Will the Trump peace plan bring peace to Israel?
Germany’s far right rising
Dangerous left-wing media
Hubble telescope opens a window into the heavens
Brexit was prophesied!
If ever there was a time we need to be concerned about how to bring peace to this world, surely it is now. The number one problem the world faces today is human survival!
On January 28, United States President Donald Trump unveiled his peace plan for the Middle East. It was 180 pages and covered an enormous number of specifics. President Trump called it “the most detailed proposal ever put forward” and “the deal of the century.” It received support from Israel: President Trump announced it at the White House with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu by his side. But Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas responded, “We say a thousand times: No, no and no to the deal of the century.”

Does anybody really think this plan will bring peace? I don’t suppose many people do.

The Bible tells us to beware when you are hearing a lot about peace. The Prophet Jeremiah wrote of false prophets “saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace” (Jeremiah 6:14; 8:11). Isaiah the prophet foretold of a time when “the ambassadors of peace shall weep bitterly” (Isaiah 33:7).

Diplomats run around talking about peace, peace, peace—but we never have lasting peace. This has been true throughout history.

When they keep talking about peace, you know we are about to have war—war like you have never seen!

Did you know that Jerusalem means “city of peace”? You would almost think that is a sick joke. There has been no lasting peace in that city. In fact, Jerusalem has flowed with rivers of blood!

Why do man’s peace plans always fail? There is a reason—a cause we need to understand. Jerusalem provides a stunning example of this reason. Many of the most arduous peace efforts have centered around this city. For years, many nations have labored to bring it peace and have failed.

We desperately need to understand this fundamental point. If ever there was a time we need to be concerned about how to bring peace to this world, surely it is now. The number one problem the world faces today is human survival! Many nations are acquiring nuclear weapons and honing their nuclear power! We are facing a nuclear war that stupefies the imagination!

Isaiah said, “The way of peace they know not” (Isaiah 59:8). There is a way of peace—but mankind does not know that way! Man keeps trying to somehow generate some kind of peace, but never can.

This is a deadly dangerous issue. If we are to avoid great suffering, we must understand how to have peace. We need peace not only in nations, but in our own homes. How do you have peace in a home?

There is a way, and you can absolutely prove it. In fact, even the name Jerusalem, “city of peace,” is prophetic, telling us that we will have peace—in spite of man, not because of him.

‘Peace’ Process

For almost 30 years, the United States and Britain have pressured the Jews to accept a peace process that has repeatedly failed. Clearly America and Britain, like the rest of mankind, do not know the way to peace.

The “former prophets” include the biblical books of Joshua, Judges, Samuel and Kings. These books were written by prophets and, like virtually all biblical prophecy, contain forecasts intended primarily for this end time.

Notice this stunning statement in the prophetic book of Kings. When God decided to strip the kingdom of Israel away from Solomon for his terrible sins, He said: “Howbeit I will not rend away all the kingdom; but will give one tribe to thy son for David my servant’s sake, and for Jerusalem’s sake which I have chosen” (1 Kings 11:13). God has chosen Jerusalem. He has chosen no other city in the world—only Jerusalem.

Why do man’s peace plans always fail? There is a reason—a cause we need to understand. Jerusalem provides a stunning example of this reason.

This has everything to do with our having peace in this world!

When the modern State of Israel came into being in 1948, the Arabs immediately attacked. The Jews had no real army. Within three weeks, they were losing the war. Then the Arabs strangely agreed to a temporary United Nations-sponsored truce. This is just what Israel needed to rearm and train its weary troops—many of them civilians who carried guns. Soon after, the Arabs started attacking again. This time the Jews were well prepared and quickly won the war. It was a miracle from God.

The Jews experienced many miracles in the following years. The Six-Day War in 1967 was a major clash between the Jewish nation and Egypt, Jordan and Syria. In that short but intense
conflict, the Jews captured all of the Sinai, the Suez Canal, East Jerusalem, the West Bank and the Golan Heights—in six days! Study that history and you will see they were aided by miracles.

In late 1973, the Arabs attacked again, this time on the solemn Jewish holiday of Yom Kippur. With much aid from the Americans, the Jews won the war in three weeks—another miraculous deliverance.

At some point, however, the Jews decided to stop looking to God for help. They decided, prodded by America and Britain, to seek security by negotiating with the very people who wanted to destroy them.

In the end, this plan still aims to create a Palestinian state not just next to Israel, but right in Israel’s midst. The Palestinians could get it even if they only pretend to make these concessions.

In 1993, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat made a pact in which Israel gave up land for promises of peace. Arafat, before he led the Palestinians in the peace process, was the number one terrorist in the Middle East! Does it make sense that you could somehow achieve peace by making a deal with a famed terrorist? There is no logic in that!

Even as Arafat talked about peace to the Israelis and to the world, in private he would often tell people of his plan to take over Israel and destroy the Jews completely! That was always his ambition! Yet somehow we thought that simply handing him land would soften him or convince him to abandon that goal. Such reasoning shows terrible weakness and only encourages an enemy who thinks like that. Swapping land for peace has never brought peace.

The Dangerous Trump Plan
Since the start of that peace process, the Jews have given up Gaza, Jericho, Bethlehem and the other parts of the West Bank to the Arabs. Think about that: Arabs attacked the Jews on multiple occasions with a goal to annihilate every one of them! Where in history can you find a war where the victors later gave the land back to the aggressors who tried to wipe them off the map?

President Trump’s plan differs in one critical area from the previous attempts to bring peace such as the Oslo Accords and the unilateral withdrawal from Gaza in 2005. In those cases, Israel was encouraged to give up land for the promise of peace. As Israeli commentator Ruthie Blum put it, Trump’s plan is “peace for peace.” In it, a Palestinian state would only be established if Palestinians renounce funding and glorifying of terrorism, stop paying salaries for convicted terrorists sitting in Israeli prisons, and show other proofs that they no longer want to destroy the Jewish state. The plan gives the Palestinian Authority four years to enact these and other reforms. As soon as they do, they’ll receive a state.

In the end, this plan still aims to create a Palestinian state not just next to Israel, but right in Israel’s midst. The enacting reforms that most Israelis don’t believe Palestinian leaders would ever agree to anyway. At worst, in four years Israel will be right where it is now, except with more of the West Bank declared as sovereign Israeli territory.

By this logic, many Israelis accept the deal because they are banking on Palestinians rejecting it as they have so many times before.

But what if they are wrong? What if the Palestinians do start negotiating the Trump deal?

Some signs suggest that Arab support for Palestinian rejection of the peace process is waning. In February, a Palestinian delegation led by Mahmoud Abbas went to the UN Security Council hoping to see a consensus vote condemning the peace plan. But the Palestinians realized their motion lacked enough support, and the vote didn’t even happen. It was a shock to the Palestinians. One member of the delegation said, “The sense is that we are coming back with our tails between our legs.” He said they received a “cold shoulder” from Arab states, including the Gulf emirates, Egypt and Saudi Arabia.
Unlike with other peace initiatives, the Arab world seems to be pressuring the Palestinians to negotiate with President Trump. If Palestinian leaders give in, Israel will feel obligated to go along with the process. This will prove to be disastrous.

Peace will not be gained by giving up land to the Palestinians! NEVER!

People often forget that Israelis have already withdrawn from over 80 percent of the land they won in the Six-Day War. Yet the Trump peace plan includes a map that shows a lot of Israeli territory becoming a new Palestinian state. This plan is a two-state solution in which Israel gives up claim to 70 percent of the West Bank. This area is the heartland of biblical history—the lands of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob! What does God think about it when Israel gives up land He gave them through miraculous victories?

If implemented, this plan puts a Palestinian state on the doorstep of Jerusalem and surrounding almost every Jewish settlement in the West Bank. It doesn’t create two states side by side with one continuous border: It is a series of roads, tunnels and overpasses connecting islands of Jewish communities in the West Bank, each surrounded by a historically hostile people.

David Ha’ivri lives in one of those Jewish communities inside the West Bank. On February 3, he spoke out about what this deal does to his and other West Bank communities. “President Trump says that in his plan, no Israelis or Palestinians will be forced to leave their homes. However, it also lists 15 Israeli towns that would become isolated enclaves deep within the proposed Palestinian state,” he wrote for the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. “Some mistakenly take some consolation in the thought that the plan lists only 15 small towns to be isolated and cut off from Israel. A closer look at the Trump map reveals that another 40 larger Israeli towns, including my own, share a very similar fate. They will find themselves like isolated outposts connected to the rest of Israel by very narrow corridors, surrounded by Palestinian-controlled space.”

Such an arrangement wouldn’t bring peace. It would actually create a dangerous wound for the Jews!

These peace plans are a DEADLY DELUSION! We ought to see by now that they won’t work! Every time we have tried giving land for peace, or negotiating with terrorists to bring peace, IT HAS ONLY BROUGHT MORE WAR!

History proves that—and so does Bible prophecy.

Judah’s Wound

The book of Hosea was written as prophecy for the end time. The nation called Israel today is really biblical Judah. Hosea includes specific prophecies about Judah.

“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” (Hosea 5:13). Studying this verse in the original Hebrew reveals that both Ephraim (Britain) and Judah go to Assyria (the prophetic term for modern-day Germany)—to prove this, request our free booklet Germany and the Holy Roman Empire.

Why go to Germany? And what is Judah’s “wound”? Strong’s Concordance defines that word, “in the sense of binding up: a bandage, i.e. remedy.” Gesenius’ Hebrew-Chaldee Lexicon defines it, “the pressing together, binding up of a wound; here used figuratively of a remedy applied to the wounds of the state.” In other words, the remedy is the wound!

Another word for wound appears in Obadiah 7: “All the men of thy confederacy have brought thee even to the border: the men that were at peace with thee have deceived thee, and prevailed against thee; they that eat thy bread have laid a wound under thee: there is none understanding in him.” Gesenius’ Lexicon defines this “wound” as “falsehood; hence, fraud, insidious dealing ... net, or snare.” It has the same root word as the word used in Hosea 5:13. In Obadiah the wound is directly related to being deceived by a peace pact!

Wound in Hosea means bandage. It’s as if a bandage is hopelessly applied to an open, running sore. From the beginning of the peace process, the Jews have looked to men, often their enemies, for help—not God. That is the unseen wound.

So little trust in God—so much trust in their enemies!

The real wound is spiritual: a lack of faith in God. The Jews keep trying to heal themselves by making peace pacts. They were strong when they trusted God.

The Israelis will finally see that their peace agreement with the Palestinians has failed. They really only see the effect of their wound, not the cause. That is why they turn to Germany for another peace pact, placing their trust in an even greater enemy! Once again they will fail to trust God. This will lead to the worst disaster in the Jews’ long history of suffering.

That is where this peace plan is leading.

Where Is Their Faith?

Something is terribly wrong with man’s reasoning. “The way of peace they know not.” Men are trying to work the problem out themselves and are even looking to their enemies to make a peace pact with! But how much are they looking to God?

The truth is, nobody can bring peace in a family or a nation apart from God! God must be involved if you are to have real peace. You will never have peace any other way.

These leaders seem to have more faith in their enemies than in God! How much faith do we have in the all-powerful God who could instantly bring us peace if we would look to Him? That shows you what the real problem is!

How insulted must God be when men trust somebody like the top terrorist in the Middle East rather than trusting in Him?

Jeremiah 17:9 says the human mind is “deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked.” That is human nature, and we can never have peace as long as we have human nature. Man must be rid of human nature before we can ever have peace!

Iran has created a presence and influence in Gaza, Lebanon and Syria. It has surrounded the Jews, and it hates the Jews more than anybody in the Middle East. Yet today, Israel is professing a peace pact with, essentially, an Iranian proxy! That will never work!

Anybody should be able to understand that. But when you look at Bible prophecy, the danger involved becomes even more exceedingly clear.

Zechariah 14:2 says that in the end time, half of Jerusalem will be captured by the Arabs: “For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and HALF OF THE CITY
Germany has been shaken by an event with dramatic parallels with the 1930s.

In the late 1920s, the Nazi Party was small. In 1928, it won only 2.6 percent of the vote, hardly a force to be reckoned with. But the following year, in local elections in the German state of Thuringia, the Nazis won 11.3 percent. It wasn’t huge, but it was enough to make them kingmakers.

Neither the mainstream-right parties nor the mainstream-left parties had enough votes to govern alone. After months of coalition negotiations, once again, the mainstream right decided to compromise by asking the far right to help them form a government.

No wonder many Germans fear they’re walking down the same path as the 1930s.

“Democracies don’t die overnight,” warned Spiegel Online. “They don’t flourish one day and then get uprooted by a coup d’etat the next. They decay gradually, until the ground is fertile for an authoritarian seizure of power. “[W]hat happened in Thuringia must be seen as a warning shot, a harbinger” (February 7).

Is German democracy on the way out?

**Political Death Spiral**

Thuringia is not the only parallel with the 1930s. The whole political dynamic in Germany and across Europe is the same.

Here is the pattern: An economic crisis hits, causing people to lose faith in the established parties. The mainstream consensus proves itself incapable, so a few people start to support more extreme parties.

This shift in support means mainstream parties can’t win a majority of votes. The mainstream right, for example, must either form a coalition with an extreme party or reach out to its opponent on the mainstream left.

Now the death spiral kicks in. A left-right coalition struggles. The two sides fundamentally disagree and cannot take bold action. They compromise with each other and form an unsatisfying centrist government. This causes more voters to reject the mainstream left and mainstream right and to vote for more extremist parties.

When extreme parties are brought into the government, they are normalized, given legitimacy. Voters grow likelier to vote for them. Either way, when the mainstream parties struggle, the fringe parties thrive.

This simply kicks the death spiral up a notch. It is now even harder to form stable coalitions. Governing becomes even less effective. Problems get worse. Support for the extreme parties grows.

This pattern played out in the 1930s, and it is playing out in Germany today.

In the ’30s, the spiral drove more and more voters toward the Nazis. By mid-1932, the DNVP decided that they had to work with Hitler, and offered him the post of vice-chancellor. Hitler refused,
convincing him was powerful enough to demand the top job. This refusal led to another election, which the Nazis won. So German President Hindenburg invited Hitler to become chancellor. Frick, who had risen to power in Thuringia, now became the federal interior minister.

Hindenburg and the mainstream right believed they could “tame” Hitler. Instead, they empowered him. Once in position as chancellor, Hitler grabbed absolute power.

It is easy to see these parallels in Thuringia. In its October election, extreme parties gained most of the vote. Die Linke (The Left), successor to East Germany’s brutal Communist Party, won first with 31 percent. The Alternative für Deutschland won second with 23 percent. For any coalition to hold a majority in the state legislature, it must include one of these two parties.

**New Right-Wing Party**
The Alternative für Deutschland started in protest of the 2008 financial crisis. All the mainstream parties had roughly the same economic policy. The AfD was founded by economists to put forward an alternative path.

Then the migrant crisis hit Germany. Chancellor Angela Merkel welcomed a million migrants into Germany, with little debate or discussion. Those who had concerns were branded as racist by the mainstream media. So the AfD began offering an alternative view on migration as well.

This began a rightward shift that went far beyond merely concerns with migration. Björn Höcke, the leader of the AfD in the state of Thuringia, for example, wants a complete rewrite of German history. “German history is handled as rotten and made to look ridiculous,” he once told a rally. He wants a “180-degree reversal” on how Germany remembers World War II.

To Höcke, the Holocaust memorial in Berlin is a “monument of shame” and should be removed. “The AfD is the last revolutionary, the last peaceful chance for our fatherland,” he said. He has even brought up “Lebensraum” (living space) and talked about Germany’s “thousand-year future,” clear allusions to Adolf Hitler’s expansionism and vision of a “thousand-year Reich.”

Concerned about the direction of their party, the original founders of the AfD left or were kicked out.

Not everyone in the party is as radical as Höcke. Some view him as more of a hindrance than a help; his extreme rhetoric makes it harder for the party to pick up more moderate voters, they complain. Nevertheless, he is still tolerated, and even promoted, as one of the senior leaders in the party.

With anti-Semitism surging worldwide, Jewish leaders are especially worried that politicians like Höcke are winning so many votes once again.

Charlotte Knobloch, former president of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, said the AfD’s success “shows that our whole political system is coming apart at the seams.” She said she was worried that so many supported a party that has “downplayed the horrors of the Nazi era, who are openly nationalistic and have spread messages of hate against minorities, including the Jewish community.”

Christoph Heubner, vice president of the International Auschwitz Committee, sounded a similar warning, saying, “For survivors of German concentration camps, this massive increase in votes for the AfD in Thuringia is another menacing signal that right-wing extremist attitudes and tendencies are consolidating in Germany.”

“The last time we saw something of this kind in Germany was in the Weimar Republic where political life was polarized between the Communists and the National Socialists,” political scientist and commentator Werner Patzelt told the Local. “This is quite uncommon” (Oct. 28, 2019).

Some support the AfD due to legitimate concerns about migration. But it is not just their polling figures that parallel the 1930s. Their rhetoric does too.

**Continent in Crisis**
Fringe parties are rising all across Europe.

In Ireland’s February 9 general election, Sinn Fein—formerly the political wing of the IRA terrorist group—tied for first place. Historically, Ireland’s mainstream parties have refused to work with them. Now they are stuck with a choice: form an unwieldy coalition or work with a group that has killed more civilians than al Qaeda did on 9/11.

Spain has held four inconclusive elections in the last four years. It currently has a coalition minority government, which is perhaps the most unstable arrangement possible. Meanwhile, a far-right party, Vox, has entered Spain’s legislature for the first time in its democratic history. In the November elections, Vox won third with 15 percent of the seats.

In 2010 and 2011, Belgium set a new world record for the longest period any developed country has been without a government: 589 days. Now the Belgians are going for a new record. Their last elections were on May 26, 2019, and they still don’t have a coalition.

Italian politics is dominated by parties that either did not exist before the 2008 financial crisis or were considered too extreme for government. In Sweden’s most recent election, its main left-wing party experienced its worst result since 2011, and the far-right Sweden Democrats are now, by some polls, the nation’s most popular party.

Eastern Europe is full of governments that are right wing, if not far-right, and most of these did well. In Hungary, Viktor Orbán’s Fidesz won 52 percent of the vote, one of the only parties in Europe to win a majority. In Poland, the right-wing Law and Justice party garnered 45 percent of the vote.

In country after country, European politics are entering the same death spiral that many of them suffered in the 1930s. During that fateful decade, the rise of the extreme parties didn’t happen only in Germany. The rise of extreme parties gummed up French politics. France had five governments between May 1932 and January 1934. In Austria, the death spiral empowered the Heimwehr—a far-right group similar to the Nazis but opposed to unification with Germany. In Czechoslovakia, the Nazi Sudeten German Party came from nowhere to win more votes than any other party. In Romania, the
Iron Guard rose to become the third-most popular party, winning 15 percent of the vote in the 1937 elections, after having been banned in the 1935 elections. Other extreme parties, like the National-Christian Defense League in France, rose steadily after the 1929 stock market crash. France's far-right Croix-de-Feu league grew from 500 members in 1928 to 400,000 in 1935. After it was banned in 1936, its leader started the French Social Party, which grew to become one of France's largest right-wing parties. Votes for extreme parties in many other countries also jumped.

For all these people, a vote for the fringe wasn't just a vote for a different political party. It was a vote for a different system. They didn't want their current constitution or system of government. They were convinced their nation needed something different.

Many of the people voting for fringe groups today believe the same thing. Satisfaction with democracy is at an all-time low, according to a Cambridge study published in January. The report states, “Europe’s average level of satisfaction masks a large and growing divide within the Continent, between a ‘zone of despair’ across France and southern Europe, and a ‘zone of complacency’ across Western Germany, Scandinavia and the Netherlands.”

The Cambridge study traces the origin of this dissatisfaction to the economic crisis—just as was the case in the 1930s. It states, “It is likely that, beyond personal feelings of economic dissatisfaction, the crisis has brought forward a broader sense of political discontent that is tied to economic sovereignty, national pride, and anger over the use of public resources.”

In country after country, voters believe the political system no longer works for them. So they want someone different from the norm, someone outside the established parties. The way Europe has worked for decades isn’t working, they feel. They want something new.

Compromising With the Right
In the 1930s, the mainstream-right parties dealt with this rise in extremism by compromising with the right and moving to further to the right themselves.

In 1931, Hugenberg’s manifesto called for the end of the Treaty of Versailles, the establishment of conscription, the reconquest of Germany’s colonies, a reduction in the number of Jews in public life, and stronger links with German communities outside of Germany. Politically, the difference between Hugenberg and Hitler was simply a matter of degree.

In France, far-right leagues succeeded in organizing violent protests. The more prominent right-wing parties responded by shifting their direction. These were among those that would make up the Vichy regime that cooperated with Hitler after he conquered their nation. In Romania, the king attempted to create a royal dictatorship to prevent Nazi-like parties from taking power in his country. In Hungary, the regent was forced to accept a far-right, anti-Semitic government.

Some in Germany are trying to respond to Thuringia the same way. Germany’s mainstream-right party is divided on the subject, but a substantial faction wants to shift the party to the right.

One leader of this faction, and a top contender to be Germany’s next chancellor, is Friedrich Merz. Foreign Policy explained, “Friedrich Merz would tack hard to the right, pushing the CDU toward the AfD in an attempt to recapture voters that have fled to the populist right in past elections” (February 11). It even speculated that Merz could bring the AfD into a coalition, taking the same course the mainstream right took in the 1930s.

Former Defense Minister Karl-Theodor zu Guttenberg strongly endorsed Merz, telling the German Press Agency on January 17: “For me, there is only one politician in the [Christian Democratic] Union left, who I consider perfectly suitable for this task and who I would vote for: Friedrich Merz.”

Break With the Past
Recent events in Thuringia did not follow completely in the footsteps of the 1930s, however. The state leader elected with the help of the AfD lasted in office only one day. The outcry across the country forced him to step down.

Nor was he the only casualty. The fallout was so great it brought down Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer, Chancellor Merkel’s hand-picked successor.

Kramp-Karrenbauer came under attack for not stopping the deal with the far right. She was party leader—had she lost control of her own party? She was also accused of not speaking out forcefully enough against the AfD. Party members were already disappointed with her tenure as party leader. So she announced she would not stand as a candidate for Germany’s chancellor, and that she would resign as party leader, to be replaced in the summer.

The 1930s history remains a powerful warning for the future. Bible prophecy gives us an even clearer warning, and that prophecy tells us there will be some major similarities— as well as some key differences.
be amazed at the reappearance of this beast” (verse 8; New Living Translation). They believe this beast is dead, but then it comes back one more time.

We are seeing that beast power rise in Europe one more time.

Because this is the same beast that rose in the 1930s, there are some critical parallels. But the seventh and final resurrection of this empire is unique. The book of Daniel has a series of prophecies describing the rise of the man who will lead this empire.

**A Coming Strongman**

Daniel wrote his prophetic book for the end time (Daniel 12:9). It prophesies events that have now happened; they were prophecy for him, but now history for us. But even these historical events are types of what is still ahead of us.

Daniel 8:23 describes the rise of “a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences.” Verse 25 says he will be defeated after he stands up “against the Prince of princes,” revealing the time frame for this fierce king’s reign: He will come to power in the very end time, right before Jesus Christ’s Second Coming. Revelation 17 also describes the beast power and its leader fighting Jesus Christ. The Daniel 8 man leads the beast described in the book of Revelation.

Another passage in the same prophetic book—Daniel 11:21-31—tells us how this man will come to power.

Most Bible commentaries correctly say this passage refers to Antiochus Epiphanes, who reigned around 175 to 164 B.C. These verses forecast exactly what Antiochus ended up doing. They prophesied that he would “pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate” (verse 31). Antiochus infamously assaulted and slaughtered the Jews and attacked the Jewish religion. He attempted to stamp out Jewish worship at the temple and set up a pagan statue to Jupiter Olympius in front of the altar.

In Matthew 24:15, Jesus Christ clearly refers to this verse, making explicit reference to “the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet.” But He talks about it not as something that had already happened, but as something that will happen in the future.

---

**1928 ELECTION**

The Nazi Party comes in ninth place. The Communists did four times better, with 10.6 percent. But this level of support is enough to cause trouble. No one can form a stable coalition. A grand left-right coalition forms. It lasts only two years.

---

**1929 STOCK MARKET CRASH**

Massive economic crisis hits Germany. Hyperinflation wipes out savings.

---

**1930 ELECTION**

Economic woes shake trust in mainstream parties. Nazi Party places second (18 percent); Communist Party places fourth (13 percent). No mainstream coalition is possible. A weak minority government forms.

---

**JULY 1932 ELECTION**

Nazis win largest share of the vote (37 percent). Other parties try to form a coalition that excludes the Nazis. They fail. New elections are called.

---

**NOVEMBER 1932 ELECTION**

Nazis win largest share of the vote (33 percent). It’s clear they’re not going away, and so Hitler is invited into the coalition government. These elections prove to be Germany’s last free elections for nearly two decades.

---

**2005 ELECTION**

Germany’s two main parties come neck and neck. Neither the left nor right had enough for a coalition on their own, so a grand left-right coalition begins.

---

**2008 FINANCIAL CRISIS**

Major economic crisis causes mass unemployment in southern Europe, threatens the eurozone, and reminds Germans of 1929. The economic crisis is not as acute as 1929, so the shift to extreme is not quite so radical. But it’s enough to get the cycle started.

---

**2009 ELECTION**

Economic concerns reduce trust in mainstream left and right parties. Support decreases by a combined 13 percent compared to 2005.

---

**2013 ELECTION**

A new right-wing party stands for the first time: the Alternative für Deutschland. It receives 4.7 percent of the vote, but no seats. In modern Germany, you need at least 5 percent to enter parliament.

---

**2017 ELECTION**

The Alternative für Deutschland is now more extreme and more popular, winning 13 percent of the vote and becoming Germany’s third-largest party. Support for the two largest parties plummets. Coalition negotiations take longer than in any other postwar government. Mainstream parties are now clearly in crisis.
If this prophecy was entirely fulfilled by Antiochus Epiphanes nearly two centuries earlier, why did Christ tell His disciples to watch for this event? This prophecy had an ancient fulfillment, but it will also have a modern one. Like many other prophecies, it is dual. This refers both to the ancient Antiochus and to a modern Antiochus.

Daniel 11:21 prophesies that the European people “shall not give” this Antiochus “the honour of the kingdom: but he shall come in peaceably, and obtain the kingdom by flatteries.” The Jamieson, Fausset and Brown Commentary says that “the nation shall not, by a public act, confer the kingdom on him, but he shall obtain it by artifice, ‘flattering.’” Barnes’ Notes on the Old and New Testaments states, “[I]n other words, it should not be conferred on him by any law or act of the nation, or in any regular succession or claim.”

Look at Germany right now. In your lifetime, have Germans ever been more worried about their political situation? They see that they are sliding down the same path as the 1930s. They see that they are beset by potential crises, with another episode of the migrant crisis or the euro crisis likely to break out at any time. Yet at the helm are two lame ducks.

With Germans desperate for a strong leader, and none on the horizon, circumstances are almost perfect for someone to come into power in an unorthodox way. What happens if there is some kind of crisis between now and summer, and Ms. Merkel is forced to step down? If politics as usual cannot give the already-restless Germans the leader they need, what can they do?

In the Trumpet’s January cover article, editor in chief Gerald Flurry showed just how many specifics the Bible gives us about this coming strongman. He explained that this strongman “will somehow manipulate the political system to effectively hijack Germany and, by extension, Europe.”

“Knowing that such political intrigue will occur makes the bureaucratic turmoil in Berlin important to watch,” he wrote. “The government is shaky, the need for strong leadership is clear—but the path to achieve it is unknown.”

Daniel 8:23 says this leader is known for “understanding dark sentences.” The expression “dark sentences” means that he operates “at a higher social level.” Gesenius’ Hebrew-Chaldee Lexicon defines this phrase as “twisted, involved, subtlety, fraud, enigma.”

“This is revealing insight,” wrote Mr. Flurry. “The prophesied strongman operates on a high social level; he is capable of understanding and solving complex issues and questions. He is brilliant and sophisticated, and he has intellectual depth and power. The context shows he enjoys notoriety and fame for it.”

“This prophesied leader may well exploit this frustration and confusion by rallying a coalition behind him and vaunting himself to power,” he continued. “This would take a lot of intelligence and calculation; it would require unusual skill to deceive people in high places with flattery. But the prophesied Daniel 8 man will do it magnificently. Adolf Hitler was a man of mental strength, but he was not as adept at deceiving people as this coming strongman will be! This leader will come as an angel of light.”

The stage is perfectly set for the rise of this man. Europe is treading the same path that led to a dictator before, and it will get a dictator once again.

But the Bible records one other important difference between this time and the 1930s. When Hitler was defeated, his empire went underground, to rise again later. This time, the empire will not go underground. Daniel 8:25 says that this strongman will “stand up against the Prince of princes.” He will try to fight Jesus Christ when He returns, “but he shall be broken without hand.”

This whole system, that has caused wars for hundreds of years, will be destroyed forever. And it will never be resurrected again.

---

**History is rhyming.**

Do you know the tune? To learn where the rhythms in Germany are leading, read **A Strong German Leader Is Imminent.**

---

**FREE AND FAIR PRESS IS CRITICAL TO OUR FREEDOM.**

The media in America and Britain have become political tools. They no longer take a dispassionate, objective view of events. Far too many in the media have embraced a far-left political view, to the point that they cannot even recognize how grossly partisan they have become.

Media empires are extremely powerful. The left-wing media are in a power struggle to get control—and they have been winning. Though unelected, they have grown too powerful for politicians to challenge. To directly challenge the mega-media often leads to political death.

The one exception has been United States President Donald Trump. He has single-handedly challenged the press and exposed a great deal of its bias. Yet this has only caused the press to double down on its opposition to him and its advocacy for leftist politics.

Many in the media have forgotten their obligation to tell the truth! They have forgotten how noble it is to always seek and tell the truth. ONLY THE TRUTH CAN SET US FREE (John 8:32).

A similar problem seized Britain in the decade leading up to World War II. This is history with extraordinary relevance for today. The media and leaders of Britain and America should have learned some critical lessons, but most did not. There has been no repentance for their shameful failure. As a result, they are repeating the same mistakes. We cannot even calculate how much damage this is
doing to our nations. The consequences this time will be far more severe.

**Swindled by Hitler**

Adolf Hitler had publicized his toxic views years before he came to power in Germany, but almost nobody believed him. The free media were dangerously manipulated by Hitler. They have probably never been more deceived—*until today!*

In 1933, during disarmament talks in Geneva, U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt proposed a ban on all offensive weapons. Hitler loathed the idea, but he pretended to love it. He promised to scrap all of Germany’s offensive weapons along with other nations—even its entire military establishment! “His reply to Roosevelt was a fraud, of course, but it was the work of a master swindler, and IT TOOK ALMOST EVERYONE IN,” William Manchester wrote in *The Last Lion: Alone*. “London’s Daily Herald, the official organ of the Labour Party, declared that Hitler, as a trustworthy statesman, should be taken at his word. The conservative weekly *Spectator* called him the hope of a tormented world; to the *Times* his claim was ‘irrefutable’ (emphasis mine throughout).

These newspapers were utterly duped by this madman!

Meanwhile, many signs showed that events in Germany were swiftly moving in a dangerous direction: The ruling party was organizing massive public book burnings. Trade unions were banned and union leaders were imprisoned. All non-Nazi political parties were wiped out. Jews were being mistreated and abused, and concentration camps were filling up. But these realities were of no interest to Britain’s ruling class and its press.

It’s hard to fathom how pathetic the *Times* had become in kowtowing to Hitler. In 1937, the *Times* editor wrote, “I should like to get going with the Germans. I simply cannot understand why they should apparently be so much annoyed with the *Times* at this moment. I spend my nights in taking out anything which I think will hurt their susceptibilities and in dropping little things which are intended to soothe them.” Such reasoning reflects a profound sickness! This is the ultimate in a defeatist attitude, and it leads to the death of nations!

Examples abound of the intellectuals’ disgraceful credulity—despite so much contrary evidence. “Once Hitler had been sworn in and his Strassenkämpfer began unsheathing their long knives, the British government took the remarkable position that the detailed reports from two of its most eminent ambassadors, describing conditions in the Third Reich, were based on misunderstandings, distortions and unconfirmed rumors,” Manchester wrote. “According to one Wilhelmstrasse document which came into British hands when Berlin fell in May 1945, [British Prime Minister Ramsay] MacDonald assured Germany’s ambassador to Britain, Leopold von Hösch, that he knew there were no atrocities, no beatings, no desecration of synagogues—*that everything England’s own envoys had reported, was, in short, a lie.*” They believed the Nazis rather than their own envoys! That defies logic!

“According to the *Times*, Baldwin told Hösch that England was ‘entirely willing to work closely ... with a Germany under the new order’—*die Neuordnung*. It is startling to read this Nazi phrase, so freighted with evil, quoted by a once and future prime minister in the columns of the *Times*. Doubtless Baldwin had not grasped its implications. But he should have. And he should have spoken out. His silence, his refusal to see, hear and speak ... evil of the Nazi chancellor was characteristic of the response among England’s ruling classes [led by the media]. If they offended him, they told one another, he would become hostile, and his hostility would blind him to reason” (ibid).

How repugnant and shameful! These leaders were terrified of offending Hitler and setting him off! They knew he was unstable and vicious, yet somehow thought everything would work out if they could just *not offend him*. This is how quintessentially compliant and passive Britain (and America) had become in the 1930s! And the media led the way.

This history is painful and embarrassing. But what did these leaders and the media learn from it?

**Churchill’s Will to Win**

All the while, Winston Churchill was delivering a very different message. He was doing everything possible to warn and save his country and the world from Adolf Hitler.

On April 24, 1932, he gave a speech saying that while he believed in Britain’s institutions, difficulties always came from “*the mood of unwarrantable self-abasement into which we have been cast by a powerful section of our own intellectuals*”—many of whom were in the media, as they are today. He criticized their “*defeatist doctrines*.” “*What have they to offer but a vague internationalism, a squalid materialism, and the promise of impossible Utopias*?” he asked. “*Nothing can save England if she will not save herself. If we lose faith in ourselves, in our capacity to guide and govern, if we lose our will to live, then indeed our story is told.*”

This is the same problem so many of our journalists and people have today! Intellectuals wallow in self-abasement. They are hostile toward America and Britain exercising real leadership and strength. They lack the will to fight even our worst enemies! *Several* nations today pose serious political, economic and military threats. Yet the intellectuals pretend the world is better off with a weak and apologetic America, and that the best way to ensure peace is through disarmament, negotiation and compromise. They *pretend* the world is full of reasonable peoples, and that peace is possible by international consensus. This is perilously delusional!

“The British left, led by Clement Attlee and pledged to pacifism and disarmament, deeply distrusted [Churchill],” Manchester wrote. “Thus he outraged M.P.s on both sides of the Commons. ... Afterward he said there had been
‘much mocking in the press’ about his fall from grace. The political cartoonists in Punch, the Daily Herald, the Express and above all David Low in Beaverbrook’s Evening Standard were brutal. Public appearances became an ordeal for him. Chosen rector of Edinburgh University, he was unable to deliver his rectorial address; students hostile to his calls for a strengthened national defense repeatedly shouted him down until he gave up and left the platform” (op cit).

These students had never learned about freedom of speech, and Hitler almost took it away from them forever! Most journalists are educated in such institutions.

The pacifists were dead wrong. And if not for Churchill, most of them would have ended up just plain dead in the war! Are our pacifists today leading us to a similar fate?

**Shameful Blindness**

Hitler was skilled at taking advantage of the naivété of British leaders. “Hitler, deciding that Europe needed more reassurance, summoned the Reichstag on May 21 [1938] and delivered another Friedensrede, declaring that Germany would never dream of threatening other countries, that the Reich ‘has solemnly recognized and guaranteed France her frontiers,’ including the renunciation of ‘all claims to Alsace-Lorraine,’ and—at a time when Nazi Strassenkämpfer were storming through the streets of Vienna, clubbing Austrian pedestrians who had failed to greet them with the stiff-armed Hitlergruss—that ‘Germany neither intends nor wishes to interfere in the internal affairs of Austria, to annex Austria, or to conclude an Anschluss.’” This directly contradicted Hitler’s clear statement in Mein Kampf that he would force Austria into the Reich. But the media believed his lies anyway.

The Times called Hitler’s speech “reasonable, straightforward and comprehensive.” “No one who reads it with an impartial mind can doubt that the points of policy laid down by Herr Hitler may fairly constitute the basis of a complete settlement with Germany—a free, equal and strong Germany instead of the prostrate Germany upon whom peace was imposed 16 years ago,” it wrote. It was doing public relations for Hitler as well as Hitler’s own propaganda minister. Soon after, Germany took over Austria, plainly exposing Hitler’s gracious words as rank deceit.

Churchill gave a powerful message about the Austrian crisis. He warned the House on March 24, 1938, against becoming complacent because of a brief easing of tensions. Every time Germany made a move, it waited a while before making another. “After a boa constrictor has devoured its prey, it often has a considerable digestive spell,” he said. “Now, after Austria has been struck down, we are all disturbed and alarmed, but in a little while there may be another pause. [If] there is a pause, then people will be saying, ‘See how the alarmists have been confuted; Europe has calmed down, it has all blown over, and the war scare has passed away.’... The Times will write a leading article to say how silly people look who on the morrow of the Austrian incorporation raised a clamor for exceptional action in foreign policy and home defense, and how wise the government were not to let themselves be carried away by this passing incident.” Such thinking was a trap, he argued.

He finished by warning, “For five years I have talked to the House on these matters—not with very great success. I have watched this famous island descending incontinently, fecklessly, the stairway which leads to a dark gulf. It is a fine broad stairway at the beginning, but after a bit the carpet ends. A little farther on there are only flagstones, and a little farther on still these break beneath your feet. [If] mortal catastrophe should overtake the British nation and the British Empire, historians a thousand years hence will still be baffled by the mystery of our affairs. They will never understand how it was that a victorious nation, with everything in hand, suffered themselves to be brought low, and to cast away all that they had gained by measureless sacrifice and absolute victory gone with the wind! Now the victors are the vanquished, and those who threw down their arms in the field and sued for an armistice are striding on to world mastery.”

How did people respond to this plain truth? That very day, the Evening Standard decided to stop printing Churchill’s articles. His syndicated column would no longer appear in over 50 newspapers around the world! Churchill was denied his media platform to warn the world.

Within days, the syndication manager wrote Churchill: “I have received expressions of regret from all the papers in England from which we have had to withdraw the series. All the editors are agreed that the articles were unusually highly appreciated by their readers.” It would be hard to find a statement more condemning of the media, and of academia, which produced these leaders! The people were much wiser, less biased and far less arrogant than the media!

It wasn’t long before Hitler began agitating for Sudetenland, part of Czechoslovakia, which was in an alliance with Britain. Astoundingly, the press, especially the Times, argued that the Czechs should give in to Hitler. They said the main threat to peace was the obstinacy of the Czechs! But the only reason the Czechs were obstinate was because they didn’t want to give Germany a large portion of their country!

What these leaders and the media did in dealing with Hitler before World War II was despicable! Events make this inescapably clear. Almost all the media refused to see him for what he really was—until it was almost too late! Britain nearly lost World War II. The world came dangerously close to being slaughtered and enslaved by Nazi Germany.

Finally Hitler forced them to see how evil he really was! They didn’t see until they were forced to. Don’t forget that!
As Churchill worked furiously to save Western civilization, most of the media worked equally hard to destroy it! They inflicted horrendous evil on Churchill because he was trying to save the world from tyranny! This was a severely criminal act that should never be forgotten! And it should have caused the media to bitterly repent. There should have been sweeping changes after World War II, turning from such dangerous thinking.

Yet no such repentance ever took place. The media simply moved on as though they bore no guilt whatsoever. And don’t expect them to voluntarily repent today. The left-wing media today are making even bigger mistakes, and so are our politicians, educational institutions and religious leaders.

What does this portend for the survival of Britain, America and the Western world?

Tyrants of the Intellect

The media today are much further left than in the 1930s. Their reporting is even more biased and dangerous. They have an even more entrenched hatred for American and British power, deeper commitment to pacifism and failed internationalism, and still no comprehension of the nature of evil.

They attack the Trump administration for punishing Iran, the world’s number one state sponsor of terror. When the president ordered a strike on top general Qassem Suleimani, who had killed hundreds of Americans, they called that a dangerous provocation and depicted that murderer like a beloved saint! They are angry with President Trump for standing up to China on economic and trade policy. They are enraged by his forcing Mexico and Latin American countries to stop encouraging immigrants to illegally flood into the U.S. Every move the president makes to protect and defend American interests, they condemn.

The left-wing media are almost always against using our military might to stop the Hitler-types and to do good in the world. That means they provide very little context in their reporting. They give their biased opinion and often fail to tell the whole story. They fight against the truth and blind many of our people to reality. This means our leaders almost always lack the support to fight the real enemy, even if they have the will.

The left-wing media are lost in their own warped human reasoning. They are a danger even to themselves, and a grave danger to the many people who trust them. They are destroying the military spirit that defends our people! They are destroying the security of America, Britain and Israel. Our military power is of little value if we lack the will to use it. We have degenerated into unparalleled selfishness and fear.

Why should our most courageous young men and women risk their lives while most of the media condemn what they are doing? In the process we are fulfilling a prophecy where God says He will “break the pride of your power”—or will to use that power—because of our sins (Leviticus 26:19). This is the real problem we must confront, regardless of our political philosophy! In the age of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons, such weakness leads to the death of nations!

The media’s goal is to change the people to their way of thinking. And they are having frightening success. They arrogantly believe they are qualified to tell people how to think. Their goal is not to get the facts to our people, which journalists should be doing. They want to rule—not inform. They are tyrants and terrorists of the intellect!

It’s the 1930s all over again. As Churchill said, we never learn from history. That means history is going to repeat itself! And the next time, there will be no political leader to save us!

Greater Threat Today

The left-wing media scorn history. That is why they never seem to learn lessons from history—even recent history like events leading up to World War II. If the “appeaseniks” had won in their battle with Winston Churchill—and they almost did—there would be no media freedom in the Western world! The left-wing media learned nothing from that mega-disaster. Media leaders still cannot see and will not repent of their glaring faults. They are simply too arrogant. Leaders of the powerful media must have abundant humility, or they are a deadly danger to their nation and the world!

So who can we trust? The Bible warns that trusting men will bring us many curses! (e.g. Jeremiah 17:5).

In many ways, the threats in the world today are even more menacing than Hitler was. Think about what rogue states and terrorists can do with weapons of mass destruction. This issue gets to the heart of the survival of our peoples. That is how important it is.

Some people are going to scorn this analysis, but not for long.

Words will not bring people out of this darkness. It will take a jolt like World War II. That is the only reason Winston Churchill came to power. And if we don’t wake up, we are going to be hammered by a far worse World War III of nuclear bombs to wake us up!

Falsehood enslaves us—it takes us into a black world of deceit. It is less violent than what terrorists fight for—but it is still slavery! It is a slavery of the intellect. We become enslaved to error, evil and fantasy and call it truth and freedom.

This issue gets to the core of whether or not we really love truth and freedom. Anything less than the truth is just another form of slavery and terrorism.

The self-willed, arrogant, left-wing media are trying to enslave us, just as the world’s worst terrorists are! It is just another form of terrorism.

Whether it comes from the right or left, it is still repugnant. The more we see such hatred of the truth, the more we ought to see how precious truth is.

Whether we realize it or not, God used Winston Churchill to save us. But no such political watchman will be used to save us today. Many Bible prophecies warn that only repentance of our many sins can save us now. God will give His blessings and protection to any individual who will learn this lesson.

Churchill can inspire YOU.

Read the warnings against appeasement made by Britain’s greatest modern statesman and how they apply to our world today with Gerald Flurry’s free booklet Winston S. Churchill: The Watchman.
CORONAVIRUS AND OTHER MODERN PLAGUES IN PROPHECY

The Bible is clear: These diseases will worsen. Here is what you need to know.

By Gerald Flurry
A new strain of coronavirus is killing hundreds of people and infecting tens of thousands. The pneumonia-like illness is called the COVID-19, or the Wuhan coronavirus. Infections are spreading mostly in China, but are starting to reach into nations around the world.

Authorities say the numbers of dead and infected could keep multiplying for weeks or months. This is partly because before Wuhan, the Chinese city where the illness broke out, was placed on lockdown, some 5 million potentially infected people left it for other parts of China and the world! Infections have been confirmed in Australia, Belgium, Cambodia, Canada, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, India, Italy, Ivory Coast, Japan, Malaysia, Nepal, the Philippines, Russia, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, the United States and Vietnam.

Several of these nations are reporting not just infections from the outbreak, but deaths!

The official story from the Chinese government is that the virus originated in a Wuhan wet market where animals that normally would not come into contact with each other—wolves, koalas, snakes, rats, peacocks, foxes, salamanders and dozens more—live in crowded and unhygienic quarters, awaiting slaughter to be sold as food for people. The government says conditions in this market enabled trans-species mutations of pathogens that eventually leaped to humans. But a study published by the Lancet on January 24 shows that the first three infections, documented in early December, had no link to this wet market. Nor did 11 other cases among the 41 analyzed in the study.

The true cause of the coronavirus may still be unknown. This also shows that it broke out earlier than China’s official reports say, and that it then went undetected for an unknown amount of time.

There are many worrying unknowns about this new illness. But there are some sobering big-picture truths that we can know—and must!

‘Pestilences in Divers Places’

The biblical book of Revelation is primarily about “things which shall be hereafter,” or events that would come after the Apostle John’s era (Revelation 1:19). In Revelation 6:1-8, God inspired John to discuss the “seven seals” that lead up to Jesus Christ’s Second Coming. The first four seals are commonly called the “four horsemen of the apocalypse.”

These horsemen symbolize the end-time culmination of the most devastating woes endured by mankind because of his rebellion against his Creator!

In his description of the fourth horse and its rider, John writes: “I looked, and there was a pale green horse! Its rider’s name was Death, and Hades followed him ...” (verse 8; International Standard Version). This symbolizes catastrophic disease epidemics. The passage states that along with the other three riders—which represent religious deception, war and famine—the anemic horseman that represents disease will end up killing “the fourth part of the earth.” With today’s population of some 7.8 billion, that death toll would come to nearly 2 billion people!

Revelation is not the only book in the Bible to warn about an end-time return of disease outbreaks. Jesus Christ Himself said pandemics of pestilence would happen before His return: “For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be ... pestilences ... in divers places” (Matthew 24:7; see also Mark 13:8 and Luke 21:11). Pestilence in this context means disease outbreaks on a massive scale.

These are not dusty old prophecies. They are mostly for our time today! They are dramatic, dire prophecies whose fulfillment lies directly before us! Multiple millions of people are prophesied to perish from sickness and disease!

So we should expect diseases like this new Wuhan coronavirus to get worse, and to eventually spread like medieval pandemics and kill millions of people! Whether or not this specific new outbreak will cause such ruin, these prophecies are sure.

No More, No Less

In Zechariah 6, you can find symbolism that relates to that of Revelation 6. It is important to note the time frame described in this chapter. Verses 10 through 12 show us this is about the modern day. They discuss a dual crown being given to a man just before Jesus Christ returns—a prophecy that was recently fulfilled (request my free book The New Throne of David for an explanation). Before that takes place, though, four chariots emerge from between two mountains, symbolizing the two present members of the eternal God Family: God the Father and Jesus Christ (verses 1-3).

The black horses here are a representation of violence, famine and pestilence. It is clear that God sends these chariots out to the four quarters of the Earth. Notice verses 4-5: “Then I answered and said unto the angel that talked with me, What are these, my lord? And the angel answered and said unto me, These are the four spirits of the heavens, which go forth from standing before the Lord of all the earth.”

These spirit beings that take on the appearance of horses have been “standing before” God and receiving clear instructions about how they should proceed. They are “of the heavens,” which means they are not Satan and his demons, who have already been cast down from heaven and confined to this Earth (Revelation 12:9-12). These spirits in Zechariah 6 originate from God’s own throne room, and their chariots are commanded to go “to and fro” across the Earth—into the four quarters (verses 6-7).

This is discussing a worldwide effort that will occur during the Great Tribulation and Day of the Lord. Angelic beings are already being positioned and instructed for these catastrophic events! But God is in close control over exactly how much devastation these beings are allowed to unleash. He is not destroying indiscriminately: He is punishing the world in love and in measure—to help mankind turn from the ways of destruction to the way of truth and peace! God will allow the diseases and other afflictions represented by these horses to affect mankind to precisely the degree needed to help them repent—no more, no less.

The Wuhan coronavirus is only a small part of the overall picture. Other plagues are already spreading in cities closer to home.

Metropolitan Squalor

Many American cities are facing a crisis of homelessness. In downtown...
Los Angeles, for example, is a little city of homeless people called “Skid Row.” The area is awash in drugs, trash, human feces, rats and every imaginable kind of filth. The squalor is causing soaring rates of diseases such as AIDS, hepatitis A and Shigella. And it is leading to outbreaks of some diseases that haven’t been common in the developed world for hundreds of years!

Last year, Los Angeles authorities declared Skid Row a “typhus zone.” Numerous residents are also contracting tuberculosis. Even some police department employees have contracted these Third World diseases. Some experts warn of the onset of bubonic plague—a disease that wiped out much of Europe in the 14th century! We are ignoring our mightiest cities!

Similar circumstances are found in parts of Baltimore, Seattle, San Francisco and other cities. Travel guides advise visitors to avoid parts of such places to avoid infection.

It is such an awful scene, we can hardly even stand to hear the news about it! Yet it is just a small foretaste of the plagues coming to America, Britain and Judah (the nation called Israel today) if people don’t repent before God!

**Diseases Don’t Respect Borders**

Last year, Border Patrol agents apprehended over 850,000 illegal aliens at America’s southern border—the largest number since 2007. A separate report said hundreds of those caught illegally entering the country last year came from parts of Africa known to be heavily hit by the Ebola disease.

And who knows how many other illegal aliens snuck across the border without being caught or counted?

This is dangerous for a number of reasons, including pestilence! “Communicable diseases do not stop at international borders,” said a recent report from the Federation for American Immigration Reform. We don’t have to look far to find evidence proving this true!

In Louisiana last year, an outbreak of the mumps at a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) facility forced officials to put hundreds of detainees in quarantine. Around the same time, U.S. Customs and Border Protection Commissioner Kevin McAleenan told reporters that illegal aliens were overwhelming border officials and posing serious health risks. “We are seeing migrants arrive with illnesses and medical conditions in unprecedented numbers,” he said. Meanwhile, eruptions of viral diseases at immigration detention centers in Arizona, Colorado and Texas prompted members of Congress to ask ICE’s acting director what was being done.

It would be naïve not to see that with so many people you are likely to have diseases being brought in and spread around. Yet despite all these concerns and despite proven outbreaks, illegal aliens keep pouring into the country so fast that few are adequately checked for infectious diseases. The health-care situation at the border now, according to a

**WILL CHINA’S CORONAVIRUS MAKE VLADIMIR PUTIN ‘KING OF THE EAST’?**

The axis that Xi Jinping’s China has forged with Vladimir Putin’s Russia stands out as one of this century’s defining geopolitical developments. The two have grown as thick as thieves in their push against America’s global influence, with a level of cooperation routinely called “revolutionary,” “game-changing,” and “an alliance in all but name.”

Due to China’s colossal economic, political and military power, analysts have generally seen it as the lead player in the duo, and Russia as the junior partner. But the outbreak of the Wuhan coronavirus could weaken Xi and China, and lift Putin’s Russia to the helm of this powerful Asian alliance.

**Economic and Political Impacts**

Whatever the illness’s final death toll turns out to be, its economic impact has already been profound, with two thirds of China’s total commerce shut down. Besides reducing the nation’s economic growth rate by as much as 1 percent, this also has serious political implications for Xi Jinping: As an autocrat, he has an unwritten contract with China’s 1.4 billion citizens saying if they give him complete political control, he will make them wealthy and build China into a superpower.

But now growth is slowing, and millions of Chinese—especially among the 50 million residents in the quarantined areas—are increasingly desperate.

In parts of the Hubei province, just one person per household is permitted to leave once per week to try to buy food. Besides being scarce, food is also difficult to buy when these people haven’t been able to work for weeks on end. Some in the areas where factories are shut down have risked their lives to cross a frigid river separating them from a non-quarantined city.

There is real desperation and suffering, and many Chinese are coming to see that a portion of it resulted from Xi’s focus on “saving face” at all costs.

When the outbreak started, the priority of Xi’s Communist Party (CCP) was not to stop the spread of the illness, but to stop the spread of news about it. The CCP detained journalists covering the virus, arrested citizens posting about it online, and dispatched goons to muzzle medical experts and force them to formally retract their published warnings. When one such expert, Dr. Li Wenliang, died of the disease on February 7, shock waves went through China and filled the nation’s social media with outpourings of anger toward the government. “We want freedom of speech” became the hashtag of the hour, in volumes that overwhelmed China’s notorious armies of online censors.

Xi’s handling of the crisis has clearly diminished his people’s trust in him.

**Losing the ‘Mandate of Heaven’?**

The Financial Times recalled on February 10 that in earlier chapters of Chinese history, events such as disease outbreaks and internal rebellions against a leader—such as is happening now in Hong Kong—were seen as “ominous portents”
statement from a former Department of Homeland Security official, is just “one major incident away from a catastrophe.”

The factors needed for a crisis are all present! How close might the U.S. be to a real catastrophe?

**The Stampede Will End!**

Where is this leading? We are already experiencing the preliminary stages of what the Bible terms “great tribulation,” in which one third of the populations in America and other Israeliish nations will die—*before* being directly attacked by foreign enemies!

These horsemen of Revelation and the horses of Zechariah 6 are going to stampede over the Earth! God is already beginning to send a number of globe-rattling events our way! The Wuhan coronavirus and the other diseases breaking out today are only the beginning. He is going to let the world see where its evil ways are leading.

We frequently emphasize in the *Trumpet* and our other literature that the loving God takes no pleasure in seeing His future children suffer. He wants people to “prosper and be in health”! (3 John 2). Christ came so we could “have life” and “have it more abundantly” (John 10:10). In Exodus 15:26, God specifically promised the people of ancient Israel that if they obeyed Him, they would never have to suffer any diseases!

The trouble was that ancient Israel—like the nations of modern Israel and the rest of the world today—did not obey God. Instead it rejected Him and His law of love. So instead of prospering and being in health and having real, abundant life, people suffer.

It pains God to know that the suffering is about to get much, much worse. It grieves Him to consider the diseases and other horrors soon to be visited upon Earth. But it is all part of His plan to teach man the absolute necessity of obeying His law. And scripture after scripture shows that God’s plan will succeed!

This world, with its horrific diseases and countless other troubles, will soon be replaced. At His Second Coming, Jesus Christ will accomplish what the most brilliant doctors, scientists and other experts have utterly failed to do: He will bring lasting peace and perfect health to all men, women and children. Deadly diseases like the Wuhan coronavirus, typhus, bubonic plague, tuberculosis and all others will vanish and never return.

God has a lot to accomplish with His people in the midst of an explosion of satanic chaos! He sends these angelic beings out with specific jobs, all in preparation for the Great Tribulation, the Day of the Lord and the Second Coming of Jesus Christ! He is already preparing for that crisis of crises!

**‘AND THE NAME OF HIM WHO SAT ON IT WAS DEATH ...’**

What does this symbol mean? What can protect you and your family from it? To find out, request your free copy of *The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse.*

‘**KING OF THE EAST’?**

The expanding pandemic could help shift the global power balance in line with Bible prophecy. **BY JEREMIAH JACQUES**

that the leader was losing the “mandate of heaven.” And if “the heavens” were obviously displeased with a given leader, “the right of the populace to rebel was implicitly guaranteed.”

Throughout Chinese history, such rebellions have led to numerous revolutions.

Perhaps more threatening to Xi than losing the confidence of the general populace would be losing that of the cadre of leaders just below him. On February 4, in Geopolitical Futures, George Friedman wrote: “The Central Committee is packed with Xi supporters, of course, but a situation like what has developed must cause concern and generate ambitions.” He called it extremely unlikely that Xi’s CCP comrades remain “content” with his handling of the various crises.

Maybe the Wuhan coronavirus will soon be contained, the Chinese economy will bounce back, and Xi will be able to pin the dragon’s share of the blame on some of his underlings. But even in a best-case scenario, he will not emerge from this crisis unscathed. And China will be weakened. This is significant because the *Trumpet* has been expecting a decline in the power of Xi and China relative to that of his fellow strongman in Russia.

**King Over the ‘Kings of the East’**

Bible prophecy speaks of a massive end-time Asian military force as “the kings of the east” (Revelation 16:12). Ezekiel 38:2 describes the leadership of this Asian bloc, saying it will be led by “the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal” (New King James Version). *Meshech* and *Tubal* are early names corresponding to modern Russian cities, and *Rosh* is a variation of an ancient name for Russia. This “prince” is clearly a Russian leader.

The verse says “the land of Magog,” which includes modern China, will also be a key part of the power bloc. But the wording makes clear that it will be not a Chinese leader but a Russian one that is the primary king, or prince, over this kings of the east conglomerate.

*Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry has identified Vladimir Putin as the man to fulfill this role. “We need to watch Vladimir Putin closely,” Mr. Flurry writes. “I believe he is *almost certain* to be the ‘prince of Rosh’ whom God inspired Ezekiel to write about 2,500 years ago!” (The Prophesied ‘Prince of Russia’).

The path the Wuhan coronavirus takes next could determine how soon and to what degree the power of Xi Jinping and China will be reduced. Meanwhile, Russia is virtually untouched by the disease, and Putin has just set a plan in motion designed to let him rule Russia—with increasing influence over its neighboring nations—for as long as he lives. The power balance in the Russia-China axis is shifting in accordance with prophecy.

To understand more about the “kings of the east” power bloc that is coming together mainly under Russian leadership, request your free copy of *The Prophesied ‘Prince of Russia’.*

"The Prophesied ‘Prince of Russia’."

"The Prophesied 'Prince of Russia'."
OPENING A ‘RARE WINDOW’ INTO THE HEAVENS

The cosmos displays a breathtaking message—now with unprecedented clarity. Do you see what it is showing us? BY JEREMIAH JACQUES

“TO MY VERY GREAT AMAZEMENT, Saturn was seen to me to be not a single star, but three together, which almost touch each other.” These words were written by Galileo Galilei in 1610, just months after the telescope had been invented. By pointing the new technology toward the night sky, astronomers such as he could suddenly see far more of the universe’s detail than mankind had been able to for millennia.

But as evidenced by Galileo’s error—mistaking Saturn’s rings for a pair of moons clinging to the planet’s sides—their window into the cosmos was still foggy. The problem was caused by something that is vital for life, but a hindrance for stargazers—and for anyone striving for a detailed look at mankind’s future of “real joy.”

Peering Through a Haze
Earth’s atmosphere provides needs for fauna and flora: oxygen-rich air to breathe, protection from ultraviolet solar radiation and from incoming objects, and retention of heat. It makes physical life possible.

But light passing through the atmosphere bends, shifts and wiggles, clouding the view and twinkling the stars. “Trapped on the Earth within its unsteady and hazy atmosphere, astronomers were condemned to look at the heavens as though they had bad vision and were forbidden from using glasses,” writes Robert Zimmerman in The Universe in a Mirror. Even as telescope technology improved from the 1600s to the 1900s, what could be seen and photographed remained “fuzzy and revealed little detail.”

Lofty Vision
As early as the 1920s, astronomers saw how beneficial it would be to place a telescope in orbit where it would float above the atmosphere, capturing clear images. But for decades, this was only a dream for the starry-eyed.

Then in 1946, as rocket technology was taking off, American astronomer Lyman Spitzer penned an article detailing how it could be achieved. Such a telescope would “uncover new phenomena not yet imagined,” he wrote, “and perhaps … modify profoundly our basic concepts of space and time.”

Spitzer later said that though his article had negligible influence on other scientists at the time, it left a crater-deep impact on his own mind: “My studies convinced me that a large space telescope would revolutionize astronomy and might well be launched in my lifetime.”

From 1946 on, Spitzer devoted his breath and his intellect to turning an idea on paper into a giant Earth-orbiting telescope. He blasted through expanses of data, puzzled out technical problems and tried to convince others of the idea’s merit. “Most astronomers didn’t take it seriously,” Spitzer told Zimmerman in 1977. “They thought I was sort of wild-eyed or wide-eyed, one or the other.”

But Spitzer kept those eyes focused on the goal, and others began to see his vision. And in 1966, at the height of the Space Race, the National Academy of Sciences appointed him to lead a team to make it a reality.

Striving to See It Through
The appointment was a victory, but the project’s greatest hurdles still lay ahead. The engineering challenge was enormous, astronomy skeptics and political skeptics abounded, and funding was repeatedly delayed. Not until Spitzer launched a lobbying mission did members of Congress approve funding in 1977: $36 million for a scaled-down version of the Large Space Telescope.

Target launches in 1979, then 1983, slipped by. That year the project was renamed after the man who had set the science world ablaze in the 1920s by proving that the universe is expanding in all directions: Edwin Hubble.

From there, work on the Hubble Space Telescope shifted into high gear. Teams of technicians from Lockheed, Perkin-Elmer, the Wide Field/Planetary Camera team, NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center and the Space Telescope Science Institute worked under the supervision of Marshall Space Flight Center. In 1986, technicians were piecing myriad components together, and a launch by the end of the year seemed on target. Astronomers were over the moon. But on January 28, NASA suffered one of the darkest tragedies in its history: The Space Shuttle Challenger disintegrated during launch, killing its crew of seven. All shuttles were grounded and Hubble was put in storage in California.

It wasn’t until three years later that Hubble was unpacked and shipped to the Kennedy Space Station in Florida. Finally, on April 24, 1990, nearly 45 years after Spitzer’s article had made a case for a space telescope and started laboring on it, Discovery launched Hubble into space. The 43-foot-long telescope was released into low-Earth orbit, about 353 miles above the surface and well above the atmosphere. It was 30 years ago this month.
At last, after millennia of viewing the heavens through a haze, mankind was on the cusp of seeing it through a perfect prescription lens. That, at least, is what everybody expected.

**Houston, We Have an Optics Problem**

NASA spent weeks tweaking Hubble's systems. But the first pictures looked as if they had been snapped through London fog. Officials adjusted every variable they could from Earth, but to no avail.

"[N]othing we did made the image much better," said David Leckrone, a scientist who joined the Hubble program in 1976, in an interview with Astronomy. "[T]he mood became very morose."

They soon diagnosed the ailment as a spherical aberration in the main mirror. The mirror's curve had been ground to within 10 nanometers of accuracy at all points, making it by far the most precise of any in optics history. But the device on Earth that had tested the mirror had been assembled incorrectly, causing distortion.

In 1993, a team of astronauts flew up to Hubble and spent 10 days replacing its Wide Field and Planetary Camera with a new one fitted with modified small mirrors that offset the distortion of the main mirror.

At last, a window into the heavens was clear.

**‘Sights Never Before Seen’**

Just as Spitzer had theorized in 1946, Hubble was a game-changer. "From that point on," Leckrone said, "every place we pointed Hubble in the sky, there was something new and remarkable."

Hubble captured remote supernovas, which showed that the universe's expansion is not slowing, but accelerating. It shined light on the mysteries of dark energy and dark matter. It revealed the ubiquity of black holes, showing that most large galaxies center around one. Its intense and prolonged gaze at "deep fields" showed us that even parts of the firmament that we thought were dark and empty are actually radiant with galaxies. It let us peer at the early eons of the cosmos, allowing astronomers to pin down the universe's age. And it offered unprecedented insight into exoplanets.

In the 30 years since its launch, Hubble has taken hundreds of thousands of the most breathtaking photos ever captured: stars being born; galaxies entering their adolescent years; supernovas dying; nebulae of size incomprehensible; galaxies of hues uncategorizable; celestial bodies so far away our brains can't begin to fathom the distance.

Zimmerman writes: "Hubble, and the men and women behind it, opened a rare window into the universe, dazzling humanity with sights never before seen."

**Beholding Your Incredible Potential**

When King David looked to the heavens, he saw them only with the naked eye. Yet he gaped breathlessly at God's creation and was particularly fascinated by mankind's place within it. In Psalm 8:3-4, he wrote: "When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained: What is man, that thou art mindful of him? ..."

Later in the psalm, he wrote that the same God who created the radiant cosmos also made humans to "have dominion" over His creation on Earth (verses 5-8).

A thousand years later, the Apostle Paul quoted part of David's psalm and brought additional meaning to it. God will not give mankind control just over the Earth, he wrote, but will put "everything in subjection" under him. "[T]his subjecting of the universe to man implies the leaving nothing not subject to him" (Hebrews 2:8; Weymouth New Testament).

God created the entire vast universe for man. Everything Hubble has shown us—from the four moons it discovered around Pluto in our own solar system to the most unfathomably remote galaxy—will be under mankind's control. That's a foundational message declared in numerous Scriptures. And Hubble's images could be seen as the companion photos that could be printed alongside those verses.

"[F]or those willing to believe what God says," the late Herbert Armstrong wrote in The Incredible Human Potential, "He says that He has decreed the entire universe—with all its galaxies, its countless suns and planets—everything—will be put under man's subjection."

Verse 8 goes on to say the universe is "not as yet" under man's jurisdiction. But it will be.

Paul wrote in his letter to the Romans that the whole creation is now in "bondage to decay" and is "groaning" in anticipation of the "redemption" of mankind (Romans 8:21-23; Revised Standard Version). The anticipation is urgent because after redemption, humanity will reverse the decay. Mr. Armstrong wrote: "This passage indicates precisely what all astronomers and scientific evidence indicate—the suns are as balls of fire, giving out light and heat; but the planets, except for this Earth, are in a state of death, decay and futility—but not forever ...."

The entire universe is "waiting" for man, he wrote, to "impart life to billions and billions of dead planets, as life has been imparted to this Earth."

During a January 18, 2013, episode of the Key of David program, Trumpet editor in chief Gerald Flurry called attention to Hubble's significance in the context of those profound Bible truths. "God had a hand in the Hubble Telescope," he said. Its images "should set our imaginations on fire" because they are a "major way that we get to know God and know about our own future." During his May 2009 commencement address at Herbert W. Armstrong College, he said the window Hubble opened should "fill a human being" with "real joy."

It is astounding to meditate on the fact that Spitzer and the thousands who labored for decades to put Hubble into orbit weren't working alone, but were guided by a divine hand eager to fill people with "real joy." This understanding can help us better appreciate the efforts of those that made this vision a reality, and the "rare window" we now have into mankind's out-of-this-world future.
The farthest star visible to the naked eye is a mere 16,308 light-years away; it looks like a dot from the ground. The farthest image captured by the Hubble Space Telescope is a detailed view of galaxies about 13 billion light-years away. To say that Hubble has expanded our view of the heavens is an understatement. The Hubble Space Telescope has given us a crystal-clear vision of an ever-expanding universe. Trumpet editor in chief Gerald Flurry has said that “God had a hand in the Hubble Telescope.” Our Creator wants us to see what is out there waiting for us. Here are just a few of the engineering feats that allow Hubble to capture such amazing cosmic images.

Hubble has two primary camera systems to capture images of the cosmos: the Advanced Camera for Surveys (ACS) and the Wide Field Camera 3 (WFC3). The ACS was installed in 2002 to replace the previous Faint Object Camera. It primarily captures imagery in visible wavelengths. The increased sensitivity of ACS has increased Hubble’s potential for new discoveries by a factor of 10. Installed in 2009, WFC3 provides wide-field imagery in ultraviolet, visible and infrared light. WFC3 was designed to complement ACS. WFC3 probes deeper into infrared and ultraviolet wavelengths, providing a more complete view of the cosmos.

“The heavens declare the glory of God;

and the firmament sheweth his handywork.”

— PSALM 19:1
Hubble's pointing control system can aim the telescope at a target with an accuracy of 0.01 arcsecond (0.0000027778 degree). The three fine guidance sensors on board Hubble consist of a large structure housing a collection of mirrors, lenses, servos, prisms, beam-splitters and photomultiplier tubes. These sensors detect when the telescope drifts even a minuscule amount and returns the spacecraft to its target.

Optically, the Hubble Space Telescope is a Cassegrain reflector with two hyperbolic mirrors, similar to most professional telescopes. But the Hubble was designed to capture light from the visible spectrum through the ultraviolet. Because ultraviolet light has such a short wavelength, Hubble's mirrors were polished to an accuracy of 10 nanometers. That's 1/10,000 the thickness of a piece of paper.

The Hubble's unique location demands unique solutions to repair problems. Over 150 unique new tools have been developed for servicing Hubble. Even a task as simple as removing screws can require a brand new specialized tool.

Our atmosphere is great for supporting life, but it wreaks havoc on light waves. The Hubble Space Telescope orbits Earth 353 miles above the ground, well outside the light-bending layers of our atmosphere. Out there, Hubble has a clear view of far-off heavenly bodies.
Brexit Was Prophesied!

The UK leaving the European Union was foretold in the Bible! What does this source of advance news say will follow? **BY RICHARD PALMER**

At 11 p.m. on January 31, the United Kingdom officially left the European Union. For those in the UK, it was a cause for celebration or commiseration, depending on your view.

But this date is also of huge importance for everyone everywhere. This one event teaches the most important lesson anyone can learn.

Britain’s decision to leave the European Union was one of the biggest news stories of the decade. It caught even its most passionate supporters by surprise. Brexit advocate Nigel Farage finished the day of the referendum—June 23, 2016—believing his cause had lost.

Even after the referendum passed, Farage and fellow euroskeptics had more battles to fight. Opposition to implementation put up barrier after barrier, and the cause still looked hopeless. But on January 31 this year, Britain finally left the European Union.

This event that surprised so many did not surprise *Trumpet* readers.

**Consistent Forecasts**

Herbert W. Armstrong spent decades warning about world events based on Bible prophecy. He consistently said Britain would not be in a soon-coming European superstate.

In 1945, broadcasting as World War II ended, Mr. Armstrong predicted that Germany would rise again within “a European union.” As this union took shape, and some talked of Britain joining, he wrote in 1956, “Germany is the economic and military heart of Europe. Probably Germany will lead and dominate the coming United States of Europe. But Britain will be no part of it!”

When Britain joined in 1973, he forecast that they would regret it, writing, “Britain is going to look back on Monday, Jan. 1, 1973, in all probability, as a most tragically historic date—a date fraught with ominous potentialities! For that date marked the United Kingdom’s entry into the European Community.”

Over a decade after Britain joined the Common Market, Mr. Armstrong continued to forecast that it would not be part of this European superpower. “[T]he soon-coming resurrected ‘Holy Roman Empire’—a sort of soon-coming ‘United States of Europe’—a union of 10 nations [will] rise up out of or following the Common Market of today (Revelation 17),” he wrote in 1985 in *Mystery of the Ages*, published less than a year before he died. “Britain will not be in that empire soon to come.”

The *Trumpet* has consistently proclaimed the same message. “We have ... said for many years Britain would not be a part of the final European Union,” wrote *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry in 2012.

But where is Britain going now? What will its relationship with Europe be? Britain is out, but so much of its future remains to be decided.

Amid all this uncertainty, it makes sense to turn to the same source that forecast Britain’s exit: the Bible.

**Why Britain Left**

The Bible shows that the British people are descendants of the Israelite tribe of Ephraim. There is abundant proof that the British are modern-day Israelites—a book’s worth of proof, in fact. We would like to offer you a copy of that book—*The United States and Britain in Prophecy*, by Herbert W. Armstrong—for free of charge, with no cost, obligation or follow-up.

Ancient Israel divided into two nations after the death of King Solomon. Judah was the southern nation with its capital at Jerusalem, and its people are known today as Jews. That is a truth generally
acknowledged. But the northern 10 tribes were called the house of Israel. It became a completely separate nation from the Jews. In fact, the word Jews first appears in the Bible within a report about Judah fighting Israel (2 Kings 16:5-6).

From 721 to 718 B.C., the kingdom of Israel was invaded, conquered and removed from its land by the Assyrian Empire (2 Kings 17:18). Its people were deported to the southern shores of the Caspian Sea (verse 6; 1 Chronicles 5:26). Meanwhile, the kingdom of Judah remained in its land for more than a century until it was later conquered and taken captive.

The Assyrians were later conquered by the Chaldean-Babylonian Empire, and then migrated north and west to Europe. Ultimately, they became modern Germany. The “lost 10 tribes” migrated northwest as well, but they migrated even farther. Some tribes settled in France, Belgium, Holland and the Scandinavian countries, where their descendants are today.

But two tribes in particular migrated even farther: Ephraim and Manasseh. The Bible prophesied that these two tribes would inherit massive national wealth (Genesis 48:14-16).

Ephraim migrated to the British Isles. Manasseh settled in the United States.

Genesis 48 prophesies that Ephraim and Manasseh would become great nations and that Manasseh would become a great nation (verses 18-20). Genesis also specifies that these descendants of Abraham would control the world’s most strategic mountain passes, ports, canals, capes and other strategic choke points (Genesis 22:17-18).

Only two nations in history can fit God’s promises to these two tribes: the British Empire and the United States. These two peoples share a common ancestry. In the 19th and 20th centuries, both came into possession of the majority of the world’s wealth and all of its most important trade routes and sea gates. No other two nations have received these promises so abundantly.

This is just the briefest overview. The proof of this truth is abundant, and it is truly important to look into deeply, to study, and to prove for yourself. Because its implications are staggering. It opens up the meaning of a tremendous amount of biblical prophecy, showing why God was so careful to ensure those prophecies were recorded and preserved through the millennia, and showing how deeply relevant they are to our day.

**Sunlit Uplands?**
The fight for Brexit was hugely divisive. In an effort to stop it, the pro-EU reached a new low in politics, branding the Brexeters as racist bigots.

But with Brexit done, there is hope now that Britain can move into a glorious future. The shackles of EU membership have been removed. The bitter divisions are over.

Is this a new birth of freedom for Britain? At the Trumpet, we have certainly pointed to the flaws in Britain’s relationship with Europe. We have lamented the loss of sovereignty to Europe. So is it sunlit uplands from now on?

There certainly may be a short-term resurgence after leaving the EU behind. But when you understand Bible prophecy, you see that the future of Britain after Brexit is both far darker than any analysts believe—yet, in the long run, far more spectacular.

---

**“Germany is the economic and military heart of Europe. Probably Germany will lead and dominate the coming United States of Europe. But Britain will be no part of it!”** — HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG, 1956

If you understand that the British people are called Ephraim in Bible prophecy, you will discover that the same Bible that prophesied modern Ephraim’s wealth and power also prophesies of its cataclysmic upheaval!

God prophesied that after Ephraim and Manasseh received their promised wealth and power, if they did not turn to the God who blessed them, He would remove those blessings and punish these nations with war and captivity.

Daniel 12:1 prophesies of “a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time.” Jesus Christ called it a period of “great tribulation,” that would annihilate mankind if He didn’t intervene! (Matthew 24:21-22).

God specifies that the U.S. and Britain will receive the worst of this punishment when He says: “Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob’s trouble; but he shall be saved out of it” (Jeremiah 30:7). The name Jacob refers to Joseph’s two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, who were given Jacob’s name. The next verse shows that the descendants of Ephraim and Manasseh will go into captivity!

And what people does the Bible prophesy will take them into captivity?

Britain and America are not the only powers identified in your Bible. Several scriptures talk about a European power. Revelation 17, for example, talks of a beast—a symbol in Bible prophecy for an empire. This empire is controlled by a woman—which symbolizes a church. The beast has “seven heads,” which represent seven kings (Revelation 17:10). The chapter goes on to show that this beast rises and falls seven times.

Where can you find an empire, led by a church, that rises and falls throughout history? This can only be referring to the Holy Roman Empire: the repeated attempts to resurrect the Roman Empire that were guided and controlled by the Roman Catholic Church.
THE GRAVEYARD OF FAILED GEOPOLITICAL FORECASTS

Predictions of future world events always fail—or do they?

BY JEREMIAH JACQUES

“S

o many centuries after the creation, it is unlikely that anyone could find hitherto unknown lands of any value.” That is what the head of the Spanish Royal Commission wrote in 1486, advising King Ferdinand to reject an exploration proposal by one Christopher Columbus.

In early 1792, British Prime Minister William Pitt the Younger justified drastic cuts to the country’s military, saying: “[U]nquestionably there never was a time in the history of this country when, from the situation of Europe, we might more reasonably expect 15 years of peace, than we may at the present moment.”

In 1956, Soviet Leader Nikita Khrushchev told representatives of capitalist nations: “[S]ocialism will, in the long run, conquer capitalism. Such is the logic of the historical development of mankind.” In 1964, he said socialism’s future victory over capitalism was “as certain as the rising sun.”

These were all highly educated, well-informed, powerful individuals making earnest predictions about the way global affairs would play out—and getting it precisely wrong: an entire New World of hitherto unknown lands laid over the horizon, decades of war began mere weeks after Pitt’s speech, and Soviet-style socialism, at least, died about 30 years ago.

Individuals get it wrong, but so do entire modern geopolitical theories, formed, studied and believed by large numbers of the brightest minds around the world.

AFTER the Berlin Wall fell, leading to the collapse of the Soviet Union and the end of four decades of Cold War, United States State Department official Francis Fukuyama famously proclaimed that the world had reached “the end of history.” His thesis stated that mankind had attempted all plausible types of government and a clear winner had emerged: Western liberal democracy. It represented, Fukuyama wrote, “the end point of mankind’s ideological evolution—the final form of human government.”

The West had won. The continued spread of liberal democracy, individual freedom and popular sovereignty was inevitable. The sun would set on authoritarianism, and the era of great powers warring against each other was over.

President George H. W. Bush’s 1990 address to Congress echoed Fukuyama’s sentiments, hailing a future “free from the threat of terror, stronger in the pursuit of justice, and more secure in the quest for peace.” Mankind was entering a “new world ... quite different from the one we have known, a world where the rule of law supplants the rule of the jungle.”

The “end of history” was a thrilling hypothesis, and became a near instant hit among analysts and policymakers across the West.

U.S. military, economic and cultural power was at its zenith, the spread of republican democracy was certain, so the U.S. lost interest in the rest of the world and drifted off to sleep. Throughout the 1990s, largely due to reduced demand, television networks and newspapers slashed foreign news coverage by two thirds. “Young adults cared more about the Zone Diet than the subtleties of Middle East diplomacy,” Joseph Nye writes in The Paradox of American Power. And many American leaders “became arrogant about our power, arguing that we did not need to heed other nations. We seemed both invincible and invulnerable.”

Political observer Kishore Mahbubani said widespread belief in Fukuyama’s forecast “did a lot of brain damage,” and as a result, “the West went on autopilot.”

During these “autopilot” days, the 9/11 terrorist attacks hit America like a bolt from the blue. A few years later, Vladimir Putin’s Russia invaded the former Soviet nation of Georgia, bringing a large chunk of its territory back under Moscow’s control. His 2014 invasion of Ukraine and annexation of its Crimean Peninsula was even more dramatic.

Many Western leaders couldn’t believe their eyes. “Russia is on the wrong side of history,” U.S. President Barack Obama said, apparently in denial that Fukuyama’s forecast had failed. “[I]n the 21st century, the borders of Europe cannot be redrawn with force.”

But Russia had just redrawn them. Secretary of State John Kerry seemed equally perplexed by how “history” could be happening in an age when it was supposed to have ended. “It’s really 19th-century behavior in the 21st century,” he said.

Meanwhile, the Arab Spring and Ukraine’s Orange Revolution failed to achieve their pro-democracy aims, the Syrian civil war mutated into proxy battles between major powers, India and Pakistan locked in a nuclear standoff, Iran and Saudi Arabia engaged in proxy war in Yemen, Iranian zealots systematized their terrorist chaos, and around the world populism and authoritarianism returned with a vengeance.

It turned out that history—tangled, unjust, retrograde, violent, ugly human history—did not end in 1989.
authoritarian political ideologies. They believed the ruling Chinese Communist Party would be forced to adopt responsible domestic and international behavior and eventually democracy. A truly free and democratic China would benefit the whole world. This prompted Westerners to pursue policies of engagement with China on all levels, including welcoming it into the World Trade Organization. 

The West’s near-universal optimism was identified by Los Angeles Times correspondent James Mann as the “China fantasy.”

By 2010, China had grown much stronger and richer, but barely freer. Then, in 2012, Xi Jinping became China’s leader and began reversing what minuscule reforms the nation had made.

Xi used China’s increased strength from engaging with the West to tighten the Communist Party’s stranglehold on the nation—and to boost his own power to staggering levels. He clamped down on the media and silenced activists. He disappeared hundreds of human-rights lawyers and thousands of dissidents, and detained more than a million Chinese citizens in concentration camps. He nixed constitutional term limits on his rule, clearing the way for him to control China for the rest of his life. And he made clear that in international trade, China served only the interests of the regime—viciously so.

The “China fantasy” foresaw the dynamics exactly wrong: Chinese integration into the international system generated greater authoritarianism, a more tightly closed political structure, and a far more vengeful and powerful enemy of the West.

“The more we bring China into the world,” U.S. President Bill Clinton said in 1993, “the more the world will bring change and freedom to China.” His Republican successor, George W. Bush, echoed the sentiments in 1999, saying, “Trade freely with China, and time is on our side. Economic freedom creates habits of liberty. And habits of liberty create expectations of democracy.”

This forecast was popular throughout the 1990s and into the early-2000s. Western business moguls and politicians of all stripes believed China’s integration into the global economy and its increasing prosperity would cause the nation to liberalize its repressive and enticing, so the sales proceeded. The Obama administration continued the courtship, expanding U.S.-India trade ties and further boosting security cooperation.

Western optimism for the theory abounded. It was perhaps best articulated by the Heritage Foundation in 2011: “[T]he complex challenge presented by a rising China will inevitably drive the U.S. and India to elevate ties and increase cooperation across a broad range of sectors in years to come.”

But in 2014, China’s main partner, Russia, unlawfully annexed Crimea, and President Obama said the nations of the world were “largely united” in viewing the move as illegal. And after all the Bush and Obama administrations had done to curry favor with India, the expectation was that it would back the U.S. position.

Instead, India shocked the world by joining China and supporting Russia.

In the years since, India has increasingly defied the West and leaned toward the Russia-China axis: It has joined the China-led Shanghai Cooperation Organization, it has purchased huge quantities of Russian weapons in violation of U.S. sanctions, and it has conducted a series of military exercises with Russia and China. And Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has held a series of milestone personal meetings with Putin and Xi, which the Diplomat called a signal of “monumental change with regard to the post-Cold War status quo.”

With each of these purchases, war drills and meetings, it becomes clearer that the India counterweight theory has sunk.
‘Declaring the End From the Beginning’

Myriad other hypotheses, theories and models predicting the future of world events have come into vogue in recent decades: Moral Consensus theory, Oil Imperialism, Voluntary Unificationism, the Import Substitution Industrialization theory, Neo-Ottomanism and Islamic Democracy theory, the Democratic Peace theory, the Russian Reset, Structural Adjustment and the list goes on.

All have been subsequently discredited by the course of actual events, and have been buried in the graveyard of failed geopolitical forecasts. Even mankind’s best and brightest minds consistently fail to foretell the course of global affairs.

But there is someone who reliably reveals what is coming.

Isaiah 46:9-10 quote the Creator God making an extraordinary statement: “… I am God, and there is none like me, Declare the End From the Beginning And in His instruction manual for man - Adjustment and the list goes on. Democracy theory, the Democratic Peace Declaring the end from the beginning, terweight forecast because Ezekiel 38, bring it to pass. thousands of years later the Import Substitution Industrialization kind, the Holy Bible, He offers a remark- because Luke 21 reveals that during the

Unlike men whose prognostications usually age like milk, God knows precisely what is on the horizon in global affairs. He can say something, and then thousands of years later bring it to pass. And in His instruction manual for mankind, the Holy Bible, He offers a remarkable amount of detail regarding specific nations in the modern day and how they will interact with each other. He gives a guide to end-time international relations.

A student of Bible prophecy would never have bought into the India counterweight forecast because Ezekiel 38, using ancient names for modern India, says the nation would ultimately partner not with the U.S., but with Russia and China. (Read “Is India in the Bible?” at theTrumpet.com/20671.)

Neither would a prophecy student have believed the “China fantasy,” because Luke 21 reveals that during the “times of the Gentiles”—the end-time era when China and other non-Israelite nations dominate global affairs—“men’s hearts” will be “failing them for fear.” This is not a nation whose rise should have ever been hastened and celebrated. (See Gerald Flurry’s article “The Climax of Man’s Rule Over Man” at theTrumpet.com/21698.)

A Bible prophecy reader would also have avoided being lulled to sleep by the “end of history.” Numerous Bible passages forecast a third world war that will be fought with nuclear weapons and make all mankind’s previous wars look like playground skirmishes. Matthew 24:21-22 state: “For there will be greater anguish than at any time since the world began. And it will never be so great again. In fact, unless that time of calamity is shortened, not a single person will survive” (New Living Translation). This war will be by far the bloodiest chapter in mankind’s history, and in the lead-up to it, major historic events such as 9/11 and Crimea should not catch us unawares. (Request a free copy of Mr. Flurry’s booklet Nuclear Armageddon Is ‘At the Door.’)

A study of the Bible shows that one third of it is prophecy. Around 90 percent of those prophecies concern OUR MODERN AGE. Tomorrow’s news—about the U.S., Britain and Israel, the nations of Europe, the Middle East, and Russia, China and India—has already been written!

These prophecies are inspired by the omniscient God, and their accuracy is stunning. Numerous specific prophecies have already come to pass, proving both the existence of the Almighty God and that the Bible was divinely inspired. And these fulfilled prophecies should give us faith in the accuracy of the forecasts that have not yet happened.

The language of Scripture sometimes sounds archaic to the modern ear, and the symbolism in prophecy is sometimes obscure. Even many people who believe that the Bible is God’s Word think prophecy is so coded and mysterious that it cannot be comprehended.

But prophecy can be understood. You can know when the “last days” are, and who “Rosh” and “Magog” and “Cush” and “Assyria” and “Ephraim” and “Manasseh” are. That is why these prophecies have been recorded in the first place. That is why they have been miraculously preserved for thousands of years.

The God of the Holy Bible keeps His promises, including His prophecies. He is a God who follows through. “God is the originator of prophecy,” writes Trumpet editor in chief Gerald Flurry in his booklet Daniel Unlocks Revelation. “The Father has a deep prophetic understanding that no other being has.”

Mr. Flurry goes on to explain that when we study prophecy, we must honor the Father who originates and reveals it. We must remember that all the prophesied geopolitical events mainly point to God’s love, to the soon-coming return of Jesus Christ and to the God Family. “Prophecy is of no profit if it doesn’t have God’s love!” he wrote. “Without love, understanding all the prophecy in the world means nothing. ... Christ is going to come and rule forever! That’s what we need to get excited about most of all .... Our focus must be on knowing God ...."
Could an event as violent as the Russian Civil War ever happen in the United States of America? **BY ANDREW MIILLER**

As America approaches the November 2020 presidential elections, the nation is deeply divided. And this division is not just between Republicans and Democrats. The Democratic Party itself is deeply divided between moderate socialists like Pete Buttigieg and Michael Bloomberg and radical socialists like Elizabeth Warren and Bernie Sanders.

This divide is reminiscent of the divide between the Mensheviks and the more radical Bolsheviks during the “October Revolution,” or Bolshevik Revolution, in Russia.

This is history that every American needs to understand.

The Bolshevik Revolution unleashed some of the most violent events in world history. Vladimir Lenin and his supporters overthrew the Russian government in 1917, then forcibly reorganized the Russian empire into the world’s first socialist state. This revolution unleashed a civil war that killed 10 million people. The Bolsheviks won, consolidated their power, and established a Soviet state that slaughtered another 50 million people. All told, the Bolsheviks murdered as many as were killed in World War II.

Yet the Bolshevik Revolution wasn’t all that bad, according to some paid staffers working for presidential candidate Bernie Sanders. These radical socialists say that while launching another Bolshevik Revolution in the United States is not preferable, it may be necessary.

One field organizer for Sanders, Mason Baird, said in a video recorded secretly by Project Veritas: “We would need a federal government and labor union movement that is working together to strip power away from capitalists and preferably directing violence toward property .... A militant labor movement is kind of our last—our last real—chance before we try other means. ... After we abolish landlords, we don’t have to kill them, that’s my feeling. I think it’s damaging to the soul, but there were plenty of excesses in 1917 I would hope to avoid. ... I’m not excited about the prospect of armed struggle.”

This man is not talking about political strategy or which “battleground” states are key for his candidate to win the most votes in. He is talking about actual battlegrounds. America’s current system has to be torn down, he says. If you can do it without large-scale killing, great; but if you can’t, you can always resort to your backup plan and kill 10 million men, women and children.

Shockingly, despite being exposed in this video, Baird remains a full-time paid member of the Sanders campaign. Even more shockingly, Baird was actually one of the more moderate people revealed by Project Veritas investigators.

The average American probably thinks that an event as violent as the Bolshevik Revolution could never happen in the United States. But he does not realize that there is an organized, active, powerful movement working to abolish the U.S. Constitution and establish a Communist system of government.

History and Bible prophecy show that if Americans do not turn to God in repentance, they will suffer a civil war *many times worse* than the Bolshevik Revolution.

**Hardcore Radicals**

Mason Baird is far from the only Communist working for Sen. Bernie Sanders. Another field organizer in South Carolina, Daniel Taylor, told Project Veritas reporters that plans are underway for extreme action.

“We don’t want to scare people off. You first have to feel it out before you get into the crazy stuff,” he said. “You know, we were talking about more extreme organizations like Antifa, you were talking about, Yellow Vests [French protesters], all that, but we’re kind of keeping that on the back burner for now. ... Change won’t come easily, regardless. Even if Bernie is elected, change will not come swiftly or easily, so the connections we make now in the campaign with people, and volunteers, it’s important we retain that regardless of the outcome. It’s unfortunate that we have to make plans for extreme action, but like I said, they’re not going to give it to us, even if Bernie is elected.”

Taylor did not detail the kind of “extreme action” he was considering. But an Iowa field organizer for the Sanders Campaign, Kyle Jurek, told Project Veritas reporters that if Donald Trump is reelected, cities will “burn.”

“The only thing that fascists understand is violence,” Jurek said, referring to Trump supporters. “So the only way you can confront them is with violence.” In another conversation, Jurek suggested that supporters of President Trump should be reeducated in prison camps. “There’s a reason Joseph Stalin had gulags, right?” he said. “Actually, gulags were a lot better than what the CIA has told us that they were. Like, people were actually paid a living wage in gulags;
they had conjugal visits in gulags. Gulags were actually meant for, like, reeducation. Greatest way to breaking a ... billionaire of their, like, privilege, and the idea that they’re superior: Go out and break rocks for 12 hours a day. You’re now a working-class person and you’re going to ... learn what that means, right?”

Incredibly, Jurek may not be the most radical Sanders employee caught on tape. When Sanders campaign field organizer Martin Weissgerber was asked by Project Veritas undercover reporters what he would do if Sanders lost the election, he answered, “I’ll straight up get armed. I want to learn how to shoot and go train. I’m ready for the ... revolution, bro ... I’m telling you. Guillotine the rich.”

Bernie Sanders, who is trying to become president of the United States, has not condemned these comments. He has retained all who made them as paid staffers in his campaign.

**Revolution Redux**

In its pure form, socialism means the government controls the economy. It owns not just the Postal Service, it owns everything, without competition: mines, mills, refineries, builders, railroads, automakers, carriers, distributors, ports, airlines, telecoms, news media, banks, schools, hospitals, farms, groceries, restaurants, stores—everything. Most American socialists say the government doesn’t have to literally own all businesses as long as it controls them through heavy regulations and taxes.

People like Senator Sanders emphasize that they are “democratic” socialists, which means that this enormously powerful government they want to create will be voted in by a majority of the people. Sanders says this to distance himself from the violent atrocities committed by “authoritarian communism” in the Soviet Union. Some take comfort in this distinction. They shouldn’t.

Vladimir Lenin joined the Russian Social Democratic Labour Party in 1902. He said that the masses must be led by a “vanguard” party, the vanguard party must be led by central leadership, and the central leadership must wield enormous power. Most of the people in the party agreed. They began calling themselves Bolsheviks, from the Russian word for “majority.” Those who wanted party leadership to remain decentralized were called Mensheviks, from the Russian word for “minority.”

At that time, the Russian Social Democratic Labour Party was a small party of young intellectuals. In 1907, there were only 38,200 Mensheviks and 46,100 Bolsheviks. Three out of four Bolsheviks were age 30 or younger.

After Czar Nicolas II abdicated in 1917, Bolsheviks began calling for insurrection against the new Russian Provisional Government. These calls sparked the Bolshevik Revolution on November 7, when Red Guard militia retaliated against the government for shutting down one of their printing presses. The Bolsheviks marched against pro-government forces in Petrograd, now called St. Petersburg.

Yet the Bolshevik Party still ran candidates for office in elections that November, hoping to conquer Russia by democratic means. But these “democratic socialists” received only 23 percent of the vote.

Rather than accept the results of the election, they claimed that the system was rigged and said the only way to fix it was to establish a new system of government run by councils of working-class citizens called Soviets.

When the Bolsheviks declared the 1917 election illegitimate, their insurrection erupted into full-scale civil war. They changed the name of their party to the Russian Communist Party and recruited a Red Army to fight the anti-Communists and their White Army. The war continued for five years until the Bolsheviks defeated the anti-Communists and achieved their dream: The Soviet Union was established.

Former American Communist Whittaker Chambers later wrote about what it is that separates Communists from the millions of socialists who are an unwitting part of communism’s secret strength. “Have you the moral strength to take upon yourself the crimes of history so the man at last may close his chronicle of age-old, senseless suffering and replace it with purpose and a plan?” he asked in his book *Witness.* “The answer a man makes to this question is the difference between a Communist and those miscellaneous socialist, liberals, fellow travelers, unclassified progressives and men of goodwill, all of whom share a similar vision, but do not share the faith because they will not take upon themselves the penalties of the faith.”

The “miscellaneous socialist” is different from the true Communist only in that he lacks the will to commit acts of violence.

Socialism cannot be permanently established by democratic means. Most people will ultimately reject it—if you give them the chance. At that point, socialists have to either give up their dream or start shooting people.

An American-style Communist revolution with American-style rhetoric, American-style violence and American-style reeducation camps sounds impossible to many. But to one of the top...
Down With Capitalism

The late Herbert W. Armstrong explained in his book The United States and Britain in Prophecy that the peoples who settled the U.S. and Britain descended from the ancient Israelites. God made an unconditional promise to Abraham to give his descendants great material wealth. God kept this promise by giving the U.S. and Britain nearly three fourths of the world's usable resources and wealth during the peak of their power. But God did not promise to keep blessing these nations if they turned away from Him.

A prophecy in Leviticus 26 states that if the descendants of Israel came to despise God's statutes, He would strip away their blessings and allow their cities to be laid waste. In a January 1949 Plain Truth article, “The Plain Truth About Communism,” Mr. Armstrong specified that communism is a tool of the devil to blot out America's blessings.

“The real goal of the Communist plotters is the violent overthrow of the United States and the British Empire. Why? We are the real 'capital' nations. We possess nearly three fourths of all the world's 'capital'—its developed and usable resources and wealth. ... The plain truth, known by so few, is that we possess greater wealth and national resources than any other nation ever did, because Almighty God gave us this wealth in fulfillment of His birthright promise to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob! And communism is the devil's effort, through his demon-inspired human tools, to take from us this greatest national and economic blessing God ever conferred on any people! And since this blessing from God is the world's 'capital' atheistic communism shouts, 'Down with capitalism.'”

Mr. Armstrong based his forecast of future events and trends on Bible prophecy. Hosea 7:8-9 predicts that the modern-day descendants of ancient Israel would mix themselves with foreigners and, by extension, their foreign ideologies. The far-left ideas put forward by the Democratic Party today are not based on traditional American culture, which is largely based on the Bible. They are ideas that were brought to America from German and Russian universities. For decades, these anti-Bible ideologies have subversively “devoured” America's strength while the average citizen “knoweth it not.”

Soon, the atheistic ideals of Communist philosophy will ignite a violent revolution.

‘You Will Revolt More and More’

“Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the Lord, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward. Why should ye be stricken any more? ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint. From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it: but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment. Your country is desolate, your cities are burned with fire: your land, strangers devour it in your presence, and it is desolate, as overthrown by strangers” (Isaiah 1:4-7).

This passage describes cause and effect. The the people are “laden with iniquity,” or sin, therefore the “whole head is sick.” The government is corrupt and the nation is faint. As a consequence, the people “revolt more and more.” This revolution intensifies until strangers burn down cities and tear down America's system of government.

When Federal Bureau of Investigation informant Larry Grathwohl infiltrated the Weather Underground Organization in the 1970s, he reported that these radical Communists “democratic socialism” is that its purpose is the same as the purpose of “dictatorial socialism”: to overthrow constitutional government, by violence if necessary. Bible prophecy shows that America’s great blessings will indeed be taken away—not just because socialists “outmaneuvered” conservatives—but because the American people as a whole have turned away from God. This has opened the door to communism and many other attacks inspired by the devil. The coming violence in America’s cities is punishment, but it is punishment with a purpose. God will use it to show us the result of sin and turning away from Him to our own ways of thinking. He will use it to lead us to Him (Ezekiel 12:17-20). God blessed Abraham for his obedience to His law, and his descendants were supposed to follow his example. Only after people learn this lesson will God bless America—and all nations—with peace, joy and prosperity. It is a matter of life-and-death importance that everyone who hears this message take note of the seriousness of the times, evaluate their lifestyle and turn to God in heartfelt repentance.

Where capital really comes from

Neither Smith nor Marx could understand the source of America’s and Britain’s enormous wealth. But you can, with Herbert W. Armstrong’s free book The United States and Britain in Prophecy.
India became 2020 with several increases to its military power. On January 1, Prime Minister Narendra Modi appointed Army Chief Bipin Rawat as the chief of Defense Staff, a newly created role for significantly increasing coordination between air, navy and army forces during wartime. Three weeks later, India test-fired a new submarine-launched, nuclear-capable ballistic missile. The next day, the nation showcased its new Tigershark fighter jet squadron.

India has the world’s fastest growing major economy, second-largest population and fourth-strongest military, armed with nuclear weapons. Its military streamlining, and ongoing development of advanced weapons, is preparing it to become an important part of a biblically prophesied 200 million-man army (see Revelation 9:16).

Iran continues building the bomb

Iran has continued its clandestine work on building a nuclear weapons program. Experts say that if it suddenly begins openly pursuing its first bomb, it could succeed in as little as two months. On January 18, the Daily Mail reported that Iran has intended to build nuclear warheads since at least 2002, when a “senior Iranian official requested the parameters of a warhead fitted on a missile.” Despite Iran’s claim that its nuclear program is solely for civilian purposes, the Daily Mail reported that the program has always had a “military dimension.” Iran also hides its missile testing behind its space program.

Satellite launch vehicles and intercontinental ballistic missiles share much of the same technology. It is currently attempting, so far unsuccessfully, to launch into orbit a 550-pound payload, five times larger than what it has successfully put into orbit in the past. These payloads could easily be replaced with nuclear warheads.

Iran has the will to develop nuclear weapons through defiance, negotiation, deception or whatever means necessary. It also has the will to use them. It is showing the character it will take to fulfill the biblically prophesied role of “king of the south,” which is forecast to ignite a world war (Daniel 11:40-44). Read more in our free booklet The King of the South.

Czar Putin: Ruler for Life

During his January 15 Presidential Address to the Federal Assembly, Russian President Vladimir Putin announced the most sweeping changes to his nation’s constitution since the document was put into force in 1993. Immediately after, Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev and the rest of the Russian cabinet resigned to allow Putin to implement the changes.

The proposed amendments will make the office of president far weaker and strengthen the offices of prime minister and state council chairman. After Putin’s presidential term expires in 2024, Putin may assume one of these positions or a new position leading the “Union State of Russia and Belarus,” which he is in the process of developing.

Putin has ruled Russia with an increasingly tight grip for this entire century. The Trumpet forecasts that whatever strategy he pursues, he will remain the true power over Russia and one of the world’s foremost despots.

As far back as 2006, some analysts thought that anti-Putin movements would be strong enough to force him from power. The Trumpet has consistently forecast the opposite message regarding the former spy agency officer: “Putin Won’t Just Survive, He’ll Thrive” (theTrumpet.com/12054). Now almost every analyst agrees with this view. Putin is czar for life. To understand what the Bible says about Putin specifically, order your free copy of Trumpet editor in chief Gerald Flurry’s booklet The Prophesied ‘Prince of Russia.’
THANKS TO PRESIDENT TRUMP, EUROPE IS ARMING AGAIN

A fter United States President Donald Trump implored European nations to contribute more to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, some nations are complying. Germany's Die Welt reported that the International Institute for Strategic Studies database shows that overall European military spending "rose every year in the Trump era" (February 9).

But the result of the increased spending will not be to President Trump's liking. France and Germany want their military budgets to go toward protecting Europe "with respect to China, Russia and even the United States of America," as French President Emmanuel Macron put it. He told the Economist that the U.S. "is turning its back on us. What we are currently experiencing is the brain death of NATO." Watch for Macron's desire for a "true European army" to become a reality, with the brains and leadership coming not from the United States or France, but from Germany.

EAST AFRICA PLAGUED BY LOCUSTS

K enya and Ethiopia are suffering their worst desert locust infestation in 70 years. Experts estimate there are billions of the insects, which are decimating crops.

The United Nations triggered emergency protocols on January 17. Its Food and Agriculture Organization characterized the situation as an "unprecedented threat to food security and livelihoods" across the entire Horn of Africa. A comparatively small swarm of locusts can consume enough food to feed 35,000 people.

The crisis is worsening hunger in the already underfed region, which recently experienced crop-destroying rains. These rains provided ideal conditions for locusts to breed, which means the infestation could worsen in coming months.

Exodus 10 shows that God has power over the environment and uses miracles to punish and correct. For more information, request a free copy of Why ‘Natural’ Disasters?

CHINA IS WORLD’S SECOND-LARGEST ARMS PRODUCER

D ata published by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute on January 27 reveals that China is now the world's second-largest weapons producer.

China now spends between $70 billion and $80 billion each year on its armaments industry, according to its official figures. It also keeps some of its weapons spending secret. Russia, the third-largest producer, spends only $38 billion. China is still dwarfed by America's $227 billion in weapons production, but it is becoming increasingly formidable.

Through decades when China was weak and suffering domestic turmoil, the late Herbert W. Armstrong consistently forecast that China would rise to become a major power. He based that forecast not on economic data or military analysis, but on Bible prophecy. To learn more specifics about his forecasts, request your free copy of He Was Right.

A NEW DECADE OF SPENDING ADDICTION

T he United States Congressional Budget Office released its 10-year projections for federal revenues and spending on February 6, and the report shows trillion-dollar deficits as far as the eye can see. This fiscal year, the federal government will borrow $1 trillion, raising the national debt to $23.8 trillion by the end of the year. The deficit will exceed $1 trillion every year for the next decade, as federal spending continues to grow faster than the economy.

The borrowed money will be consumed by health care, welfare and social security, with these expenses accounting for 84 percent of tax revenue by 2030. About 14 percent will be owed in interest. If interest rates increase beyond that, America could soon be spending more than $1 trillion per year on interest alone while struggling to finance both an army and a massive welfare state.

“When any nation begins to look to its government to provide, that nation is on a greased toboggan-slide to decay and oblivion,” wrote Plain Truth founder Herbert W. Armstrong in 1956. “It brought about the fall of Rome. It brought about the fall of proud Babylon long before. And it’s bringing about the fall of America today.”

Deuteronomy 28 warns that debt problems are one of the many curses that come from disobedience to God’s laws. Like its debt, America’s sins are gigantic in scale.
Their joint statement said: “We are expressing our concern that Iran is not meeting its commitments.” The whole Dispute Resolution Mechanism is a failure, it highlighted the need for German intervention. Germany also became one of the eight nations to support the European Maritime Surveillance Mission in the Strait of Hormuz which provides military escorts to oil tankers and cargo ships traversing the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz off the Iranian coast.

On January 19, Germany hosted a diplomatic conference to discuss solutions to the civil war in Libya. Though the meeting was a failure, it highlighted the need for German intervention. Germany involvement in the Middle East is barely getting started. Trumpet editor in chief Gerald Flurry writes in The King of the South: “Germany has expected to clash with Iran, and it has been working on a strategy for a decade or more. That strategy is almost complete.” The clash between Germany and Iran, prophesied in Daniel 11:40, is rapidly approaching.

that 360 cases were added to the investigation in 2019. Perhaps hundreds or thousands of other extremists go unreported or hide their views. A number of cases have been reported in the Army’s Special Forces Command, an elite division that is seen as a role model for other personnel. But Special Forces members have five times more right-wing extremist cases than other soldiers.

Extreme Security author Caroline Walter told Deutsche Welle that the recent revelations are likely just the “tip of the iceberg.” She said: “The problem in the Bundeswehr is that whoever points out right-wing extremism is still a backstabber who’s violating the spirit of the brigade.”

Bible prophecy shows that the Germany military will become dramatically more powerful and more forceful in the near future. Much of its strength and destructiveness will come from an explosion of extremist sentiment. Continue to closely watch Germany—and its military—for this prophesied resurgence to emerge.

Germany’s Military Counterintelligence Service is investigating around 550 cases of alleged right-wing extremism in the German Army. Counterintelligence president Christof Gramm told the German newspaper Welt am Sonntag that 360 cases were added to the investigation in 2019. Perhaps hundreds or thousands of other extremists go unreported or hide their views.

A number of cases have been reported in the Army’s Special Forces Command, an elite division that is seen as a role model for other personnel. But Special Forces members have five times more right-wing extremist cases than other soldiers.

Extreme Security author Caroline Walter told Deutsche Welle that the recent revelations are likely just the “tip of the iceberg.” She said: “The problem in the Bundeswehr is that whoever points out right-wing extremism is still a backstabber who’s violating the spirit of the brigade.”

Bible prophecy shows that the Germany military will become dramatically more powerful and more forceful in the near future. Much of its strength and destructiveness will come from an explosion of extremist sentiment. Continue to closely watch Germany—and its military—for this prophesied resurgence to emerge.

On January 8, United States President Donald Trump called on “NATO to become much more involved in the Middle East process,” with U.S. forces taking a less active role. Since then, Germany has increased its involvement in the Middle East.

On January 14, Germany, along with Britain and France, triggered the Iran nuclear deal Dispute Resolution Mechanism expressing their concern over Iran’s failure to comply with the terms of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action. Their joint statement said: “We have therefore been left with no choice, given Iran’s actions, but to register today our concerns that Iran is not meeting its commitments.” The whole dispute process could take a little over two months to resolve and could result in sanctions being reimposed on Iran.

Germany also became one of the eight nations to support the European Maritime Surveillance Mission in the Strait of Hormuz which provides military escorts to European and international oil tankers and cargo ships traversing the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz off the Iranian coast.

On January 19, Germany hosted a diplomatic conference to discuss solutions to the civil war in Libya. Though the meeting was a failure, it highlighted the need for German intervention. Germany involvement in the Middle East is barely getting started. Trumpet editor in chief Gerald Flurry writes in The King of the South: “Germany has expected to clash with Iran, and it has been working on a strategy for a decade or more. That strategy is almost complete.” The clash between Germany and Iran, prophesied in Daniel 11:40, is rapidly approaching.

France’s first frigate began patrolling the Persian Gulf on January 30 as part of a new European naval mission to deter Iranian attacks on European and other international shipping. This mission is supported by Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands and Portugal.

The European Maritime Surveillance Mission in the Strait of Hormuz provides military escorts to oil tankers and cargo ships in the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz carrying, among other things, about 30 percent of global seaborne crude oil. Most of the coast is controlled by Iran, and the strait is only 21 miles wide at its narrowest point.

Last year, several attacks occurred against oil tankers and against oil processing facilities in Saudi Arabia, with the evidence implicating Iran as the culprit. France has pushed Europe to become more active in the region to counter Iranian aggression, and France, Germany and the United Kingdom triggered the Dispute Resolution Mechanism of the Iran nuclear deal on January 14. This could lead to reimposing United Nations sanctions on Iran. Watch for Europe to become much more involved in the Middle East, and expect Germany to emerge from the shadows to take the lead economically, politically and militarily.
IMPEACHMENT PROCEEDINGS HAVE DEEPLY DAMAGED AMERICA

On February 5, the Senate acquitted President Trump of two articles of impeachment. On abuse of power, 47 Democratic-aligned senators and Utah Senator Mitt Romney voted that Mr. Trump was guilty, while the rest of the Senate found him innocent. On obstruction of Congress, all Democratic-aligned senators found Mr. Trump guilty, and all Republican senators found him innocent.

The impeachment process was marred by calling on false witnesses, relying on hearsay, and other disregard for due process. Democrats have brought the standards for impeachment to a historic low and damaged people’s trust in federal law enforcement. This is underlined by the fact that President Trump’s job approval ratings rose 10 percent throughout the impeachment proceedings began. According to Gallup, 49 percent of Americans approve of Mr. Trump’s job performance, the highest percentage since he took office.

“Americans no longer trust the world’s premier law enforcement agency because of men like James Comey, Andrew McCabe and Peter Strzok, and women like Lisa Page,” wrote Federalist contributor Margot Cleveland in “How Democrats’ Get-Trump Crusade Has Irreparably Damaged the Nation.” They no longer believe in equal justice under the law, or the integrity of sworn affidavits and judicially authorized surveillance.

When people lose faith in government institutions, they tend to take matters into their own hands. Leftists join radical groups like Antifa and the Democratic Socialists of America, which want to replace, rewrite or ignore the U.S. Constitution. Those afraid of socialism buy guns, and in some cases join militias, in an attempt to defend themselves.

Tensions are building, but protests and armed resistance are not real solutions. Government corruption and declining trust in its institutions are symptoms of a greater sickness in the nation. The Prophet Isaiah wrote about the spiritual sickness that besets a nation that turns away from God. More and more Americans are realizing that the government is sick (Isaiah 1:4-7), but too few are willing to consider that the reason for these problems is the sin of the people.

REPORT: BRITISH POLICE WERE TOLD TO IGNORE PAKISTANI RAPE GANGS

Police in Manchester, England, were told to investigate other ethnicities but to ignore rapists who were Pakistani. The shocking news was revealed on January 14 in a report published by the Greater Manchester Police. The report was commissioned two years ago to investigate why the department failed to stop rings of men who raped young teenage girls, some of them still children, for years. Although several officials did not cooperate and relevant files were withheld, the authors of the report discovered shocking betrayal of Manchester’s girls by its police.

Victoria Agoglia was repeatedly raped and abused for years until one of her abusers injected her with a lethal dose of heroin and she died at age 15. This prompted police to launch Operation Augusta, during which they knew that up to 16 girls who were lower-income, white and as young as 12 years old were being raped. They knew names, addresses, and even locations where the rapists perpetrated their crimes. They knew the rapists were ages 18 to 50, that there were almost 100 of them, and that they were mostly Pakistani.

Yet senior officers intentionally devoted too few resources to the operation then shut it down prematurely in 2005 before officers could arrest or even disrupt many of the rapists. Since the criminals were Pakistani, police allegedly feared being accused of racism against immigrants or bias against Muslims, so they tolerated the rape of children.

God inspired Isaiah to write of modern Britain: “[T]he whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint. From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it; but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment” (Isaiah 1:5-6). In August 2018, Thunberg began skipping school to protest alone outside the Swedish Parliament. Her lone protest became a media sensation, and over the past year and a half, she has received numerous awards and has inspired other students to join her “school strike for the climate.” Many of the depressing climate predictions that distress Thunberg are untrue and are being used for ulterior political motives.

The promotion of Thunberg is an embodiment of an end-time prophecy in Isaiah 3:12: “As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths.”
PEACE PLAN FROM PAGE 3

SHALL GO FORTH INTO CAPTIVITY, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city."

Yes, the efforts to make peace with the Palestinians are prophesied to fail catastrophically!

This peace agreement could encourage the Arabs to make a grab for half of Jerusalem. Zechariah shows they will end up taking it by force!

I explain this prophecy in Chapter 3 of Jerusalem in Prophecy, and it is a crucial end-time prophecy to understand. But notice: In this context God says that ALL nations will be gathered "against Jerusalem to battle." Many other prophecies provide detail about this climactic battle. ALL these nations, with ALL their militaries, are going to gather in Armageddon before marching on Jerusalem!

And what will happen then?

"Then shall the Lord go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle" (verse 3). Jesus Christ is going to return personally to fight them! Revelation 14:18-20 show that this battle will be so fierce, the blood of these armies will be flowing deep enough that for 200 MILES in the Valley of Jehoshaphat, at the foot of the Mount of Olives, it will rise to the level of the horses' bridles!

This clash in Jerusalem will be the decisive battle in the bloodiest war in human history. Many prophecies show that the death toll will be horrific all over the Earth. The Bible warns soberly that the horrors of World War II—with Germany's extermination camps, Russia's gulags and other nightmares including nuclear bombs incinerating whole cities—were only a rehearsal for the Tribulation to come!

Why such butchery and warfare? Because this is what it will take for God to get man's attention! We have to recognize and acknowledge what a DISASTER results when we try to solve our problems on our own, without God!

And this is what is going to bring peace to this world!

Peace Is Coming

Despite the lack of peace in Israel today, numerous prophecies tell us that God will give us peace!

Leviticus 26:6 says that if you turn to God, "I will give peace in the land," nobody will "make you afraid," and "neither shall the sword go through your land." This is what God says if you will do what He says! What a promise!

Zechariah 1:17 says that God "shall yet choose Jerusalem." And He is going to cause the whole world to look to Jerusalem! He will bring peace to all mankind in just a few years.

"And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem" (Isaiah 2:3). Clearly this hasn't happened yet! It is a prophecy that is ABOUT to be fulfilled.

Isaiah 66:10 and 12 say, "Rejoice ye with Jerusalem, and be glad with her, all ye that love her: rejoice for joy with her, all ye that mourn for her .... For thus saith the Lord, Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river ...." Instead of a river of blood, there will be a RIVER OF PEACE flowing from Jerusalem! God is going to bring the wonderful peace and joy man has sought for 6,000 years but has never been able to find because he hasn't looked to God.

Watch Jerusalem! So much is going to be happening there! Events are serious and sobering, yet at the same time, they are FILLED with the hope of God!

What hope God gives through His peace plan. What a VISION this is! How does that compare with President Trump's peace plan?

Henry Kissinger once said there is no other choice than the peace process. That is TERRIBLY WRONG! That is not a choice of life.

Moses wrote that there are two ways before us: life and death. Choose life! (Deuteronomy 30:19). Man is choosing the wrong way. We are choosing the way that God is not involved in. God is telling us what we should be doing, but we are not following His instructions. That needs to change and change quickly.

More than a hundred scriptures tell you how to bring peace! We need faith in God. We could save ourselves so much suffering if we would listen to God today and turn to Him! God says, "[T]urn ye, turn ye ... for why will ye die, O house of Israel?" (Ezekiel 33:11). He wants you to choose life—choose His way and trust Him. When you do, He will give peace in your individual life, and in your nation. And very soon, He is going to give peace to this whole world!
DO YOU HAVE TIME TO READ HISTORY? THE SITUATION IN America, Britain and across the globe is now a slow-motion world crisis ready to explode. And for that reason, I submit to you that you no longer have time not to read history.

When Winston Churchill faced his world crisis, he had to muster every ounce of knowledge, wisdom and courage he had accumulated over his lifetime to try to save his people, their nation and its virtues. Imagine if that lifetime had been spent absorbing frivolous content. He could have never become the one statesman alive whom God could use to save Western civilization.

What was it that Churchill had devoted and relied upon as the world crisis struck?

History.

To him, history was more than a subject or a hobby. It was his identity. William Manchester wrote in The Last Lion: Visions of Glory, "Churchill did not simply observe the historical continuum; he made himself part of it. ... He did not live in the past; the past lived on in him." History became Winston Churchill's personal memory.

"History was the way he understood the world, the lens he used to bring reality into focus," Stephen Mansfield writes in Never Give In: The Extraordinary Character of Winston Churchill. "Churchill thought historically, meaning that he understood life in terms of generations, great men, the succession of ages, heroic events, noble conflicts and the linear connections of time. ... For him history was more than something to study; it was a way of thinking."

One of the history books Churchill read was Exodus. He wrote an essay in 1931 titled "Moses: The Leader of the People" that rejected the skeptics’ claim of Moses being only an allegorical figure. He asserted that he was not only real, but "the national hero."

Churchill wrote this essay at the beginning of his “wilderness years” of being a political outcast. Every prophet, Churchill wrote, MUST GO INTO THE WILDERNESS: "He must have a strong impression of a complex society and all that it has to give, and then he must serve periods of isolation and meditation. This is the process by which psychic dynamite is made."

Churchill dove into history. He wrote his four-volume, million-word masterpiece Marlborough between 1933 and 1938, while his colleagues disarmed Britain and he was the lone, almost powerless voice warning against it. This deep dive into history helped prepare him for Britain’s darkest hour.

Henry Steele Commager wrote this about Churchill’s famous ancestor and Britain’s most decorated general: “The hero was a man after Churchill’s heart: the greatest soldier in the annals of the race, ever victorious and ever magnanimous .... But the theme was more than biographical; it was nothing less than the theme of the struggle for Europe” (emphasis added).

This was more than a work of history, said one British historian. This was a biography that changed history. When Churchill finally came to power in 1940, he was prepared for battle. The story from his nation's glorious past—a story he knew well—continued living right into the present.

Winston Churchill was advised, inspired and motivated by giants of history like Moses and the duke of Marlborough.

Whether or not he knew it, the history of the Israelites recorded in Exodus was literally personal to Churchill, and not just because the British needed supernatural deliverance. Just as Marlborough was, the Israelites were in fact his ancestors.

In fact, the Israelites are your ancestors. Their history is your history. This is true of those who physically descended from the Israelites (mainly the modern English-speaking peoples), but it is also true in a spiritual sense of those who are in God’s true Church, “the Israel of God” (Galatians 6:16). As a Trumpet reader, you are in close contact with that Church. It is possible you could be among those few whom God is calling into it.

The Bible clearly establishes that God’s Church is spiritual Israel. The history of the Church and the history of its predecessor, physical Israel, is the most important history you can study. This is especially true as we face the unfolding crisis. You are going to need every bit of true, deep, actionable history you can get your mind on.

Like Churchill, we are living in historic times. It is time to drop the distracting smartphone apps, the gaming, the frivolity and dissipation. It’s time to devote your precious hours to serious pursuits that could very well be life-saving pursuits. It’s time to become part of something bigger than yourself. It’s time to become part of history.
Not only are you right, but you are somewhat understating the problem in my opinion (“America Has Been ‘Fundamentally Transformed,’” March, theTrumpet.com/21850). The nature of the conflict around us is ferocious and contemptuous. Our side does not understand that hatred and does not see how badly they have been played. We are personally under attack by these forces, and we have been for some time.

Linda

I’m a historian, mostly on the 20th century, but also world history, especially the French Revolution. People in America have no idea how horrible the French Revolution really was. As I watch television, the events, the testimonies, and the impeachment of Donald Trump, I think of the events leading up to the French Revolution. It gives me chills; it’s so terrible. I agree with Mr. Flurry 100 percent. We are in trouble and the future is very scary. Keep up the good work and thank you very much!

Letson Behlen  FLORIDA

That is a much needed article! (“What Is Your Child Learning in Public School?” March, theTrumpet.com/21864). It’s beyond shocking what’s going on at the schools here on the West Coast. What’s equally shocking is that nobody seems to be trying to do anything about it—they’re all asleep. Every time there’s an election, weepy stories cross the news on TV about how the schools are desperate for money, then six months later the same thing happens, but the schools are only getting worse! To think that “much needed” money is going to fund transgender appearances is loathsome beyond words! And that mathematics program … nothing could be more ludicrous!

Carolyn Risen  OREGON

Very good to tell us what is being taught in our public schools. It is frightening, disgustingly real, and getting worse daily! Thanks for digging into this and bringing it to the public.

Jerry and Patti Cox

Congratulations on 30 years of service to the great God! (“30 Years of the Trumpet, February, theTrumpet.com/21690). I found your article inspiring, thoughtful and extremely helpful. I remember the WCG and the doctrines it held. I remember, as you said, that obeying them led to a much happier, purposeful life. It was rich and full despite the trials and difficulties. Growing close to God and His way of thinking made all the difference. And looking at the fruits of your organization do, indeed, remind me of that wonderful time. Thank you for this!

C. Johnson

I would like to thank your ministry for all the reading materials that I have received over the past few years. Thank you for the wisdom your ministry shares with all who are willing to open up their hearts to the truth. I pray that God will continue to use your ministry and bless them beyond measure, so they can continue sharing the truth with many others. I have enclosed my tithe from my job.

Rey Aguirre  ARIZONA

Thank you all for so generously providing me with this magazine. I always wait with anticipation for the next issue to come in. I appreciate you all who so faithfully have sent me this magazine all these years, and I have gained and continue to gain so much knowledge about spiritual truths and current events.

Richard Reyes

I have been reading Herbert Armstrong’s books and am amazed with the work you are doing for our great God. God bless you all for giving me the truth. All I want to do is share this with everyone.

Claire Smith  SCOTLAND

I extend my gratitude for the literature you provide for us who are aware of ongoing events. It is very insightful and beneficial on so many levels. Thank you for your continuous work in providing the world the truth on relevant subjects.

Mauricio Munguia  CALIFORNIA

Thanks so much for your great magazine. You have some really good writers on important news. Keep up the good work!

Les Frye  MICHIGAN
What Courtesy Doesn’t Look Like

Words are powerful. Actions, more so.

We live in an era of lies. True, human beings have always practiced deceit. But bold lies and force of will are surging, most notably in our leaders. Consider a couple of recent examples within America.

U.S. Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi contemptuously ripped up her copy of the president’s State of the Union speech on live television. She explained, “It was the courteous thing to do, considering the alternatives.” In January she sternly corrected a reporter for suggesting that she hates the president: “I don’t hate anyone. I was raised in a way that is a heart full of love, and always pray for the president... I pray for the president all the time. So don’t mess with me when it comes to words like that.” Never mind her actions. Just take her at her word: Her heart is full of love, so don’t mess with her.

The irony was not lost on many who watched the president’s speech. As President Trump enumerated a litany of national successes, the gallery and half of Congress cheered while Democrats sat, stone-faced, often visibly agitated. Most Democrats saw nothing to celebrate in unexpectedly robust successes, the gallery and half of Congress cheered while Democrats sat, stone-faced, often visibly agitated. Most Democrats saw nothing to celebrate in unexpectedly robust job creation, higher wages, and lower African American and Hispanic unemployment. They could not applaud progress in fighting the opioid epidemic, supporting neonatal health care, or securing America’s border. They apparently saw nothing good about weakening the Islamic State or strengthening America’s military. These moralistic lawmakers were unmoved by the guests and visitors this impeached president invited to the Capitol, including a young black girl receiving an academic scholarship, and one of the last surviving Tuskegee Airmen.

The Democratic Party prides itself on its compassion, humanity and charity. It says it fights for freedom, justice, equality, fairness. It has a “heart full of love” for everyone. Don’t judge them by their conspicuous incivility, or by their acrid reaction to evidence of their own nation’s current resurgence. Just take them at their word.

Just take them at their word during the impeachment hearings that they respect the law and love the Constitution. Take them at their word that they are fighting corruption and abuse of power, and are fiercely advocating equitable justice and the pillars of constitutional government. Take them at their word that they respect the wisdom of the founders: Adams, Jefferson, Madison, Franklin. Take them at their word that crass partisanship is being displayed only by Republicans. Take them at their word that acquitting President Trump marks the tragic ruination of what would otherwise be the greatest country in history. They love the Constitution, and they love America. They say.

Yet in January, these same individuals rushed their impeachment case through the House of Representatives, forbade cross-examination of witnesses, blocked the opposition from calling witnesses, trampled due process, and refused the president opportunity to mount a defense. Now they are lecturing about the sanctity of seeking and airing the whole truth.

Their sudden reformation into “strict constitutionalists” is stunning. For years most of them applauded as the previous president repeatedly bypassed or ignored constitutional limits on his power. For years many have praised cities, counties and states for flatly refusing to uphold and enforce immigration law. For years they have broadly ignored and excused rank criminality, rioting and violence as being a “natural response” to systemic injustice. For years they have labored to rewrite America’s history into a story of shame. For years they have attacked constitutional guarantees including freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and the right to bear arms. For years they have denounced the Constitution itself as antiquated, outdated, a “charter of negative liberties,” invented by racist, bigoted slave owners that must be “reinterpreted” or demolished. Democrat presidential candidates are tripping over each other trying to prove who among them is willing to act most radically to reshape the country by denying people’s rights, despoiling the wealthy and destroying whole industries. Their whole mindset is utterly lawless.

Here is a suggestion: Don’t take them at their word. Watch what they do. Jesus Christ warned of ravening wolves coming in sheep’s clothing—and said, “Ye shall know them by their fruits” (Matthew 7:15-16). They say they want to help the poor, help minorities, help women. But when the president announces that 7 million people no longer need food stamps, 10 million have been lifted off welfare, black poverty and unemployment have reached their lowest levels in history, and the workforce offers more opportunities for women than ever, watch what they do.

Their hearts are full of something, but it isn’t love. Jeremiah 17:9 says the human heart is deceitful and wicked. People want to look righteous, and they can say anything. People like to identify as loving, prayerful, courteous. Judge by fruits.

Humanity has a limitless history of cloaking its corruption in righteousness. Jesus Himself saw it: When a woman anointed His feet with costly ointment, noble Judas rose in indignation: “What courtesy does not look like?” Does not look like what? The Merchant of Venice, ”The devil can cite Scripture for his purpose. / An evil soul producing holy witness / Is like a villain with a smiling cheek, / A goodly apple rotten at the heart. / Oh, what a goodly outside falsehood hath!” Yes, Satan himself comes as an angel of light (2 Corinthians 11:14). He can call the rankest disrespect “courteous” and the most insidious hate “love.” Don’t take him at his word.
would not be part of that union in the long run. It will be a victim of this new European power, not a participant.

If Mr. Armstrong’s Bible-based forecasts were right about Brexit, that means you can trust them to be accurate in describing what comes next: the rise of a superstate that terrorizes the world. It may seem far-fetched. But then so did the idea of a “European union” in 1945, or Brexit in 1973.

**The Most Important Lesson You Can Learn**

This European superstate will have a massive impact on everyone around the world. It is critical that we know it is coming. But that is not the most important reason why you need to understand this forecast.

Mr. Armstrong’s forecasts about Brexit prove that the Bible is a now book—a book that speaks to us today, a source we can rely on totally. One third of the Bible, the inspired Word of God, is prophecy.

Daniel 4:17 says, “[T]he most High ruleth in the kingdom of men.” Fulfilled prophecy confirms this. God forecast the major events of our world thousands of years ago. He reveals this truth to the man He is using. This “active existence of the living God” was on vivid display throughout the Brexit process. That is why it is critical you understand it.

**Prove the prophecy**

How did Herbert W. Armstrong know Brexit would occur decades before it happened? Request his free book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy* to find out.
The world’s troubles don’t have to plague YOU.

God promises to protect you if you obey Him. Do you have the faith to claim that promise? Learn what real faith is with your free copy of **What Is Faith?** by Herbert W. Armstrong.

To order print versions of our literature

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>U.S. AND CANADA</th>
<th>UNITED KINGDOM</th>
<th>AUSTRALIA</th>
<th>E-MAIL</th>
<th>ONLINE</th>
<th>MAIL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-800-772-6577</td>
<td>0-800-756-6724</td>
<td>1-800-22-333-0</td>
<td><a href="mailto:request@theTrumpet.com">request@theTrumpet.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.theTrumpet.com/library">www.theTrumpet.com/library</a></td>
<td>P.O. Box 3700, Edmond, OK 73083</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Limit three pieces of literature per order.

Write to the regional office near you. Addresses inside back cover.

**N O  C H A R G E  •  N O  F O L L O W - U P  •  N O  O B L I G A T I O N**