



## The End of the American Lifestyle

A personal message from the Editor in Chief, Roderick C. Meredith

Most Americans have always assumed that—even during terrible wars or financial upheavals—"things will get better" within a few years. So far, this has indeed been the case. We have always "muddled through" somehow, and it has worked out so that our children and grandchildren could have a better lifestyle than we had—at least in physical *things* and physical *comfort*.

However, thoughtful observers are beginning to realize that this situation is coming to an end. I want to warn all of you subscribers that in the years ahead of us, American wealth, power and prestige—and the vaunted "American lifestyle"—will never be the same.

For the prophesied "time of Jacob's trouble" (Jeremiah 30:7), about which we have written so often, is now beginning to come upon us as never before. The American and British-descended peoples of the United States, Canada, Britain, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa are **now experiencing** the beginning stages of a time of national chastisement from a loving God who wants to "wake us up before it is too late!" Our high-living, heavy-drinking, drug-taking, fornicating, adulterous and perverted lifestyles—if continued indefinitely—would *destroy* the bodies and minds of our children and grandchildren.

So, it appears that God has said: "Enough!"

We had plenty of "early warning signs"—through the shocking events of September 11, 2001, the continuing terrorist attacks, and the growing hatred of America and Britain around the world because of the Iraq war. All of these have had an impact, but nothing like we are now experiencing. For the virtual **collapse** of the entire international financial system—with the *primary blame* for this being placed squarely on the United States—is destined to speed us quickly toward the final scenario that our Creator prophesied millennia ago.

Notice this sobering news item: "The U.S. government is prepared to provide more than \$7.76 trillion on behalf of American taxpayers after guaranteeing \$306 billion of Citigroup Inc. debt yesterday. The pledges, amounting to half the value of everything produced in the nation last year, are intended to rescue the financial system after the credit markets seized up 15 months ago. The unprecedented pledge of funds includes \$3.18 tril-

lion already tapped by financial institutions in *the biggest* response to an economic emergency since the New Deal of the 1930s, according to data compiled by Bloomberg. The commitment dwarfs the plan approved by lawmakers, the Treasury Department's \$700 billion Troubled Asset Relief Program. Federal Reserve lending last week was 1,900 times the weekly average for the three years before the crisis" (Bloomberg News, November 24, 2008).

Nineteen hundred times the previous weekly average! This truly massive outpouring of money—mainly "printing press" money backed by nothing—is laying the foundation for a massive devaluation of the American dollar, just as happened to the German mark during the Weimar Republic. Soon, within a very few years, the dollar may be regarded as "funny money" by other nations. This will drastically lower the standard of living for all Americans, and imported products will skyrocket in price. God is beginning to humble us and "break the pride of our power" (Leviticus 26:19) as never before!

As we have explained many times, the Eternal God told our forefathers: "But it shall come to pass, if you do not obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments and His statutes which I command you today, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you: Cursed shall you be in the city, and cursed shall you be in the country. Cursed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl.... The alien who is among you shall rise higher and higher above you, and you shall come down lower and lower. He shall lend to you, but you shall not lend to him; he shall be the head, and you shall be the tail. Moreover all these curses shall come upon you and pursue and overtake you, until you are destroyed, because you did not obey the voice of the LORD your God, to keep His commandments and His statutes which He commanded you" (Deuteronomy 28:15–17, 43–45).

Indeed, other nations must now "lend" the U.S. increasing *hundreds of billions* of dollars. At some point, this will *stop*. Creditors will begin to demand payment. What will America pay them with? For the nation will **essentially be broke!** At that point, America's creditors will begin to join in a concerted effort to *bring America* 

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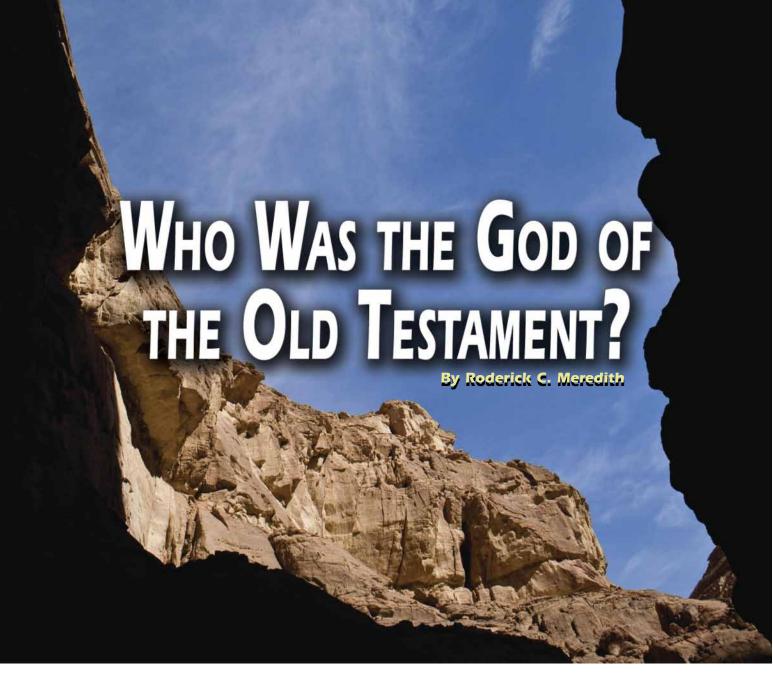
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Many Christians try to distinguish the God of the Old Testament from the person of Jesus Christ. Yet your Bible shows that Jesus Christ, who pre-existed with God the Father from eternity, was the One who spoke to Abraham and Moses and gave the Ten Commandments!

ost religious scholars and commentaries know the clear scriptures we will be discussing in this article. They are aware of what a number of biblical passages make very clear. But most of them avoid these scriptures like the plague! Or, on the other hand, they may do a little verbal "dance" around them—touching on them in their technical commentaries—but then gliding on to "safer" subjects without fully explaining them one way or the other.

Why?

Why should professing Christian leaders be afraid of the fact that the One who became Jesus Christ pre-existed with God the Father from eternity?

That He was the God of the Old Testament—the God who spoke to Abraham and Moses—the God of David, the One who actually spoke the Ten Commandments? Why be fearful of these clear biblical teachings?

We will explain the dark origins of this fear later on. But first, we need to understand the genuine origin of Jesus Christ—the One who died for our sins. Who was Jesus Christ, really? Where did He come from? Why is His life so valuable as to constitute a payment for all of our lives—billions of us—put together? The truth about this topic is very important to understand. And it is truly inspiring!

### The Origins of Jesus Christ

The Apostle John makes it clear that the One who became Jesus Christ existed from eternity: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made" (John 1:1–3).

Here John points out that the Word—the Logos or Spokesman—had been with God from the beginning. He was the creative agent—acting for God the Father in making everything that is. Later: "He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name" (vv. 10–12).

In several scriptures the inspired Apostle Paul makes the same point. In Colossians 1:15–16, Paul speaks of Jesus Christ: "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him." And the book of Hebrews tells us that God, "has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds" (Hebrews 1:2). And again, "But to the Son He says: 'Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your Kingdom" (v. 8). And finally, "You, LORD, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands" (v. 10).

Note that in verse 8 above, Christ is addressed, "O God." He is described as the One who "made the worlds" (v. 2) and who "laid the foundation of the earth" (v. 10). There is absolutely no indication that any of these verses written by Paul or by John were "poetic" or metaphorical! They simply state the fact that the Personality who became Jesus Christ was "in the beginning" with the Father, that He was the "Word" or Spokesman for the Father and that all things were directly created through Him, Jesus Christ!

How did all this come about?

Turning to Genesis 1:1, we read, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." All scholars know that the Hebrew word here translated God is "Elohim," a plural noun—like church or family—as would signify one family with several members. And now notice Genesis 1:26, "Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle. over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.'"

Note that God said, "Let *Us* make man in *Our* image." So the Father and the Logos or "Word"—who later was born as Jesus of Nazareth—were both included here. Acting for the One we call God the "Father," the One who became Jesus Christ was used by the Father from the beginning in dealing with mankind.

We see this also in Genesis 18. Here the Logos appeared to Abraham. He did *not* appear in His full glory in dealing with Abraham, Moses and others, but more in human form—yet apparently with a "difference" so that Abraham recognized that he was dealing with the "Lord" (vv. 3, 27). After the Eternal

had explained to Abraham His intent to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah because of their perverted sins, Abraham asked, "Shall not the *Judge* of all the earth do right?" (v. 25).

Here Abraham was certainly dealing with the One who became Jesus Christ! For Christ Himself revealed later, "For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son" (John 5:22). Abraham was certainly *not* dealing with God the Father. For the inspired Word also tells us, "*No one* has seen God at any time" (John 1:18).

Jesus Himself said: "Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad.' Then the Iews said to Him, 'You are not vet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?' Jesus said to them, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM'" 8:56-58). The Jews recognized that the expression "I AM" referred to the God of Israel. They thought that Jesus was both lying and blaspheming. So "then they took up stones to throw at Him" (v. 59). These Jews were blinded to the fact that Jesus had been the very Personality who had been the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel! They were standing right there talking to the One who was their God! And they did not know it.

### Christ WAS the "God of Israel"

In Matthew 22:42–45, Jesus challenged the religious leaders: "What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He?' They said to Him, 'The Son of David.' He said to them, 'How then does David in the Spirit call Him "Lord," saying: "The LORD said to my Lord, 'Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool'"? If David then calls Him "Lord," how is He his Son?" The Pharisees were not

able to answer. For they knew that King David of Israel certainly had no human "lord." This scripture

had to be describing two personalities in God's Family—one greater than the other. And. as should be obvious to us, David's i m m e d i a t e "Lord"—the one who later became Iesus Nazareth—was told to sit at the right hand of the Father until it was time for Him to become King of kings.

Yet the Jews knew that the coming Messiah was to be a literal "son of David." How could this one also be David's "Lord" yet having a still "greater" Lord telling Him what to do?

Mt. Sinai

In 1 Corinthians 10:1-4, we read that ancient Israel was baptized into Moses and they all "ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ." Again, it is clear-as a number of commentaries acknowledge—that the same Spirit Personality who dealt with ancient Israel was the One who became Christ. For, as we have seen, Jesus said that "no one" had ever seen "God"—obviously meaning the One we call the Father. Yet right after giving the Ten Commandments and some of the statutes to ancient Israel, we find that the "God of Israel" did indeed appear to some of Israel's leaders! "Then Moses went up, also Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, and they saw the God of Israel. And there was under

His feet as it were a paved work of sapphire stone, and it was like the very heavens in its clarity. But on

the nobles of the children of Israel He did not lay His hand. So they saw God, and they ate and drank" (Exodus 24:9–11). So more than 70 of the leaders of Israel "saw the God of Israel." Could anything be more clear?

It was the One who became Jesus Christ who literally walked and talked with

Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. He was the One who dealt directly with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. He was the One who spoke "face to face" with Moses (Numbers 12:8). He was the One who spoke the Ten Commandments from the top of Mount Sinai!

## WHY Is This Truth So Seldom Acknowledged?

When you understand that last sentence in the paragraph above, you can begin to grasp why so many professing priests and ministers shy away from explaining the real origin of Jesus Christ. For they have nearly all been taught that the Ten Commandments were a product of some harsh "God of the Old Testament" and that Jesus somehow "knew better" than His Father. In many cases they say, instead, that somehow the Apostle Paul "knew better" than either Jesus or the Father—and that he did away with God's law, the Ten Commandments.

These misguided men may be sincere. But they are "blinded" (2 Corinthians 4:3–4)—as is the *whole* 

world. Remember Jesus' instruction about most of the religious leaders of His own day: "Let them alone. They are *blind* leaders of the blind. And if the blind leads the blind, both will fall into a ditch" (Matthew 15:14).

It is embarrassing—to men who have been taught that the Ten Commandments were "done away"-to admit that it was the One who became Jesus Christ who gave the Ten Commandments in codified form to Moses. He is the One who commanded, as an integral part of God's great spiritual law: "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it" (Exodus 20:8-11).

Most ministers today do understand that God, through Christ, specifically commanded His people to keep the seventh day-not just any day. They know that during His entire human lifetime Jesus kept the seventh-day Sabbath—the same day the other Jews were observing! And they probably also realize that the original Apostles kept the seventhday Sabbath. Along with scores of other respected scholars, mainstream Protestant church historian Jesse Lyman Hurlbut acknowledges: "As long as the church was mainly Jewish, the Hebrew sabbath was kept" (The Story of the Christian Church, p. 45).

Again, most ministers understand that the inspired writer of Hebrews tells us, "Jesus Christ is

the same yesterday, today, and forever" (Hebrews 13:8). And they know that neither Christ nor the Apostles ever attempted to "do away" with the biblical Sabbath. If they had made such an attempt to overthrow such a major precept coming from the very hand of God, the Jews surrounding them would have rioted, persecuted them unmercifully, not allowed them to continue worshiping in the Temple as they did for many years, and would quickly have proclaimed them heretics and lawless. The enormous upheaval that would have ensued from such an action would have made the Jewish upset over circumcision—described in Acts 15—seem like a "tea party" by comparison!

Of course, no such change in God's great spiritual law was ever discussed or instituted by Christ or the Apostles. For a quarter of a century after Jesus' crucifixion, and after the Holy Spirit had come upon the early Church to guide it, the original Christians were still "zealous" for the law (Acts 21:20). Even the Apostle Paul was still obedient to the spiritual law of God, the Ten Commandments. For notice the inspired account of the instruction given by "headquarters" Apostle James to Paul: "...this will let everyone know there is no truth in the reports they have heard about you, and that you too observe the Law by your way of life" (Acts 21:24, The New Jerusalem Bible).

#### The Logical Consequence of This TRUTH

If all professing Christians were taught the truth—that the One who became their Savior is the One who gave the Ten Commandmentsperhaps their actions would be quite different. The world would surely be a much safer place! All would realize that true Christianity

is a law-abiding religion—a way of life based on the great spiritual law of God. They would learn thatalthough no one is suddenly perfect, and we are commanded to grow in Christ's character—it is possible to follow Christ's inspired example through His Spirit within

As the Apostle Paul wrote: "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live: vet not I. but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me" (Galatians 2:20, KJV). Christians would then understand the beloved Apostle John's explanation of the very love of God and how it functions: "For this is the love of God, that we keep

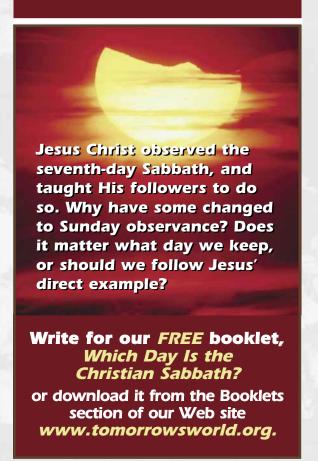
His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome" (1 John 5:3). They would read with new understanding John's inspired statement in Revelation 14:12: "Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments God and the faith of Iesus."

The true Christ revealed clearly in the Bible co-existed with the Father from eternity. He and the Father planned together the creation of mankind. Speaking for Himself and the Father, the Logos—who became Christ—said, "Let Us make man in Our image." Then, about 4,000 years later, the Logos was willing to give up the indescribable glory, power and majesty He had always shared with the Father.

As correctly translated, Paul tells us that Christ "emptied" Himself, "taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus

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## Which Day Is the Christian Sabbath?



## Five Prophetic Signs for the Middle East

By Richard F. Ames



#### Will we ever see peace in the Middle East? Bible prophecy reveals that events in that region will determine the future of the whole world. Do you know what to be watching for?

he United States has spent billions of dollars fighting a war in Iraq. Cost estimates have ranged from \$648 billion in direct military expenses—a figure offered last July by the U.S. Congressional Research Service—to as much as \$3 trillion when all warrelated costs are included, according to Columbia University economist Joseph Stiglitz, co-author of The Three Trillion Dollar War. American concern about the war was a major factor in last November's elections. Thousands of soldiers, and countless more Iraqi civilians, have died or been permanently disfigured by war in Iraq.

"When the Middle East sneezes, the rest of the worldespecially America and Western Europe—may get the flu," observed Israeli journalist Yossi Melman. Indeed, conflicts in the Middle East are often keenly felt in the U.S., and the reverse is also true. One way or another, the Middle East seems to remain an ongoing focus of world conflict. Indeed, the war in Iraq is merely the latest in a long series of violent conflicts in that region. Will there ever be a time when the Middle East—or, indeed, the whole world—will be at peace?

The good news is that your Bible foretells of a time when world peace will ultimately reign on planet Earth, but that time will come only after a period of intense war and suffering such as our world has never before seen. Yet, if we know what prophetic signs we should be looking for, we can have hope and confidence in God's promised future of peace, even while we are still in the midst of terrible fighting and devastation. In this article, we will examine five key prophetic

signs for which we should all be watching.

#### Sign 1: **Military Alliances East** of the Euphrates River

Do you remember the Iran-Iraq War? It lasted from 1980 to 1988, and more than a million people were killed. The Euphrates River figured prominently in that conflict, and your Bible shows that it will again be central in prophesied end-time events.

The Euphrates River runs from Turkey through Syria and Iraq to the Persian Gulf. The nation of Iran lies immediately to the east of Iraq. During the prophesied Day of the Lord, an immense army of 200 million soldiers will move westward across the Euphrates River into the Middle East.

In the Book of Revelation, we read about a powerful army from the east, which will kill billions of people. The Apostle John describes this as the sixth trumpet plague. Notice where this huge force will be gathered: "Then the sixth angel sounded: And I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, 'Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates" (Revelation 9:13-14).

Yes, the Euphrates River is the focal point for this prophecy. John continues: "So the four angels, who had been prepared for the hour and day and month and year, were released to kill a third of mankind. Now the number of the army of the horsemen was two hundred million; I heard the number of them. And thus I saw the horses in the vision: those who sat on them had breastplates of fiery red, hyacinth blue, and sulfur yellow; and the heads of the horses were like the heads of lions; and out of their mouths came fire. smoke, and brimstone. By these three plagues a third of mankind was killed-by the fire and the smoke and the brimstone which came out of their mouths" (Revelation 9:15–18).

This is describing a world war in which billions of human beings will die, as an army of 200 million drives west across the Euphrates River and destroys one-third of the planet's population! This is why Jesus Christ told us that unless those days would be shortened, no flesh would be saved alive (Matthew 24:21-22).

What world powers are east of the Euphrates? Look at a map, and you will find nations including Iran, India, China and Russia. Be sure to watch those nations' military developments and international alliances. Watch these nations for growing investments in military power, including nuclear weapons!

#### Sign 2: **Greater Unity Among** Israel's Traditional Enemies

In June 1967, Israel fought what came to be called the "Six-Day War." Pitted against the combined forces of Egypt, Syria and Jordan, Israel captured the Sinai Peninsula, the Golan Heights, the West Bank and East Jerusalem. This victory gave Israel access to Jerusalem's ancient holy sites, including the Western Wall (also known as the "Wailing Wall") at the Temple Mount. At the close of the war, Israel offered to return the West Bank to Palestinian control, if they would accept Israel's complete

ownership of Jerusalem. Gamel Abdul Nassar, Egypt's president at the time, joined with his Arab neighbors in saying "No!" to Israel's land-for-peace offer.

Seven years later, on October 6, 1973, Israel again was at war. In what became known as the "Yom Kippur War"—since it began on the Day of Atonement that year—Israel repelled invasions by Egypt and Syria. Eventually Israel, Egypt and Syria agreed to a United Nations cease-fire plan ending that conflict.

Since then, there have been occasional military strikes, as well as the years-long intifada (Arabic for "shaking off") in which Palestinians expressed resistance sometimes bloodily-to what they considered unjust Israeli rule. Fighting and bloodshed also continued among warring Palestinian factions; Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas at one point described his nation as being "on the verge of civil war" due to struggles between his Fatah organization and the Islamic militant group Hamas.

History has shown that while intra-Arab conflicts may continue, warring Arabs will not hesitate to join forces to fight against Israel. More than once, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has threatened to "remove Israel from the region." Iran continues its push developing nuclear toward weapons. Although traditional disputes among Arabs and Muslims will continue, watch for growing unity of these forces against Israel. Your Bible shows that a future "King of the South" will unite several Arab nations, and that this combined force will be seen as a threat by the "King of the North" and will intensify conflict around Jerusalem (Daniel 11:40-45). This will bring about a frightening conflict that will shake our world, but Bible students will be able to recognize that this is also a sign of Jesus Christ's imminent return.

## Sign 3: International Attempts to Control Jerusalem

Historically and religiously, Jerusalem is important to followers of Judaism, Christianity and Islam. All these religions look to Jerusalem as the site of major events central to their faith. Jews treasure Jerusalem as the city of the great prophets, and as the capital of the Kingdom of Israel and Judah under King David and his son King Solomon.

Solomon's Temple, also known as the "First Temple," was built in Jerusalem under King Solomon's direction in the tenth century BC, and

remained as Judah's center of worship until the Babylonians destroyed it in the sixth century BC, when the people of Judah were taken into captivity. Rebuilt as the "Second Temple" after the Jews returned from

Babylon, it remained the focal point of Jewish worship until it was destroyed by Roman armies in 70AD.

Jerusalem is also considered the third most holy city of Islam, after Mecca and Medina. It is home to the "Dome of the Rock"—a massive gold-domed mosque which has dominated the Temple Mount since 691AD, and remains the oldest Muslim-built structure known to exist. Muslims refer to the Temple Mount as the *Haram al-Sharif* ("The Noble Sanctuary") and believe that the Dome of the Rock marks the location from which Muhammad ascended to heaven, accompanied by the angel Gabriel.

Christians, of course, look to Jerusalem as the city where Jesus Christ was crucified and resurrected, but also as the site of His prophesied Second Coming—when His feet will first touch the earth at the Mount of Olives in eastern Jerusalem (Zechariah 14:4).

For years, Jerusalem's importance to three major world religions has made its administration a focus of international controversy. Although Israel has controlled both East and West Jerusalem since 1967, many other governments want to see Ierusalem administered internationally. The original 1947 United Nations Partition Plan for Palestine (UN General Assembly Resolution 181) proposed that Jerusalem be treated as a corpus separatum—an internationally administered zone and although this status never took effect, many still hope for something

> similar to b e achieved. In 1984, Pope John Paul II wrote in his apostolic letter



Redemptoris Anno that he hoped Jerusalem could be given a "special internationally guaranteed status." Who might guarantee that status? In 1975, U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger proposed that Jerusalem become an international city, with the control of holy places and religious administration given to the Roman Catholic pontiff.

Will such international control of Jerusalem be achieved? The Bible reveals that a shocking turn of events will occur, through which Jerusalem will be controlled not by Israel, but instead by other governmental powers. The Apostle John wrote, "Then I was given a reed like a measuring rod. And the angel stood, saying, 'Rise and measure the temple of God, the altar, and

those who worship there. But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city under foot for forty-two months" (Revelation 11:1-2).

Yes, Jerusalem ("the holy city") will be controlled by the Gentiles for 42 months before Jesus Christ returns! A great world power, described as the "Beast" in the book of Revelation, will invade the Middle East and take control of Jerusalem for the three-and-a-half years preceding the return of Jesus Christ! During that time, two prophets of God will be witnessing with great power, and will contend against the Gentile force that will then be dominating the Middle East (Revelation 11:3-14).

#### Sign 4: **Animal Sacrifices Restored** by Jews in Jerusalem

If you have read the books of Daniel and Matthew in your Bible, you may have been puzzled by the mysterious "abomination of desolation." What is it, and what will it mean in end-time prophecy? First, let us look at Jesus' own words: He said, "Therefore when you see the "abomination of desolation," spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place' (whoever reads, let him understand), 'then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains" (Matthew 24:15-16).

Clearly, this is an important sign to understand. It signals the time when God's people are to flee to escape the final three-and-a-halfyear sequence of devastating endtime prophetic calamities.

Historically, the Greek ruler Antiochus Epiphanes issued a decree in 167BC that prohibited the Jews from making sacrifices in the Temple. "And forces shall be mustered by

him, and they shall defile the sanctuary fortress; then they shall take away the daily sacrifices, and place there the abomination of desolation" (Daniel 11:31). Historically, not only did Antiochus stop the daily sacrifices; he erected in the temple a statue of Jupiter Olympus, and directed everyone to worship it.

This event, also described in Daniel 8, prefigures a prophesied end-time milestone. "And from the time that the daily sacrifice is taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up, there shall be one thousand two hundred and ninety days" (Daniel 12:11). Yes, 1,290 days before Jesus Christ's second coming, animal sacrifices will again be cut off! Jesus warns us as Christians to be alert to an end-time abomination of desolation! Just as Antiochus Epiphanes profaned the Temple in 167BC and cut off the sacrifices, so will a profane authority cut off Jewish sacrifices in the future! In fact, the Apostle Paul warns of a great false prophet that will stand in the holy place. "Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God" (2 Thessalonians 2:3–4)

A great false prophet will work great miracles and deceive millions of people. He will cultivate worship toward himself and claim the mantle of divinity. This great false prophet will work amazing miracles, even calling down fire from heaven, and he will deceive millions people around the world (Revelation 13:13-14)! But we must not be deceived by these signs and wonders! Scripture tells us, "Test all things; hold fast what is good" (1 Thessalonians 5:21).

But there is a catch. The Jews have not offered animal sacrifices since 70AD, when the Romans destroyed the temple in Jerusalem. In order for end-time sacrifices to be stopped, they need to have been started! When animal sacrifices begin again in Jerusalem, you will know that the prophecies Jesus spoke about are soon heading for a grand-smash climax!

Watch for developments in Israel leading to the reinstitution of animal sacrifices. This may or may not mean the rebuilding of a fullscale temple structure. Notice what happened when the Jews returned from Babylonian exile around 536BC. They had a holy place, but not yet a temple. The book of Ezra describes their coming to the "House of God" before they had a temple in which to offer sacrifice (Ezra 3:6). Later, in the verses that follow, we read about the laying of a temple's foundation.

The point is that sacrifices must be presented in a "holy place"—but we have seen in Ezra that sacrifices could be made daily even without a physical building called a temple! At present, only Muslims are allowed to worship on the Temple Mount; the holiest site currently controlled by Jewish religious authorities is the Western (or "Wailing") Wall. One way or another, sacrifices will resume, though it remains to be seen exactly where and how this will occur. Watch for a great national crisis in Israel to precipitate this event!

#### Sign 5: A European Superpower **Controlling Jerusalem**

We have seen that before Jesus Christ's return, Israel's enemies will unify against the tiny besieged nation. We have seen that there will be a push to take control of Jerusalem out of Israel's hands, and put it in the hands of an international administration. We have seen that this crisis will spur religious Jews to reinstitute animal sacrifices. What other sign should we be watching for?

The Bible shows that shortly before the return of Jesus Christ, a European superpower will take control of Jerusalem. The prophet Daniel described the rise of a southern power that will push against a northern power. Notice: "At the time of the end the king of the South shall attack him; and the king of the North shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter the countries, overwhelm them, and pass through. He [the king of the North] shall also enter the Glorious Land [or the Holy Land], and many countries shall be overthrown; but these shall escape from his hand: Edom, Moab, and the prominent people of Ammon. He shall stretch out his hand against the countries, and the land of Egypt shall not escape" (Daniel 11:40-42).

The king of the North will enter into the "Glorious Land"—the location of the modern state of Israel. Bible scholars identify Ammon (which escapes out of the king's hand, along with Edom and Moab) as modern-day Jordan, leading many to believe that Jordan will be allied with the European power. Who will be part of this alliance against Israel? Notice Psalm 83. Assyria (modern-day Germany) will lead an alliance including Moab, Ammon and Edom. Look at your Bible maps to find their historic locations, and if you have not already done so, write for a free copy of our informative article Resurgent Germany: A Fourth Reich? to learn about Germany's role as modern-day Assyria.

What does Scripture tell us about the king of the North? We have seen that he is also known as the "Beast"—but who is the Beast?

Notice this marginal note from the Douay-Rheims (New Catholic Edition) of the Bible, commenting on the beast of Revelation 17:11. "The beast spoken of here seems to be the Roman Empire, as in chapter 13." In other words, both the Beast of Revelation 17 and the Beast of Revelation 13 represent the Roman Empire. This Catholic Bible also comments concerning Revelation 13:1 as follows: "The picture of the first beast is based on the seventh chapter of Daniel. This beast is the figure of kingdoms of the world, kingdoms founded on passion and selfishness, which in every age are antagonistic to Christ and seek to oppress the servants of God. Imperial Rome represents this power."

Yes, the "Beast" is a revival of the ancient Roman Empire. If you are watching world events, perhaps you have observed that the European Union is developing political, military and economic characteristics of the empire described in Scripture. You can read about the economic power of this empire in Revelation 18.

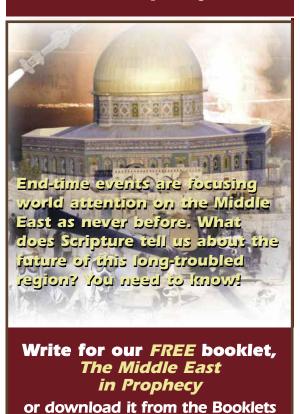
As we near the Great Tribulation, true Christians will increasingly be persecuted. But Jesus instructs us how to react as religious persecution intensifies. "By your patience possess your souls. But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is near" (Luke 21:19–20).

We are now in the prophesied peri-

od known as the end-time. We need to be prepared for the Second Coming. Christ will be King over all the earth, ruling from the new world capital, Jerusalem. "And in that day it shall be that living waters shall flow from Jerusalem, half of them toward the eastern sea and half of them toward the western sea; in both summer and winter it shall occur. And the LORD shall be King over all the earth. In that day it shall be—'The LORD is one,' and His name one" (Zechariah 14:8–9).

Thank God, this wonderful world government under Jesus Christ is coming soon. May we pray with all our hearts, "Your Kingdom come!"

## The Middle East in Prophecy



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# Questions & Answers

**QUESTION:** I understand that it is not polite to use "curse words," since many people consider them vulgar and offensive. But why do some people object to such seemingly inoffensive outbursts as "gosh" or "gee" or "Jiminy Cricket"? Surely these are preferable to the harsh and vulgar words some would use in their stead. Am I mistaken?

**ANSWER:** At first glance, many might think that these words and others like them, seemingly much tamer than the various "four-letter words" in circulation, are preferable to those other vulgar phrases. However, for a Christian, some of these "innocent" phrases may be even less appropriate than apparently more "vulgar" phrases. Why? Because they are euphemisms for the names of God the Father and Jesus Christ—and those who use them are taking God's name in vain.

Scripture warns: "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain" (Exodus 20:7). The Psalms are full of praise for God's name. "Let them praise the name of the LORD, for His name alone is exalted; His glory is above the earth and heaven" (Psalm 148:13). And: "Make a joyful shout to God, all the earth! Sing out the honor of His name; make His praise glorious" (Psalm 66:1–2).

"But 'gosh' isn't 'God' and 'Jiminy Cricket' isn't Jesus Christ!" some will object. "What's wrong with using a 'minced oath' or a 'euphemism' instead of God's name?" Well, as the dictionary explains, a euphemism is "the substitution of a mild, indirect, or vague expression for one thought to be offensively blunt or harsh" (Random House Dictionary of the English Language). A vague allusion to God's name is still alluding to God's name, and thus should not become a "substitute curse word." If we casually use God's name, or a euphemism for God's name, to express shock, surprise or even profanity, we are showing contempt for our Creator, whether or not those around us may consider our words "vulgar."

People's sense of what is vulgar may vary over time, as a community's customs and language go through changes. The wording of 1 Samuel 25:22 would not have seemed vulgar to readers of the King James Version in 1611, yet today's readers may be discomforted when they see how the *KJV* translators rendered a phrase containing the Hebrew word *shathan* (*Strong's* 8366). The *NKJV* translators, by contrast, rendered the clear sense of that verse's Hebrew idiom without resorting to a word that most today would find vulgar. We should certainly be considerate of others in how we choose our words, and thus should avoid vulgarity. But taking God's name in vain is a different—and far more spiritually serious—matter.

How should we use God's name? In the New Testament, Christ instructed His disciples to pray to God the Father through His name. "And whatever you ask in my name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son" (John 14:13). And when we pray, we should give honor to God's name. "In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name" (Matthew 6:9).

The disciples healed the sick through the name of Jesus Christ. "Then Peter said, 'Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk" (Acts 3:6). James instructed Christians to continue to follow that example. He said, "Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord" (James 5:14).

In the book of Acts, we read that the disciples preached the Gospel through the name of Jesus Christ (Acts 9:15), and baptized in Christ's name (Acts 8:16; 19:5). Paul told Christians at Ephesus, "Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers" (Ephesians 4:29).

The words we use are important to God. We should be sure that our speaking reflects our honor and reverence for Him.

## Prophecy Comes Aliv

## The Final Crusade?

Centuries of war and bloodshed have marked the encounters between the professing Christian nations of Europe and the Muslim nations of the Middle East and North Africa. Though in recent decades international

leaders have made great efforts to broker better relations between nations that share the "blood of Abraham," frictions still exist—and can explode at any time.

Diplomats and most citizens of European and Islamic nations desire peace, but Bible prophecies—coming alive today—foretell a major confrontation between Europe and the Islamic world in the years just ahead.

#### **Common Roots of Strife**

Many Arabs understand they are the descendants of the biblical patriarch Abraham through his son Ishmael or his grandson Esau (see Genesis 21; 36). While

most people understand that the Jews are descended from Abraham, only a few today realize that many people of northwestern European descent are also descended from Abraham, through his son Isaac and the twelve sons of Jacob. Many Europeans, and many of the peoples of Syria and Iraq and Iran (ancient Persia) are descended from Noah's son Shem (see Genesis 10), while many Muslim peoples of North Africa are descended from Noah's son Ham.

The Bible reveals that the historical roots of strife between the descendants of Abraham began long ago. There was strife between Isaac and Ishmael (Genesis 21:8–14), but the descendants of Isaac and Ishmael were both prophesied to become great nations (Genesis 16:10–12; 17:20; Genesis 26:1–5). The strife between Jacob and Esau actually began in their mother's womb (Genesis 25:22–34; 27:42–43), but the descendants of Esau—such as the Edomites and Amalekites (see Genesis 36)—also became numerous. History documents how this strife has continued.

#### **Conquests and Re-Conquests**

After Jesus Christ's death and resurrection, Christianity spread quickly throughout the Roman Empire with major centers developing in Jerusalem, Antioch (Syria), Alexandria (Egypt), Constantinople (Turkey), Babylon (Persia) and Rome. However, its growth was eclipsed in the seventh and eighth centuries AD by a new phenomenon. The armies of Islam swarmed

out of Arabia into Persia and across North Africa and into Spain, conquering lands and spreading the religion of Islam at the point of a sword. Muslim Caliphs ruled from Baghdad for about 500 years, establishing an empire greater than that ruled by the Roman Caesars and more advanced than anything in Europe.

Toward the end of the eleventh century AD, Pope Urban II called upon Roman Catholics to join in a "crusade" against the Turks. This was the first of several Crusades through which Roman pontiffs sought to wrest the area around Jerusalem from Muslim control. Crusaders

entered Jerusalem in 1099AD, but their gains were short-lived, and Islamic forces re-conquered Jerusalem. Despite ongoing battles, Muslims held on to territories in the Middle East and Asia Minor for centuries. Beginning in the 1300s, the Ottoman Turks built a Muslim empire that ruled Egypt, Arabia, Syria, Mesopotamia, Turkey and the Balkan countries—before their expansion into Europe was stopped twice at the gates of Vienna by European armies loyal to the Pope.

The dawn of the Renaissance brought voyages of discovery by European navigators, and with the rise of the Industrial Revolution, Europe and its "Christian" heritage gained predominance over the declining power of the Muslim world—a trend that has continued into the 21st century. Jerusalem, which had been held by the Egyptian Mamluks from the mid-1200s, then by the Ottoman Turks starting in 1517, fell to British general Edmund Allenby in 1917, ending centuries of unchallenged Muslim control of this land so dear to Jews, Christians and Muslims alike.

#### The Last Crusade

In the last 50 years, the Middle East has periodically erupted into war between Muslim nations and the Jews. The American-led invasions of Kuwait and Iraq have been viewed as "Crusader aggression" by the Islamic world. More recently, some Muslim leaders have declared *jihad* (a

holy war) against "Crusaders" (Western nations) and launched terrorist attacks in the United States, Britain and Spain, and against Western installations in other countries. France was shaken by days of riots involving angry Muslims.

Across Europe, Muslim families are having children at far higher rates than non-Muslim Europeans, leading to concerns that in just a few years, Europe will have become Islamicized (see "When Cultures Clash" in the September-October 2008 Tomorrow's World magazine). As the number of native-born Muslims in Europe increases, supplemented by immigration from Muslim nations

to the south, nations that once thought of themselves as Christian are now faced with large populations determined not only to practice their religion but even to govern their communities with sharia laws from the Qur'an. In Britain, where the number of practicing Anglicans has declined precipitously in recent years, a few Muslim leaders have even boasted that their goal is to take over the country and make it a Muslim state.

With such growing tensions between Europe and Islam, many wonder where this will lead. Bible prophecy reveals the answer! Long ago, God revealed to the prophet Daniel what would happen in the "latter days" (Daniel 2:28). Daniel was told that at "the time of the end" a king of the South will attack the king of the North, "and the king of the North will come against him like a whirlwind... and he shall enter [many] countries, overwhelm them... He shall also enter the Glorious Land [Israel], and many countries shall be overthrown" (Daniel 11:40-41).

The countries that the king of the North will enter and overthrow are the Muslim nations of the Middle East and North Africa. The king of the North will gain possession of the resources of Egypt, Libya and Ethiopia (Sudan) including their gold, silver, oil and natural gas. When we consider the recent discoveries of major deposits of gold and oil in Egypt, and consider how the natural gas reserves

of Libya and the Sudan are of such growing importance to Europe, these ancient biblical prophecies take on a greater sense of immediacy.

The king of the North will face opposition from a king of the South. Psalm 83 indicates that the king of the South will consist of a confederacy of Muslim nations-including among them Edomites, Ishmaelites,

Amalekites and Moabites-who will conspire to "cut off" Israel "from being a nation"—a goal some Muslim leaders have openly proclaimed in recent decades. Psalm 83 also states that the Assyrians (modern-day Germany) will be in league with this Muslim confederacy, at least initially. Daniel 11:27 reveals that these two kings will enter into an agreement with each other-but will lie to each otherbefore their confrontation at the end of this present age.

Who, then, is this king of the North? Scripture describes the final revival of an empire with links to ancient Rome that is

composed of ten kings (leaders of nations or regions) who will surrender their sovereignty to a leader called the Beast, just before the return of Jesus Christ (see Daniel 2; 7; Revelation 17). The fourth kingdom mentioned in Daniel 2 is generally recognized as the Roman Empire. The Roman Empire and its revivals, including the Holy Roman Empire, existed in Europe—especially central Europe—and this is where the final revival of the Beast power will emerge. The king of the North will thus be an end-time power that will arise in Europe and be closely linked with a prominent religious figure (Revelation 13). This situation will resemble the Europe of the Middle Ages, when emperors of the Holy Roman Empire and popes of the Roman Catholic Church together presided over "Christendom"—the European nations that professed the Christian religion. This was the Europe that launched the Crusades to regain the Holy Lands from the Muslims. Bible prophecies indicate that a "final Crusade" will involve another confrontation between forces from "Christian" Europe in the north, and the Islamic world to the south. We need to watch world events as prophecies about the "final Crusade" come alive in the times just ahead!

—Douglas S. Winnail



By Dexter B. Wakefield

istory was made last November when voters chose Barack Obama as L the 44th President of the United States. Considered a longshot at best when he began his campaign in 2007, few observers at first expected Senator Obama to mount a serious challenge to Senator Hillary Clinton and other candidates seeking the Democratic nomination. Yet the junior Senator from Illinois defied expectations throughout the campaign, and energized millions of voters with his call for hope and change.

Now that the U.S. has chosen a President with a black father and a white mother, some are suggesting that barriers have been broken and racism in the U.S. has largely come to an end. Obama's victory, some say, proves that long-standing American social prejudices against blacks are mostly a thing of the past, and that the visible increase in minorities' political and economic power is tangible evidence that old concerns about racism can for the most part be put to rest.

But are political and economic measures the true standard by which we should judge? After all, in the early years of America's civil rights movement, many activists considered racism primarily a moral and spiritual problem, from which political and economic consequences followed, rather than the other way around.

At its core, is racism a moral and spiritual problem? What does the Bible say?

God's standard of right and wrong-His word and His divine law—has been largely rejected by modern society. It has been replaced by a secular value system that may shift from year to year, depending on the moral fashion of the day. Many people reason that they must choose their values to fit

their changing circumstances. But the Bible presents timeless laws and principles that God reveals as both right and good. As a result, we should desire to understand how the Bible explains the human condition.

Over the millennia, some have tried to use the Bible to justify racial oppression. In doing so, they could not be more wrong. Far from justifying racial hatred, the righteous principles of Scripture are the foundation upon which many modern notions about equality have been built. However, because many have misunderstood what the Bible actually teaches about racial hatred and equality, it is well worth taking a closer look.

During the times when the Old and New Testaments were written, nations did not generally have anything like the modern Western concept of equality. Essentially, each culture thought of itself as superior to the others around it. Even the ancient Greeks, known for having pioneered the concept of democratic governance, considered mankind to be divided into two general classes-Greeks and barbarians. Nations did not consider morality when they set out to conquer one another, and ownership could be gained by "right of conquest." When one nation conquered another and spoils were taken, slaves were often among those spoils. This made slavery an everyday fact of life in most ancient cultures-yet it was not the race-based chattel slavery familiar to those who have studied U.S. history. In the Roman Empire, it was common to find slaves of various races, from Britannia as well as from Africa.

The notion that every individual has a fundamental equality with every other individual would have been unimaginable to most cultures in the ancient world. To

most, but not all. One group was very different.

#### Origin of an Idea

God gave ancient Israel a set of instructions that set it apart from the surrounding nations. But how did God instruct the new nation of Israel to behave toward non-Israelites? "The same law applies to the native and to the alien living among you" (Exodus 12:49, NIV). He also said, "For the LORD your God is God of gods.... who shows no partiality nor takes a bribe. He administers justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the stranger, giving him food and clothing. Therefore, love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt" (Deuteronomy 10:17–19).

In a time of fierce conflicts among warring tribes and nations, this instruction would seem not just socially advanced—it would seem revolutionary. But why did God give that instruction to the Israelites and not to the surrounding peoples? He certainly did not make His covenant with the Israelites because He thought they were a racially superior people. He did so because of a promise He had made long before. When the Israelites were slaves in Egypt, "God heard their groaning, and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, with Isaac and with Jacob.... And I will bring you into the land which I swore to give to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; and I will give it to you as a heritage" (Exodus 2:24; 6:8).

Far from considering the Israelites an inherently superior people, God often found them to be especially difficult. "Therefore understand that the LORD your God is not giving you this good land to possess because of your righteousness, for you are a stiff-necked people" (Deuteronomy 9:6). God blessed ancient Israel with a tremendous opportunity, but it was not because He had created them better than anyone else. Rather, He was being faithful to an ancient promise.

#### A Radical Approach?

By the time of the Apostles, Iews were living side-by-side with non-Jews throughout the Roman Empire. In this environment, did Christ and the Apostles counsel any one group to feel superior to another? No! In fact, the Apostle Paul taught plainly that all races and peoples share an equality before Christ. "There is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all (Colossians 3:11). "For there is no respect of persons with God" (Romans 2:11, KJV). Through Jesus Christ, God has revealed, "the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel" (Ephesians 3:6). The Apostle Peter taught, "In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him" (Acts 10:34-35).

God does not change, so when He inspired the Apostles to write those words, they were not inventing something new. Yet these teachings on human equality had a profound impact on the thinking of the first-century Church. The equality Christ taught was truly a radical idea in the ancient world. Certainly, Christians understand that there are physical differences between people, and that we all have different strengths, given by God to help us prepare for our future as eternal members of His family. But we must never try to use those differences to oppress others, or as a lame excuse to deny the worth and human dignity of any human being. God's plan involves every human being, and no matter what our physical circumstances may be in life, our Creator is ready to come to our aid. As the Apostle Paul wrote: "For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek,



for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. For 'whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved'" (Romans 10:12–13).

Although Scripture clearly reveals God's view that all human beings share a spiritual equality that transcends any of mankind's artificial barriers, this idea lay largely dormant for centuries in European society. Throughout the "Dark Ages," only a few people had access to the Bible, and unless you were one of the educated few who could read Latin, you would only hear what priests and rulers wanted you to hear from the Bible. Brave individuals who translated the Bible into other languages were burned at the stake, or suffered other tortures to the death. Corrupt religious and political structures worked to suppress biblical truths that would threaten their power, so the Bible's message of equality largely remained hidden.

Eventually, however, after the printing press and the Reformation had made Bible translations widely available, biblical teachings on equality provided the foundation—

an absolute—on which the deeply religious founders of the Western democracies would build. When political equality began to flower in Western civilization, it grew from ancient biblical roots. Yet that growth was often difficult and vio-

lent, leading to massive political and social upheaval. In 17th century England, the Puritan leader Oliver Cromwell raised an army, defeated King Charles I, and cut off his head—a feat that earned Cromwell the title, "the Father of English Democracy."

What happens when nations seek political equality apart from God?

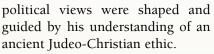
The leaders of the French Revolution married their "democratic" reforms to a violent rejection of religion. Tens of thousands of French citizens were cruelly slaughtered in the last decade of the 18th century. This relatively brief period of political experimentation alienated France's people so severely that the nation soon returned again to monarchy.

#### America's Religious Heritage

By contrast, the Founding Fathers of the U.S. looked to their religious heritage as the foundation and justification of their political philosophy. They wrote, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights..." Their idea was that since God gives certain rights, no man could justly deny those rights. Yet they approved a Constitution that gave the states political representation based on the fiction that a black American counted for only 3/5 of a white American, and they endorsed a cruel and brutal race-based system of chattel slavery—unsupportable by any biblical statute or precedentwhich would eventually require a Civil War to bring to an end.

Abraham Lincoln said. "As I

would not be a slave, so I would not be a master." Does that sound familiar? The ethic from which Lincoln derived his statement comes from the Bible: "Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them" (Matthew 7:12). Lincoln's



The Civil War put an end to the system of slavery in America, but oppression, unequal treatment and lack of opportunity persisted through the enforcement of segregation and "Iim Crow" laws. What was the force behind the civil rights activism of the 1950s and 1960s, which called for the end, once and for all, of injustice and inequality in the United States? First and foremost, it was the force of moral outrage born from the nation's African-American churches, where leaders such as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. decried racism as morally wrongusing the Bible as the source of their moral judgments!

How ironic and sad it is that, in today's world, the ancient biblical moral authority that spurred the civil rights movement is now being challenged at every turn. Posting the Ten Commandments in public schools and public buildings is now illegal. As Western civilization cuts itself loose from its moral anchor, where will it drift? We have seen massive erosion of family life and sexual morals, resulting in great damage to the social fabric of our nations. Societal permissiveness in the U.S. has affected people of all races through the widespread drug abuse and crime it has engendered, and single parenthood is one of the greatest causes of poverty.

> After someone rejects the religious principles on which a moral culture rests. on what can they base decisions about right and wrong? More and more, secular intellectuals have decided that power-who has it and who gets it—is the only valid basis for moral decisions. Power is the

principle, to this way of thinking. As this idea gains popular acceptance, can changes in Western perceptions of political equality be far

behind? If society shifts its moral underpinnings from the bedrock of the Judeo-Christian ethic to the shifting sands of human reason, will not a different foundation create a different structure?

#### **Racism Poisons** the Racist

In the last few decades in secular society, a morality has developed in which God's definition of right and

wrong has been rejected. People reason that as long as an action does not hurt others, then "if it feels good, do it." Or as long as one's sin is not illegal, why not do it? But God said that when we sin, we hurt ourselves as well as others. Just because we do not see or feel that hurt at the time, does not mean that the damage is not done. As the Apostle Paul told the Church in Corinth, "Flee sexual immorality.... he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body" (1

Corinthians 6:18). The Apostle John wrote, "Whoever hates his brother is a murderer" (1 John 3:15). This means that if you hate someone, you have broken the commandment. "Thou shall not kill." Racial hatred is sin.

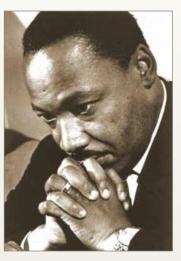
Racism poisons the racist, because sin poisons the sinner. This holds true for all races, because God is no respecter of persons. Hate is murder committed in one's heart. and racism is a form of hatred that injures not only the victim but the perpetrator as well. Among the damage is the isolation it brings—from God and from other people. If you are uncomfortable dealing with people of another race, or if you feel superior to people of another race, you will not be able to interact positively or productively, and you will retreat more and more into your

> own limited associations. As you do so, you will also be isolating yourself from God's way of life, which commands loving, outflowing concern for all those around you. The Bible

explains that mankind has brought misery and calamity upon itself by rejecting God's way of life and the commandments He gave "for your good" (Deuteronomy 10:13). As we defy Him, we harm ourselves both physically and spiritually.

#### **What Constitutes** Racism?

Should there be different standards in measuring white racism and non-white racism? In classrooms



around the U.S., students are often taught that racism is "prejudice plus power"—that unless one has the power to enforce one's prejudice, one cannot be said to practice racism. Ironically, this common idea can perpetuate a racist double standard, in which by labeling an entire race of people powerless, their moral and spiritual agency is devalued.

Definitions of racism that are crafted to exempt particular groups can actually be misused to excuse or even promote racism. This problem affects all races. Perhaps the most socially accepted form of racism among white people today is the racial chauvinism that they are more responsible than "people of color." This can be found in some whites' low expectations of non-whites' morality, or in a moral relativism that excuses behavior in non-whites that would be condemned in someone of a European heritage. Strangely, both the perpetrators and targets of racial chauvinism often embrace such views.

But when we look at racism solely through the eyes of power and politics, we exclude God from our analysis. The secular world has its view of racism, but the Bible has another. When we look at racism through the eyes of faith, including God in our knowledge, what we see is different. God states that He is no respecter of persons. This means that what is sin for the rich is sin for the poor, and what is sin for one race is sin for people of all races. By God's standard, the sin of racism is an equal opportunity exploiter, and its harm is not measured solely by what happens to its target. It is toxic to the perpetrator as well.

#### How Are We Judged?

"For the LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart" (1 Samuel 16:7). What does God see when He looks into our hearts? The Apostle Paul said, "For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged" (1 Corinthians 11:31). It is God who judges us, but by what standard? Thankfully, we have some input in the matter. In part, His judgment of us depends on how we judge others.

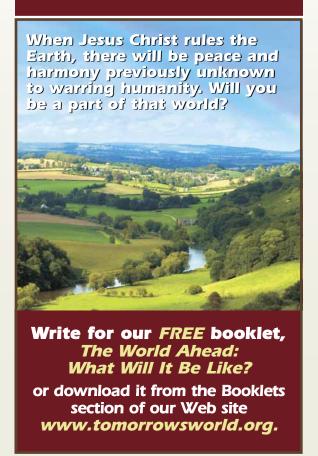
Jesus stated the principle: "For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you. And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye?" (Matthew 7:2–3).

Different races, peoples and

individuals have not all suffered equally over time. We should always be sensitive to how others feel—especially since various racial and ethnic groups have suffered profoundly as a result of racism and its consequences. We should not hesitate to speak out against the sin of racism. But God cautions us that we must be careful. God has set a principle—that we are judged by the standard by which we judge. Paul writes again, "Therefore you are inexcusable, O man, whoever you are who judge, for in whatever you judge another you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things. But we know that the judgment of God is according to truth against those who practice such things. And do you think this, O man, you who judge those practicing such things, and doing the same, that you will escape the judgment of God?" (Romans 2:1–3).

Is racism in America a thing of the past? Whatever your answer—and no matter what progress may have been made nationally—we need to remember that God also looks at each heart. Can any of us honestly say that we truly treat all other people the way God wants us to treat them? Keeping His standards in mind, we have a long way to go, nationally and individually. But with His help, obeying His word, we can—and must—keep growing toward perfection (Hebrews 6:1).

## The World Ahead: What Will It Be Like?



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I have just finished reading your booklet, The World Ahead: What Will It Be Like? and I was moved to write to you. It was very inspiring, and a wonderfully clear assessment of today's world, and how different it will be under Christ's rule with the saints. Thank you for the booklet. I read your articles in each issue of Tomorrow's World avidly.

B. B., Lesmurdie, WA

When I started reading the article "How Would Jesus Vote for President?" (September-October 2008) I thought you were going to point out the differences between the two candidates. I was very much disturbed that you not only did not give the differences, but also said we shouldn't worry about it. It would have been well for you to point out that Democrats believe in killing babies and letting convicted murderers live. They believe it's okay to be homosexual. Just those two things should be enough for any Godfearing person to never be a Democrat. Republicans think people have a right to live without government interference. They also hold to the belief of the sanctity of life at all stages. Even if you cannot tell us who Jesus would vote for, at least print this response so readers can get the answer to the question you asked, but didn't give the answer.

S. S., Conyers, GA

**Editor's Note:** God's people do not agree with the platform of either the Republicans or the Democrats. Your analysis of the parties is simplistic, to say the least, and neglects the diversity of errors across the political spectrum. Please remember, in any case, that Christians have a duty to pray for their leaders (1 Timothy 2:1–2), even when they find those leaders' policies and positions reprehensible.

What tremendous writing! I received the booklet *Satan's Counterfeit Christianity* on Thursday and started reading it that evening,

and could not put it down until I had read it thoroughly. There was some additional information about Martin Luther that I was not familiar with. Thank you for enlightening me on that subject. Let me encourage you to keep broadcasting God's word through all means possible.

S. F., Clarksville, TN

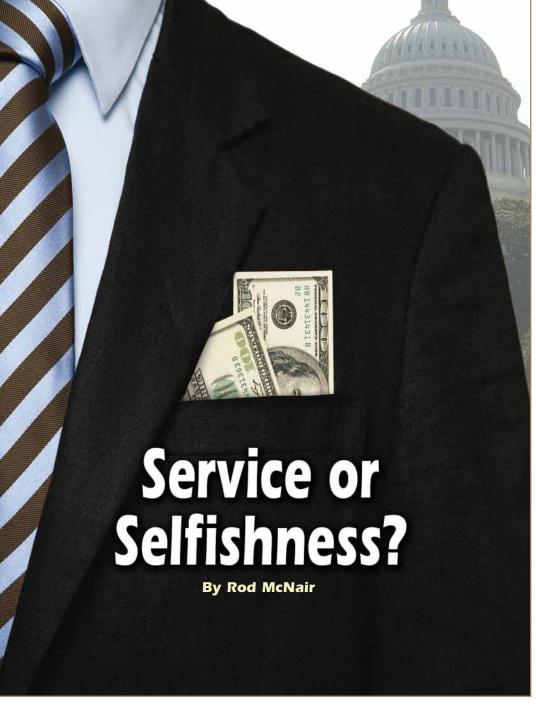
Perhaps several years ago I ordered your booklet entitled *The United States and Great Britain in Prophecy*. Now as I see our financial institutions toppling one by one, I realize that your understanding of prophecy is correct. So, I'm earnestly studying all your literature. Praise God for your work and your Web site. I am ready and willing to repent and be a true Christian, ready to do God's will and follow His commandments in these last days. There will be a great awakening as this financial collapse unfolds and people will be hungry for the Word. Thanks so much for your dedication and perseverance.

E. C., Madison, MS

I just finished reading your booklet Who or What Is the Antichrist? The clear ideas and information you presented were very much appreciated. For a 53-year-old man who has gone through life with a knot in his stomach, always longing for the grace that has to be there somewhere, you have provoked some serious thought. I had a religion professor at school many years ago who discussed the subject of conscience with us. I remember leaving with the impression that conscience was a gift from God. I think the knot in my stomach is my conscience (or perhaps God's voice) always reminding me that I am not following His commandments. I hope I can find the spiritual backbone you spoke of one of these days. Taking that first step in the right direction always seems so hard. Thanks again for your booklet. I look forward to reading more on your Web site.

J. R., Del Mar, CA

We encourage you to share with us your reactions to *Tomorrow's World*. Please direct your correspondence to "Letters to the Editor" at our United States address, or send e-mail to *letters@tomorrowsworld.org*. Letters may be edited for space and clarity. Remember to include your name, address and daytime phone number.



## Are governments always corrupt? Are individuals always greedy? Is there an answer to the problem of corruption?

recent Zogby International poll found that 69.2 percent of Americans "strongly agree" that corruption is "a significant problem in Washington, DC." Another 22.7 percent said they "somewhat agree" with that statement, meaning that more than 90 percent consider corruption a significant problem in their government!

The sad history of politics—and by no means just in the United States—is that government leaders often serve *their own interests* more than the interests of those they govern. And it is often *at the expense of* those they had supposedly dedicated themselves to serve. As a new President and newly elected Congress take their seats in government, will these public servants fulfill Americans' hopes, or confirm their fears? In the months and years ahead, will elections in other countries around

the world bring new policies, better government, more service and less selfishness?

Only time will tell. But if history reveals the answer, the same cycle—selfishness and even corruption and cronyism—will be repeated over and over again.

When will the cycle end? Will it ever end? Will the U.S.—and other nations around the world—ever be governed in true equity, righteousness and selflessness, by moral principles, for the benefit of the governed?

The surprising answer is, "Yes!" But how and when will that happen?

#### Governing by Self-Interest

Political scientists have long observed that greed, and consuming self-interest among governing officials is perhaps "the most challenging governance problem afflicting many countries" (Challenging Corruption in Asia, p. 1). In recent years, high-level political leaders in the Philippines, Indonesia, China and Thailand are among those who have been involved in corruption-related charges.

Additionally, as many as four million Zimbabweans have *fled their country* as a result of the alleged corruption and brutality of their nation's president, Robert Mugabe. Pakistan's recently elected president, Asif Zardari, had been accused of enriching himself while his late wife, Benazir Bhutto, was prime minister. Zardari even earned the dubious nickname, "Mr. 10 percent" because of his alleged corruption.

In Mexico, 44,000 federal, state and local policemen are being evaluated in the government's effort to stamp out corruption, according to Genaro García Luna, the nation's secretary of public safety. The list of countries dealing with corruption goes on and on.

But it is not just individual countries that struggle with corruption. The United Nations has itself been embroiled in charges of corruption, such as the "food-for-oil" scandal, which saw \$21 billion squandered in deals with Saddam Hussein.

Nations all over the world face

the terrible corrosion caused by corruption and cronyism. Western nations are certainly not immune from these problems. Outgoing President George W. Bush has been dogged by accusations of cronvism during his tenure. Some Americans were shocked last December when Rod Blagojevich, gover-

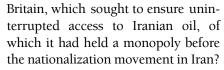
nor of the state of Illinois, was arrested on federal charges of conspiracy and bribery, but to others the arrest merely confirmed their worst suspicions about corrupt Illinois politics.

Are leaders necessarily corrupt? God laid the ground rules for leadership thousands of years ago. He said through the prophet David, "He who rules over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God" (2 Samuel 23:3-4). Moses delivered to the Israelites God's statute forbidding the corruption of justice in government: "You shall not pervert justice; you shall not show partiality, nor take a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and twists the words of the righteous" (Deuteronomy 16:19). Too often our world turns a blind eye to God's word—and instead takes the bribe.

But can we call it "corruption" when nations or individuals set aside ordinary justice or morality to pursue policies they say are in the "national interest"? Yes, we can. Again and again, we see that decisions guided only by one nation's "self-interest"—without regard for overriding principles of a higher morality and standard that would prohibit those decisions—often lead to disastrous results.

For example, many Americans today are troubled by Iran's hatred of the United States, but do not realize that the U.S. played a part in inciting

> that hatred. In 1953, it was the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency that played a part in the toppling of Mohammed Mossadegh, Iran's democratically elected Prime Minister. Why did the U.S. disrupt another nation's democratic process? Was it to serve the "national interest" of U.S. ally Great



Governments everywhere, in every part of the globe-including the United States-all too often run on selfishness and self-interest, rather than the guidance of universal, overarching principles of morality.

#### Does Selfishness Work?

Amazingly, there are some who believe that out-and-out corruption may be good for a nation's economy and society. Perhaps this is one reason why corruption persists—there simply is no universal agreement that it is wrong.

As political scientist Vito Tanzi pointed out, "Not too many years ago, the economic successes of the countries of East Asia were attributed by some observers to a presumably positive impact of corruption in facilitating decision-making" (ibid., p. 1). And yet, corruption places a huge financial burden against a nation's economic success; for example, estimates place the cost of Nigeria's corruption at \$400 billion, according to official estimates ("The good, the bad, and the president," Economist, January 3, 2008).

Some point to the astounding economic growth in corruptionridden societies as a "stamp of approval" of their practices. Filipino economist Alejandro Lichauco, writing for the Manila daily newspaper Today, suggested that corruption had not prevented India from becoming a global economic power: "Today, despite pervasive corruption and cronvism, India is a fully industrialized economy, self-sufficient in food, a nuclear power with a growth rate over the last several years of 6 percent to 7.8 percent... India today manufactures just about every category of consumer goods, has a highly developed capital goods industry... and is supplying the world with experts in information technology" ("The ultimate corruption," March 11, 2000).

But does economic growth really argue the case for corruption? How much more might a nation have grown without the corrosive and downward pull of corruption?

Some justify corruption because they see it as a vital way of doing business and increasing sales. They believe that "playing by the rules" would actually handicap them in their competition with (Challenging businesses Corruption in Asia, p. 3). But, as author Daniel Jordan Smith notes, government corruption creates a climate like we see today in Nigeria, where people believe they

must "resort to any means available to achieve their own economic aspirations" even in terms of breaking laws of the land (A Culture of Corruption: Everyday Deception and Popular Discontent in Nigeria, p. 30).

In the West, we are often shocked and surprised at the justifications some offer for corruption. We may be quick to deplore the bribes and "gift exchanges" we see

practiced in Asian and African nations—but what do we see when we look closer to home? Ted Stevens was a "successful" Senator—the longest-serving Republican in the Senate before his

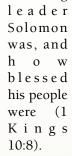
defeat last November. Even though he had long been dogged by charges of corruption, and had been convicted on seven felony counts shortly before the election, nearly half of Alaska's voters wanted to return him to Washington. "He's good for Alaska," some said, excusing his corruption because they felt they and their state were the beneficiaries.

Can people's greed be good for those they are supposed to serve? One classic expression of the "greed is good" idea was infamously vocalized by the character Gordon Gekko in the 1987 movie *Wall Street*. It could be said that the U.S. government, too, has lived up to that expression, running up trillions of dollars in deficits, unwilling to pay down debts or curb spending. The fall of the dollar, rise of the price of oil, and collapse of the housing market in recent years has made this debt load even more dangerous and risky.

Greed in government—whether played out through corruption or simply excess and materialism—is definitely not "good."

#### **Even Solomon Fell for It**

Modern nations are not the first to fall into patterns of greed and excess. Almost 3,000 years ago, King Solomon inherited from his father David the powerful empire of Israel. Solomon reigned over ancient Israel during a period of peace and great prosperity. The Queen of Sheba was astonished at what a wise and understanding



B u t Solomon's prosperity

went to his head. The king embarked on an ambitious program to experience the best of everything, withholding nothing from himself. He documented the story in Ecclesiastes: "I, the Preacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem... I searched in my heart how to gratify my flesh with wine, while guiding my heart with wisdom, and how to lay hold on folly, till I might see what was good for the sons of men to do under heaven all the days of their lives. I made my works great, I built myself houses, and planted myself vineyards" (Ecclesiastes 1:12; 2:3-4).

As Israel's king—the head of its government—Solomon had at his disposal a tremendous amount of wealth. And he spent it lavishly on himself! "I acquired male and female servants, and had servants born in my house. Yes, I had greater possessions of herds and flocks than all who were in Jerusalem before me" (v. 7). Even in Solomon's day, leaders were vainly comparing their wealth with others!

What was the result of Solomon's massive spending program? Did it bring him happiness? "Then I looked on all the works that my hands had done and on the labor in which I had toiled; and indeed all was vanity and grasping for the wind" (v. 11). It was empty. It was vanity. It had been all for nothing.

Worse than that, Solomon's experiments had devastating and long-lasting consequences for his nation. Rehoboam came to the throne after his father Solomon's death, and all was not well in Israel. "Then Jeroboam and the whole assembly of Israel came and spoke to Rehoboam, saying, 'Your father made our yoke heavy; now therefore, lighten the burdensome service of your father, and his heavy yoke which he put on us, and we will serve you" (1 Kings 12:3–4).

What was the result of Solomon's excess? It had placed a heavy burden on those he governed. Yet, instead of wisely lightening the burden of the people, Rehoboam threatened to make that burden even heavier. A civil war ensued, and ten tribes broke away Rehoboam's leadership. Rehoboam was left as king over Judah and Benjamin, while the other tribes formed the northern nation called Israel. Solomon's grand plan to enjoy the unlimited and ever-expanding wealth of a king degenerated into utter failure, bringing emptiness to the king and the division of the kingdom under his son.

#### Government Meant for Service, Not Selfishness

Although Israel's leaders often failed, God made it clear that He never intended for them to use their positions of rulership to serve their own vanity and greed. In fact, when

speaking to the Israelites, God said that a coming king of Israel should not "multiply horses for himself" nor "multiply wives for himself, lest his heart turn away; nor shall he greatly multiply silver and gold for himself" (Deuteronomy 17:16-17). A king was not to live to excess at the expense of his people.

Neither was he to rule based on self-interest or expediency. He was to rule based on God's laws! How would he know God's laws? He was to study them as part of his job. "Also it shall be, when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write for himself a copy of this law in a book, from the one before the priests, the Levites" (v. 18). The king wrote out his own personal copy of God's law—and he was to study it!

"And it shall be with him, and he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God and be careful to observe all the words of this law and these statutes, that his heart may not be lifted above his brethren, that he may not turn aside from the commandment to the right hand or to the left, and that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he and his children in the midst of Israel" (vv. 19-20). God decreed that the leaders of Israel should read-and follow-His book of the Law, and it would be the guide for governing the nation.

America, Canada, Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and other nations of Northwest Europe are the modern descendants of Israel today. Will our leaders study God's word to guide their decisions in directing the nation? Or will they continue down the national trends of putting God out of our public places, dishonoring His name, His Laws, and His ways in modern Israel? For more information on who the modern nations of Israel are, please write for The United States and Great Britain in Prophecy.

#### A Coming Servant King

An age is soon coming in which humanity will see an end to the rampant corruption and feverish greed that affects so many nations and individuals today. When the risen Jesus Christ returns to Earth, to reign as King of kings and Lord of lords, He will usher in a prosperous millennial reign (Revelation 17:14; 20:4).

What will His reign be like? One of His first priorities will be to punish the leaders who, instead of feeding His flock, have been fleecing them for personal gain. "Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of My pasture!' says the LORD... 'You have scattered My flock, driven them away, and not attended to them. Behold, I will

attend to you for the evil of your doings,' says the LORD" (Jeremiah 23:1-2).

God is not pleased with leaders who feed only themselvesserving only their own self-interest—at the expense of others. He is the One who sets leaders up and takes them down (Daniel 4:32). He will hold them accountable for how they govern.

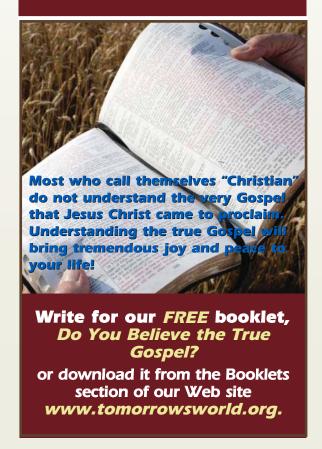
As a ruler, Jesus Christ will show great care for His flock as He takes His place as the supreme King on planet Earth. The modern Israelite nations, taken into captivity because of their sins, will be released from their bondage, and Christ the King will comfort and encourage them. "But I will gather the

remnant of My flock out of all countries where I have driven them, and bring them back to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase. I will set up shepherds over them who will feed them; and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, nor shall they be lacking,' says the LORD" (Jeremiah 23:3-4).

Iesus Christ will not be governing alone. He will be assisted by the glorified, resurrected saints—the "firstfruits"—Christians who in this present age have lived their lives faithfully, yielding with the help of the Holy Spirit to learn to obey His law of love. Yes, this means that you and I, living today, can assist our Savior in ruling in the Millennium, if we truly accept Him as our

(Continued on page 29)

#### Do You Believe the True Gospel?

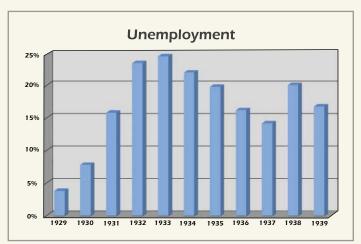


## Watch and Warn

## A New World Order Is Coming

As the world enters 2009 and a new President takes office in the United States, slogans of "Change" and "Hope" have crashed into worsening economic and geopolitical realities. The harbinger of economic catastrophe unprecedented since the worldwide Great Depression of the 1930s haunts world leaders and citizens alike.

The U.S. continues to reel from the mortgage crisis, has seen more than \$7 trillion in shareholder value wiped out, and has experienced the collapse of many once-venerable financial institutions. Meanwhile, the entire Eurozone has followed the U.S. into what forecasters predict will be "a global slide towards a deep recession" (Financial Times, December 2, 2008).



#### 1929 Again?

Consider Merrill Lynch chairman John Thain's sobering warning that, "[the] US crisis will wreak world havoc," and that "the global economy is entering a slowdown of *epic proportions* comparable with the period after the 1929

crash" ("It's like 1929, says Merrill chief", Financial Times, November 12, 2008).

During the Great Depression, Gross Domestic Product fell by 29 percent from 1929 to 1933—and the U.S. stock market lost 89.5 percent of its value. Notwithstanding

massive government intervention, world economic output declined until 1932, when it hit bottom at 50 percent of its 1929 level. Unemployment in the U.S. peaked at 24.9 percent in 1933, and remained above 20 percent for two more years. Unemployment declined to 14.3 percent by 1937, but then jumped back to 19 percent before resuming a gradual decline.

Deflation struck, businesses failed, unemployment skyrocketed and wages collapsed. Social programs were quickly overwhelmed. By 1931 and 1932, many peoples' savings were completely gone. Through the mid-1930s, human misery compounded. Many had no other option than to subsist off the land... but at least they had the means to do so, as the U.S. was then still a largely agrarian society.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt used radio addresses to explain the complex financial crisis and his plans to a frightened nation. Listening to these old recordings, one is struck by the eerie similarity between his topics and the problems we face today. Roosevelt blasted previous administrations for ignoring banking and financial system problems, and said he would fight for "low interest rates, better banking, for the regulation of security issues... and against the costs added by monopoly and speculation." Consequently, the government launched massive assistance programs.

Recognizing similar peril, the Obama administration appears to be on a similar course. "US President-elect Barack Obama intends to push a comprehensive program

#### What Is Happening?

America's incoming President has inherited big problems. Financial institutions are hemorrhaging from massive losses nearing *one trillion dollars* ("Financial groups' losses approach \$1,000bn", *Financial Times*, November 13, 2008). Additionally, the U.S. automotive manufacturing sector is on its knees, urgently begging the government to release billions of dollars in autoindustry loans, though some in Congress argue that even with a massive bailout "there's no guarantee these guys will make it," and advocate letting them fail ("Automaker's debt may be obstacle to federal loans," Washington Post, December 1, 2008).

Entering 2009, U.S. property foreclosures are up 25 percent, unemployment is at a 16-year high and climbing, and the specter of *deflation* is rising. Charitable donations and food aid are plummeting. The United Nations recently cut food rations to more than 4 million Zimbabweans because Western nations gave *no response at all* to urgent appeals for emergency donations ("Zimbabwe Remains at an Impasse," *The Wall Street Journal*, November 11, 2008).

Though the news is sobering, perhaps we do not realize the *disturbing similarity* between our current situation and events surrounding the 1929 stock market crash that kicked off the Great Depression. The parallels are alarming.

of social and economic reform beyond an immediate emergency stimulus package, Rahm Emanuel, the next White House chief of staff, indicated... He said Mr. Obama saw the financial meltdown as an historic opportunity to deliver the largescale investments that Democrats had promised for years" ("Obama set to push 'big bang' reform package", Financial Times, November 9, 2008). Days later, in a CBS 60 Minutes interview, Obama said his administration would do "whatever it takes" to revive the economy.

we live (Matthew 24:32-33), and has been accurately warning about large-scale geo-political movements far in advance for years.

Those of you who have subscribed to Tomorrow's World for several years may remember our January-February 2007 issue, with its cover story, "Lessons of History." Author Richard Ames pointed out that God's Church has long understood that Scripture reveals the prophesied decline of the U.S. and British-speaking nations, the resurgence of a German-led Europe, and a coming

> Great Tribulation if people do not wholeheartedly return to God. Even amid the Cold War hysteria of the 1950s, this Work was able to understand from Scripture that the Soviet Union would fall, that East and West Germany would reunify, and that a resurgent German-led Europe would set the stage for the final prophetic events before the return of Jesus Christ!

#### What Next?

Historians point to the economic misery of the Great Depression as a major factor in the rise of nationalist regimes in Germany, Italy, and Japan-which ultimately provoked the Second World War.

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America and Britain today are seen as weakened powers, and as the cause of much of the present disaster. German Finance Minister Peer Steinbrueck blames "investment bankers and politicians in New York, Washington and London" whom he states were motivated by an "Anglo-Saxon drive" for excessive gain (Irish Times, September 25, 2008). And Manuel Barrosa, European Commission president, observed, "It is not Europe that is following the American model. It is America that is considering, let us say, a more European model" (Financial Times, November 17, 2008).

As your Bible foretells, Germany is becoming the real power behind the "European model"—in opposition to both U.S. and U.K. strategy. Recently, Poland became another country that openly decided to follow Germany's economic leadership "rather than the US and the UK" (Financial Times, December 1, 2008). On October 30, 2008, the Financial Times ran a story, revealingly titled, "Poll reveals Germans would support a return to nationalization."

Only God knows the exact timing of end-time events (Mark 13:32), but Bible prophecy reveals the order and many details (Amos 3:7). Furthermore, God's faithful Church does understand "the seasons" in which

#### What Should We Do?

The days are coming when, "Suddenly, your debtors will rise up in anger. They will turn on you and take all you have, while you stand trembling and helpless" (Habakkuk 2:7, NLT).

Thankfully, Christ will intervene and bring a permanent, wonderful "new world order" where individuals will again confidently own property (Micah 4:4), where trade and commerce will be conducted righteously (Zechariah 14:20), where cities will be rich and farmland will be fertile (Ezekiel 36:33-35), and where all nations will keep God's Laws, Sabbaths and Feasts (Zechariah 14:16).

The world is at a precipice. But whether we are able to avoid economic ruin for a little while longer, or whether disaster comes swiftly, we must not "love the things of this world" (1 John 2:15-17). Instead, we must work to grow to spiritual perfection (Philippians 3:14–15), and become fully committed to preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom of God (Mark 1:14-15) so others can also share in this hope. God's Kingdom is the real new world order and is the "hope" and the "promise" Christians claim (Hebrews 6:11-20).

—Wyatt Ciesielka

## "Change We Can Believe In"

A historic election season in the United States came to a close last November 4, with the victory going to a candidate who energized the hopes and dreams of millions with his vision for America, epitomized by his slogan: "Change We Can Believe In."

When President-elect Barack Obama takes the oath of office on January 20, he will become chief executive of a nation that on the one hand is still widely considered the world's only remaining "superpower," but that on the other hand is seeing its power drained away by a catastrophic economic downturn.

What change can the new President bring and how should Christians in the U.S. respond to his leadership?

First and foremost, Christians should be praying for the President. The Apostle Paul wrote: "Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence" (1 Timothy 2:1-2).

Christians, considering themselves "aliens and pilgrims" in this world, with their true citizenship in heaven (1 Chronicles 29:15; Philippians 3:20), do not participate in worldly politics. However, Scripture reveals that it is God who

made Senator Obama's victory possible, and that he will be ruling with God's consent (Romans 13).

Many harbor unrealistic expectations that President Obama will quickly bring peace and prosperity to his nation, quickly reversing eight years or more of policies they feel have brought the nation to economic, political and moral ruin. At the other extreme, some view the newly elected President as essentially un-American, and wonder whether he will play a role in bringing an end to the United States of America as we now know it.

We should remember that many observers expressed similar feelings when George W. Bush was elected. Political partisans often overestimate the damage their opponents can do. Yes, this present age will George W. Bush or Barack H. Obama. God is more powerful than any human ruler, and Christians should trust that **God** is in charge. If you have not already done so, read our free booklet Prophecy Fulfilled:

God's Hand in World Affairs, to see how God has been carrying out His plans on Earth since long before Bush or Obama were even born.

What of the slogan: "Change We Can Believe In"? If you have a King James Version or New King James Version Bible, you may have noticed what the book of Proverbs says about change: "My son, fear the LORD and the king; do not associate with those given to change" (Proverbs 24:21, NKJV). Is that verse an indictment of the Obama slogan? Not quite. Look at how the verse is rendered in one modernized English translation: "My children, you must respect the LORD and the king, and you must not make friends with

> anyone who rebels against either of them" (Proverbs 24:21, Contemporary English Version).

Christians are not to rebel against the rulers of their nations, befriend such rebels. However, this verse also makes it clear that Christians must not associate closely with those who rebel against God. Though some around us may put the new President on a pedestal, overestimating what he can do-for good or for evil-to change the nation, we should be careful to avoid such idolizing of a man. Christians seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness (Matthew 6:33), and look for-

ward to the establishment of that literal Kingdom here on this Earth at Jesus Christ's return. Christians place their ultimate hope not on any human agent of change, but on a God who does not change (Malachi 3:6).

Change, however, is the destiny of every human being who accepts Jesus Christ's sacrifice, and through the Holy Spirit lives a life of obedience to God and His ways. What will happen at the trumpet blast upon Jesus Christ's second coming? That is when "the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: 'Death is swallowed up in victory" (1 Corinthians 15:52-54).

That is the destiny of those whom God is calling today. **That** is change we can believe in!

-William Bowmer

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#### Who Was the God of the Old Testament?

(Continued from page 7)

Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:7–11).

Jesus said, "I and My Father are one" (John 10:30). So the One who had been totally "one" with God—and who was God-"emptied Himself" to become our Savior. Truly His life is worth more than all of ours combined, because He created not only the human race, but the entire universe as well. Having bought and paid for us by His death on the cross, Christ now doubly "owns" us. He is our Maker. He is our God. He is our Master.

Yet after the death of the original Apostles, a great apostasy took over the name of "Christianity." The clear teachings and examples of Christ and the Apostles began to be altered. The very concept of Christ being a real "Master" began to be undone and permanently altered. He came to be considered a "Lord" who demanded no obedience to the very spiritual law—the Ten Commandments—that He had given mankind. His clear and persistent teaching, "if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments" (Matthew 19:17), was now explained away as instruction only for the Jews. So also were dismissed the powerful statements of the

Apostle John such as, "He who says, 'I know Him,' and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him" (1 John 2:4). These clear statements were explained away as applying only to the "spirit" of the law or to some "new" commandments of Jesus. But when you study these new commandments, they are only magnifications of the Ten Commandments, which Jesus Himself gave on Mount Sinai! And again, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever" (Hebrews 13:8).

May God help all of you who read this to understand and to respond to the true Jesus Christ of the Bible. As He said, "Why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say?" (Luke 6:46). If you really want to obey the Christ of the Bible, write us today and request your free copy of our very revealing and fully documented booklet entitled, Which Day is the Christian Sabbath?

We at Tomorrow's World are involved in restoring original Christianity—the religion that Jesus and the Apostles actually taught and practiced. We can assure you that the living Jesus Christ—the One who existed with the Father from eternity—is the One who will guide you, strengthen you and bless you if you determine to do what He says and worship Him not only as Savior, but as Lord and Master now and forever.

#### Service or Selfishness?

(Continued from page 25)

Lord-our "Boss"-and strive to do what He says! We can be a part of His plan to bring sanity and justice to the whole world!

What a wonderful world that will be! "Behold, the Lord God shall come with a strong hand, and His arm shall rule for Him; behold, His reward is with Him, and His work before Him. He will feed His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those who are with young" (Isaiah 40:10-11).

Jesus Christ, the most powerful ruler the world will ever have known, will rule not as a tyrant, but as a loving shepherd. He will be a righteous judge, who will judge the poor fairly and righteously, without partiality (Isaiah 11:3–4).

#### Overcome the **Love of Money**

If we want to be with Jesus Christ in His soon-coming Kingdom, we have to learn to reject the false gospel of consumption, consumerism, and greed now! Almost 2,000 years ago, the Apostle Paul wrote to Timothy about this. He said, "Now godliness with contentment is great gain" (1 Timothy 6:6). Each of us should practice contentment. We should learn to appreciate what we have, and not always seek to have more. Greed is not good.

Paul continued: "For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction

and perdition. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows" (vv. 7-10).

The love of money—selfishness, self-centeredness, greed and covetousness-causes untold misery individually, and nationally. Iesus Christ cautioned us, "Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses" (Luke 12:15). If we want to reign with Christ, we must heed His advice and resist the temptation to follow materialistic pursuits. We must instead follow Him.

Do not fall for greed. Through God's Spirit and help, develop a spirit of contentment and selflessness, in service to God and others. You will be doing God's will, and preparing for a better world to come.

#### The End of the American Lifestyle

(Continued from page 2)

down, and to carry out God's prophecy that the modern descendants of the nations of Israel, especially the sons of Joseph-America and the British-descended peoples—would be attacked and conquered and eventually taken into national slavery. In a prophecy written long after the original (and at that time the only) captivity of the House of Israel, God foretold: "Now these are the words that the LORD spoke concerning Israel and Judah. For thus says the LORD: 'We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear, and not of peace. Ask now, and see, whether a man is ever in labor with child? So why do I see every man with his hands on his loins like a woman in labor, and all faces turned pale? Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it; and it is the time of Jacob's trouble, but he shall be saved out of it. 'For it shall come to pass in that day,' says the LORD of hosts, 'That I will break his yoke from your neck, and will burst your bonds; foreigners shall no more enslave them" (Jeremiah 30:4-8).

If you do not yet understand what the Bible reveals about the modern identities of the ancient Israelite tribes, please write us, call us, or go online to www.tomorrowsworld.org immediately, and request our free booklet, *The United States and Great Britain in Prophecy*. This powerful booklet, backed up by specific information from the Bible and history, gives *proof* of where to find our modern nations in ancient prophecy.

What will happen to the U.S. as worldwide financial turmoil continues? Note what one Russian expert is forecasting:

"A leading Russian political analyst has said the economic turmoil in the United States has confirmed his long-held view that the country is heading for collapse, and will divide into separate parts.

Professor Igor Panarin said in an interview with the respected daily *Izvestia* published on Monday: 'The dollar is not secured by anything. The country's foreign debt has grown like an avalanche, even though in the early 1980s there was no debt. By 1998, when I first made my prediction, it had exceeded \$2 trillion. Now it is more than 11 trillion. This is a pyramid that can only collapse.'

The paper said Panarin's dire predictions for the U.S. economy, initially made at an international conference in Australia 10 years ago at a time when the economy appeared strong, have been given more credence by this year's events.

When asked when the U.S. economy would collapse, Panarin said: 'It is already collapsing. Due to the financial crisis, three of the largest and oldest five banks on Wall Street have already ceased to exist, and two are barely surviving. Their losses are the biggest in history. Now what we will see is a change in the regulatory system on a global financial scale: America will no longer be the world's financial regulator.'.... He even suggested that 'we could claim Alaska—it was only granted on lease, after all.' Panarin, 60, is a professor at the Diplomatic Academy of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and has authored several books on information warfare" (*Ria Novosti*, November 24, 2008).

Dear subscriber, if there has ever been a time when we at Tomorrow's World should warn you, in the name of Jesus Christ, to get your financial house—and especially your spiritual house—in order, this is it! Jesus Christ warned all of us in this powerful end-time prophecy which you and I all need to heed: "So you also, when you see these things happening, know that the kingdom of God is near. Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away. But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man" (Luke 21:31-36).

May God give you understanding. May God give you the faith and the courage to *act* on His Truth at this momentous time in human history.

Robert Meredith

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## **OMORROW'S** LD TELEVISION

#### INTERNATIONAL:

—AUSTRALIA
NSW, Sydney: TVS—Ch 31, SUN 6:00 am
QLD, Brisbane: Briz 31-Ch 31, SUN 8:30 am
SA, Adelaide: Access—Ch 31, SUN 9:30 am
VIC, Melbourne: MCTC—Ch 31, SUN 11:30 pm

St. Michael: CBC—Ch 8, SUN 9:30 am

BC, Vancouver: CHNU—Ch II, SUN 1:00 & 5:00 pm

Kingston: TVJ—Ch 7, 9, 11 & 13, SUN 7:00 am

Nationwide: PRIME TELEVISION—SUN 8:00 am

Naga City: PBN—Ch 5, SUN 8:00 am Naval: Bilinet Cable—Ch 11, SUN 9:00 am

Randburg: CSN—SUN 5:30 pm

Trinidad, Port of Spain: CCN-Ch 6, SAT 3:30 pm

United Kingdom: WORD Network-SKY-TV—Ch 771, FRI 6:30 am The Gospel Channel: Sky—Ch 590, FRI 4:00 pm, MON 7:00 pm

#### **UNITED STATES:**

Anchorage: GCI—Ch 18, SAT 10:00 pm
Birmingham: Bright House—Ch 4, THUR 2:00 pm
Troy/Montgomery: WRJM—Ch 67, SUN 6:30 am
Fayetteville: Access TV—Ch 8, SUN 8:30 pm
Little Rock: KASN—Ch 38, SUN 9:30 am
Lake Havasu City: KLHU—Ch 45, SUN 10:30 am
Prescott: Cable—Ch 13, SAT 5:30 pm; SUN 12:30 pm
Tucson: Access—Ch 73/98, SAT 12:30 pm; SUN 7:00 pm
Eureka: Sudden Link Cable—Ch 12, SUN 8:00 pm
Garden Grove: Time Warner—Ch 6, SUN 9:30 am
& 6:30 pm

& 6:30 pm Glendora: Time Warner—Ch 3/99, TUE 7:00 pm Modesto: Community Media—Ch 8, TUE 5:00 pm;

Modesto: Community Media—Ch 8, TUE 5:00 pm; FRI 1:30 pm
North Orange County: Time Warner—Ch 95/97/98
MON 5:00 pm
Redding: RCAC—Ch 11, SUN 8:30 am
Sacramento: RCCTV—Ch 20/96, MON 5:30 pm
San Diego: Cox—Ch 18 & 23, THUR 6:00 pm
San Diego: Time Warner—Ch 19, SUN 6:00 pm
San Diego: Time Warner—Ch 19, SUN 6:00 pm
San Francisco: Access—Multi, WED 8:00 pm
Sonora: TCCCA—Ch 8, SUN 8:00 pm
Turlock: Charter—Ch 2, MON 8:00 pm
Naugatuck: Tele-Media—Ch 10, TUE 9:30 pm
Gainesville: Cox—Ch 55, SUN 10:00 am
Jacksonville: WTEV—Ch 47, SUN 7:00 am
Ocala: Cox—Ch 71, SUN 10:00 am
Panama City: GBN—Multi, THUR 8:30 pm; FRI 1:30 pm;
SAT 10:00 pm; SUN 1:30 am, MON 11:00 am, TUE 7:30 pm,
WED 4:00 am
Pensacola: WJTC—Ch 44, THUR 6:30 am

WED 4:00 am

Pensacola: WJIC—Ch 44, THUR 6:30 am

Tallahassee: WTWC—Ch 40, SUN 7:30 am

Tampa: WTIA—Ch 38, SUN 8:00 am

Atlanta: PTV—Ch 24, TUE 4:30 pm

Atlanta: WATC—Multi—SUN 9:30 am

Macon: Cox Cable—Ch 18, FRI 2:00 pm, SUN 5:00 pm; FL, FL, FL, GA,

Savannah: Comcast—Ch 7, SAT 8:30 am

Davenport: Mediacom—Ch 19, MON 4:30 pm;
WED 8:30 am GA, IA.

WED 8:30 am

Des Moines: Mediacom—Ch 15, SAT 10:00 am;
SUN 11:00 am

Dubuque: MediaCom—Ch 16, THUR 8:00 pm;
MON 3:30 pm & 7:30 pm; TUE 10:00 am; WED 2:00 pm

Boise: TVTV—Ch 11, SUN 9:30 pm; MON 11:30 am

Chicago: WGN—Ch 9, SUN 5:00 am

Moline: MediaCom—Ch 19, MON 4:30 pm

Peoria: Insight, Ch 20, SUN 7:30 pm

Springfield: Insight—Ch 4, TUE 10:00 pm

Bloomington: CATS—Ch 3, MON 5:30 pm

Fort Wayne: Comcast—Ch 57, SUN 3:00 pm

Chanute: Cablevision—Ch 5, SUN 7:30 am; TUE 5:30 pm

Parsons: Parson's Cable TV—Ch 21, WED 7:00 pm

Salina: Community TV—Ch 21, check local listing

Latonia: PEG 17—Ch 17, WED 5:30 pm; THUR 12:00 am

Lexington: Ch 14, Check Local Listing

Lexington: WUPX—Ch 67, THUR 1:30 pm

Louisville: WBNA—Ch 21, SUN 5:30 pm
Baton Rouge: KZUP—Ch 44, SUN 8:00 am
Lafayette: KLAF—Ch 62, SUN 8:00 am
Shreveport: KSHV—Ch 45, SUN 8:30 am
Boston: WBPX—Ch 68, WED 7:00 am
Cambridge: CCTV—CH 22, FRI 11:00 am; SUN 3:00 pm,
WED 9:00 am
Everett: Community TV—Ch 3, TUE 1:00 pm
Malden: Access TV—Ch 3, SUN 11:00 am
North Adams: NBCTC—Ch 15, WED 8:00 pm
Baltimore: Community TV—Ch 19, SAT 5:30 pm
Westminster: Adelphia—Ch 75, SUN 9:00 am
Rockville: Community TV—Ch 19, SAT 5:30 pm
Westminster: Adelphia—Ch 19, THUR & FRI 10:00 am
Auburn: GFTV—Ch 11, SAT 9:00 am; SUN 8:00 pm
Brunswick: Cable 7—Ch 7, SAT 8:30 am; SUN 6:30 am
Detroit: Comcast—Multi, SUN 7:30 am
Kalamazoo: CACTV—Ch 9, 20-22, 95, SUN 11:30 am;
MON, WED, FRI 5:00 pm
Portage: Access—Ch 19, 20, FRI 10:30 am, TUE 2:00 pm
Saginaw: Charter Media—Ch 16, THUR 2:00 pm
Saginaw: Charter Media—Ch 16, THUR 2:00 pm
Sird Island: BICC—Ch 7, NON 6:30 pm, WED 6:30 pm
Cloquet: Mediacom Cable—Ch 7, FRI 9:00 am;
WED 5:00 pm
Duluth: Public Access—Ch 24, SAT 11:00 am; SUN 7:00 pm
Hutchinson: HCVN—Ch 10, FRI 4:00 pm; TUE 4:00 pm
Minneapolis: Metro Cable—Ch 6, SAT 8:30 am,
SUN 8:30 am
Minneapolis: MTN—Ch 75, THUR 6:30 pm
Minneapolis: MTN—Ch 75, THUR 6:30 pm
Minneapolis: NW Community—Ch 19, SAT 10:30 pm;

MD, ME, ME, ME, MI,

MI,

MO, MO, MS, MS, NC, NC,

Hutchinson: HCVN—Ch 10, FRI 4:00 pm; TUE 4:00 pm
Minneapolis: Metro Cable—Ch 6, SAT 8:30 am,
SUN 8:30 am
Minneapolis: MTN—Ch 75, THUR 6:30 pm
Minneapolis: NW Community—Ch 19, SAT 10:30 pm;
SUN 4:30 am, 10:30 am & 4:30 pm
Roseville: CTV—Ch 21, TUE 8:00 pm;
WED 4:00 am & 12:00 pm
St. Paul: SPNN—Ch 14, SUN 8:30 pm
Joplin: KOAM—Ch 7, SUN 7:00 am
Kansas City: KCWE—Ch 29, SUN 8:00 am
Kansas City: KCWE—Ch 29, SUN 8:00 am
St. Louis: Double Helix—Ch 22, MON 4:00 pm
Jackson: Comcast—Ch 18, SUN 10:00 am; WED 4:00 pm
Jackson: WAPT—Ch 16, SUN 8:30 am
Surlington: Time Warner—Ch 5/10, SUN 9:00 pm
Charlotte: WAKN—Ch 64, SUN 7:00 am
Charlotte: WHKY—Ch 14/19, MON 7:30 pm
Greensboro: GCTV—Ch 8, SAT 7:30 am; SUN 10:30 pm
Wilmington: Time Warner—Ch 4, MON 10:00 pm
Hanover: CATV—Ch 6, SUN 6:00 pm;
RN 1:00 am & 7:00 am & 1:00 pm
Cape May: Comcast—Ch 9, SUN 11:00 am
East Windsor: Comcast—Ch 27, WED 5:30 pm
Cape May: Comcast—Ch 76, MON 10:00 pm
Rio Rancho: Cable One—Ch 51, THUR 7:00 pm
Rio Rancho: Cable One—Ch 51, THUR 7:00 pm
Rio Rancho: Cable One—Ch 51, THUR 7:00 pm
Rancho: Cable One—Ch 18, MON 3:00 pm
Rancho: Cable One—Ch 18, MON 3:00 pm
Rancho: Cable One—Ch 18, MON 3:00 pm
Rancho: Cable One—Ch 51, THUR 7:00 pm
Batavia: Time Warner—Ch 19, TUE 5:30 pm
Reno/Sparks: SNCAT—Ch 30/16, FRI 6:30 am
Albany/Troy: Time Warner—Ch 18, MON 3:00 pm
Batavia: Time Warner—Ch 19, TUE 5:30 pm
Brooklayen: Cablevision—Ch 20, MON 5:00 am
Brooklayen: Cablevision—Ch 20, MON 5:00 am
Brooklayen: CAT —Ch 37/68, SAT 7:00 pm
Gens Falls: Time Warner—Ch 18, FRI, MON-WED 8:00 pm
Hauppauge: Cablevision—Ch 20, MON 5:00 am
Fairport: FACT—Ch 15, SUN 7:30 pm
Glens Falls: Time Warner—Ch 18, FRI, MON-WED 8:00 pm
Manhattan: MNN—Ch 57/85, SAT 7:00 pm
Oneonta: Time Warner—Ch 23, WED 8:30 pm

& 7:00 pm
Oneonta: Time Warner—Ch 23, WED 8:30 pm
Queens: QPIV—Ch 34/35, SAT 3:00 pm; TUE 9:30 pm
Rochester: Community TV—Ch 15, SAT 4:30 am
Rockland County: Cablevision—Ch 76, MON 10:00 am
Staten Island: CIV—Ch 34, SUN 8:00 pm; TUE 12:00 pm
Syracuse: Community Access—Ch 98, SUN 7:30 pm
Utica: Time Warner—Ch 99, MON 9:00 pm
Wappingers Falls: Cablevision—Ch 21, FRI 10:00 pm
Watertown: Time Warner—Ch 99, SUN 10:00 am
& 6:00 pm; MON 7:00 pm; TUE 7:00 pm
Webster: WCA—Ch 12, SUN 9:00 am

West Seneca: Time Warner—Ch 20, TUE 11:35 pm
Woodbury: Cablevision—Ch 115, SUN 10:30 am
Centerville: MVCC—Ch 23, FRI 2:30 pm
Cincinnati: Time Warner—Ch 8 & 24, TUE 1:00 pm;
THUR 8:30 am; SUN 7:00 pm;
Dayton: DSTV—Ch 12, FRI 9:00 AM; SUN 11:00 pm
Fairborn: CAC—Ch 23, TUE 12:00 pm
Tulsa: KMTI—Ch 41, SUN 6:00 am
Ashland: RVTV—CH 15/31/95, SUN 10:00 pm
Oregon City: WFTY—CH 23, FRI 4:00 pm; SAT 8:00 am;
SUN 8:00 am; WED 4:00 pm
Portland: MCTY—Ch 11, SUN 12:30 pm
Allentown/Bethlehem: TV2—Ch 50, FRI 4:30 pm
Johnstown: Adantic Broadband—Ch 9, MON 10:00 pm
Lehighton: BRCTV—Ch 13, SUN 8:30 am
Reading: BCTV—Ch 13/19, THUR 11:00 pm
Sayre: Time Warner—Ch 18, MON 4:30 pm
Scranton/Wilkes-Barre: FOX56 & WOLF—Multi
Channels, THUR 5:00 am; SAT 5:00 am
Providence: WPXQ—Ch 69, MON 11:30 am
Chattanooga: WDEF—Ch 12, SUN 8:30 am
Knoxville: WXIR—Ch 48, SUN 7:30 am
La Follette: WLAF—Ch 12, WED 6:00 pm
Memphis: WPTY—Ch 24, SAT 6:30 am
Nashville: WXIR—Ch 17, SUN 6:30 am
Austin: Community Access—Ch 11, WED 7:00 pm
Bryan: KYLE—Ch 44, SUN 7:00 am
Dallas: Media Network—Ch 99/74, SAT 1:00 pm;
SUN 11:00 am
Lufkin: KTRE—Ch 9, SUN 6:30 am
Midland: KMID—Ch 2, SUN 9:00 am
Temple: KPLE—Ch 31/45, SUN 7:30 pm
Tyler: KLTV—Ch 7, SUN 6:30 am
Waco: KWKI—Ch 44, SUN 7:00 am
Charlottesville: Adelpin—Ch 13, MON 1:00 pm
& 6:30 pm
Chesterfield: Comcast—Ch 6, THUR 6:30 pm
Esiefax; PDA—Ch 10, MON 12-700 pm

Charlottesville: Adelphia—Ch 13, MON 1:00 pm & 6:30 pm
& 6:30 pm
Chesterfield: Comcast—Ch 6, THUR 6:30 pm
Fairfax: FPA—Ch 10, MON 12:00 pm
Norfolk: WSKY—Ch 4, SUN 9:00 am
Roanoke: WSRL—Ch 24/54, SUN 7:00 am
Virginia Beach: Cox—Ch 99 & 51, SAT 8:30 am
Bennington: CAT—Ch 15, WED 9:30 am & 12:00 am;
THUR 12:00 am & 9:30 pm; SAT 8:00 am & 4:30 pm
Burlington: Community Access—Ch 15, THUR 11:30 am & FRI 12:00 PM
Montpelier: Community Access—Ch 15, THUR 9:00 pm

VT.

FRI 12:00 PM

Montpelier: Community Access—Ch 15, THUR 9:00 pm, FRI 12:00 am & 3:00 pm

Richmond: Community TV—Ch 15, SUN 6:00 am, 9:00 am, 12:30 pm, 7:00 pm; MON 7:00 am, 1:00 pm Springfield: SAPA TV—Ch 8, THUR 10:00 pm; MON 12:00 pm

Everett: Comcast—Ch 77, WED 4:30 pm

Kennewick: Charter—Ch 13/99, SUN 8:00 pm; TUE 8:00 pm

Vancouver: FVTV—Ch 11. SUN 8:30 am, TUE 10:30 am,

TUE 8:00 pm

Vancouver: FYTV—Ch 11, SUN 8:30 am. TUE 10:30 am,
WED 12:00 pm

Wausau: Charter—Ch 10, THUR 9:00 pm; FRI 7:30 am

Charleston: WLPX—Ch 29, TUE 7:00 am

Casper: KTW0—Ch 2, SUN 10:00 am

Cheyenne: KLWY—Ch 27, SUN 10:00 am

#### Nationwide Cable

WGN—SUN 6:00 am ET WORD-SUN 7:30 pm ET BET-THUR 6:00 am ET & PT

#### DirecTV

WGN-CH 307, SUN 6:00 am ET WORD—CH 373, SUN 7:30 pm ET

#### Canada

VISION—SUN 5:30 pm ET; MON 1:30 am; MON-FRI 3:00 am ET ON, Toronto: *The Christian Channel*—Cable, SUN 4:00 pm ET, WED 12:00 ET

## TOMORROW'S Wellevision Log

WGN: SUN 6:00 am ET WORD: SUN 7:30 pm ET

VISION, Canada: SUN 5:30 pm ET; MON 1:30 am ET: MON-FRI 3:00 am ET

BET: THUR 6:00 am ET & PT

#### **New U.S.A. Television Stations:**

AZ, Phoenix: Cox Cable—CH 22, SUN 9:00 am CA, Los Angeles: KHIZ—CH 64, SUN 7:30 am TX, Dallas: KPXD—CH 68, SAT 7:30 am TX, Houston: KPXB—CH 49, SUN 9:00 am

#### **New Canada Station:**

NS, Halifax: CIHF—Multi, SUN 8:30 am

#### **New United Kingdom Station:**

United Kingdom: Wonderful TV—CH 582, TUE 10:00 pm

## Tomorrow's World Telecast



#### The Antichrist Is Coming SOON!

Airs January 29–February 4
Will you recognize this mysterious figure?

#### Life After Death?

Airs February 5–11
Do you know what your future will bring?

#### **Make Your Marriage Happier!**

Airs February 12–18

Do you have the joy God wants you to have?

#### Satan's Attack on the Bible

Airs February 19–25
Have you found the power of God's word in your life?