

**SAME-SEX MARRIAGE**

*What Is Wrong?*

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# TOMORROW'S WORLD

July-August 2013 | [TomorrowsWorld.org](http://TomorrowsWorld.org)

YOUR GLORIOUS DESTINY  
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## Hold on to Truth!

**W**arm greetings to all our *Tomorrow's World* subscribers! Our Editor in Chief, Dr. Roderick C. Meredith, asked me to write this "Personal" message, while he works on other writing projects and prepares for some upcoming travel. Despite turning 83 in June of this year, Dr. Meredith continues to work at a pace that would challenge many younger men. I am continually inspired and encouraged by his example of going "all out" to do the Work of God. He knows that it is not about him; he likes to encourage the *Tomorrow's World* staff with the words of the Apostle Paul: "Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ" (1 Corinthians 11:1). Jesus Christ dedicated His life to preaching the true gospel message given by God the Father, and that is what Dr. Meredith—and all of us at *Tomorrow's World*—are striving to do.

As some of you readers may know, Dr. Meredith grew up in Joplin, Missouri. He saw firsthand the United States of the Great Depression era, followed by the great surge in national unity fostered by World War II. He remembers an America in which, despite the tremendous religious confusion, there was almost total agreement about the importance of "biblical values." Many of you reading this magazine may also recall that it was not so long ago that the Ten Commandments were more or less accepted by our society as a standard of decent human conduct. Fornication and adultery were considered shameful. A man who coveted another man's wife, or a wife who coveted another woman's husband, was thought of as disreputable or a tramp, and such conduct was looked down upon by polite society.

### Standards Rejected

Today, however, millions of Americans have rejected these age-old standards. Consider this report by *Washington Times* author Ben Wolfgang:

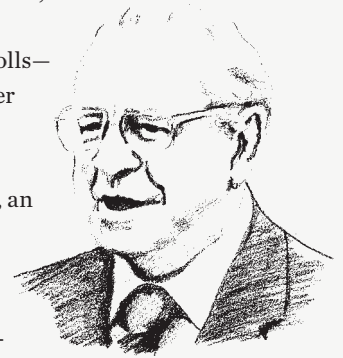
"For the third time in the past year, more than 50 percent of Americans say they support same-sex marriage, a new Gallup poll released Monday states.

The figure shows a remarkable shift in public attitudes over the past two decades. In 1996, just

27 percent of Americans said they supported same-sex marriage. Even just three years ago, the figure was only 44 percent, the survey shows.

But the last three polls—in May 2011, November 2011 and Monday's release—have put the number at 53 percent, an all-time high.

The change has largely been driven by young people. Monday's survey shows that 70 percent of 18- to 29-year-olds support same-sex marriage. In 1996, it was just 41 percent, and in 2010, only 52 percent ("Support for same-sex marriage now firmly above 50 percent, poll says," May 13, 2013).



Gallup reports that although a majority of Americans now support same-sex marriage, an even larger majority assume that most Americans still oppose the practice.

"When asked their impression of how most Americans feel about the issue, 63 percent say the public is opposed to gay marriage and 30 percent say the public favors it. These data suggest that a segment of Americans who support same-sex marriage believe that their views are in the minority, while in reality they are in the majority" ("Same-Sex Marriage Support Solidifies Above 50 Percent in U.S.," May 13, 2013).

What should Christians believe? And how should we act in response to this groundswell of change? Please read Dr. Meredith's important article on

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page 5 of this issue, “What Is Wrong with Same-Sex Marriage?” It will help you sort out the truth from the media distortions surrounding the same-sex marriage controversy.

Why has our society so quickly accepted homosexual conduct as normal, and same-sex marriage as not only tolerable but even desirable? As Dr. Meredith points out in his article, there has been a concerted campaign by homosexual activists to frame the issue in terms favorable to their cause. Many of society’s most respected opinion leaders, including U.S. President Barack Obama, now speak favorably about same-sex marriage.

### **Machiavellian Tactics?**

The year 2013 marks the 500th anniversary of a fascinating little book that has shaped modern political thought ever since it was published. *The Prince*, by Italian diplomat Niccolò Machiavelli, set out a

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*If you have received the Truth,  
hold on to it with all your might!*

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prescription for governance that has been hailed as brilliant by some, and derided as cynical and even evil by others. How has *The Prince* shaped our modern world? Can “Machiavellian” tactics be found in the recent push to legitimize same-sex marriage? And, more importantly, which “Prince” has laid out the true pattern for successful governance? Read Dexter Wakefield’s important article on page 10 of this issue to learn more, and also James Ginn’s page 8 article describing the progress of the “gay rights” agenda in Canada.

When we think about the many ills facing our society, it could be easy to lose heart and become discouraged. So, it is more important than ever that we keep our perspective on the “big picture.” What, then, is the “big picture” for us as Christians? It is that—if we use the Holy Spirit that God has given us at baptism, and we yield to Christ in obedience as we endure to the end (Matthew 24:13)—we will receive a glorious reward!

Many who profess belief in Jesus Christ have only the vaguest idea of what will happen after death. Some assume they will spend a few years in “Purga-

tory,” burning off any minor un-repented sins before they enter into the “beatific vision” of God. Others think they will stare passively at their Savior forever, or will do nothing more than play harps of praise and “roll around in heaven all day” on the clouds. Many admit that they simply have no idea.

### **Glorious Truth!**

The truth of our destiny, however, is far more wonderful and amazing than most can even begin to imagine! As my article on page 16 of this issue (“Your Glorious Destiny Beyond Death”) explains, the ultimate destiny of today’s Christians is not only to rule under Jesus Christ in His literal Kingdom, but also, after all human beings have been given their opportunity for salvation and have received their judgment, to rule “all things”—the very universe itself—as full members of the God Family. That is an awesome truth, which very few understand, yet it is plain in the pages of your Bible!

Dear readers, I hope you will reflect carefully on each of the articles in this issue. They should encourage, motivate and inspire you as you strive to come closer to God. If you have not already made a commitment to God, through valid biblical baptism, and you recognize that you need to start living by the truths brought out in this magazine, I encourage you to contact the Regional Office nearest you, listed on page 4 of this magazine. We will put you in touch with



one of our representatives who will counsel with you about your commitment to our Savior. Nothing could be more important than your calling as one of God’s “firstfruits” in this age.

Sadly, as is so evident as we look at the world around us, only a relative few are truly being called in this present age. If you have received the Truth, hold on to it with all your might (Revelation 3:11). And if you are one of the few whom God is calling into His Truth, do not delay—act now on the Truth you are coming to understand!

*Richard F. Ames*

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Where has the push for same-sex marriage come from, and what effect will it have on society? Do not let yourself be fooled!

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Five hundred years ago, a Renaissance writer gave a prescription for effective government. What lessons—for better and for worse—can we learn?

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When you face life's discouragements, never forget the wonderful future God has planned for faithful and obedient Christians who endure to the end!

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The "covenant" of marriage was intended by our Creator to produce "**godly offspring**" (Malachi 2:15)! How can a humanly invented union of Bible-rejecting men do that?



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# WHAT IS WRONG WITH **SAME-SEX** **MARRIAGE**

In a brazen attempt to destroy the human race, Satan the devil has influenced millions to embrace the idea of men “marrying” men and women “marrying” women! Otherwise intelligent people are being seduced by clever arguments and tactics into thinking that this once-unheard-of practice should be a “civil right.”

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By Roderick C. Meredith

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**O**ur world is rapidly changing! It is amazing to see how swiftly so many are embracing a new way of life that for millennia was unthinkable. Even as recently as 40 years ago, in 1973, the American Psychiatric Association still considered the practice of homosexuality a “mental disorder.” This was not something from the far-off Dark Ages. These were modern men and women, many still alive today. Yet they watched as the APA gave in to pressure from homosexual activists and officially declared homosexual practice “normal.”

One has to wonder: did these psychiatrists begin to grasp what Jesus Christ meant when He described the wiles of Satan the devil? Jesus described Satan in this way, “When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a **liar** and the father of it” (John 8:44). Satan wants mankind to believe a lie!

There is plenty of documentation about America’s headlong march into a new way of life apart from God’s word. Researcher David Kupelian outlines the transformation:

“Indeed, in fifty years we’ve gone from a nation unified by traditional Judeo-Christian values to one in which those same values are increasingly scorned, rejected, and demonized.

What’s going on? Are today’s Americans inherently more morally confused and depraved than previous generations?

Of course not. But we have been taken in—big-time—by some of the boldest and most brilliant marketing campaigns in modern history....

The plain truth is, within the space of our lifetimes, much of what Americans once almost universally abhorred has been packaged, perfumed, gift-wrapped, and sold to us as though it had great value. By skillfully playing on our deeply felt national values of fairness, generosity, and tolerance, these marketers have persuaded us to embrace as enlightened and noble that which all previous generations since America’s founding regarded as grossly self-destructive—in a word, *evil*” (*The Marketing of Evil*, pp. 11–12).

This transformation was not something random or spontaneous. It was planned by those who wanted to radically change society. Kupelian describes one of the many public demonstrations designed to bring the public’s attention and sympathy to their cause:

“One infamous incident was the assault on New York’s famed St. Patrick’s Cathedral on December 10, 1989. While Cardinal John O’Connor presided over the 10:15 Sunday morning Mass, a multitude of ‘pro-choice’ and ‘gay rights’ activists protested angrily outside. Some, wearing gold-colored robes similar to clerical vestments, hoisted a large portrait of a pornographically altered frontal nude portrait of Jesus.

‘You bigot, O’Connor, you’re killing us!’ screamed one protester, while signs called the archbishop ‘Murderer!’

Then it got *really* ugly. Scores of protesters entered the church, resulting in what many in



the packed house of parishioners described as a ‘nightmare.’

‘The radical homosexuals turned a celebration of the Holy Eucharist into a screaming babble of sacrilege by standing in the pews, shouting and waving their fists, tossing condoms into the air,’ recounted the *New York Post*. One of the invaders grabbed a consecrated wafer and threw it to the ground.

Outside, demonstrators, many of them members of ACT-UP, carried placards that summed up their sentiments toward the Catholic Church: ‘Keep your church out of my crotch.’ ‘Keep your rosaries off my ovaries.’ ‘Eternal life to Cardinal John O’Connor NOW!’ ‘Curb your dogma’” (*ibid.*, pp. 22–23).

Another important document to help us understand this transformation is a 1990 book by two Harvard-trained activists, who put together a public relations campaign to advance the “gay rights” movement. Their book was titled, *After the Ball: How America Will Conquer Its Fear and Hatred of Gays in the ‘90s*. As Kupelian explains:

“The bottom line of Kirk and Madsen’s master plan? ‘The campaign we outline in this book, though complex, depends centrally upon a program of unabashed propaganda, firmly grounded in long-established principles of psychology and advertising.’....

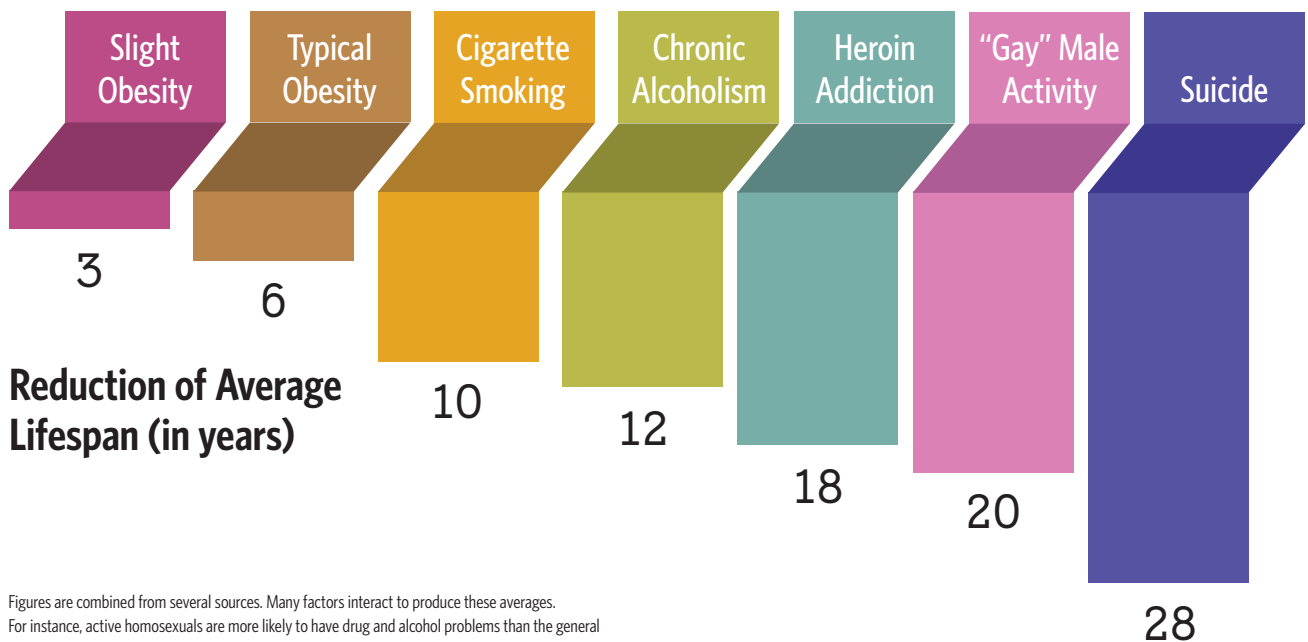
Simple case in point: homosexual activists call their movement ‘gay rights.’ This accomplishes two major objects: (1) Use

of the word *gay* rather than *homosexual* masks the controversial sexual behavior involved and accentuates instead a vague but positive-sounding cultural identity—gay, which, after all, once meant ‘happy’; and (2) describing their battle from the get-go as one over ‘rights’ implies homosexuals are being denied the basic freedoms of citizenship that others enjoy” (*ibid.*, p. 24).

**Satan’s Clever Lie**

Satan the devil often uses human instruments to accomplish his purpose—often very educated and *clever* human instruments. For, as the “Master Deceiver,” Satan wants *results*. And he knows that people like to empathize with an oppressed victim, which helps them feel better about themselves. So he focuses people’s attention on the idea that homosexual men and women are “born that way” and supposedly cannot help themselves.

One focus of his attack involves the idea of a “gay gene”—part of the inherited makeup of a person supposedly “born” to be a homosexual. However, reputable science not tied to the “gay agenda” has shown that this gene is a **myth**. In his technical paper “Male homosexuality: absence of linkage to microsatellite markers at Xq28,” published in the respected *Science* periodical, clinical neurologist George Rice and his fellow researchers **confirmed** that no connection could be proved between any supposed “gay gene” and a tendency toward homosexual orientation. And, when pressed on the question, even former “gay gene” advocate Dr. Dean Hamer, whose activism first promoted the idea 20 years ago, has admitted, “There **is not** a



Figures are combined from several sources. Many factors interact to produce these averages. For instance, active homosexuals are more likely to have drug and alcohol problems than the general population, in addition to greater exposure to sexually transmitted diseases as a result of promiscuity.

single master gene that makes people gay.... I don't think we will ever be able to predict who will be gay" ("Science of Desire," *Salt Lake Tribune*, April 28, 1995).

Yet the "gay gene" idea—certainly influenced and guided along its path by Satan the devil—even now *continues to be used* by homosexual activists to convince weak-minded people to believe that homosexuals "can't help themselves." Certainly, all human experience indicates that people may have a

## WHY WOULD ANYONE WANT TO PROMOTE CONDUCT THAT IS CALLED ABOMINABLE BY ALMIGHTY GOD HIMSELF?

*tendency* toward alcoholism through their family heredity, a *tendency* to be fat or thin, a *tendency* toward violent tempers, etc. But **if** you believe the word of God's clear statements, you will know that there is absolutely **no way** that the God of the Bible will cause *anyone* at any time to be "born" so that he has to sin—so that he has to go against God's clear instructions! Almighty God inspired the Apostle Paul to write, "No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it" (1 Corinthians 10:13).

So, God will **never**—at any time—*force* anyone to sin. That should be very plain through this verse and many others that say essentially the same. And it is not just a few words of Scripture that tell us this; there remain a few courageous leaders in society who remember what we all knew just a few decades ago.

### Why the Change?

For some activists, it is simple; their desire for "personal gratification"—regardless of the potentially **terrible effect** on society—is all that matters. To change millennia of tradition or long-standing civil laws is of no concern. Even though every one of these activists had a mother and a father, they want to see a society where the biological reality gives way to a "politically correct" enforcement of "two mommies" or "two daddies" in households that choose that lifestyle.

And who is considering the terrible health consequences? Studies have shown that—even apart from the terrible scourge of AIDS—men who have sex with men have **dramatically** shorter lifespans than other men. Some of this involves the higher suicide rate among homosexuals. Some of it involves other diseases that involve cleanliness. Some involves the alcohol and drug abuse that is such a common part of the "gay lifestyle."

The activist left and the mass media do not hesitate to point out the very real and troubling consequences of cigarette smoking, which may shorten a smoker's lifetime by a decade. Yet they are silent—or even approving—of what even many doctors have recognized as a lifestyle that can shorten a man's life by 20 years or more!

Ultimately, though, what matters is not what the media may say, or what health officials have found. The "key" fact that we should truly be willing to listen to is: What does Almighty God—the Creator of heaven and earth—have to say about this idea of same-sex "marriage"?

### What God Says

Almighty God instructed ancient Israel, "You shall not lie with a male as with a woman. It is an **abomination**" (Leviticus 18:22). In the New Testament, God inspired the Apostle Paul to describe how the "great thinkers" of his day actually were viewed in the sight of Almighty God: "Professing to be wise, they became **fools**" (Romans 1:22). Paul continued, "For this reason God gave them up to **vile passions**. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is **shameful**, and receiving in themselves the **penalty** of their error which was due" (vv. 26–27).

Are Paul's words **hard to understand**? Even many professing Christian ministers seem to have a hard time acknowledging that God *powerfully* **condemns** such conduct. Why would anyone want to promote conduct that is called **abominable** by Almighty God Himself?

All of you who have actually *studied* the Bible know that it is filled with direct instructions and examples

**SAME-SEX MARRIAGE** CONTINUED ON PAGE 26

# h Cañada!



## BROKEN PRIDE



**Canada promotes itself** as a nation of diversity and tolerance, and in celebration of those ideas its largest city kicked off the summer by hosting Pride Toronto under the theme “SuperQueer.” Billed as the world’s third largest “Pride” celebration, and the largest in Canada, organizers of the 10-day festival encouraged everyone to “have an open, tolerant and supportive attitude” while respecting “subtle differences” among Toronto’s citizens and visitors. Their stated goal was to create “an inclusive experience for all.”

While these platitudes from the event’s organizers seem harmless and even morally noble by today’s standards, is such a celebration good **in God’s eyes**? If not, what consequences could such activities bring for such a well-respected nation as Canada?

Before examining the answers to these questions further, it is helpful to look more closely at the stated aims of this event. For example, the event’s Web site describes the motivation and purpose behind its “Dyke March”—

“The Dyke March is a grassroots event where women and trans people in LGBTTIQQ2SA communities take over the streets of Toronto. The Dyke March is not a parade—it is a political demonstration of critical mass; a moment seized to revel in the strength, diversity and passion of LGBTTIQQ2SA women and trans folk. We encourage groups to work within the theme for Pride Week... in order to express their values. Raise your voice!”

The site’s article then continues: “Overall, we will be creative and disruptive, making politicized fun and glittery ruckus; we will be fierce; we will be SUPERQUEER!”

Are such statements “inclusive”? One does not negotiate peace by stating one’s intention to be “disruptive” and make a “ruckus.” No one attempts to endear cooperation or understanding by being “fierce.” Yet the organizers and the leaders who support them suggest that these disruptive and fierce tactics are to be **supported** and **celebrated**. After all, some claim that such celebrations of “diversity” strengthen a nation. But could these attitudes and celebrations actually result in the demise of the country?

### Past Examples

If we understand that history can teach us about the present, we can find some **vivid** examples of what has happened to nations in the past that experienced what we are witnessing today. One such example can be found in relation to the nation of Israel. God promised to give them a land to possess, but He warned:

“Do not think in your heart, after the LORD your God has cast them out before you, saying, ‘Because of my righteousness the LORD has brought me in to possess this land’; but it is because of the wickedness of these nations that the LORD is driving them out from before you. It is not because of your righteousness or the uprightness of your heart that you go in to possess their land, but because of the wickedness of these nations that the LORD your God drives them out from before you, and that He may fulfill the word which the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob” (Deuteronomy 9:4-5).

God warned Israel that it should not engage in the morally corrupt activities of the surrounding nations.



He indicated that the actions of those nations were far from enlightened. Instead, they were considered wicked. Their actions were not to be embraced, and God was driving them out for such corrupt behaviour.

“According to the doings of the land of Egypt, where you dwelt, you shall not do; and according to the doings of the land of Canaan, where I am bringing you, you shall not do; nor shall you walk in their ordinances” (Leviticus 18:3). What were the actions these nations were embracing that God considered so **wicked**? They included a whole host of unbiblical sexual practices such as incest, adultery and bestiality (Leviticus 18:6–21, 23). They also included the practice of homosexuality (Leviticus 18:22)!

“Do not defile yourselves with any of these things; for by all these the nations are defiled, which I am casting out before you. For the land is defiled; therefore I visit the punishment of its iniquity upon it, and the land vomits out its inhabitants. You shall therefore keep My statutes and My judgments, and shall not commit any of these abominations, either any of your own nation or any stranger who dwells among you” (Leviticus 18:24–26).

**One does not negotiate peace by stating one's intention to be disruptive and make a ruckus!**

out before you. For the land is defiled; therefore I visit the punishment of its iniquity upon it, and the land vomits out its inhabitants. You shall therefore keep My statutes and My judgments, and shall not commit any of these abominations,

### Blessings and Cursings

God promised that He would **bless** those who obeyed His commandments, but **curses** would follow those who disobeyed (Leviticus 26; Deuteronomy 28). Canada and other nations are rejecting God's blessings, and choosing instead to follow paths that lead to destruction. For these nations, God warns: “I will break the pride of your power” (Leviticus 26:19).



Is there evidence that God is beginning to **weaken** Canada even as it celebrates “strength” through “diversity?” Consider that Canada recently **failed** to win a seat on the United Nations Security Council for the **first time** in the prestigious world organization's six-decade history. Now, as a long-time supporter of Israel, Canada's

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international prestige is being **further threatened** as it loses the favour of Middle Eastern nations that **reject** the

open promotion of homosexual conduct. Several Middle Eastern nations are seeking to relocate a major United Nations agency, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), from its present location in Canada. The organization that sets rules for airplane transportation has been headquartered in Montreal since 1947.

“ICAO has 534 employees and 37 full-time foreign delegations in the city, and a 2012 analysis by consulting firm SECOR reported it brings \$119-million a year to Montreal's economy. Its offices are designated as emergency UN headquarters in the event of attack or disaster. If it is moved, Quebec's Parti Québécois government, critical of the Conservatives' foreign policy, would be expected to blame Ottawa for failing Quebec” (Clark, Campbell. *The Globe and Mail*, “Disgruntled Arab states look to strip Canada of UN agency.” May 2, 2013).

Should this happen, Parti Québécois would presumably use it as **further ammunition** in its fight to separate the large francophone province of Quebec from the rest of Canada. Such a move could further diminish Canada's influence and would certainly have a dramatic economic impact.

So, as Canada's premier city winds down from celebrating Pride Toronto, the country itself is reeling from wounded pride on the international scene. In a drive to do what seems right in the eyes of men, Canada is neglecting what is right in the eyes of God. History shows that such choices will end in broken pride.

Thankfully, Scripture tells of a soon-coming time when under the benevolent rule of Jesus Christ, all nations will learn to live in peace, obeying God's law and reaping the blessings of doing so. That time is not yet here, but Canadians—and indeed all people—can experience many of those blessings **today**, if they put aside their pride and humble themselves to obey the God who loves them.

—James Ginn

# THE PRINCE

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Do you believe that “*history is written by the victors*”?  
Do you feel that “the end justifies the means”?  
If you do, you are indebted to a notorious philosopher  
who lived five hundred years ago.

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By Dexter B. Wakefield

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**T**he year 2013 marks the 500th anniversary of a famous little book, *The Prince*, written by a European nobleman named Niccolò Machiavelli. That book, which he wrote in 1513 (but which was not published until after his death), is one of the most famous and influential books on politics ever written. It has even given the name “Machiavellian” to the amoral practices it advocates—of scheming and deceit for the acquisition and maintenance of power.

Machiavelli lived from 1469 to 1527 during a turbulent time in Italian history. His family had been wealthy and influential for centuries, but his father, while well educated, was insolvent and struggled to make a living. Machiavelli spent much of his life courting the wealth and power that his father lacked.

In Machiavelli’s day, Italy was disunited, and its great noble families engaged in labyrinthine struggles for control, both against each other and foreign powers. In Florence—a city which existed as a separate republic—being in or out of favor with, say, the Medici family or a particular pope could mean either high office or imprisonment. Machiavelli experienced both. These forces forged the worldview of this talented—but amoral—diplomat, administrator and political philosopher.

Today, a bad career decision may force a change of jobs; in Machiavelli’s Florence it could mean imprisonment or death. This hostile environment was reflected in the cynical view Machiavelli expressed in *The Prince*: that a ruler should be guided by the necessities of acquiring and maintaining power rather than by a moral code. Machiavelli advises the rising

and ambitious ruler that the *dictates of power* are the primary consideration in all policies and actions.

The mainstream view of Machiavelli can be summarized nicely by the following description from *Encyclopaedia Britannica*’s entry on the man. “The first and most persistent view of Machiavelli is that of a teacher of evil... To maintain himself a prince *must learn how not to be good* and use or not use this knowledge ‘according to necessity’ ...**from this standpoint Machiavelli can be interpreted as the founder of modern political science**, a discipline based on the actual state of the world as opposed to how the world might be... The amoral interpretation fastens on Machiavelli’s frequent resort to ‘necessity’ in order to excuse actions that might otherwise be condemned as immoral.”

## The Machiavellian Personality

What was Machiavelli’s vision of political science? In *The Prince*, he presented a number of rules for rulers, including:

- Never show humility; it is more effective to show arrogance when dealing with others.
- Morality and ethics are for the weak; powerful people should feel free to lie, cheat and deceive whenever it suits their purpose.
- It is better to be feared than loved.
- In order to be popular and secure in power, a prince need not be virtuous, only appear so.

Are there people today who actually live the way Machiavelli proposed? In the early 1970s, psychologists Richard Christie and Florence L. Geis published a study identifying a distinct personality type characterized by manipulation in relationships and cynicism about human nature. They administered a test





Detail from *Machiavelli*  
 portrait by Santi di Tito, ca. 1590

containing statements such as: “Never tell anyone the real reason you did something unless it is useful to do so.... The best way to handle people is to tell them

High Machs tend to constitute a distinctive type. They tend to be charming, confident, and glib; but they are also arrogant, calculating and

## THE MOST PERSISTENT VIEW OF MACHIAVELLI IS AS A TEACHER OF EVIL; ONE WHO TAUGHT THAT A PRINCE **MUST LEARN HOW NOT TO BE GOOD!**

what they want to hear.... Anyone who completely trusts anyone else is asking for trouble.”

Respondents who agreed with such statements got high scores and were called “High Machs.” They were found very prone to having a “Machiavellian” personality. On the other hand, someone who scores low as a Machiavellian would tend to agree with statements such as: “It is never right to lie to someone else.... Most people are basically good and kind.... One should take action only when it is morally right.”

Commenting on the study, psychologist Harriet B. Braiker wrote:

“Machiavellian personalities are committed to the proposition that a desired end justifies virtually any means. Machiavellianism is defined as a manipulative strategy of social interaction and personality style that uses other people as tools for personal gain.... High Machs influence or manipulate others in predictable ways, using tactics that are exploitive, self-serving, and nearly always deceptive.

cynical, prone to manipulate and exploit. In the context of laboratory experiment games, high Machs display a keen and opportunistic sense of timing, and they

appear to capitalize especially in situations that contain ambiguity regarding the rules” (*Who’s Pulling Your Strings?*, Harriet B. Braiker, Ph.D., pp. 85–87).

### Other “Machiavellians”?

Machiavelli presented his ideas forcefully, but he was not the first to think these things. For instance, the ancient Greek playwright Euripides wrote, “If wrong may ever be right, for a throne’s sake is wrong most right—be God in all else feared” (*Phoenician Maidens*, lines 524–25). Machiavelli could not have said it better—and indeed, as an educated man of his day, he likely read Euripides’ play or saw it performed.

The influential German general and military theorist Karl von Clausewitz called war “the continuation of politics by other means.” In today’s world, it even seems that *politics has become war by other means*. Candidates and office holders engage in perpetual political battles, firing salvos of press releases and political propaganda. Just as in the past, today’s aspiring leaders deeply desire the personal valida-

tion of power and will take almost any measure to achieve it.

The Apostle James explained why. “Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members? You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. *You fight and war*” (James 4:1–2). It is all about two very different ways of life: “**give versus get.**” In many respects, it is as simple as that. God is love, and His very nature and character is love and outgoing concern for others—the way of “*give.*” But the way of the politics of this world is “*get*”—self-focused—in obedience to a very different ruler.

### The Real Prince of Our Current World

Jesus Christ identified the true prince of this current world when He said to His disciples, “...*the prince of this world* cometh and has nothing in me” and “...*the prince of this world* is judged...” and “...*the prince of this world* is cast out”

(John 14:30; 16:11; 12:31, *KJV*). Jesus even referred to this prince having a kingdom in this world (Matthew 12:26) and the Apostle Paul said

he is the actual “god of this age” (2 Corinthians 4:4). This prince covets the role of ruler and god.

Who was Jesus referring to as the current ruler of today’s world? The Bible reveals that this world has a spiritual ruler who embodies all of the ambitions and willfulness of today’s ambitious rulers. Notice the willful, ambitious nature that this former archangel presents: “I will ascend above...” and “I will exalt my throne...” This spiritual being was once called Lucifer—the “light bringer”—but in his willful rebellion against God Almighty he became Satan, or the “Adversary.”

“How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations! For you have said in your heart: *‘I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.’*”

But notice that God declares this evil being’s final destination: “Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol [grave], to the lowest depths of the Pit. Those who see you will gaze at you, and consider you, saying: ‘Is this the man who made the earth tremble?’” (Isaiah 14:12–16).

### Another Prince Is Coming

In contrast to this evil prince—the “prince of the power of the air” (Ephesians 2:2), Scripture tells us that another Prince will soon come to the earth—the “Prince of Peace.” Jesus Christ taught a way very different from that of Machiavelli. In the New Testament, we find that one of the greatest virtues people (including rulers) should seek is *peace*. Peace is listed as one of the fruits of God’s Holy Spirit (“...love, joy, **peace...**” Galatians 5:22).

Scripture shows that Christ will return as the leader of a powerful army, but He will use His power to estab-

lish and to rule a peaceable Kingdom. The prophet Daniel recorded a vision picturing the return of Jesus Christ at the end of this age and the

## SCRIPTURE TELLS US THAT ANOTHER PRINCE WILL SOON COME TO THE EARTH: THE PRINCE OF PEACE!

establishment of His government on Earth. In that vision, Christ destroys an existing worldly system that rejects God’s government. The vision begins by depicting a series of previous world-ruling empires, which regular readers of this magazine know consist of the Babylonian, Medo-Persian, Greco-Macedonian and Roman empires, then culminates with the good news of God’s Kingdom:

“You, O king, were watching; and behold, a great image! This great image, whose splendor was excellent, stood before you; and its form was awesome. This image’s head was of fine gold [Babylonian Empire], its chest and arms of silver [Medo-Persian Empire], its belly and thighs of bronze [Greco-Macedonian Empire], its legs of iron [Roman Empire], its feet partly of iron and partly of clay [end-time revival of the Roman Empire]. You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces. Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold





Plaster statue cast by 19th century sculptor Lorenzo Bartolini

were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became *a great mountain* and filled the whole earth” (Daniel 2:31–35).

In Scripture, God often uses the symbol of a mountain to symbolize a government. Here, the mountain that grows to fill “the whole earth” is the “holy mountain of God”—His government on earth. God said through the prophet Isaiah, “They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My **holy mountain**, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea” (Isaiah 11:9). This is not only a reference to Christ’s headquarters in Jerusalem, but to a government that grows to “fill the whole earth” and replaces current profane governments.

Jesus, after 40 days of fasting, even made reference to this mountain when Satan tempted Him. It was Satan’s mountain—his government and kingdoms—that Jesus saw when Satan offered, “All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been deliv-

ered to me” (Luke 4:6). This world and its power and government were indeed Satan’s to give—his mountain is very real—and many have taken their share of his seductive deal.

Of course, Jesus remembered what He had prophesied centuries before in Daniel 2: “You watched while a stone was cut out without hands... And the stone that struck the image became **a great mountain** and filled the whole earth” (Daniel 2:34–35). Jesus rejected Satan’s offer and, in effect, blew him away with the breath of His lips when He said, “Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve’” (Luke 4:8). Those who today fashion themselves as followers of Machiavelli are essentially accepting an offer from the wrong prince!

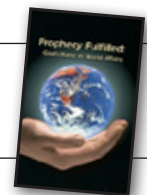
### From the Heart?

Modern political science acknowledges that *The Prince*, despite being written 500 years ago, has profoundly influenced modern political thought, and it continues to do so. But today’s politicians do not understand that the principles expressed in that book represent the corrupt spirit of a system that will soon come to an end. Thankfully, Christians today can be set apart from that system, and God’s Church strives to practice His way of government, free of the cynicism and manipulation Machiavelli advised.

Five hundred years after *The Prince*, what is Machiavelli’s legacy? During his lifetime, he certainly wrote other works, some taking a rather different view of the ruler’s role. For instance, his *Discourses on Livy* contains advice on how to preserve republics. Serious historians dispute the degree to which *The Prince* represented Machiavelli’s true feelings. In any case, we know that in the dedication letter of *The Prince*, Machiavelli says that his little book *contains all he knows*. One may understandably conclude that *The Prince* came from the treasure of his heart. Thankfully, Christians look instead to a very different Prince—the Prince of Peace—as the One from whom their values come, and who will soon return to lead a government far, far different from what Machiavelli described. TW

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SUGGEST?**

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# THIS IS **London** **CALLING**



## **MARGARET THATCHER:** HER LIFE AND LEGACY



Margaret Thatcher, the first woman to serve as Prime Minister of Britain, became a worldwide phenomenon—a symbol of national revival and restored values. Perhaps only Winston Churchill—Britain's World War II leader against Nazi tyranny—bears comparison. Many came to love and respect what they accomplished and both were patriots who came to the fore at crucial times. With her death in April, at age 87, many are considering her legacy to Britain and the other English-speaking nations.

Rising from humble roots in the East Midlands of rural England, "Maggie" became Conservative Party leader in 1975, and led her government for 11½ years (1979-1990). In her time as Prime Minister, she became a towering figure on the world stage and contributed to the collapse of communism and the Soviet Union. Her principles gave rise to what became known as "Thatcherism"—a set of beliefs focused on individual freedom, "responsible individualism," light regulation and a minimum of taxation and government spending.

By all accounts, Baroness Thatcher (she earned the title in 1992 with the awarding of a peerage in recognition of her lifetime of service) was blessed with formidable assets of intellect, energy, strength of personality and character. Though she was a controversial, even divisive figure, she will likely be remembered as one of Britain's greatest peacetime leaders.

What was the secret of her success? Why did she stir such powerful hatred in the hearts of those who were opposed her policies? And can we relate her leadership to the message of the Bible?

### **Her Struggle**

It is a truism that "strong opinions divide." Thatcher's opinions were, in political terms, right-wing Conservative values. But, more than that, she had imbibed strong religious and social principles from her Methodist

upbringing, which colored everything she stood for. Her father was a lay preacher, whose stirring sermons provided a steady diet of character-building principles to a daughter eager to learn and progress. Hard work, thrift, personal responsibility and service, loyalty to one's principles—all these very practical moral virtues combined to create Thatcher's unbending strength. A passionate belief in the moral principles of the Bible, love of country and a ferocious drive to accomplish drove Thatcher inexorably on.

In the years before she became Prime Minister, successive administrations—both Labour and Conservative—had failed to solve Britain's problems. Powerful

*Thatcher radically altered the British mentality. She once famously said, "Economics are the method; the object is to change the soul!"*

labor unions ruled the roost, unleashing unprecedented numbers of strikes that had all but paralyzed British society. A "winter of discontent" in 1978-79 had seen uncollected garbage strewn in the streets. Inflation was

rampant and debts were so large that they required a humbling bailout by the International Monetary Fund. Nothing seemed to be working. In many respects, Britain was a broken nation—deeply divided and falling apart. The nation had become the "Sick Man of Europe" and desperately needed a dose of sound medicine!

### **Not for Turning**

Into this grand mess strode a determined woman. Having forensically analyzed what she saw as the basic causes of the malaise—socialism in all its guises—an incensed Thatcher decisively intervened. She declared her policies boldly, with the famous line, "The lady's not for turning!" Standing firm, she and her supporters led a dramatic turnaround of moribund Britain. It was a hard,



unyielding and uphill struggle, and many bitterly resented the loss of unaffordable socialist comforts—but through her determination Thatcher transformed the nation economically, politically and socially, reviving Britain's standing in the world.

The Thatcher revolution was nothing short of a *moral crusade*. She set out to radically alter the national mentality from despair and imminent collapse to one of success and prosperity. She declared in 1981, "Economics are the method; the object is to change the soul." And she was in no doubt as to the heart of that revolution:

"I find it difficult to imagine that anything other than Christianity is likely to resupply most people in the West with the virtues necessary to remoralise society in the very practical ways which the solution of many present problems requires" (*The Path to Power*, p. 554).

Of course, for those who did not share Thatcher's biblical outlook, her ideas and principles were nothing short of *anathema*. It comes as no surprise to learn that the political left—and most intellectuals, both within and without her own political party—detested what she stood for. Yet, more often than not, the average person in the street—on whose behalf her popular capitalism was directed—was in favor of her policies.

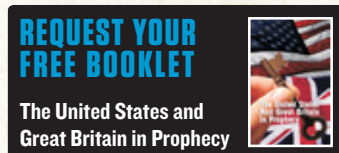
### Spiritual Heritage

Christian principles, when implemented in our secular world, have sadly always tended to provoke division. The reason is simple: today's world is invariably wedded to profoundly un-Christian values that it does not want to relinquish. Even when the Messiah Himself commissioned His disciples to go forth to preach the gospel of His coming world-ruling Kingdom, He warned them that the road would not be easy. There would be opposition, persecution and rejection (Matthew

10:16-19, 22-23). People would hate what Christians stood for, and the gospel message would divide communities and even families (vv. 34-39).

When the Apostle Paul preached that same message in Asia Minor, he was even accused of "turning the world upside down" (Acts 17:6). Yet, from God's point of view, the reality was the opposite—Paul was actually turning the world *right side up*!

Baroness Thatcher recognized that the revolution she began is one that must be fought and won in each and every generation. There will always be some who pull in the opposite direction. Successes for individual freedom and biblical values, when they are won, will invariably be hard-fought and fragile. Until Christ



Himself comes to establish the Kingdom of God on the earth, all human attempts will be tenuous and incomplete.

Back in 1978, at a church in the City of London, Thatcher delivered a timeless warning about the delicate state of *freedom*. "Freedom will destroy itself if it is not exercised within some sort of *moral framework*, some body of shared beliefs, some spiritual heritage transmitted through the church, the family and the school. It will also destroy itself if it has no purpose" (*The Path to Power*, p. 555).

That framework is soon coming. Prophecy reveals that Jesus Christ will return to establish a world government that will be based on true biblical principles. But it will **not** be a mere "Thatcherite" government! It will be the literal Government of God—a benevolent kingdom that *will* unite all peoples within *God's moral framework—a framework that defines true freedom*.

—John Meakin



# YOUR GLORIOUS DESTINY BEYOND DEATH

When we look up at the heavens, we cannot help but be awestruck by what we see, millions and even billions of light years away. Yet most of us will never in our lifetimes travel more than a few miles above the surface of planet Earth. Could it be that there is a magnificent purpose for the vast universe—a purpose that involves *you*?

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By Richard F. Ames

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**W**ould you like to travel to the farthest reaches of the universe? The Hubble telescope has revealed breathtakingly beautiful images of galaxies and nebulas far away. Many have romantic names: the Cartwheel Galaxy and the Tadpole Galaxy, the Cone, Crab, Eagle, Lagoon and Swan nebulas. We see these marvelous sights and we marvel with wonder, but we know they are beyond our reach—*or are they?*

Within our lifetimes, only a few human beings have even ventured beyond our planet into low Earth orbit. Fewer still have left Earth behind and traveled to the Moon. No one has yet made the trip to Mars, our planetary neighbor, though several nations are in the early stages of making plans for such a mission in the years to come.

So, will **you** travel beyond planet Earth within the short span of your human lifetime? If not, will you **never** have the opportunity to see “up close” what is “out there” beyond our planet? Amazingly, though few understand this amazing truth, your Bible reveals not only that human beings will live beyond death,

but that God has planned for faithful Christians—those who choose His way of life over the world’s way of sin and death—a glorious future that involves not only planet Earth, but the whole universe!

## **We Shall Reign**

Will resurrected Christians “roll around heaven all day,” as an old popular song tells us? Or will they have something important to do in their service to God? What does Scripture say about what we will be doing, and where? “And they sang a new song, saying: ‘You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; for You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, and have made us kings and priests to our God; and we shall **reign on the earth**’” (Revelation 5:9–10).

You need to know your ultimate glorious destiny! You need to know your magnificent future beyond death. Notice: “Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall **reign with Him** a thousand years” (Revelation 20:6).

Most English-speakers are familiar with Handel's oratorio, *The Messiah!* It includes these words of the voices in heaven: "Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, 'The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign **forever and ever!**'" (Revelation 11:15). Yes, genuine Christians, who experience the first resurrection from the dead at Christ's return, will **rule** with Him—for the thousand years known as the "Millennium"—and then on into eternity.

God promises faithful Christians real responsibilities in His Kingdom, as pictured in the parable of the minas (Luke 19). To the faithful servant who multiplied his mina ten times, He states: "Well done, good servant; because you were faithful in a very little, have authority over ten cities" (v. 17). Another servant multiplied his mina five times. "And the second came, saying, 'Master, your mina has earned five minas.' Likewise he said to him, 'You also be over five cities'" (vv. 18–19). God is preparing us for positions of service for eternity!

### The God Family

One of the most amazing and encouraging truths from your Bible is that God is producing a family! God is the Father "from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named" (Ephesians 3:14–15). God wants

heaven and earth. "But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him" (Hebrews 11:6).

And there is another important step. Notice: "Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel'" (Mark 1:14–15).

Yes, Jesus called all who heard Him to repentance. But what does that mean? We must repent of sin, which is the transgression of God's law—the violation of His Ten Commandments! "Repent" means to **change** our mind—to express such genuine sorrow for our sins that we **turn our life around** and go God's way instead.

When the New Testament Church began on the day of Pentecost, the Apostle Peter told his audience: "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call" (Acts 2:38–39).

After genuine repentance, faith and baptism, God gives the gift of the Holy Spirit. Once you receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, you become a begotten child of God! We become the very heirs of God—co-heirs, or

joint-heirs with Christ. Read it for yourself: "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption [or "sonship"], whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself

bearth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: and if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may also be glorified together" (Romans 8:14–17, *KJV*).

### Our Inheritance

We have already seen a glimpse of our inheritance: We will inherit the earth (Matthew 5:5). We will inherit the Kingdom (Daniel 7:18 and Matthew 25:34). We will inherit eternal life (Matthew 19:29). Note that

## TODAY'S FAITHFUL CHRISTIANS WILL BE BORN INTO THE GOD FAMILY AS GLORIFIED, IMMORTALIZED CHILDREN OF GOD!

each human being to voluntarily choose to become His son or His daughter! God wants us to come out of the carnal, sinful ways of the world. "Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you. I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the LORD Almighty" (2 Corinthians 6:17–18).

But how do you become a spiritual son or daughter of your Father in heaven? This is important! We must first acknowledge God Almighty as the Creator of



we are now **heirs** of God, not yet **inheritors**. Our inheritance will take place at the resurrection! Once we are God's begotten children, we need to grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ (2 Peter 3:18)! As we learn and practice God's way of life, we grow in godly character. And that takes a lifetime.

What happens when you die? Many denominations teach that your soul either goes to a blissful heaven at death, or to a fiery hell or purgatory. But what does the Bible actually teach? The Bible teaches that there is a human spirit, not an immortal soul in man (1 Corinthians 2:11; Job 32:8). The Bible teaches plainly that the soul can die: "The soul who sins shall die" (Ezekiel 18:4, 20).

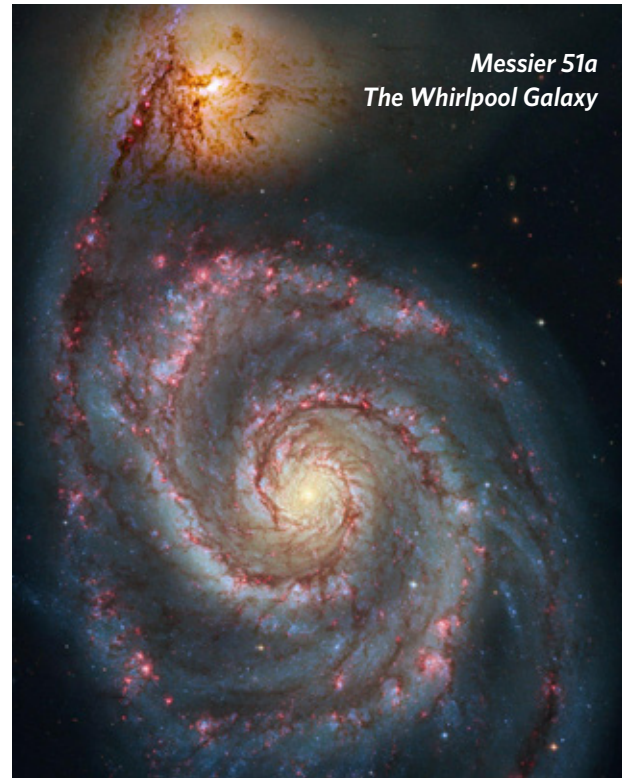
Jesus stated: "But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell [Gehenna fire]" (Matthew 10:28). The Bible teaches that souls are mortal, not immortal, and that souls can be totally destroyed in fire. Jesus said so. The incorrigibly wicked indeed will be tormented and then burned up in a lake of fire. That is called the second death (Revelation 20:14). The second death is final—a death from which there is no resurrection. You certainly do not want to be thrown into a lake of fire!

### **We Shall Be Changed**

Paul wrote: "Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed—in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and 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 15:50–54).

At the resurrection, today's faithful Christians will be born into God's glorious family as glorified, immortalized children of God! We will rule with Christ on this earth as kings and priests for a thousand years, helping nations and peoples learn the way to peace, happiness, harmony and prosperity.

After a lifetime of spiritual growth, a faithful Christian dies in the faith. Notice this commendation of



*Messier 51a  
The Whirlpool Galaxy*

faithful servants: "These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland. And truly if they had called to mind that country from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return. But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them" (Hebrews 11:13–16).

Those who died in the faith are right now resting in their graves, awaiting the resurrection. All Christians look forward to the resurrection because they know that Christ Himself was resurrected from the dead after three days and three nights in the tomb, or the "heart of the earth" (Matthew 12:40). Notice this important point: Christ was "declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead" (Romans 1:4).

Scripture tells us that Christ is "the firstborn among many brethren" (Romans 8:29). Yes, faithful Christians

**DESTINY** CONTINUED ON PAGE 23

# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

## Do you know where to find Jesus Christ in the Old Testament?

**Question:** My friend’s pastor says the archangel Michael is the same spirit personality as Jesus Christ. What does the Bible actually say about the identities of Michael and Christ?

**Answer:** Some denominations incorrectly assert that Jude 1:9 refers to Jesus Christ with its reference to “the archangel” known as Michael. Their idea is that the term, from the Greek *archaggelos* for “chief angel,” is singular, so must refer to the existence of *one* supreme archangel. They then connect this verse to 1 Thessalonians 4:16—the only other New Testament use of *archaggelos*—which states, “For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God.”

The assumption, an incorrect one, is that the returning Christ must thus be the same spirit personality as the archangel Michael.

Of course, to describe an archangel as descending “with the voice of an archangel” makes about as much sense as to describe a human male singing “with the voice of a man.” On the other hand, if that singer were far more powerful than any known voice, beyond human comprehension, it would be natural to compare his power to the most powerful voice known. This is how we can best understand Paul’s words in 1 Thessalonians 4:16.

### His Angels?

Another mistaken argument assumes that since Revelation 12:7 describes Michael and an army of “his angels” battling Satan (the dragon), Michael must be the unique head of that army, and must be the same personality as Jesus Christ, whom Scripture elsewhere describes as the commander of powerful angels.

This, too, is a faulty assumption. Every army has ranks and squadrons, such that a sergeant and a general may both call a group of soldiers “my men.” Michael having “his angels” does not preclude Michael from being one of the angels under Jesus Christ! Consider, too, the context of Michael’s war. Scripture describes

Michael as fighting against the dragon and **his** angels! Yes, Satan has “his angels” and is not Jesus Christ! It is the same with Michael! Satan was once a *prince of angels*—once *perfect* in his ways (Ezekiel 28:14–16)! His existence as the luminous Lucifer, the Day Star (star being yet another term for *angel* and *messenger* in Hebrew), placed him in no less a position than as a mighty *archangel* or “covering cherub.”

Scripture makes it plain that no angel is any more than a servant. Angels are not to be worshiped (Colossians 2:18, Revelation 22:8–9), and are limited in their office. Were Michael and Christ the same being, we would not see the vastly different ways in which they

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*The Word was not a created angel. Indeed, it was the **Word** with whom ancient Israel interacted.*

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dealt with Satan. Note that Michael refused to rebuke Satan in Jude 1:9—a sharp contrast to Christ’s stinging rebuke offered in Luke 4:8!

Note also that Jude mentions Jesus Christ directly in Jude 1:1 and Jude 1:17. In no way does he connect his verse 9 mention of Michael with any reference to Jesus Christ. He treats them as two distinct beings—which indeed they are!

### That Rock Was Christ!

So, where was Jesus Christ before He came to the earth? Scripture explains that the Word—the Logos—was God, and was with God the Father from eternity (John 1:1). The Word was not a created angel. Indeed, it was the Word—not God the Father—with whom the ancient Israelites interacted (1 Corinthians 10:4). Jesus Christ told the Israelites very directly that they had never known God the Father—only Christ had known Him—and it was Jesus Christ who would reveal the Father to them (John 1:18; 17:25)!

No mere angel could be a fit sacrifice for the sins of mankind; only the divine eternal Son of God, made fully flesh, could fill that role. That Son is Jesus Christ. Scripture clearly reveals that Michael the archangel is a created being who serves under Christ.







# THE Works OF HIS HANDS

## Our Mathematical Universe

**M**any people remember math as a subject they hated in high school. Maybe they found it difficult or dull. Maybe they just thought it was not relevant to their lives. Mathematicians, however, often find math not only beautiful, but also profoundly meaningful. Why? And what does this mean for Christians?

### Abstractions to Realities

One attraction of pure mathematics is that even some of the most **theoretical** and **starkly abstract** ideas that mathematicians have “created” have turned out to describe some very **physical** and **tangible** aspects of our world.

For instance, when the Greek mathematician Apollonius studied the curves called conic sections, he wrote that he pursued his study not because his results might be helpful in certain applications, but rather because “the subject is one of those which seem worthy of study **for their own sake.**” Yet, even though Apollonius saw that his abstract research might have some practical use, he **had no idea** that—nearly 2,000 years later—his subject would be used to describe with precision how the planets in our solar system orbit around the Sun.

When the celebrated philosopher René Descartes (known for his axiom, “I think, therefore I am”) created the coordinate system of geometry, which freed mathematicians to compute in multiple hypothetical dimensions beyond the three we experience in our daily lives, he had no idea that six-dimensional geometry would one day be found perfectly reflected in the “waggle dance” honeybees use to tell their hives where they have found food.

And when mathematicians such as Euler and Gauss three centuries ago explored the mathematically absurd idea of “imaginary” square roots of negative numbers, they would never have conceived that their “imaginary numbers” would form an integral part of the most fundamental laws of physics known in our time: quantum mechanics.

### The Miracle of Mathematics

So, how is it that even pure mathematics, developed, explored and extended over centuries with no apparent connection to reality, is sometimes found to be *not* abstract at all—but, rather, to be part of the very fabric of our very *real*, very *concrete* universe?

Some have called this phenomenon the “miracle of mathematics.” In his famous paper, “The Unreasonable Effectiveness of Mathematics in the Natural Sciences,” physicist Eugene Wigner wrote that “the enormous usefulness of mathematics in the natural sciences is something bordering on the mysterious... there is no rational explanation for it.” Further, he observed, “The miracle of the appropriateness of the language of mathematics for the formulation of the laws of physics is a wonderful gift which we neither understand nor deserve.”

Natural science alone cannot explain why we find, beneath the reality around us, such a beautiful, ordered, and systematic foundation of mathematics. It is an astonishing fact for which scientists have no natural explanation, though many have tried to provide one. It remains a fundamental mystery of science. As Stephen Hawking asked in his landmark book *A Brief History of Time*, “What is it that breathes fire into the equations and makes a universe for them to describe?”

## Fingerprints of the Creator

Scripture tells us that many of the amazing attributes of God can be detected and understood in the wonders of His creation (Romans 1:20). When we view the vastness of the magnificent universe and the intricacy of the tiny atom, we cannot help but be astounded by the creative power of the Almighty God. His power is on display in *all* areas of science, such as biology, chemistry and physics—fields of study that reveal to our inquisitive minds not only the fingerprints of a great Creator but also the elements of His character.

Not only is this true of the physical sciences, it is particularly true of mathematics—the discipline sometimes called “the queen and servant of science.” Though the subject may spur memories of seemingly endless parades of sums and multiplication tables from our childhood schoolwork, the fact is that mathematics can reveal God’s wondrous power and mighty attributes in startling ways that many would find deeply and unexpectedly inspiring.

Consider a finely crafted mechanical watch. At first view, we can be awed at the smoothness of its motions and the regularity of its actions as it marks the passage of the minutes and hours. Yet, when we open the cover of the watch and look inside, our awe can grow far deeper, as we gaze upon the intricate and precise interaction



among the many gears, coils and springs. We cannot help but be impressed, even astonished, by the ingenuity of the design and the obvious intelligence behind it.

It is the same with mathematics. Math is a tool that lets us open the “cover” of the universe, allowing us to see a deeper level of fundamental order, precision and ingenuity—just what we would expect from a cosmos designed by a Creator of supreme intelligence!

## A Grand Book

Galileo Galilei, the famous astronomer, in his 1623 treatise *The Assayer*, described the universe as a “grand

Natural science alone cannot explain why we find such a beautiful, ordered and systematic foundation of mathematics

book” that “stands continually open to our gaze, but it cannot be understood unless one first learns to comprehend the language and interpret the characters in which it is written. It is written in the language of mathematics.” Indeed, the language of mathematics has unlocked for our un-

derstanding the wonder we see in the created universe, making it available for our view, and providing an even **deeper** sense of wonder and powerful insights into the precise and orderly *laws* by which Creation is governed.

To the atheist or agnostic, this may be a baffling puzzle. But for those who believe in a logical, rational, all-wise and all-powerful Creator, it is no surprise. We read in the ultimate “grand book”—Holy Scripture—that the Almighty “appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth” (Jeremiah 33:25), and we can see that many of those ordinances were written in the language of mathematics. As philosopher and theologian William Lane Craig has noted, “God created the universe on the mathematical structure that He had in mind.”

When we look through the eyes of living faith, every aspect of the works of God’s hands will point us toward the glory and majesty of our awesome Creator. Mathematics is not the dry, dusty and dispassionate subject many believe it to be. Rather, it is a **beautiful instrument**—a tool by which we can come to marvel at the unassailable logic, the masterful order and the perfect soundness of God’s divine mind in a remarkable and inspiring way!

—Wallace Smith



# THE “TEN PERCENT” MYTH

## Quality, not quantity, is the answer!

**M**any people today take for granted what is sometimes called the “10 percent” myth—the idea that the average person uses just 10 percent of his or her brain. The origin of this idea is unclear—some point to American writer Lowell Thomas, who referenced it in a foreword to an edition of Dale Carnegie’s *How to Win Friends and Influence People*. Whatever its origin, the effect and reach of the myth has been widespread.

What accounts for widespread differences in intelligence from person to person? Noted 19th century psychologist William James proposed that there must be some underused mental potential in everyone. Ever since, James’ research and quasi-metaphysical speculations have been misinterpreted and misquoted, and even wrongly attributed to credible scientific figures such as Albert Einstein (Robynne Boyd. “Do People Only Use Ten Percent of Their Brains?,” *Scientific American*, February 7, 2008).

### Missing in Action?

The truth is that we “pretty much use 100 percent of our brains,” according to Ph.Ds Sam Wang and Sandra Aamodt, Princeton neurologists and co-authors of *Welcome to Your Brain* (2009). They reason, based on their extensive research, that there are no “unused parts,” and that the functioning human brain is basically complete.

If any part of your brain went “missing in action,” says Dr. Wang, “you would notice—and you would be sorry... or, depending on which part, you might not be sorry!” Consider also that any cells or muscles our bodies do not use tend to atrophy and die, yet the entire brain is an active organ, using about one-fifth of all the energy your body

produces.

Yes, it is true—under normal circumstances, we use all of the “fearfully and wonderfully made” (Psalm 139:14) brain God gave us. However, many of the

brain’s processes are unconscious and work best without our awareness—they do not require what we usually think of as “high intelligence.” In fact, abnormally high intelligence often comes with a price, as seen in some cases of autism and similar neurological disorders. Disabilities can occur when some parts of the brain are too active, or work without needed inhibition.

### Use It or Lose It!

The true key to mental development is not how much of your brain you use; it is how well and how often you use your brain! Although experience, training, injury or disability may limit our mental capacities, our real potential to learn, grow and fill the brain with useful information may be far greater than most of us realize. And we reach that potential by hard work!

One danger of the “10 percent” myth is that it can **distract us** from **how** we are using our brains, as if “more” mattered more than “better.” God’s word gives us many inspiring principles in this regard, such as the Apostle Paul’s admonition, “Finally, brethren,

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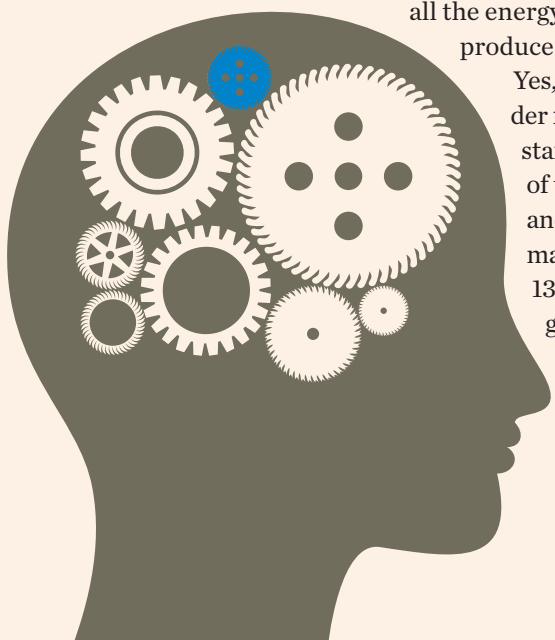
*It is not how much of your brain you use;  
it is how well and often you use it!*

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whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things” (Philippians 4:8). Are you using your brain to **better** yourself? Or do you **dull** your brain through drugs and empty entertainment?

God has given you a brain—the organ through which your mind operates—and He expects you to use it **wisely** and **profitably**. And He has given you **even more** than that! God has also given Christians a way to **exceed the limits** of the physical human mind and brain, not through human effort or metaphysical dabbling, but through the gift of God’s Holy Spirit—which connects the human spirit to wisdom inaccessible to carnal mankind (1 Corinthians 2:10–16).

—William L. Williams





*Milky Way Galaxy*

**DESTINY** CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

will be born again at the resurrection from the dead! We will be God’s glorified children! We will inherit glory and immortality. We will no longer be heirs, but inheritors of the Kingdom, the earth and eternal life. And there is more. Ultimately, the New Jerusalem will come down to earth from heaven. What will happen after that? “And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away” (Revelation 21:4).

**What About the “Unsaved”?**

Yes, we will all die, but later there is a judgment for those who never had the opportunity for salvation! It is called the White Throne Judgment. What happens to the billions of human beings who have lived and died without ever accepting Christ’s sacrifice?

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## DEATH IS AN ENEMY. BUT THAT ENEMY WILL BE CONQUERED!

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Are they lost forever? No! God is just and fair. He will not send spiritually blinded human beings to a lake of fire without ever giving them an opportunity for salvation.

The Apostle John writes: “And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to


their works, by the things which were written in the books” (Revelation 20:12).

In the White Throne Judgment, billions of human beings who were previously spiritually blinded will finally learn from the pain of the past, and they will be given the opportunity to truly repent, believe the gospel and eventually inherit the Kingdom of God. As Peter wrote, “The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance” (2 Peter 3:9).

**Glory Ahead!**

What a glorious future lies ahead for all those who respond to God’s calling! Death is an enemy. But that enemy will be conquered. God will give His glorified children the awesome inheritance of eternal life, and further, the whole universe! “He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son” (Revelation 21:7).

Our destiny is glorious. As spirit beings, we will not be limited by time and space. We will be able to travel to the most distant galaxies. The entire universe will be ours to rule. “For in that He put all in subjection under him, He left nothing that is not put under him” (Hebrews 2:8). God will give His children “all things.” We will inherit the universe! As the psalmist tells us, “The heavens declare the glory of God” (Psalm 19:1).

Thank God for the glorious destiny He has planned for you beyond your death! Pray for God’s Kingdom to come to planet Earth, and rejoice in God’s personal love for you! 

**MAY WE SUGGEST?**

**Your Ultimate Destiny** God’s plan for mankind is far more wonderful than most can imagine. Request a **free** printed copy from the Regional Office nearest you, or order at **TomorrowsWorld.org**. PDF, ePub and Kindle are also available.







## Find Your Strengths!

**W**hen Steve Jobs died in 2011 at age 56, he was the famous CEO of Apple Inc., one of the world's most successful technology companies. Widely regarded as the visionary behind landmark Apple products such as the Macintosh, iPod, iPhone and iPad, Jobs' passion for technology might not have been discovered were it not for two crucial influences in his youth.

Jobs' adoptive father liked to work with automobiles, and shared his mechanical interest with his son at an early age. Though young Steve did not like to get his hands dirty, he showed an intense curiosity in the rudiments of electronics his father taught him. That interest grew when he met a neighbor who introduced him to hobbyist kits that let him build electronic test equipment, radios and even televisions. Jobs later said that building these kits "gave a tremendous level of self-confidence, that through exploration and learning one could understand seemingly very complex things in one's environment" ("Steve Jobs interview: One-on-one in 1995," *Computerworld.com*, October 6, 2011).

These youthful explorations fueled a powerful lifelong obsession with technology that has affected millions of people. Jobs' technology focus became a personal passion that defined his character. Though Jobs did not frame his own journey in Christian terms, he was certainly an example of the biblical principle: "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might" (Ecclesiastes 9:10).

### Who Are You?

Part of the challenge of adolescence is to find out "who we are" as unique human beings. One aspect of this is to discover our strengths and our weaknesses—what we are good at, and where we can improve. Understanding that every human being has both weaknesses **and** strengths is a vital aspect of developing maturity.

To some degree, our self-image is shaped by what others think of us. This can be unhealthy, if we give in to peer pressure to make unwise and unhealthy choices. Yet we should not ignore other people's positive input, and even their correction. As we develop our unique strengths, we can better resist the wrong kinds of peer pressure. I know this firsthand because I, too, experienced the challenge of discovering my unique talents as I was growing up.

### Coming into My Own

I grew up as the youngest of four brothers. Because we were close in age, we went through school together. For most of that time, I was known as "Wayne's brother" (or Cap's or Jim's). In high school, each of my brothers became known for a particular athletic talent. Since my athletic ability was modest, people did not see me as having a particular talent, until something happened during my junior year.

The previous year, Cap and Wayne and I had taken a beginning guitar class to satisfy our school's music

requirement. My brothers did well enough, but their interest was limited to the coursework, while I went beyond the assignments and learned to play for my own enjoyment. So, as a junior, I enrolled in jazz band as the sole guitarist.

At first, I was intimidated by the idea of performing with a group of experienced musicians who had

**You will never know you have natural ability in an area if you do not at least give it a try!**

been playing together for years. But I wanted to pursue something I enjoyed and was good at, so I practiced with extra diligence the first few weeks. Because I had both the basic skill and a love for playing, my ability increased enough

that I could contribute to the band.

When we began to play in public, people started to notice me as “the guitarist.” My confidence grew, as I had developed a skill for which none of my brothers was known. Moreover, I found that my confidence in this one area bled over into other areas of interest, giving me the courage to pursue other new areas of personal development.

### Discover Yourself!

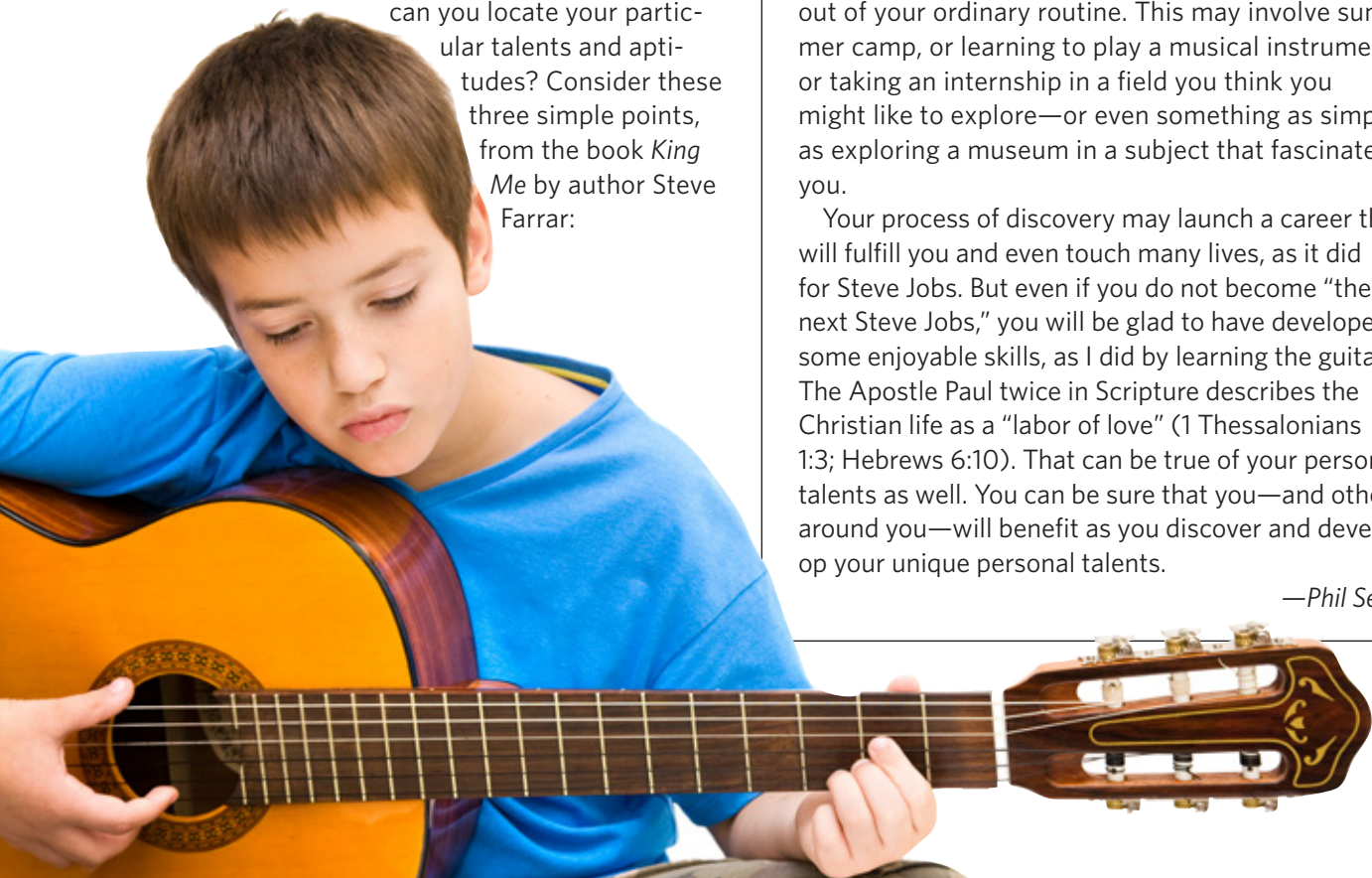
Perhaps you have not yet discovered the unique strengths that define your personality. How, then, can you locate your particular talents and aptitudes? Consider these three simple points, from the book *King Me* by author Steve Farrar:

- **What do you love doing?** Have you ever found yourself losing track of time while doing something? That is a good indication it is something you love doing. You would probably be glad to do it without being told. This is how I felt about playing the guitar.
- **What comes naturally to you?** This does not mean you will never have to work hard to develop and hone your skill, but if you have natural ability in an area, you can expect to see the greatest rewards if you make the effort to develop that ability.
- **What do other people notice in you?** When you exercise your God-given strengths, people around you will notice—maybe even in areas you do not notice. If you receive many compliments for a particular skill, pay attention and consider developing that skill even further.

Of course, you will never know you have natural ability in an area if you do not at least give it a try! This is why it is so important to take advantage of every positive opportunity presented to you. Do not let fear or unfamiliarity hold you back. There may be many more opportunities available than you realize—perhaps at your school, or through your church, or through family members and friends. Be willing to step out of your comfort zone and expand your horizons through experiences that take you out of your ordinary routine. This may involve summer camp, or learning to play a musical instrument, or taking an internship in a field you think you might like to explore—or even something as simple as exploring a museum in a subject that fascinates you.

Your process of discovery may launch a career that will fulfill you and even touch many lives, as it did for Steve Jobs. But even if you do not become “the next Steve Jobs,” you will be glad to have developed some enjoyable skills, as I did by learning the guitar. The Apostle Paul twice in Scripture describes the Christian life as a “labor of love” (1 Thessalonians 1:3; Hebrews 6:10). That can be true of your personal talents as well. You can be sure that you—and others around you—will benefit as you discover and develop your unique personal talents.

—Phil Sena





which *very clearly* indicate that our Creator intended marriage to be a union between a man and woman. God did *not* create “Adam and Adam”! He created Adam and *Eve*. Jesus Christ Himself directly stated, “Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning ‘made them male and female,’ and said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh?’” (Matthew 19:4–5).

The Apostle Paul was inspired to tell us that the intended relationship of a husband and wife is to *typify* the relationship of Christ and the Church. Paul wrote, “Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body.

I am *thankful* for her feminine beauty, her soft skin and the smell of her hair. For me, another man could never fulfill this need—any more than a mule or kangaroo could! I am *deeply grateful* for God’s gift of the male-female union!

The Creator God tells men, “Let your fountain be blessed, and rejoice with the wife of your youth. As a loving deer and a graceful doe, let her breasts satisfy you at all times; and always be enraptured with her love” (Proverbs 5:18–19). The natural love of a young man and woman in marriage is a *beautiful thing* in God’s sight. For **He** is the Author of marriage—**not** some man or the courts of men! God told the Israelites that He would not regard their offerings for *one reason*: “Because the LORD has been witness between

you and the wife of your youth, with whom you have dealt treacherously; yet she is your companion and your wife by **covenant**. But did He not make them

## **GOD DOES NOT MAKE ANYONE LIVE A HOMOSEXUAL LIFESTYLE. FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO GET OUT, GOD WILL PROVIDE THE WILL AND THE WAY!**

Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her” (Ephesians 5:22–25). Giving inspired instruction to widows, the Apostle Paul wrote, “Therefore I desire that the younger widows marry, bear children, manage the house, give no opportunity to the adversary to speak reproachfully” (1 Timothy 5:14). **This** is God’s stated purpose for the marital relationship.

Paul was inspired to write, “But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.... For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, since he is the image and glory of God; but woman is the glory of man. For man is not from woman, but woman from man. Nor was man created for the woman, but woman for the man” (1 Corinthians 11:3, 7–9).

Men need to understand that the Eternal God created our female partners to be the beautiful companions and the helpers for us men. For this, we should all be *very thankful*! When I walk into my home after a day’s work, I am *thankful* to be able to have a beautiful companion greeting me with a very loving embrace.

one, having a remnant of the Spirit? And why one? He seeks **godly offspring**. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously with the wife of his youth” (Malachi 2:14–15).

### **The Covenant of Marriage**

The “covenant” of marriage was intended by our Creator to produce “godly offspring”! How can a humanly invented union of Bible-rejecting men produce “godly offspring”? How can this unbiblical use of the human body, mind and personality ever be pleasing to the Creator God who gives us life and breath?

Some years ago, my family and I were visiting my mother in Joplin, Missouri. Since my church had no local congregation in Joplin back in those days, I packed our entire family into the station wagon and drove up to Springfield to attend services there. Since my Methodist grandmother wanted to hear me preach, we took her along as well as my daughter, Elizabeth. Although the idea had not occurred to me at the time, our local minister in Springfield thoughtfully stated in introducing me for the sermon: “Brethren, we have with us today *four generations* of Merediths! For Mr. Meredith has brought here



with him today his mother, his grandmother and his daughter Elizabeth.”

Through the decades, my father’s mother and father, my mother and father, and various uncles and aunts have all pointed out the meaningful **connections** between each of us: “You look *just like* your mother.” And, “You have this trait just like Uncle John.” We have shared memories of how my “Grandfather Meredith” brought his new wife, Elizabeth Cunningham Meredith, to Oklahoma in a covered wagon *before* Oklahoma was recognized as a state. It was still called Indian Territory. And I will always remember the joyful family gatherings with various uncles, aunts and cousins—as well as our parents and grandparents—who would *lovingly share* many stories of our common heritage. Each and every one of us was the grateful product of the union between a mother and a father. We experienced the family blessings God desires for all families that follow His inspired pattern of family life!


### Family Is the Key!

My friends, our Creator is Himself called: “Our **Father** in heaven” (Matthew 6:9). He has made us in His image. He intends to build a *family* through His Spirit-begotten children by “impregnating” us with part of His *divine* nature through the Holy Spirit (2 Peter 1:3–4). God has intended that the human family be a “type” of His divine family, with the loving father as the head, and obedient children gathered together who have a *common heritage*—for they will have come right out of

the “seed” of God the Father (1 John 3:9). In this way, once we are fully “born of God” we will fully reflect the very nature of God in a manner not possible in any other way than having this *common heritage*.

When the God-ordained family structure is destroyed—a structure, designed by God, which has served mankind for *thousands of years*—the strength of nations, of cities and of families will **never** be the same again! God help *all* of us to **wake up!** May God help *all* of us to “cry out” for Christ’s Kingdom to come **soon**. For that is the **only** genuine and permanent solution. Only this will give us the strength to resist Satan’s lies, as he pushes more and more people to accept “same-sex marriage.” If we do not resist, we can expect to see not just polygamy, polyandry and “group marriage”—already being discussed by some—but many other new arrangements put forward to replace what God intended.

**Please understand! No one** should feel “trapped” in homosexuality, afraid that a same-sex marriage may be the best he or she can have. Although homosexual activists consider “reparative therapy” controversial, and some treatments may be more sound than others, there are **many** examples of happy men and women who have abandoned the “gay” lifestyle, **gotten rid of** their former same-sex attraction, and married a loving spouse of the **opposite sex!** Some have found help from secular therapists such as those associated with the National Association for Research and Therapy of Homosexuality. Others have turned to counselors associated with their religious faith. The point is that God does not make **anyone** live the homosexual lifestyle. For those who want to get out of that lifestyle, God will provide the will and the way. And, for Christians with the Holy Spirit, **God’s direct power** is available to help overcome **this** and **any other** human weakness!

We must resist the lies of Satan the devil. Truly, as we see these things unfolding *before our very eyes*, it should give emphatic meaning to the first request which Jesus told us to make when we pray, “Your Kingdom **come**. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven” (Matthew 6:10). 

MAY WE  
SUGGEST?

**God’s Plan for Happy Marriage** Do you want to have marital happiness the way God intended? Request a **free** printed copy from the Regional Office nearest you, or order at **TomorrowsWorld.org**. PDF, ePub and Kindle are also available.







## A World of Greed!

**M**any Bible prophecies describe specific signs that will arise on the world scene as we approach the end of the age—the period of time just before Jesus Christ returns to this earth to establish the Kingdom of God. Jesus told His disciples to watch for these, so they would recognize when His return was near (Matthew 24:32-44).

Many of these prophecies, written **dozens of centuries** ago, are coming alive right before our eyes! The Apostle Paul wrote that “**in the last days** perilous times will come: for men will be *lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud... unloving... lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God*” (2 Timothy 3:1-5). Jesus Christ criticized those who make a false show of righteousness while privately seeking selfish gain. Speaking to one of the religious leaders of His day, Christ pointedly noted, “Now you Pharisees make the outside of the cup and dish clean, but your inward part is full of greed and wickedness” (Luke 11:39). How common is this attitude in business, politics and consumer culture today?

### Greed Is Not Good!

The Ten Commandments condemn covetousness (Exodus 20:17). Solomon, thousands of years ago, warned that wicked people were “greedy for gain” (Proverbs 1:10-19). Jesus rebuked religious leaders for hypocrisy, extortion and unbridled greed (Matthew 23:25). The prophets railed against selfish material acquisition: “Woe to those who devise iniquity... they covet fields and take them by violence, also houses, and seize them... Behold, against this family I am *devising disaster*” (Micah 2:1-3). The prophet Amos delivered God’s

warning to the Israelites that, because of their rampant greed, godless materialism and exploitation of the less fortunate, “I will destroy the winter house along with the summer house; the houses of ivory shall perish, and the great houses shall have an end” (Amos 2:6-7; 3:1, 14-15). Amos warned Israelite leaders, who lived in opulent splendor while many others existed on much less: “Behold, the days shall come upon you when He [God] will take you away with fishhooks... and Israel shall surely be led away captive” (Amos 4:1-3; 5:27; 6:7; 7:11, 17). The Bible reveals that God has dealt severely with the godless and greedy in the past, and will do so again in the future!

### An Age-Old Dilemma Today

Americans, like many others in the Western nations, are divided by the issue of greed. On the one hand, commentators like Bill Moyers and Michael Winship lament government’s failure to limit human greed: “Instead of acting as a brake on runaway corporate power and greed, government becomes their **enabler**” (“Enabling Greed Makes U.S. Sick,” *BillMoyers.com*, May 20, 2013). On the other hand, as economist Milton Friedman noted in his book *Capitalism and Freedom*, “What is greed? Of course none of us are greedy; it’s only the other fellow who’s greedy. The world runs on individuals pursuing their separate interests.”

It is easy to point the finger at others, but harder to recognize greed in oneself. American culture has spread around the globe, exporting the culture of greed. American music, films and television incessantly promote consumer products and the philosophy that endless consumption brings happiness—and have spawned “a money-minded youth culture that de-

mands instant gratification and thrives on audio-visual bombardment" (*Why Do People Hate America?* Sadar & Davies, p. 125). According to some, this "global projection of American influence... The McDonaldization of society... seems like a *virus*, a particularly pathological one... replicating itself in the rest of the world... infecting the cultural body of other nations" (*ibid.*, pp. 117-118). The *globalization of greedy, self-centered consumption* emanating from America and other affluent countries is generating much global animosity as it undermines and destroys traditional values and cultures.



Cultural historian Morris Berman describes another worrisome trend: *increasing inequality* through which the rich continue to grow richer while the poor become poorer. Berman notes that in recent decades we have seen "an *unprecedented redistribution of income toward the rich*. In terms of wealth disparity, the United States leads all other major industrial nations" (*The Twilight of American Culture*, p. 21). Some executive salaries are now more than 400 times the wage of their companies' workers. Once-respectable financial institutions now aggressively pursue leveraged buyouts and hostile takeovers of companies, pocketing substantial fees as executives walk away with millions of dollars—while thousands of workers lose their jobs and their incomes (*House of Morgan*, Chernow, pp. 690-709).

Historian Jim Nelson Black points out that these same social and economic trends were present **centuries ago**, during the decline of the Roman Empire, as in the waning years of other powerful states. Ancient writers recorded that "greed and self-indulgence... preoccupation with luxury" hastened moral decay that

sped the demise of the once-mighty Roman Empire (*When Nations Die*, p. 160). Historians Will and Ariel Durant saw a *repeating pattern* in the accumulation and redistribution of wealth over the centuries. Wealth becomes concentrated in the hands of a few, then when the impoverished masses can no longer abide the inequity, wealth is redistributed—either by peaceful legislation or by violent revolution. Writing several decades ago, the Durants saw that "the gap between the wealthiest and the poorest is *now greater* than at any time since Imperial plutocratic Rome" and sensed that a correction would soon come (*The Lessons of History*, Durant, p. 55). More recently, French economist Jacques Attali warned that in the coming years we would see a growing, bitter and volatile divide between an increasingly rich core and an increasingly impoverished periphery, with the impoverished periphery eventually rising up against the rich core "in a war unlike any seen in modern times" (*Millennium*, Attali, pp. 14-15).

For centuries, economists have **assumed** that human reason can regulate world markets. Optimistic historians have **feared** for the worst, yet **hoped** for a peaceful redistribution of wealth when social forces bring about a change. The Bible, however, reveals that current trends will build toward a **very different** outcome at the culmination of mankind's **centuries of greed**. Scripture

Berman describes another worrisome trend: the rich continue to grow ever richer while the poor become **POORER!**

reveals that God will allow our selfish, consumer-obsessed, materialistic societies to reap the regrettable **consequences** of what we have sown (Jeremiah 2:17-19).

Scripture tells of an end-time religio-political power that will bring short-lived

prosperity to the world. At first, greedy businessmen will "become rich through the abundance of her luxury" (Revelation 18:3). But that prosperity will end, and the same greedy men who became rich through that power will "stand at a distance for fear of her torment" (v. 15).

Finally, Jesus Christ will **return and intervene** with a "strong hand" (Psalm 136:12; Revelation 11:17) to restore economic justice and end selfishness and greed. Centuries of human greed are building to a dramatic climax, revealing that Bible prophecy is *coming alive!*

—Douglas S. Winnail



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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I truly enjoy your magazines, booklets, television program and Web site. My husband and I are in our 70s, and we know the seventh-day Sabbath is the true day of worship, and we honor that. I love all your literature, as I know it is the truth, and I check all the Bible passages in my *King James Bible*. Thank you again for your love in giving me all your information, as I love reading the truth of God's word.

K. T., Atlantic, IA

I wanted to say how blessed I am to receive your teachings. Never in all of my years of Sunday school and morning worship have I ever gotten a clearer understanding of God's word until I received my first copy of *Tomorrow's World*. Thank you and your fellow staff for your works in the Lord. To be able to touch the multitude in this way is surely pleasing in God's sight! I am drawing closer to the Lord in reading His word and following the outlines and topics that you provide. I have shared your *Tomorrow's World Bible Study Course* with my teen daughter and other family members. Thank you all for your faithfulness, and may God continue to bless you.

A.H., Pflugerville, TX

I would like to thank all the staff at *Tomorrow's World* for the wonderful and enlightening magazines and booklets you have provided me throughout many years. I look forward to each time I receive a magazine in the mail. At first when I started receiving them I was skeptical about the future that these magazines and booklets were telling me. Now I see all these things happening before my eyes. The information that is provided is 100 percent accurate as well

as frightening. God bless all of you at *Tomorrow's World*, and please keep up the good work of educating us on the coming events in the United States and around the world. Please continue to send me this most valuable information. I enjoy reading it so much.

R. C., Port St. Lucie, FL

It is very educational, and I always look forward to the information you send—fantastic! Please keep up the good work so people will come to learn that the end-times are approaching and there is need to prepare.

B. I., Abuja, Nigeria

*Tomorrow's World* is the most important magazine I subscribe to and read throughout the year, and it has been that way since I first discovered the magazine many years ago. I feel comforted knowing I have just renewed online. I am also pleased to say that leaving copies out in the living room and in my office have helped others discover and subscribe to this valuable Christian tool. Thank you for the inspiring commentary your staff provide with each edition. May the Lord continue to bless your ministry.

B. S., Surrey, BC, Canada

Thank you so very much for the wonderful magazines you have been sending me. I thoroughly enjoy them and always look forward to the next issue to arrive so I can read it right away. I always watch your program on television, and think what a wonderful job you're doing and how inspirational you are to people. Thank you for a great program, and may God continue to bless and inspire you all.

R. M., Calgary, AB, Canada

<b>Editor in Chief</b>	Roderick C. Meredith
<b>Editorial Director</b>	Richard F. Ames
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<b>Managing Editor</b>	John Robinson
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<b>Art Director</b>	Donna Prejean
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<b>Proofreaders</b>	Sandy Davis   Linda Ehman   Genie Ogwyn
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P. 18 NASA, Hubble Heritage Team, (STScI/AURA),  
ESA, S. Beckwith (STScI). Additional Processing:  
Robert Gendler

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All scripture references are from the *New King James Version* (©Thomas Nelson, Inc., Publishers) unless otherwise noted.

P. 6: Sources consulted include: *Toronto Star*, November 29, 2002, "Middle-aged men most likely to commit suicide, study says." *GCASA Cares*, November 4, 2008, "Heroin addicts die young." *International Journal of Epidemiology*, December 6, 2001, "Gay Life Expectancy Revisited." *USA Today*, January 23, 2013, "Study: Smoking shortens life span by at least 10 years." *Science News*, March 20, 2009, "Moderate Obesity Takes Years Off Life Expectancy."



# TOMORROW'S WORLD

## TELEVISION LOG



### AUSTRALIA

Capital Cities & QLD TV4ME 74 SU 7:30 a.m.  
SA 7:00 a.m. AET  
COUNTRY VIC & NSW TV4 64 SU 7:30 a.m.  
SA 7:00 a.m. AET

### BARBADOS

St. Michael CBC 8 SU 9:30 a.m.

### CANADA

#### Nationwide Networks (All times Eastern)

Vision SU 4:00 a.m.  
SU 5:30 p.m.  
MO 1:30 a.m.  
TU 4:30 a.m.  
MO-FR 3:00 a.m.

#### LOCAL STATIONS (All times local)

BC Vancouver JOY TV 10 SU 1:30 a.m.  
SU 5:00 p.m.  
SU 8:00 a.m.  
Victoria CHEK SU 8:00 a.m.

MB Winnipeg JOY TV 11 SU-FR 10:00 a.m.  
SU-FR 10:00 p.m.

### UNITED STATES

#### Nationwide Networks (All times Eastern)

Angel One SU 8:00 p.m.  
FR 8:30 a.m.  
WE 7:00 p.m.

CW Plus SU 8:00 a.m.

IMPACT SU 11:00 p.m.

WGN SU 6:00 a.m.

THE WORD Network SU 7:30 a.m.  
WE 1:00 a.m.

#### LOCAL STATIONS (All times local)

AK Anchorage KIMO SU 6:00 a.m.  
Fairbanks KATN SU 6:00 a.m.  
Juneau KJUD SU 6:00 a.m.

AL Dothan WTVY SU 7:00 a.m.  
Gadsden WPXH WE 5:30 a.m.  
Montgomery WBMM SU 7:00 a.m.  
Opelika WLGA SU 7:00 a.m.

AR Fort Smith KHBS SU 7:00 a.m.  
Jonesboro KJOS SU 7:00 a.m.  
Little Rock KASN SU 10:30 a.m.

AZ Phoenix KASW SU 7:30 a.m.  
Tolleson KPPX WE 5:30 a.m.

CA Bakersfield KGET SU 8:00 a.m.  
Chico KHSL SU 8:00 a.m.  
Eureka KUVU SU 8:00 a.m.  
Fresno KFRE SU 7:30 a.m.  
Monterey KION SU 8:00 a.m.  
Palm Springs KESQ SU 8:00 a.m.  
Redding KHSL SU 8:00 a.m.  
Sacramento KSPX WE 6:30 a.m.  
San Jose KKPX WE 6:30 a.m.

CO Denver KPXC WE 4:30 a.m.

### JAMAICA

Kingston TVJ SU 7:00 a.m.

### NEW ZEALAND

Nationwide Prime TV SU 8:30 a.m.

### TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

Port of Spain CNC3-TV SU 7:00 a.m.

### UK & NW EUROPE

Believe-TV Sky TV 593 SU 10:00 p.m.  
Gospel Sky TV 588 MO 7:00 p.m.  
WORD (TWN) Sky TV 590 WED 6:00 a.m.  
Sky TV 590 FRI 3:00 p.m.  
Sky TV 590 SAT 12:00 a.m.

Grand Junction KJCT SU 7:00 a.m.

CT New Haven WZME WE 11:00 p.m.  
New London WHPX WE 6:30 a.m.

DE Wilmington WPPX WE 6:30 a.m.

FL Bradenton WXPX WE 6:30 a.m.  
Lake Worth WPXP WE 6:30 a.m.  
Melbourne WOPX WE 6:30 a.m.  
Miami WPXM WE 6:30 a.m.  
Gainesville WCJB SU 8:00 a.m.  
Panama City WJHG SU 8:00 a.m.

GA Albany WBSK SU 8:00 a.m.  
Augusta WAGT SU 8:00 a.m.  
Brunswick WPXC WE 6:30 a.m.  
Columbus WLGA SU 8:00 a.m.  
Macon WBMN SU 8:00 a.m.  
Rome WPXA WE 6:30 a.m.

HI Kailua-Kona KLEI WE 12:30 a.m.  
Kaneohe KPXO WE 12:30 a.m.

IA Cedar Rapids KPXR WE 5:30 a.m.  
Des Moines KCWI SU 7:00 a.m.  
Newton KFPX WE 5:30 a.m.  
Ottumwa KWOT SU 7:00 a.m.

ID Boise KNIN SU 6:00 a.m.  
Idaho Falls KPIF SU 7:00 a.m.

IL Bloomington WHOI SU 7:00 a.m.  
Chicago WCPX WE 5:30 a.m.  
Chicago WGN SU 5:00 a.m.  
Peoria WHOI SU 7:00 a.m.  
Quincy WGEM SU 7:00 a.m.

IN Bloomington WIPX WE 6:30 a.m.  
Fort Wayne WPTA SU 8:00 a.m.

KY Bowling Green WBKO SU 7:00 a.m.  
Morehead WUPX WE 6:30 a.m.

LA Alexandria KBCA SU 7:00 a.m.  
Baton Rouge WGMB SU 9:00 a.m.  
Lafayette KLWB SU 7:00 a.m.  
Lake Charles WBLC SU 7:00 a.m.  
Monroe KNOE SU 7:00 a.m.  
New Orleans WPXL WE 5:30 a.m.

MA Boston WBPX WE 6:30 a.m.  
Vineyard Haven WDPX WE 6:30 a.m.

ME Bangor WABI SU 8:00 a.m.  
Presque Isle WBPQ SU 8:00 a.m.

MI Alpena WBAE SU 8:00 a.m.  
Ann Arbor WPXD WE 6:30 a.m.  
Battle Creek WZPX WE 6:30 a.m.  
Lansing WLAJ SU 8:00 a.m.  
Marquette WBPQ SU 8:00 a.m.

MN Duluth KDLH SU 7:00 a.m.  
Mankato KWYE SU 7:00 a.m.  
Rochester KTTC SU 8:00 a.m.

St Cloud KPXM WE 5:30 a.m.

MO Columbia KOMU SU 7:00 a.m.  
Joplin KFJX SU 8:30 a.m.  
Kansas City KPXE WE 5:30 a.m.  
Kansas City KCWE SU 7:30 a.m.  
Kirksville KWOT SU 7:00 a.m.  
Springfield KRBK SU 7:30 a.m.  
St. Louis WRBU SU 9:00 a.m.

MS Biloxi WBGP SU 7:00 a.m.  
Columbus WCBP SU 7:00 a.m.  
Greenwood WBWD SU 7:00 a.m.  
Hattiesburg WBH SU 7:00 a.m.  
Meridian WTOK SU 7:00 a.m.

MT Billings KTVO SU 7:00 a.m.  
Bozeman KXLF SU 7:00 a.m.  
Butte KBZK SU 6:00 a.m.  
Glendive KWZB SU 6:00 a.m.  
Great Falls KRTV SU 6:00 a.m.  
Helena KMTF SU 6:00 a.m.  
Missoula KPAX SU 6:00 a.m.

NC Burlington WGPX WE 6:30 a.m.  
Charlotte WAXN SU 7:00 a.m.  
Fayetteville WFPX WE 6:30 a.m.  
Greenville WEPX WE 6:30 a.m.  
Greenville WNCT SU 8:00 a.m.  
Hickory WHKY MO 7:30 p.m.  
Jacksonville WPXU WE 6:30 a.m.  
Rocky Mount WRPX WE 6:30 a.m.

ND Bismarck KWMK SU 7:00 a.m.  
Fargo WDAY SU 7:00 a.m.

NE Lincoln KCWL SU 7:00 a.m.  
North Platte KWPL SU 7:00 a.m.

NH Concord WPXG WE 6:30 a.m.  
SU 6:30 a.m.

NV Reno KREN SU 8:00 a.m.

NY Albany WCWN SU 8:00 a.m.  
Amsterdam WYPX WE 6:30 a.m.  
Batavia WXPJ WE 6:30 a.m.  
Binghamton WBNG SU 8:00 a.m.  
Elmira WENY SU 8:00 a.m.  
New York WPXN WE 6:30 a.m.  
Syracuse WSPX WE 6:30 a.m.

OH Akron WVPX WE 6:30 a.m.  
Lima WBOH SU 8:00 a.m.

OK Oklahoma City KOPX WE 5:30 a.m.  
Okmulgee KTPX WE 5:30 a.m.

OR Bend KTVZ SU 8:00 a.m.  
Eugene KMTR SU 8:00 a.m.  
Medford CW11 SU 8:00 a.m.  
Salem KPXG WE 6:30 a.m.

PA Erie WBEP SU 8:00 a.m.  
Scranton WQPX WE 6:30 a.m.

RI Block Island WPXQ WE 6:30 a.m.

SC Charleston WCBD SU 8:00 a.m.  
Myrtle Beach WWMB SU 8:00 a.m.

SD Rapid City KWBH SU 7:00 a.m.

TN Cookeville WNPX WE 5:30 a.m.  
Jellico WPXK WE 6:30 a.m.  
Knoxville WBXX SU 7:30 a.m.  
La Follete WLAF WE 6:00 p.m.  
Memphis WPXX WE 5:30 a.m.

TX Abilene KTXS SU 8:00 a.m.  
Amarillo KVIH SU 7:00 a.m.

Arlington KPXD WE 5:30 a.m.  
Austin KNVA SU 6:30 a.m.  
Beaumont KBTM SU 6:30 a.m.  
Beaumont KFTD SU 7:00 a.m.  
Conroe KPXB WE 5:30 a.m.  
Corpus Christi KRIS SU 7:00 a.m.  
Dallas KTXD SU 8:00 a.m.

Harlingen KCFE SU 7:00 a.m.  
Houston KPXB SU 9:30 a.m.  
Laredo KGNS SU 7:00 a.m.  
Lubbock KLCW SU 7:00 a.m.  
Lufkin KTRE SU 6:30 a.m.  
Midland KWWT SU 7:00 a.m.  
Tyler KLTU SU 6:30 a.m.  
Uvalde KPXL WE 5:30 a.m.

UT Provo KUPX WE 5:30 a.m.

VA Charlottesville WVIR SU 8:00 a.m.  
Manassas WPXW WE 6:30 a.m.  
Norfolk WPXV WE 6:30 a.m.  
Roanoke WPRX WE 6:30 a.m.

WA Bellevue KWPX WE 6:30 a.m.  
Spokane KGFX WE 6:30 a.m.

WI Antigo WTPX WE 5:30 a.m.  
Eau Claire WXOW SU 7:00 a.m.  
Kenosha WPXE WE 5:30 a.m.  
La Crosse WQOW SU 7:00 a.m.  
Superior KDHL SU 7:00 a.m.

WV Bluefield WVVA SU 8:00 a.m.  
Charleston WLPX WE 6:30 a.m.  
Clarksburg WVFV SU 8:00 a.m.  
Martinsburg WWPX WE 6:30 a.m.  
Parkersburg WCWP SU 8:00 a.m.

WY Casper KTWO SU 10:00 a.m.  
Cheyenne KLWY SU 11:00 a.m.  
Riverton KGWC SU 7:00 a.m.  
Scottsbluff KGWN SU 6:00 a.m.

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## UPCOMING TELECASTS

### **Seven Signs of the Antichrist**

How can you recognize this powerful figure when he arrives?

July 11-17

### **The U.S. and Britain in Prophecy**

Where can you find the United States and Great Britain in your Bible?

July 18-24

### **The Prophesied "Beast"**

What does Scripture reveal about this evil end-time leader?

July 25-31

### **Prophecy and You!**

The Bible is not just a book for "religious hobbyists"—it is relevant to your life today!

August 1-7

### **The Soon-Coming Utopia**

The Kingdom of God is coming soon, and it will bring unprecedented joy to planet Earth!

August 8-14

### **Seven Keys to Answered Prayer**

Learn how to pray and receive the answers you need!

August 15-21

### **World War in the Middle East**

What does your Bible reveal about end-time turmoil in the region around Jerusalem?

August 22-28

Schedule subject to change

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