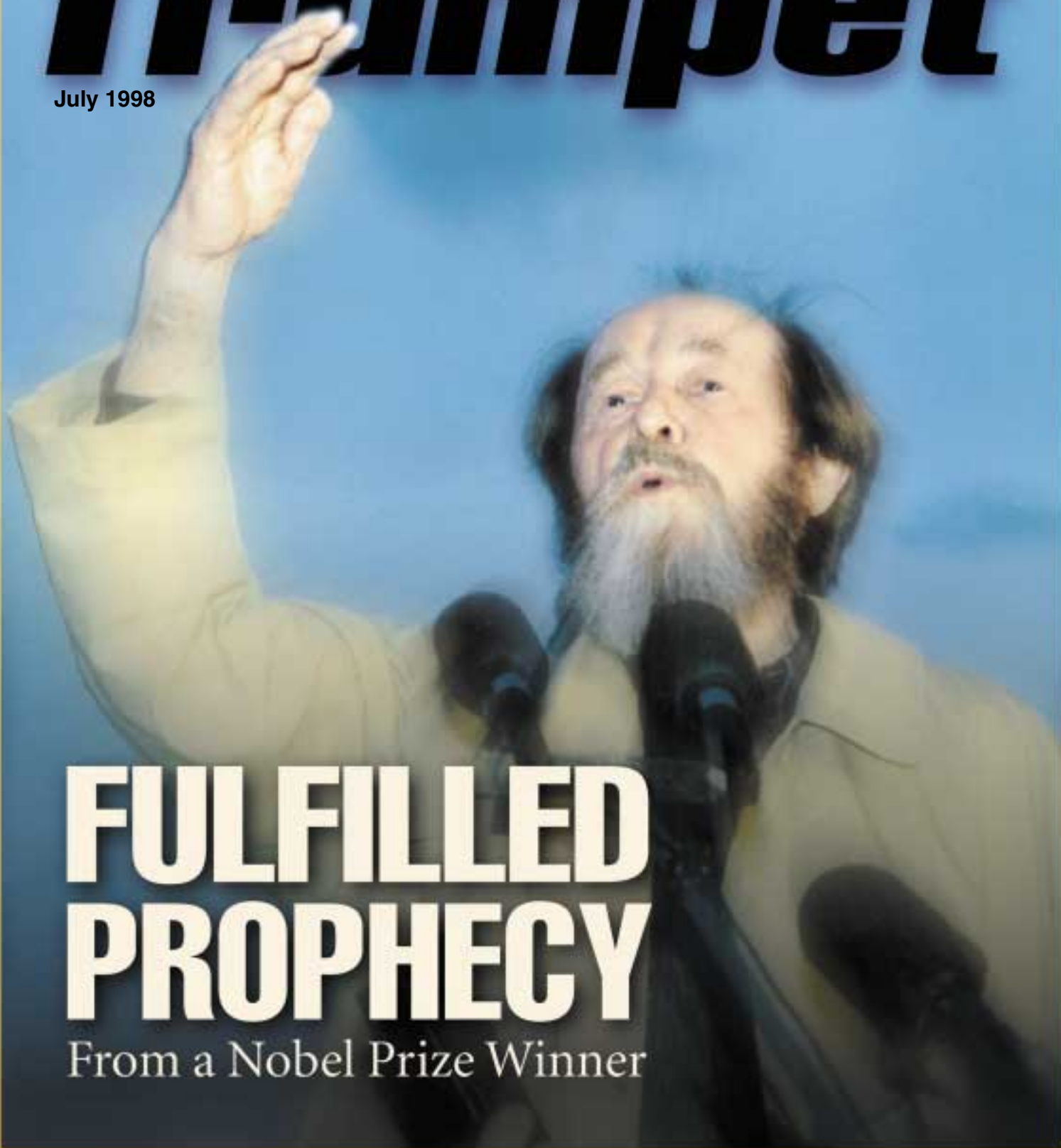


WHAT YOU DON'T GET ON BROADCAST NEWS!

The Philadelphia

Trumpet

July 1998



FULFILLED PROPHECY

From a Nobel Prize Winner

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by Gerald Flurry

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THE PHILADELPHIA TRUMPET (ISSN 10706348) is published monthly (except bimonthly March/April and September/October issues) by the Philadelphia Church of God, 1019 Waterwood Parkway, Suite F, Edmond, OK 73034. Periodicals postage paid at Edmond, OK, and additional mailing offices.

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PRINTED IN THE U.S.A.

HOW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION HAS BEEN PAID: The Philadelphia Trumpet has no subscription price — it is free. This is made possible by the tithes and offerings of the membership of the Philadelphia Church of God and others. Contributions, however, are welcomed and are tax-deductible in the United States, Canada, and New Zealand. Those who wish to voluntarily aid and support this worldwide Work of God are gladly welcomed as co-workers in the effort to "hold fast" to the traditions established in the true Church by Herbert W. Armstrong and to proclaim a final warning to the world. Contributions or letters of interest may be sent to one of our offices nearest you:

United States: PO Box 3700, Edmond, OK 73083.
Canada: P.O. Box 61541, Fennel Postal Outlet, Hamilton, ON L8T 5A1
New Zealand and the Pacific Isles: P.O. Box 38-424, Howick, Auckland, 1730
Australia: P.O. Box 6626, Upper Mount Gravatt, QLD 4122
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Unless otherwise noted, the scriptures quoted in this publication are from the King James Version of the Holy Bible.

U.S. POSTMASTER — send address changes to: The Philadelphia Trumpet, PO Box 3700, Edmond, OK 73083

Gerald Flury



Nazi Spirit Soars in Europe

The Pro-Nazi line is gaining a strong foothold in Germany and Europe. It is accelerating at a mind-dizzying pace. Most of the world ignores it, but that won't make it go away. On the contrary, this negligent attitude encourages it tremendously.

German Finance Minister Theo Waigel made some very disturbing statements near the end of May. His Christian Socialist Union (CSU), the Bavarian branch, has demanded new and stronger laws against foreigners. Mr. Waigel openly said at a CSU convention, "We do not live in a multicultural society, we remain a German nation!" He said this to his own party delegates. "Germany and Bavaria are not a land for immigrants," he proclaimed.

This sounds like the rhetoric of the pro-Nazi party of Saxony-Anhalt, which just elected 14 members into the German Parliament.

WHAT FOREIGNER WOULD NOT FEEL UNEASY BY THESE BLATANTLY RACIST WORDS?

The democracies of the world should be alarmed. This is what they have been building in Germany the past 50 years! And this is what Herbert W. Armstrong told them they were building for over 50 years. (Write for our free booklet, *The History and Prophecy of Germany*.)

In the process of building Germany, we forgot to denazify them. Now the chickens are coming home to roost.

Why would Theo Waigel make such a bold racist statement before the whole world? Because Western leaders are too weak to challenge the most powerful nation in Europe. And Mr. Waigel knows the Nazi spirit is surfacing very fast in the German people and other European nations. He is just jumping on the political bandwagon.

The Nazi party gains in Germany have influenced the same results in Hungary. Here is what was written

in the *Intelligence Digest*, May 15, in an article entitled, "Why Hungary's Rightward Shift Needs Watching" (emphasis mine): "In the first round of Hungary's complicated two-round general election, the ruling Socialists garnered 32 percent of the vote, with the right-wing Fidesz taking 28 percent, and the Independent Smallholders' party gaining nearly 14 percent of the vote.... The worrying indicator, however, was the 5.55 percent of the vote which went to the extreme-right Hungarian Justice and Life party (MIEP), GIVING IT ENOUGH VOTES TO ENTER PARLIAMENT."

"The MIEP is led by Istvan Csurka, formerly deputy chairman of the one-time ruling Hungarian Democratic Forum. During the first post-communist elections of 1990, Csurka made VIRULENTLY ANTI-SEMITIC SPEECHES and argued for an overturning of the post-World War I settlement under which Hungary lost Transylvania (with its 2 million ethnic Hungarian population) to Romania....

"The dangers are heightened by the fact that whilst HUNGARY IS ON THE FAST TRACK FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE EUROPEAN UNION and NATO, Romania, Slovakia and Yugoslavia are all in the slow lane, something that can only make their Hungarian minorities look even more wistfully towards their mother country. THIS IS FERTILE TERRITORY FOR UNSCRUPULOUS DEMAGOGUES."

Hungary is on the fast track to enter the European Union. Their pro-Nazi views don't slow the process; such views seem to speed their entry!

The world is almost totally unaware of what is happening in the European Union. It is going to shock the world far more than World Wars I and II! You can know precisely where the European Union is headed and why. Study our booklet *The History and Prophecy of Germany* and continue reading *The Trumpet* as we examine the ever-changing political landscape.

THE SPEECH THAT SHOOK AMERICA AND BRITAIN

Alexander Solzhenitsyn received the Nobel Prize for literature in 1970. He is probably the world's most famous writer. In 1978 he delivered the Harvard commencement address. I believe it was the most condemning speech ever given on American soil. The West scorned his message. That negative reaction is proving to be a major disaster!

BY GERALD FLURRY

THE COMMUNIST SYSTEM OF THE SOVIET UNION COLLAPSED in 1991. The world was stunned.

Many people believe that Alexander Solzhenitsyn did more to bring down that system than any other Russian.

Few people are aware of the flood of horror and bloodshed that started after the 1917 Russian Revolution and continued until Stalin's death in 1953.

The Communist regime caused the deaths of about 66 million people from 1917 to 1953—a period of 36 years! (That figure does not include the 31 million who died in World War II—about one-fifth of their population.) The Soviet Union was slaughtering her own people.

One prisoner by the name of Shostakovich gave this testimony: "I was remembering my friends, and all I saw was corpses, mountains of corpses. I'm not exaggerating, I mean mountains.... I'm grieving all the time."

The Revolution began with inspiring hope. That hope was drowned in a sea of suffering and bloodshed. Russia became like a massive graveyard.

Mr. Solzhenitsyn was a victim of the brutal Communist regime. He was in the Russian prison system, the Gulag Archipelago, for eight years. After that, he was exiled in his own country for another three years—a total of 11 years

in prison.

He saw that prison authorities did not have serious communist or socialist ideals. They were gangsters and thugs who had gained control of the Revolution. Stalin was the chief gangster.

Speaking Out

Solzhenitsyn began to think about the Russian Revolution while in the Gulag. Before and after he was released, he knew that somebody had to report the truth. Who would it be? He decided it would have to be himself. It was his life that would have to be risked by writing about a prison system that reflected a Revolution gone mad.

In his autobiography, *The Oak and the Calf*, he said (emphasis mine throughout), "At last I was beginning to see revealed the higher and hidden meaning of that suffering for which I had been unable to find a justification, that sharp reminder from the Supreme Reason which no mere mortal can at first understand. This was why my murderous misfortunes had been sent to me—to deny me all possibility,



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snatch from me any chance of lying low and keeping quiet, TO MAKE ME DESPERATE ENOUGH TO SPEAK AND ACT.”

Solzhenitsyn believes God had a hand in his suffering and in his speaking out. Certainly he revealed the evils of Russian Communism more than anybody else ever did.

His experiences made him desperate enough to speak out against what some have called the greatest tyranny ever. In the midst of that suffering, he developed character and values he would not compromise, even if death were the result.

One man of incredible character CHANGED HISTORY. Behind this character was a strong religious morality.

“Once again, my vision and my calculations are probably faulty,” he wrote. “There are many things which I cannot see even at close quarters, many things in which the Hand of the Highest will correct me. But this casts no cloud over my feelings. It makes me happier, more secure, to think that I do not have to plan and manage everything for myself, that I am only a sword made sharp to smite the unclean forces, an enchanted sword to cleave and disperse them.

“Grant, O Lord, that I may not break as I strike! Let me not fall from Thy hand!” (ibid.).

His life was seriously threatened several times. But he continued to write books and speak out against communist rulers. Here is what George Steiner wrote in *The New York Times Book Review*, March 1, 1998: “To use a Shakespearian image: during the late 1960s and throughout the ’70s, Alexander Solzhenitsyn bestrode the world like a colossus. The winning of the Nobel Prize in Literature in October 1970, his expulsion from Russia in February 1974, the publication in the West of *The Gulag Archipelago* the same year, made him not only the world’s most famous writer, but a spiritual guide, a prophet, an exemplar unrivaled since Voltaire or Tolstoy. His every movement, his most occasional pronouncements, were the object of frenetic attention in the news media. Crowds blocked the airports at which Solzhenitsyn arrived. In the ‘free world,’ *Cancer Ward* and *The First*

Stern correction: Solzhenitsyn at Harvard in 1978. His words were deadly accurate—and widely scorned.

UPI/CORBIS-BETTMAN

Circle sold by the million; in Russia and Eastern Europe, clandestine copies passed from hand to hand, keeping fiercely alive ‘hope against hope.’”

Communist leaders intensified their persecution. How did Solzhenitsyn survive all this evil? Here is what Michael Scammel wrote in his book entitled *Solzhenitsyn*: “Solzhenitsyn’s moral purity, his absolute refusal to compromise on fundamental issues, was his greatest asset, which gave meaning to his life and work.”

In February 1974, Solzhenitsyn was expelled from the Soviet Union. In 1976, he made his home in Vermont. Then in June of 1978, Harvard, America’s most prestigious educational institution, invited him to give the commencement address.

Never has such a massively murderous government as the Soviet Union been so deeply exposed by one man. And the West agreed with his conclusions. But it didn’t end there. Solzhenitsyn also exposed America and Britain! And we have rejected almost 100 percent of his severe criticism. That should have made us do some serious thinking about being biased. But it didn’t!

His Harvard speech sent shock waves throughout the West. Most of the media turned bitterly against him.

This is a chapter in our history that we desperately need to understand.

Where Is Our Courage?

This Nobel Prize winner struck at the very heart of what makes a nation great—or what causes a superpower to fall. Here is an excerpt from his Harvard speech, “A World Split Apart”: “A decline in courage may be the MOST STRIKING FEATURE THAT AN OUTSIDE OBSERVER NOTICES IN THE WEST TODAY. The Western world has lost its civic courage, both as a whole and separately, in each country, in each government, in each political party, and, of course, in the United Nations. Such a decline in courage is particularly noticeable AMONG THE RULING AND INTELLECTUAL ELITES, causing an impression of a loss of courage by the entire society. There are many courageous individuals, but they have no determining influence on public life.

“Political and intellectual functionaries...BASE STATE POLICIES ON WEAKNESS AND COWARDICE. And the decline in courage, at times attaining

what could be termed A LACK OF MANHOOD...[means] they get tongue-tied and paralyzed when they deal with powerful governments and threatening forces, with aggressors and international terrorists.

“Must one point out that from ancient times a decline in courage HAS BEEN CONSIDERED THE FIRST SYMPTOM OF THE END?”

That last line truly disturbed many people. He stated a great truth of history that has been demonstrated repeatedly, but that few men have learned. It has been proven again and again since “ancient times.” A radical decline in courage is a frightening symptom of the end of America and Britain!

HE IS DISCUSSING THE DEATH OF OUR NATIONS! But that is only a small part of the problem. History also thunders that he is right. So does Bible prophecy.

What a powerful warning Mr. Solzhenitsyn gave, if only we would heed and get to the CAUSE of our problems.

India and Pakistan ignored our deep concerns about nuclear testing. America has suffered many such foreign-policy setbacks in recent years (see article, p. 9). Nobody fears the great

AMERICA IS CALLED THE WORLD'S ONLY SUPERPOWER. WE DO BUT SOLZHENITSYN SAYS WE LACK THE WILL

American superpower anymore.

America is called the world's only superpower. We do have the military might. But Solzhenitsyn says we lack the WILL to use it.

When does America act today without United Nations approval?

In this world full of tigers, a superpower can't resign or sneak off into the night. Other nations know that if they can destroy a superpower, they become a superpower themselves.

This is a sobering thought that America should keep in mind!

Solzhenitsyn made other condemning statements about the West, but they were made over a long period of time. Mostly they were unnoticed or ignored. His speech at Harvard was different. On that hot summer day in 1978, he had the attention of America's intellectual elite. The press was there, listening intently. A speech like that, so concentrated and focused, and with such an attentive audience, could not be ignored!

A Broken Will

Several years earlier, Solzhenitsyn said, “We see [the West] today, crawling on hands and knees, ITS WILL PARALYZED.”

This Nobel Prize winner has spoken more forcefully than others. But haven't we noticed the many other critics outside Britain and America today?

Notice this comment from The Jerusalem Post International Edition, February 21: “The Americans view themselves, correctly, as the world's political and economic leaders, responsible for the security and well-being of the globe. But many members of the Clinton administration are PLAGUED BY SELF-DOUBT in their dealings with the pariah states and sources of terror and instability. This schizophrenia leads to confusion, both within the U.S. government and among America's allies....”

“This is not the behavior EXPECTED from the WORLD'S ONLY SUPERPOWER.

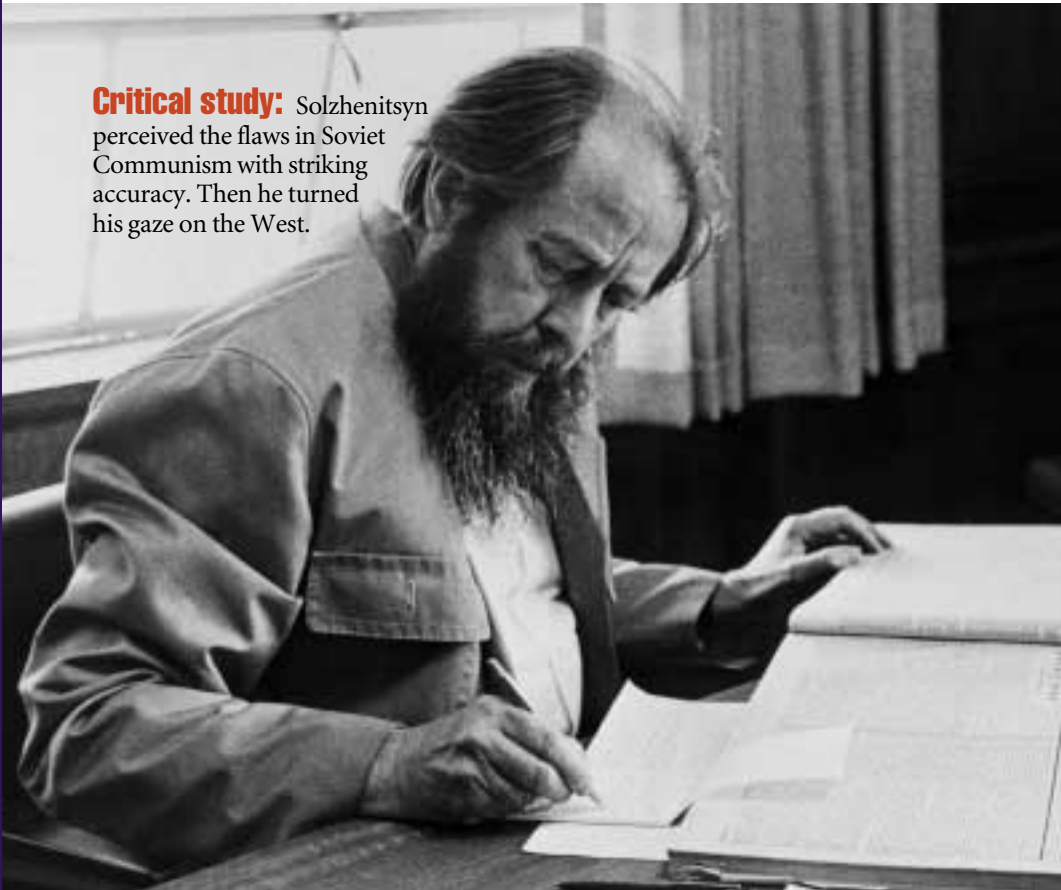
“Since the end of the Cold War, Washington has been the undisputed capital of the world. If the Americans do not fill this leadership role, the rogue states and regional conflicts will grow out of control, and the world economic system will spiral into depression....”

“In response, Israelis could decide that despite all the promises and assurances, in a prolonged crisis, THE U.S. IS NOT A RELIABLE ALLY.”

This prestigious newspaper states that America is “plagued by self-doubt” and has a “schizophrenia” that leads to confusion.

There is indeed a leadership role that urgently needs to be filled in the Middle East by a strong America. But we are failing badly. Many Israelis say we are not acting like the world's only superpower. Many of our foreign friends have already decided that we are not a “reliable ally”! THAT KIND OF THINKING WOULD DISTURB US MIGHTILY—IF WE WERE A REAL SUPERPOWER! But we are too weak to be stung by such words, much less demon-

Critical study: Solzhenitsyn perceived the flaws in Soviet Communism with striking accuracy. Then he turned his gaze on the West.



HAVE THE MILITARY MIGHT. TO USE IT.



Undermined power: President Kennedy intended to show resolve against communism in Vietnam. We did the opposite, and still have yet to show that resolve.

strate to the world that they are wrong.

Intelligence Digest listed this as its number one worry for the start of 1998: “The erosion of American leadership.” The weaker our foreign policy, the more an anti-American tide rises around the world.

Here is what Solzhenitsyn said in *The Oak and the Calf*: “Unmoved by all the misfortunes and threats that hemmed us in, I knew that it was time: time to find some way of shocking the West into the realization that it could not look after its own interests, that while it raged implacably against the weak, it invariably lost, INVARIABLY RENDERED TO ROCK-HARD TYRANTS.”

The West “invariably surrendered to rock-hard tyrants” like Saddam Hussein. And isn’t he still in power because we lacked the will to remove him in the Persian Gulf War?

That same year, 1991, America and the entire United Nations succumbed to the bullying tactics of a resurgent Germany regarding the independence of Croatia and Slovenia.

Still, America likes to nurture the illusion that we are the world’s only superpower.

“During my time in the camps, I had gotten to know the enemies of the human race quite well: they respect the big fist and nothing else; the harder you slug them, the safer you will be. (PEOPLE IN THE WEST SIMPLY WILL NOT UNDERSTAND THIS...)” (ibid.).

We refuse to understand because of our weak will.

There were many mistakes made in the Vietnam War. But we rarely ever discuss why President Kennedy got us involved in the first place. The President knew we were NOT taking a stand against the rock-hard communist tyrants at that time the way we should. He said, “We must show some resolve

to the communists.” We did just the opposite in Vietnam. And to this day we still haven’t shown them that resolve. And what’s more, we are not going to in the future.

Herbert W. Armstrong said, “America has won its last war.” I agree completely. So does Bible prophecy.

What Is the Solution?

Let’s look at a prophecy that is for this end time. Leviticus 26 is called the blessings and cursings chapter. The blessings would come upon Israel for obedience, cursings for disobedience. Israel today is primarily America and Britain. (You can prove this by reading our free booklet *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*.) “But if ye will not hearken unto me, and will not do all these commandments...I will set my face against you, and ye shall be slain before your enemies: they that hate you shall reign over you; and ye shall flee when none pursueth you” (Lev. 26:14, 17). It’s a dreadful condition to have God “against you.” “And if ye will not yet for all this hearken unto me, then I will punish you seven times more for your sins. And I will break the pride of your power” (vv. 18-19). If we disobey God, He has promised to break the pride of our power. That means we would be a great power in the end time, but our WILL would be broken. That has happened exactly as God prophesied!

And that is exactly the way Alexander Solzhenitsyn and others have described Britain and especially America today.

God often agrees with our foreign policy critics. Our weakness is directly TIED TO THE ALL-POWERFUL GOD! That should cause us to pause and think.

Daniel prophesied that the words of Moses, like the book of Leviticus, were for this end time (Dan. 9:13). Our

broken will is just one of the curses upon us.

Daniel was written for this end time (Dan. 12:4, 9). And he says the book of Leviticus, which Moses wrote, is for the nations of Israel in this end time as well.

Most people don’t even know who the nations of Israel are today. But these prophecies indicate that God’s very elect would know and proclaim to the world who they are. It is a critical job that must be done.

Why don’t we understand God’s truth and prophecies? Daniel says it is because we won’t repent and turn from our sins. God would give us understanding if we would just repent of our sins. God commands us to TURN to His righteousness. We will never understand who we are and what is happening to us until we turn to God. That includes religion also.

The whole world is deceived (Rev. 12:9). Religion most of all!

America and Britain are going to die if they don’t repent! (Ezek. 33:11). History verifies this. That is what Mr. Solzhenitsyn was saying, and God agrees with him!

“Therefore hath the Lord watched upon the evil, and brought it upon us: for the Lord our God is righteous in all his works which he doeth: for we obeyed not his voice” (Dan. 9:14). God is actually bringing all the evils upon us because of our sins. And the Leviticus prophecy says the problems will intensify until we repent or die!

That is what it means when it says God is “against” us!

Ezekiel is also an end-time book addressed to Israel. “Therefore thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I, even I, am AGAINST THEE, and will execute judgments in the midst of thee in the sight of the nations” (Ezek. 5:8). “I, even I” am against you, God says. This repetition is to emphasize the horror of the statement.

Who could be in a more horrifying state?! God is going to punish us in the sight of all nations. If we don’t repent collectively, just sit back and watch it happen very fast.

“And I will do in thee that which I have not done, and whereunto I will not do any more the like, because of all thine abominations” (v. 9). Our punishment is going to be the worst ever inflicted on any nation! (Matt. 24:21-22; Jer. 30:7; Dan. 12:1). It is going to

happen because of all our “abominations.”

Our punishment is going to be the worst ever because our sins are the most abominable in our history!

There is a great cause behind God’s punishment. “Thus shall mine anger be accomplished, and I will cause my fury to rest upon them, and I will be comforted: and THEY SHALL KNOW THAT I THE LORD have spoken it in my zeal, when I have accomplished my fury in them” (v. 13). We are going to get to KNOW GOD. We don’t know Him today because Satan is the god of this world (II Cor. 4:1-4). Mankind worships him, not the true God.

How grotesque can our deception be? Being so deeply deceived shows that we refuse to accept God’s truth. People love living in deceit!

Moral Poverty

Alexander Solzhenitsyn has a strong belief in God. In the Harvard speech, he showed that we are condemned by our own history. “The humanistic way of thinking, which had proclaimed itself our guide, did not admit the existence of INTRINSIC EVIL IN MAN, nor did it see any task higher than the attainment of happiness on earth. It started modern Western civilization on the dangerous trend of WORSHIPING MAN AND HIS MATERIAL NEEDS....

“Thus gaps were left open for evil, and its drafts blow freely today. Mere freedom per se does not in the least solve all the problems of human life and even adds a number of new ones.

“And yet in early democracies, as in American democracy at the time of its birth, all individual human rights were granted on the ground that MAN IS

GOD’S CREATURE. That is, freedom was given to the individual conditionally, IN THE ASSUMPTION OF HIS CONSTANT RELIGIOUS RESPONSIBILITY.... Two hundred or even fifty years ago, it would have seemed quite impossible, in America, that an individual be granted boundless freedom with no purpose, simply for the satisfaction of his whims....

“The West has finally achieved the rights of man, and even excess, BUT MAN’S SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY TO GOD AND SOCIETY HAS GROWN DIMMER AND DIMMER.... All the celebrated technological achievements of progress, including the conquests of outer space, do not redeem the twentieth century’s MORAL POVERTY, which no one could have imagined even as late as the nine-

Today we are lost in the present—rejecting the past and blind to the future!

teenth century.”

What happens when we make a foundational change in our belief about the evil in man? As we put more and more trust in man, we push our responsibility to God aside. THIS IS A FATAL FLAW IN OUR THINKING WHICH DESTROYS NATIONS!

“Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord” (Jer. 17:5). Because we have placed our trust in man, we are under a dreadful curse. The evidence is all around us!

As most child-rearing authorities condemn any spanking of our children, we have seen a series of murders of teens against teens in our schools.

There is evil in those youthful killers, in most cases, that was not dealt with properly in love and discipline—God’s way.

Our families are upside down. “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” (Isa. 3:12). This is an end-time book of prophecy (Isa. 30:8).

Mr. Solzhenitsyn questioned our “MANHOOD.” And he was correct to do so. Women rule our families. Our boys lack strong, masculine role models. Our society is becoming more effeminate and female-dominated.

Young boys become frustrated and sometimes violent without proper family guidance, especially from their fathers. Our forefathers had a much more God-oriented family life; their faith in God was much stronger.

How much more do we have to be cursed before we learn the ugly truth about our families?

Our people care little about the morals of our leaders today. That was not the case even a few years ago. We don’t understand or even care that bad morals destroy families. It is through the family most of all that strong, godly morals should be taught!

Deceived About Human Nature

“The defense of individual rights has reached such extremes as to make society as a whole defenseless against certain individuals,” Solzhenitsyn continued.

“This tilt of freedom toward evil has come about gradually, but it evidently stems from a humanistic and benevolent concept according to which man—the master of the world—DOES NOT BEAR ANY EVIL WITHIN HIMSELF, and all the defects of life are caused by misguided social systems, which must therefore be corrected....

“Voluntary self-restraint is almost unheard of: everybody strives toward further expansion to the extreme limit of the legal frames.”

As he says, we blame the social systems rather than our own evil human nature. (Write for our booklet, Human Nature—What Is It?)

We are talking about THINKING



Abused freedom:

When people pursue happiness as the highest virtue, they end in moral excess, like this hippie love-in.

“EVEN 50 YEARS AGO, IT WOULD HAVE SEEMED QUITE IMPOSSIBLE, IN GRANTED BOUNDLESS FREEDOM WITH NO PURPOSE, SIMPLY FOR THE

THAT MAKES OR DESTROYS INDIVIDUALS AND NATIONS!

Here is why. “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?” (Jer. 17:9). This is the evil in man that Solzhenitsyn discussed. The human mind “is deceitful above ALL things and DESPERATELY wicked.” And yet, in America and Britain, we usually reason that human nature is good. THAT DIABOLICAL PHILOSOPHY IS DESTROYING OUR NATIONS!

Imagine what our evil minds would do with no obligations and no laws in society. As it is, there is usually no teaching of character to control our thinking. We live in a world of fantasy and illusion. As a result, our society is falling apart. The mind of man—human nature—is “DESPERATELY WICKED.” We should be building God’s character by overcoming this mind—not trusting and relying on it! No nation can long endure on such a vile foundation.

Can this Nobel Prize-winner teach us about our own history?

Harvard began as a religious institution. But it certainly isn’t one today! But even if it were, most religions have succumbed to this fatal and false reasoning about human nature also.

TODAY WE ARE LOST IN THE PRESENT—REJECTING THE PAST AND BLIND TO THE FUTURE! We have lost the big overview. Our nations are like the Titanic, speeding into the darkness, as we ignore the warnings from history and prophecy. Unless we heed that message, unparalleled catastrophe is certain!

Solzhenitsyn said in his speech, “It is imperative to reappraise the scale of the usual human values; its present incorrectness is astounding. It is not possible that assessment of the President’s performance should be reduced to THE QUESTION OF HOW MUCH MONEY ONE MAKES....” What a staggering prophecy of today’s news! And remember, this speech was given 20 years ago! Most people don’t care if our leaders have depraved moral problems as long as the economy is good. Polls have demonstrated that again and again. But we fail to understand this dangerous and destructive degeneration.

How much more meaningful

Solzhenitsyn’s words are today! Still, we have not heeded the warning.

The Press

Who has the power to lead us today? Where does the real authority lie? Solzhenitsyn had some strong views on that subject in his speech. “Hastiness and superficiality—these are the psychic diseases of the twentieth century, and more than anywhere else this is manifested in the press. In-depth analysis of a problem is anathema to the press; it is contrary to its nature. THE PRESS MERELY PICKS OUT SENSATIONAL FORMULAS.

“Such as it is, however, THE PRESS HAS BECOME THE GREATEST POWER WITHIN WESTERN COUNTRIES, EXCEEDING THAT OF THE LEGISLATURE, THE EXECUTIVE, AND THE JUDICIARY. Yet one would like to ask: According to what law has it been elected, and to whom is it responsible? In the Communist East, a journalist is frankly appointed as a state official. But who has voted Western journalists into their positions of power, for how long a time, and with what prerogatives?”

If we understood that we are the nations of Israel today, this problem could be better understood. As the Gentiles are prone to be led by a dictator, we naturally degenerate to little or no government.

We are not truly ruled by those people we vote into office. The press has the greatest power. But this is a symptom of a far deeper problem.

Ancient Israel—our forefathers—usually came to this same condition just before they collapsed and were conquered by an enemy.

“In those days there was no king in Israel: every man did that which was right in his own eyes” (Jud. 21:25). The press had the most power then too—not the elected officials. And soon, every person did what “was right in his own eyes.” There was no real leadership. And there is almost none today. It is a terrifying reality!

What is happening today in America and Britain is what happened routinely to our forefathers! We are making the same mistakes they made.

The book of Judges is a part of the former prophets. That means this is prophecy for us today! But we pay little attention to history and even less to Bible prophecy—until it is too late.

Why were our people so offended



Outspoken outcast:

Solzhenitsyn always acted on his religious conviction that he must speak out, as in this 1974 press conference, his first after being exiled from Russia.

by Alexander Solzhenitsyn? Can we afford to so rudely push aside the warning of a man of such deserved stature? A man who was forced to face the ugly reality of his own land?

What Is Freedom?

Here is something else Solzhenitsyn said in that speech at Harvard: "The defense of individual rights has reached such extremes as to make society as a whole defenseless against certain individuals. It is time, in the West, TO DEFEND NOT SO MUCH HUMAN RIGHTS AS HUMAN OBLIGATIONS.

"On the other hand, destructive and irresponsible freedom has been granted boundless space. Society has turned out to have scarce defense against young people, such AS MOTION PICTURES FULL OF PORNOGRAPHY, CRIME, AND HORROR. THIS IS ALL CONSIDERED TO BE PART OF FREEDOM."

Solzhenitsyn says we have lost our balance. We vigorously defend human rights, but neglect human obligations, responsibility and character.

Are we free if we are in bondage to pornography? Or drugs? Or alcohol? Or sleazy, violent, mind-bending television and movies?

Are young people free if they have virtually no restrictions? Is it freedom to drive our cars without any stop signs or signals?

Is it freedom to desert the little children we bring into this world? If we do so, are they not destined to be in BONDAGE to the evils of this world without parental guidance?

These are questions that are not being answered. Our "free" societies are descending into chaos and anarchy—individually and collectively.

THERE IS NO FREEDOM WITHOUT LAW! But whose law? Men have adopted many foolish and dangerous laws. We need a perfect law. And that is exactly what God gave us.

"Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls. But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into THE PERFECT LAW OF

LIBERTY, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed" (James 1:21-25). God gave us ten perfect commandments to make us responsible. We must let the Ten Commandments show us where we are in bondage.

MOST RELIGIONS ARE IN BONDAGE BECAUSE THEY REJECT GOD'S LAW AND CALL IT FREEDOM! Men almost routinely think bondage is freedom—intellectually and spiritually!

"While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is over-

Most religions are in bondage because they reject God's law and call it freedom.

come, of the same is he brought in bondage" (II Pet. 2:19). There are always deceived leaders who want to give us "freedom," but actually bring us into their corruption and bondage. They want us to accept their anti-God ideas and rebellion.

Only the truth is going to set us free (John 8:32). And God's word is truth (John 17:17).

Here is another statement made to the Harvard audience. "After the suffering of decades of violence and oppression, the human soul longs for things higher, warmer and purer than those offered by today's mass living habits, introduced as by a calling card by the revolting invasion of commercial advertising, by TV STUPOR, AND BY INTOLERABLE MUSIC.

"ALL THIS IS VISIBLE TO NUMEROUS OBSERVERS FROM ALL THE WORLDS OF OUR PLANET. The Western way of life is less and less likely to become the leading model." That is a remarkable statement. So few people realize that ancient Israel—the nation of our heritage—was chosen by God to be a model nation for the rest of the world. Israel was not a favorite people; they were chosen to be an example nation to show how wonderfully God would bless an obedient nation. But Israel always rebelled against the greatest calling any nation ever had.

Our failure today is far more horrendous. Solzhenitsyn and many others around the world abhor our example! And they should. It seems that everybody sees it but our own people!

Is it any wonder that Solzhenitsyn would be looking around for a model nation after nearly 100 million of his own people died in 36 years?

Mankind should have learned from such murderous examples that we are incapable of ruling ourselves.

Now, with our nuclear weapons, we are about to face the worst disaster in man's history—World War III with nuclear weapons. This is the pinnacle of mankind's achievement!

When that happens, man will finally begin to learn that only God can rule over him.

Solzhenitsyn continued, "THERE ARE TELLTALE SYMPTOMS BY WHICH HISTORY GIVES WARNING TO A THREATENED OR PERISHING SOCIETY. Such are, for instance, a decline of the arts or a lack of great statesmen. Indeed, sometimes the warnings are quite explicit and concrete. The center of your democracy and of your culture is left without electric power for a few hours only, and all of a sudden crowds of American citizens start looting and creating havoc. The smooth surface film must be very thin, then, THE SOCIAL SYSTEM QUITE UNSTABLE AND UNHEALTHY."

This is all done under the guise of freedom. It is a deadly deception and we should know better. Unrestrained "freedom" is the most grotesque kind of bondage. Is a heroin addict free? Most of those leaders promising liberty are spiritually corrupt.

Are we a "perishing society"? The answer is a thunderous yes!

It's time to wake up!

How could Alexander Solzhenitsyn be so right about the Communist system and so wrong about the Western system—as most Westerners reason? Are we so sure we're right that we won't even listen to objective criticism? Why would Solzhenitsyn even give such a speech? All it got him was ridicule and scorn. Isn't it possible he wanted to help us save our nations from disaster?

He has suffered as few have in this modern world. And he learned some profound lessons in the process.

If we fail to listen to the warnings—especially God's—then God is left with one only option.

All of those nuclear bombs would remain unexploded if mankind would listen to God's words today. If they fail to listen, God is going to get their attention the only way He can! ♦

Seeing the Sea Change

This year's American foreign-policy failures are there for all to see—and they highlight the shifting tides of global power.

By JOSEPH DE COURCY

The United States has had a bad run with its foreign policy since it failed to gather international support at the turn of the year for a military attack on Iraq. Although the U.S. has never achieved total omnipotence, even in the immediate aftermath of the collapse of the Soviet Union, it is beginning to look as if this bad run in American foreign policy might be more than just bad luck. It might represent the beginning of a sea change in world affairs as more and more medium-sized powers realize that challenging U.S. policy is not always as painful as might have been supposed.

In recent months, in addition to the Iraq debacle, Washington has suffered at least five major setbacks in its foreign policy. They are:

1. The failure to stop India carrying out five nuclear tests. Almost nothing in U.S. foreign policy ranks as high as the struggle to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction—and India was at the top of the U.S.'s watch list of nuclear-threshold states. Yet still New Delhi felt able to conduct five nuclear tests after a 24-year gap.

It is possible, though unlikely, that punitive U.S.-orchestrated sanctions imposed after the event will make India come to regret its action. But the key point is that New Delhi was not sufficiently worried before the event about upsetting America to stop it conducting the tests.

Independent thinker: India's Vajpayee ignored U.S. pressure and won the praise of his people.



2. The effective collapse of the sanctions regime against Iran. The U.S. announcement on May 18 that it was exempting French, Russian, and Malaysian firms from the sanctions required by U.S. law under the terms of the Iran-Libya Sanctions Act (ILSA) was a major defeat for U.S. foreign policy.

ILSA requires sanctions to be imposed on foreign companies investing more than \$20 million a year in the oil and gas sectors of Iran or Libya; and the decision to waive sanctions against a French-led consortium participating in a \$2 billion deal to develop Iran's offshore South Pars gas field marks the end of ILSA. The dam has burst under the pressure of European Union (EU) and private-sector lobbying and cannot now be repaired.

The defeat for the U.S. over the South Pars investment is a particular blow because it is bound to undermine U.S. efforts to prevent Iran becoming a major transit route for Caspian-Sea and Central-Asian oil and gas.

3. The stalemate in the Middle East peace process. America's investment of political capital in the Middle East peace process is huge, probably unprecedented, yet it is proving incapable of shifting the process forward in the face of the resolute stonewalling on the scale of further West Bank withdrawals by Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

The fact that Washington is unable to force Israel into accepting its peace blueprint for the Middle East is another indication of the limits of American power.

4. The failure to defuse the crisis over the proposed delivery of Russian S-300 missiles to Cyprus. The proposed delivery of Russian air-defense missiles to Cyprus is one of the major preoccupations of U.S. foreign policy.

Turkey has said it will take military action to stop the deployment of the S-300 missiles in Cyprus, even at the risk of war with Russia. Greece, for its part, has said that any such action by Turkey would be a cause for war between the two NATO members. That alone is bad enough, but factor in the possibility that Syria could take a Turkish military entanglement over Cyprus as an



unmissable opportunity to attack Israel, and it can be seen why the U.S. has expended such energy on trying to persuade Russia not to deliver the missiles, Cyprus not to deploy them, and/or Turkey to take a relaxed attitude to their deployment.

But so far all to no avail; and the missiles are still scheduled for delivery in August.

5. The failure to prevent Russian nuclear collaboration with Iran. One of the U.S.'s greatest fears is the prospect of a nuclear-armed Iran. Consequently, Washington has applied immense pressure on Moscow not to help Iran build a nuclear power plant at Bushehr. But Russia, despite its parlous economic condition, has shrugged off the U.S. pressure. On May 18 Russia and Iran even announced that they are stepping up their nuclear cooperation and that the two countries were considering extending their nuclear cooperation to include the acquisition of a Russian research reactor that would help to improve Iran's nuclear know-how and train staff.

A Sign of the Times

Taken all together, the above catalog of U.S. foreign-policy failures begins to look like more than just a string of mishaps and more like a definite trend away from a world in which the U.S. can more or less always get more or less what it wants. If so, this is not surprising. All of France, Russia, China and India, to name just four major powers, are intent on engineering a shift from a world order dominated by a single superpower to what they call a "multipolar" world. On recent evidence, it looks like they are beginning to get what they want. ♦

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So long, farewell: Last November, Britannia entered Portsmouth for the last time, after 43 years as a Royal Naval vessel. This year she was hauled away by a German tug.

Britain: A Cake Unturned

BY GARETH FRASER

“**F**lagless, powerless and an empty shell, the former Royal Yacht Britannia left its Portsmouth berth for the last time, towed from the home of the Royal Navy by a German tug,” wrote *The Weekly Telegraph*, May 5. “Its bad enough that we’re losing Britannia and everything British she stood for, but to have her towed out by a German tug is the final straw. For those of us who went through the last war, it’s an insult. You’d have thought they could have found a British tug,” said Jack Fisher, a WWII war veteran.

In like manner, Germany—Europe’s tugboat of big business—is leading the fleet as it strips the British establishment of businesses that have stood as household names and docks them in its own financial harbor, Frankfurt—home of the European central bank.

Hong Kong, the world’s third-largest financial district, lies in the hands of communist China. *The Times* is in Australian-American possession, while *The Sunday Telegraph* is owned by a Canadian company. The exclusive Harrod’s department store is now Egypt’s pride; Christie’s auction house has been lost to the French; the execu-

tive auto company Rover slipped to BMW; and, after almost 100 years of production, mother England’s prized possession, luxury car manufacturer Rolls Royce, has been gobbled up by Germany’s Volkswagen.

Previous administrators of such national treasures would have gasped, wagging their heads in disapproval, refusing to oversee the sale of such icons of the empire. It is with the surge to power of liberal socialist Tony Blair’s Clintonesque administration that events in Britain have gone from bad to worse.

Amidst all this high-powered, “red light special” shopping, the British public watches impassively as their national heritage sails out of its native docks. Margaret Thatcher, the respected Iron Lady, would have deemed such deals and morbid public opinion as inconceivable and unacceptable!

Anciently, the prophet Hosea foretold the shocking events of today, declaring, “Ephraim [or Britain] also is like a silly dove without heart: they call to Egypt, they go to Assyria” (Hos. 7:11).

At its height, the British Empire enveloped the globe. It encompassed 11 million square miles, occupying almost 20 percent of the world’s landmass. She governed 400 million people, 25 percent of the earth’s population at the time. She controlled all major sea ports of the world, directing global trade with London, the bustling metropolis that stood as the crossroad of the financial and business world.

Today’s “empire” covers a mere 100,000 square miles, with only 14 dependent territories governing a total of 60 million people. Britain in the 1990s lies almost powerless, lacking the will to rule, a mere empty shell of its former glory days.

Recently, at an address in Oklahoma City, former Prime Minister John Major diagnosed Britain with a clean financial bill of health. “Britain is booming,” he said.

Conversely, in his warning to Britain, anciently known as Ephraim, Hosea depicted Ephraim as a “cake unturned” (Hos. 7:8). Informed world watchers know that Britannia’s outward appearance may look like a sumptuous cake just out of the oven; however, its inner core has fallen apart, and with pressure applied to the outside of the cake, it will collapse into crumble pie.

As its industrial and corporate treasures sail into foreign ports, Britain continues to reject its regal heritage,

Britain’s outward appearance may look sumptuous, but its core has fallen apart, susceptible to collapse under pressure.

founded by the patriarch Joseph, consolidated in the royal line of the house of David. As prophesied by Daniel, modern Britain is depicted as a largely godless society. “All this evil is come upon us: yet made we not our prayer before the Lord our God, that we might turn from our iniquities, and understand thy truth” (Dan. 8:13).

It is only when Britain turns to the God who blessed it so greatly for the faith of its forefather Abraham that its treasures will return to its homeland. Today Britain has fallen from the heights of rulership of the greatest empire in man’s history to an aged former colonial power, literally embarrassed by its empirical history and royal heritage. Britain has indeed become a cake unturned. ♦

Liberals across the world hail it as a triumph for peace; conservatives condemn it as a diabolical deal. What will be the final outcome of the Irish peace accord?

TERROR TRIUMPHANT!

BY RON FRASER

On Good Friday, April 10, 1998, a three-way handshake cemented a historic agreement between the British and Irish governments, through American mediation. British Prime Minister Tony Blair, the Irish Taoiseach (Prime Minister) Bertie Ahern and U.S. negotiator Senator George Mitchell ended a marathon 34-hour negotiation session on the the Belfast Peace Accord, concerning the future government of Northern Ireland. The result: a consensus between the principal protagonists, Catholic Sinn Fein (the political wing of the terrorist Irish Republican Army) and the Protestant Ulster Unionists. Only 11 days later, a Roman Catholic Council worker was murdered by a lone gunman on a civil refuse dump in Portadown, County Armagh.

On May 22, voters in both the British province of Northern Ireland and the Southern Republic of Ireland, in separate referendums, cast their votes in overwhelming favor of the Belfast Peace Accord. Security police detained two southerners on their way to vote, finding bomb-making materials in both of their vehicles. Three days later, a bomb left at a suburban Belfast rail station exploded as British army personnel attempted to defuse it. Later the same day, authorities stopped Belfast-to-Dublin trains due to the discovery of another bomb near Lurgan, a Catholic quarter 30 miles southwest of Belfast. Barely a week later, in Portadown, Northern Ireland, Catholic protesters and Protestant marchers clashed in the worst scene of violence since the peace agreement reached on April 10.

The peace agreement has been signed by the British and Irish governments as well as eight political parties in Ireland. The Irish people voted their

endorsement in the May 22 referendums. But no one has yet handed in their guns, bombs, rockets or other offensive weaponry!

The Peace Agreement

The Belfast Peace Accord allows for Northern Ireland, which has been ruled directly by the British govern-



The sham: Ahern, Mitchell and Blair cement the Belfast Peace Accord after 22 months of negotiation.

ment since 1972, to have its own 108-member elected assembly. A cabinet of 12 members from several parties will preside over the assembly. Under this arrangement, Northern Ireland remains part of the United Kingdom for the time being.

The validity of the peace agreement was dependent on the southern Republic of Ireland, in their May referendum, voting to support the amendment to two crucial clauses of their constitution. The amendment affirmed that Ireland has no desire for Irish union without the consent of a majority within Northern Ireland.

A contentious clause within the agreement allows for prisoners convicted of terrorist crimes to be freed within two years, providing the groups which they represent continue to observe

cease-fires. The overwhelmingly successful vote in the Irish Republic also involved approval of the Amsterdam Treaty on European Union. This now gives the EU fresh authority over immigration and border security and provides for more decisions affecting the Republic to be taken by a majority of countries rather than unanimous votes.

Legitimizing Terrorism

The sham of this “peace agreement,” brokered via almost 22 months of talks between the British and Irish governments and led by President Clinton’s hand-picked negotiator, George Mitchell, seems to be largely unperceived by the majority of Irish peoples, political commentators and the media. At its best, it is a most shameful capitulation to the forces of terrorism. At its worst, it contains the sinister seeds of destruction of the very peace that it is touted to produce.

At a meeting of Catholics and Protestants prior to the May referendum in Dungannon, Northern Ireland, Anne Slaine—mother, Protestant, British—poignantly explained what it was that motivated her thoughts on the eve of the vote. “I... would like to think I could live as an equal to my Catholic neighbor and live in peace and concord and happiness with them all. I, however, am the mother of a young man who was literally cut in two by a rocket... He is a victim and has to live with that the rest of his life” (International Herald Tribune, May 21).

Over 3,200 bodies lie interred in Ireland’s soil, victims of the horrifyingly barbarous acts of terrorism perpetrated over the past 30 years of violence in Ireland’s politico-religious civil war—but no one has given up their guns. A peace agreement has been concluded. Two referendums have overwhelmingly endorsed it. The crucial election of a newly appointed assembly to govern Ulster was on June 26. YET NO ONE HAS GIVEN UP THEIR GUNS! Ireland remains an armed camp!

In the assessment of arms experts, the Catholic IRA retains up to three tons of semtex explosives, perhaps three ground-to-air missiles and hundreds of AK-47 assault rifles, in

Bitter Division

The Republic of Ireland is predominantly Catholic. Northern Ireland, which is part of the United Kingdom, has a Protestant majority. The Catholic majority in the south, for the most part, strongly favors an independent, united Ireland. The Protestants in the north, for the most part, are pro-British. They are afraid that Irish unification might bring with it Catholic dominance.

The two terrorist armies caught in this religious conflict are the Catholic Irish Republican Army (IRA), which is against British occupation and the Northern Ireland government, and the Protestant Ulster Defense paramilitaries, which are anti-Catholic. Both sides reached a “peace” agreement in May, and yet no terrorist weapons were turned over, and a handful of terrorists were released from prison. Not exactly a recipe for peaceful relations.



addition to a range of other guns.

The Protestant Ulster Defense Association has, at a minimum, 200 rifles or machine pistols, at least 200 more handguns and an untallied amount of explosive compounds. Additionally, the Ulster Volunteer Force apparently has a similar cache of weaponry at its disposal. Call them all paramilitaries, call them all guerrillas; the plain fact is that those for whom these murderous weapons are stockpiled are plain and simple terrorists—and their ranks are being strengthened by weak-willed politicians who are releasing from prison some of the worst offenders!

Most crucial to the Belfast peace deal was agreement, by all parties, to the staged release, over the next two years, of paramilitary prisoners—many of whom are guilty of the most heinous and horrific crimes.

Remember South Africa? One of Nelson Mandela's first acts when he came to office was to release a pile of murderers, rapists and thieves from jail. In the interests of peace! The result? South Africa leads the world in murder, rape and robbery! A rank terrorist now heads its National Defense Force!

South Africa is increasingly becoming the puppet of its former terrorist bankers and mentors, and is bowing to their whims in its foreign policy.

The former British Secretary for Northern Ireland, Mo Mowlem, roundly condemned the murder of Catholic Adrian Lamph by a lone gunman in Portadown. Yet she applauded the temporary release of the Catholic Balcombe Street Gang which terrorized London in the 1970s. With combined jail sentences totalling over 2,000 years, these masters of murder were responsible for some 50 bombings and shootings, killing at least 16 people in their reign of terror in the early- to mid-1970s. Unbelievably, the Blair government approved their temporary release to bolster publicity for the “Yes” vote in the May referendum. As the terrorist gang entered a Sinn Fein meeting, convened on May 10 to railroad a “Yes” vote out of Sinn Fein/IRA delegates, the meeting hall erupted in a deafening ovation. Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams hugged the terrorist gang in tearful embrace.

Lord Tebbit, whose wife fell as a

paralyzed victim of the IRA bomb that blasted their apartment at a Conservative Party Conference during Mrs. Thatcher's prime-ministership, took a more sour view of all this. “They have committed violence to the whole concept of justice,” he stated. “I cannot recall a precedent for convicted violent criminals to be released for a Government political campaign. Will they release loyalist terrorists to campaign for a ‘no’ vote?” (The Times, May 11).

Meanwhile, as paramilitaries are released, two Scots guardsmen, condemned to jail for their on-duty shooting of a fleeing youth in Belfast in 1992, had their application for a review of their sentence turned down by Mo Mowlem.

To Lord Tebbit, the message to the community at large is very clear—terrorist criminals, “paramilitaries,” are to be treated differently from other criminals! Norman Tebbit's view of the Irish situation is most incisive: “The people of Northern Ireland will soon be asked for their consent to this step towards their annexation by the Republic [the

A peace agreement has been concluded.



The politician: Sinn Féin leader Gerry Adams is pushing for the release of former terrorists from prison.

South]. It will be sought while the IRA is holding a gun to the head of every voter" (The Week, May 9).

When Royal Ulster Constabulary officer Gordon Taylor heckled Northern Ireland Secretary Mo Mowlem as she addressed the Northern Ireland Police Federation, Ms. Mowlem blatantly admitted to IRA blackmail in the peace deal. Fearing the prospect of some 400 paramilitary prisoners being released over the next two years, Taylor pointed to the fact that 300 police officers have been murdered in Northern Ireland. Ms. Mowlem's retort was to the effect that the peace deal could not possibly have been struck without an agreement with Sinn Féin to release terrorist prisoners.

The intransigence of Sinn Féin/IRA on the decommissioning of weapons was summed up by Sinn Féin councilor Francie Molloy, who stated, "The IRA haven't been defeated, and unless you have the defeat of one organization over the other, then you don't have a surrender of weapons."

Connor Cruise O'Brien, pro-chancellor of the University of Dublin, has highlighted the offensive of the provisional IRA as "a major convergence of religion and nationalism: a Catholic and nationalist offensive, not only (as claimed) against a British occupation but against the Protestant and Unionist

population of Northern Ireland: a kind of Holy War" (Ancestral Voices, p. 4). O'Brien's view of the current situation in Ireland is summed up in his observation on the reality behind the euphoria: "So Sinn Féin/IRA has every reason, for the moment, to continue to operate a 'peace process' which is, from its point of view, a fertile and rewarding field for further blackmail" (The Times, April 13).

Populate—or Perish!

It is simply the political leverage which the IRA has employed, based on a continuance of paramilitary threats, combined with one other inevitable trend, that will win the day for Sinn Féin/IRA and their supporters on the ultimate partition of Northern Ireland from the rest of the United Kingdom. That other inevitable trend has to do with the population mix of Northern Ireland. It was Yasser Arafat, the "Palestinian Gerry Adams," who threatened the Israelis with the declaration, "We will populate you out of existence!" He called upon the Palestinians to produce 12 children per family for the Palestinian cause!

Why has the Republic of Ireland so overwhelmingly voted in support of an amendment which affirms that Ireland has no wish for union with the North without the consent of a Northern Ireland majority? Does this not cut across traditional desires of the Catholic South and Sinn Féin/IRA for the total union of Ireland?

No! In fact it is a careful ploy to lull the Protestant north into signing the agreement. The plain fact is that, given a few years, the Protestant majority in Ulster will be overwhelmed by the much more rapidly reproducing Catholic minority. It is simply a matter of time. The Catholic nationalists will simply populate the Ulster Irish out of existence as a province separate from the rest of Ireland!

The EU Card

There is another quiet player in the Irish situation—the European Union, of which Ireland is a member. No other nation (other than, perhaps, the Netherlands) has benefitted economically from EU membership over the past decade as much as Ireland. Her economy is booming! Growth of 8 per-

cent and more over recent years has powered average incomes in the South above those of the North. Indeed, for the first time in the Republic's history, average incomes in Ireland have exceeded those in the rest of Britain.

EU-energized foreign investment has pushed the Republic of Ireland out of its previously poor, agriculturally dependent economy into the high-tech zone. Ulster-based businesses have been taking advantage of the uncertain lull of the IRA pseudo cease-fire to build bridges into Southern business. Trade between the North and South has leapt by 55 percent since 1993. There is little doubt that this influenced business in the North to vote "Yes" in the Ulster referendum.

Over the past five years, the EU has sunk over 400 million British pounds into the Republic of Ireland. The EU has simply and subtly bought its way into the peace process in Ireland by demanding that the receipt of much of this money be conditional upon the creation of partnerships between North and South. As the Irish Times reported, "By making much of the money conditional on the creation of cross-community partnerships and by pumping cash into the non-governmental sector, the EU hoped to foster a climate which would support a political process conducted at another level.... In the local partnership boards and the regional structures set up to monitor the funds, Sinn Féin and Democratic Unionist local representatives worked together, many meeting for the first time.... And they made no bones about their willingness to stand over funding of potentially controversial projects like those involved in the rehabilitation of former political prisoners" (Irish Times, April 13, emphasis mine).

Ireland's "European" Future

Following the vote overwhelmingly in favor of the Irish peace agreement on May 22, the Pope expressed his personal reaction: "I rejoice over the will for peace and reconciliation that emerged yesterday from the popular referendum." This political pope, Pope John Paul II, has reason to rejoice, in his terms. For centuries, the Vatican has looked upon Britain as "Mary's Dowry." She has desired the
(continued on page 24)

Yet no one has given up their guns. Ireland remains an armed camp.

◆ BALKANS

Flare-up in Kosovo

Six months of tension between ethnic Albanians in Kosovo and the Serbian majority in President Milosevic's rump Yugoslavian state flared into full-blown conflict in June. Given that the Kosovo population is 90 percent Albanian, and surrounded as it is by a Serbian Yugoslav majority, the region was bound to boil over as nationalistic and religious roots reassert themselves to further the break-up of the Yugoslav configuration which existed prior to the collapse of the Soviet Union.

During the civil strife that existed in the wake of the pyramid schemes fiasco in



Kosovo exodus

AP/Wideworld

Albania last year, multiple tons of armaments were looted by Albanian civilians from huge government caches scattered throughout the country. Concerned for their security, given Milosevic's penchant for "ethnic cleansing," Kosovian separatist guerrillas sought to establish a corridor to Albania to facilitate their supply of arms

from the plundered government stocks in Albania. President Milosevic cracked down hard to snap off this arms trail and quickly bring retribution on the offending Albanians. Mountain villages were torched and hundreds of civilians killed in the aftermath.

As we go to press, the number of Kosovian refugees fleeing to Albania grows towards 70,000. Serb security forces step up their clamp down on the separatist Kosovo Liberation Army. Unlike the Bosnian situation, which involved conflict between separate nations, the Kosovo situation involves ethnic differences within a single nation-state. Russia decries the use of outside interference in what is technically a Yugoslav civil problem. NATO, on the

other hand, has demonstrated a show of force. Recent history has showed that Milosevic will not react to just a show of strength. The actual use and application of aggressive military strength alone will gain his respect and submission to international demands for a peaceful resolution to this crisis.

In the meantime, President Kohl of Germany has offered to mediate. The Germans have strong historical ties with the Albanians. They also own Albania's largest industry, their chromite mines, owned by the giant Preussag corporation.

Watch for German initiatives to take advantage of this situation to further her continual, careful extension of eastward hegemony in the Balkans. ◆

◆ AFRICA

Trouble in the horn

Following seven years of peaceful co-existence, former comrades-in-arms Ethiopia and Eritrea had a falling out this past June. Located in the Horn of Africa, both countries fought side by side for 30 years to overthrow the dictatorship of Marxist president Mengistu Haile Mariam. Successful in this conflict, the Eritreans established a provisional government in 1991, gaining ultimate independence from Ethiopia in May, 1993.

On the surface, this is a border dispute. The present border is sited along lines initially drawn up during the period of Italian occupation, 1885 to 1941. One thorny issue is that the division of Eritrea from Ethiopia gave Eritrea control of Ethiopia's former major Red Sea port of Assab. Eritrea's introduction of its own currency also sticks in the craw of Ethiopia,

as it has damaged cross-border trade. In June, each side mounted air strikes against the other, resulting in multiple civilian injuries and deaths.

As troops continued to build up on both sides, the U.S. and Italian governments tried to bring the leaders of both countries together to find a peaceful solution. African leaders also attempted to mediate in the struggle.

As with all African conflicts, ethnic differences come to the fore. The Eritreans are a separate and distinct race from the Tigrayan Ethiopians, which are the dominant ethnic group in Ethiopia. Despite their cooperation in combining to successfully defeat Mengistu, the two national groups are historic rivals. Meles Zemawi, a Tigrayan, is president of Ethiopia. Isamas Afewerki, an ethnic Eritrean, presides

over Eritrea.

The Horn of Africa is awash with military hardware supplied by the former Soviet Union. The potential for escalating, serious conflict is potent. Although Ethiopia's population of 60 million vastly outnumbers Eritrea's 15 million, the Eritreans are hardened fighters, the result of decades of guerrilla resistance to the Mengistu regime.

The U.S., as prime mediator in this conflict, is faced with a quandary. It officially supports both countries as part of its ongoing policy to isolate the Islamic government in Sudan. At issue is not just 155 square miles of border land to which both Ethiopia and Eritrea lay claim. With Sudan laying weakened by an ongoing civil/religious war and rampant famine, the U.S. would like to apply maximum pressure to oust Dr. Turabi. The "mad, evil genius" leader of the National Islamic Front seized power in Sudan eight years ago. His expansionist



rhetoric is an obvious cause for concern in Washington.

Will the U.S. be drawn into another Rwanda-type fiasco, or another Somalia-type debacle in the strategic Horn of Africa? Will the Italians, already instrumental in diplomatic efforts to end the Ethiopian/Eritrean conflict, invoke support from the European Union as the EU strives to develop the image of peacemaker beyond the bounds of the European continent? Watch for more

◆ SOUTH AFRICA

Ex-terrorist leads RSA Defense Force

South Africa continues to thumb its nose at the civilized world. On June 1, President Mandela formalized the appointment of the country's new chief of the National Defense Force. In a move as paradoxical as the appointment of former-terrorist Mandela to the chief executive office of this once great country, the President has appointed ex-terrorist chief of staff of Umkhonto we Sizwe (the military wing of the African National Congress), Lieutenant-General Siphwe Nyanda, to the rainbow republic's top military post. This latest appointment within the four year old ANC/SACP majority government in South Africa is a stab in the heart for the countless widows and orphans of a multitude of Zulu Inkatha Freedom Party members slaughtered under Nyanda's command in his former terrorist role. South African whites view this most recent political appointment with a deepening sense of foreboding in relation to any prospect of national reconciliation between the country's black, white and colored populace. With every such appointment by the Mandela government, the inevitable isolation of South Africa's white minority becomes more of a prospect. ◆

◆ EDUCATION

A case for home schooling

Not long ago, Americans home schooling their children were viewed by most as outcasts or religious fanatics. But times are changing. A Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup poll has monitored public opinion on education for many years now. In 1985, when they asked pollsters about home schooling, only 16 percent approved of it. Today, that figure has jumped to 36 percent.

Home schooling is growing at a rate of 15 percent per year. It has more than tripled since the beginning of the 1990s. More than 1.2 million American children are now

taught at home.

There are two main reasons for the rising popularity of home schooling. First, many religious families deliberately withdraw their children from a system they consider to be grossly immoral. These are the families popular culture labels "religious fanatics." But these days, even mainstream America realizes the moral standard at public schools is far worse than even 15 or 20 years ago. As schools lose control of their kids, some parents opt for a more controlled educational atmosphere—at home.

The second reason for home schooling's rise is that in many communities, public education is just plain bad. According to the Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA), kids taught at home outperform their public schoolmates by 30 percent! And, they claim, the longer kids stay at home, the wider that percentage gap grows. Those who doubt HSLDA's figures ought to look at other studies which show how American kids are consistently outperformed by kids from other industrialized nations.

There are still those who disapprove of, and even criticize, home schooling. But what the latest statistics reveal is that there is a growing number who disapprove of, and even criticize, the epidemic of violence and sexual immorality spiraling out of control in our schools. This growing number disapproves of the quality of education in public schools. It is the voice of this increasing number we should worry about most if we want what's best for our children. ◆

◆ MEDITERRANEAN

Cyprus tension mounts

With Russia's delivery of S-300 missiles to Cyprus only a few months away, western intelligence services claim that, apart from concern that this will prove a catalyst for war between the Greek Cypriots and Turkey, the missiles come complete with a highly sophisticated radar system. western sources imply that the system could allow not only the Turks, but even more worrying, the Russian suppliers of the equipment, to spy on U.S. and UK Air Force movements in the highly sensitive Gulf region.

With peace talks between the northern Turks and the southern Greek Cypriots stalemated for months, the countdown to the arrival of the missiles ticks away and the tension builds in this strategic Mediterranean outpost.

Germany's foreign minis-



Klaus Kinkel

ter, Klaus Kinkel, recently sought to diffuse the situation by representations to Turkish leaders.

Watch for more overt diplomacy from the European Union, which can ill afford ructions between its member nation, Greece, and a Turkish nation already aggrieved by Helmut Kohl's rash rejection of their candidacy for EU membership. ◆



aggressive politics to be brought into play in efforts to influence the outcome of this conflict. The last thing the oil-dependent economies of the EU will want to see is the west bank of the Red Sea fall into insecure hands, particularly Islamic hands. Asseb, the strategic sea gate at the junction between the Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea, is a rich prize which opposing forces will find hard to pry from the hands of tough little Eritrea. ◆

What You Don't Get



on
Broadcast
News!

Do you grasp the meaning behind today's headlines? Editors, newscasters, journalists, reporters, and foreign correspondents admit they do not understand the meaning behind the news they report. But you can know! Here is how.

BY DENNIS LEAP

NOW...THE NEWS! Seven decades ago these words made people perk up and listen. Hearing a news program over radio was quite the new thing in the 1920s. But today, advanced technology and mass media delivers an excess volume of news to us, from anywhere on the globe, minute-by-minute—24 hours each day.

News today is not just a global thing. We are even able to receive news

broadcasts from outer space. I was spellbound by the July 21, 1969, TV news broadcast of

Neil Armstrong's lunar step and now-famous words, "That's one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind."

But we must ask some important questions about the NEWS. Is all the news we can hear or watch worthwhile? Is it true? Is it meaningful? Does the news inform us what we need to know about our world, our leaders, our governments, our cultures?

Recent nuclear explosion tests in

"In pursuit of which inevitably has

India and Pakistan show us how menacing and life threatening our world truly is. Yet, on our nightly news we are more likely to be given only an upbeat conclusion for these events.

Are you shocked by these events? You should be!

Nearly one year ago, I heard ex-president George Bush optimistically tell an audience of businessmen, business students, state and local officials that we no longer need to fear nuclear weapons. This statement and other statements made by Mr. Bush were big local news. Unfortunately, our local news misled us. Events in India and Pakistan show us that we still need to fear a nuclear holocaust!

Those of us who write for *The Trumpet* do not desire to be negative or pessimistic. But we do want to help you boldly face some of the stark realities of our world. We live in a very dangerous time. Current events are hurtling our world into a catastrophic, cataclysmic confrontation between nations. Yet practically everyone seems to be considerably confused about how all of these current events add up. Why? We all must face the fact that our nightly, hour-by-hour, minute-by-minute news is failing us miserably! Today's newscasters and news programs cannot explain the importance or meaning behind current events. You need to know why this problem exists and what to do about it.

Invented for Entertainment

So where is the Achilles heel in our modern news? To answer this question we must first learn some of the history behind radio and its later cousin, television.

Some historians trace the roots of radio and television all the way back to the 1752 experiments of Benjamin Franklin. Known as the grandfather of American journalism, Mr. Franklin was also a great inventor. When he flew his kite in a thunderstorm, he actually founded the study of atmospheric electricity. But it wasn't until 1837, with Morse's invention of the telegraph, that electricity and electrical instruments would be used for communication over long distance. Morse's dots and dashes, though crude by today's standards,

higher ratings, some programmers have taken television news, show business aspects, and made it show business, pure and simple.”

represented a great step forward in the electronic transmission of communication.

Alexander Graham Bell's invention of the telephone in 1876 added the potential for voice and other sounds to be transmitted over telegraph lines. Thomas Edison contributed to the development of electronic communication when he discovered that sparks jumping between two electrodes tended to spread out in all directions. This fact led to the eventual discovery of radio waves. Not long after Edison's discovery, a German scientist, Heinrich Hertz, discovered that electromagnetic waves contained various frequencies. However, he never saw the communication potential behind this discovery. These electromagnetic waves would later be called radio waves.

It was Marconi who finally began to pull it all together when he invented the wireless telegraph. He is also credited with producing the first electronic newscast. Edward Bliss, Jr., writer-producer for Edward R. Murrow, writes, "In 1898, through facilities provided by Marconi's newly founded wireless company, the Dublin Daily Express received minute-by-minute coverage of the Kingstown Regatta. This was wireless telegraphy—no sportscaster's voice was heard—and the audience was minuscule. But it was news, and it was heard over the air. Because of this success, the New York Herald the next year commissioned Marconi to provide wireless coverage of the America's Cup races.... With these two yachting events at the close of the nineteenth century, news and radio were joined. Broadcast journalism, in dots and dashes, was born" (Edward Bliss, Jr., *Now the News: The Story of Broadcast Journalism*, 1991, p. 2). Herein lies the weakness of our modern broadcasting systems. Too much of it focuses on frivolous fluff such as the entertainment and sports world. Our most popular TV shows today are the gossipy, seedy talk shows. And we must recognize this: So "the news" doesn't become "the snooze," writers, news directors and journalists sensationalize most of our news. Modern news is big entertainment!

We must discern this all-important

truth. Radio and TV were developed primarily to deliver entertainment and make money. Granted, although much of our modern communication technology was developed for maritime industry and the military, it was our society's craving for entertainment that popularized the media. Historians agree that radio and TV providing hard, factual news was only an afterthought.

Radio Changed Society

Reginald Fessenden is credited with transmitting the first voice over radio waves in Pittsburgh, Pa., in 1901. But it wasn't until 1921 that the first marketable radio was sold by Westinghouse. The development of the radio then grew rapidly. Once radio came on the scene, our society was permanently changed. Radio opened the door not only to mass communication, but mass influence and mass social change.

From the early 1920s, radio held its grip on the world until the substantive development of television in the mid-'40s. Color television made its debut on CBS on June 25, 1951. What most do not recognize is that our major television networks of today—ABC, NBC, and CBS—all began in radio. Many in the radio industry never believed that TV would really catch hold. But quick advancements in technology ensured TV's immense acceptance and predominance. Few in this world could now imagine life without TV.

High Dollar Show Business

But why did radio and television see such rapid development? Their captains of industry saw the big dollars associated with the medium. Radio and TV have made some people very rich. A radio or TV in every home opened incredible markets to sell, sell, sell. The advertising and sponsorship dollars associated with radio decades ago were astounding. But the advertising dollars associated with TV today are astronomical. During the 1998 Super Bowl, advertisers paid, on average, \$1.3 million dollars per commercial. So what does all this mean for the news?

Advertising and sponsorship dollars drive programming. Only the best-rated programs will bring in the high

dollars. So writers, producers and program managers work hard for ratings. News broadcasts are no exception. Broadcast journalists drive themselves for the best ratings. Writing about TV ratings, Edward Bliss points out, "Broadcasters charge advertisers according to the size and composition of audience. Since ratings measure audience, and audience determines revenue, commercial broadcasters, not surprisingly, pay the ratings charts close attention. For a network program, each rating point, small as it may appear, represents 931,000 households. Since advertisers buying 30 seconds of prime time in 1988 might pay \$84,000 for each thousand of these households, obviously revenue in the millions of dollars is involved...."

"In pursuit of higher ratings, some programmers have taken television news, which inevitably has show business aspects, and made it show business, pure and simple. Abetted by consultants, who are paid to improve ratings, they offer what entertains and excites, rather than what viewers need to know..." (ibid., pp. 267-268). Think seriously about this quote. Do you understand it in all of its significance? Ratings often decide the content of news broadcasts! Surely this fact would raise reasonable doubts in your mind about your news. The above quote shows us that we may never hear about a news item that could cause ratings to fall. Well, what if we really needed to know about that news item?

When you watch your nightly news, you must be able to decipher between what is valuable news and what is entertainment for ratings. You must also recognize that your nightly news may never deliver the cold, hard facts that could directly affect your life.

Palatable Packaged News

I don't wish to paint too extreme of a picture here. There are some dedicated, thorough and top quality broadcast journalists and news programs. We cannot ignore, however, the fact that the news we often receive is managed and prepackaged before it reaches us—the public.

Is all the news you hear on radio or see on television the truth? How much

of it is real fact vs. commentary or opinion? How much of it is entertainment? If we are going to be a truly informed people, we must ask these types of questions. We simply cannot rely on modern broadcasting alone to deliver us the news we need. Many factors influence the news we see and hear.

Even though Americans live in the land of free speech, censorship is still a reality. Many broadcast journalists admit that one of the major problems they face is getting their news through to you. For example, most military operations are censored from public view. News coverage of the Iraq war in 1991 created an incredible controversy over military censorship. Why? Ted Turner's CNN proved capable of broadcasting pictures of military operations as they happened. Journalists could deliver news instantly—to both sides in the conflict. This fact drove the military crazy with concern, and understandably so. The enemy could watch our own military strategy develop on television. And what if our soldiers were losing—the whole world could watch in real time. I do not desire to debate the issue of censorship. I simply want to show that it does exist.

Realize that censorship can come about because of many different reasons. We've discussed ratings and the military. But there is another simple way. The man over the journalist can stop the news from getting through.

Murrow Censored

Most experts in the field of broadcast journalism would agree that Edward R. Murrow was the most talented and responsible journalist of our time. He gained considerable respect and notoriety while he covered the Battle of Britain during World War II. Murrow earned the respect of the King, military officials and Winston Churchill. It was Murrow who put CBS ahead of the pack in news reporting. Edward Bliss states, "It was the radio reporting from London, more than any other reporting, which brought the Battle of Britain into the consciousness of America. And it was Edward R. Murrow, more than any other radio reporter, who caught the listeners' attention. Radio had dimensions—instantaneity and sound—which newspapers did not have, and no reporter in radio could match Murrow, working in the medium for which he seemed to



Death of a newsman: Murrow's honest, meaningful reporting brought the war into America's consciousness. But CBS executives got nervous and eventually axed him.

have been made. There were the childhood Bible readings that taught him the power of language, the rich, controlled voice trained in college, the study of military science and history, varied radio experience and wide travel. Intelligence, seemingly inexhaustible energy, complete dedication to what he was doing, and the integrity which inspired trust also helped make him, poet and pragmatist, the foremost broadcaster of his time" (ibid., pp. 129-130). Murrow was an impressive individual. He was a true professional. He drove himself hard to deliver the truth—to make his stories live. Yet he was censored for attempting to reveal criticism of General MacArthur's deployment of U.S. troops during the Korean War.

Bad-Tasting News

Mr. Bliss writes, "It was during this early period that a Murrow broadcast was killed, not by the military, but by CBS. The date was August 14, 1950, a time when it appeared that the Communists might push the outnumbered American force off the peninsula. Murrow prepared an eight-minute broadcast critical of the deployment of American troops. He quoted unidentified officers, 'some of them wearing stars,' as calling MacArthur's strategy 'folly.' When CBS executives received a transcript to the broadcast Murrow wanted to make, they decided to kill it on the grounds that the Communists might use it as propaganda.... On this occasion, the most respected broadcast

Newscasters should give the meaning behind the news. But they can't. They don't really understand the news they report.

voice of World War II was not trusted" (p. 263). The company Murrow made famous eventually censored him. Why? The reality is people just don't like unfavorable or disagreeable news.

Most people today want news that can be easily swallowed. No one likes the taste of bad news. There are times when we need to know bad news. By saying this, I am not advocating pessimism as a way of life. We must be optimistic. However, looking only at the bright side of issues does not make the dark side of things go away. This world needs some serious solutions to some serious problems. We can't run from our problems any longer. It is rare today to be able to find a journalist who can deliver the hard news—with meaning—and also provide a solution.

Missing Dimension in News

Many today have their favorite newscaster. You can name your own. We allow them into our homes daily. They are familiar to us. We have been conditioned to trust them. We can easily forget that we are listening to and being influenced by an individual who probably has radically different views, philosophies and opinions than ours. We expect them to be unbiased. But are they? A newscaster is supposed to be impartial and present all sides to a story. But do they? Actually, they do not.

A newscaster should give us the meaning behind the news. But they cannot. How often do you hear clear-cut conclusions or solutions to today's problems on your nightly news? Admit it. We hear issue after issue, but no solutions. Why is that?

Broadcast news journalists don't give us conclusions or solutions because they don't have a conclusion or solution. This world has some of the most highly educated and well trained journalists. There are many dedicated men and women working diligently to give us the news. Yet they don't really understand the news they report. Why? The answer is simple, yet astounding.

Most journalists share one bias that removes the real understanding and meaning behind current world events. The bias? Journalists leave God out of the picture.

This world has wholeheartedly accepted the theory of evolution. The most educated of this world have accepted a creation without a creator. Herbert W. Armstrong, one of the most well known religious broadcasters in the last half of this century, wrote, "The basic premise for knowledge production in our time has been the evolutionary concept. It has been the eye-glasses through which all questions have been viewed. Yet it remains unproved, and by its very nature it is a theory not subject to proof. It is a FAITH. And to question it is—to those who embrace this faith—academic heresy!" (Missing Dimension in Sex, 1981, p. 12). Realize this! Today, the theory of evolution guides your news. This means that one side of the story—the most important side—is missing.

You see, what you don't get on your broadcast news is God's perspective.

The missing dimension in today's news is the knowledge about God and His purpose for creating man. There are vital questions still unanswered by theologians, educators and scientists. These questions are: Who is God? What is God? Is there a spirit world? Does a devil exist? What is man? Why is man? Where is he going? What is the way? The revealed answers to these questions would, if given their proper place, provide the real meaning behind today's headlines.

The Bible is not taken seriously today. Yet many journalists borrow terms from the Bible to explain the news. Recent global natural disasters and disease epidemics have been described as apocalyptic. A group of scientists is being referred to as the Jeremiahs. Their statements about man-caused crises such as the population explosion and pollution are classified as Jeremiads. The Bible is often viewed as an outdated book. Many feel the Bible cannot speak to our time. But doesn't the popular use of Bible terms indicate that it is a very pertinent book for our time? Your Bible deserves a second look.

Jesus Christ—Great Newscaster

To be honest, the only conclusions and solutions for today's problems

were recorded for us in the pages of the Bible thousands of years ago. The Bible is the only book on earth that can explain the why behind current events. But the educated of this world will not accept this fact. In the Bible, God states this about Himself, "Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure" (Isa. 46:9-10). God is the only being in the entire universe who has the right perspective on today's news. This verse shows that God has known for years in advance what today's headlines would be. And God is the only being in the universe who can tell us what world events actually mean.

God is willing to give you the understanding behind world news, if you are willing to listen and obey Him.

God wants you to know where current events are leading. He sent Jesus Christ to this earth nearly 2,000 years ago with a message about today's headlines. The historian Mark records in his gospel, "Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel" (Mark 1:14-15). Today the word gospel conjures up all kinds of religious sentiment. But it is really not a religious word. The word for "gospel" in the Greek actually means GOOD NEWS. Jesus Christ was the greatest newscaster of all time.

Signs of the Times

God sent Jesus Christ to this earth to show us not only the major events to take place, but also how it all works out! Jesus Christ fully understood the complexity of our fast-paced, turbulent world. That understanding is recorded for us in the prophecies of both the Old and New Testaments. Realize, prophecy is simply news written in advance. Although prophecy does contain some bad news, the overall picture is very positive. Jesus Christ plans to step in and stop this world from destroying all life on the planet.

Jesus Christ expected the religious

Your Ad Does Not Go Here

Open any regular news-magazine and the first thing you will notice is an eye-grabbing advertisement.

Then you'll notice another. And another. Page after page, advertisements scream, prance, cajole and clutter, front to back.

We've seen it so much we may not give it a second thought. But there is a reason why you should be concerned—beyond just its being a distraction from the news you're trying to read.

Those advertisements fund that newsmagazine. The reporters, editors and artists hardly receive their paychecks from the little money you pay for a subscription. The news you're reading is a business. And the readers are a mere part of the clientele.

There is no escaping this fact: If such a news source says something unpopular, advertisers have utter prerogative and freedom to stop their flow of advertising dollars. That's a problem no magazine can afford to get itself into.

Except one that doesn't rely one whit on ad money.

The Trumpet is a news source that is free to print what it pleases, unpopular or not. We receive no advertising revenue. And not only that—we go one step further. We receive no money from subscriptions. The Trumpet is free of charge.

That doesn't mean this is a free publication. A magazine of this quality costs money. But our financial support comes from thousands of people around the globe who voluntarily aid and support this work.

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

The Philadelphia
Trumpet

The missing dimension in today's news is a knowledge about God and his purpose.

people of His day to be able to understand the current events happening in their world. But they did not. Speaking to the corrupt Pharisees and Sadducees, He stated, "When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather: for the sky is red. And in the morning, It will be foul weather to day: for the sky is red and lowering. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?" (Matt. 16:2-3). Why couldn't the religious leaders of Christ's day understand world events? They were spiritually corrupt. The Pharisees and Sadducees acted religious, but they were far from God. Why can't people understand what is happening today? As a society we are spiritually corrupt. We talk very religiously. But we too are far from God.

Only God-fearing people can understand today's news. The main key to understanding today's world news is to GET BACK TO GOD. That is not oversimplified; it is true.

Watch These Events

Jesus Christ still has a message for us today. Are you listening to that message? Christ still expects His disciples to know the signs of the times. He commands us today, "Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man" (Luke 21:36). We must become skilled students of current events. Jesus Christ says we are to watch. But what should we watch?

Jesus Christ revealed in His famous Olivet prophecy that we should focus on major global and international events. These major events are recorded for us in Matthew 24, Mark 13 and Luke 21. Study these chapters. Christ warned us to watch the confusion in modern religion. Religious deceit is to be the hallmark of our time. Christ also said we are to watch wars, natural disasters, famines, disease epidemics and

the economic tension between nations. The Olivet prophecy reveals the major trends in world events leading up to the return of Jesus Christ. Today's world tensions show that the return of Jesus Christ is not far away.

In the Olivet prophecy, Jesus Christ shows us that we must learn not to waste our time on minor, local or day-to-day events. We must strive to GET THE BIG PICTURE. Full understanding of today's news will take time and study. A quick glance over your

evening newspaper or a half-hour news program will not give you the depth that you need to grasp the significance of world events. You must make time for reading quality books, newspapers and magazines about the subjects outlined for us by Jesus Christ. Then you must teach yourself to think and analyze what you read.

And, after all this, you will still need help in understanding the news. Where will you get that help? Only The Trumpet magazine and The Key of David broadcast can give you God's perspective and the only real meaning behind today's news. Only The Trumpet and Key of David can provide solutions to our world's seemingly complex and unsolvable problems.

Do you truly want to understand world news? Then become a faithful student of The Trumpet. Watch The Key of David regularly. It is our goal to focus on the major, world-shaking trends discussed by Jesus Christ. We plan to keep you informed and up to date. We want to give you what you need to know.

We promise to make the study of current events exciting and thrilling, without show biz. Most of all, we guarantee to give you the truth! And the truly good news about this—there is no cost to you. Your subscription to The Trumpet has already been paid.

Follow these simple steps and when you hear Now...the NEWS!—you will better understand the news. ◆





No solution: After months of ruckus, Suharto (left) resigned power to Habibie (right).

Why Indonesia Matters

Now that President Suharto has resigned, everything is back to normal in Indonesia, right? Wrong. Massive forces of anarchy are at work, and the potential for global economic disaster still exists. As much as one-half of world trade is at risk and radical Islam may be stalking Indonesia!

By J. TIM THOMPSON

AFTER THREE DECADES OF AUTHORITARIAN rule, President Suharto has resigned amidst Indonesia's worst political and economic upheaval in 30 years. Since the 76-year-old former general ousted President Sukarno in 1966 and was elected president in 1968, President Suharto has ruled with his own brand of crooked capitalism. Companies owned by Mr. Suharto and his family are now being reviewed for their business dealings. It was through these companies that the Suharto family amassed a fortune worth an estimated \$40 billion, almost exactly the amount of the \$43 billion Indonesian bailout arranged with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Bailout or Ruination?

What fruits resulted from the IMF's recommendations for stabilizing

Indonesia? The May 19 Wall Street Journal (WSJ) said, "The IMF has been undermining currencies and spreading confusion. It has not been fighting financial fires, but dousing them with gasoline." Indonesia's currency, the rupiah, has plummeted in value from about 2,500 rupiah to one U.S. dollar in August 1997, before the IMF intervention, to a low of 14,000 in early 1998, where it has virtually stagnated through the year. Analysts expect a new round of devaluation to hit the rupiah soon.

The inflation resulting from the rupiah's fall prompted prices in Indonesia to soar overnight last May. The cost of electricity rose 60 percent, bus fares jumped 66 percent and train fares skyrocketed 100 percent, along with oil and gasoline prices leaping 71 percent. The government simultaneously cut fuel subsidies by \$2 billion, hitting the poor the hardest, which sparked widespread rioting and burn-

ing. More than 500 people lost their lives, including soldiers and some of Indonesia's much-hated wealthy Chinese merchants. Many foreign businessmen and other well-to-do residents fled Indonesia, thus weakening the economy even further.

Instead of stabilizing Indonesia, the IMF intervention, coupled with the nepotism and corruption of Suharto's regime, has caused mass death and bloodshed, an estimated \$1 billion in riot damage in the capital of Jakarta alone, untold billions of dollars of damage to the local and global economy, and now has culminated in the resignation of President Suharto. And, in all likelihood, the damage will continue to mount.

Global Tremors

Indonesia is an oil-rich group of islands stretching across Southeast Asia and Oceania. Notice what the May 18 WSJ reported: "Global commodity markets gyrated last week at the prospect of a top producer of resources such as coffee and tin shutting down; shaky Korean and Japanese banks trembled at the thought of further delays in restructuring the massive debts owed them by Indonesian companies; the Australian dollar sank to a 12-year low, and Thailand's Finance Minister warned that the unrest in Indonesia could spark a fresh wave of selling in markets across the region. On Friday [May 15], Standard & Poor's downgraded the credit rating on an Indonesian bond rating to triple C-plus, a rating that implies a default [or failure of the government to pay] is possible, from a more stable single B-minus.

"While the Indonesian unrest rocked global commodities markets, sending prices for resources such as coffee, tin, palm oil and gold sharply higher on worries that supply from Indonesia would be cut off...a bigger worry is that the collapse of the nation's economic infrastructure—and the exodus of the ethnic Chinese who dominate Southeast Asia's economies—could make shipment and financing more difficult."

The May 11 WSJ shed more light on Indonesia's importance to the world when it reported, "The stakes are huge, not only for Indonesia, but also for global commodity supplies.... In 1997, Indonesia was Asia's largest producer

of natural gas, the world's second-largest producer of crude palm oil, and among the top five producers of coffee. It is also a major exporter of gold, tin, copper, cocoa and vanilla, with the world's largest single copper and gold mine operating on the island of Irian Jaya."

On top of the major impact to world commodity markets, a severe food shortage in Indonesia threatens world food supplies as well. The International Herald Tribune of April 4 wrote, "Self-sufficient in rice for most of the past decade, Indonesia may have to import 4 million to 5 million tons this year—more than 30 percent of the rice on the world market—at a cost of at least \$1 billion. The country's worst drought in 50 years has deepened the prospects of a severe food shortage in this nation of 200 million people."

World Trade at Risk

The map below confirms an interesting perception presented in the May 19 WSJ, which stated, "A tanker bound for Vietnam with \$1.5 million in diesel fuel disappears just outside Singaporean waters. It is found two weeks later off China's southern coast with 12

Indonesian pirates aboard, who want to sell the fuel.

"Security and shipping experts worry that this scenario, which took place earlier this month [May 1998],

Malacca Straits, which funnels sea traffic from Europe and the Middle East to northern Asian destinations such as China, South Korea and Japan."

A spokesman for the Japan

THE PRESENT UNREST IN INDONESIA IS ONCE AGAIN THREATENING THE "LIFE LINE" OF ASIAN NATIONS: THEIR OIL SUPPLY.

may become increasingly common if Indonesia continues on its current trajectory. The possibility of the archipelago descending into worsening recession, widespread chaos or even civil war alarms military analysts and shipping executives. For good reason: The archipelago of 17,000 islands forms a lattice of sea lanes through which roughly one-third of the world's commerce—including the oil that powers the Japanese, Korean and, to a lesser extent, the Chinese economies—must pass.

"The worst-case scenario includes greater threats than attacks by cash-hungry pirates. The Indonesian island of Sumatra forms one side of the

Shipowners Association said, "The Malacca Straits, and another narrow passage between the islands of Bali and Lombok, are a 'life line' that delivers about 80 percent of Japan's oil."

The Oil Threat

One of the distressing facts of history is that oil, or the absence thereof, can be a powerful player in the politics of war. Interrupting a country's oil supply can have dire consequences: witness Japan prior to its entry into the Second World War. To accomplish its empire-building vision of "Greater East Asia," in the 1930s Japan embarked upon imperialistic adventures by going to war with China. Only the United States stood between Japan and the conquest of China. After Japan signed the Three Power Treaty in September of 1940 with Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy, it became clear that America had to act to save China.

According to A History of Civilization by Arthur J. May, "Companies in the United States kept selling scrap iron and oil to Nippon [Japan], until [a U.S. presidential] order in the summer of 1941 stopped that traffic. Without supplies of oil the Japanese economy must surely have been paralyzed, and that prospect seems to have inspired the final decision to fight.... The two countries deliberated in Washington on the prevailing antagonisms.... Conversations ended abruptly on December 7, 1941, when Nipponese airmen unloosed their deadly bombs upon Pearl Harbor" (Vol. II, p. 729).

In a tense reality check for world powers, it cannot help but be noticed that the present unrest in Indonesia is once again threatening the "life line" of Asian nations: their oil supply. Is it possible that this seemingly insignificant regional unrest has the potential to turn into another globe-spanning



conflict?

Indonesia is a major producer of oil, with an OPEC production quota of 1.456 million barrels per day, a large percentage of which goes to Japan. If anarchy collapses Indonesia into total chaos, you can bet that Indonesia's flow of oil to the world will cease. Of more concern, however, is the potential disruption of oil from the Middle East brought about by control of the Indonesian shipping lanes.

Strategic Location

Admiral Joseph Prueher, commander of the U.S. Pacific Command, said this before a U.S. Senate hearing in May 1998: "In addition to having a geo-strategic location along the Malacca Straits—through which about 400 ships a week pass to go up to north Asia—[Indonesia] is the linchpin of...the Southeast Asian nations."

Bilveer Singh, senior lecturer at the National University of Singapore, said, "In the present economic circumstances, there's every temptation to interception [piracy] in the hope of making your millions. Oil tankers are protectionless. And if there are rogue elements from the [Indonesian] military involved, then it's a whole different story."

Indonesian society is in danger of completely unraveling, and that could potentially mean heavily armed "rogue elements" breaking off from the Indonesian military to threaten international shipping in the world's busiest waterway, lying between Malaysia and Indonesia. In that event, a large portion of world trade is at risk. In fact, over half of all international shipping travels through Indonesian waters. U.S. warships in the Pacific even needed permission to cross Indonesian waters to get to the Persian Gulf.

Add to that the fact that Indonesia is the world's largest Islamic country and the fourth most populated nation.

Islam: A Key Factor

After 30 years of relative peace and stability under Suharto, and in spite of the appointment of another president and promised new elections within a year, Indonesia is still floundering in an abyss of economic disaster, chaos and social unrest. In Suharto's absence and

THE KING OF THE SOUTH



Indonesian Muslim women at prayer

The prophet Daniel wrote about a future confrontation between the king of the north and the king of the south. The king of the north will be comprised of the United States of Europe. But which nations will form the king of the south? Is this power now forming?

The king of the north and the king of the south are two powers prophesied to clash in this end time. "And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over" (Dan. 11:40). Both powers are rising fast on the world scene right now. This clash is going to shake this world as never before! And that is the good news. The bad news is it's going to lead to World War III—unless we heed God's prophecy and repent!

Islamic extremism is almost certainly going to be the king of the south. And I believe all indications point to radical Islam, headed by Iran as this king.

The king of the south is going to push at him—that is, the king of the north. Gesenius' Lexicon says the word "push" means "to strike—used of horned animals," or "to push with the horn." It is "used figuratively of a victor who prostrates the nations before him." It also means "to wage war with anyone." Push is a violent word!

The king of the south will most likely use oil as a big part of his push. Europe is almost totally dependent on Middle East oil! So the push will likely

involve a cutting off of their oil supply.

The New York Times, in an article entitled "Rebounding Iranians are Striving for Regional Leadership in Gulf" (Nov. 7, 1992), reported, "Rebounding from the war with Iraq,

which lasted from 1980 to 1988 and devastated Iran's oil industry, Iran under [former] President Hashemi Rafsanjani...has reclaimed its place as the world's second largest exporter of oil after Saudi Arabia, which exports about seven and a half million barrels a day. Producing roughly four million barrels a day, up from a wartime low of less than two million, Iran exports about 75 percent of this, mainly to Japan and Western Europe."

The stage is being set for an Islamic group of nations to be led by Iran as the prophesied king of the south which will push at the king of the north, the European Union. Iran has a foreign policy with a lot of "push." And since the end of their war with Iraq in 1988, Iran has accumulated a massive arsenal of military weapons to back up their aggressive foreign policy.

The Islamic followers of the world are comprised of a population second only to China. They inhabit a geographic area larger than Russia. The Islamic world also controls much of the world's oil resources. And now they have nuclear weapons! The European newspaper on May 7, 1992, in a front page article entitled, "Iran Has N-Bomb," stated: "Iran has obtained at least two nuclear warheads out of a batch officially listed as 'missing' from the newly independent republic of Kazakhstan, formerly part of the Soviet Union."

Iran's main strategic aim is to be the dominant power in the Middle East. Becoming the undisputed leader of the radical Islamic camp is a step in that direction.

—Gerald Flurry

newly appointed President B.J. Habibie's perceived weakness, power-grabbing in Indonesia is the name of the game, and radical Islam may be closing in for a slam dunk!

The Economist of May 16 clearly explained the situation: "Indonesia is the world's biggest Muslim nation, but Islam came to its shores through commerce, not conquest, and has flourished largely because it has accommodated itself to local customs in all their diversity. The Islam professed by most Indonesians is a gentle and undogmatic faith that could happily find its place beside a secular, democratic form of government. Perhaps it still can, but upheavals such as the present one are likely to play into the hands of the ever-more vociferous Islamic militants...."

Since its independence in 1945, Indonesia has had only one change in leadership: when Suharto wrested control from President Sukarno. That upheaval in 1965 and 1966 claimed as many as 500,000 lives. "The question now," the May 19 WSJ asks, "is whether the anti-Suharto movement, sparked by the discontent caused by the country's economic crisis, will trigger a similar convulsion.... The stage is set for a sharp new political confrontation in Indonesia."

Time magazine of May 25 soberly stated, "It is a sad testament to the nature of power in Indonesia that the country must again be brought to the brink of disaster before leadership can be transferred."

Even after Suharto's resignation, enormous forces of anarchy, especially radical Islam, remain active in the streets of Indonesia, only awaiting a spark to re-ignite them. As witnessed in the mid-1960s, Indonesian-style vio-



Indonesian oil well workers

lence can be devastatingly destructive when it occurs. If Islamic fundamentalists succeed in stirring up more trouble in Indonesia, the present volatility may lead to a global conflagration.

Enter the King of the South?

Social unrest of the kind recently incited in Indonesia can quickly lead to a change-over in leadership. The unseating of Suharto may well have been only the first step in eventually empowering a leader steeped in Islamic fundamentalism. Time will tell if, in the absence of Suharto, a close relationship forms between

Indonesian leaders and Islamic militants. If it does, the world could be in for real trouble! (see sidebar, "King of the South," p.23).

Indonesia is like a ripe plum, just waiting to be picked and added to the radical Islamic camp. The economic problems and social unrest are the perfect vehicle to vault a new leader into power. The same thing happened to Germany in the 1930s. Hitler came to power through promises of social and economic reform. Germany of the 1930s and Indonesia of the 1990s have many parallels: high unemployment, a vastly devalued currency and violent social unrest aimed at wealthy minorities, to name a few.

In the case of the king of the south, oil and water do mix: meaning, in part, control of the Indonesian waterways through which perhaps one-half of the world's commerce flows, and especially meaning the flow of Middle East oil through those perilous waters! Surely, Indonesia must have the cross-hairs of radical Islam aimed squarely at it!

Watch Indonesia and the world of radical Islam! Great change is on the horizon! ◆



The dead: At an Irish cemetery full of casualties of her terrorist civil war.

Ireland *(From page 13)*

Catholicization of Britain as the final jewel in the papal crown.

The Anglican Church is rife with dissension from within, populated by homosexuals and transsexual priests, in deep decline into the most dubious of spiritual practices, to the point where historian Paul Johnson declares that it is time that this ancient and traditional bastion of British spiritual faith just close up shop. Protestantism presents no respectable resistance to the incursion of Catholicism in Britain. The Catholicization of Ulster by the combined forces of IRA paramilitary blackmail, population overrun by Northern Catholics and the strengthening of Catholic-led EU business plays right into the Vatican's hands.

Norman Tebbit claims that the Ulster agreement "is about the partition of Northern Ireland from the rest of the United Kingdom." With Scotland already convening its own parliament, and Wales moving in the same

INDONESIA IS LIKE A RIPE PLUM, WAITING TO BE PICKED AND ADDED TO THE RADICAL ISLAMIC CAMP.



direction, Ulster has little hope of holding out against the odds that the British and Irish governments, under Senator Mitchell's and President Clinton's guidance, have loaded against it.

Sinister Aspect

There is one more aspect of this sinister plot to bury Ulster nationalists that is little considered. Ireland, with the exception of the Ulster-Scottish north, is populated largely by peoples of Irish-Celtic Danite origin. Perhaps no other tribe of Israel provoked the Eternal God to anger through unmitigated idolatry like the tribe of Dan (Jer. 8:19). Still today, Catholic Irish practices are steeped in the worship of icons, statues and other such false imagery. As the euro-beast power of the European Union moves to rope in its eastern cousins on the continent of Europe, quietly, subtly, the EU has beavered away in the background to exert her influence in support of the Catholic South-Sinn Fein/IRA push for the ultimate takeover of Ulster. The danger of this inevitability is seemingly

undetected by British politicians.

"Study your history books and you will see man's rule is from crisis to crisis. But the crisis of crises is just ahead of us" (Gerald Flurry, *Jeremiah, Prophet of Doom—or Hope?*, p. 2—write for your free copy now!). The prophet Jeremiah predicted a time when "we looked for peace, but no good came; and for a time of health, and behold trouble!" (Jer. 8:15). What an apt description of the Northern Ireland quandary! Yet in verse 16, Jeremiah foretells a powerful army in Dan literally devouring the land! Ireland (Dan) is not capable of mounting such a military force. Yet those with whom she consorts in union within Europe are! As you have read in the pages of this magazine, Bible prophecy declares that a German-dominated European power, inspired by a great false church, will dispossess the nations of Israel, primarily Britain and America, of their land and drive them into slavery!

In World War II, the neutral Irish government did not permit invasion of Britain from Irish shores. Ireland, however, was not then in literal league with the dominant European power, Germany, as it is today via its EU membership. Will an EU-dominated Ireland yet prove to be a LITERAL STEPPING STONE TO BRITAIN for a future Euro-force? Will the coming Beast-power literally leap across to Britain from a united, nationalized, Catholicized Ireland, avoiding the traditional pitfall of the English Channel, where so many attempts on the island of the British have met their demise? Will the island of Ireland become the staging point for a great blitzkrieg of England's green and pleasant land as the prophesied beastly Euro-force finally delivers "Mary's Dowry" into the long-awaiting hand of the Holy Roman Empire?

Fait Accompli

Watch June 26 for the outcome of the Southern Ireland elections. Remember that Gerry Adams, wined and dined by U.S. business bosses, feted by President Clinton and welcomed to Downing Street by Prime Minister Tony Blair, was a senior terrorist commander of the murderous IRA in the 1980s. Remember that his cohorts, Martin McGuinness and Pat Doherty, Sinn Fein leaders, were also among the IRA's most senior commanders in the

1980s. Gerry Kelly, Sinn Fein candidate for the new Northern Ireland Assembly, sentenced to life in 1973 for killing one person and injuring 250 others in the Old Baily bombing, may well be elected, as a free man, on June 26. Remember, Kelly shot a prison officer in the head while escaping from Maize jail!

Remember that John White, of the Ulster Democratic Party, convicted murderer of Catholics, also hacked to death and then mutilated the bodies of SDLP politician Paddy Wilson and his secretary Irene Adams in 1973. He stands as a candidate for the Northern Ireland Assembly on June 26. Of such caliber are some of those who will stand and who may win seats in the new Assembly. Remember, and pity, the mothers of Northern Ireland such as Anne Slaine, whose son still lives with a body that does not exist from the pelvis down, and who must succumb to the doubtful rule of this dubious assemblage in the guise of "transitional" peacemakers.

When the votes are cast and the result is tabulated on the weekend of June 26-27, remember the Easter Rising commemoration statement made by the IRA's Army Council only a few days after the "peace agreement" was concluded: "We remain committed to ending British rule in Ireland and the reunification of our country. We will carefully study the outcome of the talks process against its potential to move us towards our primary aim, a 32-county democratic socialist republic."

Remember and watch and pray for the day when man's rule will no longer lurch from crisis to crisis, but will become subject to the supreme rule of a beneficent King of kings who will usher in true peace, under a righteous and just government, which will quell all terrorism and negate its grievances, pain and suffering forever! "And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away" (Rev. 21:3-4). ♦

(For more on the Irish situation request the March and May 1996 Trumpets.)

Why Most Do Not Understand Prophecy

One cannot unlock the mystery in Bible prophecy without this indispensable key

BY STEPHEN FLURRY



IF YOU BELIEVE BIBLICAL references to “Israel” refer to the Jewish people *only*, you are no different from most everyone else. But does that make it right?

A recent *USA Today* survey discovered that 91 percent of all U.S. households own at least one Bible. Of those surveyed, 80 percent consider the Bible the most influential book in human history; 58 percent say the Bible is TOTALLY ACCURATE in all it teaches. If those statistics are true, that means there is a large segment of the population that will honestly consider what the Bible says and believe it! Let us briefly consider the misunderstood biblical history of Israel.

Most are familiar with the term “twelve tribes of Israel”; those who descended from the twelve sons of Jacob (whose name God changed to Israel): Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph, Benjamin, Dan, Naphtali, Gad and Asher (Gen. 35:22-26). When the Israelites arrived in the Promised Land under Joshua, each tribe was given its own district, except for the priestly tribe of Levi, which mingled among all the tribes. Also, Joseph had separated into two tribes by this time—Ephraim and Manasseh. Both were assigned their own district. So, technically, there were 13 tribes, but 12 districts. Except for Levi, the tribes mostly kept to themselves. Yet they were united as one nation, the nation of Israel, much like the 50 states in America.

Israel reached its height as an empire during the reigns of King David and his son Solomon. God had made an unbreakable covenant with David that his kingly dynasty would continue right up to the return of Christ. God said in Jeremiah 33:17 that David’s royal line

would *never end*.

But because of Solomon’s sexual perversion and idol worship, God said, “I will surely rend the kingdom from thee” (I Kings 11:11). God, however, promised to preserve *one tribe* for David’s sake (v. 13).

Solomon died in 926 B.C. The people begged his son Rehoboam to relieve them of the unbearable taxes his father had instituted (I Kings 12:4). Rehoboam disdainfully replied, “My father hath chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions” (v. 11). Ten Israelite tribes rebelled against Rehoboam and seceded from the kingdom. They chose Jeroboam as their ruler. “There was none that followed the house of David, *but the tribe of Judah only*” (I Kings 12:20). God’s prophecy was fulfilled. Israel separated into two kingdoms.

Rehoboam tried to subdue the rebels and preserve unity in Israel. He succeeded in retaining the tribe of Benjamin (v. 21). Most of the tribe of Levi also joined Rehoboam’s forces. But God finally told him to stop fighting with Israel, “for this thing is from me” (v. 24).

When the dust settled, the ten seceding tribes moved their capital north to Samaria and chose Jeroboam as king. It is *they* who retained the name “Israel,” not Rehoboam’s kingdom. The smaller southern kingdom

retained Jerusalem as its capital, but became known as Judah. God’s prophecy came true. He did rend the kingdom of Israel from Solomon’s descendants. He left only a small “part” for Rehoboam, and that only because of the covenant He had made with David!

From this point forward, the Bible deals with Israel and Judah as two *separate* nations. They dwelt in separate, yet adjoining, regions. Each had different kings. They were constantly fighting each other. “And there was war between Rehoboam [Judah] and Jeroboam [Israel] all their days” (I Kings 14:30).

As soon as Jeroboam gained control of the northern kingdom, he rejected God’s holy days and introduced idol-worship into the nation. This continued over many generations. God constantly pleaded with Israel through His prophets, warning them to return to their former ways. Israel refused. So God promised to “root up Israel out of this good land” to be scattered abroad over the face of the earth (I Kings 14:15).

God used the Assyrians to root them up. “And Pul the king of Assyria came against the land” (II Kings 15:19). Assyriologists attribute the name “Pul” to Tiglath-Pileser III, who ruled from 745-727 B.C. Menahem, king of Israel, quickly submitted to Assyrian aggression and paid tribute to Pul with much silver and gold (v. 20). He appeased Pul, but infuriated his own people who despised the burdensome taxes.

Angered by Menahem’s compromise, an Israeli army officer named Pekah killed Menahem’s son and ascended to the throne. Pekah entered into a military alliance with Rezin, king of Damascus, in hopes of thwarting Assyrian advances. Other Phoenician and Arabian states joined the alliance. But King Ahaz of Judah, the southern kingdom, obstinately rejected. II Kings 16:5

The first biblical mention of “Jews” is in reference to the Jews fighting against Israel!

says that Rezin and Pekah descended upon Jerusalem to force Ahaz into the defensive league. Judah resisted. The league, however, did succeed in driving the Jews out of Elath (v. 6).

Most people read over this seemingly unimportant skirmish in II Kings 16 without realizing the true significance. It's the first time the word "Jews" is mentioned in the Bible and we find that Jews are fighting ISRAELITES! Tell this to the average churchgoer today and they will think you are crazy. *That's impossible*, they might say. *How can Jews fight Israelites? They're both the same people.*

True, before Israel separated into two nations, all Jews were considered Israelites. But after the division, Jews were no longer called Israelites. The Bible calls them Judah!

When Shalmaneser V succeeded Tiglath-Pileser III on the Assyrian throne, Hoshea, Israel's new king, refused to continue paying tribute. He solicited Egypt's help to resist Shalmaneser. It was to no avail. II Kings 17 records Israel's last stand and subsequent uprooting at the hands of Assyria. "Therefore the Lord was very angry with Israel, and REMOVED them out of his sight: there was *none left but the tribe of Judah only*" (v. 18). Shalmaneser and his successor Sargon II removed tens of thousands of Israelites from Samaria and placed Assyrians in their homes (vv. 22-24), just as God prophesied during Jeroboam's reign.

If you continue reading II Kings in sequence, following Israel's captivity, you will see that the history of the Jewish nation continued on, though not much longer. They too rebelled against God and His laws. In II Kings 23:27, God warned, "I will remove Judah also out of my sight, *as I have removed Israel*, and will cast off this city Jerusalem which I have chosen."

By this time, the Babylonian Empire under Nebuchadnezzar was the world's most dominant power. The Babylonians ransacked Jerusalem over the course of 19 years (604-585 B.C.). In the end, God removed the Jews from Palestine, just as He did the Israelites 130 years earlier.

Though Judah and Israel were different nations, God delivered the same punishment for rebellion. Israel was amalgamated into Assyria; Judah into Babylon. Israel never returned to the land of Palestine; Judah did. Read it for

yourself in Ezra 1:5 and 2:1. God allowed the tribes of Judah, Benjamin and Levi to return to Palestine 70 years after their captivity to rebuild the temple. In other words, He allowed people from the *kingdom of Judah* to return to Jerusalem.

Here is where scholars, theologians and historians fail to understand. They know from Bible history and abundant archaeological evidence that Israel split into two nations after Solomon's reign, but after that, their understanding is hazy at best. Those who returned to Palestine to rebuild the temple in the fifth century B.C. were Jews. The descendants of these Jews were in Palestine during the days of Christ 500 years later. Indeed, those who reside in Palestine *today* are mostly from the tribe of Judah. They have been mistakenly labeled "Israel."

The actual descendants of the

***Over centuries,
names can change,
people will migrate,
but whole races do
not just disappear.***

northern kingdom of Israel *never returned to Palestine*. When they were removed from their land in 721-718 B.C., they lost their identity. But they did not disappear, as most scholars carelessly assume. Werner Keller gives an excellent account of Israel's separation into two kingdoms in his outstanding book, *The Bible as History*. Yet he makes the same mistake so many others do. He said, "The people of the northern kingdom and their kings with them *disappeared*, were absorbed into the population of these foreign lands, and never emerged again in history. All investigation into what became of the ten tribes who had their home there has so far come to nothing."

It is amazing how quick scholars are to cast aside whole races of people as "disappeared." Over centuries, names can change, people will migrate, but whole races do not just disappear. Hitler was one of history's most noted genocidal maniacs, yet even he didn't

come close to exterminating the entire Jewish race! The ten northern tribes biblically known as Israel after the reign of Solomon might have lost their identity, but they most assuredly DID NOT DISAPPEAR!

In Matthew 10, Jesus commissioned His disciples, those who became apostles in the New Testament Church, to preach the gospel of the Kingdom of God. They were *not* to deliver the gospel to Gentiles or Samaritans (v. 5). Christ told them to go "to the *lost* sheep of the house of Israel" (v. 6). Understand the critical history that is packed into this short verse. It was written nearly 800 years after Israel went into captivity, and here Christ tells the disciples to go to "lost" Israel. Yes, they had lost their identity, but they did not disappear! Christ couldn't have been referring to the Jews residing in Palestine. They weren't lost. Christ wanted His disciples to take the gospel to the Israelites who were removed from Samaria and absorbed into the Assyrian Empire hundreds of years before; those who never returned to the Promised Land.

Considering Christ's commission in Matthew 10, it should not seem strange that after Acts 15, you do not read much in the New Testament about the original apostles. Paul is the most prominent individual in the New Testament; and he was commissioned to go to the Gentiles (Acts 9:15). There were numerous Gentile nations in and around the region of the Middle East. Most of the New Testament revolves around Paul's travels to Gentile nations nearby and the letters he wrote to churches in those regions. The original apostles, however, left the land of Palestine to preach to the lost sheep of Israel.

The question is, Where did those disciples go? Where had the Israelites migrated to? Why had they lost their identity? These questions, and many more, are answered in our fascinating free booklet, *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*. Write for your free copy and find out why more than 5 million people have requested it over the past 50 years. If 58 percent of you reading this magazine believe the Bible is totally accurate in all it teaches, then *The United States and Britain in Prophecy* will open your eyes like no other publication ever written on prophecy. ♦

RON FRASER

Killing Off America

The diabolical operation that erased a generation—before its first breath



AMERICA'S FOUNDING FATHERS PROMISED FUTURE generations in this great nation life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. If those men were to be resurrected today, how galling it would be for them to witness the country's end-of-millennium leadership endorsing a policy which allows the legal slaughter of a quarter of its regenerating population, before they have had the chance to breathe just one breath of fresh air.

In 1992 there were 27.5 abortions for every 100 live births in the U.S. Each year, of every 100 women in the U.S. aged between 15 and 44, three will have an abortion. If current rates are sustained, 43 percent of American women will have an abortion in their lifetime. The comparisons are staggering. These figures indicate abortion is as commonplace as divorce for women in America. In the educated U.S. society, twice as many women now have abortions as gain college degrees. The fact is that some women are now using abortion as a means of birth control, with 66 percent of women who aborted claiming that they intend to have more children—when it's convenient—at the “right” time!

Around 38 percent of women undergoing abortion in the U.S. enjoy a family income in the \$30,000–60,000 bracket. These women are middle class, capable of thinking their situation through, capable of making a deliberate choice to murder an unborn human life—and capable of paying for the service!

Since the infamous 1973 Roe vs. Wade case which set the precedent for legalized abortion in the United States, the U.S. has slaughtered over 31 million of its regenerative population—in the womb! Without this legalized slaughter of human life, the U.S. population would be close to 12 percent greater than it is today. This is America's lost generation! The Supreme Court decision which effectively legalized abortion in the United States has resulted in a genocide of American lives far in excess of all those poor souls who have fallen victim to “ethnic cleansing” in the Balkans and Africa. Indeed, the figure is more comparable to the number of deaths for which Stalin, Hitler and Mao Tse Tung were responsible.

Not only in America is this late-twentieth-century phenomenon of murder in the womb extant. In London, a registered charity has offered a walk-in lunch-hour termination service to its busy secretaries and professional women. The technique employed takes as little as ten minutes—time to rush in, quickly abort the inconveniently conceived life, then off for a tuna sandwich and Chardonnay with the latest boyfriend! GHASTLY!

It is to the morality of this diabolical business of the slaughter of innocents in the womb that we must look for the cause of its wickedly desensitizing effect on our modern-day culture.

Increasingly we see the insidious influence of the social engineers which turned the established family culture of

America upside down, in the '60s and '70s in particular. America's mind has been closed to the horror of mass slaughter taking place within the collective national womb. Publishers and editors ban the use of the phrase “unborn child,” preferring instead the sanitized term “fetus.” The press at large maintains either a deliberate or ignorant silence. This has bred a collective national conscience largely ignorant of the fact of modern abortion. Yet, subconsciously, the average American knows that something dreadful is extant, even as the average German during World War II feigned ignorance to the holocaust, yet in their heart knew that something dreadful was going on amongst them on a massive scale.

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

Where will it end? If one category of life can be declassified, why can't others? Why not apply the abortion logic to other “inconvenient” lives, say, the homeless, elderly, disabled, unwanted immigrants, prisoners, unwed mothers? As one journalist asked, “If there is no God to govern in the affairs of men, then why shouldn't government or medical ethicists or public opinion be our God?” Indeed, why not—if there is no God?

But there is a God! His proven word declares, “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath showed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse” (Rom. 1:18-20).

This universal God is a God of life! He sustains the immutable law that life can only be begotten by pre-existing life! His very Son, whom He sent to this earth almost 2,000 years ago, declared, “I am come that they might have life and that they might have it more abundantly” (John 10:10).

It takes a mind converted from the selfishness, greed, vanity and lust of human nature to the purity of godly righteousness to understand this great mystery of human life. It takes a miracle. You need that miracle worked in your life. Write now, without delay, for your free copy of *Mystery of the Ages*. This book unlocks the secret of the mystery of life. It expounds the true knowledge that will soon restore to this world the natural affection for the sanctity and preciousness of human life. ♦

THE KEY OF DAVID

TELEVISION LOG



United States

WGN—6:30 am ET, Sunday (Nationwide cable)

WPHL—6:30 am ET, Sunday (Northeast United States cable)

Alabama, Montgomery—WHOA 7:00 am ET, Sunday
Arizona—KUSK 9:30 am MT, Sunday
Arizona, Phoenix—KSAZ 6:30 am MT, Sunday
Arkansas, Little Rock—KASN 8:00 am CT, Saturday
California, Concord—KTNC 10:00 am PT, Sunday
California, Fort Bragg—KFWU 10:00 am PT, Sunday
California, Fresno—KNSO 8:00 am PT, Sunday; 9:00 am PT, Monday
California, Los Angeles—KCBS 7:00 am PT, Sunday
California, Oakland—KICU 8:00 am PT, Sunday
California, San Diego—KGTU 7:30 am PT, Sunday **
California, San Francisco—KICU 8:00 am PT, Sunday
California, San Jose—KICU 8:00 am PT, Sunday
California, Sacramento—KTNC 10:00 am PT, Sunday
Colorado, Alamosa—KOB 8:30 am CT, Sunday
Florida, Jacksonville—WTEV 6:30 am ET, Saturday
Florida, Orlando—WRBW 7:00 am ET, Saturday
Florida, Tallahassee—WTLH 8:30 am ET, Sunday **
Florida, Tampa—WTSP 7:00 am ET, Sunday
Georgia, Atlanta—WGTX 6:30 am ET, Saturday
Illinois, Chicago—WCIU 6:30 am CT, Saturday
Illinois, Chicago—WGN 6:30 am ET, Sunday
Illinois, Decatur—WAND 7:00 am CT, Sunday
Indiana, Indianapolis—WNDY 6:30 am ET, Sunday
Kansas, Topeka—WIBW 6:30 am CT, Sunday
Kansas, Wichita—KSAS 10:00 am CT, Sunday
Kentucky, Louisville—WBNA 10:00 pm ET, Saturday
Kentucky, Paducah—WDKA 11:30 pm CT, Sunday
Louisiana, Shreveport—KMSS 8:00 am CT, Sunday
Maryland, Baltimore—WUTB 7:00 am ET, Sunday **
Massachusetts, Boston—WFXT 8:00 am ET, Sunday **
Michigan, Detroit—WADL 9:00 am ET, Sunday
Minnesota, Minneapolis/St. Paul—WFTC 6:30 am CT, Sunday
Minnesota, Rochester—WFTC 6:30 am CT, Sunday
Missouri, Cape Girardeau—WDKA 11:30 pm CT, Sunday
Missouri, Kansas City—KCWB 6:00 am CT, Saturday
Missouri, St. Louis—KPLR 6:00 am CT, Sunday
New Jersey—WPHL 6:30 pm ET, Sunday
New Mexico, Albuquerque—KOB 8:30 am MT, Sunday
New Mexico, Farmington—KOB 8:30 am CT, Sunday
New York, Buffalo—WIVB 6:30 am ET, Sunday
New York, New York City—WPXN 12:30 pm ET, Sunday
North Carolina, Asheville—WHNS 7:00 am ET, Sunday
North Carolina, Charlotte—WAXN 8:00 am ET, Sunday
North Carolina, Kannapolis—WAXN 8:00 am ET, Sunday
Ohio, Cincinnati—WKRC 5:30 am ET, Sunday
Ohio, Cleveland/Akron—WVPX 8:00 am ET, Sunday
Ohio, Columbus—WWHO 7:00 am ET, Sunday
Oklahoma, Tulsa—KOKI 9:00 am CT, Sunday
Oklahoma, Oklahoma City—KOCO 6:30 am CT, Sunday
Oregon, Eugene—KLSR 7:00 am PT, Sunday
Oregon, Portland—KPDX 7:30 am PT, Sunday
Pennsylvania, Philadelphia—WPHL 6:30 am ET, Sunday
Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh—WPGH 7:30 am ET, Sunday

Pennsylvania, Red Lion—WGCB 8:30 am ET, Sunday
South Carolina, Columbia—WOLO 8:00 am ET, Sunday
South Carolina, Greenville/Spartanburg—WHNS 7:00 am ET, Sunday
Tennessee, Memphis—WLMT 9:00 am ET, Sunday
Texas, Corpus Christi—KDF 7:30 am CT, Sunday **
Texas, Dallas—KDFI 8:30 am CT, Sunday
Texas, San Antonio—KSAT 6:30 am CT, Sunday
Texas, Tyler—KLTV 10:30 am CT, Sunday
Virginia, Richmond—WRIC 7:30 am ET, Sunday
Washington, D.C.—WUSA 7:00 am ET, Sunday
Washington, Seattle—KONG 8:00 am PT, Sunday
Washington, Spokane—KXLY 6:00 am PT, Sunday

Australia

Network 10—4:30 am, Sunday
—Channel 10, Melb., Syd., Brisb., Perth, Adelaide
—NRTV, North New South Wales
—Capital TV, South New South Wales
—Southern Cross TV, Victoria
—QTV, Queensland

Canada

VISION Network—9:30 am ET, Sunday (Nationwide Canadian cable)

Alberta/Calgary—KXLY 7:00 am MT, Sunday
Alberta/Edmonton—KXLY 7:00 am MT, Sunday
Alberta/Red Deer—KXLY 7:00 am MT, Sunday
British Columbia, Prince George—CKPG 8:30 am PT, Sunday
British Columbia, Vancouver—CHEK 9:00 am PT, Sunday
New Brunswick—CIHF 7:00 am, Sunday
Nova Scotia—CIHF 7:00 am, Sunday
Prince Edward Island—CIHF 7:00 am, Sunday
Quebec, Montreal—CKMI 11:00 am Sunday

Fiji

FIJI TV—12:00 pm, Sunday

India and Southeast Asia

Asian Television Network—5:30 pm, Sunday (India Standard Time)
(Pan Am Sat 4)

New Zealand

TV3—6:00 am, Friday

Philippines

IBC TV—7:00 am, Sunday

** Indicates a new station or time change

COMING IN THE *Trumpet*

The Middle East



DAVID H. WELLS/CORBIS

Where religion means war.

MORE THAN ANY OTHER SPOT ON THIS EARTH, THE MIDDLE EAST HAS ENDURED one crisis after another. Three of the world's most prominent religions originated in the Middle East, and yet a "holy war" threatens to sweep across the entire region! No country in the Middle East would be free of such an entanglement. Middle East leaders have signed peace agreements amounting to nothing. Western diplomats find no solution in sight. It's time you understand why the Middle East is about to explode.

Over 2,000 years ago, God foretold much of the history and prophecy for the Middle East in the book of Daniel. Daniel 11 makes up much of this particular prophecy. In that chapter, God gives a step-by-step account of Middle Eastern history, from the death of Alexander the Great to the return of Jesus Christ! Next month, in *The Trumpet*, we will examine this fascinating prophecy.

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