



FROM THE EDITOR **GERALD FLURRY**

Why Your World Is Changing So Suddenly

Our societies are fundamentally transforming.
When you know why, you can know what to do.

OUR WORLD HAS NEVER CHANGED SO DRAMATICALLY SO rapidly. Leaders in politics, business, education and media are ignoring the law, violating freedoms, and enforcing radical policies on unwilling people. They are turning coronavirus, the environment, race and other issues into weapons for forcing through their agenda. This is already affecting all of us—but believe it or not, much worse is coming.

In this process, the true agenda of the radical elites is being unmasked. This is not incompetence. This is not a good-faith attempt to improve people's lives. This is an intentional agenda from an evil motive to deliberately destroy what little good is left in our societies. Many of our leaders *hate* the principles that many of us cherish: free and fair elections; rule of law; honoring law enforcement; schools respecting parents and protecting the innocence of children; harmony among races; marriage and family; individual liberty; human dignity; freedom of thought, speech and religion.

You need to recognize the unseen reason *why* this is happening.

Our societies are steeped in evolution and deny the existence of anything beyond matter and energy. But there is clearly



JANUARY 2022
VOL. 33, NO. 1
CIRC. 238,205

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more to the human mind and to the existence of good and evil. As you may have noticed, even some mainstream voices in the news are beginning to recognize this.

The spirit world is real. God is real. And so is the devil! Those who remain ignorant of this reality are vulnerable to his attacks (e.g. 2 Corinthians 2:11; 10:3-5; 1 Peter 5:8). Not only is the devil real, but he *rules* the attitudes of the whole world! In fact, in this end time he and his demons have been cast down and are *confined* to the Earth! (2 Corinthians 4:4; Revelation 12:9-12).

These evil spirits are exerting terrible and growing influence today, and much of this is by manipulating our human leaders. You can recognize the devil's presence in the breezy deceit and brazen lies. You see it in the way the elites are trampling people's freedoms and rights, yet remain utterly untroubled by the catastrophic effects of their edicts.

Yet the devil is a master at presenting himself and his ideas and policies as good and noble, while rejecting law and bending people to his will. We cannot judge by the *words* of these leaders—we must judge by the *fruits* of what they are doing. Then the truth becomes inescapably clear. (Request your free copy of *America Under Attack*.) The fruits are terrible, but these elites refuse to admit it. They continue pushing their disastrous ideas that much harder—just like the devil himself does. Their arrogance makes them extremely vulnerable to the devil's influence.

Now, it is one thing to recognize what is happening. But you must then ask some important questions, which almost nobody is doing.

Here is the most important question: WHY WOULD GOD ALLOW THIS? God has power over Satan; the devil can do nothing God doesn't allow. Why is God giving him such free rein?

These problems have a *cause*: our own sins!

America, Britain, the other nations of Israel and the whole world are experiencing *curse*s for disbelieving and disobeying God! We have denied God's authority over us. We have rejected God, His law, even His very existence!

And He has allowed us to experience the results of our choices.

And because we have left Him no other way to get through to us, He has punished us to get our attention and, ultimately, to save us from squandering our lives in selfishness, suffering and rejecting our own eternal future. He is trying to help us recognize our error and turn back to Him (Ezekiel 33:11).

The revolutionary changes we are living through are bewildering only if you fail to see God in the picture. But when you know the prophecies of the Bible, you recognize that in spite of our sins, God is still accomplishing His master plan! (Request *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*, by Herbert W. Armstrong.)

The elites are destroying our societies so they can trigger a “great reset” and “build back better.” But they want to rebuild to some kind of perverse socialist or Communist utopia. They are woefully misguided. While they hypocritically enjoy freedoms and powers they deny to everyone else, they oppress and tyrannize. They act as if they can build a better world as they plunge the world into nuclear World War III!

Jesus Christ Himself prophesied that, just as we and our governments erupt in destroying the entire human race, He will return to put down human rebellion by force, *abolish* all human governments, and set up a literal government that will rule all of mankind: the Kingdom of God. That is our greatest and *only* hope!

Recognize the glaring lesson of our time. Human beings, including yourself, do not and cannot know the difference between good and evil. We cannot resist the devil by ourselves. Like little children, we desperately need to humble ourselves, repent, submit, and trust and obey our Father! Most people would rather be like the “god of this world,” reject God's law, judge for themselves what is right and wrong, and hold on to the devil's self-right attitude to the bitter end. But you can be part of the truly revolutionary solution to human government and human nature. And you can live your life now, no matter what happens, with blazing, brilliant hope! ■

The Communist Attack on Parents

The culture war that Herbert Armstrong prophesied is now here.

BY STEPHEN FLURRY

A FEW SCHOOL YEARS AGO, IF YOU SAID things like “family is under attack,” “parents are under attack,” or “there is a conspiracy against fatherhood,” most people ignored you. The *Trumpet* knows, because those are exactly the warnings we have trumpeted for 30 years. We have warned that many of the nation’s problems that people recognize stem from a cause they don’t recognize: *weak families*. An entire generation has passed, and society has ignored that warning.

Now it’s unmistakable, and people are waking up to reality: *Family is under attack*.

One vivid example has been the all-out culture war on parents at recent American school board meetings.

People are now realizing that schools have been forcing into children’s minds a flow of radical, atheistic ideas about God, men and women, marriage, America, history and virtue. Parents and grandparents of today’s students were themselves schooled in this way to one degree or another. But this agenda has rapidly grown far more radical, and now children are being force-fed the orthodoxy of full-on cultural Marxism: Gender is fluid, gender is a spectrum, socialism is good, personal responsibility is evil, police are racist, math is racist, America is racist, law is bad, rebellion is good, sexual perversion is healthy, absolute truth does not exist, and the only thing that is wrong is believing in right and wrong. All these lies are literally in the curriculum, complete with children’s books, colorful illustrations, slideshows, videos, special speakers, demonstrations, homework, testing and punishments for “getting it wrong.”

The subversive radicalization of tens of

millions of American children has parents alarmed, and they are finally speaking out. At school board meetings, administrators are responding by arguing with parents, berating them, ignoring them, cutting off their microphones, shutting down meetings—and continuing to indoctrinate their children. In their view, parents should have no say.

This is not something merely to shake your head at. We told you family is under attack; now we are telling you that this attack will literally destroy this nation. This is what the Bible prophesies.

Child Sacrifice

One of the most powerful examples of the turmoil in American schools is recent events in Loudoun County, Virginia.

Virginia is the land of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison and other great American founders. It provided the “Virginia Plan” that led to the Constitution. It ceded hundreds of thousands of square miles of land to help create the Northwest Ordinance and the greatest educational endowment in human history: \$3 trillion in land dedicated specifically to schooling, because “[r]eligion, morality and knowledge, being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged.”

Now Virginia is the land of post-birth-abortion advocate Ralph Northam, keep-parents-out-of-education advocate Terry McAuliffe, and Loudoun County Public Schools. Loudoun is part of metropolitan Washington, D.C. Its motto is “I Byde My Time.” About a dozen generations of students

on from George Washington, its school board members are among the many who want to be considered enlightened, tolerant and progressive. And they are indoctrinating schoolchildren into a Marxist revolution.

An important part of the Loudoun County School Board's agenda is Policy 8040. This policy forces administrators and teachers to allow boys who say they feel like girls to play girls' sports and use girls' bathrooms, and vice versa. As they were pushing through this policy, a 15-year-old "gender fluid" boy wearing a skirt walked into a school bathroom, restrained a 14-year-old girl, and committed horrible sexual acts on her.

The girl's father, Scott Smith, said he was called to the school and told to keep what happened quiet and let administrators handle it internally. He erupted in anger, and the school administrators called the police to come and confront him (not the rapist). That night, Smith took his daughter to a hospital, which confirmed that she had been raped. Then they went to the police. Smith says he was again told by prosecutors, lawyers and others to remain quiet in order to get "justice" for his daughter. He reluctantly complied.

The school continued to cover up the rape and continued to push Policy 8040.

Three weeks later, Smith attended a school board meeting. He didn't sign up to speak, but as he sat in the audience, he heard a board member literally say, "Our students do not need to be protected, and they are not in danger. Do we have assaults in our bathrooms or locker rooms regularly?" He heard the superintendent say, "To my knowledge, we don't have any record of assaults occurring in our restrooms," and then, "The predator transgender student or person simply does not exist."

Smith didn't speak to the school board, but a pro-transgender woman in the audience began berating him. He argued back, police were called in, and they tackled him and hauled him away. He never had the chance to tell the board and the audience that his daughter had *just been raped* in the girls' bathroom by a boy in a skirt.

School administrators still did nothing about the rapist except transfer him from Stone Bridge High School to Broad Run High School. There, on Oct. 6, 2021, the same boy forced a girl into an empty classroom and sexually assaulted her.

With such terrible results from such a terrible policy, you would think liberals would show some contrition, or at least try to avoid the subject. Yet they quickly, boldly, defiantly used the incident to further attack parents! They used photos of Smith to paint him and other parents as deranged, right-wing bigots. In a letter to Joe Biden, the National School Boards Association cited this father of a rape victim as a good reason for the federal government not only to get involved but to use Department of Homeland Security agents, Secret Service agents and Federal Bureau of Investigation national security and counterterrorism agents to prosecute parents for *domestic terrorism* and *hate crimes*. Biden's Justice Department said it would grant the request, claiming that there is "a disturbing spike in harassment, intimidation and threats of violence" against people in the school system.

American school boards have been failing to give your children a good academic education (let alone moral education) for more than a generation. Now they are indoctrinating them with atheistic Marxist ideology to the point of endangering them—and punishing you with FBI agents and prosecutors accusing you of "hate crime" or domestic terrorism" if you say something at a school board meeting that they classify as "harassment."

Yes, you live in a country where the National School Boards Association and the Biden regime are invoking the (unconstitutional) Patriot Act, a law that grants the government sweeping powers to stop Islamist terrorists from committing another 9/11. It is using it to intimidate, prosecute and punish parents who come to school board meetings to complain about teachers telling their daughter things like "girls are not real."

Progressive educators are not doing this to protect teachers from violence. They are doing it to shut parents up.

Everything about this story is unfathomably sickening! It is so disgusting and bizarre that it's impossible to make sense of—*unless* you realize that this is a core part of an intentional strategy. The strategy, as stated by Barack Obama, is “fundamentally transforming the United States of America.”

‘Heartless Monster’

The education of American children was central to the election battle over Virginia’s next governor. In a Sept. 28, 2021, campaign debate, Democratic candidate Terry McAuliffe flatly stated, “I don’t think parents should be telling schools what they should teach.” This is the leftists’ view—stated plainly. Soon, that quote was everywhere. At that point, the tide began to turn against the Democrats. But rather than backing off, the Democrats doubled down on promoting Marxist education and, by extension, blocking out parents. Over the next month, in came Joe Biden, Kamala Harris and Stacey Abrams to back McAuliffe.

And in came Barack Obama. Obama came to Virginia to support the man who said, “I don’t think parents should be telling schools what they should teach,” because he believes the same thing. Criticizing the opposing nominee and conservatives in general, he said, “We don’t have time to be wasting on these phony, trumped-up culture wars, this fake outrage that right-wing media pedals to juice their ratings”

What is the “phony, trumped-up” fakery that Obama was setting us straight on? The outrage of Virginians and people across the country at a school board that covered for a student rapist!

For this, Fox News commentator Tucker Carlson condemned Obama as a “heartless monster.” Carlson is more right than he realizes.

A normal person would be horrified at a school hiding the rape of a 14-year-old girl to protect its pet transgender policy. A normal person would hate everything about this story. A normal person would be heartbroken for that girl. A normal person would be shocked and afraid for how horrid, unjust, vain, deceitful and wicked our nation is. A normal person would be afraid of how radicals—so

quick to invent grievances to advance their agenda—are now sacrificing our children to their godless ideology.

Radical leftists love to wave signs with hearts, peace symbols and rainbows while they chant slogans like “Love trumps hate.” But toward a child who is victimized and raped by their horrendous social-engineering project, they are heartless.

Barack Obama, leader of radicals who have elevated grievance and complaining to a bizarre religion, says that if you are upset about this, your outrage is “phony.” He is not a normal person. He is a heartless monster.

Obama’s concern, like that of the school board, is only for the rape’s effect on his agenda. His goal is to push fornication, adultery, polygamy, homosexuality, transgenderism and other sexual perversions until the institution of family is destroyed and America is fundamentally transformed. He isn’t going to let a little inconvenience like the rape of a child stand in his way.

But the tide might be turning. Obama enjoyed adulation from the press throughout his campaign and presidency, and used it to his great advantage. Even some conservatives were and are afraid to criticize him for fear of being called racist. But now, many people are finally recognizing that Obama is still pushing his agenda, this time through Joe Biden—weaponizing race, maiming the economy, expanding federal power, and destroying what America has been—particularly those aspects of our culture that trace back to the family, and especially those principles that trace back to the Bible.

Throughout the Land

Promiscuity destroys the very concept of fatherhood and leaves many children with no choice but to depend on the government for education and even food. This is a primary reason why so many Marxist educators endorse fornication, adultery, polygamy, homosexuality and transgenderism. These sexual sins destroy the family—and empower the state.

One parent in Loudoun County attempted

to read from a school library book to the school board. She was escorted out for reading explicit material. Angry parents tried to create a commercial alerting the public to the pornographic material their kids are being taught at school. The Ad Council blocked it because it was too graphic. But teachers are showing the material itself to their children.

During a homecoming event at Hazard High School in Kentucky in October, teachers and administrators laughed as students paraded around the gymnasium in their underpants and as a male student performed sexual dances while wearing women's underwear.

During halftime at a high school football game in Vermont, 30 students and faculty members performed a "drag ball" runway show. Boys put on make-up, wigs and dresses. Girls donned suits and pinned their hair back to support the school's Gender Sexuality Alliance.

In North Carolina, school officials at Hawthorne Academy High School suspended a girl for telling them about a boy who routinely followed her into the bathroom to molest her. You read that right: The school suspended the *girl* for reporting that she was being sexually abused. Local news reports said school administrators "accused the female student of filing a false report and suspended her." When students found out, they were so upset by the administrators' decision they staged a walkout! Once the police got involved and an investigation was conducted, the boy was arrested and now faces charges for sexual battery.

In Kansas, one school asked students to label where they were in the stages of "gender identity." At a Florida school, a teacher took students on a field trip to a homosexual bar. These types of stories are popping up every day.

Facing mask and vaccine mandates, restrictions and school closures, overtly racist curricula and even the cover-up of rapes, parents are *finally* taking notice and trying to fight back. Marxist educators are retaliating with Barack Obama's and Joe Biden's FBI to prosecute them and carry on with their children's indoctrination into the politics of Karl Marx and the morals of Sigmund Freud.

Culture War

Why are school boards and the propagandists in the media defending rapists and attacking parents? Because abolishing family is essential to their agenda. The family is not collateral damage. It is the primary target!

Many parents don't realize the positive power they can and should have over their own children. But Marxists do. They know they must undercut parental authority to achieve state control over children's minds and futures, and over society (sidebar, "It's in the *Communist Manifesto*, Folks"). We are not just dealing with a few creepy school boards. We are facing pure cultural Marxism on the attack.

Yes, we are in a massive culture war. And yes, Marxist Barack Obama knows it. And yes, he is boldly telling you that there is no such thing.

One sign that Obama knows what he is doing is the aggressiveness with which he appeals to young people. His campaign was popular among youths. He appeared at various entertainment venues. He supported youths against their parents' generation in the "March for Our Lives." He signed a Netflix deal for tens of millions.

Most recently, at the COP26 climate summit in November in Glasgow, Scotland, he told young people that they need to help "the older generation that got us into this mess see that we all have an obligation to dig ourselves out of it. And if those older folks won't listen, they need to get out of the way."

"While you're at it, you need to help educate your parents and grandparents, your uncles and aunts, your teachers, your employers," Obama said, "because while a dangerously warming planet is a reality that a lot of you have grown up with as young people, you've studied it in school, you've read about, it's been part of the backdrop of your childhood, members of the older generation don't have that same frame of reference."

Do you believe Obama's goal is to clean up pollution, and separation of families is an unfortunate byproduct? No—his agenda is exactly the same as it is with education. The goal isn't to save the trees or to tolerate "gender fluidity." The goal is to *get parents out of the way*.

In “The Left Is Locked in a Life-and-Death Struggle With the Family,” Don Feder from the World Congress of Families wrote, “For Marxists, killing the family is the key to everything. The war on the family isn’t peripheral; it’s central to the revolution” (Front Page Magazine, Oct. 21, 2021).

“For the left, the central purpose of public schools isn’t education but indoctrination,” Feder continued. “Public education has failed miserably at the former (as may be seen by plummeting standardized test scores) but succeeded spectacularly at the latter (as may be seen in the leftward drift of the electorate—especially younger voters). The objective is to take children away from parental values and align them with the worldview of the Democratic Party. The cutting edge is CRT [critical race theory] and the sexualization of students, seen most recently in the enthusiastic embrace of transgenderism.”

Just one year ago, these Marxist tenets were proudly proclaimed by the far-left Black Lives Matter group. One of BLM’s founders bragged that she was a trained Marxist. One of the group’s stated goals (now deleted from its website) was to “disrupt the Western-prescribed nuclear family structure requirement by supporting each other as extended families and ‘villages’ that collectively care for one another, especially our children”

Facing pushback for bringing Marxism into the open, Democrats have had to rebrand Black Lives Matter and critical race theory. But don’t be deceived. This movement is not going away.

Many school boards are announcing that they do not teach critical race theory. Technically, school curricula do not explicitly instruct teachers to teach CRT. Instead, they hide it with nice-sounding descriptions like “antiracism” education. After all, who could oppose that?

Meanwhile, white children as young as six years old are asking their parents why they were born evil.

Parents are trying to resist the atheistic Marxist tide. “Parents Matter” rallies have

occurred across the nation as fathers and mothers realize that radical school board officials and politicians literally think they *do not* matter. Marxists want the state to control all levels of education from cradle to grave, and to refer any parents who get in their way to the Department of Justice to be prosecuted like al Qaeda terrorists.

Yes, there is an attack on family.

This Was Prophesied

“A solid family structure is the very foundation of any stable and permanent society,” *Plain Truth* founder Herbert W. Armstrong wrote. “But today in the affluent countries a conspiracy is developing which seeks to destroy marriage as an institution, as well as the family.” He further elaborated with this shocking revelation: “The conspiracy consists of a two-pronged attack: 1) a well-organized movement to subtly influence college students to prefer *alternatives* to marriage, and 2) an attempt to influence the general public by newspaper and magazine articles, television programs, the lecture platform, the women’s lib movement, and student or former student rebels of the ‘New Left.’ How much of all this propaganda has been planted in the minds of the psychologists, professors, writers, publishers, women’s lib crusaders and others by trained Communist propagandists can only be estimated” (*Plain Truth*, July 1976).

Forty-five years have passed since Mr. Armstrong wrote those words, and the conspiracy against family is now an open culture war. Many “trained Communist propagandists” are switching from subtle influence to open dominance. Americans have rejected God and tolerated, accepted and embraced evolution, atheism and the Satan-inspired philosophy of Karl Marx. This is why they are suffering an orchestrated attack against the very minds of children.

“Before World War II the Communist Party in the United States was making great headway,” Mr. Armstrong wrote. “They began infiltrating the colleges and universities. If they could not ‘convert’ professors, they worked on students who would become teachers later. Thus they

were recruiting TEACHERS to teach their doctrine all over the United States” (*Plain Truth*, April 1980).

“We are not fighting a single nation in a military war, but a gigantic worldwide, plain-clothes army, masquerading as a political party, seeking to conquer the world with an entirely new kind of warfare!” Mr. Armstrong wrote way back in 1956. “It’s a kind of warfare we don’t understand, or know how to cope with. It uses every diabolical means to weaken us from within, sapping our strength, perverting our morals, sabotaging our educational system, wrecking our social structure, destroying our spiritual and religious life, weakening our industrial and economic power, demoralizing our armed forces, and finally, after such infiltration, overthrowing our government by force and violence! All this, cleverly disguised as a harmless political party! Communism is worldwide psychological WARFARE!”

How right Herbert Armstrong was!

But how can Americans win or even survive the war? “Parents Matter” rallies are not enough. New laws are not enough. Getting back to traditions is not enough. Even a revival of mainstream traditional American religion is not enough. Winning an election or even rooting out decades of Communist ideas in our school system will not make these problems go away. The festering mortal wound America is suffering from is *lawlessness* and *sin*. When educators in America are teaching children to defy their parents, to break the rules, to hate law and government, and to reject individual responsibility, they are not just rejecting time-honored traditions or the American way. They are violating *God’s law*.

At the core of the Communist infiltration is atheism and lawlessness. What we are experiencing as a result was prophesied in your Bible to occur in our nations and at this time. Isaiah 59:4 foretells, “None calleth for justice, nor any pleadeth for truth: they trust in vanity, and speak lies; they conceive mischief, and bring forth iniquity.” Recent

events bring this scripture right into the 21st century! Heinous crimes against children are being covered up by the officials responsible for protecting children!

Upset though we may be at the brainwashing and coordinated pollution of our own children’s minds and bodies, we must face the fact that they are not learning about truth, morality, God and *God’s law* at school or at home. And we must recognize how *disastrous* are the results. As the Apostle Paul wrote in Romans 1:28-32: “And even as *they did not like to retain God in their knowledge*, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Without understanding, covenant breakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.”

Paul prophesied, “This know also, that *in the last days* perilous times shall come,” and he specifically said that “evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived” (2 Timothy 3:1, 13). We are living that prophecy. If your eyes are open, you must admit that our society is getting “worse and worse.”

The mass breakdown of family life is not an accident. It’s not even mainly a human-devised agenda. The reason human beings are destroying things that are clearly *good for them*, like family, is that this crucial institution is the main target of the devil. He exists, he is active, and he is influencing people to reject God’s law, God’s very existence, God’s roles for family, and God’s use of the nations that descended from ancient Israel.

Yes, you are in a culture war. Start fighting! ■

It's in the *Communist Manifesto*, Folks

KARL MARX AND FREDERICK ENGELS rejected the religious truth that the family was established by mankind's Creator. They believed early human societies practiced polygamy, group marriage, promiscuity and other sexual relationships like bonobo monkeys. Engels argued in 1884 that the family started when human males stopped breeding indiscriminately with every female in the group and directed their reproductive energy toward a small group of females. Therefore, virtues like monogamy are relics of a patriarchal system that started evolving when men "took command in the home" and women became "a mere instrument for the production of children."

Karl Marx explicitly called for "the abolition of the family" as a pillar of the Communist agenda. Why? "As the most fundamental bond of humanity, [family] is the most resistant bulwark against totalitarian state control and a collectivist mindset," Mark Tapson wrote. "It is the environment in which we are first civilized and molded, ideally, into productive citizens who value our individualism but embrace our role in the larger society. As Edmund Burke wrote in 1790, the family 'is the first link in the series by which we proceed towards a love to our country, and to mankind.' The all-powerful state to which Communists demand allegiance is not a link in that chain, and thus the family is an obstacle that must be dismantled. This is not a conspiracy theory; it is explicitly stated in Communist and feminist theory. ...

"This Marxist imperative—to decouple children from their parents and absorb them into the collective—directly echoes a statement from contemporary progressive Melissa Harris-Perry, an MSNBC host who ... declared in a 2013 network promo, 'We have to break through our kind of private idea that kids belong to their parents or kids belong to their families, and recognize that kids

belong to whole communities'" (Doc Emet Productions, Sept. 30, 2021).

Frederick Engels summarized Communist ideals in his 1847 work "The Principles of Communism." He wrote that communism "does away with private property and educates children on a communal basis, and in this way removes the two bases of traditional marriage—the dependence rooted in private property, of the woman on the man, and of the children on the parents."

Marxists argue that family is a product of a privileged lifestyle brought about by private property ownership, and both must be abolished in order for the state to seize and retain absolute control.

Marx and Engels thought the workers of the world would embrace the ideals of communism. They didn't. Those who did have helped kill more than 100 million people to date. As the Communist revolutions and the killing were just getting started, Antonio Gramsci, a Marxist, realized that socialism would triumph not through street battles and wars but "via infiltration of schools, universities, churches and the media by transforming the consciousness of society." He advocated what was later described as a "long march through the institutions." The family, as Don Feder from the World Congress of Families notes, would have to be destroyed *before* communism conquered the world, not after.

This is exactly what leftists, including the Marxists driving the Biden administration's agenda, want to accomplish.

Americans have feared that the Communist attack would come in a nuclear strike or deadly espionage or armed conflict with the Soviets or some other nation. We did not understand that it has been going on in our classrooms. We still do not realize how much we ourselves have been affected by it!

STEPHEN FLURRY

What Are Your Children Reading?

RADICAL LIBERALS UNDERSTAND THE VALUE of influencing children’s minds. This is why they have led crusades against authors like Roald Dahl, Dr. Seuss and others, and are advancing and enforcing changes to children’s magazines, bookstores, public libraries and school libraries—aggressively pushed books of their own.

You don’t have to look far to see colorful, nicely illustrated books attacking traditional family, introducing all kinds of sexuality, and focusing on perceived social injustices and discrimination. Some titles you might find at your local Barnes & Noble bookstore in the children’s section (ages 3 to 5) include *Pride: The Story of Harvey Milk and the Rainbow Flag*; *The Stonewall Riots: Coming Out in the Streets* and *Bling Blaine: Throw Glitter, Not Shade*. Other “woke” children’s books you might find there or at other stores or libraries include *Daddy & Dada*; *Daddy, Papa & Me*; *Mommy, Mama & Me*; *Two Grooms on a Cake: The Story of America’s First Gay Wedding*; *LGBT Families* and others, many of which do not indicate their content in their titles, and all of which mix the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender agenda with positive-appearing text and images. Some of these are designed for children as young as 3 months old.

A Is for Activist, *Antiracist Baby*, *Woke Baby* and other books focus on radicalizing children as young as toddlers through indoctrination using happy-sounding rhymes and bright colors. They are “for all the littlest progressives, waking up to seize a new day of justice and activism” and for “families who want their kids to grow up in a space that is unapologetic

about activism, environmental justice, civil rights, LGBTQ rights, and everything else that activists believe in and fight for.” If these are too radical, you can begin instead with *Barack Obama: Son of Promise*, *Child of Hope*; *Joey: The Story of Joe Biden* and *Kamala Harris: Rooted in Justice*.

City Journal cited book recommendations from the American Booksellers Association that include a young athlete who fights “discrimination” to change genders and compete against the opposite gender, a lesbian joining a male football team, a homosexual whose pansexual and nonbinary friends attack her “white privilege,” a “tale of self-discovery” about a bisexual love triangle, Wyatt the transgender witch, a “fabulously joyful” novel about “drag, prom and embracing your inner queen” featuring a “fat, openly gay boy stuck in a small West Texas town,” and a young-adult novel about gender fluidity by a non-binary writer who is the mother of a transgender child.” Books like these are found in school libraries, as is *Gender Queer*, a graphic novel containing actual illustrated pornography of homosexual teenage boys.

These and other less-radical means of influencing youth have paved the way for what we are seeing today. A 2021 Gallup poll found that “LGBT identification has been increasing over time” because “younger generations are far more likely to consider themselves to be something other than heterosexual.” The war effort by cultural Marxists to reshape society by radicalizing the next generation is succeeding.

RUFARO MANYEPA

A Weapon to Transform America

The coronavirus has been used as a catalyst for extreme social engineering. **BY ANDREW MILLER**

HERE'S A HYPOTHETICAL: LET'S SAY YOUR agenda is to tear down and rebuild the greatest nation in the world. How do you accomplish that? How do you break down that much military might, economic power, institutional strength, societal cohesion and cultural heritage? You can't destroy the aircraft carriers or the legislatures or the banks or the police or the courts or the churches. The people have too many rights, too much power. And you are really at a loss when they elect a leader with the courage to stand up to your agenda.

But you—and many other business, technology and governing elites—*deeply* believe in tearing down this nation. If you can use something to infect their *minds* and *attitudes*, you can destroy the rights of people and break the bonds within families, between groups, between races, within institutions, even inside the military. But you're going to need a strong virus to do it. That virus will need to weaken the *principles* and the *relationships* of families, of small business owners, of local officials, of election administrators, of military officers and enlisted troops.

Sometime before Sept. 12, 2019, someone or something left the premises of the Wuhan Institute of Virology in Communist China. On it or inside it was an unnaturally powerful virus. It would soon infect its first victim in Wuhan before spreading to enough people worldwide to be classified a pandemic.

And some people have manipulated it to create the catalyst needed to dismantle a superpower. It's increasingly clear that *was* their agenda—not hypothetically but literally.

Gain of Function

In September 2019, almost nobody had heard of COVID-19. The closest most had known were the comparatively small outbreaks of SARS, swine flu, avian flu and the seasonal influenza in humans. But Chinese Communist Party scientists in Wuhan knew all about COVID-19. So did United States National Institutes of Health Director Anthony Fauci. So did Dr. Peter Daszak, high-ranking officials in the World Health Organization and high-ranking officials in the Chinese Communist Party. Why? Because they were furiously trying to cover up the fact that they had bio-engineered a virulent coronavirus even as it rapidly spread around the world.

Meanwhile, whether it was intentionally designed to advance the radicals' agenda or not, that is exactly what they used it for. A collection of amino acids from the other side of the world that had nothing to do with America, the Constitution, your business, your family or your liberties suddenly has *everything* to do with them.

Liberal elites have spent more than a year ignoring, downplaying, scoffing at or censoring the belief that COVID-19 leaked from Wuhan and was created there. Yet an extensively researched report compiled by the Minority Staff of the House Foreign Affairs Committee cites multiple pieces of evidence supporting these conclusions. Outlets like CNN, MSNBC, ABC News, NBC News and CBS News failed to cover this report because it was authored by Republicans, but many Democrats now admit that the evidence shows the lab-leak theory is true. But they don't let that stop them from using the virus and the

radicals' manipulation of it to advance the Marxist agenda.

How can we solve the threat posed by the virus? Surprise: The solution, according to socialists and Communists, is to force through what socialists and Communists have been demanding for decades. With help from the U.S. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, EcoHealth Alliance and the University of North Carolina, these leftists bio-engineered a virus that Democrats are using to shut people in their homes, keep people from their work, smother economic activity, impoverish 200,000 small businesses, wildly enrich the technology and pharmaceutical industries, steal a presidential election, build a surveillance state, and confuse and frighten millions of Americans into surrendering their rights.

Yes, the plan is underway to dismantle the strength of the United States of America and what remains of its biblical and constitutional foundations and to reassemble its components into an authoritarian technocracy.

Dissolving America's Foundation

The U.S. government took the unprecedented and un-American step of locking down its own economy in March 2020. It settled Americans' attitudes by promising it would take 15 days of mandatory sacrifice to slow the spread of COVID-19 and return to their regular lives and their constitutional rights. We are now far past *600 days to slow the spread*. Months of lockdowns have, predictably, caused the worst downturn since the Great Depression.

Economists have estimated the pandemic's cost to the U.S. economy at a staggering \$16 trillion, and the brunt of these costs has been borne by ordinary individuals and small businesses. This is not a byproduct of a good-faith attempt to contain a virus. This is a deliberate plan. Small-business owners and workers are more independent from the government than those who work for the government or corporate elites. There are just too many of them to control. So they needed to be systematically destroyed and reincorporated into a corporate structure.

The lockdowns dissolved roughly 200,000 American small businesses. Those that have survived are now being pulverized by supply-chain crisis. In *The War on Small Business: How the Government Used the Pandemic to Crush the Backbone of America*, author Carol Roth writes that the federal government and the Federal Reserve are actually working together "to oversee the largest wealth transfer in history, from Main Street to Wall Street."

Government-imposed lockdowns are making it impossible to continue operating small businesses, while government-approved stimulus packages prop up mega-corporations. "When historians look back on the decisions made beginning in March 2020 and still going strong, this period will be remembered as the 'Great Consolidation'—the acceleration of a historic wealth transfer and power concentration out of the hands of the middle class and into those with political power and connections," Roth wrote for *Newsweek*. "The 'connected' form a powerful bloc comprised of big government, big business and big special interests" (Oct. 24, 2021).

She further wrote that these big political and financial powers are controlled by a small number of powerful elites who derive benefits at the expense of everyday Americans. The aftermath has exposed the ugly fact that politicians from both parties love mega-corporations that they can work with to increase their personal wealth and their control over the economy. This is why salons, for example, were shut down "for your protection," while big retailers like PetSmart were decreed "essential" during the pandemic and continued to perform "essential" operations like grooming pet hair. It's not about safety or health or even the economy. It's about centralizing power in the hands of the government!

Stealing America's Presidency

In addition to fundamentally transforming America's economy, COVID-19 also fundamentally transformed America's elections. This seems counterintuitive, unless you realize that one American political party is

dedicated to “fundamentally transforming the United States of America,” as Barack Obama put it during his campaign.

Most developed countries take the obvious step of banning mail-in voting to prevent fraud. Yet before the 2020 presidential election, 37 U.S. states changed their mail-in voting procedures to make it easier for people to vote from home, on the pretext of avoiding the virus. Some or many of these changes were illegal according to state constitutions. Just two months before the election, Attorney General Bill Barr told CNN’s Wolf Blitzer that “people are playing with fire” when it comes to widespread mail-in voting, because the potential for fraud was so great. Yet the government still mailed 100 million ballots around the nation.

This couldn’t have happened if COVID-19 hadn’t been engineered, leaked from a lab, spread worldwide, and ceaselessly amplified by an unprecedented political and media scare campaign.

Dr. Peter Navarro, a former trade adviser to the White House, has documented how the Democrats used a two-pronged strategy to steal the 2020 presidential election. First, increase the number of absentee and mail-in ballots. Second, decrease the level of scrutiny of such ballots to flood states with unverified votes. This strategy worked amazingly well in Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, where the number of potentially illegal votes exceeded Joe Biden’s “victory” margin by an order of magnitude. So, it is no exaggeration to say that Biden would not be advancing the radical agenda from the White House today if it were not for the lengths that Dr. Fauci, Dr. Daszak and the Communist Party went to in covering up the true origins of COVID-19.

Even *Time* magazine admitted “COVID-19 changed everything about the 2020 election” and “forced many states to rapidly change how people get and submit their ballots, with unpredictable and potentially disastrous results” (Aug. 6, 2020).

But instead of admitting that mail-in ballots open the door to fraud and returning

to secure elections, radical Democrats are scrambling to pass one of the most extreme and lawless voter reform bills in history. The H.R. 1 bill, which Democrats call “For the People Act,” would essentially legalize the fraud committed during the 2020 presidential election, making it possible for Democrats to steal every future American election. The bill mandates that convicted felons be allowed to vote. It prohibits states from even trying to purge voter rolls of foreign nationals, who are ineligible to vote according to the Constitution. It mandates same-day voter registration, mandatory early voting, nationwide availability of mail-in ballots, and unlimited ballot harvesting. Normally, the American people would never consider such measures, so the radical Democrats had to use COVID-19 as the pretext. Not only was it the means to steal the presidency and many congressional seats, but now that they control the levers of power, they are using it to try to enshrine their lawless electoral practices with a veneer of law.

Establishing a Surveillance State

Now that corporate oligarchs control the economy and radical Democrats control the government, U.S. leaders are preparing everyday Americans to accept the fact that they will be forced to obtain “vaccine passports” to enter restaurants, stores, gyms and other indoor establishments. These are the same leaders who claim it is racist to ask someone for identification before voting. This is not about public health. This is about political power.

Big companies like Disney and Walmart are already requiring their employees to get vaccinated, so government coercion is probably not far away. New York Mayor Bill de Blasio announced that vaccine passports would be phased in over several weeks. Joe Biden announced that he would use the Occupational Safety and Health Administration to *force* private-sector employers to compel their workers to get vaccinated, to submit to weekly testing, or get fired. This is aimed at coercing *100 million* unvaccinated Americans to get jabbed.

Such authoritarian mandates are not a means of protecting public health. Scientists at Pfizer, a pharmaceutical mega-corporation that manufactures a COVID vaccine, have been recorded admitting in private that natural COVID immunity is far more effective than vaccination. And two thirds of epidemiologists warn that mutations could render current COVID vaccines ineffective in a year or less. Vaccine mandates and COVID passports are largely ineffective for containing a virus—but extremely useful for establishing a Communist-style surveillance state in the United States.

Since February 2020, Chinese citizens have had to use digital “health codes” on platforms such as WeChat and AliPay to access public transport, restaurants and malls. Yet these “health codes” are more than just admission passes for the vaccinated. WeChat and AliPay work closely with the Chinese government to collect data on Chinese citizens that can be used to assign them a social credit score. If a citizen refuses vaccination, makes an online political post without a permit, or questions a government decision, his social credit goes down and the police may show up at his door. Now a similar authoritarian system could be coming to the United States.

In July 2021, PayPal announced a partnership with the Southern Poverty Law Center to investigate the role of “white supremacists” and “anti-government” agitators in the January 6 protest at the U.S. Capitol and also that information collected by PayPal will be shared with other financial firms and politicians. Anyone labeled an extremist could be banned from using PayPal and similar services. “The potential scope of the soft social credit system under construction is enormous,” reported the *Hill*. “The same companies that can track your activities and give you corporate rewards for compliant behavior could utilize their powers to block transactions, add surcharges or restrict your use of products. At what point does free speech—be it against biological males playing in girls’ sports, questioning vaccine side effects, or advocating for gun

rights—make someone a target in this new system? When does your debit card get canceled over old tweets, your home loan denied for homeschooling your kids, or your eBay account invalidated because a friend flagged you for posting a Gadsden flag?” (Aug. 3, 2021).

It would not take much to link such a social credit system to vaccine passports and start barring people from restaurants because they are unvaccinated or because they made an online political post about the election steal. Again, the American people would normally never consider such measures, but the perceived threat of COVID-19 has frightened millions into surrendering their constitutional rights to public health officials!

Blotting Out the Name of Israel

Americans today are not living in the nation of their Founding Fathers or even of their own fathers. The nation’s government is mutating away from a constitutional republic into an authoritarian technocracy.

Trumpet editor in chief Gerald Flurry explained in “Who Is the Modern-Day Jeroboam?” ([theTrumpet.com/14642](https://www.thetrumpet.com/14642)) that Donald Trump is a type of the Israelite King Jeroboam II. Anciently, under Jeroboam’s rule, Israel expanded its borders and took control of trade routes connecting Assyria and Egypt. Yet while he warred, a new class of elites grew rich trading in olive oil, wine and war horses. They used their wealth to exploit their own people (Amos 6:1-7), so God used the Prophet Amos to condemn them, saying they “swallow up the needy, even to make the poor of the land to fail” (Amos 8:4-7).

The central planners behind the COVID-19 pandemic present themselves as champions of the poor, but they are not much different from the aristocracy that governed Israel in Jeroboam’s time. The goal of these elites is to use crises to enrich themselves and keep the masses reliant on the government.

A related prophecy in 2 Kings 14:26-27 says, “For the Lord saw the affliction of Israel, that it was very bitter: for there was not any shut up, nor any left, nor any helper for Israel. And

the Lord said not that he would blot out the name of Israel from under heaven: but he saved them by the hand of Jeroboam the son of Joash.”

When you look at all the ways that the radical left has used the COVID-19 pandemic to attack America and transform it into a Communist state, it is clear that America is suffering *bitter affliction*. In fact, the affliction is so bitter that if God did not intervene, the same people who covered up the coronavirus’s true origins would be able to rig every election for the foreseeable future and rule America like a feudal aristocracy.

The infection of America with a fatal strain of radical socialism traces back not only to a Wuhan laboratory, communist commissioners, an American doctor and an American president, but to the agenda and the motivation that strangely unites them. That

motive traces back to a literal, active spirit being seeking to destroy America and related nations because those nations have been (and will be) used by God.

Thankfully, God does promise to miraculously intervene one last time and save America from the radical left. He will do this specifically for the purpose of giving Americans one last chance to learn the lesson of the COVID-19 pandemic and the technocratic takeover. If we go back to business as usual and fail to repent of the sins that enabled a cabal of corporate executives, establishment politicians and “deep state” bureaucrats to take over, then God will not pass by again (Amos 7:8-9). He will not give us another chance. The nation will have to go into captivity before its people learn the true meaning of repentance and finally let God show them how to lead a life worth living! ■

Lurch Toward Tyranny

It fulfills biblical prophecy. **BY RICHARD PALMER**

NO JAB: NO LIFE. THAT’S THE LATEST FROM Austria. The unvaccinated can only leave home to buy essentials, to work, or to get the job.

Millions in Europe are faced with a horrifying decision: Comply with the government’s COVID vaccine requirement or lose the ability to feed their family. Several places in Europe have the toughest restrictions of any democracy.

France was one of the pioneers of vaccine passports in the free world. Beginning in August 2021, only adults who were fully vaccinated or had a negative test in the last 72 hours could enter “nonessential” places like restaurants, entertainment venues or airports. France recently extended its vaccine passport laws to the summer of 2022. Soon, it will require everyone over 65 to take a third

vaccine injection before they can legally hold a vaccine passport.

In October, Italy became the first country in the world to require vaccine passports for its entire workforce. Refuse it, and you wouldn’t lose your job, but you would lose your pay. That way, the unvaccinated cannot claim unemployment benefits. Workers must show their “green pass” to come into work, go to a restaurant, see a movie, or be able to travel long distance. Only those who are vaccinated, have recovered from COVID-19 in the prior six months, or have a negative test result can receive the pass. The tests are a significant handicap. Unvaccinated workers must take them every 48 hours, and pay for the privilege.

In November, Austria brought in the toughest restrictions yet, effectively putting 2 million unvaccinated under house arrest.

Police now patrol the streets, demanding to see the individuals' vaccination status.

Germany is quickly moving to where even a negative test is not an option. The German state of Hesse passed a law allowing all businesses, including supermarkets, to bar the unvaccinated from their premises. These shops can choose to allow in only those who have had the vaccine or who can prove that they have recovered from COVID in the last six months. The government is actively enticing businesses to take this "opportunity." Businesses that bar the unvaccinated will be able to forgo costly social-distancing measures. Could the unvaccinated soon be unable to buy basic necessities?

Why is Europe moving so quickly to such draconian measures?

Never Let a Crisis Go to Waste

The COVID pandemic has exposed the radical authoritarian tendencies of leaders around the world. Those who want to grab more power have been helping themselves.

Wherever they are implemented, these passports represent a massive power grab and a fundamental shift in governing philosophy. You hold your job, earn an income, even buy food by the gracious permission of government elites. That permission could be removed if you do something that displeases them. Today, that includes refusing the jab. But tomorrow, it could be something else. If the same liberal elites who proclaimed *my body, my choice* can now say, *Your body, my choice*, then nothing will stop them from decreeing *your rights, my choice* in other areas of your life and the lives of your children.

Most vaccine pass systems run on smartphones. Even if governments are scrupulously honest about what data they track and how they use it (which would be a first), these passes are still needed to check in at many venues. Any time you go out to eat, go to work, or buy food, the government would know exactly where you are.

Some countries have even banned the unvaccinated from gathering in private homes. This raises the prospect of police entering your

home to check your vaccine status and those of your guests.

The European Union is also using the vaccine passports to centralize the information it has on its citizens. It has set up a system allowing one country to verify the vaccine status of a citizen from elsewhere in the EU.

Not even the Soviet Union was able to track its citizens' movements in real time. Such a system could be misused in many ways. Once a government builds it, it could use the same infrastructure to track, check and exclude people for any reason. A big red X could show up on the screen of the train conductor, job interviewer, café cashier, banker, school administrator, social worker, police officer or government agent if your name in the government database shows up as unvaccinated, unregistered in the next new government scheme, guilty of something the government has declared a crime, involved in a certain political party, possessing membership in a certain religious group, in contact with certain people, recorded as reading certain material, or having posted a certain opinion online.

The infrastructure for vaccine passports won't do all these things, but it will do most of the heavy lifting. And crucially, it will break perhaps the first and biggest barrier of all: citizens' resistance to surrendering their rights.

Not Just Passports

The COVID crisis is pushing Europe to take major steps in other directions too. In the summer of 2020, EU leaders agreed to an \$860 billion bailout fund. Crucially, European leaders have, for the first time, allowed the EU as a whole to borrow money. An opaque, unelected body, the European Commission, has its hands on the purse strings.

The *Telegraph's* Ambrose Evans-Pritchard wrote that the bailout "is an economic popgun—but a political howitzer." He wrote that the deal marked "a profound change in the structure and character of the European project" (July 21, 2020).

Why is this? The European Commission is composed of unelected leaders who have

power to make laws, raise funds from shared debt, and direct how those funds are spent. This means it has taken to itself the legislative and executive powers found in a national government, in addition to spending powers.

“Where else in the world does a single unelected body have the ‘right of initiative’ on legislation, and the executive powers of a proto-government, and the spending prerogatives of a parliament, all wrapped in one?” Evans-Pritchard wrote, warning that this power is “bordering on totalitarian in constitutional terms, mostly unchecked by meaningful parliamentary oversight” (ibid).

His most prescient description of the EU’s growing political power came in the form of one word: “caesaropapist.” This word carries connotations of imperial Rome and papal decrees. It is defined as a political system where there is one leader over both the imperial state and the church. Evans-Pritchard may also have been likening the European Commission’s power to create and enforce fiscal policy to the power held by the emperors of Europe’s past.

At the same time, the bailout didn’t finally solve Europe’s fundamental financial problem: a shared currency without a shared government. Italy and Spain can still spend like there’s no tomorrow, knowing that Germany will be forced to help them out or risk the destruction of its own economy. For this reason, Germany wants a say in how Italy and Spain spend their money and are governed.

The bailout let Spain and Italy use Germany’s credit card. The fight over whether this was a one-off or a new precedent will be a contentious issue for the next German government. All the same, the bailout money now flowing represents a significant step toward building a European superstate.

Another Road to Fascism

There is another way vaccine passports may instigate radical authoritarianism in Europe: the opposition.

Vaccine passport laws have understandably prompted a lot of protests. The far right has been taking advantage of the backlash. In

Italy, at anti-vaccination mandate protests, some have shown up with swastika tattoos. Others carried Mussolini-era fascist slogans. Forza Nuova, a neo-fascist political party, is outspoken in its opposition to vaccine mandates. It is one of Italy’s most extreme parties and is linked to anti-Semitism. It wants to repeal anti-fascist laws and aims to resurrect the type of close relationship with the Catholic Church that Benito Mussolini established. Its leaders have attended the major anti-mandate protests. Some were arrested after demonstrations turned violent and protesters stormed a left-wing trade union headquarters and hospital.

Germany faces a similar dynamic. The only parties that oppose lockdowns and vaccine mandates are the Free Democratic Party and the Alternative für Deutschland (AfD). Some senior AfD leaders are outright neo-Nazis. Some have said that Germany should be proud of the “accomplishments” of its soldiers in World Wars I and II and have called for Holocaust memorials to be torn down. The idea that Germany should be proud of its military heritage and must revive that tradition is intrinsic to the identity of this political party.

An even more extreme movement, the Reichsbürgers, has played a major role in the anti-mandate, anti-lockdown movement in Germany. It claims that Germany’s current federal republic is an illegitimate form of government, and that the true, rightful German state is still the German empire.

The far-right presence is undeniable. Of course, non-far-right protesters can hardly stop the neo-fascists from showing up. But once the extremists are there, the press is eager to focus abundant attention on them to discredit the protests altogether.

The situation is reminiscent of the 2015 migrant crisis, when mainstream politicians, media commentators and experts said mass migration was terrific and that if you opposed it, you were a dangerous racist. A tiny minority opposed to mass migration were genuinely dangerous racists. But most weren’t.

However, the government continued to lie and cover it up. As *Trumpet* contributing

editor Brad Macdonald and I wrote at the time: “Think about the consequences of German officials’ deception. It is destroying the trust between Germany’s government and the public. What happens when the majority of Germans realize they have been deceived? What happens when the majority of Germans lose confidence and trust in mainstream leaders?” (*Trumpet*, March 2016).

This trend drove normal, tolerant people into the arms of extremists. They had reasonable concerns about mass migration, but no one else would address them. We see the same thing happening today to those who have reasonable concerns about government coercion and injecting themselves with a new type of vaccine.

Yet the effect of the vaccine mandates could be even worse.

Already it is clear that the vaccines are not as effective at stopping COVID-19 as advertised. Nor are they as safe as the public was led to believe. This is now being acknowledged by some mainstream experts, while still being poignantly ignored by mainstream news decision-makers. The United Kingdom’s expert committee on vaccines refused to recommend them for 12-to-15-year-olds. The United States Food and Drug Administration refused to endorse booster shots for all adults. At public hearings, experts discussed the risks of the vaccines. There have been no studies of the long-term effects of these vaccines; mRNA vaccines haven’t existed long enough.

What if the vaccines turn out to be a mistake—one too big to be hidden? What happens if people come to believe they’ve been forced by their government to inject a dangerous substance into themselves and their children? Then every mainstream, established, elite source will have been proved wrong. A public failure of the vaccine would discredit every major institution and all of mainstream politics. It would be the biggest political crisis since the end of the Cold War. It would mean a radical shakeup in the media and in government.

And in Italy and Germany in particular, it could well push people to the right. The

most notable institutions proved correct in these countries will be the neo-fascists and neo-Nazis.

If that happens, it would shake the whole world. It would be another crisis—worse than COVID-19. Many would be disillusioned with their current leaders. And a crafty and strong political leader would not let that crisis go to waste.

A Deadly Mark?

Europe, then, has two different roads to authoritarianism.

Trumpet editor in chief Gerald Flurry wrote in the July 2020 issue: “One of the most important effects of the global panic over COVID-19 has been almost overlooked. Europe’s response to the pandemic is accelerating the fulfillment of one of the most crucial end-time prophecies of your Bible! The coronavirus is hastening the arrival of the prophesied Holy Roman Empire. ...

“The Bible says 10 kings will rise in Europe in this end time, led by one overarching strongman. These kings will form the Holy Roman Empire. THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC IS HELPING USHER IN THESE 10 KINGS! We need to be thinking about these prophesied kings, who are rising now. As a result of the recent crisis, various European leaders have taken dictatorial measures.”

He warned that the COVID crisis would be used as an opportunity to reshape Europe. He warned that civil liberties would be attacked. “Considering Europe’s long, painful history of strong leaders restricting freedoms to realize their ambitions, it is *extremely* dangerous!” he wrote. “EUROPEAN LEADERS ARE INCREASINGLY BEHAVING LIKE DICTATORS AND ASSUMING DICTATORIAL POWER. THE PEOPLE OF EUROPE ARE BEING CONDITIONED TO ACCEPT MORE TYRANNICAL LEADERSHIP.” This is exactly what we see in vaccine passports, where governments decide who gets to work and even who gets to eat.

The book of Revelation describes the coming authoritarian European power as a “beast” power, an empire led by a church, rising out of the old Roman Empire. It tells us that this

empire will enforce a mark, “that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name” (Revelation 13:17).

The vaccine is not that mark. But until this year, the idea of a government determining who can buy, sell or engage in commerce seemed absurd. Now it is reality. For the mark to come into force, the government mandate simply needs to change from an array of notional public health orders to an array of orders to submit to the state’s religious power. If this seems absurd, just wait a year.

The late Herbert W. Armstrong warned of this power and this mark beginning in the 1920s. For some, the idea of a democratic, human-rights-loving Europe transforming into this kind of authoritarian beast was

impossible. Yet now, that transformation is happening in front of our eyes.

The Bible prophesies that this beast power will wreak destruction upon the whole world. But it also plays a major role in God’s plan for end-time events. Its advent is a sign of great danger. But prophecy also reveals that it is also a sign of great hope. The time allotted to the empires of men is nearly over. Soon, there will be no more tyrannical governments of men taking advantage of crises and using fear to increase their power to the detriment, endangerment and death of millions. The empire rising now in Europe will be the last before the governments of this world are overtaken by a new, truly benevolent government led by the only Being capable of governing human beings: their Creator. ■

Weaponizing Environmentalism

Today’s radical environmentalism is not ‘green.’ It’s red. **BY ANDREW MILLER**

WHY DID 30,000 ELITES MEET IN Glasgow in November of 2021? The equivalent of a small city full of government leaders, environmental activists, business executives and journalists swelled the population of this Scottish city for two weeks for one fundamental reason. But it’s not the reason you think.

This was the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26). Many of these elites heralded it as the world’s last chance to break away from fossil fuels, halt climate change, and make the Earth pure again. Pope Francis recorded a message calling on delegates to provide “effective responses” to the climate crisis and offer “concrete hope” to future generations. Former United States Vice President Al Gore released a video

message calling on the world to “say goodbye to coal, oil and gas.” Joe Biden warned that climate change is “ravaging the world” before apologizing for the fact that his Republican predecessor, Donald Trump, pulled America out of the Paris Climate Accords. The heir to Britain’s throne, Prince Charles, referred to the conference as “the last-chance saloon” for humanity and declared that “we need a vast military-style campaign to marshal the strength of the global private sector with trillions at its disposal.” British Prime Minister Boris Johnson warned, “It’s one minute to midnight on that doomsday clock, and we need to act now.” He pledged to make Britain the “Saudi Arabia of wind power.”

Former U.S. President Barack Obama outdid all these men with a quasi-religious speech,

declaring that “this is not just about raw numbers. This is not just about science. This is about politics. It’s about culture. It’s about morality. It’s about the human dynamic. How do we work together to get a big thing done? And it’s about participation and power.” Then, after admitting climate change isn’t about the data, he told young people around the world: “I want you to stay angry. I want you to stay frustrated. Channel that anger, harness that frustration, keep pushing harder and harder for more because that’s what’s required to meet this challenge.”

While European and North American leaders jockeyed to pronounce the most headline-worthy quotes on the peril of the world, the urgency of the time, the evil of carbon dioxide, and the need to shut down their own industries, one nation was conspicuous for its absence. Chinese President Xi Jinping declined to attend. The nation he leads is the world’s greatest polluter, producing more carbon dioxide than the U.S. and Europe combined. Russian President Vladimir Putin, Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan were also absent. They were uninterested in hurting their own nations’ industries and energy supplies.

Yet the COP26 agenda plunged ahead. Why?

Protecting the environment is an important and worthy goal. But for these “environmentalist” elites, it’s not the main goal. It’s a useful weapon. It’s not about controlling the amount of carbon in the air. It’s about controlling your rights. You can see it in their agenda—and you can see it in Bible prophecy.

Self-Harm

One of the main aims of COP26 was to get national leaders to commit to reducing greenhouse gas emissions within their nations to net zero by 2050. The timing is terrible: The United States, Europe and much of the world already face an energy crisis. But Joe Biden and European Union Commission President Ursula von der Leyen signed a pledge to cut methane emissions by 30 percent by 2030. Keeping this pledge will require nations

to cripple their own oil and gas industries, industries that are particularly crucial to the American economy.

Some analysts now say that Biden may have to choose between saving the Earth from climate change and saving the U.S. economy from an energy crisis. But they fail to understand the real motives of the people behind this movement. The goal of elites controlling the climate change conversation is not to reduce carbon emissions but to *create a new world order—and to dismantle the current one*. To do this, they must attack American dominance in energy and its economy, empower socialist dictatorships, demonize the free market, and destroy individual liberty. Only then can they replace your freedoms with the dictates of those who “know best”: themselves.

Joe Biden and those behind him, including his boss Barack Obama, were already trillions of dollars deep into leveraging environmental concerns to fundamentally transform America before they headed off to Scotland. Their “Build Back Better” plan spends \$555 billion on new grants and loans to entice or force businesses and consumers to switch to renewable (and less reliable) energy technologies like wind and solar power. And their executive actions suspending leases for oil and gas production drastically reduce U.S. energy production. This helps the United Nations as it tries to force other democracies to switch over to wind and solar power.

The result is that U.S. oil prices have climbed above \$85 a barrel for the first time in seven years, causing gasoline prices to soar to nearly \$3.40 per gallon nationwide. Meanwhile, the energy crisis in Europe is so bad that factories are shutting down due to the soaring cost of natural gas.

Biden and Obama are forcing Americans to depend on undependable, expensive green technologies that are prone to failure (attested to most recently by rolling blackouts in California and power failures in Texas). Meanwhile, they allow Chinese Communists to run the world’s biggest polluting nation unperturbed and permit Russian oligarchs, Venezuelan Communists, Iranian mullahs and

Saudi sheiks to benefit from resulting high prices of oil and gas.

“We’re going to end up with a real shortage of energy,” Blackstone CEO Stephen Schwarzman told CNN. “And when you have a shortage, it’s going to cost more. And it’s probably going to cost a lot more. You’re going to get very unhappy people around the world in the emerging markets in particular, but also in the developed world.” He said that when this happens, “you’ve got real unrest” (Oct. 26, 2021).

This isn’t just about paying more to refuel your sedan every week or so. This is about revolution.

Obama and Biden are already making it harder to fund drilling projects in the U.S. on the pretext of Biden’s agenda to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. “If you try and raise money to drill holes, it’s almost impossible to get that money,” Schwarzman said, and this is happening on an “extremely widespread basis” (ibid).

Middle-class families—already being squeezed by runaway inflation and supply-chain problems—are not prepared for this energy crisis. This is no accident.

The Hudson Institute’s Walter Russell Mead warned, “President Biden may soon have to choose between his climate policy and his overall national strategy. The problem is not just that the energy shortage and price surges threaten to drive a wedge between green activists and middle- and working-class voters struggling with high energy bills The real problem is that the green agenda as currently conceived is an effective machine for undermining the economic and political power of the democratic world and boosting the influence of precisely the authoritarian powers President Biden has [supposedly] made it his mission to oppose. By artificially depressing fossil-fuel production and investment in the democratic world faster than renewables and other fuels can fill the gap, Biden policy promotes a multiyear, multi-trillion-dollar windfall for countries like Russia, Iran and Saudi Arabia” (*Wall Street Journal*, Oct. 18, 2021).

Mead correctly deduced that American policymakers would have to give up on

carbon reduction targets if they want to avoid impoverishing and weakening everyday Americans and strengthening the regimes of Russia, Iran and Saudi Arabia. But he has not considered the disturbing possibility that impoverishing Americans and strengthening these regimes is the *very point* of the “green” agenda!

Slashing America’s carbon footprint will impoverish the middle class while empowering Communists, oligarchs and mullahs. This is not an unfortunate side effect of “building back better.” It is its primary principle. It causes the confusion, weakness, disenchantment, anger and dependency necessary to overthrow America’s constitutional system of government. That is the first goal of the revolution. The next is to install a dictatorial government in which socialist central planners tell us how or if we can work, how many masks to wear, and whether we can leave our houses.

Green Tyranny

Pollution is a problem that humanity must face. Serious environmental issues like acid rain, soil degradation and urban sprawl are indeed “ravaging the world.” Yet have you noticed that the radical environmentalist movement rarely discusses these issues? It is fixated on one thing: the theory of man-made global warming being caused by carbon dioxide emissions. Why not devote more attention, more work, more billions, more headline-chasing quotations to smog, pesticides, plastic pollution or contaminated drinking water?

Encouraging people to take measures to improve their soil, reduce urban sprawl, raise grass-fed cattle in the countryside, and improve the environment in other ways does not advance their agenda, because their agenda is to take power from individuals and give it to government elites. But micromanaging carbon dioxide does advance their agenda.

After old-fashioned communism failed catastrophically in the 20th century, people were still dedicated to the atheistic theory that

human beings can create their own utopia by treating everyone like a hive of insects and forcing them to surrender their rights. But they needed a new vehicle since the ideology on its own merits was unattractive to the masses after it helped kill about 100 million people in less than 100 years.

Communists deliberately chose radical environmentalism (as well as race relations) as their means for destroying individual liberty and accountability and advancing socialism.

Burning fossil fuels may have some limited effect on global temperatures, but it's hard to tell because repeated scientific fraud has clouded the issue. Reasonable people want clean air, water and soil for themselves and others, so Communists and socialists are highly motivated to mix concern for the environment in with their ideology. They use the same approach with race. This strategy also makes socialist activists, journalists and politicians highly motivated to hijack and exaggerate concerns about the environment to literally doomsday-level proportions. When a course of action (such as soil remediation) would help the environment but do nothing for the socialist agenda, they ignore it. When a course of action would hurt the environment (such as giving a pass to the world's biggest polluter, which happens to already be Communist), they go for it.

This is why, despite no evidence to support their claims, Obama and Biden have fixated on global warming as the greatest threat to humanity in history. The goal is to frighten people into surrendering their freedoms to centralized government. And you will only do that if you are held in the grip of fear. (For more information about the spirit motivating this attack on freedom, please request a free copy of our booklet *America Under Attack*, by Trumpet editor in chief Gerald Flurry.)

Obama once taught a class at the University of Chicago on Saul Alinsky's approach to "power analysis." Alinsky is the author of *Rules for Radicals*, a playbook for the American socialist movement, which he dedicated to "the first radical known to man who rebelled against the establishment and did

it so effectively that he at least won his own kingdom—Lucifer."

"[Russian novelist Fyodor] Dostoevsky said that taking a new step is what people fear most," Alinsky wrote. "They must feel so frustrated, so defeated, so lost, so futureless in the prevailing system that they are willing to let go of the past and chance the future. ... A revolutionary organizer must shake up the prevailing patterns of their lives—agitate, create disenchantment and discontent with the current values, to produce, if not a passion for change, at least a passive, affirmative, non-challenging climate. ... Remember: Once you have organized people around something as commonly agreed upon as pollution, then an organized people is on the move. From there it's a short and natural step to political pollution, to Pentagon pollution."

You read that right. The strategy that influenced Obama, the Clintons and others openly states that socialist environmentalism is not about the environment; it's about socialism. It intentionally pushes people to feel frustrated, defeated, lost and "futureless," to psychologically condition them to let go of the past. For Americans, "to let go of the past" means to abandon what biblical and constitutional virtues they have left. To "chance the future" means to "build back better" with a repackaged version of an authoritarian socialism that has destroyed millions and degraded billions of lives.

Such a radical change in America is not surprising; it is prophesied in the Bible.

After America

Jesus Christ prophesied to His disciples that the world would come to be dominated by non-Israelite nations. "And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?" (Matthew 24:3). He confirmed that the end of human civilization would indeed come and answered their questions by detailing specific events that would occur before and during "the end of the world" (see also Mark 13; Luke 21).

Jesus focused on Jerusalem, the capital of ancient Israel, and said it would “be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled” (Luke 21:24).

Who are the Gentiles? This term refers to “the nations,” or peoples, who are not Israelite. Most people think that everyone except Jews are Gentiles. But the Jews are only one of the 12 tribes of Israel. Today, the Jews are found in the State of Israel in the Middle East and scattered across other nations. The descendants of the other tribes also continue to exist. The late Herbert W. Armstrong proved in his book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy* that these lost tribes include Americans, Britons and northwestern Europeans. Jesus’s prophecy about Jerusalem being trodden down is about a time when authoritarian Gentile dictators will dominate these Israelite nations.

The radical left’s push to offshore carbon-emitting industries and shut down oil rigs is weakening the Israelite nations of the world while empowering Gentile nations like China, Russia and Iran. Even many Germans, who have been great advocates of green energy and greenhouse gas reduction, are realizing that they will need a lot of oil and gas from Russia to build Europe into a superpower. These other nations stand to gain from the radical left’s green agenda, so they support the aim to dismantle America.

“The weaker America is, the more vulnerable it becomes to being *controlled*,” *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry wrote in “What the Paris Climate Agreement Was Really About.” “That is exactly what the radical left wants. It is using the issue of the environment in order to get it. The Obama administration didn’t want to get climate change under control; it wanted to get *America* under its control! Proponents of deals like this want to control *the world*. Where does

such thinking come from? That is actually a very *satanic* mindset—explained in many places in your Bible. Efforts to reverse climate change may look like they spring from good intentions, but there is an evil spirit behind it. It is all tainted by deceit, intimidation, bullying and autocratic tendencies. This is exactly the way a great evil spirit thinks! He wants control and will use any means he can to get it. He is very active in the world today, and the climate change controversy is evidence of this fact” (*Trumpet*, August 2017; theTrumpet.com/15956).

The solution to the plight of the planet and, more importantly, the human beings on it is not found in COP26, the Obama-Biden regime, or the regimes of other nations. It is not found in the ideology of Communists or, in fact, the ideology of conservatives. It is found in the one source that Communists have rejected and conservatives have mostly ignored: the Holy Bible. That is where you will find accurate prophecies by Jesus Christ and those He inspired that exactly describe current and imminent events. That is where you will find the laws of physical and spiritual cause and effect that even the churches of the world have turned their backs on. And that is where you will find hope.

That hope is in God and His laws. Yes, Bible prophecy shows that He will allow us to destroy our civilizations, the majority of our human race and much of our beautiful planet. Why? So that we will finally see the full effects of our own selfish, deceitful human nature, finally humble ourselves, finally submit to His perfect spiritual law, finally admit that we are incapable of ruling ourselves. Then—and only then—can the returned Jesus Christ establish a new civilization that will restore and beautify Jerusalem, the Earth and the character of the human beings living here. ■

The Global Warming Scam

FROM WILDFIRES IN CALIFORNIA TO A SUPER-typhoon in the Philippines, from drought in Kenya to flash floods in Peru, weather disasters are wreaking havoc around the world. Mankind suffered through 50 billion-dollar weather disasters in 2020. The tally from 2021 will likely be similar. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the 30,000-plus delegates who attended the 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference blame such extreme weather on man-made global warming caused by burning fossil fuels. Yet a number of well-researched scientific studies show that these conclusions are based on manipulated data and deliberately biased science.

Government-funded climate scientists focus on the insulating effect that carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases in the atmosphere have on Earth. But their models often omit factors such as increased plant growth. According to the Heartland Institute, a “study of satellite photographs by Ranga Myneni and a team of researchers at Boston University found during the past 30 years, 20 percent of Earth’s surface became greener. Only 3 percent of Earth browned. This finding is extremely important, because as carbon dioxide increases, so does plant growth, and plants produce more oxygen, pushing the system toward equilibrium.” In other words, the planet is designed to lower the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere when it gets too high by simply growing plants.

The Heartland Institute also reports that the computer models used by government-funded climate scientists ignore the basic fact that the insulating effects of carbon dioxide are not linear.

“Indeed, the first 20 ppm of carbon dioxide added produces more warming than the next 400 ppm,” senior policy adviser Jay Lehr wrote in a critique of the U.S. Global Change Research Program’s apocalyptic predictions. “This saturation effect means that nearly all the warming potential of carbon dioxide has been realized at concentrations in the atmosphere of

less than 100 ppm. Concentrations higher than 100 ppm produce negligible warming, including the pre-Industrial level of 280 ppm and the feared doubling to 560 ppm. Atmospheric carbon dioxide is not capable of producing catastrophic global warming because warming potential is essentially exhausted after relatively low levels of additional carbon dioxide have been added. Because these facts are often omitted from alarmists’ climate models, the models fail to describe the actual, measurable temperature of Earth’s atmosphere.”

Burning fossil fuels may have some limited effect on temperatures, but the problem with the United Nations reports is that they ignore mechanisms that God designed to bring the Earth’s atmosphere back to equilibrium, and they make unproven claims about the link between temperature and weather disasters. What you see in the news isn’t an open, may-the-best-facts-win scientific debate. It is the result of politically motivated manipulation designed to frighten people into surrendering their God-endowed rights to a central planning committee.

Many scientists scoff at the notion that God controls the weather, but the book of Job states that God balances the vapors of the clouds and warms the Earth with a south wind (Job 37:16-17). God commands the clouds to do His will, whether for mercy or for correction (verses 12-13). The author of Psalm 148 showed his understanding of God’s power over the elements when he wrote about “[f]ire, and hail; snow, and vapour; stormy wind fulfilling his word” (verse 8).

These passages confirm that God controls the sun and balances the gases that compose the clouds. They also confirm that God sends fire and stormy winds to fulfill His promises and His prophecies. So rather than publishing oversimplified computer simulations about the insulating effects of carbon dioxide in an effort to drive people into socialism, world leaders should be telling their people to humble themselves, pray, seek God’s face, and turn from their wicked ways! ■

Our Last Hope for Government That Works

There is a crucial reason today's leaders are failing. Thankfully, the painful lesson they are writing will be learned and corrected. **BY JOEL HILLIKER**

WHAT A DIFFERENCE A LEADER CAN make! “When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn” (Proverbs 29:2). Under righteous leadership, people's lives are far better: Evildoers are restrained; liberty and prosperity flourish. But when the wicked rule, corruption spreads, taxes increase, wealth is confiscated, freedoms are curtailed, rights are trampled, evil goes unpunished, good people are oppressed.

Our world today testifies of the truth in this proverb. Truly, bad government can be a real curse.

The major reason this world's systems of government fail is that they are concocted and administered by human beings under the sway of the devil. Yes, the evil being revealed in the Bible does indeed exist, and the destruction we are seeing in America and its brother nations is direct proof (2 Corinthians 4:4; Ephesians 2:2; Revelation 12:9-12). Satan has subjected humanity to oppressive, inept, selfish governments for millenniums.

At the same time, he deceives us into hating and resisting *all* forms of authority—especially God's authority.

Human beings NEED righteous government—godly government. In the Bible, God has revealed a lot about what righteous government looks like, and just how different God's government is from any other. God has a *perfect* system of governance. When it is administered, it truly does inspire people to *rejoice!* And thankfully, very soon, it will be *the* authority all over the Earth!

Author of Government

In his book *Mystery of the Ages*, Herbert W. Armstrong called God the “Author of government.” God is the supreme and only perfect Lawgiver (James 4:12), and “[t]he very fact of law presupposes government,” Mr. Armstrong wrote. “Government is the administration and enforcement of law by one in authority. This necessitates authoritative leadership—one in command” (*Mystery of the Ages*). Even between God the Father and Jesus Christ, the Son clearly spoke of how the Father holds higher authority (e.g. John 14:28).

Government is simply an organized system of administering and enforcing law. The law tells you how to live; the government administers and enforces that law. Men's governments administer man's laws; God's government administers God's law. A government that is not enforcing God's law is not God's government.

“The government of God is of necessity government from the top down,” Mr. Armstrong continued. “It cannot be ‘government by the consent of the governed.’ Its laws originate and are handed down from God—never legislated by the people—never dictated by the governed how the government over them shall rule them. ...

“[T]he government of God is based on the law of God, which is the way of life of outflowing love, cooperation, concern for the good of the governed. And this law of God produces peace, happiness, cooperation through obedience.” The Bible reveals that that law can be summarized by the one word *love*—subdivided into love toward God and love toward neighbor (Matthew 22:36-40). “Jesus magnified this law

by showing how its principle expands to cover virtually every possible human infraction. [I]t is so perfect that, by applying its principle, it is a complete law” (ibid).

When Jesus Christ returns to Earth in supreme power and glory, that law will be taught and enforced worldwide (Isaiah 2:2-4). The results will be a world of strong and happy families, a world without murder and hatred, a world of honesty and truth, of giving and contentment, of prosperity and harmony, a world united in knowing and worshipping the one true God.

“The *contrast* between the beautiful results of God’s government and the wretched results of the governments of Satan’s world could not be more stark!” *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry wrote in our companion magazine, *Royal Vision*. “Yet human nature, under Satan’s influence, rebels against and rejects God’s rule. Thankfully, this will change when Christ returns. The devil will be imprisoned, and his anti-God broadcasting will cease (Revelation 20:1-3). Men’s eyes will be opened to the glorious benefits of being ruled by God, and they will embrace it.” He then referred to the prophecy in Acts 3:20-21 about that time described as “the restitution of all things.” “God yearns to restore His government to Earth,” he wrote. “That is the *most important* aspect of this coming ‘restitution of all things’” (November-December 2019).

The results of this “restitution of all things” will be elaborated on later in the article. But first let’s study some specifics the Bible teaches us about God’s form of government. God’s law not only shows how to love God and neighbor, it also includes many provisions that explain how to *administer and enforce that law* properly. It tells leaders how to lead in a godly way. It also tells followers how to follow excellently. When God’s eternal spiritual law is obeyed, it produces a beautiful, harmonious relationship between leader and follower, government and governed.

Godly Leadership

The principle of God’s government is based on the fact that *God* is at the top. It is government

for the people, but it is not by the people. The authority emanates from God, and He delegates it to whom He chooses in order to administer and enforce His law.

In Deuteronomy’s first four chapters, Moses delivered a sermon to the Israelites about their history. Deuteronomy 1:9-10 show how Moses was acting as God’s sole representative, administering His government, but the job was too big for him. God’s solution was to create an organized system of leaders working under Moses in a pyramidal structure (verses 13-15). This is the pattern for God’s government throughout the Bible. It is government from the top down, with God at the top, working through one man, and people filling various offices under that man. The pyramidal government structure *alone* doesn’t make it God’s government—plenty of worldly organizations use that. What makes it God’s government is that it has *God* at the *top*!

In a May 2, 1974, member letter, Mr. Armstrong wrote about this administration of godly government: “Here is government from the top (God) on down. ... Under the Eternal God in authority was Moses. Under Moses a number of rulers, each over *thousands* (it could have been several thousands under each ruler). Under each ruler of a thousand, rulers over hundreds. Under each ruler of a hundred, rulers of 50s, and under each of them rulers of 10s. It was *rule from the top down*—that is, from God—it was the government of God!”

To implement that government, each individual in office must be a righteous person who exemplifies godly character. Many people have come to believe that the character of a leader doesn’t matter—what matters is that he or she knows how to lead. To God, this notion is ludicrous.

Throughout the Bible, God concerns Himself with *character most of all*—not talent, not charisma, not ambition, not some magical “ability to lead.” Study, for example, the qualifications for the ministry the Apostle Paul discusses in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9. What good are other leadership qualities if the leader draws people astray with a corrupt personal example?

The solution to all mankind's failed, Satan-influenced governments is the Kingdom of God. That godly government will consist of God beings with perfect character who are submitted to God. *Nothing else will work!* Human governments often act in their own interests. That is why they tend to get bigger and bigger, demanding more and more of the people's resources. God's government is different: It doesn't act in its own interest because God is at the top, and *God is love!* (1 John 4:8, 16). God has outgoing concern for the benefit of those under His authority.

When Jesus Christ was training His disciples for government positions, they began to bicker politically about who should have a higher office. Jesus took the opportunity to show them how utterly different, and entirely *unselfish*, God's government is. He said, "In this world the kings and great men lord it over their people, yet they are called 'friends of the people.' But among you it will be different. Those who are the greatest among you should take the lowest rank, and the leader should be like a servant. Who is more important, the one who sits at the table or the one who serves? The one who sits at the table, of course. But not here! For I am among you as one who serves" (Luke 22:24-27; New Living Translation). Godly leadership is *service*. Those who implement it live and govern according to God's law of love. If they prioritize their own interests, they are breaking that law (Matthew 22:36-40).

In Deuteronomy 17:14-20, God gave some laws for Israel's monarchy. Verse 15 shows that the king was to be *God's choice*. God didn't institute anything like democracy—it was still God's government. This verse also shows that God doesn't want Israelites ruled by non-Israelites. In verse 16, God commands the king not to trust in his military. America has violated both of these laws in recent times.

Verse 17 underscores God's concern with the *character* of the ruler. He wanted the king to turn his heart to Him—He didn't want him led astray by a lust for women or riches. This again points to the New Testament counterpart where God demands that a minister be "the husband of one wife ... not greedy of filthy

lucre" (1 Timothy 3:2-3). A leader who is greedy for money is susceptible to corruption, liable to abuse his position at the people's expense. Such weakness disqualifies an individual to lead, in God's eyes.

In Deuteronomy 17:18-20, God commanded that the king be a diligent student of His law. This makes perfect sense when you remember that God's government is a system of administering and enforcing God's law. This is true wherever that government is administered, whether within a family, church or nation. Soon it will be true all over the Earth.

This is essentially the extent of what God's government will be doing in the World Tomorrow: 1) educating people in God's law; teaching people how to lead happy lives and to prosper and be blessed—individually, in their families, with their neighbors and in their nations; and 2) administering and enforcing God's law, ensuring justice among the people by judging according to that law. (This involves bringing criminals to judgment and protecting the people from outside aggressors. Within God's nation, this ultimately includes destroying any foreign aggressors.) Within a church or nation, God's government also operates a centralized system of worship.

The purpose of God's government is extraordinary for its beautiful *simplicity*. We need to realize just how revolutionary it is compared to all the flavors of government in Satan's world.

What God's Government Does Not Do

Anciently, when the Israelites demanded a king, God gave Samuel important insights into the pitfalls of human governments, which Samuel relayed to the people (1 Samuel 8:10-18). God warned that a human-led government would be oppressive. It would introduce burdensome taxes, becoming bloated and centralized. This is what human-led governments tend to do: They get bigger as they amass power, property and wealth—wealth that should remain in the hands of citizens.

God's government is far more generous, far less intrusive, and far more interested in the prosperity and happiness of the people.

Consider some things God's government *does not* do—things that become very problematic when governments do them.

God's government does not manage people's money—neither for health care nor retirement. (Those programs are bringing America and many other Western nations down. The socialistic mindset—that government will provide for you—contravenes God's law. That is why it fails.) God's government does not own or run businesses that compete with businesses run by private industry. God's government *facilitates* wealth creation rather than interfering with it.

God's government does not legislate new laws. God only has about 600 laws. Man's governments, by contrast, constantly create new laws. In God's system of administration, there is no legislature. In ancient Israel, if Moses needed guidance in a matter he could not discern from the existing law, he appealed to God, who gave him judgments in accordance with the existing law. That is the way it was in ancient Israel—and that is how it will be in the World Tomorrow under Jesus Christ's rule! James 4:12 says there is one Lawgiver: God. Governmental positions under the Lawgiver are administrative—administering the law of God that already exists.

God's government is so simple. It teaches the law, and it administers and enforces the law. That is why God's entire government—whether over a church or a nation, or the entire world—can operate on such a limited budget. It stays out of people's business as they strive to keep the law. In the Millennium, people will tithe and give offerings the same as God's people do in God's Church today. Wealth will grow. Justice, equity and peace will spread!

As God's government teaches, administers and enforces God's law—His way of life—the whole world will be able to enjoy the affection and love, the cooperation, the harmony, the serving and helping way of life—the way that God and the Word have enjoyed forever. And they truly will *rejoice!*

The Beautiful Fruits

Jesus Christ is about to return and take His place as King of kings, governing all the Earth.

You can read about this in the wonderful prophecy of Isaiah 9:6: “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting father, The Prince of Peace.” What wonderful titles! What a wonderful picture of the blessing this government will be.

“Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this” (verse 7). God is *zealous* about this! Mr. Armstrong said the “restoration of God's government is the one great purpose uppermost in God's mind.”

The Bible is full of beautiful prophecies describing conditions that will result when this government is restored. Mr. Armstrong describes these in inspiring detail in *The Wonderful World Tomorrow—What It Will Be Like* (free upon request).

“Now notice just how the new world government will function!” he wrote in Chapter 4, “The New World Government.” “All officials will be appointed—and by the divine Christ, who reads and knows men's hearts, their inner character, and abilities or lack of ability. You'll find a description of Christ's supernatural insight into the very character of others in Isaiah 11:2-5. ... Think of it—no money wasted on political campaigns. No splits in political parties with quarreling and hatreds. No political parties!”

Christ and His governing Family will bring about this utopia through two basic courses of action, Mr. Armstrong continued: “1) All crime and organized rebellion will be put down by force—divine supernatural force. 2) Christ will then set His hand to reeducate and to save, or spiritually convert, the world.”

On the first point, the most important step Christ will take is to depose and imprison Satan the devil, “the god of this [present] world,” whose evil influence manifests itself in human nature in all of mankind's interactions. (See 2 Corinthians 4:4 and Revelation 20:1-2.) The end of his malevolent broadcasting will

immediately change the course of the world. But whatever of man's stubbornness and unteachability remains, Christ will confront by ruling with a "rod of iron" (Revelation 19:15).

As for the second action, once human nature is eliminated, God will be able to put His law into people's minds and write it on their hearts (Jeremiah 31:33; Hebrews 8:10; 10:16). "When God's laws are in our hearts—when we love God's ways, and in our hearts want to live by them, human nature will be put under subjection—people will want to live the way that is the cause of peace, happiness, abundance, joyful well-being!" Mr. Armstrong continued.

With the Prince of Peace overseeing a government of righteous, incorruptible leaders administering a perfect law of love,

with satanic broadcasts stopped and true education universal (Habakkuk 2:14), with all individuals worldwide developing a loving, personal relationship with the one and only true God, a truly utopian world will result! Scripture amply describes life brimming over with pure water, nutritious food, favorable weather, fertile deserts, agricultural abundance, robust health, satisfying work, efficient economies, universal literacy, elegant cities, spectacular architecture, clean energy, happy families and harmonious communities. God's government will produce all these conditions and lead all human beings to fully realizing their incredible God-given potential! With the righteous in authority, ALL people the world over will exuberantly REJOICE! ■

What Happens When Queen Elizabeth Dies?

The end of an era for Britain **BY GERALD FLURRY**

THIS COMING FEBRUARY 6, ELIZABETH II will have been queen for 70 years. She's the longest-reigning ruler in British history and in the world today. She has been a remarkable example of class, duty and service to her people. Sadly, she represents an era in British history that is virtually gone.

And she is now 95 years old. Health issues beginning in October have kept her from public engagements. In November, she missed the traditional ceremony at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday. Many people are concerned.

"[T]he Queen is an irreplaceable constant in the life of the British nation," British journalist Melanie Phillips wrote. "Her public appearances aren't just the exercise of her role as the symbol of the nation. As so many feel so viscerally, she *is* the nation. ... With her unrivaled sense of duty,

her stoicism and her emotional restraint, *many see in the Queen the embodiment of a Britain whose cultural identity is inexorably fraying*. Many feel in their bones that when the Queen eventually passes, *Britain will just not be the same*. Despite the fact that the monarchy will continue, *something of infinite value will have been lost*" (Oct. 29, 2021; emphasis mine).

Royal biographer Penny Juror told *Town & Country* that Queen Elizabeth's death would be "traumatic" for Britain. "The Queen is such a tremendously popular figure and during the course of her reign, so much has changed so dramatically. There's not an aspect of life that hasn't changed, but the one constant in the midst of this has been the Queen, the rock-solid thing we can hang on to."

When Queen Elizabeth dies, Prince Charles is to become king. What will happen then?

YouGov polling shows the Queen has the highest favorability rating of any member of the royal family, at 72 percent, followed by her husband, who died last spring. Prince Charles's favorability is only 45 percent, and his wife's is 33 percent. Among millennials, those numbers are 33 and 25 percent. The family has been plagued by scandals, including Prince Andrew's disgraceful conduct and Prince Harry's disgraceful abdication of his royal role and duties. Outrageously, many people consider the monarchy a racist institution, and Prince Harry has publicly and shamefully agreed.

When the Queen is gone, what will remain of the royal reputation? What role will the royal family play in Britain's future?

The Queen is recognized as head of state in 15 countries outside the United Kingdom out of 54 countries that make up the British Commonwealth. There are strong movements in Canada and Australia to break from the British crown. Scotland is also trying to leave the UK. Barbados renounced the monarchy on Nov. 1, 2021. Jamaica could be next. How much would a rule by King Charles accelerate this trend?

Charles wouldn't automatically become ceremonial head of the Commonwealth. "The current mood among Commonwealth leaders is to look beyond Charles to a time when the head of the Commonwealth is rotated by election or selection among representatives of the member states," according to Canadian news organization iPolitics.

The Queen's death could further weaken and dissolve the already fading ties that once formed the greatest empire in history, the British Empire.

Believe it or not, that empire was specifically prophesied in the Bible! It fulfilled a promise God made to the patriarch Abraham and confirmed to his grandson Jacob, whom He renamed Israel, in Genesis 35:11: "[A] nation and a company of nations shall be of thee, and kings shall come out of thy loins." As Herbert W. Armstrong proved in *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*, that "company of nations" was the British Empire. At its peak,

that empire had immense wealth and power. It controlled one quarter of the world's land and ruled 1 in 5 people on Earth!

God gave Britain that empire! But the same God who did that also warned that it would collapse if the people rebelled against Him. That has happened. When Elizabeth took the throne in 1952, the British Empire was in the early stages of its descent. Under her rule, it has shrunk from empire to commonwealth to a less and less relevant second-rate power. Britain is also far more morally degenerate than it was 70 years ago! This fall will accelerate under the Queen's successor.

The Bible foretells the dramatic fall of Britain and America in the end time. It warns that what follows is an extremely dark, violent period—one we already see building in the world today!

People today think nothing of tossing aside an institution that has anchored British life for over a thousand years!

Amazingly, God also had a direct hand in the longevity of the British monarchy.

In 2 Samuel 7:12-16, God promised to establish the throne of King David and to ensure it would have an unbroken dynasty of royal descendants forever. Other prophecies show that throne will eventually transfer to Jesus Christ Himself! (Isaiah 9:7; Luke 1:32).

The United States and Britain in Prophecy shows how God preserved that throne in the kingdom of Judah—then, fulfilling the prophecy of Ezekiel 21:27, overturned it three times: first by moving it to Ireland through the Prophet Jeremiah, then to Scotland about a thousand years later, then later to England. You can follow that royal line through history, along with the movements of the stone of destiny, the stone over which British monarchs have been crowned since Edward I captured it and moved it to Westminster Abbey in 1296.

Yes, Queen Elizabeth II was crowned on David's throne! Her coronation in 1953 was filled with evidence of this inspiring biblical history. She was coronated over the stone of destiny. The anthem "Zadok the Priest" was sung, with words from 1 Kings 1:38-40 describing the coronation of David's son

Solomon. The priests presented her with a Bible, which they called “the most valuable gift this world affords.” The archbishop said, “These are the lively oracles of God,” and then he read God’s instructions to monarchs in Deuteronomy 17. The new queen was anointed with holy oil. She was dedicated to God.

You can be sure the next coronation will be very different from the one 70 years ago! The remaining members of the royal family have rejected the Bible! Britain no longer respects such traditions, or the Bible, OR GOD!

Anciently, Israel wanted a king so they could be more like the nations around them (1 Samuel 8:4-5). Today, many in the British Commonwealth want to eliminate the monarchy for the same reason!

Prince Charles said in 1999 that if he were to take the throne, he would want to assume the official title not as “Defender of the Faith” as generations of monarchs did before him, but “Defender of Faith”—protecting *all* faiths in Britain. This sounds righteous to a lot of people today. Modern society believes the lie that “diversity is our strength.” But look at the disastrous results of such thinking. It has left Britain faithless, materialistic, divided and vulnerable to foreign extremists. Britain has lost its faith in God and king, and abandoned its moral foundation! The Church of England has surrendered its moral authority, loosening its standards on every issue—women in the clergy, premarital sex, homosexuality. The monarchy, rather than working to prevent the moral slide and uphold godly standards, has watched it happen and even encouraged it! The royal family, including the man who should be the next king, has been caught up in terrible moral scandal. British society has suffered immeasurably as a result. These trends are certain to intensify when Queen Elizabeth dies.

But God has a plan for correcting this problem, and He’s already put it in place!

Hosea 3:4 has this important end-time prophecy about the Great Tribulation, a time of terrible suffering that precedes Jesus Christ’s Second Coming: “For the children of Israel [referring to Britain, America and the Jewish state of Israel] shall abide many days

WITHOUT A KING, and *without a prince*, and without a sacrifice, and *without an image* ...”—which is referring to Jacob’s pillar stone.

During the Tribulation, Britain will no longer have a king or even a prince! How do you square that with God’s promise that David’s throne would never lack a man sitting on it? (Jeremiah 33:17). God has fulfilled that promise for some 3,000 years—but right at the end will come a point when that king, and that stone, will not be there! This awaits Britain in the time just ahead! Many other prophecies show that nation will be defeated and its people taken into captivity!

Here is what I wrote about these verses in my book *The New Throne of David* (free upon request): “By the time this prophecy is fulfilled, Britain will have been conquered by the Holy Roman Empire. The British lose their king, and they lose their stone (a symbol of David’s throne) What does this mean? God promised to continue that throne forever, yet here we see that suddenly there is NO KING and NO STONE, and *the prophecy doesn’t even say where they are*. During the Tribulation, the king will probably be dead! Jacob’s pillar stone will be lost; we don’t know what will happen to it, but it could be destroyed.

“If no one sits on David’s throne, God will have broken His promise!”

Anyone who sees this happen, if he knows anything about God’s promises regarding David’s throne, would have to think that God *did* break His promise.

BUT GOD NEVER BREAKS HIS PROMISES!

“The truth is, by the time this prophecy is fulfilled, THE THRONE IN BRITAIN IS NO LONGER DAVID’S THRONE!” my book says. “Even *before* Britain loses its king and stone, *the British throne is no longer the throne of David*, or God’s promise is broken.

“Hosea’s prophecy shows that BEFORE the Tribulation, God *must* have A NEW STONE and A NEW KING—A NEW THRONE. Otherwise He could not allow Hosea 3:4 to happen. How else can you explain what is going to happen in Britain?”

This book goes through several prophecies and biblical passages that explain this electrifying truth. God has *moved* the throne

of David out of Britain. So the throne on which Queen Elizabeth sits, and on which her successor will sit, is actually no longer that throne of David.

Three years ago, I wrote in that book, “Think about this: If Britain no longer has the throne of David, this strongly indicates that BRITAIN IS GOING TO GO DOWN RAPIDLY! How could it be otherwise? This is a GREAT CONDEMNATION by God against that people!”

I believe that when the Queen dies, that will accelerate Britain’s demise. We are about to see a sad ending for that throne, which is no longer David’s throne.

I want to encourage you to study the truth about the new throne of David! Amid all the bad news in this world, this is very inspiring truth! It shows how God is watching over these events closely. It also shows just how close we are to the return of Jesus Christ, when He comes to claim His rightful place on that throne of David! ■

The end of the throne?

God promised King David that He would continue his dynasty forever. Where is the throne of David now? To learn, order your free copy of *The New Throne of David*.

A World-class Military—Overnight

‘Not a small development’ **BY JEREMIAH JACQUES**

JAPAN’S DRIVE TOWARD MILITARISM HAS been rapidly accelerating. The decades of gradual propulsion from pacifism toward military normalization have now shifted into high gear. If it remains on its current path, the land of the rising sun could soon overtake France, Germany, Saudi Arabia, the United Kingdom and even Russia and India and build the world’s third-most expensive and lethal military machine.

What’s in a Percentage Point?

For decades, Japan has limited its defense spending to 1 percent of the nation’s gross domestic product. This unofficial spending cap was in place to assuage worries, both within Japan and abroad, about a potential resurgence of the kind of fanatic militarism that drove Japan into World War II and inflamed its soldiers with cruelty that even the Nazis found shocking. Japan kept the limit in place largely to keep the world from

worrying about a repeat of its barbaric attempt to conquer East Asia and the world.

But now members of Japan’s governing Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) believe these worries about the nation’s history of war crimes are unfounded, and that the time has come to double military spending to 2 percent of GDP.

An increase of 1 percent may seem trivial. But Japan possesses the world’s third-largest economy, generating \$5 trillion per year. The proposed increase would boost defense spending to approximately \$100 billion annually and propel Japan from ninth place in military spending to third place, behind only the United States and China.

LDP policy chief Sanae Takaichi said during an Oct. 13, 2021, press conference on the proposed boost, “We are demonstrating our resolve to defend the Japanese people’s lives, property, territory, territorial waters, territorial airspace, sovereignty and national honor.” He said Japan would be able to “offer

policies that will result in firm diplomacy and stronger defense capacity.”

Fear of the Dragon

It’s no secret that Japan’s “stronger defense capacity” would be directed mainly against China. President Xi Jinping and the Chinese Communist Party have strengthened China’s military to staggering levels. It is well understood that China covets its neighbors’ territories and resources and is intent on using force to subvert the regional and even the global order to get them. This determination is on chilling display in China’s increased provocations in the South China Sea and parts of the East China Sea that are claimed by both China and Japan.

The Japanese see the danger of China’s ambitions clearly. A recent survey of 1,696 Japanese respondents by the Nikkei Business Daily found that 86 percent believe China poses a serious threat to their nation, exceeding even the 82 percent who believe North Korea presents a danger.

Due mainly to these fears of China, Japan’s military strategy is increasingly focused on naval strength. It currently possesses a world-class navy of 114 warships, including 26 destroyers, 22 submarines, 10 frigates, 6 destroyer escorts, 3 tank-landing ships and Izumo, an 820-foot-long, 27,000-ton, so-called helicopter carrier.

When Izumo launched in 2013, Japanese leaders were careful to officially brand it as a “helicopter carrier.” The Japanese Constitution, imposed by the U.S. after the Empire of Japan killed more than 160,000 Americans in World War II, aims to contain Japanese military fanaticism by strictly forbidding offensive sea and air weapons. Aircraft carriers—which are specifically built to carry warplanes and troops to enemy waters, airspace and terrain—are understood to be some of the most capable offensive-weapons platforms a nation can possess. The Japanese hoped this branding would temper accusations of violating the Constitution. But in 2020, Japan began dropping even that thin pretense. It began modifying both Izumo and its sister

ship Kaga with heat-resistant flight decks and other support systems for fighter jets. Then in October 2021, Izumo launched and recovered a pair of F-35s. A Japanese warship has now fielded fixed-wing aircraft for the first time since its predecessors wrought havoc on China, Korea, Britain, the U.S. and others during mankind’s bloodiest conflict.

However the Japanese classify Izumo, this is the new naval reality: A Japanese aircraft carrier once again sails the oceans.

Japan “is already the second-most capable navy in the world,” geopolitical strategist Peter Zeihan posted on Twitter. “Now they’re going to double spending? Not a small development” (Oct. 13, 2021).

Japan is expected to use the additional \$50 billion per year to further enhance its naval power with more F-35 stealth fighters, Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft, submarines and other American matériel. Japan will also develop its own weapons systems, including stealth fighters, amphibious landing craft, warships, manned and unmanned submarines—and more aircraft carriers.

Truly this will constitute a stunningly powerful and lethal naval force.

Meet the New Boss, Same as the Old

Fumio Kishida has spent 28 years in the Japanese political arena. He was long seen as more of a dove than a war hawk. Even after longtime Prime Minister Shinzo Abe appointed him foreign minister in 2012, Kishida seemed lukewarm about Abe’s “cherished wish” to rewrite the pacifist clause of the Japanese Constitution. As Abe boosted defense spending to record levels and led a historic reinterpretation of that clause, Kishida remained in favor of Japan mainly relying on its seven-decade ally, the United States, for strategic protection.

Then Kishida became Japan’s new prime minister on Oct. 4, 2021. The new plan to double military spending comes from his administration. He is now determined to advance Abe’s military agenda and firmly push for transforming Japan’s military into a normalized, ultra-modern force.

With the new spending proposal, some analysts believe Kishida's hawkishness is actually eclipsing Abe's.

'Kings of the East'

The Japanese are an exceptional people with numerous admirable traits and unparalleled technological and economic abilities, especially considering their disadvantages in geography and natural resources. Their industriousness and cultural and technological contributions have enriched the human experience for billions around the globe.

But Japan's dark and disturbing wartime history shows why its accelerating return to militarism is a vital trend to watch. World War II and several earlier conflicts show that in times of war, Japan can descend into a nightmarish fanaticism and shocking brutality. It was recognition of this reality that prompted American officials in the 1940s, led by Gen. Douglas MacArthur, to include the clause in Japan's postwar Constitution that outlawed war as a means for the nation to settle international disputes. "We are committed," MacArthur said after Japan's surrender, "to see that the Japanese people are liberated from this condition of slavery."

But now, in America's drive to contain China, it is ignoring Japan's recent history. With a wink and a nod, the U.S. is encouraging Japan to circumvent its pacifist Constitution and re-militarize. The U.S. is even supplying Japan with much of its new military hardware.

Alongside history, Bible prophecy also sounds the alarm about Japan's return to militarism. Journalists occasionally refer to the biblical word *Armageddon* found in Revelation 16:16, but few people mention "the kings of the east" discussed in verse 12. The Bible shows that these "kings of the east" will lead a bloc of Asian countries that will pool their militaries together in the near future to form a gargantuan force.

Revelation 9:16 states that this Asian

military will field a stunning 200 million soldiers. Ezekiel 38 and 39 show that Russia and China will lead this massive force, and Ezekiel 38:6 specifies that a key part of it will consist of "Gomer" and "Togarmah," ancient names referring to the main peoples who comprise modern Japan.

Today, animosity and fear are surging between the peoples of Japan and China, motivating both of these world-leading economies to build up their forces. But these Bible passages reveal that these two nations will soon join forces. The Bible also makes clear that this multinational Asian superpower will participate in the most devastating war in human history.

Jesus Christ prophesied this future war, saying, "For there will be greater anguish than at any time since the world began. And it will never be so great again. In fact, unless that time of calamity is shortened, not a single person will survive" (Matthew 24:21-22; New Living Translation).

Each expansion of Japanese firepower puts that calamity closer within range. Japan's march toward militarization is leading directly to a terrifying future that will affect all human beings.

But there is more to this story.

Just after Jesus prophesied that this era-and civilization-ending war would almost wipe out the last human life on Earth, He added this promise of hope: "But it will be shortened" (verse 22; NLT).

Before mankind's warring renders humanity extinct, Christ will interrupt the carnage with superior force! He will conquer all militaries and all governments and establish a new government. This literal government of God will produce an epoch of unprecedented peace and prosperity for the peoples of Japan, China and all other countries. Regarding this future age of global harmony, Isaiah 2:4 says that "nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." ■

What Does the Key of David Unlock?

It is the name of our television program. The Bible emphasizes our need to understand this inspiring key in this end time. **BY GERALD FLURRY**

CHAPTERS 2 AND 3 OF REVELATION DESCRIBE *seven successive eras* of God's true Church—the Church that Jesus Christ founded at His first coming and that He promised would survive right up to His Second Coming. The book of Revelation puts all prophecy in time sequence. It does the same with these seven Church eras: It lists them in order and covers a period of almost 2,000 years. (Learn more from my free book *The True History of God's True Church*.)

The sixth and seventh Church eras are given only one message to deliver to the world: the KEY OF DAVID. That is the name of our television program.

Notice Christ's message to the sixth Church era (and to the loyal remnant in the midst of the rebellious seventh era): "And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, HE THAT HATH THE KEY OF DAVID, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth; I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name" (Revelation 3:7-8). This is all Christ's doing. He opens a door for the key of David message to be delivered to the world!

Why should this be important to *you*? What is the key of David, and what does it unlock? This is a crucial question—actually a *life-and-death* question! Note: "Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, *I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation*, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth" (verse 10). This is a warning to everyone on Earth: Terrible suffering is

coming! But God will protect those who deliver the key of David message. And thankfully, this all leads to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, which is the best news we could possibly hear.

You need to understand the key of David message if you are to be protected!

The Throne of David

To understand this key, we can start by looking at a prophecy about Jesus Christ in Luke 1:30-32: "And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and *the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David*."

This points you back to a promise God made to King David in 2 Samuel 7:12-16: "[T]hy throne shall be established for ever." A descendant of David would always rule from his throne. And Luke 1:32 says that God the Father is ultimately going to give that throne to His Son, Jesus Christ, who will rule from it for eternity!

That is an *extraordinary message* with a FAMILY theme. It is about Jesus Christ receiving an eternal throne that is named after a human being named David! That alone shows you what an exalted place human beings have in God's eternal plan.

Notice further: "And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end" (verse 33). Christ is about to rule Earth and expand the Kingdom of God *forever*. He will rule over human beings from that throne of David. This verse contains a majestic vision when you understand it! It is talking about an endless process of bringing

human beings into the eternal Kingdom of God. This already begins to show us the spectacular understanding this key of David unlocks.

We can pick up more details from the very first book of the Bible. Here is another prophecy, this in Genesis 49: “And Jacob called unto his sons, and said, Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you that which shall befall you IN THE LAST DAYS” (verse 1). This is a prophecy for *our time today*. Verse 10 reads, “The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be.”

This prophecy is called the “scepter promise”: God’s assurance that there would always be a human king from the tribe of Judah—a Jew—all the way down to the Second Coming, when Christ will receive that throne. This *combines* with the promise to King David, who was a Jew. But this promise isn’t just about *race*—*physical descendants* of David ruling from his throne; it is also about *grace*! Notice: When Christ returns to sit on that throne, *He will offer salvation to all mankind*, making them all *spiritual descendants* of David! The end result of David’s endless throne is SALVATION!

These are truly inspiring truths that begin to open up when you have this key of David!

So the Bible discusses the key of David in many places. And it is the *only message* that God gives to His end-time Church to proclaim to the world. How critical that we have this key!

More truth is unlocked by the key of David in one of the most inspiring examples in the Bible.

Hannah’s Prophetic Vision

One lady changed the course of Israel’s history. She had a powerful vision of the key of David—and astoundingly, she had it many decades before David was even born! Her story is recorded in 1 Samuel—part of what is called the “former prophets,” which is prophecy primarily for this end time.

At that time, Israel’s religious life was centered in Shiloh, the location of the ark of the covenant. A man named Elkanah went there yearly to worship God and sacrifice to Him (1 Samuel 1:3). This man had two wives,

and one of them, Hannah, was barren. God had shut her womb (verse 5).

Hannah desperately wanted a son. She went to the tabernacle in Shiloh and implored God, vowing, *If you give me a son, I will dedicate him to you. I will give him to you to serve in Shiloh in the tabernacle for the rest of his life, and he will take the Nazarite vow* (verse 11). She was determined, and she prayed to God in faith. And God answered! He blessed her with a son, whom she named *Samuel*, meaning “asked of God” (verses 19-20). Hannah followed through and gave her son to God (verse 28).

Hannah then delivered some of the most amazing prophecy in the Bible, in the form of a prayerful song (1 Samuel 2:1-10). “The Lord killeth, and maketh alive: he bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up. The Lord maketh poor, and maketh rich: he bringeth low, and lifteth up. He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set them among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory: for the pillars of the earth are the Lord’s, and he hath set the world upon them” (verses 6-8).

There is tremendous depth in this prayer, as I explain in Chapter 4 of my free book *The Former Prophets: How to Become a King* (request a copy). This woman was prophesying about the people God would call out of this world in the millenniums before Christ’s Second Coming—the lowly of the world, rich in faith (1 Corinthians 1:26-29; James 2:5). God plans to give these lowly people *world rule*—positions on the “throne of glory” under Jesus Christ in the coming Kingdom! What a vision—and what a promise!

What “throne” is that talking about, specifically? Hannah went further: “The adversaries of the Lord shall be broken to pieces; out of heaven shall he thunder upon them: the Lord shall judge the ends of the earth; and *he shall give strength unto HIS KING, and exalt the horn of HIS ANOINTED*” (1 Samuel 2:10). The “king” in that verse is King David!

Study the history of Israel, and you see that Hannah’s son Samuel went on to judge the nation. The people rejected God’s rule, so God established Israel’s monarchy through Samuel,

in a man named Saul. But Hannah skipped over Saul, the first king of Israel—and referred to *David*, whom her own son would go on to anoint as king in Saul's place (1 Samuel 16) and through whom God would establish that *eternal throne*.

Hannah prophesied about David decades in advance, and foresaw that her son would anoint David. She knew that God would make David a major part of His master plan! She focused on the very throne that will continue until the Second Coming of the Messiah. Hannah had profound faith!

What wonders God can accomplish with people who really step out in faith and apply what He says! Do *you* believe God? What are *you* doing with the knowledge God has given you? If it is to make a difference in our lives, we must apply it and obey it. Hannah's prophecy describes the tremendous, eternal rewards that God offers those who heed His calling now!

The key of David vision was etched in Hannah's mind. The core of that vision is David's throne.

Opening Up the Bible

Look again at Hannah's prophecy in 1 Samuel 2:10: "... he shall give strength unto his king, and exalt the horn of his anointed." There are two parts there. The "king" is David. Who is "his anointed"? That is referring to a *priest*.

In Hannah's day, there were big problems with the religious life in Israel. The sons of Eli the priest had abandoned God and were committing terrible sins (verses 12-17). What Hannah did in dedicating her child to God actually began to correct the course of the nation's history!

God sent a message to Eli, saying, "And I will raise me up *a faithful priest*, that shall do according to that which is in mine heart and in my mind: and I will build him a sure house; and he shall walk before mine anointed for ever" (verse 35). This was a prophecy of a priest who would be loyal to David forever.

This prophecy was fulfilled by a man named Zadok. Other priests failed, but Zadok remained loyal because he knew that God was working with David. King David experienced

many fiery trials, yet he rejoiced in them. And Zadok remained right by his side. He too had the key of David vision!

What does Zadok have to do with us today? That faithful priest foreshadows the end time. Other prophecies show that there are people in the *end time* who remain loyal to the throne of David. God calls them "sons of Zadok." Many of God's own people have strayed from Him, but the sons of Zadok have the same spirit as Zadok did anciently. We are loyal to the throne of David and are rewarded mightily for that.

Here is what the Prophet Ezekiel wrote about the position of these faithful saints in God's future temple: "But the priests the Levites, the SONS OF ZADOK, that kept the charge of my sanctuary *when the children of Israel went astray from me*, they shall come near to me to minister unto me, and they shall stand before me to offer unto me the fat and the blood, saith the Lord God: They shall enter into my sanctuary, and they shall come near to my table, to minister unto me, and they shall keep my charge" (Ezekiel 44:15-16). Ezekiel is an end-time book. In this end time, 95 percent of God's people have turned away from Him. But not the sons of Zadok. And because of that loyalty, we will work directly with Jesus Christ when He returns. We will be close to Him and serving Him in the temple in Jerusalem during the World Tomorrow, and later at new Jerusalem when God the Father comes down to Earth.

Hannah prophesied of the appearance of David and Zadok—a king and a priest. She knew about the *sons* of Zadok too, spiritual pillars on whom God will set the world. We must be trained as teachers now to be sons of Zadok and later become those pillars. Revelation 1:6 says God's faithful people are kings and priests *already* in embryo, just waiting to be spiritually born into God's Family! God the Father and Christ the Son see us as part of their Family even now! They will give this Zadok-level reward to anybody who helps deliver the great, great key of David message.

So again, what does the key of David unlock? This key opens up the **WHOLE BIBLE** to us! Everything! There's only one key that unlocks the entire Bible—and the key of David is it! ■

Worldwatch

Poland to more than double its troops

Polish Defense Minister Mariusz Blaszczak announced on Oct. 26, 2021, that Poland intends to increase the number of professional soldiers from 110,000 to 250,000, with an additional 50,000 serving in the volunteer territorial defense troops.

Blaszczak met with German Defense Minister Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer and said their discussion focused on the “challenges associated with aggressive Russian politics.”

Fear of Russia is driving Poland into the arms of its old archenemy. In 2014, shortly after Russia annexed Crimea, *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry warned, “We have been prophesying for around 70 years that Eastern Europe would become a vital part of a new European superpower—a resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire. ... Europe’s new fear of Russia is going to play a major role in hastening the fulfillment of that prophecy!” ■

German air force flies over Israel

Israel’s air force hosted Blue Flag 2021 from October 17-28, the country’s largest and most advanced aerial exercise to date. The exercises at Uvda Air Force Base involved 70 aircraft and about 1,000 personnel, and included the air forces of France, Germany, Greece, India, Italy, the United Kingdom and the United States. The Israeli military said the joint exercises express a strong bond among these countries and a commitment to future cooperation.

Germany’s Bundeswehr website headlined the event, “The Air Force Travels to the Promised Land.” The German military contributed six Eurofighters and about 160 personnel. One Eurofighter bore special markings combining the flags of Germany and Israel.

Before the exercises, the air force chiefs of Germany and Israel visited Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial together. German and Israeli jets also flew together in formation over Jerusalem, and Israeli Maj. Gen. Amikam Norkin broadcast a statement from his

aircraft: “The winds of history are strongly felt throughout Israel’s capital.”

German pilots trained in Israel in 2017 and 2019 for the Blue Flag exercises, and Israeli pilots trained in German airspace for the first time in 2020.

Surrounded by enemies and anxious about Iran and radical Islamist terrorism and warfare, Israel has deepened its relationship with Germany in recent years. Bible prophecy forecasts that Israeli strategy will become completely dependent upon Germany, resulting in a terrible betrayal. Request *Jerusalem in Prophecy* to learn more. ■

Germany plans new push for EU military

Five European Union member states have started an initiative to build a united military contingent, Deutsche Presse-Agentur reported on Oct. 21, 2021. Germany, Finland, the Netherlands, Portugal and Slovenia made plans to invoke the EU Treaty’s Article 44, which provides for member state militaries to form a coalition and has never yet been officially invoked.

The five countries plan to each contribute a unit of 5,000 military personnel and are also considering forming a united space force and cyberforce. The EU has already established multinational battle groups, but the maximum size of these groups is 1,500. It has also established the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, or Frontex, which consists of member nations’ police and coast guard officers. In 2016, the Royal Netherlands Army merged its 43rd Mechanized Brigade and two thirds of its command structure under German control. In 2017, the Czech Republic and Romania agreed to similar arrangements, and France and Germany signed an agreement to operate a joint aircraft fleet.

Invoking Article 44, however, would put troops under the command of the EU itself for the first time and begin the process of building a united European military powerful enough to end Europe’s dependence on American military

assistance. This would enable Europeans to pursue a strategy independent of and even aggressively opposed to the United States. ■

Iran approaching nuclear ‘watershed’

Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett has warned that Iran’s nuclear program had hit a “watershed moment.” “Words do not stop centrifuges from spinning,” he told the United Nations General Assembly on Sept. 27, 2021. “We will not allow Iran to acquire a nuclear weapon.” But consensus is growing that it is almost too late.

Reuel Gerecht, a former Central Intelligence Agency officer, and Ray Takeyh, a senior fellow at the Council for Foreign Relations, wrote on Oct. 19, 2021, in the *Wall Street Journal* that Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and his regime “haven’t spent billions and endured a tidal wave of sanctions and social unrest only to get close to a nuclear weapon. They will build the bomb as soon as they can and justify it afterward.”

Gerecht and Takeyh wrote, “Tehran’s advances in centrifuge development will soon make preemption impossible.” Rafael Grossi, director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency, warned that Iran has blocked monitors from inspecting TESA Karaj, which is believed to be an important centrifuge manufacturing facility, and said that the measures taken to monitor Iran’s nuclear program are no longer “intact.” ■

Afghanistan explodes in violence

Three suicide bombers shot their way inside a Kandahar mosque on Oct. 15, 2021, then detonated their explosives. The attack occurred during Friday prayers, when the mosque was packed with worshipers. At least 65 were killed and 70 wounded. The Afghan branch of the Islamic State claimed responsibility.

The bombing came a week after another Islamic State bombing at a mosque in Kunduz that killed at least 50 people. These have been the deadliest attacks in Afghanistan since the United States withdrew in August 2021.

The Islamic State is a Sunni group that

practices a strict form of Islam. It regards followers of Shiite Islam, such as the bombing victims, as apostates. Its Afghan terrorists have also targeted the Taliban, including a bombing that killed several people, a shooting attack on Taliban vehicles that killed at least two Taliban fighters and many civilians, and a bombing at a memorial ceremony for the mother of Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid.

As the Islamic State continues sectarian violence, watch for the Taliban to seek help from the same power that helped drive out the U.S.: its long-time ally, Iran. Read the *Trumpet’s* special report on Afghanistan in our October 2021 issue. ■

Russia weaponizing energy supplies against Europe

Russian supplies of natural gas to Europe fell sharply in late October, deepening the Continent’s already critical energy shortages.

With Europe low on natural gas all summer, Russia has exacerbated the problem since August by reducing gas supplies through the Yamal Pipeline, which runs through Belarus and Poland to Germany, and through pipelines running through Ukraine and into other parts of Europe. Gas prices in Europe increased by more than 500 percent. Then, in late October, Russia completely closed Yamal and reduced Ukraine pipelines to half their normal capacity.

The reductions are intended to pressure Europeans into granting regulatory approval for the Nord Stream 2 pipeline that runs from Russia into Germany through the Baltic Sea, which will make the Continent even more dependent on Russia—and on Germany. Construction of this pipeline was completed in September, but it violates European energy regulations and has not been approved by Europe.

Russian President Vladimir Putin made his intentions clear on Oct. 13, 2021, saying, “If we could increase deliveries through this [Nord Stream 2] route, this would substantially ease tension on the European energy market. However, we cannot do this so far because of the administrative barriers.”

Joe Biden dropped opposition to Russia

over Nord Stream 2 in July, and Russians immediately began using gas supplies as a weapon. As Europe enters winter, watch for Europeans to cave to the pressure, empowering Germany over other European nations, and Russia against Europe. The world is right to be wary over Russian-German cooperation. Though the two are strategic adversaries, when they work together, the world is at risk of world war. ■

Canada: Rule of Law is now Rule of the Will

Canadians' lives are now dominated by their government. Their daily routine includes vaccine mandates, travel restrictions, censorship, oversight and bureaucratic interference, dictated not by their Constitution but by the will of their leaders.

Among the most disturbing examples are the cases of Artur Pawlowski, Dawid Pawlowski and Christopher Scott, who were charged, convicted and sentenced for defying public health orders by holding church services and protests against government lockdowns. An Alberta court has ordered the men to pay tens of thousands of dollars in fines and to censor their own speech when discussing COVID-19 and government restrictions: They must state that what they are about to say is contrary to public health orders and the “majority of medical experts.”

Section 2 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms guarantees “freedom of religion” and “freedom of thought, belief, opinion”—but compelled speech and censorship of religious beliefs has begun in Canada. The charter sets “reasonable limits” on Canadians’ freedoms, so government officials simply define “reasonable” according to their agenda.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has mandated vaccines for all federal employees and for domestic air and rail travelers. The federal government’s own 1996 vaccination study says “immunization is not mandatory” in Canada because it violates the Constitution. The Charter of Rights and Freedoms guarantees the “freedom of conscience and religion,” freedom of

movement and “equal protection ... before the law.”

The pretext the elites are using is that COVID-19 could overwhelm the nation’s health-care system. Yet in 2020, 7,595 were “medically assisted” in their deaths, an estimated 28,000 died from medical malpractice, and, in 2019, 80,152 died of cancer and 51,541 died of heart disease. Only 26,447 Canadians were recorded as dying from COVID-19, a number that is likely inflated. But the determining factor here is not the science, the law or the will of the people. It is the will of the elites.

If the leaders can ignore the law in one instance, they can ignore the law elsewhere. Prime Minister Trudeau is now pushing bills to give officials, elected and unelected, the power to determine what online content is “acceptable” or “hate speech” and sending inspectors into Canadians’ homes and workplaces without notice. ■

U.S. cannot fight Russia and China allied together

Commander of United States Strategic Command Adm. Charles Richard testified to Congress in April 2021 that the U.S. is unprepared to fight Russia and China simultaneously. The *Trumpet* has forecast for decades that Russia and China would overcome their rivalries and form a strategic alliance against America. Now this is becoming an acknowledged fact.

On Oct. 1, 2021, the *National Interest* reported, “Russia and China now lead a military alliance that includes over 68 percent of the landmass of Eurasia, nearly 42 percent of the world’s population, nearly 30 percent of the world’s GDP [gross domestic product], and approximately 75 percent of the world’s operational nuclear weapons” The purpose of this alliance is to destroy American dominance.

Since Joe Biden took the White House, Russia has placed 100,000 troops on the Ukrainian border, and China has flown threatening military flights in Taiwan’s airspace. These moves have escalated tensions with the U.S. and exposed America’s mirage of strength.

The *National Interest* reported on October 4,

“[T]he United States might well face a two-front or even a three-front war if Russia were to invade Ukraine and/or other Eastern Europe nations, China were to attack Taiwan, and North Korea were to attack South Korea simultaneously and in coordination. Admiral Richard testified that the United States currently has no contingency plans for how to confront two allied nuclear superpowers in a future war. Thus, the ability of the United States and its allies to survive, let alone win, a war fought with such powerful, unconventional weapons against our enemies remains very much in doubt.”

Jesus Christ Himself prophesied that before He returned, the world would enter the “times of the Gentiles” (Luke 21:24). This is a time when the world is dominated by non-Israelite nations. The Bible identifies three major Gentile powers that will rise to prominence in the end time: an Asian bloc led by Russia and China, a Middle East Islamist bloc led by Iran, and a European bloc led by Germany. The U.S. military is too weak to defend itself against these powers. ■

Chinese hypersonic missiles ‘stun’ U.S.

This past summer, China conducted two tests of nuclear-capable hypersonic missiles, according to an Oct. 21, 2021, *Financial Times* report. The tests reportedly “stunned” United States intelligence officials because they show that Chinese missiles are outpacing American systems.

China reportedly used a fractional orbital bombardment system that propelled a glide vehicle capable of carrying a nuclear warhead into a full orbit around Earth before releasing its payload downward toward its target. The test, which is believed to have missed its target by about 24 miles, was considered a narrow miss.

Hypersonic missiles reach up to five times the speed of sound, maneuver in midflight, and

fly much lower than ballistic missiles, making them difficult if not impossible for American defense systems to track and destroy.

This is just the latest alarming military advancement for China, which has also increased its arsenal of nuclear warheads and its number of ballistic missile silos, and has achieved a basic “nuclear triad”—the ability to launch nuclear weapons from land, air and sea. It has also developed stealth aircraft technology, increased its overseas bases and infrastructure, modernized its weapons and equipment, and deepened its coordination with Russia. China’s Communist regime has said the goal of these military advancements is to increase its ability to fight “a strong enemy,” which the U.S. Department of Defense said is a euphemism for the United States. Read “China Is Steering the World Toward War” at [theTrumpet.com/13880](https://www.theTrumpet.com/13880). ■

China launches satellite crusher into orbit

China launched its Shijian-21 satellite into orbit on Oct. 24, 2021, announcing that the device is “tasked with demonstrating technologies to alleviate and neutralize space debris.”

But besides space debris, controllers of the Shijian-21 can also use its robotic arm to grab and disable other satellites: for example, weather, communications, navigation, military and spy satellites belonging to the United States. China launched the Shijian-21 into geosynchronous orbit. Hundreds of America’s most sensitive satellites, including those used for military surveillance, communications and nuclear weapons command, are located in this region.

“The Shijian-21 satellite is a game-changer,” geopolitical analyst Brandon Weichert told the Gatestone Institute. “It is a real-world offensive capability that can hunt and destroy American systems and render the U.S. military on Earth deaf, dumb and blind.” ■

SOCIETYWATCH

Opioids: a crisis within the pandemic

A record 94,000 people died in America in 2021 from drug overdoses; about 80 percent of these were caused by opioids. While media executives focus coverage on COVID-19 details, the largely ignored opioid crisis has become one of the most devastating health problems in United States history.

Idleness, isolation and despair have likely resulted in increased drug usage. Expect the opioid crisis to get a lot worse. Galatians 5:16 warns against succumbing to the “lust of the flesh,” and the Bible elsewhere describes indulgence in intoxicants as slavery. Verse 20 lists *pharmakeia* as one of the “works of the flesh.” This Greek word is usually translated into English as “witchcraft,” but it literally translates as “the use or the administering of drugs.” In ancient times, as in modern times, individuals used various types of drugs, ultimately for the same reason: a vain attempt to fill a spiritual void in their lives. ■

California compels students to learn ethnic studies

Gov. Gavin Newsom signed legislation on Oct. 8, 2021, that makes it mandatory for California students to take ethnic studies in order to graduate high school, starting in 2025. Lessons will include “#BlackLivesMatter and Social Change,” “Afrofuturism: Reimagining Black Futures and Science Fiction,” “U.S. Undocumented Immigrants from Mexico and Beyond,” “The Immigration Experience of Lao Americans” and “This Is Indian Land: The Purpose, Politics and Practice of Land Acknowledgment.” This will open the door to critical race theory, which teaches that U.S. institutions were founded with the goal of assuring white dominance.

The radical liberal approach to ethnic studies divides Americans along racial lines, and not by accident. This is leading to a time of conflict prophesied in Isaiah 1:7: “Your country is desolate, your cities are burned with fire: your land, strangers devour it in your presence,

and it is desolate, as overthrown by strangers.” This is a passage warning the descendants of ancient Israel, including the Americans, about non-Israelites rioting in their cities because the people of the land have turned to their own ideologies and away from God’s law. ■

Daughters wanted for U.S. Army

As part of 2021’s National Defense Authorization Act, Democrats in the United States House of Representatives passed a bill on September 1 that empowers the government to draft women into the military. If passed in the Senate later this year, it will be considered a victory for feminists.

This follows the government dropping its ban on women going into combat in 2013. At the time, the *Trumpet* cited an Army survey showing that 85 to 90 percent of even women who were enlisted in the military opposed putting women in combat. One female soldier said, “Those feminists back home who say we have a right to fight are not out here sitting in the heat, carrying an M16 and a gas mask, spending 16 hours on the road every day, and sleeping in fear you’re going to get gassed.” It was not enough for feminists for women to volunteer for combat: Now they want to draft them into it.

God has taken the “mighty man, and the man of war” away from America (Isaiah 3:1-3). Instead of strong leadership, children oppress, women rule, and leaders cause the people “to err, and destroy the way of thy paths” (verse 12). The government’s push to draft women is another self-destructive step down this path. ■

Pfizer hides its use of aborted babies

Former Pfizer manufacturing quality auditor Melissa Strickler has made public the fact that the pharmaceutical mega-corporation is hiding certain facts about its COVID-19 vaccine.

Project Veritas published her reports on Oct. 6, 2021, noting that while it isn’t widely known outside medical circles, Pfizer and other vaccine makers have used aborted fetal

tissue in their vaccine testing. Many who have learned this have consequently sought religious exemptions from taking the vaccine. But Strickler's Project Veritas interview revealed a corporate strategy to suppress the truth.

"From the perspective of corporate affairs, we want to avoid having the information on the fetal cell lines floating out there," read an e-mail from Pfizer's senior director of worldwide research, Vanessa Gelman, shared by Strickler. "We believe that the risk of communicating this right now outweighs any potential benefit that we could see, particularly with general members of the public who may take this information and use it in ways we may not want it out there. We have not received any questions from

policymakers or media on this issue in the last few weeks, so we want to avoid raising this if possible."

The fact that aborted fetal cell lines are used in vaccines is not a secret to anyone who researches the matter, but Pfizer has actively worked to keep this out of the news. According to Strickler, Pfizer has blacked out windows to its manufacturing rooms so that outside observers cannot see what is happening inside.

The Bible shows that God considers the life of an unborn child equal to that of an adult, and therefore considers abortion murder (Exodus 21:22-23). But many people and companies in America are willing to turn a blind eye to the murder of millions of babies in return for profit and personal convenience. ■

PRINCIPLES OF LIVING **JOEL HILLIKER**

A Law to Boost Your Happiness

It sets your priorities straight and keeps your thoughts at peace.

MOST PEOPLE AGREE WITH THE SIXTH Commandment: Thou shalt not murder. Many are changing their attitudes toward the other commandments, such as those against adultery, stealing and lying. Yet people rarely even think about the Tenth Commandment. But breaking this commandment hurts our entire economic system, our world and our day-to-day thoughts.

"Thou shalt not COVET ..." (Exodus 20:17). The Hebrew word translated *covet* simply means to desire or take pleasure in. Psalm 19:10, for example, uses the same Hebrew word to say we should *desire*, or *covet*, God's laws. God *wants* us to desire the right things! But there are things we should *not* desire. That is why the Tenth Commandment specifies not desiring other people's houses, spouses or property. These are things that are out of reach or unlawful or taken at others' expense. Notice that this commandment forbids not the *act* of stealing or adultery, like the Eighth and Seventh Commandments, but the *desire*.

This commandment outlaws the ATTITUDE OF GET. It forbids us from wrapping our minds in material desires. Why? Because this pulls our minds away from God.

Most Christians claim the Old Testament is an outdated, letter-of-the-law set of rules. Yet this command explicitly governs *our minds* and *our hearts*. This is part of God's very way of living, which has always existed and will always exist.

Right thoughts lead to right behaviors; wrong thoughts to wrong behaviors. God demands that we expunge the latter. Our human nature always tends toward selfishness and discontent. The Tenth Commandment aims to check that tendency. *All* God's commands are for our happiness, but this is especially obvious with this commandment: Obeying it makes you happy; disobeying makes you miserable.

Today's society enthusiastically breaks the Tenth Commandment. What woe this brings! Coveting feeds materialism and greed. It fuels

our mountainous debt problems, individually and nationally. Politicians and manufacturers constantly stir up the spirit of covetousness, telling us we deserve more and better; thus, despite having so much, we are dissatisfied, always craving and demanding more.

Without God, we are incomplete. Each of us has a spiritual void. If we try to fill that void with material things, it will never be filled. Yet everywhere people are doing just that, still feeling the void, and thinking, *That must mean I haven't gotten enough things! I'll be filled if I can only get that—and maybe that and that.* This cycle produces untold misery. It sparks conflict between people and within families, and war among nations!

In a remarkably accurate prophecy about “the last days,” the Apostle Paul wrote that “men shall be lovers of their own selves, COVETOUS” (2 Timothy 3:1-2). This is a characteristic of our times. Verse 2 also says people in our day would be “unthankful,” a direct result of covetousness.

Verse 4 perfectly describes another destructive effect: People become “lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God.” Our world loves pleasure. It can't get enough! It functions as though personal pleasure is the highest aim in life. Yet you cannot simultaneously love *things* and God. Coveting cripples spirit-mindedness, smothers faith, and destroys your spiritual power.

Another prophecy in Ezekiel 33:30-32 exposes this spiritual danger. When our minds are focused on acquiring physical things, our thinking becomes shallower and incapable of true spiritual growth. This is a major obstacle to people responding to God's truth! “[W]ith their mouth they shew much love,” Ezekiel writes, “but their heart goeth after their covetousness.” People hear God's correction,

but then simply move on. Something else comes to occupy their thoughts and their time. Covetousness is never satisfied. It always looks, dissatisfied, for the next thing.

The Apostle Paul wrote, “Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth” (Colossians 3:2). Though you might think you can, you cannot seek both at the same time. When material pursuits absorb your thoughts, you shove God out. You cannot serve both God and things (Luke 16:13-14). Yet it is *natural* to set our affection on earthly interests—and struggle to cherish the things above.

The solution is to *kill off* those fleshly tendencies, including “covetousness, *which is idolatry*” (Colossians 3:5). Yes, at its root, covetousness is *idolatry* (see also Ephesians 5:5). Breaking the Tenth Commandment is actually breaking the First Commandment, because it puts some material thing and the pleasure you hope to gain from it ahead of God.

The Tenth Commandment helps us ensure that our priorities in life are right and that we are seeking first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness (Matthew 6:33).

Paul also wrote of how “those who desire to be rich” fall into many spiritual snares and pierce themselves through with sorrows (1 Timothy 6:9-10; Revised Standard Version). But he gave a wonderful *antidote* to covetousness: “godliness with contentment” (verses 6-8). Contentment and gratitude are the opposite of covetousness. If you find yourself falling prey to the “gimmies,” stop and count your blessings! Ask God for the peace of mind that comes with contentment.

Obey the Tenth Commandment by squelching greed and curbing materialistic thoughts. Cultivate contentment, and you will experience just what a blessing and a boon to your happiness God's law really is! ■

Brought to You by Pfizer

Who is making the decisions off-camera?

THE *TRUMPET* IS NOT “BROUGHT TO YOU BY Pfizer.” But many American news programs are! If you’re one of the millions who watches *Good Morning America*, *Anderson Cooper 360°*, *CBS Health Watch*, *ABC News Nightline* or *CNN Tonight*, you’re watching Pfizer-sponsored television news from morning to night. And Pfizer, of course, aside from being one of the major advertisers for these and other programs, is also one of three companies that produces COVID-19 vaccines.

Does all that Pfizer money have any influence on the news coverage it funds? Is there any wonder all these programs are so unabashedly, unrelentingly pushing vaccines, and blotting out any and all news deemed unfavorable.

According to *Forbes*, for every dollar Pfizer spends on research and development, it spends about *two dollars* on selling, general and administrative expenses. Pfizer is likely spending far more money *promoting* its vaccines than on actually making them work.

Of course, this \$42 billion multinational company has a slick public relations department. But Project Veritas caught Pfizer scientists candidly admitting on hidden camera that people who get the disease build a natural immunity that probably offers more protection than a Pfizer COVID vaccination and that the company is deliberately hiding this fact for profit. One scientist admitted, “I still feel like I work for an evil corporation, because it comes down to profits in the end. ... Basically, our organization is run on COVID money now.”

Many Americans seem to believe there is an ethical wall of separation between government, business and the news media. But the corporate media are not “following the science” or even “following the story.” They are not even following the money, because it traces right back to themselves! They are “brought to you by Pfizer.”

But the influence of mammoth pharmaceutical companies over corporate media goes beyond mere funding. A 2009 study by Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting found that every major media outlet in the United States except CBS actually shared at least one member of its board of directors with a major drug company. How can corporate media be objective and honest about big pharma when big pharma pays their bills and partially controls their leadership?

An investigative report published by the Children’s Health Defense Team found that the pharmaceutical giants and the corporate media are largely owned by just two asset management firms: BlackRock and Vanguard. These two companies have a huge amount of influence over business executives, including news executives and national politicians. At least three former BlackRock executives hold important positions in the Biden administration, including the current director of the National Economic Council.

Media brands like CNN and ABC—and medical brands like Pfizer and Moderna—are not truly business competitors. Their stock is owned by the same investment companies, banks and governments. Pharmaceutical executives make vaccines. Reporters tell us how wonderful they are. Politicians force us to take them—and the profits go to the same group of elites.

In addition to the \$1.8 billion that Pfizer spent on advertising in 2020, it also spent (officially) \$3.7 million lobbying politicians for political favors. This makes Pfizer the second-biggest lobbying spender in its industry, right after Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America. Last election, Pfizer donated \$434,800 to congressional Democrats and \$478,386 to congressional Republicans. So many of our elected lawmakers are also brought to us by Pfizer.

America's corporate, tech and media elites are cashing in on the COVID vaccine for big-time profits. Pfizer anticipates \$26 billion in vaccine sales alone, just in 2021. They do not care about evidence that natural immunity is much better than vaccination. In fact, they are unperturbed by the 17,128 vaccine deaths reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention!

The Bible shows that our society directly matches a period in the history of our ancestors in ancient Israel. Leaders became openly, cravenly greedy, prioritizing their own selfish interests, enriching themselves and afflicting the people. This history is recorded in Amos 6:1-6. These people "put far away the evil day" and gorged on lavish lifestyles. Today, this same attitude infects America, especially among the class that sells lies and vaccines for profit. Blinded by greed, they are in a feeding frenzy on wealth, damaging their nation and ignoring outside threats.

The *Trumpet* is beholden to outside money. We are unaccountable to advertisers or any other special interests. We are funded exclusively by people voluntarily contributing to a cause they believe in. This independence enables us to pursue and to publicize truth, however unpopular. It enables us to deliver the same warning from God that Amos delivered to our ancestors: "I will not again pass by them any more: And the high places of Isaac shall be desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste ..." (Amos 7:8-9). This warning is directly for America today.

God is exposing the corruption in our nation to awaken us and prod us to admit our sins and change. This is America's last chance to repent. This is *your* last chance to repent. ■

*Request your free copy of **Repentance Toward God**, by Gerald Flurry.*