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to Buy
NYSE?

IRAN'S MILITARY PLOT to conquer the Mideast

To Lie
or Not to
Lie

THE PHILADELPHIA

APRIL 2011 | THETRUMPET.COM

TRUMPET

**Did
America
Betray a
Friend?**





COVER

8 | Betrayed Hosni Mubarak was hung out to dry. And look who is really celebrating his fall.

11 | BIBLE | Prophecy Comes Alive in Egypt!
The upheaval in Egypt demonstrates the veracity of Bible prophecy—in particular a prophecy our editor in chief has been pointing to for 18 years.

WORLD

6 | Europe Must Reclaim the Mediterranean Checking radical Islam from gaining a foothold in North Africa and the Mideast is a matter of survival.

16 | WORLDWATCH What to do about persecution?
• How close are they really? • PA: The more things change ... • Finally, a plan to turn it around • Parliament defies EU court

28 | Charting the Future German leaders' statements reveal what to expect for Europe.

ETC.

12 | ECONOMY | The Real Reason Germany Wants to Buy the NYSE

14 | ARCHAEOLOGY | Using the Bible as Her Guide Talking with Israeli archaeologist Eilat Mazar

22 | HISTORY | What Happened to Egypt's Pharaohs?

25 | LIVING | To Lie or Not to Lie Many people are of two minds about lying. Is it always wrong?

26 | Jacob's Tangled Web

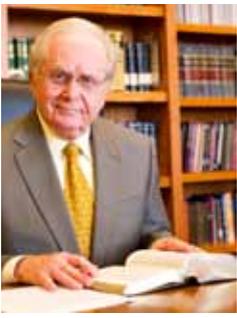
1 | FROM THE EDITOR
Libya and Ethiopia Reveal Iran's Military Strategy

32 | INCREASE YOUR BIBLE IQ What Is Hell?

34 | LETTERS

35 | COMMENTARY
A Chilling Peek at Our Abortion Culture

36 | TELEVISION LOG



FROM THE EDITOR GERALD FLURRY

Libya and Ethiopia Reveal Iran's Military Strategy

WHAT IS THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE OF LIBYA AND ETHIOPIA? We must go to the Bible for the answer—you will find it no place else.

Just look at what has happened in the first couple of months of this year: 1) The Tunisian government has fallen, probably into the hands of the radical Muslims; 2) Lebanon has fallen to the Hezbollah terrorists, controlled by Iran—the number-one terrorist-sponsoring nation in the world by far; 3) the government of Egypt has fallen, and its replacement will form some kind of an alliance with Iran, *the king of the south*. We have been prophesying this for about 20 years!

Now the whole world can see it happening very dramatically!

As usual, many of the Western world's leaders see what is happening in Egypt as good news. They fail to see the strength of Iran and the Muslim Brotherhood, and some of them fail to see the broken will of America—which *all* the Middle East leaders see!

The government of Yemen is very shaky.

All these events are bad news for America and Israel. But they show us almost precisely where we are in Bible prophecy!

Now let me illustrate a new and stunning piece of the puzzle about the Middle East.

The whole scenario is explained in Daniel 11:40-44. These verses reveal what is unfolding in the Middle East, Europe and Asia—the most critical prophecy of the next few years.

What happened in January and February of this year was only a small dress rehearsal of what is about to explode in the Middle East! The whole world will be dragged into this unparalleled crisis!

Until now, I have not understood much about *why* the two nations of *Libya* and *Ethiopia* are mentioned in verse 43, along with Egypt. THESE TWO NATIONS ARE THE KEY THAT UNLOCKS THE STRATEGY OF RADICAL ISLAM. THAT STRATEGY IS GOING TO SHAKE THE U.S. AND EUROPE TO THEIR FOUNDATIONS!

We are about to be flooded with bad news. But it is all concluded by the best news you have ever heard!

Soon you will see the prophesied 10 European kings unite into the Holy Roman Empire that is going to clash with radical Islam, or the king of the south. Europe understands what the U.S. does not: Radical Islam must be stopped! And the stronger leaders know it won't be done through *negotiation*!

Here is what I wrote in the *Trumpet* magazine, July 1993—nearly 18 years ago: “So when does the king of the south ‘push’ at

the king of the north? It must happen AFTER the book of Daniel was revealed to Herbert W. Armstrong in this end time. DANIEL 12:9 TELLS US THE TIME OF THE END BEGINS WHEN DANIEL WAS REVEALED. [The book can only be understood in this end time (Daniel 12:4, 9).] So the king of the south must arise after Daniel was revealed to God's end-time Church—specifically to Herbert W. Armstrong. These verses point to a king of the south that is yet future. And I believe *all* indications point to radical Islam, headed by Iran, as this king.”

How could I have known so long ago that Iran would be the king of the south and clash with the Holy Roman Empire? Because of what was happening in Iran and the Middle East, coupled with Bible prophecy. It is time for all of us to wake up to what is happening in this world. WE ARE FACING THE GREATEST CATASTROPHE EVER ON PLANET EARTH.

What happened in January and February of this year was only a small dress rehearsal of what is about to explode in the Middle East! THE WHOLE WORLD WILL BE DRAGGED INTO THIS UNPARALLELED CRISIS! Iran is about to get the nuclear bomb. It is the greatest terrorist-sponsoring nation in the world—no other country even comes close. And here is the worst part of all: Iranian leaders and many of their people believe the 12th imam (their version of the Messiah) is about to return. They think his return can be hastened by creating chaos!

You can create a lot of chaos with many terrorists and nuclear bombs. NEVER IN THIS MODERN AGE HAS A POWERFUL NATION HELD SUCH EXTREMELY DANGEROUS BELIEFS. That makes Iran a terrifying danger far removed from what we have ever faced before!

No other nation on this Earth brings such certain and deadly danger to this world! IT IS ON A PATH THAT *MUST* LEAD TO WAR!

Egypt's Fate

Egypt adjoins Israel's southern border, geographically. That is one big reason why the people of Israel *fear* what is happening in Egypt.

Here is another quote from my July 1993 *Trumpet* article: “Islamic extremism is gaining power at a frightening pace in Egypt also. There is a prophecy that indicates Egypt will probably fall to Islam—or be strongly influenced by Islam. Let's read Daniel 11:40 and 42: ‘And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over. ... He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape.’ This verse indicates Egypt will be allied with the king of the south. That is probably the reason Egypt is also attacked and taken captive! *I believe this prophecy in Daniel 11:42 indicates you are about to see a radical change in Egyptian politics!*”

The Holy Roman Empire, led by Germany and the Vatican, is going to wage war against radical Islam with all the power it can muster. That one *whirlwind* blow will

destroy the king of the south.

Since I wrote that, Egypt has been shaken repeatedly by Iran and radical Islam. Anwar Sadat, the president of Egypt before Hosni Mubarak, was killed by the Muslim Brotherhood—the strongest opponent of Mubarak today and closely tied to Iran. Now that radical, violent organization is about to get much more influence and control in Egyptian politics. The Brotherhood has been less violent the last 30 years because of the strong leadership of Mubarak. But now he is gone. EGYPT'S CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH AMERICA IS HISTORY!

The Hamas terrorists of the Gaza Strip are the Palestinian counterparts to the Muslim Brotherhood! This terrorist Brotherhood could get control of Egypt. It could be very similar to how Hamas got control of Gaza.

Here is what the *Christian Science Monitor* wrote January 25: “[T]hey’re seeking the ouster of President Hosni Mubarak, who ascended to the presidency after Sadat’s assassination in 1981. A popular uprising in Tunisia may have just pushed out President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali [That did happen.] But activists, political analysts and average people in Egypt insist that something crucial shifted for Egypt today. Egyptian political scientist Mustapha Kamel Al Sayyid predicts that NOW THE DAM HAS BROKEN, protests will continue. ‘The reservoir of discontent is huge,’ he says. ... ‘[T]here’s a revolution coming,’ [a protester added]” (emphasis mine throughout).

THE FUTURE IS QUITE BLEAK FOR EGYPT, JUST AS YOUR BIBLE PROPHESED IN THE BOOK OF DANIEL ABOUT 600 YEARS BEFORE THE FIRST COMING OF CHRIST!

Why won’t people believe their own Bibles?

Here is what Stratfor wrote January 4: “The most vulnerable time in Egypt is the period before Mubarak leaves the scene [when America’s government was humiliating Mubarak, our friend for the last 30 years]. ... Let’s consider for a moment what an Islamist Egypt would mean. The Mediterranean, which has been a strategically quiet region, would come to life. The United States would have to reshape its strategy, and Israel would have to refocus its strategic policy. Turkey’s renaissance would have to take seriously a new Islamic power in the Mediterranean. MOST IMPORTANT, AN ISLAMIST EGYPT WOULD GIVE DRAMATIC IMPETUS TO RADICAL ISLAM THROUGHOUT THE ARAB WORLD. One of the linchpins of *American and European* policy in the region would be gone in a crucial part of the world. The transformation of Egypt into an Islamist country would be the single most significant event we could imagine in the Islamic world, beyond an Iranian bomb.”

STRATFOR PLACES THE MOVE OF EGYPT INTO THE RADICAL ISLAMIC CAMP AS MORE DEADLY THAN ANYTHING EXCEPT IRAN’S GETTING THE NUCLEAR BOMB—WHICH IT IS ABOUT TO DO!

That is exactly what is going to happen inside Egypt—according to Bible prophecy.

President Mubarak resisted the radical Muslims in their violence toward Israel and other nations. He was a powerful ally in helping America, Britain and Israel in their war against terror. Mubarak fought against Iran getting the nuclear bomb.

In terms of its *peace*, Israel is going to lose its best friend in the Middle East—Egypt. THE JEWISH NATION IS IN GRAVE DANGER!

The Jews know it and many of them blame the U.S. for much of this Egyptian crisis.

President Mubarak exerted the power needed inside



Egypt to control his strongest opponent, the violent Muslim

Brotherhood. He has lived through six assassination attempts on his life.

Still our leaders seem to have no real concept of what he had to deal with every day.

In spite of Mubarak’s positive fruits, the present U.S. administration set out to humiliate him publicly from the beginning of the massive demonstrations in Egypt! Only a rebuke from Saudi Arabia slowed our government’s tactics.

No Arab country in the Middle East has done more to befriend America!

Yes, Mr. Mubarak made some serious mistakes. But America has utterly betrayed a friend of 30 years. The result? America’s influence in the Middle East has plummeted to near zero!

Why? Because we support the enemies of America and the moderate Arab states and humiliate nations that are friendly toward us. For example, the American government said nothing to support many thousands (some say millions) of dissenters in the summer of 2009 when they marched against Iranian leaders who



September 2011! What results should we expect?

Many people in the West hope to see Egypt transform into a picture of democracy and peace. But *what do the Egyptian people want?* Are Western leaders willing to look at the reality?

A major survey by the Pew Research Center last year showed that the people of Egypt have no interest in Western-style democracy. THEY ACTUALLY WANT STRICT ISLAMIC RULE.

Look at these results from the Pew poll.

Fully 85 percent of Muslims in Egypt want a *strong Islamic influence in the nation's politics*.

Nearly the same number say those who leave the Muslim faith should be killed for it.

Eighty-two percent support stoning adulterers, and 77 percent think thieves should have their hands cut off.

Well over half would support segregating women from men in the workplace.

Fifty-four percent believe suicide bombings that murder civilians can be justified.

Nearly half have a “favorable view” of the terrorist group Hamas, and 3 in 10 are positive toward Hezbollah. One fifth of Egyptians even hold positive views of al Qaeda and Osama bin Laden.

Among the 18 Muslim nations Pew surveyed, Egypt had the highest unfavorable rating toward America: 82 percent of Egyptians dislike the U.S.

stole their election!

America will never have another opportunity as it did with that first and most powerful wave of dissent. The brutal military has since gotten control over the dissenters, who are now more fearful.

On the other hand, the U.S. government immediately supported the dissenters in Egypt and humiliated our friend of many years, Hosni Mubarak.

The U.S. could have diplomatically spoken encouraging words to both sides.

How can we explain such a dangerous, upside-down foreign policy? Why should moderate Arab nations and Israel give any support to America? Surely, we must see how our actions negatively impact those nations in the Middle East!

The whole world is watching. America's foreign policy is an unmitigated disaster!

In a crisis, what Arab country would now help us secure the massive amounts of oil we get from the Middle East—*without which our economy would be wrecked?*

What Egyptians Really Want

Egyptian presidential elections are scheduled to be held in

ABLE TO CONTROL OR CONTAIN THE MORE EXTREME VIEWS OF HIS OWN PEOPLE. BUT THAT DAM WAS BROKEN WHEN HE RESIGNED.

No new leader could ever get the power to resist such strong beliefs of the Egyptian people. This all plays into the hands of Iran and its strong ties to the Muslim Brotherhood. What happened to Iran in 1979 is somewhat similar to what will happen in Egypt. And let's not forget how Iran turned Gaza and Lebanon into its own terrorist arms. In each of those places, it started with a group like the Muslim Brotherhood.

We continually underestimate the power of Iran! That wealthy nation gives full, fanatical support to terrorist groups!

The people are now rejoicing in Egypt. But it is not a time for joy in America—it is a time for *fear*. If we don't understand that now, we soon will!

Iran's Strategy—U.S. and EU Nightmare

Stratfor Intelligence mentioned the Mediterranean area twice. Turkey, already an ally of Iran, is on the northern part of that strategically important sea.

DEMANDING CHANGE

Libyan protesters seek to topple dictator Muammar Qadhafi in February.



Stratfor believes the U.S. and Israel will have to reshape their strategy. STRATFOR ALSO MENTIONED EUROPE. GERMANY AND THE VATICAN ARE GOING TO CAUSE THE WHOLE WORLD TO RESHAPE ITS MIDDLE EAST STRATEGY! Bible prophecy makes that very clear.

Most authorities overlook how these events are affecting Europe. Germany and the Vatican see the new Middle East crisis as deadly serious. The king of the north, or the Holy Roman Empire, is soon to have a strong leader who will see the danger much like Stratfor Intelligence does and will *act* accordingly. That too is prophesied in the Bible. (Request our booklet *Germany and the Holy Roman Empire*. All of our literature is free.)

Germany and the Vatican probably see Iran's strategy better than any power outside the Middle East.

There are several Middle East nations not mentioned in Daniel 11:40-44 either by their ancient or modern names—for example, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Yemen, Pakistan, Afghanistan, etc.

But two more nations *are* mentioned for a reason I have not understood as I do now.

Libya and Ethiopia

“But he [the king of the north] shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and THE LIBYANS AND THE ETHIOPIANS SHALL BE AT HIS STEPS” (Daniel 11:43). Why did God inspire the mentioning of Libya and Ethiopia? Every word in God's inspired Bible has significance. God placed two nations in the same verse as Egypt for a definite reason. THIS VERSE STATES THAT LIBYA AND ETHIOPIA ARE ALSO GOING TO BE CLOSELY ALLIED WITH IRAN!

Here is how the *Soncino Commentary* defines *at his steps*: “Either joining his army, or placing themselves at his beck and call.”

The *Gesenius' Hebrew-Chaldee Lexicon* defines that expression as “in his company.”

The Moffatt translation reads this way: “following in his train.” So you need to WATCH LIBYA AND ETHIOPIA. THEY ARE ABOUT

TO FALL UNDER THE HEAVY INFLUENCE OR CONTROL OF IRAN, THE KING OF THE SOUTH. That is why they are subdued in the king of the north victory.

That prophecy is easy to understand. The big question is this: Do you believe your Bible?

Why would Iran be so interested in getting some measure of control over Libya and Ethiopia? To me, the answer is intriguing.

All you need to do is get a good map of the Middle East, with the emphasis on the Mediterranean Sea and the Red Sea. Then you can see why the king of the south, or radical Islam, is so interested in an alliance with or control over these two countries (as well as Egypt and Tunisia). They are on the two seas that comprise the most important trade route in the world!

Whoever heavily influences or controls Ethiopia will undoubtedly also control the small areas of Eritrea and Djibouti on the Red Sea coastline. These areas only recently became independent of Ethiopia. Also, I believe the Bible view is that these small areas are included as a part of Ethiopia.

Controlling the Suez Canal is not enough. Egypt tried that in 1956, when Britain, France and Israel kicked it out in one attack. But what if you have radical Islamic nations along this sea trade route with real air power—including missiles?

That could give Iran virtual control of the trade through those seas. Radical Islam could stop the flow of essential oil to the U.S. and Europe!

Iran could also potentially get control of Jerusalem, its third-holiest site. I believe Jerusalem is more important to Iran than the oil is. The Islamic people have fought the Catholic Crusades for about 1,500 years over control of Jerusalem. Bible prophecy says one final crusade is about to erupt.

IRAN CONQUERING JERUSALEM WOULD SUDDENLY GALVANIZE THE WHOLE ISLAMIC WORLD! IT WOULD SPREAD RADICAL MUSLIM INFLUENCE TO MANY COUNTRIES OUTSIDE THE MIDDLE EAST. It could lead to dangerous rioting and terror in Europe, Asia and even America.

The soon-coming Holy Roman Empire—a superpower with 10 kings, dominated by Catholicism and led by the most deceptive and aggressive Germany ever—realizes that Arab fervor could spread like wildfire. Many Catholics consider Jerusalem their most important religious site.

You need to watch Libya and Ethiopia. They are about to fall under the heavy influence or control of Iran, the king of the south.

If Iran gets control of that trade route, it could create enormous damage and chaos in America and Europe almost overnight. Germany and the Vatican, the heart of the Holy Roman Empire, are not going to allow the king of the south to get control of Jerusalem and the world's number-one trade route!

I did a television program on January 27 of this year. The viewers were asked to watch Libya and Ethiopia because of new understanding I had received the previous day.

There was almost no news about Libya at that time. The nation seemed stable. Less than one month later, Libya's government was about to be overthrown, or a civil war was beginning.

WE BELIEVE THAT THE NEW UNDERSTANDING WE RECEIVED ABOUT LIBYA WAS A MIRACLE. WE ALSO BELIEVE THE *TIMING* OF WHEN WE RECEIVED THAT UNDERSTANDING WAS A MIRACLE.

Such miracles are not just coincidence.

You need to continue to watch for Libya and Ethiopia to make a severe and rapid turn into the radical Islamic camp.

You also need to watch closely what we speak and write about Bible prophecy.

The king of the south is going to *push* at the king of the north, probably from its trade route power. That push will be a dramatic act of war! The Holy Roman Empire will respond with an all-out whirlwind attack—and Iran and radical Islam will fall immediately.

Arab-Iranian control over the Mediterranean Sea and the Red Sea could be the real reason the U.S. is not involved in this Middle East war. Our economy is shaky, the dollar is extremely weak, and Iran could threaten or even cut off all our oil and wreck the U.S. economy to keep America out of the war.

THE PROPHECY ABOUT LIBYA AND ETHIOPIA UNLOCKS IRAN'S MILITARY STRATEGY! We wrote over 15 years ago about Iran's global ambitions. They have only intensified since that time.

So the Bible indicates that Libya and Ethiopia also have to be subdued by the king of the north because they were in the radical Islamic camp. Those two nations were "at his steps." Both countries have already been influenced by radical Islam. But they are not in the radical Muslim camp—yet.

Why are these two nations even mentioned in this prophecy if they don't play a key role?

Lebanon's Government Falls

The Lebanese government has been friendly to the U.S., but it also fell in late January this year. Hezbollah, a terrorist arm of Iran, has now gotten control of Lebanon.

Agence France-Presse wrote on January 26, "Israeli Vice Prime Minister Silvan Shalom said on Wednesday that Lebanon was being taken 'hostage' by Iran and Hezbollah, after the Shiite group's preferred candidate was named as Lebanese premier-designate. "The international community must do everything to stop Hezbollah and Iran from taking Lebanon hostage," Shalom told Israeli public radio. "HEZBOLLAH IS NOT SIMPLY A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION, IT'S A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION CONTROLLED BY THE IRANIAN STATE," he said."

That is the king of the south in action!

This is another dangerous shift in Middle East power to terror-sponsoring Iran. It's more bad news for Israel

and the U.S., because the Lebanese government was friendly toward them. IRAN'S TERRORIST ARM OF LEBANON IS GEOGRAPHICALLY JOINED TO ISRAEL.

THE ALARM BELLS ARE RINGING!

While I was writing this article, the Yemen government pledged to soon step down because of large demonstrations. That government has also been helping the U.S. and others fight the war against terror. Yemen is already infested with terrorists. It is located on the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden—and is another strategically powerful country if you are trying to control world trade.

World War III and Christ's Second Coming

Events in the Middle East are going to trigger World War III. The king of the north, after conquering the king of the south, will be alarmed as the kings of the east prepare to attack. So the European power will strike first. Europe will then be overwhelmed by Russia, China and probably Japan. (For more information, request our booklets *Daniel—Unsealed at Last* and *The King of the South*.)

This will lead to Armageddon, which leads to Christ's Second Coming.

"And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination [the king of the north] that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days" (Daniel 12:11).

Verse 12 then says, "*Blessed* is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days." Here God draws attention to 1,335 days and says those who make it to the beginning of this time period are BLESSED.

From Daniel 10:10 to the end of Daniel's book is the longest single prophecy in the Bible. Mainly it focuses on "*the time of the end*" (Daniel 11:40). The Moffatt Bible translates that expression, "when the end ARRIVES."

The end time has arrived! Mighty prophecies are being fulfilled before your eyes! That means monstrous and lightning-fast changes in world events. But these extremely dangerous end-time events conclude with the coming of the Messiah. That is the finale to the longest single prophecy in the Bible!

Whether we like it or not, the end time has arrived. Ninety percent of Bible prophecy is being fulfilled in this end time. News reports are filled with prophetic events.

America is about to go bankrupt. Soon riots and race wars are going to explode in the U.S. They will make the demonstrations in Egypt seem like child's play by comparison!

God is going to get our attention!

The Great Tribulation is about to burst on the world scene. It will be followed immediately by the Day of the Lord—which is concluded by the Messiah's coming.

Bible prophecy proves that God is alive and His plan always prevails. It is time for all mankind to wake up to the reality of Bible prophecy!

The extremely good news is that these cataclysmic events lead directly to the Second Coming of Christ. Then Christ will rule this Earth forever under the direction of His Father.

Mankind's terrible suffering is about to end forever. ■



For full coverage and the latest developments on the unrest in the Middle East and North Africa, visit theTrumpet.com.

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5

WORLD

Europe Must Reclaim the Mediterranean

Preventing radical Islam from gaining a foothold in North Africa and the Middle East is a matter of survival. **BY BRAD MACDONALD**



IN THE WORLD OF GEOPOLITICS, THE map is a prophetic instrument.

Consider the political upheavals in Egypt, and the inevitable emergence of the Muslim Brotherhood in Cairo's new government. More broadly, consider radical Islam's growing presence and influence in places like Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia, Yemen, Iraq, Lebanon and Pakistan. As extremist Islamic forces gain footholds in these countries, will they provoke transformations beyond the Middle East and North Africa? If so, where?

For the answers, we need only study a world map. What quickly becomes apparent is radical Islam's rise as a potent and controlling force in the southern and eastern Mediterranean. And which region, outside that theater, does this trend threaten more than any other? In virtually every conceivable way—politically, economically, strategically, demographically, culturally—it *threatens* EUROPE!

A Strategic Threat

As Egypt exploded in February, the *Guardian's* Timothy Garton Ash, in an article aptly titled "If This Is Young Arabs' 1989, Europe Must Be Ready With a Bold Response," warned that if violent, anti-Western Islamic forces gain the upper hand in Egypt and throughout North Africa, "*producing so many new Irans,*" then "HEAVEN HELP US ALL" (February 2; emphasis mine throughout). The stakes in the Mediterranean could hardly be higher for Europe, Ash stated: "If that does

not add up to a *vital European interest*, I don't know what does."

Shamefully, few other commentators have analyzed the rise of radical Islam in the Arab world in this context. Some of Europe's leaders, though, know precisely what is at stake. On February 4, for example, former German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer, in an article that warranted more attention than it received, warned it was time for Europe to think "GEOPOLITICALLY, not just fiscally, about the Mediterranean."

In a glimpse of how European elites are digesting events in Egypt, Fischer said that "what the European Union is facing in the Mediterranean region isn't primarily a currency problem; **FIRST AND FOREMOST, it is a STRATEGIC PROBLEM—one that requires finding solutions urgently.**"

To understand Fischer's alarm, consider a map of the Mediterranean (pages 2-3). What quickly becomes evident is that radical Islam, *under Iran's direction*, is gaining control of strategic assets vital to Europe!

Controlling the Mediterranean

One of Europe's most important strategic assets is the Strait of Gibraltar. Situated on Spain's southern tip, dividing Europe from Africa, this sea-lane is the gateway into the Mediterranean Sea. Each year more than 80,000 vessels—many carrying goods to and from the shores of Europe's largest economies, particularly Spain, Italy and Greece—transit the maritime gateway. The deep-water Port of Gibraltar is one of the busiest and most important in Europe.

From Gibraltar, one can peer across *less than 15 miles* of ocean and see Morocco, a bustling nation of 31 million, *98 percent of whom are Muslim*. Morocco's government and populace are relatively stable, but experts say Islamic terrorist organizations in recent years have taken root in the country. Some have joined forces with drug cartels smuggling their wares into Europe. Others are actively working to overthrow the Moroccan government.

More worryingly for Europe, radical Islam is gaining power in neighboring Algeria, both as a terrorist force and through various political entities. Following the protests in Tunisia and Egypt, protesters hit the streets in Algeria demanding the removal of strongman President Abdelaziz Bouteflika, who since 1999 has governed under a state of emergency rule. And the country has emerged as a terrorist mecca. According to former CIA official and counterterrorism expert Charles Allen, al Qaeda is using Algeria as a breeding ground.

Al Qaeda "functions as an umbrella organization for a disparate collection of Sunni Muslim terrorist elements determined to attack what they see as apostate regimes in Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Mauritania and Morocco," Allen said. Another expert said the region is emerging as al Qaeda's *next Afghanistan*.

For Europe, the rising dominance of radical Islam in territory adjacent to its most crucial sea-lane amounts to a **MAJOR STRATEGIC THREAT!**

A thousand miles east of Gibraltar is

Tunisia. Apparently, this country, after the recent ousting of its authoritarian president, is embracing the democratic election of a new government. No one knows what it will look like, but experts expect Islamist political parties to emerge with considerable influence, particularly Ennahdha, the leading Islamist party—known for its anti-Western, extremist roots.

From Tunisia, the shores of Sicily are a little over 150 miles away. That region has historically been a staging ground for armies seeking to invade Europe via the Italian peninsula. For Europe, the emergence of a government in Tunisia that identifies with radical Islam and allows the nation to become a launch pad for radical Islam into Europe would be a strategic threat!

Then there's the Suez Canal, which bisects Egypt, connecting the Mediterranean with the Red Sea and Indian Ocean. Each day, 2 to 3 million barrels of oil and fuel products pass through the canal and the energy pipelines that transit the Suez desert, which is controlled by Egypt. About two thirds of that energy ends up in Europe, where it accounts for 5 to 7 percent of the Continent's oil consumption. If radical Islam, via the Muslim Brotherhood, gains power in Cairo, it could shut down the Suez.

For Europe, the transfer of the Suez Canal into the hands of radical Islam would be a strategic and financial catastrophe!

But it's not just the Suez that poses a potential vulnerability for Europe. Radical Islam has also established a presence, in most cases *decisively*, in Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia and Yemen. Except for Ethiopia, each of these countries is adjacent to the Red Sea or the Gulf of Aden, the vital sea-lanes connecting the Arabian and Mediterranean seas—*connecting Asia with Europe*. In addition to their role as maritime highways, the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden contain vital ports from which Middle Eastern oil is shipped to the world.

For Europe, the thought of the entire Red Sea region falling under the control of radical Islam is a strategic and economic nightmare!

Another sliver of territory crucial to Europe is the Dardanelle Strait and the Sea of Marmara, which connect the Black Sea to the Mediterranean. Historically, these have generally marked the line between Europe and the Middle East. Today, these vital sea-lanes are controlled by Turkey. Since World War I, this nation has been a secular state nurturing warm relations with the West, especially Europe. As long as Turkey remained a secular, pro-Western state, Europe had no need to worry about the sea-lanes.

In recent years, however, Turkey has raised concern in Europe. Hardline Islamist forces have gained greater religious and political influence. More worryingly, Istanbul seems to be losing interest in its relations with the West, including Europe, and instead prioritizing its relations with its Muslim neighbors, *particularly Iran*. In February, after Iran and Turkey concluded discussions and deals further strengthening ties, Iran's parliamentary speaker Ali Larijani gloated that "*strategic cooperation between the two countries contributes to regional and global peace and stability.*"

Europe doesn't believe that. For Europe, the thought of Iran's mullahs exploiting relations with Turkey to meddle in the Dardanelles and the Black Sea is deeply alarming!

Furthermore, as Turkey continues to gravitate toward Iran, expect tension between Europe and Turkey over control of Cyprus to intensify. The island nation is a member of the European Union, but over a third of it is controlled by Turkey and considers itself a separate Turkish republic.

Europe recognizes Cyprus's strategic position—at the crossroads of the Aegean and Mediterranean, and adjacent to the volatile Middle East—and its crucial role in past European ventures into the Middle East and North Africa.

As Turkey slides toward Iran, expect Europe to step up efforts to reclaim the whole of Cyprus!

Other Provocations

Two other trends in the radical Islamic camp also deeply concern European leaders. First, Europe, and particularly the Vatican, are alarmed by radical Islam's war on Christianity—especially Catholics.

In recent months, radical Islam has intensified its attacks on Christians around the world, particularly in Muslim nations. Most people in the West have only recently woken to this war, and largely as a result of the brutal bombing of Coptic Christians in Alexandria, Egypt, on New Year's Eve. But in the last few months, hundreds of Catholics have been killed or injured by radical Islamic terrorists, from Russia to the Philippines, Nigeria to Pakistan. It is reaching the point where Pope Benedict xvi and Catholic Europe are bound to respond forcefully to these attacks!

Second, the growth *inside* Europe of Muslim communities, many of which shelter small but dangerous radical Islamic camps, is impelling Europeans to look for ways to preserve European culture and institutions. The last few months have witnessed a noticeable rise in anti-Muslim attitudes throughout the Continent. In February, several European leaders, including

French President Nicolas Sarkozy and German Chancellor Angela Merkel, declared publicly that multiculturalism in Europe has failed. After visiting Europe in February, Daniel Pipes, an Islamic affairs expert, reported, "Perhaps alone in the coterie focused on the Islamist threat to Europe, I am cheerful these days. *That's because I see the anti-Islamist reaction growing even more quickly than the Islamist threat itself.*"

The Time Is Right

Truly, when you look at the map and consider the rise of radical Islam, *it's difficult to exaggerate just how much is at stake for Europe in the Mediterranean*. Historically, the Mediterranean Sea belongs to Europe. Strategically, the Strait of Gibraltar, the coast of Tunisia, the Suez Canal and Red Sea, the Dardanelles and Cyprus are vital to Europe's national security.

Since the start of this year, it has become obvious that radical Islam—a vehemently anti-Western, violent, aggressive and uncompromising force—is campaigning to seize control of Europe's southern flank. Iran is at the vanguard of this uprising.

As reality sinks in, Europe is realizing: INACTION is not an option!

This explains why Joschka Fischer is exploring Europe to seriously engage governments in North Africa and the Middle East that have yet to come under radical Islamic influence. "European officials in Brussels and the major European Union governments *should not go for political and economic half-measures when it comes to the Mediterranean states*," he wrote. The EU is certain, sometime soon, to heed Fischer's advice. It has too much at stake not to!

More significantly, the rise of radical Islam in the Mediterranean—the region Winston Churchill termed Europe's soft underbelly—will serve as a powerful impetus for Europe to continue to forge itself into a streamlined and dominant political, economic and military superstate. Be assured, events in Egypt are showing Europe that if it wants to survive as a unified power—if it wants continued access to energy and resources from Africa and the Middle East—if it wants to stop radical Islam's war on Christians—if it wants to purge Islamic extremists from the Continent—then it must summon the political and military will and might to confront Iran and its radical Islamic proxies.

Watch Europe closely. It knows the window of opportunity to tackle radical Islam's mounting armies is closing. It is about to reclaim the Mediterranean! ■



Betrayed

Hosni Mubarak was hung out to dry. Now look who is really celebrating his fall. **BY STEPHEN FLURRY**

IN AMERICA, THE STORY AMID ALL the recent tumult in the Middle East of Egypt's people rising up to thrust Hosni Mubarak from power was broadly reported as a wonderful, feel-good story. Western romantics view the revolt as a garden-variety democratic uprising led by freedom-seekers yearning for modernity.

President Barack Obama described the scenes of jubilation many observed on television screens on February 11 this way: "We saw mothers and fathers carrying their children on their shoulders to show them what true freedom might look like. We saw a young Egyptian say, 'For the first time in my life, I really count. My voice is heard. Even though I'm only one person, this is the way real democracy works.' We saw protesters chant '*Selmiyya, selmiyya*'—'We are peaceful'—again and again. We saw a military that would not fire bullets at the people they were sworn to protect. And we saw doctors and nurses rushing into the streets to care for those who were wounded, volunteers checking protesters to ensure that they were unarmed. We saw people of faith praying together and chanting—'Muslims, Christians, We are one.'"

This, they say, is *good* for the Middle East. It's *good for America*.

"What we've seen so far is positive," President Obama insisted at a press conference a few days after Mubarak resigned. "I think history will end up recording that *at every juncture* in the situation in Egypt that we were on the right side of history" (emphasis mine throughout). He even claimed some of the credit for Mubarak's expulsion, saying one reason for the "peaceful" transition was *America's* consistent support for the anti-regime movement!

The mainstream view would have you see Egypt as a country hungry for freedom and peace after a generation of brutality under the boot heel of a dictator. But that view ignores several crucial facts both of history and of current reality in that country.

The reality is far different—and far more revealing about what to expect in Egypt and throughout the region in the time ahead.

Preparing Mubarak

After a terrorist organization with links to the Muslim Brotherhood assassinated Egyptian President Anwar Sadat in October 1981, a startled world watched with wonder. *How will this sudden, unexpected jolt impact world events? Will Sadat's*

relatively unknown successor continue the pursuit of peace in the Middle East?

What few people realized at the time was that Hosni Mubarak had been carefully groomed to follow in the steps of his predecessor.

Anwar Sadat recruited Mubarak to be his vice president in April 1975, two years after the general had won praise for drawing up a successful air campaign that was used against Israel during the Yom Kippur War.

"I need a vice president who will share with me state responsibilities at all levels," Sadat told Mubarak. Then, as if sensing his newfound devotion to peace might endanger his life, Sadat intoned, "*No one can foresee the future*, and state secrets must not be known by one person alone."

For the next six years, President Sadat gradually handed Mubarak the day-to-day responsibilities of running Egypt's government. This allowed Sadat to focus more of his attention on foreign policy—in particular, the Middle East peace process.

That's not to say Mubarak was left out of the loop when it came to foreign affairs. Whenever possible, during the countless discussions Sadat had with foreign dignitaries, Mubarak could be seen sitting

nearby, quietly taking notes. When circumstances prevented him from attending high-level diplomatic meetings, he would be thoroughly briefed by the president himself.

“There was nothing he did or said that I did not know,” Mubarak related about Sadat. “I have learned a great deal from him.”

And when President Sadat paid with his life for his courageous stand against religious extremism and his commitment to making peace with Israel, Mubarak vowed to stay the course, however unpopular that might be in the Arab world. In response to the assassination, for example, Mubarak cracked down hard on the religious extremism. He arrested more than 350 radical Islamists for their involvement in the assassination plot.

At Sadat’s funeral, Mubarak boldly stated, “I declare that *we will honor ALL* international charters, treaties and commitments which Egypt has concluded. *Our hands will not cease to push the wheel of peace in pursuance of the mission of a departed leader.*”

During an exchange with a reporter from Israel, Mubarak advised him to go and tell the people of Israel, “Don’t worry.”

Two years earlier, Anwar Sadat became the first Arab leader to officially recognize the State of Israel. It was Sadat who made the historic peace pact with Israel. But it was Mubarak who honored that agreement and maintained the peace for three decades.

Is it any wonder why so many Israelis hold Hosni Mubarak in such high regard? Mubarak is the primary reason Israel has cut military spending and reduced its troop presence along the Egyptian border—even as Egypt’s militarily establishment has grown to be one of the strongest in the Arab world.

None of this is intended to whitewash Mubarak’s flaws. He did rule with an iron fist. His administration was corrupt. But he was not Saddam Hussein or Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. He never declared *jihād* against Israel or the United States. To the contrary—this strong man of Egypt honored Sadat’s promise and maintained a cold peace with the State of Israel for 30 years!

During that same time, Egypt has been America’s most important and strategically significant ally throughout the Arab world.

Yet, the moment Mubarak’s regime started to crumble, the Obama administration wasted little time in hanging him out to dry.

Undermining Mubarak

In fact, for several years now the United States has been actively working to undermine Mubarak’s authoritarian regime.

In early 2005, President George W. Bush said the United States would no longer “tolerate oppression for the sake of stability.” Later that year, in Cairo, then Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice explained how Bush’s freedom agenda applied to Egypt. “The Egyptian government must fulfill the promise it has made to its people—and to the entire world—by giving its citizens the freedom to choose,” Rice demanded.

So, under heavy pressure from the U.S., Mubarak loosened restraints on parliamentary elections. That ended up clearing the way for the Muslim Brotherhood to capture *nearly 20 percent* of the seats.

The following year, Bush’s freedom agenda was dealt another massive blow when free elections enabled Hamas to seize control of Gaza.

After that, the Bush administration wised up a bit. It stopped complaining about Mubarak’s authoritarianism and Egypt’s human rights violations and Mubarak, in turn, clamped down hard on the Muslim Brotherhood.

President Obama’s anti-colonial agenda has since breathed invigorating life into the Brotherhood. More than that, even, it has actively worked to empower and embolden the movement. In early 2009, for example, when President Mubarak was warning U.S. diplomats about the Iranian “cancer” that was spreading throughout the Middle East, President Obama was hosting meetings with the Muslim Brotherhood at the White House.

In June of 2009, when President Obama delivered his message to the Islamic world in front of a Cairo audience packed with members of the Brotherhood, he said Iran had every right to develop nuclear power.

A few days after the Cairo speech, tens of thousands of angry Iranians poured into the streets of Tehran demanding democratic freedoms after the mullahs had rigged the election in favor of Ahmadinejad. President Obama withstood heated criticism for not supporting a popular protest that was brutally crushed by an Islamic theocracy. He excused American neutrality by saying, “It’s not productive, given the history of U.S.-Iranian relations, to be seen as meddling.”

But with the *pro-American* government in Egypt, America started meddling at the first sign of trouble for Mubarak. When demonstrations exploded in Cairo, President Obama made it clear he sided with the anti-Mubarak protesters on the street. He demanded an immediate “orderly transition” of government.

At the same time, the White House foreign-policy experts decided to consider engaging the Muslim Brotherhood.

White House spokesman Robert Gibbs told reporters on January 31 that Egypt’s new government “has to include a whole host of important *nonsecular* actors that give Egypt a strong chance to continue to be [a] stable and reliable partner.” It was the first time the Obama administration had publicly declared its support for the Muslim Brotherhood to play a role in a reformed Egyptian government.

Mubarak agreed not to seek reelection in September elections. President Obama responded by giving a public speech insisting that the transition “must begin now.”

“You don’t understand the Egyptian culture and what would happen if I step down now,” Mubarak responded in an interview with ABC. He feared it would result in a chaotic scene that would enable the Muslim Brotherhood to grab hold of power.

Mubarak then defended his legacy by pointing to his loyal service as president of Egypt. And no matter what one thinks about the way he ruled, it is hard to dismiss the positive fruits of his reign. In the three decades Mubarak ruled over the Arab world’s most populous state—a nation in which most Egyptians have an unfavorable view of America and would welcome an Islamic influence over the government—Mubarak managed to suppress religious extremism domestically while advancing the interests of the U.S. abroad. During that same time, he maintained peace with Israel, just as he vowed to do after Sadat was murdered.

And for all this, the United States says thank you by casually tossing him aside in favor of a populist uprising that is already being hijacked by radical Islam.

This is a play-by-play repeat of what happened during the Islamic Revolution in 1979. As the *Trumpet* has been saying for nearly 20 years, this is leading to an Islamist Egypt.

After Mubarak

In the days that followed Mubarak’s resignation, a massive wave of instability and violence swept across North Africa and the Middle East. Deadly clashes erupted in Iran, Libya, Yemen and Bahrain. In Lebanon, Hassan Nasrallah called on Hezbollah terrorists to prepare for invading the Galilee in northern Israel. In the Sinai Peninsula, Bedouin gangs emboldened by the chaos in Cairo escalated attacks against police forces, prompting Israel to call upon Egypt’s military to rein in the violence.

Iran sent two naval vessels through the Suez Canal. This “clear provocation,” to

use the words of Israel's foreign minister, raised fears in Jerusalem that Iran is maneuvering to capitalize on the instability in Egypt. Iran, by the way, hasn't had a naval presence in the Mediterranean Sea since the Islamic Revolution toppled the shah's regime in 1979.

Then there is Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood, which views itself as the guardian of true Islam. Throughout the Egyptian crisis, the Brotherhood kept quiet as its Western apologists defended the movement, saying it was not extremist or violent and that there was no connection between the organization and Iran or al Qaeda or the Taliban, and so on. The *Washington Post* even said the Brotherhood received its inspiration from the YMCA! And then there was the preposterous claim made by America's director of national intelligence—that the Egyptian branch of the Muslim Brotherhood was “largely secular.”

Once Mubarak was out of the way, the Brotherhood's true colors quickly resurfaced.

Egypt's Khomeini?

Four days after Mubarak's resignation, *Der Spiegel* published an exposé on Yusuf al-Qaradawi, the “father figure” of the Muslim Brotherhood. Back in 2002, the Brotherhood asked Qaradawi to be its leader, but he turned down the offer because of its limitations. He wanted to concentrate instead on mobilizing a “United Muslim Nations.”

The charismatic Qaradawi, an Egyptian by birth, is one of the most popular Muslim clerics in the Middle East. He's written at least 100 books and his weekly television program is viewed by 60 million Muslims on Al-Jazeera. He hates Jews and has asked Allah to kill “every last one” of them. In a sermon on Al-Jazeera TV in 2009, he said, “Throughout history, Allah has imposed upon the [Jews] people who would punish them for their corruption. The last punishment was carried out by Hitler. By means of all the things he did to them—even though they exaggerated this issue—he managed to put them in their place. This was divine punishment for them. Allah willing, the next time will be at the hand of the believers.”

Since 1981, Mubarak had banned Qaradawi from preaching in Egypt. During his exile, Qaradawi was based in Qatar. But just one week after Mubarak stepped down, Qaradawi made his triumphant return to Egypt. Incredibly, he received a military escort to Cairo's Tahrir Square—the focal point of

the anti-government uprising—in order to deliver a Friday prayer sermon.

President Obama told Fox News on February 6 that the United States shouldn't worry about the Muslim Brotherhood. He said the Brotherhood doesn't have a majority of support in Egypt. But this doesn't square with a Pew Research Center poll conducted just last year. According to the survey, 95 percent of Egyptians want religion to play a larger role in politics, 84 percent favor the death penalty for people who abandon the Muslim faith, and 54 percent believe suicide bombings aimed at civilians can be justified!

The Obama administration and its allies in the media have it exactly backward. Egyptians are not seeking a Western-style democracy. They are revolting against it.



“WE WANT PEACE”
Mubarak meets with Herbert W. Armstrong shortly after becoming president in 1981.

They want an Islamic theocracy.

Mubarak understood this, which is why he wanted to stay in office long enough to have a hand in setting up Egypt's new government. He reportedly said this on the eve of his resignation: “They may be talking about democracy, but ... the result will be extremism and radical Islam.”

Sure enough, just seven days after Mubarak fled Cairo for Sharm el-Sheik, Egypt celebrated the homecoming of a wildly popular, radical extremist who prays for the extermination of Jews, approves of wife-beating and supports suicide bombings that target defenseless civilians.

It boggles the mind to think that just at the beginning of this year, Egypt was seen as a bastion of strength and stability in a region known for its restiveness and division.

It's amazing how fast prophetic events are now unfolding in the Middle East.

The Perilous Pursuit of Peace

When Anwar Sadat signed a peace treaty with Israel in 1979, the Arab world was incensed. Egyptian Islamists began

scheming to kill him and overthrow his government. When their plot was discovered in February 1981, Sadat ordered a crackdown that jailed over 1,500 people. But a jihadist cell within the military remained, and in October of that year, during a military parade, a passing truck unloaded its soldiers, who greeted their president with grenades and assault rifle fire. Sadat's commitment to peace cost him his life.

Hosni Mubarak picked up Sadat's mantle and took the same bold, unpopular stand for peace with Israel.

Herbert W. Armstrong knew where this was headed long before the *Trumpet* came along. He actually met with Mubarak on Nov. 21, 1981, just six weeks after Sadat's assassination. During their 20-minute meeting, Mubarak reiterated his promise to finish what Sadat had started. “We want peace,” he said to Mr. Armstrong—“at least to live in a very peaceful atmosphere with all of our neighbors around us. And we are going to do our best in this direction. I'm going to do the maximum.”

Mr. Armstrong then praised Mubarak for his sincere attempt to continue where Sadat left off. “You're setting a wonderful example,” Mr. Armstrong said. But he then explained how utterly incapable man is at making peace. Only by the intervention of God Himself, Mr. Armstrong continued, would there ever be lasting peace.

The Egyptian president actually agreed with Mr. Armstrong! Mubarak said, “I think peace will prevail sooner or later, whether we like it or we don't like it.”

Yes indeed! Even in this age of man, we are often reminded of how human nature is generally hostile to what it takes to achieve any kind of peace. Anwar Sadat, for example, paid with his own blood for a peace agreement Mr. Armstrong knew would be short-lived.

This is why, one week after he met with Egypt's new president in 1981, Mr. Armstrong wrote this in a letter to *Plain Truth* subscribers: “The new President Mubarak assured me he intends to continue President Sadat's efforts for Middle East peace, and he may be sealing his own fate in so doing.”

For three decades, that man just about single-handedly held Egypt's forces of religious extremism and anti-Israelism in check. Now—as Mr. Armstrong believed could well happen—those forces have driven him from office.

Time will soon show: Egypt, the Middle East, and the world are far more perilous for it. ■



BROTHERHOOD
 Egyptian demonstrators pray
 in Tahrir Square just before ending
 the rule of President Mubarak.

Prophecy Comes Alive in Egypt!

The upheaval in Egypt demonstrates the veracity of Bible prophecy—
 in particular a prophecy our editor in chief has been pointing to for 18 years.

NOW THAT HOSNI MUBARAK IS gone, what will happen to Egypt? Commentators are all over the map on Egypt's future, with predictions ranging from a Western-style democracy to an Islamic state. There is little certainty on how these volatile events will play out and what they will mean for the region and the world.

But there is a way we can know. It is because we have "a more sure word of prophecy" (2 Peter 1:19) that we can know Egypt's future. It is also because of that "sure word" that the *Trumpet* was not surprised at recent events in that country. In fact, our editor in chief has forecast such developments for over 18 years.

The Basic Prophecy

End-time prophecies regarding Egypt revolve around one pivotal prophecy. It describes a massive clash between a northern Catholic power and a southern Islamic power that will trigger World War III. The southern power—termed the "king of the south"—will provoke a massive retaliation by the northern power—the "king of the north." The prophecy is detailed in Daniel 11:40-42.

When the southern Islamic power is

overthrown, "the land of Egypt shall not escape," verse 42 says. It is this scripture that Gerald Flurry has consistently drawn attention to for insight into the future of Egyptian politics.

In the December 1994 *Trumpet*, Mr. Flurry explained the significance of verse 42 thus: "Egypt is conquered by the king of the north probably because of an alliance with the king of the south." The king of the south, Mr. Flurry believed, would be radical Islam, headed by Iran. This Iranian-led Islamic movement, he wrote, was already "very strong in Egypt and Algeria." He went on to state: "This religion will probably take control of both countries very soon."

A year and a half before that, based on the same prophecy, Mr. Flurry wrote, "Islamic extremism is gaining power at a frightening pace in Egypt. I believe this prophecy in Daniel 11:42 indicates you are about to see a radical change in Egyptian politics!" (*Trumpet*, July 1993).

Throughout the 18 years since, the *Trumpet* has reiterated this basic prophecy that Egypt would be taken over by Islam. Now, with the popular uprising, the fall of Mubarak and the rise of the opposition movement largely controlled by the Muslim Brotherhood, Egypt is in more danger

than ever of falling to the Islamist camp.

In the August 1998 *Trumpet*, Mr. Flurry pointed to this scripture again, including verse 43: "But he [the king of the north] shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and *over all the precious things of Egypt*: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps."

"Twice it mentions that Egypt will not escape," Mr. Flurry wrote. He went on to point out that Egypt had been the most moderate nation in the Middle East for 20 years but that Iran was already pushing Egypt toward its camp. "That is because Egypt fears terrorism and their own radical Muslims," he wrote. Indeed, Egypt continued to draw closer to Iran as President Hosni Mubarak tried to placate the increasingly radical Egyptian population.

A "Radical Change" in Egyptian Politics

In the 2001 edition of his booklet *The King of the South*, Mr. Flurry elaborated further on the Daniel 11 prophecy: "Egypt is mentioned apart from the king of the south. This proves that Egypt is not the

See **PROPHECY** page 31 ►

The Real Reason Germany Wants to Buy the NYSE

The biggest symbol of America's economic might is on the auction block. Guess why the likely buyer wants it. **BY ROBERT MORLEY**

IT WILL BE A DAY THAT WILL GO DOWN in infamy. The biggest symbol of America's economic might—the pre-eminent institution of Anglo-Saxon financial domination—is about to be sold. And to a German rival.

No institution represents America like the New York Stock Exchange. It is the home of capitalism. And through the years, by and large it has served America well. No other country in the world has generated so much wealth so quickly. Sure, the super-rich have a disproportionate share of it, but—knock capitalism as you might—it has also generated the largest middle class in history.

Throughout most of its 219 years, the New York Stock Exchange has also powered the growth of exceptional American corporations, connecting them with deep pools of financing to power rapid expansion—and just as importantly, punishing those companies that refused or were unable to adapt and innovate. For better or worse, it is the tool that has helped keep American companies sharp, competitive and accountable.

And now, the NYSE is dying a very capitalistic death.

When the bell chimes for the last time at American-owned 11 Wall Street, it will be an ominous, portent-filled day. But probably not for the reason you think.

Where U.S. and German Media Disagree

American media are selling the story as a merger of equals. The new combined company will be the world's largest exchange group by revenues—valued at over \$25 billion. The chief executive officer will come from the NYSE group, while the chairman will come from Deutsche Börse.

But that is where the equality ends.

In Germany, it is being reported as a takeover through and through. The “merger of equals” talk is window dressing to keep Americans happy. Sixty percent of the new merged company will be composed of shareholders of Deutsche Börse—giving

them the voting power. The current plans may call for New York to remain a head office to supplement Deutsche Börse's regional hubs in Frankfurt and Paris. But the reality is that both Paris and New York will become little more than token headquarters for the new company.

“There is going to be no ‘triangle concept’ here,” one source told the *Financial Times* (February 11).

The only triangle concept will be that of a pyramid—with Frankfurt on top. “New York is going to be important, but it's not the financial center,” says Michael La Branche, a member of a family-run firm that has traded on the floor of the NYSE for 87 years.

But even before the merger, *about half of the NYSE group's shareholders were already European*. In 2006, NYSE merged with Euronext, consolidating New York with exchanges in Paris, Brussels, Amsterdam and Lisbon, along with a futures exchange in London. Now if the Deutsche Börse deal goes through, U.S. shareholders may own even less. Plus, more than half of the board of directors will come from Deutsche Börse.

The baton of economic leadership is being passed again: From London to New York in 1919, and now from New York to Frankfurt in 2011.

According to some experts, U.S. regulators most likely won't be able to block the NYSE sellout either. Just a few years ago they approved the NYSE merger with Euronext. Plus, as the *Financial Times* brought out, there is “‘good support’ at the highest political level in Germany” for the deal. So U.S. regulators would risk offending an important trade partner and ally if they blocked the deal.

What is happening to America? Has it really lost so much economic strength that a company from a nation once bombed to rubble is now purchasing the institution that helped raise the funds to make America's war effort possible?

Is This a Strategic Risk?

Questions regarding national security



arise in light of an international deal such as this. For its part, the German government has said that since the two companies involved in the sellout are private, it will only have a “limited” role in the new entity.

But as our August 2006 article “Will the U.S. Lose the NYSE?” asked, “What if relations between America and Europe were to become strained? Is it unrealistic to be worried that foreign interests, in a position to sabotage America's largest stock exchange, would be tempted to do so?”

Even beyond just sabotaging markets, think of all the data on U.S. companies that foreign interests would be able to mine. Already the NYSE sells high-speed access to its computers to hedge funds so they can trade a fraction of a second ahead of regular customers, according to the *Daily Finance*.

Yet here is perhaps the most ominous part about the deal.



jewel it once was. It is more like tarnished costume jewelry—pretty to wear, but not worth much.

German companies don't even bother listing in New York anymore. Deutsche Telekom was the latest to pull out on June 18 of last year. Daimler called it quits a couple of weeks before that. Of the 11 firms on Germany's DAX index (its biggest blue-chip companies) once listed in New York, only four still think it is worth the effort.

The Real Prize for Germany

For Deutsche Börse, the real prize is in what NYSE Euronext owns—with the emphasis on *Euronext*.

In 2006, the NYSE and Deutsche Börse fought over control of Euronext, which owned the Paris, Amsterdam, Lisbon and Brussels stock exchanges as well as a derivatives exchange in London. Deutsche Börse officials touted the potential Euronext tie-up as the creation of a “truly pan-European exchange organization” and “*significant step forward in the integration of European financial markets*” (Agence France-Presse, May 22, 2006; emphasis mine).

New York won the battle when it thwarted Deutsche Börse and merged with Euronext.

Five years later, Deutsche Börse looks like it is about to win the war. Deutsche Börse is about to get Euronext after all—and the NYSE, for whatever that is worth.

And from Germany's perspective, it couldn't have come at a better time. With much of the periphery of Europe in economic crisis, Germany is pushing for greater economic union—on its terms. In return for bailout money, Germany is forcing indebted countries to turn over national sovereignty. Gaining ownership over the largest stock exchanges in Europe will just add additional firepower to Germany's already impressive financial weaponry. In the years ahead, the European Union is set to become a much more German-looking institution.

If this merger goes through, the stock exchanges in Amsterdam, Paris, Lisbon, Brussels, Frankfurt and nine other

European countries will all fall under control of Germany's Deutsche Börse. And that is not all.

The Deutsche Börse will also gain control of the former Euronext derivatives unit Liffe. Once combined with Deutsche Börse's derivatives units, the new company will dominate the global derivatives market, which the Bank of International Settlements estimated at an astounding \$1.28 quadrillion notional value in 2008.

A Glimpse of America's Real Value

But if Germany isn't really even interested in the New York Stock Exchange (except for maybe its little remaining prestige), what does that say about America? It means America is no longer the preeminent economic superpower it thinks it is.

“This will further confirm in the minds of the world political and financial leaders that gaping U.S. budget and trade deficits, and all the foreign borrowing and high unemployment that results, are significant attributes of an economic superpower in decline,” says Peter Morici, a University of Maryland professor of business.

Morici is right. Americans sit and talk about patriotism and about how bad it is that one of their icons should be sold, but that is missing the bigger point. America is falling so fast that its most famed financial institution is at best a *side asset* to Germany.

America is rapidly following Britain's footsteps to becoming a second-rate power in a third-rate financial position bordering on untenable. Stock exchange or no stock exchange, Americans should be scared silly of ending up like the Brits. And both should fear the fate of a much earlier power: the doomed kingdom of Belshazzar.

You can read about it in Daniel 5. It read something like this: *Mene Mene Tekel Upharsin*: “You are weighed in the balances, and are found wanting.”

Americans need to read the writing on the Wall Street. You know what happens next. ■

The Germans probably don't even want the New York Stock Exchange!

For all the patriotic flag-waving that has ensued over the impending loss of the NYSE, the truth is that it has been in dramatic decline for decades. Scandals have shattered its reputation, and its profitability is shrinking. The last few years were especially devastating. Since the Wall Street meltdown in 2008, even Americans disparage it. In 2005, it handled 80 percent of all trading in stocks it listed; now it handles less than a quarter. As a public company, its stock has plummeted 64 percent since it was listed.

Its business model is broken too. With the march of technology, there is nothing New York does that cannot be done elsewhere for less: less cost, less regulation, and less taxation.

The sad, simple truth is that New York is no longer the coveted economic crown

Using the Bible as Her Guide

Israeli archaeologist Eilat Mazar discusses the value of the Holy Book for Israeli archaeology.

BY BRENT NAGTEGAAL

WITH OVER 10 MILLION COPIES sold, Werner Keller's book *The Bible as History* stands as the principal literary work highlighting the accuracy of the Bible. Originally published in 1955 and again in 1980, the book travels through the biblical epic, pointing out how archaeology has time and again proven the Bible as a legitimate historical document. Further excavation over the years has vindicated most of Keller's positions and disproved a few others, but the fact remains that the Bible preserves a compellingly truthful account of ancient Israel's history.

Since that book was published, scores of recent archaeological excavations are corroborating the biblical history as well.

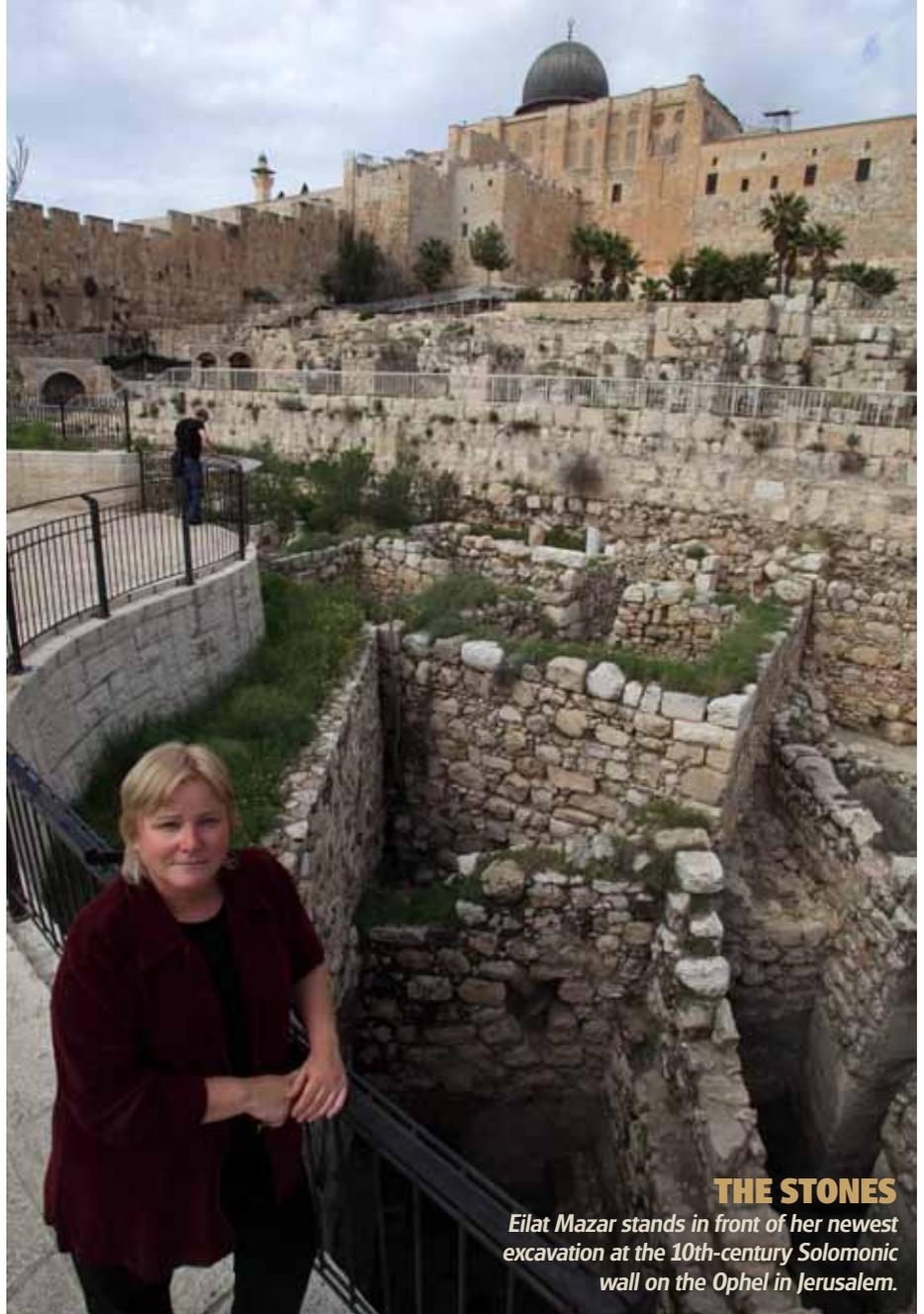
Israeli archaeologist Eilat Mazar unabashedly uses the Bible as one of many tools in her kit. Famed for discovering King David's palace in 2005, Dr. Mazar is a solid supporter of the Bible's function in informing successful Israeli archaeology. "What is amazing about the Bible is that very often we see that it is very accurate and sometimes amazingly accurate," she told the *Trumpet*.

So accurate, in fact, that she actually used one specific verse to locate the massive but heretofore elusive palace of King David from over 3,000 years ago.

Scripture Supplies a Clue

When David conquered the Jebusite city around 1000 B.C. he took up residence in the stronghold—the Jebusite fortress at the north end of the city. According to 2 Samuel 5:9, he then began to build up the area around Millo and inward. The

New International Version says David "built up the *area* around it, from the supporting terraces



THE STONES

Eilat Mazar stands in front of her newest excavation at the 10th-century Solomonic wall on the Ophel in Jerusalem.

inward." So David set out to enlarge the city limits—first concentrating on a royal palace. The Bible says King David's palace was partially built by workers sent to him by the Phoenician king of Tyre as a gesture of friendship (verse 11). "And David went on, and grew great, and the Lord God of hosts was with him" (verse 10).

Near the end of David's palace construction, the Philistines attacked. And since the new palace may not have been reinforced strongly enough to withstand the Philistine assault, verse 17 says David went *down* to the citadel to barricade himself within the city walls until the conflict ended. This, Dr. Mazar theorized more than a decade ago, indicates that David's new palace stood on higher ground than the Jebusite fortress.

She published her theory in *Biblical*

Archaeology Review in January 1997 under the title, "Excavate King David's Palace." On a two-page artist's rendering of the ancient City of David, Mazar drew an arrow pointing at the north end of the city, underneath the caption "it's there." She wrote, "Careful examination of the biblical text combined with sometimes unnoticed results of *modern* archaeological excavations in Jerusalem enable us, I believe, to locate the site of King David's palace. Even more exciting, it is in an area that is now available for excavation. If some regard as too speculative the hypothesis I shall put forth in this article, my reply is simply this: Let us put it to the test in the way archaeologists always try to test their theories—by excavation."

A decade later, excavation did exactly that. In 2005, just under the surface in

the northern-most region of the City of David, she found what she calls the Large Stone Structure and labeled it King David's palace.

But Is It Scientific?

Naturally, in the scientific world, Dr. Mazar has detractors who discredit her work because of how she uses the Bible. They label her as a religious fundamentalist with obvious bias. However, in talking and working with Eilat Mazar in person, you hardly get that impression. Much the opposite, Dr. Mazar is as scientific as they come, her conclusions based firmly in sound archaeological method.

While archaeological method is constantly improving, Dr. Mazar is as scientifically respectable as anyone in the field. She actually invites other archaeologists to the site, "especially ones that think differently," she says. "Everybody is most welcome to observe how we work, and afterwards, how we process the finds. We make sure that everything can be observed and criticized. Then nobody can blame us that we are not doing the best updated work."

Some archaeologists dislike that Dr. Mazar actually found what she was looking for, and label *that* premise as being unscientific. However, is it not scientific to have a hypothesis before you start an experiment and then use a controlled method to test that hypothesis?

Once the excavation is over and the artifacts and stratigraphy are studied, it is the right of the archaeologist to suggest the best possible explanation of what has been excavated, to objectively decide whether the hypothesis held up. In the case of King David's palace, it most certainly did. The widely acknowledged dating of the structure to sometime during the 11th and 10th century B.C., its location within the city and its enormous size all testify that King David's palace is the most logical and scientific identification of the Large Stone Structure.

Actually, it is good science to find what you are looking for. But it requires great ability to draw on all the sources at your disposal to conduct the best possible research before you excavate. In Dr. Mazar's mind, this research necessitated tapping the *biblical* text.

Dr. Mazar can hardly understand why some of her contemporaries work to pick holes in the text rather than use it to aid their work. "Archaeology cannot stand by itself as a very technical method," she related. "It is actually quite primitive without the support of written documents. Excavating the ancient land of Israel and not reading and getting to know the biblical

source is stupidity. I don't see how it can work. It's like excavating a classical site and ignoring Greek and Latin sources. It is impossible."

Impossible indeed! As impossible as recovering Egyptian history without Manetho.

The Stones Ignore the Sponsors

Many delegitimize Dr. Mazar's work at the palace of David because of the religious views of her sponsors. But consider: She waited *10 years* from when her paper was published before she could get funding to excavate. No doubt if a Christian, Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist or atheist gave her the money to excavate she would have used it to produce the same investigative process, arriving at the same conclusion.

What would Dr. Mazar say to critics who fault her archaeology because of its Jewish sponsors?

She laughs and replies, "Well, the stones, and the structure, and the stratigraphical layers—they don't care who is giving the funds. There are very clear and very advanced scientific methods our days. You can have all theories and working hypotheses as you go to the field, but the minute you start to excavate, all these theories need to be put on the side. From that minute onward, you have to document and give every little item a precise height and photograph what you find." She concluded, "I think that the people who get to know the details of how archaeology works nowadays understand that you cannot force agenda on the facts."

For Dr. Mazar, her whole academic reputation is on the line with her excavations and conclusions. Still, she holds firm to the historical application of the Bible.

Inspiration From a Grandfather

Although she may be the poster child of biblical archaeology today, Dr. Eilat Mazar isn't the first archaeologist to hold the Bible in such high esteem.

"There is nothing new about reading the Bible to see how much of the reality can be tangible. It is a whole school that started with Robinson and later on in force with Albright, of which my grandfather considered himself to be a follower and a student," she says.

"My grandfather" is the late professor Dr. Benjamin Mazar, a leading Israeli archaeologist in his own right. He is best known for his massive excavation at the southwestern corner of the Temple Mount that spanned the late 1960s and the '70s. He also served as president of the Hebrew University between 1953 and 1961.

It was his enthusiasm for archaeology

and the Bible that captured the imagination of a young girl named Eilat who loved to visit his digs. She recalls that many times she would sit before her grandfather as a child when he would conduct advanced seminars for scholars in his home. "He was sharing his enthusiasm with the whole academic world and with us, the children."

From home to the excavation site to anywhere beyond, archaeology saturated Mazar family life. Naturally, Eilat and others in the family followed Dr. Mazar into the field. "When I studied at the university, he guided," she says. While at university, the two Mazars began working together on publication of *The Temple Mount Excavations*. The project would continue for 10 years.

Meanwhile, Dr. Mazar worked in the City of David excavations under the direction of Dr. Yigal Shiloh. Each day after the excavations, as she worked with her grandfather, he would ask her, "What's new at the excavation?"

"What's new? We just discussed all the new things yesterday, so what can be so new?" she would reply.

"No, no, no; what's *new*?" the professor would ask again.

"He was expecting new and fresh thinking every single day. He really pushed me. On the one hand it was quite distressing, but on the other hand it pushed me to constantly be thinking every time that I am excavating," Mazar recounts.

That training and birth, if you will, into archaeology served Eilat Mazar well. So did Professor Mazar's deep understanding that the Bible should be used as a historical source for Israelite history.

And it was the two together who would first discuss the idea that King David's palace was located exactly where it was later found.

Ever since the early 1800s, many in the scientific community have sought to malign the authenticity of the biblical text. The God of the Bible actually claims to be not just a casual observer of the history of mankind, but an actor in it as well—making the Bible unlike any other religious book. Thus, when men presumably destroyed the historical basis for the Bible, it put people's faith on shaky ground. For that reason, Keller's book in the mid-20th century was a refreshing change.

Thankfully, there are still some, like Dr. Eilat Mazar, who are willing to practice true science and acknowledge the Bible as history. If more did, who knows what else would be found? ■



Nigerian women dressed in black protest after soldiers shot students in late January.

What to do about persecution?

FOLLOWING AN ATTACK ON A CHRISTIAN COPTIC CHURCH IN Egypt in December, European Union officials began a debate on how to confront the persecution of Christians increasing in the Middle East and North Africa.

Further such violence occurred on January 28, when a group of Muslims in the Nigerian city of Jos stabbed a couple of Christian students. Soldiers standing by did nothing. When some students criticized them, a soldier opened fire, injuring seven students. The next day, protests broke out. In the chaos, soldiers fired on some youths from a predominantly Christian community. This fueled Christian-Muslim tension and led to Christian protesters targeting Muslim homes and workplaces. On February 1, a predominantly Christian village was attacked, killing 19 people.

On February 21, EU foreign ministers denounced attacks on both Christians and Muslims. The move came after they previously failed to draft a declaration that referenced Christianity specifically in the text. The proposed declaration was rejected on January 31 as Italian Foreign Minister Franco Frattini said it showed an “excess of secularism.” He said, “The final text didn’t include any mention of Christians, as if we were talking of something else.” France, too, wanted Christians and Shiites mentioned, but Britain and several Nordic countries feared that references to specific religions might spark a “clash of civilizations.”

The Commission of the Bishops’ Conferences of the European Community (COMECE), a group that represents Catholic bishops in Europe, criticized the foreign ministers’ failure in January. The president of the Italian Bishops’ Conference, Cardinal Aneleto Bagnasco, said the persecution of Christians in some countries is reaching the level of ethnic or religious cleansing.

As it turned out, those wanting Christianity specifically included won out. “The Council expresses its profound concern about the increasing number of acts of religious intolerance and discrimination ... against Christians and their places of worship, Muslim pilgrims and other religious communities, which it firmly condemns,” the February statement said.

COMECE welcomed the Council’s decision and urged the EU to follow up the words with deeds. “The fusion of ‘common sense’ and ‘political will’ has prevailed to secure the strong statement urgently needed to stop the widespread acts of terrorism and sectarianism against Christians worldwide,” COMECE said in a statement. “Yet the security and survival of Christian communities, especially in the Middle East, requires concrete action.”

Watch for a confrontation to continue to build between Christianity and Islam. Spurred on by the Vatican, Europe’s leaders are already starting to take action.

1 | FRANCE

Stop praying in our streets!

French President Nicolas Sarkozy declared on February 10 during a television interview that multiculturalism has failed, adding, “We have been too concerned about the identity of the person who was arriving and not enough about the identity of the country that was receiving him.” Sarkozy joins the ranks of German and other European leaders in criticizing multicultural policies for failing to successfully integrate immigrants into Europe. Sarkozy singled out Muslims, saying France doesn’t want them praying in the streets.



SARKOZY



2 | GERMANY 3 | RUSSIA

Helping the Russians—look out

Russian Defense Ministry officials signed a contract on February 9 with German private defense firm Rheinmetall to construct a combat training facility for Russia’s military on the Mulino base. Russian defense officials have also offered for Rheinmetall to manage the “support, repair and modernization of military equipment.”

The agreement is significant because Rheinmetall is the first foreign company to construct such a training facility in Russia, and the German company has a sobering Nazi-era history.

Moreover, the deal indicates a quickly warming relationship between Moscow and Berlin. History makes plain where such a relationship will lead. Any peace pact between the two countries indicates that one or both are gearing up for another imperialistic campaign.

Unmasking Europe’s Muslims

The German state of Hesse banned civil servants from wearing the burka on February 2; other states have signaled they may follow suit as a backlash against Islam builds in Germany. Hesse’s Interior Minister Boris Rhein said a headscarf is fine but the burka could be seen as “hostile to Western values.” Lower Saxony’s Interior Minister Uwe Schünemann said his state is considering a similar ban. “The burka has no place in the public service,” he said. Bavaria’s Interior Minister Joachim Herrmann also welcomed Hesse’s ban. Expect more such moves as Germany and other European states respond to the incursion of Islam.

“Civil servants may not be veiled, especially those who have contact with citizens.”

BORIS RHEIN
HESSE’S INTERIOR MINISTER



How close are they really?

WHEN GERMAN CHANCELLOR Angela Merkel visited Israel this past February, she declared that Germany's relations with Israel have "no parallel with any other country to which Germany has ties." So close have the two former enemies become that they each take turns hosting an annual joint cabinet session of their governments in the other's country. Merkel also declared that "the security of Israel is not just a two-state issue, but a global issue. We have to make certain that the security of Israel in secure borders is assured."

Israel's president, Shimon Peres, stated during that visit, "We are allies, Israel and Germany, and we have a great desire, on both sides, to strengthen our relationship and our bilateral cooperation. We also have the strong desire to advance peace and security in our region." Chancellor Merkel replied, "We have similar values, which makes it very easy for us to cooperate."

But remember where all this collaboration started. Our long-time readers know that we have long anticipated a close liaison between Germany and the embattled nation of Israel. But few realize just how soon after World War II Israel began reaching out to Germany.

As early as 1960, Israeli intelligence leaders contacted Germany for help in stemming the rising, even overwhelming anti-Israel pan-Arab aggression driven by Egypt's Gamul Abdul Nasser.

Paradoxically, the first meetings between the Israeli secret service and the postwar German intelligence service took place in Munich, Bavaria, in the villa once home to Martin Bormann, Hitler's chief of the chancellery, the man who had signed the edicts giving Adolf Eichmann full power to slaughter millions of Jews in Nazi death camps. Yet, for the largely friendless, struggling nation of Israel, the threat to the nation's survival led the Jews to seek aid from their former genocidal enslavers.

That first clandestine meeting between Isser Harel, head of the Israeli intelligence service Mossad, and Reinhard Gehlen, president of Germany's Federal Intelligence Service (BND) and chief Nazi spy in Hitler's Wehrmacht Foreign Armies East, marked a turning point in Israeli-German relations.

This situation was all the more

remarkable in light of the fact that the BND was infested with Nazis. Under the auspices of the United States and Britain, Gehlen was encouraged to create Germany's postwar spy network. This he did, with the full connivance of the Allies, by culling ex-Nazis, former SS officers and Nazi sympathizers, especially from the Soviet East, into the BND structure. These unrepentant Nazis were among the very group that Herbert Armstrong stated "went underground" toward the close of World War II, still clinging to imperialist dreams of world conquest.



Chancellor Angela Merkel and President Shimon Peres embrace in Jerusalem.

Of such were those who founded today's German intelligence service. Of such came the postwar industrialists, bankers, businessmen and bureaucrats who formed the postwar Adenauer-era West German republic. That vision has been passed on to other generations of German elites by those who never did free themselves from the dream of global hegemony. Much of that vision is now embedded in the Lisbon Treaty/European constitution upon which the imperialist European Union is established.

Thus, when Harel entered that Bavarian villa to consort with some of the most extreme elements of Jew-hating Nazidom, he sowed the seeds for the fulfillment of the words of the Prophet Hosea.

As our editor in chief writes in *Jerusalem in Prophecy*, "The book of Hosea was written as prophecy for the end time. Again, the nation called Israel today is really biblical Judah. There are some specific prophecies about Judah in this book." He then quotes Hosea 5:13: "When Ephraim saw his sickness, and Judah saw his wound,

then went Ephraim to the Assyrian, and sent to king Jareb: yet could he not heal you, nor cure you of your wound." "Studying this verse in the original Hebrew reveals that both Ephraim (Britain) and Judah (called 'Israel' today) go to Assyria (or Germany ...)." (These national identities are proven in our free booklets *The United States and Britain in Prophecy and Germany and the Holy Roman Empire*.)

Gerald Flurry then asks: "Why do the Jews go to Germany, and what is Judah's wound?" He points to Obadiah 1:7, where another word for *wound* appears, defined by Gesenius' *Hebrew-Chaldee Lexicon* as "falsehood; hence, fraud, insidious dealing ... net, or snare." As Mr. Flurry shows, that word "is directly related to being DECEIVED BY A PEACE PACT!"

That initial meeting between the heads of Israel's and Germany's secret services began a process of intelligence and military cooperation between Germany and Israel that has continued for more than five decades. It resulted in the establishment of diplomatic relations, and most recently, Israel and Germany have publicly recognized each other as the closest of allies.

When one knows the history, and even more so the Bible prophecies relating to the current nexus between Germany and Israel, one understands that Hosea's prophecy is well advanced in its fulfillment. It had an early start on that chilly winter evening in Bavaria. The venue, and the host, could hardly have been more indicative of the outcome. Harel's visit would place Israel on a road to disaster.

Here is why this is so dangerous. In many end-time prophecies, God reveals how Israel will be the victim of a treacherous diplomatic double cross. Ezekiel 23 discusses this calamity. "Wherefore I have delivered her into the hand of her lovers, into the hand of the Assyrians, upon whom she doted" (verses 9, 12).

Our booklet *Jerusalem in Prophecy* is a timely read as insurrection is stirring throughout the region surrounding the tiny embattled nation of Israel. This present unrest is but a catalyst guaranteed to place the Middle East "peace process" back on the international agenda. But this time, watch for the U.S. to take a backseat—and for Europe, particularly Germany, to be right in the middle of it.

Desperately seeking WMDs

Al Qaeda and other terrorist groups are working to produce chemical, biological and radioactive weapons to attack the West, according to WikiLeaks diplomatic cables released by the *Telegraph* on February 1.

One cable revealed that India's national security adviser warned U.S. senators that terrorist groups were trying to obtain the ingredients necessary for a dirty bomb. Cables also showed that

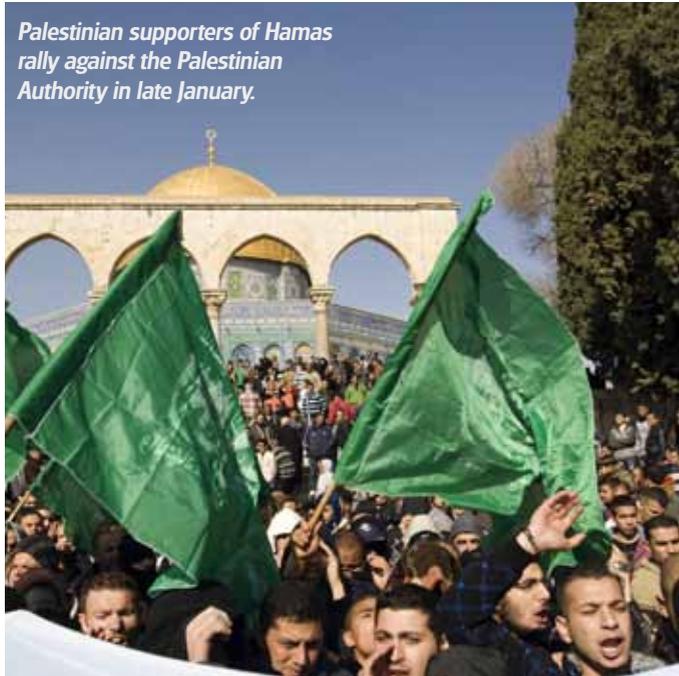


Syria and Iran are still pursuing a

chemical weapons program and that al Qaeda and other groups are working to produce a biological weapon.

Other cables contained details of where terrorists could obtain chemical, biological or nuclear material. Cables also noted instances of individuals trying to sell or transport nuclear material.

These leaked cables show that terrorists stand a good chance of getting hold of terrifying weapons that threaten us all.



Palestinian supporters of Hamas rally against the Palestinian Authority in late January.

1 | ISRAEL

PA: The more things change ...

AMID GROWING UNREST IN THE ARAB WORLD, THE CABINET of the Palestinian Legislative Council resigned February 14. Many saw the shake-up as an attempt to calm mob fervor against the government of Palestinian Authority Chairman Mahmoud Abbas. Prime Minister Salam Fayyad was immediately reinstated and commissioned by Abbas to fill the cabinet posts within six weeks.

This party reshuffle is unlikely to change life for Palestinians much, though it will give the sense of political change the populace yearns for. Abbas also called for Palestinian elections to be held in September. If that happens, it will be the first elections since Hamas won the majority vote in 2006. While Hamas has said it will boycott the September elections, the *Trumpet* expects the terrorist group to not only continue to reign over the Gaza Strip but also attempt to take over the West Bank. Instability in the Fatah hierarchy could help bring about that change.

Meanwhile, chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat quit on February 12 after two decades in the diplomatic service, taking responsibility for the leak of over 1,600 documents stolen from his office. The documents, detailing dialogue between Palestinian and Israeli officials from 1999 through 2010, reveal Erekat and his colleagues were willing to give more to Israelis than they had made known to the public. But while the leaders might have discussed such concessions, Erekat's resignation reveals they would have never flown with the Palestinian public. For 20 years Erekat was an outspoken critic of Israel's methods for achieving peace, always blaming Israel for failed peace talks. His belligerence was exactly what the public wanted. One small revelation that he was actually willing to do what all negotiators do—*compromise*—and he is out of a job. Erekat's resignation shows that the Palestinian public will not allow their leaders to make a peace with Israel that concedes one inch.

2 | JORDAN A different outcome

Jordanian King Abdullah II fired his government and asked replacement Prime Minister Marouf Bakhit to form a new one on February 1 after three weeks of protests. The Muslim Brotherhood is a powerful political force in Jordan. Its political wing, the Islamic Action Front, had demanded the government's resignation, reform of Jordan's election law, and the formation of a new unity government with a prime minister chosen by the people rather than the king.

Don't expect protests to overthrow the Jordanian regime, however. The leader of the Islamic Action Front, Hamza Mansour, said, "Unlike Egypt, we don't want a regime change in Jordan and we recognize the Hashemites' rule in Jordan." Moreover, we can know that Jordan will not fall to radical Islam because the same Bible prophecy that says Egypt will be aligned with Iran also states that Jordan will not.



3 | IRAN Talk, talk, talk, talk, talk

Another round of nuclear talks between Iran and the UN Security Council plus Germany was held January 21-22. Though U.S. and European officials headed into the two-day negotiations with increased confidence that sanctions and covert actions were taking their toll on Iran's nuclear program, the talks ended in stalemate. Tehran remains defiant toward the Security Council and continues to work toward its goal of becoming a nuclear nation. The talks never got past Tehran's precondition that the "P5+1" nations recognize Iran's "right" to enrich uranium and agree to drop sanctions before substantive negotiations could begin. Besides setting the agenda of the talks, Iran scored another victory by setting the location of the talks in ally Turkey.

TED ALJIBE/AP/GETTY IMAGES; JOHN THYS/AP/GETTY IMAGES; ALEXEY NIKOLSKIY/AP/GETTY IMAGES

ISTOCKPHOTO; AHMAD GHARIB/AP/GETTY IMAGES; ATA KENARE/AP/GETTY IMAGES



4 | JAPAN

Finally, a plan to turn it around

FOLLOWING DECADES OF ENERGETIC GROWTH AFTER RECOVERING from World War II, the Japanese economy fell into trouble at the end of the 20th century. Through the first decade of the 21st century, it continued to languish. Japan's problem was systemic. Drastic surgery was needed to cut deep into the corporate and societal mores that were placing a drag on any effort for forward momentum.

Perhaps that surgery is now about to happen.

Japan's current prime minister, Naoto Kan, following an unimpressive start to his premiership, has unveiled a package of initiatives designed to shock the nation back into a growth curve. Described by the *Economist* as "recklessly ambitious," though making "economic sense, which is a novelty in Japan," the program calls for a complete overhaul of the nation's social security system, raising sales tax to offset the national debt, and enabling growth through joining the nine-nation Trans-Pacific Partnership free-trade zone. As the *Economist* opined, "For the first time since Mr. Koizumi, a prime minister is articulating a vision of Japan's place in the world, as well as a response to a rising China" (February 3).

The catch is, will Japan buy the package? The whole electorate would have to suffer temporary pain for long-term gain. This will be a hard sell for the prime minister should he have the courage and his party's support to take his proposals to the nation, even perhaps forcing an election over it at risk to his own prime ministry.

There are early signs that business and the press are turning to support Prime Minister Kan. If he can mount a positive media campaign to gain the backing of a majority of the electorate, then any resistance from political opponents may well be overcome and Japan could find itself—for the first time in two decades—returning to its prior position as an Asian powerhouse economy, competing effectively with the rising giants of China and India. To understand how such a scenario would fit with biblical prophecy for our times, request our free booklet *Russia and China in Prophecy*.



Japanese Prime Minister Naoto Kan has visionary ideas—and a hard sell.

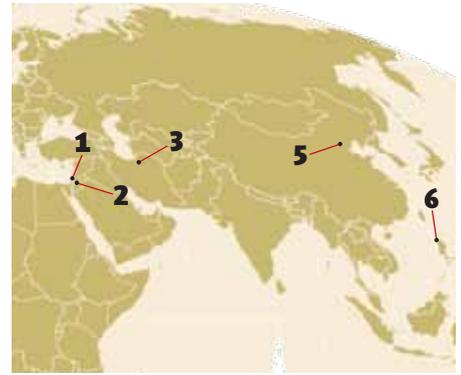


HU

5 | CHINA

Dollar 'a product of the past'

On January 16, the evening before he left for Washington, Chinese President Hu Jintao made the boldest statement to date about the U.S. dollar's position as the global reserve currency: "The current international currency system is the product of the past." Hu went on to lambast the U.S. for pumping dollars into the global market. The timing of his comments revealed China's growing confidence. Beijing cares less and less what America thinks as it invests more of its cash—and its confidence—in Europe instead.



Tightening rare earth monopoly

China is stockpiling strategic reserves of rare earth metals. In recent months, it has built facilities able to store thousands of tons of the crucial technology-producing resources. China's control of over 95 percent of the world's rare earth production gives it substantial power, and its increased reserves will tighten its grip on that market. In January, Beijing nationalized 11 rare earth mines, effectively consolidating the industry and further strengthening China's leverage in the rare earth market. Expect an increase in global competition for rare earths as a result of China's stranglehold on supplies.



"The use of [rare earths] has really skyrocketed, with demand outstripping supply literally overnight. We've got some serious issues in this industry."

MARK A. SMITH
MOLYCORP CHIEF EXECUTIVE

6 | PHILIPPINES Reading the writing on the wall

In December, Philippine police arrested 14 Taiwanese citizens along with 10 Chinese nationals who were part of a fraud gang operating on Philippine soil. Taipei asked Manila to repatriate the criminals to Taiwan to face justice, but in February, the Philippines gave in to Beijing's demand instead and extradited the Taiwanese gangsters to mainland China.

The move was the latest in a series of steps Manila is taking toward Beijing. The decision suggests that, from Manila's perspective, mainland China and Taiwan are already unified. In recent months, Beijing and Manila have signed the first Sino-Philippine military agreement and collaborated on a code of conduct regarding the disputed Spratly Islands.

Historically, Manila has depended on the U.S. for assistance, but the U.S.-Philippines military relationship is cooling, and Beijing sees the trend as a chance to gain a foothold in the Philippines and expand its sphere of influence in Southeast Asia. Manila is reading the writing on the wall, and is positioning the Philippines for the inevitable demise of U.S. dominance in Asia.



China hopes to extract more mineral wealth from the La Escondida coal mine in Colombia.

1 | COLOMBIA
China's other 'Panama Canal'

Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos revealed February 14 that the Chinese plan on building a 138-mile-long railway across his country—from the Gulf of Urabá on the Atlantic coast to the port of Cupica on the Pacific coast. China, now the world's second-largest economy, plans on using this new transportation thoroughfare to ship coal by rail from mines in eastern Colombia to Pacific ports, where it can then be shipped across the ocean. The railway is already being hailed as a sort of land-based Panama Canal. Since China already controls the Panama Canal, the completion of this railway will give Beijing almost complete control over all land-based and sea-based freight passing from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. If Beijing ever decides that it wants to cripple the world's largest consumer of natural resources and assume control over it suppliers, America had best beware.

4 | ZIMBABWE
A dictator's willing partner

China will invest \$10 billion in Zimbabwe within the next few years in a bid to pump new life into the nation's ailing economy, a Zimbabwean government minister said January 31. The news contributes to concerns about the nature of Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe's relationship with Beijing, whose human rights record has earned the ire of the West. China's drive for resources is drawing it deeper into Africa, and intensifying the global scramble for the planet's wealth. As China devours an increasing proportion of resources, watch for Europe to tighten its grip on its supply channels.



MUGABE

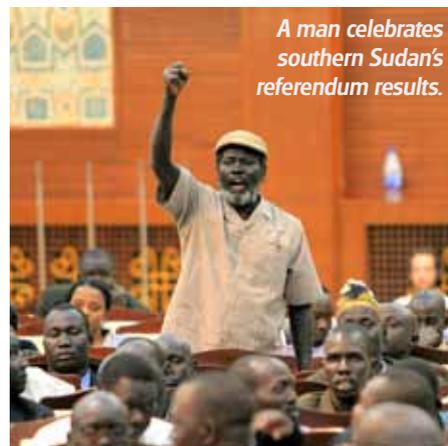
2 | PARAGUAY 3 | URUGUAY **Building a transatlantic trade bloc**

While visiting Paraguay and Uruguay in early February, EU Trade Commissioner Karel de Gucht made a clear statement that he desires a wide-ranging economic collaboration pact with the Mercosur regional trade bloc to soon be signed. "I strongly believe in a trade agreement between the EU and Mercosur," he said. "The moment has come and I'm convinced it can be reached." EU leaders have been reluctant to sign such an agreement due to fear of a flood of cheap Latin American goods into Europe. Now that financial analysts are proposing increased trade between Europe and Latin America as a remedy to lift the EU out of recession, however, EU officials want a balanced free-trade agreement signed as soon as possible. Expect the relationship between the EU and Mercosur to continue to improve as they work to build a gigantic trade bloc that will increasingly isolate America on the world scene. Based on biblical prophecy, the *Plain Truth* wrote as far back as May 1962 that "the United States is going to be left out in the cold as two gigantic trade blocs, Europe and Latin America, mesh together and begin calling the shots in world commerce."



5 | SOUTH AFRICA
Flood waters cost South Africa

Floods in South Africa in January killed more than 100 people and displaced about 20,000. Thirty-three municipalities across eight of nine provinces were declared disaster areas, and the flooding is expected to cost the farming sector about 2.8 billion rand (US\$392 million) in damages. South Africa is the continent's main breadbasket and some observers fear future food insecurity as above-average rainfall is forecast for the region over the coming months.



A man celebrates southern Sudan's referendum results.

6 | SUDAN
It's nearly unanimous: There's going to be a new country

On February 8, the result of January's independence referendum in South Sudan was announced: 98.83 percent of South Sudan's predominantly Christian population voted to break away from the Muslim-controlled north. Many north Sudanese Christians began packing up and heading back to their homeland in the south due to fears of an Islamic crackdown. Saints Peter and Paul Parish, the second-largest Catholic Church in greater Khartoum, has lost about three quarters of its parishioners. As tensions between Christians and Muslims rise across Sudan and the rest of Northern Africa and the Middle East, expect the Vatican to get increasingly involved.

Parliament defies EU court

IN EARLY FEBRUARY, BRITISH MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT IN THE House of Commons voted overwhelmingly to reject a European Court of Human Rights demand that Britain give prisoners the vote. The Council of Europe, which enforces the court's judgments, immediately retaliated in a strong statement declaring that it was "deeply disappointed" by the defiance of the ruling.

Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg said the British government was now caught in a dilemma: "Parliament ... has clearly expressed its distaste for granting votes to prisoners. The court has made it very clear that we are now in breach of law ..."

Other senior politicians are now calling for a showdown. London Mayor Boris Johnson urged Prime Minister David Cameron to make a stand against the meddling court at Strasbourg: "I think we've come to a real crunch point. There is absolutely no way that we can allow Parliament to be overruled in this matter. ... This is not a matter for Strasbourg, it is a matter for the sovereign Parliament of this country I hope ... the prime minister ... forces a showdown."

Since its creation in 1959, the European court has passed judgment on 418 British rulings, 80 percent of which Britain has lost and then meekly complied with. But it now faces a growing revolt by MPs keen to assert the country's sovereignty, as well as a judicial backlash.

The February 10 parliamentary vote showed that Parliament, after decades of submissively ceding power to Brussels, has taken the first bold

step of reasserting its strength and independence. In doing so, Britain has in effect declared war on a foreign court that has ruled consistently against Britain's interests.

The question now is whether Prime Minister Cameron has the stomach for a major fight with the European court that would lead to Britain opting out of its jurisdiction.

"Let's Say Goodbye to Strasbourg and Its Daft Decisions," headlined the *Sunday Telegraph*. If Britain opted out of Strasbourg's jurisdiction, the article said, "We would avoid its silly decisions. There would be a lot of shouting from Europe's lawyers and politicians, but short of *military invasion*, they can't force us to submit" (February 5; emphasis ours).

"Military invasion" is an interesting phrase to use in light of Bible prophecies relating to the outcome of Britain's membership of this imperialist European institution. The result of this tussle for power with a foreign European court has already been foretold in Bible prophecy and made crystal clear in Herbert W. Armstrong's book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy* (request your free copy).

You'll find this of interest

Interest on the national debt became a major talking point when President Barack Obama spotlighted it in a February 15 news conference. By 2014, net interest on the national debt will exceed the amount spent on education, transportation, energy and other discretionary programs outside defense. By 2018, interest payments will exceed Medicare spending as well, and only defense and Social Security will be costlier. The interest is the fastest-growing portion of the federal budget. Last fiscal year, interest costs rose more than 13 percent, more than any other category.



One disaster after another after another

On February 5, a cyclone the size of Italy slammed into Queensland, Australia, right after floods inundated 75 percent of the state. Cyclone Yasi, an Australian Category 5 storm, brought sustained winds of up to 155 mph, with gusts peaking at 170 mph. Reuters estimated the storm would cause \$3.5 billion in damage, which would make it the second-most damaging cyclone on record. Added to damage caused by the catastrophic spring floods, the total economic loss for Australia could amount to more than \$20 billion, Impact Forecasting said.

"There are over 200 cities, towns, or clearly defined suburbs that have particular needs."

MAJOR GENERAL MICK SLATER

QUEENSLAND'S RECONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY HEAD

Why every-thing is bigger in Texas

Census figures reveal huge growth in the number of Hispanics living in Texas. Hispanics account for two thirds of growth in the state over the past decade and now make up 38 percent of the population. Texas has grown 20 percent over the last decade, double the national rate of 9.7 percent.



A screen capture from an undercover video shows a worker at an abortion clinic giving advice on how to lie about abortions.

Americans' tax dollars at work

A pair of videos in early February exposed the actions of employees at Planned Parenthood abortion clinics. They record one clinic manager in New Jersey and another in Virginia dispensing advice about prostitution. The group that filmed the sting videos says the problem is institutional, and some are calling for the abortion services provided to be stripped of taxpayer funding.

Ancient Egypt was a magnificent civilization, until it suddenly vanished in the sixth century B.C.

What Happened to Egypt's Pharaohs?

BY BRAD MACDONALD

THE WINDS OF REVOLUTION SWEEPING Egypt today aren't the first that have ravaged that nation.

Most history textbooks open with a description of ancient Egypt as a towering civilization that, for more than a millennium, led mankind's intellectual, political and cultural advancement. Each year, millions of visitors marvel at the pyramids jutting from Egypt's dunes, at the mummified remains of the ancient pharaohs, and at Egypt's mountains of other artifacts and relics—all testimony to the power the civilization once held.

But perhaps the most striking facet of Egyptian history is its precipitous fall.

Modern-day Egyptians, after all, are not descended from those ancient societies that constructed the Giza Pyramid Complex, the Great Sphinx, and other momentous structures. They have no connection to the early dynastic peoples that pioneered new frontiers in science, mathematics and art, and that once dominated the civilized world. Today's Egypt is inhabited and ruled by Arabs; before that it was under British control; before that it was controlled by various Muslim peoples,

including the Ottomans; before that it was the Romans; before that the Greeks; and before that the Persians.

Egypt has resurfaced intermittently in the past 2,500 years of world history, *but always as the territory of a foreign nation or empire*. What happened to ancient Egypt—the unique and independent civilization established by the pharaohs, the nation that once reigned over mankind? That Egypt has clearly vanished.

Don't you wonder *why*?

Who Were Native Egyptians?

There is a great deal of confusion among historians about the race of native Egyptians. Archeological evidence, ancient Egyptian art and hieroglyphics indicate the presence in ancient Egypt of both Semitic (Caucasian) people and Negroid peoples (including various shades of brown).

In the 19th and 20th centuries, when artifacts were uncovered indicating the presence of black pharaohs, prejudiced historians and scientists generally downplayed the notion that a great Nubian civilization had once existed in Egypt. Today, however, many Egyptologists recognize that the indigenous peoples of ancient Egypt originated from the same racial strain as their counterparts in Africa.

In February 2008, the *National*

Geographic cover story spotlighted the substantial historical and archeological evidence indicating the presence of a predominantly black civilization in early Egypt: "Only in the past four decades have archaeologists resurrected their story—and come to recognize that the *black pharaohs didn't appear out of nowhere*. They sprang from a robust African civilization that had flourished on the southern banks of the Nile for 2,500 years, *going back at least as far as the first Egyptian dynasty*" (emphasis mine throughout).

Moreover, scientists have also investigated the remains of the early Egyptians, including their DNA, bone structure and teeth, and concluded that early Egyptians are of the same racial strain as the black people of Africa. Even the historical record indicates early Egypt was settled, at least partially, by people of black skin. Among the ancient historians who recognized this fact was Herodotus, the fifth-century Greek who referred to the ancient Egyptians as "melanchroes," meaning black-skinned.

The science indicating the presence of a black civilization in Egypt supports the biblical account of the origins of the early Egyptians. In the book of Psalms, for example, mostly written around the 10th century B.C., the psalmists often recall the history of the Israelites in Egypt. In Psalm

Thanks largely to God's presence in its history, ancient Egypt emerged as the magnificent civilization we know it to have been. So then—what happened?

105:23, for example, King David writes, "Israel also came into Egypt; and Jacob sojourned in the *land of Ham*." In Psalm 78, Asaph remembers God besieging the Egyptians with plagues, writing that God "smote all the firstborn in Egypt; the chief of their strength in the *tabernacles of Ham*" (verse 51).

At the time of King David, Egypt was known as the "land of Ham." The Bible clearly reveals Ham as Noah's son, the husband of a black woman and the father of the black race. More specifically, the Bible indicates that the ancient Egyptians descend from Ham's son Mizraim (Genesis 10:6). The Hebrew word everywhere used in the Old Testament for Egypt is *Mizraim*. In fact, the Revised Standard Version identifies "the sons of Ham" in Genesis 10:6 as "Cush, *Egypt*, Put, and Canaan."

So when it comes to ancient Egypt, science and the Bible agree: Early Egypt, like the rest of Africa, was largely comprised of blacks, descended from Ham, father of the black race!

But what of the wealth of archeological evidence, especially art, that clearly reveals the presence in ancient Egypt of a Semitic people?

The White Egyptians

Once again we must turn to God for the answer. Any person who has read the first five books of the Bible will recall Egypt's prominent role in the events surrounding the development of ancient Israel. Abraham, Jacob, Joseph, Job, Jacob's 12 sons and their descendants—the Bible reveals that all these men lived in Egypt at some point in their lives, and played a crucial role in early Egyptian history.

In other words, Abraham and his descendants—all *Caucasian*—had a decisive presence in and influence over ancient Egyptian civilization!

Consider Abraham. In Genesis 12, Abram relocates from Chaldea to Canaan. When a famine arises in Canaan, Abram is told to move to Egypt. During his stint in Egypt, which could have been a few years, Abram had extensive contact with the pharaoh and the upper echelon of Egypt. For example, verse 16 says that the pharaoh "entreated Abram well ... and he had sheep, and oxen, and he asses, and menservants, and maidservants, and she asses, and camels."

Hailing from the land of Chaldea, which was known for its advanced understanding

of science and mathematics, Abraham—as Jewish historian Josephus recorded—was an exceptional scientist, mathematician and astronomer. He even shared this knowledge with his Egyptian friends. Josephus recorded, "For whereas the Egyptians were formerly addicted to different customs ... Abram conferred with each of them ... [He] communicated to them arithmetic, and delivered to them the science of astronomy; for, before Abram came into Egypt, they were unacquainted with those parts of learning ..." (*Antiquities*, I, VIII, 2).

Abram had a powerful influence on Egypt. In fact, in the 20th century B.C., Abram was largely responsible for equipping ancient Egypt with the knowledge that resulted in Egypt's emergence as the intellectual giant of the time!

A little more than two centuries later, Abraham's great-grandson Joseph ended up living in Egypt. The Bible reveals that he too had a decisive influence on ancient Egyptian civilization. The fascinating story of Joseph's journey from being thrown in a pit by his brothers and then sold into slavery to eventually become a prominent figure in Pharaoh's household appears in Genesis 37 through 40.

In Genesis 41, Pharaoh rewards Joseph for interpreting his dream. He promises Joseph, "Thou shalt be over my house, and according unto thy word shall all my people be ruled: *only in the throne will I be greater than thou*. And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, *See, I have set thee over all the land of Egypt*. ... And Joseph went out from the presence of Pharaoh, and went throughout all the land of Egypt" (verses 39-46).

Read the whole passage—it's remarkable. Basically, the pharaoh gave Joseph, an Israelite, the keys to the Egyptian empire!

Joseph became part of the royal family of Egypt. And in the years following his promotion as vice president, it was Joseph's leadership—particularly his economic policies—that made Egypt the wealthiest and most powerful empire on Earth.

In Genesis 44 through 47, we read of how Joseph's 12 brothers and his father, Israel, relocated to Egypt and settled in its most fertile region, the land of Goshen. Under Pharaoh's protection and living on the Nile delta, these families expanded rapidly. As the Israelites' numbers quickly rose, they made vital contributions to Egyptian civilization, with some, thanks to Joseph's good word, even taking up positions within Egypt's government. Evidence suggests

the Israelites helped Egypt with some of its largest building projects. In fact, some research compellingly suggests that Job (*Khufu* in Egyptian, *Cheops* in Greek), an Israelite, was the mastermind behind the construction of the Great Pyramid.

In the 15th century B.C., when it came time for the Israelites to depart Egypt, it is estimated that they numbered *between 2 and 3 million*. Truly, Israel at this point was a nation living within a nation, a people within a people. This explains why Egyptian historical records show the existence of both white and black people in the nation.

Truly, the history of ancient Egypt is phenomenal. Thanks largely to God's presence in its history—from the knowledge originally taught the Egyptians by Abraham, to the financial prowess and quality leadership of Joseph, to the labor, organization and farming practices of the Israelites—ancient Egypt emerged as the magnificent civilization we know it to have been.

So then—what happened?

Egypt's Sudden Disappearance

The 10 plagues and the annihilation of the Egyptian army during the Exodus of the Israelites in the 15th century B.C. left Egypt demoralized and debilitated, politically and culturally. It did, however, recover much of its former glory; the dynasties of the pharaohs were perpetuated, and Egypt reemerged as a regional force and a civilization rich in culture and material possessions.

It wasn't until the sixth century B.C. that Egypt fell from the heights of global prominence—never to return. Its demise began early in that century when it tangled with the Babylonian armies of King Nebuchadnezzar. Within a few decades, Egypt was being attacked by the Persians—the inheritors of the Babylonian Empire—and had fallen completely. When Pharaoh Psamtik III died after battling the Persians in the battle of Pelusium in 525 B.C., wrote George Rawlinson, "thus perished ... the last of the long line of pharaohs, which commencing with Menes ... had ruled Egypt, as a great independent monarchy, for not less than 20 centuries" (*History of Ancient Egypt*).

Despite periodic insurrections by native Egyptians, the ancient Egyptian civilization never fully recovered from the Persian invasion. Beginning in the sixth century B.C., tides of foreigners began to settle in Egypt: Seafaring Greeks sailed in from the

HISTORY

Aegean, Jews came from Jerusalem, and Syrians from the northern Levant. Within a couple of centuries, Egypt was a cauldron of races. In the fourth century B.C., Persia's grip on Egypt slipped, and the reins passed from Persia to Greece, first to Alexander the Great, then Ptolemy and the Ptolemaic Dynasty.

Around 30 B.C., Egypt fell under the control of the Romans, where it remained until the early seventh century, when the Muslim conquest of Egypt began. Between the 7th and 19th centuries, Egypt was ruled by various Muslim governments, including the Ottoman Turks. By the end of the 19th century, Egypt was controlled by Britain, which in the early 20th century turned it over to the Arabs.

As this survey of Egypt's history shows, Egypt never fully recovered from the Babylonian and Persian invasions of the sixth century B.C. *It never again existed as an independent, world-ruling power!*

A Base Nation

The key to understanding events in Egypt in the sixth century B.C.—and to understanding Egypt's disastrous fall from global prominence—is found in the book of Ezekiel.

In chapters 29 and 30, we read of God sending the Prophet Ezekiel to deliver a crucial message to Egypt. "Set thy face against Pharaoh king of Egypt," God instructs Ezekiel, "and prophesy AGAINST HIM, and against all Egypt" (Ezekiel 29:2). The biblical record shows that Ezekiel was dispatched to Egypt in the EARLY SIXTH CENTURY, and that he delivered his message to Pharaoh Apries (*Hophra* in Hebrew), the fourth king of the 26th dynasty of Egypt.

Under the rule of Apries, Egypt was a powerful, influential civilization. In fact, Egypt's presence was so impressive, Apries, like his forefathers, thought himself king of the world, as powerful as God Himself. Pharaoh Apries considered the Nile River, the source of Egypt's material greatness, to be his own creation, and he declared himself the god of the Nile.

Drunk on arrogance, Apries had lost sight of Egypt's history with God and the Israelites. So God dispatched Ezekiel to warn Apries of where his egotism was leading and to tell him that God would expose and destroy him, and that in Egypt's devastation the world would learn the ultimate source of Egypt's power. In verse 3, God tells Ezekiel: "Speak, and say, Thus

saith the Lord God; Behold, I am against thee, Pharaoh king of Egypt, the great dragon that lieth in the midst of his rivers, which hath said, My river is mine own, and I have made it for myself."

God was going to show Pharaoh Apries exactly who created the Nile and gave Egypt all its power. In verse 4, God tells the pharaoh, "I will put hooks in thy jaws, and I will cause the fish of thy rivers to stick unto thy scales, and I will bring thee up out of the midst of thy rivers, and all the fish of thy rivers shall stick unto thy scales." God said He would expose Pharaoh Apries as a fraud—much like He had exposed the gods of Egypt during the 10 plagues nearly a thousand years earlier!

God continues His warning in verses 8-10: "Therefore thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I will bring a sword upon thee, and cut off man and beast out of thee. And the land of Egypt shall be desolate and waste; and they shall know that I am the Lord: because he hath said, The river is mine, and I have made it. Behold, therefore I am against thee, and against thy rivers, and I will make the land of Egypt utterly waste and desolate, from the tower of

The key to understanding Egypt's disastrous fall from global prominence is found in the book of Ezekiel.

Syene even unto the border of Ethiopia."

In verse 19, Ezekiel even reveals to Apries that he would be attacked by the armies of Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon. In scripture after scripture of chapters 29 and 30, God warns the pharaoh that Egypt's destruction at the hands of the Babylonians and Persians would be so disastrous that *it would never fully recover!*

Then, in verse 15, God makes a prophecy that would change Egypt forever. Regarding Egypt's future after the destruction, He says explicitly: "It shall be the BASEST OF THE KINGDOMS; neither shall it exalt itself any more above the nations: for I will diminish them, THAT THEY SHALL NO MORE RULE OVER THE NATIONS."

God couldn't have been clearer: He promised that after the sixth century B.C., Egypt *would never again be a major ruling power!*

Prince of Egypt

In addition to Ezekiel 29:15, another scripture is key to understanding Egypt's sudden demise in the sixth century, specifically the sudden disappearance of Egypt's

ruling dynasty of native pharaohs.

Although Egypt would eventually recover from the damage inflicted by the Babylonians and the Persians, God says in Ezekiel 30:13 that "THERE SHALL BE NO MORE A PRINCE OF THE LAND OF EGYPT . . ."

This, as Bible commentaries explain and historical records confirm, is an explicit prophecy that after its destruction in the sixth century B.C., Egypt would NEVER AGAIN be governed by a NATIVE PRINCE!

THIS ASTOUNDING SCRIPTURE EXPLAINS THE SUDDEN DISAPPEARANCE OF EGYPT'S ANCIENT PHAROAHS!

In the early sixth century, Pharaoh Amiries was overthrown by Amesis, a commoner who was not from the line of the pharaohs. After Amesis, Egypt was ruled by Pharaoh Pamaitic III. After the defeat of the Egyptian armies in the battle of Pelusium in 525 B.C. and the death of Pamaitic III, the Egyptian monarchy became Persian. After the Persian conquest, the Greeks dominated Egypt beginning with Alexander the Great in the fourth century B.C. When Alexander died, Egypt was ruled by Ptolemy, who established a Greek dynasty of pharaohs. That dynasty ended in 30 B.C., when Egypt fell into Rome's orbit. Truly, from the sixth century B.C., a native Egyptian has never—NOT ONCE—ruled over Egypt!

Stunning Prophecies

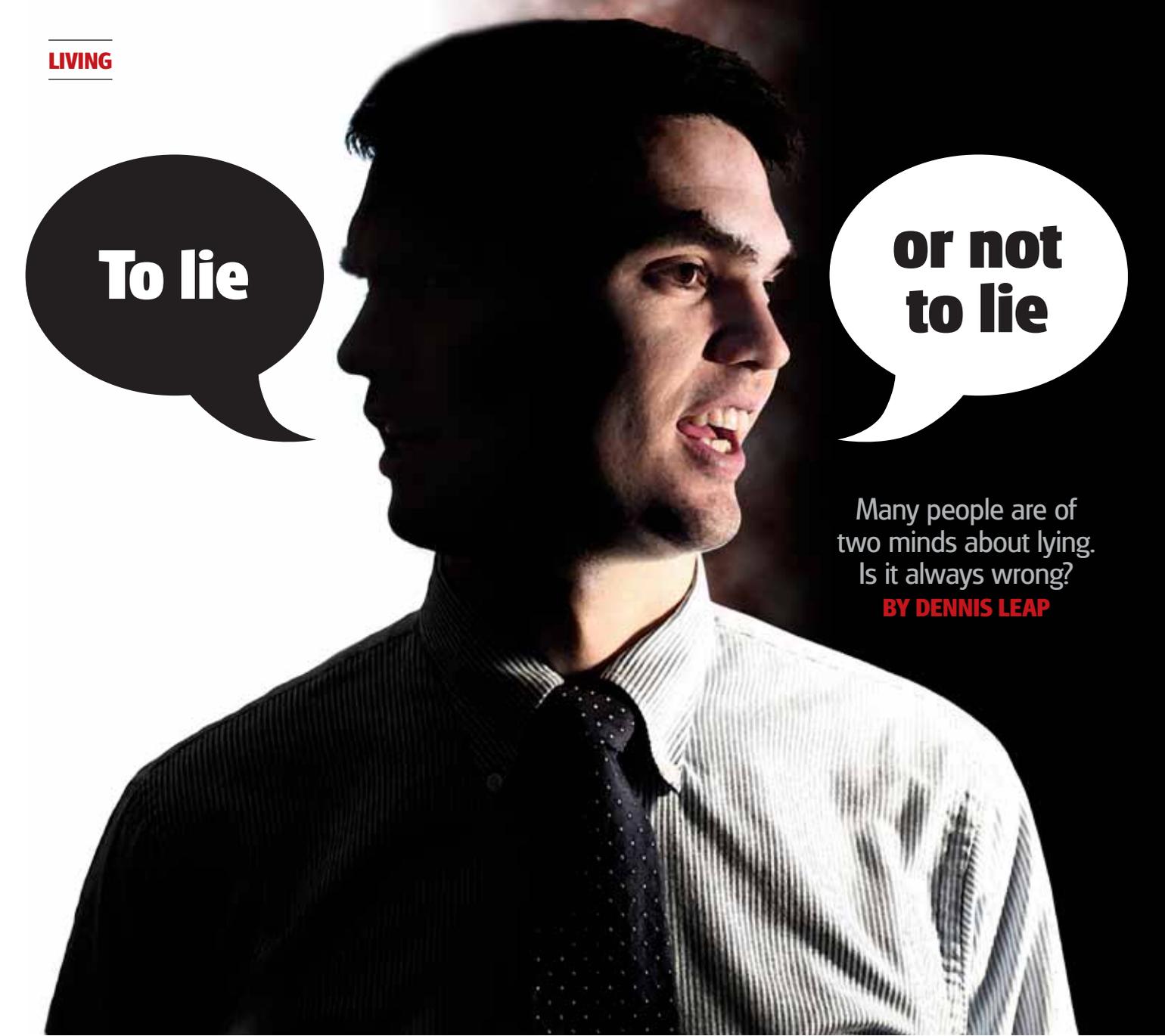
Take a moment and think on these stunning prophecies.

For nearly 2,000 years before the sixth century B.C., Egypt was not only a regional force, but a pulsating civilization. Culturally and intellectually, ancient Egyptian mathematicians, scientists and astronomers were on the vanguard of innovation; agriculturally, ancient Egypt exported grains throughout the Middle East and the Mediterranean; the ancient Egyptians constructed edifices that 4,000 years later still dazzle engineers. Politically, Egypt's ruling class was the most enduring and impressive monarchy in the world.

Then, *all of a sudden in the sixth century B.C.*, Egypt vanished as a world power—AND NEVER RECLAIMED ITS POSITION! Why? Because, as we discovered in Ezekiel 29 and 30, God said that after the sixth century B.C., Egypt would remain the "basest of kingdoms," a nation still alive, yet incapable of "exalt[ing] itself any more above the nations."

Today, each of these prophecies has been fulfilled, *and we have 2,500 years of recorded history to prove it.*

Truly, Egypt *has* played a pivotal role in human history—as a living testament to the EXISTENCE OF GOD! ■



To lie

or not
to lie

Many people are of
two minds about lying.
Is it always wrong?

BY DENNIS LEAP

TO LIE OR NOT TO LIE—THAT is the question.

While people in most cultures trumpet truth-telling, many are *lenient* about lying. Just look at current books on the subject. In some books you'll find clear declarations that lying is morally wrong and harmful. In others, you will discover ample justification for the good accomplished by lying. One book actually teaches the art of lying!

Let's admit it: We are *befuddled* about lying. Most people hate the harsh connotation of the word, so they refer to lies as *fibs*, *fish stories*, *fudges*, *tall tales* or *spins*—which is euphemistic self-deception. We say we expect government leaders to tell us the truth, yet we know they lie to us and

accept that they will lie again. “That’s politics,” we say. Even whole nations are willing to overlook lying. For example, the Russian Federation is well known for habitually lying on a grand scale, yet other nations still make pacts with that government.

We fume when someone lies to us. We get vindictive at being called a liar. Yet we readily deceive ourselves—about our health, our finances and even our religion. And when put under pressure, many people opt to lie—often—to bosses, work associates, friends, spouses, parents and children.

What is wrong with us?

The truth is, we are addicted to deception. It comes *naturally* for us. Deception is the act or practice of deceiving; concealment or distortion of the truth for the purpose of misleading; duplicity; fraud;

cheating. Synonyms include feigning, guile, hypocrisy, imposture, trickery. Telling a lie is the most sophisticated form of deception.

Sadly, we are good at deceiving others from a very young age.

One interesting study of young children and lying showed that “children from 3 to 6 years of age are able to deceive adults without being detected” (*Lying and Deception in Everyday Life*). Isn’t this a shocking fact? Most 3-year-olds have well-developed deception skills. Doesn’t this tell us that deception should not be taken lightly?

Deception is no joke. It is a harmful habit that must be broken.

The Easy Lie

How do most human beings deceive or mislead others?

Deception is easily divided into four broad categories. To mislead another one can: 1) avoid an issue; 2) omit the truth or parts of the truth; 3) let an untrue statement of another go uncorrected; or 4) tell a bald-faced lie. Most deceit falls into the first three categories. These are the easy lies.

Actually telling a flat-out lie takes more work. Purposely making a false statement to deceive another requires complex mental processes: deep thought, planning and careful construction of the untrue statement. Bald-faced lying is an aggressive act. Floating a lie invites the recipient to prove a statement's truthfulness. Most people hesitate to boldly lie because they fear getting caught. Humans work hard to conceal deception. Since no one wants to be known as a liar, we operate within a web of ambiguity and deceit. That takes us back to the first three forms of deception, which are the more passive, *hard-to-detect* types of lies.

So why not just tell the truth?

Herbert W. Armstrong often said that perhaps the hardest thing for any person to do is to admit it when he is wrong. In other words, it is tough for us to face the truth even when it looks us right in the eye. People use deception to hide the truth about personal mistakes, flaws and weakness. Essentially we lie to either protect or ingratiate the self. We work hard to mask insecurity. We want others to always think the best of us.

Athletes feign injury to avoid failure

If you are going to tell a lie in the first place, don't stop at such a trivial one, but instead tell a really big one. Tell a lie that will be big enough to help you get ahead in your workplace or one that will catch a man for you. THE ART OF LYING

Trust and integrity are precious resources, easily squandered, hard to regain. They can thrive only on a foundation of respect for veracity. LYING: MORAL CHOICE IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LIFE

during a high-pressure sporting event. Students pretend to be sick to avoid admitting failure to prepare for a test or to complete an assignment on time. Men and women dye their hair to appear younger for a job interview. The unemployed exaggerate work skills on a resume to land a job. Teachers raise grade scores to help a student enter college. Supervisors overstate recommendations to secure a promotion for a favorite employee.

Do we see all these examples as harmful lies? They all are. Yes, every example. Who is most hurt? The liar is, always! How? Individuals who use deceit continually are ever expanding their capacity to become better and more sophisticated at deception. Lies breed more and bigger lies.

Lying is an evil that destroys good character.

Bible: Tough on Lying

Eric Alterman, in his book *When Presidents Lie*, states, "Both the Hebrew Bible

and the New Testament demonstrate considerable ambivalence when it comes to lying" Is the Bible ambiguous about telling lies? No. Unfortunately, through the centuries since Christ, many religious leaders and teachers have agreed with Mr. Alterman. There has been much confusion about lying in the religious world.

Here is the truth. The whole Bible is tough on lying—declaring it a criminal offense by order of the Ninth Commandment. Though religious leaders may teach otherwise, that law is in full force and must be kept. In the Hebrew Bible, Exodus 20:16 states: "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour." The New Testament quotes Jesus Christ teaching those seeking eternal life, "Thou shalt not bear false witness" (Matthew 19:18). *Lange's Commentary* states that the commandment in Exodus 20:16 forbids "not only [false] testimony before the judge, but in general any untrue testimony."

Solomon certifies lying to be one of the

Jacob's Tangled Web

DOES the Bible commend lying? Some say Jacob was rewarded for deceiving his father into giving him the blessing that he sought to give Esau. But read Genesis 27. It is a compelling study *against* the practice of deception.

In this history, Moses brings to light that Jacob was not the only one guilty of deceit; in fact, it was the entire family. Isaac, Rebekah, Esau and Jacob all use one of the four broad categories of deception.

Verses 1 through 4 lay the foundation for the history of Jacob's ruse. His father, Isaac, was old, feeble, blind and preparing for death. Under a veil of secrecy, the patriarch called for Esau, his favorite son (see Genesis 25:28). Isaac informed Esau that he planned to confer upon him the birthright blessing, undoubtedly a spectacular inheritance. As part of their private celebration he desired that Esau both hunt and prepare his favorite venison meat dish. Esau quickly complied with his father's wishes and rushed off into the wilds (Genesis 27:5).

Here, both of these men were guilty of deceit. Why? Isaac offered his firstborn an inheritance he could



not rightly give him. Before Esau's birth, God informed Rebekah by a prophecy that her younger son would rule over his elder brother. Isaac would have known this meant that Jacob was to receive the birthright blessing (Genesis 25:23). Notice that Isaac did not include Rebekah in his plans for Esau. Why? He knew she would disagree. Also realize that Esau never valued his birthright and had sold it to his brother for a bowl of soup (Genesis 25:31). He neglected to tell his father he had done so. His lust for wealth moti-

vated him to conceal the fact that Jacob already possessed the blessing.

In verses 6 through 30 of Genesis 27 the history gets interesting. Isaac's plan would have been carried out flawlessly, it would seem, had not his

seven things God hates (Proverbs 6:16-17). The wise king also stated, “A false witness shall not be unpunished, and he that speaketh lies shall perish” (Proverbs 19:9).

According to the Bible, habitual lying brings about destruction—certainly of one’s reputation, and even of one’s life! In ancient Israel, certain perjury crimes received the death penalty (Deuteronomy 19:16-21).

Is the Bible ambivalent about lying? Hardly!

Alterman continues, “While the Israelites are commanded to not bear ‘false witness,’ any number of cases can be found in the five books of Moses in which the authors appear to genuinely approve of lying, so long as it helps to ensure the survival of the Israelites. The best known of these takes place in Genesis (27:12), when Jacob deliberately deceives his father into giving him his blessing (and inheritance) rather than his brother Esau. Jacob appropriates his father’s blessing and is the better for it” Mr. Alterman misses the real lesson of that tragic history. Jacob did not get off for his despicable deception. In fact, he suffered horribly for years afterward. Look at the biblical record (“Jacob’s Tangled Web,” below).

World of Deception

Ours is not an honest world. Every facet of society—government, industry, science, education, religion—is filled with duplicity, fraud, hypocrisy, trickery and underhandedness. In the back of our minds, every human being knows this and still goes

along with it. What a paradox. Why do we allow ourselves to live with such wretched harm? A globe-girdling spirit of deceit and hypocrisy smothers our planet. Most drift along with it. Humans have been duped into believing that lying helps us.

Contrary to the belief of many religious leaders and followers, this is not the God of Truth’s world. The Holy Bible reveals that the actual god of this world is the *father of lies* (Ephesians 2:2; 2 Corinthians 4:4; John 8:44). Satan the devil rules this

his wife’s lead. He accepted Satan’s lie. The devil continues to spin this same hoax to all living today. Most have been tricked into disbelieving and disobeying God.

Thankfully, Satan’s con is coming to an end. God’s new and wonderful world, founded on the truth, is coming soon. Satan and all other liars will not live in that world (Revelation 21:8).

To break your addiction to deception, you must sincerely extol the truth *and* truth telling. The Ninth Commandment

The simplest answer to the problems of lying, at least in principle, is to rule out all lies.

LYING: MORAL CHOICE IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LIFE

Contrary to what most of us believe, the person who is unable to tell a lie is not a very caring person.

THE ART OF LYING

planet as a god. But he is no god. He is a fallen, bitter and hopeless angel. He hates the truth and keeps unsuspecting humans in the dark about the importance of knowing the truth and telling the truth. How did Satan get control of the Earth? He stole it from our first parents using the power of a lie. He hoodwinked Eve into disbelieving and disobeying God. Even though not deceived, Adam chose to willingly follow

demands that you seek out, study and live by the truth taught in the Holy Bible. The Book of books affirms that all lying is sin and is as serious as committing murder.

Can humans truly live without lies? We must! Jesus Christ promises His followers, “Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” (John 8:32). No human need live with lies. Embrace the truth. You’ll be free of the addiction to deception. ■

wife *listened in* on her husband’s conversation. Rebekah—believing the prophecy yet not having the faith to confront Isaac or let God work it out—concocted a complex scheme to mislead Isaac into believing that Jacob was Esau. Jacob was wary of the plan because of his radically different physical appearance from his brother—Esau was very hairy; he was not. Jacob feared getting caught and *cursed* for lying to Isaac (verse 12). Notice, however, that Jacob did not stop the plan. Like his mother, he lacked the faith to let God work it out. What a shame: He actually was doubly entitled to the birthright. God had assigned it to him through prophecy, and he had purchased it.

Rebekah’s darkest deceit is revealed in her discussion with Jacob, the cooking of the goat meat and the design of Jacob’s disguise. She even used some of Esau’s own clothes (verse 15). The meat of two goats was necessary to conceal the fact that the meat dish was not actually venison (verse 9).

It was awful that she took advantage of her husband’s blindness, making Jacob appear to be hairy. Of course, Jacob’s knack for deception is exposed in verses 17 through 22. Like a deceitful spy, Jacob went to his father. Using the knowledge gained from his mother, he perfectly played the part of his brother. He said, *I am Esau*—a bald-faced lie. He presented his father with the false meat dish his mother had made as “my venison”—another calculated deception. When questioned about how he had returned from hunting so quickly, Jacob lied by saying that God had blessed him. How insidious to bring God into this dark picture! Jacob allowed his father to feel his

hair-cloaked hands and smell Esau’s robe that he wore—real depravity.

Yet, the lie worked. Jacob received the blessing. But did Jacob get away with the outright lying and theatrical deceptions? Not at all!

Look at the damage done by his deceit. Isaac was emotionally crushed by Jacob’s actions. Esau became so bitterly angry that he planned to assassinate Jacob after Isaac died. Jacob had to flee for his life. He never saw his mother again; she died before he returned to Canaan. Essentially, Rebekah was cursed because of all the lying (verse 13).

Genesis 29-50 show that Jacob’s pain did not end there. His uncle Laban deceived him into marrying Leah instead of Rachel. The woman he loved (Rachel) was barren. Laban, even after he became his father-in-law, took advantage of Jacob, practically enslaving him for 14 years. God forced Jacob to wrestle with Him all night to eventually receive the blessing (Genesis 32). Jacob’s daughter Dinah was raped. His beloved second wife, Rachel, died in childbirth. To teach Jacob the deep evil of lying, God allowed him to be deceived by his own family. His sons misled him to believe that his favorite son, Joseph, was dead. When moving to Egypt to be with Joseph, Jacob confessed to Pharaoh that his life had been very hard—the few years he lived were filled with evil (Genesis 47:9).

We can only wonder what his life would have been like had he waited for God. Yet surely we can agree that Jacob was not better off after his lies and deceit.



Charting the Future

Pay close attention to what German leaders said at two recent summits, and you know what to expect in Europe—and the world. **BY RON FRASER**

WHAT A DRAMATIC BARNBURNER of a year 2010 was! What will this year bring? Important clues were dropped at two crucial summits that kick-started 2011 for world leaders—one in Davos, the other in Munich.

A close reading of the stance adopted by elites during these high-power conferences gives more than an inkling of what's in store for Europe—and, thus, the rest of the globe—in the coming months.

You need to understand the far-reaching ramifications.

The annual World Economic Forum met in Davos, Switzerland, January 26 to 30. In past years, the focus has been specifically on trying to project an economic vision for the world for the year ahead. This year, however, the emphasis was patently *geopolitical*. This change, though not scheduled, was a natural outgrowth of the participants being deeply concerned about the state of the world. They see risks to global stability accelerating on three fronts—the failure to solve the ongoing financial crisis, the shift of growth and wealth to the emerging economies of the east and south, and revolutionary change in the Middle East.

That focus on geopolitical risks in a time of increasing global economic, political and social dislocation continued as many participants shuttled on to Munich for the annual Munich Security Conference. Here, an important reality became clear. It may well be that the emerging economies, led by China, are setting the pace economically at present. However, it is Europe, specifically Germany, that is charting a new direction for global politics.

The Importance of Munich

The Munich conference was born in 1962 of an idea of Ewald Heinrich von Kleist, son of a prominent military officer of the same name who rose to the status of field marshal under Hitler. Both father and son were involved in the plots to assassinate Hitler. After the war, while the elder von Kleist died in prison in Russia, the younger became a successful publisher. He established the Wehrkunde Conference.

The Wehrkunde brought together cabinet ministers, members of parliament, high-ranking representatives of the armed forces, scientists and representatives of the media from all over the world once a year to meet in Munich. There they convened to discuss matters involving international security.

By 1999, the Wehrkunde had changed its name to the Munich Security Conference, chaired by Horst Teltschik, former national security adviser to the German government. It had by then become the premier annual global security summit.

In 2009, Ambassador Wolfgang Ischinger was appointed chairman of the conference. Under his chairmanship, this year's conference was its largest ever and—it could be argued, given the continuing global economic crisis and the destabilization of the Middle East—its most crucial.

At Munich, Bavaria, Germany now plays the host annually to the most high-profile gathering of world leaders involved in national and international security policy for the year ahead. It is in the corridors at Munich that alliances are considered and debated and global security strategy is refined.

Just a couple of months earlier, NATO held its annual summit, during which it laid out the new transatlantic security

model in a new strategic concept. Thus, participants at the Munich Security Conference—who also had just come from Davos—had a fair idea of the perceived direction that the West's efforts at securing global security would take from the one, and a degree of vision as to the economic direction from the other.

This year, a landmark treaty, the START treaty, was officially implemented between U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and her Russian counterpart, Sergei Lavrov.

But, viewing the live streamed video from Munich, it soon became obvious that Germany was emerging as the most lucid and potently assertive voice effecting international policy economically and monetarily, as well as in matters related to the theme of the summit, security and defense.

Guttenberg Spotlighted

The Munich Security Conference opened with a speech by German Defense Minister Karl-Theodor zu Guttenberg. He revealed the new outward-looking perspective of a Germany quickly gaining confidence in its role as a global player.

“Security has a global dimension,” he said. He linked that global dimension with Germany's recent moves to “launch the most fundamental changes to our military force since the founding of the Bundeswehr,” redesigning the German military to become “smaller, more capable, more efficient and more effective.” He noted that Germany is “joined in this effort by our partners in the [Atlantic] alliance.” These changes, Guttenberg indicated, were to “strike a balance between means and mission” with the overall aim of answering the question, “What do we want to achieve politically with the

realignment of the Bundeswehr?”

Given Germany's history, the answer to that question could have profound impact not only on the Atlantic alliance, but also on the rest of the world.

As if to partially answer it, Guttenberg continued, “We want to improve our strategic weight in the alliance. We want to make an adequate contribution and we want to influence the events.” In this context, Guttenberg does not restrict Germany's contribution to the transatlantic context. Rather he sees German and NATO cooperation providing a “worldwide network of security.”

Toward the end of his remarks, Guttenberg focused on the nation of Israel. He declared that “Israel needs neighbors who want to live with it in peace and which do not threaten its existence. Egypt and Jordan must honor their peace treaties with Israel. Europe has some clout in these countries, and we should use it.”

That latter statement bespeaks the imminent prospect of a regeneration of the Middle East peace process, with Germany taking a lead role—something this magazine has been predicting for two decades.

NATO's Vision

Guttenberg's speech was followed by that of NATO chief Anders Fogh Rasmussen, who drew attention to the overarching theme of the Munich conference: “How to build security in an age of austerity.” He highlighted the danger of reducing defense budgets, declaring that “if the cuts are too deep we won't be able to defend the security on which our democratic societies and prosperous economies depend.” He emphasized NATO using the ongoing financial and economic crisis to “help nations to build greater security with fewer resources but more coordination and coherence” so as to “avoid the financial crisis from becoming a security crisis.”

Alluding to the need for flexibility and a *globalist* approach toward security in sync with Guttenberg's stating the need for security to be viewed within a “global dimension,” the NATO chief observed that “old certainties no longer hold, tectonic plates are shifting. ... At stake is not just the world economy, but the *world order*” (emphasis mine throughout).

No doubt thinking of Washington's stick-in-the-mud approach to the Atlantic alliance, Rasmussen stated, “We need a *new approach*: smart defense, ensuring greater security, for less money, by *working together* with more flexibility.” That one statement reveals how close Guttenberg's approach to upgrading the Bundeswehr is to Rasmussen's vision for NATO. The

two are of one mind in their strategy for upgrading each force and synchronizing with the other. Both seek a leaner, meaner, more proficient and reactive blending of German and NATO military power.

The ongoing financial crisis is accelerating this process. As Rasmussen observed, “The *crisis* makes cooperation between nations no longer a choice. It is a *necessity*.” He held up the recent merging of British and French force capabilities as an example, applauding their “fundamental shift towards closer cooperation to develop and share critical defense capabilities” as a real “turning point.” He then praised Germany's efforts, stating, “I particularly wish to commend Minister zu Guttenberg and the German government for undertaking the reform of the Bundeswehr, to make it leaner and more agile.”

Then the NATO leader pointed to the true nature of what European elites are working toward militarily: “A strong, strategic NATO-EU partnership would deliver many benefits, in political and operational terms, as well as financially. It makes sense for us in Europe. ... I will continue to do all I can to make it happen.”

That statement rings with an air of prophecy. *It will happen*, but not because Anders Fogh Rasmussen will do all in his power to achieve that end. It will happen because Bible prophecies herald the dramatic rise of a northern European power, dominated by a nation the prophecies identify as being descended from the war men of ancient Assyria. (Proof of this can be found in our free booklet *Germany and the Holy Roman Empire*.)

Realizing Dr. Funk's Vision

Perhaps the most eye-opening session at Munich was a panel discussion titled “Implications of the Financial Crisis on Global Stability and Security.” In it, the vision of EU elites came into clear focus. Dr. Walter Funk, Hitler's minister for economic affairs, would be beaming with national pride were he alive today hearing that vision portrayed by today's EU centralists. For that vision reveals that Germany is about to fulfill his dream of advancing toward global monetary hegemony.

Funk's vision was to have the exchange rates of European nations controlled by Berlin. This would enable Germany to ensure it could sell its manufactured goods at increasingly favorable prices; this in turn would increase Germany's wealth at the expense of lesser economies dependent upon it for custom and financial support in the form of expensive loans.

Germany has, in essence, achieved this effect today by ensuring that the

European Central Bank sets interest rates for eurozone countries. This restricts the growth of many EU member nations so much that they are becoming increasingly indebted and prone to call for bailout by Europe's central bankers, of which Germany is chief by far.

Hence the eurozone crisis.

That raises, once again, an important question: Was the euro crisis foreseen by German elites? Was the single-currency policy of the EU—a German idea—a deliberate strategy to make the individual national economies of Europe subservient to Berlin? That question seemed clearly answered by Germany's finance minister, Wolfgang Schäuble, at the Munich conference.

During the first panel discussion, there was an interchange between financier George Soros, EU Commissioner for Economic and Financial Affairs Olli Rehn, and Wolfgang Schäuble. Soros declared that the euro crisis “is about to be resolved.” And how? “There is now a determination to make up the missing element, which is a common fiscal policy or a common treasury.” He was referring to Germany's forceful drive to establish EU fiscal regulation under a centralized economic government enacted and controlled by *Berlin*.

Divergence, Crisis and Success

But Soros went on to raise a particular concern: “I'm afraid that the structure that is being put together will also be flawed. It is clearly visible that *it will create problems* in the years to come because the euro, which was supposed to bring about convergence, has *actually created a divergence* within the performances of the various countries. The structure that is currently being discussed *will cast this divergence in stone*. That will have *very serious consequences* because you are *creating a two-speed Europe* between surplus countries surging ahead and indebted countries sinking under the weight of their debt.”

What was intriguing to note was Schäuble's and Rehn's response. Here are extracts from their discussion:

Soros: “The euro created a *divergence* in Europe's economies. Germany plans a *common treasury* and a *common fiscal policy* for the EU. ... This creates a *two-speed Europe*. ... Debtor countries sink under the weight of debt while strong economies grow. ... This will present a *bad political situation* allowing for the rise of *extremist political groups*.”

Schäuble: “The challenge is how to handle the financial crisis versus *global security* versus *global governance*.”

Rehn: “A new and *enforced* economic government is needed. We need a *global government* to allow the markets to stay close to equilibrium. We need a *third way*. A rules-based system similar to that which Ludwig Erhard implemented. The *German example is the real EU model.*”

Soros: “A rules-based system will be flawed due to human imperfection.”

Schäuble: “The global financial crisis happened due to too high demand and too little regulation. *We need more regulation.* The EU is the classic example of regional cooperation. The Chinese model is not for the rest of the world. The problem of 2008 was due to lack of rules. We need a rules-based system with competition and freedom. Rules and framework—look for these.”

Rehn: “*The German approach is a very responsible policy.*”

Schäuble: “*The deeper the crisis, the better the chance for getting solutions!*”

This interchange starkly reveals the anti-democratic stance of the EU’s *real* controllers, the elites who rule from the European heartland. These elites are *determined* to impose centralized economic governance on Europe. They are deliberately creating a *crisis of divergence* between the stronger and the weaker EU members—a crisis as pre-planned as the Greek economic crisis, in which German elites were equally culpable. (You can read more about this in our February 2009 article “Did the Holy Roman Empire Plan the Greek Crisis?”) And this crisis will end with the *same results*: control of the nations’ economies by centralized authority vested in Brussels, Berlin and Frankfurt.

A Single Government

Wolfgang Schäuble observed during the panel discussion that the founders of what is today’s European Union always wanted *political union*. The ultimate aim is a single European government. The means of achieving it is monetary union. As Sir Richard Body predicted fully 12 years ago in his book *The Breakdown of Europe*, “The objective of a single currency in the European Union ... is to integrate formally and irrevocably all the economies of the member states. They will be merged together into a single economy under the control of a single authority that will be (*de facto if not de jure*) a government.”

That is exactly what Germany is proposing today.

The most influential thinkers at the Munich Security Conference spoke of the need for security to be *global* rather than



national in extent and responsibility, administered under *centralized* rather than sovereign national control.

They spoke of economic and financial regulation that is *imposed* over sovereign national jurisdiction by a centralized authority. “Such thinking is infused with the utopian belief in ‘new order’ governed by an elite of administrators and planners,” wrote John Laughland of the mindset of EU elites. “[L]ike all socialist thought, such ‘new thinking’ is predicated on a radical rejection of humanity as it is now, and indeed of liberty” (*The Tainted Source*).

Ultimately, this shows a perceived need for a supreme global human authority to which all humanity would be subservient. But as Soros said, such a system would be flawed by human imperfection.

Berlin’s Economic Government

Using the logic put forward by Wolfgang Schäuble, Germany is now moving aggressively to gain full economic and political control of Europe using the economic crisis as the catalyst. Berlin wants all eurozone member states to acquiesce fully to what it calls its “competitiveness pact.” The trouble is, this is an obvious first step toward Berlin taking over the governance of Europe’s once sovereign economies.

German-Foreign-Policy.com wrote of this: “The mark of the German economic policy, aimed at massive salary reductions, general economic insecurity and aggressive export orientation, is unmistakably recognizable within the individual provisions of the ‘EU competitiveness pact.’ The pact, which is described as the nucleus of a

future EU economic governing body, provides for the eurozone nations to introduce ‘debt limitations’ patterned on the German model” (February 14).

The proposed European economic policy “threatens sanctions against those countries that refuse to take these steps. The impending ‘European economic governing body’ will be implemented ‘completely along the lines of the German model’” (*ibid.*).

Ireland, Greece, Portugal and now Spain have been test cases for this “German model” of economic governance.

Joan Marc Simon, secretary general of the Union of European Federalists, gave an up-to-date observation of just how the process operates using Spain as an example: “The front page of today’s Spanish newspapers [February 4] joined the country’s main political actors in cheering the words of Merkel: ‘Spain is going in the right direction with the reforms.’ I almost fell off the chair: A foreign leader coming to Spain—a sovereign nation-state, at least on paper—and telling the democratically elected leaders what they have to do. And everybody finds it normal!”

Simon’s incredulity came from his observation of “the fact that a sovereign country is managing to force other sovereign countries to do what it thinks to be right. In the past this could be achieved only with the use of military force” (*Europe’s World*, February 7).

He’s right! Simply put, what Germany sought to achieve by military force in 1914 and 1939 it is now well advanced in

See **CHANGE** page 36 ▶

king of the south, although anciently it was in type. Today, Egypt is the most stable country in the Arab world. It is viewed as the leader of the more moderate, stable Arabs. But recently, Egypt has become much more friendly to Iran and more distant from Israel and the West.”

Again, Mr. Flurry emphasized, “The king of the north will destroy the king of the south—and Egypt. Why Egypt? Is it because Egypt was allied with the king of the south? *Does that mean radical Islam will soon control or direct Egyptian politics?*” (emphasis ours throughout).

Four years later, the Muslim Brotherhood won 88 seats in parliamentary elections—about one fifth of the parliamentary seats, a six-fold increase over the previous election. And this despite the Mubarak regime’s authoritarian measures to quash and disqualify opponents.

Mr. Flurry speculated that President Hosni Mubarak could be assassinated by Islamists just as Anwar Sadat was. “This could radically change Egyptian politics even more quickly,” similar to what happened in Iran’s 1979 revolution, he wrote.

These stunning developments are evidence of one of the biggest proofs of the Bible.

“In the past, Egyptian politics have been changed radically by Middle East assassinations and other violent acts directed by Iran. Such acts can rapidly change the minds of people. *Revolutions often result. However it happens, Egypt will also become the enemy of the king of the north.*”

In the June 2003 *Trumpet*, Mr. Flurry wrote that in Egypt, “Islamic extremism—which spawns terrorism—is gaining power at a frightening pace.” Again, in reference to Daniel 11:42, he asked, “Does that mean radical Islam will soon control or direct Egyptian politics? Bible prophecy answers YES.”

In the November 2003 edition, Mr. Flurry declared that a radical change in Egyptian politics is “happening before our eyes in this end time, and it is mainly because [of] Iran’s ‘push’ toward radicalism.”

Loss of an Ally

On Jan. 3, 2006, Mr. Flurry wrote a letter to Philadelphia Church of God members and co-workers giving further insight on the direction Egypt was headed and what this would mean for America. “We have said for years that Egypt has been a friend to the West,” he wrote. “But, because of this prophecy [Daniel 11:42], we also said that could change.”

He continued: “Now we can clearly see Egypt moving in that direction. The Muslim Brotherhood (MB), though officially banned, is now Egypt’s largest and most influential opposition party. It is clear that this outlawed radical Islamic group has made significant inroads in Egyptian politics. ...

“The political success of this long-established Islamic group can be perceived as a sign of A FUNDAMENTAL SHIFT IN EGYPTIAN POLITICS. The Brotherhood’s rising popularity indicates many things—among them, *a love for Islamic leadership and law in Egypt*, and a hatred for the government of President Mubarak.” Opinion polls—and events—since then have verified these statements.

“The time is coming when the MB could gain heavy influence or even control over Egypt,” Mr. Flurry continued. “This is apparently what a growing number of Egyptians want. President Mubarak is growing older (he’s in his 70s), and his health is ailing.

“AS THE MB GROWS MORE POPULAR, IT WILL STRENGTHEN ITS TIES WITH ISLAMIC POWERS THROUGHOUT THE REGION—ESPECIALLY IRAN. ... AS Mubarak’s health weakens and the MB grows stronger, watch for Cairo to distance

itself from America. *Should the MB ever take control, there is no doubt that a strong alliance between Iran and Egypt will be built.*

“Certainly, as discontent with the political system in Egypt increases, we can expect to see the Islamists grow in popularity. *A change of leadership WILL occur—and probably sooner rather than later.*”

This “discontent with the political system” has now erupted. Watch now for the Islamists, the most organized opposition movement, to angle for control.

Egypt-Iran Alliance

In a March 2008 *Trumpet* article titled “Iran-Egypt Alliance Prophesied,” Mr. Flurry again focused on this end-time prophecy. He outlined how the assassination of Sadat “bitterly divided Egypt and Iran,” but despite that, “Egypt and Iran would become very close allies in this end time.” According to Daniel, “Egypt happens to be one of the allies of the king of the south, and that forebodes a lot of bad news for the Egyptians,” Mr. Flurry wrote.

Again pointing to a radical change in Egyptian politics, he said: “The moderate government in Egypt is being threatened by a popular and growing Iranian-aligned, anti-American, radical Islamist movement. In fact, we expect the most radical

elements within Egypt to assume control and directly ally themselves with Iran. This worst-case scenario for the U.S. is just what the Bible prophesied will occur soon.

“Already Iranian President Ahmadinejad has said, ‘We are determined to pursue normalization of relations with Egypt, and if the Egyptian government declares its readiness, before the working hour is over today, we are willing to open Iran’s embassy in Cairo.’ The head of Iran’s National Security Council said Iran was willing to help Egypt produce *nuclear* energy. Events are moving at a greatly accelerated pace! ...

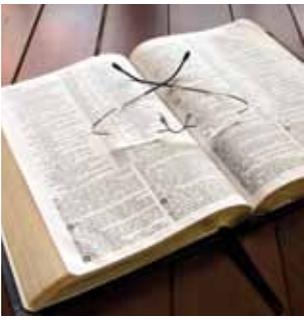
“We know the radical Islamic movement in Egypt will certainly have *a lot of influence* in Egyptian politics; *and it’s going to swing that nation toward Iran*. Ultimately, that means bad news for Egypt because of the final outcome.”

Proof of the Bible

After President Barack Obama spoke at Cairo University in June of 2009, Mr. Flurry again warned, “Egypt is about to experience a RADICAL CHANGE!” Responding to the fact that President Obama had invited members of the Muslim Brotherhood to his speech, Mr. Flurry said, “No doubt the Muslim Brotherhood is going to gain control of Egypt.” The Brotherhood’s “invitation to hear that speech from the leader of the free world absolutely strengthens its cause! ... How much did America’s president help the terrorist cause? Probably far more than we imagine. Regardless, God’s prophecy will be fulfilled!” (*Trumpet*, August 2009).

Now, Mubarak is out and the Muslim Brotherhood is on the cusp of becoming part of a new government in Egypt—one that will undoubtedly draw closer to Iran. Beyond what this means for Egypt, the Middle East and the rest of the world, these *stunning developments are evidence of one of the biggest proofs of the Bible*. As Mr. Flurry wrote in his March 2008 article, “Daniel was written over 2,500 years ago. God knew Egypt would retain the same name it had almost from the beginning and that it would ally itself with Iran! That’s something to get excited about, because ONE OF THE FOUNDATIONAL PROOFS of the Bible being God’s Word is *fulfilled prophecy!*”

But further, what does God purpose we do with this “more sure word of prophecy”? “[Y]e do well that YE TAKE HEED,” the Apostle Peter admonished, “as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn ...” (2 Peter 2:19). Fulfilled prophecy is a light leading to a new day—marked by the return of Jesus Christ!



What Is Hell?

Even if you are a Christian, you may go to hell. Some of your loved ones are already in hell. But don't be alarmed. "Hell" is not what most people have imagined!

The Philadelphia Trumpet, in conjunction with the Herbert W. Armstrong College Bible Correspondence Course, presents this brief excursion into the fascinating study of the Bible. Simply turn to and read in your Bible each verse given in answer to the questions. You will be amazed at the new understanding gained from this short study!

MOST PEOPLE ASSUME ONE OF TWO EXTREMES concerning "hell." One group totally denies that it exists. It is passed off as an ancient superstition with no bearing on modern life. The other group pictures hell as a terrible place of never-ending torment where the devil rules and his demons gleefully "roast" sinners like meat on a bonfire. There is bitter weeping and wailing, agonized cursing, shrieks and screams from those in eternal torment—according to this concept.

Before we examine the Bible to see whether the common ideas about hell could possibly be true, let us consider where this concept of hell, if true, would lead us.

On this Earth are nearly 7 billion people. The most populous lands are China, India and other parts of Asia. In spite of the efforts of Western missionaries, literally billions of people on the Earth have never so much as heard the only name by which, the Bible tells us, men may be saved: "Jesus Christ"! (Acts 4:12).

If all the "unsaved" go immediately to a fiery hell at death, then multiple billions of people who have ever lived have been consigned to this terrible punishment without ever having had a chance to escape it!

Can you really believe this is the method an all-wise, all-merciful, loving God is using to work out His purpose here below?

What is the truth?

Christ Spoke of "Hell Fire"

1. What punishment did Christ warn would ultimately befall those who refuse to quit sinning? Mark 9:43.

COMMENT: *Hell* is an English word. When Mark recorded Christ's words, he wrote them in the Greek language. The Greek word translated "hell," which Mark was inspired to write down, is *gehenna*. Since in this verse Christ says the sinner is "to go into hell, into the fire," it follows that those who go to *gehenna* will receive punishment by fire.

Keep in mind, then, that Christ associated the Greek word *gehenna* with fire.

2. How did Christ reemphasize what He said about "hell fire"? Verse 47.

COMMENT: Again, the Greek word Mark used in this verse is *gehenna*. This word is derived from the name of the narrow, rocky Valley of Hinnom, which lies just outside Jerusalem. It was the place where refuse from the city was burned up. Trash, filth and the dead bodies of animals and despised criminals were thrown into the fires of *gehenna*, or the Valley of Hinnom. Ordinarily, everything thrown into this valley was destroyed by fire—burned up. Christ used

gehenna to picture the fate of unrepentant sinners!

Two Different "Hells"

In many passages in the New Testament where we see the word *hell*, the original Greek word is *gehenna*—but not always. Often, the Greek word translated "hell" is *hades*, which does not refer to fire at all, but to a grave—a hole in the ground. Yet the translators have confused and obscured the two entirely separate meanings of these words by indiscriminately rendering them both as *hell*.

Let's study the proof.

1. What one thing befalls both men and beasts? Ecclesiastes 3:19. Do they all go to one place—the same place—when they die? Verse 20 and Genesis 3:19.

2. What place does God say man goes to when he dies? Ecclesiastes 9:10. Did Job realize he would go to the grave after death? Job 17:13.

3. Was the God Being who became Jesus Christ "made flesh"? John 1:14. Did Christ take upon Himself the same mortal flesh of which we are composed? Hebrews 2:14. And didn't He also have to go to the grave as other mortal men do? Acts 2:31.

COMMENT: The original Greek word translated into the English *hell* in this verse is *hades*. *Hades* simply means the grave, as its usage in this verse clearly shows! Jesus's "flesh" (body) did not see corruption (in other words, it did not decompose in the grave) because He was resurrected after three days.

We can plainly see that the English word *hell* can have different meanings! *Hades* (which can also be translated as "grave," as in 1 Corinthians 15:55) has a completely different meaning than *gehenna*. Whenever you're in doubt about the intended meaning of the word *hell* in the New Testament, look it up in a concordance, such as *Strong's* or *Young's*, to see which Greek word it was translated from, and hence its true meaning.

4. When a person dies and is buried in his grave, does he know anything? Ecclesiastes 9:5.

COMMENT: When people die, they go to *hades*, or the grave, where they are aware of nothing!

But then, when do people go to *gehenna* fire for punishment? Let's notice when and how the dead will be judged by God.

The Resurrection to Judgment

1. Is there to be a future resurrection to judgment of the unsaved dead? John 5:28-29. (The word *damnation* in the King James Version in verse 29 is correctly rendered as "judgment" in most modern translations.)

COMMENT: Here is further proof that the unsaved

dead are not being tormented in a “fiery hell.” They are now dead! But there is coming a time (“the hour is coming,” said Jesus) when they will be resurrected for judgment.

2. Does the first sentence of Revelation 20:5 and verses 11-12 also prove there is to be a future resurrection to judgment? (Note that the first sentence in verse 5 is a parenthetical statement inserted within verses 4-6, which describe the first resurrection.)

COMMENT: Some of the dead—the “dead in Christ”—will be resurrected to eternal life in the first resurrection at Christ’s Second Coming (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17). But the “rest of the dead” will not live again for a thousand years, at which point they will be resurrected to mortal life. These are the unsaved dead who will rise in the second resurrection to be “judged.”

The Great White Throne Judgment described in Revelation 20:11-12 is the period when the vast majority of mankind (the dead, and most who are now alive) will be resurrected and given their opportunity to learn about God’s plan of salvation. These billions are those who never heard or understood God’s truth. They will be judged daily by how well they live by the Word of God.

At the end of this period of judgment, God will render a sentence—a verdict—for each individual. The vast majority will inherit eternal life.

3. Will there then follow a resurrection of all the incorrigible dead—all those who refuse to repent? Revelation 20:13-15.

COMMENT: After the Great White Throne Judgment period, the incorrigible dead of past ages, who may have perished at sea, or on land (the Greek word for “hell” in verse 13 is *hades*), will be resurrected to physical life. They will then be formally judged by God and sentenced. But what will be their penalty? Is it eternal life in the torment of *gehenna* fire?

4. Will all who stubbornly refuse to repent be cast into a lake of “fire and brimstone”? Revelation 21:8.

COMMENT: We saw earlier that the fate of unrepentant sinners is *gehenna* fire. So *gehenna* and the lake of fire are the same. A very large fire would have the appearance of a fiery lake, hence its description.

5. Will the fire cause the death of the wicked? Notice Revelation 21:8 once again. Which death will it cause? Same verse.

COMMENT: Mortals naturally die once, because we just “wear out” (Hebrews 9:27). But if anyone dies the second death, that individual will have been judged by God to be guilty of persistent disobedience and incorrigible rebellion. The second death will be for all eternity!

6. What is the “wages of sin”? Romans 6:23.

COMMENT: Death is the opposite of life! The final wages the incorrigible will receive is the *complete cessation of life!*

7. What does Paul warn will be the judgment, or sentence, of those who, knowing God’s commands



UNGODLY

Dante’s fictional description of a conflagrant hell became the accepted view of the biblical afterlife.

and having tasted of His way of life, sin willfully—that is, refuse to repent? Hebrews 10:26-27. Will they live on in fiery torment—or will they be “devoured” by it? Verse 27.

8. Does Psalm 37:20 also show that the ultimate fate of the wicked will be destruction by fire? Will this fire be so hot that it will *burn up*—CONSUME—the wicked? Malachi 4:1.

COMMENT: The biblical “hell fire” will *totally consume* the disobedient! Never will they exist again.

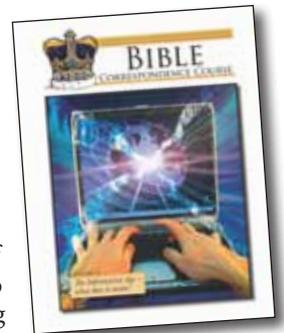
The Bible plainly shows that those who have known God’s truth and willfully disobey and refuse to repent will reap the wages of sin—which is eternal death! This scripture means what it says. The attempts by many theologians to explain away death and to interpret it as mere “separation from God” cannot be reconciled with Scripture. Death clearly does not mean eternal life in the horrifying torments of an eternal “hell.”

God Is Love

Why do so many people have a false concept of “hell”? Because they have been deceived and do not understand God’s overall purpose for creating mankind.

God’s purpose for man is that he develop the holy, righteous character of God, which will make him fit to receive the precious gift of eternal life. But God created man of the dust of the ground, *subject to death*, so that if he failed to develop righteous character, he could—unlike Satan and the immortal angels who sinned and became demons—be released from his misery by death.

God has no desire to torment or to torture anyone. God is love (1 John 4:8). He created us mortal for our own good. He will condemn no one because of ignorance, and will see to it that every person ultimately learns the truth and has a real opportunity for salvation upon sincere repentance, no matter how terrible his or her sins have been.



This short study is a sample of the method employed in each lesson of the free **Herbert W. Armstrong College Bible Correspondence Course**. Over 50,000 people have enrolled in this exciting, dynamic course. Ordering information is on the back cover of this magazine.

T You can read previous articles in this series online at trmpt.co/BibleIQ

Laws are like roads

Laws are like the roads we drive cars on (“The Bible and the Constitution,” March). If there are no roads, where are you going and how do you get there?

Poewhit—NEW YORK

The Nazi spirit lives

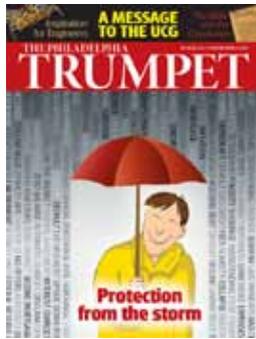
Thank you for keeping us up to date on the real power behind the front pages of the daily papers that steers the modern government of Germany (“The Hidden Nazi Underground,” March). Yes, even though most, if not all, of the former Nazis are dead and gone, it is their “ideas” that live on in the minds of many who now reside in the heart of Europe, mainly Germany. These men who were given positions of power didn’t magically overnight forget their crimes against humanity, nor did they feel any remorse for their murderous deeds. Those who harbored and protected them are just as guilty as they are. ...

Bruce Doty—BRIGHTON, MICH.

42 trillion marks to the dollar

Benjamin Bernanke was nicknamed “Helicopter Ben” because he once said that he would throw printed U.S. dollars out of helicopters to divert a depression (“The End of the Dollar,” March). Being a student of the Great Depression, he believed this was the proper action in times of financial crisis such as what happened in 2008. In reality, it did work for the last two years. But now what? I am sure the Fed chairman is also a student on the Weimar Republic and its mark. In 1918, one U.S. dollar equaled four marks. In 1920, a dollar equaled 40 marks; and 200 marks by early 1922. In 1923, the dollar was worth 18,000 marks. The mark staggered to 4.2 trillion equaling one dollar by 1923. This was possibly the strongest catalyst that cemented political change in Germany, resulting in Nazi rule. Why do I suspect that the Fed is quietly planning inflation to the dollar? The only reason I can think of would be to devalue the

CORRECTION The article “How Humanity Will Learn Its Lesson” (February) stated that the fifth and sixth seals of Revelation are also known as the first and second woes. Actually, it is the fifth and sixth trumpets that are known as the first and second woes. The *Trumpet* regrets the error.



U.S. debt. The repercussions to this would be mind boggling. B. Posch—CANADA

China, a Communist country with a billion people, seriously decided to use the West’s own Achilles heel, love of money, to expand its economy by using Western corporate businesses to work in China to provide employ-

ment and build China’s economy. There is considerable room for China to “modernize” and grow its economy. The financial profits accruing to the Chinese government are used to buy U.S. and European investments, thereby making the U.S. (and Europe) indebted to China. Kruschev said to the West about communism: “We will bury you.” Is China conquering the West without a military battle (which would be logistically very difficult) and without firing a military battle shot?

Richard Mackin Jr.—MILLINOCKET, MAINE

A prodigal daughter

I thank the author of this article for the hope he bestowed to me and many others trying to find their way back to the bride of Christ! (“To Our Family in the United Church of God,” March). I can’t even use the excuse of being disgruntled at Church government under the outstanding stewardship of Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong for my reasons for my falling away. For 12 years I played at living before I repented fully, understanding then how much of a nothing I was without the hope and promises of eternal love of our Father to sustain and shape me. That is when I found out about the falling away and break up of WCG. The first thing I wondered was, “Am I too late?” I finally arrived in the 21st century by learning how to use a computer and began searching once again for God’s true Church. I found the PCG website and recognized the true fruits of God’s Spirit within the teachings of this little flock. Along the way toward the discovery of where God went, I was bombarded by splinter group websites and other websites spouting profane accusations against Herbert W. Armstrong and Mr. Flurry. I am still very much a baby in most things spiritual, and to see the loving reminders of how the great God really loves and cherishes His children I have returned time and time again to the PCG website because of the truth being plainly spoken, taught and lived by what I believe is the

true family I walked away from long ago. I am so thankful for the pure truth of God’s work being faithfully carried out by this little flock and am happy that I can finally come home to as a prodigal daughter! ... Thank you so much for your faithfulness, otherwise sheep who got lost like me would not have been gifted with the second chance to find their way home. And thank you for this particular article—it is filled with love. Christi—TEXAS

Reading your article made me realize how much I miss articles from the Worldwide Church of Herbert Armstrong. I first came to know of him and the Worldwide Church when I was doing post-graduate work in Australia from 1977 to 1979. In that time and for many years after that, I received excellent books written by him like *The Four Horsemen*, *The Wonderful World Tomorrow* and many prophecy books on Russia and China. In fact, I still have every book and every copy of the *Plain Truth* magazine received, even after 33 years. ... I lost touch with the WCG and only recently, thanks to the Internet, happened to access theTrumpet.com. Then I realized that Herbert Armstrong had been vilified by Mr. Tkach and others. I have gone to the websites of the other churches, but I find that theTrumpet.com is true to Mr. Armstrong’s legacy. Thank you for continuing Mr. Armstrong’s work, in particular analyzing and prophesying today’s current affairs from the biblical point of view. N.S. Yeoh—MALAYSIA

You guys are right!

It’s amazing the articles that I have read months and years ago telling us to *watch*. Well, I watched, and time after time you guys are right! The euro designed to fail; Germany is in control and gaining everything is correct. Bible prophecy—amazing.

Mike Callender—CHICAGO, ILL.

Hitting the mark

Thank you! I am a Southern Baptist by belief, but I am ashamed to say that the Southern Baptists are missing the mark when it comes to what is happening in the world today and how it relates to the Bible. Thank you for being there and sharing that the world may be falling apart but there is hope in our heavenly Father and Christ.

William Mitchum—LEXINGTON, S.C.

Simply put, we have forgotten who gave us this country and its great blessings (our Lord in heaven), and without Him, there is no future! May God someday forgive this country and this world!

Orlando Forrest—BELLEVILLE, ILL.

A Chilling Peek at Our Abortion Culture

The mass murders were nearly as bad as the media's shameful cover-up.

IN FEBRUARY OF LAST YEAR, FEDERAL AGENTS RAIDED A WEST Philadelphia abortion clinic on the suspicion it was distributing prescription drugs illegally. What started as a routine drug bust ended with a nauseating tour through a disgusting scene one might expect to find in a Third World country—but certainly not in Pennsylvania.

The facility was filthy. Flea-infested cats roamed the hallways. There was blood on the floor, animal excrement on stairwells. The stench of urine permeated the air. Medical instruments were left unsterile. Moaning, drugged-up patients were covered with blood-soaked blankets. And the remains of 45 fetuses were strewn all over the facility, stuffed in bags, jars, plastic jugs, juice cartons—even cat-food containers. Citing “an immediate and clear danger to the public health and safety,” federal authorities quickly moved to shut down the clinic and suspend Dr. Kermit Gosnell’s medical license.

In January, a grand jury finally charged Gosnell with eight counts of murder following the wrongful deaths of one woman and seven newborn babies.

“My comprehension of the English language can’t adequately describe the barbaric nature of Dr. Gosnell,” said District Attorney Seth Williams during a news conference. According to the 260-page grand jury report, Gosnell was running a drug mill by day and abortion factory by night that netted him \$1.8 million a year.

“Gosnell catered to the women who couldn’t get abortions elsewhere—because they were too pregnant,” the report charges. “Most doctors won’t perform late second-trimester abortions, from approximately the 20th week of pregnancy, because of the risks involved. And late-term abortions after the 24th week of pregnancy are flatly illegal. But for Dr. Gosnell, *they were an opportunity*. The bigger the baby, the more he charged” (emphasis mine throughout).

Gosnell’s preferred method of performing late-term abortions was to prescribe drugs to induce labor and delivery, which often resulted in the birth of *live* babies. He then murdered the newborns by severing their spinal cord with scissors—a process he referred to as “snipping.”

In one particularly gruesome case, he induced the labor of a 17-year-old girl who gave birth to a healthy, 18-inch-long, 6-pound baby boy. “This baby is big enough to ... walk me to the bus stop,” Gosnell allegedly joked during the procedure. Gosnell then slit his throat and dumped the body into a shoebox.

Prosecutors say the “really big” abortions were generally scheduled for Sundays, when the clinic was closed and the regular employees were gone. On these days, Gosnell and his wife would take care of the “abortion” and then dispose of patient files in order to cover their tracks.

But in numerous cases, Gosnell’s assistants killed babies when the doctor was absent. In one, a nurse played with a newborn baby for several minutes before stabbing him in the neck as she had seen Gosnell do so many times before.

Evidently, this sort of thing happened hundreds, if not *thousands*, of times over the course of *DECADES*. And it’s not like there weren’t red flags along the way. The *Philadelphia Inquirer* said Dr. Gosnell became a lightning rod for controversy as early as 1972, when nine women experienced serious complications after he experimented with a plastic coil to induce abortions. “If you’re not making mistakes, you’re not really attempting to do something,” he said at the time.

Gosnell opened his clinic in 1979; the Pennsylvania Department of Health didn’t inspect it until 10 years later, when it discovered numerous health violations at the facility—all of which Gosnell promised to fix. Inspections in 1992 and ’93 also turned up various violations. But nothing was done—no investigations followed. After 1993, the grand jury report asserts, the Department of Health abruptly decided to stop site reviews due to “political reasons.” Such inspections, officials concluded, would be “putting a barrier up to women” seeking abortions.

It would be *BETTER FOR WOMEN*, abortion lobbyists argued, *to leave the clinics alone*—to let them do as they please. And so, this monster in Philadelphia was able to murder hundreds, perhaps thousands, of babies who survived illegal abortion procedures. And who knows how many women have been abused or permanently damaged by Gosnell’s barbaric practices. He’s been sued 46 times since 1981. And we know of at least one woman who was drugged up so heavily under Gosnell’s care that she later died in his clinic.

What a *PRICE TO PAY* to *make it easier* for women to get an abortion. Since *Roe v. Wade*, *nearly 50 million unborn babies have been killed in America*. And yet our spiritual sickness is so grotesque, we want to make it *easier* to slaughter more innocent lives—even if it means turning a blind eye to the grisly acts of “doctors” like Gosnell.

The media blackout of Gosnell’s mass murder is even more despicable than the deeds themselves. ABC News and MSNBC completely ignored the Gosnell case. *CBS Evening News* and NBC’s *Today* only covered the story once. CNN and Fox News followed the story for a few days, but that’s pretty much it. Why the silence? Because of a widespread determination to *cover up* the ugly truth about our culture of infanticide.

Philadelphia’s “house of horrors” is not an isolated case; it’s the tip of the iceberg. And the news media *deliberately* downplayed it. As Jeffrey Kuhner wrote in the *Washington Times*, “Exposing what takes place in facilities run by the likes of Dr. Gosnell would shock voters into taking decisive action to make abortion illegal. This is why the killing of innocent unborn children is done largely away from public view. It is a creeping, hidden genocide that can continue *only if the fiction of abortion being a ‘medical procedure’ is maintained*.”

“It isn’t. Abortion is the deliberate, systematic slaughter of babies in the womb. It is state-sanctioned infanticide” (January 20).

God prophesied that people in these latter days would be “without natural affection” (2 Timothy 3:3). Nowhere is this fulfilled prophecy more obviously evident than in our genocidal culture that makes it incredibly *easy* to snuff out human life *by the millions*.

Any means by which people cut off that human life demonstrates a pitiable ignorance—a lack of true education—about the purpose for human life and the incredible potential bound up within it. To learn more about God’s divine purpose for man, request a free copy of our book *The Incredible Human Potential*.



gaining through implementing a clever, long-term grand strategy of economic and political control by regulation.

What started 50 years ago as a seemingly innocuous European Coal and Steel Community comprising just six nations has evolved over time into the European Union of 27 states today, being brought under one single government.

Simon observed, “[T]he events of [recent] months show that national fiscal sovereignty is gone ... to Germany. Germany decides the measures and evaluates its implementation and, whether we like it or not, it didn’t ask for permission to do so.” He calls this “*the biggest takeover of national sovereignty by a European member state since World War II.*”

Once again, he’s so right.

But that’s really what Herbert Armstrong warned for decades was behind Germany’s efforts to unite Europe. He told us Germany had learned that to seek to take over Europe a third time by warfare was counterproductive. He clearly declared that it would set up an economic empire first, then suddenly militarize it at the appropriate time. He told us that it would then turn our own weapons upon us!

That is what the integration of the German, EU and NATO military structure being touted by NATO and Germany is all about!

Now that Germany is so far advanced toward economic and hence political control of Europe, the time is fast approaching for it to accelerate military control.

The Munich Security Conference exposed the German plan for what it is. The competitiveness pact is the instrument by which Europe’s governance will be centralized in Berlin. The concept of “network security” highlighted by Guttenberg is the strategy by which NATO and EU military power will be progressively merged to enforce that government.

It’s all happening just as Herbert Armstrong said. Request our free booklet *He Was Right* and see just how far ahead Mr. Armstrong saw into the future we are living through today. It’s a remarkable account of the clear vision the Eternal God gave to him of the events leading up to Jesus Christ’s return. And it will show you just how close we are now to that grand event.

Keep watching Europe for events to accelerate toward the final exposure of what this European Union is all about: in reality, the prophesied seventh and final resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire! ■

TELEVISION LOG

THE KEY OF DAVID

All times are a.m. local time unless otherwise noted.

UNITED STATES

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

Direct TV DBS WGN Chan. 307
8:00 ET, Sun

Direct TV DBS ION Ch. 305 6:00
ET, Fri

Dish Network ION Ch. 216 6:00
ET, Fri

Dish Network DBS WGN Chan.
239 8:00 ET, Sun

Nationwide cable 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

Phoenix KPPX 5:00, Fri

Arizona, 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

El Centro KWUB 9:30, Sun

Eureka KJUV-DT 9:30, Sun

Los Angeles KPXN 6:00, Fri

Monterey KMWB 9:30, Sun

Palm Springs KESQ/KCWO-DT
9:30, Sun

Redding KHSL-DT 9:30, Sun

Sacramento KSPX 6:00, Fri

Salinas KION 9:30, Sun

San Francisco KKPX 6:00, Fri

Santa Barbara KSBY-DT 9:30, Sun

Colorado, Denver KPXC 5:00, Fri

Denver KWGN 10:00, Sun

Grand Junction KKCO-DT 10:30,
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 WPX 6:00, Fri

Panama City WJHG-DT 8:30, Sun

Tallahassee WTXL 7:30, Sun

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

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

West Palm Beach WPXP 6:00, Fri

Georgia, Albany WBSK 9:30, Sun

Augusta WAGT-DT 9:30, Sun

Brunswick WPXC 6:00, Fri

Columbus WLGA 9:30, Sun

Macon WBMN 9:30, Sun

Savannah WGSB/WGCW-LP
9:30, Sun

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

Kauai Ho’Ike Chan. 52 9:30, Tue

**Maui/Lanai/Molokai/Niihau/
Akaku**
Chan. 52 6:30 pm, Sun; 3:30, Mon

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

Pocatello KPFI 10:30, Sun

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

Illinois, Bloomington WHOI-DT
8:30, Sun

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

Peoria WHOI-DT 8:30, Sun

Rockford WREX-DT 8:30, Sun

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

Kirkville KWOT 8:30, Sun

Mason City KTTC-DT 8:30, Sun

Ottumwa KWOT 8:30, Sun

Mason City KTTC-DT 8:30, Sun

Sioux City KTIV-DT 8:30, Sun

Kansas, Topeka KSNT 8:30, Sun

Kentucky, Bowling Green WBKO
8:30, Sun

Lexington WUPX 6:00, Fri

Louisiana, Alexandria KBCA
8:30, Sun

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

Lafayette KLWB 8:30, Sun

Lake Charles WBLC 8:30, Sun

New Orleans WPXL 5:00, Fri

Maine, Bangor WABI-DT 9:30, Sun

Presque Isle WBPO 9:30, Sun

Maryland, Hagerstown WJAL
12:00 pm, Sun

Salisbury WBD 9:30, Sun

Massachusetts, Boston WBXP
6:00, Fri; WZMY 8:00, Sun

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/WGTQ-DT 9:30, Sun

Minnesota, Duluth-Superior
WDLH 8:30, Sun

Mankato KWYE 8:30, Sun

Minneapolis KPXM 5:00, Fri

Rochester-Austin KTTC-DT
8:30, Sun

Sioux Fall (Mitchell) KWSW/
KSWD-DT 8:30, Sun

Mississippi, Biloxi WBGP 8:30,
Sun

Columbus WCBI-DT 8:30, Sun

Greenville WBWD 8:30, Sun

Greenwood WBWD 8:30, Sun

Gulfport WBGP 8:30, Sun

Hattiesburg WBH 8:30, Sun

Laurel WBH 8:30, Sun

Meridian WTOK-DT 8:30, Sun

Tupelo WCBI-DT 8:30, Sun

West Point WCBI-DT 8:30, Sun

Missouri, Columbia KOMU-DT
8:30, Sun

Hannibal WGEM-DT 8:30, Sun

Jefferson City KOMU-DT 8:30, Sun

Joplin-Pittsburg KSXF 8:30, Sun

Kansas City KPXE 5:00, Fri

Quincy-Keokuk WGEM-DT 8:30,
Sun

St. Joseph WBJO 8:30, Sun

Montana, Billings KTVQ-DT 8:30,
Sun

Bozeman-Butte KBZK-DT/KXL-
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 KC-
WL-TV 8:30, Sun

Kearney KCWL-TV 8:30, Sun

North Platte KWPL 8:30, Sun

Scottsbluff KCHW 10:30, Sun

Nevada, Reno KREN/KREN-DT
9:30, Sun

New York, Albany WYPX 6:00, Fri

Binghamton WBXI 9:30, Sun

Buffalo WPXI 6:00, Fri; WUTV
10:00, Sun

Elmira WBE 9:30, Sun

New York City WPNX 6:00, Fri;
WLNY 10:00, Sun

Syracuse WSPX 6:00, Fri

Utica WBU 9:30, Sun

Watertown WWTI-DT 9:30, Sun

North Carolina, Charlotte WLMY
8:30, Sun

Philadelphia Trumpet editor in chief Gerald Flurry appears each week on **The Key of David** explaining the meaning behind world events and teaching the inspiring truths of the Bible. The program is also available at keyof david.com.

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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
Eugene KMTR-DT 9:30, Sun; KEVU 10:00 am, 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
Pittsburgh WPCW 9:00, Sun
Wilkes Barre WQPX 6:00, Fri
Rhode Island, Providence WPXQ 6:00, Fri
South Carolina, Charleston WCB-DT 9:30, Sun
Florence WWWB/WWWB-DT 9:30, Sun
Myrtle Beach WWWB/WWWB-DT 9:30, Sun
South Dakota, Mitchell KWSD 8:30, Sun
Rapid City KWBH-LP 10:30, Sun
Sioux Falls KWSD 8:30, Sun
Tennessee, Jackson WBIK 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
Arlito KVII-DT/KVIH/KVIH-DT 8:30, Sun
Beaumont KFD-M-DT 8:30, Sun
Brownsville KSFE-LP/KTIZ-LP 8:30, Sun
Corpus Christi KRIS-DT 8:30, Sun
Harlingen KSFE-LP/KTIZ-LP 8:30, Sun
Houston KPXB 5:00, Fri
Laredo KTXW 8:30, Sun
Longview KCEB 8:30, Sun
Luibock KLCW 8:30, Sun
Midland KWWT 8:30, Sun; KMID 9:00 am, Sun
Odessa KWWT 8:30, Sun; KMID 9:00 am, Sun
Port Arthur KFD-M 8:30, Sun
San Angelo KWSA 8:30, Sun
San Antonio KPXL 5:00, Fri
Sherman-Ada KTN-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 WVTN 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
Richland KCWK 9:30, Sun
Seattle-Tacoma KWPX 6:00, Fri
Seattle KCPO 7:00, Sun; KVOS 8:30, Sun
Spokane KGXP 6:00, Fri
Yakima-Pasco-Richland-Kennewick KCWK/KCWK-LP 9:30, Sun
West Virginia, Beckley KVVA-DT 9:30, Sun
Bluefield KVVA-DT 9:30, Sun
Charleston WLTX 6:00, Fri
Clarksburg WVPX-DT 9:30, Sun
Oak Hill KVVA-DT 9:30, Sun

Parkersburg WBPB 9:30, Sun
Weston WVPX-DT 9:30, Sun
Wheeling WBWO 9:30, Sun
Wisconsin, Eau Claire WQOW-DT/WXOW-DT 8:30, Sun
La Crosse WQOW/WXOW 8:30, Sun
Milwaukee WPXE 5:00, Fri
Rhineland WAOW/WYOW 8:30, Sun
Wausau WAOW-DT/WYOW-DT 8:30, Sun
Wyoming, Casper 10:30, Sun
Cheyenne KCHW 10:30, Sun
Riverton 10:30, Sun

EUROPE/MIDDLE EAST

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Ireland Sky channel 505 10:00 am, Sun; UPC channel 204; 10:00 am, Sun
Italy Sky Italia channel 518 11:00 am, Sun; Tiscali TV channel 518 11:00 am, Sun
Mediterranean Eurobird 11261 H 232516 E-FTA 11:00 am Central European Time
Middle East Eurobird 11261 H 232516 E-FTA 11:00 am Central European Time, Sun
Netherlands Ziggo channel 505 11:00 am, Sun
Poland Cyfra+ channel 105 11:00 am, Sun
Portugal ZonTV/Cabo channel 210 11:00 am Central European Time, Sun
Romania UPC channel 146 12:00 am, Sun
Spain Hispastat 1.092V 11:00 am, Sun
Switzerland Nakoo channel 63; Cablecom channel 151 11:00 am, Sun
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 Grace Television Network 11:00 ET, Sun.
British Columbia, Vancouver KVOS 8:30, Sun; CHEK 9:00 Sun; CHNU 5:30 pm, Sun
Victoria CHNU 5:30 pm, Sun
Maritime Provinces CHF 7:30, Sun
Ontario, Toronto WADL 10:00 Sun; CHNU 8:30 pm, Sun; WUTV 10:00, Sun
Quebec, Montreal WYNY 10:00, Sun

LATIN AMERICA

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Guatemala WGN 6:00, Sun
Honduras WGN 6:00, Sun
Mexico WGN 7:00, Sun
Panama WGN 7:00, Sun

CARIBBEAN

Regional satellite Galaxy 3 Trans. 21 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu Galaxy 5 Trans. 7 8:00 ET, Sun
Aruba WGN 8:00, Sun
Bahamas WGN 8:00, Sun
Belize WGN 7:00, Sun
Cuba WGN 8:00, Sun
Dominican Republic WGN 8:00, Sun
Haiti WGN 7:00, Sun
Jamaica WGN 9:00, Sun
Puerto Rico WGN 8:00, Sun
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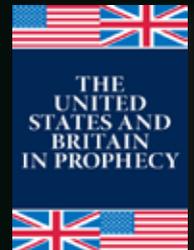
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