, ignoring orders. The crimes were well known to the military's highest officers. The chief commander of the Nanjing invasion was Emperor Hirohito's uncle. The evils were committed with the royal stamp of approval for the purpose of instilling fear in the nations.

Nanjing was not an isolated case of savagery. Japanese troops were similarly cruel in numerous other Chinese cities and also in Korea, the Philippines, Singapore and other countries. A look further back into history shows that World War II was not an anomalously aggressive epoch for the Japanese. There were also the invasions of Korea in the 1590s, the Battle of Ganghwa, the First Sino-Japanese War, the invasion of Taiwan, the Russo-Japanese War, and the list goes on.

During World War II, the ruthlessness and tenacity of the Japanese was largely driven by their belief that Hirohito was a god destined to rule the world. The toxicity of this faith made many virtually incapable of surrendering—even in the face of insurmountable odds.

Although some Japanese were taken prisoner, the majority fought until they were killed or committed suicide. The fanatic commitment spread even to Japanese civilians. This was perhaps most evident when American troops moving onto Saipan in June 1944 saw mothers clutching infants flinging themselves off cliffs rather than risk being captured.

By war's end, Japan had been fighting for 14 years. Almost 3 million Japanese were dead, with many more injured or gravely ill. The nation lay in ruins. But even then, nothing short of two atomic bombs was able to bring a halt to Japan's perverse military fanaticism.

It was then, in the immediate aftermath of that gruesome history that U.S. officials drafted Japan's constitution, most famous for Article 9.

"Japanese people forever renounce war as a sovereign right of the nation and the threat or use of force as means of settling international disputes. [L]and, sea, and air forces, as well as other war potential, will never be maintained," the article says.

This document, without the change of even a comma, has *technically* governed Japanese affairs in the decades since. To avoid stirring fears of a resurgence in the militarism that terrorized the world, postwar Tokyo has relied on Washington for security guarantees.

Now, however, 70 years have passed, and memories have dimmed.

wartime history so Japanese children can be proud of their past!

The people of Japan embody many exceptionally noble traits. Their cultural and technological contributions have enriched the human experience for millions around the globe, and they have the same incredible potential that God gave to all human beings. But a dangerous number of modern Japanese view their nation's wartime atrocities with pride. The history is being downplayed, and their potential for brutality remains.

The Secret

As significant as gutting Article 9 would be, the reality is that Japan

has long been building toward a military capable of more than defense. Late Trumpet columnist Ron Fraser explained, "The reality is that the sheer strength of current Japanese military power-let alone its potential for rapid growth—belies the intent of Article 9 [U]nder the cloak of Article 9 of its constitution, Japanentirely of its own initiative and in its own national interest—has built one of the most powerful military forces in the world, a force with the capability of power projection far beyond the realm of self-defense. How soon will the world wake up to the fiction that a pacifist Japan continues to be content with a military role of purely self-defense?" (theTrumpet.com, August 8). Gen. Douglas MacArthur and the U.S. officials who wrote Japan's constitution were experienced and world wise. If they were around today, they would recognize Japan's shifting tides and take action to reverse them. But, as the Prophet Isaiah wrote, American leaders today act like children (Isaiah 3:4). The biblical name for the United States is *Manasseh*, which in Hebrew means *forgetful*. Those leading America today are living up to this name: Like children, they are destitute in experience and forgetful even about very recent history.

As the U.S. snubs history, turns inward and ignores geopolitical shifts, the barriers established to prevent another world war are being systematically dismantled.



N THE AMAU VILLIAGE OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA, THERE'S A frog the size of an orange seed—the smallest known vertebrate species on Earth. In parts of the Democratic Republic of the Congo lives a monkey with human-like eyes that awakens the jungle each morning with its booming bellow.

The frog and the monkey share something remarkable: Both are brand new to science. They were only discovered and catalogued this year.

Trends show that the frog (*Paedophryne amanuensis*) and the lesula monkey (*Cercopithecus lomamiensis*) will not be the last species to be discovered. In fact, it seems that every time research teams machete their way into a jungle or plunge down to a coral reef, they emerge with samples of previously uncatalogued creatures. The total from such expeditions adds up to an astonishing 15,000 new species discovered each year.

Unsurprisingly, the bulk of these 15,000 newly discovered critters are insects and invertebrates, with beetles invariably being the most common. Yet the discoveries are not limited to just the small stuff. In 2009 alone, scientists found two new turtles, 133 new frogs and 41 new *mammals*.

A Bewildering, Intricate Creation

Even after thousands of years of discovery, the diversity of Earth's wildlife is still astonishing and humbling scientists. "I don't know whether to be more astounded by the species discovered each year, or the depths of our ignorance about biodiversity of which we are a part," said Quentin Wheeler, founding director of the International Institute for Species Exploration at Arizona State University.

"It's astounding that we don't know the most basic thing about

life," said Boris Worm, a marine biologist at Nova Scotia's Dalhousie University.

"We know more about the surface of the moon and about Mars than we do about this habitat," oceanographer Paul Snelgrove said of the deep sea floor.

Altogether, mankind has discovered and catalogued over 1.7 million different animal species, but estimates say the planet's total number could be anywhere from 3 to 100 million. The wide range reveals that we don't even know what we don't know.

"It's not that we just don't know the names in the phone book. We don't know how big the phone book is," said Derek Tittensor, a research scientist for the UN's Environment Program.

'Things Innumerable'!

The mind-boggling array of animal life being discovered daily in our oceans, rainforests and other ecosystems testifies to the beauty, mystery and intricacy that the Creator saturated His creation with.

Thousands of years ago, when the list of discovered species was far smaller, the psalmist wrote, "O Lord, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches. So is this great and wide sea, wherein are things creeping innumerable, both small and great beasts" (Psalm 104:24-25).

The newly discovered lesula monkey and micro-frog—along with the banana fish, glow-in-the-dark cockroach, the nematode worm that lives only in the lungs of the changeable lizard, the Dracula fish, the Andean raspberry-size bat, the "Elvis" monkey, the Brazilian arapaima fish and the other thousands of newly discovered species give new weight to those adulatory words: "O Lord, how manifold are thy works!"

How many species are there?

Number of species that have been discovered →

Estimated number of species yet to be discovered →

Mammals

5,501 10,064

Reptiles

9,547 2,500

Amphibians

6,771 8,200

32,4000 12,500

Fish

Crustaceans



100.000

THE NEVERENDING DISCOVERY

Estimates say the planet's total number of species could be anywhere from 3 to 100 million. One recent study—billed as the most accurate yet—veers toward the conservative end of that, placing the total at 8.7 million, plus or minus a million. That would mean that only about a quarter of the total number has been discovered. Based on these estimates, it is clear that future generations of species hunters have job security.

You finally discovered me!

Spotlight on some newfound species

Social media butterfly *Semachrysa jade*

Country: Malaysia



In an exciting collision of biology and social media, an image of this butterfly was posted on Flickr earlier this year by a Malaysian photographer and then identified by a Web-surfing California entomologist as a new species.



World's smallest frog *Paedophryne amanuensis*

Country: Papua New Guinea

Living vertebrates vary in length by more than 3,000 times, from the 85-foot-long blue whale to this teensy new ¼-inch species of frog. This frog was discovered in Amau village in Papua New Guinea earlier this year.

Mollusks



85,000

115,000

Arachnids



102,248

500,000

The number of insects discovered so far is represented by the lighter space in the top 2 inches of this magazine spread.



Insects

1,000,000

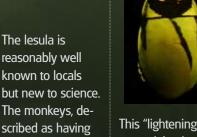
4,000,000

The estimated number of insects yet to be discovered is represented by the darker remaining portion of the spread.

Most of them may be tiny—but they outnumber the rest of us by a considerable margin!



Lesula Monkey Cercopithecus Iomamiensis Country: Democratic Republic of the Congo



"human-like" eyes, greet each dawn by shouting out a

booming bellow.



Glow-in-the-Dark Cockroach Lucihormetica luckae

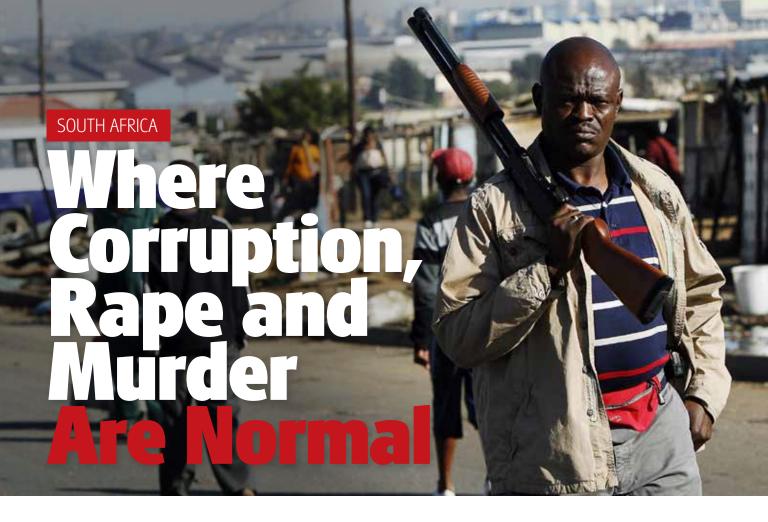
This "lightening roach," one of very few bioluminescent terrestrial animals, was discovered in early 2013.



Leaf Chameleon Brookesia micra

Country: Madagascar

The leaf chameleon, discovered in the jungles of Madagascar in February 2012, is one of the world's smallest known reptiles.



The unthinkable is now reality. Only in Africa? BY ROBERT MORLEY

CALL THE POLICE

In Johannesburg, this is who may respond. Crime in South Africa is so endemic that law enforcement is short-staffed, ineffective and oftentimes criminal. MET A WOMAN FROM SOUTH AFRICA THE other day. What she said shocked me.

"Not long ago, I thought I was going to get raped and murdered by the police."

What?

She was on her way home to her acreage in a farming community outside Johannesburg when she approached a

four-way stop.

"This intersection is known for carjackings," she said. "No one stops. You just slow down enough to make sure you are not going to hit anyone, and keep going.

"You know what happens to people who get carjacked?" she asked.

I had a vague idea, I thought. But I actually didn't have a clue.

The next thing she knew, flashing lights appeared in her rearview mirror. It was the *reservist* police—basically volunteer police officers.

"There was no way I was stopping," she said. "Even if it really was the police, who knows what they might have done to me." She stomped on the gas. "Up where I live, when the police try to pull you over, you just head for the nearest police station and hope you make it."

She didn't. She was rammed off the road. "Lucky I was driving a big truck," she said matter-of-factly. "I kept going."

She phoned to confirm that the police were real, and to let someone else know what was going on and to come and find her. Then she pulled to a stop.

And she went from being a motorist on the way home to a woman alone in a field with a bunch of armed, angry men yelling at her and telling her she was going to jail.

"Do you know what happens to white girls in jail?" she asked.

Thankfully, she didn't go to jail, and she didn't get attacked in the field. And it was a good thing after all that she didn't make it to the police station either; she later learned that the one she was headed for was one of the "bad" ones.

"So many of the police are thugs and criminals," she said. "You can't trust them. And you don't even know if they really are the police. People steal police cars. They have uniforms, and even bulletproof vests. Then you see it on the news, women brutally raped and murdered, or tortured." Yes, by police officers.

"People are raped all the time," she said. "It is part of the culture."

The mainstream media report regularly on atrocities in Somalia, Sudan, Libya, Syria. We rarely hear about South Africa. But what is happening there is deeply troubling—for a number of reasons. It also holds some powerful lessons for those of us who live elsewhere.

Fact of Life: Rape Culture

This might seem like just one person's subjective opinion. But if you look up the facts, they will stun you even more. If you have a daughter, think about her. Then think about this: *One out of three* South African girls will be raped before she turns 18.

Almost three out of four South African women have been sexually abused at least once.

South African women have a greater chance of being raped than of graduating from high school.

What kind of country is this?

Where is the outcry? Why isn't this all over the news? Why aren't women's groups crying out at the top of their lungs? Why aren't people demonstrating? This is *South Africa*, a country considered *modern and civilized*. Now it has descended—without much fuss, apparently—into a jungle of chaos.

Yet even South Africans don't *really* understand what is happening to their country. They feel the temperature rising, but seem dulled to the danger.

One recent study examined about 250 reported rapes from 2005 to 2007 that occurred in the vicinity of one small town. More than half of the reported victims were *children*. Yet, only nine of the accused were convicted. Only seven received jail sentences.

Two hundred and fifty rapists—seven convicted. Yet, no media firestorm. No international protest. The incomprehensible has become a fact of life for South Africans. They have a saying for this: *Only in Africa*.

Several men were accused of five or six rapes, according to the study's authors. *Not one* was convicted. *Only in Africa*.

An astounding 66,000 rapes occur in South Africa each year—one every four minutes. Interpol says this makes South Africa the *rape capital of the world*. According to experts, rape is so common, justice is so rarely served, and so many women have been raped so many times that many women don't bother reporting it.

That's just the way it is in South Africa.

Earlier this year, it was revealed that a police constable was still working for the force even though he had been accused of 14 rapes over the past two years—some of which allegedly took place while he was in uniform. That follows the arrest of a police officer accused of raping a 14-year-old boy, and another officer accused of raping a woman who came to the police station to report a crime.

Log on to South Africa's Independent Police Investigative Directorate website (http://www.ipid.gov.za/media_statements/media_statements.asp) and see for yourself. In September, two constables were arrested

for rape, one of them for raping a female inmate. In August, a captain was arrested on rape charges. In July, four more constables were arrested for various rapes, one for multiple counts. Another police captain was arrested for raping a woman in his police car and threatening to kill her and her family if she reported it. And a 41-year-old warrant officer was arrested for raping a 14-year-old girl multiple times.

It is not just police officers. Cosatu General Secretary Zwelinzima Vavi was embroiled in an alleged rape and blackmail scandal earlier this year. A few years ago, it was President Jacob Zuma himself. Some judges even seem to empathize with rapists. Chief Justice Mogoeng Mogoeng is accused of reducing sentences because the rapists are poor—and black.

A 2010 Medical Research Foundation survey found that more than 37 percent of men *admitted* to raping at least one woman. Seven percent said they had participated in a gang rape. The researchers found that with many of the men, the idea of forcing someone to have sex with them was trivial, and "seen as a legitimate activity." A 2007 survey found similar results.

A legitimate activity? Are these 18.9 million men out of their minds?

In February, a 17-year-old girl was brutally gangraped, gutted and dumped, still alive, at a construction site. She was discovered and taken to the hospital, where she died. The story made international headlines. But in South Africa? There were some small protests, but then life went on.

And so did the brutality.

An 80-year-old woman was raped by her 18-year-old neighbor. A 26-year-old was abducted from her house and gang-raped. A man committed suicide while in jail after being accused of raping 33 girls and 2 women.

Experts say many young men rape women to prove their manhood. Sometimes it is part of gang initiations. Other times it is "corrective rape" to convert suspected lesbians. Many other rapes are due to tribal witch doctors who claim that having sex with a virgin will cure AIDS. Experts say this is why there are so many reports of babies and children—5-year-olds, 3-year-olds, 2-year-olds—being raped.

In 2007, the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/ AIDS said there were 22.5 million South Africans with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. That is twice the number of HIV-positive people in the rest of the world combined.

Fact of Life: Police Are Criminal

How do you live in a society where rape is considered legitimate by so many? In a society that reveres witch doctors and voodoo magic? In a country where the most important institutions are irreversibly corrupt? You get cynical, it seems. You go numb.

"No one trusts the police or any government institution anymore," said the woman I met. "Not long ago, the army was fighting the police."

1/3
Number of South
African girls who
will be raped
before age 18

66,000 Number of rapes in South Africa every year

360Number of rapes that occur every day



Percent of South African men who admit to raping at least one woman in 2010

Millions of South Africans with HIV in 2007

ANLUIGI GUERCIA/AFP/GETTY IMAG

South African women have a greater chance of being raped than of graduating from high school.

Surely she was exaggerating.

Sadly, she was not. In July, Transparency International released its 2013 Global Corruption Barometer report. It found South Africa to be among the most corrupt countries in the world. According to its findings, an astounding 83 percent of South Africans believe that the police force is corrupt. And 36 percent of respondents admitted to paying at least one bribe to the police.

South Africa's shadow minister of police Dianne Kohler-Barnard said that upon reflection, she wasn't surprised at the findings. The recent *murder of people in broad daylight by police officers* was an indication of the nature of the country's police force, she said. "Police demand bribes each time they stop a car, and they threaten those who refuse to pay bribes. ... Police steal from houses of victims of crime when they go to their houses to get statements from the victim. ... There is this issue or tendency of circulating criminal elements within the police by moving them from one station to another instead of dismissing them," she said.

In July, an internal South African police force audit revealed that 1,448 police employees, including a major general, 10 brigadiers, 21 colonels, 43 lieutenant colonels, 10 majors, 163 captains and 706 warrant officers, had undisclosed criminal convictions for murder, attempted murder, homicide, rape, attempted rape, assault, aiding and abetting, theft, breaking and entering, drug trafficking, kidnapping, robbery, malicious damage to property, and domestic violence. The vast majority were top brass. The same audit found that there were "serious challenges" regarding the management of discipline in the department.

In recent years, the police force has become internationally notorious for its brutality and corruption. Nine policemen were arrested earlier this year for murder, but only after a video surfaced showing them tying a man to a van and dragging him through the streets before killing him. And in May, a policeman was caught on tape pimping a policewoman to a man in a mall parking lot.

Fact of Life: Whites Are Targeted

And as bad as it is for South Africans in general, if you are an Afrikaner farmer, it is worse.

"The white farmers are being targeted," said the South African woman. "But the government won't do anything about it."



Again, the statistics confirm what she said.

Last year, South Africa had an astoundingly high murder rate of 31.9 per 100,000 people, according to police statistics. That is almost 20 times the murder rate of Canada, 27 times the rate in the United Kingdom, and more than 30 times the rate in Australia or New Zealand. South Africa's murder rate is almost twice as high as Rwanda, Chad, Sierra Leone and Zimbabwe.

But for white farmers in South Africa, the murder rate is 99 per 100,000!

That makes farming in South Africa the most dangerous profession in the world—*if you are white!* For black farmers, the murder rate is the average.

White farmers are twice as likely to be murdered as South African police officers, and that is saying a lot. Their station in life—growing crops, raising livestock and being white—is more dangerous than working in a mine, welding steel on a skyscraper, or working as an offshore oil rigger.

Genocide Watch, an international monitoring agency, says there is no doubt that white farmers are being targeted. South Africa sits at stage five out of eight on its warning indicator. This is actually a slight improvement from August 2012, when the international organization warned the country was in the "preparation stage" in the genocide process. Stage seven is "extermination." The group noted that high-ranking African National Congress (ANC) government officials were using racial epithets in a "campaign of state-sponsored dehumanization of the white population as a whole." It warned that politicians were sanctioning gang-organized hate crimes against whites, with the goal of "terrorizing whites through fear of genocidal annihilation."

White Afrikaner farmers face unprovoked brutality and disproportionately high numbers of victims who are tortured and mutilated—burned with hot pokers, scalded with boiling water poured down their throats, hacked apart. Yet prominent ANC politicians, including President Zuma, sing hate songs in public that have lyrics glorifying the killing of white farmers.

"The other day, when we were having lunch—I couldn't tell you how bad it is, it would have made you sick," said my South African acquaintance. "About 10 klicks just down the road where I used to live, three blacks broke into a house, tied up the

Percentage of South Africans who think that all public officials and civil servants are corrupt or extremely corrupt

Percentage of people who feel the whole political system is corrupt

Percentage who believe the police force is corrupt



South Africa's official unemployment rate

husband, gang-raped and killed the wife, before stabbing him like 14 times and chopping him with a panga [machete] and spreading the parts all over the house. Then they took their young son and drowned him in boiling water."

It was almost too gruesome to believe. "That kind of stuff happens all the time," she said. Praag.org reported that the three accused grinned in court as they admitted to the charges.

According to CensorBugbear, a prominent South African website chronicling the plight of the white farmers, May was the bloodiest month this year, but not by much. There were 69 attacks, 101 victims, 20 murders, 20 farm attacks—many of them horribly gruesome.

Over 3,000 white farmers have been murdered since the end of apartheid, according to Genocide Watch. Twenty years ago, there were 60,000 farmers. Today there are 30,000.

On August 8, two men were convicted of killing a 77-year-old man and his wife on their farm in Somerset. The husband was hacked to pieces. The wife was tied up, thrown in a freezer, and buried in frozen meat. She suffocated to death.

According to the police, the motivation was robbery. On August 11, four men broke into 57-year-old Vivien Ponté's home. She was tied to her bed, raped and lit on fire. Her house was ransacked, but it is unclear if anything was stolen.

Just another robbery gone bad.

On August 15, an 83-year-old Volksrust woman was assaulted, raped and left for dead, lying naked on the floor.

The list of "robberies" goes on.

Fact of Life: The Government Ignores Reality

"So why don't the police protect the white farmers?" I asked.

"They say it would be racist to protect them because they are white," she replied.

Racist to protect someone?

In police spokesman Zweli Mnisi's own words, "For us, racializing crime is problematic. You can't have a separate category that says, farmers are the special golden boys and girls. You end up saying the life of a white person is more important. You cannot do this."

The government no longer records the race of criminals or their victims. Former President Thabo Mbeki established that policy because the record-keeping was deemed racist.

So the government pretends the atrocious murders and rapes are just robberies gone wrong, and the viciousness continues. And the white farmers die.

What angers the white farmers even more is that the government won't even let them defend themselves.

Beginning in 2003, the government began disbanding the rural commando units used to protect the remote farming communities that did not have police protection. The government said the commandos were unconstitutional and promised special police units to replace them. In 2008, the last commando unit was disbanded.

To this day, the special police forces still haven't arrived.

Then in 2010, the government passed gun-control laws mandating that all guns be re-registered. In the process of registration, more than half the applicants were turned down and their weapons were seized.

Thus, white farmers were forced to relinquish their last line of defense against mobs of criminal gangs roaming the countryside. The criminals, of course, weren't silly enough to register their machine guns.

The Good Old Days?

Africa has changed a lot since the end of apartheid 20 years ago.

Many blacks will tell you things are better for them today, and in some ways they are. Blacks and people of mixed races are free to travel wherever they want and no longer need to get passes to enter certain parts of the country. They can vote, and they now dominate the government. They run the military and police forces. There are quota laws mandating that businesses hire non-whites first. The government has a land reform process in which it uses tax revenue to purchase land owned by white people to give to blacks. The government also builds free housing to give to blacks. And of course, there are no more "Whites Only" signs at train stations.

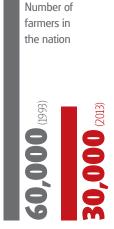
But most things are not better. Black-on-black crime is through the roof. In the slums, where the police fear to tread, "necklacing" is frequent. Vigilantes beat accused criminals to exhaustion before forcing vehicle tires over their shoulders, dousing them with gasoline and lighting them on fire. What is left is hardly recognizable.

So it really isn't that astounding that growing numbers of non-white South Africans—especially the older generation that lived during apartheid—admit to a certain longing for the old days. The reasons are obvious and transcend race. South Africa's crime rate is among the highest in the world. Its official unemployment rate is around 26 percent, but it is probably a lot higher. Its public institutions are corrupt, and law and order is failing. Beyond the police force, Transparency International found that 74 percent of people think all public officials and civil servants are corrupt or extremely corrupt, while 70 percent believe the whole political system is corrupt.

Then there is the obviously decaying infrastructure. Regular and unplanned power blackouts are now just part of South African life. Generation and transmission systems are all failing. What isn't buried underground is stolen. Sometimes the underground wires

See **SOUTH AFRICA** page 33 ➤

3,000Number of white farmers who have been killed since the end of apartheid



Coming to a neighborhood near you?

What is happening in South Africa is prophesied to occur in America, Britain and Israel. Learn more about these prophecies; order our free book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*.



23





BY STEPHEN FLURRY

VEN TO THE CASUAL OBSERVER, IT is evident this world has withstood a series of profound crises over the last decade.

In 2004, a devastating earthquake rocked the Indian Ocean, which triggered a massive tsunami that wiped out 230,000 lives. Nearly a quarter of a million people were swept out to sea. A similar catastrophe occurred in March 2011, when Japan was pounded by an earthquake, tsunami and subsequent nuclear crisis.

In July 2005, radical Islamists bombed the London underground rail system, killing 56 people and injuring 700. A month later, Hurricane Katrina plowed into the Gulf Coast, killing more than 1,800 people. It was the deadliest hurricane to strike America in more than 75 years.

In August 2006, Iran started the Second Lebanon War by orchestrating the kidnappings of Israeli soldiers. There was the Hamas takeover of Gaza in June 2007, which has proved to be a continual thorn in Israel's side, as hundreds and sometimes *thousands* of rockets fired from Gaza strike Israeli soil every year. In September 2007, Israel bombed Syria's nuclear facility. Some analysts said this nearly started World War III.

In 2008, Russia invaded Georgia, Iran conquered Lebanon, Germany conquered Kosovo, the United States ran Pervez Musharraf out of office—adding to Pakistan's instability, and the U.S. economy came within a few minutes of financial meltdown.

In 2009, the new leadership in the United States spent the year courting its traditional enemies while at the same time sticking it in the eye of its allies. Israel went to war with Hamas in Gaza, Iran crushed a democratic uprising called the Green Rev-

olution, and the Lisbon Treaty became Europe's new constitution. That same year, Europe was rocked by an economic crisis, which opened the way for Germany to ride to the rescue.

In 2010, for all intents and purposes, Iraq fell to Iran. The American dollar came under assault. America's strong traditional ties with Israel unrayeled. Britain



surrendered its military sovereignty. And then there were the natural disasters: 2010 was one of the deadliest years on record. The Associated Press called it "the year the Earth struck back."

And Today?

Today the world faces an ever radicalizing Islamist movement in the Middle East. That movement's momentum has greatly accelerated since February 2011, when the U.S. helped oust Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. Right now, we see a last ditch attempt by Egypt's military to suppress the Brotherhood's power, but the secularist military is operating on borrowed time. This is especially true now that is has lost the U.S. funding that long helped it contain the Brotherhood and Egypt's other radical Islamists.

In Syria, civil war rages, claiming over 120,000 lives to date. Meanwhile, the nation is becoming the center point of a dividing line between Sunnis, Shiites (often radical Islamists) and European allies.

Last year we witnessed the infamous attack on the United States consulate in Benghazi, Libya. Just weeks later, Americans reelected Barack Obama and with him the most radical leftist administration this country has ever seen. Earlier this year, we saw another deadly terrorist attack on American soil in the Boston bombing.

Multiple political scandals have also hit the headlines this year: revelations of a deliberate cover-up after the Benghazi attack; the Department of Justice admitting to monitoring AP and Fox News journalists; the Internal Revenue Service being exposed for targeting known conservative

groups to influence the 2012 election; National Security Agency leaks showing the government has been collecting phone



records and vast amounts of Internet data from ordinary American citizens for years. In October we had the government shutdown, revealing paralyzing division in America's political system.

Given these many earthshaking events, is it any wonder why many people now believe we are living in the *prophesied* LAST DAYS of this age?

Dangerous Times

In his booklet *Are We in the Last Days?*, Herbert W. Armstrong wrote, "Time was, when some wild-eyed freak shouting a 'doomsday' warning was ridiculed as 'off his rocker.' But today serious world leaders and scientists are saying grave things about the current drift in world conditions."

Added to that, never before in history—until this generation—has it been possible for man to destroy all flesh from the Earth. This, in itself, makes it possible for the prophecy of Matthew 24:22 to be fulfilled: "And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened."

In 2 Timothy 3:1 Paul warned, "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come." The word *perilous* can also be translated *dangerous*. These *dangerous* times are upon us now!

Commenting on this prophecy, Mr. Armstrong wrote, "When I was a little boy, 90 years ago, those conditions were not true or escalating as they have been within the last 20 or 30 years. ... The weapons have never existed in all history that could have laid all cities waste until the hydrogen bomb of some 30 years ago. How significant that this became possible only during the time while this gospel of the Kingdom was going from nation to nation into all the world for a witness to all nations."

2 Timothy 3:2 describes human nature in all of its ugliness. People today are "lovers of their own selves": They couldn't care less about the needs or desires of other people. Everywhere we see lovers of money, materialism and radical individualism—people who are contemptuous of God and His law and who aggressively promote the upside-



down families spoken of in Isaiah 3. Paul also says people are unholy, unthankful and without natural affection, and we love pleasure more than we love God. It all has a "form of godliness," but it's just a show.

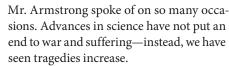
Losing Our Religion

God says we deny His authority by our rebellious actions! The Bible no longer bears any direct authority over people's lives. The miraculous events of Scripture are explained away as fable or old wives' tales. People may claim to be religious, but they don't really believe that God will intervene and change world events. They deny that Christ will return and rule this Earth with a rod of iron, even though dozens upon dozens of prophecies describe that soon-coming reality.

The world is filled with churches, which send hundreds of "missionaries" into foreign lands, telling people about Christ. Yet His *message*, the good news of the Kingdom of God, they deny. The true gospel they oppose. This world has been deceived by a counterfeit gospel *about* Christ THE PERSON. His actual *message* has long been forgotten.

"From such turn away," Paul says. He describes this generation as *ever learning*, but NEVER able to come to the knowledge of the truth (verse 7). The Greek word *ever* in that verse means *at all times* or *always*. In other words, Paul is describing a genera-

tion where there has been an explosion of materialistic knowledge. And yet, we are further from THE TRUTH than ever before! This is the "great paradox"



And yet, many people still deceive themselves into thinking there is no special danger right now—that the world has always been like this. Of course, this is true *in part*. From the very beginning, it was man, under the influence of Satan, who introduced this world to selfishness, destruction and death. But 2 Timothy 3 tells us that in the latter days, world events will take a DRAMATIC turn for the worse.



This, coupled with the stark reality that never before has human annihilation been possible as it is today, ought to WAKE US UP!

The Sign of Christ's Coming

In Matthew 24, the disciples came to Christ and asked Him what would be the sign of His coming *and* of the end of the world.

The focus of Christ's message was on today—the end of the world, or the end of this age. Not only did Christ describe signs of the end of the world, He gave signs of the end of the end time! He gave specific details to watch for.

Notice the *first* and most important warning Christ gave them: "And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that *no man deceive you*. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many" (verses 4-5).

This religious deception is the first horseman of the apocalypse! (Revelation 6). It is *not just about deception from false, non-Christian religions*. People are going to be deceived about Christ and His message—about what *true Christianity* really is.

Christ went on to say, "And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all *these things* must

come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places" (Matthew 24:6-7).



All this is only the beginning, He says in verse 8. These end-time events, Jesus continued, are leading to a WORLD WAR, the likes of which this Earth has *never* seen (verse 21). Without God's intervention, mankind would literally destroy itself (verse 22).

"Many other scriptures show that conditions will become more frightful than ever before or ever shall be again on Earth," Mr. Armstrong continued in *Are We in the Last Days?* "Such conditions are rapidly escalating at this moment. Person is against person, even within a large proportion of families. Group is against group. Nation is against nation. Violence is escalating as never before in history. Terrorism is throwing fear and consternation into people all over the world."

But we can thank God that all these self-inflicted curses will culminate in the prophesied return of Jesus Christ: "And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory" (verse 30).

Jesus Christ will set foot on this Earth for the second time, arriving in the exact same manner He left the first time (Acts 1:11). This time, however, He isn't coming to sacrifice His life for the sins of a rebellious mankind. This time, He is coming to FORCIBLY put an end to human suffering and death, and to set up the Kingdom of God—the royal Family of God that will administer God's righteous government over all the Earth!



Time is shorter than you think. The Apostle John wrote about "the last hour" before Christ's Second Coming. Request our free booklet *The Last Hour* to learn what is prophesied to occur soon!

WORLDWATCH

EUROPE



1 | FRANCE

'We want to work Sunday!'

RENCH CITIZENS HELD DEMONstrations at locations around Paris over the last weekend in September to protest a court ruling that forced two retailers to close 15 locations every Sunday. The ruling has reignited a long-standing debate about a century-old French law that enforces Sunday rest for many businesses.

On one side of the argument are businessmen who argue that France's stagnant consumer spending makes the law increasingly ridiculous; workers, struggling with rising taxes and pinched pocketbooks, who are increasingly eager to work Sundays in order to make ends meet; and the unemployed—now 10.9 percent, or 3 million people—who argue that the laws prevent thousands of sorely needed jobs from being created. A recent survey showed that an unprecedented 63 percent of French people now favor allowing shops to operate on Sundays.

But on the other side of the debate is an ancient force unlikely to be swayed by public opinion and protests: the Roman Catholic Church. Despite a shift toward secularism and an influx of Muslim immigrants, the influence of the church remains vigorous, not just in France, but in all of Europe. And mandating Sunday rest throughout Europe is among its pri-

mary goals.

The broad appeal of this goal is evident in the Brussels-based

European Sunday Alliance, a network of dozens of religious and nonreligious organizations from 27 European nations whose purpose, according to its website, is to "raise awareness of the unique value of synchronized free time for our European societies." In January, the group will meet with politicians from around the European Union for the second European Conference on the Protection of a Work-Free Sunday. The conference's published agenda says a work-free Sunday is "of paramount importance for citizens throughout Europe."

Why does this Sunday alliance exist and work so hard to influence Europe's labor laws? Why is the Catholic Church so adamant about instituting a Continent-wide day of rest? And why Sunday?

It is because it was the Catholic Church—in intentional violation of biblical teachings—that appointed Sunday as a day of worship. The Vatican is proud of this colossal feat, and Sunday rest has become a mark of the Catholic Church's authority. This truth is best explained by the Vatican's own:

"Sunday is a Catholic institution and its claim to observance can be defended only on Catholic principles. ... From beginning to end of Scripture there is not a single passage that warrants the transfer of weekly public worship from the last day of the week to the first" (Catholic Press, August 1900).

"Of course the Catholic Church claims that the change was her act. ... And the act is a mark of her ecclesiastical authority in religious things" (Letter from the office of Cardinal Gibbons, Nov. 11, 1895).

"The church is above the Bible; and this transference of Sabbath observance from Saturday to Sunday is proof positive of that fact. Deny the authority of the church and you have no adequate or reasonable explanation or justification for the substitution of Sunday for Saturday in the Third—Protestant Fourth—Commandment of God" (Catholic Record, Sept. 1, 1923).

"Perhaps the boldest thing, the most revolutionary change the church ever did, happened in the first century. The holy day, the Sabbath, was changed from Saturday to Sunday. 'The Day of the Lord' [dies domini (or "Sunday")] was chosen, not from any direction noted in the Scriptures, but from the church's sense of its own power. ... People who think that the Scriptures should be the sole authority, should logically ... keep Saturday holy" (Saint Catherine Catholic Church Sentinel, May 21, 1995).

January's conference could bring the Vatican-influenced EU closer to declaring Sunday as the official Continent-wide day of rest. Any steps in that direction should alarm religious liberty watchers and anyone familiar with Europe's violent history.

Back in 2005, when Pope Benedict XVI stressed the importance of Sunday worship for Europe and beyond, *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry wrote: "Pope Benedict perceives the secularist moral vacuum that has plagued Europe since the time of the Enlightenment. ... But it seems Benedict wants to fill that vacuum—the old *Roman* way. That way was never sympathetic to the idea of the public *voluntarily* accepting its tenets. Rather, as even a cursory study of history will reveal, it was imposed by *force*" (November 2005).

Benedict is no longer the church's frontrunner, but his successor and other Catholic officials remain committed to the same ambitions that drove him. To learn the details of how the Catholic Church has enforced Sunday during different epochs over the centuries, and what to expect regarding Sunday rest in Europe's future, request our free booklets Which Day Is the Christian Sabbath? and Who or What Is the Prophetic Beast?



2 | GERMANY

Reevaluating its global role

A growing number of Germans feel their nation should stop avoiding military conflicts and instead fill the global void in leadership. These opinions found a powerful voice in two high-profile articles published on back-to-back days.

Former German Defense Minister Karl-Theodor zu Guttenberg co-wrote an article with Hanns Seidel Foundation's



GUTTENBERG

Ulf Gartzke on August 30 in the New York Times. "Syria Tests Germany's Culture of Reluctance" argued that Berlin's decision to side with Russia and China against the

West in Libya made the German "economic powerhouse" look like "a pygmy in foreign and security affairs." They criticized the administration's belief that Germany can influence the world solely through its economic power.

Prominent German journalist Ullrich Fichtner made similar points in an essay published by Spiegel Online, showing how Germany has grown into a popular nation, and that countries and individuals around the world are crying out for German leadership. Germany's response, in his words: "We Germans? Exercise power? Take action? Lead?" Fichtner berated Merkel, saying no one in her administration "has given a single memorable speech on the subject of Europe in the last four years." He believes this must change: "For a country as important as Germany, getting involved is a duty, not a choice. The role of being an active player falls on us, whether we want it or not."

Germany has the power to play a huge role in the world—it just lacks the leadership. Once a powerful leader arrives, Germany's role will change suddenly. And so will its impact on Europe and the world.



2 | GERMANY

Merkel's triumph?

N GERMANY'S NATIONAL ELECTIONS IN SEPTEMBER, CHANcellor Angela Merkel secured a third term and led her party to its best election result in over 20 years. "Her election victory was not just a victory, but a triumph," wrote Süddeutsche Zeitung. "It is her triumph, not that of her party." Open Europe think tank director Mats Persson called it "a massive public endorsement for Angela Merkel, who has established herself as the most powerful female politician ever."

It is important to see Merkel's victory in the context of current events in Germany. Chancellor Merkel has consistently stood up for Germany's interests in Europe. She is the only leader within the eurozone to be reelected since the euro crisis intensified in 2010. Twelve out of the 17 eurozone governments have fallen. Merkel's survival is a testament to how well Germany is doing during the euro crisis.

But Germany's election result wasn't because of Merkel's spectacular leadership skills, but more a result of the lack of any replacement that Germans feel inspired by. The nation is experiencing a spectacular lack of leadership. There was simply no other candidate whom Germans could see doing the job.

Despite Merkel's win, the future is hardly rosy for her. She still faces lengthy coalition negotiations. Her usual coalition party, the Free Democrats, suffered a historic defeat and fell below the 5 percent threshold—disappearing from parliament entirely. Her Christian Democratic Union and its partners are now forced to reach out to the Greens or the Social Democratic Party.

Based on Bible prophecy, the Trumpet has consistently forecast a radical change in German and European politics and the arrival of a new strong leader. Germany still lacks this type of leader. Although the election results may seem to indicate that the status quo is alive and well in Berlin, expect a much more forceful leader to seize the helm—and soon.

3 | AUSTRIA 1 | FRANCE

Voting for the far-right

Extremist parties continue to do well in European elections. In a September 29 election, Austria's ruling coalition barely held on to power, registering 50.9 percent of the votethe worst combined result for the two parties since World War II. The antiimmigration Freedom Party won 21.4 percent—its largest since 1999.

Polls also show a strong shift to the right in France. On October 6, two far-right parties won almost 50 percent of the vote in the first round of a by-election in a small town in southern France. The National Front received the most votes, with 40.4 percent. One of its offshoots, the Parti de France, received 9.1 percent. The government-supported Communist Party candidate won only 14.6 percent. The byelection foreshadows a dramatic trend: Voters across Europe are rejecting immigration and multiculturalism. Watch for European politics to continue to shift right.



1 AFGHANISTAN

Losing hard-won gains

HE WEEKLY DEATH TOLL FOR THE AFGHAN MILITARY IS frequently over 100, according to reports published on September 2. The U.S. government is training native forces to take the lead in all security and tactical operations countering the Taliban. The trouble is that even with U.S. military backing, Afghans are being overwhelmed by their adversaries. When the U.S. moved its focus from combat support to training in June, the Afghan police death toll began to climb as more Afghans deployed to the front lines. Afghan citizens have sustained a 24 percent increase in casualties over last year. "The situation of civilians in the country and conflict-related civilian casualties are, indeed, not going in the right direction," United Nations spokesman Jan Kubis stated. "On the contrary, the situation has worsened." UN figures show that between January and June, 3,092 civilians were killed in the nationwide conflict. The Afghan Interior Ministry reported that some 1,800 police officers have been killed since March. With these terrible figures and their deleterious effect on troop morale, the Afghan Defense Ministry has stopped publishing monthly death tolls. As the U.S. continues its withdrawal, the Taliban appears to be quickly reversing the victories American and coalition forces have won since the 2001 invasion.

2 | ISRAEL More proof of Solomon's mines

Archaeologists have unearthed the remains of hundreds of copper-smelting furnaces and metallic ore residue in the Timna Valley in Israel's Arava Desert. The discovery provides further scientific evidence that prolific mining activity occurred in the area during the time of King Solomon (971-931 B.C.). Tel Aviv University archaeologists led by Dr. Ben-Yosef began working the site, known as Slaves' Hill, in February. The mining site was initially argued to have been built by ancient Egyptians three centuries before Solomon's reign, due to the discovery of an Egyptian temple at the center of the valley in 1969. But tangible evidence from the new excavations, such as ceramics, clothing, fabrics, rope, grapes,

dates and pistachios, was radiocarbon dated to the 10th century B.C.—the golden age of Israel under King Solomon, corroborating the biblical account of his reign.

3 | IRAN About to lose Hamas?

Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan hosted Hamas leader Khaled Mashaal in Ankara for a three-hour meeting in October, the third between the two in the past year. The two likely discussed the financial strain Hamas now feels after Egypt's recent decision to halt all smuggling trade and, with it, Hamas's cash flow. Hamas is now desperate for cash. Its traditional sponsor, Iran, is in no position to help because of its own financial woes. Has Hamas chosen to seek lifesustaining cash flow from Turkey? If so, is Iran about to lose control of its proxy in Gaza? The shift in Hamas's allegiance away from Iran is part of a mysterious prophecy recorded in Psalm 83. For years the *Trumpet* has watched for this seemingly impossible shift of Hamas's loyalties. Recent events indicate that switch could be at the door.





4 | LIBYA Getting uglier

Since Libya became caught up in the "Arab Spring" and deposed its eccentric dictator, Muammar Qadhafi, the North African country has faced increasing instability and violence.

Since its 2011 civil war, the economy has failed to restart. Libya is largely dependent on its oil and gas revenues to pay its workforce, arm its military and run the nation. It currently exports 130,000 barrels of oil per day, a veritable dribble compared to the amounts gushing forth before the war. Striking and theft are also crippling the nation. More-



over, the streets that tourists and journalists once roamed are now the highways of rebels and mili-

tias, each working to cement influence over their regions. After 40 years of dictatorial rule, the nation's new government struggles to control its territory.

Radical Islam is taking advantage of the chaos. On the one-year anniversary of the attack on an American diplomatic facility in Benghazi (which itself occurred on the 11-year anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks), terrorists in Benghazi celebrated by detonating a car bomb in front of the Libyan Foreign Office. The building had functioned as the U.S. Embassy before Qadhafi toppled King Idris in 1969. Was it just chance that this year's September 11 attack occurred at a building previously considered U.S. territory?

Biblical prophecy indicates that out of this lawlessness will emerge a nation aligned with the most radical country in the region, Iran. Request *Libya and Ethio*-

pia in Prophecy to learn more.



5 | CHINA

Baring its dictatorial teeth

Chinese Police are holding a cartoonist and blogger in custody amid an intensifying clampdown on online "rumormongering," reports said on October 17. Since August, hundreds of Chinese nationals have been arrested, and many remain in custody. China expert Bo Zhiyue says the clampdown exposes insecurity among China's new leaders. "They are trying to send China back all the way to the Stone Age. Where is the hope for political reform? Zero." History shows that such crackdowns often indicate leaders bent on dictatorial rule and overturning the global status quo.



5 | CHINA Pipeline project grab

China took control of the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) pipeline project on September 10, effectively grabbing it from a fatigued United States. The \$7.6 billion TAPI project—set to be completed in 2017—had been heavily backed by Washington since the idea was conceived in the mid-1990s. It has repeatedly stalled due to regional instability, and Washington seems to have welcomed China's takeover, reckoning that it will be more convenient to cut its losses and let Beijing get bogged down in Afghanistan's turmoil. Afghanistan's mayhem may end up making the TAPI project as much a drain to Beijing as it was to Washington, but on the framework of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization—the Beijing-led group that is set to soon grant membership to Afghanistan—China may be able to accomplish what the U.S. could not.



6 | RUSSIA 5 | CHINA

Largest joint military drills

HE AIR FORCES OF RUSSIA AND CHINA COMPLETED THE largest joint training exercise in their history on August 15 at a firing range in the Ural Mountains. The two-weeklong drill, which involved 1,500 personnel, came less than a month after Russia and China's largest-ever joint naval drills, and was designed to test the conduct of combined operations and to strengthen general ties between the two militaries. The Russo-Chinese alliance is quickly solidifying, which, according to the Canada Free Press, "constitutes a direct military challenge to the United States" (July 23). Despite arguments between Moscow and Beijing, the two "are determined to remain united against the U.S. and expand their power at the expense of America" (ibid). Bible prophecy states that these Eastern powers will indeed mobilize, but it will be against a united Europe in a post-America world.

5 | CHINA What are those for?

China launched three mysterious satellites in July, and as of early October, experts are still speculating about their true purpose. Robert Christy of Zarya .info said that at least one of the three is equipped with "a prototype manipulator arm to capture other satellites." If China's space program is preparing to damage American or other satellites. tension here below could soar into the stratosphere.



7 | PHILIPPINES

Attempted Muslim takeover

A three-week-long standoff between Philippine troops and Muslim rebels in Zamboanga ended on September 28 after more than 150 people were killed. The conflict began after a faction of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) attempted to fly a separatist flag at a government building in the city. Around 375 of these rebels held their ground against military forces by using about 200 civilians as human shields. The MNLF's long-standing goal has been to turn the Philippine state—the world's third-mostpopulous Catholic country—into an independent Islamic nation. The Vatican takes stock of such efforts. Expect its response to the rising and increasingly violent tide of Islam to grow more robust.

5 | CHINA

Influencing Central Asia

Chinese President Xi Jinping spent September 3-13 meeting with leaders from Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan. Xi also attended

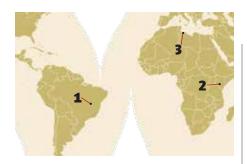
the G-20 summit in St. Petersburg on September 5 and the summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization in Kyrgyzstan on September 13. Since the disintegration of



XI IINPING

the Soviet Union, China and Russia have worked together to stabilize Central Asia, mostly because they are thirsty for the region's energy resources. Xi's visit boosts Sino-Russian influence over Central Asia and draws Beijing even closer to Moscow.

WORLDWATCH LATIN AMERICA



1 | BRAZIL

Bond with Europe to strengthen

The World Trade Organization has upgraded Brazil's economic status by classifying it as an upper-middle-income economy. This economic status reclassification cuts Brazil off from preferential trading perks with the European Union, its longtime transatlantic partner. The only way Latin America's largest economy can retain EU trade preferences—which it still needs—is to vigorously pursue a free trade agreement with the European Union.

In an interview with the Financial Times, Brazilian Foreign Minister Antonio Patriota expressed his nation's plans to forge ahead with a deal with the EU apart from the oft-divided Latin American trade bloc Mercosur. These trade overtures will strengthen the bond that already exists between Europe and Brazil and may encourage other Latin American countries to follow suit.

The Euro-Latino bond goes all the way back to the Holy Roman Empire during the 16th century, under Charles v. More recently, it includes the industrial partnerships formed with underground Nazis toward the end of World War II. Bible prophecy indicates that with the aid of the common Catholic religion, this bond will strengthen into an economic partnership that will supersede Anglo-America and dominate world commerce.





2 | KENYA

Murdering non-Muslims

N THE UNITED NATIONS' INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE, September 21, the al Shabaab terrorist group began a devastating four-day siege of Kenya's Westgate Mall. Sixtyseven people were killed, including five of an estimated 15 of the assailants.

Al Shabaab is a Somali organization linked to al Qaeda and backed by Iran. Its history is tainted with bloody strife with the Kenyan and Somali governments. Just three weeks prior to this siege, on September 3, the terrorists nearly assassinated Somalian President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud.

The Westgate Mall attack was intended as a political score against the Kenyan government and essentially represented a declaration of religious war. The terrorists tweeted: "Only Kuffar [non-Muslims] were singled out for this attack. All Muslims inside #Westgate were escorted out by the Mujahideen before beginning the attack." While there may have been a number of Muslims killed as "collateral damage," clearly this attack was discriminatory. In an e-mail to the Associated Press, al Shabaab claimed that it "carried out a meticulous vetting process" to separate Muslims from infidels. That process included random questions about the name of the Islamic Prophet Mohammed's mother, certain koranic verses and the Islamic oath. Non-Muslims in the mall who couldn't answer these questions were murdered on the spot.

Prior to the Westgate Mall attack, al Shabaab's violence was indiscriminate, killing Muslims and non-Muslims alike. Now, following strong criticisms from al Qaeda and others, al Shabaab is making its attacks not only political in nature, but religious as well.

It is apparent that al Shabaab and similar terrorist groups can easily destabilize the Horn of Africa and North African regions. Its egregious acts of violence will help inspire terror that will consolidate radical Islamist states, headed by Iran, as the prophesied "king of the south." But they also will incite a similarly discriminatory European retaliation much like the bloody Crusades of old.

3 | LIBYA

Refugees die off Lampedusa

A boat believed to have sailed from Libya with about 500 African migrants reportedly caught fire and shipwrecked off the southern Italian island of Lampedusa on October 3, killing at least 130 people. Most of those aboard were from Eritrea and Somalia, according to the United Nations. This is only one of countless incidents of African political, economic, social and religious refugees doing whatever it takes to try for better lives in prosperous Europe nearby. Europe's leaders are growing increasingly aware that the constant inflow of foreigners—and with the foreign beliefs, religions and cultures—threatens to marginalize and choke the laws. cultures and religion that have traditionally defined Europe. The handwringing over immigration policy highlights growing cultural tensions and portends a far more significant cultural clash between Europeans and non-Europeans.

The Teens Have Taken Over!

Just like Herbert W. Armstrong said they would

EW PEOPLE STOP TO REALIZE TO WHAT EXTENT THE teenagers have taken over today. They pretty well dominate the world picture." Herbert W. Armstrong wrote those words in a book called *God Speaks Out on* 'The New Morality'—45 years ago!

Today, American teens spend an estimated \$200 billion every year—an eye-popping figure that makes marketers and advertisers salivate. According to one report several years ago, the



PRINCIPLES OF LIVING STEPHEN FLURRY

food and beverage industries alone spend between \$10 and \$12 billion per year marketing to youth.

Marketers target young people not only for what they spend directly, but also for what they influence adults to spend. American children goad their parents into spending another estimated \$200 billion per year. "Virtually the entire media-entertainment industry today depends for its economic survival on capturing the 'teen dollar,'" Marcel Danesi wrote in *Forever*

Young—the Teen-Aging of Modern Culture. "For this reason, it caters primarily to the adolescent market. There is a veritable synergy today between that industry and adolescent lifestyles—they influence each other in tandem."

Yes, indeed. Teenagers pretty well dominate Western culture. And what many do not realize, as Mr. Armstrong wrote almost a half century ago, is that this adolescent influence on Western society is predominantly *sexual* and VIOLENT. Mr. Armstrong saw the beginning stages of a society-wide cultural revolution spearheaded by teenagers—and where it was leading.

There are close to 30 million teenagers in America, and that number is growing every year. That would be an encouraging trend in a godly society. After all, God intends children to be a blessing to their parents (Psalm 128:3) and to society (Proverbs 20:29; 1 Timothy 4:12).

However, as latter-day prophecy points out, our youth are a *burden* on society. Instead of helping to build it up, our own offspring are tearing it down. Isaiah 3:12 describes our children as OPPRESSORS.

This prophecy is being fulfilled in two ways, primarily. In a literal sense, youth are oppressing society by their rebellious disregard for adult authority (see verse 5). The average Western young person has a rebellious, disrespectful attitude toward his elders. In extreme cases, it can become violent. Teens are committing a shocking number of the nation's crimes, which is why our prison system is filled with young people.

The other fulfillment of this prophecy is even deadlier. It's described in verse 4: "And I will give children to

be their princes, and babes shall rule over them." God isn't just talking about children with respect to age, but also the way *adults* are ruling. Even our adults are acting like children! Read the first three verses of Isaiah 3 to see all the qualities of leadership that have vanished from our society: vision, prudence, judgment, wisdom, honor and eloquence. In this prophecy, God foresaw the near-extinction of mature-minded, biblically oriented qualities of Christian leadership. And it's because, in far too many cases, our leaders in the home, education, business and government have degenerated to a child's level of understanding. Instead of preparing our children for the responsibilities of adulthood, we adults are acting like children.

A widely reported phenomenon among youths is the growing length of time it takes them to transition into adulthood. Well into their 20s, they simply don't want adult responsibility. The American Psychiatric Association has gone so far as to define the stage of adolescence as a period extending from puberty to age 34. In other words, adolescence today lasts about three times longer than it did just a few generations ago.

Jesus Christ—the most *mature* and gifted teacher there ever was—sacrificed His life for the world at age 33. What does He think about our immature, teen-dominated, sexually perverse, violent culture?

Even religion is dumbing its message down to attract younger crowds. Though many Protestant and Catholic denominations are seeing their congregants leave—especially young ones—evangelical megachurches are booming because they are adapting to "contemporary culture," punching up their worship services with rock concerts and boutique coffees. This is not an encouraging trend.



Our youth are a burden on society. Instead of helping to build it up, our own offspring are tearing it down.

In 1 Corinthians 13:11, the Apostle Paul wrote, "When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things." Today, instead of putting away childish things and preparing our own children for adulthood, adults are stooping to the level of immature, rebellious, sexually deviant teenagers.

"It's the commercial media entertainment economy at work," wrote Danesi in *Forever Young*. "Age is now considered a disease. Youth sells. There's a big emphasis on having it all: good living, keeping your youth, having as much fun as you can. It's empty because there is no wisdom behind it." Worse still, he goes on to explain, "It's a cultural disease. And now we're into the final silly stages."

Seven years after Mr. Armstrong first published *God Speaks Out on 'The New Morality,*' he updated and revised the text under a new title: *The Missing Dimension in Sex*. If you don't have a copy, request one immediately. Its pages reveal the only safe passage out of our sin-sick youth culture.

THE MISSING DIMENSION IN SEX HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

Need help navigating through the final stages of our youth culture takeover? Order our free book **The Missing Dimension in Sex.**

Heartwarming

It is truly heartwarming to gain some of the past missing details about the archaeological digging which has been successful in Israel, and to know how closely God's Church in America has been involved ("The World's Most Important Archaeological

Project," October/November). How jolting, yet warm and reassuring, are these recent discoveries, such as the medallion and even Nehemiah's wall. At this late time in mankind's history on this Earth, it makes one's head swim—and heart fly—to realize that God is blessing these efforts, and that within His quiet glory, while humans continue to destroy and doubt, He is in control. He simply will not let this amazing and fruitful work be stopped or interfered with. Regardless of the doubt and ridicule which taints the air as always, the facts and stories in the pages of God's book, the Bible, shine and speak to us today, ever more sweetly!

Virginia Kaplan—Oregon

This month's *Trumpet* is one of the best I have ever read. God's blessing continues as you continue with Mr. Armstrong's legacy. Wow, what a find! Not monetary wise, but as proof of God's Word the Bible being true. I love it. It has really lifted my spirit and given me proof. Thank you and may God continue with His blessing to you, as He reveals Himself to us in these times before His return. *Miriam*—FLORIDA

A witness to doubters

The tombs of the kings might be the next to be discovered ("The Tombs of the Kings," October/November). Thank you, Mr. Flurry, for having the faith to continue Mr. Armstrong's legacy.

Mellita Gocheco—Philippines

The articles in this special edition are an incredible witness to the skeptics and doubters. However, this article really brings shivers and tingles to my skin. The

anticipation of the possibility of such an historic find makes me want to pack a shovel and come on over. I look forward to hearing what comes next. *Emma Morris*—Australia

Lighting up history

I believe that Ms. Mazar has brought a lot of biblical history to light at this important site of biblical history ("Q&A With Eilat Mazar," October/

November). May God bless her and her efforts. *David Groth*—MICHIGAN

A seed takes root

As one who remembers the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation in my early beginnings with the wcg, it brings me much joy to see this relationship flourish again ("Rewarding Partnership," October/November). And furthermore, the news regarding the new findings of the gold jewelry and other historic finds brings me much joy. Mr. Armstrong would be nothing less than proud to see the fruits of his successors. What a wonderful brief history as well.

Joe Hurtado—California

A seed was planted in the mind of Dr. Eilat Mazar when she was just a child when she witnessed the partnership between Mr. Armstrong and her grandfather. Today, that seed has sprouted and taken root in a renewed partnership between Mr. Flurry and Dr. Mazar. How wonderful to see these two working together.

Theo—Florida

A cherished friendship

Isn't God wonderful? ("The Armstrong-Mazar Family," October/November). Doesn't He show us how He cherishes friendship, partnership and continuity and that He is on our side helping us to reveal the truth of the Bible, His Word? Praise to Him who does it all.

Madeline Catussatto—Brazil

She is amazing

Thanks for distilling down her character traits ("Like a Rock," October/November). I am inspired and impressed and also encouraged to emulate her and her character. So many gifts this woman is

channeling to the world—beyond even her comprehension.

Diane Napierkowski—Michigan

Thank you for this wonderful insight into Dr. Mazar's character. As a voracious, vicarious voyeur of the HWAC connection to the various digs, her amazing qualities are well known. It is a good thing to show the world that her honesty, integrity, love of family, and trust in God's Word are the true treasures to be cherished above that which she uncovers with a brush. To quote her son, "She is amazing."

Michael Burns—Rhode Island

theTrumpet.com RECENT ONLINE HIGHLIGHTS

Video: President Obama 'Unleashes Horror' in Ierusalem



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As the U.S. disintegrates, Washington squabbles over parks and pandas.

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A Great American Spectacle

The biggest impact of the government shutdown the



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How Big Was Angela Merkel's Election Victory in Germany?



thetrumpet.com/go/10994

How This World Will End

Great minds are contemplating this



question, and the answer has already been revealed. thetrumpet.com/go/10982

➤ **SOUTH AFRICA** from page 23

are stolen too. Tens of thousands of people inhabit suburbs that are plunged into darkness at random times. Hundreds are regularly left stranded on trains. South Africa's well-maintained freeway system hides the dangerous, pothole-strewn secondary road grid, for which there is no money to keep up.

Even South Africa's world-class mining industry is collapsing. Once the world's biggest gold producer by far, 20 years later, it is now fifth on the list and falling. International investors don't want to build mines in a country that constantly talks about taking them away from "rich whites" to give to blacks.

Meanwhile, as the population has skyrocketed, agricultural production has stagnated, and is now slightly beneath 1980s levels.

For growing numbers of South Africans, the sentiment appears to be: At least back then I had a job, it was safe, and I had food in my belly. But for others, the failure of Nelson Mandela's "peaceful" transition to improve the life of blacks is just proof that South Africa hasn't gone far enough. They say it is time for blacks to turn up the heat and take full control of the country.

Popular political hatemongers like former ANC youth leader Julius Malema are attracting large numbers of followers on his party platform of seizing the land and driving all whites out of South Africa.

Frog in a Pot

You know the story of the frog in the boiling pot? It is a useful metaphor for people in South Africa today. They live in a country gone mad. Already the water is simmering, but the danger does not register. Those on the outside yell, "Jump out! Do you want to die?" But from inside the pot, the insane seems like normal, everyday life.

But this is NOT normal! Murder, rape, torture, a totally corrupt police

force—*is not normal*. Living a life of fear is not normal.

Wake up, South Africa. The water is starting to boil.

The whites in the Cape cities may feel relatively secure—for now. The cosmopolitan papers, unwilling to upset the Cape Towners at their breakfast, will keep on with the Springboks and the cricket matches.

But be warned, Cape Town, George, Port Elizabeth: The *genocide*, the self-destruction, won't stop with just the white farmers or the black slums. What is happening in the rest of the country will eventually come to you.

"So what are your plans now?" I asked the woman from South Africa.

"We have moved to Sydney, Australia."

My friend got out of the pot. I cry for the South Africans who can't—or won't.

Where Is the Pot of Gold?

South Africa is a nation in desperate need of solutions. Its people followed the rainbow revolution and, instead of finding a pot of treasure, they found *themselves* sitting in a pot filled with simmering water.

Taking power from the white man, as it turned out, did not automatically result in utopia. Passing laws forbidding companies from hiring whites did not solve black unemployment. Legislating higher minimum wages did not make people wealthier. Forcing companies to become blackowned did not magically create a better, fairer economy. Promising free houses to the masses did not fix homelessness. More welfare, it turned out, led to more single parenthood, more fatherless families and more poverty. Requiring schools to hire black teachers first, regardless of qualifications, did not improve the quality of education. Mandating black police forces did not reduce crime. Black law enforcement did not decrease exploitation. In many cases, the new laws have made things worse.

If only solving problems was as easy as passing more laws.

This is a big lesson from South Africa that must be learned. From the Cape to Cairo, Africa is a continent that very visibly illustrates that mankind simply *cannot solve its problems*. As the Isaiah 59:8 prophesies, "The *way of peace* they know not; and there is no judgment in their goings: they have made them crooked paths: whosoever goeth therein *shall not know peace*." Proverbs 14:12 tells us, "There is a way which *seemeth right* unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

The results of these policies—the failure of these supposed "solutions"—is plainly evident, if only man will acknowledge it.

Why is that so often the case? Why do our best efforts to reduce suffering and improve our lot result in problems even worse than those we purported to solve? There is a cause for every effect.

The Apostle James asked, "From whence come wars and fightings among you? Come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members? Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain" (James 4:2-3).

What James is talking about is *human nature*. Why do people steal, murder, commit adultery or fornication, covet what is not theirs? Human nature. Mankind is naturally vain, lustful and greedy toward self. It is jealous, envious, hostile and resentful of authority of others. As the Prophet Jeremiah wrote: "The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked: who can know it?"

Here is a fundamental truth well illustrated by the crisis in South Africa: It is impossible to have utopia on Earth until HUMAN NATURE IS CHANGED. Until then, societies, regardless of continent, will degrade and slump towards the ugly, the violent and the base.

See **SOUTH AFRICA** page 36 ➤



Materialism isn't the only thing wrong with Christmas!

Disenchanted by the Christmas season? You're not the only one.

Have you ever wondered what God thinks about Christmas?

Find out by ordering our free booklet *The Truth About Christmas*.



SAEED KHAN/AFP/GETTY IMAGES, ISTOCKPHOTO/THINKSTOCK, TIM SLOAN/AFP/GETTY IMAGES, ISTOCKPHOTO/THINKSTOCK

SOCIETYWATCH



Warship woes

HILE ITS AIRCRAFT CARRIERS ARE THE FLAGSHIPS OF the U.S. Navy, even they are not immune to budget cuts. The sequester agreement, made as part of negotiations to raise the debt ceiling in 2011, delayed a \$4 billion contract to start building the second in a series of three Ford-class carriers.

The contract was to be awarded to Huntington Ingalls Industries Inc. in September, but will be postponed by as much as a year, U.S. officials say. The estimated cost once the three are completed and outfitted will be \$43 billion. Huntington Ingalls received a \$4.9 billion deal in 2008 to build the first carrier in the series: USS Gerald R. Ford. Since then, the estimated costs have ballooned 22 percent. Already the most expensive warship ever built, it is projected to cost \$12.8 billion when it is christened.

The Navy is attempting to reel in its massive expenditures on upgrading, maintaining and expanding its fleets. The sequester cut most Defense Department budgets by 10 percent. The cuts are deep for the Navy, with talk of an expected shortfall of \$14 billion this upcoming fiscal year.

The downfall of the U.S. superpower is intricately tied to its economic decline. As the U.S. continues to fall further into moral degradation, it is burdened with curses such as the economic trials that are weakening the Navy.

Here's one thing booming during the recession

The U.S. has more than 33,000 gangs with 1.4 million members, the FBI's 2011 National Gang

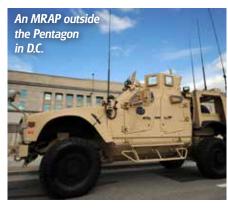
Threat Assessment reported. These figures represent a 40 percent increase in members and a 65 percent increase in groups since 2009. The FBI says some of this upsurge can be attributed to more accurate reporting methods; nevertheless it is undeniable that

gang activity has increased dramatically since the 2008 recession. These 1.4 million active gang members are responsible for 48 percent of the nation's violent crime.

Half a million STD diagnoses in the UK

In the United Kingdom, 448,422

new cases of sexually transmitted diseases were diagnosed in 2012, a report by Public Health England showed. Health authorities offer two solutions: "safe sex" and getting tested annually or when one moves on to another partner. Government authorities have been squabbling over what is seen as the main solution: statutory sex education in schools. But the thoroughly vetted, inexpensive, perfect method proven to prevent all sexually transmitted diseases has received little attention: abstinence outside of marriage.



Retaking American streets

After more than a decade of war, the U.S. military is selling off its surplus equipment—particularly tactical vehicles. Its latest customer: local American police forces. Overburdened with an excess of mine-resistant ambush-protected vehicles (MRAPS), the Defense Logistics Agency has practically been giving these \$1 million vehicles to any police force that can pay the shipping costs and justify the need. In August and September, 75 of these vehicles were given away to local police departments, according to the DLA. Built to withstand mine blasts, improvised explosive devices, and small arms fire, these 19-ton behemoths are now being made available to assist with "active-shooter incidents, swat, and drug interdiction," according to DLA spokeswoman Mimi Schirmacher. With the increase of drug-related and other violence throughout America, streets are becoming war zones, and police are acting accordingly.

UK: Deaths from legal highs nearly double

The number of people in England and Wales who died after taking "legal highs" jumped from 29 in 2011 to

52 in 2012, Britain's Office for National Statistics revealed on August 28. The overall number of deaths related to drug abuse was 1,496, down from 1,605 the previous year. Legal highs are drugs that are usually very similar to illegal drugs, but have been designed by chemists to get around the letter of the law. The UK bans the worst of these drugs, but chemists and drug dealers quickly produce new drugs to replace those outlawed. Because they're technically legal, they're easy to obtain and can even be ordered online.

Ron Fraser 1942-2013

Memorable statements from one of the Trumpet's most redoubtable writers



On Germany's rise: "This has been our consistent message for over 70 years—initially under the administration of Herbert Armstrong, and latterly under the direction of our editor in chief, Gerald Flurry. The big difference between the two administrations is that the prophecies that Herbert Armstrong publicly broadcast and published for over 50 years have, since his death in 1986, become, increasingly, the cold hard reality of geopolitics today" (May 7, 2013).

On Europe's future: "Watch for the U.S. to be replaced by the EU as chief negotiator of peace in the Middle East. ... Watch for economic and social destabilization in Europe to rise in the wake of the launch of the euro" (January 2002).

On Germany's position in the world: "Germany is today far more strategically placed to initiate a sudden imperialist power grab than it ever was under Hitler back in 1939. ... All it lacks is the type of charismatic, imperialist leadership to initiate it!" (Jan. 7, 2013).

On German militarization: "There's more than a sense of déjà vu about all this. There are certain uncanny parallels with the 1930s. But this time we have no Churchill to sound the alarm. We have no Roosevelt with the vision to steer the mind of a once great industrial nation to rise to battle against the prospective onslaught of tyranny" (May 5, 2013).

On Kosovo: "It was a masterful piece of political subterfuge which served to demonstrate that the old Teutonic masters of the ancient, ever reviving Holy Roman Empire had learned much from their failure to win Europe in two great world wars. Simply let others fight the wars—preferably at their own expense—and always appear reluctant to enter the offensive; then follow along, cap-in-hand, and offer to be the peacemaker at the end of the major conflict. *Fait accomplis!*" (Nov. 3, 2005).

On European religion: "What Europe presently lacks is a cultural identity. The concept of identity relies principally on memory. Thus, in order to bind its multifarious mix of diverse races, cultures and mismatched economies together into a harmonized whole, Europe will unquestionably be forced to look to that which has historically provided the singular source of common heritage—*Europe's traditional religion!*" (July 2004).

On America: "I am not an American. I live in America by the grace of God, for it's where my job has taken me. I love the country, its tremendous variety of geographic features, its abundance of blessings, and the freedoms it offers to worship my God and be part of an effort to publicize His original message to mankind in a manner unmatched and unwanted in most countries of the world. But something has gone wrong with America—gone *terribly* wrong!" (July 4, 2013).

On race: "[H]uman beings with their weakness for hatred of a person different to themselves ... too often ignore the reality of the common God-created blood that they share—proof of a common Creator of all humankind I worked for six years with

Australia's black community, developing a number of real friend-ships with those of a different skin color to myself. Yet those six years awakened me to the reality of hatred that is stimulated by the politics of race" (Aug. 22, 2013).

On abortion: "The creeping moral relativism of liberal socialists ... has produced a deep-seated canker of immorality and an unfeeling nature into the way that America regards human life. Something is destroying America's natural affection (2 Timothy 3:1-4) and respect for human life. Something has hardened this nation's heart to the point where little newborn human beings can be trashed in public toilets and dumpsters and it all so easily becomes just yesterday's news" (July 1998).

On behavior disorders: "ADHD has been an identifiable childhood 'illness' for decades. When I was a child, the schoolteacher quite correctly identified such behavior as resulting from poor parenting. ... Ill-disciplined children remained ill-disciplined at home and school, with the result that they suffered from an entire lack of focus on the teacher. ... We used to have a way of dealing with this that really did work. It is revealed in Proverbs 13:24" (May 30, 2013).

On errors in journalism: "Google has certainly contributed to lazy research when it comes to seeking background for a story. To add to that journalistic weakness, the propensity for every man and his dog to get in on the act on a so-called breaking story has increased exponentially with the tidal wave of communications gadgetry that the average Joe and Jill Public now have at their tendonitis-prone thumb tips" (July 17, 2013).

On agriculture: "It has been said of the modern farmer that as soon as he mounted a tractor, he lost touch with the land. Modern techniques of farming have resulted in higher yields of product to the detriment of product quality and the raping of some of the most fertile land in the world. ... Changes from traditional practices to methods designed for short-term gain are destined to end in land exhaustion, increasing desertification and heightened disease. Almost a century of land and stock abuse in the nations of Israel is rapidly leading to the destruction of the health of whole nations!" (August 1996).

On hope: "Yes! There is hope for mankind—there is hope for the myriads slaughtered at the hand of man throughout history, hope for the sick, the suffering, the persecuted, the poor, the blind, the lame! The knowledge of that wonderful hope is protected within the mothering womb of the one true Church that Christ established on Earth nearly 2,000 years ago. That Church, that one, true Church, still stands! Jesus Christ said the gates of the grave would never close over it" (May 1996).

On the warning message: "[T]he signs are that the window of time left to those who courageously continue preaching, broadcasting and publishing this message from within the United States is fast closing" (July 4, 2013).

➤ **SOUTH AFRICA** from page 33

A Lesson for Outsiders

Those of us who live outside of South Africa might think, Wow, I sure am glad I don't live there. But take a deep breath and consider.

The rest of the English-speaking, "advanced" world is not so different. Human nature is the same. And, though on a smaller or less severe scale, many of these nations are experiencing decay and pursuing policies cut from the same cloth as those that are bringing South Africa down. Welfare systems may have more money to redistribute, but they promote the same family breakdown. Affirmative action laws and racial quotas make companies more diverse, but not more efficient or productive. Spending money to build fancier schools, to give each student an iPad and to stuff unionized teachers retirement plans has not reversed the decline in education.

According to biblical prophecy, what is happening in South Africa right now is actually a precursor of what is coming on the whole world. Sydney, Wellington, Toronto, London and New York might seem relatively safe—but, if you believe your Bible, you know that none of them will be able to provide refuge for long.

This world is heading into a period that Jesus Christ called "great tribulation." It is a time of unparalleled suffering, greater than any in human history. Matthew 24:21-22 says it will be so bad that unless the days were cut short, the human race would wipe itself out!

The Prophet Jeremiah describes this horrible time period (Jeremiah 30), and he identifies the nations primarily affected. The great tribulation, though it will progressively engulf the whole world, is coming *primarily* on those nations whom God caused to be named after Jacob—specifically the nations descended from his grandchildren Manasseh and Ephraim. Those are the United States and British peoples of the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and much of the white population of South Africa. (Request our free book The United States and Britain in Prophecy for proof.)

What South Africa is living today, the rest of the world will be living tomorrow!

In the short term, however, God will provide a way of escape from the coming tribulation for His people. You can be protected from what is about to befall this Earth—if you obey Him.

Beyond that, the good news is that there really is a rainbow with a pot of gold at the end. The great tribulation, horrific as it will be, represents the storm before the calm. It occurs just prior to the greatest event in human history: Jesus Christ's Second Coming. When the King of kings returns, He will set about *eliminating human nature*. Then He will establish a real utopia—a kingdom that will solve this world's problems once and for all, providing freedom, abundance, prosperity, security, happiness and justice for people of every nation and race!

Learn more about how God will rid the world of human nature in order to create a peaceful and just world. Request a free copy of The Wonderful World Tomorrow— 36





UNITED STATES

Nationwide Satellite

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

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 WPXH 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; KAZT 8:00. Sun

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/

Georgia, Albany WBSK 9:30, Sun

WTLH-DT 9:30, Sun Tampa WXPX 6:00, Fri; WTTA 8:30 am, Sun West Palm Beach WPXP 6:00, Fri

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

Kaui Ho' Ike Chan. 52 9:30, Tue Maui/Lanaii/Molokai/Niihau/Akaku

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 KPIF/KBEO 10:30, Sun

Pocatello KPIF 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, Sur Indiana, Fort Wayne WPTA-DT 21.2 9:30, Sun

Indianapolis 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 KFPX 5:00, Fri Keokuk WEWB 8:30, Sun Kirksville 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 WBPQ 9:30, Sun

Maryland, Salisbury WBD 9:30, Sun Massachusetts, Holyoke WBQT 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/ WGTO-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) KWSD/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

What It Will Be Like.



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 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 KNOP 10:30, Sun; 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 WPXJ 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 WVPX 6:00, Fri Cincinnati WSTR 8:30, Sun Lima WLIO-DT 9:30, Sun Steubenville 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

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/KVIH-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 KCPQ 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 WVFX-DT 9:30, Sun Oak Hill KVVA-DT 9:30, Sun Parkersburg WBPB 9:30, Sun Weston WVFX-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 Rhinelander 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. 17 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu Galaxy 3 Trans. 21 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu

Nationwide cable

WGN 8:00 ET, Sun Discovery 6:30 ET/PT, 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 Edmondton KAYU 8:30, Sun Medicine Hat KAYU 8:30, Sun

Lethbridge KAYU 8:30, Sun British Columbia, Vancouver

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

Victoria CHNU 5:30 pm, Sun Manitoba, Winnipeg WUHF 8:30, Sun; CIIT Joy TV 11:00, Sun

Nova Scotia, Halifax WUHF 8:30, Sun Sydney WUHF 8:30, Sun

Ontario, Ottawa CJOH 5:30, Sun Toronto WADL 10:00 Sun; WUTV 10:00, Sun; CHNU 8:30 pm, Sun

P.E.I., Charlottetown WUHF 8:30, Sun Quebec, Montreal WVNY 10:00, Sun Saskatchewan, Saskatoon WUHF

8:30, Sun

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Regional satellite

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

Aruba WGN 8:00, Sun

Bahamas Discovery Chan. 26, 6:30, Sun FOX W Chan. 216, 10:30, Sun

Belize WGN 7:00, Sun Cuba WGN 8:00, Sun

Dominican Republic WGN 8:00, Sun Haiti WGN 7:00, Sun lamaica WGN 9:00. Sun

Puerto Rico WGN 8:00, Sun Trinidad and Tobago WGN 8:00, Sun

LATIN AMERICA

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

New Zealand TVNZ, 5:30, Sun Philippines TV4 9:30 PHT, Sun

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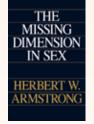
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