

THE PHILADELPHIA Trumpet



Did the Trump-Kim summit prevent World War III?

EU and U.S. fall out of love

Why is Target accommodating Peeping Toms?

Archaeology proves the Bible

Mystery of the human mind

Is our world getting better and better?

Life expectancy ↑

Famine ↓

Literacy ↑

Homicides ↓

Democracy ↑

Poverty ↓

Wealth ↑

Wars ↓

FEATURES

1 FROM THE EDITOR

How the Seals of Isaiah and Hezekiah Speak

2 Europe and America: They've

Lost That Loving Feeling

4 Money, Money, Money

6 Did the Trump-Kim Summit

Prevent World War III?

8 Why Is Target Accommodating

Peeping Toms?

11 Dining Through the Decades:

70 Years of American Food

12 COVER STORY

**Is Our World Getting Better
and Better?**

15 What Caused the Boom?

18 INFOGRAPHIC

The Iron Bridge

20 Revealed: A Deal Founded on Lies

22 Mystery of the Human Mind

DEPARTMENTS

24 INCREASE YOUR BIBLE IQ

Meditate? Who, Me?

26 WORLDWATCH

29 SOCIETYWATCH

33 PRINCIPLES OF LIVING

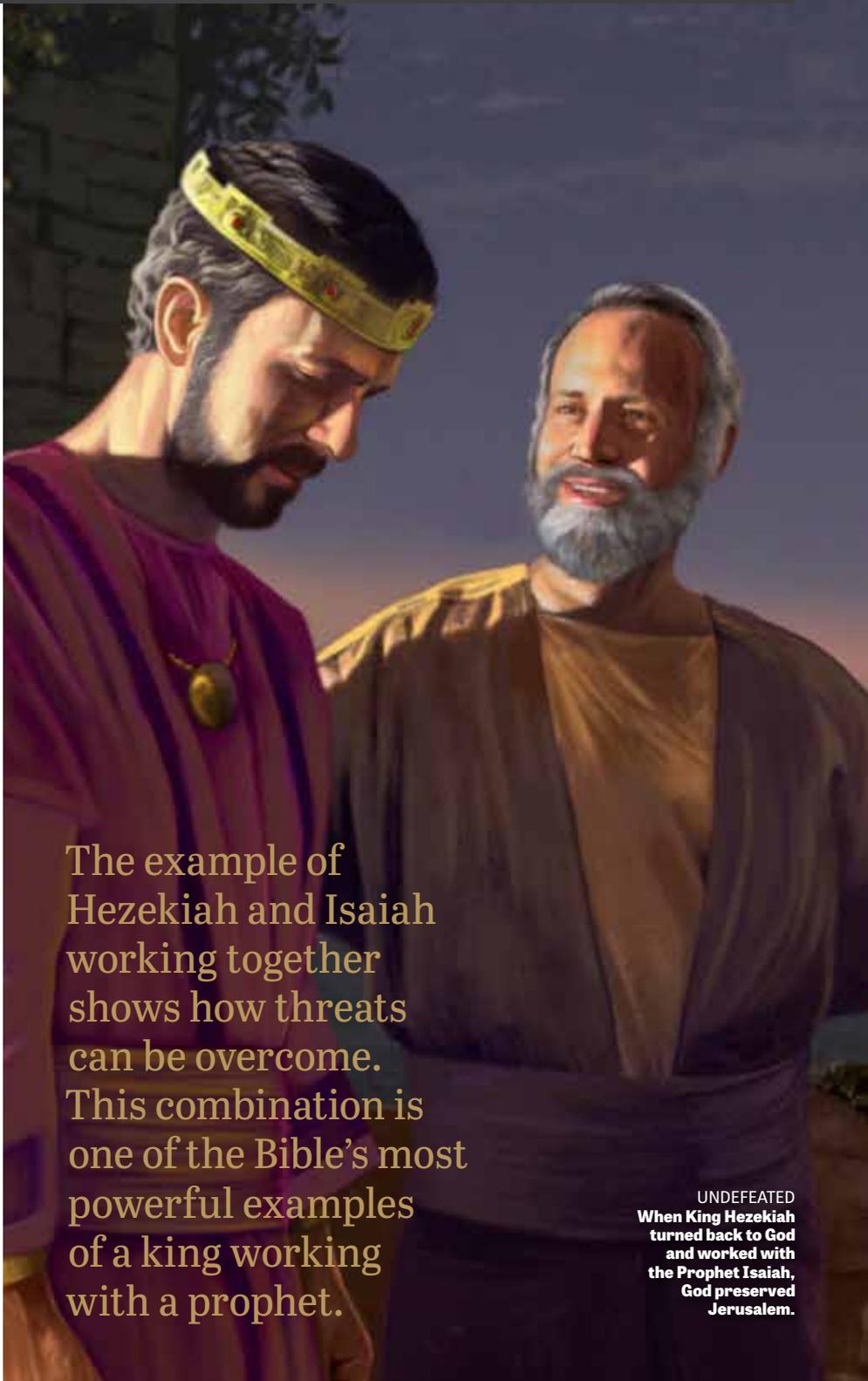
Your Next Step

34 DISCUSSION BOARD

35 COMMENTARY

**Is Murdering Children Wrong?
The Left Isn't Sure**

36 THE KEY OF DAVID TELEVISION LOG



The example of Hezekiah and Isaiah working together shows how threats can be overcome. This combination is one of the Bible's most powerful examples of a king working with a prophet.

UNDEFEATED
When King Hezekiah turned back to God and worked with the Prophet Isaiah, God preserved Jerusalem.

**THE KEY
OF DAVID**

Trumpet editor in chief Gerald Flurry's weekly television program
theTrumpet.com/keyofdavid

TrumpetDaily

Trumpet executive editor Stephen Flurry's television program
theTrumpet.com/trumpet_daily

Trumpet

News and analysis updated daily
theTrumpet.com

TrumpetBrief

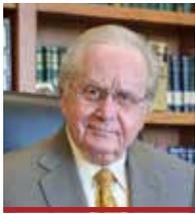
Regular news updates and alerts from our website to your inbox
theTrumpet.com/go/brief

How the Seals of Isaiah and Hezekiah Speak

One of the greatest king-prophet relationships holds an inspiring message of hope.

TWO IMPORTANT ARCHAEOLOGICAL ARTIFACTS MADE THEIR world premiere in an exhibit at our offices in Edmond, Oklahoma, on June 10. The exhibit, called “Seals of Isaiah and King Hezekiah Discovered,” features two clay bullae, definitive archaeological proof, of King Hezekiah and what we believe is Isaiah the prophet, discovered in Jerusalem just south of the Temple Mount. It also has 36 other artifacts from the period in ancient Israel during which these two men lived. We are excited to host this electrifying proof of the Bible’s veracity.

For the premiere event, we connected by a live feed to the King David Hotel in Jerusalem, Israel, where Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister’s Office Michael Oren and premier archaeologist Dr. Eilat Mazar spoke.



GERALD FLURRY

In his address, Dr. Oren, who is also a noted historian, spoke on the controversy within archaeology—what various artifacts mean, what they tell us about history, and to whom this is important. Yet I believe there is an

archaeological principle that, if it were followed, would unify the archaeological community.

Fifty years ago, Herbert W. Armstrong, the namesake of our college, began a wonderful partnership with Prof. Benjamin Mazar. They started working together on archaeological projects in 1968. I was there and always supported Mr. Armstrong’s efforts in Jerusalem. I was truly excited about those projects. The more you dig into the Bible, the more your excitement for digging in Jerusalem will grow.

We have continued this “iron bridge” partnership with Professor Mazar’s granddaughter, Dr. Eilat Mazar.

Eilat has repeatedly said that when digging we need to “LET THE STONES SPEAK”—allow the discoveries to provide the evidence of their historical context. I truly believe if everyone would follow this principle, it would remove most of the controversy and unify us.

Dr. Mazar and I do have different views and different religious beliefs. Today, I want to give you my view on this subject: *let the stones of King Hezekiah and Isaiah speak*. The more I have looked into this, the more inspired and filled with hope I have become.

King-Prophet Relationship

What makes these two clay seals more fascinating than other archaeological finds is that they represent a remarkable king-prophet relationship. These two men were working together

in the greatest king-prophet partnership since King David and Samuel. Finding those seals in the same strata of soil—from the same historical period and within a few meters of each other—highlights how closely these men worked with one another.

There is a controversy surrounding the seal of Isaiah, whether it belonged to the prophet or some other personality. I believe when you look at the weight of evidence concerning Isaiah the prophet, it should not be taken any other way. (We, along with Dr. Mazar, have written at length concerning this topic.) There are 16 biblical verses where King Hezekiah and the Prophet Isaiah are mentioned together. The fact that these artifacts were found so close to one another is perfectly consistent with the Bible’s account of their relationship.

A Galvanizing Miracle

King Hezekiah is considered one of the most righteous kings to rule Judah since the time of David. “And he [Hezekiah] did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, according to all that David his father had done” (2 Chronicles 29:2). Hezekiah went in and cleansed the temple Solomon had built. He restored the priests and Levites to their God-ordained duties. He reestablished the message of God in Judah. Under his leadership, most of the nation was turning away from its idolatry and toward God.

We need to “let the stones speak”—allow the discoveries to provide the evidence of their historical context.

But a great crisis was right on Judah’s doorstep: the Assyrian army. Hezekiah had weaknesses, just like any one of us. And from some of the artifacts that have been discovered from his reign, we can see that he had a relationship with Egypt. He pursued an alliance with the Egyptians in an effort to keep Sennacherib, the leader of Assyria, out of Judah. The Prophet Isaiah had warned Hezekiah against this course. But he didn’t listen to God’s man at that time.

ON JULY 1, EUROPE AND THE United States will be at war with each other. Not a hot war, but a trade war. The U.S. has placed tariffs on European aluminum and steel, and Europe has threatened to retaliate with its own tariffs. Relations between Germany and America have not been worse since the end of World War II. This is more than just a lovers' tiff.

The covers of *Spiegel*, Europe's largest newsmagazine, have portrayed U.S. President Donald Trump as:

- A middle finger to Europe
- A terrorist beheading Lady Liberty
- A subhuman ape
- A baby riding a nuclear bomb
- A meteor poised to destroy the planet
- A tsunami destroying Washington, D.C.
- A golfer striking a flaming planet Earth

On one *Stern* magazine cover, Mr. Trump is depicted as a Nazi. On the front of *Berliner Kurier*, the world is swearing at him. One study found that Germany's public broadcaster, ARD, covers the American president more negatively than any other news source.

In 2000, 80 percent of Germans said they felt "favorable" about the U.S. By 2015, the number had fallen to 50 percent. By spring 2017, it was only 35 percent. The same year, another poll found that more Germans trusted Russia than the United States.

This is a remarkable shift. A 70-year romance is dying before our eyes.

Take a Chance on Me

The romance began in the most unique way. In 1945, Americans and Germans were fighting each other to the death. But in 1947, the victorious Americans befriended their recent enemies.

Historically, the conqueror bleeds the vanquished dry. Not the U.S. Under the Marshall Plan, the United States poured into Western Europe the equivalent of \$130 billion in today's money, much of it going to West Germany. If America were to give the same share of its economy today, it would amount to over \$800 billion. And it gave this while its economy was shrinking. Secretary of State George C. Marshall called this plan to rebuild Germany a "calculated risk."

In 1948, the Germans were struck with a crisis. The Soviet Union had



besieged West Berlin, cutting off food, fuel and electricity from 2.5 million people living there.

U.S. President Harry Truman was told by his advisers that the U.S. must not risk war with the powerful Soviets. It must surrender the city to communism, and the poverty and repression that went with it.

Truman chose instead to ride to the rescue, supplying the city by air. British and American pilots who had once dropped bombs on Berlin now flew in food. Pilots working 36-hour shifts flew a quarter of a million flights, carrying 2.3 million tons of supplies. A plane landed in the Berlin airport every three minutes. The U.S. and Britain sustained this for 318 days until the Soviets backed down. West Berlin remained free.

Next, America rebuilt Germany's military. America released Nazis and other World War II-era officials, industrialists and soldiers. The Central Intelligence Agency set up a German secret service, staffed it with ex-Nazis, and handed it over to West Germany. German weapons manufacturers reopened. An army was set up. This too was a "calculated risk" as America focused on a new threat—Soviet Russia.

Over the decades, U.S. forces kept Russia out of Western Europe. The U.S. Navy kept the sea-lanes open, and Europe grew rich on trade.

America even offered the ultimate sacrifice, making a nuclear first-strike pledge. If Soviet Russia invaded Europe, the U.S. would respond with a nuclear strike. This would inevitably result in Russian nukes destroying U.S. cities. America promised to lay down its life for Europe.

To prove its sincerity, America supplied Europe with nuclear bombs to be carried on German, Dutch, Italian, Belgian and Turkish planes if the time came.

This was not all altruistic. America had an interest in stopping the Soviet Union. But has any victorious power in the history of the world treated its conquered this way?

The Americans kept Western Europe free. The Soviets took down the Berlin Wall in 1989, and the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991. America helped the Germans reunify. When Germany wanted to break up Yugoslavia in the early 1990s, the U.S. provided the necessary military and diplomatic muscle, even at the cost of betraying its older alliance with the Serbs.

EUROPE AND AMERICA: THEY'VE LOST THAT LOVING FEELING

A relationship forged in the aftermath of World War II has hit hard times. Is it over?
BY RICHARD PALMER

IT'S NOT ME, IT'S YOU
President Trump and
Chancellor Merkel at the
G-20 summit in Hamburg



Today, Germany leads all of Europe—thanks to decades of American help.

A Bad Romance

But the relationship wasn't perfect. Germany flirted with Russia even during the Cold War. Once the common threat of the Russians ended, could Germany and America's alliance survive?

It didn't look like it. The two drifted apart. America invaded Iraq in 2003, and Germany refused to help. The U.S. was caught spying on the German chancellor. Germany was caught spying on

his election campaign, Mr. Trump announced that it was time for Europe to pay its way or lose that protection.

In June 2017, President Trump withdrew from the Paris climate accord. Europe exploded with fury. There, climate change is a religion. Leaving the agreement was blasphemy. The *Financial Times* called it “a blow to Germany's collective solar plexus.”

In December, Mr. Trump announced the relocation of America's embassy in Israel to Jerusalem, to Europe's great dissatisfaction.

“RIP the Trans-Atlantic Alliance, 1945–2018”

—*Foreign Policy* headline

the American president. The two didn't spend much time together; they didn't feel like they needed each other.

Even before Mr. Trump was elected, *Time* magazine wrote that the German-American “alliance is weaker and less influential than at any other time since the 1930s.”

Then Donald Trump became president.

For decades, the U.S. has protected Europe at its own expense. During

This past May, the president withdrew from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, the Iran nuclear deal. Europe was livid. “RIP the Trans-Atlantic Alliance, 1945–2018” was the headline in *Foreign Policy*, which wrote, “The alliance was already a corpse, but Donald Trump drove the last nail into its coffin” (May 11).

“[I]t would be most unwise to underestimate the long-term damage to the

trans-Atlantic relationship caused by Washington's assault on Europe,” the *Washington Post* wrote. “Strong voices are now demanding that Europe stand up for its sovereignty by being more confrontational with Trump” (May 12).

America threatened sanctions on European trade with Iran. Then on June 1, the U.S. imposed tariffs on European aluminum and steel manufacturers. The EU has announced its own retaliatory tariffs, taking effect July 1. America may counter-retaliate, striking Europe's automobile industry.

But all these “anti-Europe” reactions from Mr. Trump raise an important question. Why was Europe making so many anti-American moves in the first place?

Europe pushed the climate change agreement hard, an agreement that requires the U.S. to lead developed countries in paying \$100 billion a year and immediately cut carbon dioxide emissions—while China can increase its emissions until 2030. (Read “What the Paris Climate Agreement Was Really About” at theTrumpet.com/15956.)

The environment is important, but this deal hobbled America's already indebted economy, and Europe's leaders were cheering it on.

The Iran deal was disastrous. It poured money into Iran and its terrorist proxies. Yet Europe backed it, eager for cheap oil and lucrative contracts. (Read “America's Deadly Nuclear Deal With Iran” at theTrumpet.com/14179.)

American money and power have protected Europe and its profitable trade. Mr. Trump is demanding that Germany rearm. That's dangerous. Although it is reasonable to expect Europe to contribute to its own defense, such suggestions have outraged Europe.

Europe has been fighting a trade war against the U.S. long before June 1. The European Union has slapped 10 percent tariffs on American cars and food for years. The U.S. imposes only tiny tariffs in exchange. The EU's mountains of regulations hinder U.S. firms trying to do business in Europe.

Germany also uses the euro to cheat. Because Germany shares the euro with its struggling neighbors, it enjoys a weaker currency than what a purely German currency would be. This makes German goods cheaper in the U.S. and

American goods more expensive in Germany. It's an invisible subsidy on everything Germany sells and an invisible tariff on everything America exports. (Read "Spiraling Into Trade War" at theTrumpet.com/17097.)

More broadly, when has Europe ever sacrificed for the U.S. in the ways America has sacrificed for Europe? Instead, Europeans have consistently taken advantage of America. Now America is doing something about it—and Europeans are furious.

I'm Over You

All relationships have their ups and downs. But Europe is ready to move on from America.

Spiegel editor in chief Klaus Brinkbäumer wrote a book titled *An Obituary*

for America: The End of a Friendship and the Future of the West. Spiegel Online published an article Brinkbäumer adapted from his book under the headline "Thank You, Donald! What Trump Means for Germany's Future."

Brinkbäumer does not see his country's relationship with America as a romance but as slavery from which Germans must "emancipate ourselves."

But the most surprising part of Brinkbäumer's book is not that he believes the relationship with America is dead. It is that he is happy about it.

"The cracks in trans-Atlantic relations caused by Donald Trump's election provide an opportunity for Germany to finally forge ahead with its own foreign policy," wrote Brinkbäumer (April 18).

Other Germans see it the same way.

Wolfgang Ischinger, the head of the Munich Security Conference, said that the breakdown in relations between Europe and Mr. Trump is an "extremely good opportunity, a wake-up call."

After the U.S. withdrew from the Iran deal, he said, "I cannot imagine a better motivation than this shock from Trump."

"Perhaps America had to pay the price for Europe to wake up and become resilient," said German Defense Minister Ursula von der Leyen. "Perhaps we should now shout, 'Thanks, Donald!'"

Brinkbäumer wants a new, independent Germany: "We will have to bid adieu to the soft, sheltered and, at times, sanctimonious foreign policy of the past. One that allowed the country to hide behind its protector and take

Money, Money, Money

FINANCE IS ONE OF THE MOST BITTER ASPECTS OF ANY divorce. As a couple, Europe and the United States have shared something much harder to divide than just a mortgage: They have shared a financial system.

Dollars dominate the international trading system. This gives the U.S. huge leverage. If a French company buys goods from China, dollars are still involved. America leverages this power through secondary sanctions. It has promised to use these to enforce the Iran deal. If a European energy giant trades with Iran, America can use secondary sanctions to lock that company out of the global financial system.

The sanctions are pushing Europe to avoid the dollar. It's trying to arrange trade for oil with Iran in euros.

In doing this, Europe is joining Russia and China. To avoid U.S. sanctions, Russia introduced its own alternative to the U.S.-based Visa and Mastercard payment system. Ninety percent of Russian ATMs now accept their Mir cards. This spring, it tested its own version of SWIFT, the interbank payment system that is dependent on the U.S.

China is also moving away from the dollar. It is creating its own gold-backed oil trading system.

China's government-run *Global Times* declared on May 23 that "the real culprit" in the looming trade wars "is the monopoly of the U.S. dollar in the global market." The way to prevent trade wars, it wrote, is to "allow greater use of other currencies, such as the yuan and the euro." Russian President Vladimir Putin agreed. He told Russia's parliament that "the whole world sees the dollar monopoly is unreliable: It is dangerous for many, not only for us."

In the wake of the split with the U.S., Europe's relations with Russia are thawing. Both German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Emmanuel Macron visited Putin in May. In June, Putin made his first visit to the



TIES THAT BIND
(From left) French President Macron, Russian President Putin and German Chancellor Merkel chat before the G-20 summit.

European Union since his reelection. He appealed for closer ties between the two blocs.

Germany is pushing for important economic projects with Russia, despite European sanctions against Moscow. The two are working on a joint pipeline to bring more Russian gas into Europe. This is a huge boost for a power that consistently uses gas as a weapon. America is threatening sanctions on European companies involved in the project—but Germany stands by Russia.

Germany is also drawing closer to China. Immediately after visiting Putin, Chancellor Merkel went to China—her 11th trip there during her 12 years in office. These visits have become so frequent that some even talk about a "special relationship" between the two.

From the start of Donald Trump's presidency, China has portrayed itself as the savior of free trade—despite its status as the most protectionist major economy.

The outlines of a new world order are emerging. Replacing the U.S. financial system cannot happen overnight. But it is clear that Europe, Russia and China are working on it.

RICHARD PALMER

morally pure positions that were also sometimes pedantic and chiding. Those days are over. Germany must become more active and become a foreign-polity player ..." (op cit).

In a later article, *Spiegel* wrote, "Lately, the American president has emerged as a great unifier of Europe" (May 11).

Bad Blood

America built its alliances to defend itself against communism. To this day, it still relies on these allies.

Trusting in your allies is a tempting but historically dangerous policy. Ancient Rome trusted the Germanic tribes to guard its frontier in Western Europe. The tribes turned against it and took over the western empire. The Byzantine Empire tried the same thing with Arab tribes with the same result: The tribes converted to Islam and turned against Constantinople. China relied on Turkic and Mongol tribes to defend its northern border; then Genghis Khan united the Mongols and turned them against China. The ancient Britons relied on the Anglo-Saxons for defense, until the Anglo-Saxons decided to take over.

The pattern repeats so often because there is no such thing as selfless love in international relations. There is only self-interest. When it is in a nation's self-interest, a nation betrays its allies.

Is the breakdown between Germany and America leading toward betrayal?

The Bible warns that it is. As shown in *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*, by Herbert W. Armstrong, the Bible reveals that Britain and America are modern-day descendants of Ancient Israel. And biblical prophecy warns that Israel will trust in lovers—foreign allies—that will destroy it.

"All thy lovers have forgotten thee; they seek thee not," warns God in Jeremiah 30:14.

"They give gifts to all whores; but thou givest thy gifts to all thy lovers, and hirest them, that they may come unto thee on every side for thy

whoredom," says God in Ezekiel 16:33. Could this apply better to any nation other than the modern United States? America has given away some of the most powerful weapons ever created. Despite all the gifts, these powers are turning against the U.S.

God says He is the one ultimately behind this trend. "All thy lovers have forgotten thee; they seek thee not; for *I have wounded thee* with the wound of an enemy," God reveals in Jeremiah 30:14. In Ezekiel 16:37, God says, "*I will*

"Lately, the American president has emerged as a great unifier of Europe."

—*Spiegel*

gather all thy lovers, with whom thou hast taken pleasure ... *I will even gather them round about against thee*"

Why? God explains in Ezekiel 23:35 that Israel "hast forgotten me, and cast me behind thy back." We have rejected God. We have not trusted Him for protection, and we try to make up for that lack of protection by looking to foreign powers.

God says that in the long run, it will not work.

God's problem with American foreign policy is that America trusts in foreign nations and not in Him.

Senior figures in the Trump administration quote 2 Chronicles 7:14: "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." They are right: This verse applies to America. God promises to protect us. But that protection has conditions. It requires the nation to "turn from their wicked ways," a part of the verse they often leave out of the quote.

Instead, we trust foreign powers.

Herbert W. Armstrong explained that in doing so we violate the first and

great commandment: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind" (Matthew 22:37).

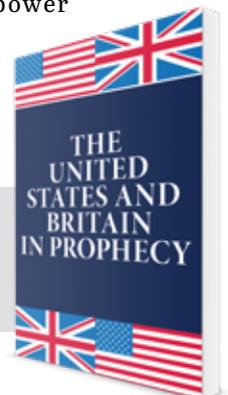
"We violate that as a nation," he said in a *World Tomorrow* broadcast in the 1980s. "Now I don't think we realize we are doing it—I don't think we do at all. I think we sincerely think—we've just kidded ourselves into thinking—we've been deceived into believing that we are really relying on God.

"But then you know, we think that God

is sort of a myth, and He's far off. Maybe He is not real? And maybe He couldn't really help us? So we must depend on something that is real. We must depend on something that we can see. And so now we are so afraid of Russia that the United States government feels that it must take what we call a 'calculated risk,' ... and try to build up Germany and Central Europe against Russia."

The United States built modern Europe. Its prosperity and security rest on American foundations. And now the Continent is turning against America exactly as the Bible warns.

God is behind what Europe will do to America once it turns on the U.S. But He does it out of His *love*. It will be painful for America to experience the consequences of its actions: to watch its lovers betray it. But God has a purpose. He says that ultimately "ye shall know that I am the Lord God" (Ezekiel 23:49). This breakup of a relationship that never should have developed will ultimately lead America to return to the one who loves the nation with a sincerity and power that no foreign country can match. ■



In God we trust

This statement is on America's money, but it has never really been true. But if Americans knew their true history, it would be engraved in their minds. To learn the remarkable history of the American and British peoples, request Herbert W. Armstrong's free book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*.



Did the Trump-Kim Summit Prevent World War III?

The current situation is hard to read, but biblical prophecy reveals the ultimate answer. **BY JOEL HILLIKER**

PEACEFUL OVERTURES
North Korean leader Kim Jong-un joins President Trump for a photo shoot after their historic meeting in Singapore.

IS THE KOREAN PENINSULA ABOUT TO experience peace? And will peace between North Korea and its neighbors prevent World War III?

For decades, the rogue dictatorship of North Korea has posed a unique and dangerous threat to its neighbors and even to the United States. It has developed and tested nuclear weapons and missiles that can strike South Korea, Japan and potentially the entire mainland of the United States.

Its leaders had openly threatened to annihilate U.S. cities. Current dictator Kim Jong-un issued deadly threats: “The entire United States is within range of our nuclear weapons; a nuclear button is always on my desk.” “The United States must choose! It’s up to you whether the nation called ‘the United States’ exists on this planet or not,” and, after test-launching a missile: “The American [expletive] would not be very happy with this gift sent on this July 4 anniversary.” He called United States President Donald Trump a “mentally deranged U.S. dotard” that he would “tame ... with fire,” and one of his

top military generals called the president “a guy bereft of reason.” And that is all just within the past 12 months.

Then Kim agreed to meet President Trump for a historic meeting in Singapore on June 12, and the two men greeted each other on friendly terms and signed a joint statement that reads, “Kim Jong-un reaffirmed his firm and unwavering commitment to complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.”

The meeting was historic—yet the joint statement is somewhat vague. Still, the fact there *is* a joint statement is amazing—yet North Korea has been deceitful about ending its nuclear program before. There are many unknowns. But Bible prophecy indicates that this summit will, in fact, bring more peace—temporarily.

Not the Spark for World War III

When tensions were hottest last summer, many commentators warned that a nuclear World War III could start. The *Trumpet* looked at the Bible’s prophecies and took a different view.

In “Does Bible Prophecy Say North Korea Could Trigger World War III?,” Jeremiah Jacques showed how prophecy reveals there is, in fact, a nuclear war coming, but that the spark that ignites it will not be North Korea. The improved relations between the United States and North Korea support that analysis. (Read the article at theTrumpet.com/16168 to see the nuclear scenario as explained in prophecy.)

Prophecy does provide a perspective you cannot gain from hearing the speeches, reading the agreement, or listening to the reporting on the Singapore summit. And it does suggest that this move in a peaceful direction is not an illusion.

25 Million Reasons for Hope

Contemplating these events, it is important to recognize just how terrible life is for the people of North Korea. As Jeremiah Jacques wrote in our February *Trumpet* issue: “Life for most of the country’s 25 million citizens is a slow-motion nightmare. One out of every hundred is imprisoned, mostly

on trumped-up charges of treason. Prisoners regularly suffer abuse and torture. Even 'free' citizens live in grim squalor. The average North Korean lives on \$25 to \$30 per month. More than three quarters of North Koreans are starving. One out of every three children is severely malnourished, to the point of stunted growth.

"And the people are not allowed to leave. Fences and walls surround the nation. Soldiers open fire on people who try to escape. Anyone caught is killed or tortured. And if one individual attempts escape—whether he is successful or not—authorities often brutally punish everyone in his family, including small children.

"The regime also controls information. Every word that is printed in any book or newspaper must be approved by the government. Practicing religion is a criminal offense punishable by imprisonment or death. Every word spoken on radio or TV is censored by or actually written by the regime. The government uses its grip on information to lie to and brainwash its people: *This country is paradise, better than any nation on Earth. People in all other countries are racially inferior savages who are far poorer than you. Your leader is a god—the only god, in fact. You should worship and bow to him. You are infantile, and you need his benevolent guidance.*"

No other country on Earth is so brutal and backward. No other regime is so inhumane and murderous. Many observers viewed President Trump meeting with Kim Jong-un as an appalling legitimization of his deplorable dictatorship. One can understand why, when you see Kim treated like some kind of hero in Singapore.

However, getting North Korea to denuclearize, to reconcile with South Korea, and to open its economy could allow a bit of sunlight from the outside world to shine on the North Koreans. Perhaps Kim Jong-un, who was educated in Switzerland, is more open to Westernization and greater freedoms than his father and grandfather, who ruled before him.

This would be cause for genuine celebration for the sake of those 25 million people. This possibility brings greater meaning to this statement from

President Trump in his press conference after the summit: "Our eyes are wide open, but peace is always worth the effort, especially in this case."

It is true that the agreement Trump and Kim signed was very light on specifics regarding denuclearization. It includes no timetable. It says nothing about the effort being "verifiable" or "irreversible." In this way, the deal looks similar to other agreements North Korea has signed over the years with promises to denuclearize—promises North Korea has broken.

However, *if* peace is possible, it must start somewhere. And President Trump is portraying this face-to-face meeting as the first step in a longer process.

And there *are* factors suggesting that this time is different. Kim Jong-un has been making some unprecedented moves. Just weeks ago, he crossed into South Korea, the first time a North Korean leader has done so since the Communist north and the democratic south split into separate countries. He agreed to formally end the Korean War by year's end, and he committed to "complete denuclearization" with no strings attached.

This may be another ruse, but other factors suggest it may be something more.

Keep Your Eye on China

What motivated Kim Jong-un to meet with South Korea's president and then with America's president?

Remember that *before* his outreach to South Korea and the U.S., Kim's first foreign trip since assuming power in 2011 was a surprise visit to China, on March 25. It was only after that historic meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping that Kim began reaching out to America and South Korea with offers of peace.

Then, on May 7, Kim met with President Xi in China for the second time. Right after that, Kim began retracting all those olive branches he had offered. President Trump canceled the June 12 summit, before subsequently restoring it.

How much is China dictating North Korea's foreign policy?

China has been propping up the North Korean regime for decades, and as *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry has brought out, it has long used North Korea as a tool to provoke, divert

and distract the U.S., while it gradually increases its own power within Asia.

Some analysts view the North's turn toward peace as marking a shift in China's tactics—but hardly a change in its overall strategy. Looking at the summit in this light, one can see how China can still use North Korea for its ends even if it denuclearizes and commences a more sane relationship with the United States.

At the Singapore summit, what tangible concession did President Trump make? He agreed to halt military exercises—what he called "war games"—with South Korea. He also mentioned the possibility of pulling American troops out of South Korea.

This is definitely a development China favors. Last year, China and Russia proposed what was called a "freeze for freeze" deal: North Korea would suspend its nuclear and missile programs if the U.S. would end military exercises with South Korea. At the time, both North Korea and the U.S. rejected the plan. Now, both nations agreed to it on their own.

China was the "one clear winner" of the Trump-Kim summit, according to *Quartz*: "The plan outlined in the two leaders' joint statement turns out to be exactly what Beijing wants" (June 12).

Indeed, China said it is pleased with the summit. Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said that after decades of antagonism between North Korea and the United States, "that the two countries' highest leaders can sit together and have equal talks, has important and positive meaning, and is creating a new history. China, of course, supports it."

China wants to see America leave South Korea and its influence in Asia diminish. Perhaps it has come to view peace with North Korea as the best way to achieve this.

America's dealings with North Korea are significant, but what you really need to watch is China.

Over the past year, with all the back-and-forth drama between the U.S. and North Korea, China has continued its military activities in the South China Sea. China disregarded the findings of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea and kept building islands. It coaxed the Philippines further

Why Is Target Accommodating Peeping Toms?

A small number of zealous “social justice” advocates are bullying the silent majority of Americans into submission. **BY ANDREW MILLER**

SEXUAL OFFENSES AT TARGET STORES have dramatically increased since the company’s 2016 announcement that men who identify as women are welcome in the women’s restroom. According to a recent study conducted by the Woman Means Something campaign, incidents of men attempting to look up the skirts of women while they use the restroom at Target have more than doubled since this policy change. And overall incidents of voyeurism (i.e. Peeping Tom offenses) have almost tripled.

But Target is not reconsidering its “gender-inclusive” restroom policies.

Two weeks after Target affirmed its policy of allowing customers to use the bathroom of their choice, a man was

caught videotaping a girl as she tried on bathing suits at a Target in Frisco, Texas. The girl noticed the man peering over the wall with a cellphone pointed at her. She ran and told Target staff, but the suspect left the scene before he could be apprehended. A warrant was later issued for his arrest.

But Target is not reconsidering its “gender-inclusive” restroom policies.

In March, a man exposed himself to a child in the women’s restroom at a Target store in Chicago, Illinois. Police reports say the perpetrator insisted he had to use the women’s restroom. He then pushed into a stall being used by a little girl and exposed his genitals before leaving the bathroom. Outraged shoppers threatened to boycott Target for its restroom policies after the incident.

Still, Target is not reconsidering its “gender-inclusive” restroom policies.

The reason Target allows men into women’s restrooms is not to make its customers more comfortable. YouGov data suggest 47 percent of American women are uncomfortable using a unisex toilet in public (and there may be more unwilling to admit their discomfort to a YouGov pollster). So Target is potentially alienating 60 million female customers to cater to the demands of 700,000 males who identify as female.

The department store chain enacted a policy of allowing transgender customers to use the bathroom of their choice after North Carolina passed a law requiring transgenders to use the public restroom corresponding to the sex listed on their birth certificates. Despite the fact that only 0.6 percent of Americans identify as transgender, this small but vocal minority is bending large corporations like Target and numerous politicians and laws to their will.

How is such a small group so powerful in our culture, business and politics?

Normally, endangering women and children to cater to about half a percent of the population would be a spectacularly poor business decision. But Target executives are worried less about offending women and children than they are about being labeled “transphobic.” Why?

At the end of the day, the transgender advocacy groups calling for unisex bathrooms are more vocal and more organized than their opposition. They label as a bigot anyone who says a man should not enter the women’s restroom. These accusations are successfully dominating the media cycle and keeping the *silent majority* of Americans silent—and, in effect, submissive to this agenda of cultural extremism.

This shocking example illustrates how a small number of zealous “social justice” advocates have established themselves as the arbitrators of America’s *new morality*.

By labeling anyone uncomfortable about a man in a women’s restroom as a bigot, activists can bully the majority of Americans into submission and dominate media attention. These progressive activists shout down, censor and otherwise block conservative, traditional, biblical views, attempting to allow only one set of opinions to be discussed publicly. Despite the fact that most Americans don’t necessarily agree with their views on homosexuality, transsexuality, immigration, gender, family and abortion, these activists are successfully and radically transforming American culture.

Politicize Everything

One of the most notable areas where “social justice” leftists have seized power in recent years is the corporate world. One of the most time-tested principles of conversation with a new acquaintance is, “Don’t talk politics.” No one was more sensitive to that than the businessman, who wanted to keep his employees as unified as possible and to sell to as many customers as possible, no matter their political views. For that reason, companies avoided political statements in order to not alienate anyone.



This has changed at more companies besides Target. Major corporations from Twitter to Delta Airlines to Kellogg's are making bold statements and taking bold actions to conform to the progressive agenda on abortion, homosexuality, transgenderism, immigration, race and other issues. Customers with different values are invited to shop elsewhere. Employees with different values have to leave.

Kevin Williamson was fired from the *Atlantic* after someone dug up one of his social-media posts from four years prior that suggested the legal penalty for abortion should match the legal penalty for murder. Harmony Daws was fired from her job at a cleaning business after she was named president of Oregon Right to Life. Her work as a pro-life activist had nothing to do with her job, but her boss argued that Daws's views would cause her to discriminate against other employees. Julianne Benzel, a history teacher at Rocklin High School, was put on administrative leave after suggesting to her students that school administrators were practicing a double standard by supporting a gun-control march while remaining neutral about an anti-abortion rally.

Coaches at a CrossFit gym in Indiana organized an event to express pride in lesbians, homosexuals, bisexuals and transgenders. Christian gym owner Brandon Lowe canceled the event when he found out about it, prompting a homosexual member of his gym to organize a boycott. Within two days, the gym closed under pressure. One CrossFit executive, Russell Berger, tweeted in defense of Lowe's decision and criticized the LGBT community for its intolerance. He faced such a backlash that, just hours after his tweet went viral, the CrossFit organization tweeted: "The statements made today by Russell Berger do not reflect the views of CrossFit Inc. For this reason, his employment with CrossFit has been terminated."

This is far from a unique incident. ESPN host Curt Shilling posted an opinion on Facebook stating that grown men should not be able to use the same restroom as young girls. ESPN fired him. SPX Flow Technology employee

Charles Rhoads declined to look at a homosexual coworker's wedding pictures. SPX fired him. Atlanta fire chief Kelvin Cochran wrote a men's devotional book that contained a paragraph condemning homosexuality. The department fired him. When it became public knowledge in 2014 that newly appointed Mozilla CEO Brendan Eich donated \$1,000 to support Proposition 8, a California initiative to ban same-sex "marriage," left-wing advocates forced him to resign within two weeks.

None of these people lost their jobs because their views on abortion or homosexuality affected their job performance. One could try to make a case that they were fired because their bosses were personally intolerant of their views. But the evidence in more and more instances suggests they were fired because the companies they worked for feared the backlash from sexual activists.

As these businesses cave in to such tactics, a small minority of aggressive people is dictating the "mainstream" view by which society is judged. This is the advanced stage of an intentional strategy to revolutionize the nation.

'Liberating Tolerance'

When America's culture wars began in earnest in the 1960s, one of the nation's most influential professors was Herbert Marcuse. Known as the "father of the New Left," Marcuse wrote the essay "Repressive Tolerance" in 1965, arguing that Western civilization was thoroughly corrupt and that the United States was addicted to war, exploitation and sexual oppression. To change this state of affairs and create a subversive majority, Marcuse advocated a revolutionary strategy called "liberating tolerance."

He defined liberating tolerance as "intolerance against movements from the right and tolerance of movements from the left." This would require "extreme suspension of the right of free speech and free assembly," but he insisted that this was justified "if the whole of society is in extreme danger." Marcuse's "liberating tolerance" notion became very popular among left-wing activists in the 1960s and '70s—a

The Atlantic

Fired Kevin Williamson for suggesting the legal penalty for abortion should match the penalty for murder.

CrossFit

Fired Russell Berger for defending a gym owner's right to cancel an event celebrating homosexuality.

SPXFLOW

Fired Charles Rhoads for declining to look at a homosexual coworker's wedding photographs.

ESPN

Fired Curt Shilling for suggesting that men should not be allowed in a restroom with young girls.



Censored conservative-leaning accounts expressing viewpoints not shared by Twitter employees.

Kellogg's

Pulled ads from Breitbart News after issuing a statement condemning the site's political values.

DELTA

Ran an ad featuring a same-sex couple to celebrate homosexuality.

generation that today holds high offices in politics, business and beyond.

Today's left-wing activists follow this general strategy. If you want to create a society where the majority of the people support abortion, homosexuality, transgenderism, socialism and other leftist doctrines, you must silence opposing viewpoints.

Slate magazine published an article titled "In Praise of Intolerance" last year. The article referenced Marcuse's philosophy and argued that the left should champion "truth" instead of "tolerance." It cited academia's intolerance of creationism and vaccine skepticism as justified examples of backing truth over tolerance. It listed the idea that men should be the head of the household as another idea that should not be tolerated.

Liberals (in the more traditional sense of the word) decried intolerance, saying people should be able to decide right and wrong for themselves rather than have religious morals imposed upon them. Present-day progressive activists are different. They enforce a new set of their own moral standards with the same fervor the colonial Puritans used to enforce the old set. In a world turned upside down, those who espouse traditional biblical morals are now the new heretics.

Apathetic Christians

One does not need a very long memory to recognize how radically and rapidly society is changing. Many of the moral stances people are fired for today were considered statements of the obvious a generation ago, or even five years ago. The beliefs that abortion is murder, that marriage is a union between a man and a woman, and that people are born male or female were known facts. Now, expressing such facts in public can get you in serious trouble.

This radical transformation in American culture illustrates how a *vocal minority* can punch above its weight—to the point of knocking down a *silent majority*—precisely because that majority is so weak-willed.

Gallup surveys indicate that over half of Americans oppose abortion under most circumstances, and almost half believe homosexuality is morally wrong. A large majority believe biological sex is real and fixed. The reason people are fired for expressing these beliefs is not because they are fringe opinions. It is because of the aggressive and successful efforts of a small, well-organized group of activists who pressure companies into firing such individuals.

Meanwhile, the great majority of Americans remain silent.

The radical left has been able to revolutionize American culture due to the moral apathy of the average citizen.

Seventy percent of Americans identify as Christian, but less than half of these say reading the Bible is essential to their Christian identity. A *USA Today* poll found 25 percent of Americans can name all seven ingredients in a McDonald's Big

Mac, but only 14 percent can accurately list the Ten Commandments. So while a majority of Americans feel that the moral fiber of the nation is deteriorating, they struggle to define right and wrong.

By adopting a live-and-let-live attitude, American Christians have surrendered their children to a secularized education system and surrendered their influence to a minority of vocal “social justice” advocates. The result is that America is approaching a tipping point where the *silent majority* becomes the *silenced minority*.

This never could have happened if Christians clung to biblical morality with the same fervor that progressive activists fight for irreligious principles.

Casting Truth to the Ground

Most Americans own a Bible, but do not read it. Yet the Bible contains important warnings about what happens when people become tolerant of evil and apathetic toward the truth.

The Prophet Daniel delivers an incredible end-time prophecy about a great apostasy in God's Church, enabled by religious apathy. This prophecy gives us vital context concerning the state of American morality today.

Daniel 8:11-12 prophesy of an authoritarian leader who comes in the same spirit as the ancient Hellenistic King Antiochus Epiphanes. This leader rebels against God and temporarily halts the work of God's Church. He is allowed to “cast down the truth to the ground” because of the sins of the people in the Church. This leader, with a small group of supporters, is able to hijack the Church and change its doctrines because of the people's apathy. They do not zealously love God's truth, so they lose it.

Trumpet editor in chief Gerald Flurry explains how this prophecy has been fulfilled in his booklet *America Under Attack* (free upon request). He further explains that these verses reveal the devil's strategy to destroy America: He takes advantage of people's apathy and uses a small group to cast truth to the ground.

“The *sins of the people* gave Satan his opening,” Mr. Flurry writes. “Their prayers to God are *not* being answered. THAT is why Antiochus can do all of his

dirty work: because there's so much SIN going on inside Israel. That was woefully true of spiritual Israel, God's Church, and it is equally true of our nations today.”

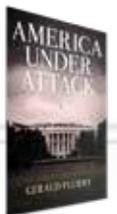
It is undeniable that there is a small, aggressive, well-organized movement working to convince Americans that abortion is normal, homosexuality is healthy, gender roles are oppressive, and the Bible is bigoted. But this movement has been successful only because the American people are ignorant of and lackadaisical toward biblical truth.

“The fact is, the GREAT MAJORITY are forming views, making decisions, and creating policies having been influenced—even bullied—by political correctness, peer pressure or societal coercion,” writes *Trumpet* managing editor Joel Hilliker in *Redefining Family* (free upon request). “There has been a clandestine yet concerted effort to radically change people's minds about homosexuality. And whether they realize it or not, many people have come to accept and embrace this idea because they've been unwittingly manipulated to do so.”

Americans pride themselves on being tolerant, but this liberal “tolerance” runs in one direction. When most of society strongly opposed homosexuals, transsexuals, abortion advocates and other liberals, the strategy was to advocate tolerance. But now that radical liberal causes have grown stronger and the opposition has grown weaker, their strategy is shifting away from the tolerance ideal and becoming much more aggressive. This creates an environment where a small group of radicals can bully the silent majority into submission and cast truth to the ground.

So, if you are one of the 8 in 10 Americans who believes moral behavior in the country is deteriorating, now is the time to examine what you believe. The solution to apathy is zeal for the truth. It will take national repentance to *bring people back to God* and turn this world's upside-down morals right-side up.

If you do not zealously love and defend the truth, you will eventually come to believe a lie. ■





Dining Through the Decades: 70 Years of American Food

What we are eating now is not the food it once was. **BY JORG MARDIAN**

IN THE LAST CENTURY, HUMAN TRANSPORTATION has gone from horse and buggy to space travel. The foods we've eaten have taken an equally remarkable journey, with dietary patterns changing from the family table to today's busy urbanized lifestyle.

But is the food revolution progress? The United States now spends more than any country on medical care and suffers shamefully bad health. We have destroyed our agricultural base and poisoned our environment and our bodies with chemicals and processed foods. Standard eating for most Americans is calorie-rich and nutrient-poor.

The Calorie Explosion

Eat like your grandparents and improve your health. Does this sound crazy? Fifty to 70 years ago, the typical family ate three daily meals. Overeating was rare and snacking was limited. Our grandparents ate less, and generally ate far more whole, unprocessed food staples: rice, rolled oats, potatoes, vegetables, butter, whole grain breads, lots of eggs and full cream milk. Fast food was a novelty.

In today's world, meals are four times larger and 500 calories heavier per day than in the 1970s, and 800 calories more per day than in the late 1950s. PewResearch.org says most of our calories come from unhealthy fats, sugars and refined grains. We consume 36 pounds of cooking oils a year, and 77 pounds of sweeteners, or 22.9 teaspoons a day.

The Nutrient Collapse

Over the decades, farming has shifted

from meat and poultry raised on grass to feedlots where the animals ingest growth hormones, antibiotics and genetically modified feed. More than 10 billion animals are raised in American factories annually, with most never seeing daylight except on their way to slaughter. They live in dark, tiny, unsanitary conditions where diseases spread rapidly. They eat unnatural foods loaded with chemicals and drugs that directly impact human health through diminished nutrient absorption (aspeca.org).

Fruits and vegetables are also different. "Varieties grown decades ago were richer in vitamins and minerals than what we consume today, with the main culprit being soil depletion due to intensive agricultural methods. Chemicals, synthetic fertilizers and genetic modification ensure that each successive generation of fast-growing, pest-resistant carrot is less good for us than the one before. A University of Colorado study noted that nutrient density of food has declined by over 50 percent since 1950" (TotalHealthMagazine.org).

At the retail level, local, small-batch food items have been replaced by mass-produced supermarket products that endure a torturous refinement process. The end result is that restaurants and supermarkets provide an overly sweetened, chemicalized panorama of processed foods that cheat our bodies, making us fat and sick.

"According to the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention], American women now weigh as much as the average man did in 1960. The girth of U.S.

men has also expanded, to the tune of nearly 30 pounds from the 1960s" (CBS Atlanta). Further back, the average 1950s woman was a size 12 and had a 27-inch waist. These days, the average woman is a size 16 and has a 34-inch waist. In short, our gastronomic debasement has led to an obesity crisis. And up to 60 percent of adults suffer chronic diseases, with 700,000 of them dying annually. In the 1950s and '60s, only 10 percent of the population was chronically ill.

The Conclusion of the Matter

In *Food Inc.*, author Michael Pollan sums up our diet this way: "The way we eat has changed more in the last 50 years than in the previous 10,000." He says our foods have shifted from whole to refined, from complex to simple carbohydrates, and "from food culture to food science."

The fact that most supermarket and restaurant food comes from factories makes it harder for you than it was for your grandparents to eat healthy food. But it's not impossible. Eat fruits and vegetables in season, as well as whole, unprocessed grains, milk, butter, cream, meat, fish and eggs in the most natural and digestible form possible.

Eating whole foods that remain close to the way they were originally created is simple. You don't have to know complex chemistry or factory processes. Just *avoid* the ever increasing number of food products that have long lists of unpronounceable ingredients. Stick with the simple, healthy foods that your grandparents would recognize.

Eat closer to how God originally created food to be, and you will enjoy health similar to the health your grandparents' generation enjoyed. ■

ISTOCK.COM: SVETLANA SOCHENKO, VALENTIN RUSANOV, KRUGLOV OLEG, FOTOKOSTIC, FIMAJOR, DUXX, GEORGE MARKS, ANDRESS, ALVAREZ, SGR, ZIKOVEC, WEZEKAL, PAUL GRECAUD, ZELJKOSANTRAC, ALEXEY KUZNETSOV, CHUTIMA CHAOCHAYA, LEV DOLGACHOV, KYNNY

Is Our World Getting Better and Better?

We have made some undeniable progress. So why does it feel like the world is getting worse and worse?

BY JOEL HILLIKER

AND NOW, SOME GOOD NEWS. DID YOU KNOW that global poverty is going down? Did you know that global literacy is going up? Did you know that violent crime statistics are dropping and IQs are rising? Did you know that child labor and exploitation are decreasing and human rights are increasing?

Our headlines are full of social division, political gridlock, international disorder, increasing militarization, environmental disasters and other problems. Watch the news for half an hour, and it certainly appears that world conditions are getting worse and worse.

But some intelligent people argue that since news coverage inherently focuses on danger, suffering and trauma, we are seeing a distorted picture of the world. They argue that the data shows a tremendous amount of human progress. And their arguments are compelling.

So, is the world getting better and better? Or are we on the brink of World War III? Or both?



Measuring Progress

Harvard University psychology professor Steven Pinker believes you are too pessimistic. His recent book, *Enlightenment Now: The Case for Reason, Science, Humanism and Progress*, makes a sustained argument that the world is, in fact, getting better.

In a TED Talk based on the book, Pinker said, “Many people face the news each morning with trepidation and dread. Every day, we read of shootings, inequality, pollution, dictatorship, war and the spread of nuclear weapons. ... You can always fool yourself into seeing a decline if you compare bleeding headlines of the present with rose-tinted images of the past. What does the trajectory of the world look like when we measure well-being over time using a constant yardstick?”

He then compared some recent statistics to the same metrics from 30 years ago. It may surprise you to learn that the homicide rate in America has dropped from 8.5 per 100,000 to 5.3. The percentage of Americans below the poverty line (as measured by consumption) has fallen from 11 percent to 3 percent. The percentage of the world population in extreme poverty has plunged from 37 percent to 9.6 percent. Three decades ago, 23 wars were raging; as of February 2018, there were only 12. The number of nuclear weapons has dropped from 60,780 to 10,325. The number of democracies has grown from 45 governments over 2 billion people to 103 governments over 4.1 billion people.

He makes it sound like warnings about the end of the world are just hype. Is that a valid conclusion to draw from these statistics?

Look at a broader time line: Over the last 200 years, life expectancy for a human being has increased from about 30 years to 71 years. Infant mortality has plummeted from 33 percent to 6 percent. Infectious diseases, undernourishment and catastrophic famines are disappearing, even in poor countries. Poverty is declining: The world is now about 100 times wealthier than it was in the early 1800s.

These are some striking developments, and they are indeed easy to take for granted. We don't tend to think about how much safer, healthier, wealthier and long-living the average person is compared to a few generations ago. But what a difference!

Another exciting trend is the rise in literacy. Two centuries ago, only 12 percent of the world could read and write. Today, it is 86 percent. After the basic needs of food, shelter and clothing, literacy is crucial not only to quality of life, but also to intellectual and even spiritual development.

Some specific statistics or trends that observers like Pinker cite may be a matter for debate.

But *many* are legitimately, indisputably worth celebrating.

Many people looking at these measurements are concluding that the world is getting better and better, and we just need to keep doing what we have been doing. For example, then U.S. President Barack Obama said in 2016: “[T]he world has never been less violent, healthier, better educated, more tolerant, with more opportunity for more people, and more connected than it is today.”

Yet the question remains: Why, at the same time people are eating better, consuming more and living longer, do so many of us have the sense that we are approaching a global catastrophe? Pinker's explanation is that media coverage is a major culprit. “You never see a journalist who says, ‘I'm reporting live from a country that has been at peace for 40 years,’ or a city that has not been attacked by terrorists,” he said. “[I]f you combine our cognitive biases with the nature of news, you can see why the world has been coming to an end for a very long time indeed.”

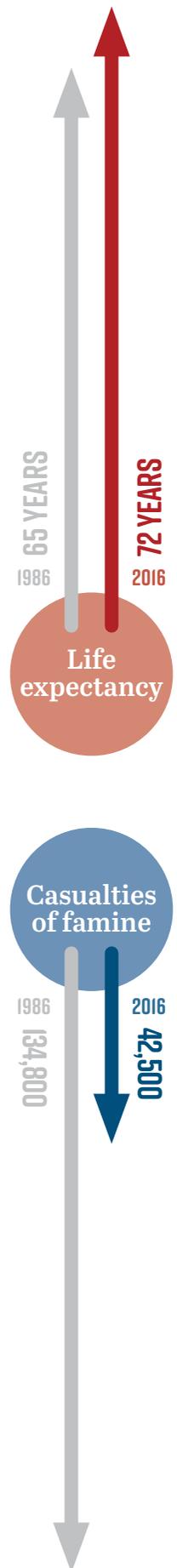
He makes it sound like warnings about the end of the world are just so much hype. Is that a valid conclusion to draw from these statistics?

Why Progress?

Seeing the improving measurements of human development naturally raises the question, *what is the cause?* Why are people living longer, earning more money, receiving better educations?

Pinker answers this way: “Progress is not some mystical force or dialectic lifting us ever higher. It's not a mysterious arc of history bending toward justice. It's the result of human efforts governed by an idea, an idea that we associate with the 18th-century Enlightenment, namely that if we apply reason and science that enhance human well-being, we can gradually succeed. ... We will never have a perfect world, and it would be dangerous to seek one. But there's no limit to the betterments we can attain if we continue to apply knowledge to enhance human flourishing. This heroic story is not just another myth. Myths are fictions, but this one is true, true to the best of our knowledge, which is the only truth we can have.”

In a *Wall Street Journal* article on the same subject, Pinker summed it up this way: “Our ancestors replaced dogma, tradition and authority with reason, debate and institutions of truth-seeking. They replaced superstition and magic with science. And they shifted their values from the glory of the tribe, nation, race, class or faith toward universal human flourishing” (February 13). He gives a lot of specific examples of how these approaches have produced advancements in medicine, health, food production, public safety, and peace among nations. The effects are improved health, nutrition,



wealth, safety, freedom and peace among nations. The basic cause, he says is *human ability*.

By this view, human history is something of a giant ramp, leading from human misery and ignorance upward toward greater human accomplishment and happiness. It is consistent with the evolutionary model: We have evolved from basic elements to single-cell organisms to more complex life forms, and are evolving to become smarter, more capable and more resilient. We used to write on papyrus, now we communicate with smartphones. We used to build chariots, now we build spacecraft. Surely, then, we human beings who have developed amazing technology can develop systems to end things like crime and war.

This theory has some dangerous flaws.

Material Progress—Spiritual Absence

Look again at the metrics of human progress over the past 200 years, and you can clearly see that most of them have to do with *material issues*. They deal with matter, with physical elements. They deal less—or not at all—with *relationships between human beings*.

“Why do we find a world of awesome advancement and progress, yet paradoxically with appalling and mounting evils?” Herbert W. Armstrong asked in *Mystery of the Ages*. “Why cannot the minds that develop spacecraft, computers and marvels of science, technology and industry solve the problems that demonstrate human helplessness? ... The developed nations have made awesome progress. They have produced a highly mechanized world providing every luxury, modern convenience and means of pleasure. Yet they are cursed with crime, violence, injustice, sickness and disease, broken homes and families.”

The reason for this paradox is that mankind is cut off from true spiritual knowledge. This truth is explained in *Mystery of the Ages* (which we will send you free upon request). More on this later.

Human history includes a great deal of *false* spiritual information, superstition and dogma. And as this has been challenged in recent centuries, there has been a corresponding leap forward in material knowledge. The Western world and much of humanity has managed to build an enormous bank of knowledge since the Dark Ages. In the past century, scientific knowledge production has multiplied exponentially.

This has not, however, filled the void of *true spiritual knowledge*, which cannot be discovered materially or scientifically.

Though material knowledge has increased, the limits of this progress, absent that spiritual dimension, are already becoming evident. Some human advancements have peaked and are now declining. And some advancements have long-term

consequences that have not yet fully come due.

Take for example the remarkable decrease in famine, for which Pinker credits crop rotation, synthetic fertilizers, hybrids and machinery. These processes do produce more food, and starvation is dramatically lower because of them. But to achieve this, we have exhausted and depleted our soils of nutrients. If we do not continue applying more and more synthetic fertilizers and industrial farming methods, huge areas will quickly become deserts. Meanwhile, these soils are producing less nutritious foods. Hence the explosion of chronic disease and the mushrooming need for clinics, medical complexes, hospitals, cancer centers and hospices.

Pinker highlights welfare programs as another advancement. But the legitimate needs these programs fill are accompanied by massive and growing abuses, bloat and political distortion. Nations are literally going into monumental, bankrupting debt to provide these “advancements.”

This is true of the high costs of many of our modern miracle solutions to age-old problems. We are effectively buying advancement by going into debt—a debt that we or our children will eventually have to pay. A day of reckoning is coming.

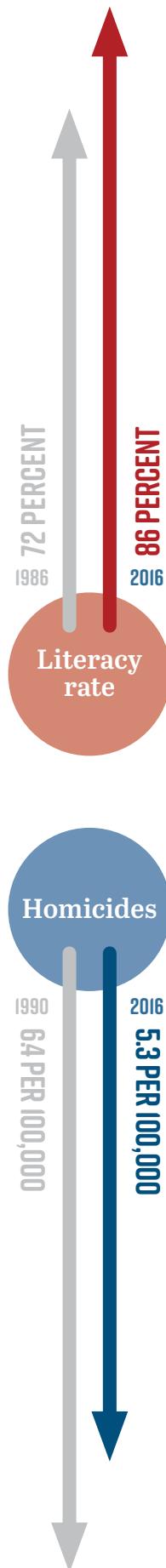
Conditions might be better now than they were 30 years ago. But that does not mean they will be better 30 years from now.

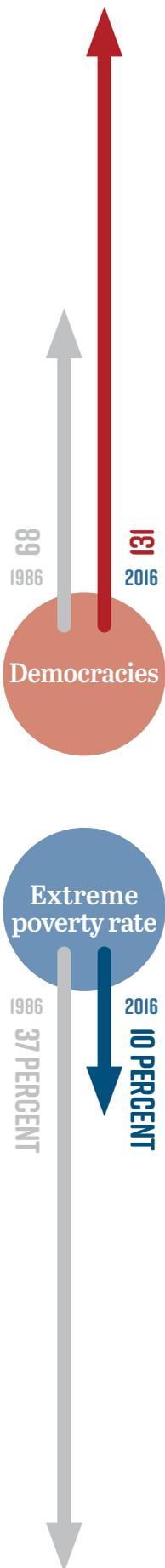
The Reversing Trend

Some of our advancements are already regressing. For example, while Pinker says average IQs have risen some 30 points in the last two centuries, a massive recent study showed a 7-point drop per generation in recent times.

More generally, some ideals that Pinker (to a degree correctly) credits with having helped human progress are fading away. Our current generation is actually renouncing some of the basic principles that led to increased stability, opportunity, success and justice for millions of people over hundreds of years.

Paul Bonicelli served in the United States Agency for International Development and the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee. He wrote for the *Federalist*: “Although the Enlightenment has indeed been ‘working’ for some time now, ameliorating the human condition all over the world, in recent years it has been definitively rejected by the modern left and by some elements of the right. On college campuses, Enlightenment ideas about the rule of law and freedom of speech have been replaced by campus tribunals and the heckler’s veto. The Enlightenment itself is condemned for being the project of racist white men and the product of societies devoted to empire and colonialism. Even the Enlightenment notion of objective truth is scoffed at by academics and activists alike” (February 14).





The rule of law, the reliability of rational thought, the fact that there is such a thing as truth—these are vital principles for stability and long-term prosperity that we have taken for granted for generations. But now they are being rejected.

Even democracy is in retreat. “The heady democratic expansion of the 1990s has been replaced by democratic stagnation or even recession,” wrote *Foreign Policy* (Sept. 8, 2016). The Brookings Institution says some analysts and policymakers believe democracy “has run its course.” Freedom House’s 2018 Freedom in the World study found for the 12th year in a row that democracy is decreasing around the world: “[C]ountries that suffered democratic setbacks outnumbered those that registered gains. States that a decade ago seemed like promising success stories—Turkey and Hungary, for example—are sliding into authoritarian rule. The military in Myanmar, which began a limited democratic opening in 2010, executed a shocking campaign of ethnic cleansing in 2017 and rebuffed international criticism of its actions. Meanwhile, the world’s most powerful democracies are mired in seemingly intractable problems at home, including social and economic disparities, partisan fragmentation, terrorist attacks, and an influx of refugees that has strained alliances and increased fears of the ‘other.’”

As democracies decay, authoritarians are rising in several countries, including some of the most important nations in the world. Russian President Vladimir Putin has encouraged a cult of personality, made a mockery of Russia’s elections, changed its Constitution, crushed dissent, assassinated journalists, started wars, and invaded and annexed territory. Chinese President Xi Jinping has made similar changes to his country’s government, granting himself more power for longer periods and increasing his control over China’s people and military. Strongmen have risen in the Philippines, Thailand, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Hungary, Austria and elsewhere. The next one might take over Germany.

If humans truly are getting better and better, then the rule of law, democracy and absolute truth were steps up the ramp of progress. Now we are rejecting those principles. By definition, this cannot be another step up the ramp to a better and better world.

An Age of Greater Danger

As we witness the decline of democracy and rise of authoritarianism, we are seeing an increase in military spending globally. Our advanced world is using its increased education, technology and wealth to produce chemical, biological and nuclear weapons and missiles, jets, ships and submarines that can launch them within minutes. In one sense, these weapons systems are an amazing

BETTER AND BETTER? PAGE 30 ►

What Caused the Boom?

Human civilization has experienced several positive developments in recent generations. Intriguingly, writers like Steven Pinker pin the most dramatic improvement in the human condition to the past 200 years.

What major event occurred 200 years ago that could have powered and sustained a massive boom in human development for billions of people around the world? Did people just start “figuring it out”?

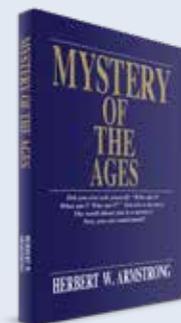
Historians know what major turning point in human history occurred right around the year 1800: Britain and the United States rather suddenly emerged as world powers. Like every world power before them, these two nations introduced a lot of negatives, but they also introduced enormous positives: individual liberty, limited constitutional government, democracy, criminal justice, education, sanitation, irrigation, improved agriculture, revolutionary industrialization, technological innovation, free markets, charity, international aid, defeat of dictators, protection of global trade, criminalizing violent superstitions, valuing human life, promotion of the arts, and submission to the rule of law.

Many of these are the very advancements that observers credit for lifting billions of people from ignorance, illness and poverty. And they are traceable to the influence of Britain and America.

Did these advancements come from the superiority of the British and Americans? Did these peoples simply figure out a more enlightened way? Or did it come from something else?

Much of the positive influence that the British and the Americans exerted traces back to their belief in the principles of the Holy Bible. But there is much more to it. The Bible prophesied that God would bless the descendants of Abraham. It also said that if those descendants disobeyed Him, He would suspend that fulfillment for 2,520 years. And when did that 2,520-year suspension end? Right around 1800.

For 200 years, human civilization has experienced massive improvements in some aspects. The ultimate cause is blessings from God. To learn when, where, how and why, read Herbert W. Armstrong’s book *Mystery of the Ages*, specifically “The Mystery of Civilization” (Chapter 4) and “The Mystery of Israel” (Chapter 5) (theTrumpet.com/go/moa).





But God fulfilled what He had promised. WHEN THE WATCHMEN INSIDE THE CITY WOKE UP ONE MORNING, THEY SAW THAT SENNACHERIB'S GIANT ARMY, ALL 185,000 MEN, WERE DEAD! God had sent an angel to destroy an entire army! God protected Jerusalem in a miraculous way for David's sake and for His own sake!

After his whole army was miraculously killed, Sennacherib returned to Nineveh. He had been deeply humiliated. But he still recorded his conquest of 46 cities.

This great Gentile king had conquered Lachish, Judah's second-greatest city. He recorded that event on wall reliefs in his palace

in Nineveh. He was so proud of his accomplishments. HE BOASTED THAT HE "SHUT [HEZEKIAH] UP LIKE A CAGED BIRD IN HIS ROYAL CITY OF JERUSALEM." And that is where history's secular record ends. Through artifacts like the Taylor Prism and Lachish wall reliefs, Sennacherib documented his successful conquests. But regarding Jerusalem, he failed to document the one night that changed everything—for that city, for Judah and for the Assyrian superpower.

Some time after his return, two of his sons murdered him and then fled to Armenia. Another son eventually became the king of Assyria.

Why do you think his sons killed him? Do you suppose it had to do with this stunning defeat—the fact that in one night the Assyrian army was completely wiped out by an angel of God?

You can't always trust history and the documentation of men. *But you can always trust the true history of the Bible.* This is a hard lesson for mankind to learn. I have looked at the story of Sennacherib from the angle of secular documents and biblical records, and every time I read what the Bible says, I'm more and more impressed, moved and galvanized to action!

And two important figures at the center of this remarkable history left seals in the dust of Jerusalem!

Seal of Hezekiah

When you look at the seal of King Hezekiah, you have to ask why he created a seal depicting a sun with two downturned wings?

2 Kings 20 tells us that around the time of Assyria's conquests, Hezekiah was "sick unto death." God was really testing and trying this king. Humbled by his illness, Hezekiah delivered a heartfelt and tearful prayer to God. God then told Isaiah, "Turn again, and tell Hezekiah the captain of my people, Thus saith the Lord, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal thee: on the third day thou shalt go up unto the house of the Lord. And I will add unto

SEALS FROM PAGE 1

God was unhappy with what Hezekiah was doing. As correction, He allowed Sennacherib and his giant army to march into Judah and conquer 46 powerfully fortified cities! This was deeply alarming to Hezekiah. But once again, rather than looking to God and His prophet, Hezekiah went to the temple, stripped it of its gold and silver, and paid Sennacherib tribute. He hoped he could buy protection by looking to a man—a monumental mistake.

This tribute only encouraged Sennacherib to redirect his attack on Jerusalem. He sent a letter to Hezekiah proclaiming that after attacking Egypt, he would return to Jerusalem. In it, Sennacherib made fun of and taunted the great God—all to his deep shame!

At last, Hezekiah chose a different response. "And Hezekiah received the letter of the hand of the messengers, and read it: and Hezekiah went up into the house of the Lord, and spread it before the Lord" (2 Kings 19:14). In the temple, Hezekiah cried out to God. He was no longer going to rely on men or wealth for protection. He started *looking to God*. And amazing things began to happen.

God heard Hezekiah's prayer, and sent Isaiah to him with a message. The king and prophet were now working together. Isaiah said, "Therefore thus saith the Lord concerning the king of Assyria, He shall not come into this city, nor shoot an arrow there, nor come before it with shield, nor cast a bank against it. By the way that he came, by the same shall he return, and shall not come into this city, saith the Lord. For I will defend this city, to save it, for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake" (verses 32-34).

Sennacherib's army eventually besieged Jerusalem. One hundred eighty-five thousand soldiers surrounded the city. No one could enter, and no one could leave. The city was ready to die.

thy days fifteen years; and I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria; and I will defend this city for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake" (verses 5-6).

After receiving this promise, Hezekiah asked for a sign as proof that God would heal him. He was given the option to see the sun move either forward or backward. Hezekiah knew that the sun moves forward every day, so he wanted it moved back. And that's exactly what God did! The shadow on the sun dial moved backward 10 degrees. The sun moved backward as a sign to this great king that GOD WOULD NOT ONLY HEAL HIM, BUT HE WOULD ALSO HEAL JERUSALEM AND ALL OF JUDAH! God added 15 years to Hezekiah's life. This is a powerful part of this history!



SYMBOLS

The Hezekiah bulla features the sun with downturned wings.

The wings on Hezekiah's bulla represent God's healing and protection. This is symbolism found throughout the Bible. Psalm 84:11 says that "God is a sun and shield"; Psalm 91:4 says we can take refuge under God's wings; Ezekiel 16:8 says God will cover us with protection. These verses explain why Hezekiah would use such symbolism on his royal seal.

The Bible interprets its own symbolism.

"But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall" (Malachi 4:2). THIS IS ESSENTIALLY THE SAME SYMBOLISM ON HEZEKIAH'S SEAL. LET THE STONE OF HEZEKIAH SPEAK! THIS VERSE SPEAKS WITH A THUNDEROUS VOICE TODAY! GOD HEALED HEZEKIAH AND THE WHOLE NATION! That bulla is an impressive reminder of God's protection. What a wonderful promise from God that He will "arise with healing in his wings." What a miraculous healing!

Our faith can grow weak, just like Hezekiah's did. We are subject to sin, just like one of Judah's greatest kings. But Hezekiah really knew how to turn things around. What an inspiring story that is!

Dr. Mazar has said that the design for Hezekiah's bulla was created after the invasion of Assyria. Why would Hezekiah choose this design for his bulla? He wants us to remember this miraculous history. We are talking about miracles that are shaking the universe! I don't know how anyone could not be deeply moved by this marvelous truth.

Isaiah's Message for Today

King Hezekiah worked very closely with one of the Bible's greatest prophets. Isaiah had a powerful warning for Judah in his book. But he did *not* write this message for his day. God instructed him, "Now go, write it before them in a table, and note it in a book, that it may be for the time to come for ever and ever" (Isaiah 30:8). This verse is referring to the latter

days—the age leading into the Messiah's coming. Many other scriptures show that this is the time we live in today!

In his book, Isaiah took pains to record the entire history of Hezekiah, which is also recorded in 2 Kings. Why would he do that? It is because that history is relevant for *our time!* We are living in the latter days. God wants us to go back to that example and learn some of the greatest lessons in the Bible.

If you truly believe the Bible, then you can understand some powerful lessons from it.

The world is growing very dangerous. Whether or not people realize it, threats like powerful foreign armies are rising. The example of Hezekiah and Isaiah working together shows how such threats can be overcome! This combination is one of the Bible's most powerful examples of a king working with a prophet. They give us an astounding example of the kind of miracles that can come from such a partnership!

The book of Isaiah contains some of the Bible's most inspiring prophecies. For example, God says in Isaiah 51:16, "And I have put my words in thy mouth, and I have covered thee in the shadow of mine hand, that I may plant the heavens, and lay the foundations of the earth, and say unto Zion, Thou art my people."

What does God mean when He says He will "plant the heavens"? Many verses show that He is going to beautify the whole universe! He will cause the Earth to blossom like a rose, and then He will expand that beauty out into the cosmos! Isaiah 9:7 says that "of the increase of [God's] government and peace there shall be no end"—forever!

God is planning for that future right now. You can be a part of it.

You can see why God wants to keep the vision of Hezekiah and Isaiah alive. LET THE STONES OF HEZEKIAH AND ISAIAH SPEAK. The history they represent is awe-inspiring if we truly believe it. Those stones have a thundering voice of hope for any age—but especially for the time we live in today! ■

SEE THE SEALS

The archaeology exhibit at Armstrong Auditorium is free and open to the public. For more information, visit ArmstrongAuditorium.org or call 405.285.1010. If you are unable to visit, you can receive the information presented in the exhibit by requesting a free copy of the exhibit brochure, *Seals of Isaiah and King Hezekiah Discovered*.



SEALS OF ISAIAH AND
KING HEZEKIAH DISCOVERED

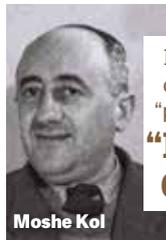
התגלו החומות של ישעיהו והמלך חזקיהו

THE IRON BRIDGE



Dr. Benjamin Mazar leads a tour around the excavation site of the "big dig."

Celebrating 50 years of partnership in Jerusalem



Moshe Kol

Israeli Tourism Minister Moshe Kol called Ambassador College's "partnership with Israel" an **"IRON BRIDGE THAT CAN NEVER BE BROKEN."**

1980-1984

- Ambassador students assist Prof. Yigal Shiloh in the City of David.

1989

- Gerald Flurry leaves the Worldwide Church of God and establishes the Philadelphia Church of God.

1968

1968

- Prof. Benjamin Mazar partners with Ambassador College.

1978

1969-1978

- Prof. Mazar's team uncovers palaces from the Umayyad period, houses from the Byzantine period, a large complex from the Herodian period, as well as streets, squares, shops, ritual baths and other remnants from the Iron Age, Second Temple and Muslim periods.
- Hundreds of Ambassador College students participate in Professor Mazar's excavations.

1988

1988

- Herbert W. Armstrong dies.
- Professor Mazar praises Mr. Armstrong's **"deep devotion to the ideals of peace and justice in the spirit of the biblical prophets. His feeling for Israel and Jerusalem was manifested in his true interest in the archaeological excavations near the Temple Mount and in the City of David."**

In 1968, Ambassador International Cultural Foundation founder Herbert W.

Armstrong entered into a 50/50 joint partnership with Hebrew University to excavate the area just south of the Temple Mount. The excavations were led by former Hebrew University president Prof. Benjamin Mazar and were the largest excavations in Israel. In 2018, 50 years later, the Armstrong International Cultural Foundation, led by Gerald Flurry, continues the partnership with Hebrew University and Professor Mazar's granddaughter, archaeologist Dr. Eilat Mazar.



Eilat with her grandfather Benjamin Mazar



Herbert W. Armstrong embraces Israeli Prime Minister Menachim Begin.

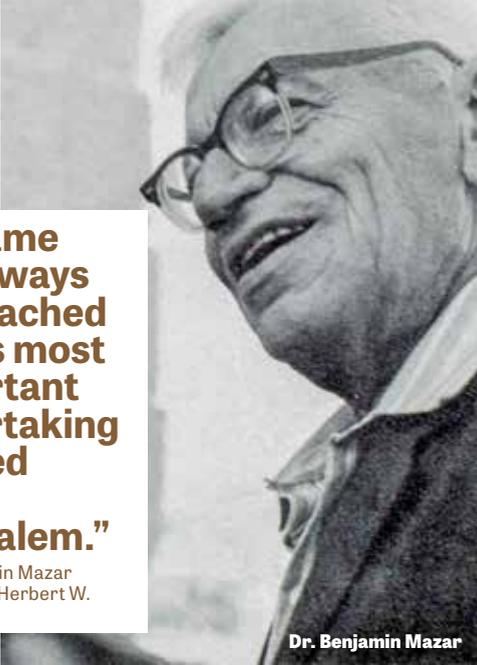


Mr. Armstrong presents Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir with a gift.

COURTESY ELIAT MAZAR (2), PUBLIC DOMAIN, TRUMPET (2)

“His name will always be attached to this most important undertaking carried out in Jerusalem.”

—Dr. Benjamin Mazar (referring to Herbert W. Armstrong)



Dr. Benjamin Mazar

Referring to the Herbert W. Armstrong College students joining her excavations in the City of David, Dr. Eilat Mazar said she was **“excited to have the Ambassadors back with us.”**



Herbert W. Armstrong College has hosted two exhibits so far to showcase Eilat Mazar's significant finds.

January–March 2018

- Dr. Eilat Mazar begins another excavation on the Ophel—one entirely funded by the Armstrong International Cultural Foundation and largely staffed by AC students and graduates.
- In a cave on the site, Armstrong students uncover coins minted in the first century A.D. during the Jewish revolt against the Roman Empire.

June–August 2018

- The Armstrong International Cultural Foundation celebrates 50 years of biblical excavation in the most important city in the world, Jerusalem.

1996

- Prof. Benjamin Mazar dies.
- The Armstrong International Cultural Foundation is established.

“Without the support of Mr. Armstrong and the Ambassadors, the Temple Mount Excavations would have never become, as it did, the most important and largest excavations in Israel at that time.”

—Dr. Eilat Mazar

2005

- Dr. Eilat Mazar finds the first portion of King David's palace at the City of David.

2006

- Three AC students assist in the second phase of her excavation of King David's palace.

1998

2001

- Herbert W. Armstrong College (AC) is established.

2008

2007–2008

- With the help of AC students, Dr. Eilat Mazar discovers Nehemiah's wall, Gedaliah's bulla, and a 150-foot water tunnel King David may have used in the initial conquest of Jerusalem.

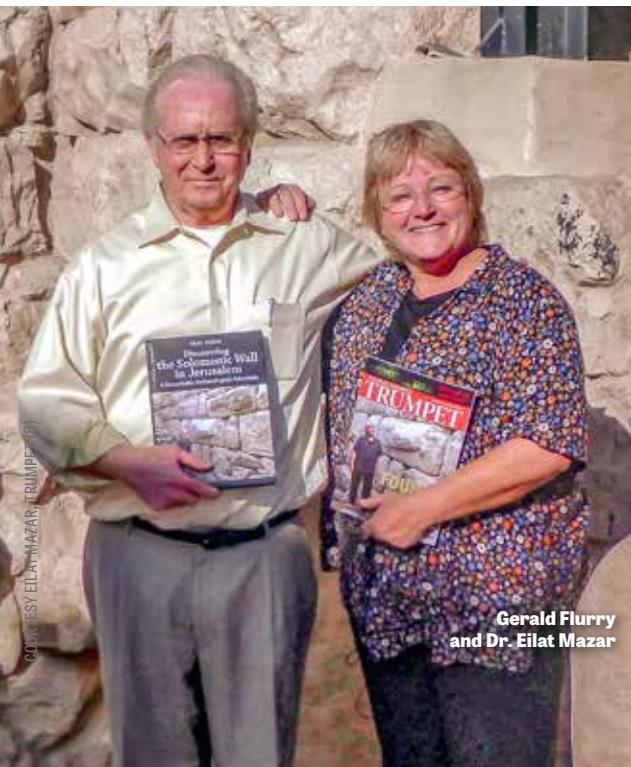
2009, 2012–2013

- AC students help date a wall that Dr. Mazar identifies as part of a complex built by King Solomon.
- This excavation uncovers the bullae of King Hezekiah and Isaiah.

2018

January 2012–October 2015

- Two of Dr. Mazar's most important finds—clay seal impressions of Jehucal and Gedaliah—are exhibited on the Herbert W. Armstrong College campus in Edmond, Oklahoma.



Gerald Flurry and Dr. Eilat Mazar



AC students dig at the City of David.



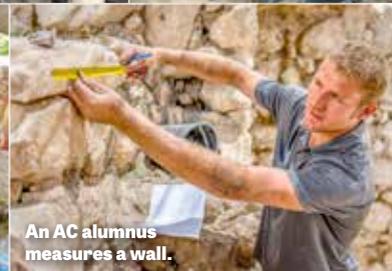
Stephen Flurry and Eilat Mazar



An AC student on the Ophel excavation



Eilat Mazar with the 2012 excavation crew



An AC alumnus measures a wall.



UNDERHANDED DEAL
U.S. Secretary of
State John Kerry
(left) and Iranian
Foreign Minister Zarif
meet in Geneva in 2015.

Revealed: A Deal Founded on Lies

To push through
the nuclear deal,
Iran lied—and so did
the United States.

BY STEPHEN FLURRY

IN JANUARY, MOSSAD AGENTS LOCATED the information they were looking for. Locked inside safes within a storage container inside a warehouse in a suburb south of Tehran were hundreds of pounds of files relating to Iran's nuclear program. The Israeli agents infiltrated the location and extracted the files. With the Iranians in pursuit, they successfully moved the cache of more than 100,000 files to Israel.

In a dramatic announcement at Israel's Defense Ministry in Tel Aviv on April 30, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu publicly unveiled the "Iranian nuclear archive."

Much of the information contained in the archive was unsurprising. As the *Times of Israel* noted, most of it was already footnoted in a 2011 International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) report.

So why is the revelation of this nuclear cache so important?

Because there are *still* government officials in Iran *and* in the United States and other countries who insist that Iran's nuclear program is for peaceful purposes. But as Netanyahu brought out in his presentation, the "files conclusively prove that Iran is BRAZENLY LYING when it says it never had a nuclear weapons program" (emphasis added throughout). This is an undeniable mountain of evidence exposing the fact that, to gain the support needed to sign the nuclear deal, Iran lied. And it reveals that the administration of former President Barack Obama also lied, for the same reason.

Netanyahu played a clip from Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammed Javad Zarif—the man who negotiated the nuclear deal with the Obama

administration. Zarif said, "We never wanted to produce a bomb." Zarif said that on April 22. Iran is *still* lying about its nuclear program!

"Yes you did," Netanyahu responded. "Yes you do. And the atomic archive proves it."

As Netanyahu said, standing next to the trove of nuclear documents, "[T]he Iran deal, the nuclear deal, is BASED ON LIES. It's based on Iranian lies and Iranian deception; 100,000 files right here PROVE that they lied."

If the Iranians "never wanted to produce a bomb"—if the program has always been for peaceful purposes—then why all the deception and lies?

Iranian Lies

When he announced the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (commonly known as the Iran nuclear deal) on July 14, 2015, President Obama said that the IAEA inspectors would "be able to access *any suspicious location*." He said "the IAEA has also reached an agreement with Iran to get access that it needs to complete its investigation into the possible military dimensions of Iran's past nuclear research."

Now it is clear the IAEA never received such access. Clearly, Iran's nuclear weapons program generated piles of documents. These documents were put in secret storage—and only found in a clandestine Israeli intelligence operation. They were housed in a facility *purposefully designed* to keep them secret from international inspectors.

This backs up what *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry said in a January 2016 *Key of David* program, "America's Nuclear Agreement With Iran": "[Iran's

leaders have] lied and cheated about every significant promise they ever made or any agreement they ever made. There's NO unfettered access to all military sites. That's what the West wanted, but they didn't get it. *Oh, no, stay away from our military sites*. Why, this is a FARCE! They're supposed to now go 10 years without building a bomb. Do you think that's going to happen? I tell you, it is not! Bible prophecy says it is not."

It should come as no surprise that Iran lied about its "peaceful" nuclear program and about coming clean to the IAEA. Nevertheless, the document trove underscores the fact that, as Netanyahu and my father have said, the nuclear deal hinged on these lies.

But these documents prove an even *bigger* scandal than that. They show that, in order to get the deal done, the OBAMA ADMINISTRATION lied as well!

American Lies

When President Obama was inaugurated in January 2009, an aspiring novelist named Ben Rhodes became one of his top foreign-policy advisers. He was instrumental in convincing people that the time when the Obama administration first reached out to Iranian officials was back in 2013.

Notice what the *New York Times* wrote on May 5, 2016: "Rhodes's innovative campaign to sell the Iran deal is likely to be a model for how future administrations explain foreign policy to Congress and the public. The way in which most Americans have heard the story of the Iran deal presented—that the Obama administration began seriously engaging with Iranian officials in 2013 in order to take advantage of a new political reality in Iran, which came about because of elections that brought moderates to power in that country—was largely *manufactured* FOR THE PURPOSE FOR SELLING THE DEAL."

To sell the nuclear deal to Congress and the American people, this "boy wonder," as the *Times* called him, created the false narrative that the new moderates in power in Iran were willing to dismantle their nuclear program and make peace. But as the *Times* brought out, "Obama's closest advisers always understood him [Obama] to be eager to do a deal with Iran AS FAR BACK

AS 2012, and even *since the beginning of his presidency.*"

That is astounding! Were they *really* this deceitful and dishonest? Did they really tell these many audacious lies?

"Today, after TWO YEARS of negotiations," said President Obama in that same July 14, 2015, speech, "the United States, together with our international partners, has achieved something that decades of animosity has not."

Why did he say "two years of negotiations"? He was selling the narrative. The Iranians voted in supposed "moderates" in mid-2013. So the Obama administration wasn't negotiating with the old Iran, but some sort of newer, kinder, gentler Iran.

This false narrative convinced enough American leaders and enough of the American people that Obama's compromises with the "Death to America" Iranian regime were legitimate.

Iran's government was not and is not moderate, of course, because it is led by the radical Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. But more importantly, the Obama administration had been negotiating with Iran for *several* years. It didn't just get the idea after Iran's elections. *Formal* negotiations on the nuclear deal began after the Iranian elections, but as the *Times* wrote, "the most meaningful part of the negotiations with Iran had begun in mid-2012, many months *before* Rouhani and the 'moderate' camp were chosen ..." (op cit).

As those formal negotiations then progressed with the Iranians, Rhodes said that a slew of experts appeared in the media "saying things that validated what we had given them to say." He admitted that these "experts" were using the Obama administration's talking points! These were then amplified by journalists, who by and large supported—and still support—Obama. Everyone worked together from the narrative that "boy wonder" created.

As my father writes in his booklet *Great Again*, they covered themselves in a cloak of deceit. In some cases, they even BRAGGED about their lies.

How the Left Responded

When Netanyahu came forward with 100,000 documents exposing all these facts, how did leftists react?

One strategy was to emphasize that the documents contained largely old information. Trita Parsi, chief of the National Iranian American Council, said it was as if the Mossad just "raided the IAEA and not Tehran." Of course, that avoids the question of whether Iran and Obama lied.

Another strategy was to emphasize that none of the documents showed that Iran has resumed its nuclear program. Again, this avoids the question. (Meanwhile, the nuclear deal provides benefits to Iran in the short term, then *allows* it to pursue a nuclear weapon.)

Another strategy in response to Netanyahu's revelation was to claim that Obama knew the Iranians were dishonest, and that is why he needed to get them to sign a deal. A mere three years ago, that was NOT how Rhodes and Obama sold the deal to the public. Back then the narrative was, *Moderates are in power now! They want to negotiate and dismantle their nuclear program!*

In June 2009, Iran's streets were roiling with the Green Movement. It was what some say was the largest Iranian protest since the 1979 Revolution, a major protest against the regime and fraudulent elections. International sanctions against Iran were taking effect. Other regimes across the Middle East and North Africa were being challenged and replaced. But rather than support the Iranian people, who did President Obama side with? The Iranian mullahs. It is now clear why. *He had been working on a deal with them.* If you listen to his speeches from early 2009, this was CLEARLY at the top of his agenda coming into office.

Look at the terms of the deal. America gave Iran \$150 billion, \$1.7 billion in cash. The Obama administration also conducted a prisoner swap that turned dangerous criminals loose, and then lied to the public, saying they weren't actually very dangerous.

It was this kind of deceit that had a great many Americans disgruntled

with the Obama administration and the duplicitous politics of Washington. When Donald Trump campaigned for the presidency, he received a lot of support for exposing such deceit and criticizing the Iran deal in particular. It undoubtedly helped propel him into office in 2016. About a week after Netanyahu's revelation, President Trump scrapped the deal.

Broken Will

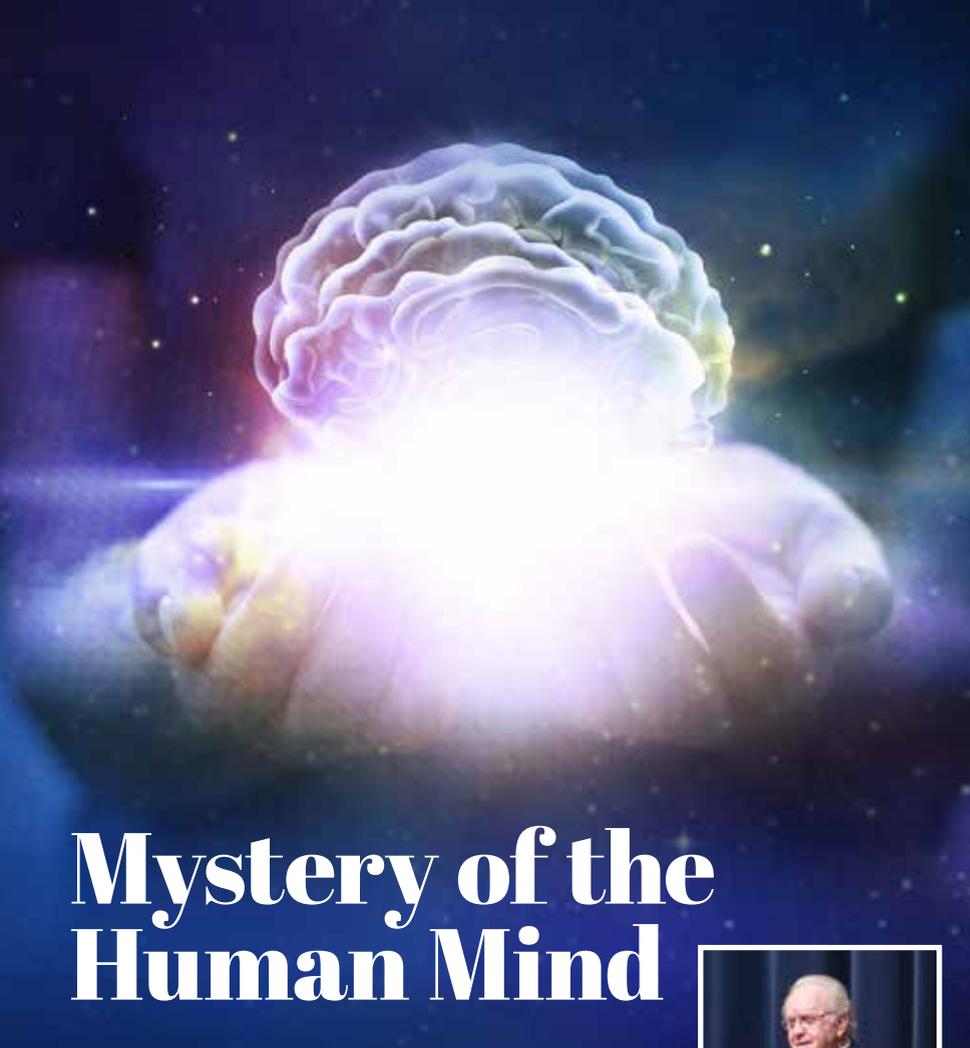
Early on in Barack Obama's presidency, my father emphasized that Obama's views were extremely radical and that his administration would actively harm the nation. Then it emerged that President Obama was pursuing a compromise involving nuclear weapons with the world's biggest sponsor of terrorism, which refers to the United States as "the Great Satan." Then Obama actually forced the deal through.

My father called that deal *the worst foreign-policy disaster IN AMERICA'S HISTORY!* In his September 2015 article "Negotiating Human Survival," he warned, "Though many don't realize it yet, the Western world—and especially America—has been humiliated through this deal. The Iranian reaction should be enough to trumpet that fact. ..."

"America and Britain don't have the will to stop Iran. The Bible prophesies the complete collapse of will and power in America and Britain. In Leviticus 26:19, God says that He will break the pride of Israel's power. America's capitulation in these negotiations is a prime example of this prophecy being fulfilled."

With a few years of perspective—and 100,000 files of evidence—it is becoming more and more obvious that the *Trumpet's* warnings about the Obama administration were well founded. These warnings came not from a huge bureau of overseas journalists or agents or from extensive funding or even from unusually intelligent insight. They came from the Bible and its prophecies. ■

FURTHER READING Bible prophecy shows that a European power will deal with Iran the way that America refuses to. Read "**Negotiating Human Survival**" (theTrumpet.com/12946) to learn more. To read additional details about the documents Netanyahu exposed, read "**Benjamin Netanyahu's Unsurprising Revelation**" (theTrumpet.com/17210).



Mystery of the Human Mind



Truth that the most highly educated of this world cannot understand. Adapted from the 2018 Herbert W. Armstrong College commencement address **BY GERALD FLURRY**

ANYONE WHO ATTENDS A COLLEGE or university should reasonably expect to learn what the human mind is. But the human mind is a mystery to this world.

Why should this important subject baffle even the most highly educated people? Why is the world so ignorant about what the human mind is?

The real question is, who actually understands the human mind? Can anybody understand it without having it revealed by his Creator?

God has revealed the mystery of the human mind in the Holy Bible, if only people would accept it. Understanding your mind is an absolute, marvelous blessing.

True education explains the human mind and its purpose, but worldly educational institutions do not.

Herbert W. Armstrong explained the Bible's teaching on this vital subject in the third chapter of his greatest book, *Mystery of the Ages*. You can read this book to clear up the mystery.

Mr. Armstrong said after writing the book: "In real fact, I feel I myself did not write it. Rather, I believe God used me in writing it. I candidly feel it may be the most important book since the Bible" (co-worker letter; Sept. 12, 1985).

That is a strong statement, but I believe it is true and that you can prove it. God wants us to understand the human mind, and He gave special insight into this subject and many others in *Mystery of the Ages*. I would encourage you to think seriously about what Mr. Armstrong said.

The Bible is the world's most important book. What makes *Mystery of the*

Ages so valuable is that it *explains* the Bible. It is like a *synopsis* of the Bible. If you study it alongside your Bible, you can come to a deeper understanding of the world's most important book—and of your own mind. I would encourage you to fall in love with it, and with the Bible.

The Human Spirit

I recently received a letter from a man who is fighting a number of problems, but who is studying *Mystery of the Ages*. He is coming to understand a special truth that eludes many educated leaders. He knows more about the human mind than a lot of professionals do.

This man was particularly impressed with this statement from *Mystery of the Ages*: "The real value of a human life, then, lies solely within the human spirit combined with the human brain. It should be stated at once that this human spirit is not perceived by the most highly educated psychologists, yet it is the very essence of the human MIND."

That is an amazing paragraph! What do you know about this "human spirit"? This is invaluable and uncommon understanding. But your Bible states definitively that there is a *spirit in man*. "For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the *spirit of man* which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the *Spirit of God*" (1 Corinthians 2:11). There are clearly *two different spirits* mentioned here: the human spirit and the Holy Spirit.

Here is another astounding statement from *Mystery of the Ages*: "Science and advanced education today almost universally assume nothing exists but matter. They deny the existence of spirit. Which is to say, whether admitted or not, they deny the existence of God. ... [S]cience and higher education insist the faculty of intellect in humans is solely physical."

That approach explains why their comprehension is limited. Think about the difference between the dumb animals and man. Animals can't think or make decisions. They have no morals, no awareness of God. The animal brain can't even *compare* to the human mind! Humans are *vastly superior* in function. Animals have instinct, whereas the human mind has tremendous power of intellect. In physical composition alone,

however, animal and human brains are nearly identical. “Human and animal brain are alike,” Mr. Armstrong wrote. “Human mind superiority comes not from superior brain, but from the presence of human spirit within the human brain” (ibid).

We regularly invite the greatest performing artists in the world—musicians, singers and dancers—to Armstrong Auditorium in Edmond, Oklahoma, as part of our Armstrong International Cultural Foundation concert series. We aim to display the very best of the human spirit. These concerts and performances are uplifting, inspiring and sublime. It is stunning what human beings can achieve when they develop their God-given capacity!

The human spirit is what accounts for the vast difference between the human mind (the brain and the human spirit combined) and the animal brain. Without the human spirit, a human brain is just like an animal brain. There is *nothing* physical that explains the difference. Yet scientists believe that nothing exists outside the physical realm. That is a terrible assumption. They won’t even acknowledge the existence of the human spirit, much less the Holy Spirit.

God puts the human spirit in every human. IF YOU CAN PROVE THE EXISTENCE OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT, YOU CAN PROVE THAT EVOLUTION IS A FABLE!

The human spirit supplies the power of intellect, but its main purpose is to *connect with the Holy Spirit*. Mr. Armstrong continued, “But the human spirit in mortal man makes possible a direct contact from the great Spirit God. There is no direct channel of communication between the dumb animal brain and the mind of the Supreme God.” That spirit can connect with the Holy Spirit, which makes it possible for human beings to become spiritual sons and daughters of God!

In Genesis 1:26, God says He made human beings to look like Him (“likeness”) and also to have the opportunity to develop *His own character and mind* (“image”). There are two parts: physical resemblance and spiritual character. Such astounding truth is in the very first chapter of the Bible, yet who understands it?

We cannot understand the majestic, royal, incredible potential of a human being without knowing what the human spirit and the human mind are! The human spirit enables man to fulfill his ultimate, God-given purpose, which is to enter into the very Family of God! What a future man has! It is a real tragedy if we don’t understand this. But you will not find it in evolution.

Human mind superiority comes not from superior brain, but from the presence of human spirit within the human brain.

Humble and Teachable

In Matthew 11:25, Jesus Christ prayed, “I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes.” God has *hidden* His truths, including this about the human spirit, from the world! Only the humble and teachable can understand. You could sit down and reason for years, and you still wouldn’t understand the mysteries of the human mind unless God revealed it.

Look at the context of Christ’s words: He was fiercely rebuking people for being too materialistic and intellectually vain to be taught! How true that is of the great majority of the highly educated in our world today.

Worldly colleges cultivate in their students an attitude of superiority over others. They are not humble, and they close their minds to God. They insist that there isn’t any spirit in man. Says who? Some little man, who without that spirit would be nothing more than an animal? Yet he is so much more than an animal that it is mind-shattering to think about!

We are talking about the mind of God being built in man—if only he would listen to God!

At Herbert W. Armstrong College, we teach our students to be humble and teachable. That is the only way to learn from God. The people Christ

was speaking to wouldn’t let GOD IN THE FLESH teach them! The fate of the haughty intellectuals of this world will be worse than that of Sodom and Gomorrah, which God burned to the ground with fire from heaven (verses 23-24).

“Evolution is concerned solely with material life and development,” *Mystery of the Ages* says. “It knows and teaches nothing about spiritual life and problems, and all the evils in the world are spiritual in nature.”

Whether or not people realize it, what Mr. Armstrong wrote reveals *how to solve world problems*: Learn what the human mind is and what man himself is! We must acknowledge the spirit realm—both the good and the evil. God is willing to teach us if we will just respond to Him.

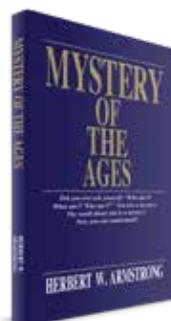
Think about this prophetic warning given by the Apostle Paul: “Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy...” (Colossians 2:8). It is possible to be spoiled and corrupted by too much intellectualism and self-reliance. The psychologists and philosophers, the supposed experts on the human mind, have so little understanding. And look at the mess this world is in, under the leadership of all these so-called experts! We have ushered ourselves right to the brink of annihilating ourselves! And yet most people want to close their minds to God and continue on in their ignorance.

There has never been a greater time than now to ask and answer the questions *Why man?* and *What is the human mind?* If we seek the answers from God with humble, teachable attitudes, then God will open our understanding! He has made the answers available and removed the mysteries from the Bible!

The answers are plainly presented in Mr. Armstrong’s book *Mystery of the Ages*. I strongly encourage you to study this book. We will gladly send you a free copy, no strings attached. This book is so much better than one would think at first glance. It will open your mind to the truth in the Bible!

Alongside your Bible, it will guide you into areas and wonders you have never dreamed of! ■

Request your free copy of *Mystery of the Ages*.



Meditate? Who, Me?

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

MEDITATION? ISN'T THAT WHERE YOU CROSS your legs, put your palms together, close your eyes and hum? A lot of people associate the idea of meditation with Eastern religions, and many dismiss it as useless. But meditation—of a different kind—is actually biblical. It is one of the essential spiritual tools Christians need to draw close to the true God.

Scripture reveals that your mind is something of a spiritual battlefield. The Apostle Paul makes an interesting statement in Ephesians 2:2: He calls the devil “the prince of the power of the air.” Herbert W. Armstrong explained that this refers to Satan’s ability to “broadcast” his negative attitudes, moods and impulses into human minds. And the human mind is naturally tuned into that broadcasting. Evidence of this broadcasting is all around us in the world: People everywhere display attitudes of self-centeredness, lust, greed, vanity, jealousy, envy, resentment, competition, strife, bitterness and hate that Satan promotes.

To resist those broadcasts takes effort. Meditation is a tool that helps you to do that and to focus your mind on God: His Word, His law, His ways.

Meditating on God’s Word helps rid your mind of Satan’s influence and brings you closer to God your Father and Jesus Christ your Savior. It helps you get to know them personally. Like a son or daughter spending time beside his or her dad as he works or talks, you will understand more and more who they are, how they act, and how they treat others.

If you pray to God (theTrumpet.com/11878) and study His Word (theTrumpet.com/13498), but you do not meditate, you will not be close enough to God and strong enough to resist the influence of Satan. If you are praying and studying only, then you are only running on half the cylinders in your spiritual engine. Biblical meditation will deepen your prayer and your study and help you become more motivated to do both, making you a stronger spiritual Christian.

What Is Meditation?

Meditation is simply *thinking deeply* on a topic—focusing on and contemplating it, whether physical, philosophical or spiritual. Truly obeying God’s instruction in the Bible requires you to devote

concentrated, meaningful thought to Him and His Word.

1. What kind of thoughts does God want you to think? Philippians 4:8.
2. Does God intend for you to learn by example? 1 Corinthians 10:11.

God has provided multiple examples for us in His Word, both positive and negative. Many of those who lived righteous lives that we are to emulate meditated on God, His Word and His law.

3. Who is one person that the Bible records meditated deeply? Psalm 8.

Note in the subhead of this psalm that it was written by David. This man thought deeply about God and what He was doing with human beings and the rest of His creation. Psalm 8 records his thoughts about the awesome power of God and His purpose for man. Without spending time focused on God’s majesty, power and brilliance, King David would not have been as deeply in awe of God.

4. How did God describe King David? Acts 13:22.

To become so close to God, David had to spend time with Him. He did that through prayer, study and meditation. He thought about God, His plan and His will. He applied God’s commandments in his day-to-day life. He thought about ways to please Him by obeying Him. And he set an example for us of how to become people “after God’s own heart.”

5. What else did David meditate about? Psalm 139:17-18.

David thought about God frequently and in depth: the works of His hands, His plan, His purpose for mankind, His will for David in the situations he faced. David invested a great deal of time thinking deeply about God and recognized that he could spend many lifetimes trying to comprehend the sum of His thoughts!

6. What subject does another author focus on in his meditation recorded in Psalm 119? Verses 97-99.

When meditating, you can meditate on God’s greatness or His plan for man or something more specific, like His law, as Psalm 119 does. This author thought so much about this one aspect of God that he ultimately wrote 176 verses about the many facets of His law.

7. Did Moses teach that the law was so important that it deserved a great deal of meditation? Deuteronomy 6:4-7.

MEDITATION CAN HELP MAKE GOD'S LAW AN ACTIVE PART OF YOUR DAY.



Through Moses, God gave the people of Israel this admonition before rehearsing His laws with them. He instructed them to keep the law constantly in their thoughts.

8. What are some benefits of meditating on the law? Joshua 1:8; Psalm 1:1-3.

Meditation can help make God's law an active part of your day. In the morning, take a few minutes to consider your thoughts and actions the previous day, and to organize your prayer before you begin. You may be able to do something similar around midday and again in the evening. Compare your actions to God's law. Ask yourself which of God's commandments applied to which situation and whether you kept those commandments. Ask yourself how you can please God more. Perhaps even jot down notes in your journal, day planner or notebook. When in these thoughts you recognize that you have broken His law, repent and ask God for forgiveness and help to obey Him.

Topics of Meditation

Besides God and His law, what else should we meditate on?

1. Your Bible study

As you study the Bible each day, it is easy to overlook many lessons in what you are reading (1 Timothy 4:13, 15-16). Ask God to help you see and understand. Slow down and ask yourself questions. Think about the context of the passage you are studying. What is the historical significance? Why did the person do this or that? Was it right or wrong?

2. World events

The prophets, including Jesus Christ, spoke at great length about world events, past and future (Matthew 26:41; Luke 21:36). Large portions of the Bible are devoted to world events, especially disasters that result from sin. Jesus Christ prophesied that specific events would occur just before His return. A good chapter to meditate on is Matthew 24. Read it, read world news, and meditate on how many of Christ's end-time prophecies are taking place.

3. World history

It can be inspiring to meditate on the lives of great men and women. Through your study and meditation you will realize that nothing has been more constant throughout history than war. Think

about the contrast between man's violent history (James 4:1-3) and the prophesied time of peace when God will take over world rule (Micah 4:1-4), and you will yearn more and more for Christ's return.

4. Your blessings

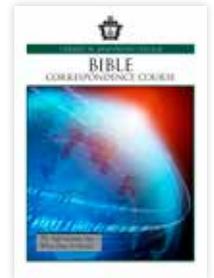
God emphasizes in 2 Timothy 3:2 that many in the end time would be *unthankful*. It is easy to overlook blessings that come from God. Therefore take some extra time to think deeply about all the blessings you have!

5. Creation

Stop to consider the immensity of the universe, as David did in Psalm 19:1. Look at the created world around you and marvel at the miracles of light, water, geology, plant and animal life and their intricate interactions. Devote thought to the miracle of the organs and systems that make up the human body and the wonder that is the human mind (Psalm 139:14).

Meditate on God. Meditate on His Word. Take time to sit back and think about what you have studied, what you are about to pray about, the things that have happened in your life today, or the news of the world. Consider the examples God recorded in the Bible.

Do this, and you will strengthen and deepen your spiritual relationship with your Savior Jesus Christ and God your Father. ■



This short study is a sample of the method employed in each lesson of the free **Herbert W. Armstrong College Bible Correspondence Course**. Over 100,000 people have enrolled in this exciting, dynamic course. Ordering information is on the back cover of this magazine.

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

Italy's new coalition shakes Europe

INAUGURAL
Italy's new leaders pose before their first cabinet meeting on June 1.

Italy's new prime minister, Giuseppe Conte, was sworn in June 1, after nearly three months of coalition negotiations.

Negotiations were difficult because of an unusual election result. The main winners were the Five Star Movement (an upstart party founded by a comedian) and Lega (The League), a party described as fringe right-wing or far-right.

After weeks of talks, these two agreed to form a coalition. By late May, the unusual coalition was nearly ready, but then Italian President Sergio Mattarella took the unusual step of objecting to the coalition's plan to appoint Paolo Savona as finance minister. In his latest book, Savona states that the euro is a German "cage," writing, "Germany didn't change its idea on its role in

Europe after the end of Nazism, even if it abandoned the idea of imposing itself militarily.

"[W]e need to prepare a plan B to get out of the euro if necessary ... the other alternative is to end up like Greece."

Though voters and party leaders agreed on Savona, President Mattarella found his euroskeptic opinions unacceptable. So he stepped into a constitutional gray area and blocked the proposed government.

The outcry against his action forced Mattarella into a compromise. The coalition backed down on Savona and chose Giovanni Tria instead. Tria appears to be firmly against the euro as well, but he has expressed himself a little less stridently. He has described Europe as a "rigged competition" that "favors Germany" and

has called for debate on the euro in Italy and Europe.

Savona, meanwhile, although rejected as finance minister, still gets a post (albeit lesser, and perhaps ironic): minister of European Affairs.

Italy now has its new government and is set to move forward—to confront Germany. It plans to borrow its way out of its economic troubles, defying the economic rules Germany has worked to impose on the eurozone since the 2008 financial crisis.

The eurozone's third-largest economy is squaring off against its largest. With the two trying to pull in opposite directions, it's clear that Europe has not managed to form the common economic policy it needs to go with its common currency. Until that happens, it is sure to careen from crisis to crisis. ■

Slovenia election: Europe shifts further to the political right

An anti-immigration party won the most votes in Slovenia's parliamentary elections on June 3, making Slovenia the latest nation to join the recent far-right shift in European politics. Other nations in this shift include Austria, Italy, the Czech Republic and Hungary. The migrant crisis has been a major catalyst for this destabilizing political transformation.

The Slovenia Democratic Party, led by Janez Janša, took

25 percent of the vote, after Janša vowed to "put Slovenia first." But his party may struggle to form a majority coalition with other parties less restrictive toward immigration.

Slovenia has been hard-hit by the migrant crisis. After Hungary closed its borders with Croatia in 2015, the flow of migrants from the Middle East and North Africa shifted west into Slovenia. Slovenia has a population of just over 2 million and is about the size of New Jersey. Thus, the

influx of hundreds of thousands of people has made a huge impact.

Illegal immigration and the refugee crisis are empowering these right-leaning movements. European voters see that mainstream parties aren't resolving the issue, so they are voting in people they think will take action.

The *Trumpet* has been prophesying of the rise of one specific European leader: a strongman in Germany. The Bible describes



Germany can legally spy on its own citizens

A German court declared that it is legal for the German Federal Intelligence Service (BND) to spy on its citizens' Internet use. The court ruled on May 30 that major data hubs like the Deutsche Commercial Internet Exchange (DE-CIX) "can be required by the federal Interior Ministry to assist with strategic communications surveillance by the BND."

Germany's spy agency has already been spying on its own citizens. Now its judiciary has declared its actions legal as long as it is relevant to "strategic security interests." What this means is left up to interpretation by the BND.

Tapping into a major hub like DE-CIX gives the German government access to a lot



of information. At its busiest moments, DE-CIX handles six terabytes of information *per second*. This data comes from Asia, the Middle East and Africa, not just Europe. ■

this leader in many passages, including Daniel 8. *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry writes in *A Strong German Leader Is Imminent*: "When the Bible talks about a king,

in most cases it's saying that this is not a democratic government. Even if he doesn't have that title, he is going to *lead like a king*. This vision in Daniel shows that the European empire is about to become a lot more authoritative."

The climate in Europe is ripe for such a man to emerge. ■



HEZBOLLAH'S VICTORY
Lebanese celebrate the election results.

Hezbollah, allies win in Lebanon elections

Hezbollah, a terrorist proxy of Iran based in Lebanon, is now stronger than ever. Its alliance of political parties won a majority of the vote on May 6 in Lebanon's parliamentary elections.

News analysts at TheTower.org wrote that Hezbollah has "achieved what amounts to complete political and military control of Lebanon" (May 8). Its coalition now holds 71 of the parliament's 128 seats, more than enough to veto any legislation it opposes.

Prime Minister Saad Hariri's Future Party lost a third of its

seats. It was a defeat Hariri said will hurt "Lebanon's stability, economy, sovereignty and Arab identity." The Lebanese Forces, a right-wing Christian party that opposes Hezbollah, doubled its number of seats.

Lebanese-American Toufic Baaklini wrote in the *Hill* that the election results "show a Lebanese people less confident in Prime Minister Saad Hariri's leadership, looking to allies of Hezbollah or anti-Hezbollah Christians to lead them" (May 15).

Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah called the result a "very big political, parliamentary

Iran's secret long-range missile facility

Iran's long-range missile program, previously believed to have ended with an accidental explosion at a facility on Nov. 12, 2011, is alive and well, according to a report from weapons researchers at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies in California.

The researchers say Iran has been secretly operating a long-range missile facility near the Iranian city of Shahrud. Their report was independently reviewed by other weapons experts who "agreed that there [is] compelling evidence that Iran is developing long-range missile technology" (*New York Times*, May 23). Evidence includes

satellite imagery of buildings similar to the one that exploded in 2011, launch stands and ground scars from missile tests.

The report said the size of the stands for firing test missiles reveal

Iran's intent to fire missiles as far as Western Europe and possibly beyond. It also said the type of fuel Iran is using for its test rockets enables those missiles to launch at a moment's notice.

Nuclear expert Jeffrey Lewis told the *Jerusalem Post*, "Iran was striving for a large space launcher like India's PSLV [Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle] and the test stands are for very



LIFT OFF
Iran launches a Shahab-1 missile.

large engines, consistent with a rocket that could deliver a nuclear-weapons sized payload to ICBM [intercontinental ballistic missile] ranges."

The military threat Iran is

increasingly posing to Europe is biblically significant. Daniel 11:40 describes a military clash between a "king of the north" (a German-led Europe) and a "king of the south" (radical Islam, led by Iran). The more advanced Iran's ballistic missile program gets, the more it will push against Europe to the point described in this end-time prophecy.

and moral victory for the choice of resistance," referring to Hezbollah's goal of opposing and destroying Israel.

Hezbollah's 1985 manifesto declared: "Our struggle will end only when [Israel] is obliterated. We recognize no treaty with it, no ceasefire, and no peace agreements, whether separate or consolidated."

Bible prophecy shows that Iran and its radical Islamist allies will attempt to conquer Jerusalem. Zechariah 14:1-2 prophesy that this bloc will conquer half of the city.

Iran's influence continues to grow, and the Bible says this will be devastating for Israel. Yet the Bible also forecasts that Europe will supplant Iran's influence in Lebanon. A prophecy in Psalm 83:1-8 describes an alliance between Europe and several Arab nations. One of them, Gebal, is modern-day Lebanon. Europe could secure Lebanon's allegiance by supporting anti-Hezbollah organizations like the Lebanese Forces. Keep watching Lebanon for the fulfillment of prophecy.



EXERCISES
European soldiers participate in 2018 NATO Thunder Storm.

Israel's first military drills in Europe

For the first two weeks of June, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) participated in two large military exercises in Europe, the first time the IDF has done so.

The United States-led exercises involved thousands of soldiers from 19 countries. The Swift Response maneuvers took place in Germany, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia and other East European countries. This exercise was "the first time the IDF has participated in an international exercise of the European Command [of the U.S. Army]," according to an IDF statement. "The objective of the exercise [was] to improve the ability for mutual cooperation between the participating armies."

The second exercise, Saber Strike, involved more than 18,000 soldiers. The *Jerusalem Post* wrote that the goal of these maneuvers was "to train and drill NATO's enhanced forward presence with a focus on promoting interoperability and improving joint operational capability in a variety of land missions."

Israel's increased military involvement with Europe is a trend the *Trumpet* has watched since our inception in 1990. The Bible prophesies that in the end time, the Jewish state will turn to Europe, particularly Germany, for its security needs. The Bible also says that Europe will betray Israel. The foundation for these future developments is being formed right now.



BUILDING BRIDGES
President Putin visits workers on the Crimean Bridge project on March 14.

Crimean bridge: Metaphor for Putin's reign

Russian President Vladimir Putin commemorated the opening of the Crimean Bridge on May 15, a structure that is a metaphor for his 18 years of authoritarian rule.

The 12-mile bridge connects mainland Russia with the Crimean Peninsula. It contains more steel than 32 Eiffel Towers. It is longer than any other bridge in Russia or in Europe.

Russia completed the project in less than four years, while

under intense sanctions, and in unapologetic violation of international law. The Crimean Peninsula was part of Ukraine's sovereign territory until 2014, when Putin's forces unlawfully and forcibly annexed it.

Many Western leaders were stunned and even in denial as Putin's troops took over Crimea. Then United States Secretary of State John Kerry called it "19th-century behavior in the 21st century." President Barack Obama said Putin was

"challenging truths that only a few weeks ago seemed self-evident: that in the 21st century, the borders of Europe cannot be redrawn with force."

Most Western leaders maintain that the Crimean Peninsula still belongs to Ukraine. But the Crimean Bridge cements Putin's rule of the territory for all practical purposes. It stands as a glaring indication of how meaningless international law has become in this era of declining American power and rising authoritarianism in other countries.

Shortly after Putin annexed Crimea, *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry placed the event in the context of Bible prophecy. In a July 2014 article, he quoted Jesus Christ, who said that in the end time shortly before His return, "the times of the Gentiles [will] be fulfilled" (Luke 21:24).

Mr. Flurry then wrote: "These 'times of the Gentiles' are yet to be fully realized. However, we are in the outer edges of this catastrophic storm. Events taking place in Ukraine with Russia, along with those in the Middle East and Iran, have everything to do with this prophecy." ■

Buying control of the Caribbean

The Dominican Republic announced on May 1 that it had ended its diplomatic relations with Taiwan and established ties with the People's Republic of China. "[T]he government of the Dominican Republic recognizes that there is only one China and that Taiwan is an inalienable part of Chinese territory," the announcement said.

Taiwan's Foreign Ministry told Reuters that the shift came after China offered \$3.1 billion in investments and loans to the Dominican Republic in exchange for switching its allegiance.

This marks the latest in a series of Caribbean and Central American nations dropping ties with Taiwan in favor of China. In 2007, Costa Rica transferred its commitment to China. São Tomé and Príncipe followed suit in 2016, and Panama in 2017.

Taiwan is not the only nation that stands to lose out from China's deepening influence among the nations of the Caribbean and Central America. Most waterborne trade flowing to or from the United States passes through the Gulf of Mexico. This makes peaceful passage through the Caribbean region crucial to America's economic survival.

China's increasing power in this vital part of the U.S.'s periphery takes on sobering significance in light of a specific Bible prophecy. Deuteronomy 28:52 foretells of a time when hostile nations would "besiege" Israel in all its "gates." *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry explained in his article "China Is Steering the World Toward War" that this "is a prophecy for the modern-day descendants of Israel"—chiefly America and Britain. These two countries "are full of terrible sins today, and God is going to correct them for that!" he wrote (July 2016). ■

China's high-tech arsenal

The People's Liberation Army of China is developing high-tech weapons designed to defeat the United States in a future conflict, according to a U.S. congressional commission report by Jane's Defense Industry Solutions released on May 12.

China is developing anti-satellite missiles, attack drones, high-speed rail guns, hypersonic missiles, killer satellites, lasers and other advanced weapons, particularly for warfare in space and at sea.

Thanks to its aggressive decision making and to high-tech

weapons, China is becoming the most powerful naval force in the South China Sea. The report notes that China leads the world in ballistic missile development and is making rapid progress in launching more lethal anti-ship ballistic missiles.

China's navy is developing maneuverable reentry vehicles for its anti-ship ballistic missiles that fly a much less predictable path en route to their targets. A viable maneuverable reentry vehicle could be unstoppable by current missile defense



COMBAT-READY
A J-20 performs at a Chinese air show.

systems. The report points out that these reentry vehicles are specifically designed to target U.S. Navy surface vessels.

For the past seven decades, the world has enjoyed relative peace and unprecedented prosperity because the U.S. military has policed the world and its trade routes. This situation is rapidly changing. ■

America's crime problem

Almost 1 percent of all adults in America are behind bars. According to a March 14 press release from Prison Policy initiative, approximately 2.2 million people are incarcerated in prisons, jails and detention centers across the nation. Despite a recent dip in the incarceration rate, the U.S. still

imprisons a larger share of its population than any other nation.

America's incarceration rate has tripled since 1950, when fewer than 300,000 people were incarcerated. According to data from the Prison Policy Initiative, more than 40 percent of America's inmates sit behind bars for committing violent crimes

Boy Scouts pass out contraception

The Boy Scouts of America will comply with a World Organization of the Scout Movement regulation to provide condoms at the upcoming World Scout Jamboree, according to a statement issued by the vice chairman of the World Scout Committee on May 22. This policy has been in place for the past two Scout Jamborees, but has garnered media attention this year due to a number of policy changes made by the Boy Scouts over the past five years.

In 2013, the national executive board of the Boy Scouts of America voted to allow boys openly involved in homosexual activity into the organization. In 2015, the Boy Scouts voted to end a ban on homosexual Scout leaders. In 2017, the Boy Scouts voted to allow girls who have had



transgender operations or who identify as boys into the program. In 2017, the Scouts announced plans to admit girls into the program. In 2019, the Boy Scouts of America will change its name to Scouts BSA.

Since 2002, the World Organization of the Scout Movement has required that condoms be made available at the World Scout Jamboree, which is held every four years. The Bible forbids fornication, adultery and homosexuality. The Boy Scouts pledge to be "morally straight," but Scout leaders are showing that at the next Jamboree in 2019, premarital sex is expected, acceptable and provided for. ■

such as murder, assault, rape and robbery. Another 20 percent were incarcerated for property crimes, such as burglary, theft and fraud. Another 20 percent were incarcerated on public disorder charges, such as drunk driving and illegal weapons possession. Most of the remaining 20 percent or so are in prison for drug-related charges. The vast majority of these were locked up for drug trafficking (not drug possession).

On any given day, only about 137,000 prisoners are serving sentences for drug-possession charges, according to a report by the American Civil Liberties Union and Human Rights Watch. Despite claims to the contrary, decriminalizing drug possession will not end mass incarceration. This is because the crimes resulting in mass incarceration are assault, murder, rape, robbery and theft—not drug possession. ■

Suicides surge across United States

Suicide rates in the United States increased by 25 percent between 1999 and 2016, according to data published on June 7 by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Approximately 45,000 people killed themselves in 2016, making suicide the 10th leading cause of death in America. Relationship problems were listed as the most common factor driving people to suicide, ahead of substance abuse, financial problems and health problems. All these contributing factors point to the fact that suicide is more than a physical problem: It is a *spiritual* problem. Fundamentally, it comes from a lack of understanding of the real *value* and *potential* of human life. ■

California bill could criminalize the Bible's view on homosexuality

California is preparing to pass a law that classifies "reparative therapy" as a fraudulent business practice. The California State Assembly passed Assembly Bill 2943 on April 19 by a vote of 50 to 18. If this bill becomes law, it will make it illegal to advertise or sell counseling services to people who want to overcome confusion about their gender or who want to change their homosexual attraction. It is already illegal in California to sell reparative counseling to a minor. This bill aims to expand the ban to include adults and will become law if it passes the state senate and is signed by the governor.

Assemblyman Evan Low, the homosexual lawmaker who introduced the bill to the state assembly, says reparative therapy is harmful and should be outlawed. But other lawmakers worry that this bill aims to censor free speech and

infringe upon religious freedom by punishing and muzzling discussion concerning gender confusion.

Assemblyman Low told skeptics that the bill does not impede freedom of speech or religion because it applies only to commercial and financial transactions. Therefore, as long as no financial transaction takes place, pastors and therapists can still counsel people about how to overcome gender confusion (even though Low also simultaneously says that such therapy is "harmful" and "unnecessary"). But Christian groups have pointed out that a ban on advertising or selling services that help a person overcome gender confusion and same-sex attraction could be broadly interpreted to ban the sale of certain books, including the Bible. ■

► **BETTER AND BETTER?** FROM PAGE 15

advancement. In another, they are the world's worst form of regression.

Yale Global Online reported that 23 nations stockpile chemical weapons of mass destruction or have the capacity to produce them: China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Libya, Myanmar, North Korea, Pakistan, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, South Africa, South Korea, Sudan, Syria, Taiwan, the U.S. and Vietnam.

The estimated number of nuclear weapons indeed has fallen from 60,780 to 10,325. The United States is no longer in a race against the Soviet Union to produce a larger stockpile of warheads. But the U.S., Russia, China, Europe, Iran, other nations and even terrorists are still racing to produce newer, better, more effective weapons.

It only takes one nuclear weapon to incinerate an entire city of human progress. And a nuclear war would not stop with one strike. Nuclear, chemical and biological weapons are in the hands of imperfect, flawed human beings with limited knowledge and capacities. Some of these human beings are some of the most unstable and radical minds on this planet.

Entire cities of advancements in sanitation, nutrition, health, commerce, thinking, liberty and law could disappear in a moment if Donald Trump, Theresa May, Benjamin Netanyahu, Emmanuel Macron, Narendra Modi, Shahid Khaqan Abbasi, Vladimir Putin, Xi Jinping or Kim Jong-un presses a button to deploy a nuclear arsenal. Thousands of people have died and will die in inhumane ways if Bashar Assad, Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, Ali Khamenei, Moon Jae-in or others launch biological or chemical weapons. We human beings have thousands and thousands and thousands of these fiendish "advancements" just waiting to detonate.

This is a grim corollary to all the material progress—and a dangerous consequence of the fact that this physical development has come with no corresponding rise in true spiritual understanding.

We Have Been Wrong Before

Pinker is not the only thinker to present reasoned arguments why the world is getting better and better. In fact, experts throughout history have predicted peace and prosperity—right before war and disaster.

Even without those experts, we tend to presume that peace will continue indefinitely. But beyond our limited perspectives, there are threats that can dramatically change our lives and the lives of everyone on this planet.

British philosopher Bertrand Russell wrote that livestock animals come to expect food when they see the farmer, but in the end the farmer butchers them. Because something happens often, we assume it will last forever. But a catastrophe that ends your world

only has to happen once. In fact, it *can* happen only once. Which is why you must remain vigilant.

History records a long list of confident, educated, yet terribly wrong prognostications of peace.

"[U]nquestionably, there was never a time in the history of this country when from the situation of Europe we might more reasonably expect 15 years of peace than at the present moment." That was the British prime minister in 1792. Within one year, revolutionary France plunged Europe into the start of the Napoleonic Wars that killed millions of people.

Britain's undersecretary at the Foreign Office informed the foreign secretary that "he had never, during his long experience, known so great a lull in foreign affairs, and that he was not aware of

This is a dangerous consequence of the fact that this physical development has come with no corresponding rise in true spiritual understanding.

any important question that he should have to deal with." That was in 1870. *The same day*, a new prince was crowned in Spain, resulting in the Franco-Prussian War that killed roughly half a million people.

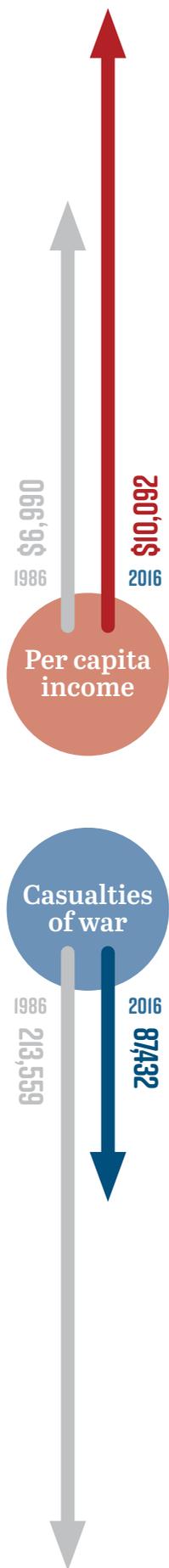
"We old people will probably not live to see the decisive battles of the coming revolution." That was a man named Vladimir Lenin speaking in the winter of 1917. Six weeks later, the Russian Revolution began. The ensuing Russian Civil War cost an estimated 10 million lives, the worst civil war in recorded human history.

"My good friends, for the second time in our history, a British prime minister has returned from Germany bringing peace with honor. I believe it is peace for our time. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Go home and get a nice, quiet sleep." That was Neville Chamberlain, after signing an agreement with Adolf Hitler. A year later, World War II began. It did not end until around 80 million lives had been lost.

How would you sum up this tendency in human nature? You could summarize it this way: "When they say 'Peace and safety,' then sudden destruction comes upon them."

'Peace and Safety'

The greatest analysis of human nature and the greatest indicator of future events are found in the book written by the Creator of human beings. The Holy Bible contains numerous prophecies that state in detail how massive, global destruction is going to come suddenly. Those who study their Bibles and study world events will be able to see this disaster coming. Those who do not will be blindsided.



Many people don't realize it, but Jesus Himself was a prophet. Days before His crucifixion, His disciples asked Him to describe the events that would occur just before His return. He responded with the most pivotal prophecy of the New Testament, recorded in Matthew 24.

The signs that Jesus Christ said would precede His return included one cataclysm after another! He warned of wars, rumors of wars, nations rising against nations, famines, pestilences, earthquakes, and the worst period of suffering in human history: "For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should *no flesh be saved*: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened" (Matthew 24:21-22).

Jesus was prophesying *human annihilation!*

This was not possible during His human lifetime. In fact, it was not possible until the second half of the 20th century, with the development of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons. Jesus prophesied human annihilation to occur *in the modern era!*

After describing His spectacular return in glory, Jesus said to be vigilant, because "of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only" (verse 36). He exhorted His disciples to urgently watch for biblical signs to know when His return was at hand. Those signs amount to the imminent suicide of the human race! That is where our "advancement" is leading us.

Look at History

Jesus also used a historical example to describe the human condition prior to His return. "But as the days of Noe [Noah] were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be" (Matthew 24:37). What were world populations doing during Noah's generation? They were "eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage" (verses 38-39). People were engaging in pleasures within their "advanced" civilization. They did not fear a major cataclysm. But when God looked at the same civilization, He saw "that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. ... The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. ... [A]ll flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth" (Genesis 6:5, 11-12).

Noah warned the others around him, but they continued pursuing their pleasures and their evils. And, as Jesus said, they "knew not *until the flood came, and took them all away*; SO SHALL ALSO THE COMING OF THE SON OF MAN BE" (Matthew 24:39).

These people were self-confident yet self-deceived. They did not think that *every one* of their deep-down thoughts was *only evil continually*. But they were. And God wiped them out rather than let

them twist their minds beyond redemption.

"Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. *Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed*" (Luke 17:28-30).

People going about their business in central Sodom or enjoying a social event on the outskirts of Gomorrah saw no reason why their luxury, decadence and excess would not get better and better. Then *in one afternoon* it all turned into smoke.

Steven Pinker considers our tolerance, embracing and praising of homosexuality as one sign of the progress of our modern world. God loves sinners, but He *hates sin* because it degrades and destroys human advancement and human happiness. He knows how destructive sin is—and eventually He will wipe it out.

Put Christ's prophecies together with other Bible prophecies, and it is clear that He is about to allow human beings to flood Earth with nuclear fire.

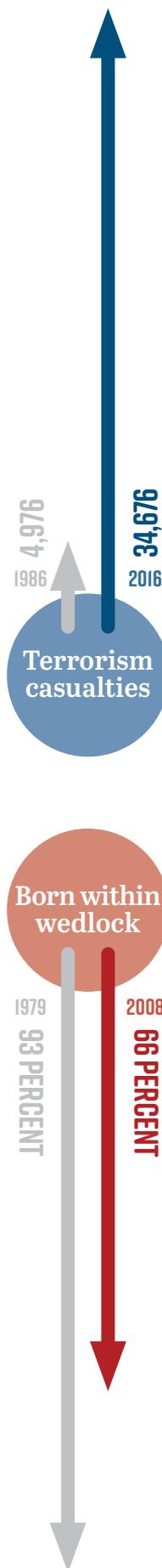
Here is what Jesus instructed His disciples: "Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. ... Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh" (Matthew 24:42, 44). Luke 21:34-35 quote Jesus as saying, "But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you *suddenly like a trap*. For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth" (English Standard Version).

Multiple Warnings

The Bible repeatedly warns about how the human experiment will end. The book of Lamentations describes an ancient destruction that foreshadows the same modern catastrophe that Jesus prophesied. "Those who feasted on dainties perish in the streets; those who were brought up in purple lie on ash heaps. For the chastisement of the daughter of my people has been greater than the punishment of Sodom, which was overthrown *in a moment* ..." (Lamentations 4:5-6; Revised Standard Version).

Isaiah 56:10-12 describe the approaching dangers and specifically indicts the leaders who should be warning about them, saying, "[T]hey are all ignorant, they are all dumb [mute] dogs, they cannot bark; sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber." Those who should be sounding the alarm just care "every one for his [own] gain." "Come ye, say they, I will fetch wine, and we will fill ourselves with strong drink; and *to morrow shall be as this day, and much more abundant*." *Life is getting better and better*.

With 24-hour news coverage, we do notice wars, rumors of wars, environmental disasters and other calamities. But we don't *care*. Not enough



to *do something*. Instead we fetch another glass of wine as we flip from CNN, to Fox, to MSNBC, to ESPN.

Isaiah 22:13 prophesies that people will actually recognize that conditions are bad, but then respond by glutting themselves on excess, thinking, “[L]et us eat and drink; for to morrow we shall die.”

“But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you,” the Apostle Paul wrote in 1 Thessalonians 5:1-3. “For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh *as a thief in the night*. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then SUDDEN DESTRUCTION cometh upon them”

It’s sudden. It happens in a day. It’s unexpected. It’s a trap snapping shut. And it is catastrophic.

Warning and Hope

Isaiah 30:8 shows that God instructed His servant to write down His words, to “note it in a book, that it may be for the time to come for ever and ever.” What did God want to be recorded and preserved? “That this is a rebellious people, lying children, children that will not hear the law of the Lord: Which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophecy not unto us right things, *speak unto us smooth things*, PROPHECY DECEITS” (verses 9-10).

That is human nature. People don’t want to hear truth. They want to hear good news, even if it’s fake. They want to hear that our generation is smarter, more just, more enlightened than ever before.

The *Trumpet* exists to fight that “prophecy not” spirit. We proclaim what Isaiah recorded in the next few verses: “Therefore thus says the Holy One of Israel, ‘Because you despise this word ... therefore this iniquity shall be to you like a break in a high wall, bulging out, and about to collapse, WHOSE CRASH COMES SUDDENLY, IN AN INSTANT’” (verses 12-13; RSV).

God recorded the prophecies of Isaiah and the Apostle Paul and Jesus Christ. He preserved them for thousands of years. He provides them to us today. Throughout history, whether it was the contemporaries of Noah or of the Israelites or of the New Testament Church, God has used individuals and groups of people to deliver His words of warning to those who will listen.

Today, the *Trumpet* is that voice. The *Trumpet* is responsible for conveying the principles of the Bible as well as its prophecies. Many people assume that “ethics” and “morals” are private issues that each person decides for himself. They assume that local, national and world events have nothing to do with how we live our private lives. But world events—and world disasters—are the *direct result* of our private lives!



Human sin leads to human suffering. Human obedience to God’s law leads to human happiness. Proclaiming these truths is the duty of the *Trumpet*.

Human beings cannot discern right from wrong through human reasoning. God’s Word is what defines good and evil. In fact, it defines what human progress really is. It accurately reveals not only the effects but also the causes. And it specifically, powerfully, repeatedly warns what will happen to enormous populations of people—because of sin!

The question of whether the world is getting better and better in material terms is not nearly as important as what the spiritual state of the world is. And if you are judging by God’s standard, the answer to that question is undeniably clear. And the consequences are frighteningly real.

What Will You Do?

The *Trumpet’s* warning message is not just for the public in general. It is for YOU INDIVIDUALLY. If you can prove what the *Trumpet* is warning from your Bible and from your news feed, your responsibility is to *heed this message*.

“He who is often rebuked, and hardens his neck, Will *suddenly* be destroyed, and that without remedy” (Proverbs 29:1; New King James Version).

Many people silently sit back and passively disagree with certain issues. But they don’t act. Many people read the *Trumpet* and agree with much or most of what we publish. But they don’t act.

God says that if you hear and agree but you don’t act, you are deceiving yourself (James 1:22).

When Jesus came to Earth the first time, He announced the coming of God’s Kingdom. To those few who listened and who heeded, He said, “REPENT: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Right now, you are seeing signs of the disasters that will explode before Jesus Christ returns. His coming is *at hand*. Will you repent? Don’t wait. Don’t just move on with your life. Don’t return to your comfortable routine. Be “pricked in your heart,” like those whom the Apostle Peter warned, and ask, “[W]hat shall we do?” (Acts 2:37).

There is an answer. “REPENT, and BE BAPTIZED every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy [Spirit],” Peter said (verse 38). How do you repent? How can you be baptized? How can you receive God’s Holy Spirit? How can you escape the disasters facing our world? How can you support God’s work? We can show you. Contact us through the information on the back cover of this magazine.

You can avoid the coming man-made disaster. You can learn what progress really is. But only if you take action. ■

READY TO TAKE THE NEXT STEP? LET US WALK YOU THROUGH IT. E-MAIL PCD@PCOG.ORG. WE ARE HAPPY TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS.

Your Next Step

Which direction will it take you?

YOUR LIFE IS A JOURNEY. IT'S MADE OF MILLIONS OF SMALL steps. Each step is so small, and you take so many of them that you usually don't think much about any one step. But each seemingly insignificant step leads in some direction and can lead either to good things or bad things.

One step leads to another. It leads you further away from other steps you could have taken. It can put you on a different path. It can determine failure or success. It can mean life or death.

Both sin and righteousness start with one step. Where did

all the evil in this world come from? So many of our evils are so obviously wrong—why then do we keep committing them? How have we ended up with hatreds, abuses, crimes, perversions? One step at a time.



JOEL HILLIKER

How did evil start in the first place? The Bible records that Lucifer took what might seem to be a simple step. He began thinking more and more

about himself. These thoughts led to selfishness, which led to vanity, to self-righteousness, to entitlement, to resentment, to bitterness, to hostility toward his own Creator.

Lucifer spread his attitude. He persuaded one angel here, two angels there, step by step by step. They harbored thoughts that were selfish, then divisive, then insubordinate, then defiant, then mutinous. Angels who owed their existence and their happiness to their Creator turned on Him in revolt and open war. This sequence of steps turned the “light bringer” into the “adversary,” and millions of angels into demons.

As with Lucifer, so with us: Sin always starts in the mind. We conceive it, we mull over it, it grows, and it bursts into a sinful act, which leads to death (James 1:14-15).

A terrible habit starts with one decision to take the easy route. Going broke starts with the first foolish purchase. A ruined friendship begins with a single hurtful comment. A limited future starts with a lazy day that leads to a lazy week that leads to a lazy academic career.

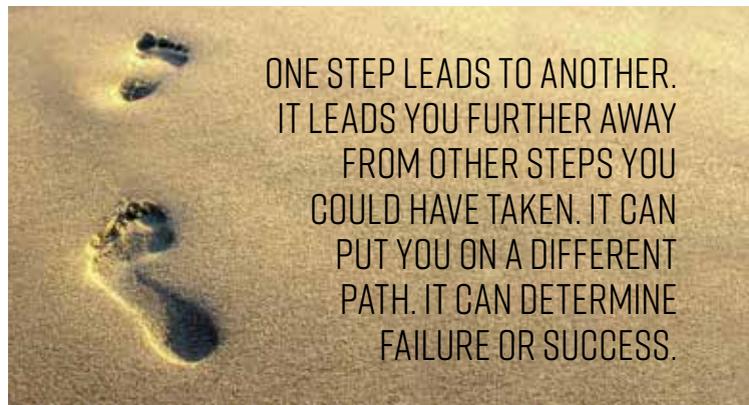
That first small step in the direction of sin is always easy to justify. “Haven't you often *wanted* to do something you knew you really ought not?” Herbert W. Armstrong asked, addressing the question, “How *far* may I safely go in doing what I *want* but know I *ought not*?” He wrote: “And haven't you sometimes gone at least *part way*, thinking that perhaps if you didn't go *all the way* in doing wrong, you might ‘get away with it’? ... Going that first *part way* is already committing the act *spiritually*—according to the spirit or intent of the law! When you did that you were already GUILTY in God's sight” (*Good News*, January 1982).

How critical that one step is! God recognizes where that first step leads. Do you? That is why He commands that we flee fornication rather than flirt with it (1 Corinthians 6:18).

Here is how Mr. Armstrong illustrated the importance of each step: “One is walking along in a thickly wooded forest on a moonless pitch-dark night. But just ahead of him is an experienced guide with a lighted lantern,” he wrote. “If he follows that lighted lantern he will be led safely out of the woods. But if he turns aside just a step or two and hesitates, the light continues on out of his sight. Then he is *really lost*” (*Pastor General's Report*; Dec. 5, 1980).

Psalm 119 says that God's word “is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path” (verse 105). It guides you out of error and into truth. If you follow it, you'll stay on that lighted path. If you reject it, you'll be in the dark. And the more steps you take in the dark, the dimmer and harder to find that lighted pathway becomes. So when you recognize your first wrong step—even if it's a “little” step—*stop!* Turn around immediately and step back toward the right path!

The right path leads to the good things—and you get to them one step at a time. Small steps can take you off the path, but small steps also carry you back to it, and onward toward your goal. You live an upright life through small daily tasks: prayer, study, work, fellowship, time management; caring for your body, mind, family, relationships and possessions. You overcome sin, bad habits, addictions and other problems through moment-by-



moment decisions. However overwhelming your objective may seem, you have the power *right now* to take *one step* toward it.

Academic excellence can start with one evening of resisting television temptation. A championship can begin with an extra day at the weight room. Money in the bank can start with declining one impulse purchase. A healthy diet can begin by skipping one combo meal. A close friendship can bloom from a single apology. Force yourself to take the first small step. You have many more steps to go, but you are moving in the right direction.

God tells us to be attentive to our every step in Proverbs 4:25-27: “Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee. Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established. Turn not to the right hand nor to the left: remove thy foot from evil.”

Your next step is coming soon. Recognize the power of that simple, everyday choice you are about to make. ■

I want to thank you for the literature I am receiving. From the moment I read the Church's literature, I've never looked at the Bible the same. I've come to the conclusion that God does have a Church. Everything makes sense now. I was a recent convert to "Christianity." About two years ago, I attended a pagan religion called "Church de la Santa Muerte," worshiping death. Little did I know, I went from one pagan religion to another.

David Vallejo BONHAM, TEXAS

These magazines are so helpful. They really help you understand the Bible in relation to what is happening in current events. It is a tremendous help!

Robert Genovar GEORGIA

I really enjoy this magazine and my wife enjoys it too. It really lifts you up!

Ronald Simpson ALABAMA

A strange thing has been happening in my life. I have read the Scriptures, and I see that I have been misinformed. What is amazing is how wrong the Catholic religion is. This is the most informative thing I have read in my 62 years. I am on to something, and I want to stay on it!

Frank Lewis OHIO

Please tell Mr. Flurry I send him all the blessing for doing this work. I think it is vital what he is teaching. I used to listen to Mr. Armstrong. It is getting so close now.

Adelina Clair NEW YORK

I thank God for your magazine. After I read Mr. Armstrong's book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*, it was like the whole world was opened up to me. And all this time I thought I was a Gentile!

Laura Rains ILLINOIS

My husband and I are in our 70s, and we have seen some massive changes in our country. We know God is trying to get our attention. I just love the *Trumpet*; these things are so



shocking. I am Catholic, and my husband is a Baptist. And in this *Trumpet* I do not see one thing where they have gotten off at all.

Nancy Lloyd MISSOURI

I realize you act more as propagandist in favor for the worst president ever to lead the U.S. I understand mostly because of the transfer of the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem! For the last two terms, you had one of the best presidents in Barack Obama. I am very surprised you support Donald Trump like that. Best regards.

JD E-MAIL RESPONSE

Be informed. Every day, anytime, anywhere. Visit theTrumpet.com.

TOP VIDEOS



Mystery of the Human Mind
theTrumpet.com/17298



Are You Answering God's Call?
theTrumpet.com/17276

TOP PODCAST



What the Media Won't Tell You About Gaza's 'March of Return'
theTrumpet.com/17090

TOP ARTICLES



Vladimir Putin: World War III Would Mark the 'End of Civilization'
theTrumpet.com/17360



A Warning to America From Our Greatest Past Presidents
theTrumpet.com/17279



The U.S. Government Is at War With Itself
theTrumpet.com/17280

Is Murdering Children Wrong? The Left Isn't Sure

The fatal flaw in the tolerance ideology

BY RICHARD PALMER

HAKANI HAD ONE OF THE MOST TRAUMATIZING CHILDHOODS imaginable. She was born in 1995 in Brazil into the Suruwahá tribe. Her name means “smile,” but she had few opportunities for that.

At 2 years old, she couldn't walk or talk. Tribal custom was clear. The elders declared she had no soul and must die.

Rather than follow custom, her parents killed themselves. Her 15-year-old brother tried to bury her alive. But she kept crying, and someone dug her up.

Her grandfather shot her with an arrow. He was so distressed that he too committed suicide.

Yet Hakani survived. So the tribe abandoned her. She lived like an animal for three years, staying alive because one of her brothers smuggled food to her. Her wound was infected. She grew incredibly thin. She still couldn't walk.

Then her brother brought her to Edson and Marcia Suzuki, a missionary couple. They rescued her, cared for her, and got her medical help. Within a year, she could walk and talk. Soon she was able to attend school.

What happened to Hakani caused outrage. The Brazilian public prosecutor's office decided to take action. But the outrage was not against those who had tried to murder Hakani. It was against her rescuers. The prosecutor recommended all non-natives be banned from the lands of the Suruwahá tribe, making it impossible to rescue another child.

Should we allow indigenous tribes to murder children? Believe it or not, the answer to this question is controversial.

Around 20 tribes are believed to follow this practice, killing children who are disabled, born to single mothers, or twins.

In 2007, Brazilian legislators introduced a bill to end child killings in tribal communities. It was called Muwaji's Law, after a mother who refused to kill her disabled daughter in 2005. The bill requires the government to protect vulnerable babies. As *Foreign Policy* wrote, “It immediately created tensions between those who champion universal human rights, which prioritize the individual, and those who support cultural relativism, which favors the freedom of communities to organize themselves according to their own moral codes” (April 9).

It took eight years to get the bill through the lower house of the legislature. It still has not passed the upper house.

That anyone could justify such practices is astonishing. But they do. *Foreign Policy* paraphrased an anonymous government anthropologist as saying that “child killing among

indigenous peoples must be understood in the context of the Amazon's incredibly harsh environment.” Brazil's National Indian Foundation says that even talking about child killing “is in many cases an attempt to incriminate and express prejudice against indigenous peoples.”

Brazilian newspaper *Folha de S. Paulo* wrote that some anthropologists argue that “the death of babies is part of the cultural identity of these indigenous populations, and white people don't have to understand it.”

One anthropologist actually said that by saving Hakani, the Suzukis “stood in the way of the realization of a cultural practice filled with meaning.”

Welcome to the logical (if extreme) conclusion of moral relativism: *If a tribe thinks that murdering a child is good, who are we to disagree? We have to understand where they're coming from.*

This is the logical conclusion for people who believe *tolerance* is the only absolute good, and intolerance is wrong. But some things, like killing children, are evil, and these actions must not be tolerated!

This is why the *Trumpet* warns against tolerating evil, whether it is killing children or something more subtle.

The West is also destroying its children. We are splitting and re-splitting their families, allowing them to engage in rampant drug use, permitting them to indulge in illicit sex, and encouraging them to experiment with transgenderism.

Each child murder is a tragedy. But Brazil has fewer than a million indigenous people, most of whom don't practice child



murder. Far more children are being destroyed in the West by our immorality.

“Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins,” God says to those who serve Him (Isaiah 58:1). God wants everyone to live a joyful life. He uses His servants to warn anyone who will listen against the sins that corrupt and destroy them and their children.

The Suzukis saved more than just Hakani's life. In 2005, two Suruwahá families followed their example and asked for medical help for their children instead of killing them according to custom.

The *Trumpet's* message can save some from sin, the root cause of all misery and suffering. Few are responding to that message today. But the Bible reveals that God is carrying out a long-term plan to save more than those who respond to the message today. He has a plan to save the entire world. God will not tolerate our evil way of life and the suffering it brings on us. He will soon end it—and then establish a world full of hope and joy. ■

You can read more about that world in our free booklet *The Wonderful World Tomorrow—What It Will Be Like*.

► **TRUMP-KIM SUMMIT** FROM PAGE 7

away from its relationship with the U.S. The U.S. Navy presence on Okinawa shrank at the same time that the Chinese Army's presence grew. America's influence in the Western Pacific is decreasing as China's grows.

Perhaps North Korea and especially China are willing to give President Trump a short-term "victory" in the interest of advancing their own long-term interests.

As the U.S. Naval Institute wrote just before the Singapore summit, "Positively influencing the denuclearization of North Korea is an intelligent, tactical move that could go a long way toward achieving one of China's long-term, strategic objectives of diminishing U.S. influence in the region, further isolating Taiwan from Western influence, and establishing itself as a superpower on the world stage" (June 8).

Even last year's missile tests and nuclear development may have been part of this strategy, as they not only improved North Korea's capabilities, but also "created an international appetite for a nonmilitary solution without overt Chinese involvement," the Naval Institute speculated. At the right moment, these nations capitalized on that. Seeking trade concessions and a diminished American presence on the Korean Peninsula, "[n]either Beijing nor Pyongyang may have to bargain for these concessions as budgets and regional and domestic political pressure do the work for them—another example of the long game. With U.S. forces diminished or absent from the Korean Peninsula and Chinese ties strengthened with the Philippines, this move would spell the eventual death of Taiwan's relationship with the West" (ibid).

Keep Watching

It is difficult to say exactly how this will play out. But this could be the end of the era when North Korea served to provoke and distract America, and the beginning of the era when North Korea integrates into the rest of Asia as China consolidates its power, unifying much of Southeast Asia under its lead.

If the United States uses reconciliation with North Korea as a reason to draw down troops in Southeast Asia, China will be able to dominate even more than it already does.

Thus, events that flow from the Singapore summit may well lead to greater peace—in the short term. But it could also be a major step toward the fulfillment of the Bible's prophecies of a coming Asian superpower, dominated by Russia and China, a superpower that will be a major combatant in the coming nuclear World War III. ■

Want to keep an eye on Asia?

Let the *Trumpet* show you what to look for. Request our free booklet **Russia and China in Prophecy** to learn what the Bible prophesies for this region.



THE KEY OF DAVID



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

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

UNITED STATES

- Nationwide Satellite**
Galaxy 3 Trans. 17 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu
- Direct TV**
CW Plus, Chan. 34, 9:30 ET/PT, Sun
ION, Chan. 305, 6:00 ET, Fri
- Dish Network**
ION, Chan. 216, 6:00 ET, Fri
- Nationwide Cable**
ABC Freeform, 6:30 ET/PT, Fri
CW Plus, 9:30 ET/PT, Sun
ION, 6:00 ET/PT, Fri
- Alabama, Birmingham** WPXH 5:00, Fri;
WVUA 8:30, Sun
- Dothan** WRGX 8:00, Sun;
WTVY-DT 8:30, Sun
- Montgomery-Salem** WBMM-DT/WNCF-DT 8:30, Sun
- Opelika** WLTZ-DT 9:30, Sun
- Alaska, Anchorage** KYUR-DT 8:30, Sun
- Fairbanks** KATN-DT 8:30, Sun
- Juneau** KJUD-DT 8:30, Sun
- Arizona, Phoenix** KPPX 5:00, Fri;
KASW 8:00, Sun
- Yuma** KECY-DT 8:30, Sun
- Arkansas, El Dorado** KNOE-DT 8:30, Sun
- Fayetteville** KFTA 9:30, Sun; KHBS-DT/
KHOG-DT 8:30, Sun
- Fort Smith** KFTA 9:30, Sun; KHBS-DT/
KHOG-DT 8:30, Sun
- Jonesboro** KJOS 8:30, Sun
- Rogers** KFTA 9:30, Sun; KHBS-DT/KHOG-DT 8:30, Sun
- Springdale** KFTA 9:30, Sun; KHBS-DT/
KHOG-DT 8:30, Sun
- California, Bakersfield** KGET-DT 9:30, Sun
- Chico** KHSL-DT 9:30, Sun; KRCR 9:00, Sun
- El Centro** KECY-DT 8:30, Sun
- Eureka** KECA-LD/KVIQ-DT 9:30, Sun
- Los Angeles** KCAL 6:30, Sun; KPXN 6:00, Fri
- Monterey** KION 9:30, Sun
- Palm Springs** KCWQ/KESQ-DT 9:30, Sun
- Redding** KHSL-DT 9:30, Sun;
KRCR 9:00, Sun
- Sacramento** KSPX 6:00, Fri;
- Salinas** KION 9:30, Sun
- San Francisco** KKPX 6:00, Fri
- Santa Barbara-Santa Maria** KSBY-DT 9:30, Sun
- Colorado, Denver** KPXC 5:00, Fri
- Grand Junction** KJCT-DT 8:30, Sun
- Montrose** KJCT-DT 8:30, Sun
- Connecticut, Hartford** WHPX 6:00, Fri
- Florida, Gainesville** WCJB-DT 9:30, Sun
- Jacksonville** WPXC/WPJ-LP 6:00, Fri
- Miami** WPXM 6:00, Fri
- Orlando** WOPX 6:00, Fri
- Panama City** WJHG-DT 8:30, Sun
- Tallahassee** WTXL 7:30, Sun; WTLF/
WTLH-DT 9:30, Sun
- Tampa** WXPX 6:00, Fri
- West Palm Beach** WPXP 6:00, Fri
- Georgia, Albany** WSWG-DT 9:30, Sun
- Atlanta** WPXA 6:00, Fri
- Augusta-Aiken** WAGT-DT 9:30, Sun
- Brunswick** WPXC 6:00, Fri
- Columbus** WLTZ-DT 9:30, Sun
- Macon** WMAZ-DT 9:30, Sun
- Savannah** WSAV-DT 9:30, Sun
- Thomasville** WTLF/WTLH-DT 9:30, Sun
- Hawaii, Hawaii Na Leo** Chan. 54 6:30, Sun;
8:30, Wed
- Honolulu** KPXO 5:00, Fri
- Kauai Ho'Ike** Chan. 52 9:30, Tue
- Maui/Lanaii/Molokai/Niihau/Akaku**
Chan. 52 6:30 pm, Sun; 3:30, Mon
- Oahu Focus** Chan. 49 7:00, Sat
- Idaho, Boise** KYUU-LP/KBOI-DT 8:30, Sun
- Idaho Falls** KIFI-DT 8:30, Sun
- Pocatello** KIFI-DT 8:30, Sun
- Twin Falls** KMVT-DT 8:30, Sun
- Illinois, Bloomington** WEEK-DT 8:30, Sun
- Chicago** WCUU 7:00, Mon-Fri; WCIU 9:30,
Sun; WCPX 5:00, Fri
- Peoria** WEEK-DT 8:30, Sun
- Rockford** WREX-DT 8:30, Sun
- Quincy** WGEM-DT 8:30, Sun
- Indiana, Fort Wayne** WISE-DT 9:30, Sun
- Indianapolis** WIPX 6:00, Fri
- Lafayette** WLFI-DT 9:30, Sun
- Terre Haute** WTHI-DT 9:30, Sun

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

STAFF

Publisher and Editor in Chief
Gerald Flurry

Executive Editor
Stephen Flurry

Managing Editor
Joel Hilliker

Contributing Editors
Brad Macdonald, Richard Palmer, Jeremiah Jacques, Dennis Leap

Associate Editor
Philip Nice

Designer
Steve Hercus

Contributors
Anthony Chibarirwe, Andrew Miller, Brent Nagtegaal, David Vejil, Callum Wood

Production Assistants
Deepika Azariah, Aubrey Mercado

Researcher
Carina Carbonell

Design Assistant
Reese Zoellner

Artists
Gary Dorning, Julia Goddard

Prepress
Wik Heerma

International Editions
Brad Macdonald

French, Italian
Deryle Hope

German
Hans Schmidl

Spanish
Carlos Heyer

THE PHILADELPHIA TRUMPET
(ISSN 10706348), August 2018, Vol. 29, No. 7 is published monthly (except bimonthly May-June and November-December issues) by the Philadelphia Church of God, 14400 S. Bryant Road, Edmond, OK 73034. Periodicals postage paid at Edmond, OK, and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: THE PHILADELPHIA TRUMPET, P.O. Box 3700, Edmond, OK 73083.

U.S. HOW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION HAS BEEN PAID: The Trumpet has no subscription price—it is free. This is made possible by the tithes and offerings of the membership of the Philadelphia Church of God and others. Contributions are welcomed, however, and are tax-deductible in the United States, Canada and New Zealand. Those who wish to voluntarily support this worldwide work of God are gladly welcomed as co-workers. © 2018 Philadelphia Church of God. All rights reserved. PRINTED IN THE U.S.A. Unless otherwise noted, scriptures are quoted from the King James Version of the Holy Bible.

CONTACT US Please notify us of any change in your address; include your old mailing label and the new address. The publishers assume no responsibility for return of unsolicited artwork, photographs or manuscripts. The editor reserves the right to use any letters, in whole or in part, as he deems in the public interest, and to edit any letter for clarity or space. **WEBSITE** www.theTrumpet.com; **E-MAIL** letters@theTrumpet.com; subscription or literature requests request@theTrumpet.com **PHONE** United Kingdom: 0-800-756-6724; Australia: 1-800-22-333-0 **MAIL** Contributions, letters or requests may be sent to our office nearest you: **United States** P.O. Box 3700, Edmond, OK 73083 **Canada** P.O. Box 400, Campbellville, ON L0P 1B0. **Caribbean** P.O. Box 2237, Chaguuanas, Trinidad, W.I. **Britain, Europe, Middle East** P.O. Box 16945, Henley-in-Arden, RG5 8HH, United Kingdom **Africa** Postnet Box 219, Private bag X10010, Edenvale, 1610, South Africa **Australia, Pacific Isles, India, Sri Lanka** P.O. Box 293, Archerfield, QLD 4108, Australia **New Zealand** P.O. Box 6088, Glenview, Hamilton, 3246 **Philippines** P.O. Box 52143, Angeles City Post Office, 2009 Pampanga **Latin America** Attn: Spanish Department, P.O. Box 3700, Edmond, OK 73083, U.S.

Iowa, Cedar Rapids KPXR 5:00, Fri
Des Moines KFPX 5:00, Fri
Keokuk WGEN-DT 8:30, Sun
Mason City KTTC-DT 8:30, Sun
Ottumwa KWOT 8:30, Sun
Sioux City KTIV-DT 8:30, Sun
Kansas, Pittsburg KSXF 8:30, Sun
Topeka KTKA-DT 8:30, Sun;
KTKA 9:00, Sun
Kentucky, Bowling Green WBKO-DT 8:30, Sun
Lexington WUPX 6:00, Fri
Louisiana, Alexandria KALB-DT 8:30, Sun
Lafayette KADN 6:30, Sun; KATC-DT
8:30, Sun; KLAJ 6:30, Sun
Lake Charles KPLC-DT 8:30, Sun
Monroe KNOE-DT 8:30, Sun
New Orleans WPXL 5:00, Fri
Maine, Bangor WABI-DT 9:30, Sun
Portland WIPL 6:00, Fri
Presque Isle WBPQ 9:30, Sun
Maryland, Baltimore WBFF/WUTB 7:30, Sun
Salisbury WMDT-DT 9:30, Sun
Massachusetts, Holyoke
WWLP-DT 9:30, Sun
Springfield WWLP-DT 9:30, Sun
Michigan, Alpena WBAE 9:30, Sun
Cadillac WFOQ-DT 9:30, Sun
Detroit WPXD 6:00, Fri; WADL 10:00, Sun
Grand Rapids WZPX 5:00, Fri
Lansing WLAJ-DT 9:30, Sun
Marquette WBKP-DT/WBUP-DT 9:30, Sun
Traverse City WFOQ-DT 9:30, Sun
Minnesota, Duluth KDHL-DT 8:30, Sun
Mankato KWYE 8:30, Sun
Minneapolis KPXM 5:00, Fri
Rochester KTTC-DC 8:30, Sun
Mississippi, Biloxi WXXV-DT 8:30, Sun
Columbus WCBI-DT 8:30, Sun
Greenville WBWD 8:30, Sun
Greenwood WBWD 8:30, Sun
Gulfport WXXV-DT 8:30, Sun
Hattiesburg WHLT-DT 8:30, Sun
Jackson WDBD 8:00, Sun
Laurel WHLT-DT 8:30, Sun
Meridian WTOK-DT 8:30, Sun
Tupelo WCBI-DT 8:30, Sun
Missouri, Columbia KOMU-DT 8:30, Sun
Hannibal WGEN-DT 8:30, Sun
Jefferson City KOMU-DT 8:30, Sun
Joplin KSXF 8:30, Sun
Kansas City KPXE 5:00, Fri
Kirksville KWOT 8:30, Sun
Springfield KRBB 7:30, Sun
St. Joseph KNPG-LD 8:30, Sun
Montana, Billings KTVQ-DT 8:30, Sun
Bozeman KBZK-DT/KXLF-DT 8:30, Sun
Butte KBZK-DT/KXLF-DT 8:30, Sun
Glendive KWZB 8:30, Sun
Great Falls KRTV-DT 8:30, Sun
Helena KTVH-DT 8:30, Sun
Missoula KPAX-DT 8:30, Sun
Nebraska, Hastings KWBL 8:30, Sun
Kearney KWBL 8:30, Sun
Lincoln KWBL 8:30, Sun
North Platte KWPL 8:30, Sun
Scottsbluff KGWN-DT 8:30, Sun
Nevada, Reno KRNS-CA/KREN-DT 9:30, Sun
New York, Albany WYPX 6:00, Fri
Binghamton WBNG-DT 9:30, Sun
Buffalo WPXJ 6:00, Fri; WUTV 10:30, Sun
Elmira (Corning) WENY-DT 9:30, Sun
New York City WPXN 6:00, Fri; WWOR,
8:00, Sun
Plattsburgh WPTZ-DT 9:30, Sun
Syracuse WSPX 6:00, Fri
Utica WKTU-DT 9:30, Sun
Watertown WWTI-DT 9:30, Sun
North Carolina, Asheville WYCW 9:00, Sun
Charlotte WAXN 10:00, Sun
Durham WRPX 6:00, Fri
Fayetteville WFPX 6:00, Fri
Greensboro WGPX 6:00, Fri
Greenville WEPX 6:00, Fri; WNCT-DT
9:30, Sun
Lumber Bridge WFPX 6:00, Fri
New Bern WNCT-DT 9:30, Sun

Raleigh WRPX 6:00, Fri
Washington WNCT-DT 9:30, Sun
Washington WWAY-DT 9:30, Sun
North Dakota
Bismarck KXMC-DT 8:30, Sun
Dickinson KXMC-DT 8:30, Sun
Fargo KXJB 8:30, Sun
Minot KXMC-DT 8:30, Sun
Valley City KXJB 8:30, Sun
Ohio, Cincinnati WSTR 8:30, Sun
Cleveland WVPX 6:00, Fri
Lima WBOH 9:30, Sun
Steubenville WBWO 9:30, Sun
Youngstown WYTV 11:30, Sun
Zanesville WBZV 9:30, Sun
Oklahoma, Ada KTEN-DT 8:30, Sun
Lawton KAUZ-DT 8:30, Sun
Oklahoma City KOPX 5:00, Fri
Tulsa KTPX 5:00, Fri; KQCW 9:30, Sun
Oregon, Bend KTVZ-DT 9:30, Sun
Eugene KMTR-DT 9:30, Sun
Medford-Klamath Falls
KTVL-DT 9:30, Sun
Portland KPXG 6:00, Fri
Pennsylvania, Erie WSEE-DT/WICU-DT
9:30, Sun
Philadelphia WACP 9:00, Sun
WPPX 6:00, Fri
Wilkes Barre WQPX 6:00, Fri
Rhode Island, Providence
WPXQ 6:00, Fri
South Carolina, Anderson WYCW 9:00, Sun
Charleston WCBD-DT 9:30, Sun
Florence WWMB-DT 9:30, Sun
Greenville WYCW 9:00, Sun
Myrtle Beach WWMB-DT 9:30, Sun
Spartanburg WYCW 9:00, Sun
South Dakota, Rapid City KEVN 6:30, Sun
KLCO-DT 8:30, Sun
Sioux Falls (Mitchell) KSFY-DT 8:30, Sun
Tennessee, Chattanooga WFLI 10:30, Sun
Jackson WBJK 8:30, Sun
Knoxville WPXK 6:00, Fri
Memphis WPXX 5:00, Fri
Nashville WNPX 5:00, Fri; WZTV 6:30
Texas, Abilene KTXS-DT 8:30, Sun
Amarillo KVII-DT/KVIH-DT 8:30, Sun
Beaumont KFDM-DT 8:30, Sun
Brownsville KCWT/KNVO-DT 8:30, Sun
Corpus Christi KRIS-DT 8:30, Sun
Dallas KDAF 7:00, Sun
Harlingen KCWT/KNVO-DT 8:30, Sun
Houston KPXB 5:00, Fri
Laredo KYLX 8:30, Sun
Longview KYTX-DT 8:30, Sun
Lubbock KJTV 8:00, Sun
KLWC-DT 8:30, Sun
Midland KWAB-DT/KWES-DT 8:30, Sun
Odessa KWAB-DT/KWES-DT 8:30, Sun
Port Arthur KFDM 8:30, Sun
San Angelo KTXE 8:30, Sun
San Antonio KPXL 5:00, Fri
Sherman KTEN-DT 8:30, Sun
Sweetwater KTXS-DT 8:30, Sun
Tyler KYTX-DT 8:30, Sun
Victoria KWVB 8:30, Sun
Weslaco KCWT/KNVO-DT 8:30, Sun
Wichita Falls KAUZ-DT 8:30, Sun
Utah, Salt Lake City KUPX 5:00, Fri
Vermont, Burlington WVNY 10:30, Sun;
WPTZ-DT 9:30
Virginia, Charlottesville WVIR-DT 9:30, Sun
Harrisonburg WVIR-DT 9:30, Sun
Norfolk WPXV 6:00, Fri
Richmond WUPV 8:00, Sun

Roanoke WPXR 6:00, Fri
Washington D.C. WPXW 6:00, Fri
Washington, Pasco KIMA-DT/KEPR-DT
9:30, Sun
Richland KIMA-DT/KEPR-DT 9:30, Sun
Seattle-Tacoma KWPX 6:00, Fri
Seattle KCPQ 7:00, Sun
Spokane KGPX 6:00, Fri; KAYU 7:30, Sun
Yakima KIMA-DT/KEPR-DT 9:30, Sun
West Virginia, Beckley WVVA-DT 9:30, Sun
Bluefield WVVA-DT 9:30, Sun
Charleston WLXP 6:00, Fri
Clarksburg WVFY-DT 9:30, Sun
Oak Hill WVVA-DT 9:30, Sun
Parkersburg WCWP 9:30, Sun
Weston WVFY-DT 9:30, Sun
Wheeling WBWO 9:30, Sun
Wisconsin, Eau Claire WXOW-DT/WQOW-
DT 8:30, Sun
La Crosse WXOW-DT/WQOW-DT 8:30, Sun
Milwaukee WPXE 5:00, Fri
Rhineland WAOW/WYOW 8:30, Sun
Superior KDHL-DT 8:30, Sun
Wausau WAOW-DT/WYOW-DT 8:30, Sun
Wyoming, Casper KCWY-DT 8:30, Sun
Cheyenne KGWN-DT 8:30, Sun
Riverton KCWY-DT 8:30, Sun

CANADA

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

Nationwide cable
Vision TV 4:30 pm ET, Sun
CHCH 11:30 ET, Sun

Atlantic Provinces
CTV Atlantic 11:00 AT, Sun

Alberta, Red Deer KAYU 8:30, Sun

Calgary KAYU 8:30, Sun

Edmonton KAYU 8:30, Sun

Medicine Hat KAYU 8:30, Sun

Lethbridge KAYU 8:30, Sun

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

Victoria CHNU 5:30 pm, Sun

Manitoba, Winnipeg CIIT Joy TV 11:00, Sun

New Brunswick, Moncton CKCW-DT 11, Sun

Saint John CKLT-DT 11, Sun

Nova Scotia, Halifax CJCH-DT 11, Sun

Sydney CJCB-TV 11, Sun

Ontario, Ottawa CJOH 5:30, Sun

Toronto WADL 10:00 Sun;
WUTV 10:30, Sun;
CHNU 8:30 pm, Sun

P.E.I., Charlottetown CKCW-DT 11, Sun

Quebec, Montreal WVVY 10:30, Sun

Saskatchewan, Saskatoon CFQC 5:30, Sun;

CARIBBEAN

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

Bahamas FOX W Chan. 216, 10:30, Sun

Puerto Rico WSJX 8:00, Sun

LATIN AMERICA

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

AUSTRALASIA

Australia
Nationwide 9GEM 8:00, Sun

Adelaide TV44 11:30, Sun; 5:00, Wed

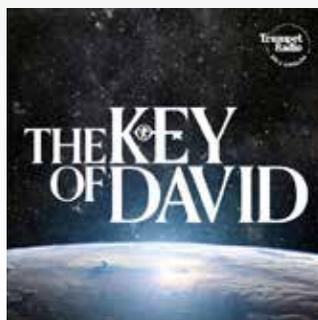
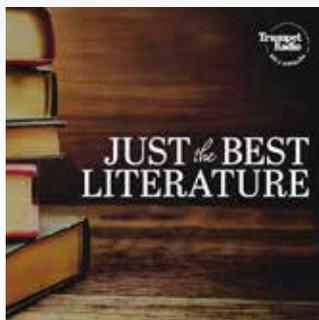
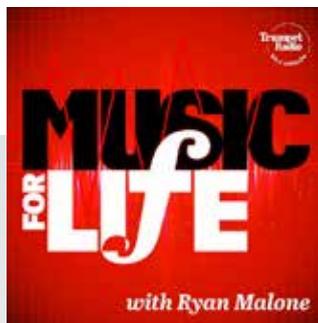
Perth WTV 11:30, Sun/Sat

New Zealand TVNZ 1, 5:30, Sun

Philippines TV4 7:30 PHT, Sun

CBS United Kingdom

Station	Day	Time	sky	sky	Freeview	freeSat
CBS Action	Saturday	8:30 am	Ch. 148	Ch. 192	Ch. 64	Ch. 137
CBS Drama	Sunday	7:30 am	Ch. 149	Ch. 197	Ch. 74	Ch. 134
CBS Reality	Sunday	8:00 am	Ch. 146	Ch. 148	Ch. 66	Ch. 135



SUBSCRIBE TO THE TRUMPET'S PODCASTS | THETRUMPET.COM/GO/RADIO

To order print versions of our literature

Limit three pieces of literature per order

U.S. AND CANADA
1-800-772-8577

UNITED KINGDOM
0-800-756-6724

AUSTRALIA
1-800-22-333-0

E-MAIL
request@theTrumpet.com

ONLINE
www.theTrumpet.com/library

MAIL
P.O. Box 3700, Edmond, OK 73083

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

NO CHARGE • NO FOLLOW-UP • NO OBLIGATION